



# VIKE Newsletter of the Montgomery

Education Foundation

Fall/Winter, 2008

## THE BIG MONTY: 50 DISTINGUISHED YEARS CELEBRATED IN STYLE

**I**n September of 1958, Santa Rosans long accustomed to living in a one high-school town eagerly accepted an invitation to come see something historic: a brand new high school erected near the Montgomery Village shopping center that the brash and dashing Hugh Coddling had built well beyond the heart of the city.

Fifty years later, on this past Sept. 13, some of those same Santa Rosans were part of the happy crowd that gathered at the county fairgrounds' festively bedecked Hall of Flowers to celebrate the wondrous things that have transpired at Montgomery High over the past half-century.

What a party it was.



More than 450 alumni, parents and teachers

(several of whom welcomed the school's first students in '58) re-connected and mingled among five memory-laced wine-and-appetizer stations, one for each of Monty's decades. Guests posed for photos in

### Join Us!

The Montgomery Education Foundation (MEF) does great things for a great school and with your involvement can do more.

Join a working committee.

Come to the board meetings.

Contribute your MHS memories, alumni updates and reunion notices to this newsletter.

Or all of the above!

The MEF is important to Montgomery, and you're important to the MEF. Current President Priscilla Vivio

([pvivio@neteze.com](mailto:pvivio@neteze.com)) will be delighted to hear from you.

front of the new Viking Ship, marveled at the

## Feeling Crabby?

Viking faithful will want to be present on Saturday, Jan. 31 for the birth of a new Montgomery Education Foundation tradition – a mid-winter crab feed. The particulars:

**Place:** The Becker Center at St. Eugene's Cathedral.

**Time:** 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

**Price:** \$45. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will not be sold at the door.

**To order tickets:** Phone 347-6638.

Or go to [www.montgomeryhighschool.com](http://www.montgomeryhighschool.com) and click on "MEF Crab Feed."

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vocal and jazz music performed by Montgomery students and bid on treasures that parents, local businesses and other supporters donated to the auctions.

During and after the delectable dinner by Park Avenue Catering, some of Montgomery's most talented alumni showed why they've done so well in show business and broadcasting. The evening's emcee, comic Steve Bruner (Class of 1980), shared his hysterical world view and welcomed onto stage broadcaster Cammy Blackstone (Class of 1981) and Marilyn Kentz (Class of 1965), who went to Hollywood as one of NBC's "The Mommies."

Dessert had been served when the announcer intoned, "Ladies and gentlemen, Dan

Hicks and the Hot Licks!" Dan, a 1959 Monty grad, put on a show that had guests donning their Viking hats and dancing.

The 50<sup>th</sup> celebration began the night before, Friday, Sept. 12, at the Tailgate Party hosted by the MHS Boosters. Guests enjoyed a meal and camaraderie on the mini-quad, then scooted to stadium for a game under the lights.

The entire 50<sup>th</sup> celebration was fantastic. Thanks to the guests, the celebrity and student performers and the many contributors of wine and auction items, The Big Monty raised about \$90,000 for the MEF operating budget and Endowment Fund.

We're now planning a Jan. 31 Crab Feed that's sure to become an anticipated - and tasty! - annual gathering of the Viking clan.



# How to Become One of the MEF One Thousand

Members of the Montgomery Education Foundation are working to create a \$1 million endowment fund, the annual earnings from which will provide a reliable, perpetual source of essential revenue for our school's classrooms and for constant enhancement of the environment of learning.

The foundation is off to a good start toward its goal to encourage 1,000 Montgomery alumni, parents and other MHS supporters to make a \$1,000 gift to the endowment fund. Donors know that the dollars they contribute will be invested and the earnings will definitely - and indefinitely - benefit Montgomery.

To become a Founding Member of the Endowment Fund, please write a check, or make a pledge and pay it off in several payments. Gifts can be mailed to:

*MEF Endowment Fund  
1250 Hahman Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405*

For more information on the Endowment Fund, contact Robin Warren, [rtwarren@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rtwarren@sbcglobal.net).

Or visit: [www.montgomeryhighschool.com](http://www.montgomeryhighschool.com) and click on Viking 1000 Endowment

## Donate a treasure, buy a few more – all for Project Grad

Continuing the tradition for the 22<sup>nd</sup> year, over 300 seniors will gather all night on a campus transformed into a lively venue of entertainment, food, and social time after the May 29 graduation ceremony.

More than 250 adult volunteers plan and execute the party. Your donations of time, prizes, money and services will ensure the success of this unforgettable event.

