

PALUMNI

PARACLETE HIGH SCHOOL

THE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SERVING THE ANTELOPE VALLEY SINCE 1963

Spring 2015



Margaret Neill '73, teacher Mike Kelley and the current Softball and Volleyball Teams in the Paraclete Lip Dub

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What's a Lip Dub? Read on!

If you need a dose of spirit, you need look no further than youtube.com to catch the video entitled, "Paraclete Spirit Lip Dub 2014." Macy's conducted a national contest to inspire all schools (from elementary schools to universities) to create a video where the students lip sync to a song while performing a choreographed routine in a single take. The audio is added in editing. The Beach Boys song "Be True to Your School" was chosen by Macy's.

It was produced by Paraclete's Digital Media class which is taught by PHS Alum Ricky Hernandez '84. It was filmed by Senior Wafa Jaffal who was crowned at this year's homecoming game as the 2014 Homecoming Queen. You're missing out if you don't enjoy this video! Here's the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UD2df3Bmt14>
or on Youtube.com search Paraclete Spirits Lip Dub.



In Memoriam

Spirits passing on...keep their families in your prayers.

Joseph Lormond '08

Father Bill Caffrey, Principal 1987 to 1999

**Sheila Marie Vaughan Carlo (formerly Sister Sheila),
Principal 1964 to 1968**

1974 -1978 Reunion

Those who attended the multi-year reunion had a great time reminiscing and, in the case of Joe Dragan of the class of '77, a little confessing. Monsignor Doug Saunders, who was the vice-principal in the 1973 school year, then principal from the 1974 to 1980, attended the reunion also. Joe fessed up to a little misbehavior on his part to the Monsignor. Well, the rest of us kept our mouths shut as far as I know. Classmates hailed from Illinois, Nevada, Oregon, Maryland, and all over California. The '73-'74 cheer squad gathered for a photo, but missed our Suzie Spirit (Mary Jane (Jansa) Freire). Someone hoped

for an actual cheer from the foursome (ha ha!!), but glasses were simply raised and we said "Cheers!" instead. Back in the day when Paraclete boasted an enrollment of 300+ all classmates knew each other, crossing the lines of graduation years. We even had a few party crashers from the classes of '79 and '82...they just had to party with those upper classmen! The evening flew by, just like the forty years since the '74 graduation. My thanks to all who attended...I appreciate those who want to revisit their Paraclete roots. I look forward to another reunion...maybe for the Class of '75? Sounds like spirited fun!



Janet (Godde) Bower '74
Proudly serving as your alumni coordinator



In the Alumni group photo:
Mike Lang (74), Mike and Regina (Cherney) Farhar (76, 78), Mike Thomason (75 from QHHS, but a Spirit at heart), Dave and Mary (Fisher) Collins (74, 74), Mike Reilly (75), Fred Strack (75), Randy and Angela (Cifarelli) Ryckebosch (77), Vince Burton (75), Mark Ellis (77), Virginia (Nottoli) Budrecki (77), Jeff and Janet (Godde) Bower (75,74), Mike Cifarelli (77), Scobee Bates (74), Barbara (Callen) and Bob (Garcia) Siqueiros (77, 74), Ron Hier (77), Jeannie Bechner Slitzky (79), Debbie Stevens (79), Yvonne (Photias) Caldwell (82), Joe Dragan (77), Rich Ochoa (79), Terry (Dunn) Meurer (74), and Dona (Berry) Ufert (75).

In attendance, but not in photo: Dan Pagnella (75), Molly (Gillis) Machin (77), Diane Rehm Jones (77), Linda (Carlson) Baker (77).

Where are they now?

1967 Mary Watton Eaton just celebrated her 41st wedding anniversary to her wonderful husband Mark in September 2014.

1968 Ken Barnes

attended Santa Clara University and graduated in 1972 with a B.S. in Psychology. He moved to St. Louis, Missouri in 1974 and worked in the Photography/Audio Visual business until 1991. Ken married his wife Barbara in 1983, raised two children, and in 2013 they celebrated their 30th Anniversary. He began playing the guitar and singing in 1968, which led to his interest in Catholic Liturgy. Ken works for two Catholic Parishes as the Music and Liturgy Director, Choir Director, Cantor, Guitarist, Arranger, and Composer. His avocations include photography, natural healing, and playing music at nursing homes. Ken still remembers his Paraclete years fondly, loved playing football for the Spirits, and is happy that the L.A. Rams followed him to St. Louis (but, could they be coming back to L.A. soon?).



