

Generally Speaking...

Grant High School Alumni Association / Summer 2022

Constitution Team places in top 10



Thirty seniors on the Grant High Constitution Team competed in the National Finals of the Center for Civic Education's [We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Program](#) competition held April 22-25, and placed 7th.

The team qualified for the National Competition by placing 1st in the Oregon State competition, held January 29. This is the second year in a row that Grant placed 1st in the State Competition, and the 17th time Grant has competed in the National Competition since the program started in 2000. Grant has placed in the Top 12 since 2004, and placed first in the National Competition in 2013, 2015, and 2018.

For the competition, students are divided into six different subject matter units. They engage in an intense year-long study of the Constitution, its philosophic background, its history, its role in American life, and its application to modern problems. At the state and national level, each unit writes and presents answers to prepared questions developed by the Center, and then answers follow-up questions by an expert panel of judges. Team members end up with graduate school-level knowledge pertaining to their questions.

The team is taught by Grant teacher, Angela DiPasquale. Community volunteer coaches include Portland lawyer, Tim Volpert, and Grant Con Team Alums Meagan Gleason, Eamon McMahon, Jayden Dirk, and Alec Mouser.

The competition is normally live, but during COVID it has been conducted virtually. This year, however, though the national competition was virtual, Grant's team was able to travel to Washington as it did pre-COVID. Students were able to visit the National Archives, Smithsonian Museums, Supreme Court, Capitol, Lincoln Memorial, King Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Korean War Memorial, National Gallery of Art, and National Portrait Gallery. These visits helped bring alive everything they had spent so much time studying over the course of the last year.

...continued on page 2



Mark your calendar for our Annual All Alumni Picnic!

Covid has interfered with so many things—our All Alumni picnic included—that it feels especially good to be able to once again plan a gathering of “old” familiar faces. We will be back at Grant Park/Hollywood Shelter off 36th, starting at **1:00 PM on Sunday, July 24**. The Class of '62 will be celebrating their 60th that afternoon, and the classes of '72 and '82 will have partied the day before, so come be part of the festivities. We will have something sweet, water, and possibly more to share.

A special thanks to the Class of '62, who are making arrangements with the school and District to have Grant open for tours during the picnic. While this is 99% a done deal, be sure to [visit the Alumni Facebook page for more information](#) as the time gets near.

To add to the school spirit, the Grant Student Store will have some special items for sale at the picnic. **See page 7 for pics!**

Hope to see you in the park!

President's Letter

On page 7 you'll find a tribute to Grant alumni **John Hamnett**, who passed in May. John put a huge amount of effort in establishing our website and steering the Mural Restoration Project. He researched relentlessly, along the way contacting the Fletcher family and several national agencies regarding the murals and their significance. John made your Alumni Association better and was committed to excellence in his work...a Grant tradition that inspired us all. Rest in peace, John.



School is over for the year. This spring all the usual pageantry was again allowed: proms, all-night parties, in-person graduation ceremonies, and a full slate of Rose Festival events happened. It is a welcome return to normalcy from two plus years of COVID restrictions! Another event making its reappearance is the Grant All Alumni Picnic being held on July 24 in Grant Park. I look forward to seeing you there.

Your Grant Alumni Association is financially stable. The scholarship fund has grown with the influx of your redirected mural funds, and we are exploring investing these funds with the Oregon Community Foundation in order assure a perpetual return well into the future.

As I have mentioned in this space before, if you have an interest in being active in your Grant Alumni Association please let me or another board member know by emailing us at grantalumni@aol.com. Get involved, come to the picnic, and pay your dues. As with any organization like ours, leadership migrates over time to new folks who want to keep things rolling.

On a personal note, my new hip is fine, but recovering muscle tone and losing the excess water weight has proven more difficult. I am getting better but progress is slower than I'd like. Rehab at 79 is the pits!

Bob Stayton, '61

Constitution Team *continued from pg 1*

Not surprisingly, most participants count Constitution Team as the best thing they did in high school, and countless participants point to Constitution Team as being responsible for setting or helping set their directions in life—and not just in law and government-related career choices.

One final note: The cost of competing in Washington is considerable, and this year's fundraising fell short. If you are able to contribute to the Grant Constitution Team program, please donate at bit.ly/Donate-GHS-ConTeam.

