

# ORLAND ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER 2021



Let's Pause, For Another Year...

The Orland Alumni Association Board has decided to not hold an Annual Dinner for 2022. We will continue to support Orland High School alumni if they decide to get together but the Board thinks it is still not a good idea to hold a large indoor gathering. But OAA continued to do what Mr. Russell intended for the organization to do and that is provide scholarships to graduating Orland High School students. Thanks to a dedicated Orland Community Scholarship Association group, (and generous donations from the community) they were able to gather students' applications, essays and conduct interviews while social distancing and even held an awards ceremony. ***We are pleased to congratulate Evan Grass, Ashley Pinedo, Joann Salgado, Hannah Rock and Zach Manner, as the 2021 OAA scholarship winners.***

And as stated by President Larry Donnelley in last year's newsletter "Continue that strong OHS Spirit, reconnect with some former friends, get to know someone new. Orland is, and always has been a great place to be from."

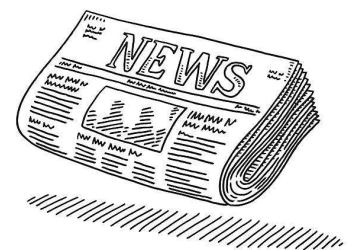
**OAA Officers:** President Larry Donnelley, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Linda Schroer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Claire Arano, Secretary Kathy Congdon and Treasurer Sylvia Lopez. Kerrie Sue Howard, Executive Secretary.

## Alumni in the News

KEN HAHN, 76, was elected to the Glenn Co Board of Supervisors, representing the Fifth District.

STEPHEN NORDBYE, 95, was appointed to Orland's Planning Commission and will serve until December 2024.

STEVE CALLAN, 66, held a book signing at Orland's Carnegie Center for his latest book *The Case of the Missing Game Warden*.



In May, JOANNE LEVET OVERTON,52, was recognized by the Glenn Co. Board of Supervisors for her work as a past member of the Colusa-Glenn-Trinity Community Action Partnership Board. It was noted that Joanne leaves behind a legacy and that many county partnerships have benefited from her work.

In September 2021, the Orland Unified School Board named VICTOR PERRY,94, District Superintendent. Prior to this Victor served as assistant superintendent. For six years he served as Orland High's principal. This position is now held by ALEJANDRO MERCADO,06. Alex was hired by Orland Unified in 2014 and eventually became OHS's assistant principal in 2019. Both gentlemen credit OHS teachers as their role models growing up in Orland. Victor, a wrestler since he was 11, credits Jeff Patch and Bob Rinehart. Alex, who was a soccer goal keeper for the high school team, recalls Jason Bragg and Steve Morgan as teachers who looked like they were having fun while they taught. *(excerpted from an article in Upgraded Living)*

DAVID KELLY,83, was appointed to the Orland Fire Protection District. David is currently Second Assistant Fire Chief for Orland Rural Fire.

JANET BLEVINS WACKERMAN,74, retired from the City of Orland December '21. Her position as City Clerk will be filled by JENNIFER VONASEK SCHMITKE,00 and her position as Administrative Services Manager will be filled by REBECCA PENDERGRASS,12.



### In Memory of Dr. John G. Schmidt - Class of 1963

Dr. John died from multiple myeloma, a non-curable form of cancer in March 2021. He was born July 18, 1945 to Vernon "Til" and Mary Ellen Schmidt. In the early '60's he played football on the winningest team in OHS history. Football coaches from Stanford and Cal Berkeley came to Orland to recruit him. He was awarded UC's Benjamin Ide Wheeler Scholarship and studied science and pre-med while playing for the Golden Bears. He obtained his medical degree from the UC San Francisco Medical School. After stints in the US Army Medical Corps and a family practice in Tacoma/Gig Harbor WA, he returned to Orland in 1981 to open a family practice. He would continue with this until 2013. He not only had the family practice, he also served as the medical director at the Glenn General Hospital Care Unit for Addiction Treatment, was the physician for Johns Manville and was on

staff at Enloe Hospital until his retirement. OAA honored him as Alumnus of the Year in 1997.

