

# CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWS



Volume 8, Issue 1

May 2002

**CLEVELAND  
HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 94004  
Seattle, WA 98124-9404  
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## Imagine, 75 years

By Alison W. Sing '64  
President

Recently, my wife and I took our grandson, Jacob, to explore a bit of "the forgotten city" that lies beneath Seattle's modern streets? This was my first tour of Seattle's famous underground founded by the Bill Speidel. Here we have a city within a city literally right under our feet in Pioneer Square.

So what is the connection between the Bill Speidel, Seattle's famous Underground City and Cleveland High School?

Pick up the souvenir pamphlet from the Underground Tour and on Page 3 you will find a photo of six Cleveland High School students with their journalism teacher, Elna Prael. The Seattle Times noted, "Of all the people in Seattle who wanted underground tours the most enthusiastic bunch was the kids. And of the kids, the greatest group came from Cleveland High School for five successive Saturdays in the spring of 1965 to clean up the Underground and make it safe for people to use it on tours."

What a testimony to our alumni and the contributions they make to our community and the honor they bring to Cleveland High School.

It seems like yesterday when we walked the halls in celebration of our 70th anniversary, and now we are planning for our 75th.

### Annual meeting

On Saturday, Jan. 19, in addition to our board members, 41 alumni and guests joined CHS Principal Ted Howard and teacher Faith Beatty for an energetic meeting. Principal Howard reported that current enrollment was at 734 students — that is 25 to 50 more students than expected for the school year.

He reported that the school district will make a decision on the site for the new Cleveland High School in the coming months. For now, the Rainier Vista site has been dropped from consideration. Two sites still on the list are Holly Park and the current location of Cleveland High School.

Officials from Cleveland High School, the Seattle School District and Seattle Community College are currently discussing plans to pro-

vide limited community college courses at the new high school. The desired student mix at the new school would include 1,000 high school and 300 community college students.

If you are interested in working with the design team on the new Cleveland High School, please contact Principal Ted Howard, at (206) 252-7800.

Current board members Vera Chan-Pool '91 and Alison Sing '64 were reelected to the board. Please join me in welcoming our newest board members, Bill Lantz '51 and Pat Coluccio '47, to the board.

### Memorial Day observance

This year's observance at the Cleveland High School Memorial Forest is scheduled for Friday, May 24, at 11 a.m. Buses will leave Cleveland High School at 10 a.m. for the forest.

Members of the Seattle School Board will join Cleveland High School students, alumni association members and friends to dedicate the installation of a new flagpole at the Forest. The Rohletter family is donating a flagpole in the memory of Jimmy Rohletter, a member of the 1937 Cleveland championship football team coached by John Cherberg.

### Golf tournament

Reporting on the tremendous success of our alumni association's first golf tournament last year, Pat Coluccio '47 announced the 2002 event is scheduled for Friday, Aug. 9, at the Fort Lewis Golf Course. The cost will be \$75, which includes green fees, a golf cart, a fabulous dinner and souvenir.

Assistant manager/tournament director John Christiansen '64 put on a tremendous event and solicited many great prizes for our tournament. For non-golfers, the dinner and raffle event is a great draw.

### 75th-anniversary celebration

A small group of dedicated alumni led by

See ANNIVERSARY, Page 2

## Board commits to future

ANNIVERSARY, from Page 1

our vice president, Vera Chan-Pool '91, has been meeting the first Saturday of each month at Cleveland High School to plan our 75th-anniversary celebration, which is now scheduled for Sept. 27 and 28.

Drawn out of retirement, Don Duncan '43 will again help orchestrate the program and events scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28. The Saturday program will include a reenactment of the Walk Up the Hill, flag ceremony, chat-room visits, followed by a formal ceremony in the auditorium.

A dinner social is being planned for preceding Friday evening at the Seattle Marriott Hotel at Sea-Tac. Limited seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis. (More details will be available later.)

### Board meeting

At the first board meeting of 2002, the new board unanimously reelected the current officers for another term. The officers for 2002 are Alison Sing '64, president; Vera Chan-Pool '91, vice president; JoAnn Victor Smith '56, membership secretary; Kathleen Gemmill Stremick '59, recording secretary; and Terence Wong '58, treasurer.

Principal Howard shared with the board his desire to establish a school-sponsored endowment fund at Cleveland High School before he retires. By invitation, Dick Lee, of Richard J. Lee & Associates, described his experience in creating an endowment fund for Ballard High School.

Mr. Lee, a graduate of Ballard High School, worked with others to raise \$1.4 million dollars through the establishment of the Annual Beaver Bash and the subsequent formation of the Ballard High School Foundation.

Mr. Lee explained that the proceeds from an endowment fund would be used to support programs at the school and complement the work of the alumni association.

Chuck Chinn, former Ballard High School principal and a 1963 graduate of Cleveland High School, had introduced Principal Howard to this concept. The board expressed general interest in the concept and a willingness to support this effort.

