



THE GALILEO OBSERVER

The Official Newsletter of the
Galileo Alumni Association



“Communicate and Participate”

Vol. VI, No. 4
October, 2008

Editorial

“For the Good Memories”

Recently a friend and I were having breakfast in a restaurant outside Las Vegas, Nevada. The subject of old friends came up, and I mentioned that I knew dozens of people going back over 60 years.

“Why don’t you call them?” he asked.

“Why should I call?” I said. “They have probably changed their phone numbers or passed on.”

“For the good memories,” he answered.

That phrase, “for the good memories”, has stayed with me ever since. I called a friend in Los Angeles whom I had not seen in 25 years. She and I had a pleasant conversation and shared many good memories and we plan to get together soon.

Most of you who read the *Observer* are already members of GAA. You have friends who are ex-classmates or attended Galileo before or after you did. Talk to them about joining GAA. Call them on the phone.

Share the good times you had at Galileo. GAA plans to have more reunions and get-togethers in the future, such as the upcoming Beach Blanket Babylon show.

We at GAA want 2009 to be a banner year. We want you to be a part of it. One way to stay in touch with your friends is to contact them . . . “for the good memories”.

Postscript: I am thankful for the schools I went to – Spring Valley Elementary, Marina Junior High, Galileo, and U. C. Berkeley – for the teachers and coaches who taught and inspired me and for the friends I made there, several of whom I see today. I work a few blocks from Spring Valley, I pass Marina and Galileo frequently, and I attend all the football games at Cal. Seeing these buildings brings back memories, the good memories mentioned above, of bygone times and lasting friendships.

SDH

For an application to join GAA, go to <http://galileoalumni.org/membership.html>.

You Are Invited to
Galileo's 3rd Annual Dinner-Dance Gala
Sponsored by Galileo PTSA and Galileo Alumni Association

Date

Friday, November 14, 2008, 5:00 – 10:30 pm

Location

New Asia Restaurant (facility ADA accessible)
772 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94133

Time

5:00 pm No host bar, social hour and silent auction

6:30 pm Recognition of Past Galileo Principals

Enjoy 9-course Chinese banquet

Entertainment showcasing Galileo performing groups

Raffle Drawing and Live Auction

8:30 pm Dance to all your favorites (1940s – 2000s)

Attire

Dressy Casual

Reservation

\$40/person Advance reservation by Friday, **Oct. 24th**; thereafter **\$45/person**

Reservation deadline: **Friday, Nov. 7, 2008**

Order your bottle of wine only available with reservation

Reservations will be held at the door

Auction and Raffle

Win fantastic raffle prizes. Have fun bidding on theme gift baskets and more!

Galileo 3rd Annual Dinner-Dance Gala Reservation

- ☐ # of Individual Dinner-Dance Tickets _____ x \$40 each or \$45 each (after Oct. 24) = \$ _____
- ☐ Table sponsor (10 guests/table): #tables _____ x \$400/table or \$450 (after Oct. 24) = \$ _____
- ☐ Wine order: Red: # _____ Merlot # _____ Cabernet Sauvignon, Total # bottles _____ x \$20 ea. = \$ _____
- White: # _____ Chardonnay # _____ Sauvignon Blanc, Total # bottles _____ x \$20 ea. = \$ _____
- ☐ I would like to be a Sponsor (see sponsorship categories described on back) \$ _____
- ☐ I would like to reserve Dance Only Tickets at \$10 each x _____ tickets = \$ _____
- ☐ I am unable to attend, but would like to support Galileo with a donation of \$ _____
- TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED = \$ _____
- Table Sponsor's name _____

Guest name(s), PRINT clearly: _____

For individual guests, list other guests whom you would like to be seated. Will accommodate if possible

_____ Email address/phone contact for ticket

confirmation: _____

Make check payable to "Galileo Academy PTSA" and mail the completed bottom section to:
Galileo Academy PTSA, Attn: Gala Tickets, 1150 Francisco, San Francisco, CA 94109

Come for an evening of extravaganza and help support Galileo school!

