

Generally Speaking...

Alumni Association News

U.S. Grant High School of Portland, Oregon Alumni Association P.O. Box 13291, Portland, Or 97213-0291
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Queen of Rosaria Victoria Dinu



Victoria Dinu of Grant was crowned Rose Festival Queen on June 12, 2010 succeeding Queen Rachel also from Grant. Victoria's family fled their native Romania in the 1970's. She has taken to heart her parents' frequent reminder of her good fortune to text be raised in the United States by taking advantage of all available opportunities. She is a four-year honor student, active in cross-

county and track, fluent in Romanian, has studied German and Spanish and coaches ice-skating. When she was five years old she began violin lessons and is now a member of both the Portland Your Philharmonic and Metropolitan Youth Symphony, and has been giving violin lessons for two years.

Future plans are to study public relations at Portland State University.

ALLISON MAKI AWARDED 2010 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

Allison Maki, the Alumni Association's 2010 scholarship winner, was a Varsity track team both her junior and senior years and took Spanish all four years. Her most memorable Grant memories will be of football and basketball games, being on the track team and wearing a toga to school for

toga day.

She will use the scholarship to help with expenses as a student at Multnomah University. While her plans for a major are still undecided, she loves writing and plans on "exploring and trying new things before I choose a more specific path".



CLASS OF '47 SCHOLARSHIP

The Class of '47 provides an annual scholarship to a Grant grad. This year's award of \$1500.00 was given to Antonio Hayes who played on the var-

sity football team and was honored to play on the North team in the All Star game at PGE Park. Antonio will attend Foot-

hill Junior College in Sacramento with the hope of finishing his football and college career at a four-year university.

In Memoriam ~ Sylvan Leonard (Len) Berrie '50

by Maureen Berrie-Lawson

Grant Hall of Famer Len Berrie was inducted into the PIL Sports Hall of Fame in October 2009, five years after her passed away from this life. His youngest daughter and her daughter stumbled on the nomination form when researching online for a school ancestry report for details of the Shrine All-Star Football game he played in 1950. Although the induction was bittersweet due to its posthumous reward, it was earned none-the-less. Len also ran track at Grant and was Royal "G" president. He continued his education and athletics at the University of Oregon where he was Captain of the football team, on the track team and president of his fraternity Phi Kappa Psi.

Len married a Grant classmate, Bev Rands, before he

graduated from U of O in 1954. He signed with the Cleveland Browns, but because he was in college ROTC, the Air Force had other career plans for him. Just as he finished basic training and was prepared to ship off, the Korean War was ending and he was honorably discharged from service. Having been forced to leave what could have been a brilliant career in professional football, he became a banker. By the time he and Bev had their three daughters, they were living in Beaverton, then Eugene, then Portland as he managed branches and other Vice Presidential duties for U.S. Bank, The Oregon Bank and US Bancorp. He remained friends throughout his life with many Grantonians:

Fred Paul, Joan Walker, Al Hansen, Dale Duff, Bob Adkins,

John Maletis, Nick Marineau, Carol Lee Tate, Bob Packwood, George Ross, Dorothy Bolliger, Jim Whitely, Paul Fillingier, Marilyn Hall and Bill Webster just to name a few.

Len had a constant sharp wit and a whimsical sense of humor, always ready with a smile and a warm hello for anyone who happened to cross his path, maybe a joke and a story or two if you had the time. He was more than a sports hero in a "read-all-about-it" kind of way. He was an everyday hero in a quiet, humble "Do-the-right-thing" kind of way. He was a nurturing father to his kids and grandkids (and even sons-in-law) before it was the "hip" thing to do. He was one of the good guys and there will remain a great big bear-sized hole in this world where this wonderful

man used to be.

Bev and all three daughters (with families of their own) still live in SW Portland. If you wish to contact Bev, you may do so through Maureen Berrie-Lawson at reenb@Q.com.



IN MEMORY ~ DEAN DAVENPORT '36

On December 7, 1941 our military facilities in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii were attacked by Japanese naval air units. This created a tremendous amount of concern and alarm that the Hawaiian Islands and the west coast of the United States were in peril of being attacked by the Japanese army forces. Our troops were not properly equipped nor did we have adequate military forces. The morale of the populous was at low ebb. Further attacks of the U.S. were expected, but, where?