Ken with Katie (Didier) Marriott, '67, PHS Bookkeeper

1969 Kathie (Barnes) Hall

worked for seven years as a retail clerk in the Antelope Valley and lived and worked in both southern and northern California until 1990. She married John Hall from Texas and moved to Fort Worth. She worked in Human Resources for Burlington Resources until 2004. More recently Kathie began showcasing and selling her own artwork. She continues to paint and enjoys traveling with her retired husband.

1969 Chris Warnick

emailed in his update...“I live in Penasco, NM in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains at the southern end of the Rocky Mountains. My wife and I left the Pacific Northwest 8 years ago, after living there for 26 years; we retired and have been remodeling our house most of that time. We like it here...it's a short drive to Mexico for us, and since winter at 8K feet is cold, we try not to be here.”

1969 Tim Kingston shares this news...“My wife Beth and I have been living just a couple blocks from Paraclete High School these past 35 years in White Fence Farms. I am now retired from 35 years as an automotive mechanic. Over the years I have owned and restored many classic cars, including six 1969 Camaros, Buick Grand National, Jaguar XKE, Corvair Corsa, Cosworth Vega, Alfa Romeo GTV6, and many others. One day I happened to be driving my 1974 DeTomaso Pantera, and went by Paraclete to take this picture in front of the school.” Tim extends his best wishes to all.



1971 Debbie (Barnes) Sigmund After graduation, Debbie worked for the Automobile Club of Southern California for 14 years. She married Grant Sigmund in 1980, and raised two children. She currently resides in Simi Valley, California, having retired in 2014 from a local school district. Debbie enjoys sewing and home decorating. She proclaims, "I love the Lord Jesus with all my heart!"



1974 Gary Benkendorfer

called in to chit chat with alumni coordinator, Janet Bower, and emailed these photos. One was taken at the commissioning ceremony at Newport, RI in March 2014 for son Jarrett who is now flying for the Navy in Pensacola, FL. Son Paul graduated from the University of Arizona in December 2014. Eddie, another son, (not in photo) works in Silicon Valley, commuting from San Francisco. Fourth son Jeremy (diagnosed with autism at age three) is Gary's "universe" as his life revolves around him. The second photo is of Gary and Jeremy on an awesome road trip during fall break.



1977 Greg Wilson serves as the Program Manager for King County in Seattle. He develops and implements strategies for a high performance workplace. Greg is the liaison to the Executive Equity and Social Justice Initiative that helps promote an equitable future for all communities in King County. He is the CEO, Founder, and Co-Visionary of "The Education Effect," which aspires to increase student retention/graduation rates as well as increase the number of students who engage in healthy activities and make healthy choices. Greg recently received the "Hometown Hero Award" from Seattle's top country radio station, "The Wolf." Greg, you're making Paraclete proud!

1988 Jennifer Slater Sanchez originally planned on a broadcast journalism career, but travelled a different path and is now the assistant principal at Cactus Intermediate School in Palmdale. Her life includes her twins, one of whom is autistic. Managing to stay positive, Jennifer shared, "I was able to grieve what was never going to be and say good-bye to that, and then welcome this new life that we were going to have. If this is going to be our life, then I'm going to be a tiger going through this life." Jennifer actively supports Autism Awareness in several ways including promoting special screenings of sensory-friendly movies at theaters and skateboarding clinics for local autistic children. She continues to push for additional autism-friendly events. Jennifer credits her community service spirit to her family of hard workers and her time as a member of Paraclete's Key Club and the debutantes. Jennifer plans on making the Antelope Valley the best that it can be, including making it autism aware. Maybe there will come a day when The Autism Acceptance Book on her desk will be unnecessary because that mission was accomplished.



Father Biasio Endowment Fund

Year to date the Father Biasio Endowment Fund has reached \$424,760.03.
Our goal is to fund this Endowment to
ONE MILLION DOLLARS.

THE FATHER MARIANO BIASIO ENDOWMENT FUND STORY...

In 1968, Father Mariano Biasio and three other priests of the Congregation of St. Joseph were sent to Palmdale, California to open a new community. Fr. Biasio began to teach at Paraclete High School, where he remained part of the faculty until 1987 when the Archbishop of Los Angeles, His Eminence Cardinal Roger M. Mahony, appointed him pastor of the newly founded parish, Blessed Junipero Serra, in Quartz Hill. During his tenure at Paraclete, Fr. Biasio taught Biology, Life Science, and Religion. He was known for being a teacher who challenged his students to perform to the best of their abilities. Fr. Biasio, known for being a demanding and passionate teacher, expected his students to prioritize their academic learning and earned their respect by his competence and professionalism.