All proceeds to benefit Galileo students

Visit: www.galileoweb.org/ptsa to download reservation form, menu and other details/updates

Parking garages nearby at Vallejo Street Garage (765 Vallejo Street & Powell St.), or street parking

Questions? Contact Gala Coordinator, Linda Lau at (415) 203-9266 or email:

Linda0702@yahoo.com

Sponsored by Galileo PTSA and Galileo Alumni Association

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Commissioner SFUSD

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Galileo Principal

Event Date: Friday, November 14, 2008, 5:00 – 10:30 pm

Location: New Asia Restaurant at 772 Pacific Ave. San Francisco, CA 94133

What: 9-course gourmet Chinese dinner, live entertainment, raffle prizes, auction and dance to music from 1950s to 2000s

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Platinum:

\$5,000+

Includes a Sponsored table of 10 VIP tickets to the Dinner & Dance, *full* page ad in event program, sponsorship acknowledged from podium, banner at event, and name/ logo on our website and linked to Sponsor's Home page

Diamond:

\$4,000

Includes a Sponsored table of 10 VIP tickets to the Dinner & Dance, *half* page ad in event program, sponsorship acknowledged from podium, and name/ logo on our website and linked to Sponsor's Home page

Gold:

\$ 2,000

Includes a Sponsored table of 10 VIP tickets to the Dinner & Dance, *1/4* page ad in event program, sponsorship acknowledged from podium, and name/ logo on our website and linked to Sponsor's Home page

Silver:

\$1,000

Includes 5 VIP tickets to the Dinner & Dance, *1/8* page ad in event program, and name/ logo on our website and linked to Sponsor's Home page

Bronze: \$ 500 Includes 2 VIP tickets to the Dinner & Dance, and business card size ad in event program

Raffle or Auction Donor: Will be listed and acknowledged in all printed materials.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT & RECOGNITION FOR ALL SPONSORS/DONORS:

All sponsors will be listed on printed materials, and publicized to the Galileo community via newsletters,

G-House TV (weekly TV broadcast to all Galileo students and staff), and **Online** via web sites:

www.galileoweb.org/ptsa and www.galileoalumni.org

SPONSOR RESPONSE DEADLINE: WED. October 29, 2008. Questions? Please contact Linda Lau, Gala

Coordinator at (415) 203-9266 or email: Linda0702@yahoo.com Send donations to address below. You

may also email ad materials/information to Linda Lau.

Tickets will be held at the door. Value of event is \$40 per ticket. Contributions in excess of this amount are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Galileo PTSA Tax ID: 20-1159768

Thank you for your support!

=====PLEASE COMPLETE & RETURN SECTION
BELOW=====

Galileo 3rd Annual Dinner-Dance Gala Sponsor Form

Mail or Drop off to: Galileo PTSA, Attn: Gala Committee, 1150 Francisco Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

Please make check payable to **"Galileo Academy PTSA"**

We would like to support quality education at Galileo Academy:

☐ I/ We would like to be a sponsor \$ _____

☐ Enclosed gift certificate(s), products for Gala Auction or Raffle Drawing

Please include information about the items or services you are donating so that we can

appropriately acknowledge and publicize it.

Company/Donor as you wish appear in print:

Address: Web Site:

Contact Person: Title:

Phone: Email:

Donated Item(s)

and Value \$:

Sponsor Table

Guest Names:

PRINT CLEARLY

Dear Galileo Families, Supporters and Friends,

As you may have read or heard, Galileo PTSA and Alumni Association is sponsoring our **3rd Annual Dinner Dance Gala on Friday, Nov. 14, 2008. This is a FUN extravaganza evening to enjoy a 9-course Chinese banquet, bid on exciting auction items, win raffle prizes, be entertained and dance the night away!** With the \$200K reduction in Galileo's budget this year, this fundraising event will help PTSA raise much needed funds to support various classroom and school need to benefit Galileo students and ensure quality education!

