



Carol Szymkiewicz <carolszy@gmail.com>

# April Showers bring Rain!! We need rain in California!

1 message

**Carol Vierra Szymkiewicz** <carol@george-carol.com>  
Reply-To: Carol Vierra Szymkiewicz <carol@george-carol.com>  
To: Carol <carolszy@gmail.com>

Wed, Mar 31, 2021 at 11:59 PM



As usual, conversations jumped all over the place.

**Ken McCracken** joined us but was circumspect about the last 50 years. Having visited him at his ranchette a few years ago, I know that he is another who has had a good journey.

**Renee Cameto** also joined, relating that she is no longer part of the ski patrol but still has a consultant gig that usually involves a meeting on second Mondays. (For other skiing news, like the snow, sparse this year) see **Tina Illick Coolahan** and **Marsha Standish** below)

**Dyhanis** continues to celebrate her book, "A Dancer's Life", as does **Bruce Quan**, now on the lecture circuit with his book.

**Judy Belcher** talked about a book she and 12 others wrote about Temescal District history which set off remembrances being shared. (The only picture of me in a swimsuit was taken at Temescal Lake circa 1951).

The next nostalgia notes were about newspaper boys, notably the hassle of collecting money, dubbed "a brutal major drill". **Marsha** reminisced about she and **Clare Simpson** helping **Frank Barrows** to collect. **Bob Main** mentioned **Scott Flynn** had 68 "clients" and won 15 newspaper boy contests. The phrase "friggin" change was attributed to **Wayne Wendt** and had an Oakmore route, rumored to have great tips.

On the entrepreneurship theme, the selling of Campfire Girl mints and Girl Scout cookies had **Marsha** commenting that instead of selling out in the rain, one now orders cookies online. Its a new world....

**Heidi Johnson Stolp** "stopped by" en route to teaching art to a 5 and 7 year old.

**Debbie Agee Roessler** relayed that the Rotary dinner fundraisers continue to be a great success.

Conversation turned to family life noting that **Joey Blevedere Caglieri** and **Mary Ann Collins Anderson** being great grandparents and several couples noting 52-54 years of marriage (**Main, Johns, La Marre**). And on a sad note, ended with remarks about January 6, 2021.

Others joining in included **Nick (George) Blackshere, Tom Mortensen, Mary Wood, Don Sarver, John Lyman, Dick Johns, Jess Gibbs, Sharon McWalters, Marlen Edelmann, and Gay Parker.**

**Next Zoom Meeting: Monday, April 12, 2021 1:00 pm**



*Carol mentioned that she and George are planning a family trip to Yellowstone June 5-19, so would not be able to host that month's zoom. (Are you sure? Event Old Faithful has a web page. I am voting for having the meeting on **June 21!** sdc)*



**The mail bag is very empty!!!**

**Please send Shayne an email at [shayne@sprintmail.com](mailto:shayne@sprintmail.com)**

**Zoom Party March 8, 2021**

Almost\* Complete Party Can Be Viewed Here

Note: The link to this meeting is set to "unlisted" in YouTube. You can only see this video here. It is not in the publicly available library.

\* YouTube did not allow me to publish the Beatles segment from the Ed Sullivan Show.



**Important message from your Titan Trust committee**

Your scholarship committee has decided to defer any further activity with Oakland Promise.

This, however, doesn't mean there isn't a need — or outlet — for your enthusiasm or money.

Here are some of the ideas that have been floated. Please feel free to add some suggestions.

1. Award scholarships through the Skyline Alumni Association.
2. Fund capital improvement projects on campus.
  - a. student driven
  - b. school admin request
  - c. money, volunteer labor or both?
3. Fund Chabot Science Center to award family memberships for a year to financially stressed families.
4. Fund a Skyline team for Save the Bay projects.

Please feel free to add to this list. Let us know what you are thinking at [carol@george-carol.com](mailto:carol@george-carol.com)



### **Kasper Dates**

**CANCELLED**

*They really miss seeing us monthly.*

*If you live near or travel through Oakland, stop by, have a hot dog and say hello!*

### **Skyline Zoom Party #11**

**April 12, 2021**

**1:00 PM Pacific Standard Time**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82497242887?pwd=NnkY2VueFViSkdkMDI5SllXcTRGdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 9724 2887

Passcode: 993264

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,82497242887#,,,,\*993264# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,82497242887#,,,,\*993264# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
 +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)  
 +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
 +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)  
 +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 824 9724 2887

Passcode: 993264

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82497242887>

I thought I would share my husband's covid journey.



My husband, Glenn, has COPD. So, when he developed a bad cough I brought him to the ER, here in Grants Pass on February first.

He tested positive and they sent him home. After four days he was worse so we returned and they admitted him to the hospital.

