

# Generally Speaking...

Grant High School Alumni Association / Winter 2023



## President's Letter

It has been a year of adjustment: the transformation of COVID from a pandemic to “it’s here to stay,” the return of students to school rooms, the inflationary economy, the return of people to the office (or not), the homeless problem, the rise of violence to a near daily occurrence, the drum beat of war in Ukraine...I could go on. The strain on our American culture is rising. It is a time to focus on the ingredients of democracy, basic fairness, justice, equal opportunity, and respect for human rights, even though turmoil boils around us. The extremes seem louder and the center more muffled.



Our alma mater Grant High School is approaching 100 years of excellence. Plans are being made to celebrate throughout the 2023-24 school year. Alums are a significant part of the effort to plan and carry out the festivities. You will see elsewhere in this issue opportunities for you to be part of the project.

Do you recall the Steinway grand piano that your Grant Alumni Association raised funds to restore in 2013-2015? Noting that the piano was absent from the auditorium, I spoke with John Eisemann recently. That world-class piano has been moved to the music room on the second floor. When the auditorium was reconfigured, the wings were not large enough to accommodate the large Steinway piano when not in use, so it was moved upstairs. Music students continue to enjoy the benefit of this world-class instrument and a search is underway to find a suitable baby grand piano for the auditorium. The Alumni Association has donor redirected funds from the mural project that will be used to support that purchase.

With your membership and support, the Grant High School Alumni Association will continue to be a significant part of the Grant Community and its tradition of excellence. Thank you for your support.

Let's have a better 2023,  
**Bob Stayton, '61**

## Trophies return!

Remember the trophies that were discarded in preparation for Grant's 2017 remodeling project? Remember how your Alumni Association saved the trophies from the dumpster!?! A recent decision by GHS Principal McGee reverses an earlier one that only 1st place trophies would be saved for the remodeled building.

Recently new banners for outstanding teams—not only sports teams but other school teams like the school's Constitution Team—have been hung in the gym, and Principal McGee has asked for our help with building school pride to recover the missing trophies for the display cases as well.

Were you one of the many who purchased a trophy as a memento? Are you willing to return your purchase to the school to display in the trophy cases in the gym? Please let us know if you would like to see your trophies once again displayed for all to see by contacting [grantalumni@aol.com](mailto:grantalumni@aol.com). The school would greatly appreciate your donation, as will other alums.



## Grant's Centennial Celebration

Principal McGee has held two informational meetings to begin the planning for Grant's 2024 Centennial Celebration. Preliminary plans include monthly choir, band, orchestra, and performing arts events; a Homecoming parade and dance; a time capsule; an anniversary book; and a gala event in the spring of 2024 to culminate the year.

This is an *enormous* undertaking and will take many alums to make it a reality. Now is the time to enlist in Grant's Army! Your rank will depend on your time availability; anything from Private to General. **Volunteer by contacting [grantalumni@aol.com](mailto:grantalumni@aol.com).**

### Reconsidering General US Grant's contributions



*This story comes from a Dec. 2022 article in The Conversation, an online site that promotes "academic rigor and journalistic flair." An excerpt is below, as well as a link to the entire article).*

General Ulysses S. Grant's pending

promotion sheds new light on his overlooked fight for equal rights post-Civil War.

Tucked away in an amendment to U.S. defense authorization bill FY2023 is a rare instance of congressional bipartisanship and a tribute to U.S. President Ulysses S. Grant.

If approved, the measure would posthumously promote Grant to the rank of General of the Armies of the U.S., making him only the third person – along with John J. Pershing and George Washington – to be awarded the nation's highest military honor.

To read the entire article about General Grant, visit [tinyurl.com/yc6nzye](https://tinyurl.com/yc6nzye).

### Update on the historic hallway photos

The December plan to install the historic photographs that were removed during the renovation was postponed due to the urgency of installing three lights outside the gym entrance during Winter Break. These new lights, in addition to lights on both the baseball and softball fields, eliminate the previous safety hazard of having insufficient lighting in these areas.

The school is currently in the process of ordering the tracks for the photographs, and hopes to get started on the project over Spring Break.

### Is a 2023 class reunion on your mind?

Is this the year for your class to have a reunion? Are you hearing that everyone wants to see each other and that everyone is willing to help...but everyone is too busy to chair?

Follow the lead of other classes and celebrate at the All Alumni Picnic which is always held the fourth Sunday of July. This year's date is **July 23**. Let us know in advance and we will order tables and chairs for your group. We will even contact all your classmates for whom we have an email as well as posting it on the alum Facebook page and the alumni website. All you need to do is provide a sign for your area. What could be easier!?!

