

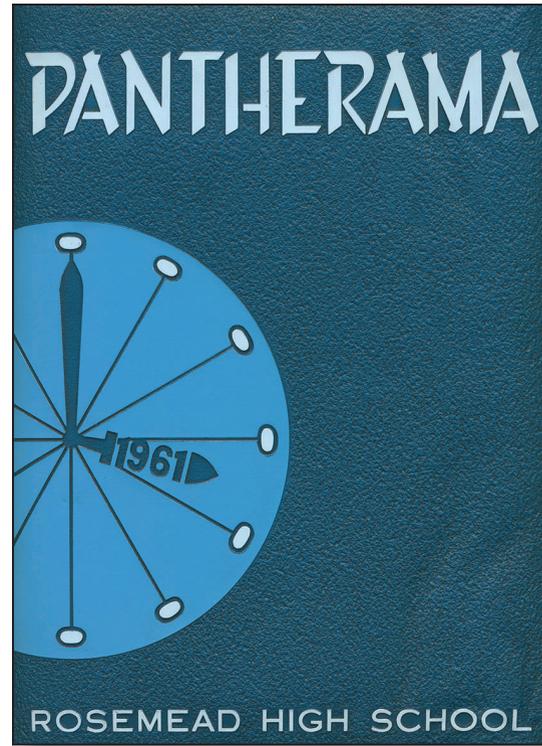
1960 - 1961



9th Grade
Freshman

High school started a whole different chapter in my life which started in September of 1960. I was nervous about starting high school. I had signed up for 6 class periods and took some classes way out of my comfort zone. One of which was French and just a few years earlier I had a hard time reading English and my spelling was awful. So why French, I thought it would be cool to speak French not giving it much more thought than that. As I struggled with it and did learn a few phrases and words by heart my grades were average at best. One day in class my French teacher walked up to me and said as she was looking down at my paper "George, maybe you should learn English before taking French. That was quite embarrassing as the rest of the class turn and looked my way. She did have a good point although maybe it would have been better served to have me speak with her after class or something not so public.

Look, I was under a lot of stress with being a freshman, taking hard classes and wasn't always in the best of health with my sometimes asthma. I weighed less than a hundred pounds and was designated to being in the PE. Class for the sick, unfit, handicapped guys. Yes, I was a good swimmer and all but when I would get an asthma attack, I had a difficult time just being able to get from point a to point b without stopping many times. If I had a bad attack at home I would go into the bathroom and get out the Dr. R. Schiffman's Asthmador powder. The powder substance would be placed in a small pie tin and in my case I would use the lid of the container.



About one half to a tee spoon of powder would be placed in the tin then lit with a match. You would breathe it in and almost immediately it would relax the bronchial tubes somehow and allow me to breathe. A couple of times while in middle school they would take me to the office and call my mother who would take me to the emergency hospital to get a shot. Lucky for me that after two years I grew out of it or sometimes I think it could have been the peanut plants that I grew.

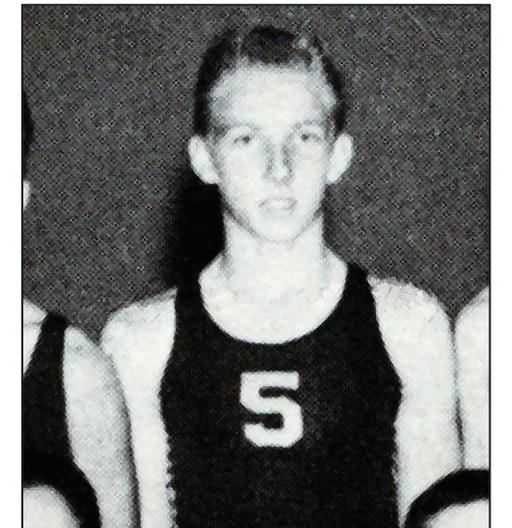
I raised peanuts in the side yard next to the driveway for two years. Taking the raw peanuts and then planting them they would produce a plant. Later I would dig them up, a complete process that took from early spring to summer. The reason I figured it could be the peanut plants was that when we went on vacation to the Colorado River and as soon as I arrived there I felt better. My lungs were clear, and I had no more attacks while I was there. I stopped planting them and the attacks stopped altogether.

Later I did better in PE Class and started putting on a little weight and was moved out of the special PE. Class to the regular one. Then I started playing sports again.



Row 1. B. Hays, R. Green, K. Lefever, L. Frontuto, E. Liberty, J. Talley.
Row 2. S. Livermore, J. Lovera, R. Yamamoto, J. Finlay, K. Wilkerson, J. Consiglio, D. Valencia, E. Okamoto.
Row 3. Coach T. Bartron, R. Cooper, M. Cooper, G. Helmer, M. Willard, J. Froschauer, M. Scott, S. Angell, K. Cooper, T. Samer, Mgr.

Since I was a freshman and weighed around a hundred pounds, I was placed in the Dee category for sports that year. I never had much interest in basketball but thought I would try it. I could shoot from any location on the court and hit most of my shots. From the free-throw line, I would hit 8 or 9 out of 10 which was considered really good. I was the quickest runner on the team but that's where it ended. For some reason, I wasn't the best dribbler. This one day when we had a meet at San Gabriel High School I was sitting on the bench when the coach said, "HELMER GET IN THERE!". Unknown to me at the time the coach from the Cee team was there and asked my coach to put me in so he could see me play. I jumped to my feet excited and ready to go. Up and down the court a few times and then the ball was passed to me. I grabbed the ball and from the excitement dribbled the ball down too hard to start my move and the ball got away from me. It must have traveled 7 feet in the air. I was so surprised that it got away that I didn't react fast enough, and San Gabriel went down for the score. The next thing I hear from my coach was, "HELMER OUT!". That was the very last time I played in a game that year. After



the game was over at San Gabriel, I was so embarrassed by that performance that I decided to walk home from the game which was a couple of miles away. The coach was looking for me after the game to get on the bus. He wasn't too happy that I left without telling him and the next day I got called into his office. I don't remember his exact words only that he didn't think my explanation was enough and from that day to the end of the season I had to keep score for the team.



Price Slone's 1949 Chevy Coupe.

Friend Price Slone

I went on a trip with my friend Price Slone to Mexico to get his 1949 Chevy coupe reupholstered. I had only made one trip to Mexico with my family when I was about five. Sometimes I look back and I'm amazed that my parents let me do the things I did. Today you wouldn't do some of those things because of the safety issues around those activities.

We stayed at our friends Lance Fellows' house in Chula Vista just a few miles south of San Diego. Lance's dad worked for the government as a border agent who helped us find a reputable upholstery shop in Tijuana Mexico. Back in those days going to Mexico was a long drive because there were no freeways beyond Orange County. We started out by taking the 10 freeway east



Lance and Price.

to highway 395 to San Diego. We then continued south to the City of Chula Vista. This was about a 5-hour trip to get down there, whereas today you can make it in about two hours from Rosemead.

We waited at the upholstery shop until they completed the

car. A complete interior that included carpets, door panels front and back seats, headliner, and

a special tonneau cover from the back of the front seat to the rear window. The complete job cost Price \$55.00. You had to watch them work if not you would find newspaper used in the pleats of the Tuck-N-Roll where cotton in those days should have gone. Then the long drive back to Rosemead but it was filled with many memories. Have to say Price had one of the coolest 49 Chevy's around.

One night Price and I cruised around Arcadia High School in his Chevy before the football game. We looked really cool and acted sophisticated while pretending to smoke pipes. We borrowed our fa-

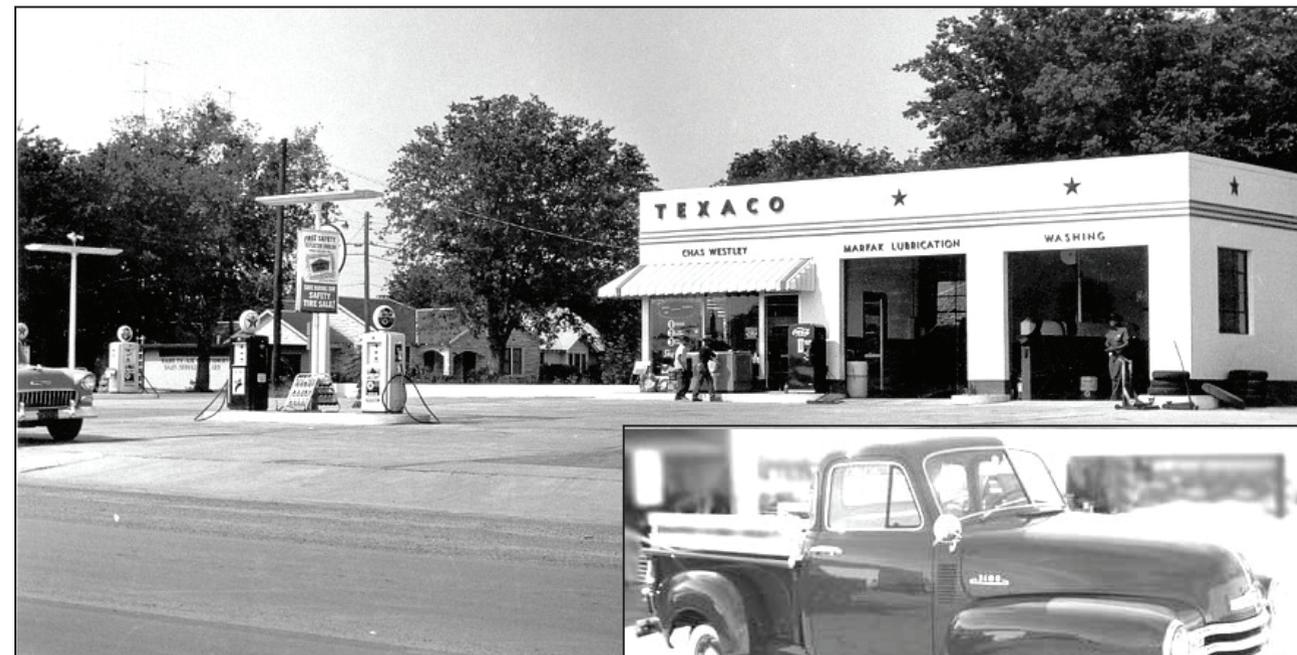


Family in Mexico 1951.

thers smoking pipes and act like we were smoking them while cruising the game. Found out later that the singer Stevie Nicks went there when I was a senior at Rosemead.

This one evening during the winter it was cold for Southern California standards. Price came over to my house after dinner and asked if I wanted to go with him to Glendora, so he could pick up some parts at the parts house for his Chevy. It would probably take an hour or so and being a school night, I thought it wouldn't be a big deal. When we went out to his car, I was surprised that he wasn't driving his car but a 52 Chevy truck he had borrowed from the gas station where he worked on Garvy Blvd. in El Monte.

After driving to Covina and picking up the parts for his car we drove back to the gas station to drop off the parts where his car was parked. As



The gas station and truck were like the ones in my story.

we were getting off the freeway at the Garvey off-ramp from the westbound 10 freeway Price said, "Want to see something cool? I replied, "sure"! The truck was a manual stick transmission and it had a compound low gear. Price pushed in the clutch and jammed the stick in low gear then quickly released the clutch. The rear tires started to slide because the tires were moving much slower than the speed we were traveling. Suddenly the engine revved way up and something broke in the transmission.

Lucky for us we were only a block from the gas station. It was closed but Price had the keys to get in. Somehow, we made it to the gas station and sat there wondering what we were going to do. Price said that we could fix his car then we could drive it home. So, we decided to go ahead and fix his car.

This gas station was very old and had four gas pumps a small office and a covered shop that had open grates doors that allowed the air to go through them. It was winter not sure which month but was cold especially at night and we didn't have our jackets because we didn't think we would be outside in the open. It got so cold that we would go into the office and warm up with the small electric heater that was there. We even went to the Coke machine and got the chocolate

drinks from it and placed them in front of the heater to make hot chocolate. After an extremely long night, we finished up around 4 am and headed home. Since we both had school in a few hours we went over to the Sands Coffee shop on the corner of Lower Azusa and Rosemead which was open 24 hours. The coffee shop became the Bahooka Restaurant and now in 2018 the Moonlight Bar and Grill. We sat there drinking quite a few cups of coffee and watched the sun come up.

Then went home change clothes and headed off to school. You may ask didn't my parents get worried? Remember I lived in a room that dad built behind the garage, so they were not aware I was gone. Sometimes I would come in after they went to bed. School was a blur that day and I really slept well that night.

Price and I did quite a bit together in 61 but kind of went our own ways after that year. We stayed friends talking to each other occasionally throughout the years right up to the time he passed away in 2015 from cancer.



This is the main hall in the administration building looking west. My first book locker in this building was just left of this photo. In the summer of my junior year, my locker was just beyond those kids in the hall with all the administration office to the left of them.

Kathy Moore

In my freshman year, I liked this girl Kathy Moore who lived on the street behind us on Encinita. Unknown to me at the time an older guy at school liked her too and was bound and determined to do what he could to get rid of the competition. He and his friends were the undesirable rough guys in school and tried to make my life miserable at every turn. One day, while I was getting my books out of my locker and with my hands inside one of these guys, thought it would be funny to slam the locker on my hands, which hurt but not wanting a scuffle in the halls I just went my way.

A few days later the same guy and I were at it. We happened to be in the same Metal Shop class together and he was still giving me a hard time. Then one day he shoved me, and I couldn't take it anymore being Mister nice guy, so I shoved him right back. In the 60s you had to wear a sleeved shirt over your tee shirt. He grabbed the pocket of my shirt and tore it. I then grabbed him and tore his. As things escalated and wearing an old shirt which wasn't very strong and easy to rip, he grabbed it and he ripped the shirt in half. Now the adrenalin was flowing, and I grabbed him and picked him up over my head and threw him into the metal casting clay box with dirty brown sand. From that time on they didn't give me any more trouble, and everyone moved on.

The next time I had trouble with my locker was as a Junior going into my senior year in summer school. Seems my friend Tom Copeland wanted to play a joke on me. I had just exchanged books in my locker then shut it and walked down the hall always when I heard this loud explosion down where my locker was located. I along with most of the students in the hall at the time walked over to see what was going on. As I walked closer, I saw that books and papers were blown on to the floor then looked to see who's locker it was. What! it was mine and I was really ticked off and started looking around to see who was laughing so I could figure out who did it. I didn't have the time, so I grabbed my books and papers and put them back in. Just then the Principle and Vice Principle



My dad driving the boat at the Newport Beach back-bay. Price getting ready to ski and you can see my feet in one of the shots.

came running out of the office to see what was going on.

They said to come back to the office with us. They were trying to pin it on me. Doing good cop bad cop approach and saying they were going to call the police. I told them why would I blow open my own locker? I said someone else thought it would be funny not me. At that point, I guess I made a good point and they couldn't get me to confess so they let me return to class. I found out at my 50th class reunion that Tom Copeland told me he did it.

A trip to Pacific Ocean Park with Louie Montante.

Summer 1961 and Louie and I decided to go to Pacific Ocean Park in Santa Monica. It was located at the old pier which was just south of the current Santa Monica Pier. It was torn down and today you can't see anything from that original structure.

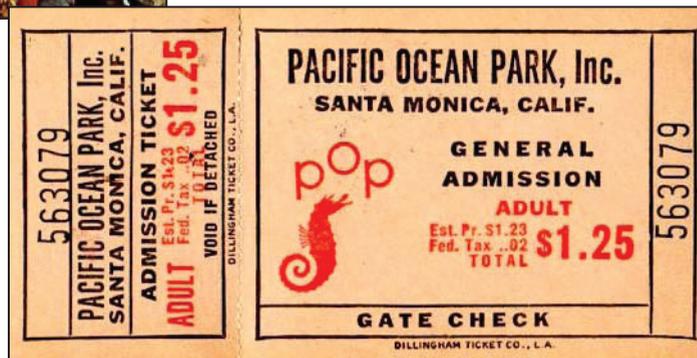
via Valley Blvd, then to Santa Monica via Santa Monica Blvd. was about two hours. The trip was uneventful on the way there other than the time it took to get there.

Pacific Ocean Park was a twenty-eight acre, a nautical-themed amusement park built on a pier at Pier Avenue in the Ocean Park section of Santa Monica now just south of Ocean Park Blvd. You would just pay an admission of \$1.25 for all day and you could ride as many rides as you wanted for that price.

This was the first time that I ventured so far away from home on my own other than my trip with Price. Depending on a bus schedule was scary. You don't want to miss a bus, they didn't run on an hourly schedule back then. After arriving I remember walking up to the entrance and before we got in there were food shops along the street. The

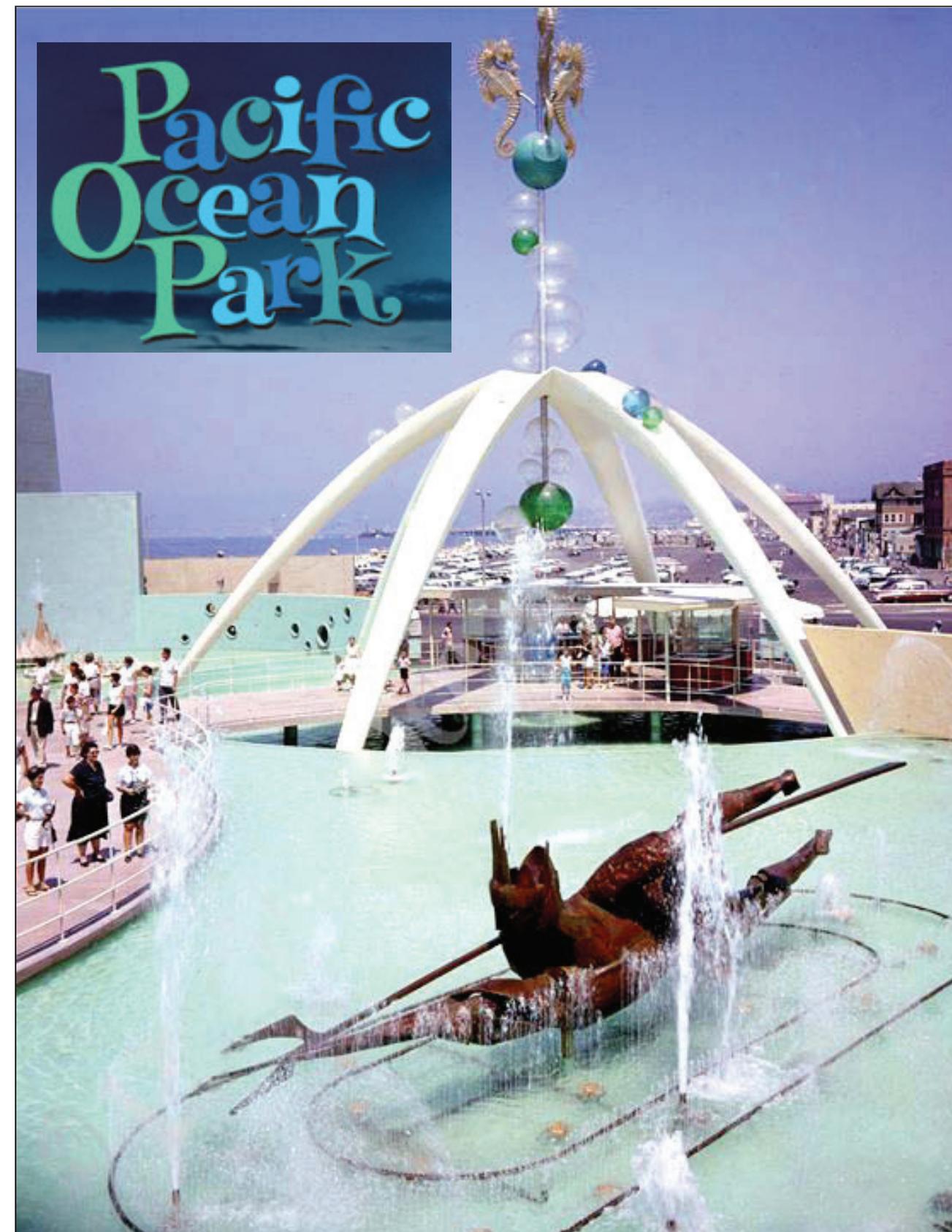


When I was with my friends we would always say, what are we going to do tonight? Discussing it for an hour or so then go out and do whatever without any fore planning. I guess we were more spontaneous when we were young. One day Louie and I decided to go to Pacific Ocean Park on the spur of the moment. At that time Louie had just graduated from high school and I was a freshman. Louie didn't have a car, because he had his driver's license revoked. None of our other friends could go that day so we had to find alternative transportation. We decided to take the bus from Rosemead to Santa Monica. Neither of us had much money but enough to buy a round trip bus ticket, entry to the park, and a little for food. Our mothers didn't have a problem with us going, so we decided to leave early the next morning.



smell of the bakery food was incredible. We paid our admission then walked inside. We went on most of the rides and decided to see how many times we could ride the roller-coaster in a row. After each ride, we would run down the ramp then up in line again. It wasn't very busy that day and we would sometimes be able to make it to the coaster we had just left. In total, we counted that we had ridden it twenty-one times. That burned up a lot of time and then we decided to go to the gaming area at the midway to see if we could win some prizes. Those games really suck you in and we had spent all our money except for enough money to call home if we needed to.

