

# Generally Speaking...

NEWS FROM THE GRANT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
VOLUME 8, ISSUE 1

WINTER, 2014

U.S. Grant High School Alumni Association  
www.grantalumni.org

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grantalumni@aol.com

## GRANT RETURNS TO GRANT

Piano Celebration Concert

Wednesday March 5 7PM in GHS Auditorium



The Alumni Assn. is thrilled to announce a concert to celebrate the culmination of two year's fundraising to restore Grant's Steinway piano and to honor all those who contributed to the cause.

Come hear our own **Tom Grant, '64** who kicked off the piano fundraising and is honoring us with a return performance. Tom is a well known Jazz pianist whose recordings top music charts and who helped to pioneer Smooth Jazz. If you have not been to one of Tom's performances, this is your opportunity.

The **Grant Jazz Band** led by Nick Budge will open the concert and will be followed by GHS artist **Kenny Regan** who will play the restored Steinway. We also be entertained by the acclaimed **Royal Blues** under the direction of John Eisemann and Chris Lane's Theater Dept's performance of a number from the Spring Musical **Spamalot**.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for a suggested \$10.00 the evening of the performance. To show our appreciation for their generosity, all Key Piano Donors can pick up a complimentary ticket at the ticket booth. Alumni Assn. members whose 2014 dues are current are also offered a complimentary ticket.

This is an all age event and we encourage future Generals to attend to become acquainted with the wonderful performing arts available at Grant.

And while we're celebrating, let's also recognize **Grant High's 90th year of excellence** by honoring the three amazing women who made Grant's choral department the example for all other high schools to emulate. **Jean Acorn Vancil, Janet Howland** and **Doree Jarboe** set and maintained excellence for eighty-four years and used the Steinway untold number of times for untold number of performances with untold number of alums.

Join us for this special evening. With remodeling plans underway for Grant, this may be one of the last opportunities for alums to attend an event in "our auditorium".

The Jazz Band's annual benefit concert, Sweet Sounds of Jazz, is 6:30-9:00, February 21 in the old gym. The Spring Musical Spamalot will be performed May 1-3 and 8-10.

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## Grant Bowl Transformed

Nearly 14 years ago, when their son was in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Lloyd and Judy Lindley started fund raising with the "Grant Fields Improvement Project" to improve the Grant Bowl. The track surface had become so worn it was deemed unsafe and the school had home games at Jeld-Wen field.

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, before the homecoming football game, the Lindley's dream was realized as the new field was dedicated at a ceremony featuring the Lindley's, Superintendent Carole Smith, City of Portland commissioners Amanda Fritz and Nick Fish, Nike executives, Principal Carol Campbell, former principal Vivian Orlen, and Bernadette Suh whose son, **Ndamukong Suh**, donated the last \$250,000 to cap the fundraising.

The project was a public private endeavor bringing together community, business and local government. The community hopes for future improvements of stadium lights and an electronic scoreboard.

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## Reunion Challenge

Has your class had a reunion with a few dollars remaining in the treasury? Consider following the lead of other classes and donate that money to the Alumni Assn. Scholarship or Piano Funds. It's easy, it's generous, it's the Grant Spirit!

## From Alumni Assn. President

Bob Stayton, '61



2013 has been eventful. Your alumni association funded the rebuild of Grant's 9' Steinway Grand Piano. Today's students can again experience the thrill of playing and listening to a world class piano. Musical productions will be better served with a fine instrument and we can all be just a bit more proud that when the next **Tom Grant** or **Thomas**

**Lauderdale** comes along, Grant will have a piano that can express that talent appropriately. A concert to celebrate the restoration of the piano will be March 5 - see article on page 1 for details.

We had a wonderful picnic in July where we welcomed the new principal Carol Campbell and enjoyed seeing many old friends and classmates.

The Grant Alumni Assn. is growing and needs a group of alums who can assist with events. So, if you are willing, and have some time to contribute, please let us know that you are available to help.

There is a place to indicate your interest on the website and the last page of this newsletter.

Our financial support comes entirely from dues and donations. There are tens of thousands of alums out there yet only a small number pay dues and make donations. We want to increase the amount of our annual scholarship, currently \$1500, to equal one-term's tuition for the recipient to use while continuing their education in Oregon. We have, in the past, been able to give greater amounts due to onetime donations from individuals and/or class reunion groups.

If you are paying your dues each year – **Thank you.**

If not, please consider becoming a dues paying GHS Alumni Assn. member. You can easily join on the website or by mailing the form in this newsletter. Not a Alumni Assn. member? You can always show your support by donating to the Scholarship Fund or the Piano Fund.