Help us make this fundraising event a success with the following steps:

1. **Reserve tickets for the Gala & get the word out to your family and friends to attend!**
Make your reservation BEFORE Oct. 24 for discounted price of \$40/person. Visit PTSA web site for more event details and reservation form: <http://galileoweb.org/ptsa/dinner-dance-gala/>
2. **Be a sponsor or donate items** for the auction or raffle, see sponsor form: <http://galileoweb.org/ptsa/files/2008/09/gala-sponsor-form-2008-final.pdf>
3. **Buy or sell Gala Raffle tickets** - Galileo student clubs/classes/teams can earn 25-40% of raffle tickets sold to support their extracurricular activities. Click here for more details: <http://galileoweb.org/ptsa/2008/09/30/galileo-dinner-dance-gala-affle/>
4. **Volunteer to help at Fleet Week Sale (Oct. 11 & 12):** Adult volunteers needed to supervise & help the Junior Class with food sales, flea market and Gala raffle ticket sales. To volunteer and for item drop-off, please contact Jennifer Zhang, Junior Class President by phone at 415-999-8456 or email at jenniferzhang25@yahoo.com

Join us for a fun evening - meet past Galileo Principals, staff/teachers, alumni and other families! This is once a year event that you don't want to miss! We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you in advance for all your support! **GO LIONS!**

Linda Lau
PTSA Volunteer/Gala Coordinator
Class 2008 Parent
(415) 203-9266
email: Linda0702@yahoo.com

GAA BOARD NEEDS YOU!

The GAA Board seeks energetic, enthusiastic alumni to fill several openings for the 2009-2011 term of office. All alumni are welcome.

Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Board or wishing to nominate another Lion should email <http://galileoalumni.org/messagePres2.html> subject line: Board of Directors.

Please consider adding your talents to support Galileo Academy and its alumni.

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WANTED: NOMINATIONS FOR SPORTS HALL OF FAME

The Galileo Sports Hall of Fame committee is looking for outstanding athletes in every sport – women and men of all ages – who meet the criteria for nomination:

1. Nominee must have attended Galileo High School/Galileo Academy of Science and Technology in good standing at least 5 years prior to being nominated.
2. Nominee must have been an outstanding athlete.
Examples: Member of a championship team, selected All City, hold a high school record, recipient of a specific individual or team award, considered by peers as worthy of being a member of the Galileo Sports Hall of Fame.
(Consideration will be given for recognized athletic activities and/or accomplishments after graduation.)
3. Nominee may be an individual (faculty, coach, student) whose valued contributions to a specific sport or athletics in general at Galileo are worthy of consideration for this award.
4. Galileo alumni, faculty members, coaches, or family members of a nominee, may nominate a candidate. All nominations will be reviewed and facts about qualified nominees will be verified by the Galileo Alumni Association Sports Hall of Fame Committee.
5. Posthumous awards are given, so nominee may be deceased. If selected, he/she must be represented by a family member or recognized close friend.

**Please complete the nomination form below and mail it today.
Make sure your favorite Galileo athlete is considered for this honor!**

I would like to nominate the following person for the
Galileo Academy Sports Hall of Fame:

Name of Nominee: _____

Class of: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
Spring/Fall/Year

Address: _____
Street City State/Zip Code

Nominator's Name: _____

Address _____
Street City State/Zip Code

Class of: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____
Spring/Fall/Year

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail to: Galileo Alumni Association
Sports Hall of Fame Committee
1150 Francisco Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

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## **DONORS CHOOSE**

Teachers at Galileo Academy of Science and Technology, considered a high poverty school, are requesting grant money from Donors Choose for specific projects. The program is year-round, so new projects/funding requests may be added at any time.

You can find requests from Galileo's teachers at:  
<http://www.donorschoose.org/donors/search.html?>

[zone=402&sourceid=hp&keywords=Galileo+Academy&x=26&y=18](#). Donations to your favorite project are tax-deductible.

More information about Donors Choose is available here:  
<http://www.donorschoose.org/about/about.html?zone=402>.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Ed. Note:** Poverty level refers to the percentage of students who qualify for free or reduced lunch, considered a measure of economic need. To be eligible, a student must submit a form showing family income at or below 130% of the poverty line (a maximum income of \$23,920 for a family of four).