Lou came over and we walked to Valley and Mission where we waited for the bus to Los Angeles. We had to transfer at the Los Angeles main bus terminal to another bus that would take us a few blocks short of P.O.P. Buses are slow and the 30-mile trip from Rosemead to Los Angeles



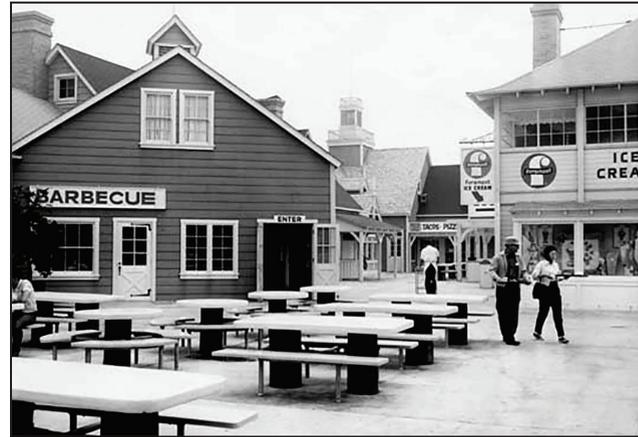
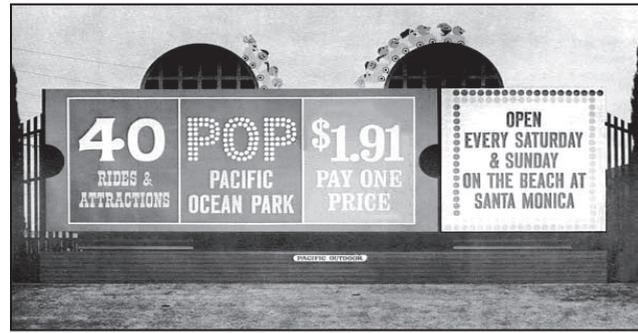
Pacific Ocean Park main entrance 1961.

It was around 2 pm and we started to get extremely hungry but had no money to buy anything, we were broke. We looked at the bus schedule and decided to go home and get something to eat. The bus arrived, and we boarded then walked to the back where we sat. There weren't many people on the bus most got on than got off a few blocks later. We were starving, and this little Jewish man got on the bus and sat a few seats in front of us on the right. He had a paper bag in which he pulled out some bread and something like salami and made a sandwich which only made us hungrier. With our mouths drooling when he pulled out an orange and started peeling it. The orange fragrant immediately traveled back to us which I can still remember today that my senses were overwhelmed, and it was almost too much to stand.

We finally arrived in Los Angeles then transferred to the bus that took us back to Rosemead. When we stepped off the bus all I could think about was running home and getting something to eat. Lou and I rushed home and mom fixed us a couple of big sandwiches each. Louie left and I crashed in my room behind the garage.

After the bus trip to Pacific Ocean Park, I went a couple more times over the years. Once with My cousin Ed in the Summer of 1962 if I remember correctly. That weekend we were doing some work for my dad in Malibu. Our next-door neighbors in Rosemead were Nina and Charles Johnson. Nina was the head nurse for USC Medical and then became partners in a company that built hospitals around the world and for the Army. Charles was an aircraft engineer with Lockheed and with famed Skunk Works that built secret planes. The Johnson's had no children and were married in their late thirties. Dad did quite a bit of work on their Rosemead house which today you can still see in their front parkway with red brick which was just like ours. He also bricked in the backyard and made a greenhouse for them.

With mostly Nina's income they became wealthy and purchased two homes in Malibu and some additional property. In 1961 dad was laid-off from C.F. Braun and Company. It was located at the



*Top photo: Advertising for the park.
Bottom photo: Some of the food concessions.*

corner of Fremont Avenue and Mission Road and was one of the most formidable petrochemical engineering companies in the world during the post-World War II period. During the 1950's C F Braun would employ over six thousand employees and have annual business revenues exceeding 100 million dollars. At this time C. F. Braun had constructed over 250 chemical and industrial complexes throughout the world. Dad worked as a machinist in the machine shop just east of the main complex.

Knowing that dad was out of a job Chuck asked him if he could work on and oversee their Rambla Pacifica house renovation. They lived both in Rosemead and their other house in the private community of Malibu Colony. Ed and I went down once to do a little body surfing at the Colony house. The house was located just a few hundred feet from Malibu Surf-rider Beach where all the surfers went. It was late afternoon and we decided to swim out away to catch some waves. What we didn't count on was a lot of seaweed at that spot and we got caught up in it. It was

a struggle getting free, but we did and then made our way back to shore. We decided we had enough of that and went back to the house changed and drove home to Rosemead.

I was in Malibu for quite a few weekends helping dad inside and outside the house. Ed and I on one weekend went to Malibu to nail down the floor in the living room. After which we packed up our things and drove over to Pacific Ocean Park which was about 10 miles south. During the week and on Saturdays they had a show called The Wink Martindale Dance Party Show there with some great entertainment. Seems to me it was Sonny & Sher or some other group, but it was fun being at a live show. Of course, we rode as many rides as possible and checked out the girls.

Nina and Chuck let me use the old WWII Jeep to drive home. Dad was still there, and I was to pick up some supplies in a couple days then drive back. I drove over to Ed's house to show him the Jeep. As always, we didn't find it too hard getting ourselves into some circumstance that we didn't count on. We decided to go up to Monterey Park and go off-roading. It was fun and before long a police car showed up and told us to get off and stay off the hills. The Jeep wasn't running so well so I dropped Ed off and went home for the night. I called dad and told him the Jeep had an issue and he had to come home and take it to get repaired. Think I revved up the motor and the timing chain skipped a tooth and was out of time. They had to replace the gear and chain.

I love the ocean for many reasons but one evening for sure it cemented the lifestyle of Malibu in my head forever. Dad and I had finished a hard day working on the house and Nina and Chuck told dad that they would bring us some food from The Sea Lion at the bottom of the hill. The



Wink Martindale Dance Party Broadcast from Pacific Ocean Park.

house. The view of the house was outstanding. You didn't get the noise of Pacific Coast Highway and you could see the Malibu Pier off in the distance. When they arrived, it was early evening with the sun just above the horizon. The low on-shore clouds were making their way up the hill giving a strange silence to the air and the sun was just about to set. After they had arrived, they layed out the food outside on the deck and we ate dinner looking out over the water at sunset. A sight I can still recall clearly. I remember thinking, now this is how one should live, it was all perfect.

The last thing I will say about the house dad remodeled is that no one could have done a better job. A secret door to one bedroom off the living room which had beautiful paneling. He hid the door opening edges in the grooves of the paneling. One bedroom was converted to a large kitchen. He installed stained glass side panels next to the entry door. The sun would show through them in the late afternoon. Totally replace and put a new floors, ceiling to floor tinted front windows that look towards the ocean. Topped off with all the best furniture and beautiful white carpets money could buy. The Persian rugs were placed on top of the carpet in certain selected areas. Dad worked on the house for about a year and at the end of that time was offered another machinist job which he took and came back to Rosemead.

1961 Balboa, Newport Beach.

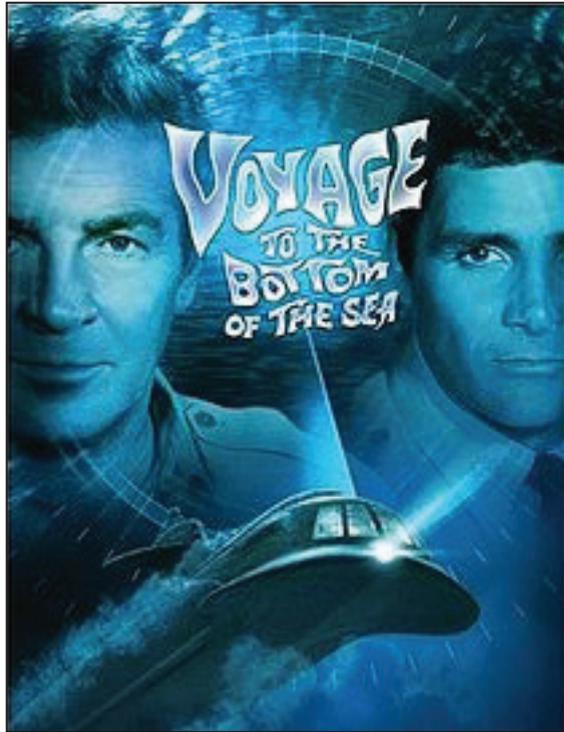
During the early to mid-sixties was a great time to be down at Balboa. It was special, no high tech anything. About the only thing you needed was a beach towel and a portable radio. Even at that time, the only radio stations you would listen to were AM stations like KFWB that were for teenagers in Southern California. They played continuous top 40 rock and roll music.

We vacationed for a week down at Balboa Beach in the summer of 1961. We rented a little bungalow on Adams Street between the Newport Bay and Edgewater Place on the right side of the street. You can see in the photo where we were in relation to the bay.



Dad walking into our bungalow.

In the bungalow next to us were Mrs. Kasbian, her daughter Kathy and a school friend Mary Nickels who I was attracted to. They were a year or two older than me and we would hang out on the beach and fun zone. I remember speaking with them about what classes I was going to be taking in my freshman year at Rosemead. They lived in Glendale on Chevy Chase Drive and they went to Glendale High School. Kathy's uncle was David Hedison his real name was Albert David Heditisian. He was an actor and played Captain Lee Crane in Irwin Allen's television series Voy-



Kathy's uncle David on the right.



Photo of Mary Nickels left and Kathy Kasbian on right. This was taken at the bay at the end of our street.

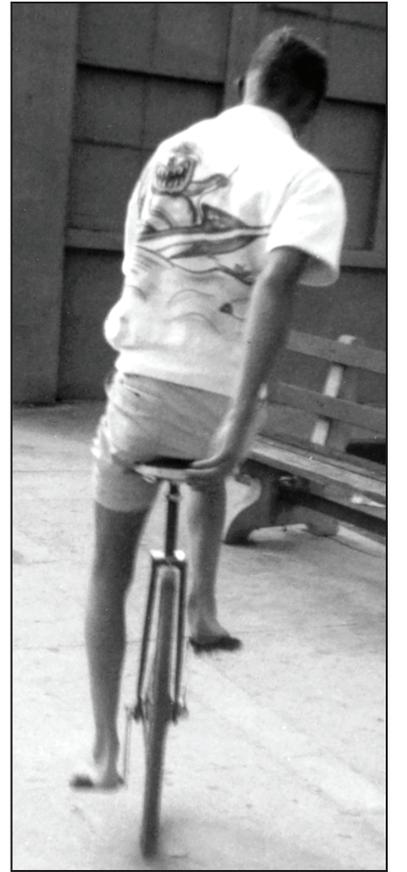
age to the Bottom of the Sea. He also acted on stage and was in many films in those years.

My family went to Disneyland one day along with Mrs. Kasbian and the girls. We all had a great

time and the best moment was when we got on the Mark Twain Riverboat and Mary and I was on the second deck by ourselves. I can't remember what music was playing but it was a popular love song. It seems strange now because Disney uses their own music. It was dark outside with the lights reflecting off the water. Going past Tom Sawyer's Island, you could see the flickering lights on the island. Leaning on the railing talking and laughing with Mary was the best it could get, my heart was alive, it was a very romantic setting.

Most mornings I would get up early and ride my unicycle down to the Balboa Bakery and get a donut or chocolate éclair. It was fun riding it because people would point at you and smile, it took a lot of practice riding it. One afternoon over on the street near the pavilion and the bakery there was a tee-shirt shop that did airbrush on tee-shirts. It was kind of expensive if I remember but I bought this white sweatshirt and gave it to the artist who had an easel in front of the shop where he did his work. He asked what I wanted on it and I told him a boat with Rawhide written on the sides of the boat. He drew this cool hydro boat with a monster and Hand sticking up in the air on a gear shift lever and it had Rawhide on it. You can see part of in the photo on the back of the sweatshirt where I'm riding my unicycle in the photo to the right.

Right: Riding my unicycle Balboa



Mark Twain River boat Disneyland

I always did a lot of Bodysurfing just to the right of the Balboa Pier. That summer week the surf was great. One particular day I remember the surf was really big and was almost hitting the bottom of the cross pieces on the pier. I was a good swimmer and went out there with just a few other guys to catch a few of the big waves. Mom and dad were on the beach watching and were not to keen on me being out there. Caught some good ones and then came in after I tried too much. I'm sure they were happy when I got back on land. That was a great week down at Balboa and there would be many more good times down there in the years to come.



Large surf Balboa Pier



Arcade sign Balboa

The photo left and the bottom were taken at 398 Adams St. Balboa at Adams and Edgewater streets. Bottom and left photo's as it looks in 2017. The car ferry and Fun Zone is over where the palm trees are.



Balboa Fun Zone 1950's



My friend actor/bodybuilder Steve Reeves 1952.



Balboa Fun Zone bay beach in the late 1950's.

Vogue water ski and boat stories.

Dad purchased a 15-foot Javelin speedboat from my Uncle Roy. My uncle had raced this boat down at Marine Stadium in Long Beach which is just south of Los Angeles. When he raced it he had a 30 horsepower Mercury outboard engine in it. It was built to go fast, much faster than other boats of twice the cubic inches. It ran well and would do 35 mph pulling a skier. I remember seeing the boat down at Marine Stadium back around 1953 or so.

The boat was stripped down to the bare minimum and at that time had no upholstery in it just a wood bench seat. We didn't change much in the boat just gave it a good cleaning and new paint. We sat on these square life preservers which gave a little padding to sit on. It could be quite jarring when the water was rough because of its flat bottom that was designed for racing.

In the photo, you can see that it was white. After repairing the fiberglass on the deck, we painted the boat white with coral scallops and a silver-gray Zolatone on the inside. It looked outstanding. Eventually, I lettered the name "Rawhide" on the rear sides of the boat. Rawhide was my favorite TV show at the time. I didn't do a very good job of lettering it should have had someone do it.

I almost sunk the boat one time in the back bay in Newport Beach. Boats were driven in a counter-clockwise direction and turns are to the left. The boat steering was on the left side. I came up to the turn almost at the center of the bay and made a hard-left turn and at the same time I hit a wake from another boat just right and it lifted the boat out of the water and upon its left side. I looked down at the water and slid to the left hitting my elbow in the water. Somehow the boat righted itself

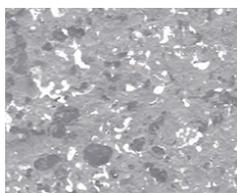
and it came back down on its bottom.

Another time that I didn't tell dad about was how I blew out the lower engine unit. I had to be towed back to the boat launching area. I was showing off and decided to rev up the engine then throw it into gear. I heard this big bang in the lower engine unit. I had sheared off the teeth on the shaft. We had to purchase an all-new lower unit. I didn't do that again.

Before we bought the boat, dad purchased a Vogue water ski for me. We would use it when we would go to the Colorado River to visit mom's family on holidays and vacations. The complete story about the times we had at the river is in this book. I still have the Vogue ski (2019) along with all the original bindings and hardware.



Coral color in Valspar



Silver-gray Zolatone



Above: The Vogue ski that my parents bought for me.



Right: I'm sitting in the driveway for this photo.

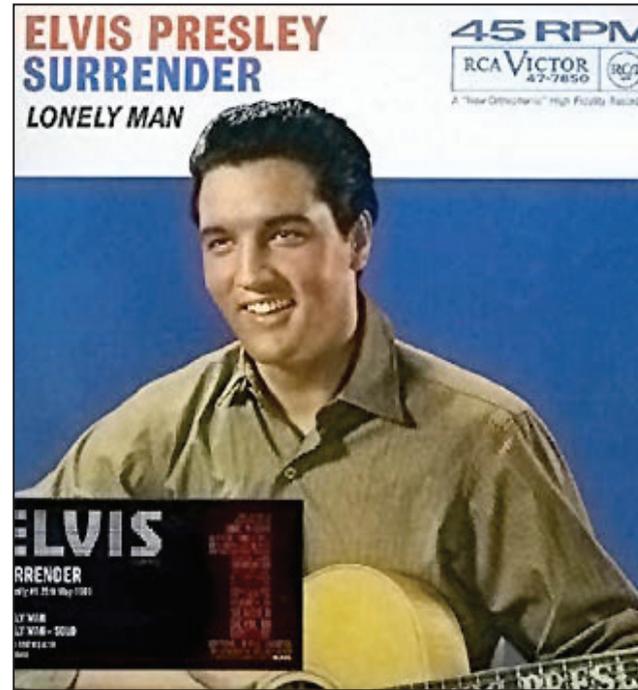
Below is where we purchased it in Temple City.



VOGUE WATER SKIS HI 7-9219
5540 North Temple City Boulevard, Temple City

My List of Top Thirty Songs for 1961

1961 was a year that had also some great songs. For the first half of the school year and as a Freshman I didn't have any friends that had cars. I remember taking the school bus to away football games. I always worried that I would not get to the bus in time after the game and would be left behind. This never happened but one reason I didn't go to all the away games. The two I went to were Burbank and Edgewood but did go to most of the home games. Looking back now the music from 1959 to 1964 was the best years for Rock-n-Roll, it was before the drug music came in 1965. Some of the ones that are my favorite are: "Runaway" by Del Shannon, "My True Story", by The Jive Five, "The Mountain's High", by Dick and Dee Dee, and "Surrender", by Elvis Presley. Honestly most of the songs I have listed are great.