Our 2022 Rose Festival Princess



Meet Grant's 2022 Rose Festival Princess, **Naima Smith**.

Naima is a junior at Grant and she comes with an impressive resume' that includes being a member of the National Honors Society, Mock Trial Team, and Student Leadership. She is a cross country athlete and loves to bake for her friends and family. Naima plans to attend a four-year university and pursue a career that focuses on business/law.

Naima's favorite Rose Festival event is the Fred Meyer Junior Parade, which to this day still winds through the Hollywood District and ends at Grant! She says, "When I was in middle school I would always go with my friends and I remember having a really fun time. It was also cool to see our middle school band performance in the parade, especially since I had a lot of friends who participated in band." Great memories!

[If you are interested, you can read Naima's bio and speech here.](#)

GHSAA Scholarship winner

Samantha DePinto, Class of 2022, has been awarded the **Grant High School Alumni Association Scholarship**. Samantha plans to attend the University of Oregon in the fall with a major in educational foundations, and a minor in history and education administration.



Here is some information about Samantha that she relayed in her application and during her interview with our Scholarship Committee:

My whole life I've wanted to be involved with something bigger than myself (and) found that opportunity at Grant High School. I was lucky to be transferred into Leadership, which allowed me to branch out and make a real difference in the Grant community. In just one semester I helped create the current GHS constitution and joined the Equity Club, and had the opportunity to become one of the first freshman to facilitate Race Forward completely alone.

As a sophomore, I was elected a sophomore representative, became more involved with the Equity Club, and joined the Grant Varsity Softball team. Sadly, the year was cut short due to Covid. Yet as I started my junior year, I joined the newly formed equity class and assisted in running the GHS Instagram account. I was also able to make huge contributions to the planning of 20-21 Fresh Forward and Race Forward, and even facilitated multiple classes online.

At the end of my junior year, it was finally time to realize my dream. It was May and the student body president elections were taking place. After weeks of planning and campaigning it was election day. The support of my softball team, the PPS District Student Council, endorsements from club leaders, my friends, and my family kept me going, and I finally got the news: I won! Years of hard work and determination all came together in that one moment.

My final year here has been bittersweet. I am so excited to continue my education and return to school, but I also can't imagine leaving Grant. The four years I've been here have allowed me to experience an environment that allows everyone to grow and change.

Congratulations, Samantha, on a stellar high school experience. We wish you the best as you continue along your path.

See you at the picnic!



More info on page 1



A big thank you to those who directed their mural donations to furthering music education for Grant Students. Because of your generosity, the Alumni Association was able to donate \$10,000 to Grant's music program. The funds will be used as a matching campaign to raise enough money to purchase a practice piano that will be utilized by both choir and instrumental students.

Meet our new football coach



Alex Melson is the the new head football coach at Grant High School. Alex is a Grant alum with eight years of coaching experience, starting back in 2014 at Grant. He was the defensive coordinator the last four seasons at Grant. During his time at Grant, he has also coached track and basketball.

Alex played defensive back at Western Oregon University from 2008 through 2012, and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Exercise Science and a minor in Health. During his time as a Grant, he was a two-sport athlete, where he earned All-City and All-State honors in Football. This past school year, he was hired at

Grant to teach in the health and physical education department.

Alex and his family are excited to continue their work within the Grant community. They look forward to building on the rich tradition of Grant football while strengthening partnerships within the community.



Mel Krause Memorial Golf Tournament

You know you wanna... This fun event takes place Monday, September 12 at Eastmoreland Golf Course. Included with the 18 hole scramble format are a golf cart, lunch, tournament registration gift, KP and long drive contests, team awards, Hole-In-One prize, and silent auction and raffle! [Details and registration information can be found here.](#)

Les Schwab Bowl features GHS players

The 2022 Les Schwab Bowl, a high school football all-star game featuring Oregon all stars, takes place Saturday, July 2, at Linfield University.

