

Generally Speaking...

Grant High School Alumni Association / Winter 2022



\$10,000 donated from Leo Lester Browne Fund to GHS band and orchestra programs



When the refurbishing of the Fletcher Murals fell through last year, the Alumni Association was left with a \$10,000 donation from the **Leo Lester Browne Charitable Fund**. We were allowed to retain this donation in return for supporting projects that focused on music education and performance.

Our Band and Orchestra Department receives no funding from Portland Public Schools, so these funds will bolster the school's instrument library to make sure students of all walks of life and opportunity get the chance to play a quality instrument. According to **Christopher McCurdy, Director of Instrumental Music** at Grant, having the right tool is critical to student success. This funding will help the department realize a goal of putting a quality instrument into the hands of every student. The instruments will be owned by the Grant band/orchestra program and used exclusively by the students.

The ensembles at Grant have anywhere from 30-50 students in them at a time. One student per instrument will benefit that particular student, but the numbers balloon when the longevity and precision manufacturing of the instruments is taken into account. Instrument professional models have a life expectancy of 15-40 years, depending on the type of instrument and the materials from which it is made. For example, clarinets need to be replaced about every 12 years due to the natural warping of the wood over time, but saxophones and other brass-only instruments can last upwards of 50-70 years with proper care and maintenance. Currently up for acquisition or replacement are our flutes and saxophones. Grant alumni should be proud we are able to support a need that will extend the generosity of the Leo Lester Browne Charitable Fund over many, many years.

Mural refunds

All donors to the mural project have been contacted via mail, email, and newsletter articles asking how they would like their donation designated. While most donors have responded, there remain some who have not. For more information, please contact the alumni association at grantalumi@aol.com.

Annual All Alumni Picnic is on again!

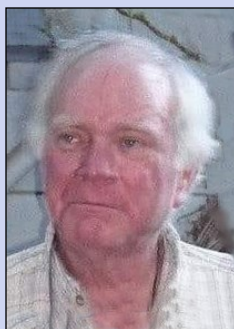
After a two-year Covid-related hiatus, the All Alumni Picnic is back! The event is scheduled for 1:00-4:00 pm on Sunday; July 24, 2022. We'll be holding the picnic in the covered area of Grant Park along 36th Avenue, behind Hollywood School. You bring your picnic and we'll provide dessert! More information will be in the next newsletter.

Softball field

Looking for updates on the girl's softball field? You can find more information by just [clicking here](#).

President's letter

I was overly optimistic last June about Covid easing. It evolved once more (as living things do) and regained some momentum through the fall. Medical science continues to develop remedies to deal with these diseases for those who choose and are able to use them. I repeat: if you have not done so yet, GET VACCINATED.



On a sad note, we've lost an old friend and former president of the Grant Alumni Association, **Rodger Eddy, '47**, on January 20, 2022. Rodger always called Grant "the best high school in the United States." He was always a voice of traditional values and I enjoyed listening and learning from his perspective. He is missed. Read more about on Rodger on page 4.

A big "Thank you," to **Sue (Thompson) Middleton, '74**, who has stepped up to take over our newsletter and maintain our website with new layouts and updated information. Thanks to **John Hamnett, '63** for his many years of managing the website.

We are planning to again have the All Alumni Picnic in Grant Park on Sunday, July 24! More on page 1.

Your Alumni Association is picking up speed after two years of COVID slowdown and limited activity. Despite the Fletcher Murals episode, we have emerged with a stronger Scholarship Fund and Funds for the Music Department, we are working with Grant staff to organize and reinstall the hundreds of photos in the halls of Grant, and the Grant Centennial is on the horizon in 2024. **We need more alumni to step up** so we can spread the work and perhaps even take on new projects. When you see an alumni activity you can help with, reach out and get involved. I welcome your support.

I want to extend my personal THANKS to my alumni friends: Your support and encouragement was a tremendous help to me through the last few months after the sudden loss of my wife, Nelly, in August; a "routine" hip replacement in November which got infected in December; and kidney failure in January which required my stay in the hospital for dialysis through the month. Your phone calls, emails and support were a big help getting me through each day and are appreciated.

Bob Stayton, '61



So many class reunions and not enough room! For detailed information about these celebrations, please visit our website at grantalumni.org/events.

