

Skyline News Note



April 15, 2023



Quarterly Gathering of the Zoom March 6, 2023

On the last Skyline 64 Zoom, **Dale Matsui Satake** (looking spiffy) talked about her many civic activities, one of which concentrates on foster kids. No moss growing there.

John Close, “Oakland Jake”, who has been absent a while - we miss his ascorbic wit - did not sing this time but had plenty of sage observations.

Tom Mortensen gave an Ukraine update.

Conversation included the usual health report (barnacles and falling off/failing parts). (Shayne’s remark was that the life expectancy when we graduated was 72 so congrats to anyone reading this as they have exceeded their grade level, but we all do need to check our warranties on parts.)

Classmates are also traveling. And not just down the road to see the grandchildren! The Zooms have provided those in far-flung locations to check in, and see (full) faces that may/may not be familiar, and to share their lives, no matter the geography. Now, perhaps, the world globetrotters will share their travel escapades with stories and perhaps a slide show.

The next Zoom is scheduled for **May 15 at 1:00 pm** so get together the adventures about which you can talk.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

There's a Reunion Happening in 2024

The Reunion Committee had a “Re acquaintance Meeting” to clean out the cobwebs. Pursuant to the poll, the decision of **September 7 or 14, 2024** is targeted depending on availability of venue. Please let us know if you have a preference.

Also decided: Venue in Oakland (and as Dale says, easily accessible to freeway, plenty of parking and level.) Skyline 64 invitees only (if you want to bring a friend from another class, that is fine, but we are already looking at 100 who have indicated they’d like to attend.) Other year graduates may attend side activities.

Despite some duffers walking on or throwing away their sticks, enough have said they'd like to join in a round of golf. Please contact **Tom**

LaMarre tdtom7@aol.com. You don't have to be Master Material to play.

Meanwhile the poll is still active. Should you like to join the committee or have an idea/request, please don't hesitate to share.



If you are interested in being part of this committee, please let Carol or Shayne know. We were fortunate not to have Covid interrupt our 55th event as it did for the Class of 1965, 66, 67. However, with Zoom entering all of our lives, it is now possible for those geographically challenged to participate in the conversations, although they might not be able to enjoy our potluck planning luncheons in person.



We are repeating our "survey of preferences", so please take a few minutes to complete the form. Your responses are automatically saved, so please, just fill it out and let us know. **Just click on the "Your Feedback Matters!" picture.**



May 1, 2023

12:30 pm

Kasper's

2551 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland, CA 94602

Zoom Call

May 15, 2023 1:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83744425181?pwd=V09BeDk2cFYxek9Xc2wrMzVhckJ6dz09>

You may want to add the following event at the Pardee House where **Richelle Lieberman** stages a variety of programs featuring authors, lecturers, musicians and programs of varied slices of life. This month features:



The Pardee Museum Salon presents a fashion show with the modeling of vintage and vintage inspired fashions by Studio Trousseau founder, Karen Tierney. Coming from a 20 year background in fine art and graphic design, Karen has refocused her skills into the restoration of vintage textiles and design and production of gowns based on historic reference. Her interest and study of historic sewing stems from the need to have historically accurate gowns for performance in a group called Danse Libre. This was the beginning of Studio Trousseau (<https://www.facebook.com/karentierney.studiotrousseau>)

Please enter the Pardee Home Museum garden through the white gate on Castro Street between 11th & 12th Street.

A champagne reception with sweets & savories will follow under our mature oak trees and spring garden.

Reserve your table or seat as soon as possible. The cost is \$25 per person with all proceeds going to the Pardee Family Museum. Brown Paper Tickets <https://wedding-gowns.brownpapertickets.com/> or call Richelle Lieberman 510.381.1973 www.pardeehome.org



Have something to share with us? Please drop Shayne a note at the address below.

shayne@sprintmail.com



Welcome home to Carol and George, who expertly shared their grand adventure on Facebook. So many others are traveling; stay safe and enjoy.

