



# South Salem High School

# Class of 1963

# NEWSLETTER

SUMMER/FALL 2011

## *An Interesting Life!*

*By Dan Withers*



**M**y life has been a whirlwind of great stuff. I was in the Navy as an ET (electronics technician) and got out in three years as a “kiddie kruser” (go in before 18, get out day before 21<sup>st</sup> birthday).” That gave me 4 years of college on the GI Bill. Went to OTI (now OIT I suppose) for four years and got a BSEE

(electrical engineering). Met and married my first wife Shirley in K Falls, but that marriage crashed and burned after 4 years.

Some years later met my current wife, Roxane, and we have been together for 35 years. We have worked together or for the same technology companies for all but about 8 of those years. She is a UC Santa Barbara econ/math major and software developer. Currently she is a project manager scheduling developers for jobs at Microsoft working as a contractor for the big guys Accenture.

I have been in all kinds of computer and communications companies. I started a computer repair company in Bellevue, WA that went 18 years before the big guys made me an offer that I couldn't refuse. Then it was off to several startup companies in the wireless communications field. Those were wild times as that industry was maturing.

We moved to Port Ludlow in 1991 and got to build our dream house with a view and have enjoyed it a lot. We are ready to downsize though and would probably sell it if there was a good market. We have a lot of things we do in Everett and Seattle so there is a lot of ferry commuting.

Of all of the wild things I have done, the latest can be seen at [www.cg83527.org](http://www.cg83527.org). In fact I was in Coos Bay and Newport some years back with the old girl. We are restoring an 83 foot Coast Guard cutter.



I maintain a number of other websites that may be of interest. A big one that shares a lot of Navy small boat history as told by the guys that were there and technical info on the boats is [www.warboats.org](http://www.warboats.org). Then [www.pfnasty.com](http://www.pfnasty.com) is the one that got me started with heritage vessels. I saw these boats in DaNang and wondered what they were all about. I can still hear those twin 3100HP turbocharged diesels whine as those boats flew past us while at anchor.

There is [www.usstoddard.org](http://www.usstoddard.org) and that is the tin can (destroyer) that I served on for 1.5 years after ET school. We have an active alumni/shipmate program and we generally attend the reunions wherever they are held. The activities with the cutter got me involved with the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society (PSMHS) and I am on that board. I was treasurer for two years and secretary for two years and now board member at large and take care of the data processing and software issues and created and maintain the website [www.pugetmaritime.org](http://www.pugetmaritime.org).

As a co-author, another friend and I just completed an Arcadia Publishing book called Patrol and Rescue Boats on Puget Sound. It is a great collection of over 200 photos of the history of these boats from the early 1900 to the present on the Puget Sound. That will be published on December 12, 2011.

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# Notes From Classmates...



*Kathy (Friezen) Holmquist writes ...*

Thanks to all who contributed and for the time you put in to edit and publish. It is great to hear what 65 is bringing to others. I am mentoring a group of women with special needs helping them to learn to fund raise, grow a garden, learn to cook, study the Bible together, have fulfilling careers, and most importantly, become great friends. That is on top of continuing to grow Pathways to Independence, Inc., a for-profit organization that helps people with disabilities return to work and live full, independent lives. Our long-term goal is to get a big house for these women so that when their families are not able to provide as much support for them, they will have the structure and supports in place to live great lives and give to others in their situation. I'm having more fun than I ever did when I was a corporate executive. Not sure I could call this retirement as I am much too busy.

*Thanks again for all the hard work.*

*Kathy (Friesen) Holmquist, President  
Pathways to Independence, Inc. - [www.pathwaysto.net](http://www.pathwaysto.net) -  
503-240-8794*

MGs maintain the Marion Garden, located behind the county health services building at 3180 Center St. in Salem. Originally a rubbish dumping ground for the County, it has been transformed in the last 15+ years to an outstanding demonstration garden. Stop by and stroll around for inspiration, information, or just enjoyment. Garden tours are also available by appointment.”



*Sarah (Sally) Roberts writes ...*

Thanks, this last newsletter did come through in the email. Yes, I'm staying pretty busy at Washington University – it's a great school, the only disadvantage being that it is in the Midwest rather than the northwest! We are just heading off to a sabbatical semester in Basel, Switzerland, to learn more bioinformatics – computers are now a necessary lab tool for biologists! (See our teaching website at <http://gep.wustl.edu>.)

We try to make it out to Oregon once or twice a year – I'm looking forward to the 50th class reunion in a couple of years, be sure to put out the word when the date is set!

*Regards, Sally Roberts*

*<http://www.nslc.wustl.edu/elgin/genomics/index.html>*



*Ann (Byerley) Wineland writes ...*

Hi! My husband (Hal) retired last March so we're enjoying our time together. Doing lots of golf locally and also went to a golf resort in Idaho for a week. We've done some fairly close travel (WA and ID) and we normally go to Cabo for 2 weeks in April but will forgo that this year as we are going to Antwerp, Belgium in September for 10 days. We're looking forward to that for sure.

EEEE, 50 yrs coming up!! We aren't getting older however, just more seasoned and better!

