# Generally Speaking...

*Grant High School Alumni Association / December 2025*

## Celebrating 20 years of connection, tradition, and pride!

Twenty years ago, a small but determined group of graduates came together with a shared belief: that the bonds formed in high school were worth keeping strong. And from that spark, our alumni association was born. What began as a handful of volunteers has grown into a network of graduates spanning generations and geographies.

In the two decades since, we've honored our past, supported our school and its students and celebrated achievements. We've launched the Grant High School **Hall of Achievement**, hosted the annual all-alumni picnic, funded scholarships, and kept classmates connected through newsletters, social media, gatherings, and shared stories.

But here's the truth: everything we do depends on support from dues-paying members. Annual dues fund our electronic and USPS mailings, events, student support, and ongoing outreach. If you've appreciated any of these connections—or want to help ensure the next generation of students and alums feel that same pride—we hope you'll become a supporting member today.

It's a small contribution with a lasting impact and we hope you'll join us in carrying our legacy forward together.

## Grant us lights!

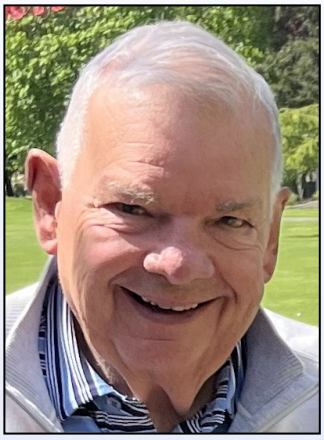
Here's your winter 2025 update on lights in the Grant bowl!

Patience is a virtue…at least, that's what we've been telling ourselves as we wait for the final permit. We've been told that the lights installation is imminent, and the first time we'll see a glimmer come out of these miraculous objects will be around March 1, just in time for track season!

We cannot thank our community enough for all the support that put this over the finish line. It will be a joyous occasion for all of our student athletes and community members to be able to play their sport, cheer their team, jog the track, at home and under the lights!

Colin McLean, '97

# President's Letter



Fellow Grantonians,

This past July your Alumni Association put on our annual picnic: the 15th year! What a great time it was. It's always good to see old friends and to make new friends as well. Some of my best friends are those who walked the halls with me at Grant. A special thanks to **Christi Knutson, '**64 for all her work in securing the permits with the city as well as insurance etc. to cover these events. Board member **Jenny McNassar** will take over these responsibilities in the future. And be sure to save the date for the next picnic on July 26.

Congratulations to our boys soccer team for taking second place in the State! It was their most successful season in 11 years! Led by their solid senior backline of Travis Lobdell at goal, Owen Bonin at center back, and Liam Siel at right back, they only allowed two goals during the PIL season, and 13 throughout the entirety of the season, equating to less than one goal per game! Another senior, Henry Wines, countered the defensive balance with some timely and remarkable goals throughout the season, especially in the playoffs where he scored a handful of goals including the lone goal in the championship game against Beaverton. A season to remember for the ages!

The Grant Hall of Fame will be inducting six new members on Friday January 30th in the Grant gym prior to the basketball game against Wells (Wilson), so plan on attending.

**Jack Cain, '61, GHSAA President**

# What's happened at GHS!

Unfortunately, the Boys Soccer team did not come out on top of this game. But it sure was a good year for them, wasn't it? Read on for more special happenings at GHS!

- **Sense and Sensibility** played in November.
- **Fantasia** is on the calendar for December 17 and 18.
- The newly created **Lieutenants**, a group of mostly seniors and part of the Leadership class, have geared up to bring excitement and fans to the stands at Grant sports.
- The most recent edition of the **Grant Magazine** features an article about the **Class of 1965**.
- Student athletes earned All League honors for their incredible play this fall season in Girls and Boys Cross Country, Football, Girls and Boys Water Polo, Girls Soccer (including player of the year Nailani Solomon (senior), Boys Soccer Player of the Year, Owen Bonin (senior), and Volleyball.

# 2026 Reunions and special events

**Class of 1964 – 80th Birthday Party**
- Saturday, July 25, 2026
- NoHo's Hawaiian Café; 4627 NE Fremont
- Details to follow
- Questions: **granthigh1964@aol.com**

**Class of 1966 – 60 th Reunion**
- Thursday, July 23, 2026
- 4:00 p.m.
- Amalfi's Restaurant 4703 NE Fremont
- Questions: **randiblack37@gmail.com**

**35th Annual MacMillan Jones Golf Tourney**
- Details to follow

**Annual Mel Krause Memorial PIL HOF Golf Tournament**
- Monday, September 14, 2026
- Langdon Farms Golf Club - Aurora
- 18 Holes / 4 Person scramble
- Details: **www.pilhalloffame.org/events/golf**

**15th Annual All-Alumni Picnic**
- Sunday, July 26, 2026
- 1:00 – 4:00 PM
- Grant Park Hollyrood Shelter off 36 th Ave/Brazee
- Water, popcorn and cookies provided

**Is your class planning a reunion?** We'd love to post your information; just send it to GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com and we'll add it to our website and include it in any upcoming publications.