"Runaway", Del Shannon

"My True Story", The Jive Five

"Take Good Care of My Baby", Bobby Vee

"Last Night", The Mar-Keys

"Will You Love Me Tomorrow", The Shirelles

"Where the Boys Are", Connie Francis

"Hit the Road Jack", Ray Charles

"Sad Movies (Make Me Cry)", Sue Thompson

"Mother-in-Law", Ernie K-Doe

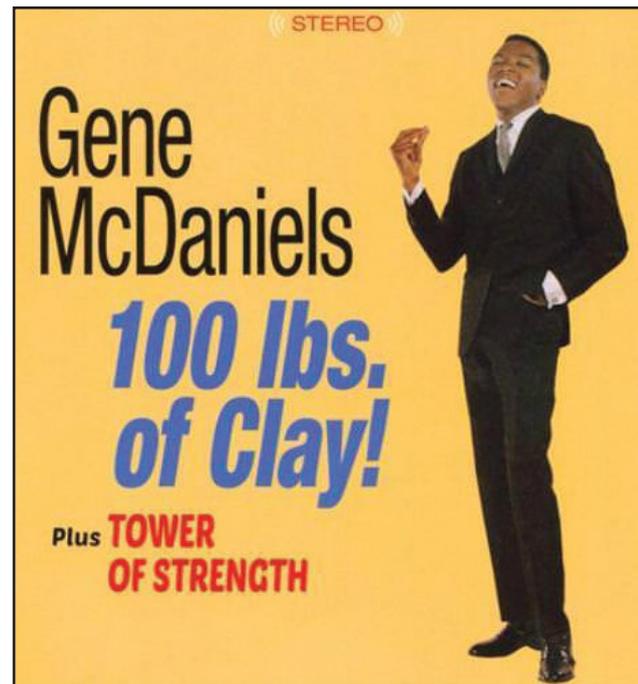
"Bristol Stomp", The Dovells

"Travelin' Man", Ricky Nelson

"Shop Around", The Miracles

"A Hundred Pounds of Clay", Gene McDaniels

"The Mountain's High", Dick and Dee Dee



"On the Rebound", Floyd Cramer

"Who Put the Bomp (in the Bomp, Bomp, Bomp)", Barry Mann

"Apache", Jørgen Ingmann

"Little Sister", Elvis Presley

"Runaround Sue", Dion

"Yellow Bird", Arthur Lyman

"Hello Mary Lou", Ricky Nelson

"There's a Moon Out Tonight", The Capris

"Surrender", Elvis Presley

"The Way You Look Tonight", The Lettermen

"Moody River", Pat Boone

"Spanish Harlem", Ben E. King

"Hats Off to Larry", Del Shannon

"(Marie's the Name) His Latest Flame", Elvis Presley

"Wonderland by Night", Bert Kaempfert

"I've Told Every Little Star", Linda Scott

"Angel Baby", Rosie and the Originals

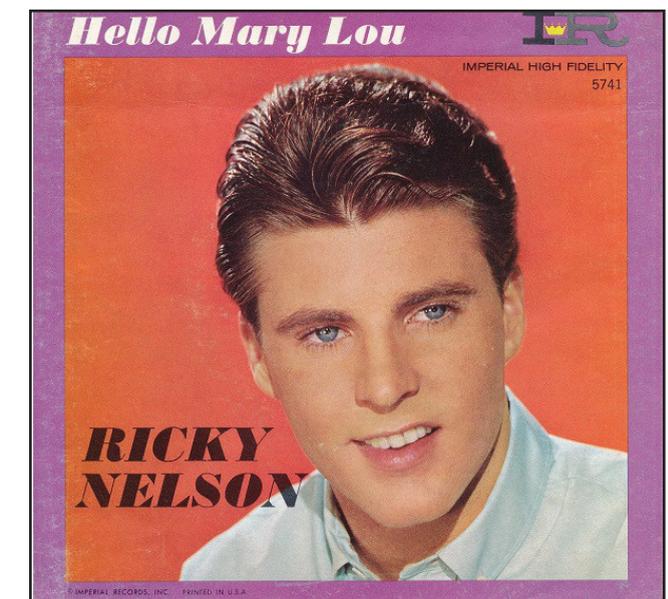
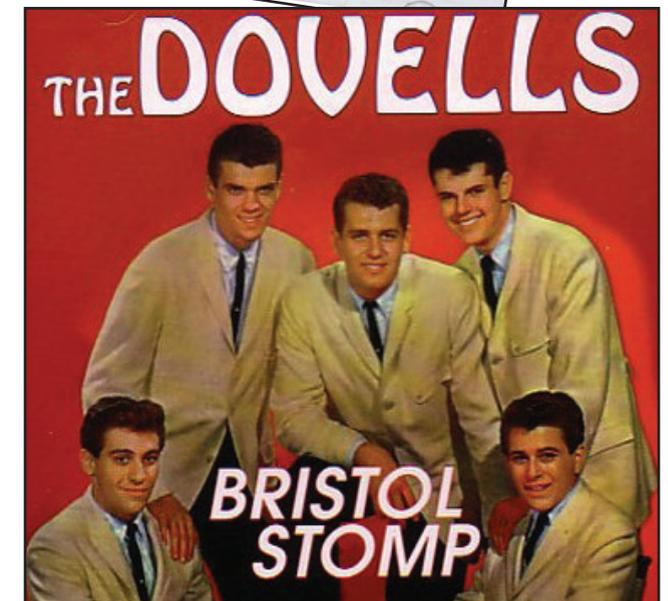
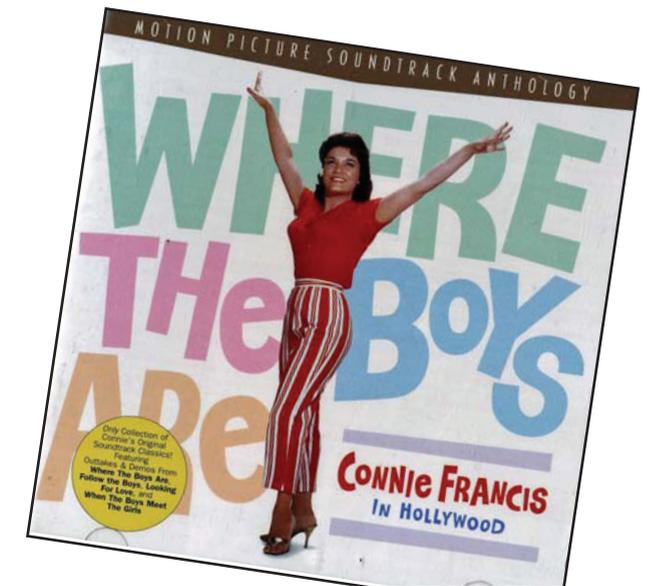
"Pretty Little Angel Eyes", Curtis Lee

"Mama Said", The Shirelles

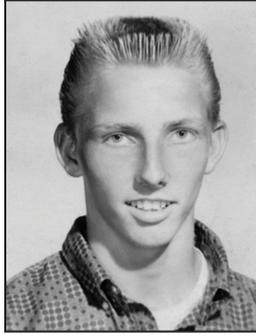
"Big Bad John", Jimmy Dean

"Sea of Heartbreak", Don Gibson

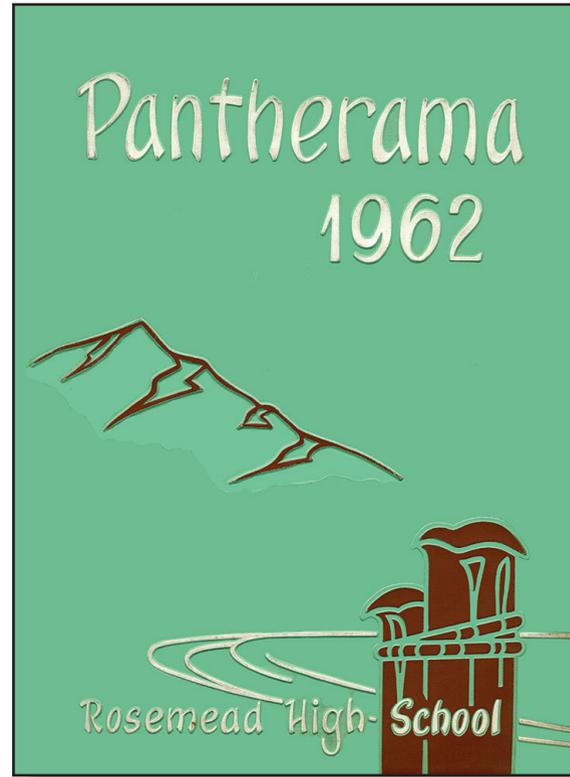
"You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby", Bobby Darin



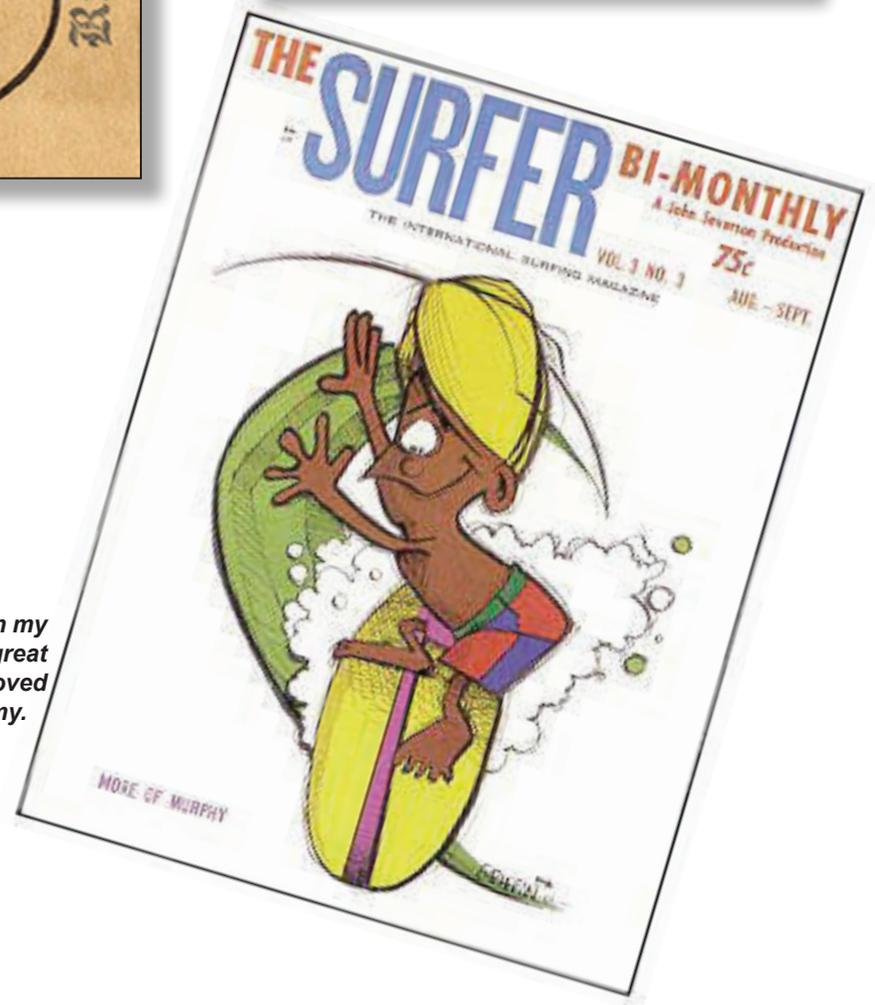
1961 - 1962



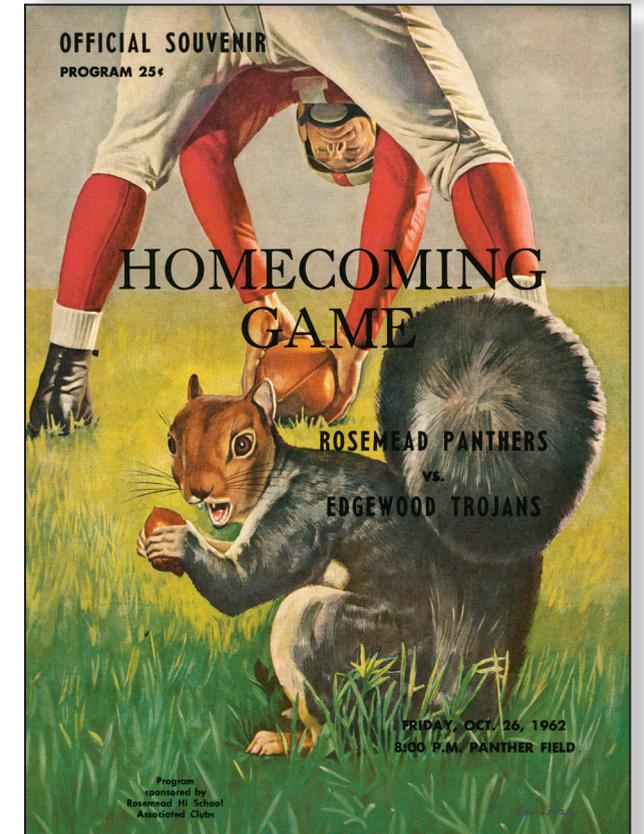
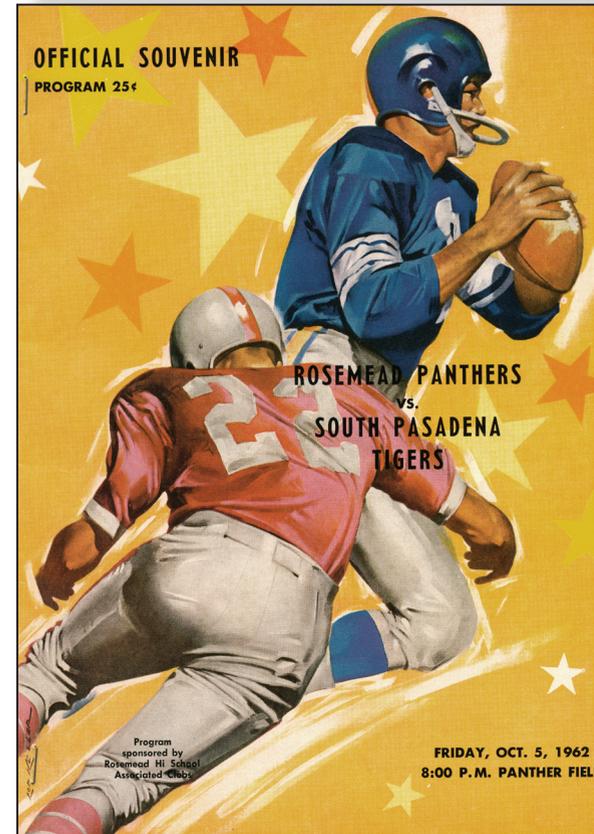
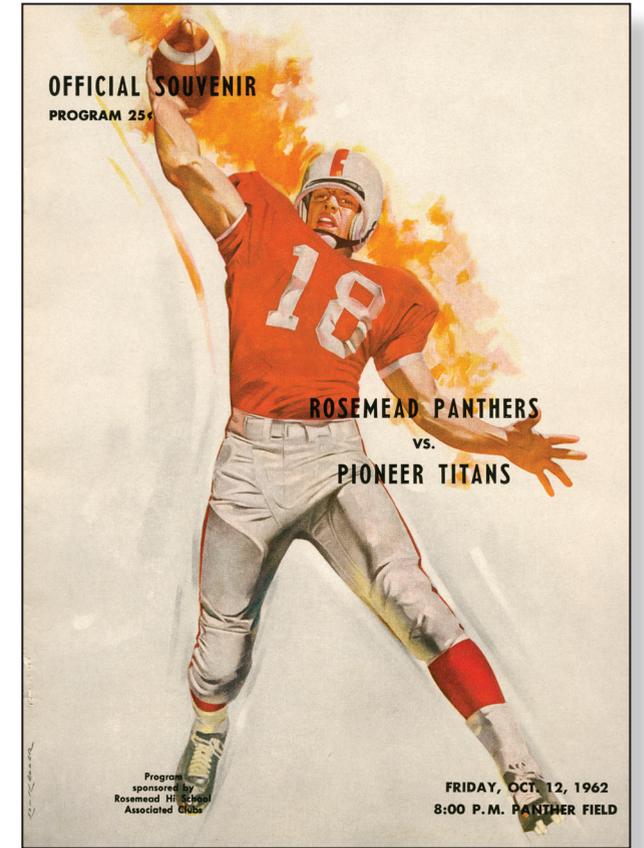
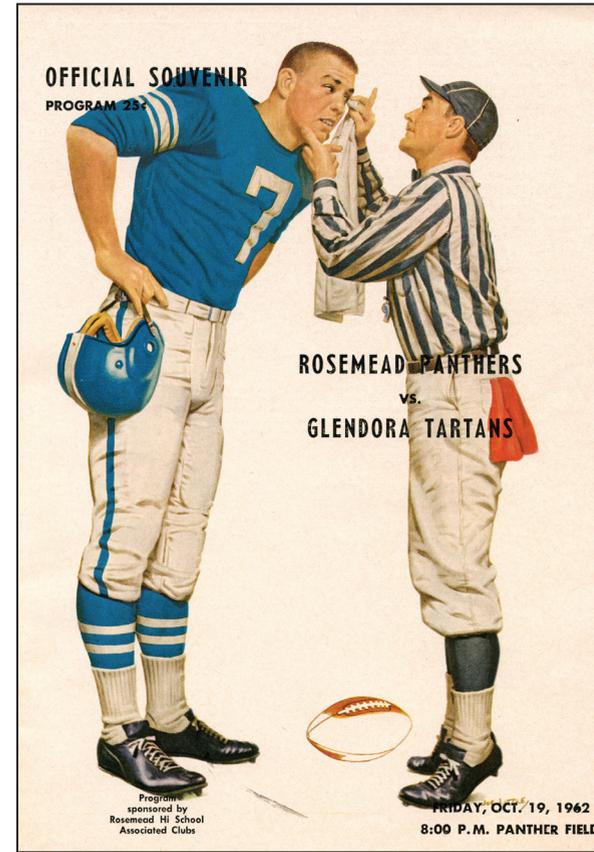
10th Grade Sophomore



I went to this movie which was held at the Rosemead Pool on the inside of the building where you would pay for swimming.



I painted the magazine cover on the right on my bathroom wall over the counter. I did a great job and was there for many years until I moved back into the room after I got out of the Army.



1962 Rosemead High School football programs from my collection.



Cross County Team with some good friends.

Our Jr. Varsity Cross Country team. I had my moments and enjoyed going to many events. Mr. Tapp and I didn't always see things the same way but he was a really nice guy and I enjoyed being coached by him. I'm on the top row 2nd from right. My friend Dan Wark in on the bottom 2nd from the left. This photo was taken from my Year Book which Mr. Tapp signed at the end of the year although cross-country was held right after school started in 1962.



This year's **CEE TRACK** men were **Row 1:** R. Markham, M. Shapiro, M. Dentor, B. Espinosa, L. Boggs, J. Talley, T. Wergen, B. Randles, **Row 2:** Coach A. Tapp, L. Scott, E. Schnieder, J. Madison, L. Johnson, T. Vasquez, F. Fuentes, J. Lovera, R. Valeria, R. Loy, B. Martin, K. Warton, **Row 3:** Coach Con Porter, Coach Pete Swanberg, B. Cooper, S. Shapiro, M. Jackson, G. Helmer, B. Casserly, R. Griswold, L. Castinitas, B. Fagan.



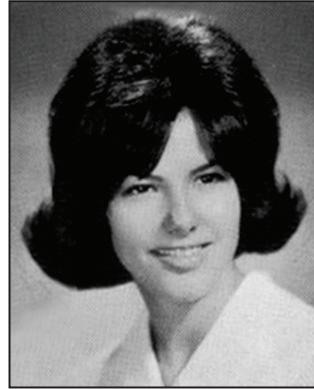
This year I realized just how fast I was when I beat the Shapiro brothers who always gave me a hard time telling me how slow I was, until the last few weeks of the track season where I beat them over and over.

High School Friends.

I guess this is a good place to put the photos of my close friends during high school. Some were graduating in 1962 and some over the next two years.



Dawn M. Simpson
4-7-1946 - 1-13-2006



Carol Adele Zarate
11-27-1946



Judy Lee Peterson
5-1-1964 - 7-29-1997



Lois E. Siterlet



Mike Frederick Bilecki
11-24-1944 - 8-8-1995



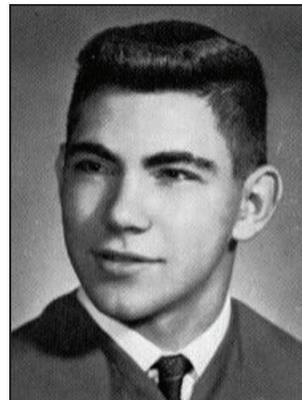
Edwin Roy Helmer
11-8-1945 - 2-2-2017



Marilyn J. Mitchell



Brian C. Haskell
1-9-25-505-4475



Ronald Allen Bilecki
7-15-1942 - 2-19-2016



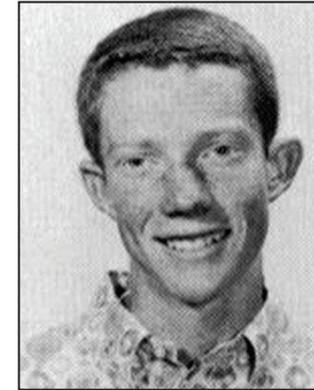
Judy A. Newberry
8-23-1946



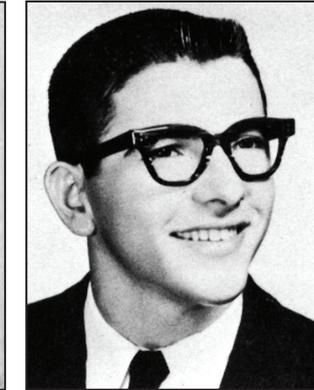
Barbara Coe
1944 -



Michele Barnett
11-2-1944 - 10-9-1995



Daniel Edward Wark
1-2-1947 - 8-21-1968



Louis John Montante
12-4-1943



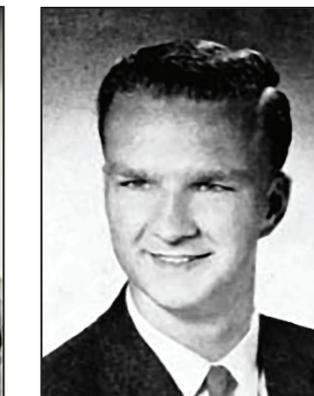
Price Newton Slone
6-10-1945- 11-15-2015



Annette Payne
8-16-1945 - 6-18-1991



Dorelle Adene Frye
11-13-1944



Roland B Rockafellow
8-15-1943



Vira L. Boudreaux
7-15-1944



Richard Steven Mander
8-31-1944 - 11-9-1995



Linda Louise Horspool
11-23-1945



Richard Bissonnette
11-22-1942



Jack K Nakamoto
2-16-1945 11-30-2005



Casey Charles
2-16-1945 11-30-2005



The Train.