Thanks for the support you have given us to keep the Grant Spirit alive.

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### Moore Golf Tournament

The 6th Pete Moore Memorial Scramble - or the PMMS - will be played on Tuesday, July 8th at Eastmoreland Golf Club. The tournament is a fundraiser for the Moore Scholarship Fund. **Pete Moore, '59** was GHS Student Body President, Oregon grad, successful businessman, and patron of various charities and causes in Oregon. The contributions are used to fund two yearly scholarships for graduating Grant seniors.

All skill levels on the golf course are welcome to join us for this fun and always worthwhile day. Questions? Contact: Gerry Spencer, chair; 503-723-5906; spencerworld@comcast.net

The Class of 1959 will hold their reunion following the golf tournament. See details under reunion news.

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### Grant Booster Event

Grant High School Boosters will be putting on "THE BIG NIGHT!" Friday, February 28th at Sandbox Studios. The Boosters welcome all alums to join in the fun! Money raised will support Athletics, Clubs & Activities (for high school like you remember it). Purchasing raffle tickets is a great way to support the event if you can't attend... Plus there are three awesome prizes and tickets are only \$10.

You can purchase your ticket, donate a prize or buy raffle tickets for a chance to win a \$2400 scooter, iPad mini or \$200 in cash at: <https://>

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# TOM GRANT CONCERT AT GHS

## 7:00 PM, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2014

### TICKETS AT THE DOOR

## Returning General

Former teacher Carol Campbell takes over as principal of Grant

By Maya Montgomery, Grant Magazine student staff writer



After two years, Carol Campbell had found her rhythm as principal of Benson High School. She connected with the students and her relationships with teachers were friendly and collaborative. She expected to stay for a few years more. But when Portland Public Schools Superintendent Carole Smith sought her out in late June 2013 and asked

her to replace the change oriented and progressive Vivian Orlen at Grant High School, Campbell couldn't say no.

"I was a little shocked," Campbell admits. "My first thought was, 'It's late in the year.' It is really hard for me to leave Benson because I really like it and I've learned a ton. But it's also exciting for me to think about going back to Grant because I do feel like I know a lot about the community and about the school."

That's because Campbell was a science teacher at Grant from 1998 to 2007. She had a reputation of working well with struggling students, jumping in to teach remedial classes. Every student comes from a different background, Campbell reasoned, and so every student learns differently – but they can all be achievers.

As the mother of two boys adopted from countries across the globe, Campbell is no stranger to diversity. Her own experiences as a gay woman growing up in a prejudiced Missouri town have also contributed to her belief in accepting differences. For Campbell, working with student differences is part of what makes education so interesting.

At Grant, Campbell faces one of the biggest challenges yet in her career. She's now the principal of Portland Public Schools' largest high school, and she takes over in the wake of Orlen's sometimes controversial three years. Orlen's overhaul of Grant and its curriculum prompted both criticism and praise as she fought to narrow the achievement gap through major initiative shifts.

Orlen liked what she saw of Campbell when they met as colleagues. "Carol is one of those...who didn't speak often but when she spoke I always listened," she recalls. "She's a huge advocate for students."

As Campbell takes the wheel, she faces rough waters in the future: potential retirements in an aging teaching force; continued curriculum changes; and massive school reconstruction in 2017 as part of the voter-approved school bond.

Campbell already has connections with the Grant community from her years as a science teacher, and she already has experience with the school. However, she says there's a lot for her to learn. "Things have changed since I was there in '07," she explains, "and I want to get back up to speed on what's going on there now. I don't think that it would be a good idea for me to just start making changes and making decisions about how things are going to be in there without taking the time to really get back into the community."

Of her return to Grant, Campbell says, "It's a little bit of a homecoming."

To read more about Carol Campbell, go to <http://grantmagazine.com/the-return/> for Grant Magazine's original profile.

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## PIL Hall of Fame Inducts Seven Grant Alums

Seven General athletes were inducted into the 2013 PIL Hall of Fame at the Oct. 20, 2013 ceremony. **Wes Austin, '62** played football, basketball and ran track while at Grant. **Dale Duff, '50** participated in football and track. **Joe Gerber, '96** played basketball and baseball. After four years playing OSU baseball Gerber played in the Detroit and San Diego organizations and for his hometown team the Portland Beavers. **Scott Jackson, '71** was involved in track and cross country and competed in

track while attending OSU. **Elaine Pond White, '76** ran cross country and was on the track team. **Laura Westwood, '02** participated in cross country and track and was the 800 Meter State Champion as a freshman and sophomore. **Adam Whitehead, '01** played football at Grant and at PSU for four years where he years was an All-Conference tight end. The PIL Hall of Fame Golf Tournament will be held September 14, 2014 at Broadmoor Golf Course.

