The Chairman's Corner
By Jack Fowler
Class of 1952

It has been ten years since the first Wall of Champions Dinner on October 10, 2007. Looking back through the list of inductees for the past nine years, we have a total of 75 inductees, 4 football teams, 3 baseball teams, 1 basketball team, 1 girls swim team, and 1 track and field team on the Wall of Champions video cabinet in Royce Hall. Please join us in celebrating the new inductees on October 12, 2016, at Pardini's. Tickets are now available. We thank you for your continued support for Fresno High School, the School of Champions.

A Change at the Top
By Bob Reyes
(Newsletter Editor)

(On August 5, 2016, Principal John Forbes, the 27th principal of Fresno High, sent this email message to the Alumni Association announcing his new position with Clovis Community College.)

Esteemed Alumni,

I am writing to express my deep gratitude to you for your individual and collective support for me as principal of THE Fresno High School the past 4 years. Being the principal of Fresno High is the greatest privilege and experience I have had my 20 years in education.

This past week I accepted a new position as Dean of Instruction for Clovis Community College (formerly Willow-International). I will remain principal of Fresno High until August 19.

You are to be commended for your dedication to our current students, to the rich history of Fresno High, and to our bright future.

I will be at our next Alumni meeting to express my thanks in person.

Regards,
John Forbes, Ed.D.

(John Forbes completed his last day at Fresno High School on Friday, August 19. Bryan Wells, the former principal of Roosevelt High School, and now a principal on special assignment with the district will serve as Fresno High’s interim principal until a permanent principal can be hired.)

Malcolm & Laverne Masten
By Bob Reyes
(Newsletter Editor)

Laverne Call (now Masten) recalls 8th grade orchestra with great fondness because it was there that the 8th grade class president, Malcolm Masten, first caught her eye. As Laverne said to me, “He was pretty attractive to me.” And as fate would have it, they both played clarinet in the orchestra. Some 84 years later, that attraction led to going steady in high school, and later marriage. In fact, they celebrated their 73rd year of marriage this past year.

They both recall that while they were growing up, Fresno was very much more of a small town with much less traffic. All of the main stores in Fresno were still downtown. Asked if they cruised in their cars, they said that they and their friends were not the kind who liked to cruise. Laverne stated that if you didn’t have a car, you were stuck which meant that you either walked or took the street car. Luckily for Laverne, her parents bought her a car. And Malcolm proudly stated that one summer that he was able to buy an REO truck which he used to haul anything in order to make extra money. Nothing was off limits for his truck. Grapes, raisins, other fruit, and hay only meant that he would have extra money to spend on his girlfriend Laverne who was very much impressed by it. As Malcolm said with a slight chuckle to his voice, “After all of that she just stuck with me.”

Another memory was that behind Fresno High was a big empty lot where students held “hack races.” Malcolm describes “hacks” as cars that were none too new – “old hacks.” Those hacks would take off racing through that bumpy lot.
creating excitement and fond memories for young high schoolers. They also fondly recalled the intense rivalry between Fresno High and Roosevelt during their high school years. There were also memories of entering floats in the Armistice Parade, Raisin Day Parade, and Holiday Parade. And across the street from the high school was their favorite Stillman’s Drug Store where everyone gathered after school for ice cream.

Laverne Call and Malcolm Masten graduated from Fresno High in 1937. As Laverne described it, high school back then was a lot more fun. She thinks today’s students are a lot more serious about their studies which is undoubtedly influenced by their yearly attendance at the Senate banquet where they get to meet some of Fresno High’s most ambitious and academically driven students.

For Malcolm and Laverne, high school was centered around fun activities like dances, and trips to other schools (Edison and Roosevelt back then) or trips to service clubs. Both were in the California Scholarship Federation (CSF) and enjoyed their CSF trips to the Bay Area. Malcolm was part of the Senate and represented the state of Iowa. He also ran the half-mile for the track team. For Laverne, there were the Hypatia and Portia Clubs on campus which were supposed to be debate clubs for girls, but for Laverne they were more social than scholastic.

