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, Elia 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 provide 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 Rohleter family is donating a flagpole in the memory of Jimmy Rohleter, 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
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 preceeding 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 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 Rohlter Memorial Flagpole will start at 11 a.m.

Dedicated in the memory of Jim Rohlter ‘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 Rohlter 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 Rohlter 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
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) $

☐ 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 dcase654@min.com; or call Pat Coluccio, at (253) 852-4229.

Directions are available on the CHSAA website, clevelandalumnia.org, or by calling Don Case or Pat Coluccio.

Send submissions for the CHSAA newsletter to:

Vera M. Chan-Pool
e-mail: VTchan@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!

— Terence L. Wong '58, treasurer
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

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