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## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?



## 1961 Birthday Bash

The Class of 1961 had so much fun at their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion that no one wanted to wait another five or ten years to congregate. The logical solution was a joint 70<sup>th</sup> birthday barbecue bash held on a beautiful July evening at Columbia River Yacht Club.



Jan Peterson Johnson    Marlene Schleining Oberbeck  
Carol Derr Damron



Mike Snider    Jack Cain

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## 1978 Reunion

On Aug 9th, we, the Class of '78, celebrated our 7th, 5 year reunion back home in our old Grant stomping grounds at Velo Cult near 42nd and Hancock, a local bike shop by day and party room by night. About 100 classmates, some of whom had never been to one of our reunions before, and some brave "plus ones", spent the evening reminiscing with each other and enjoying the ambiance. Ok, so maybe rafters and bicycles don't seem like much in the way of ambiance, but being surrounded by old friends enjoying each other's company? Now that's ambiance! (This year we also welcomed members from the classes of '77 and '79, but only a handful were able to join us this time.) Discussions which may have focused on children and their exploits at past reunions seem to have shifted to grandchildren, (yikes!), and/or the trials and tribulations of caring for aging parents. "The times they are A-Changin'".

We like to keep our reunion gatherings simple so that more classmates are able to attend and so that we can celebrate them every 5 years without wearing out the reunion committee members too much. According to a post-party survey, (very unofficial), the majority of class members in attendance prefer the simplicity, so it looks like we'll be getting together again in 2018 for our 8th, 5 yr reunion!



Harry Elam  
Kim Brown-Stelly  
Joyce Brooks Elam



Donald Dines  
Wendy Hougheling Sandstrom  
Joanne Radmilovich Kollman



Bennie Blanton  
Russell Harley  
Phil Lowry



Mary McMahan  
Gail Wiebe Johnson  
Adrienne Schrage Keith

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## 1953 Reunion

The Grant class of '53 held their 60th reunion on August 16-17, 2013. A free Friday afternoon picnic was hosted by the reunion committee for their classmates at the garden of committee chairman, **Jim Damis**, who still lives in the Grant district. Of the 476 seniors who graduated in June, 1953, 91 attended the Friday picnic, and 83 persons attended the Saturday night dinner held at Riverside Golf & Country Club.

## 1993 Reunion

The Grant High School Class of 1993 celebrated their 20 year class reunion on August 3rd at the Gypsy Restaurant and Velvet Lounge. Organized by 1993 class President **Amy Gaylord**, over 80 classmates danced, laughed and reminisced about the amazing times they shared at GHS. One of the highlights of the event was a impromptu cheer of "What School Ya From," by the '93 Cheer leading squad. Reunion committee member **Shannon Nichols** said it best, "I always knew I had amazing classmates, and the reunion just reminded me that childhood friendships and the experiences we shared truly do last a lifetime. I cant wait until our 25th reunion."

For pictures of the event and to connect with classmates, check out the GHS Class of 1993 Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Grant1993/>



Mark Rodgers Ehren Olson Adam Kelly Brian Faccini  
Aanen Trelstad Bryan McLean Andy Frazier Zak Zahm  
Laura Whelan Michelle Tiegs Amanda Pendergrass  
Shannon Nichols Sarah Poulter

## 1963 Reunion

The Class of '63 celebrated its 50th reunion in grand Grant style on the evening of Saturday, August 10, 2013 at Red Lion on the River in Portland. With approximately 250 alumni and guests attending, this event was the biggest-ever 50th reunion in Grant's history. In addition to participating in the Class of '63 Blue & Gray Golf Tourney on Friday, August 9th, many dozens of alums also attended grade school reunions for Alameda, All Saints, Beaumont, Faubion, Fernwood, Irvington, Kennedy, Laurelhurst, Madeleine, Rose City, and Sabin---bringing total participation to more than 300 over the reunion weekend. Check out the class website at [www.grant1963.com](http://www.grant1963.com) to see additional reunion photos or to discover more about the Grant Class of '63.



