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El Cerrito High School Archiving Project

Newsletter Issue XII

November 2007

Green and White: The Gaucho Story

Great Holiday Gift !!!

Green and White---The Gaucho Story (1941-2005). The DVD chronicles the life and times of the original ECHS. To obtain a DVD, Send a check for \$25/DVD made out to ECHS Archiving to Jackie Fonken at 1486 Olive Ave. Richmond, Ca 94805 (510) 232-9149 or j_fonken@hotmail.com . Sponsored by ECHS Archiving Project. All proceeds support the work of archiving and student scholarships.



Message from the President

Wishing You A Happy Holiday Season and Prosperous New Year Filled with Peace and Happiness

The ECHS Archiving Project is happy for a good and productive year! In the New Year, we are looking forward to continue to serve the ECHS community! We are already excited about initiating the work for our new School Museum, selecting deserving students to receive our 2008 scholarship and much, much more. Heads-up! Wine & Cheese Party March 1, 2008 -- Don't Miss Out! Watch for more details in future newsletters. Did you know that the El Cerrito High School Archiving Project's 'Green and White- The Gaucho Story' film won the 2007 honorable mention award under the category of Documentary for the Berkeley Video and Film Festival. The BVFF

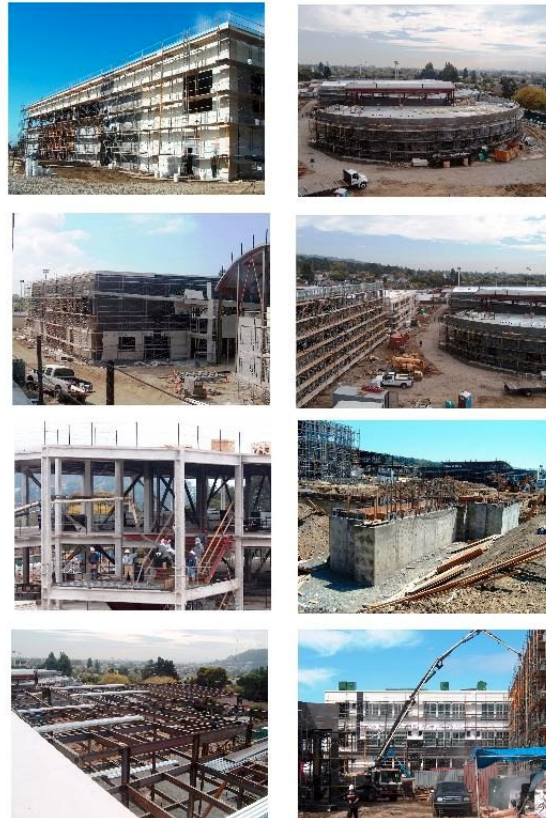
- [Museum Help](#)

has over 200 films submitted each year. Do you have your DVD? Be sure to read your New sletters and tell other Alumni about the exciting things that the ECHS Archiving Project Committee is doing in 2008!

Best Wishes,
Patricia (Jones) Durham '68

What's New at El Cerrito High School

New School Constrution [WCCUSD](#) [Bond Program](#)



Big Award News

The Green & White: The Gaucho Story!

This fall, Kent Sanctuary's film titled Green & White: The Gaucho Story won Honorable Mention at the 16th annual Berkeley Video and Film Festival. The festival had a sell out crowd over three days at the Landmark California Theater in downtown Berkeley. We are proud that Kent's film which is about the history of the life and times of ECHS told by alumni, students and faculty from 1941 to 2005 was chosen from over 229 global entries. To see all the winners, please go to <http://berkeleyvideofilmfest.org/entry%20info%202007.shtml> To purchase this award winning DVD, please contact Jackie Fonken at 510-232-9149 or j_fonken@hotmail.com. The price is \$25.

[Berkeley Video Film Festival](#)

MARVIN NELSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

MARVIN NELSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship fund is being established in memory of Marvin Nelson, band director at El Cerrito High School from 1962 to 1967. The annual award will be made to a graduating senior at El

Cerrito High School who has made significant contributions to the music department. To celebrate the inauguration of this fund, a special concert will be given at the John and Jean Knox Center for the Performing Arts at Contra Costa College on Thursday evening, December 13th at 8 p.m. The El Cerrito High School Concert and Symphonic Bands will perform with the West County Winds, a community band that was founded by Terry Clark, also a former El Cerrito High Band Director. Dr. Jonathan Knight, El Cerrito music parent and a former trumpet student of Mr. Nelson, will be the featured soloist in "Dramatic Essay" for trumpet and band by Clifton Williams.