If you are interested, send your information or questions to [grantalumni@aol.com](mailto:grantalumni@aol.com).



Join Us in Celebrating All Things Hygge!  
A Mid-Winter Party Benefiting **GrantGives**

# hygge

[hue-gah] — noun

The Scandinavian art of being cozy.

Best enjoyed with fun people in a cool venue with delicious appetizers & drinks.

**WHERE:** Lolo Pass / 1616 E Burnside St / Portland OR 97214

**WHEN:** Saturday, February 11, 2023 from 6:00 to 8:30 PM

Tickets are \$50 per person. [Please purchase in advance by clicking here.](#)  
You can also buy raffle tickets for cool prizes on our site and at the event.

**GrantGives** bring parents together to support kids in clubs, sports, and extracurriculars.  
Can't join us? Be there in spirit! Make a tax-deductible donation [by clicking here.](#)

**WHAT IS GRANTGIVES?** **GrantGives** is about assuring that Grant students have the resources they need to pursue a variety of interests outside of the classroom. Grant kids are hardworking, talented and creative and need the financial support of **GrantGives** so they can excel at whatever they choose to do. Help keep Grant the powerhouse it is and support **GrantGives**!

If you know a Grant student involved in an eligible club, extracurricular activity, or sports team that does not receive regular PPS support, have them reach out to **GrantGives** to apply for possible funding! [Click here for more info and requirements!](#)

## SO. MANY. REUNIONS!

By our count, Grant High School alumni held a dozen class reunions, not only for the “years ending in 2 or 7” grads, but also for classes that missed out 2019 and 2021 due to COVID. You can read about most of these get-togethers on pages 6-7.

From all those reunions came lots of photos. We’ve included a sampling below, but there just isn’t room for them all. However, we’ve added them to a private Google folder which you can find by going to [tinyurl.com/2p8kwy2n](https://tinyurl.com/2p8kwy2n). Photo ID, if submitted, can be found on the file title.

We hope you enjoy revisiting friends new and old.



**SO. MANY. MORE. REUNIONS!**

**CLASS OF 1991**



**CLASS OF 1972**



**CLASS OF 1982**



**CLASS OF 1971**



**CLASS OF 2002**





## Remembrances from 2022 Class Reunions

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**Classes of 1960 and 1961:** Covid might have delayed us, but a joint reunion of the combined classes who started the '60s would not be stopped! The summer of 2022 found classmates gathering at NoHo's Hawaiian Restaurant for their delayed 60th reunions (delayed by 1 or 2 years, depending on the class). With about 100 attendees, we ate and drank both inside and out on the patio. The gathering was informal, but a few words were provided via a PA system by Joanie Campf, '60, and Bob Stayton, Karyl Loback Whelan, and Jack Cain, '61. It was nice to once again be with people we hadn't seen in years. Just in case you wondered, no one sang the *Fight Song* or the *Anthem*. The theme was easy, informal, and uncomplicated, and that seemed to work for those attending. Thanks to you all.

**Class of 1962:** The class of '62 held their 60<sup>th</sup> reunion at the Alumni Association's annual picnic in Grant Park. A classmate arranged for a tour of Grant, which was a highlight for those that had not seen the new building. We had attendees from as far away as Minnesota and Alaska! It was a great time, and many have expressed their desire to make the Alumni picnic an annual event for the class of '62.

**Class of 1965:** The Class of 1965 was unable to celebrate a 55<sup>th</sup> class reunion due to COVID restrictions. Instead, we chose to celebrate our collective 75<sup>th</sup> birthday last August, since nearly all of us turned 75 sometime in 2022. About 150 of us gathered at Colwood Golf Center to have a "Birthday Party for the Ages" (or was that Aged?!?). It was an excellent gathering. Food and drink were plentiful and excellent, as was the birthday cake. The order of the day was catching up, reminiscing, and just having a lot of fun. We even sang a rousing round of *Happy Birthday to Us* accompanied by Maestro Steve Price on his famous fiddle. This gathering of we '65ers was the swan song for our illustrious reunion chair Jan Taylor-Castle, and she lead us all to a fabulously successful and wonderful event. We are already looking ahead to the Class of '65's 60<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2025.

**Class of 1966:** The Grant Class of 1966 finally had their 55<sup>th</sup> reunion...a year late. The bad news was it was delayed by Covid; the good news is the committee had an excuse for an extra year of fun planning sessions. On September 24, 2022 over 60 classmates enjoyed an evening together at Kennedy School where a lovely Hawaiian theme dinner was served. The group did a lot of table-hopping and reminiscing with old friends. If we all stay healthy enough, a 60<sup>th</sup> reunion will be planned in the future.