That John survived for close to nine years after his diagnosis was a wonderful blessing to his family and friends. As a retired doctor he found time to plant a vegetable garden, created feeding stations for birds, established a fire pit circle with his hand-built chairs and benches and created an artist's studio. Over time his paintings developed from a deep expression of his emotions, his intellect, his physical being and his spirit. In the spring of 2016, Chico's Ninth Avenue Gallery held a one-man show of his paintings. His final painting, a beautiful trio of brightly colored leafy trees representing the seasons of life, rested on an easel at his bedside during his final days.

In his farewell statement when he announced his retirement in February 2013, he wrote "My career as a family physician has been the most enjoyable, stimulating, thought provoking, engaging and rewarding experience of a lifetime. I have had the privilege of really knowing so many of the best people in the world and they all live right in our town." *(excerpted from an obituary printed in the Sacramento Valley Mirror)*

## **News About Town**

A restaurant promotional event was held in January/February by 14 participating Glenn Co. restaurants. The event, headed by Julie van Tol owner of 4<sup>th</sup> St Café, encouraged people to support local restaurants while qualifying for three grand prizes...The Butte College Board of Trustees broke ground on their new Butte College Glenn County Center in May. The center, to be completed in time for Fall 2022 classes, is located at Cortina Drive and I5... Amazon located a delivery center at the Orland Haigh Field Industrial Park. The center will create between 100 to 150 full time and part time jobs...Attendance surpassed 20,000 across the four days of the 2021 Glenn Co Fair held in May. The revival of the demolition derby was a highlight of the fair...GENE RUSSELL, 60 and wife Shirley held their 26<sup>th</sup> History Camp in July. Several unique and new features were conducted to mark the return of this popular activity since the 2020 camp was cancelled due to the pandemic...The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Barceloux-Tibessart Foundation grants were awarded to: 1<sup>st</sup> Lutheran Church, Orland Quilters, Orland District Cemeteries/Wreaths Across America, Friends



of the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge, Orland Community Scholarship Association, Orland Volunteer Fire Department, Glenn Co. 4H Council and Lake Elementary School... Jessica Eddy moved her Chico business, The Rustic Nest, to Orland's Fourth Street and renamed it Sparrow & Crow Clothing Company...The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Craft Fair was held in November at the Glenn County Fairgrounds...The 2020 Annual Crop & Livestock Report issued by the Glenn Co. Ag Department reports apiary products increased in value from 2019 to 2020 by 2%. Revenue from sales of beeswax and honey saw an increase from \$30K to \$103K. Almonds took the lead once again as the number one commodity, rice is number 2...The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Avenue of Lights was held at the Glenn County Fairgrounds, featuring thousands of lights and the North Pole Lodge with Santa and Mrs. Claus in attendance.



### **Class News**

#### Class of 55 - submitted by Shirley Mudd Ceccon

The class of 1955 have held a class reunion every five years starting in 1960. They have also had a gathering annually of those geographically close for "Christmas in January" at the Ceccon Ranch during the past 20 years. Because of the pandemic, those events were postponed. In July 2021 the classmates living close by, and one visiting from Arizona, again gathered at the Ceccon Ranch making plans for a mini reunion to be held at the Beck Ranch in October.

On October 23, 2021 Sandy Beck hosted this event (with considerable help from a special friend Suzzette Austin). In addition those attending were: BARBARA WARREN BOOT, BILL and SHIRLEY MUDD CECCON, DOROTHY KAISER COOK (& Vic), DORIS JOHNSON DRAGSETH (& Bill), CATHY ADRAGNA FRESHOUR, RAY GOLLNICK (& Verda Belle), ERVIN HALDORSON, RAYMOND JENSEN (& son Michael), LORENE STEMPLE LAUCK (& Frank), JEAN ONDRICEK, RICHARD PIPER, BLANCHE MONTGOMERY PONTAROLO (& Tony), DOLORES DINGELER ROGERS (traveling from Arizona), JOAN HUTCHINS SALVAGNO, KAY STRAWN (& Tom), DON THOMAS (& Lillian), GEORGE TROVAO (& Lana) and JERRY WOODWARD.