Please support the music program at El Cerrito High by coming to the concert and making a donation to the scholarship fund. If you are unable to attend the concert, your donation check may be sent to Jonathan Knight, 906 Galvin Dr., El Cerrito, CA 94530. Your check may be made to "Friends of El Cerrito Music, S.A.F." - please indicate "Marvin Nelson Scholarship" on the memo line.

ABOUT MARVIN NELSON

Marvin Nelson was born in rural Nebraska on October 10, 1929. The family then moved to Portland, Oregon. Noticing Marv's enthusiasm for "big band" music, his parents bought him a trumpet when he was 14 years old. By the age of 18, he was playing principal trumpet in the Portland Symphony.

After moving to the Bay Area as a young man, Marv played in the San Francisco Symphony, was principal trumpet in the Oakland symphony for over twenty years, and was an avid performer in many dance bands and jazz ensembles. He obtained his teaching credential from San Francisco State University in 1957, taught at Roosevelt Middle School in San Francisco, and was director of bands at El Cerrito High School from 1962 to 1967.

He was then appointed director of bands at Cal State Hayward, (now CSU "East Bay") where he remained until his retirement in the early 1990s. As a result of his tenure at CSUEB, his impact on music education in the Bay Area was enormous, and the number of fine musicians and teachers who were trained by Marv during this time is legion. His influence was powerful even during his brief stay at El Cerrito High School. Distinguished graduates of those classes include Loretta McNulty, who teaches strings in the Lafayette schools, and Bill Holmes, who plays trumpet in the San Francisco Opera orchestra. Everyone who had the privilege of working with Marvin remembers his passion, energy, and commitment to music and to education.

A longtime resident of El Cerrito, Marv and his wife, Marilyn, raised their children, Vickie, Laurie, Susie, and Ron, in their home on Rivera Street. Marv continued to live there until shortly after Marilyn's death in 2004, and spent his remaining months in a retirement home in the east bay. Marv passed away on April 23, 2006.

Support the ECHS PTSA

A No Cost Way to Support the ECHS PTSA

If you are planning to shop at merchants participating in SHARES and eScrip, you can help support the ECHS PTSA. It costs you nothing and is our primary source of funding. Instructions for signing up follow. If you have any questions, contact Janet Abelson at ptajanet@aol.com or 525-7709. How to Sign Up for the SHARES Program The local Albertson's Stores have all become Lucky stores and the SHARES program replaces the Albertsons Community Partners Program. To receive a free SHARES card, send an email to ptajanet@aol.com or a note to Janet Abelson, c/o ECHS PTSA, 540 Ashbury Ave., El Cerrito CA 94530 with the following information: Parents/ Guardians/ Grandparents/ Other Family · Name of Shopper (parent, guardian, grandparents, etc.) · Name of Student · Year Student will graduate · Street Address, City, and Zip Code (used only to mail SHARES cards) Faculty/ Other ECHS Staff · Name · Position at ECHS Booster/ Alumni · Name · Indicate if booster or alumni · If alumni, year of graduation · Street Address, City and Zip Code (used only to mail SHARES cards) We will receive 3% of your purchase at no cost to you. How to Sign Up for the eScrip Program This program includes Safeway, Macy's, Andronico's Market and a number of other stores. To sign up for this free program or to see if you are still signed up, go to www.escrrip.com, click on "sign-up", and follow the instructions. If you don't have email, ask a friend to help you sign up. Local eScrip merchants will contribute up to 8% of the purchases you make.

Interview with Roddy Lee

Class of 1967

Roddy Lee is a real local. He was born in Oakland, grew up in Kensington, attended Kensington Elementary, Portola Junior, and El Cerrito High School's. He obtained a bachelor's degree and teaching credential at Cal and a master's degree in physical education from Hayward State University. He now lives in El Cerrito with his wife, Karen, and teaches at El Cerrito High School. Roddy's 28 year old son, Adam, lives in Beijing, China, and his 25 year old daughter, Jessica, is a teacher at El Sobrante Elementary School. Both graduated from El Cerrito High School.