Mike and I almost ran into a train on Baldwin Ave just north of Valley Blvd. Since I depended on my older friends for transportation, I was driving with Mike that night to go to a Halloween party in Arcadia. We were running late, and Mike borrowed his dad's car a blue 1954 Chevy 2 door business coupe that came



Mike's dad Al had a 1954 blue Chevy just like this one, same color and all.

from the factory without a back seat. It was a six-cylinder with as they say three on the tree, which translates to a stick shift on the steering column.

cision to keep going or jam on the brakes. I looked down at the floor and saw him moving his foot from the gas to the brake and back again.

With split seconds he hit the brake hard and we started sliding to the now passing train. Closer and closer we got until we finally stop inches from the fast-moving train. At any moment I was waiting for the car bumper to snag the train and be pulled down the tracks. The adrenalin was flowing, and I held my breath. Finally, the train passed, and we were out of danger. We continued to the party, but I was so shaken up I didn't enjoy one minute there. I still remember sitting in the corner of the living room just thinking about the close call.



Richard Manders 1959 Biscayne identical to this one. Story on the opposite page.

Running late Mike took off like a rocket heading East on Valley until we got to Baldwin Ave. He made a quick left and accelerating as fast as we could up the street, which wasn't that fast in his car. We were doing about 45 mph when we saw the old train signal that had a blinking red light and what we called a wig-wag, that's where the light would swing back and forth from a pole.

We didn't slow down a bit and Mike said you look to the right and I'll look to the left. If you see the train just yell. As soon as he said that I turned my head right looking towards where the train would be approaching. I couldn't believe my eyes there was the train a few hundred yards away. At that point I couldn't get any words out, luckily Mike looked over after he looked left. He had to make a de-

cision to keep going or jam on the brakes. I looked down at the floor and saw him moving his foot from the gas to the brake and back again.

Roller Skating.

Skating was always a fun activity to do. Looking back before my teen years we were skating on cement with steel wheels. A few times we were taken to a regular indoor roller rink or ice-skating rink probably for some birthday party or a summer outing. This all changed in 1962 a year where I really started growing up and going out with my friends to different places like the beach, parties, car cruising, and roller skating regularly at indoor skating rinks. The group would include my cousin Edd, friends Mike Bilicki, Louie Montante, and occasionally Richard Mander, and Ron Rockafellow. Mike had his own skates but the rest of us used the rental skates but that changed at Christmas. One of my presents was a new pair of expensive professional skates.

We started skating almost every Saturday night at either the Shamrock in San Gabriel, Skateland in Whittier, Rol-O-Drome in Glendora and a few times at Moonlight Pasadena. Most of the time we were at the Shamrock, but we spent many nights down at Whittier at Skateland that had two skate floors. One large one and one small one that had a working Jukebox in the area. Whereas we would always go to the sock-hops after skating at the Shamrock.

One Saturday night late in the Summer of 1962, six of us guys drove over to the Rol-O-Drome in Richard Mander's 1957 Chevy Bisquine. I suffered my first and only skating accident. After an hour of skating, I fell and put my arms behind me to break the fall. When I got up my forearm hurt and after a few minutes it became painful. When we got off the floor between different skate programs, I was telling the guys about my arm. Mike Bilicki said I probably dislocated my wrist and he wanted me to let him pull on it to pop it back into place. I said are you crazy?

A short time later we left for home and when I got up in the morning it was hurting just as bad, so my mother took me over to the emergency hospital that was located on Las Tunas in Temple City. After an x-ray, it showed a fracture in my forearm just above my wrist. I walked out of the emergen-

cy hospital with a cast on my arm up to my elbow. I had that on for a few weeks but it didn't stop me from skating although I was super careful.



Shamrock Roller Rink San Gabriel.



Skateland, Whittier.



Glendora, Rol-O-Drome.

Purchased 1956 Ford in the Summer of 62'.

Shortly before my lawn mowing enterprise Mike, Ed and I were out delivering newspapers in mikes truck to the kids who delivered papers in his district. This was very early Sunday morning maybe 5 am or so and his area was many miles away off Huntington Drive near El Sereno in an area called Elephant Hill. As we were dropping off the papers, we noticed an abandoned 1940 Ford two-door sedan sitting off the road some. It had no motor, trans, interior, and the front windshield was painted black from the inside. This car was in very rough shape maybe worth twenty-five dollars at the time. We looked it over and decided to tow it home. We broke out the front driver side half windshield. lucky for us it had an emergency brake so we could stop it. Mike drove it with his sunglasses on, so he wouldn't get broken glass in his eyes. My cousin Ed drove Mike's truck and I relayed and messages back and forth. Eight miles later we pushed it up into my driveway. Still early in the morning maybe seven thirty my dad walked out to see this Junker sitting in his carport. He asked what we were going to do with it. I said that we were going to fix it up, so I could have a car. I was fifteen and a half at that time and dad had his concerns about my quest in fixing it up. He went to my mother and said he didn't want this going on in his driveway. He suggested they look for a car for me. My mom's lady friend who lived on Danbury Street said that the guy across from her was selling a 1956 Ford for two hundred and fifty dollars. I thought, a 56 ford not that cool and was probably a four-door. They convinced me to go with mom and look at it.

This younger family guy was a racer and had sitting in his garage two red 1962 Chevy 409 cubic inch cars. One two-door hardtop and the other a business coupe that he raced. He wanted to sell his Ford a really nice stock 1956 black two-door hardtop with white and black interior and 312 cubic inch engine. I couldn't believe my eyes and couldn't get the check out of my mom's hands fast enough. It needed some engine work like a complete rebuilt engine which I could do and was well worth my time and energy. Then 6 months

later I was mowing and doing yard work which included his house on Danbury Street.

December 19, 1962, my 16th birthday the day I could drive legally. Freedom and everything changed in my life.



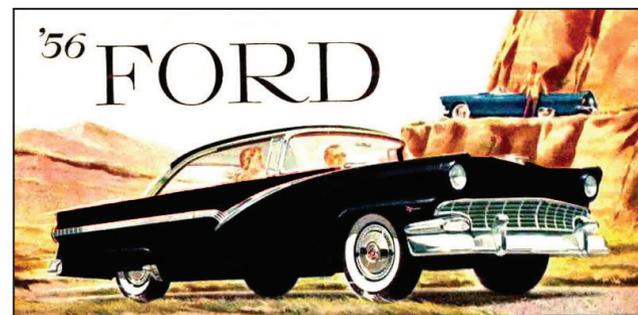
1940 Ford 2drSedan.



Above: Danbury Street Temple City.



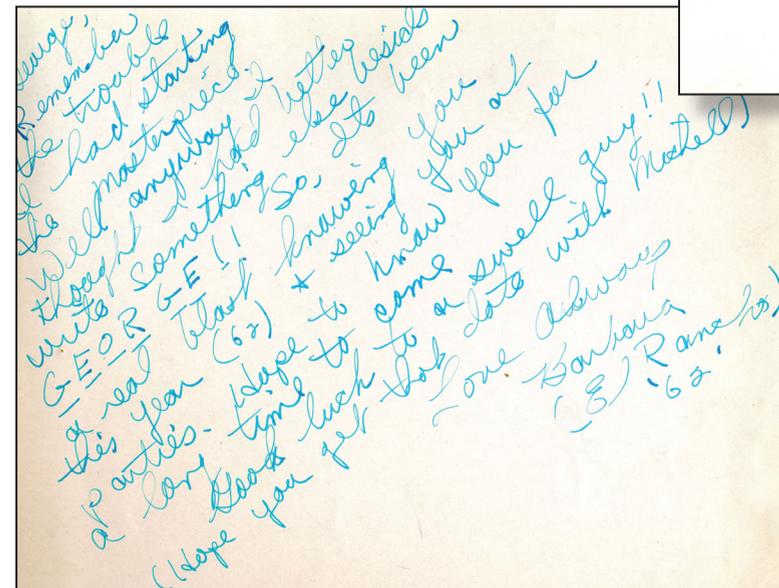
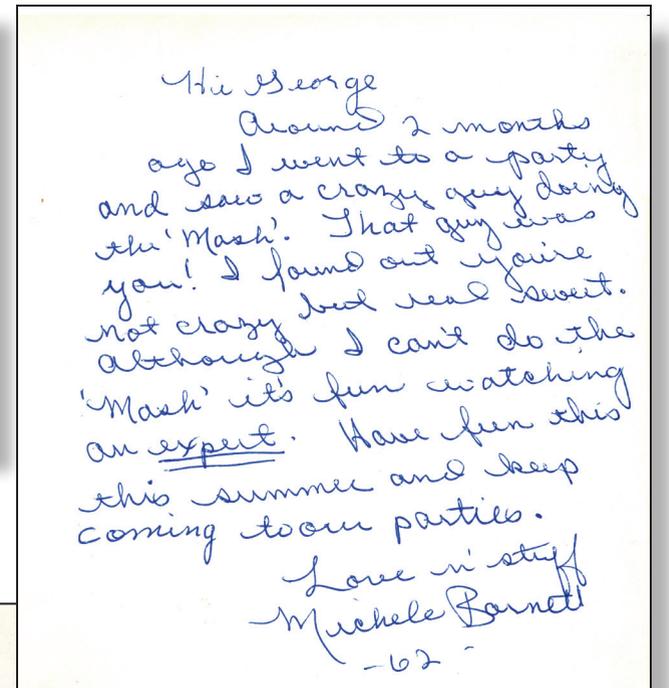
The 1962 Chevy 409 race model.



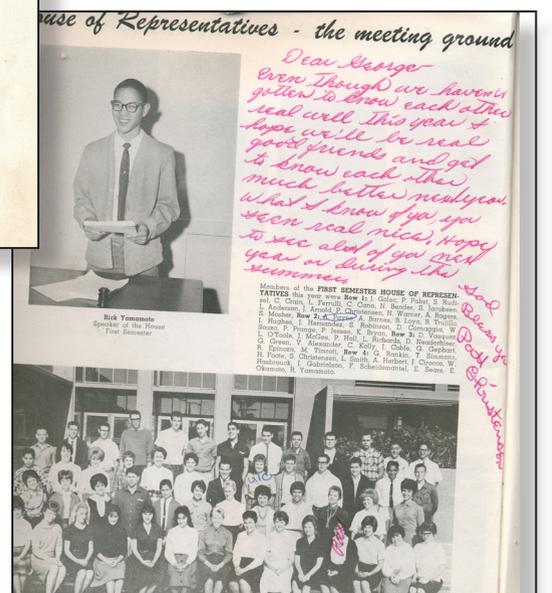
The third car he owned was a 1956 Ford Victoria which my parents purchased for \$250 dollars for me.



Fifteen and a half to take Drivers Training summer of 1962.



Three of the signed pages from my year-book. Michele Barnett who I liked, my friend Barbara Cole, who knew I wanted to date Michele and Pat that was from RHS that I like too.



We would make these types of surfboard fins in the woodshop. We would also make a complete surfboard by pouring our own foam blanks. We would cut the blanks lengthwise, install the wood stringer and fin on them before finishing it off with fiberglass cloth and Gel-coat.

My List of Top Thirty Songs for 1962

After looking at the top 100 songs for 1962, I picked thirty of them which I like best. These songs are listed below. The other songs in the top 100 are very good too and I liked most of them. Some sounds remind me of different events such as roller-skating. Songs such as "Norman" by Sue Thompson, "Let me in" by the Sensations, "Duke of Earl" by Gene Chandler, "Lover, Please", Clyde McPhatter were some of these songs that I like to skate to, motivated me to skate fast.

When we went to the beach, I remember these particular songs on the ride down and back. "Surf-in' Safari" by the Beach Boys, "Sherry" the Four Seasons, "Sheila" by Tommy Roe are a few of the songs. You have to remember at that time we only could get AM radio. When a group of us would go somewhere the driver would be paying attention to the road and the front passenger would be changing stations from KFWB to KRLA, the only stations we listen too.

Our social group of about twenty-five or thirty people from several different high schools held parties at each other's homes on Friday or Saturday nights a couple of times a month. Mike and I were in charge of keeping the 45 RPM records and bring them to the party. Some of those were, "Mashed Potato Time" by Dee Dee Sharp, "Smoky Places" the Corsairs, "Having A Party" Sam Cooke, "You Don't Know Me" Ray Charles and "Party Lights" by Claudine Clark, and others some fast some slow. We did a lot of dancing and I loved both types. I have to say I was the best dancer in the group. Michele Barnett wrote that I was a great dancer in my yearbook which is on the previous page.

Dee Dee Sharp - Mashed Potato Time.

Shelley Fabares - Johnny Angel.

Sensations - Let Me In.

Chubby Checker - The Twist.

Shirelles - Soldier Boy.

Bruce Channel - Hey! Baby.

Dion - The Wanderer.

Gene Chandler - Duke Of Earl.

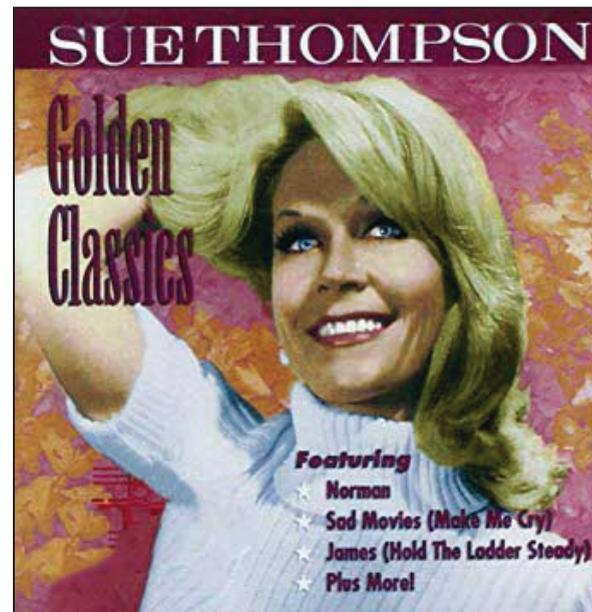
Freddy Cannon - Palisades Park.

Neil Sedaka - Breaking Up Is Hard To Do.

Chubby Checker - Slow Twistin'.

Elvis Presley - Good Luck Charm.

Tommy Roe - Sheila.



Sam Cooke - Twistin' The Night Away.

Orlons -Wah-Watusi.

Brian Hyland - Sealed With A Kiss.

Jay and The Americans - She Cried.

Gary U.S. Bonds - Dear Lady Twist.

Sue Thompson - Norman.

Ketty Lester - Love Letters.

Claudine Clark - Party Lights.

Isley Brothers - Twist And Shout.

Clyde McPhatter - Lover, Please.

Rick Nelson - Young World.

Shirelles - Baby It's You.

Ernie Maresca -Shout! Shout! (Knock Yourself Out).

Jan and Juan - What's Your Name.

Corsairs - Smoky Places.

Sam Cooke - Having A Party.

Ray Charles - You Don't Know Me.

Four Seasons - Sherry.

Joanie Sommers - Johnny Get Angry.

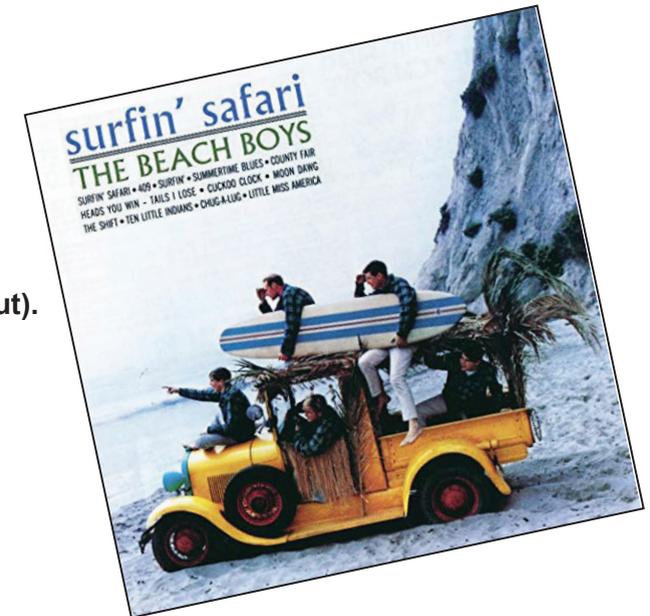
Elvis Presley - Can't Help Falling In Love.

Chris Montez - Let's Dance.

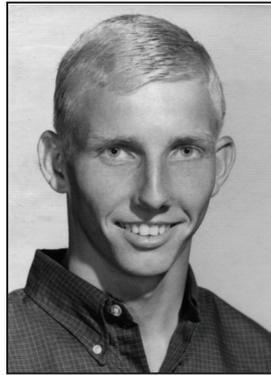
Johnny Crawford - Cindy's Birthday.

Ronnie and The Hi-lites - I Wish That We Were Married.

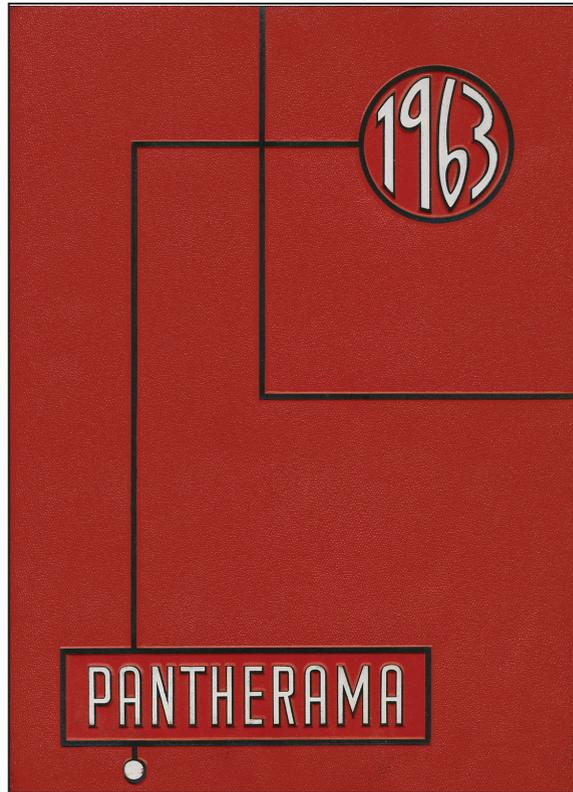
Beach Boys - Surfing' Safari.



1962 - 1963



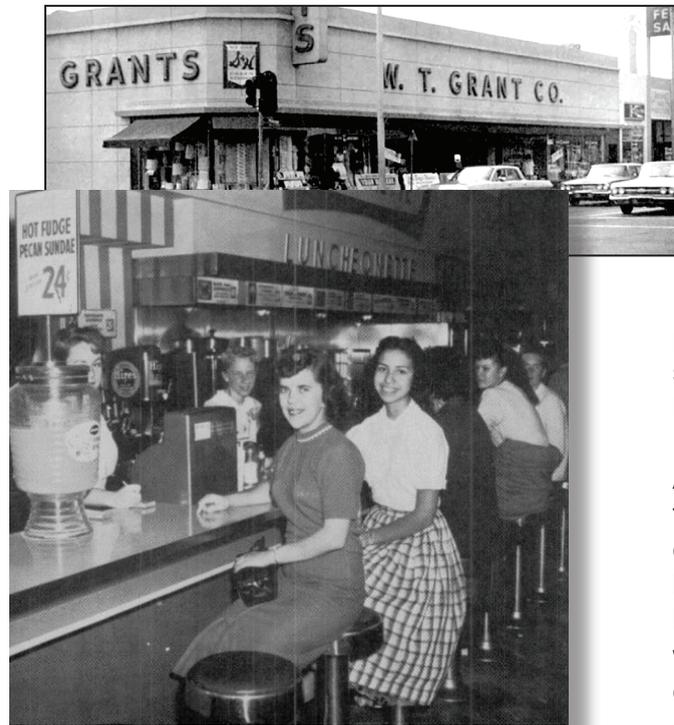
11th Grade Junior



py because I was driving by myself. I told them she is eighteen and they reminded me that taking her home wasn't the issue but returning was.

A short time later I got my license and I was set free. We went out a few times and she was a lot of fun to be around. Carol worked at W.T. Grant's located at 102.W Valley Blvd. at the corner of Valley Blvd and Tyler, in Old Town El Monte. She was a waitress behind the counter at their in-store diner. The reason I remember this is because of ending up there after I decided to see how long I could go without sleeping while on Christmas Vacation.

On the morning of the third day, I decided to stop in at her work and get some coffee. She was laughing at me for staying up that long and said aren't you tired? I said I was going home after this. As I was speaking with her my hands started shaking holding the coffee mug. My body was finally starting to shut down and I wasn't feeling very well all of a sudden. I told her I had to go home which was two miles away. I collapsed in bed and slept for sixteen hours. Never did that again even in the Army.



Carol Barns Story.

