



# SDHS Alumni Association

## Fall 2021 Newsletter

### President's Report

Many things are happening at SDHS as I write this president's message, but SDHS, San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD), and Alumni can now see the light at the end of the tunnel.

On July 23rd, the City of San Diego's Land Use and Housing Committee met to review the 99-year lease of SDHS. The committee voted four to nothing to approve the lease for SDHS.

On Tuesday, September 14th, the lease will be presented to the full City Council with the final vote for approval on September 21st. After all the approvals, the SDHS construction contract will be awarded and thereafter the first of three phases will begin the modernization of SDHS. Your Alumni Association has been in consultation meetings with the SDUSD and the architects on the modernization in keeping the history of SDHS alive.

The Alumni Association website will have architectural drawings and a virtual/visual tour of phase one. It will also have updated designs, photographs, and videos of removal and construction during the phase one progress. We will announce on our website The Brick/Paver Fundraising Program, as well as how to order, and pricing. The purchase of bricks/pavers will be placed at the new location of the 1908 iconic water fountain. Preserve your family name, family members, yourself, or your class by purchasing a brick/paver that will be in place for another 99-years. The school will open on August 30th, with students attending full-time. Sports at SDHS will return to their regular schedules through the 2021-22 school year. Football is the first fall sport returning with a full season schedule and with students and fans in attendance. If you can't attend the home or away games, please go to the National Federation of High School Sports Network at (<https://www.nfhsnetwork.com>) and subscribe to SDHS sporting events and watch in the comfort of your home. When you subscribe, please consider making a donation that will benefit the school athletic programs.

For this year only, the SDHS Homecoming Game will take place on September 24th, vs. Kearny High School at Balboa Stadium. So invite your classmates, friends, and family to join us!

On Saturday, October 23rd the All-Class Homecoming will be held in the school library. So, yes, we will be hosting our annual event in person. We will also be offering the event via Zoom for those who can't attend in person. Stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks as we work out the details. In addition, Friday, October 22nd is SDHS Alumni Night football game Patrick Henry HS vs. SDHS. We will introduce the 2021-22 Wall of Honor winners, our past alumni classes in attendance, and future alumni classes in attendance.

Finally, I would like to congratulate this year's Wall of Honor winners, Faye Friedman Rubinstein '43, Judge Leo Valentine '72, Sharon Green '73, and Joyce Nett '75. After leaving SDHS, your Wall of Honor Alumni winners completed their educational goals and careers, contributing and giving back to San Diego and society; read their bio's for more details.

Please consider joining the SDHS Alumni Association. Your membership and donations go a long way in keeping San Diego High School's history and spirit alive for another 99 years! "Go Cavers"

**Eddie Head '73**

President



**San Diego High School Super 60's  
"This is IT" Reunion  
Saturday, October 8, 2022  
11am-4pm  
Bahia Resort Hotel  
(Mission Bay)**

\*Contact Linda Coulter '66 Henry [ohlindao@me.com](mailto:ohlindao@me.com)  
619 890 8269

Marcí Paraiso '62 Heider [marciheider45@gmail.com](mailto:marciheider45@gmail.com)

All "Cavers" from the Classes of the 1960's and guests are invited to CELEBRATE the Greatest School and Decade ever at an afternoon of Fun, Food, Friends, and DANCING!

- BUFFET LUNCH (served 11:30-1pm)
- LIVE MUSIC: Bob Sortillon ('64) & BROWN SUGAR  
Mychael Moaze ('67) & URBAN GYPSYS

Two Ticket types available this reunion:

Open Seating Ticket- \$100. Reserved Table of 10 \$1100 (or \$110 per person)

**\* EARLY BIRD PRICING & Bonus Prize Drawing (as a BIG Thank You!)**

(Reservation & payment mailed prior to January 15, 2022)

\$90 Open Seating or \$1000 Reserved Table of 10 (that's \$100 per person)