I completed the Master Gardener program thru OSU Extension this last year and enjoy working in the Marion Garden. I also volunteer for Red Cross a few days a month. Gotta keep moving in order to keep moving!

(Marion County Master Gardeners (MGs) serve our neighbors in a variety of ways: A large group of dedicated



*Jane (Porter) Millsap writes ...*

Hi, Hope the New Year is getting off to a good start for you. I had an email today from Janet Chisholm Collier - she wanted to reconnect with Linda Anderson Watts - apparently she had read the bit in the SSHS newsletter that Linda and I had gotten in touch - thanks to you! At any rate I forwarded her info to Linda. I did not get the last newsletter - probably because we have new email addresses!!! So if you would be so kind, please update mine to [mjmillsap@q.com](mailto:mjmillsap@q.com). THANK YOU!!!

*Take care - Jane (Porter) Millsap*

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# Mini Reunions...

## *Hawaii Connection* by Kris Campbell Lockard

John Luchau had just written a story about a sail he made from the island of Oahu to Hilo on the big island and submitted it to the Saxon's Class of '63 newsletter.\*\* Learning that John lived on the Big Island of Hawaii where my husband and I recently purchased a condo, I thought it would be fun to "interview" John as an intro into his article. I met John for lunch at a tiny little Thai restaurant near Hilo close to where John lives with his wife, Christie. John, out of high school, became a career Navy man and retired in 1991. On his very first assignment in the Navy, he was stationed at Pearl Harbor in Honolulu. That was when he acquired his love for the Hawaiian Islands. When he retired, he bought property on the Big Island and, as he put it, "built a house from 1992 to forever." John has a 42' sailboat that he is currently restoring. He founded a sailing club in Hilo and frequently crews on other boats.

The name of the boat in his article is Mele Kai, which, in Hawaiian, means Song of the Sea. The journey he writes about is a 190 nautical mile trip from Honolulu to Hilo. By the time you adjust to the direction of the wind, he

explained, the boat travels more than 230 miles. I know enough about sailing to know that is a very long way in a 28' boat. The Alenuihaha channel between the southern end of Maui and the northern end of the Big Island is 40 miles of the most treacherous waters anywhere. Long voyages in a boat are nothing to John. He once sailed from Hawaii to Bremerton, Washington. Just the thought gives me apoplexy. I would have been clutching the mast with both hands, wearing goggles and a snorkel.

Learning of my husband's interest in sailing, he offered to take Dave sailing. Me too, if I can pry my hands off the mast. In the meantime, we met John and Christie at a 50's diner somewhat half-way between where they live south of Hilo and where our condo is on the Kona side of the island. Christie and I share an interest in both gardening and horses. Over time, I hope we can all share more time together. I have promised the newsletter gang that I'll get a picture of John at the helm of a sailboat. There is a great picture of John in his sailing clubs newsletter along with his story of his Honolulu to Hilo sail but in sailors' language.



Here is the link:

[www.hilo-sailing.org/newsletters/newsletter-June2009.pdf](http://www.hilo-sailing.org/newsletters/newsletter-June2009.pdf)

\*\*See Mele Kai article in SSHS63 blog 2010

# More Mini Reunions...

## Southwest Connection by Bernadette Stone Barrett

Finally, the weather is improving in the Pacific Northwest. It was a long, wet, cold winter and spring. Some of your classmates, including me, escaped the weather for the sunny Southwest. I was fortunate to catch up with other snowbirds and permanent desert classmates while on a 1-week trip to Phoenix in January and while we were at our winter home in Palm Desert.

My husband, Richard, and I connected with Sharon Johnson-Bradford and her husband, Brad, on our last night in Phoenix. They were on their way through Phoenix to spend a month in Mexico. We were able to organize a dinner with the Bradfords and two other classmates who have permanent residences in the Phoenix area: Becky Lorenz-Gough and her husband, Walt, and Paula Frederick-Garlick and her husband, Phil. After dinner at a great little Italian restaurant, we had a leisurely visit and yummy desserts at the Garlick's home in Scottsdale.

Gary and Claudia Olson and Andie, too, spend their winters in Surprise, AZ (northwest Phoenix). We had a nice visit over lunch and into the afternoon. Gary enjoys playing pickle ball but was recovering from an injury while we were there. Hope to connect with them sometime this summer in Oregon.

We caught up with JoAn Silke-Walpole and her husband, Jim, while they were spending February in Palm Springs. They know fun places to visit in Palm Springs and introduced us to a couple of them.

We love the warmth of the desert sun and had a great winter, volunteering for the third year at the Indian Wells Tennis Tournament (aka BNP Paribas Open). It's great fun and we get to see all the world's best up close and personal.

If you have photos of a "mini" reunion or just would like to share what you have been doing these past (almost) 50 years, please contact any of the newsletter staff. We would love to feature you in an upcoming newsletter.



## Notes from Classmates

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### Zack Hoffman writes ...

Thanks to Newsletter Staff: I was able to contact Len Darst, and we were able to have dinner last fall. We had a great visit; we had a lot of years to catch up on. It was a very good time. Special friends make special times, I think of classmates I spent 4 to

12 years learning with, great memories. The newsletter is always special.

