



# THE GALILEO OBSERVER

The Official Newsletter of the  
Galileo Alumni Association



“Communicate and Participate”

Vol. VI, No. 3  
July, 2008

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## Pack your towel -- we're going to the Beach!

*North Beach, that is. Specifically to Beach Blanket Babylon. On October 16<sup>th</sup>. BBB is the longest running show in the U. S. No matter if you've been to it before, it's always fresh and new, a very funny show, and it changes with the times. If you haven't been before, you're in for a big treat. There are sure to be caricature bits about Obama and McCain and probably Hillary, too. Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase at the show, and we'll all be sitting in a section reserved for GAA. See the announcement below for details. For those wanting to have dinner before the show, there are many good restaurants in North Beach, all within walking distance. We'll see you at the Beach! Oh, and don't forget to bring a towel – you might need it to wipe your tears of laughter.*

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## GALILEO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

invites you to join alumni and friends\* for an evening of entertainment at

## BEACH BLANKET BABYLON

Thursday, October 16, 2008, at 8:00 PM

**Club Fugazi**  
**678 Beach Blanket Babylon Boulevard (Green Street)**  
**San Francisco, CA 94133**

**Rear Cabaret - \$ 45 per person**

**Seating is limited, so reserve early.**  
**Deadline for reservations: Friday, August 15, 2008**

**\*Persons under 21 not admitted to performance**

**PARKING:** 3 parking lots on Green St. (valet), 2 parking lots around the corner on Powell St. (valet) and  
2 parking garages around the block on Vallejo St.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION:** Powell/Mason cable car; Bus lines 30, 20, 9X & 45.

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**Complete the form below; make check payable to GAA; include a self-addressed, stamped envelope so tickets can be sent to you; and mail to:**

**Galileo Alumni Association**  
**c/o Joe Scafidi, Treasurer**  
**11 Midhill Drive**  
**Mill Valley, CA 94941-1490**

**BEACH BLANKET BABYLON**

**Thursday, October 16, 2008**

Number of tickets \_\_\_\_\_ at \$ 45 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone or Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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**Tickets will be mailed in September.**

**Questions? Email [jimdresser@msn.com](mailto:jimdresser@msn.com) or call 650-592-3511**

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### GAA BOARD POSITIONS

**There are two openings on the GAA Board because of the recent resignations of Ron Ertola '49 and Pete Pompei '51. All alumni are welcome. Anyone interested in joining the Board should email <http://galileoalumni.org/messagePres2.html> subject line: Board of Directors. Please consider adding your energy and enthusiasm to the group.**

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## **NEW TIME CAPSULE BURIED**

**As you know, the time capsule buried by the class of 1982 was opened on Sept. 25, 2007. (See Oct. 2007 *Observer* <http://galileoalumni.org/news/news200710.doc>.)**

**This year, along with renovations to the courtyard at Galileo, the class of 2008 buried a new time capsule to be opened in the year 2058. In the capsule, a packet from GAA was included. It contained the certificate presented to GAA by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, bylaws, membership application form, membership card, list of current members, April 2008 *Observer*, and list of Galileo Sports Hall of Fame members.**

**If you're around in 50 years, be sure to attend the unveiling!**

## **Through The Telescope. . .**



Ah, Summer. It's finally here. Time to put a couple of shrimps (or more) on the barbee. Any Aussies here?

Well, there will be a lot going on this summer and throughout the year: the Beijing Olympics, a presidential election, driving without cell phones to the ear, gas prices nearing \$5 (Ugh!), possible Golden Gate Bridge toll increase (Ugh again!). What else is new?

One thing you should do is join GAA and its friends when they go to Beach Blanket Babylon in October. It'll relieve some of the pressures of daily life.

There was a reunion of sorts when alumni and friends of Spring Valley Science School (its new name) gathered at the new campus of UCSF to celebrate the elementary school's 155<sup>th</sup> anniversary and Principal Lonnie Chin's 40 years in the S. F. Unified School District. Amid congratulations from State Senator Leland Yee and Board of Education member Norman Yee, among others, there were a group of Galileo alumni that included Mario and Barbara Lombardi, Carmela and Ollie Hoffman, Diran and Carolyn Der Harootunian, a fellow named Canales, and yours truly. We enjoyed a delicious buffet lunch and shared many memories.