Fr. Biasio coached cross-country, track, and soccer. He introduced Paraclete students to soccer when soccer was virtually an unknown sport in the Antelope Valley. Many believe he introduced soccer to the AV, and for years Paraclete was the only high school with a soccer program. He not only coached for the fun of the game, but also for the win. His teams received numerous awards.

In 1995, he suffered a stroke that left him paralyzed. Though confined to a wheel chair, he continued to minister to the parishioners of Blessed Junipero Serra in spite of the hardships and limitations imposed by his illness. He died on February 7, 2002, leaving behind a legacy of love for Paraclete and of dedication to young people, including the hundreds of students who had him as a teacher.

The Fr. Biasio Scholarship and Endowment Fund was created to recognize the 20 years of contributions Fr. Biasio made to the school and the dramatic impact he made on the students of Paraclete. Your contributions honor the memory of Fr. Biasio, and more importantly, help future students obtain a Catholic education.

Endowment Funds are created to help insure the financial stability of a non-profit. At Paraclete, interest earned by the Fund is used to offer financial assistance for tuition for students in need.

Additional ways to give...

Remember to use AmazonSmile...a simple and automatic way for you to support PARACLETE every time you shop at Amazon, at no additional cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience at Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to PARACLETE.

We want to invite all Paraclete supporters to register their VONS grocery club cards as supporters with our e-Scrip program. Following receipt of registration, a percentage of all purchases made at e-Scrip merchants will be given back to Paraclete High School. Please log on to www.eScrip.com and go to "sign up." Paraclete School ID number is 6668039. This is a way to support Paraclete High School, and it does not cost anything to enroll and participate. Sign up as many people as you like!

Cars 4 Causes is the #1 choice for donating your car. You can donate your car, truck, boat, RV, or motorcycle (running or non-running), and the monies generated will go to Paraclete High School. If you want more information on this donation process, please call 1-800-766-2273 or visit www.cars4causes.net. Provide Cars 4 Causes general information on the vehicle that you want to donate. No smog certificate is required.

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Where are they now?

1995 Brian McCollam and his

wife Jessica have lived in Eastvale, CA in the Inland Empire for the past 5 years. They welcomed their first child, baby boy Dylan Earl, born in May 2014 (in photo). What a cutie!

Brian recently took a Network Engineer position at Keck Hospital of the University of Southern California (Go Trojans!).



1995 Carrie Marriott and Garrett Bartolotta were married on September 13, 2014, and are living in Del Mar, California. Carrie received her RN degree in 2013.

2002 Erick Jackson

has been teaching and coaching at Paraclete for several years. The big news now is that he will be the head JV Football coach for the 2015 season! We look forward to a Coach Jackson-energized JV team this year! GO SPIRITS!

2005 Heidi Rocha Witte

After receiving her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame in 2009, Heidi pursued her Masters degree in Education through Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education program. She currently teaches at an inner-city Catholic school (Mother of Sorrows Elementary) in South Los Angeles. Heidi shared that she was chosen to be on Wheel of Fortune for Teachers' Week this year.



2011 Megan Shelton

is proudly pictured in uniform with her pilot's wings. Attending University of North Dakota, Class of 2015, as a member of the Air Force ROTC, Megan is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Aeronautics with a Major in Air Traffic Control. Her first Air Force assignment will be Moody Air Force Base, Valdosta, Georgia. Her specialty is Airfield Operations. Thank you for your service, Megan!



2007 Brandon Dowling

attended CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI) during which he interned for two members of Congress (including the Speaker of the House in Washington, D.C.), conducted undergraduate research, and held various student leadership roles. After graduating CSUCI in May 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts degrees in Political Science and Psychology (Summa Cum Laude), Brandon continued his education at UCLA's Luskin School of Public Affairs and received a Masters' Degree in Public Policy in June 2013. While at UCLA, Brandon and his capstone team authored a policy analysis titled Restoring Public Confidence: Recommendations for Improving Oversight of the Los Angeles

County Sheriff's Department, which received Departmental Honors from the Luskin School. He is currently employed full-time as a Communication Specialist for the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office where he is a public information officer and handles media relations, crisis management, marketing, and multimedia productions. Brandon currently lives in Los Angeles. Brandon's brother, 2010 Andrew Dowling, graduated in May 2014 from Cal Lutheran University and is now pursuing his Master's Degree at Fordham University in New York.