After declaring war against Japan on December 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt met with our military leaders to plan something to boost the morale of the citizenry. An attack/raid on the Japanese was needed but how could we get land based bombers close enough to Japan?

A U.S. Navy commander flew over an aircraft carrier by accident. When he landed, he suggested that we use a carrier to transport and launch bombers.

The idea was accepted. Lt. Col. James Doolittle, U.S. Army Air Corps, was selected to lead the air group. The Mitchell "B-25" bomber was to be the aircraft launched from the flight deck of the aircraft carrier, Hornet CV-8. A bomber group in training at Pendleton, Oregon volunteered to man and undertake the mission. At this time they were not advised of the what, where or how of the mission.

A pilot in the group was Lt. Dean Davenport, a 1936 graduate of Grant High School. 2nd Lt. Davenport flew as co pilot to 1st Lt. Ted Lawson on the Rupert Duck, the seventh of

sixteen aircraft to be flown off the Hornet. Lt. Lawson authored the book and later the movie, 30 Seconds over Tokyo. Van Johnson portrayed Lt. Lawson and Tim Murdock was cast to portray Lt. Davenport.

After the bombing raid those planes that did not fail into Japanese hands flew on to land in China. Running low on fuel, Lt. Lawson and Lt. Davenport crashed into the surf on the coast of Northern China. Both were thrown through the windshield upon landing. They survived and with the rest of their crew were picked up by Chinese guerrillas. After a long, arduous trip of seven weeks they along with many others were flown back from India to the U.S.

Lt. Dean Davenport survived WWII as a fighter pilot in Europe. He continued in the Air

Force flying eighty six combat missions in Korea. He retired as a colonel in 1967. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Silver Star and Legion of Merit. He died February 14, 2000 in Panama City, Florida at the age of 81.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Alumni Association continues its progress in reaching alums and in growing our membership. There was a great response to the last newsletter and a website, still a work in progress, can be found at www.grantalumni.org.

New faces were seen at the all alumni basketball event at Sam's Hollywood Billiards in February. Many went to cheer for the Generals at the game

against Benson in the Grant gym.

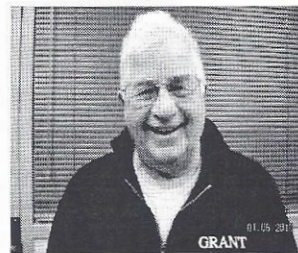
In June, I attended the Senior Awards assembly to present the third alumni association scholarship to Allison Maki who will attend Multnomah College in the fall.

The first annual all alumni picnic will be Sunday, July 25, 2010 at Wilshire Park on NE 33rd and Skidmore from 1:00-3:30 or whenever you tire of

reminiscing and connecting with fellow Grantonians. Bring your lunch, beverage of choice (beer and wine are allowed in the park) and we will provide the dessert.

Mark your calendars now for Grant's homecoming on September 17, 2010. GHS alums will gather at Amalfi's Restaurant, 4703 NE Fremont before heading off to the bowl to watch the Grant vs. Jeff.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the picnic on July 25.



John D (Bud) Leonard '47
Alumni President

DO YOU KNOW THERE IS ONLY ONE SANCTIONED ALUMNI WEBSITE?

At long last the Grant Alumni Association has an official website. It can be visited at www.grantalumni.org. After receiving reports of various Grant alumni sites – some requiring a membership fee – it was apparent that an official Grant Alumni Association website be developed and publicized. The site is still in the development stage but we have the basic structure in place.

This site has been built with minimal expense using online software from Google. Our intent is that this site will be a communication hub for all alumni activities. The Home page tells the basic facts and has current event headlines. The Events Calendar and Current News pages contain information about all Alumni Association events and all of the class reunions for which we

have information. The Directory and contact page lists the current officers and board members. The Newsletter page has downloadable copies of the last three Alumni Newsletters.

In the not too distant future the Gallery page will be populated with photos from past alumni events and there will be a printable membership form for new members.