Olympics Roddy competed in track and field for the University of California, Berkeley. In 1969, as a junior at Cal, he was approached by Taiwan and asked if he was interested in competing for them in the 1970 Asian Games. He did and took silver medals in the 110 meter high hurdle and the 400 meter intermediate hurdle races. Taiwan gave Roddy a \$300 per month scholarship to Cal. There he continued to train with the Cal team in 1971 and 1972. A month before the 1972 Olympics, Roddy went to Taiwan to train and then on to the Munich Olympics. At the Olympics, he competed for the Republic of China Track Team as a hurdler.

Teaching and Coaching Roddy began his teaching career at Kennedy High School and was the head track coach for ten years. After short assignments at Helms and Downer, he began teaching at ECHS in 1984. He currently teaches physical education and computers applications. He coached volleyball for over 20 years and is currently the Head Golf coach.

The Archiving Project and Memories The ECHS Archiving Project is fortunate to have Roddy as a key member. He maintains the Archiving Newsletter and email database for the Archiving Project. In addition he chairs his Reunion Committee.

Roddy attended El Cerrito during the time Hale Roach was the track coach and was part of the memorable six year period when ECHS did not lose a single dual meet. Roddy asked Hale Roach for advice, as he wanted to be a coach. Hale encouraged him to be a teacher and coach. Roddy enjoys the relationship a coach has with his athletes. There is a sense of belonging and a special bond that sports gives to students. Those who participate in sports learn how to work cooperatively as a team, an attribute that helps prepare them for life.

Archiving Scholarships

The ECHS Archive Project and the Alumni Scholarship Fund are pleased to announce that they have combined their efforts for awarding scholarships to ECHS seniors. The Alumni Scholarship Fund was established a number of years ago and is coordinated by alum, Charlotte Rogato of New York City. All scholarships will be administered by the Archiving Project and will continue to support all graduating seniors of ECHS with the same selection criteria. If you wish to serve on the review committee please email lu.tipping@gmail.com. Donations of any amount are appreciated. Checks payable to ECHS Archiving Project - Scholarship and mail to Dianne Chambers, 2234 Lupine Road, Hercules, CA 94547

CLASS REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

Class of 1967 and 1957

The Class of 1967 celebrated their fortieth year class reunion at Mira Vista Country Club on October 20, 2007.

Two hundred ten people attended. Roddy Lee was the chair and co-coordinator of the event. According to Roddy, this reunion was the best one the class has ever had. There was live music done by their own

classmates. Scott MacKenzie, Tom Haber, Dave Terry and Jon Kennedy offered live music for



one hour of the reunion. Larry Lynch joined in with his singing talent. These men each have musical activities going on in their lives. They joined together to offer their talents just like the "good old days." On Friday night, some classmates got together at Brennon's in Berkeley. During the day on Saturday, some of the "girls" from the Girl Scout and Campfire groups plus their moms got together. Saturday night was the actual reunion and on Sunday a picnic was held at Arlington Park.

The Class of 1957 held their fiftieth year class reunion on October 6, 2007. It was held at the Concord Hilton. One hundred forty three people attended. Main people coordinating the reunion were Marlene Fredricks Heim and Sandy Wagner. They have been in charge for years. The reunion committee hosted a get together in the hospitality suite the night before the reunion. The actual reunion was held Saturday night. The morning following the reunion many attendees met for breakfast at the hotel. A beautiful memory book was prepared by Eileen Gregovich Brooks. The Sunday night following the reunion forty classmates headed for New York to begin a ten day cruise. The cruise went up the New England coast to Nova Scotia and ended in Quebec City. The cruise was not a part of the reunion, but a wonderful continuation of a great day and fifty years of friendship. The Class of 1957 held their fiftieth year class reunion on October 6, 2007. It was held at the Concord Hilton. One hundred forty three people attended. Main people coordinating the reunion were Marlene Fredricks Heim and Sandy Wagner. They have been in charge for years. The reunion committee hosted a get together in the hospitality suite the night before the reunion. The actual reunion was held Saturday night. The morning following the reunion many attendees met for breakfast at the hotel. A beautiful memory book was prepared by Eileen Gregovich Brooks. The Sunday night following the reunion forty classmates headed for New York to begin a ten day cruise. The cruise went up the New England coast to Nova Scotia and ended in Quebec City. The cruise was not a part of the reunion, but a wonderful continuation of a great day and fifty years of friendship.