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## **SAN FRANCISCO ALUMNI COUNCIL**

**By Augie Venezia '53**

**On October 7, 2008, the San Francisco Alumni Council, including representatives from Balboa, Galileo, Lincoln, Lowell, Polytechnic and Washington alumni associations, met at Balboa High School.**

**A focus of discussion was fundraising. Lowell hires an outside firm which calls alumni for donations. The firm charges \$35 per month and retains 3 percent of the money raised.**

**Balboa reported that its latest newsletter was printed and mailed at the cost of \$9,800. Galileo is the only alumni association that maintains its newsletters on the internet and notifies alumni by email when a new edition is available. GAA members who do not have email are sent a print copy.**

**The next meeting of the Alumni Council will be held in early 2009.**





**S.F. Alumni Associations Council**

## Through The Telescope. . .

Now that the short cold summer (in the City) is over, we can turn our attention to more serious pursuits, such as college and pro football, symphony concerts, high tech dining, rising gas prices, a faltering economy, deciding on a President of the United States, and getting on with our lives and those of our children.

To Mark Twain's statement that the coldest winter he ever spent was a summer in San Francisco, I should like to add "there is no better place than San Francisco in September".

I opened a bottle of Malbec wine from Argentina and on the cork was printed "In wine there is truth". Would that our presidential candidates heeded those words!

Walgreens is selling ceramic talking dolls of John McCain, Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, but where is Sarah Palin?

The opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics was the best ever, a memorable production. Watching the cycling competition was like taking a train ride through

the China countryside. And how about Michael Phelps, the greatest medallist of all?

There was free valet parking at the Labor Day weekend Sausalito Art Festival . . . for bicycles!

A beautiful noise: That loud sound you heard overhead last week was from the Blue Angels flying over San Francisco during Fleet Week.

Pat Valentino, for many years the manager at Scoma's Restaurant, passed away in July, at age 88. Pat was better known as the local heavyweight who went eight rounds with world champ Ezzard Charles at the Cow Palace in 1949. Outside the ring, Pat was the gentlest man, and he had a bear-size handshake. He and his boss, Al Scoma, also recently deceased, made Scoma's a warm, friendly place to be.

Joe Borg (Class of 1959) sent a Wall Street Journal article on the Vatican's consideration of the installation of a statue of Galileo Galilei. A marriage of science and religion?

At Rich Baptista's annual sporting dinner event at the Italian Athletic Club, three Galileo alumni were honored – Ed Belasco, John Bologna and Vince LaRocca. Congratulations to all three!

A reunion for the classes of 1941, 1942 and 1943 was held on October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco. About 60 people attended. Another reunion of the classes of June 1940 and January 1941 will be a luncheon on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Presidio Officers Club.

The songs of Bernadette: Ms. Peters was in San Francisco this past summer, and at 60 years of age, proved she is still a marvelous performer. She sang with our symphony some of the numbers she is famous for, including a set of Stephen Sondheim tunes, as well as Richard Rodgers' "There Is Nothin' Like a Dame", usually sung by a male chorus in "South Pacific". The song she composed and sang for her best-selling children's book was a show-stopper.

Genius, Past and Present: Turner Classic Movies ran a series of Charlie Chaplin movies in August. I got hooked on four of them which kept me up until three in the morning. "The Great Dictator", which I remember seeing at age 7, "Monsieur Verdoux", "Limelight", and "A King in New York" were as great as ever. The Limelight theme reminded me of a classical ballet score, and indeed it accompanies a ballet in the film. Whatever Chaplin's politics were (he was exiled to Switzerland for his last years), he was and is a genius. His films will last forever. And who can forget his appearance at the Academy Awards when he accepted a Lifetime Achievement Award to a long standing ovation.

**Musical note:** If you're hankering for music of the '50s, get Barry Manilow's album, "The Greatest Songs of the Fifties". All of the oldies are there plus a DVD on the flip side of the CD.