Future plans include links to other Grant support groups and perhaps interactive messaging and/or a blog of some sort. An important goal is to keep the site current and well maintained. Bob Stayton has chaired this project with a great deal of help from recent Grant grad Finn Herzfeld, along with Alumni Association members Karyl Whelan and Christi Knutson.

SCHOOL REDISTRICTING PLAN

The Portland School Board remains committed to a new vision for Portland's high schools but given the complexity of the issues to be addressed, the Board has agreed to suspend preparation of requested resolutions to eliminate attendance boundaries, close schools, limit choice through enrollment and transfer policy changes and adjust future high school boundaries.

The Alumni Association will continue to closely follow the Board as it tackles these issues and the impact any decision has on Grant.

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

The Grant Athletic Hall of Fame will present its second annual award program on Monday, October 18, 2010 in the Grant Auditorium.

Last year's program honored all of the Grant alums who have been inducted in the Portland Interscholastic League (PIL) Hall of Fame as well as those honorees named by the

Grant Hall of Fame Committee chaired by Pete Charlston ('54).

This year's honorees include the eight names presented to the PIL hall for consideration, plus additional eight or more names currently under consideration. The committee has a roster of approximately fifty former Generals who are qualified for consideration and are

expected to be inducted in future years. Other nominations are always available through the committee.

Much research has revealed or confirmed the exploits of early Generals from the twenties and thirties. The committee does not want to overlook them simply because there are fewer Grantonians who are familiar

with that era. Conversely, the committee wants to include recent grads to maintain interest for students who knew them.

While the PIL hall requires a ten year waiting period from graduation, the Grant hall requires only a five year wait for consideration.

DR. HAROLD KLEINER

Dr. Kleiner died at Willamette View Health Center on March 10, 2010. He was 92. Born in Portland, October 12, 1917 he was the eldest of three children and spent his elementary years in Portland and graduated with highest honors from Klamath Union High in 1935. The family returned to Portland in 1937 and lived on Willamette Boulevard near the University of Portland where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1943. He majored in philosophy, psychology, economics and business and graduated maxima cum laude, first in his class. Working the graveyard shift in a sawmill on the green chain paid for college. Dr. Kleiner received his master's degree from the University of Oregon in 1955, and in 1965 was awarded a doctorate in education from the University of

Portland.

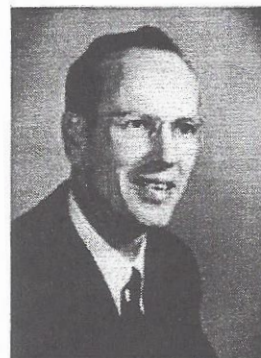
In 1943 Dr. Kleiner married Althee Renwick with whom he had three children, Beverly, Darlene and Brian. Education was a priority and the whole family worked hard to pay college tuitions for the three children and for Althee, all who entered the field of education.

Dr. Kleiner spent his 34-year career as a school and district administrator for the Portland School District. He became Vice Principal at Grant High School in 1952 and was promoted to Principal in 1957. Grant, the largest school in the state with an enrollment of over 3,000, had a reputation of excellence where students excelled in academics, athletics and activities. Dr. Kleiner was known for indoctrinating each new freshman class in his three "ships": scholarship, citizenship

and sportsmanship. In 1958, Grant was recognized by Pageant magazine as on the top 10 best high schools in the U.S. In 1965 he became an assistant superintendent in charge of the model school program aimed at desegregation. When asked by the Board of Education to apply for the superintendent's position 1969, he declined the honor. As the deputy superintendent to the new district superintendent, Robert Blanchard, he oversaw the day-to-day operations of the school district in addition to acting as the district's lobbyist to the State legislature. He served on numerous committees and task forces and was appointed by Governors Mark Hatfield and Tom McCall to several statewide and national commissions.

After his retirement from public service in 1982, the

Kleiner's moved to West Linn and he gardened specializing in dahlias, tomatoes and the eradication of moles; fished for steelhead and salmon; enjoyed woodworking; served United Methodist Church; and spent time with his wife and six grandchildren. Dr. Kleiner and his wife moved to Willamette View Retirement Center where he continued to live after her death.

