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El Cerrito High School Archiving Project

Newsletter Issue XV

June 2008

President's Message

We wish you all a great and safe summer!
Count Down. Seven more months before the opening of our new school!

Last week, the ECHS Archiving Project Committee was honored to be given a private site tour of the almost completed El Cerrito High School. What a wonderful experience! This was our second tour and the excitement of walking the grounds of our new alma mater brings back memories of the past and excitement for the future students.

Stay Tuned for the upcoming announcements about the many grand opening celebrations planned for this state of the art school. We encourage you to drive or stop by the school and visually see and mentally celebrate with us the new future of our alma mater.

Share this Newsletter and tell other alumni about the exciting things that the ECHS Archiving Project Committee is doing! Thanks,

Patricia (Jones) Durham '68



[Performing Arts Stage](#)

What's New at El Cerrito High School?



New School Construction

[WCCUSD Bond Program](#)

Current Reunion Information

Class of 1998, 1958 and 1988

ECHS Class of 1998

Ten Year Reunion

Saturday, July 26, 2008

7:00pm-11:00pm

Spenger's Fish Grotto, 1919 4th St, Berkeley CA 94710

Ticket Information

Ticket includes sit down dinner, entertainment, and souvenir.

\$65/person or \$120/couple from 4/15/08 to 5/31/08

\$75/person or \$140/couple from 6/1/08 to 7/1/08

Through Paypal <http://www.myspace.com/echstreunion98> or

Check payable to Claudia Lam/Shenesha Robinson

send to: Brandon Griggs,

1185 Solano Ave. PMB 143,

Albany CA 94706

Please specify dinner options:

Salmon or Chicken or Vegetarian

(default option is chicken)

Contact Info: Echsclassof98@yahoo.com 510-334-8441

Tickets are non-refundable and will not be sold at the door

Class of 1958 - 50th Class Reunion

October 18, 2008 - Concord Hilton

Contact Joe Stadum at (925)933-7444 - joestadum@comcast.net or

Gerry Fraser Bernick at (925)937-2533 - gerrybernick@hotmail.com

Class of 1988 - 20 Year Reunion

AUGUST 30TH, 2008

9PM - 12AM**SENIOR BOAT CRUISE 2.0 ~ THE WHITE PARTY**

Jack London Square (Oakland)

Leaving at 9:00PM SHARP (so people please be on time!!)

FIRST PAYMENT OF \$37.50 IS DUE JUNE 23RD. (FULL PAYMENT GLADLY ACCEPTED)
PLEASE SEND EMAIL OR CALL US FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Nicole Jones - 510-712-4064

Mylika Smith - 510-590-1179/email: a510production@gmail.com

Haven't received email announcement and reservation form? Please send email to a510production@gmail.com. If you are still relying on snail mail, please call us with your address.

Fourth of July Celebration

ECHS Archive Project at El Cerrito's Fourth of July Celebration

Come by and visit the Archive Project's booth at El Cerrito's Annual Fourth of July Celebration by the Community Center from 10 to 4pm. The booth will have all sorts of memorabilia to purchase and browse through.

Donna Houser

Museum Hall of History

El Cerrito High School's Own Museum Hall of History Update

The senior project manager at SGI Construction Management commented, 'Having the old school's archive items up at the school will be like joining the old and the new together.' Lew Brewster made that comment as the date of August 16th was tentatively set to hang the old sport banners up in the new gym.

For the past three years, 111 sport achievement banners from as far back as the 1950's have been stored at Larry Quirco's home. Thanks to the efforts of Jan Fabini, all the banners are dry cleaned and ready to hang back up on the gym walls again. Come and watch this wonderful event.

Another archive item that soon will be put up is the original gym clock. Remember that old clock with the bent wires protecting the clock's face? The Archived Committee got it bead blasted and sent to a clock repair shop where the wiring was redone and cleaned up. The architect had to draw in a special wiring for the large clock. Look for it when you come to the gym for events!

Joann Steck-Bayat

Phil Playle

Class of 1960, Mayor of Fairmont Avenue

If you want to know what's happening in El Cerrito, then the person to talk to is Phil Playle. He operates Phil's Barber Shop on Fairmont Avenue that was once operated by his father. He's still in touch with many alumni of ECHS and chats with them when they visit his shop.

Phil was born in Providence Hospital in Oakland on October 10, 1941. An only child, Phil was born and raised in El Cerrito. When he was a child, his family lived in the rooms behind the barber shop. He attended Harding Elementary through the sixth grade and Portola Middle for grades seventh to ninth. He then attended El Cerrito High School and graduated in 1960. As a child, he remembers cleaning the barber shop and washing cars. His morning task was to turn on the barber pole.