Entry into Drawing - "Certificate -Complimentary Standard Room at the Bahia"

\*We are accepting check or money order at no additional cost OR  
Charge Card (\$5 Service & Handling Fee per ticket) See Registration Form

\*Complimentary Public Parking is available on Gleason Rd. and Ventura Cove

\* Interested in booking a room at the Bahia? Mention SDHS Super 60s Reunion for a 15% discount, subject to availability. (Call early as this offer will not apply once the hotel is 80% booked.). Call Reservations Direct 800 576 4229

\* There is a HIGH LEVEL of INTEREST in this reunion! Don't hesitate- or you'll be too late - Our last reunion SOLD OUT by June.

\* Join our FACEBOOK PAGE (SDHS Super 60's) for updated Reunion Info!

## Membership Committee

Hello Cavers, San Diego High School has reopened Fall 2021. The "Cavers are back!"

I want to thank all of the Cavers that attended the annual "Cavers at the Padres Game" event on Sunday, September 25, 2021, at PetCo Park. We sold out!!! Yeah!!! The Padres did not disappoint the large crowd in attendance. This talented Padres team provided us with many exciting plays on the field. Wow!!! It felt great to be at the game, have a chance to see our Cavers friends and have an opportunity to "catch up." If you would like to attend the "Cavers at the Padres Game" next year, please contact our Alumni Association Office and we will be happy to place your name on our contact list and we will inform you of ticket availability.

I want to thank all of you that renewed your annual membership to the San Diego High School Alumni Association in 2021. On behalf of your Alumni Association, please accept my sincere thanks for your continued support. Without your commitment and financial support, we could not serve our Cavers Community...the graduates of the 20th and 21st Centuries...our Alumni!!!

And for the many Cavers that have joined us for the very first time in 2021, welcome to your Alumni Association Cavers family. We hope that we meet your expectations as we do our best to keep our Cavers Community informed about the latest San Diego High School activities and developments that may be of interest to you.

As we move forward in School Year 21/22, your Alumni Association will again support Cavers Championship Athletic Teams (e.g., Baseball, Boys and Girls Basketball, Football, Track & Field. As many of you have read in the local sports pages, watched TV sports coverage and listened to radio sports programs about San Diego High School Teams, the Cavers "Glory Days" are back.

Cavers, I want to ask you to continue to support your Alumni Association. Many of you are Lifetime Members... thank you for your longtime support. If your budget permits, please consider and donate \$25.00, \$50.00, \$100.00 or more to help us continue to maintain our numerous activities and programs (e.g., Newsletter, History Center, Annual Wall of Honor Recognition of Cavers Achievements, Annual All Class Homecoming Breakfast). Your donations is greatly appreciated.

Lastly, San Diego High School will undergo Modernization (remodeling) in the upcoming years. As part of the changes to the school, we will have a walk area where we will have "Memory Bricks" that will pave the way to an inner courtyard. If you are interested in purchasing a brick

to memorialize a loved one, family member, or yourself, please stay tuned to our website. We hope to announce more details in the next six months.

If you have any questions, concerns or wish to share your suggestions about your Alumni Association, please feel free to contact me at Email: [gasparlunaoliveira@gmail.com](mailto:gasparlunaoliveira@gmail.com) or send me a letter in care of the Alumni Association Office. We wish all of you, your families and loved ones, a safe and healthy 2021. Go Cavers!!!

### Gaspar Luna Oliveira, Class of 1968

First Vice President &  
Chair, Membership Committee







## **Faiya "Faye Rubenstein" Fredman (1943)**

Faiya Fredman was formerly known as Faye Rubenstein when she attended San Diego High School from 1939-1943. Fredman was a staff member of the Russ Newspaper during her high school career. She also was a member of the Girls League, serving as Secretary in 1943. She was a highly gifted student and was a member of the California Scholarship Federation. In her formative years at SDHS, Faye pursued her interest in art, and had the opportunity to learn under the direction of SDHS teacher Ralph Vernacchia who became a highly recognized artist.

