

Generally Speaking...

NEWS FROM THE GRANT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2020

U.S. GRANT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.grantalumni.org

P.O. BOX 13291, PORTLAND OR 97213-0291

grantalumni@aol.com

Fletcher Memorial Murals Restoration Update

In our last issue, we announced that the Alumni fundraising initiative to restore the Fletcher Memorial Murals had been an overwhelming success. Subsequently, a conflicting issue that could possibly impact the restoration of the murals is now under discussion by a Portland Public School district committee.

During our fundraising, members of our committee met with Grant's Native American Student Union (NASU), now Indigenous Peoples Student Union (IPSU) to listen to their concerns regarding the Fletcher murals. (We subsequently have learned that their concerns had been raised prior to our fundraising initiative). The concerns of the IPSU come down to how the murals make people feel welcome who are coming into the auditorium. It is the issue of emotion and inclusiveness rather than the murals' representation of ideals. As you may recall, included in the two murals are a depiction of native Americans (left mural) and pioneers (right mural) both with weapons down and each facing each other. We believe these depictions represent the ideals of peace between native Americans and pioneers rather than historical accuracy. The IPSU and others see the depictions not as peaceful ideals, but an inaccurate representation of history. As a result, the issue has been put into the hands of a committee appointed by PPS. It has not been determined when a decision will be made or if it will impact the restoration of the murals. We are hopeful of a thoughtful resolution.

Our committee is sympathetic of the IPSU and their supporters. We recognize that the history of Native Americans is one of immense suffering and hardship. We have suggested that a contemporary mural based upon the vision and support of the IPSU and their supporters be painted and displayed at Grant. This could be an opportunity to add something to the school's history that could help provide healing. We also see the Fletcher murals serve as an opportunity for Grant students to begin a class discussion on the history of Native Americans. The Oregon legislature in 2017 enacted Senate Bill (SB) 13 requiring the Oregon Department of Education to create K-12 Native American Curriculum for inclusion in Oregon public schools. To quote **Jan Taylor Castle**, a class of 1965 alumna, "The murals strike me as extremely enlightened for their time by trying to depict the ideals of equality of men and women (still not achieved) and peace between native people and settlers (which is not the whole story of their interactions). Neither of those are intended to be literal representations, they are intended to be symbolic, which is true of most artwork." The Alumni Association feels these murals could provide a starting point for a deep and rich exploration of equity and inclusion, the role of art in healing, and the treatment of historical artifacts in a rapidly changing world.

One last update about the condition of the murals. We have learned that there was extensive smoke damage to the murals while remodeling the auditorium. As a result, the contractor took the responsibility of having the murals cleaned. As a result, the latest cost estimate to restore the murals is now about half the amount originally anticipated.

Is This Your Last Newsletter?

All Grant alums are members of the alumni association but not all are paid members. Paid members provide the financial support that enables the association to host the annual picnic, award scholarships, keep all of you in the loop about class reunions, support the Athletic Hall of Fame, nominate candidates for the General Hall of Achievement, and publish two annual newsletters.

The Winter newsletter will continue to be emailed to all for whom we have a current email address with a print copy mailed to all paid members and those for whom we do not have a valid email. Future Summer issues will only be mailed to paid members to recognize their continued support.

Annual dues are \$20.00, \$30.00 for a couple, or \$250.00 for a lifetime membership. Show your appreciation for the newsletter and the work done by the association by becoming a paid member by filling out the membership form on the bottom of page 3 and sending to US Grant Alumni Assn. PO Box 13291 Portland OR 97213-0291

Grant High School was the place to be Saturday, September 7, 2019! Five hundred alums, neighbors, and interested citizens attended the official reopening outside the front of the school for Native American ceremonies and to hear speakers including Principal Carol Campbell, District Superintendent Guadalupe Guerrero, Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury '85, School Board member Scott Bailey '71, Grant students.

The school district estimated 2500 toured the school.



