

The Balding Eagle

Newsletter of the Class of 1944 – March 2012

All – News items for this issue include information on classmates, more on the situation at City Hall about the termination of the new City Manager, and a bit on the proposed new High School (we already have two), and a bit on the Alumni Association.

This will be my last monthly issue. Howard is doing great, given all he has been through, and will resume duties as newsletter editor with the next issue. However, all of you have to help out by supplying him with news to report. His phone number is 714 524 1076, e-mail raineyhoward@yahoo.com, mailing address 713 Kenoak Ave. Placentia, CA, 92870. Get in touch with him, welcome him back, let him know you are looking forward to hearing from him directly. I will likely supply him info on what is going on here in town, but the important news has to come from all of you.

Marilyn McQueen Mayer reports that her book review group has been stymied by her physical condition. She has been having serious problems with her vision and current is fighting an eye infection. My corneal implant problem is minor compared to what she is going through. (My vision, by the way is 20/20 in the rt eye and now 20/50 in the left eye and I have my new permanent driver's license good 'til 7/6/16 – my 90th birthday!!) As soon as she improves sufficiently, the group will resume their meetings, and she will report accordingly....Mary and I will be going to AZ next weekend to visit her family and to keep DDS appointments. We kept our old dentist there in PRC. It gives us an excuse to visit friends and family there and we trust him – besides, he is less expensive than dentists in Southern California. We will also be visiting Black Oak Cemetery in Santa Cruz County about 70 miles southeast of Tucson. That is where Mary's family burial plot is located, not far from where her family had a ranch school for boys during the 40's and 50's. It was called "The Little Outfit". We will also visit "The Little Outfit". It is no longer a ranch school, but a private ranch/home of some very nice people who always have the welcome mat out for Mary when she wants to visit. The old school house is still standing and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Up until recently, the school has had an amazingly active alumni association who were responsible for getting the school house on the NRHP. However, the last of the graduates are now in their 70's and there are no new alums to take over. Such is life – "everything changes and ends." In mid April, I will be spending a weekend in New York to attend the baptism of my newest grandchild born last October 6th – Robert Anders Widen. He will be my 7th grandchild. So much for classmate news. Remember to check in with Howard so that he has material to work with.

"The plot thickens at City Hall." The terminated city manager, Doug Wilmore is not going "quietly into the night." He is suing the City for damages and things promise to become ugly. Our local PBS station KCET carried a 15 minute program for about 5 nights straight detailing the situation. It highlighted the role of one of the City Councilmen, Carl Jacobsen, who was very much involved in the details of the relationship between the City and Chevron and voted along with two other council people to terminate Wilmore. We have a City election coming up in April. It will be interesting to see whether or not Jacobsen gets re-elected.

We have two High Schools in town - Our Alma Mater, of course, and a private one just off Aviation between Rosecrans and El Segundo Blvd. The tuition at Mar Vista High School is about \$28,000 per year. The third High School is being proposed by Wiseburn School District. That district currently sends their 8th grade graduates to Hawthorne High School in the Centinela Valley School District. The new High School, serving students east of Aviation is mostly likely to end up west of Aviation within the city limits of El Segundo, but not in our school district which only extends east to Sepulveda. But then, "things don't always go as planned." Stay tuned as to how all of this is going to work out. I'll keep Howard advised so he can include updates in the next newsletter.

That is about it from your friendly correspondent. "Keep those cards and letters coming" but send them to Howard.

Until Again.

Bob