



WILDCATS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF OAKLAND HIGH SCHOOL, INC.

E-NEWSLETTER

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS:

CLASS OF 1960 REUNION

To the members of the class of 1960: your 50th reunion is coming up! The event is to take place at the Waterfront Hotel in Oakland on August 6th, 7th, 8th. If you want to register before the rates go up, be sure to sign-up before July 15th.

<http://www.oaklandhighalumni.org/reunions>

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Let us know where you are and what you're doing, and we will let your fellow alumni know how you're doing in the next WAA newsletter!

NOTABLE ALUMNI

BEN FONG-TORRES

**BAY AREA
RADIO HALL
OF FAME
NOMINEE**



Ben Fong-Torres (1962) writes the "Radio Waves" column in the San Francisco Chronicle's Sunday Datebook and has been co-host of the annual San Francisco Chinese New Year's Parade on KTVU Channel 2 since 1996, winning three Emmys in the process. He was a writer and editor at Rolling Stone magazine and was portrayed in the acclaimed motion picture "Almost Famous" (2000). Ben has also authored eight books, among them *The Doors By the Doors*, *Becoming Almost Famous*, *Not Fade Away*, *The Hits Just Keep on Coming*, *The Motown Album*, and his memoirs, *The Rice Room*. He was kind enough to present at the Oakland High Career Day this past March! Ben has been nominated for the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame in the Specialty category. You can vote for him online at www.barhof.com.



Oakland High School Secretary Teri Isono Retires

After 40+ years association with OUSD, Oakland High School secretary Mrs. Teruko "Teri" Isono is retiring. Mrs. Isono's retirement was celebrated twice, first at the Lake Chabot Golf Club for the Oakland High "End of the Year Party" and again at the Silver Dragon Restaurant, Oakland Chinatown.

Mrs. Isono began her service to Oakland High as a parent volunteer in the attendance office and ended as principal's secretary. In the interim, she served as Vice Principal's secretary for over ten years under Henriette Green.

Speaking at the Silver Dragon dinner, Ms. Green told the gathering that she considered Mrs. Isono an equal and a friend. Former Principal Joanne Grimm reminisced about Teri's ability to raise needed materials for the schools from local businesses. Mrs. Grimm also revealed that her old friend turned employee regularly came in for a chat and when she closed the door, Grimm knew that her old friend was about to tell the principal what detail she'd missed that needed her attention. As often as not, Grimm turned the job over to Isono, her trusted confidant.

A brief skit highlighting Mrs. Isono's most memorable qualities was performed, with Georganne Ferrier portraying the venerable Mrs. Isono working on timesheets and master calendar and Judi Yeager portraying the teacher who just can't follow the rules. The entertainment culminated in hulas danced by Mrs. Isono's granddaughters Kiana and Keilani.

Mynette Theard from Mrs. Isono's union SEIU Local 1021 presented her with a plaque and tote bag, and OHS principal Alicia Romero presented Mrs. Isono with a plaque commemorating her 40 years of service to the Oakland School District.

Ten alumni and 29 former faculty members joined current staff to celebrate at the multi-course dinner at the Silver Dragon. Oakland High alumni present included Aya Allen, Catherine (Walrath) Darwish, Julia DeGuzman, Georganne Ferrier, Stephen Johnson, Linda (Lee) Louie, David Ponas, Shirley (Smyers) Shelby-Watson, and Judi (Gates) Yeager. Of course, the most important alumni attending were Steven and Richard Isono, Mrs. Isono's sons who graduated in the 1970s. Both stated that Oakland High had been like family to their mother.





BLEACHER REPORT

The Jackie Jenson Field bleachers are in disrepair. The Wildcat Alumni Association is considering helping with much needed repair and maintenance of the damaged sections. We will most likely be seeking donations to help with this project. Stay tuned for updates!

2010 GRADUATION CEREMONY

"Cherish Yesterday, Live for Today, and Reach for Tomorrow"



2010 Class President, Sylvia Nim and her family: Ning Liang, mother; Nina Nim, sister, OHS '08; Va Phan Nim, father; and Albert Nim, brother, OHS '12.

The class of 2010 had an impressive graduation ceremony at the Paramount Theater on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. Following a long tradition, parents and guests were welcomed by students who opened the ceremony in eight different languages, representing the ethnic diversity of Oakland High. The three main speakers were the valedictorian, salutatorian, and one speaker-at-large. 310 students walked across the stage. Graduates will be attending 31 different post-secondary institutions throughout the country. In addition, 37 members of the class were awarded lifetime membership in the California Scholarship Federation and 41 are members of the National Honor Society.

Congratulations to the Oakland High graduates of 2010!

OAKLAND HIGH HALL OF FAME

Since the establishment of Oakland High in 1869, there have been many Oakland High students who have gone on to achieve significant success in life. Among them are: Lillian Moller Gilbreth (1896), Chris Burford (January 1955), Yosuka "Frank" Matsuoka (1896), Sherry Hu (1969) and Ben Fong-Torres (1962).

To learn more about these graduates and many others, and to nominate an alumnus you feel is worthy of induction in the Oakland High Hall of Fame, please visit the WAA website at www.oaklandhighalumni.com.

SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT

Two weeks before the graduation ceremony, at the Senior Awards Night on Wednesday, June 2nd, the Wildcats Alumni Association presented three \$1,000 scholarships to the following students: Edenilson Bran, Cindy Liu, Leme Tu Tran. Thank you to the Class of June 1959 who kindly sponsored Edenilson's scholarship.

(<http://www.oaklandhighalumni.org/scholarships>)



Also presented that week was the 2010 Jimmy Dix Award, given to the most inspirational athlete on the softball and baseball teams. The softball award was presented to Mai Thy Nguyen, and the baseball award to Antonio Lopez. (<http://www.oaklandhighalumni.org/awards>)

In addition, Stan Peters (June 1957), long-time football coach and Athletic Director at Laney College, awards a Scholar-Athlete for academic success and athletic achievement. The 2010 recipients were Sabrina Ochoa, who played softball and basketball, and Demonte Horton, who played football and basketball. The awards were presented by Carlos Sutton (1980), Oakland High Athletic Director. This is the second year this award has been presented.

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WAA SCHOLARSHIPS . . .
WE COULD USE YOUR HELP!

The Wildcats Alumni Association (WAA) has awarded three to five \$1000 scholarships for the past eight years to further the education of deserving Oakland High graduates. For this to continue, donations are needed. They are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

We hope to raise \$3000 for scholarships by asking a lot of people to contribute a little. A \$10 donation would help us reach our goal.

If you would like to donate --- just \$10 --- to the WAA scholarship fund - Click on the Donations tab on our website.



Lucky Supermarket S.H.A.R.E.S. Program!

The WAA participates in the Lucky S.H.A.R.E.S. Program to raise funds for scholarships to graduating seniors. This program is Save-Mart's way of giving back to the local community. Presenting a S.H.A.R.E.S. card each time you shop at Lucky or Save-Mart will generate up to 3% of your purchase to be donated to the WAA. If you are interested in supporting the WAA by shopping with a S.H.A.R.E.S. card at your local Lucky or Save-Mart, please email us with your name and address at WAA@oaklandhighalumni.org, and we will send you a card.

Wildcat Trivia #3

Q: Who was the first person to jump into Live Oak Memorial Pool (Oakland High swimming pool)?

Answer from our last newsletter: "The Beau Brummels" and bassist Ron Meagher '63 played a special after school concert on campus in 1966.

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