Grant Band Native American ceremony Superintendent Guerrero, County Chair Deborah Kafoury wearing her '85 cheer uniform, Mayor Ted Wheeler, Congressman Earl Blumenauer
Grant Royal Blues Guests eager to see the school Some things never change
Judge Robert Jones '45 Center stairwell Ribbon cutting
Gendrills performing at half time for all alum game Future Generals John Mears '70 game announcer Blue and Gray basketball teams

To see more photos go to the Alumni website: <https://www.grantalumni.org/grant-grand-opening.html>

Carol Campbell, Grant Principal To Retire



Carol Campbell announced in December that she will retire at the end of the school year. She was a Science teacher at Grant for ten years before serving in Newberg and then moving to Benson as the principal. Her tenure as Grant's principal began in 2013 and included overseeing the remodeling project. Before the remodel began, she was offered the position of overseeing district high schools, but turned down the job to remain at Grant throughout the move to the Marshall campus and staying an additional year to reestablish Grant in its new building. The Alumni Assn. will miss her openness, willingness to work with us, and her commitment to our alma mater and its students.

Letter from the Alumni Association President

Greetings Fellow Grantonians
Happy New Year!

2019 was a great 12 months for the Alumni Assn., highlighted by the opening of the NEW GRANT in September, and it is awesome! The Alumni Assn. was an important contributor to the success of the Grant Opening Ceremony....over 2500 Alums and community friends attended, plus the association now has their own conference room. Thank you, Dr. Carol Campbell, Grant principal.

The Alumni picnic in July was a huge success, with the class span ranging from 1940 to 2014. Our Blue Bag Bottle return project is raising dollars for the Alumni Scholarship Fund, and our other endeavors are green-light go.

We look forward to 2020 with enthusiasm for the challenges that lay ahead. Your Alumni Assn. enjoys an excellent relationship with Dr. Campbell and her administrative staff. I assure you we will continue to sing the praises of Grant High School throughout Portland and the great state of Oregon. It is an honor for me to serve as President.

If you are a Grant Alum and interested in Grant present-day and future...perhaps you would consider becoming a member of the Board of Directors. If yes, please contact me via e-mail and I'll set up an introductory meeting.



Gerry F. Spencer
President, GAA
spencerworld@comcast.net
Class of 1959

BECOME A MEMBER OF YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Your Board of Directors meets monthly devoting volunteer time to keep the association moving. PLEASE SUPPORT US by sending your \$20 dues by mail or online www.grantalumni.org at the dues and donations page. We are a recognized 501(c) 3 charitable organization. The association also offers a Lifetime Membership for \$250.00. Please fill out and enclose the form below with your annual dues and mail to: US Grant Alumni Assn. PO Box 13291 Portland OR 97213-0291

Name(s) _____ Maiden name _____ Grad Year _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone(s) _____

Enclosed Dues: \$20 Annual dues _____ \$30 per couple annual dues _____ \$250 Lifetime Membership _____

Enclosed Donation: Scholarship Fund _____ General Fund _____ Newsletter _____

I can help: Mural Restoration _____ Picnic _____ Newsletter _____ Other _____ Interests _____

Class of 1954

The class of 1954 staged its 65th reunion at Waverly Country Club on Saturday, August 3, 2019, attracting 85 classmates, spouses, and friends for the buffet and program that included Grant high school former choir members with a vocal medley. The beautiful afternoon and evening showcased classmates and the Willamette river view. **Pete Charlston** emceed a fun-filled program. The only downside was the loss before and after the reunion of its co-chairwomen, **Marilyn Walker Portwood** and **Sally Cathcart Knauss** with unexpected deaths.

Reunion Committee Classmates:

Kent Mays James Elieff
Louise McManigal Dick Allen
Nancy Smethers LaVaunie Muntz
Pete Charlston Sally Cathcart
Dick Dominey Helen Wainwright
Marilyn Swant Don Nash



Class of 1959

The Class of 59 had their 60th reunion on September 13, 2019. It was held at the Fleur de Lis café in the Hollywood district. 125 people attended of which 75 were classmates. We had 4 hours of food, drink and lots of fun. A tour of the newly finished Grant was arranged prior to the gathering at the café. The committee consisted of **Jan McCabe** (Chair), **Diane Embree** (treasure), **Elaine James**, **Sue Popick**, **Nancy Stapleton**, **John Able** and **Jim Lasher**. We concluded the reunion by singing the Grant fight song and the Grant anthem. A very successful gathering and looking forward for the 65th.