LES SCHWAB BOWL



Fans are excited that we will have four Generals representing Team Willamette at the game this year:

- **Max Von Arx**, a wide receiver/line backer from the Class of '22
- **Jayden Moses**, a line backer from the Class of '23
- **Jae'Sean Pete**, a running back from the Class of '22
- **Marshune Waters**, a wide receiver/defensive back from the Class of '23

This year, the game moves from a North vs. South geographical match-up into a Team Columbia vs. Team Willamette game. The change involved a live draft by coaching staffs that mixes players from all over the state/region together on both teams. You can find more information here: lesschwab-bowl.com/info

More sports news

State champion



Quinn Brown (above) is the 200 yd State Freestyle Champion. She won the championship in the 200 yd freestyle race in February at the Tualatin Hills Rec Center. She also placed 2nd in state in the 500 yd Freestyle.

What a great way to cap off her swimming career at Grant!



Athletes and scholars!

Here are our 2022 Academic All State Standings, along with the teams' GPAs:

- **First Place Honors:**
Softball: 3.93
Girls Golf: 3.97
- **Second Place Honors:**
Boys Track & Field: 3.73
- **Third Place Honors:**
Girls Track & Field: 3.88
- **Eighth Place Honors:**
Boys Tennis: 3.75
- **Ninth Place Honors:**
Boys Golf: 3.69

2022 GHS Hall of Achievement



Sigrid A. Fehrenbacher Clark, Class of 1958: Sigrid began playing the violin when she was 8, was a member of the Grant orchestra, and spent 37 years with the Oregon Symphony. While studying at GHS she was a member of G-Note, and Chresto, as well as the orchestra, plus she was an officer in all these groups. A National Honor Society member, Sigrid studied at Portland State after graduating from Grant. Additionally, Sigrid was a successful business woman. She was co-owner of the Goose Hollow Inn and Mother Goose Antiques. Her husband, past Portland Mayor Bud Clark, credits her with giving him the confidence to run for mayor. In 2001, the Clark family opened The Fehrenbacher Hof next door to The Goose. The coffee house honors Sigrid, as well as her sister, Frieda (see below). Sigrid passed much too early in February, 2001.



Frieda M. Fehrenbacher, Class of 1963: Frieda was the Girl's League executive secretary, student body secretary, and was selected as an outstanding Grantonian Girl of the Term while at Grant. She was a gifted musician, studying violin for fourteen years. A member of the National Honor Society, Frieda continued her studies at Portland State and earned a degree in painting and drawing, as well as a master's in fine arts from Syracuse University. "A committed and well-liked teacher," Frieda spent 28 years teaching drawing and design at Moore College in Philadelphia, and was the first Moore faculty member to be awarded the Lindback Award for distinguished teaching. Frieda's artwork—primarily pastel drawings and abstract paintings—was displayed in many Philadelphia galleries, and The Portland Hof coffee house includes one as well. Frieda passed in January, 2000.



John Hamnett, Class of 1963: John was a member of the Grant tennis team and continued playing throughout his life. He played the alto clarinet in the band and served as a band officer. He worked on class assemblies and was part of the stage crew. John graduated from Oregon State with a degree in business. He later earned a master's in taxation from Portland State. John worked for Willamette Industries for thirty-three years retiring as the tax compliance manager. When John's classmate Bob Burdett passed away, John generously offered to take over the alumni website, grantalumni.org. He not only maintained the site but also grew and improved it. John was instrumental in the success of the mural project fund raising and was always willing to help. We will miss his work ethic and Grant spirit. Sadly, John passed away May 9, 2022.



Joe Simpson, Class of 1968: Joe was a member of the Grant track teams ('67 PIL champions and '68 State champions), the football team, and was elected into the Grant Athletic Hall of Fame in 2012. Joe sang in the Senior Choir and was an officer in the Clefs Club. He graduated from Linfield College, where he participated in football and track and field. After earning his master's from Lewis & Clark, Joe returned to Grant in 1972 as assistant freshman football coach, then quickly became the varsity football and track coach, all while teaching social studies. Joe retired as a vice principal in 2002 after 30 years supporting Grant. Although officially retired, Joe continued to mentor new administrators and substitute for principals in the PPS system. Joe resides in Northeast Portland and continues to be active in the community.