REUNIONS CAN BE ANNOUNCED ON THIS E-TREE NEWSLETTER. FOLLOWING THE REUNION WE WILL BE HAPPY TO REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REUNION. Jackie Fleming Fonken "56", Alumnae Coordinator

Reunion Leaders

Are you a reunion leader for one of our ECHS years? We would like to ask for your help to notify us as to whom the reunion leaders are from each missing year. If you know of a missing alumni chair, please notify David Bilyeu at davidmbilyeu@netzero.com.

1944-Howard Mackey --Howard2201@aol.com

1945--

1946--

1947--

1948-Lee Brown Alice--Tidblgr62@aol.com

1949-Charlie Loyd --CDL1311@juno.com

1950-Harry Hanson --

1950-Nordahl Bonomi Lucy--

1950-Gorrell Carter Patricia--

1951---

1952-Pryde Tezzi Toni--

1953-Weller Miller Barbara-- Eandbweller@aol.com

1953-Don Pryde --

1953--

1953-Jerry Deuker --

1954-Nancy Teese --

1955-Bill Lawton --w hlawton@frontiernet.net

1956-Jackie Fonken --j_fonken@hotmail.com

1957-Hein Fredrick Marlene-- marlene2u6@aol.com,

- Richard Barker--hrbarker@sbcglobal.net,

1958-Carolyn Bybee Smith, Eileen Brooks Gregovich-- ebrooks1@socal.rr.com,

1958 Duncan Smith, Richard Krabers

1959--

1959- Taylor Jim--

1960- Davis Smith Pennie--

1960-Phil Playle --

1960-Arkin Arthur Barbara--

1961-Richard Pryde --richpryde@aol.com

1961-Davis Courtright Bea--
 1962-Creech Balas Juanita--rbalas@earthlink.net
 1962-Sherry Humphrey --
 1963-Mark Bautista --marcusec63@aol.com
 1964-Leslie Gadw ood --
 1964-Jackie Olson --
 1965-Dennis Kalis --dkalis@sbcglobal.net
 1966-Sandy Berry Faccini--sandy48@pacbell.net
 1966-Diana De Gracia,Denise Murphy Bradfield
 1967-Roddy Lee --lcp1967@aol.com
 1968-Paul Bailey --
 1969-Malcolm Sproul --
 1970-Cathy Nielsen --
 1971- --
 1972-Jerry Dagna --jerrydinslo@yahoo.com
 1972-Al Gambetti --
 1973-Dale Myer --ech51973@aol.com
 1973-w w w .ech51973.com 1974-Belinda Jeffries --
 1975-Robinson Tate Agnes--aggi657@yahoo.com
 1976-Reiss Grunau Nancy-- turtlereiss@hotmail.com
 1977- --
 1978-Bill Reichle --bill@tw istsf.com1978
 1978-Anna Smithey --
 1978-Donna Nordahl --
 1979-Adriene Stinson --
 1979-Gina Gallop --
 1980-Karl Pierce --elosito2@aol.com
 1980-hampton Lew is Marilyn-- hampton@acclanes.k12.ca.us
 1981-Denise Hama --
 1982-Roger Grubb --rogergrubb@comcast.net
 1982-Lisa Larkin --
 1982-Smith McCarthy Charlotte--
 1983-Donald Chew --dnsenterp@home.com
 1983-Lisa Boblitt --
 1984-Eric Hardy --
 1985-Roschelle Jones --
 1985-Jennifer Mitchell --
 1986-Kurt Yoshi --
 1987-Michelle Barrocca -- barroccamm@cooley.com
 1987-Sherman Tucker Trina--ech587@aol.com
 1987-Griffiths Smith Sheldon-- SHELDENG@FASH.NET
 1988-Nicole Jones --bignik@comcast.net
 1989-Amber Smith --
 1990-Larry Fox --larrydafox@hotmail.com
 1990-Christina1990 Lee Hunt--Margie
 1991-McDonald Barton Chakay-- OAKLAND@yahoo.com
 1992-Ranetta Ledet --
 1993-Laivian Coleman -- mrlgcoleman@hotmail.com
 1994-Nancy Quick --nequick@yahoo.com
 1995-Caulkins Rivera Karyn-- karyn_calkins@hotmail.com
 1995- Vivian Lau --VivDog8@aol.com
 1996-Ebony Lew is -- ech5classof1996reunion@yahoo.com
 1997- Evan Soloman --discop@gmail.com
 1998- --
 1999- --
 2000- --
 2001-Brian Anderson --BDOGSS83@aol.com
 2002- --
 2003- --
 2004- --
 2005- --
 Reunion Leaders, To change or add your contact information please email, Roddy Lee--
 ECArchives@aol.com.