Reunion Committee:

Suzie Monson Diane Embree Elaine James Nancy Stapleton John Abele Jim Lasher Sue Popick



Diane Embree Jan McCabe



**Sue Popick Thelma Ray
Sue Gales**



**Larry Shadbolt Roger Decker Gerry Spencer
Marty Wahoske Pinky Piluso**

2020 All Alumni Picnic

The date has been set for this year's picnic. Save 1-4; Sunday; July 26, 2020 to meet fellow alums in Grant park. We will gather again this year in the northeast corner of the park near Hollywood School. Bring a lunch and the association will provide cookies and water.

Class of 1964

The class of 1964 celebrated its 55th reunion at NoHo's Hawaiian Cafe on NE Fremont. The attendance was great, the food delicious and the air conditioning welcome on a warm July evening. It was especially nice to see a few people that we have not seen since graduation!

The date has already been chosen for the 60th reunion, Saturday, July 27, 2024.



Jim Lawson Tom Tracey Karl McDade Marybeth Yerkovich Terry Terrall Carolyn Stoutt Gail Loback Tom Grant

Class of 1969



Nancy Swett Craig Luedke Joanna Gilson Barry Heidt

The Grant Class of 1969 gathered on August 17, 2019 at Tualatin Country Club. It was an evening of laughs as we recalled stories from our four years as a General. We had great attendance with classmates coming from as far away as Florida, Pennsylvania and Vermont. While there was unanimous agreement that we all looked pretty darned good, we all admitted we were so glad we had name tags!



**Gary Johnson JoAnne Bonn Karen Zidell
Teri Jones Barbara Kane**



Chris Wood Megan Williamson Cindy Ludlow Roxanne Daline Sheri Jeffers

Class of 1974



**Kathy Fyfe Suzy Rasmussen
Marijo Beckman**

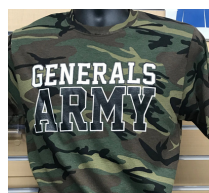
The class of 1974 did a reboot for the 45th reunion at Sam's Hollywood Billiards which was as successful as the 40th. Everyone had a great time and decided that we would do it big for the 50th. Planning will be under way this year. Thank you to **Cheryl and Bruce Phillips, Deanne Neumann, Suzy Rasmussen, Barbara Baker and Virginia McMillan** for another great reunion.



**Randy Rogers
Kevin Coble**

Show Your School Spirit. Wear Grant Gear!

Find Grant merchandise and support the student managed store by shopping during store hours Monday-Friday during lunch. Check out their website grantstudentstore.weebly.com or on Instagram [ghsstudentstore](https://www.instagram.com/ghsstudentstore).



Class of 1979

The Class of '79 kicked off it's weekend reunion on Friday, Oct 12th, at the the Lucky Lab North, with the turnout filling the room and spilling outside and into an adjacent area as well. Over 60 classmates had a great time during the icebreaker, and also celebrated a classmate's engagement and the wedding to be on the next day. The next evening at the Kennedy School, up the street about a mile from Grant H.S., was the "Main Event". The party room was packed, and while the class officers couldn't secure a walkthrough of the remodel of the school, they were treated to a special presentation from one of the main architects of the project, showing dozens of photos of before, during, and after the project was completed. Music was everywhere, friends boogied on the dance floor, and the staff literally had to ask us to leave as we were still talking and catching up past the end time of the event. Over 110 people attended, and the attendance was over 20% of the original class. Another special moment was the wonderful tribute to the 31 classmates that are no longer with us, but the memory of them lived on. Something that hadn't been heard at previous reunions was when and where the 50th would be - a great testament to the results of all the hard work of the committee that took over a year to plan, the friendship and camaraderie of the classmates, and the spirit that still remains in the Class of 1979!