*Zack Hoffman*

### Attention Puget Sound Classmates ...

An informal September mini-reunion is in the works for classmates in the Puget Sound area. Check the class of '63 website at [sshs63.com](http://sshs63.com) or the SSHS '63 blog ([sshs63.blogspot.com](http://sshs63.blogspot.com)) for details as they develop.

### Website: [sshs63.com](http://sshs63.com)

Eventually, all Class of 1963 information will be posted on the website. Information about our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion will be posted as soon as we form a committee setting a date and location. Tentative date would be the first or second weekend in September 2013. There is some interest in having mini reunions for various elementary school groups. Morningside has a team leader volunteer. If you would like to be a team leader for your elementary school, please let one of the newsletter staff know. The mini reunions would take place on the same weekend as the 50<sup>th</sup>, probably in some informal picnic area. Tours of the elementary schools would need to be arranged, but that is possible. Other ideas needing leadership would be a golf tournament, vintage car show, tour of South Salem High School, Car Rally to find memorable Salem locations. What would you like to do? Would you like to sit together at a SSHS football game? The next newsletter will have registration information, classmate memory book submission information, costs, and committee meeting dates.

### List of Missing Classmates

Alton Albin  
James Alexander  
Michael Anderson  
Gerald Chapel  
Katy Clyde  
Shirley Coon  
Ray Coopridge  
Schelly Culver  
Joan Davidson  
Karlet Davis  
Robert A. Day  
Marvin Dolezal  
James Donaldson  
Carol Duggan  
Mary Jean Eller  
Ricki Fergeson  
Steven Ferry  
Beverly Jane Fillis  
Larry Fisher  
Stephen Fletchall  
Karen Fortmiller Flint  
Linda Gilkison Myers  
Pam Gruel  
Carol Haynes  
Joan Johnson Hudson  
Max L. Huff  
Ruthann Jennison McGovern  
Paul Johnson

Joan Johnson  
Janet Jones  
Jane Louise Jones  
Joseph King  
Craig Kuhn (Nofsinger)  
Judith Lind Kanoff  
Diane Meloy Sandsburn  
Kathy Merin Strickler  
Verna Miller Benson  
Michael E. Mischke  
Elmer Mortenson  
Virginia Moudy  
Carol Murrin  
Brian Neary  
Elaine Nelson  
David Nicholas  
Nancy Noffsinger  
Nancy Owen Cherin  
Elaine Pecht  
John Reid  
Stevie Romander  
Rosemary Salchenberg  
Richard Sanders  
Patricia Standal  
Sharon Thompson  
Gail Titus Redding Boatwright  
Mary Walberg  
David Wesley  
Kathy Wilson

### South High Remembered ...

In our next newsletter, we will have several articles submitted by classmates on what they remember about the high school years.

You might be interested in finding '62 classmate Larry Potts on the internet and listen to his music. He is now a singer/songwriter and has a song called "12<sup>th</sup> Street Hill" Larry is in Salem every summer and gives concerts. We are looking forward to more stories.

#### *In Sadness:*

We pass along information about teachers and classmates along with our condolences to family and friends.

Mike Sather's Mom died in 2011

Jack Gilmore's Mom died in 2011

Rich Margosian's Stepmom in 2011

**Blog: [sshs63.blogspot.com](http://sshs63.blogspot.com)** - Currently the blog has the most up-to-date information about our events and happenings. All past newsletters are posted also.

**NOTE:** Our new Website: [sshs63.com](http://sshs63.com) will have lots of information on upcoming events Of special interest will be news about the 50th class reunion. Please check regularly on the progress! Many thanks to Barb Cross for the hard work she has put into completing this project!

## *An Interesting Life!*

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The Vitae Springs Road farm is long gone. Mom had a stroke and Dad was just worn out. He was able to sell it in the good times but they didn't know how to enjoy their freedom from cows and work very much. It was kind of sad that they didn't go anywhere or do much. Dad told me that he should have retired about 10 years earlier so they could have enjoyed the healthy times together. He died of lung cancer about 3 years ago. He had been hiding it from us all until he was on his deathbed. He went fast though and that was a blessing. Mom was living in assisted care in Salem for many years as her stroke did not allow her to swallow correctly so she had to have help moving around and had to eat puréed food for every meal. My sister Kay (SSHS 66) had moved back to Salem from Bend and cared for her the best she could. This past Christmas was the first time in years that we did not drive to Salem for the holidays. Kay is now moving from Salem to Sequim, WA, up here, trying to get her house sold in Salem.

## *Newsletter Contributors:*

**T**hank you! Our continuing thanks go to those classmates who have stepped up to make a financial contribution to the SSHS'63 newsletter. How could we keep doing this without your support? Since we last acknowledged contributors, these classmates have helped keep the class newsletters coming to your mail box. Please send your email address if we do not already have it.

Terri Hillpot Maness

Howard Phillips

We also continue to need news from more of you. How are spending your time? Still working? Retired and traveling? Volunteering? Share your story with us.

*Sue Gleckler Palmason*