[ECHS Alumni Website](#)

Bricks !!!!

Limited Quantities.

It's November Have you bought your brick yet? The Grad Night Committee is selling inscribed bricks to raise funds for the Class of 2008's Grad Night. The bricks are laser inscribed bricks (three lines of text, up to 20 characters per line) and will be placed on the new campus on two low walls between the cafeteria and the administration building. The bricks are being sold for \$50 apiece.

This is a wonderful way to help the students and be immortalized at the new campus. We are asking alumni, parents, students, prospective students, teachers, and ECHS supporters to purchase one or more bricks. We have about 150 bricks to sell and need to have them sold by the end of the year. Grad Night is traditionally a party given by the parents to the graduating seniors. It is an all night party usually held in the high school gym. Since ECHS doesn't have a gym currently, the party has been held at the Albany racetrack. Grad Night is our way of ensuring that the graduates have a fun, safe and sober graduation night experience. If you have any questions or would like an order form, please don't hesitate to contact Valerie Bryant at vjcb_1956@yahoo.com or at 510-235-4818. Thank you to those who have already ordered their bricks.



Bricks for Sale

How to donate to the ECHS Archiving Project

The ECHS Archiving is in need of continuous monetary support! In addition to restoring, preserving and displaying the many artifacts that were saved from the wrecking ball, this year we were also able to give three ECHS seniors \$1000.00 scholarships for college expenses. We would like to continue our work in the future and here is how you can help.

Contact Diane Chambers dianneminard@yahoo.com or just mail your check to; ECHS Archiving Project 2234 Lupine Rd, Hercules, CA 94547. All donations are tax deductible.

Newsletter Subscribers

New sletter Subscribers Increasing! Hey, why not pass our new sletter on to other ECHS supporters and ask if they want to subscribe. Email ECarchives@aol.com to get on the distribution list!

Museum Help

Museum Excel Help Needed

It is a time consuming and tedious job but it needs to get done in preparation for the labeling of the times to be displayed in the new high school's museum. A curious, detailed person will love this job!

If you have any leads, please contact Joann Steck-Bayat at 510 524-9464 or jsbayat@comcast.net.



- [El Cerrito High School Online](#)
- [The El Cerrito High School Archiving Project](#)
- [West Contra Costa Unified School District](#)

President Patricia Durham-Mitchell,'68; Vice President Jackie Folken, interim VP; Secretary/ Alumni Coordinator, Jackie Fonken,'56; Treasurer Dianne Chambers,'69; Oral History/ Community Liaison, Janet Abelson; Consultant/ Cataloging/Museum, Joann Steck-Bayat; Newsletter Editor, E-Tree and Database Manager, Roddy Lee,'67; Product Marketing, Donna Houser; Consultant/Museum/WCCUSD Strategic Planning Scholarship, Lu Tipping; Alumni Web Coordinator, Rebecca Boe; Event Site Coordinator/Alumni Coordinator, David Bilyeu,'65; SAF Liaison/Music Coordinator, Gregg Mayer,'76.

El Cerrito High Archiving Project Mission Statement:

Support the development of a strong El Cerrito High School alumni body - Collect, preserve and celebrate the history of El Cerrito High School - Develop connections to current students and the El Cerrito community.

email: ecarchives@aol.com

phone: 510-525-0234

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