Not too much I remember about Carol Barns just that I met her through Mike Belciki and she came to some of our parties. Mike dated her for a very short period and that was around October of 1962. I would dance with her at the parties and hung out some. She was eighteen when I was not yet sixteen. I drove her home one night from a party at my house. Now being only fifteen and a half I had a learners permit I could not drive my car without an eighteen-year-old driver in the car. So when I got home my parents weren't too hap-

Garage Band in the Summer of 1963.

A friend of mine at Rosemead high invited me over to his buddy's house to hear their surf band play. After arriving we went out to the garage where they practiced. Not everyone showed up on time, but over the next half hour, everyone arrived except for the bass player. The band consisted of a drummer, lead guitar, Rhythm guitar, and bass guitar. Seems the bass player left word that he had quit the group. They went ahead and practiced without him, but it was lacking the sound. The bass plays a big part in any band especially a surf band.

As the evening went on they asked me if I played guitar? I said, no but always wanted to. They said, If you get a bass guitar we'll teach you all you need to know. I told them to let me see what I can do. The rehearsal ended, and I dropped off my friend back at his house and went home.

The next morning, I went into the house from my room in the back. I told my mother about the band and she wasn't overly excited but agreed to take me to the guitar shop. The guys recommended that I go to Johnny Thompson Music in Monterrey Park. It was established in 1959 and as of this writing in 2019 it is still in operation. I looked at the bass guitar selection and decided on a Red Fender Bass guitar and Amp, just like the one in the photo. At that time, they had a program to rent to buy, which we elected to do.

After arriving home, I plugged the guitar into the amp and started messing around with it. When I cranked up the amp it was so loud that the walls would vibrate, my poor neighbors. Because of that, I turned the volume to a bare minimum when I practiced at home. The amp was so large it was difficult getting it into the trunk of the car when I went over to the garage to practice. Weeks went on and I was making great progress playing the bass but was not as motivated I rather have played the lead guitar.

Now after a few months, the band started falling apart and that ended my playing with them. I kept the bass and practiced by myself in my



1963 Fender Guitar just like the one I had.

room. My birthday was coming up and my mother gave me an option. My parents would purchase the guitar or would give me the money to get part of my interior done in my car. I thought about it overnight and decided to give up the guitar and get a new custom interior for the 56 Ford. I have always loved music to this day and have owned a couple of guitars over the years.



There were numerous popular recording and touring artists that came to Johnny Thompson music center for various needs. As part of Concert One Stop, This is just a short list of artists.

Blood, Sweat and Tears, The Byrds (Roger McGuinn), Johnny Cash, Chicago (Peter Cetera), Credence Clearwater Revival, Donovan, Earth, Wind & Fire, Elvis Presley, The Four Tops, B.B. King, Led Zeppelin (Robert Plant & John Paul Jones), Kenny Loggins, Michael McDonald (Dobie Brothers, Soto), Jimmy Messina (Buffalo Springfield, Loggins & Messina), Moody Blues, Linda Ronstadt, Carlos Santana, Bob Sege, Steppenwolf, Sugarloaf, James Taylor, Mick Taylor (Rolling Stones, The Temptations, Three Dog Night, Tower of Power, Ike and Tina Turner, The Turtles (Johnny Barbata), and the Jackson 5.



Pandora's Box Hollywood

Pandora's Box Hollywood

I met this girl from Arcadia at the Shamrock roller-skating rink in San Gabriel one Saturday night. After a couple of weeks dancing with her, I asked her out. We went to Pandora's Box, a club in Hollywood off the Sunset Strip. I didn't know just what type of place it was just that it was supposed to be cool. Turns out it was a hippy type place that served espresso and had folk music, not my kind of place. My date wasn't much of a conversationalist and it was quite boring. After being there an hour or so we decided to leave, I took her home must have been around 10:30 or so and only had my driver's license for a few weeks.

My car was blocked in the parking lot without much room to maneuver. I cut it too close to another car bumper and put a foot-long crease in my rear quarter panel near the back bumper. That made me mad and I couldn't wait to get out of there. I made a left turn out of the parking lot and a cop car pulled in behind me. He turned on his lights and I pulled over. He walked up to the car and told me I had made an illegal left turn out of the parking lot and gave me a ticket. Wow, the date wasn't that great, didn't enjoy Pandora's Box, put a foot-long crease in my car and got a ticket. At that point, I just wanted to drive her back home and say goodnight. After arriving back at her home around midnight we parted. I wanted to drive up to Bob's Big Boy on Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena to see if some of my friends were out.

No luck for me that night and I drove from Pasadena back home. I was thinking about how I was going to break the news to dad. Imagine, this was only the second week of driving. In the morning I broke the news to him, and he was pretty upset. I had to go to traffic court with my mom and paid a fine. Six months later I received a racing ticket and I wasn't looking to have to face him again, but to my surprise, he didn't get mad but that's another story.

Right: During the school year of 63's cousin Ed and I would go to Taco Tio 8406 E. Los Tunas Drive San Gabriel about 5 minutes from school for lunch occasionally. I didn't go off campus too often because it was too much rushing around. I would walk home for lunch sometimes but mostly eat at the school's snack bar. Get my regular hamburger, fries and chocolate malt.

Cousin Ed's parking lot accident at school.

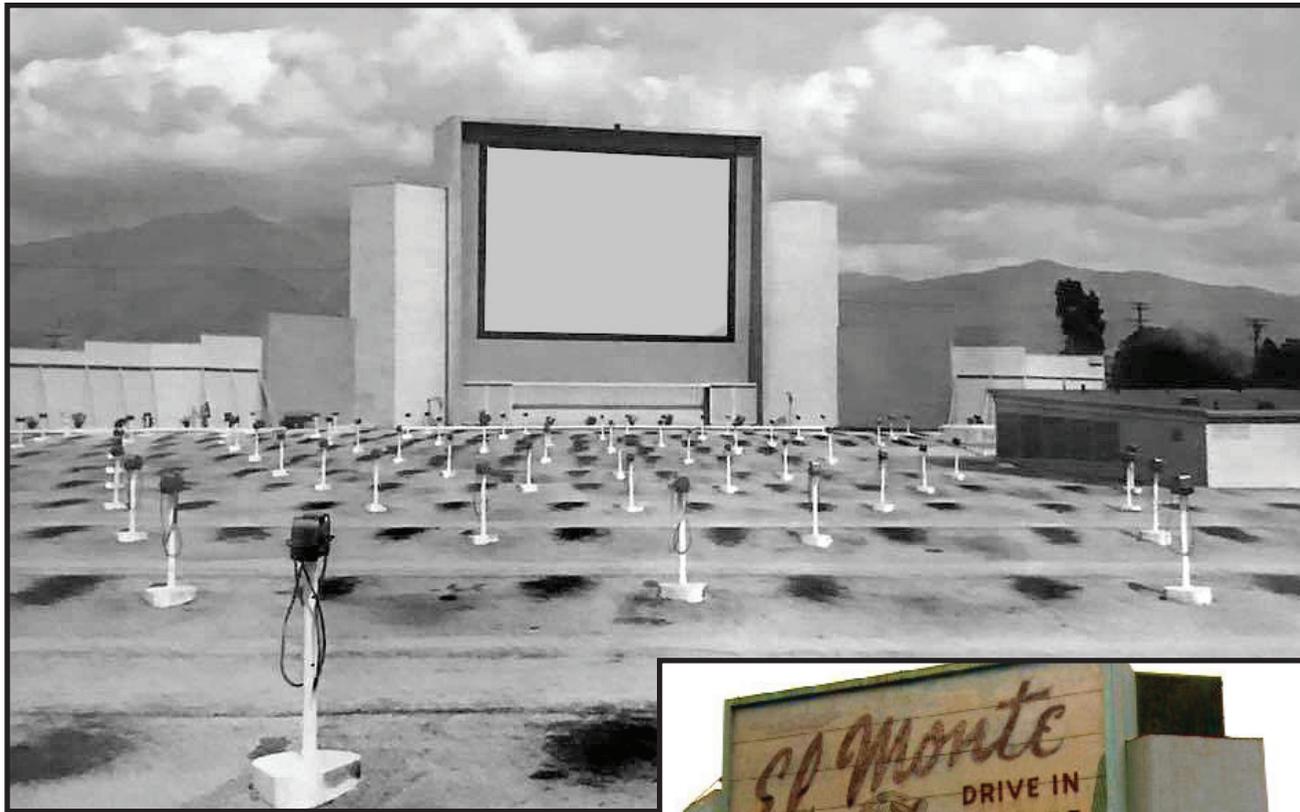
It was early Spring of 1963 that Ed's accident took place at the Rosemead Pool parking lot. The lot was located on the east side of the school. At that time, we could use the parking lot to park our cars during school hours. This one morning cousin Ed and I met up before school in the lot. I parked my car and Ed pulled up and parked his car not in the parking space but across several widths facing the street. I walked over to Ed's car then he got out and we stood next to the driver's side of his car and started talking.

In those days guys would cruise around in front of the school showing off their cars and checking out the girls who were walking to school. A few minutes before the start of school they would pull in and park their cars. One of our classmates had a 1940 Ford coupe hot rod. We saw him pulling in the lot and he went to the end of the lot and made a U-turn, then headed back to where we were. He was racing his engine and was going to pull up behind Ed and didn't slow down. As Ed and I were watching him he plowed into the back of Ed's car putting a huge vee-shaped dent in the trunk lid. Ed watched in horror as he remembered he forgot to put on his parking brake and his car started accelerating forward from the hit. Ed ran to catch his car, jumped in and but on the brake.

Getting out of the car Ed made his way back to where I was and was pretty mad. The guy in the other car signaled us to come over to his car. We approached it and he pointed down to his floorboard and his foot was pressed against the floor. The brakes failed as he tried to stop. Ed wasn't very happy but understood it wasn't intentional and I'm not sure now how it was handled between Ed and the other guy. I remember the look on Ed's face as this was happening, he was shocked, mad, understanding and finally depressed. Later we put a new trunk lid on his car and did the bodywork before he had the car repainted.

Ed painted his car with a popular color at the time, olive drab. His car was a 1957 Plymouth four-door sedan. A year later when we went into the Army, I would kid him that he must have had foresight with the color. The Army would paint all their vehicles olive drab and the cars were four-door sedans. That always seemed a sore spot when I would bring that up when we were in the service.





El Monte Drive-in

The El monte Drive-in was located at the southeast corner of Lower Azusa Road and Allis Lane where Home Depot is now located. It opened on July 2, 1948 around the time we mover from Alhambra to Rosemead around 1948.

I remember going there with my family from the time that I was very young. Families at that time, kids of the Baby Boomer generation were growing up in the new housing areas around the drive-in and young families for their entertainment would go there. The kids would play on the playground equipment at the base of the screen and five minutes before the starting of the movie the theater would flash the lights at the top of the screen to single the kids and parents to go back to the cars.

We would love going to the snack bar at intermission which was between movies. In those days they would play the main movie to start with then the second film a less popular movie. When we got tired, we would just fall asleep in the back seat while our parents would watch the rest of the film.

By the 1960s now teenagers we would go with friends or dates on Friday or Saturday nights to the drive-in. Just like in the movie "Grease" a few times when the guys would all go, we would put a couple of the guys in the trunk of the car until we got in. Later they changed things and charged you by carload which took away all the fun of trying to beat the system. The best example of how it was in those days is in the movie "Grease". It was a "blast" as they said back then being with your girlfriend or a date watching movies in your car. It gave you a chance to talk and do a little privacy smooching.



Rosemead Bowl

The Rosemead Bowl was built when I was in middle school around 1959. It's long gone but the building is still there on Valley Blvd. It's just west a few hundred feet of Merwin C Gill Way directly across from the Quality Inn. My guess is that no one today has a clue that the building was a bowling alley. It was a state of the art, 32 lane Brunswick bowling alley. We had a lot of fun times there bowling after school and in the evenings. One time during my sophomore high school year we ditched classes after lunch and went bowling. Carol Barns went with us and wrote a note for me to get back in school the next day.

Montrose Dairy
9850 Lower Azusa Rd, El Monte, CA 91731

(626) 448-5581



Above: Actual Rosemead bowling pin for making a 200 game.

Below: Match book cover from the Rosemead bowl.



Montrose Dairy

Located on Lower Azusa just east of the Home Depot we would either pick up our milk or sometime have it delivered. I tried to make sure mom would occasionally include a quart of chocolate milk. In those days the dairy had the milk cows at the location and processing plant. The milk was be best tasting. I remember taking a tour of the plant when I was in Cub Scouts.

House of the Blue Mist.

The House of the Blue Mist was located on the road between Whittier and Hacienda Heights on Turnbull Canyon Road. Here is the background of the area taken from the Haunted LA blog which will fill you in on the area before you read my story. We never saw the house itself but that's what it was called at the time which intrigued us to go up there.

It all started with the Native American tribe, the Gabrielino Indians. They believed that the land was forbidden ground and called it "Hutukngna", which means "The Dark Place" or even, "The Place of The Devil." Apparently, these were battlegrounds for Native American Wars. They were forced to change into Catholicism by the Spanish. Back then, the Spanish killed anybody that didn't convert to Catholicism. These events may have happened at Turnbull Canyon and could be one of the many reasons for the Canyon's hauntings. Some people have said that they have heard war drums in the Canyon. Other people believe that these spirits have returned to their sacred ground

to find peace.

In 1845, two men became historic figures in the canyon's history. John Rowland and William Workman. They immigrated from Taos, New Mexico, where they ran a fur-trapping business. Workman had helped Governor Pio Pico, to get rid of another governor who was disliked. In return, 49,000 acres of land were given to Workman and Rowland. The Gabrielino Indians didn't like Workman and constantly invaded his property. This caused him to dig an underground living space for his family's protection. Later, the Indians actually worked for him. During this time, Indians reported seeing witches and ghosts. Unfortunately, Workman was involved in a plot to illegally take over the governor's spot. The same one who gave him his land. As a result, karma caught up to him. He lost most of his 49,000 acres and was left with Turnbull Canyon. This all led to a financial downfall, followed by Workman shooting himself in 1876.

During the Great Depression, the Canyon started to be used for the strange satanic activity. Many

families during this era had to give their children up to orphanages. There was a cult that would adopt the children from these orphanages and slaughter them in the canyon. They eventually started kidnapping children. Then, the cult mysteriously vanished. People that have been to Turnbull Canyon at night, have seen hooded figures roaming on the trails. Some people have seen bonfires in the canyons, as well. Witnesses have reported seeing ghosts of children. These are probably the victims used in the rituals.

In the 1930s there was a mental hospital located in the canyon somewhere. It had a good run until the 1940's when it burned down. In 1962, a group of friends that were partying in the ruins of the hospital one night got spooked. One of the boys saw one of the electroshock devices that were used when the hospital was active. He picked it up and was electrocuted. The voltage was strong enough to kill him. Apparently, the electricity had been shut off since the fires that happened 20 years earlier.

The most notable incident that happened here, was in 2002. A girl named Gloria Gaxiola was murdered on Turnbull Canyon Road. She was shot to death and dragged 4 miles down Turnbull Canyon Rd. Thankfully, the police found the killers and are now serving justice. Other incidents of Turnbull Canyon are a plane crash that happened in the 1950s, and a hanging tree. The plane crashed in the canyon. 29 victims were on the plane. What's scary is that it's rumored that there were 21 children in this plane crash. It's as if the spirits that were conjured up by the Satanists caused this to happen. The hanging tree is given that name due to a man that was hanged at that tree. Witnesses have said that you see this man hanging from the tree, at the time of when his death happened (Uncertain of the time as of now.)

So, begins my story. After going roller skating one Saturday evening and as we were driving home from Whittier and Skateland, we were talking about scary places. In the car, there was Jim Besley who was driving, my cousin Ed who lived down the street from Jim, Ed, Mike Bilec-

ki, Lou Montante, Roger Le Nue and myself all crammed into the front and back seat of this 1954 Plymouth 2 door coupe. Someone told the story about this house in Turnbull Canyon called the House of the Blue Mist. Reportedly at night when the moon was out, you could see blue fog on the ground around this house that sat on a hill. People reported seeing dark hooded figures walking around. That story scared the heck out of me, and someone said they knew where the canyon was located.

We decided to look for ourselves and drove up to Beverly Boulevard to Turnbull Canyon. We entered the canyon from the City of Whittier side. The road took you over the Whittier Hills through the canyon for 5 miles then dropped you off in the city of Hacienda Heights. The canyon was very windy with sharp hairpin curves with a single lane each way.

As we approached the top of the hill we were unable to locate the house. We were spooked just the same with it being late at night, cold and a little foggy. As we were continuing down the other side when a car came up from behind us and tailgated us for a while. We told Jim to let him go by and the car full of guys sped around us and down the hill. Then a second car came upon us and this time he drove next to us and a shot rang out and something hit the hood or our car. The car kept going and disappeared. We were now in a panic and everyone was talking and telling Jim where to go and how to drive. We approached a sharp corner that you couldn't see around. I said to Jim, slow up we don't know if they may be waiting for us on the other side. We didn't see any headlights or taillights going down the hill in front of us.

As we were almost at a stop and creeping around the corner the two cars came into view. They had blocked the road pointing the cars in our direction. Everyone was yelling stop back up and as soon as we noticed them several of them started running towards our car. Jim tried to put the car in reverse, it was a stick shift car, and he accidentally put it in second gear and the car moved closer to them. Finally, he got it in reverse and popped the clutch. Backing up the hill, we started to go



Turnbull Canyon Road.



Nighttime view of the House of the Blue Mist. Weird fog on the right side.

slowly because of the corner, and he couldn't see out the back window. The guys that were chasing us were starting to gain on us and we said to step on it! Suddenly, the guy was about 10 feet from the car with a broken beer bottle in his hand running towards us, then fell down. They couldn't keep up with us now and they turned around and ran back towards their cars. As we saw this we told Jim to turn around and get out of here. As he was backing up with the fogged windows and poor visibility Jim had a hard time not running off the side of the cliff.

As we got turned around, we headed back up and over the other side and not knowing how far they were behind us we started looking for a place to hide or get help. Suddenly, we saw this driveway that went downhill for a hundred feet but couldn't see anything else. Jim cranked the wheel and down the driveway, we went. As we got to the bottom there was a house down there to the left. We came to a quick stop and everyone was trying to get out of the car at the same time. As soon as we got out of the car we ran up to the door and started knocking and ringing the doorbell. Just as we thought no one was going to answer a man

came to the door. We told him we needed to call the police. I don't know if I would have let 6 guys into my house if I were him, but he did. We call the police and waited for 30 minutes or so, but no one ever showed up. We just got back into the car and headed home somewhat apprehensive. That was the last time I went to that canyon for a long time especially at night.



Daytime view at the gates of the house.

Golden Rule Discount Store

Golden Rule was a membership discount store like Costco is today. It was located at 9521 E. Valley Blvd. about a quarter-mile east of my home. Not sure how I got the job anymore but my guess is that either my cousin Ed or Price Stone suggested I go down there to apply. Many of my high school friends got jobs there when it first opened.

Mike Bilecki worked in a couple of different departments while he was there. One was the liquor department and the other was automotive. He was eighteen, so he could work in the liquor department but couldn't ring up the sales, you had to be twenty-one. Ed, Price and I worked as box boys in the grocery department. Other kids from my high school worked there too but I didn't have any interactions with them at school or work. One guy that Ed and I met working there was Jack Nakomoto an American Korean kid who liked fast cars as Ed and I did. We all became good friends.

I didn't like working there but it was a job. We had to belong to the Retail Clerks Union to work there so we became union members. I remember one day as I was packing groceries my hand slipped when I was boxing some bleach and dropped it on the floor and it broke open. What a mess and smell, the manager was not happy.

On another day it was raining hard and the manager told me to go out and gather the shopping carts in the lot and bring them into the store. I was completely drenched from head to foot. I took a quick break and stepped inside the phone booth outside to get out of the rain for a few seconds. The manager saw me there and came out and raised hell with me. At that time, I knew I didn't want to work there much longer.