Two of the most brilliant, if not the best, commentators/interviewers on television are Charlie Rose (PBS) and Bob Costas (sports). Charlie is adept and insightful at interviewing guests from politicians to athletes to celebrities. He asks the right questions and participates in the dialogue. Unfortunately, he's on late at night (early morning, actually), but local channel 9 repeats the broadcasts the following day at noon. I've lost sleep many nights watching his illuminating interviews. Bob Costas is the prime sports commentator today. His knowledge of all sports is second to none. He gets to the core of things, and his guests and audience trust him. His coverage of the Beijing Olympics was masterful.

What's in a name? I wonder if Coco Crisp, outfielder for the Boston Red Sox, eats cereal for breakfast?

**The Sound of Your Voice:** A couple of years ago I wrote a piece about how it is more personal to hear a loved one's voice than to see their photograph. In the past 3 years, I have lost 6 friends, three of whom were my closest friends. I have many photos of each of them, but I wish I had their recorded voices. The human voice is a very intimate communicator, and it can convey nuances, feelings, and love. I recommend you record your voice and send messages to loved ones or leave them voicemails. They will appreciate it when you are gone.

**Farewell to 2008.** As the year winds down, we elect a new President, and hopefully, our economy, respect and world standing rebound, let us look forward to 2009 and better times and hope for peace and prosperity throughout the world.

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### **Announcements**

**BEACH BLANKET BABYLON**

**Thursday, October 16, 2008**

**SOLD OUT!**

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**GALILEO HIGH SCHOOL REUNION  
CLASSES OF 1965 THROUGH 1969**

## **"THE WAY YOU LOOK TONIGHT"**

**Date:** Saturday, October 18, 2008

**Time:** 5 p.m. to 12 a.m.

**Place:** Empress of China Restaurant  
838 Grant Avenue (Between Washington & Clay Streets)  
San Francisco, CA 94108

**Menu:** Chinese Banquet Dinner

**Music:** Groovin' to the sounds of Jest Jammin'

**Cost:** \$75 per person (postmarked by June 30, 2008)  
\$85 per person (postmarked after June 30, 2008)

**Make Check Payable To:** Galileo 60's Reunion

**Send Payment to:** Ellie Wong, P.O. Box 434, San Francisco, CA 94104

**For more information:** Call Ellie Wong at (415) 601-5888 or Harvey Louie at (415) 982-4778

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## **GALILEO DINNER DANCE REUNION 2008**

### **Classes of 59 through 64**

**Date:** Saturday, November 8, 2008

**Place:** South San Francisco Elk's Lodge  
920 Stonegate Drive (off Hillside) SSF

**Time:** 5:00pm – Midnight Plenty of free parking, hotels within 1-2 miles

### **Menu: Dinner Buffet**

**Music:** Oldies by a DJ, 50's, 60's, and 70's

**Cost:** \$50.00 per person, checks/money orders by August 31, 2008

**\$60.00 per person after August 31, 2008 - Cash only at the door.**

**Due to many inquiries we are having the following class Reunions. Of course anyone who graduated from other classes, didn't graduate or are friends/family from other classes, etc. are invited. Please spread the word. Go to Classmates.com - Class of 1964 - Galileo - click Events & Reunions – Click Reunion - sign up you will see others who are attending.**

**49<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the Class of 59, the  
48<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the Class of 60, the  
47<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the Class of 61, the  
46<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the Class of 62, the  
45<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the Class of 63, the  
44<sup>th</sup> Reunion for the Class of 64**

\_\_\_\_\_ Cut here and  
Return \_\_\_\_\_

**GALILEO DINNER DANCE REUNION 2008**

**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Maiden** \_\_\_\_\_

**Last** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code**

\_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail** \_\_\_\_\_ **Class of:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Number of Persons Attending X \$50.00 = \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Total amount  
Enclosed**

**Make Checks Payable to “Lenore LaRocca Galileo Reunion 2008” and mail to  
Galileo Dinner Dance Reunion, c/o Lenore LaRocca, 17277 Via Flores, San Lorenzo,  
CA, 94580.. Any Questions contact below.**