From 2010 Jacob Nelson... “Dreams do come true! I am happy to officially announce that I have been selected to join SkyWest Airlines as a First Officer [after attending Sky West’s training]. I will be flying the Canadair Regional Jet. The cherry on top of the SkyWest sundae is that I will have the honor of continuing to perform with my Tone Wrangler family. Much love to all who have supported me in both dreams - flying airplanes and making music. More updates to follow... it’s gonna be one ginormous adventure!” Keep on soarin’ Jacob!!

2011 Bianca Lennarz

reports that she is a pre-med student at UCLA, majoring in neurobiology.



“This photo is a tribute to what students learn through their education and the deep long-lasting friendships we acquire,” Laura proclaimed. Taken at Jon and Laura’s wedding, the photo includes classmates from their Sacred Heart School days and most on through Paraclete. From left: Larry Murnane (’78) Marie Senio Wilhelm (SHS ’74), Laura Nottoli Bozigian, Carrie (Vogel) Warner (’78), Jon Bozigian, Mary Adams (’78), Joanne (Zalewski) Starrett (’78). [Attending the reception but not pictured: Shelly Martinez (’78)]

1978 Jon & Laura (Nottoli) Bozigian

married on May 10, 2014, and happily inform all with their news. “Attending school together since 4th grade at Sacred Heart School through senior year at Paraclete High School, our bond of friendship was always strong. Paraclete was instrumental in bringing us back together since we reconnected at the ‘2010 Extreme Cuisine Fundraiser’ --- 32 years after graduation!

“Jon has worked for AVEK Water Agency for 26 years, currently as the Manager of Operations. He has managed his structural steel welding service for the last 30 years, and also designs custom gates and decorative art.

“After 20 years at the University of San Diego working in various positions, Laura now splits her time between Lancaster and San Diego working as an Executive Assistant for Pacific Transwest Real Estate and The Kraemer Endowment Foundation.

“We are both grateful for the values, education and foundation we received while attending Paraclete High School.”



A Blast from the Past for our more seasoned alums...

Mrs. Gail Monti (a favorite former Paraclete English teacher) sent in these photos from oh-so many years ago. In the late 60’s and 70’s, Ray Monti served as Director of Student Activities and Vice-Principal, and Joe Slavin as Vice-Principal, Athletic Director, and Dean. John Perez was a forgiving Dean and also served as the Athletic Director. Father Biasio taught Biology and Religion and coached soccer, track, and cross country.



Ray Monti, Joe Slavin, and John Perez



Ray Monti, John Perez, and Father Biasio

1992 Chris Anderson

Here's a fun article on 1992 Paraclete grad, Chris Anderson...

Remember When from the Antelope Valley Press, January 1, 2015

By: Brian Golden: A.V. Press award winning sports columnist

PASADENA - Christian Anderson can't decide which is more amazing. Is it the fact the Paraclete alum's history-making appearance in the Rose Bowl Game with the Oregon Ducks was 20 years ago? Or is it how Oregon is marking the occasion - playing defending national champion Florida State in the inaugural College Football Playoff semifinal, with a trip to the national championship game on the line? "It's amazing, the run Oregon's been on," said the onetime Ducks tight end, who'll attend the game to root on his alma mater. "Twenty years ago, we would have never dreamed of this." In 1994, Oregon hadn't been to a Rose Bowl in 37 years, and wasn't expected in Pasadena any time soon. Only once in the previous 22 years had someone other than USC, UCLA or Washington represented the Pac-12 Conference in the Rose Bowl. But, interestingly, that team, the 1987 Arizona State Sun Devils, also included a Valley resident, Bruce Hill. "We were a middle-of-the-pack team that year, not expected to do anything," said Anderson, 39, a sophomore backup tight end at the time. "We didn't have a lot of five-star recruits in our program. "We weren't supposed to be in the Rose Bowl. But that's what made that year so magical." The first hint came Oct. 1 at Los Angeles, against a USC team coached by John Robinson, a proud member of those 1958 Rose Bowl Ducks. With Anderson throwing a crushing block that wiped out two Trojans on a Dino Philyaw touchdown run that earned him ESPN SportsCenter top-10 highlight honors, Oregon beat USC in Los Angeles for the first time in 23 years, 22-7. Ducks cornerback Kenny Wheaton's 97-yard interception return touchdown to stun Washington made the Impossible Dream suddenly seem possible. Known simply as "The Pick" in UO football history, the Ducks wore 1994 throwback uniforms to honor Wheaton and his teammates in the game against UW in October. "Even to this day, Kenny's pick still sends chills down my back," Anderson said. It was fun to see those old green-and-gold uniforms brought back, although it was like, Good Lord, compared to what they run out there every week. "Back then, we were always the little guys who thought we were good. Everything changed after that 1994 season." The Valley's Rose Bowl Honor Roll certainly did. Joining Antelopes Al Krueger (USC, 1939) Al Dunn (Iowa, 1959), Pat McCool (USC, 1979) Harold Barkate (UCLA, 1986) and Jermaine Lewis (UCLA, 1999); Quartz Hill Rebel Aaron Emanuel (USC, 1990), Palmdale Falcons Jim Nevelle (Washington, 1991-93), Tommie Smit (Washington, 1991-93) and Travis Collier (UCLA, 1994) and Littlerock Lobos Lawrence Larry (USC, 1996) and Devon Reese (UCLA, 1999), was Paraclete's first Rose Bowl alum, Christian Anderson. Matt Phelan made it two PHS grads in the 1999 Rose Bowl with UCLA. "Growing