Since we all worked after school we had to work until closing at 9 PM. For Ed and I, we gathered up all the shopping carts in the lot and had to push them by hand in long lines behind the store before we could go home. This was a job in itself. We devised a quick way of pushing the carts by having one of us standing on the side of the front cart while the other guy would drive his car

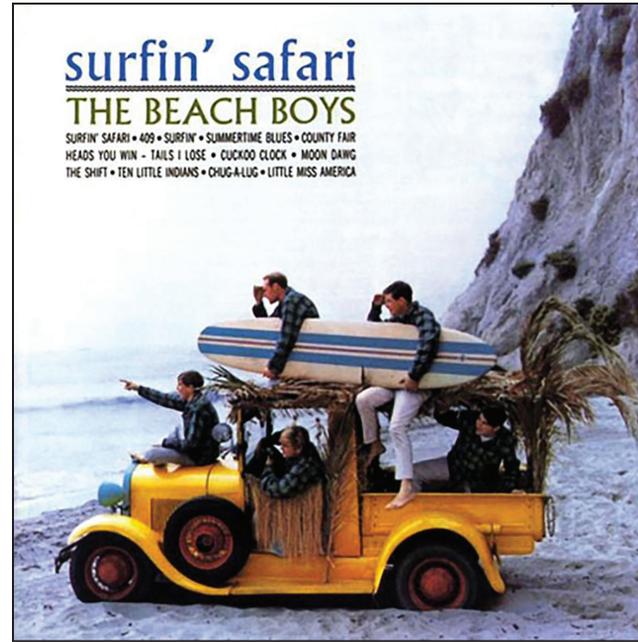
Ad from Golden Rule Department Store.

and push them from the rear.

I was pushing the carts one night with Ed steering them from the front, as we rounded the corner at the back of the store we came face to face with another car. The car was driving on the dead-end street in the opposite direction heading towards us. His headlights blinded me for a second and I couldn't see where I was going. Edd headed the carts towards the back of the carts already stored in a line. I couldn't stop fast enough, and the carts came to an abrupt stop with me hitting them which bent my front bumper. After that, we went home. The next afternoon after getting to the store the manager was really upset and asked what happen and we told him the story. He said it was our job to go back there and get the carts unjammed from each other. It took a while, but we got all of them unhooked but two that were twisted and jammed together so tight that they were no longer usable. A couple of weeks later I decided I had enough and quit.

Beach Boys Shamrock Roller Rink

On Friday, March 8, 1963, Mike Bilecki, cousin Ed and I drove up to the Shamrock Roller Rink in San Gabriel where Louie Montante met us. My sister Cathy and her friends also decided to go there that night. Like always we skated and had a great time then after the skating session was over we went to the sock hop knowing that the Beach Boys were going to be there that night. It wasn't unusual that music groups would play at roller rinks. Like in the film *The Buddy Holly Story* they showed him performing at a roller rink. I saw groups like the Standall's, Ike and Tina Turner, The Rivingtons, Sonny and Cher, Jan & Dean, the Beach Boys plus many other groups there. Not a bad lineup for the Shamrock Roller Rink in 1963 and 64.



I remember dancing right in front of the Beach Boys who performed right on the skating rink floor in front of us. It was cool Looking over at them playing as I was doing the surfers stomp dance. After the dance, I left with Mike and Ed to cruise Bob's Big Boy in Pasadena on Colorado Blvd. My sister, her friend and Louie decided to hang around until after the rink closed. The Beach Boys were loading their instruments and Cathy and Louie started up a conversation with them and they decided to hang around town for a while so they all jumped in the cab and bed of the truck and went cruising for a while. When I asked my sister about it she confirms the story but doesn't remember much about where they cruise to but did tell me it was only for about a half-hour or so.

TEEN AGE FUN
AT THE
Shamrock Roller Rink

ROLLER SKATING NIGHTLY EXCEPT MONDAY
Special Rates to Groups!! New Fun-d Raising Plan!!
Every Saturday Nite Features Skating from 7:30-10:00 and
SOCK HOP from 10:00-12:00 with LIVE MUSIC
NO JEANS OR LEVIS PERMITTED AT NIGHT

Shamrock Roller Rink
136 S. SAN GABRIEL BLVD. — ATLantic 7-8472



The Beach Boys played at The Shamrock Roller Rink. It was great dancing at the sock-hop after skating. I remember looking over at them just a few feet away doing the surfer stomp dance.

CONGRATULATIONS from

SHAMROCK ROLLER RINK



The way it looked at Bob's Big Boy Drive-In on Colorado boulevard, Pasadena 1963. You are looking towards Colorado Boulevard with the San Gabriel Mountains in the background.

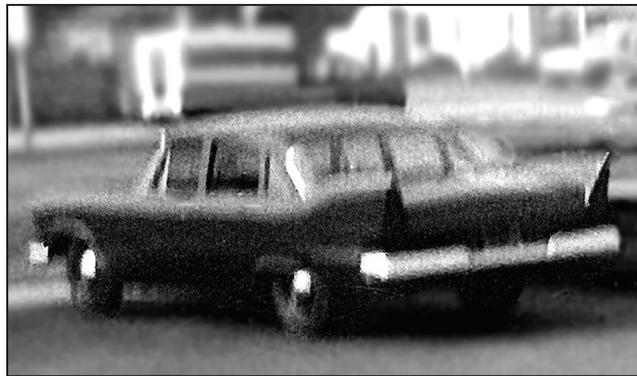


I entered my black 1956 Ford hardtop in the spring RHS car show. It's the 3rd car from the Left. I'm standing next to it just above where the windshield is. We also brought over our 1931 Ford 5 window coupe as shown on the next page. We had the engine it by then and it had a coat of primer on it.

Newport Beach - Balboa - Arrested.

Newport Beach 1963 Easter vacation, which is now called Spring Break. On Friday evening April 5th to Sunday, April 14 was Easter week in 1963. There were a lot of activities going on the entire week especially down at Newport Beach in those days. My close friend Dan Wark and his family moved down to Balboa Island back in the summer of 1962. Mike Bilecki, my cousin Ed and I were going to spend a few days surfing up and down the Southern Orange County beaches from San Clemente to Huntington Beach for a few days. My parents were OK with that if we stayed at Dan's house on the island for the nights.

We decided to take my cousins 1957 Plymouth four-door because it had a lot of room for our stuff. We had taken out the back-seat cushion, so we could get the surfboard in through the trunk and into the back-seat area. In those days the surfboards that we were using were what they called long-boards and were around eight feet long. Even with the backseat taken out, the board stuck out the back of the car. We had to tie down the trunk lid to the surfboard, so we could see out the back window.



Ed's 1957 Plymouth Sedan.

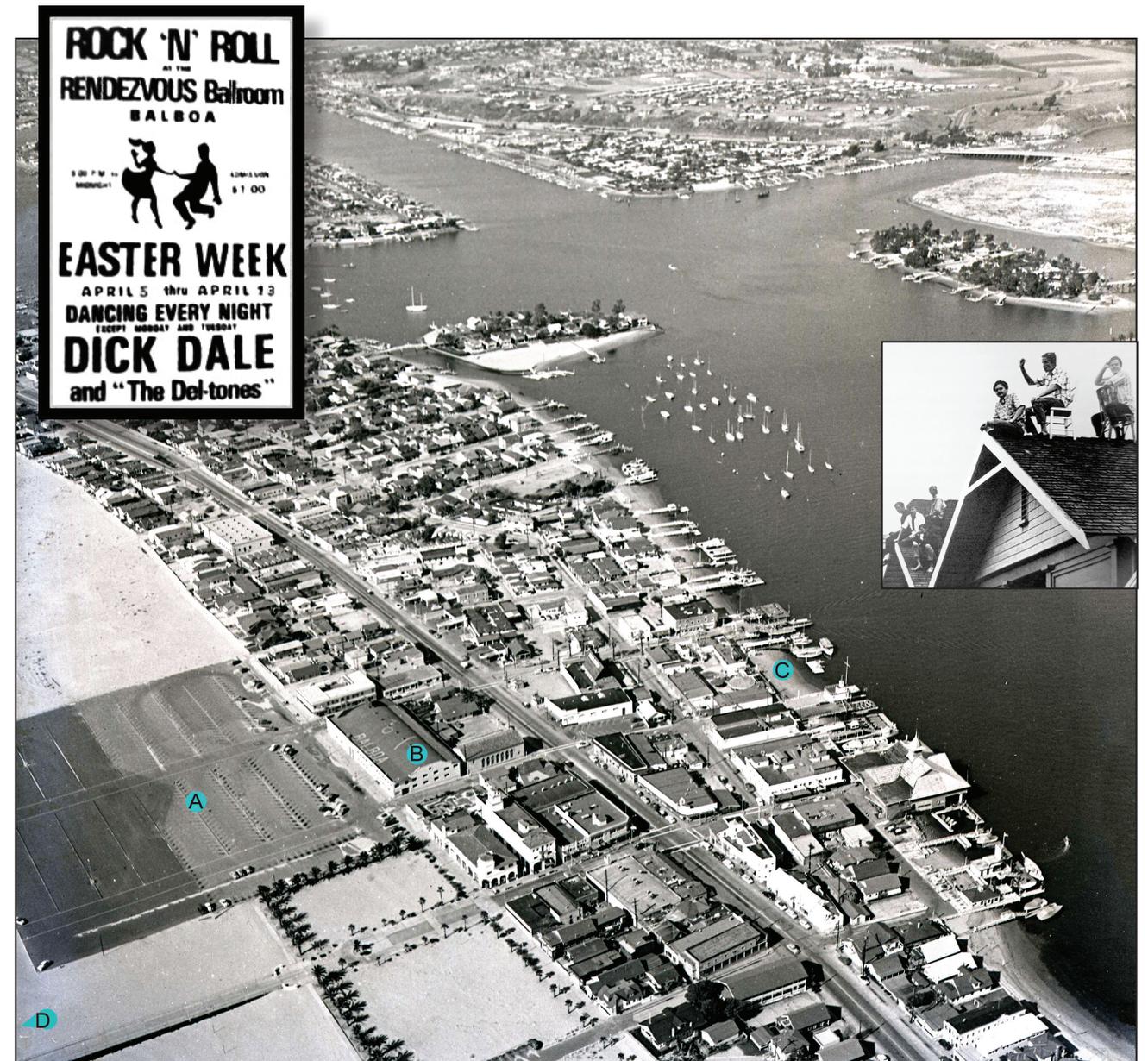
I was sixteen at the time my cousin was seventeen and Mike had just turned eighteen. We headed down to the beach very early Saturday morning all excited to start our surfing adventure. We spent that day surfing mostly at Newport and the jetty and ended up at the Balboa pier which was near the Balboa fun zone. We pulled into the

parking lot on the north side of the pier and got out. We decided to do a little body surfing next to the pier and had to make sure no one took our board, so we pushed it all the way in over the front seat and closed the trunk. We then went down and body-surfed until we were totally expended and it started getting dark.

We then made our way to the fun zone just after dark and played the games and grabbed something to eat. As always, our favorite was to go to the Balboa bakery and get a chocolate éclair for dessert. Now somewhere around 10 pm, we thought we should get back to the car and drive over to Dan's house. After reaching the car we were just too tired to pull out the surfboard and re-pack everything. Just the night before the Beach Boys were playing at the Rendezvous Ballroom there in Balboa. The Rendezvous use the same parking lot as we were in. I think Dick Dale and the Deltones were playing that night but in any case, the lot was full of cars, so we thought we would just sleep in the car, who would have noticed anyway with that many cars in the lot.

Mike climbed into the trunk area although cramped and a little warm it was opened to the rear seat area anyway. I slept on the rear seat and Ed slept on the front seat. I was out to the world and didn't hear anything going around us as the other cars started pulling out sometime after midnight. Mike at some point said that it was hot in the trunk to crack a window. Ed half asleep rolled down the window about two or three inches, not just cracking the window. A while later we heard a voice outside the car saying, "Police, come on and get out of the car!" I was still trying to figure out what was going on being half asleep. Ed and I opened the doors and got out on the passenger side of the car. They took us to the police car a few feet away then all of a sudden Mike opened the trunk from the inside and the trunk popped up and startled the cops. They didn't expect to see Mike and I think they were not too happy being surprised.

Mike was eighteen and was written a ticket for vagrancy. As for us we were under aged and were told to stand next to the police car. Inadvertently we locked the doors when we got out and Ed had



A. The parking lot where our car was. B. Rendezvous Location. C. Fun Zone D. Beach.

left the keys in the car. Standing their Mike had no way of leaving so Ed told him to break the small side front vent window on the passenger side of the car. The officers opened the back door of the police car and we got in. After the door closed we saw Mike do a karate sidekick to the window and bent the window frame that the glass was held in. Ed was pretty upset but it did pop open. Mike went and got some coffee somewhere and we didn't see him until the afternoon.

In the meantime, we drove around with the cops looking for other guys sleeping in their cars. It was kind of a kick watching them get another group

of guys up. Must have been a very busy night because they called a police transport van and transferred us into it along with six other guys, then drove us to the Newport Police Station. Once there they checked our ID's and we had to fill out some paperwork along with our address and phone numbers. We were taken to a large holding room where over thirty other guys were waiting for the same thing. In another room was a bunch of girls also waiting too.

Now about 4:30 AM they started calling our parents. A Sargent was sitting at a desk in the front with a phone and a bunch of forms that we had

filled out. I remember when they got to my name, they called my house and my mother answered the phone. The Sargent said, "Mrs. Helmer this is the Newport Police Station your sons being held here please come down and pick him up." I was thinking great; boy is my dad going to be mad getting him up at 4:30 on a Sunday morning. For some reason. I didn't hear my cousin Ed's name called or maybe I just was so preoccupied I didn't hear it. Ed on the other hand didn't mention if he heard his phone call or not. About 6:30 am my family showed up to get me released. No fine or anything else just released me to them. To my surprise they were not mad, and we drove to a small restaurant and had breakfast. Afterwards I asked my dad to call Ed's parents to see if they were at home or left already to pick up Ed.

My dad's brother Floyd answered the phone and dad spoke to him for a while. Apparently, they never received a call from the police thinking Ed and I were brothers and my dad would pick both of us up. We drove back over to the police station and my dad got Ed to be released to him. Unfortunately for Ed, he was among the last couple of guys left and they moved them into a cell. Ed was happy to be out of there; he thought his parents were going to leave him in jail. Mike Bilecki had also driven to the police station and we all met up again. I asked my parents if we could stay down there another day and they said as



Balboa Fun Zone in the late 50s.



Big Day at Balboa Pier body surfing.

long as we spend the night at Dan Wark's house on Balboa Island.



On the left corner is where the original Balboa Bakery was located. We would get these giant chocolate éclairs there. This photo was taken by judging the cars in the photo was from around 1963..

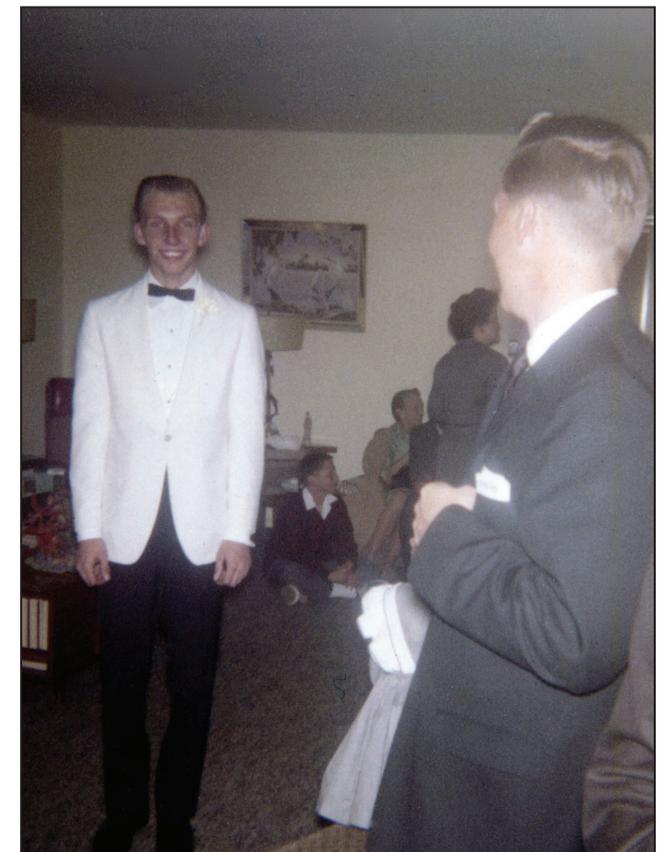
Cousin Jim's Wedding.

My cousin James (Jim) Rutz was 4 years older than me. His mom and dad were Roy and Jewel Rutz who owned the Sportsman's Lodge in Bullhead City Arizona. I like Jim and he was always fun to be around. A short story about Jim when he was going to get married. Not sure of the details but Jim met Yvette M Badegas and they were to be married in El Monte on March 16, 1963. Jim asked me along with my cousin Dick to be ushers at his wedding. I had to get a tuxedo which was the first time I wore one.

I was to be at the church a little early to greet the guests. I felt so cool that I decided to go by Carol Barns work at Thrifty Drug Store where she worked as a counter waitress. I walked in looking like James Bond as 007. I talked with Carol for a while then noticed I was late to the church. Everyone was waiting for me and I got there about fifteen minutes late but before all the guests were seated. It was kind of embarrassing being late but I made it through then after the wedding, we went to the reception at Yvette's family's home in El Monte.



Jim & Yvette to the left my youngest cousin Lance.



Cousin Dick Young and me with my tux on.



Above: The Thrifty's in El Monte at that time.

Fight at Henry's Drive-in Summer 1963

In the Summer of 1963, Louie was driving a 1948 DeSoto four-door sedan that was built like a tank. One Saturday night Louie, Cousin Ed, Mike Bilecki, Roger LeNoue, and I were cruising around in Louie's car. We drove around, then decided to go to Henry's Drive-in. It was located on Valley Boulevard just west of Garfield Boulevard on the North side of the street. We were cruising through the parking lot and on the way out went through the alley behind Henry's. A car was traveling in the opposite direction and heading towards us. There was room for both cars to get by each other but the other car wouldn't move to one side to let us by but wanted to be in the center and make us back up.

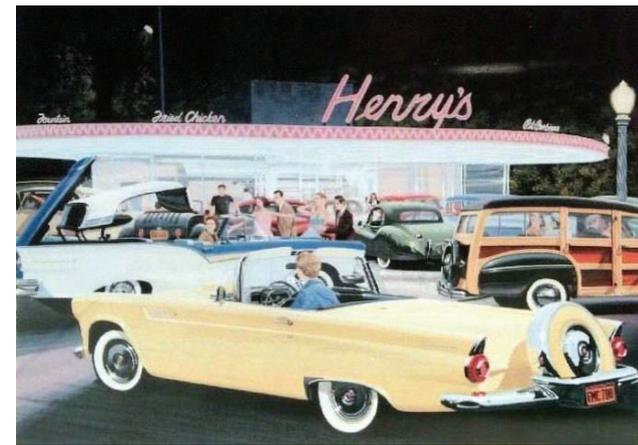
When we didn't back up the guys in the other car started piling out their car and running towards ours. Someone said to wind up the windows. But the guys were already there before we had a chance to do much of anything. Mike and I just got off work at Golden Rule Discount Store and still had our box cutters on us. I was sitting in the middle of the back-seat Mike to my Left and Ed on my right. One of the bad guys tried to open the door lock button on the windowsill. Mike took a swipe at him with the box cutter and the guy jumped back. Louie was in the driver's seat and was being punched through his open window. We were all saying back up, back up. Louie was too busy with the guy hitting him, so Roger slid over in the seat grabbed the gear shift jammed it in reverse and hit the gas.

The car moved backward quickly with the one guy still holding on to Louie and Roger tried to steer the car looking back. At that point, we were all looking back and told Roger to turn left. He cranked the wheel and the guy holding Louie fell off. Suddenly, we hit the front side of a parked car in Henry's parking lot and came to an abrupt stop. It demolished the front wheel and fender of this 1954 Chevy. Funny thing was that Louie's car as I was saying was built like a tank with these huge bumpers. A small scratch on part of his bumper was all that happened to his car. The police were called, and we all had to give statements on the

accident. Afterward, we decided to call it a night and go home. We found out later that the car that we hit belonged to one of the guys in the other car. Strange how justice was served.



1948 DeSoto Sedan.



Henry's Alhambra, California.

Drag Racing Ticket Summer 1963

After the accident at Henry's Drive-in Louie decided to go out and purchase another car. One evening during the Summer after the accident I was sitting in our den with the family watching television when we heard a knock at the back door. My mother answered it and Louie was standing there. He came in all excited and said that he bought a new 1963 Pontiac Lemans. We all talked for a while then he asked me if I wanted to go with him on a test drive. I said sure and off we headed to his car that was parked in our driveway.

I had a pair of walking shorts with no tee-shirt, shoes or socks on. As we approached his light



1963 Pontiac Tempas Lemans.

blue car he asked if I like to drive it. I was hesitant but I said sure, love to. We pulled out on the street and headed to Valley Boulevard and headed towards Henry's Drive-in. It was great driving a new car the first I ever drove with the new car smell and everything working. We got to Henry's and cruised around some and was heading west on Valley when a Red 1956 Pontiac pulled up on the left side of us. We were sitting at the light and he revved up his engine. Being in Louie's new car I wasn't about to take the bait and race him. Louie looked over at me and said go ahead and race him. I really didn't want to do it but since Louie said go ahead, I was all in. The signal turned green and here we were racing between signals now. About the third of fourth light, a police car pulled up at the signal blocking us from going forward.