He was diagnosed with afib. He never developed a secondary infection so did not have covid medication. He developed different covid symptoms and was kept several days.

He was then sent to a covid rehabilitation unit at a convalescent facility in Medford. I was thankful that there was an opening in Medford as the next such facility was in Roseburg.

He was sent home from there last week on the 23rd.

He is responding well to heart medication. I monitor his blood pressure now to make sure that the



I have learned about some fabulous technology

that may help people you know... and maybe someday you. These are products to help people who have low vision or are blind. Why should you read it? Because your friends or family may not get help from their health plan. My close relative April became legally blind 18 years ago, and Kaiser offered no help with her adjustment. There should have been a social worker to tell her about programs and products. April connected with Lighthouse for the Blind, but as a low vision person didn't fit with their programs.

And you may soon know someone with problems. One-third of diabetics over 75 show signs of diabetic retinopathy. I have two friends with age-related macular degeneration, which affects 12% of people over 80. They are under 80. Because we are living longer, macular degeneration is expected to double in 30 years.

Our classmate, **Nick Blackshere**, is telling me about these products. I

medication for his heart is working and to see if adjustments may need to be made.

I could not visit him through all this, of course. We did try one window visit through a sliding glass door that had been treated with reflective material which meant we couldn't see each other!! They did provide him his own phone and phone number, so phone calls had to suffice.

I have remained well and we are still working our way through his recovery. He is very weak and occasionally seems disoriented.

He will continue physical therapy at home and nurse visits until he is better. His primary doctor is happy with his progress.

That's it so far.

I enjoy reading the news that is shared every month.

Thank you to everyone who contributes and helps get it out to us.

Sincerely,

**Diane ♥ (Squaglia) Fly**

For my birthday, I am driving to the pharmacy of a grocery store that I have never been in and to a town I have never been in the 46 years I have lived in MN. This travel is to get my first dose of Covid vaccine! Score!

A day later: Who would have thought grocery stores would have appointments available before my health care provider. I even was notified today I got into the state

reconnected with Nick on the Zoom video calls. Nick, who is blind, had a similar experience with Kaiser, but he got help from the Veterans Administration.

A problem with tech is you have to ask questions and have someone to ask. Like "Is there a product that can help me match my jackets, tops and skirts?" April lost her color vision as well as becoming low vision. She and I had many sessions with her extensive wardrobe.

Nick told me about Colorino. Press this little machine on an object, and it will tell you the color from its list of 150 shades. Nick uses it to be sure he is using the right garbage can as the blue, black and green are all the same size. I am relieved because April remembers buying most of these items and would ask me "Is this magenta?" I couldn't tell her whether some items was burgundy, magenta or maroon without pawing through clothes catalogs to find color lists.

Another important question Nick always asks about products "Will it do anything else?" Checking Colorino out for this article I discovered it will also detect the presence of light and identify proximity and intensity by audio signal.

Even when I know what to ask, I sometimes get the answers wrong.

Nick recommended a phone app called "Be My Eyes", and I was sure he said it only worked with Apple.

But I looked it up for this article, and there is an Android version.

Volunteers will help you find things you have dropped on the floor or

lottery for a shot —when it rains, it pours!

---

### Martha Micks

Got my second covid shot today. So far, no growling or foaming at the mouth!

---

### Linda Roesch

**Claude Sanders** just called to check in.....all body parts fine and living the outdoor life has been fairly uninterrupted by pandemic responses and requirements. Hi to all!

---

I suppose I'll always remember Mrs. Foster ... on that sad day in November, 1963, I was at lunch when I heard someone shout, "President Kennedy was shot!" My next class was Government, taught by Miss Giannini. She was pale and could hardly speak. Last period was English with Mrs. Foster, who, after saying a few words, simply read us a story as if we were children.

---

### Geri Sanford-Saunders

Aw shucks - I was getting ready for the 'ides of march' zoom when I got sidetracked but my technology has gotten too far behind to actually manage such a thing at this point if truth be told. Maybe next month. Oh yeah, " got the shot".

---

### Linda Barkas

Congratulations to **Sue Girton Glanville** who is formally "retired" and finding out she's busier than

someone has moved on your counter. The app calls the volunteer who uses your smartphone's camera to "see.. Both Nick and April use the National Library Service which provides free audio books and braille books. It also will provide a playback machine or you can download books onto your equipment. My sister did get some help at her federal job. They provided her a text reader called Jaws, which Nick says is a good program.

"Say When Liquid Level Indicator" is an under \$20 device using a 9 volt battery to announce when your cup is full. Handy if you are blind and want to pour yourself a cup of coffee.