Following this presentation, the board adopted the following actions:

- Approved funding of two incentive awards to students attending the InfoTech Academy at Cleveland High School in the amount of \$3,000. Students successfully completing the academic requirements of this program would be rewarded with outings to the Family Fun Center and Whale Watching. Students must report back to the board about their trips as a stipulation of the funding.

- During the last three years, Pat Rosenkranz '49 has carefully constructed the biographies of the Cleveland High School students who lost their lives during World War II. She asked the board for support in printing these stories. Principal Howard expressed interest in having copies of her book for the school.

The board set aside \$1,000 as a commitment to the initial printing of this book. Pat Rosenkranz will report back to the board in April on the results of her discussions with local publishers.

- The board reaffirmed 2002 scholarship funds totaling \$6,500 will be awarded this year. This amount includes \$1,500 carried over from 2001 and \$5,000 for 2002.

At our next board meeting, the alumni association will consider managing the scholarship funds on behalf of the Louise Gray Scholarship Committee. Louise Gray was a Cleveland High School math teacher who was killed in a motor vehicle accident last fall.

### Memorial Forest lawsuit

Efforts by former Cleveland High School students who filed a lawsuit to contest the ownership status of the Cleveland High School Memorial Forest faced another serious setback when the Washington State Supreme Court declined to review the lower-court decisions on this point.

The alumni feared the forest's owner, Seattle Public Schools, might one day sell the 131-acre swath of second-growth forest on the Sammamish Plateau. Despite the district's denials, the Cleveland loyalists sought the ultimate assurance: suing to have the land placed in a trust on behalf of the students.

Alumni interested in this case should read the Seattle Times editorial published on Friday, March 8, 2002. You can find this article in the Seattle Times website under their archive section.

## Flagpole to be installed at forest, dedicated

Cleveland Alumni are invited to attend the annual Memorial Day visit to our Cleveland High School Memorial Forest on May 24. A ceremony dedicating the James Rohletter Memorial Flagpole will start at 11 a.m.

Dedicated in the memory of Jim Rohletter '39, the flagpole will also honor Coach John Cherberg and Jim's teammates on the 1937 football championship team. The flag once flew over our national Capitol building. Bernie Moskowitz '57, will perform "Taps" and has arranged for a Color Guard vintage WWII.

Jimmy Rohletter joined the U.S. Navy after graduating from Cleveland. In March 1942, shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Jim's ship, the USS Pope was sunk in the Sea of Java. Jim was a prisoner of war until 1945.

Although not a direct casualty of World War II, Jim experienced extreme health problems until his death as a direct result of his confinement by the Japanese government.

Coach Cherberg later went on to become the University of Washington football coach and then lieutenant governor of Washington state. Coach Cherberg and his wife remained in contact with the '37 team members throughout his lifetime.

Invited honored guests for the dedication include members of the Rohletter family, the surviving members of the '37 team and their families, John Cherberg's family and Seattle School District administrators.

The Cleveland High School Alumni Association is providing bus transportation for students and alumni from the Cleveland parking lot to the Memorial Forest, departing at 10 a.m. (parking is limited at the forest). This is a good way for CHS alumni to visit the forest and talk with students en route.

The ceremony should take approximately one hour, which will provide time to walk to the Memorial Rock. Light refreshments and coffee will be served in what use to be the Lyceum.

Cleveland students from Faith

See FLAGPOLE, Page 3

please cut along line

# 2002 Contributions

To help with costs (including newsletters to more than 8,000 alumni and former teachers — and growing), we ask you to join the Cleveland High School Alumni Association. A suggested donation of \$5 per year is requested.

Make checks payable to: CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 94004, SEATTLE, WA 98124-9404

SUGGESTED DONATION OF \$5 EACH FOR MAILINGS \$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION TOWARD CHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (check appropriate box and indicate amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(contributions totaling \$100 or more will be noted as Eagle 100 members for that year only)

ALUMNI GENERAL FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_  MEMORIAL FOREST FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHS ATHLETICS FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_  SCHOLARSHIP FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORIAL FOREST LAWSUIT FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_  75th ANNIVERSARY FUND \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL CHECK ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

check if address correction

MEMBER NO. 1 [FIRST, (MAIDEN), LAST] \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER NO. 1 [FIRST, (MAIDEN), LAST] \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS [CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE] \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NO. ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

I AM INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A CHSAA COMMITTEE (indicate committee) \_\_\_\_\_

## THE LEDGER

## Alumni to dedicate flagpole

### FLAGPOLE, from Page 2

Beatty's drama classes will make a memorial presentation, and Don Clifford '44 will serve as master of ceremonies.

For driving instructions to the Forest, call Don Case, at (253) 854-3431 or e-mail [dcase854@msn.com](mailto:dcase854@msn.com); or call Pat Coluccio, at (253) 852-4229.

Directions are available on the CHSAA website, [clevelandalumsea.org](http://clevelandalumsea.org), or by calling Don Case or Pat Coluccio.