Each classmate received a gift sent from Carthage MO from classmate Lloyd Brown and his wife Ginny. They had made very practical kitchen

hanging towels as a keepsake. Besides blue and white table flowers, the tables were decorated with "Class of '55" coasters that had been made by Ervin Haldorson's wife Karen.

Because of inappropriate stormy weather, JIM BEQUETTE (& Bille) were unable to attend.

Unable to attend but sending their best regards were: HERMAN SPANNAUS, CHUCK BAKER, SHIRLEY JONES BORACCI, PETE CAMPER, EMILYANN FORRESTER EMOND, DORTHA LEACH FORRESTER, ELINOR BARTHOLOMEW HAGSTROM, BOB HOLLIS, GARY JACOBSON, JUDY JOKSCH, JACK MARTIN, HARVEY PECK, WANDA HUDGINS RENALDI, DAVE SMITH, MARY SMITH, DWIGHT SWABACK, JIM WILLIAMS and JERI ZAGAR YOUNG.



FRANCES RETZLOFF LEPP, 69, works part-time for Ponci's Welding as the office manager and raises beef cattle with Chris Sousa. When grandson AUSTIN BURRESON graduated in '20, he asked Frances to drive him in the parade OHS held for graduates to receive their diplomas.

#### Class of 1971 - submitted by Laura Wackerman French

The OHS class of 1971 celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion at the Glenn County Golf Club on October 16, 2021. 44 classmates, along with their guests, enjoyed a casual get-together that included food, drinks, a short program, a group photo and lots of visiting. A display of photos from past reunions was enjoyed by all. There was also a memorial table honoring their 25 deceased classmates.

Mike Silveira was the MC of the pre-dinner program. He welcomed the attendees with a call-out to the classmates who were attending their first reunion. Ralph Ellis was deemed to have come the furthest distance, traveling from Indiana. Special recognition was given to classmates who are Veterans. It was noted that three of their classmates have been honored as OHS Alumnus of the Year: Skip Lohse, Bill Harden and Chris Gomez Redes. Mike Whitsett and Chris Gomez Redes donated items for a give-away drawing.

The reunion committee included KATHY LAMBERT FRANK, LAURA WACKERMAN FRENCH, SUE VOLZ LONG, SANDY BAY, CHRIS GOMEZ REDES and MIKE SILVEIRA. A big thanks to them for organizing and putting on a great

party. Special thanks also goes to these people and businesses: Cory and Ginger from the Glenn County Golf Club; John, Brandon and Brett Romano for providing the meat; Roots Catering for providing appetizers and salads; Marina Martinez for providing the cookies and cupcakes; Jeremy Lockett for taking the class photo; and Oscar's for providing the banners and decorations. We would also like to thank the OHS Alumni Diantha, Kathy, Vicki and Terry for serving the food and greeting the guests.

A vote was taken and the classmates decided to have another reunion in the future, possibly in 5 years. Be sure to check out the "OHS Class of 1971" page on Facebook.