**Please support our March 14 Rummage Sale. Drop off sale items on Friday, March 13, 3 to 7 p.m., in the MHS parking lot.**

Contact Shannon Hoffman at 527-7850 or [mhsprojectgrad09@yahoo.com](mailto:mhsprojectgrad09@yahoo.com) to get involved in Project Grad. More information is available at <http://www.montgomeryhighschool.com>.

## Don't Miss the Next Booster Bash!

The MHS Boosters' 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Dinner Dance is **Saturday, April 24**, at St. Eugene's Becker Hall.

Cost is \$65 per person for a great dinner and dancing to live music. There's also casino play and auctions - it's a grown-up blast!

Contact Susan Hall, 578-4194. Or send a check and ticket order to her at:

2163 Warwick Drive, Santa Rosa, CA, 95405

## A CALL TO ALL WHO BLEED VIKING RED

The annual Big Game between the Vikings and Santa Rosa High's Panthers has always intensified football competition between the city's two oldest high schools. Now, Santa Rosa's foundation has challenged us to a different sort of contest.

Which school can donate the most blood to Blood Bank of the Redwoods?

During the week of **January 19-23**, the blood bank has scheduled a special effort to receive blood from the administrators, teachers, staff, students and supporters of the two schools. So give a pint for Montgomery – and tell a friend.

The Blood Bank is at 2324 Bethards Dr; 545-1222

## MIGHT YOU HELP OUT WITH BREAKFAST?

The marvelous volunteers at Church of the Roses who provide a free daily breakfast to Monty students could use a few extra hands and eyes on workdays between 6:45 and 8:30.

You could commit to one day a week, a couple of days a month or you can be added to the substitute list to help out when a regular volunteer simply can't make it. Church members can also use someone to help shop for the food (they get a discount at Lucky).

To volunteer or to learn more, contact Associate Pastor Kate Clayton at [k.clayton@sonic.net](mailto:k.clayton@sonic.net), or phone her at her office, 542-4272, or on her cell, 291-5897.

## It Sounds Too Good to Be True

But true it is.

You can help the Foundation while you shop.

Each time you shop at Safeway or make an online purchase through Amazon, a percentage of what you spend can be automatically shared with the Montgomery Education Foundation. It's a beautiful thing, and very simple to make happen.

When you'd like to order from Amazon, go to the MHS home page, [www.montgomeryhighschool.com](http://www.montgomeryhighschool.com), and click on [Shop Amazon.com](http://ShopAmazon.com). Then, simply place your order. Because you accessed Amazon through the Montgomery website, a percentage of what you spent will be contributed to the MEF.

Another simple, hugely beneficial act you can take to boost Montgomery is to register for eScrip. If you're already registered, please make certain to list the MEF as an eScrip beneficiary.

Go to eScrip.com and follow the easy instructions to sign up, or to change the organizations that will benefit when you used your Safeway Club Card while shopping. You will be asked on eScrip.com to select the group or groups that you want to benefit. Please specify the Montgomery Education Foundation, **Group ID Number 157754440**.

Any questions about how to boost Montgomery painlessly and automatically through eScrip and Amazon? Ask away, at the MEF email address at the bottom of the adjacent column.

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## This Very Newsletter Could Use an Alum Like You

If you graduated from Montgomery and you like to write, you could be the perfect person to become editor of the MEF newsletter.

It's easy to imagine this publication becoming a must-read for anybody who attended Montgomery, anyone who loves this school.

There's room here for many great recollections from Montgomery's first 50 years, many MHS names and photos from long ago and from just the other day.

It could be fun, you're thinking. Yes, it could. If you're interested in helping to unite the Montgomery community through this newsletter, please drop an email to the MEF or to Priscilla Vivio, [pvivio@neteze.com](mailto:pvivio@neteze.com)

## ABOUT THE MEF

The Montgomery Education Foundation exists to promote excellence at Montgomery through essential cash grants to teachers, departments and programs across the campus; to honor and preserve the school's legacy and to unite and serve the entire MHS community.

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All Montgomery alumni, parents of current and former students, teachers and other staff members are encouraged to join MEF and take part in the fun and good works that enhance the environment of learning at our school.

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### MEF 2008-09 officers & board

**Priscilla Vivio – President**

**Sally Connell – Vice President**

**Lufu Parisi – Treasurer**

**Jill Love – Secretary**

Wendy Breazeale Renny Buzzini

Jay Clem Bernadette Compton

Nancy Ferrick Barbara Fitzmaurice Laurie Fong

Libby Hutton Debra Pavone

Mike Pavone Gail Perry

Hilda Shum Chris Smith

Robin Warren Beverly Zanetti

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The MEF meets **the first Monday of each month** at 7 p.m. at the MHS Student Services Center. If the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting moves to the first Tuesday.