**Thank You,**

**Lenore [Fachner] LaRocca - Class of 64 - 510 276-1953 e-mail  
[lenore46@comcast.net](mailto:lenore46@comcast.net)**

Helen [Collins] Turner – Class of 64 - 650 872-1902 e-mail  
[hdoshea47@aol.com](mailto:hdoshea47@aol.com)

Thomas Washington – Class of 64 - 510 654-7195 e-mail  
[shattuckmanor@aol.com](mailto:shattuckmanor@aol.com)

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## CLASS OF 1969 REUNION

Galileo's Spring Class of 1969 is planning to have their 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion at the Green Hills Country Club at the end of Ludeman Lane in Millbrae, Ca on October 3, 2009. Rose (Wong) Lee [rlee@pacbell.net](mailto:rlee@pacbell.net), Nancy (Lee) Warren [zerokool@pacbell.net](mailto:zerokool@pacbell.net) and Cathy Fong [cathfong@hotmail.com](mailto:cathfong@hotmail.com) are in the process of collecting emails and other contact information from members of the class. Please send in email addresses so you can be kept informed of the gala!

Thank you!

Nancy Warren

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## PLANNING A REUNION?

The GAA membership application says one of the benefits of membership is a "current list of alumni to reunion chairs for their specific year/s". We gladly respond to requests from reunion planners for specific classes and have offered to provide membership information when we hear of upcoming reunions.

GAA is eager to support your Galileo reunion and looks forward to including your announcement on its website and in the quarterly *Observer*. If you are planning a class reunion and need contact information, please let us know.

If you would like to be included in the GAA database so we can send your information to reunion planners, please send in a membership form. (While a donation is suggested, it is not required.) Remember: Just because you receive the *Observer* by email doesn't mean we have any other contact information about you.

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***Ed. note: Membership forms available at***  
***<http://galileoalumni.org/membership.html>***

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## **“DINNER WITH FRIENDS”**

**by Monica Parenti Kirkland ‘53**

Seventy Galileo Alumni and friends met to have “Dinner with Friends” on September 20<sup>th</sup> at Nick’s in Rockaway Beach, Pacifica. The classes of January ’53, June ’53, and January ’54 sponsored the gathering which included an outstanding meal, wine and dessert. The event was a resounding success with alums asking for another reunion in one year instead of two.

Many alumni attended and met high school friends for the first time since leaving the gates of Galileo as teenagers. Leon Manalo, Arlene Negherbon Silva, and Mary De’Alba Canu were vigorously welcomed by friends not seen in several decades. Among people new to our dinner were Louis Ferrari, Marie Noce Pardini, Luciano Turchino, Joe DeGuzman, Lorin Scola, Barbara Brancoli Scola, Dorothy Saibene, Tom Brackin, Ray Monteverde, and Augie Venezia. Elsie Remo Yuponco and Jack Alioto traveled from Southern California. Arlene Negherbon Silva traveled from Montana to claim first prize for coming the longest distance.

If the success of this event were to be measured in decibels brought on by conversation, it would be called ‘deafening’. The only quiet moment occurred as salad was served at which time Dave Negherbon eloquently offered words of friendship to those attending and those unable to be with us. Augie Venezia did a superb job describing the Galileo Alumni Association and encouraging participation in this organization.

Galileo students have been known for their dancing skills and many stayed on to show that they haven’t forgotten how to enjoy the dance floor.

We look forward to the next “Dinner with Friends” with anticipation of meeting again and delight to see new faces that will join us.

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## **A SUMMER PARTY**

**By  
Barbara Lombardi**

There was going to be a lunch for Galileo classmates who graduated in 1930's and 1940's. The invitational flyers were sent and word spread quickly. Phones started ringing; emails were flying. People from the 1950's were anxious to join the group. And so it came to be that almost 100 people attended the Multi-Year Annual Reunion which took place on Tuesday, July 15, at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco.

Familiar faces greeted the guests as they came in and filled out their name tags. Husbands and wives, brother and sisters, partners and friends, new and old all came to enjoy the day. There were a lot of smiles and warm hugs as people started to recognize each other. As the entry area began to get a little crowded with people anxious to renew their old ties, they progressed to the banquet dining room.