Class Reunions



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

Class of 1960: Thursday, July 21, 4:00-8:00

- Noho's Restaurant / 4627 NE Fremont. \$50/person includes amazing buffet, beer, and wine. Send checks by July 20 to Bob Stayton / 516 NE Miramar Pl / Portland 97232. Celebrating with the Class of '61.
- **Contact:** Gary and Suzanne Lindberg Nelson

Class of 1961: Thursday, July 21, 4:00-8:00

- Noho's Restaurant / 4627 NE Fremont. \$50/person includes amazing buffet, beer, and wine. Send checks by July 20 to Bob Stayton / 516 NE Miramar Pl / Portland 97232. Celebrating with the Class of '60.
- **Contact:** usgrant61@msn.com (If you didn't receive the reunion email, please send us your contact information!)

Class of 1962: Sunday, July 24, 1:00-4:00 PM

- Grant Park Hollywood Shelter. Pack a lunch and join us at the All Alumni Picnic. Look for the Class of '62 sign.
- Please RSVP by July 1 to grantpx1962@yahoo.com or alaughlin1944@gmail.com

Class of 1965: Saturday, Aug. 13, 4:00-8:00 PM

- Colwood Golf Center; 7313 NE Columbia Blvd. \$40 per person and guests are welcome. Visit Eventbrite.com to reserve.
- **Contact:** Brian Newkirk

Class of 1966: Saturday, Sept, 24, 5:00-9:30pm

- Buffet and no-host bar at McMenamin's Kennedy School, 5736 NE 33rd Avenue. \$50 per person. All guests must prepay by 9/18. Mail checks, payable to R.J. Black: Grant 66 Reunion, 7310 S Corbett Ave, Portland OR 97219. Kennedy School room reservations: 503.249.3983
- RSVP / questions: granths1966@comcast.net

Class of 1970: Saturday, Aug. 20, 12:00-6:00pm

- At Grant Park. Boxed lunches and soft drinks provided for all registered attendees. \$45. This is for **classmates only**, due to limits imposed by our Portland Parks permit.
- **Contact:** Steve Johnson or 503.919.0710 / Facebook: [Grant High School Class of 1970 Reunion](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-High-School-Class-of-1970-Reunion)

Class of 1971: Friday, August 19

- Colwood Golf Center, 7313 NE Columbia Blvd.
- **Contact:** Sharon Bushby Henifin / Facebook: [U.S. Grant Class of 1971 \(Portland, Oregon\)](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-Class-of-1971-Portland-Oregon)

Class of 1972: Saturday, July 23, 12:00-4:00 PM

- Grant Park Hollywood Shelter. FREE! Bring your own food, plus a chair or blanket. No alcohol, no smoking event per Portland Parks permit. All grads--and those who didn't--are welcome!
- **Contact:** Jeanine Bassett / Facebook: [Grant High Alumni Class of 1972](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-High-Alumni-Class-of-1972)

Class of 1982: Saturday, July 23, 6:00-10:00 PM

- Village Ballroom, 704 NE Dekum. \$60.00. Light buffet, music, and a good time! Facebook: [Grant High Class of '82 40th Reunion](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-High-Class-of-'82-40th-Reunion)
- **Contact:** Help us find lost classmates! Send info and RSVPs to Sandy Rice or Jenny Sonk McNassar

Class of 1991: Saturday, September 24, 7:00 PM

- Punch Bowl Social, 340 SW Morrison.
- Updates will be posted on Facebook: [Grant High School Class of 1991](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-High-School-Class-of-1991)

Class of 2001: Saturday, August 6

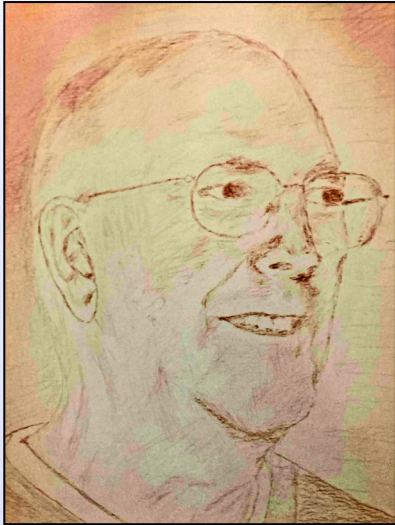
- Stage 722 / Morrison Market
- [Details to follow on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-High-School-Class-of-2001)

Class of 2002: Saturday, August 27 1:00-4:00 PM

- Grant Park. Casual, family-friendly event. Facebook: [Grant High 2002 20-Year Reunion](https://www.facebook.com/Grant-High-2002-20-Year-Reunion)
- **Contact:** Laura Westwood

Remember: More information can be found at grantalumni.org/events.