**Class Scholarship**

Does your class provide a scholarship to a Grant grad? If so we would like to announce all winners of class scholarships in future newsletters. Please send info to grantalumni@aol.com.

Can You Do Lunch?

The Alumni Association meets the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM for a business meeting. Meetings are usually held in the Grant High School library. Following the business meeting, most attendees adjourn to a local restaurant for lunch. You can find current meeting information on the Alumni Association website www.grantalumni.org or by emailing grantalumni@aol.com.

All-Alumni Picnic

The first all alumni picnic will be in Wilshire Park, NE 33rd and Skidmore on Sunday, July 25th, 1:00 PM. Bring your lunch, choice of beverage (beer and wine are allowed in the park) and the Alumni Association will provide dessert. Bring classmates and look for the tables with the blue and white balloons by the shelter.

Memorabilia

Do you have a scrapbook that you can not bring yourself to throw away? Do you have photos of your student days as a General? Contact grantalumni@aol.com if you are interested in the Alumni Association becoming the conservator of your memorabilia.

New Principal For Grant

Vivian Orlen was recently announced as the new principal at Grant. She will replace Joseph Malone. The new principal was co-founder and principal of Landmark High School, a progressive public school in New York City. The next issue of the Alumni newsletter will profile the new principal in greater depth after she has assumed her new responsibilities.

Would You Like your Newsletter in Color?

Providing the Alumni Association with your email address will result in you receiving a color version of the newsletter and will save the association the expense of mailing a black and white copy. Your contact information is never shared or sold.

Send your email address to grantalumni@aol.com.

An enthusiastic group gathered at Sam's Billiards on February 25, 2010 prior to the Grant vs. Benson basketball game in the GHS gym.



[L] Virginia Campbell '41 & [R] Terry Tindle '52



[L] Mc Johnson '50, [LC] Barbara Pfau Getty '52, [RC] Marcia Fuerstenberg, [R] Bob Dewar '52



[L] Linda Howery & [R] Bob Howery '52



[L] Claudette Jenkin Joy '52, [C] DonnaLee Adams Palin '52
[R] Carol Restad Blodgett '56



[L] Marlene Hiegel Adkins '52
[R] Pete Charlston '54



[L] Joyce Martinson Burbano '60,
[LC] Carol Restad Blodgett '56
[RC] Gary Blodgett '56, [R] Dennis Adler '60

U S G R A N T H I G H S C H O O L O F P O R T L A N D , O R A L U M N I A S S O C I A T I O N

The US Grant High School of Portland, OR Alumni Association, founded in 2005 is an Oregon non-profit corporation with IRS 501 (c) (3) status, making dues and contributions tax deductible. Our mission is to serve our graduates and to develop alumni interest and support for Grant. Grant High School continues to be an outstanding Portland school. We want to help continue this tradition.

The Alumni Association operates entirely on membership dues and donations. Our major goals and activities include:

Provide opportunities for alumni to stay current with other Grant graduates and with events at the school.

Issue a newsletter publicizing all alumni activities including class reunions, current events at Grant and historical highlights.

Support Grant financially with scholarships, facility improvement, student programs and the organization of alumni service projects.

Develop and maintain Grant's history collection through interviews with former students and faculty; preservation of school newspapers and other historical documents by digital conversion; maintain donations of scrap-books and other Grant memorabilia.

Please join us in helping to maintain Grant's proud tradition by filling in the information below and sending it to Alumni Association, P. O. Box 13291, Portland, Oregon 97213-0291

C u t h e r e

Membership and Contributions

The U. S. Grant High School of Portland, Oregon, Alumni Association is an Oregon non-profit corporation with IRS 501(c)(3) status, making dues and contributions tax deductible.

New memberships and renewals are effective for the calendar year in which they are received.

Name (present) _____

Name at Grant _____ Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Enclosed is:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| ☐ My \$20 (\$30 per couple) annual dues | \$ _____ |
| ☐ My donation to the Grant Alumni Association Scholarship Fund | \$ _____ |
| ☐ My donation to the Grant Hall of Fame | \$ _____ |
| ☐ Other donation | \$ _____ |

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Mail to: U. S. Grant Alumni Association, P. O. Box 13291, Portland, Oregon 97213-0291