(Click on Image to read the Story)

Phil (Rocco) has had a horrible health year. What a wild ride it's been ever since I took him to the ER last May when he was having trouble breathing. His oxygen was down to 48. He spent a month in ICU with double pneumonia and blood clots in both legs and lungs. On day 30 doctors told us he wasn't going to live and to prepare for his passing. He told them to send him home. He wasn't going to die in the hospital. They unhooked him from everything to see if he would live and he did. They told us he probably would not make it home in the ambulance but he did. He was on Hospice for 4 months, Home Health for 3 months, a 3 week stay in a nursing home, another week in



I have always wondered what happened to Aunt Gudrid! Now I

know. Interesting story....it is on the internet so it must be true. Curious to read her connection to Leif Erickson. He caused me to get into trouble once a year around Columbus Day....you know, the guy who is rumored to have discovered America. My Grandmother had ingrained in us the fact that it was actually Leif Erickson who discovered America and of course I felt it necessary to point this out in school. Hence the trouble.

In 2004 the last month of our three-month trip we spent in Norway. One of our stays was in Trondheim to visit the Leif Erickson Memorial. My mother was a donor of some amount that allowed for my Grandparents names to be added to the bronze plaques. John A & Clara S Johnsen 1912. They both immigrated to Oakland in 1912 where they met. Their respective

the hospital and as of Dec 31 last year we have been on our own. He lost 65 lbs and his body was completely deconditioned. He was bedridden for months and couldn't eat, sit up, stand or walk. Thank God that Utah is a RTT State (Right To Try), meaning that you can legally try methods to save yourself even if not approved by the medical community. Through a series of unexpected events Phil was given the option to try and he did with great success. Today he is no longer bedridden, can breathe on his own without oxygen tanks and cannulas, walks with a walker, eats everything, goes to physical therapy weekly and is on the road to recovery. Progress is slow but steady. We are ever so grateful for this second chance at life and for the many thoughts and prayers from family, friends, and neighbors.

We are finally able to travel again but keep missing the Kaspers and Fentons gatherings. One of these days we will make it, hopefully.

My parent's home on Brown Avenue is now on the market. Sad to see it leave the family. So many

families in Norway are from different parts of the country and do not know each other except for the genealogy charts we have provided.

Sorry I missed Kaspers yesterday. It was on my calendar and I had every intention to make it. I have been working diligently on the '34 hot rod project and got wrapped up in getting the modern window regulators installed to get the windows to go up and down. No glass yet, but the masonite templates work nicely.

Gene Dangle

As we watch various aspects/landmarks of our society fall apart, this adds to it:

[Caspers Hot Dogs in Walnut Creek will close in April](#)

"Our" Kaspers (to which some of us have been going to for 68 years, although the Fruitvale site moved with MacArthur with freeway construction) is hanging in there. Mr. K and crew not only put

wonderful memories there. Always appreciate good thoughts and prayers. We are thankful for every day.

Kathy Rocco

Meanwhile, Kathy has authored four books, with another on the way - listed in our [Author's Corner](#).

Perhaps no one has had as bad a year as **Bob Blesse**. It is one thing to lose a house; it is another to lose all your "stuff".....all those little personal memorabilia and chachkas that have made you and your journey. Those that have been following Bob's saga on Facebook and the Go-Fund-Me page are up-to-date; however, all of us should look for pictures, programs, etc that touch on Bob's life and send him a copy, if not the original. So get out your Sequoia, Bret Harte and Skyline scrapbooks.....!

Which brings to mind the Paradise Fire and a reminder to **Pat McCargar and Jay Goodrich** to

up with us, but graciously host and look forward to our events.

The last gathering was graced by **Jeff Jagoda** who was bombarded with the “what have you been doing for the last 60 years” questions. Lots of reminiscing went on.

