

Skyline News Note



May 1, 2023



From the Desk of SDC

Not only has Spring sprung, but the world seems to think we are post Covid. Even I (sdc) got on a plane for the first time in more than five years.....to have a set of adventures which included two days in the SLC airport (snow) and getting kicked out of a hotel (Hilton, no less) in North Carolina. Was told twice that I didn't have to take off my shoes by initial security and then hassled by bag checkers because I "don't look as old as you are".....love those backhanded compliments.....and remembering the reverse being carded (at 35) when taking some (tall) kids into a cowboy bar in Wyoming. (They only carded the short one!)

HOWEVER, it seems that classmates are really on the move all over the world (although **Neal "John" Evans** reports that he is NOT signing on to the project: [Building telescopes on the Moon could transform astronomy – and it's becoming an achievable goal](#) (Ars Technica). Says he is "cutting back on travel".

Not so with others. **Carol and George's** long sojourn set the stage. Italy is still a favorite destination but here's a killer itinerary from **John Lyman**:

Well, I really haven't slipped into oblivion. I'm alive, and well...and in Europe currently.

With Gail's passing, it became clear that "putting off till tomorrow" takes on a little different meaning than it did many years ago. So while Gail and I spoke of some travels, they too often fell into the "Teux Deux" category. So I got to planning a dream trip.

I left Dayton almost a month ago, meeting up with daughter Marie (and husband Tom and granddaughter Laine) in Scotland. We were in Scotland for a week (including a visit to Loch Ness and a search for Nessie) and we then flew to London where we hunkered down for a week. They then headed back to the states and new companion Peggy joined me for time in Amsterdam and then a return visit to London. Great fun in Amsterdam as we met up with my old foreign exchange student of 30+ years ago. Marie-Claire is now married and is a neurologist in Rotterdam, as is her husband. We spent a wonderful day with her (which included a visit to the museum housing Vermeer's *Girl with the Pearl Earring*), ending with a home cooked Dutch meal at her home with her husband and daughter. Peggy and I had a wonderful 5 days in London, which included lots of walking and a night at the theater to view "Hamilton".

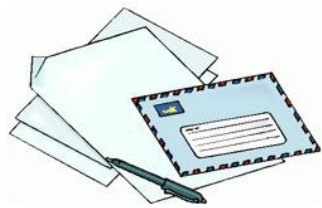
When Peggy departed, I got on a train (initially the wrong train!) to Berlin to meet up with sister Joan and brother Ted. We have been here for a week and leave tomorrow for Prague. Here in Berlin, we're staying in a neighborhood that was once in East Berlin. Eventually we will be in Croatia for a 2 week hiking tour along the Dalmation Coast. They then fly home and I will head to Switzerland for 10 days of train travel (an organized tour). I finish with time with Tom's relatives in Annecy, France, before boarding a train for Belgium from where I will fly home.

As you can imagine, I have so many wonderful memories already in the rearview mirror....with the anticipation of many more in the days to come. The interesting thing is this began with my putting together a round-the-world trip which was to culminate with my attending a Rotary convention in Australia and then visiting a dear friend in New Zealand. When my son and daughter-in-law informed me that I would be a new grandfather at the end of June, I truncated the Australia/New Zealand component. Also, this trip was initially planned as a solo traveler. Now the bulk of my travels see me with friends and family...which has been and will be wonderful.

John Lyman

Thank you for the lovely News Note. I really enjoy them. We have Don's house on the market, and I spent hours upon hours making it ready. \$\$\$\$ later, with new water heater, help with landscaping, window washers, new attic and crawl space insulation. I've never felt my age as much as I have trying to pack everything up, getting rid of cobwebs, landscaping, staging, etc. etc. PS, did I mention that Don's late wife was a collector and celebrated every holiday with tons of decorations? I hope to join in on the May meeting. Surprisingly, the house has not sold yet, and the agent (after two weeks) is recommending a price cut. Are you kidding? I was expecting a bidding war. Alas, the house is on a property of Rhododendrons, Fir Trees and Cedars along with a variety of other flower, bulbs and foliage. Not a minimalists dream. The house was perfectly maintained with paint, but no updated kitchen, open concept. Forget that the appliances are in brand-new condition. Hopefully will be sold before the first ½ of the 2023 taxes are due to a total of \$5,500. So done! Hugs to all my 64 classmates and hope to rejoin you soon.

