

Carol Szymkiewicz <carolszy@gmail.com>

Skyline Class of 1964 Monthly News!!

1 message

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August 2021



Cacophony was the sound; celebration was the purpose. You can see the smiles; there were also great hugs. Hot Dog cuisine furnished by some anonymous classmates (thank you!) garnished with cake and ice cream. While the Mormon Tabernacle Choir never showed up, we sang Happy Birthday and noted that we have long passed the age at which our generation was supposed to leave the plant. (72)

As for "bucket lists", "continue what I have been doing - travel; see friends." "To live longer and enjoy life." "Boarding bike adventure enduring loved and affection", "Trip to St Petersburg". "Travel to Egypt".

Those enjoying the fete were George and Carol Vierra Szymkiewicz who were joined by English Teacher June Stark Casey and her son John, Gay Parker, Maureen Sarment, Mr. and Mrs. Gerhardt Brostrom, Music Teacher

Richard Adams and his wife, Pat, Bruce Quan, Mildred Caldwell
Swafford, Nancy Brick Robinson (who won the distance award, coming from Modesto), Debbie Agee Roessler, Cynthia Young Harelson, Bob Falaschi, Sue (Girton) & Dorian Glanville, Barb Uhlig Harbidge, Sharon Mc Walters, Howard Allen, Richard Clarke and grandson Joaquin, Dan Wightman, Gary Sommer and Marsha Standish and of course our hostess, Shayne Del Cohen!

We missed those that planned to come but out of caution for the Covid resurge, did not.

We'll have to wait until it dies down and out of caution will not schedule an August Kaspers.



We love to hear from you!

Please send Shayne an email at

shayne@sprintmail.com



















Kasper Dates

CANCELLED IN AUGUST

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. Joan Freiburghouse Bannan
Clyde D. Batavia
Keith R Brehmer
Renee Cameto
Dhyanis (Diane) Carniglia
Shayne Del Cohen
Merilyn Copland
Ann Hitchcock
Mark Kamena
Bruce Quan
Nataile Reid
Dave Siegle

Kent Willis and his second book





Evacuation order was lifted earlier this week. And I'm back home at the river.

Everyone's

structures saved, thanks to the NFS's determination and guts from fixed and rotary winged aircraft, to drone igniters and dozers, firefighters who rappelled from copters into the canyon or trudged up canyon through catsclaw and rattlers, and, finally, to clearing the pinyons and junipers and installing sprinklers around our places, "value assets" in their lingo. It was complicated because the main containment line, to protect Sedona and Cottonwood, was five miles to our rear in more accessible desert, leaving us between the fire and the line. Two fires and one flood in Guerneville; one fire in Sedona: Four evacuations in three years. I'm going for the record.

Michael J Marcum



Hugs. What we've missed during our Covid crisis is touch.

I'm writing this month some thoughts about the last 16 months. And hoping we never have to shelter again.

How unpredictable life is! Covid and 9/11have taught us that. When I read science fiction in the 60's and the 70's, I read stories about space battles, men on Mars, and worldwide plague; and the first two were more believable. What the plague stories anticipated was a few people separated by large distances, or small communities. They didn't mention many people isolated in their homes and missing hugs.

No hugs for those of us who are single and went "full shelter."

Couples were better off, but at our age range, most of us have been separated from our children and grandchildren. I'm sure most of the travel in the last few months has been reunions. Saddest though

Carolyn (Gordon) Gilder posted a note on CM of her grandson, Josh: He won the contest in Florida at the American Idol experience, that gave him the gold ticket for American Idol in 2011, Ya!

Claude Sanders checked in....not impacted by fires as of yet; **Bob**Blesse in evacuation area and with a few more stories about various adventures.



Deeana McLemore and Hubby

Thought you might get a kick seeing I finished the book. Just had a meeting with our publisher. Printed books will be done in about 3 weeks. Been very educational going through the process in getting a book published. They will be setting up pod cast, and talks. Also will be on Amazon, Barnes and Nobel, LeRue Press, etc. Personally I don't think it will go anywhere, but been fun seeing it through. They say they have put it out to school districts with favorable reviews. Who knows?

Clyde Batavia

Editor's Note: Find the link to

was that people in hospitals or nursing homes couldn't have family and friends visit. I had two friends who died that way. And communication with one was limited, because she couldn't talk or read.

Other thoughts about Covid:

Development of the vaccines have restored some of my faith in American "can do". On the other hand, my faith in Americans has declined. I fear "death by the dumb." I hate to use the word dumb, but because it sounds intellectually arrogant; but when people won't get the vaccine, that is not ignorance, it is just plain dumb.

I was very angry at government and media because we weren't informed in February that the virus could be airborne; that is, we were told it was spread by droplets, such as from sneezes, and that droplets fell. But a friend posted on Facebook in February that the Chinese had a small study that showed the virus was airborne as well. Chris Cuomo, Andrew Cuomo's brother, didn't know. He has a radio show, and in March I heard him trying to puzzle out how his wife got Covid from him. He didn't sneeze on her; he quarantined in the basement; they sanitized everything and still she got sick. Chris didn't know that it could have been circulating in the air in the house. But Trump already knew: he was told in February. But many scientists didn't believe it. Finally in July 236 scientists wrote WHO, and both WHO and CDC posted articles on their website.

Clyde's book and others in our new column Author's Corner.

Won't be there on the 19th, but I know everyone will have a good time!

