

THE BALDING EAGLE

CLASS OF 1944

EL SEGUNDO HIGH SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2012

We have received positive feedback regarding the last newsletter. Needless to say the final document didn't just happen, particularly the cover page. In response to our request in the May 2012 newsletter Richard McCreary, up Paradise, CA, way, sent us a picture of our graduating class. Unfortunately, the picture had no name ID forcing us to come up with a foolproof system of matching sixty three faces with a proper name. Pat Fleming, Bob Widen and your editor happily volunteered to complete this task.

In the meantime, back at the ranch, McCreary sent a second class picture as it appeared in the 1945 Annual, with last name identification. About this time Janet Jenkins sent a letter offering copy of our class picture with names written on the reverse side, plus a graduation program and articles, taken from the El Segundo Herald, regarding our special night. All of these items were needed and Janet kindly responded.

Even though we were now able to match faces with full names the ID Committee completed their task and mailed in the results. Out of sixty-three students your editor identified nineteen for a .317 batting average. Bob matched up forty-six for a .730 average and Pat "Scholarship" Fleming hit a remarkable 1.000. As usual the editor was at the bottom of the class and Pat is now Vice President of The Balding Eagle's ID Department.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Howard:

I retired in 1982 and got up the next morning and I had lost my hearing. So I have been wearing a hearing aid for thirty years. Last week I had a examination without a hearing aid zero, with a hearing aid 8%. With lip reading it's 50%; can't believe I can read lips. I can sleep through the night with a thunderstorm and don't hear a thing.

My hobby, I am a train buff. The Union Pacific track is about 8 miles from our home.

My address is not correct, the zip code is wrong, it's 95969. I'm surprised we have been getting your letters. I am not much for writing letters but I do enjoy receiving them. Keep up the good work.

Richard McCreary

HLR: Last May I finally bought a hearing aid and eliminated 'HUH' from my vocabulary.

Hi Howard:

I sent you an e-mail but it didn't get delivered. I assume you lift out the "r" in Howard on purpose.

Welcome back to the living! You have quite an experience to relate. It certainly didn't affect your mind or wit. I really enjoyed your letter!!

I have our graduation picture with everyone identified on the back, an announcement of our graduation, a graduation program with the list of all the graduates and on the back a list of all the faculty. I also have the graduation articles printed in the El Segundo Herald. If you are interested, I'll be glad to send you copies.

Eddie passed away over nine years ago. I enjoy relatively good health and though I still drive locally, I have given up traveling.

Best regards,
Jane Jenkins Young

HLR: Janet, thanks a bunch for sharing your mementos, it truly was a great help.

In addition to the above letters, we also enjoy e-mail and phone contacts. Dale Holzboog called from Oak Harbor, WA, unfortunately I was out and since I didn't have his phone number unable to return the call. Sorry about that Dale.

Marilyn MacQueen Myer, down Fayetteville, AR way, e-mailed us with nice things to say about the last newsletter. Likewise, Jerry and Wynogene McNulty, living the good life in Tehachapi, enjoyed the newsletter and correctly observed that considerable research was required to enhance our memory. Dick Randall was very complimentary and thanked us for the memories; for some reason that phrase sounds familiar.

It is always good to hear from old friends. Please be assured when contacting us we will honor your privacy and not print your address, phone number or e-mail without permission. So, with that promise we would like to hear from more of you good people.

LOST AND FOUND:

Our current class roster lists seventy (70) high school classmates. Of that total we have twenty-one (21) known addresses, eighteen (18) unknown and thirty-one (31) of our good friends who have passed away. Following is a listing of those classmates for which we have no knowledge as to location or status. If you can provide a phone number, address or any other info, please share it so we can do a follow up.

