

THE BALDING EAGLE – SEPTEMBER 25, 2011

All – This time I do mean “All” because I intend to send myself a copy and then make copies from that to send to regular mail recipients.

First of all, an update about Howard Rainey. I talked to his daughter, Kathleen Wicks yesterday. Howard is progressing slowly. He is in a long term care facility in Garden Grove. Is still on a ventilator and a breathing tube but is no longer sedated. He can not talk but is aware of all that is going on and is receiving speech, occupational, and physical therapy. All of this could take awhile – maybe six months. His 85th birthday is Saturday, Oct 1st. Should any of you want to send him a birthday card and message, his home address is 713 Kenoak Dr., Placentia, CA 92870. Kathleen will receive them and read them to him.

We now have 11 members of the class using e-mail. I was able to add Dick Randall, Janet Jenkins Young, and Clisby Allen Crook. I heard via e-mail from Dick & Janet and contacted Clisby’s sister, Wynogene McNulty to get Clisby’s e-mail address. In addition, I received phone calls from Dale Holzboog, Marylyn Manly Lewis, and Pat Fleming Opp that they wanted to stay in the newsletter loop. Gloria Bisbey Coffman sent a very nice note to the same effect. One of the rewards of doing this work is that I get to hear from a number of you from time to time. I know Howard felt the same way. I’ve developed something of a “pen pal” relationship with Marilyn McQueen Mayer via the internet. We share some common interests in writing in addition to our El Segundo roots. Howard did a great job of soliciting life summaries from a few of you, including Marilyn and Dick Griffin. Incidentally, those summaries are included in earlier newsletters and all of them are posted on the alumni association’s new website, www.elsegundoalumni.org....I am now working off a 2009 class list which Howard’s daughter sent me. This helps a bit in updating information from the 2003 list, but I would still like to hear from the rest of you regular mail recipients that you want to continue receiving “The Balding Eagle.” I took some flack for suggesting if I don’t get an indication of continued interest, I’m going to place your name on an “inactive” list. Frankly, I was really surprised that none of the mail pieces I sent out came back. At least they haven’t yet. I realize that the reason I have not heard from more of you could be due to health issues of yourself or family or you could be traveling and not home yet or it could be like Toto told Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz – “I hate you and I hate Oz – I’ve taken the shoes – get home the best way you can.” In any event, if you don’t want to call or write me, (310-322-9465 – PO Box 2063 ES, 90245) send Howard a birthday card –make sure it has your current address info and your name. Kathleen will convey the info to me. Another route is to get family or a friend to help you register on our class membership page on the alumni website. If you are registered on the website and I have an address for you I will mail you THE BALDING EAGLE. Otherwise, will someone please explain to me in the simplest of language so that I can understand, just why should I with no indication of interest from you?

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On the home front here in El Segundo we have some interesting happenings. One is structural, the other social. Structurally THE POST OFFICE IS MOVING TO 2130 EAST MARIPOSA !! It has always been within a block or two of the intersection of Main St. & Grand Ave. It is about a 2 mile journey to the east to the new location east of Nash St. and the Green Line Lite Rail system, and west of Douglas St. – south side across from the new soccer fields and the relocated Fire Station #2. The good news is the parking is far superior. The bad news is a lot of box number people only had a few blocks to walk to retrieve their mail. I have suggested to a couple of council members that the City should consider a “post office shuttle.” We run beach shuttles and lunch hour shuttles from the east of Sepulveda industrial area to downtown – why not a post office shuttle? Time will tell.

The social event is sponsored by the ED! Foundation. On Saturday, Oct 1st (Howard’s Birthday) Main St. from Mariposa to Palm will be blocked off from traffic. The area immediately in front of the High School, in the middle of Main St. will be set up with tables and dinner will be served to those who bought tickets at \$35 a pop. After dinner, a 3-D movie will be shown in the new, renovated auditorium. The event is a “thank you” from the ED! Foundation to the community for supporting Bond issue ‘M’ which funded both the upgraded athletic field and the auditorium renovation. But let’s face it – the event is also a fund raiser for the school district. ALL school districts in CA are hurting because of the budget cuts coming from Sacramento. It is a worthwhile event. Mary and I will be attending although Mary will be in a wheelchair – she is not strong enough to walk the two blocks from the parking lot. I don’t think we will see the movie however. (about surf boarding in Tahiti – the producer lives in E.S.)

I thank all of you for reading this far and will try to keep you updated about Howard and other news worth events as they develop. Rick Crowell ‘65 gets a cc because he is webmaster and will post this to our class page on the alumni website.

Bob Widen