**Class of 1970:** The Class of 1970 held their twice-postponed 50-year reunion in Grant Park on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The theme was, "The Class of '70 Turns 70". With perfect weather conditions, over 100 classmates attended the event that included a tour of the remodeled Grant High School. Teachers Ernie Cowan and Mark Cotton also attended the reunion. Classmate Rob Powell took many photos that can be viewed here: <https://robpowellphoto.shootproof.com/gallery/19088430/>

**Class of 1971:** The '71 committee was undeterred by Covid's postponement and kept its commitment to their classmates to make their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion happen! August 19, 2022 was the big night with over 100 classmates gathering at Colwood Golf Course for a buffet, drinks and dancing. English teacher Ernest C. Cowan, who taught many of the attendees, joined in the fun. A table of memorabilia was on display that reminded the attendees of important moments during school. People came from all over the country to reminisce with old friends, and are excited to do it again in four years for the 55<sup>th</sup>!

**Class of 1972:** The Class of 1972 held their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion this summer, after deciding to "keep it simple" in Grant Park, with the focus on catching up with our classmates in a "come one, come all" gathering. The night before, get-togethers were held for Alameda, Beaumont and Irvington alumni, which was a great way to connect with grade school pals. About 100 people attended the weekend festivities, with Sandi Wagner getting the nod for having come the furthest, all the way from Costa Rica! A good time was had by all.

**Class of 1982:** The Grant High School Class of '82 gathered together to celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> reunion on Saturday, July 23. Covid provided some planning challenges and unfortunately kept some people from attending, but everyone was with us in spirit and those who were able to join us in-person had a great time reconnecting with classmates at the Village Ballroom in Woodlawn, where we danced the night away! The next day was part two of reunion weekend as we (*continued on next page*)

## Remembrances from 2022 Class Reunions *(continued)*

*(continued from previous page)* headed over to Grant Park for the All Alumni Picnic for more conversation and laughs and a tour of the school for those who hadn't yet seen the remodel. It was a spectacular, heart-warming weekend with perfect weather and had everyone wanting another reunion soon.

**Class of 1991:** The Class of 1991 gathered in September 2022 to celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup> reunion, a year late due to the pandemic. The Punch Bowl Social in downtown Portland was the gathering place for a lively group who enjoyed good food and even better company.

**Class of 2002:** GHS '02 celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> reunion in August. Classmates reconnected during a family-friendly picnic at Grant, and during two evening gatherings as well. Thank you to those who traveled from near and far to make the weekend fun and special!

**Class of 2012:** The Class of 2012 hosted a casual reunion weekend in late July 2022 to celebrate their 10<sup>th</sup> reunion. Classmates got together for food and drinks at Steeplejack Brewery on Saturday afternoon July 23rd, and our main event was a gathering at the All-Alumni Picnic the next day. Those who attended the picnic got a glimpse of the remodeled school during a tour. One classmate even flew in from Nevada to come to the reunion. The Class of 2012 also would like to thank the Alumni Association for helping us to host our first reunion at the annual alumni picnic.

## 2022 All Alumni Picnic wrap-up

We were pleased to return to Grant Park for our annual all-alumni picnic in 2022. While it was a chaotic beginning due to a late delivery of tables and chairs, we were able to set up with the help of many alums. A 92° afternoon with a cool breeze made for a very pleasant time. The Class of '62 celebrated their reunion and arranged for a tour of the school. Principal McGee came by to speak to us and GrantGives (a booster group) provided hotdogs. It was a good time for all as you can see from the photos below (for a better view of these photos, visit [tinyurl.com/37z3x4s4](https://tinyurl.com/37z3x4s4).) We look forward to gathering again on **Sunday, July 23, 2023** at Grant Park. We hope you will join us!



Christen Elliott Bergman, '01



L-R: John Lukrofka '90, Principal McGee and Ed Washington, '56



Eddie Lincoln, '71



L-R: Gary Kath, '75; Mary Catherine Aguas Moore, '74; Mary Magdalena Aguas Wuilloud, '77 and Janet Godey Eddy, '54



L-R: Vicki Brocks deVille, '68 and Maya Adamovics '68



## 2023 Class Reunions

### CLASS OF 1963 – 60th REUNION

- **Sunday, July 23, 2023;** 1-4 PM at the All-Alumni Picnic at the Grant Park Hollywood Shelter off 36th Ave. Questions? [Colleen White Scholz](mailto:ColleenWhiteScholz@gmail.com) / [colleenscholz@gmail.com](mailto:colleenscholz@gmail.com)