Those attending (and all making it into the class photo except KAREN PLOTT LANDRUM who arrived after it was taken): SPENCER DAY, MIKE WHITSETT, CHARLIE EDGAR, MIKE MELLO, DAVE THOMAS, BILL HARDEN, MARK MORANVILLE, MIKE SEALY, KAREN GOECKEN BIANE, RALPH ELLIS, JIM WILSON, NELS LEEN, SANDY BAY, MIKE REHSE, MOLLY WALLACE, SUSAN WACKERMAN FREY, SANDI WACKERMAN, LAURA WACKERMAN FRENCH, RANDI MEGORDEN, LUANNE BRUCE STEWART, DENISE MILLER MILLER, JENNIFER GILES MCKENZIE, DONNA WINBOLT HARVEY, LORETTA ANDRES LITTLE, NANCY WARLICK, SUE ARNOLD SMITH, CHRIS GOMEZ REDES, JANICE MATHER COOPER, MARILYN DALTON UTTERBACK, MIKE SILVEIRA, SUSAN DONALDSON COTE, CASSY LAVIGNE, TERESA SIEGMUND MOULTON, LINDA CHRISTIAN, ROXANNE FOLTZ GONSALVES, SUSAN VOLZ LONG, DARCEY SHARP, ANN ANTHIENY CAMPER, JEANNETTE STEPHENS GREEN, RANDY BORJAS, RICK BORJAS, VAL IRWIN JOHNSON and JOHN CAMPER.



JODY WOODS SAMONS,78, Orland is busy with her consulting business, EB3 Development...

WALTER LOHSE,79, has served as Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer for Golden State Farm Credit since August 2017. He has been with the Farm Credit System since 1986.

SHERRI VERESCHAGIN HALDORSON,87, works as a manager for US Bank in Pahrump NV and husband LEE,85, is retired from the Mendocino Co Sheriff's dept. He is also retired USMC MSGT.

TODD TESTERMAN,96, serves on the 10 member Glenn County Fish, Game and Recreation Commission.

MICHELLE INZUNZA,13, works as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Editor for Disney Studios.



## 2021 Moves

|  |                   |                  |
|--|-------------------|------------------|
| Roger Penner - teacher                       | from              | to               |
| Barbara Taylor March, 50                     | Orland            | Chico            |
| Howard A. Reeher, 47                         | McCall ID         | Palestine TX     |
| Gilbert Brover, 48                           | Beaverton OR      | Portland OR      |
| Robert Richardson, 55                        | Chico             | Perris CA        |
| Diane Ribail Krenek, 57                      | Redding           | Hanford          |
| Neal Cook, 58                                | Apple Valley      | Bartlesville OK  |
| Frances Booth Philbrook, 61                  | Yuma AZ           | Galt             |
| Beverly Ferris Hansen, 62                    | Vacaville         | Winters          |
| Patricia Lewis Petersen, 62                  | Sacramento        | Sun City West AZ |
| Lyle Gobel, 63                               | Butte Valley      | Chico            |
| Noelle Adams, 66                             | Fountain Hills AZ | Phoenix AZ       |
| Vickie Kolusek Tregner, 67                   | Canon City CO     | Chico            |
| Bonnie Blacet Grimm, 68                      | Union City        | Newark DE        |
| Linda Karamatic Hazlett, 70                  | Cool              | Fallon NV        |
| Ronald Westaby, 70                           | Corning           | Livingston TX    |
| Donna Retzloff Dearing, 71                   | Livingston TX     | Yuma AZ          |
| Mark William Brown, 75                       | Orland            | San Francisco    |
| Sandra Gilmore Kern, 81                      | St. George UT     | Estero FL        |
| Lee, 85 and Sherri Vereschagin Haldorson, 87 | Sacramento        | Scottsdale AZ    |
| Rick J. Taylor, 89                           | Kings Beach       | Portola          |
| Holly Reimers Ogilvie, 99                    | Orland            | Pahrump NV       |
|  | Sacramento        | Henderson NV     |
|  | Orland            | Chico            |

## Mergers



SCOTT BATCHELDER 12 Erica Vietor  
RACHEL OVERHOLTZER 04 Roy Jones  
TAYLOR ENCK 13 Madison Kristoff  
RYAN CARR 10 Ashley Azevedo  
NATHAN MURDOCK 06 Emily Baker