[www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org](http://www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org)

[mef@montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org](mailto:mef@montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org)

# Wouldn't your name look great on this list?

A million thanks to all who've made donations or pledges to become Founding Members of the Montgomery Endowment, which is approaching its first \$100,000!

## **\$5000-\$10000 Founding Members**

Joe and Priscilla Vivio  
Judge Family Vineyards (Pledge)

## **\$2500-\$4999 Founding Members**

Melissa Kelly and Stephen Meffert  
Dan Kelly – 1959  
Bill and Mary-Louise Reinking – 1960/1961  
Dr. Geoffrey and Amy Tompkins  
Ivar Jeffrey (Jeff) Bolander – 1978  
Reed and Nancy Ferrick  
Michael Fallon (Pledge)

## **\$1000-\$2499 Founding Members**

Robin and Lewis Warren  
Rick and Smruti Pearson  
Redwood Hotels Corporation.  
    Claus and Debbie Newmann – 1968  
Landesign Construction/Maintenance  
    John and Denise Fitzgerald  
Karsten Family Foundation  
    Tom and Janis Karsten  
Robert and Carol Wood  
Daniel Goldfield and Loie Sauer  
Henri and Laura Komrig – 1982  
Eran and Anne Matalon  
Robert Parker – 1966  
Joe and Gail Judge  
K.B. Communications,  
    Jeff and Katherine Breithaupt  
Kay Novelli Crocker – 1968  
Greg and Leanna Baker  
    In Name of Justin and Madeline Baker  
Michael and Gail Perry  
Brian and Sally Connell  
Jeffrey and Lori Kuhn  
George and Lufu Parisi  
William Wuesthoff  
Jeff Luchetti Construction, Inc.  
    Jeff and Nancy Luchetti  
Steve Berlin  
Martin and Sherry Nelson – 1980  
Robert and Patricia Reynolds  
Dr. Mary Ellen Chalmers  
John Nimitz, M.D.  
Bob and Susan Owen  
Shawn and Angela Johnson  
Doug and Robbie Chase Family  
Rick and Robin Smandra – 1983/1982  
E.S. and W.O. Hutton  
Brian (Diklich) Bennett – 1982

Berg/Shum Family  
John Shine and Barbara Fitzmaurice Shine  
Parker Family Partnership – alums  
Breazeale's Automotive: Gary and Wendy Breazeale  
Lindsey Halpern  
Charles and Nancy Cooper  
Luther Burbank Savings.  
    John and Dana Biggs – 1968  
Darren and Karen McKean – 1978  
Brett and Julie Podstata – 1977/1978  
Darin and Dianne Brunson – 1984  
Dan McMahon  
Robert and Julia Iantosca  
Peter and Marie Treleaven  
MHS Bunko Babes  
Jeff and Linda Sargent  
Brad and Beverly Zanetti  
Parmjit and Holly Uppal  
Robert and Elizabeth Bortolotto  
Alan and Vickie Hardcastle  
John and Joanne Bloom  
John and Kirsten Olney  
Joe and Sallie Brady  
Mike and Debra Pavone  
Tina McKean – 1975  
Kate E. Black & Michael J. Star.  
    In the Name of Joshua Black-Star (Pledge)  
Frank and Trish Scalercio – 1978  
MOB Squad  
Steve and Terri Mitchell  
George and Sandra Traverso  
Miriam Bruner  
Jim and Linda Andersen  
Nancy Rankin Messinger  
Daniel Kelly  
Brett Raven and Diane Kleineke  
Keith Boxerman  
Karen Chu (Pledge)

## **Up to \$1000 Founding Members**

Mike and Kathleen Gladden  
John Gurrolla and Friends – 1985  
Friends of the Class of 1980  
Barbara Flannery  
John and Laura Whiting  
Bergin Glass  
Kate Hawley  
Andrea Veenstra  
Bryan and Meg Carr  
Brad and Beverly Zanetti (Pledge)  
Terry Bates (Pledge)  
Paul Desideri (Pledge)  
Tim Powers (Pledge)



MONTGOMERY EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
1250 Hahman Drive  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

KEEP IN TOUCH with the Montgomery Education Foundation...  
and help the MEF to keep in touch with you.

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Name

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Street address

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City

State

ZIP Code

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Phone Number

E-mail address

I am a:     Grad from year \_\_\_\_     Parent     Staff member     Friend of MHS

I would like to make a tax-deductible gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Montgomery Education Foundation

Please mail your check to: Montgomery Education Foundation, 1250 Hahman Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95405

To a make an on-line donation, click **MEF Donations** at:

[www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org](http://www.montgomeryhigheducationfoundation.org)