To make walking safer Miniguide lets you know when you are approaching objects or people. It can be set for 2 ft. to 25 ft. This means if you are walking a narrow sidewalk planted with trees you can have warning. It uses ultrasonic echo-location. April says she can't hear electric cars approach they are so quiet; perhaps the Mini-guide would help.

April's biggest problem is going new places. Sometimes the Paratransit bus can't drop her right where she needs to go, and then she may need to wait for help. The Victor Reader-Trek is a two-function machine It is both a GPS and an audio-book player. The Trek can tell you're your current nearest address, the direction you are travelling, describe the next intersection, and the next instructions if you are following a route. It can access European maps, too!

ever!



**Marsha Standish & Tina Illick  
Coolahan**

With her low vision, April has to write phone numbers, reminders, etc. in large letters on an 8 ½ x 11 sheet of paper which end up in a large pile that she is always going through. Milestone is a recording product that could help her with reminders and information she wants to remember like dates and telephone numbers or books she wants to listen to. Most recording devices go sequentially, so to find something you have to play from the beginning. Milestone can be set up with files which it will announce if you are searching. It is small enough to wear on a lanyard around you.

**Mary Wood**

My great grandfather was the donor of the largest amount by an individual to Tung Wah Dispensary and latter, in the 1920's a major donor to the new Chinese Hospital.





Members of the merchant group Six Companies, shows circa 1900, helped fund the Tung Wah Dispensary. UC Berkeley, Bancroft Library

When Chinese immigrants came to help build California in the latter part of 19th century, epidemics of smallpox and cholera stalked the Bay Area. Locals officials commonly blamed outbreaks on the inhabitants of San Francisco's Chinatown. They also withheld health services from the community and raised the costs of treating Chinese patients at municipal hospitals. **In response, the diaspora organized and built their own.** Tung Wah Dispensary, America's first Chinese-American medical facility, opened its doors in 1900. Later renamed Chinese Hospital, it remains the only independent hospital run by the Chinese community in the U.S., with a dozen locations across the San Francisco peninsula. [Atlas Obscura](#) recalled the history last April.

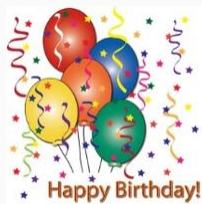
Bruce Quan



Thinking of the LaMarre's - always.....



If you have someone from our class you are missing, let us know. Maybe we can help find them.



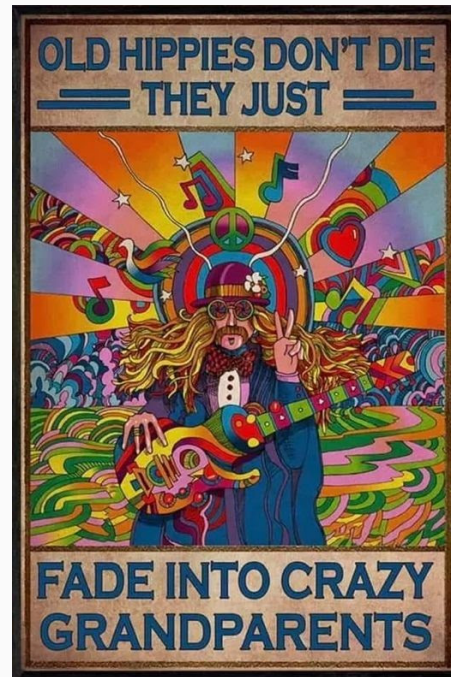
April



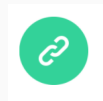
May

01 Barbarah Uhlig Harbidge  
 03 Kathy Costa Rocco  
 05 John Briggs  
 06 Diane Breen Helman  
 Bob Bevier  
 08 Linda Barkas  
 09 Don Sarver  
 10 Gail Gershanov Eiselman  
 13 Cindy Gibbs Parker  
 16 Gerhard Brostrom  
 18 Judy Long Lofing  
 19 Sharon McWalters  
 20 Melissa Silverman Willaby  
 23 Dave Siegle  
 24 Gary Montgomery  
 Sherri Gribben Hester  
 Tom Simpson  
 25 David Niemand  
 27 Gary Caso  
 29 Mark Kamena

06 Bruce Goddard  
 07 John Close  
 12 Laynee Melmet Goodstein  
 19 Ken Hood  
 25 Marti Heath



Have you looked at our Skyline 64 Reunion website recently? Wouldn't it be great if everyone updated their information and added a fresh biography? Need help doing that? Contact me; I am happy to help! The link to the website is the green button below. [carol@george-carol.com](mailto:carol@george-carol.com)



*Copyright © 2021 Skyline Class of 1964, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address is:**

809 Auzerais Avenue Unit 230 San Jose, CA 95126

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
 You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