CARLOS GOMEZ 14 ELISE GARRISON 16  
LISA PUENTE 09 Anthony Rojas  
ANTHONY RAMIREZ 09 Maria Hernandez  
CHRIS PAYER 17 BAILEY BEAN 17  
TYLER EMBREY 13 Ashley Love  
NICKI CRANE 01 Eric Dues  
Blake Roessel MARINA RAIGOZA 12  
DEYSY GUERRERO 06 Bryan Simpson  
KATIE PENDERGRASS 09 SCOTT YANCY 10  
MEGAN MATTEUCCI 10 Kyle Scritchfield  
BRANDON SMITH 11 ALLISON DUCKWORTH 12  
MOLLY SATHONGNOTH 10 Jeremy Vorheis  
MEGAN RAYGOZA 11 JESSE MONDRAGON 12

## OHS News

ANGEL BRAVO, 21, a lineman for OHS' 2020 football team, played in the Tiki Bowl January 2021 in Orlando FL. Teams are comprised of 70 all-star prep players from throughout the US.

Orland High School trap team competed in the USA High School Clay Target Championships in Michigan. They competed against 260 other teams and are one of two teams representing California

The team placed fifth at the state championships before heading to the championships.

Woodshop students participated in a statewide competition that is meant to raise awareness of careers in the construction industry while also helping them build skills. The students' building project was an 8' by 12' shed and upon completion will be used on the school's farm.

OHS Theater group presented "Fighting Demons" in May.





Graduating Seniors from the OHS class of 2021 received awards and scholarships from a variety of community groups, companies, organizations and families in June. ANJANEESA WARD received the Principal's Award for being a dedicated student who is both motivated and responsible.

OHS' swim team is small in size but they are mighty in their swim times and competitive swimming against other north state teams that are much larger in size per coach SUZI WALSH KOCHEMS, 83. She brought 14 swimmers to a novice meet in Durham in October 2021 and they brought home the second highest team score with 305 points.

Drum Line for OHS placed third in their division at a band review held in November.

In cross country, Jesse Hicks was the No. 1 individual qualifier from Division 4 and finished 25th out of 132. The Varsity Girls Cross Country team made it to State. Paris Esther was the Division 4 champion, finishing 7th overall out of 96. Cameron Phillips finished 25th out of 96. The girls team included Paris Esther, Cameron Phillips, Arianna Garcia, Itzel Esquivel, Abby Johnson and SeaAnna Ross.

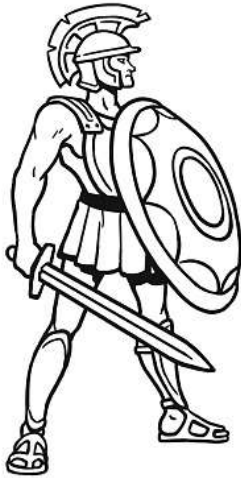
The girls' volleyball team captured the Butte View league title with 12 wins and no losses. They advanced to the State playoffs but lost to Skyline High School. Their coach, Miranda Coughlin, reached her 100<sup>th</sup> win during the team's September 2, 2021 game with Anderson. Franchesca Martins and Mallory Foster were chosen to play in the North Valley Sections All-Star Volleyball game. Coaching them for the South team were OHS coaches Coughlin and Lisa Vlach. Franchesca made All-Sections and Zoey James, 2<sup>nd</sup> Team.

Speaking of Ms. Coughlin, her students' 2020 Yearbook cover was featured in Herff Jones' "Best of the Best" portfolio.

Orland retained the axe once again with a 55-0 win over the Honkers (0-3). It was the second straight Battle of the Axe the Orland defense has not allowed a point to the Honkers, who did not play in 2020. Orland has not lost this matchup since 2008. The Trojan football team of 2021 finished with a 4-1 league mark, 9-3 overall. The Paradise Bobcats ended the teams' grid season in November.

The OHS Winter Band concert held in December was lived streamed and in person.