The police officer looked at us and pointed towards the curb. The 56 Pontiac pulled over behind us and the cop walked up to his car to start with. I rolled down my side window leaned out a little and looked back at the cop as he was talking with the other guy and I said, "Officer how fast was I going?" Trying to set it up for a speeding ticket not racing. He looked at me and said, "150 miles an hour". Knowing that was impossible I turned back to Louie and said I'm screwed. He walked up to the car and wrote me a ticket for, "Engaged in speed contest" (Racing).

Louie drove back home and I was pretty quiet all the way. Thinking that six months earlier my dad had a fit when I got a left-hand turn ticket and now

what would his reaction be when I tell him about the racing ticket. We arrived at the house and Louie dropped me off and I walked into the den where everyone was still watching television. My parents asked how the ride was? Not sure what I should say I said, "memorable". Thinking to myself, I was sitting here an hour ago minding my own business in my walking shorts relaxing and now an hour later I had a racing ticket, wow.

Not wanting to tell dad right away I asked mom if I could speak with her in the kitchen. I explain what happened and she said that I was going to have to tell dad. Not sure what I said anymore but I must have had a compelling enough story. He was upset but not as mad as the left-hand turn ticket I got. A couple of weeks later I had to go to the El Monte Court and see the judge. At that time, you would see a judge in a courtroom but without many other people around.

The Judge looked at my name and said, "Do you know Ed Helmer?" "Yes judge, Ed is my cousin." He said 30 day's suspended license and twenty-five dollars. Later I found out that Ed had the judge earlier that day for a speeding ticket and he also received a suspended driver's license for 30 days.



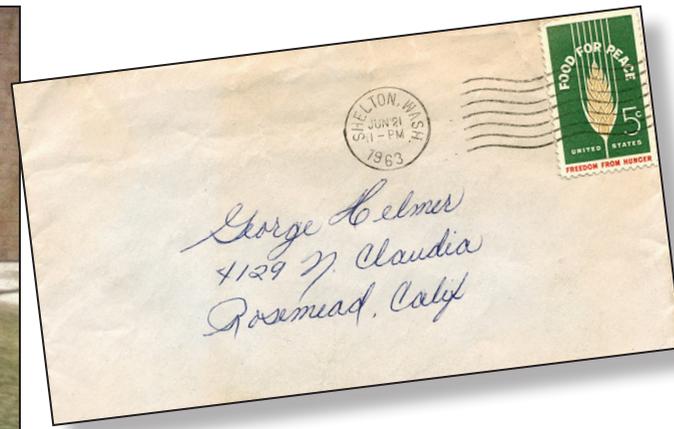
1956 Pontiac.



I'm with Dawn in my back yard getting some sun. The photo was from September 1965.

Dawn Simpson 1963.

I first met Dawn Simpson over at Lois Siterlet's house, Lois was my cousin Ed's next-door neighbor. Lois went to San Gabriel Mission High School and was a songleader along with Dawn. I asked Dawn out a short time later and we dated until about late fall. We went to Balboa and the beach along with playing a lot of tennis. We played at Costa Mesa High School, Balboa, and at a park in Pasadena just off South Marengo St. Within two years or so she moved many times because she was not living with her family. In fact, her parents were divorced, and she only would visit her dad. She said her mother had a drinking problem. As I said when I first met her, she was living at Lois's house for a while. She then moved to live with her dad on Rosemead Blvd. in the city of Pico Rivera. Next, she moved to San Gabriel just north of E. Los Tunas Dr. on Willard Ave. in an apartment on the right side. The last time I saw her she was when she was living up by Pasadena City College, which was in 1967 I believe. I really liked her, but she was very unsettled and looking for something I couldn't give her which was a sense of stability and security. I would see her from time to time over the years. She went on



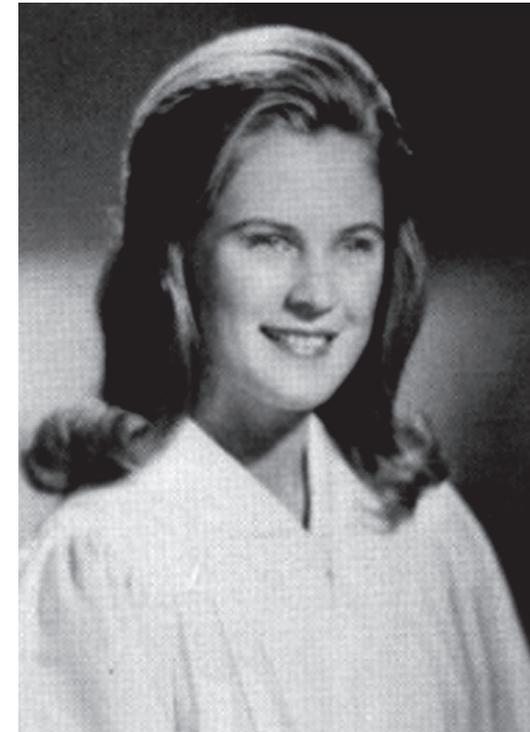
June 21, 1963

Dear George,

Well you don't know how happy I was to hear from you. I sure am home sick. But I'm having a real nice time. The country up here is just rough it out in the back woods. It's so nice I got here I've been going places and meeting people but I'm still so homesick I could die. I've never been on a vacation and I've never had a chance to be homesick but I sure am now. Oh well!! I guess I'll get over it.

How's summer school? I bet it's hard. Got anymore jobs painting? Is Duluckstein back yet? That trip to Singland really sounds like fun. Tell I have to run. See you soon and please write.

Love + Stuff
Dawn

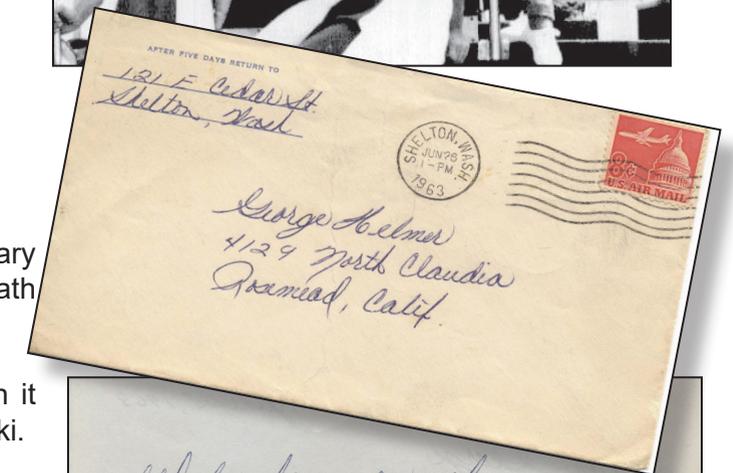


and graduated with a master's degree in library science from USC. She died a very tragic death in 2006 by suicide, makes me so sad now.

In Dawn's letter she spoke about Bileckistein it was a nickname given to my friend Mike Bilecki.

At that time, I mowed lawns on Saturday morning for going out on the weekend cash. One group of jobs was on Danberry St. in Temple City. My mother had a lady friend Lilian Perollie on the street who recommended me to her neighbors. I had five houses with small yards which I could do in three hours and make twenty-five dollars. Funny thinking back now I remember that I would put the gas-powered lawnmower in the trunk of my 1956 Ford to get it over there.

I told my dad one day what I made on those houses during that time he was bringing home around a hundred and seventy-five dollars for the week. I think he started to think he should mow lawns instead of working the job he had. I also had house painting jobs, some inside work, and some outside. This too gave me extra money to buy things. I did these mostly during the summer months when I had more time being off from school.



I'll be home on the
3rd

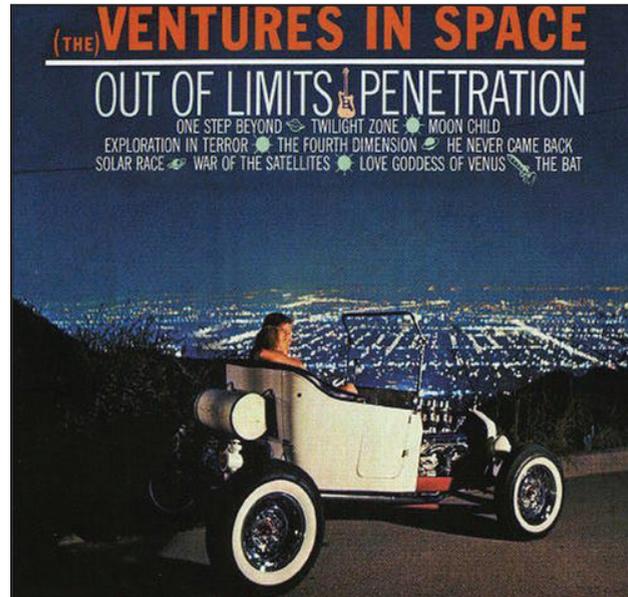
Love Ya.
Dawn

p.s. can you guess why I'll be home on the 3rd ??????

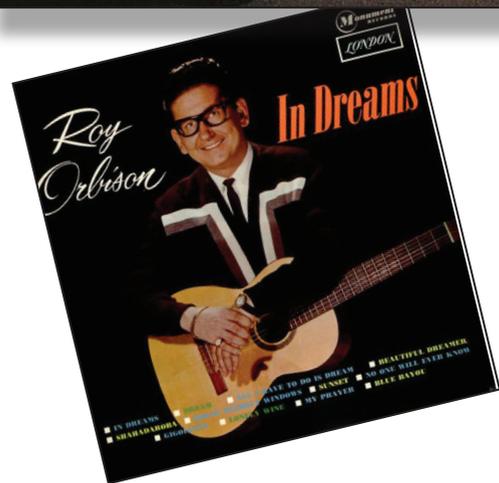
My List of Top Thirty Songs for 1963

1963 was a really great year for music. I still have the Ventures in Space album sitting in my room. I like the instrumental records to dance to. Hot rod and surfing were all the rage in Southern California. I had been surfing now for three years. I remember one time that Mike, Ed and I went down to do some surfing during the school week. We cruised by Rosemead High School in Mikes 1958 Chevy two-door station wagon with the surfboard hanging out the back window. Not a very good move on our part because a few teachers were in front of the school before school started each day. The next day mom wrote a note to the school saying I wasn't feeling good that day. I don't think the attendance staff bought it because I had a sunburn. The attendance lady just shook her head and admitted me back.

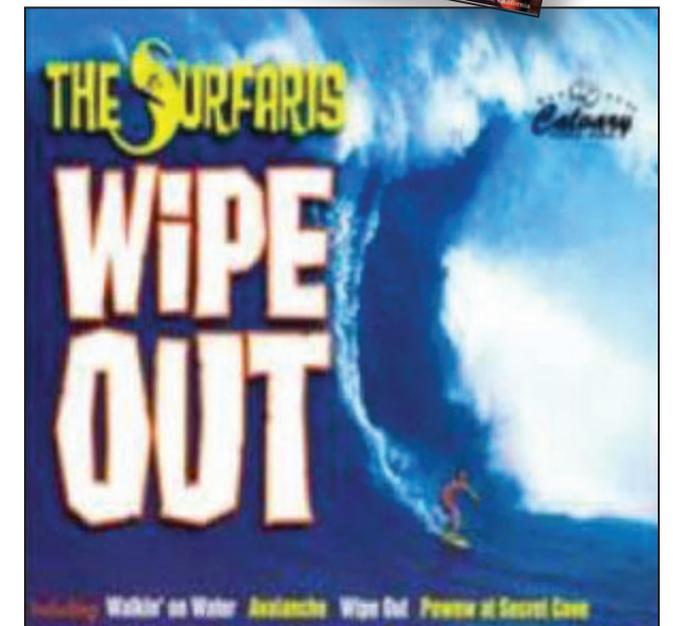
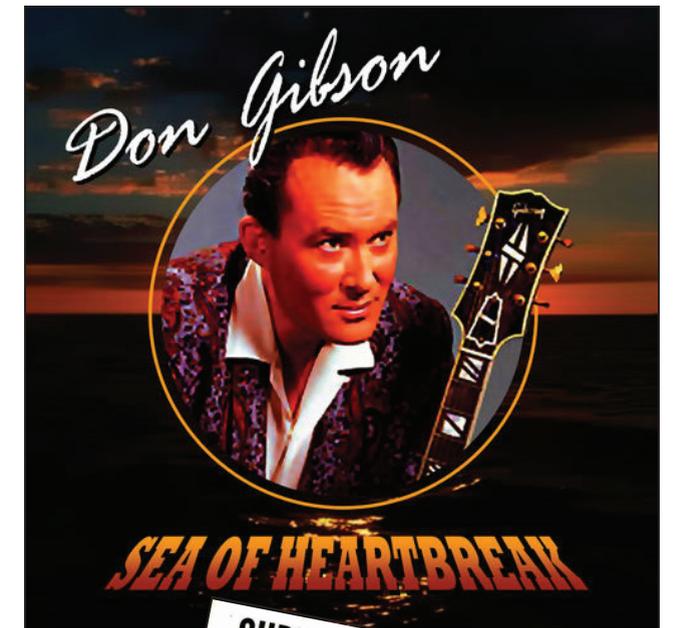
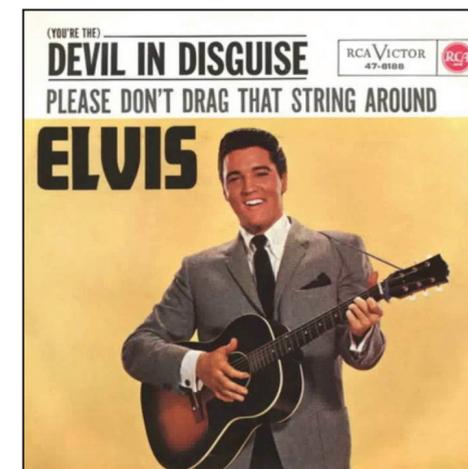
Lots of car cruising the local hangouts like Bob's in Pasadena and Whittier and of course Harveys Broiler in Downey. We did go to Bob's in North Hollywood a couple of times but it just too far and we had to take the Freeways to get there. Having music was a must and the passenger riding shotgun would keep changing stations back a fourth to find the songs we like best. Here are my picks for that year.



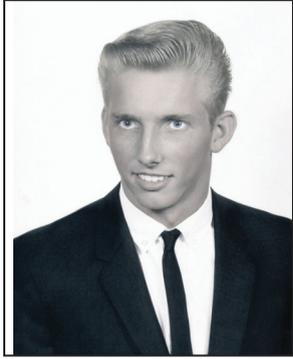
- “Surfin’ U.S.A.”, The Beach Boys
- “The End of the World”, Skeeter Davis
- “He’s So Fine”, The Chiffons
- “Hey Paula”, Paul & Paula
- “Wipe Out”, The Surfaris
- “Walk Like a Man”, The Four Seasons
- “I Will Follow Him”, Little Peggy March
- “Pipeline”, The Chantays
- “Surf City”, Jan & Dean
- “Ventures in Space”, The Ventures
- “It’s My Party”, Lesley Gore
- “Heat Wave”, Martha & the Vandellas
- “Denise”, Randy & the Rainbows
- “Easier Said Than Done”, The Essex
- “Hello Stranger”, Barbara Lewis



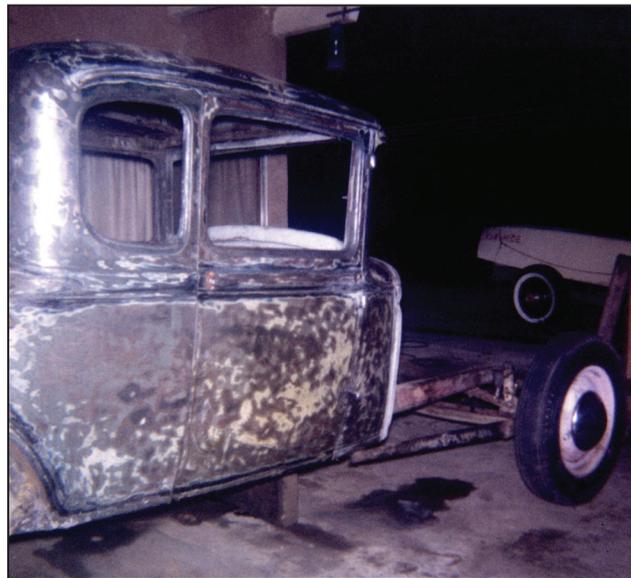
- “Candy Girl”, The Four Seasons
- “Two Faces Have I”, Lou Christie
- “In Dreams”, Roy Orbison
- “You’ve Really Got a Hold on Me”, The Miracles
- “(You’re the) Devil in Disguise”, Elvis Presley
- “Deep Purple”, Nino Tempo & April Stevens
- “Up on the Roof”, The Drifters
- “The Night Has a Thousand Eyes”, Bobby Vee
- “Judy’s Turn to Cry”, Lesley Gore
- “Fools Rush In”, Rick Nelson
- “Donna the Prima Donna”, Dion
- “Another Saturday Night”, Sam Cooke
- “Go Away Little Girl”, Steve Lawrence
- “Shut Down”, The Beach Boys
- “One Fine Day”, The Chiffons
- “500 Miles”, Bobby Bare
- “Little Town Flirt”, Del Shannon
- “Ring of Fire”, Johnny Cash



1963 - 1964



12 Grade Senior

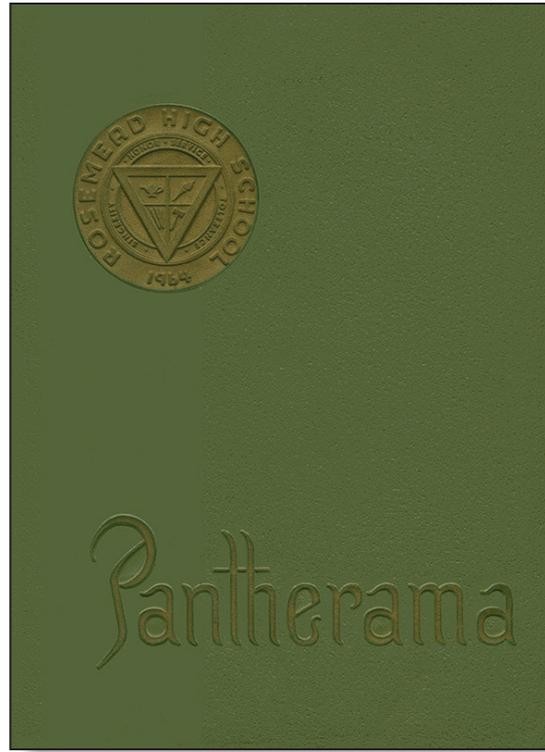


1931 Ford coupe I built on the slab behind my room. You can also see our boat in the photo.

1931 Ford Ed and I Built.

In 1963 we would find a lot of car parts at the junkyard or what you would call now Auto dismantling yards. One day Ed and I were looking around a junkyard in Baldwin Park called Balwin Park Auto Recking. when we came upon this 1931 Ford five-window coupe sitting on top of another junk car. It was stripped bare with only half of a frame which was from the firewall back.

We started talking and before long we had talked ourselves into asking how much they wanted for it. They told us it was twenty-five dollars. Each of us came up with twelve-fifty each and



we had just purchased our first hot rod body. We went home and grabbed my boat trailer after taking the boat off of it and went and purchased the car and hauled it back to my house. We worked on it behind my room which had a concrete slab floor.

At that time Mike, Ed and I hunted down many old car parts and knew where we could find a frame. This guy we had been selling car fenders and other parts to had always taken advantage of us buying the parts for twenty-five percent of what they were worth. He was the only guy in our area that we could sell them to. We knew he had an old Model A frame he didn't want leaning up against the fence, so we went down and took it home for our project.

We put the car together with whatever we could find, spare this and that which nowadays you would call it a rat rod. Eventually, we sold it to Mike, and he put it in his back yard and worked on it for some time. Don't know what happened to it, think he sold it when he went into the Air Force.

Blowing up my Wall Locker.

This crazy event happened with my locker during my Junior year at summer school. I had just exchanged books for my next class at my wall locker and was walking down the hall when I heard this loud explosion. My locker was located in the main building near the business offices. I looked back towards where the explosion went off and it was near where my locker was located.

Now along with most of the students in the hall at the time, we walked over to see what was going on. As I got closer, I saw that books and papers were blown on to the floor then looked to see who's locker it was. What! it was mine and I was really ticked off and started looking around to see who was laughing so I could figure out who did it. I didn't have the time, so I grabbed my books and papers and put them back in. Just then the Principle and Vice Principle came running out of

the office to see what was going on.