There will be no April Kaspers as this publication is off schedule and June is busting out all over early with so many “regulars” traveling. But plan on May 1 @12:30.



check in!



John Close with his Sons and Granddaughter



John Close and Granddaughter on her Christening Day

Rick Steen, Joel Kuechle, Gary Sommer and Shayne attended the Memorial Service for **Clint Rylee** in Grover Beach.

A packed house was a wonderful reflection of that character. "Say"

His brother (Stan) and sister (Connie) and Skyline 64 were reflective of his Oakland days. There were those from the Santa Clara area representing the teaching years. And there were those there from Arroyo Grande, travel and retirement years.

Grandson Issac gave a tearful remembrance, preceded by prepared remarks from Vern Hamilton (also Oakland days). Joel did impromptu stand-up which brought back memories of teenage pranks and angst; latter Rick recounted how he and Clint talked about being sports writers.



Clinton Rylee

Many of you were there also.....great pic of Mrs. Hansen's sixth grade class at Sequoia. I could recognize **Susan Nicholson Wood, Milly Caldwell Swafford, Barbara Smith Stott, Terry Stone, Richelle Lieberman, Bob Moore, Pete Tyrovolis, Barbara Uhlig Harbidge, Kathy Currier, Melanie Witts, Ed Hultgren and Barbara Darnell** and a few others (but can't find the piece of paper onto which I scribbled names).

A Demolay picture also featured **Cliff Eng, Jay Goodrich, Steve Morrison** and Charlie Anderson.

Wife Lia misses her best friend and had shared the first note Clint had sent her on the back of the memorial program:

My Self spills
Out from my heart to You;
who, catching it with

gentle hands; return it,
Richer to me



"Slow News Day"

1. Favorite Beach Boys Song?
2. Beatles or Stones?
3. Favorite teacher at Skyline?
4. If you could invent a holiday, what would it be?
5. What book or series did you wish you could live in?

Want to add to the "fun"? Email me!!!

Author's Corner

**We have many authors in our class.
Let us know if you are one, and we will be happy to add you.**

[Carol Kay Attia](#)

[Joan Freiburghouse Bannan](#)

[Clyde D. Batavia](#)

[Keith R Brehmer](#)

[Renee Cameto](#)

[Dhyanis \(Diane\) Carniglia](#)

[Shayne Del Cohen](#) and also OURSTORYINC.COM

[Merilyn Copland](#)

[Janet Streb Greenwood](#)

[Ann Hitchcock](#)

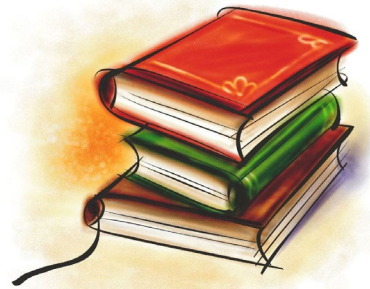
[Mark Kamena](#)

[Tom La Marre](#)

[Bruce Quan](#)

[Nataile Reid](#)

[Kathy Costa Rocco](#) *New Author Added! Kathy has 4 other books at Amazon and more



on the way!

[Dave Siegle](#)

[Kent Willis](#) and his [second book](#)

[Jennifer Foreman de Grassi Williams](#)



Waiting for artists to claim this site!

Sculptors, Photographers, Glass Blowers, Painters, etc
All Welcome to post here!!!



I was going to write a sweet, sentimental column on memories and friendship, especially those from elementary school and junior high. But I have been in computer repair purgatory for four days, and my deadline is today. But not to worry, when it comes to complaining, I can write very quickly. It just pours out.

If you have decided to have nothing to do with computers or smartphones, I congratulate you for your courage. "To thine own self be true." (Shakespeare). My true self is stubborn and won't give up. But I also don't want to read manuals, because I would get discouraged and never start using the device. So, as Poet John Milton says, I create my own hell.