Randy Clemo Larry Richards John Eakman Leanna Leake Patti Miles Tom Richardson Charles Ryneron

Class of 1989

On August 3, 2019, the Class of 1989 held their 30 Year Reunion at Revolution Hall, the charming new facility housed in Portland's old Washington High School. Grant Generals took over the venue for the evening and an incredible time was had by Grant's last class of the 1980s. The reunion was well attended by a diverse cross-section of alumni that represented Grant High School in that wonderful era.



Michelle Braxton-Willams in the foreground taking a selfie with former women's basketball Coach Tom McKenna, and classmate, **Jeri Kelly**.

James Barnett Aryn Boone Hansen John Huston Josh Walker



Can You Help the Alumni Assn?

With the growth experienced last year, the alum assn. is in need of someone who can help with our taxes. Are you willing to donate a few hours to help us prepare our taxes this year? If you are able to volunteer your time to help us or have questions, please contact grantaumni@aol.com

Do You Like Alum News?

Do you like seeing photos of alums and knowing about events? Are you interested in Grant events and news? Then don't let this be your last newsletter. We want you to be informed so be sure to read the article bottom of page 1 for the revised newsletter policy. Use the form on page 8 to pay dues which apply July-June yearly and are due in July. Remember annual dues are only \$20 and help to publish the newsletter, host the annual picnic, and provide a scholarship for a deserving Grant senior.



Class of 2009

The Class of 2009 had their 10-Year Reunion on December 21, 2019 at Dig a Pony in SE Portland and it was a lot of fun. For a little over a year, a private Facebook page was created by **Celine Bledsoe** and **Alicia Lyford** with 194 persons in the group (Nearly half of the Class). Tickets were sold to a 3-hour mixer; food platters, photo booths, hysterical laughter and a hilarious picture reel were all part of the night. Almost everyone was passing each other multiple times trying to see if they remembered faces.

**Will Ford Cherise Davis Reana Mott Sydney Melson
Asante Hollis Amber Hurst Denise Davis
Ivette Dailey-Deaton Kayla Paul Trevor Brandon**



All Alum Annual Picnic



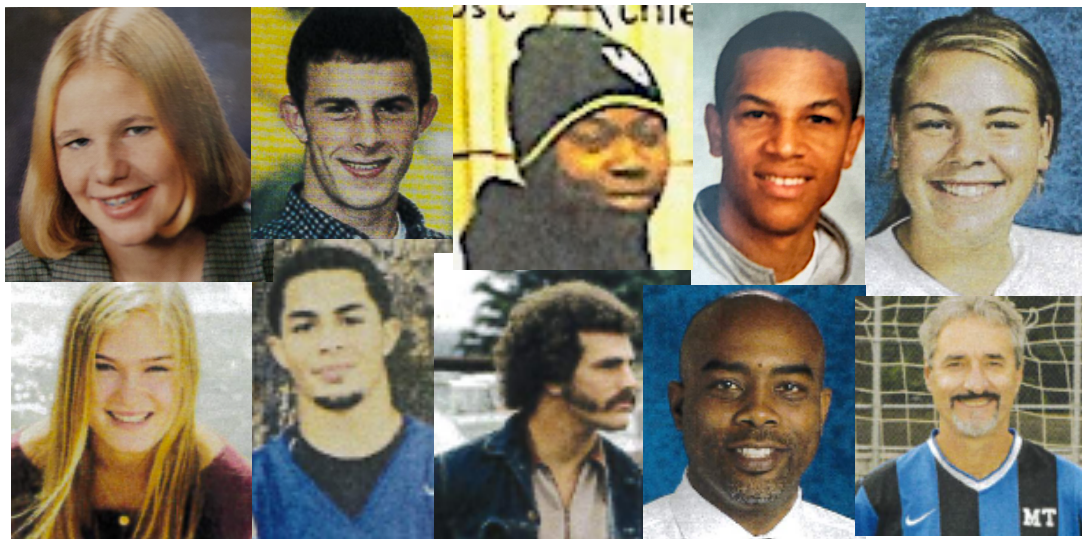
Another successful picnic was held in Grant Park giving alums an opportunity to view the remodeling and a tour for those whose names were selected from a drawing. The Grant Boosters contributed to the success by selling hot dogs, beverages, sweets with all profit earmarked to support Grant activities. Decade photos were taken and can be seen on the Alumni Assn. website <https://www.grantalumni.org/2019-picnic.html>