Lenny Brown  
Bob Ness  
Cliff McAfee



Rhea Aldridge  
Brian Crockwell

## 2014 Grant Reunions

### CLASS OF 1945 – ANNUAL GET TOGETHER

Tuesday, September 9, 2014  
3:00-7:00 PM (Dinner 5:00 PM)  
Eastmoreland Golf Course 2425 SE Bybee Blvd  
Contact: Peter Cuthbert 619-885-9620

### CLASS OF 1954 – 60<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Saturday, July 26, 2014  
Portland Yacht Club 1241 NE Marine Drive  
Contact: Marilyn Portwood [nighthawk498@comcast.net](mailto:nighthawk498@comcast.net)

### CLASS OF 1959 - 55<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Tuesday, July 8, 2014, 3:00-7:00 PM Happy Hour  
Eastmoreland Golf Club House 2425 SE Bybee Blvd.  
Contact: Maggie Martin [maggie2949@comcast.net](mailto:maggie2949@comcast.net)

### CLASS OF 1964 – 50<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Friday, July 25, 2014 Grade School Gatherings  
Saturday, July 26, 2014  
Columbia River Yacht Club 37 N Tomahawk Island  
Contact: [granthigh1964@aol.com](mailto:granthigh1964@aol.com) or [www.granthigh1964.com](http://www.granthigh1964.com)

### CLASS OF 1974 – 40<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Saturday, July 26, 2014  
Details to follow.  
Contact: Jan Groff 503-320-1421 or  
Facebook page: GrantHighSchool Class of 1974 Reunion

### CLASS OF 1994 – 20<sup>TH</sup> REUNION

Planning underway for June 28, 2014  
Check the website for updates

## #5 Coming in July

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual all alumni picnic will be held on the fourth Sunday in July in Wilshire Park. The event continues to attract more and more people and has even become part of class reunion weekends. We hope you will mark your calendar and join us for a fun afternoon.

See you July 27, 2014!

# BECOME A MEMBER OF YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Your GRANT HIGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION “express train” is moving ahead with activities, but where are all of our “passengers”?

The “ticket” for riding the alumni express for one year is only \$20 and brings you two Alumni Newsletters to keep you informed on class reunions, alum gatherings, important school events, athletic and other achievements of alums, honored status at our annual picnic, a membership card, a free ticket to the upcoming piano refurbishing concert and your knowledge that you are an important part of an active group.

Our fourth annual Alumni Picnic in July was the best attended ever! The 2014 picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 27, 2014 at Wilshire Park on NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue.

We give an annual scholarship, partly paid by dues and partly by special donations. **Vince Budak**, an outstanding, talented young man was awarded the 2013 scholarship that he will use to help with expenses while attending Willamette University.

Homecoming was special this year as the game followed the dedication of the new and improved \$2 million bowl, an example of private and public partnership.

In 2011 your alumni association began restoration of the 1917 nine foot Steinway concert grand piano in the auditorium. Pianist Tom Grant '64 donated his time for a benefit concert. The piano is restored and Tom will return on March 5 for the dedication concert.

Twelve Grant athletes and coaches, as well as the 1968-69 boys state championship basketball team and the 1973-74 girls state championship golf team, were featured at the annual Grant Athletic Hall of Fame program in October. The organizing committee, chaired by **Gerry Spencer '59**, includes eight other alums.

We appreciate the several generous gifts of funds for the scholarship and piano restoration as well as the volunteer work by our webmaster, **Bob Burdett '63**. Your board of directors meets monthly and devotes much volunteer time to keep things moving. We work with the Athlete Hall of Fame committee and sponsor our own Hall of Achievement to recognize our heroes and to inspire today's students.

We would like to book more projects but we need your participation. Maintaining our goal of a modest annual dues is based on large membership which we don't yet have. PLEASE SUPPORT US by sending your \$20 dues and enlisting in Grant's Army. Dues can be paid by mail or on the assn. website [www.grantalumni.org](http://www.grantalumni.org) at the dues and donations page. We are a recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization so your dues and donations are tax deductible. If both husband and wife are alums, membership for the spouse is only \$10. The association also offers a Lifetime membership for \$250.00 that you might consider.

**Please fill out and enclose the form below with your annual dues and mail to:  
US Grant Alumni Assn. PO Box 13291 Portland OR 97213-0291**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed Dues: \$20 Annual dues \_\_\_\_\_ \$30 per couple annual dues \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Lifetime Membership \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed Donation: Scholarship Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Hall of Fame \_\_\_\_\_ Plano Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Enlist in Grant's Army by volunteering to help with the following:

Picnic \_\_\_\_\_ Social Media \_\_\_\_\_ Publicity \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter \_\_\_\_\_ Other Interests \_\_\_\_\_