### CLASS OF 1973 – 50th REUNION

- **Saturday, July 22, 2023;** 4-7:00 PM at NoHo’s Hawaiian Café, 4627 NE Fremont. \$60 at door (cash or card, includes all food, drink, gratuity). Questions: [Kirk Soule](mailto:KirkSoule@gmail.com) / [kirksoule81@gmail.com](mailto:kirksoule81@gmail.com) or [Facebook](#)

### CLASS OF 1975 (actually, everyone!)

- **The first Saturday of the month;** 7PM at Rogue Eastside Brewery, 928 SE 9th Ave. ALL Grant Alumni / Grantonians are invited! Questions: [Sara Wiedmaier Gonzalez](mailto:SaraWiedmaierGonzalez@gmail.com) / [gonzalez.sara90@gmail.com](mailto:gonzalez.sara90@gmail.com)

### CLASS OF 1988 – 35th REUNION

- **Weekend of July 14-16, 2023.** Planning is underway; details to follow. Questions: Lara Bull Lassila / 206.390.9027 or Jana Throckmorton / 503.522.2492 or [GrantHS1988ClassReunion@gmail.com](mailto:GrantHS1988ClassReunion@gmail.com) . You can also search for *Grant High School Alumni Class of 1988* on Facebook.

### CLASS OF 2000 – 23rd REUNION

- Covid ruined a chance for a 20th reunion but planning is underway; details to follow. Questions: [grantclassof2000@gmail.com](mailto:grantclassof2000@gmail.com) or [click here to join the mailing list to receive updates](#)

### CLASS OF 2003 – 20th REUNION

- **Saturday, July 15, 2023;** 1-4:00 PM at the Grant Park Hollywood Shelter off 36th Ave. More details to follow.

### 12th ANNUAL ALL-ALUMNI PICNIC

- **Sunday, July 23, 2023;** 1-4:00 PM at the Grant Park Hollywood Shelter off 36th Ave. Water, popcorn and cookies provided. Stay tuned for more details.

**Remember: More reunion information can be found at [grantalumni.org/events](http://grantalumni.org/events).**

## Upcoming golf tournaments



### Annual Mel Krause Memorial PIL Hall of Fame Golf Tourney

The annual Mel Krause Memorial Golf Tournament will take place on Monday, September 11, 2023 at Langdon Farms with a 1:30 pm shotgun start.

To see results of the 2022 tournament, visit [PILHallOfFame.org/events/golf](http://PILHallOfFame.org/events/golf)

### MacMillan Jones Golf Tourney

Planning for the 32nd Annual MacMillan Jones Golf Tourney is underway; details to follow.

## Grant in the news

If you no longer live in Portland or don’t otherwise keep in touch, you probably miss news coverage about Grant. Below are some stories that made local news this fall.



[US Senator Ron Wyden Meets with Oregon high school students:](#) Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) met with high school students Friday, on the second anniversary of the Capitol Insurrection.

[Betty Jean Lee, who led the family business that introduced Chinese takeout to Portland, dies at 88:](#) The Oregonian printed this obituary of Betty Jean, heir to a family business that included the Hollywood District’s Chin’s Kitchen.

[Grant High School journalists investigate social media accounts highlighting female high school sports:](#) In this OPB (Oregon Public Broadcasting) post an investigation by student journalists at Grant High School alleges that a photographer was using social media accounts to send inappropriate messages to female student-athletes.





**U.S. Grant High School  
Alumni Association**

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Next issue: Summer 2023

## 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 Winter 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 last page of the newsletter.

If you have questions, feel free to contact us at [grantalumni@aol.com](mailto:grantalumni@aol.com).



## Become a member of your Alumni Association

Your Board of Directors meets monthly devoting volunteer time to keep the association moving. PLEASE SUPPORT US by sending your \$20 dues by mail or online at [grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations](http://grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations). We are a recognized 501(c)3 charitable organization. The association also offers a Lifetime Membership.

- **Annual Individual Dues:** \$20/year
- **Annual Couple Dues:** \$30/year (when both are Grant alums)
- **Lifetime Memberships:** \$250

Use this link to send your dues: [grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations](http://grantalumni.org/dues-and-donations) or fill out the form below and mail to: Grant Alumni Association / P.O. Box 13291 / Portland OR 97213-0291

**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: Centennial Event \_\_\_\_\_ Picnic: \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter: \_\_\_\_\_ Historic Hallway Photos: \_\_\_\_\_ Other interest(s)?? \_\_\_\_\_