Marlen Edelmann Smart



The A's Faithful, **Tom** and Brian LaMarre, **Cynthia (Young)** and Doug Harelson and **Dick Street** held a Skyline'64 day at the Coliseum on April 19. This season may be it.....so grab a day before it all ancient history!

Another take on history!



In the News Note of April 15, **Gene Dangle** recounts how he has always told the truth about the discovery of America -- and how that often got him into trouble. Especially on Columbus Day. What Gene may not know is that Leiv Erickson anticipated that folks would not believe his story about a new



continent.

So, he had his picture taken at the very moment of the discovery. You will recognize that he is pointing to Labrador in the horizon. Q.E.D.

Happy Trails,

Olav Gronlie



What's happening at the Cliff House?

We grew up in the 40s-50s-60.

We studied in the 50s-60s-70s.

We dated in the 50s-60s-70s.

We got married and discovered the world in the 60s-70s-80s.

We ventured into the 70s-80s.

We stabilized in the 90s.

We got wiser in the 2000s.

And went firmly through the 2010s.

Turns out we've lived through NINE different decades...

TWO different centuries...

TWO different millennia...

We have gone from the telephone with an operator for long-distance calls to video calls to anywhere in the world, we have gone from slides to YouTube, from vinyl records to online music, from handwritten letters to email and WhatsApp...

From live matches on the radio, to black and white TV, and then to HDTV...

We went to Blockbuster and now we watch Netflix...

We got to know the first computers, punch cards, diskettes and now we have gigabytes and megabytes in hand on our cell phones or iPads...

We wore shorts throughout our childhood and then long pants, oxfords, Bermuda shorts, etc.

We dodged infantile paralysis, meningitis, H1N1 flu and now COVID-19...

We rode skates, tricycles, invented cars, bicycles, mopeds, gasoline or diesel cars and now we ride hybrids or 100% electric...

Yes, we've been through a lot but what a great life we've had!

They could describe us as "exennials" people who were born in that world of the fifties, who had an analog childhood and a digital adulthood.

We're kind of Ya-seen-it-all.

Our generation has literally lived through and witnessed more than any other in every dimension of life.

It is our generation that has literally adapted to "CHANGE".

A big round of applause to all the members of a very special generation, which are UNIQUE. Here's a precious and very true message that I received from a friend:

TIME DOES NOT STOP

Life is a task that we do ourselves every day.

When you look... it's already six in the afternoon; when you look... it's already Friday; when one looks... the month is over; when one looks... the year is over; when one looks... 50, 60, 70 and 80 years have passed!

When you look... we no longer know where our friends are.

When you look... we lost the love of our life and now, it's too late to go back.

Do not stop doing something you like due to lack of time. Do not stop having someone by your side, because your children will soon not be yours, and you will have to do something with that remaining time, where the only thing that we are going to miss will be the space that can only be enjoyed with the usual friends. This time that, unfortunately, never returns...

The day is today!

WE ARE NO LONGER AT AN AGE TO POSTPONE ANYTHING.

Submitted by **Tom Mortensen**

The Definitive Answer (Maybe!)

Click on Image



OR



September 2024

Our 60th Class Reunion!!

Watch this spot for upcoming information!!





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>

May 22, 2023 2:00 PM

Tentative Fenton's Gathering

(Tom needs to check with Fenton's)

Contact Tom LaMarre @ tdtom7@aol.com



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

shayne@sprintmail.com

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

[Marilyn Copland](#)

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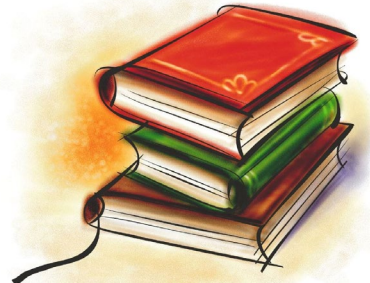
[Nataile Reid](#)

[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!!!



What a joy it is to recall childhood memories of growing up in the Oakland hills. In fact, just writing this article takes my mind off the fact that a couple of nights ago I had to call the paramedics to help me get off the floor. I slid off the bed.