After graduating from San Diego High, Faye Rubenstein attended San Diego State University for her first year. She later transferred to UCLA as an art student, where she met and married Milton "Micky" Fredman. The marriage was blessed with two children. A noteworthy aspect of Fredman's life is that she was able to complete her art education at UCLA during her pregnancy and subsequently launch and maintain a successful, museum-level art career while raising two children and being a supportive partner to a high-profile civic leader.

In 1972, at a time when women faced enormous discrimination in the art world, Fredman became one of the first women to exhibit at the La Jolla Museum of Contemporary Art, now known as the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD). During her lifetime, dozens more exhibitions at museums, major institutions, and prestigious galleries in La Jolla, Los Angeles, Santa Monica, New York City, Mexico City, and other cities followed. All major museums in San Diego (MCASD, MOPA, and the San Diego Museum of Art) own works by Fredman.

One of Fredman's primary interests and concerns was arts education for underprivileged children and funding cuts to art education in public school. In 2005, to help remedy the situation, she founded and funded Collaborative Arts Resources for Education (CARE). Fredman volunteered at the Children's Museum in downtown San Diego. Often, the Fredman's' philanthropic contributions were given anonymously, and the couple preferred to avoid the social spotlight.

In the years before she died in La Jolla at age 94, Faiya was known as the matriarch of San Diego's contemporary art scene. She continued creating museum-quality works of art until shortly before her death in 2020 and was an

inspiration and role model to generations of younger artists and non-artists alike, especially women.



## **Joyce Nett (1975)**

In high school, Joyce was a member of the marching band, A.F.S. club which was an international youth exchange organization. She also was a Junior Varsity cheerleader during her high school career. Joyce was known as Joyce Frock in High School.

Joyce was one of the few SDHS alumni accepted to an Ivy League university in 1975. Joyce distinguished herself as an undergraduate at Yale in two ways. First, she was a female. The first class of freshman at Yale that included women was in 1969, so in 1975, there was still much being worked out in ways that supported women as students. Secondly, Joyce was the coxswain for the Women's Rowing Team earning a varsity letter. The Women's team won many honors including winning the National Championship in 1979. She was on the National Rowing Team and was set to go to the Olympics in 1980 when President Carter announced the boycott of the Olympics. She graduated in 1979.

Joyce has not lived in San Diego for many years, yet she has supported mini-reunions for the SDHS Alumni Class of '75. She stays in touch with fellow alumni through social media.

Joyce has dedicated most of her professional life to the education and enhancement of children as a Montessori education teacher. Joyce has many passions. One of her passions is to support the Waltham Land Trust in Massachusetts, whose purpose is to create a legacy of land conservation. While a board member, Joyce secured a grant that provided funds for trailhead signage for the benefit of the community and educating children on nature and ecology.

In her retirement, Joyce has found a new calling that brings together both her skills as a coxswain and an educator. She is helping to create "Crew Haven" which is working to bring students from low socio-economic or underserved areas of New Haven together to learn about rowing and team skills.

During the pandemic, Joyce has served and continues to serve at the Waltham food distribution Center.



## Sharon Green

Sharon was an active member of the SDHS student body during her high school career. She served as Class President 1972-1973.

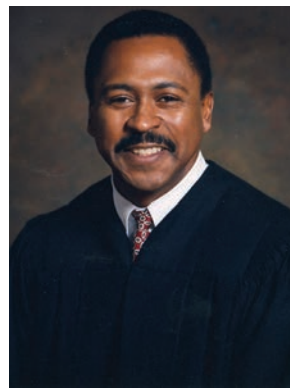
She was active in various groups such as the Educational Field Trips Committee, Umoja and ASB. Her activities were always supporting classmates, the school, and

the staff. She has maintained her place as an inspiration and connection for the students of her class and others. Sharon has been engaged in virtually all school reunion activities. She currently serves on the SDHS Alumni Association Board.