Since the inception of the Cleveland High School Alumni Association in 1995 through the year 2001, our organization has received a total of \$96,446 in contributions. The Eagle 100 Club members, since its inception in 1999, have contributed \$35,468. The contributions specifically designated for scholarships have totaled \$20,391, and those designated for the Memorial Forest have totaled \$5,660.

The CHSAA has donated a total of \$2,937 to the school, including a computer and printer in 1998. We have donated \$1,500 to the athletic department and \$1,742 for Memorial Forest activities or equipment. We are especially proud of the fact that since 1998 we have given a total of \$14,200 in scholarships to 11 deserving recipients.

We have kept our administrative expenses to a total of \$5,246 since 1995, which includes \$1,020 spent since 1999 for our website. We have prepared, printed and distributed our own newsletter to all members on our mailing list, not just those who have contributed to our association, since our first year in 1995 at a total cost of \$22,552. The newsletter is our principal source of fund-raising, and we are very proud of the response by the membership.

— Terence L. Wong '58, treasurer

Send submissions for the CHSAA newsletter to:

Vera M. Chan-Pool  
e-mail: [VEmchan@earthlink.net](mailto:VEmchan@earthlink.net),  
or call (206) 722-4330

## NEXT ISSUE IN EARLY SUMMER

- Memorial Forest lawsuit update
- CHS Alumni Golf Tournament
- CHS' 75th anniversary/Alumni Weekend
- Eagle 100 members
- Scholarship recipients
- Letters

...and more!

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CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

*Mission Statement*

A nonprofit organization, Washington and United States 501(c)(3), founded for the exclusive purposes of: (1) preserving the Cleveland Memorial Forest as a memorial in perpetuity to those Cleveland students who gave their lives in the service of the United States of America, (2) supporting the educational uses in forestry, ecology, botany and environmental studies of the forest and (3) supporting and assisting the students and staff of Cleveland High School in Seattle, Wash., in their educational purposes.

Any individual who has attended Grover Cleveland Junior or Senior High School is entitled to be a member of the Cleveland High School Alumni Association.

*Please help us to keep the database current by sending a post office change-of-address form or contact the membership secretary when you move. In order to protect privacy the list of memberships will not be distributed to anyone unless it is used specifically for the purposes of class reunions or other such gatherings.*

CLEVELAND HIGH SCHOOL  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 94004  
Seattle, WA 98124-9404

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### MAY

- 4 — Alumni Weekend Committee meeting, 10 a.m. @ CHS  
CHSAA board meeting, 11 a.m. @ CHS  
24 — James Rohletter memorial flagpole dedication, 11 a.m. @  
Cleveland Memorial Forest  
•Bus from CHS, 10 a.m. (call for reservations)  
Contact: Don Case, (253) 854-3431  
24-26 — **CHS' 75th anniversary/Alumni Weekend**  
**(POSTPONED until September)**

### JUNE

- 1 — Alumni Weekend Committee meeting, 10 a.m. @ CHS  
CHSAA board meeting, 11 a.m. @ CHS

### JULY

- 13 — Alumni Weekend Committee meeting, 10 a.m. (location  
TBA)  
CHSAA board meeting, 11 a.m. (location TBA)

### AUGUST

- 3 — Alumni Weekend Committee meeting, 10 a.m. (location  
TBA)  
CHSAA board meeting, 11 a.m. (location TBA)  
9 — CHS Alumni Golf Tournament, 1 p.m. @ Fort Lewis Golf  
Course (\$75/person, \$300/team of four; \$20 dinner —  
limited to 36 teams; register by 8/6 )  
Contact: Pat Coluccio, (253) 852-4229

- 9-11 — Class of 1952 reunion ('51 and '53 also welcome)  
•Dinner @ Salty's, West Seattle, 8/9 (\$40)  
•Picnic at Lions' Memorial Youth Camp, Maple  
Valley, 8/11 (\$15/family)  
Contact: Jim Lambo, (206) 243-6553 or  
[jmlambo@msn.com](mailto:jmlambo@msn.com)  
10 — Class of 1957 reunion  
Dinner, dance @ Fairwood Golf and Country Club,  
Renton (\$45/single, \$80/couple; +\$5 after June 1)  
Contact: Jim Morishima, [Morishima@attbi.com](mailto:Morishima@attbi.com) or  
Diane Boyd White, (253) 631-2859

### SEPTEMBER

- 14 — Alumni Weekend Committee meeting, 10 a.m. @ CHS  
CHSAA board meeting, 11 a.m. @ CHS  
27-28 — CHS' 75th anniversary/Alumni Weekend  
•CHSAA fund-raising dinner, 7:30 p.m. @ Seattle  
Marriott Hotel at Sea-Tac (details forthcoming)  
•CHS' 75th-anniversary celebration, 10 a.m. CHS  
Ceremonial Walk Up the Hill  
Cleveland Memorial Forest flagpole dedication  
Assembly  
Chat rooms

### NOVEMBER

- 16 — CHSAA board meeting, 10 a.m.-noon @ CHS

*Send items for this section to Vera Chan-Pool '91,  
[VEMchan@earthlink.net](mailto:VEMchan@earthlink.net)*