



WILDCATS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF OAKLAND HIGH SCHOOL, INC.

E-NEWSLETTER

JAN 2022

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WE HAVE A NEW P.O. BOX:
 WAA
 P.O. Box 11465
 Oakland, CA 94611

Email:
waa@oaklandhighalumni.org

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oaklandhighalumni.org
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New Grad Membership - \$25.00
 For graduates of current year.
 Five year membership.

One-Year Membership - \$35.00
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Lifetime Membership - \$450.00
 (Valid forever)

*All Membership dues go
 directly to our scholarships!

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2022!

Whether you are reminiscing about your 50th OHS reunion, planning it, or just starting your college years, you are part of the wonderful Wildcat family; a diverse, caring, and "lucky-to-have-that-wonderful-OHS-experience-in-my-life" group.

Through a challenging year, OHS alumni have supported each other personally and as an organization. Some highlights:

- The class of 1970 held their delayed 50th reunion and classes 1971-72 and 1965 are planning theirs. Other classes are forming committees. (See attachments for reunion stories and updates.)
- Thanks to alumni generosity, WAA awarded scholarships for study to 3 newly minted alumni from the class of 2021. Cristina Zambrano received the \$4000 Alden McElrath Scholarship, and Jieshan Liu and Dunia Saleh each received \$500 Gee-Baranco Family Awards. Alumni donations also made it possible to award \$100 recognitions of excellence to these nine other candidates: Vinson Chau, Grace Chu, Nina Hong, Brysha Igie, Nancy Nguyen, Kathleen Su, Anh Vong, Joey Wong, and Amy Zhang.

And we look forward to more reunions and exciting projects in 2022.

Thank you to those who attended our virtual **Wildcat Alumni Association annual meeting January 8, 2022.**

Upcoming reunions

Class of 1965

Rescheduled for September 10, 2022,
 6:00 - 11:00 pm, Airport Hilton, Oakland.
 Cost for the evening \$80.

Contact Barbara Gee or Gordon Baranco, 510-569-9466,
gordon.baranco@gmail.com bgee2224@gmail.com or
moombali@aol.com

Classes of 1971-72 Joint Reunion

Planning in progress.

Contact <http://bit.ly/7172Reunion>



Class of 1970: Successful 50th

The OHS class of 1970 celebrated our great and very fun 50th reunion in 2021, delayed a year because of Covid. We partied for an entire weekend September 17, 18, and 19 in Oakland. We were all "from Oakland", so why go to another city? More than 100 attendees joined in the festivities each day. Classmates and their +1, reconnected and reunited with high school friends from 1970. Magical, euphoric, wonderful, exciting, are just a few words used to describe the weekend.

Friday night, we enjoyed a no-host social hour at Scott's Seafood in Jack London Square. Initially we expected 20+ attendees and reserved the small room. As the RSVPs came in, Scott's asked us to move into their large room which could easily hold our growing crowd. Eventually 102 attended. There was also a musical trio of current OHS students in the music department, thanks to Mr. David Byrd, the current OHS Band Director, for coordinating.

Saturday night was the big party at Trader Vic's in Emeryville. Not sure of our turnout initially, we reserved two rooms and the outside patio. When our expected attendees grew to 122, the restaurant closed their dining room to the public and gave us the entire venue to dine and socialize. Their served hors d'oeuvres and buffet were outstanding. Also, a throw-back candy bar included favorite candies from the 1970's—Milk Duds, Dots, Sweet Tarts, Good & Plenty, Mikes Ikes, and many more. Classmates enjoyed their drinks and spent lots of time outside in the beautiful East Bay evening weather. Hawaiian shirts and leis were the evening's dress code. A very festive night was created. The photographer, who attended all three events, got all OHS70 alumni grouped together for a wonderful outside photo. A moment of silence was held to remember our many friends who are no longer with us.

Sunday afternoon, September 19th, a more casual outside picnic was held at Robert's Park in the Oakland hills. More food and drinks were provided by a caterer; sliders and veggie options and sweets for dessert kept everyone engaged.

Everyone left the weekend with bags of candy, a souvenir bag of tchotchkes, nametags with their graduation picture, OHS70 Reunion coffee mug, and a USB thumbdrive loaded with 1970 Oaken Bucket Yearbook, Spring Concert, Graduation program, and a 38-minute musical photoshow.

As each day drew to a close, classmates lingered and talked, even when the wait staff turned on the lights and cleaned up. No one wanted the weekend to end. Promises to stay in touch and connect again were sealed with a handshake, a kiss and a hug, and "Let's do this again in 2025 and in 2030 for our Diamond Jubilee." Everyone agreed.

- Article generously written by Bert DeJong ('70)

UP-COMING WAA PROJECTS

The next big project that WAA is working on is building two new trophy cases to flank the one we were able to build several years ago, funded in part by a generous contribution from the class of June 1956, who collected money as part of their 50th reunion celebration. The new lighted cases will cost approximately \$14,000.

We need funds for the cases! You may contribute to the trophy case fund at <https://www.oaklandhighalumni.org/donations>.