up, I was a huge USC fan. I loved them," Anderson said. "But when I got up to Eugene on my recruiting trip wow. Everyone up there smiled at you, they said hi, they looked you right in the eye. They made you feel really comfortable up there. "Don Pellum, our new defensive coordinator? He was our linebackers coach when I was there. Eugene is a special place, and now the whole world is finding out about it." Bob and Charmaine Anderson's son relocated to Sacramento in 2001. Now the sales manager for DriveTime Autos Magazine, Anderson has become the unofficial recruiting coordinator for his alma mater in Sacramento, where his wife, Ronica, runs a sports bar that becomes the state capital Duck pond for all Oregon games. Becoming a father has made the whole thing so much more meaningful, Anderson said. His daughter, Sydney, has had a lifelong love affair with the Donald Duck lookalike that is Oregon's mascot. When the family traveled to Santa Clara to support the Ducks, several players tossed towels to Anderson's 2-year-old son Reese, after pregame warmups and even came over to take selfies. "To see my son and daughter interact with Oregon football like that, it's just so special," Anderson said. "It really means a lot to me and all of us from 20 years ago for the University to acknowledge our role in the program. "Someday I'll explain it to my kids the way I do to other people now: I was at Oregon before Phil Knight's money was." The Nike magnate, a proud Oregon alum, has donated millions of dollars to the Ducks football transformation. But fittingly, the uniforms a program known for its edgy and futuristic designs will wear today look more in line with what Ahmad Rashad and Dan Fouts wore more than 40 years ago. Christian Anderson's nostalgic football pride doesn't end with his college days. In almost identical analogy to changing the culture at Oregon, Anderson was among those helping coach Steve Hagerty set the foundation at Paraclete upon which seven CIF Titles have been won since his Oregon graduation in 1997. "There were such great football programs at AV, and then Palmdale," Anderson recalled. "But I wouldn't trade my Paraclete experience for anything. "First and foremost, I would tell anyone in the Antelope Valley what a fantastic academic school Paraclete is. I struggled, I was just hanging on academically at Paraclete. But because it's such excellent preparation for college, I breezed through academically at Oregon." Anderson's sister, Danielle Trumbo, has children attending Paraclete now. They need no explanation why Uncle Chris is smiling so broadly today.

'84 Reunion

The class of 1984 held their 30th Reunion at Julianni's Italian Restaurant in Lancaster, CA on 10/25/2014 with a morning brunch that followed at Medranos Mexican Food Restaurant.

This was a special time that included classmates, teachers, and guests. It was a wonderful gathering where we shared information about our lives and got an opportunity to get re-acquainted. There was a slide show depicting present family events and past memories that we all shared. We also took time to remember those who could not attend and especially remembered those who left us too soon. A great time was had by all who attended. Looking forward to see you at our 40th Reunion!

Written by Della (Ortega) Trombley





PHS news is published by Paraclete High School. Its contents are made possible by members of PHS staff, faculty, students and parents. Any comments about this newsletter or if you need to update your address information, or would like to submit articles, please contact: Janet (Godde) Bower
jbower@paracletehs.org

Alumni...

Support Paraclete's Booster Club!

Have some fun at the
Paraclete High School Booster Club Golf Tournament
Antelope Valley Country Club
Friday, June 12th 2015
Check In at 9:00 AM, Shotgun Start at 11:00,
Scramble Format
Golf Includes: Range Balls, Hot Dogs on the turn, and
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Contact Ron Hier (Class of '77) at RonHier@yahoo.com
or 661.406.1562.

You may also go to the
Booster page under the Athletics tab on
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