What surprises me is that childhood memories are so simple but so powerful. Is it nostalgia for being young? When the problems of aging get too much, my younger sister, Marcia, and I comfort ourselves with the stories. Our two favorites are the walks down Pine Cone Tree Road, and the day we took a trail to who-knows-where. Going to Yosemite with the family, going out of the country for the first time when we in our late 20's and went to Britain....these stories are farther down the list than those magic days.

Maybe these little stories will spark some of your memories, especially if you grew up in the hills.

We grew up in a house built in 1950 at the corner of Castle Drive and an unpaved private road. We were a hop, skip and a jump from Cornwall Court, which had a big three-story mansion on it, and was flat. A good place to play.

The area was mostly vacant, treeless lots with some poison oak and blackberry bushes. So, there were lots of places to play. Every year a new house or two was built, so there was a lot of construction to supervise. It took about 10 years for the Court to fill up.

There were plenty of trees at the top of the hill, which was redwood-lined Skyline Drive. The Chabot Science Center was later built a mile from that corner. On the south side of Castle, the regional parks go down from Skyline to Joaquin Miller Road. Occasionally riders on horses would come past our house from the park; and once a mounted Oakland patrolman.

We liked to go play on the vacant lot below the house, where there were blackberry bushes. Store blackberries just don't taste the same as warm blackberries from the vine. On the other hand, the vines have prickles. If there aren't prickles, it is poison oak...the leaves look the same.

Or we could go up and play on the Court, where within a few years there were 8 or 9 kids from 6 to 14 playing. When we got past tricycles, we would bike around and around and around that court.... without getting bored. Because Castle was so steep and curved, we weren't allowed to go very far from the court.

Our favorite, favorite thing though was to walk down the private road. We named it Pine Cone Tree Road because of the stand of pine trees at the end. The road ran alongside a steep gorge. In later years, a trail was put in further along the edge of the gorge. Here is how steep it is: At one point the trail map says "scramble." It is not recommended you take the trail when the ground is wet.

If you looked across the gorge, you were looking at Ascot Drive. It was more built up than Castle because it had school bus service to Joaquin Miller Elementary and later Montera. Castle never got bus service. And in 2011 my parents' house still didn't have sewer service.

You could look down into the canyon and see a shack, which our dad said was an old contractor's shack. But who built it and why, we wondered. We STILL wonder. We also suspected there was a creek, because we thought a couple of times we heard a faraway sound of frogs.

I was excited to learn a few years ago that the gorge became part of the Joaquin Miller Park in 2006. And there is a creek! In a separate essay I've written about it and two other nearby parks, one named after the mother of our classmate Phil Saunders.

But our biggest adventure was the day we went down a trail about a ¼ mile down Castle from our house. We usually weren't allowed to do trails, because my mother and I were both susceptible to poison oak. She got it once from the plant oil on our clothes. I got it from looking at it. We had always wondered where that trail went. The adventure was we didn't know. And we were by ourselves. The trail itself was unexciting: dusty, rocky soil, steep, very few plants. In fact, everything in the hills looked pretty much the same. But we ended up at the Fire Station on Joaquin Miller Road near the Woodminster Amphitheater. We had no idea we were anywhere near there! The thing about the hill area is everything wraps around and nothing is straight. We called our mother and got a ride back up the hill. The current mystery, though, is that looking at Google, I can see several trails, but not the one we took.

Marylaird Wood

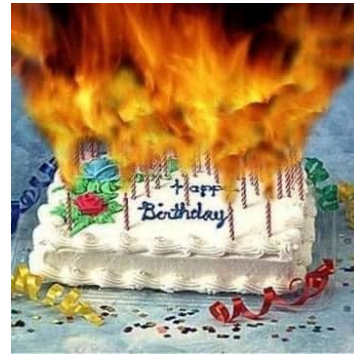


“There is no normal life that is free of pain. It’s the very wrestling with our problems that can be the impetus for our growth.” — Fred Rogers



May

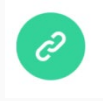
- 06 Bruce Goddard
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- 12 Laynee Melmet Goodstein
- 19 Ken Hood
- 25 Marti Heath



June

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- 19 Bob Nordgren
- 22 Bill Giacometti
- 26 Craig LaBarbera
- Russ Union
- Jennifer Morag Keene

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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