

# ESHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## SUMMER '07 NEWSLETTER

### GREETINGS ---

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2007. With your graduation, we now have about 250 additional potential members, and many of you have already registered on our website. Those of you registered will be receiving this newsletter via the web. Welcome aboard!!! Please urge your classmates to register - we're looking for 100%

The website is still a work in progress, and work is continuing. Class Reps now have the capability to make bulk e-mailings to all of their classmates who are registered on the site. We also now have the capability to send this newsletter to the total registration on the site. Other improvements are in the works.

A reminder, Homecoming 2007 is scheduled for Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the usual parade and football game, your Association will hold our annual meeting on Saturday morning, the 13<sup>th</sup>, at the public library. We will also dedicate to the teachers, administrators and staff the Alumni Tree located at the north end of the administration building, just in front of the cornerstone. And we will be honoring 2007 Hall of Fame inductees at various times during Homecoming week. Specific times etc. will follow.

### PLEASE JOIN US ---

First off, to those of you who are receiving this newsletter via the internet, but have not yet joined the Association, we extend a most cordial invitation to do so. Our dues are only \$10.00 per year, and are used only to cover expenses incurred in the operation of the Association (postage, office supplies, our website, etc). Any surplus funds accumulated will be given to the high school for needed items not covered by the allotments doled out by Sacramento. To join, just complete the application form found at the end of this newsletter, and mail it with your check to the address shown above. All memberships applied for after February 28, 2007 will remain valid thru September 30, 2008.

Those of you who are paid members, but not yet registered on our website, we urge you to register today while you are thinking of it. Simply go to the site at [elsegundoalumni.com](http://elsegundoalumni.com) and click on to the word "Register" in the upper right hand corner of the screen. An application will appear. Simply complete the form, click on the word "enter" and you are finished. You will now receive our various mailings on your computer. (Quicker, easier and cheaper) Thanks so much!!!

## **ABOUT THE SCHOOLS ---**

The Educational Foundation recently presented to the District a check in the amount of \$500,000.00 to be used in support of various programs in each of the District's five schools. One year ago, the donation was \$300,000.00.

El Segundo High School was recently named a California Distinguished School by State Superintendent Jack O'Connell. Only 7 percent of the 1,000 or so high schools in California have received this honor.

The annual Senior's Awards Night was held on Monday, June 11. A very generous community (businesses, service organizations, universities and individuals) bestowed more than \$300,000.00 worth of various honors to many of our graduating seniors.

The girls at ESHS have done quite well in sports this year. The girls water polo and swimming teams won the CIF championship events in their division, and the girls softball team played in the championship game but lost a tough 3 - 0 decision to Hesperia High School.

Dr. Bruce Auld, Superintendent of our School District retired June 30 after serving our community for 4 years. In recognition of his meritorious service to our schools, the School Board presented him with a bronze eagle which, on its base, carried an adage that Auld often used to describe El Segundo, "There is no community that is more community than the community of El Segundo".

Choosing to promote from within, the Board selected Assistant Superintendent Dr. Geoff Yantz to replace Bruce Auld, Effective July 1, 2007.

Baseball Coach (and retired teacher) John Stevenson was recently honored for reaching his 1,000 win in his long and very successful career here at ESHS. John is just one of a handful of coaches across the nation who have achieved that level. He is the first in the State of California, and is thought to be the only one to do it at one school.

CONGRATULATIONS, JOHN !!!!

The District is offering program called InfOsnap which will allow students and parents to register on line. It will be offered this year on a trial basis to Middle School families.

## **ABOUT OUR GRADS ---**

**Paul Collette '64** has had his first novel, "Zoey Cummings and the Box of Time", published by Trafford Publishing. The book is suitable for older teenagers and will be followed by a sequel to be published in the fall. Paul has also written a number of plays and co-authored a few musicals. He is at paulofcal@aol.com.

We heard recently from **Bill Bender '36** who left our school and community soon after he graduated to go out and become an honest to goodness cowboy, riding his pinto and rounding up cattle. He also traveled the Rodeo Circuit. More importantly, he became an accomplished artist, producing more than 1500 western and desert scenes, which he has sold in galleries around the country. He also paints scenes for cards published by Leaning Tree. He and his wife Helen now live in the desert, 18 miles outside of Victorville. Bill's website is [billbenderhwy66@aol.com](mailto:billbenderhwy66@aol.com).

Another of our grads, **Billy Traber**, is currently pitching in relief in our nation's Capital for the National League Washington Nationals. He's being used as a spot starter and reliever, and is doing pretty well. His current ERA (Earned Run Average for you who don't follow baseball) is 4.07. Pretty good for a rookie. His future looks bright.

We received a nice letter, two in fact, from **Hazel Patton Cochran**, class of 1934, who is now a young 91 years of age, and living in Victorville, CA. She had come across an ESHS Alumni Newsletter from June of 1984, and wondered if we still have the newsletter. We updated her on the status of the Association, and added her to our mailing list. She would very much like to hear from any alums who may remember her. (760) 341-9352

If you have an interesting story concerning any of our alums, please send it to me at [twoclassiccarrs@aol.com](mailto:twoclassiccarrs@aol.com), or to the address above. We will try to use a few of them in upcoming issues of our newsletter.

### **A LOOK AT THE BEGINNING ---**

We recently received from Jim Norris in Los Olivos, CA an ESHS student handbook from the year 1932. Written on the front cover is the name Elliot Baker, whom we assume was the owner. The booklet was written by Melvin Chabrajez, Floyd Gumpert and Roy Slenker, and was printed by the El Segundo Herald.

Inside the front cover is a brief history of ESHS, including the enrollment during the school's first six years:

1926 - 27	58 pupils (not students)
1927 - 28	131
1928 - 29	215
1929 - 30	229
1930 - 31	246
1931 - 32	268 - Very near the number of 2007 grads

Graduating in the first three classes were:

Class of 1928	37 graduates
1929	32
1930	43

These booklets may have been a predecessor to annual yearbooks, since there were a few names handwritten inside. They include Oliver Schoening, Steve Chabrajez, Clifford Gott, Kay Gibson, and Virginia Martin.

The booklet will be available for perusal from the Alumni files in the History Room of the local library. The room is open Monday afternoon from 4 - 6 P.M, or by appointment Call Sue Carter at (310) 322-8923 for an appointment.

## **IN MEMORIAM ---**

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of the following ESHS Alumni:

George Durkos, Class of 1931  
William (Bill) Dessert, Class of 1937  
Raymond Moyer, Class of 1939  
Harriet Wilheit, Class of 1939  
Floyd (Bud) Manning, Class of 1944  
Shirley Widen, Class of 1952  
Ray Gordon, Class of '??  
Marian Hall Holquin, Class of '??  
Robert Sherrill, Class of 1939

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of these departed Alums.

Please keep us informed if you learn of ESHS grads who have passed away.

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## **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

LADIES, INCLUDE MAIDEN NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Please send with \$10.00 check to: ESHSAA, 641 Sheldon St., El Segundo, CA 90245