Both remember their Principal Mr. Kratt and Mr. Mock their Vice Principal. But it was Mrs. Johnson, their math teacher, who left the strongest impression. She was very serious about mathematics and very insistent that her students do their math the “right” way. Lessons that both Malcolm and Laverne carried into their careers.

After graduating from high school in 1937, Malcolm and Laverne both attended Fresno State College. Malcolm earned an AB degree while graduating number one in his class. Laverne earned a degree in commerce and social sciences and was the number two senior in her graduating class behind Malcolm. Upon graduation, Malcolm went directly into medical school at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. For the first two years of Malcolm’s medical school studies, Laverne worked at Fresno State. At the end of those two years, Malcolm and Laverne married in 1943, and she then joined him in Philadelphia. When Malcolm graduated from medical school, he was again the number one ranked student in his class. With medical school behind him, Malcolm entered into his internship and residency in internal medicine in San Francisco.

Upon finishing his residency program, Malcolm entered the Army during World War II. Dr. Masten and Laverne were later sent to Germany after the war as part of the Army of occupation. They spent two years in Germany and loved every minute of it which led to their love of traveling.

After Malcolm’s service in the Army, the young couple came back to Fresno to start his practice specializing in internal medicine. Dr. Masten had his Fresno practice until he retired in 1990.

It was also here in Fresno that their two daughters were born. Dr. Marilyn Honegger, their oldest, is an OBGYN at Alta Bates Hospital in Oakland. Marlene Masten is an industrial engineer in Fresno.

According to Malcolm, his time in the Fresno High Senate was very influential to his later life. It was here that he learned how to speak in public and to think on his feet. “It very definitely helped me in my career. I got a lot out of it, and it was a good experience. It’s what kept me going back every year to the annual Senate Banquet.”

When asked what type of advice that they would give to today’s Fresno High Laverne replied, “The students today are much more capable than we were.” For Malcolm he simply said, “Hard work pays off.”

For Malcolm and Laverne, hard work in school and work paid off in a wonderful professional career and in retired life. But it is their love for one another and 73 successful years of marriage that most distinguishes this loving couple – finding your best friend in 8th grade and still loving each other at age 97 is living a very blessed life indeed.

Our Newest Member Eric Mayu
By Bob Reyes (Newsletter Editor)

Eric Mayu, a graduate of the Class of 2000, is one of the newest members of the Fresno High Alumni Association. He is also one of my former students who has chosen to give back to his alma mater because of the wonderful experience and education that he received at the School of Champions.

His advice for younger alumni, “You need to get involved with the Alumni Association and help us to become stronger.”

Eric’s journey to become a Fresno High Warrior was not planned but a matter of circumstances. His father came to the United States from Liberia with a student visa and enrolled in a study abroad program at Fresno State. Eventually his father ended up getting a masters in journalism and mass communications. At that point, he intended to go back to Liberia but then war broke out in his home country. This prompted dad to move the entire family to the United States.

Eric, a first generation Liberian, went to private elementary through 9th grade. Eric’s parents wanted him to attend Bullard High School during the 1998 school year. But, because Bullard High had no summer school in 1998, Eric’s father ended up taking him to Fresno High School for summer school. It was there that Eric and
his father met Counselors PJ Machado and Jimi Rodgers. Both counselors did such a good job promoting the academic environment at the school that Eric’s dad made the decision that his son should attend Fresno High. According to Eric, his dad loved PJ Machado and Jimi Rodgers.

Attending Fresno High enabled Eric to try sports that he might not have tried in a different environment. It also allowed him to take Advanced Placement classes. As Eric recalled, “It allowed me to be around a very diverse group of students (band, theatre, and forensics). It was like walking into a real-world situation. There was a nursery on campus. There were so many things, in a good way. But the biggest thing was that I was just able to be myself as the new kid.”

Eric’s fondest memories of Fresno High as a student included that of Royce Hall because of its classical architecture. He also has fond memories of his teachers and his principal. And he absolutely loved the friendships that he developed during those years. To this day, he continues to connect with his former classmates, saying that they have a very strong bond.