"The mind is its own place, and in itself can make a heaven of hell, a hell of heaven." There is your culture for the day. I have to get some use out of majoring in English literature.

Please do not suggest I could have written the essay by hand; I can't read my own handwriting anymore.

Microsoft crashed my computer with a Windows update. It is either incompetence on their part or a not-so-secret plot to force me to upgrade from Windows 10 to Windows 11. Really, I don't know why I resist: I don't know how to use Windows 10 anyway....my brain is still at Windows 98.

As a consequence, I lost any files that hadn't been uploaded to The Cloud. I also lost all my "applications". I am still not clear what an "application" is: sometimes it seems to be a program, like Word (documents) and sometimes a just a way to get to an account like your bank without logging on to the net. The really annoying thing is that if you have the app on your phone and computer, they don't look the same. Actually, that's pretty obvious, isn't it, considering the devices are different sizes!

THE GOOD THING: I capitalized so you know there is something positive in this essay. It is also \$\$\$\$ GOOD THING \$\$\$\$. My warranty still had 18 days to run, so I ended up with a UNISYS tech coming to the house and installing a new motherboard. This is a piece of metal with a lot of little designs on it and a couple of wires. What amazed me though was the tech had big hands, and the screwdrivers and screws were so tiny!

I want to thank all the Dell technicians in India who helped me (such beautiful British accents), and the one that came to the house. Dell has wonderful support, and I always buy a Dell computer. But if Apple has good support, and I can escape Microsoft, next time I will. I dream that the iPhone may be similar to the computer and the tablet, and I can kiss Android goodbye as well.

Dealing with computer techs in India is excruciatingly boring, because while they can access your computer and type, they can't hit F12 multiple times, and somebody's gotta do it. And they can't hit the power button, which sometimes has to be held to a count of 25, and once to 15....all inexplicable to me. Also, for some reason, sometimes they wanted me to disconnect the computer from the battery

charger. Further, they ask for various passwords. For example, I have two Microsoft accounts (don't ask why). And I have 5 pages of passwords.

Why do I have 5 pages of passwords? Remember they used to say "Don't use the same password?" But not to worry....it is so simple to change your password if you forget it, that I wonder why we even bother anymore. "They" (probably a computer) send a text to your phone with a code or an email with a link, and there you go!

Also, Dell would really like you to contact the tech you talked to the last time you called....but you can't call the tech. You are supposed to send an email, which they guarantee to answer in 60 minutes. 60 minutes!!! I want my computer fixed now!!

Marylaird Wood

The Flying Mantuan



You're driving south on Highway 9. It's past sundown and the weather is clear. Fast, sweeping turns snake ahead of you. The exhaust rumbles. Friendly night breezes travel with you. In your mirrors, faint headlights draw near and intensify. Suddenly, you realize you're somewhere else - in a far-off Mille Miglia, and that's Tazio Nuvolari on your tail!

Fortunately for you, he's not motoring at ten-tenths. It's a friendly chase. As he catches up, the welcoming lights of the Big Rock Inn come into sight. You pull in for a drink. Engines crackle as they cool in the night air. Wisps of burnt castor oil and steam arise from Nuvolari's Bugatti. You have drinks and tell tales of races won and lost. After paying the cashier, you turn, and Tazio, The Flying Mantuan, is gone! You rush outside, but all you see are his fading tail lights. All you hear is the rasp of his exhaust, as he disappears into



the night.

Submitted by **John Close**



"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle." – *James Keller*



April

- 01 Barbara Uhlig Harbidge
- 03 Kathy Costa Rocco
- 05 John Briggs
- 06 Diane Breen Helman
Bob Bevier
- 08 Linda Barkas
- 09 Don Sarver



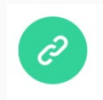
May

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

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
29 Mark Kamena



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



Our mailing address is:

809 Auzerais Avenue Unit 230 San Jose, CA 95126

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