John Hamnett: a General to the core



Self-portrait by John Hamnett

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of **John Hamnett**, Class of 1963.

John was a friend and colleague of not only the Grant High Alumni Association Board, but a long-time loyal friend of his alma mater, Grant High School. John served the Grant High Alumni Association Board for six years as webmaster, contributing immensely to insure that the Alumni Association maintained a close and thoughtful association with Grant High.

Most recently, John served on the committee that identified and successfully raised over \$200,000 to restore the irreplaceable Ideals of Education murals in the school auditorium. He led the committee's efforts to alert alumni, community groups, and neighbors of the necessity to restore the murals, helped early on to secure the approval of both the Portland Public Schools and the Grant High administration to raise funds to restore the murals, and led a gallant but unsuccessful effort to restore and keep the murals in place. John was responsible for developing a relationship with the family of W. T. Fletcher, who was Grant's first principal and in whose memory Grant students commissioned the murals, as well as the National Coalition Against Censorship and The Leo Lester Browne Charitable Fund. We know John's leadership insured the success of alerting alumni of the needed restoration which resulted in securing their generous donations. As important as the fundraiser was, equally important was another positive result that brought together hundreds of alumni in support of their high school.

Grant High will miss you John and all that you have done to keep the Grant High spirit alive. There is a message carved on the Skidmore Fountain in downtown Portland that we believe describes John: "Good Citizens are the Riches of a City."

Tribute by Bob Erickson, Class of '62

Remember: The Grant Student Store will have some special items for sale at our picnic on July 24.





Become a GHS Alumni Association member!

Like most small organizations, 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 an annual scholarship for a worthy grad, 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

You can find a GHSAA application on the last page of this newsletter, or 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

PO Box 13291
Portland OR 97213-0291
Editor: [Sue Middleton](mailto:Sue.Middleton@grantalumni.org), '74

grantalumni.org
grantalumni@aol.com

Next issue: Winter 2023

That's a LOT of photographs!

More than 700 framed photos showcasing quite a bit of Grant's storied history were removed from the school's walls before the recent remodel. 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** to help envision how the photos should be displayed, assist with resizing of the pictures, and place them in new frames. Financial support will also be needed to purchase the frames, so 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.

- This Summer Newsletter is being emailed to **all** alumni for whom we have a current email address.
- To recognize their continued support, future newsletters will be mailed by the USPS *only* to paid members.
- Prefer to get a physical copy of the newsletter? All you need to do is pay annual dues. You'll then get a newsletter via the USPS *and* you'll be supporting the Grant High School Alumni Association. You can find an application form on the past page of the newsletter.

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.



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 about class reunions, alum gatherings, important school events, and athletic achievements of alums and today’s students. You’ll also receive a membership card and the knowledge that you are an important part of this active group.

We award an annual scholarship, partly paid by dues and partly by special donations. **Samantha DePinto**, an out-standing, talented young woman, was awarded our 2022 scholarship, and she will use it to help with expenses while attending University of Oregon.

We appreciate the generous gifts of funds for the scholarship and music education programs, as well as the volunteer work by many generous alums. Your board of directors meets monthly and devotes much volunteer time to keep things moving. We also sponsor a Hall of Achievement to recognize our heroes and to inspire today’s students. And don’t forget the 2022 All Alumni picnic, which always happens the fourth Sunday of July. This year the picnic is on July 24th at 1:00 PM, at Grant Park under the Hollyrood School shelter, across from the teachers’ parking lot. We’d love to see you there.

We would like to take on 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 dues and enlisting in Grant’s Army. Dues can be paid by mail or on the association website at grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations. We are a recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization which makes your dues and donations tax deductible. The association also offers a Lifetime membership for \$250.00 that you might want to consider.

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

Name(s) _____ Maiden name _____ Grad year _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone(s) _____

Enclosed Dues: \$20 single dues: _____ \$30 couple dues: _____ \$250 Lifetime: _____

Enclosed Donation: Scholarship Fund: _____ Newsletter: _____ Other: _____

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

Picnic: _____ Publicity: _____ Reframe Historic Hallway Photos: _____