*Barbara Adams Force * Jean Carter * Richard Cary * Dorothy Clifford Manning *
Thelma Cobb * Lawrence Coddington * John Eberhardt * Don Ford * Delma
Haralson * Jack and Blanche Dorsey MacDonald * Frank MacFarland * Betty
Peterson Ainsworth * Pat Ritch * Letha Schafer * Joyce Schwendig * Betty Jo
Smith* Doris Stoll*

R. WIDEN – ROVING REPORTER:

The “new” Post Office at 2130 East Mariposa is not really “new.” It was first opened in 1992, when Bill Clinton was President. Interestingly, it has George W. Bush’s name on it. Every Post Office has a president’s name on it, ostensibly the president in office when it was first conceived and budgeted. It becomes obvious, after a few minutes reflection, that our local “new” Post Office was conceived and constructed by the 41st president, not the 43rd. It was established as the “Bay Cities Annex” – it is the processing center for all mail going to South Bay cities. It was never intended to be used as the local retail postage facility. With regular mail becoming a “buggy whip” business, the Annex had extra space and to save money, the government consolidated the two functions. Such trivia lends little to the romance of our “new” Post Office, but it is interesting how things work out.

The “new” facility is a bit smaller than the “old” Post Office at Franklin and Main Street. It has three counters for customer service rather than five. It smacks of bright new blue and brown colors, a big improvement from the rather dingy and unkempt “old” Post Office. From a personal point of view it is a mixed bag. It is about two tenths of a mile closer which doesn’t count for much. On the other hand, my box location now is located knee level which requires me, each time I pick up my mail, to bend down and nearly stand on my head to be sure I have everything out of the box before re-closing. My box location at the “old” Post Office was chin high and I could easily see what was in it as soon as it was opened. The plus side of the new location is much better parking and quicker access to the front door. One might be inclined to think the postal employees are thrilled with their new location; however, when I asked one of them, “How do you like the new location?” the answer was a dull, “We’re getting use to it.”

IN MEMORY:

*Helen Bridges, Class of 1945, recently passed away. She is survived by her sister, Dorothy (42); her sister Alice (39), passed away several years ago. The Bridges family lived on Virginia Street next door to Milton Goodhart, across the street from Don Carter and the Von Flue’s.

*Doris Haynes Birhim, Class of 1941, passed away. In 1987, Doris was inducted into the ESHS Hall of Fame honoring her contribution to the art world. A summary of her service to art may be viewed in the Alumni Association website, Hall of Fame section.

*Bob Hughes, Class of 1948, passed away, October 11, 2012, in Arroyo Grande, CA. Bob was a nationally honored water polo player and coach from 1948 to 1974 (26 years). Following is a summary of his swimming career and honors.

- * Playing record – 1948 - 1963
- * Elected to the Water Polo Hall of Fame, 1976 – Charter Member
- * High School – El Segundo
- * College – University of Southern California – All Pac 8 - 1954, 55, 56
- * Club – El Segundo Swim Club - AAU All American – 1953, 56, 63
- * Participation – AAU Senior National Championship Team outdoor, 1953
 - US Pan American Team 1951, Buenos Aires (gold)
 - US Pan American Team 1955, Mexico City (silver)
 - US Olympic Trials Team 1952 (1st)
 - US Olympic Team 1952 XV - Helsinki, Finland
 - US Olympic Team 1956 XVI - Melbourne, Australia
- * Coach - University of Southern California, Assistant, 1970 – 74

ESHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION: For those with computer capabilities I urge you to make use of the Association's website. Webmaster Rick Crowell (1965), this year's recipient of the **Hall of Fame** honor, has produced an outstanding website that needs to be searched in order to fully appreciate the creativity and information that makes up the finished product.

By using the above paragraph heading to access the website it is just a click away when you highlight **El Segundo High School Alumni Association**. The site's **Home** Page will greet you with a great picture of the school's front entrance and landmark tower. This page provides up to date news regarding alumni activities, members, school information and other items related to the association. It doesn't end there. Other title pages include: **Class Representatives, Honored Alumni, Newsletters, Events, About Us, Important Links and Help**. Rather than share with you what can be found we will leave it up to you to enjoy the fun of discovery. However, to make the search easier we suggest clicking **Help** then **Sitemap to find website menu**. Have fun.

P.S. Just about ready to put a "30" on this newsletter when we received an email from Marilyn MacQueen Mayer. Marilyn celebrated her birthday October 5, unfortunately in the hospital recovering from an infected throat. She went home on the 28th with a clean bill of health.

Howard Rainey
713 Kenoak Drive
Placentia, CA 92870-3515
714-524-1076
raineyhoward@yahoo.com

Robert Widen
PO Box 2063
El Segundo, CA 90245
310-322-9465
rwiden@att.com