Because Eric has had a successful career, I asked him how his time at Fresno High influenced his current success. His professional work, he says, is that of being a wholesale commercial broker, specializing in residential and commercial lending. He works with his clients providing services throughout the various stages of their lives (personal and professional). It was at Fresno High in Honors Physics that he learned how to work in groups. While at Fresno High, he also learned how to problem solve. He found out that he was pretty good in Trigonometry which was a talent that he did not know that he possessed. Now math is a very important part of his current career, and he is thankful for being able to discover that skill while at Fresno High.

After graduating from Fresno High, Eric attended Fresno City College and later on attended the CSU Fresno Craig School of Business where he earned a degree in Business Finance with options in Urban Land and Economics Real Estate. Most recently, Eric has started his own financial lending company called Mayu Capital Lending.

And if starting up your own company is not challenge enough, Eric also manages to stay very involved in the community. He started his own non-profit called GenCal Sports in 2015 with the idea of helping at-risk local youth by promoting athletics but tying that to education and higher learning. His non-profit puts on tournaments and camps. This summer he is working with the Sacramento Kings organization to put on an NBA clinic in Fresno, working with the Fresno County Boys and Girls Club. He is also a board member of the Fresno State Alumni Association, belongs to the North Fresno Rotary, and is our newest Fresno High Alumni Association member. Eric’s driving philosophy behind his community work is that he wants to give back to the community that helped to shape the person he is today.

But Eric’s proudest moments revolve around marrying his wife Rachel 3 years ago and welcoming their son Jeremiah Mayu who was born on July 12, 2016. Because Eric, Rachel and Jeremiah have a house in the Fresno High neighborhood, I would guess that Jeremiah is a future Warrior, Class or 2034!!!

Our Class Gift Journey
By Sue Repanich Hague
Class of 1973

At our 40th reunion in 2013, the Class of ’73 made a healthy profit after our event. Our reunion committee (Sue Repanich Hague, Tom Tsaris, Steve Gonzalez, Jerry Mele and Scott Jacobsen) decided it would be really nifty if we donated as a class gift some item of use for the refurbished campus with the leftover funds (nearly $1000). We wanted to re-invest in the campus that gave us such a rich educational and relational foundation upon which we built our lives.

The Class of ’73 should have had the moniker of “the flexible class.” We had three different principals in 3 years: Arthur Miller, Frank Gonder and Bill Booth. If that weren’t exciting enough, we also attended high school at three different campuses: the old campus with LeConte and Palmer Halls in our sophomore year, at McLane High in our junior year when we went on double session and our beloved buildings were torn down, and then our senior year at the “new” (but ugly) campus. At the old campus we recalled numerous plaques all over the place noting class gifts from years gone by. That memory of previous class gifts stuck with us; it spoke of people who invested in us— who thought we were worth investing in—so we thought it was time to “pay it forward.”

We heard that the librarian, Sue Navarro, had scored a real coup by getting the American Experience Freedom Riders Exhibit into Fresno High. She was requesting $1000 to buy companion books to complement the Exhibit (this extra money was not in her budget). When we researched this event, we realized that this was a museum quality exhibit and immediately donated $500 to her.

But we still had money left over and wanted to do something more for the campus.

So we began to research what we’d like to give and how much we’d like to spend. We didn’t mind if we didn’t have enough money. We knew there were like-minded ’73 alums who would gladly donate money for a class gift. We wanted it to be
something useful that the campus genuinely needed. Little did we know how difficult this task would be and how long it would take us! Finally, at the end of 2015 we settled upon something we could donate, that was useful and very much needed (and not in the school’s budget): 2 wireless, state-of-the-art scoreboards and score table for the gym.

This was the good news; the bad news was that it was going to cost nearly $18,000! Since we did not have anywhere near that sum in our account, we knew we were going to have to do some serious fundraising and arm-twisting in 2016 to raise that kind of money. To our knowledge, this is the most expensive gift any class has ever given to the campus. Many of our committee members were dubious that we would be able to raise that kind of money, so we decided that if we didn’t make our goal, we would donate the funds we raised to the Alumni Association, with the proviso that we have a say on what they used the additional money for. They graciously agreed. We decided to give ourselves a goal of 3 months to raise the money.