Class of 1960 – 62st Reunion

Celebrating with the Class of '61
Thursday, 7/21/22; 4:00-8:00 pm
Questions: nelsuza@gmail.com

Class of 1961 – 61th Reunion

Thursday, 7/21/22; 4:00-8:00 pm
Questions: usgrant61@msn.com

Class of 1966 – 55th + 1 Reunion

Saturday, 9/24/22; 5:00-9:30 pm
Questions: granths1966@comcast.net

Class of 1970 – 70th Reunion

Saturday, 8/20/22
Questions: sejohnson1952@gmail.com

Class of 1971 - 50TH Reunion

Friday, 8/19/22
Questions: sharonhenifin@gmail.com

Class of 1972 – 50TH Reunion

Saturday, 7/23/22
Questions: jeabas@centurylink.net

Class of 1975

First Saturday of the month; 7:00 pm
ALL Grantonians are invited
Questions: gonzalez.sara90@gmail.com

Class of 1982 – 40TH Reunion

Planning underway for a late July reunion.
Questions: chicagoduck@gmail.com or
jennifermcnassar@gmail.com

Class of 1991 – 30TH Reunion

Possible reunion later in 2022.
Updates will be posted on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com).

Class of 1992 – 30TH Reunion

Planning underway for a 2022 reunion.

Class of 2002 – 20TH Reunion

Saturday, 8/27/22
Questions: lbwestwood@gmail.com

Grant sports news



Soccer

Our girls soccer team, shown celebrating above, defeated Beaverton 4-3 in the Class 6A Girls State Soccer Championships this past November. The win delivered Grant its first girls soccer state title in school history! Additionally, **Coach Manolis Tjuanakis** was named the PIL Coach of the Year, and **Elle Frazier** and **Liv Frazier** were selected for 1st Team honors, while **Caprial Loescher** was named to the 2nd Team. Elle was also named Player of the Year. To add a cherry on top of these amazing accomplishments, the team also had the highest GPA of all girls' soccer teams in Oregon, with a 3.99 average!

The Generals' boys team did extremely well, too, making it to the semi-finals of the State tournament. Their 3.96 GPA put them at the very top of the list for Oregon boys soccer teams, as well. **Sebastian Rangel** and **Spencer Brown** received State 1st Team honors.

Swimming

Quinn Brown was named state champions in the 200 yard freestyle race last fall at Tualatin Hills Rec Center. Quinn also placed 2nd in state in the 500 yd freestyle. A great way to cap off her swimming career at Grant!

Basketball

Congratulations to these Generals for earning all league honors this season in basketball: **Boys: Adrian Mosley** (1st Team, Player of the Year), **Andre Lawrence** (2nd Team), and **Max von Arx** (Honorable Mention). **Girls: Eboni Clay** (1st Team), and **Sibayla Jensen** (Honorable Mention).

Wrestling

Congratulations to these wrestlers who competed at the 6A State Championships February 26-27 at Sandy High School: **Lillian Courtnage-Dyke**, 113 lb; **Will Jordan**, 138 lb; **Kai Tsugawa**, 145 lb; **Will Hindrum**; 220 lb, and **Benson Deible**; 220 lb. Also, congratulations to Head Coach **John Taylor** for earning Coach of the Year!

You can find more sports information at grantathletics.com.

Golf, anyone?

The 31st Annual MacMillan – Jones Memorial Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, June 17 at Portland's Rock Creek Golf Club. The tournament raises funds for the Kevin MacMillan & Tom Jones Scholarships at Grant High.

Schedule of events:

- 11:30 am: Registration, hosted lunch and beverages
- 1:15 pm: Shotgun start, scramble format
- 5:30 pm: Dinner, cocktails and awards
- 7:00 pm: event ends

[More information is on our website](#) or contact Steve MacMillan at 503.260.7271 / stevemacmillan@comcast.net



In appreciation

The Alumni Association shared a "slice of appreciation" for Grant's entire staff for all their hard work, and provided pizza, salads, and soft drinks for their lunch on Friday, Jan. 14.

GHS apparel

Grant's Student Store provides products that promote unity and school spirit! Collaborating with multiple school clubs and organizations, they've created items to unite the entire Grant community. Reconnect with "dear old US Grant" by getting your school merchandise at pps.net/grantstudentstore.



Scholarship Committee

The Grant Alumni Association presents an annual scholarship to a deserving senior who plans to enroll in continuing education at an Oregon institution. This year we are awarding a \$5000 scholarship!

We are looking for alumni interested in participating on future interview committees, beginning with the 2023 award. It's a very inspiring opportunity to meet these talented graduates.

You can contact us at grantalumni@aol.com with questions or to volunteer.

Remembering Rodger Eddy, Class of '47



We are profoundly sad to announce the death in January this year of the alumni association's first president, **Rodger Eddy**, '47. His photo, left, was taken at 2016 All Alumni Picnic and is how Rodger will always be remembered.