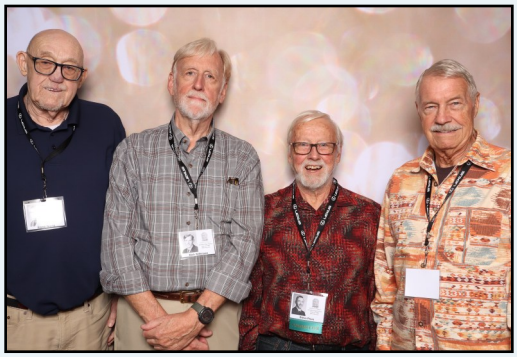
# Help us select our next scholarship recipient

The Grant High School Alumni Scholarship Committee is recruiting volunteers to help review this year's scholarship applicants. We are hoping to assemble a diverse group of alumni whose perspectives reflect the richness of our GHS community.

This is a **moderate lift** activity, with the bulk of our work to happen between late April and May. Volunteers should plan for about **five hours over a two-week period** to independently read applications and participate in **up to five finalist interviews in mid-May.**

If you're interested in supporting GHS seniors and helping select our next scholarship recipient, we'd love to hear from you. To be considered, please reach out to Breanna (Probasco-Canda) Jackson, '04, at **Breannapc@gmail.com**

# Catching up with alumni



**Class of '65:** Fun, fun, fun! The class of '65 celebrated their 60th reunion September 12-14. The fun started Friday with golf at Rose City Golf Course while the evening brought nearly 200 classmates from nine elementary schools for conversation and reminiscing. Then on Saturday, 165 people gathered at Colwood Golf Center for more comradery, karaoke, tasty food, and a photo booth. Most attendees rated the reunion as the "best ever." On Sunday, Principal James McGee gave a guided tour of the remodeled school to about 40 alumnae. KOIN / Chanel 6 had covered the 20th reunion in 1985, and graciously returned to cover this one as well. **You can see that video here!**

**PHOTOS: TOP:** Steve Young, Dick Wilkinson, Steve Price, Bob Jackson **BOTTOM:** Charlene Director, Jan Taylor Castle, Sue Hauser, Ellen Gottesman Teicher.

**Class of '53:** Lifetime member Bill McCraw, class of '53, is professor emeritus from San Jose State. He comes up to Portland every year to attend the picnic!

**Class of '95:** The Grant class of 1995 assembled for our 30th reunion at McMenamins Kennedy School on July 12. More than 100 members of our class were present for an evening of food, drink, and memories. Class members contributed photos from our era that played as a slideshow throughout the evening, and submitted songs from the 80s and 90s for a reunion playlist. We had a great time—we're looking forward to our 40th!

L to R: Michael Morrill, Josh Hicks, and Ian Doescher

# Thanks from your Alumni Association

Your alumni association is funded by your dues and donations. We have gratefully been recipients of multiple "leftover" reunion funds from various classes through the years, and that money helped us grow our scholarship fund. Our sincere thanks go to the previous classes of 1951, 1957, 1958 and 1963. Last summer the class of 1995 donated their funds, which were also added to our scholarship fund. Many thanks to them and to the individuals who give often. We couldn't do what we do without you! **Thank you!**

# Fall Sports

Congratulations to our Student-Athletes who earned All League honors for their incredible play this fall season. Below are our All-PIL athletes in Volleyball, Boys Soccer, and Girls Soccer, Football and Water Polo. Cross Country is announced next week.

## Cross Country—Boys

**Second Team All PIL:** Senior Liam Paulson; Senior Grady Gilkey

**Honorable Mention All PIL:** Senior Colton Hasser; Junior Jack McDaniel; Junior Wynton Martinez-Plachta

## Girls

**Honorable Mention All PIL:** Sophomore Althea Linville; Freshman Leah Richman

## Football

**First Team All PIL - Offense:** Junior Deckard Hale, Running Back; Junior Conor Segel, Tight End

**First Team All PIL - Defense:** Junior Deckard Hale, Linebacker; Junior Elijah Green, Defensive Lineman

**Second Team All PIL - Offense:** Senior Robert Bilbrew, Wide Receiver; Senior Silas Wise, Kicker

**Second Team All PIL - Defense:** Sophomore RJ Jeter, Defensive Back; Senior Jaymere Young, Defensive Lineman; Junior Deckard Hale, Punter

**Honorable Mention All PIL - Offense:** Sophomore Gage Creasy, Quarterback; Sophomore Mariano Caminotti, Running Back; Junior Nic Normington, Wide Receiver; Sophomore RJ Jeter, Utility

**Honorable Mention All PIL - Defense:** Senior Silas Wise, Defensive Back; Junior Orion Scarpine, Defensive Back; Junior Will Stapleton, Defensive Back; Junior Conor Segel, Linebacker; Sophomore Pierce Carpenter, Linebacker