After the first snail mail and email were out, we heard rumblings about ‘supporting jocks instead of education.’ We explained that while we had donated money to the library, that the scoreboards and table were what the campus really needed right now to keep them on a par with the more affluent high schools in the District. We sent out a second letter and then got on the phone and called our friends. We set up a Class of ’73 Facebook page. At the end of our 3 month deadline, we were still about $3k short, so we went to the Alumni Association and asked if they’d be our ‘backstop’ for the last bit of money if we couldn’t raise the funds. Once again, they graciously agreed.

We are pleased to report that, after initially thinking we would need a bit of help from the Alumni Association, we were able to completely raise the funds needed to purchase the scoreboards and table for the gym!

We’d like to officially challenge the Classes of ‘71, ‘72, ‘74 & ’75 to step up and donate a class gift as well! Contact the Alumni Association for a wish list of things that the school still needs.

When asked how she would describe herself as a leader, she told me, “I would do the work when other people didn’t do it. I’m a hard worker.”

What she loved the most about attending Fresno High was its diversity.

This year’s recipient has been involved in ASB Leadership, varsity cheer, the District’s Student Advisory Board, is the current ASB President, is a California Scholarship Federation Life Member, and a Valedictorian (one of 19 Valedictorians this past June) with a 4.17 grade point average. She was the 14th ranked senior in a class of 499 seniors.

Isabel is also an International Baccalaureate “Courses” student meaning that she has taken at least 3 IB college-level exams (in Isabel’s case she has taken 4 college-level exams).

One of Isabel’s passions is dance. In the summer of 2015, she attended a three-week session at the School of Creative and Performing Arts program in New York at Pace University. Besides dance, this program also offers theater, photography, music, and film. And this summer, Isabel attended the same three-week program, but this time hosted at Occidental College in Los Angeles.

Isabel hopes to one day combine her passion for dance with helping special needs students through dance therapy. She plans to continue her education this fall at CSU Fresno. This year’s recipient is the true ideal of what we envisioned we wanted in our IB students when we started the program in 2002. Her involvement in activities, school leadership, and improving her school community and our world, coupled with high academic achievement embody what the IB wants in all of its students – well-rounded individuals committed to making our world better.

During my initial interview with Isabel in June, she was so humble about her achievements that she failed to mention that she was also a school Valedictorian or that
she had been chosen as this year’s Prom Queen. I only found out about these recognitions when I asked Melissa Bangerter, her ASB advisor, if there was anything more that she could share about Isabel. She is a young lady filled with humility. In fact, even after she had been named Prom Queen, she still stayed after the Prom was over to help Mrs. Bangerter clean up the Prom site. Most kids would have left to continue the celebration, but Isabel chose to help her teacher out. Service to others is a big part of her character and will serve her well in the future.

**Grants**  
By JoAnn Woodward  
Class of 1958

Each year the Fresno High Alumni Association is able to grant to students and educators funds that would not be available through the normal process, either through the Fresno Unified School District or the campus accounts. This past school year, 2015-2016, the Association gave $11,575.00 in grants to the school. They were:

- $1,100 - Mock Trial
- $1,125 - Library, Makers Faire
- $125 - Leadership, Poinsettias
- $2,000 - Band, Winterguard
- $2,000 - Wrestling
- $400 - DC/NY Trip
- $2,725 - Pep & Cheer, Nationals
- $600 - French Club
- $1,000 - Easter Baseball Classic
- $500 - Students Awards Banquet

None of these grants for the students would be given without the support through your membership in the Fresno High Alumni Association. The more members we have, the greater the amount of grants that can be distributed. Fill out the membership form in this newsletter and see what your tax deductible donation can bring to your Alma Mater.

**Who Was Milton S. Young?**  
By Bob Reyes  
(Newsletter Editor)

Milton M. Young was a Fresno High alumnus, who, in 1946, was the president of the Roosevelt Dad’s Club. Milton was also the staff artist for the Fresno Bee, and it was Milton who designed the original Little Brown Pig that Roosevelt and Fresno play for each year.