The large room was set up for a leisurely and enjoyable affair. There were round tables, which meant that everyone seated would be able to share in ongoing conversations. Two bartenders were on duty for quick service and, if you desired, you could use the bar in the main dining room. There was no crowding as there was plenty of space between tables so everyone could mingle, and mingle they did!

Lunch started with a short greeting and the singing of the Galileo school song. One alumnus used his megaphone, bearing the school's logo, to encourage everyone to join in. The room was full of the "old school spirit" and the party had begun. There were no formal speeches or any special acknowledgements. No tickets were sold for drinks or raffles. Time was devoted to letting people enjoy themselves and each other. The lunch menu included a nice green salad, a generous tasty chicken entrée, and a "can't go wrong dessert" serving of ice cream. The Basque bread was a special favorite and many guests were seen taking home a complimentary loaf.

After the meal was concluded, alumni were asked to stand up and state their names and year of graduation. From the crowd, you could hear phrases like, "I didn't know he was here!" or "I have to go talk to her!" And so more mixing got started and the sharing of old memories along with planning for future "get-togethers". This was a great day for all of the attendees and special thanks go out to the people that worked hard to make it possible. It was definitely a success!!

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Pat (McCarthy) Schwartz '46 added: The event was nice and I was able to see and talk to people I had known, or who knew those that I had known. I really enjoyed the get together, including the Neopolitan ice cream!!

Ed. Note: According to Marilyn Fanelli Gay '43, this event will be repeated in July of 2009 at the Basque Cultural Center with Social Hour starting at 11AM followed by lunch at 12:30PM. The room will be available until 4:30PM so there will be plenty of time to chat, reminisce and catch up on the past years!



There was a request for names and addresses on each table, but unfortunately many of them were misplaced as the room emptied. It would be appreciated if you could forward the information to Marilyn Gay, 1243 South Petit Ave., Apt. 245, Ventura, CA 93004 or call her at (805) 647-6660 before 8PM or her 24 hour toll free live person answering service number, 1-877-355-8988.

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## **LETTERS**

*Those of us that went to Washington Irving Elementary School (on Broadway between Montgomery and Sansome) would remember our 5th grade teacher, Mrs. Edna Mohler. She died on July 8, 2008 at the age of 101. She was a great teacher, sang in her church choir, and had the clearest handwriting I have ever seen. Caroline Pieretti was in that class among others who graduated with me from Galileo in June of 1952. ----- Vince Gomez*

*Arlette Manders forwarded an article about Roberta Wiswell, former secretary to the Dean of Boys at Galileo, who turned 100 on June 9<sup>th</sup>. After settling in Kenwood, Roberta volunteered at the Santa Rosa Scottish Rite Language Clinic for nearly 30 years. Happy belated birthday, Roberta!*

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### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Reunion Luncheon (Classes of June '40 & Jan. '41), Presidio Officers Club, SF,  
October 22, 2008**

**40<sup>th</sup> Reunion Classes 1959 through 1964, November 8, 2008**

**GAA Board Meeting, Galileo Academy, 6:30 PM, November 13, 2008**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual PTSA/GAA Dinner-Dance Gala, New Asia Restaurant, 5:00 PM,  
November 14, 2008**

When checking for upcoming events between issues of the *Observer*, please visit the web site <http://galileoalumni.org/home.html> which has the most up-to-date listing.

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### **Observer Staff**

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**Jan Baumel**

*Contributors*  
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Barbara Lombardi  
Augie Venezia

*Production/Circulation (Email)*  
Vaughn Spurlin

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**WRITERS/REPORTERS WANTED!**

For articles and stories on alumni, events, whereabouts of graduates for this newsletter. No mastery of English required, just your willingness to communicate and participate. Contact the Editor.

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If you would like to promote your Galileo event on the GAA website  
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The Galileo Observer invites your articles, letters, memories, inquiries and suggestions. All submissions are subject to editing. Deadlines for submissions are

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