After Highschool, Sharon earned a B.A. from UC Santa Barbara and an M.A. in school counseling. Sharon served as an elementary school counselor in the San Diego Unified School District, and was highly regarded for her work in this capacity

Sharon is a member of the National Alliance of Black School Educators. This organization is devoted to furthering the academic success for the nation's children, particularly children of African descent.

Sharon's family is rooted in the U.S. Civil Rights Movement in that her family member Ernest Green was one of the "Little Rock Nine." Her family was a part of the Carlin vs. SDUSD case. In 1977, A Superior Court judge ruled in Carlin V. Board of Education that 23 of San Diego's public schools were racially segregated. The Green family contributed to the desegregation of schools in the SDUSD. Sharon leads with her heart and soul. Her hobbies and interests are NASCAR, community, friends, music and above all, God. She has been very supportive to the Alumni Association through Zoom during the Pandemic.



## Judge Leo Valentine Jr. (1973)

Valentine played Varsity Football in his Senior year. He was recognized in the '71 yearbook as Best Physique. Valentine entered the legal profession after a stint in public transportation. While going to law school at Western State University, School of Law in

Fullerton, he worked at the Long Beach Public Transport Company and eventually became the director of operations there. The company received the best-run transit division property award from the American Public Transit Association in 1989. Valentine also worked for the Orange County Transit District and San Diego Transit.

Leo Valentine had a long judicial career on the Superior Court bench in San Diego. He served as a judge for 23 years. He was first appointed to the San Diego Municipal Court in 1995, and then was elevated to the Superior Court in 1998 under the court consolidation program.

As a judge he was known for a courtroom presence that was calm but always in command and as a mentor to colleagues. Valentine always treated people with careful respect and dignity. He taught his students about the importance of serving with integrity.

Judge Valentine passed away weeks after retiring from the bench after 23 years in 2019.

He had a great love for his family. He was active in the Sigma Phi Boule, YMCA, Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association, mentor for many law students, and served for many H.S. students with Mock Trials. He loved reading to children with "Read Across America", and he loved fast cars. He spent lots of time with his seven grandchildren and his beautiful wife Yvonne.



**Original**



**70's**



**80's**



**Present Day**

## San Diego High School Foundation

This past year the San Diego High School Foundation continued to make a difference in the lives of students and the following are just a few of the ways in which we have contributed to their success:

- \*Granted over 75 new and renewable scholarships for a value of over \$136,000
- \*Established a budget of \$42,000 for Clubs and Organizations
- \*Budgeted for hundreds of students to tour California colleges (to be taken 2021-22)
- \*Provided ASB with \$2,500 for a school-wide competition (Paper Chase) to boost school pride
- \*Organized a \$1,000 anonymous donation of (21) gift cards to students experiencing food insecurity
- \*Paid \$3,000 towards student 2021 Yearbooks for graduating seniors
- \*Contributed \$4,000 for student 'Art Kits' for students doing distance learning
- \*Funded \$5,000 to Athletics for football uniform replacements, tennis shade covering and basketball wall pads
- \*Assisted Parent/Teacher/Student Association with Annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

The Foundation also has financial management over several SDHS Class Reunion monies; Meb Keflezighi Track and Field Annual 'All City' track meet at SDHS; San Diego Foundation Investment Account; SDHS Academy of Finance; Harold Cranston Family Account; Levi Family Trust; Robert Price Account; and many others. Due diligence and prudent management of these funds lends the SDHS Foundation, Inc. the ability to maintain consistent and important support to the students and staff of San Diego High School!

We would encourage you to consider a tax deductible donation to San Diego High School Foundation, Inc. by going online to our website: [sandiegohsfoundation.com](http://sandiegohsfoundation.com) We now accept PayPal and Credit Card donations. You may also consider joining the many Alumni who have included us in their Estate or Trust Planning by contacting our Treasurer, Klaus Mendenhall.