## Water Polo: Boys

**Player of the Year -** Senior Seneca Wahab-Holes

**First Team:** Senior Seneca Wahab-Holes; Senior Kazmer Kawadzki
**Second Team:** Senior Evan Creany

**Honorable Mention:** Senior Finn Sweeney; Freshman Mason Coffey; Freshman Ben Knolkamper; Junior Quinn Marcoux (Goalie)

## Water Polo: Girls

**First Team:** Senior Sofia Korpi (Goalie)

**Second Team:** Senior Lucy Thoits; Senior Saya Tipton; Sophomore Ellie Bacon

**Honorable Mention:** Junior Siobhan Marcoux; Freshman Haley Theda; Freshman Sophia Taylor-Schmitt

## Soccer: Girls

**Player of the Year**: Senior Nailani Solomon, Forward

**First Team All PIL:** Senior Nailani Solomon, Forward; Senior Tess Ipsen, Center Back; Senior Sadie Melville, Defender

**Second Team All PIL**: Senior Lauren Flisakowski, Defender

**Honorable Mention All PIL**: Junior Cambria Litwinczuk, Midfielder; Senior Brooke Wesener, Forward; Junior Maddie Crawford, Forward; Senior Lucy Kapranos, Goal Keeper

## Soccer: Boys

**Player of the Year** - Senior Owen Bonin, Center Back

*Continued on next page*

# Fall sports, *continued*

**First Team All PIL:** Senior Owen Bonin, Center Back; Senior Liam Siel, Right Back; Junior Ewan Massimino, Forward; Senior Travis Lobdell, Goal Keeper

**Honorable Mention All PIL:** Senior Henry Wines, Forward; Junior Sam Whitman, Center Mid; Freshman Sebastian Graime, Defender/Center Mid

### Volleyball

**First Team All PIL:** Sophomore Osa Oslgaard, Outside Hitter; Junior Millie Williams, Middle Blocker

**Second Team All PIL:** Freshman Eloise Armstrong, Middle Blocker; Senior Macy Davis, Libero/Defensive Specialist

# Please consider joining our Alumni Association

Your Board of Directors meets monthly devoting volunteer time to keep GHSAA0 moving forward. **PLEASE SUPPORT US** by paying (or joining us!) online at grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations or use the QR code:

- **Annual Individual Dues:** $25/year
- **Annual Couple Dues:** $40/year (both Grant alums)
- **Lifetime Memberships:** $250

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**Name(s)** _____ **Maiden name**_____

**Email address(es)** _____

**Graduation Year(s)** _____ **Address:** _____

**Enclosed Dues:** $25 Single _____ $40 Couple (both GHS alums) _____ $250 Lifetime _____

**Is there a special area you'd like to support even more?** Additional donations can also be made to these funds: Scholarships _____ General Fund _____

**NEW WAYS TO HELP! Are you a supporter of Grant High School?** Show your support with a donation, and we'll make sure you receive our newsletter and any special announcements. Fill out this form and check this box: _____

We are a recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization.

Grant High School Alumni Association

**Officers**
**President:** Jack Cain, '61
**Vice President:** Open
**Secretary:** Karyl (Loback) Whelan, '61
**Treasurer:** Christi (Rollwage) Knutson, '64

**Board Members**
Jan (Godey) Eddy, '54
Henry Breithaupt, '66
Tracie (Marrs) Lynch, '73
Fatimah Steffanoff, '82
Jennifer (Sonk) McNassar, '82
Colin McLean, '97
Bruce McDonald, honorary member
James McGee, GHS Principal, *ex officio*

*We currently several vacancies on the Board. If you are interested, contact us at* ***GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com***

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Portland OR 97213-0291
Editor: Sue Middleton, '74

**GrantAlumniPDX.org**
**GrantAlumniPDX@gmail.com**

**Next issue: July 2026**

Links to our newsletters are emailed via iContact to all alumni for whom we have a current email address. Lifetime members receive a physical copy via USPS.

# We've gone electronic!

Did you receive our first GHS Alumni Association's eblast last July? If you are not familiar with the term "eblast,"it is simply a letter that's electronically "blasted" via email, and to do this we use a company called iContact.

Distributing our newsletter and other important information via iContact is much more efficient than our previous method. We currently have email addresses for over 5000 alumni! Our Gmail account only lets us send 100 emails at a time so you can imagine what a process it is.

We plan to use iContact to send out newsletters, alert you to important events coming up, and share important and/or timely information about the goings-on at Grant. We promise we won't be bombarding you with emails.

We apologize for not letting you know this was in the works. Most of you were thrilled and we received many complimentary emails. However, if you don't want to receive our eblasts, you can easily unsubscribe: in any eblast from us / iContact, simply scroll to the bottom and click the *Manage Your Subscription* link. There you'll have several options and can choose your preferred status.

# Dues are due!

By paying dues, you contribute to the collective strength of our organization, which allows us to plan for the future, organize memorable events, and invest in programs that enrich the lives of Grant High School students.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to renew your membership by submitting annual dues. You can contribute easily by filling out and mailing in the dues form on page X. Or join online at **grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations**. Your payment ensures the continuation of these programs that strengthen the Grant High community.