Rodger answered a notice about the formation of a Grant High Alumni Association in the summer of 2005. After a few meetings, he was elected president of the newly formed US Grant High School of Portland, Oregon Alumni Association, and for the next three years, his patience and perseverance prevailed.

Rodger was instrumental in acquiring our non-taxable 501(c)(3) charitable status with the Internal Revenue Service. Working with the board, adoption of bylaws for incorporation with the state of Oregon, as well as writing the mission statement of the organization and pushing for an alumni newsletter, were completed. Rodger provided effective leadership in accomplishing these objectives.

At the December 2008 meeting, Rodger decided to step down, becoming the vice president. During his three-year tenure, Rodger accumulated a file four inches thick with letters, certified documents, minutes of thirty-three board meetings, and bylaws for the newly formed alumni association. He was an integral part of the alumni association until the pandemic changed meetings from in person to virtual.

The alumni association will miss his writing skills, his willingness to always raise his hand to help, his loyalty as a Grant graduate, and his smile. You can read more about Rodger at legacy.com/us/obituaries/name/rodger-eddy-obituary?id=32409673

Help support the Grant Constitution Team

How does the constitution protect our basic rights? What is a constitution, and what is a constitutional government? For the seventh year in a row, Grant students will be answering questions like these when they compete against hundreds of high school students from across the country at the Center for Civics Education's National Invitational. This academics showcase is an opportunity to test their knowledge during simulated congressional hearings.

Expenses for an endeavor like this are high, and they need your support! Their 2022 goal is to raise \$90,000 to help them cover expenses for airfare, hotel, food, (for the team and coaches), entry fee, bus for travel around town, or if we go to a museum that charges for tickets. Any money raised over the amount that covers the entirety of the trip remains in our account and has been used to order lunches during regionals and state competition and ordering new We the People textbooks as we need. As well if a family cannot afford the \$900 payment for their student that is not a barrier to travel. Everyone goes.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution (tax ID # 93-6000830), the team would be very grateful. You can send a check to: Grant Constitution Team, c/o Angela DiPasquale; 3925 NE 33rd Avenue, Portland OR 97212-1754.





Become a GHS Alumni Association member!

Like most small organizations, Covid had a dramatic financial effect on our association and your continued support through an annual membership is vital.

Why become a dues paying member? Because your dues will help continue the publication of this newsletter, provide a scholarship for a worthy graduate, reinstall the historic hallways photos, and create a Centennial Celebration.

New memberships and renewals cover the calendar year beginning January 1 and ending December 31.

- Annual Individual Dues: \$20/year
- Annual Couple* Dues: \$30/year
- Lifetime Memberships: \$250

Use this link to send in your dues:
grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations.html

*(when both are Grant alums)

U.S. Grant High School Alumni Association

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Next issue: Summer 2022

That's a LOT of photographs!

Did you know more than 700 framed photos were removed from the school's walls before the recent remodel got under way? These photographs showcased quite a bit of Grant's storied history! The pictures were then removed from their frames, digitized, and archived for safekeeping.

Now that the remodeling is over, Principal McGee has asked the alumni association to lend a hand in helping the school once again add these photos back on the walls. We are **looking for volunteers** who could help envision how the photos should be displayed, assist with any resizing of the pictures that may be needed, and place the photos in new frames. Financial support will also be needed to purchase the frames. If you know anyone who could offer us a discount on a large order like this, please contact us.

To volunteer for helping with getting the pictures ready, or for tips on discount frame orders, please contact us at grantalumni@aol.com.

New newsletter mailing guidelines

One of the best ways to keep in touch with what's going on at Grant and with the Alumni Association is to read our two annual newsletters. As more people are accustomed to emailed newsletters...and as our budgets get tighter and tighter...we have made some changes to our newsletter mailing guidelines.

- Beginning with this Winter Newsletter **all** alumni for whom we have a current email address will receive an emailed PDF version.
- A printed copy will be *mailed* to *paid* members who have opted in, and to those for whom we do not have a valid email.
- To recognize their continued support, future newsletters will be mailed by the USPS *only* to paid members.
- We will continue to *email* the newsletter to everyone on our email list.

If you have questions, feel free to contact us at grantalumni@aol.com.

Just prefer to get emailed news from us? Do we have your current email address?

If you are a paid GHSAA member and would prefer to only receive an *emailed* newsletter (versus also getting a mailed copy), please let us know. We will stop mailing a paper copy to you, and save the Alumni Association some money in the process!

Also, do we have your current email address? If not, please contact us at grantalumni@aol.com with updated information.