After high school graduation, Phil attended Contra Costa College with Sylvester Greenwood. Their football team excelled and had a record of 28 wins and no losses. After that, Phil attended Fresno State. In 1966, Phil married his first wife, Babette. They were married for six years until their divorce in 1972. Their sons were born in 1969 and 1970. Babette passed away in 2007. In 1975, Phil married Anne Playle who was from Switzerland. In 1982, she was shot and killed at her job on Solano Avenue during an attempted robbery. Today, his sons are grown and far away, but he talks to them frequently.

Phil remembers that ECHS was fun. He never missed a day of school. Claude Samples was the principal during Phil's time. Those were the days. Sports were very big. Dick Hunn was the baseball coach. El Collins and Paul Parker coached football and basketball. Phil remembers that there were lots of good teachers at ECHS including Mrs. Ryberg for English, Mr. Etcheverry for Chemistry, Duke Dewitt for Woodshop, and Vivian Weatherhead for Math. During Phil's days at ECHS, the cafeteria was located in what was later known as the dungeon. Phil also remembers George Gates, who founded El Cerrito Tennis in 1939/1940.

Currently, Phil lives in Pinole and enjoys going to the gym every day. He is on his reunion committee and still enjoys looking through his many yearbooks. His son Chris works for the City of Santa Rosa and enjoys "doing it all". His son, Noel, lives in Puerto Escondido, Mexico and Brazil, where he surfs, does photography, and makes surfing movies.

Janet Abelson

2008 Archiving Scholarships

A Record High of 21 Applications!

ECHS Archive Scholarships

The Archiving Scholarship Committee was able to increase the number of awards this year from three to four scholarships. The increase in the number of awarded scholarships was made possible by the recently disbanded East Bay Community Alumni Foundation, chaired by alum Charlotte Rogato.

Each scholarship is \$1000. Twenty-one applications were received this year. Each student's applications were outstanding which made the selection process especially challenging.

We are honored to announce the recipients for 2008. They are Christina Mills who selected as one of the graduation speakers, Crystal Komarizadeh, Lilliana Rojas and Ethan Houser. Christina and Lilliana will be attending local community colleges. Crystal and Ethan will attend University of California, Davis.

Thank you to dedicated committee members, Bobbi Griggs, Howard Mackey, Gregg Mayer, Charlotte Rogato, Joann Steck-Bayat, and Lu Tipping for their tireless efforts and commitment to education and youth.

Lu Tipping

Alumni Information Needed

We are starting to plan for the New ECHS Opening Day. We need your information. Email your information to ECarchives@aol.com. If you know any Alumni who have not subscribed to the ECHS Archiving Project New letter, please forward their information to ECarchives@aol.com.

Reunion Leaders

Are you a reunion leader for one of our ECHS years? Please send us an updated class list.

We would like to ask for your help to notify us as to whom the reunion leaders are from each missing year. If you know of a missing alumni chair, please notify

David Bilyeu at davidechs65@att.net.

1944-Howard Mackey -- Howard2201@aol.com
1945- --David Blackemore-- dmbmore@foxinternet.com
1946- --
1947- --
1948-Lee Brown Alice--Tidblgr62@aol.com
1949-Jack McFarland-- Hambone@intercomm.com
1950-Harry Hanson --
1950-Nordahl Bonomi Lucy--
1950-Gorrell Carter Patricia--
1951---
1952-Pryde Tezzi Toni--
1953-Weller Miller Barbara-- Eandbweller@aol.com
1953-Don Pryde --
1953--
1953-Jerry Deuker --
1954-Nancy Teese --
1955-Bill Lawton --w hlawton@frontiernet.net
1956-Jackie Fonken --j_fonken@hotmail.com
1957-Hein Fredrick Marlene-- marlene2u6@aol.com,
- 1957 Richard Barker--hrbarker@sbcglobal.net,
1957 Eileen Gregovich Brooks-- eileenbrooks1@mac.com
1958-Gerry Fraser Bertnick-- gerrybertnick@hotmail.com
1958-Ken Johnson--kbjbj@comcast.net
1958-Joe Stadum--joestadum@comcast.net
1959--
1959- Taylor Jim--
1960- Davis Smith Pennie--
1960-Phil Playle --
1960-Arkin Arthur Barbara--
1961-Richard Pryde --richpryde@aol.com
1961-Davis Courtright Bea--
1962-Creech Balas Juanita-- rbalas@earthlink.net
1962-Sherry Humphrey --
1963-Mark Bautista --marcusec63@aol.com
1964-Leslie Gadwood --
1964-Jackie Olson --
1965-Dennis Kalis --dkalis@sbcglobal.net
1966-Sandy Berry Faccini--sandy48@pacbell.net
1966-Diana De Gracia,Denise Murphy Bradfield
1967-Roddy Lee --lcp1967@aol.com
1968-Paul Bailey -- paul@pbailey.net
1968-Yvonne LePage Schwartz -- Phoenixdancer1@aol.com
1968-Jeanne Lotta-Sellers-- jeannels@earthlink.net
1969-Malcolm Sproul --
1970-Cathy Nielsen --
1971-Gene Staus--ech1971@sbcglobal.net
1972-Jerry Dagna --jdagna@cox.net
1972-Al Gambetti --
1973-Dale Myer --ech1973@aol.com
1973-www.ech1973.com 1974-Belinda Jeffries --
1975-Robinson Tate Agnes-- aggie657@yahoo.com
1976-Reiss Grunau Nancy-- turtlereiss@hotmail.com
1977- --
1978-Bill Reichle --bill@twistsf.com1978
1978-Anna Smithey --
1978-Donna Nordahl --
1979-Adriene Stinson --
1979-Gina Gallop --
1980-Karl Pierce --elosito2@aol.com
1980-hampton Lewis Marilyn-- hampton@acclanes.k12.ca.us
1981-Denise Hamma --
1982-Roger Grubb --rogergrubb@comcast.net
1982-Lisa Larkin --
1982-Smith McCarthy Charlotte--