Milton’s brother was a former Fresno Unified Board member, Dr. J. E. Young which is how we got the name of J. E. Young Independent Study Program.

**4th Annual Little/Big Car Show**  
By Jason Whipple  
Class of 1981

It’s time again, the beginning of another school year, and the kids are all practicing for the football season at Fresno High in hopes of keeping the “pig” in the FHS trophy case! Of course, last year we also added the “Pig Piston” trophy to the case. It was received for the best of show in the little/big car show which will be coming up again very soon. The show will be on the Roosevelt campus this year on Saturday the 12th of November.

The show was held in the Fresno High Parking lot last year and was quite the success and actually doubled in size from the previous year. There were approximately 150 cars and quite a few old timers from Roosevelt, Fresno High and all over the valley showing their nostalgic rides. The show is a small fundraiser that is held for both schools alumni associations in which all proceeds go to both schools.

There seems to be a lot of interest this year from all kinds of car clubs to bring their classic rides. So….. if you know someone interested in showing a car for this year’s event and you haven’t already signed up, please go to the FHS Alumni Association webpage and use the flyer listed on the site to sign up!

This year we will be honoring one of Fresno’s finest men in our community. From the FHS class of 1960 and a great car enthusiast. Mr. Ron Gajarian, who we unfortunately lost this year.

Questions or concerns please feel free to e-mail me at: jason@americansheetmetal.us or call @ 559-351-9961 or reach my partner Brian Volhart at 559-307-8193.

**Scheduled Class Reunions**  
By JoAnn Woodward  
Class of 1958

The Alumni Association is aware of the following class reunions:

- **1951** September 23 (Contact Racquetmom@sbcglobal.net)
- **1956** October 7-8 (Contact maedonna@me.com)
- **1961** September 24 (Contact Lora_one@att.net)
- **1971** October 15 (Contact Plee0532@comcast.net)
- **1976** September 24 (Contact 76warriornation@gmail.com)
- **1996** November 12 (Contact FHS1996reunion@yahoo.com)

Please access additional information on our website at FresnoHighAlumni.com>Reunions
When Fresno High School first opened on September 16, 1889, at the corner of Santa Clara and K St. (now Van Ness) in downtown Fresno, classes were held in the old Emerson School (from 1889 to 1891).

But on that first day of school, something tragic happened. As Professor T. L. Heaton, our school’s first principal, was assembling the younger students on the first floor of the building, he told the older students to go up the stairs and wait in the high school room until he got up there. Unfortunately, four of the high school boys continued up the belfry stairs and found a door leading up to the belfry attic. The boys played in the belfry for some time until they noticed one of their friends missing. This was Henry Church, the 17 year old son of George Church who was the School Director.

Looking for Henry, the boys spotted him several feet above them on a projection. Several of the boys were about to climb up to join Henry when they heard a loud crash and Henry had disappeared. Henry fell 45 feet to his death on the concrete floor below.

When a reporter asked why the belfry attic was open, he was informed that the janitor had been in the belfry to try to get the bell rope off of the wheel. When he left to go get his tools, the boys had decided to climb up the stairs.

Poor young Henry met a tragic death. It was later determined that the projection that he was standing on before he fell, was poorly made, and that led to its collapse. Unfortunately, this first day of our school’s 127-year history, was marred by tragedy.

Part of the fascination that we have of Fresno High is the many traditions that are associated with our school. Here are a few excerpts from the 1939 Student Handbook.

Traditions

Fresno High School has a few traditions which have been handed down from class to class, and although not compulsory to obey most of these, it is usually done because of school spirit.

1. It is a tradition and a student body rule that all sophomores sit upstairs in all student assemblies.
2. It is customary for each class to give at least one class yell before the meeting is called to order. Class yells are only given at rallies and student body business meetings. It has been considered bad etiquette for yells to be given at entertainment assemblies.
3. In the spring of every year the school is turned over to the Girls’ League for one day. This day is called Blossom Day and all girls come to school in new spring dresses.
4. In the spring each year the junior class presents a play, usually of the farce-comedy type, and therefore spoken of as the Junior Farce.
5. An all-school play and an operetta are given on alternate years.
6. In the fall semester the senior class presents its annual play, which is ordinarily a very pretentious production.
7. During the spring semester, the Junior-Senior Brawl is held. Only two members of the two classes may compete.
8. A special Community Night Christmas program is given by the music department every year before school closes for the holidays.