Nini Tornay writes to explain that all three of the Tornay boys – Frank, Nini and Manny – attended Galileo. This was corrected in the email edition of the April *Observer* but not in the mail edition.

**He lived among the vines:** When Robert Mondavi died recently at age 94, an era in winemaking ended. I remember once meeting Mondavi and his wife Margrit at the Ton Kiang Restaurant on Geary. I greeted the master winemaker and wondered what kind of wine he drank with Chinese food.

**Keep it clean, George:** I had never really seen nor heard George Carlin (except for bogus chain emails), who passed away (died) recently, until I got hooked on the marathon of one hour live performances shown on cable TV. I found myself LOL. All the unclean (dirty) words aside, Carlin, an astute observer, exhibited a plethora of creativity, imagination, and research. His unique routines described the realities of daily life in a comedic, uninhibited river of words where no word or subject was off limits. One did not have to agree with what he said, but one could not deny his talent for words and euphemisms. Food for thought? Thoughtfood, George would say. In his ability to connect with his audiences, he matched that of the late psychologist, Dr. Leo Buscaglia.

**My nomination for the fun movie of the summer is *Iron Man*.** There surely will be a sequel. Tip: Don't leave until the last credit has been shown because there is an additional scene at the very end.

The cable mini-series, *John Adams*, which aired earlier this year, gets our vote for an Emmy. Ditto for actors Paul Giamatti who plays Adams and Laura Linney in the role of his wife, Abigail. History was never so fun and educational to watch. Interesting fact: Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on the same day, the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, on the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

**Pet Peeve:** Customer service representatives located in foreign countries. Accounts in the U. S. should be serviced by people in the U. S., not abroad.

**Observation:** Reverse courtesy when a senior citizen on a Muni train got up and gave a seat to a young lady who was having trouble standing, but was otherwise a healthy specimen.

“The greatest meeting of land and water in the world” were the exact words used by landscape artist Francis John McComas (1875-1938) to describe Point Lobos in Monterey County which is not too far from Big Sur. That section of our beautiful state is being ravaged by raging fires as are Goleta in Santa Barbara County, Malibu, Mendocino County and the town of Paradise. Brave firefighters (firemen and firewomen, George Carlin would call them) are fighting these blazes so that you and I can once again appreciate the beauty of Nature.

Thoughts for the summer: *“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”* – John Quincy Adams

*“Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.”* – George Carlin

My thought for every day of your life: *“Don’t hang your head and look down; all you will see is the ground, and it’ll be like staring at a brick wall with no place to go. Instead, always look up toward the sky; it is boundless and offers endless optimism. (And it’s good for the posture, too!)”* -- SDH

Caveat: If you are a jogger, running on city streets or country roads, be sure to look down at the road or path else you trip over a rock or other object.

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## HOMECOMING SONG & YELL CONTEST

The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Homecoming Song and Yell Contest will be on Friday, October 17, 2008. We are inviting Galileo alumni who wish to judge the contest. Reception begins at 10:15 AM. Contest starts at 11:00 AM and ends around 12:30 PM. Please email your name; year you graduated; involvement in Galileo sports, government, or club; and present career. Deadline is September 1.

Eugene Wing  
Associated Student Body Advisor since 1978  
[ishiwing@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ishiwing@sbcglobal.net)

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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.

Unfortunately, a frequent critic continues to accuse GAA of not providing such information. This appears to be based on a request for information about “alumni living in southern California” which was printed in an *Observer* 2 years ago. Regrettably, the undefined geographical area lacked area codes, city names and/or zip codes to

assist in data sorting, so interested parties were asked to contact the alumna directly.