We currently have an opening on our Board of Trustees. If interested, contact E. Rae Riner, President.

Respectfully,

E. Rae Riner (rrplus5@yahoo.com)  
President SDHS Foundation, Inc.  
Class of 1962

Klaus Mendenhall (kluasm@aol.com)  
Treasurer SDHS Foundation, Inc.  
Class of 1962







## UPCOMING SAN DIEGO HIGH

A modern chapter is on the horizon for one of San Diego's most historic high schools.

San Diego High School's Whole Site Modernization project is anticipated to begin this fall, bringing campus wide improvements and renovations to four classroom buildings, outdoor sports facilities, the student quad and support spaces.

The modernization represents the latest renovations for a school that has served students for 139 years. Opened in 1882, San Diego High was first known as "Russ School." The population boomed within the first 20 years of opening, igniting the first campus expansion, known as "The Old Grey Castle."

From 1907, the campus underwent a series of transformations until 1973, when the "Old Grey Castle" was torn down for earthquake safety concerns.

Now in 2021, the upcoming project will rejuvenate the campus once again, complementing the long list of successful teachers, alumni and decorated athletes - including the "Mother of Balboa Park," Kate Sessions, who taught at San Diego High, and National Football League (NFL) player Art Powell, who graduated in the 1950s.

Starting in October, San Diego High will undergo interior renovations to building 100, including new student collaboration spaces and modernization of classrooms,

student services offices, restrooms, and support spaces. Exterior improvements will also be made to the main entrance facade, including new signage. The project also includes improvements to interior finishes in the counselor's area and classroom buildings 400, 500 and 600.

Outdoor sports facilities improvements include softball field modernization, fence modifications, and new security lighting. Additional campus improvements include parking lot reconfiguration, food service improvements, and the installation of Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC). The existing east parking lot will be reconfigured to include drop-off and pick-up areas. Food services improvements include two new food kiosks.

HVAC will be installed in classrooms and support spaces throughout the campus, including building 200 and classroom buildings 500, 600, and 800, and upgraded in the classroom and student services building and classroom building 100, and counselor's area in building 300.

The project is anticipated to complete in 2025.

See full article and additional photos at:

[https://sandiegounified.org/about/newscenter/all\\_news/a\\_3\\_d\\_flythrough\\_of\\_upcoming\\_san\\_diego\\_high](https://sandiegounified.org/about/newscenter/all_news/a_3_d_flythrough_of_upcoming_san_diego_high)

San Diego High School Alumni Association

1405 Park Boulevard

San Diego, CA 92101-4722

## *Gone but not forgotten*

View a full list at: <https://bit.ly/2QbHwjY>

Armando Rodriguez	1941	2/14/2019	John Ardilla	1948	12/25/2020
Nadine Clark Hessing	1943	2/23/2021	Howard E. Ingram	1946	
Craig Starkey	1950	1/29/2021	Mary Ann Sherman	1946	
James L. Hicks	1959	3/23/2021	James Lipsett	1952	
Robert Berman	1942	5/18/2020	Joann Harkey	1952	
Sharon Green	1973	9/5/2021	David Tobias	1949	5/2/2021
Salvador (Sal) Kenniston	1955	1/11/2021	Steve Lydon	1958	21-Jun
Beverly Williams Morton	1966	7/13/2021	Ralph Michael Morgan	1951	6/21/2021
Mary A. "Dolly" Cabrera	1957	5/17/2021	Stephen Richard Lydon	1958	6/25/2021
Harriette Cook	1941		Bonnie	1966	20-Aug
Dorla Dunkle	1947	4/29/2021	Alicia	1966	21-Apr
Carolyn G .Smith	1957	5/27/2021	Judith A Shablak	1957	5/28/2021
Elaine M. Long	1957	4/28/2021	Jeanette Marie Hatcherson	1957	2/9/2020