**Art Nelson '64 Cheryl Farr '64
Mary Potts '65 Doug Cormack '65**



Virginia Westlund '40

2019 Grant Hall of Fame Inductees



Bree Mosbauer '98, soccer, basketball, track; **Erik Miller '01**, soccer; **Cicely Oaks '03**, volleyball, basketball; **Dominic Waters '03**, basketball; **Shannon Tucker '08**, softball, basketball, soccer; **Piper Donaghu '14**, soccer, track, cross-country; **Kasseem Osheroff '07**, football, track; **Dan Percich '70**, football, basketball, baseball. Diallo Lewis, service 2003-2018; Manolis Tjuanakakis, service 2000-present.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

CLASS OF 1965 – 55th REUNION

Saturday, September 12, 2020 Colwood Golf Center
Additional details will be emailed and posted on Facebook

CLASS OF 1970 – 50th REUNION

Saturday, August 22, 2020 German American Society
6:00-11:00 Drinks & Hors d'oeuvres for Classmates Only
Sunday, August 23, 2020; 10:00-1:00 Open House at Grant
Contact: Joe Stilwell stilwelljoe@comcast.net;
Facebook: GrantHighSchoolClassof1970 Reunion

CLASS OF 1975 – 45th REUNION

Saturday, August 1, 2020 Rogue Eastside Pub & Pilot Brewery
28 SE 9th 7:00 p.m.
No Host event but an rsvp is appreciated
Contact: Sara Wiedmaier Gonzalez gonzalez.sara90@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1980 - 40th REUNION

Friday, August 7, 2020 & Sunday, August 9, 2020
Additional details to follow Facebook: Grant High School/Class of 1980

CLASS OF 1985 – 35th REUNION

Saturday, August 15, 2020 6:00-11:00 No host event
McMenamin's Kennedy School Community Room
Contact: Stacey Roberts sacroberts@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 2000 – 20th REUNION

Friday, June 19, 2020 Dig a Pony 736 SE Grand Ave
Saturday, June 20, 2020 Family Picnic
Contact: Stephanie Schwenger grantclassof2000@gmail.com
Or <https://www.facebook.com/events/476308416371522>

CLASS OF 2010 – 10th REUNION

Planning underway. Details will be emailed and posted on
GHS Class of 2010 Facebook Group

GRANT GIVES TRIVIA NIGHT a Boosters Event

Saturday, April 4, 2020 Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church
Details & Reservations www.grantgives.com

29th ANNUAL MACMILLAN JONES GOLF TOURNEY

Friday, June 12, 2020; 1:00 Shotgun start Rock Creek Country Club – all welcome
Contact: Steve MacMillan stevemacmillan@comcast.net or 503.260.7271
All proceeds benefit the Kevin MacMillan Tom Jones Scholarship at Grant

12th ANNUAL PETE MOORE MEMORIAL SCRAMBLE

Wednesday, July 15, 2020; 8:00 a.m. Shotgun Eastmoreland Golf - all welcome
Contact: Gerry Spencer 503.723.5906 or spencerworld@comcast.net
All proceeds benefit the Pete Moore Scholarships at Grant

11th ANNUAL ALL-ALUMNI PICNIC

Sunday, July 26, 2020; 1:00 p.m. Grant Park by Hollyrood Shelter (36th & Brazee)
Bring your lunch - dessert is provided

BILL FRANZKE '61 BENEFIT EVENT

Saturday, March 7, 2020; 6:30-9:30
Saint Irene's Coffee & Event Venue;
20175 SW 112 Tualatin, OR 97062

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fundraiser-for-bill-franzke-tickets-88573316173?aff=efbneb&fbclid=IwAR0NoXPrtxdOs6tlGD3Q_Tlf9_nplq5UIsoENNu7AY-ZKvVXmbzrFiyIs-E
Facebook: Coach Bill Franzke Updates