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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### Announcements

## **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

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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](http://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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## **Fifth Annual San Francisco Native Jamboree**



**SAN FRANCISCO, CA - The Fifth Annual San Francisco Native Jamboree  
will be held at The Sir**



**Francis Drake Hotel, 450 Powell Street, San Francisco, CA 94102 on Friday, October 3, 2008 from**

**6:30 pm to 11:30 pm. The day has been proclaimed San Francisco Native Day by Mayor Gavin Newsom.**

**The San Francisco Native Jamboree is a fabulous party bringing together native San Franciscans who share the common bond of being born or raised in the most beautiful city in the world! There are many San Francisco celebrations, but no other devoted to those born or raised in the City by the Bay.**

**There will be dinner, dancing and entertainment. This year's "Hall of Fame" award winner has yet to be announced. Previous years' recipients are, Hon. Jackie Speier, Police Chief, Heather Fong, Fire Chief, Joanne Hayes-White and Herb Caen.**

**The event's theme is "San Francisco in film", highlighting the many wonderful films that have used San Francisco as their backdrop over the years. San Francisco has played a starring role in many well known films including: The Rock, Bullet, Dirty Harry, Mrs. Doubtfire, The Conversation, Pal Joey, X-Men 3, What's up Doc?, Foul Play, and many others. We'll celebrate our city's film fame with a fun filled evening including the announcement of our very own San Francisco Native's Hall of Fame Film Choice award.**

**Attendees are expected from nearly all the San Francisco Schools including Abraham Lincoln, Balboa High School, Cathedral School for Boys Alumni Association, Galileo, George Washington, Immaculate Conception, Lick Wilmerding, Lowell, MacAteer, Mercy, Presentation, Riordan, Saint Ignatius, Saint Rose, The Hamlin School, the Schools of the Sacred Heart, Star of the Sea, and Town School for Boys.**

**To give back to the community, the San Francisco Native Jamboree supports The San Francisco Conservation Corps. Their mission is to help San Francisco's young people by providing education, training, and marketable job skills while addressing community needs through service work. The proceeds of a silent auction and a portion of the net profit will be donated to this deserving organization.**

**The event is produced by San Francisco Generations, Inc. and sponsored by Monroe Personnel Service LLC and Temptime, Hoogasian Flowers, Cresalia Jewelers, MacAvoy and O'Hara Evergreen Mortuary and Doorstep Photography.**

**For more information, visit the Website at [www.sfnativejamboree.com](http://www.sfnativejamboree.com), email [info@sfnativejamboree.com](mailto:info@sfnativejamboree.com), or call 415-732-7520 X49. Registration form: [http://www.sfnativejamboree.com/downloads/register\\_form.pdf](http://www.sfnativejamboree.com/downloads/register_form.pdf).**

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#### **CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

S. F. Native Jamboree, October 3, 2008

GAA Board Meeting, Galileo Academy, 6:30 PM, September 11, 2008

Beach Blanket Babylon, October 16, 2008

60's Reunion Classes 1965 through 1969, October 18, 2008

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

**Editor**

Sisvan Der Harootunian

**Assistant Editor (Mail Edition)**

Jan Baumel

**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 <http://www.galileoalumni.org/>, please send information to [galileoobserver@aol.com](mailto:galileoobserver@aol.com) and/or <http://galileoalumni.org/contact.html>.

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**The OBSERVER Is For All**

Galileo alumni, family, friends, students, faculty . . . anybody and everybody, the *Observer* is for you. If you haven't already done so, send in the email addresses of anyone you know who would like to receive a FREE emailed newsletter once every

three months. We'd like to reach as wide a range of readers as possible. Send the email addresses to <http://galileoalumni.org/contact.html>.

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**BACK ISSUES OF THE GALILEO OBSERVER CAN BE VIEWED AT**  
<http://galileoalumni.org/news/newsletters.html>

For all EDITORIALY-RELATED comments or suggestions, please address your emails to [galileoobserver@aol.com](mailto:galileoobserver@aol.com).

For all TECHNICAL problems (non-receipt of newsletter, etc.), address your emails to <http://galileoalumni.org/contact.html>.

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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 January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1. Send them by email (preferable) to [galileoobserver@aol.com](mailto:galileoobserver@aol.com), or by postal mail to: Galileo Observer, c/o Galileo Alumni Association, 1150 Francisco Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

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**GAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS ARE**  
**LISTED AT <http://galileoalumni.org/committee.html>**

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