Here I am again!!! This is going to be a short article this time around. If this is your first FHS Alumni Newsletter, then you should know that I am the person to contact if you are looking to purchase a yearbook that matches the years you attended Fresno High. Then again maybe you want any another year that would be a good gift for a spouse, friend or child. I’ve even had Hollywood types purchase yearbooks of long ago students they may be doing research on. The latest reason for purchasing a yearbook is for the year your own parent(s) attended Fresno High! I do accept yearbooks, maybe from family members or even cleaning out your own closets, however, as stated before, I really cannot handle yearbooks earlier that 1950. I don’t have enough request for those years any longer. So – here’s my contact information------let me hear from you: Jackie Garo Boyajian jlb15@live.com 559-224-6643 .

The Warrior Echo (Fresno High Alumni Association Newsletter) is published twice a year (fall and spring).

If you wish to have an article placed in the newsletter, please contact:

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Jack Fowler ('52), Alumni Chairman, Jkf0076@att.net ; 3535 N. Del Rey Ave., Sanger 93657
Jackie Garo Boyajian ('60) Alumni Vice Chair, Jlb15@live.com ; 235 W. Holland Ave., Fresno 93705
JoAnn D’Ambrosio Woodward ('58) Alumni Secretary, Ja_woodward@hotmail.com ; 351 Baron Ave., Clovis 9361
Fresno High Alumni Association
“The School of Champions”

10th Annual Wall of Champions Dinner
Wednesday, October 12th at Pardini’s Banquet Hall

Fresno High School Athletic
2016 Wall of Champions Inductees

Dan Robinson (1964)
Record Setting FSU Quarterback

Jeff Ring (1962)
Triple Threat FHS Athlete

Melinda Fairchild (1957)
Record Setting Swimmer

Merle Martin (1943)
Warrior & Fresno State Hurdler

69 Baseball Team
Valley Champions

George Barstow (1956)
3 Sport ’56 FHS Athlete Of the Year

Keith Gooch (1978)
Football-FSU & Canadian League Pro

1965 Freestyle Relay Team
All American Status

Cynny Lynch (1961)
2 Time Valley Champion Diver

Carol Maas (1929)
9.8 US High School Record

CUT HERE
TICKET ORDER FORM

10th Annual Fresno High School Athletic
Wall of Champions Induction Dinner
October 12, 2016
at Pardini’s

Tickets purchased with this form will be available at will call on the night of the dinner

Name________________________
Address________________________________________
City________________________State___Zip__________
Telephone________________________

No Host Bar 5:30pm
Dinner 7:00 pm

#_____Dinner Ticket(s) @ $60 each
$____Total Amount

Payable To: Fresno High Alumni Association
Send To: P.O. Box 27516, Fresno, CA 93729-7516

More Info: Call (559) 905-6527 or Order Tickets Online at www.FresnoHighAlumni.com
CONTINUING THIS NEWSLETTER: Membership is the primary support we get which allows us to give back to the students and teachers at Fresno High. There is a membership application included in this newsletter. If you are not interested in becoming a member, maybe a donation would be something you would like to do. Your tax-deductible check made payable to Fresno High Alumni Association and mailed to P.O. Box 27516, Fresno, CA 93729 would be greatly appreciated.  

$5  $10  $25  $50  Other

Fresno High School Alumni Association
Membership Application

Please sign me up as a member of the Fresno High Alumni Association as a:

- Chief $100/yr
- Warrior $50/yr
- Brave $25/yr

(Indicates Annual Alumni Dinner)

Your FHS graduating class year __________

Last Name/Maiden Name ____________________________

First Name _____________ Middle Name _____________

Spouse's Full Name ________________________________

Address __________________________________________

City/State/Zip Code ________________________________

Phone ( ) ___________________ email __________________

Please mail form and check to: Fresno High Alumni Association
PO Box 27516
Fresno, CA 93729