1983-Donald Chew --dnsenterp@home.com
 1983-Lisa Boblitt --
 1984-Eric Hardy --
 1985-Roschelle Jones --
 1985-Jennifer Mitchell --
 1986-Kurt Yoshi -- kyoshii@juno.com
 1987-Michelle Barrocca -- barroccamm@cooley.com
 1987-Sherman Tucker Trina--ech87@aol.com
 1987-Griffiths Smith Sheldon-- SHELDENG@FASH.NET
 1988-Nicole Jones --bignik@comcast.net
 1989-Amber Smith --
 1990-Larry Fox --larrydafox@hotmail.com
 1990-Christina Lee--christina_lee_98@yahoo.com -
 1991-McDonald Barton Chakay-- OAKLAND@yahoo.com
 1992-Ranetta Ledet --
 1993-Laivian Coleman -- mrlgcoleman@hotmail.com
 1994-Nancy Quick --nequick@yahoo.com
 1995-Caulkins Rivera Karyn-- karyn_calkins@hotmail.com
 1995- Vivian Lau --VivDog8@aol.com
 1996-Ebony Lew is -- echsclassof1996reunion@yahoo.com
 1997- Evan Soloman --discop@gmail.com
 1998- Echsclassof98@yahoo.com
 1999- --
 2000- --
 2001-Brian Anderson --BDOGSS83@aol.com
 2002- --
 2003- Julie Oshiro Regalia -- joshiro@berkeley.edu.
 2004- --
 2005- --
 2006- --
 2007- --
 Reunion Leaders, To change or add your contact information please email, Roddy Lee--
 ECArchives@aol.com.

[ECHS Alumni Website](#)

How to donate to the ECHS Archiving Project

The ECHS Archiving is need of continuous monetary support! In addition to restoring, preserving and displaying the many artifacts that were saved from the wrecking ball, this year we were also able to give four ECHS seniors four \$1000 scholarships for college expenses.

We would like to continue our work in the future and here is how you can help.

Contact Diane Chambers dianneminard@yahoo.com or just mail your check to; ECHS Archiving Project
 2234 Lupine Rd, Hercules, CA 94547. All donations are tax deductible.

Diane Chambers

Newsletter Subscribers

New sletter Subscribers Increasing! Hey, why not pass our new sletter on to other ECHS supporters and ask if they want to subscribe. Email ECarchives@aol.com to get on the distribution list!

Follow up Links

- [El Cerrito High School Online](#)
- [The El Cerrito High School Archiving](#)

Executive Board

President Patricia Durham,'68; Vice President Jackie Folken, '56 interim VP; Secretary/ Alumni Coordinator, Jackie Fonken; Treasurer Dianne Chambers,'69; Oral History/ Community Liaison, Janet Abelson;Consultant/ Cataloging/Museum, Joann Steck-Bayat; New sletter Editor, E-Tree and Database Manager, Roddy Lee,'67; Product Marketing, Donna Houser; Consultant/Museum/WCCUSD Strategic Planning Scholarship, Lu Tipping; Alumni Web Coordinator, Rebecca Boe; Event Site Coordinator/Alumni Coordinator, David Bilyeu,'65; SAF Liaison/Music Coordinator, Gregg Mayer,'76.

<u>Project</u>	El Cerrito High Archiving Project Mission Statement:
• <u>West Contra</u>	Support the development of a strong El Cerrito High School alumni body - Collect, preserve and
<u>Costa</u>	celebrate the history of El Cerrito High School - Develop connections to current students and the El
<u>Unified</u>	Cerrito community.
<u>School</u>	
<u>District</u>	email: ecarchives@aol.com
	phone: 510-525-0234

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