# In Memoriam



MURRAY SNODGRASS 1935  
BEATRICE CECCON SCHROER 1942  
ANITA GILHAM ANDRES 1942  
JOYCE JOBE HILLS 1943  
FRED HIBDON 1943  
ELSIE SILVEIRA LORENZO 1944  
KEITH BAUGHER 1944  
MARC PIAZZA 1945  
BARBARA THOMAS LOHSE 1946  
REVA JACOBSON SELLERS 1947  
FRED LEON HIBDON 1943  
MARGARET "MAGGIE" LYNN BAY 1948  
GERALDINE STIREWALT GARDNER 1948  
DIANA CAMPER ELLIS 1949  
JOHN JACOBSON 1949  
BRUCE A. ROBERTS 1949  
HAROLD HALDORSON 1949  
LEROY MADSEN 1949  
SHIRLEY ASHCROFT ERICKSON 1950  
DON "KING" KAYSER 1950  
THOMAS KALB 1950  
THOMAS BIRCH 1951  
RONALD LOBSIEN 1952  
ERNEST HALDORSON 1952  
DONALD R. HILL 1952  
JAMES AGUIAR 1953  
RAY HOWARD 1954  
JOAN WALKER AGUIAR 1955  
LAWRENCE ADELSICH 1956

REV. FREDRICK BAKER 1956  
JANET KOENIG HARRISON 1957  
RAYMOND LAVEY 1957  
GARY SHERRILL 1957  
PHILLIP "SPARKY" ROCKHOLT 1957  
RALPH HILZER 1958  
FRANCES COOPER SIMIC 1958  
ERIKA PFEIL SELF 1958  
BOBETTE BAILEY SMITH 1959  
FRANCES ALLEN RUFF 1959  
CHRISTINE LITTLE SHUEY 1961  
SALLY E. ARNOLD 1962  
DR. JOHN SCHMIDT 1963  
MICHAEL MANERA  
DAVID MONTERO 1965  
SHERRY MOLEN COLEMAN 1966?  
CHARLOTTE ANDRES STRICKLAND 1967  
STEVEN VOLZ 1967  
CHARLES FORRESTER 1968  
DENNIS GRAHAM 1969  
DONALD G. BIRD 1969  
LARRY LEACH 1970  
DON SNYDER 1970  
DOUG ROLLINS 1971  
JAMES "RANDY" MOREHOUSE 1972  
DAWNMARIE COY HARWELL 1973  
PETER R. RAMIREZ 1974  
JOANNE BERRY HUNTER 1974  
GARY GOINGS 1975  
JACK DENIZ 1975  
DAN MOLEN 1976  
CASEY DAY 1978  
AUGUST "MARTY" MARTIN 1979  
BRIAN O'HAIR 1983  
~~WILLIAM PAYER 1987~~  
GREGORY F. MARTINEZ 1988  
BEN S. GARRETT 1996  
LT. SIERRA C. BURGESS 1996  
DANIEL LAINE 2000  
EDDIE ONTIVEROZ 2001  
~~AMANDA HARPER 2009~~

Orland Alumni Association  
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P O Box 1  
Orland CA 95963

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RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

2021 Edition

Hey, what are you doing during this unusual time we are all living in? Drop us a line at P O Box 1, Orland CA or email something to the OAA ([orlandalumni1@gmail.com](mailto:orlandalumni1@gmail.com)) Kerrie Sue monitors the emails and will make sure we put any news we receive in the next newsletter.

Also, if your class does get together and you need help with labels or suggestions for venue sites or caterers, contact Karen Piazza Gilmet - [kroseg27@gmail.com](mailto:kroseg27@gmail.com). She has a planning list that can be used for reunion organizers.

**Orland Alumni Association - Membership Application**

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Last Name                      First Name                      Maiden Name                      Class Year

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Mailing Address                      City                      State/Zipcode

Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

- I would like a                       One year membership for - \$5.00  
 Five year membership for - \$10.00  
 Ten year membership for - \$20.00

**If this box is checked:**   
**It's Time to Renew!**

My membership is up to date, please accept:

- Donation to the Sports Trophy Project  
 Donation to the scholarship fund  
 \_\_\_\_\_ year membership gift

To: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

Information for OAA Newsletter's next published edition about  
you or other Alumni:

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Return form to Orland Alumni Association, P O Box 1, Orland CA  
95963.