Here I am with my new acquisition...so much fun!



Had been thinking of getting a Tricycle, since some balance issues and osteoporosis are problems, when, Voila!, my neighbor pulled one out of the garage to sell.

Snapped it up! Didn't have to put it in a vehicle, YAY!

It's perfect for where I live, because.... flat ground and four private street courts, connected to each other. Yippee! —Lissa.

Melissa Silverman Willaby

My biggest realization these last 16 months was that I could live alone and be OK. When I lived alone in my late 20's and 30's, I was frequently depressed. After my husband died, I moved in with my sister and her husband temporarily, but it turned into 6 years. I needed to sell my condo; I got cancer; I had two replacement surgeries, and I bought another condo in Rossmoor. When sheltering started I had just moved to Rossmoor for its social activities....and they all stopped.

One of the ways to deal with grief is to keep busy, and I had been keeping busy for 6 years. I had taken many trips, studied piano and singing, etc. Sheltering was restful. It was like being on a non-spiritual retreat where I could do exactly what I wanted other than seeing friends: binge-watch Netflix, read, avoid housework, and stay up as late as I wanted. Zoom was my lifesaver. Virtual conferencing was something I had read about in Arthur C. Clarke's 1956 book, "The City and the Stars." And here it was. Facebook also gave me much pleasure.

And I recovered a joy in living. After my husband died, I wasn't very enthusiastic about life. My family is long-lived, and I dreaded being alone for 20 years, yet I dreaded meeting someone and losing another partner. Life seemed like something to endure. But the very real possibility I could get sick and die made me realize I wanted to live. I feel like a nerd admitting to you the reason that popped into my



Hi, the onl

thing I have in common is the word "retired".

Amazing that they were able to fix it. Best,

Neal Evans

mind: "I have so many more things to learn!" So, I have much enjoyed learning more about music and writing, and a smattering of other subjects this last year. I admit to mostly listening to lectures and not studying very hard!

I've learned these last 16 months that I have changed since I was young and depressed, and that I can still change. But the announcement today that we should mask inside has me screaming inside. I have a strong desire to break and throw things. I've learned a lot these last 16 months, but I don't want to shelter again.



Randy Silver

Keep fighting the good fight!

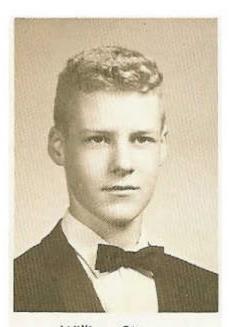
Did you know?

(William) Bill Sturm was in charge of the Oakland History Room for many years and helped grow it and focus it on local history. He retired in 2001.

Sturm was born in Oakland, and grew up in the Laurel District, attending Laurel Elementary, Bret Harte Jr. High, and Skyline High School. He started with the Oakland Public Library while in college at San Francisco State in 1965, working at the Glenview Branch.

Numerous authors of local history have been helped by Sturm's research, including:

Oakland Police Department by Phil



William Sturm

McArdle, Arcadia Publishing: 2007

- American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland by Robert O. Self, Princeton University Press, 2003
- The Black Prince of Baseball: Hal Chase and the Mythology of the Game by Donald Dewey, Nicholas Acocella, University of Nebraska Press, 2004
- Hometown Chinatown: A History of Oakland's Chinese Community, 1852-1995 by Eva Armentrout Ma, Routledge Press, 2011
- The Archaeology of Urban Landscapes: Explorations in Slumland edited by Alan Mayne, Tim Murray
- The Society of Six: California Colorists by Nancy Boas, University of California Press, 1988
- Oakland: The Story of a City by Beth Bagwell, Presidio Press, 1982.
 Links and References
- 1. William W. Sturm oral history ArchiveGrid
- Oakland Historian To Retire / Library veteran built top-notch collection SFGate.com April 12, 2001



August

- 03 Dick Johns Rene Dokos Rores Richard Ott
- 04 David Schende
- 07 Bruce Quan
- 12 Bob Main
- 14 John Rochios
- 15 Doug Wood
- 17 Shayne Del Cohen Frank Vendetti
- 18 Marilyn Hope Susan Louise
- 20 Cathy Freel Bellinghausen Mike Marcum
- 21 Maureen Sarment
- 23 Ken McCracken
 Gary Hills
- 25 Bob Falaschi



September

- 01 Margaret Rait Muat JonesVirginia KellerLarry DayBill DyeMarsha Haner Johnson
- 04 Michael B. Myers
- 06 Steven Daniel
- 07 Sharyn Carroll
- 08 James Morgan
- 09 Tom Cherry
- 13 Phil Rocco
- 14 Tom Lamarre
- 16 Donna Goeppert Knobbe
- 17 Richelle Lieberman Willard Newman II Neal John Evans
- 20 Dennis Osanna
- 21 Terrence Robert Monohan

Geri Sanford Saunders

- 26 Janet Streb Greenwood
- 27 Donna Jenkins
- 28 DeeAna McLemore
- 29 Katheen Hender Catanho
- 30 Roxanne Vallis
- 31 Bob Blesse Lynne Beitelspacher Head

22 Barbara Lauck Johns

Terry Sanzo

Larry Woods

24 John Herrera

Bob Barklow

- 26 Roger Sexton
- 27 Jessamine Gibbs Gadsby
- 28 John Ballinger

Sue Telford Smith

28 Donald Schnarr

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







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