They said for me to go with them to the office. They were trying to pin it on me. They were grilling me as I sat in a chair in front of the principals' desk. Doing good-cop, bad-cop approach and saying they were going to call the police. I finally had enough of their raving and said that I wanted to get my parents involved. I told them, why would I blow open my own locker? I said someone else thought it would be funny not me. At that point, I guess I made a good case and they couldn't get me to confess so they let me return to class. I found out at my 50th class reunion that Tom Copeland told me he was the one who did it. Tom was always a joker and still is to this day.



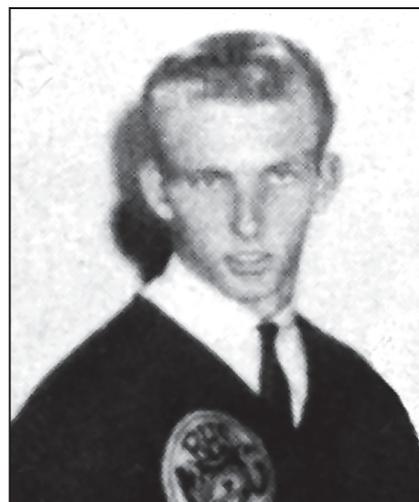
Above is the main hall in the administration building looking west. My first book locker in this building was just left of this photo. In the summer of my junior year, my locker was just beyond those kids in the hall with all the administration office to the left of them.



Participants in MEN'S GLEE for this year were Row 1: J. Serchovsky, B. Iseley, F. Flores, J. Shubin, A. Rios, D. Vaughn, M. Smith, M. Lodolo. Row 2: J. Moreno, D. Barkhurst, J. Caskey, G. Bryan, M. Coffman, D. Keller, D. Greva, J. Gulack, J. Cowell. Row 3: Mr. William Bryan, J. Randolph, C. Goddard, J. McKee, G. Helmer, D. Gray, J. Krueger, D. Freedman, R. Caudillo, B. Clawson.

Men's Glee.

Men's Glee was an elective course in school, and I thought it would be fun to take. It wasn't bad but there were a lot of nerds in my class unlike Machine Shop, woodshop or Metal Shop. We practiced vocal exercises every day and a few songs that we sang over and over. It definitely was not what I expected, and we sang songs like, "Old Black Joe", "Oh Danny Boy" and "Old Man River". I thought I signed up for current day songs that we were listening to at that time.



Texas. Anyone who wanted to go home was excused for the day. I don't remember if I left school or not that day, but I assume I did.

I remember one time that we were practicing for two weeks for an outing that would be taking place at Los Angeles State College. That was on

One day that stands out in my mind in Glee was Friday, November 22, 1963. It was a Friday shortly after noon and just I had just sat down in class after my lunch period. Mr. Bryan was called to the office for a few minutes and as he returned, he looked like had been crying. I thought, what's going on. He told us that President Kennedy had been shot in Dallas



Cal State Los Angeles.

April 23, 1964. We sang a few songs for students and teachers. The students were all music majors. At the end of the session, the audience was asked to choose a couple of students to sing A-cappella, unfortunately, they chose me. Since I only knew a couple of songs I chose "Oh Black Joe". I don't think I impressed many people with that performance although I don't believe I was too bad either.

Overall the class was quite boring and since I didn't connect with the students or Mr. Bryan, I was happy when it was over. Looking back, I did learn a lot about improving your voice with the exercises he taught us.

Choir attends music festival

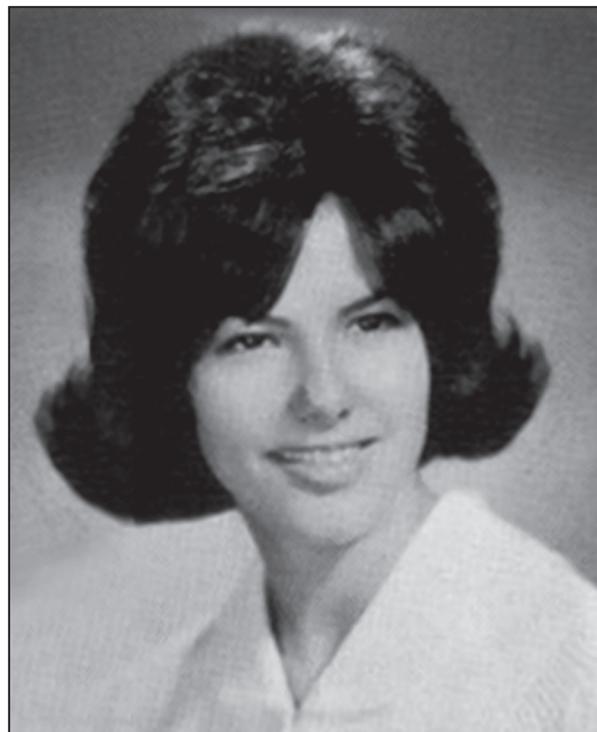
"A Jubilant Song," Felices Ter," and "Last Words of David" will be presented by the A Cappella Choir today as they participate in the Montebello Music Festival.

Men's Glee sang yesterday at California State College at Los Angeles. They were asked to sing by the Musical Education Department of the college for the expressed purpose of demonstrating what high school boys' voices are like for future music teachers of the college.

A group of boys sang together and several sang solos to illustrate the differences in characteristics of various high school boys' voices.



Carol Zarate lower right, Lois Siterlet upper left. Carol was my girlfriend and Lois lived next to my cousin Ed. I met Carol at Lois's house on January 1964.



1964 Time Line.
January 1964.

School reopens from Christmas vacation. Friday night Mike, Ed, Casey, Louie and I went up to the Shamrock Roller Rink in San Gabriel. We skated until around ten then headed up to Bob's in Pasadena to cruise Colorado Blvd. Not a lot of action because of the weather kind of put a damper on things it only got up to 64 degrees during the day and was in the mid-'50s at night.

January 25th: Saturday night.

I went to the San Gabriel Mission High School dance around 7 pm. I had heard that "The Ventures" surf band was playing there that night. After going inside, I looked around and noticed a girl I recognized. I met her briefly one day after school at my cousin's Ed's next-door neighbor Lois Siterlett home. Lois was a songleader at SGMHS along with Dawn Simpson who I dated in 1963. I walked up to Carol and re-introduced myself. Carol Zarate was her name a pretty 5"2" brunette who was also a songleader at the school. We hit it off right away and danced every dance that night". Before leaving I asked her if I could call her, and she gave me her number.

We talked a few times over the next week and then I asked her out the following Saturday night. I was extremely busy during those weeks with school and track practice. I was also working some on the weekends, so I could make some money to go out on.

February 15th.

First official date with Carol not sure where we went could have been the movies then down to Harvy's Broiler in Downey.

February 21st.

The first Track meet of the year at Rosemead against Montebello. Won my first 2 events for the year. I have a DVD taken from an 8mm home movie camera of the event. It was taken by one of my fellow Rosemead trackman's dad. I was running against his nephew, really lucky for me he was filming that day. Ran a 10.2 time for the hundred yard and 22.4 for the 220-yard sprint. I

won both races, which I was very excited about, see Track Schedule on page157.

February 22nd.

I drove over to carols house in El Sereno and we talked for a while and gave my first-place ribbon from that event to her. Loved he parents great family.

February 28th .

Picked Carol up from the San Gabriel Mission High School for the track meet at Rosemead against Arcadia. During the first part of that week, we talked over the phone for quite a while. I asked her if she wanted to come to the track meet to watch me compete. She said that she would like that, so I told her I would pick her up after her school let out. San Gabriel Mission High School which is Catholic school located behind the San Gabriel Mission and was about three miles east of my school.

Thursday finally arrived, and I left the school at 2:15 PM after 5th period. 6th period for me was Physical Education Class and in my case Track. The track meet didn't start until 3:15 which gave me plenty of time to change into my track uniform and sweats then drive to Mission High School pickup Carol then get back in time for the meet. Great plan but it didn't quite work out that way.

I pulled up in front of Mission High School and parked across the street. I started getting concerned as the school didn't get out to almost 3 PM. Carol got into the car and apologized for being late, but the teacher made them stay longer that day. I don't even remember the drive back just that I was trying to get back as fast as possible. I even pulled up in the non-student parking lot near the track, so we didn't have to walk too far.

As we got out of the car, I could hear my event being called. Coach Tapp was looking for me everywhere and we ran up to the bleachers and I had my track shoes in my hand. I pointed my dad out to Carol who was in the stands for the first time ever. Then ran onto the field. As I struggled to get out of my sweats and put on my shoes,

Senior activities start for graduates

Tickets on sale for seniors' June All-Night Party

Panther's Tale

Vol. XV, No. 12 Rosemead High School, Rosemead, California March 20, 1964

Tickets are now on sale for the Senior ALL-Night Party, "Gone With the Wind," to be held June 18, 9:30 p.m. to 5 a.m., at the Rosemead Country Club, 3130 Tyler Ave., El Monte.

For tickets purchased before March 23 there will be a drawing, and one boy and one girl will receive a \$5 check. The drawing will be on March 23.

Seniors are urged to buy their tickets immediately, since this money is the method by which the entertainment is paid. Tickets are \$5 per person.

Entertainment all night

Entertainment will be provided for the students all night long. There will be music, dancing, combos, guitarists, fortune telling, handwriting analysis, a caricaturist, pictures, hair dressing, and others.

Food and soft drinks will be served all night long.

Door prizes will also be given. Students are urged to turn in Blue Chip or Green Stamp books so they can be redeemed for prizes. Students can write their names in the stamp books before turning them in to the Student Store.

Drawing on May 1

On May 1 there will be a drawing at which time one girl and one boy will receive a \$5 check. For each stamp book, a student will get their name in the drawing.

Committee heads are: entertainment, Judge and Mrs. Ray Galeoran; food, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Bryan; decorations, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Miranda; publicity, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller; and finance, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Barnard.

General chairmen are Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Binford.

Car exhibition highlights end of Safety Week

Safety Week ends today.

Annually, the student body takes part in this event which promotes safety in various ways, and which began Monday of this week. As is the custom, Eric Okamoto, commissioner of safety was in charge of the activities planned.

Highlight of the program was the car show, which was held in the boys' outside basketball courts. On display were cars owned by members of the student body and show cars, which didn't compete for awards.

During the combined lunch hours yesterday, cars entered under stock, competition, interior, custom, and antique classifications were on display. They competed for plaques in their respective categories.

Also part of the program was the girls' tire-changing contest. This contest picks a winner from the team of girls who can change a tire in the least amount of time.

For the students who desired to enter, the police department held a safety check which pointed out to students unsafe conditions in their automobiles. The safety check was conducted in the student parking lot.

Mr. Rex Welch, vice-principal in charge of activities, said, "Again this year the car show, and Safety Week in general, was a complete success, with the students of this school. Because of the popularity this program always seems to arouse in the students, it looks as if it will be held for many years to come."



CAUGHT IN THE ACT—Vicki Alexander and Judy Allen demonstrate the technique used by most of the female tire changers during the Tire-Changing contest March 18. (Photo by Larry Watkins)

Seven soloists perform during Music Festival

Seven soloists will represent RHS at the Music Festival April 4 in Los Angeles.

The seven are Elizabeth Thompson, Dorothy Milhous, Loa Motherhead, Sharon Pfannkuch, Cathy Coday, Lucille Hainey, and Donna Coffman.

This festival is a preliminary to the April 11 festival which will be held at California State College at L.A. Outstanding soloists from the

shall PTA on March 12. They will entertain the PTA again on Dac Night, April 2. Girls' Ensemble will sing for the PTA on April 2 at T and J Restaurant.

Demonstrating its usual skill a precision, the Panther Band will once again victorious March 4, as returned from the Montebello Area Music Festival.

The band captured one excellent



Mission Girls.

Here's a photo from the 1964 San Gabriel Mission High School Yearbook. Dawn Simpson middle row right, Carol Zarate just to the left of Dawn, and Lois Siterlet the second girl left of Carol. All were my good friends. Lois was a model for print advertising while in high school. Dawn went on college then received her Masters of Library Science at USC She later married and became a librarian in 1995 she took her own life. Carol went to P.C.C. then became a professional dancer. She was one of the dancers that you can see on Youtube from the 1970 "Raindrops" song featured at the 1969 Academy Awards. She's now married to Stephen Goss lives in Upland California and teaches dance. Lois got married in 1968 to Don McLane and lives in Ventura, California. Lois was my friend Mike's girlfriend for a short period in 1963 & 1964. I dated both Dawn and Carol at different times which I wrote stories about in this book.

March 10th.

Track meet with Temple City at Rosemead. Took 1st in the 100-yard sprint with a time of 10.2 and 2nd in the 220 sprint.

they called last call for my event.

I ran over to the starting blocks, not warmed up or stretched out at all. Quickly got into the blocks then the starting gun went off. I was slow getting out of the blocks and running as fast as I could. I came in second at the tape which I should have won. Just twenty feet ahead in my lane after the finish was coach Tapp waiting for me. The first words out of his mouth were where have you been? I said I was picking my girlfriend up from school. He said what's more important to you, your girlfriend, your car or track? I said my girlfriend, my car then track. He wasn't happy and told me to get with it. That day wasn't a good track day for me. I came in 2nd in the 100 and 220-yard sprints, long jump and our 880 relays. I apologized to my coach, dad, and Carol for not doing my best. Looking back yes, I wasn't phys-

ically or mentally ready to run in that race and it did cost me some speed. Later in league finals, I was competing with the same sprinter again. I would win the league finals for the 100 against him but lost a close race in the 220-yard race now called the 200 meters.

March 5th.

Track meet at San Marino High School. I took 2nd in both 100 & 200 sprints but won the 800-meter relay.

Saturday March 7th.

I drove by Carol's school and then up to Main Street and saw her with one of her girlfriends walking back from a fast-food place. I stopped and talked to her then we drove back to her house and played records and danced.

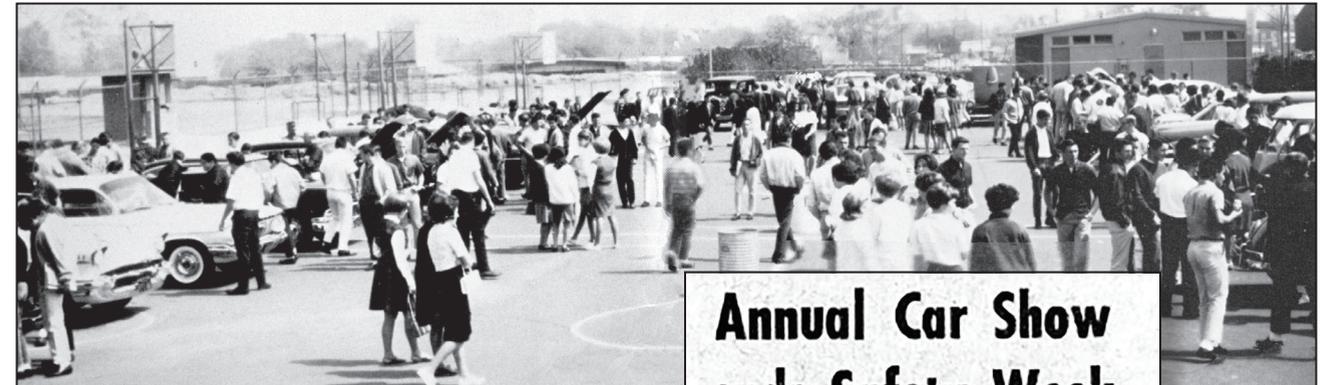


I installed a Motorola (Reverb Unit) under the dash. There's nothing like the sound of an original Motorola Vibrasonic unit! Make your radio sound incredible. Covino Steering wheel and Sun tachometer. The dash had many coats of black lacquer paint. One cool ride for high school in the early 60s



My 1956 Ford Victoria Hardtop. I made the wood dash center piece in woodshop. The interior was made at an upholstery shop on Valley Blvd just west of Rosemead Blvd. When I went over there, I saw this boat interior they were doing with small one-inch pleats. Other guys were using 2-inch pleats at the time, but I thought this would look better. This car would be as relevant today as it was then, it looked great.

March 20, 1964 RHS Car Show



Annual Car Show ends Safety Week

Approximately 26 cars entered the annual Car Show, the highlight of Safety Week, held March 19 on the campus.

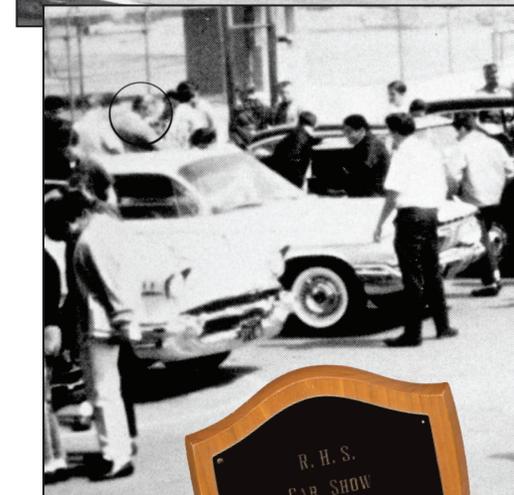
The show was open to entries under the category of antique, custom, interior, stock, or competition.

Winning in their respective categories were: Lynn Sapp, antique; **George Helmer, custom**; Steve Essex, interior; Dwight Sexton, stock; and Paul Severloh, competition.

Winners in all divisions were awarded plaques.

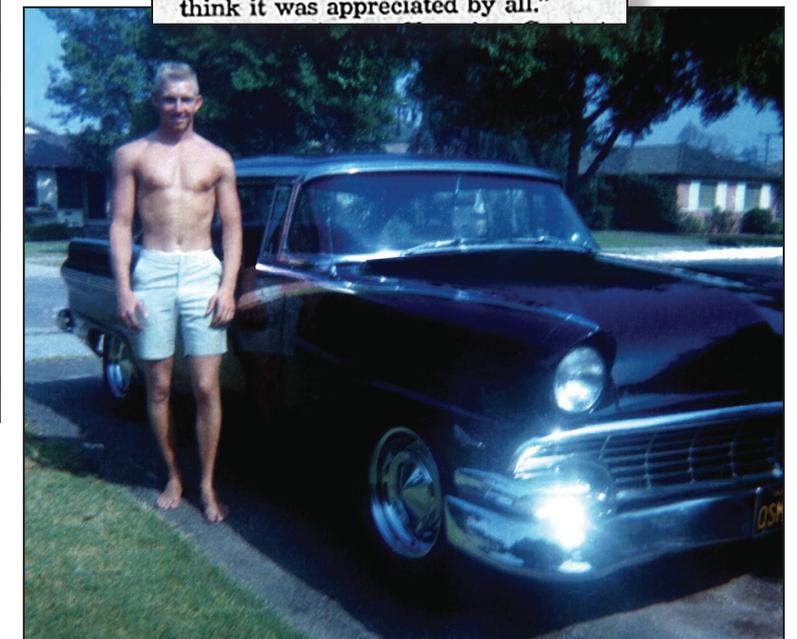
"The car show was an overall success. It's a popular event among the students and was very well received by them," commented Mr. Rex Welch, vice-principal in charge of student activities.

"The contestants all put a lot of hard work into their cars, and I think it was appreciated by all."



Above photo: I'm in the circle.

Actual plaque that I won.





1963-'64 CALENDAR

September 16
School opens
November 11
Veterans' Day
November 15
First quarter ends
November 28
Thanksgiving
November 29
Thanksgiving holiday
December 20
Minimum day
December 23
Christmas vacation begins
January 6
School reopens
January 30
Exams
Minimum day
January 31
First semester ends
February 12
Lincoln's birthday
March 23
Spring vacation begins
March 30
School reopens
April 10
Third quarter ends
June 17
Exams
Minimum day
June 18
Exams
Minimum day
June 19
School closes

Above and below same school time-line September 1963 thru June 1964.

September 16.
RHS school schedule for the year.

October 7th.
Explorer John Goddardell came to our school.
More story.

December 1963.
23 Christmas vacation begins at Rosemead High School.

March 14th.
The track meet that was called the Temple City Invitational was held at Temple City High School. I won the 100 Yd sprint with a 10.3 time and a 2nd place in the 220 Yd sprint in 22.5. I also won the long jump and the 880 relay.

March 20th.
Annual RHS car show which I won first place in Custom. Met Judy Peterson from my school. Spring Break Started.

Spring break Saturday 21st thru Sunday the 28th.
The 28 was Easter and now back to school on the 30th

April 2nd.
Track meet At Azusa. Won 4 events that day. The 100-yard sprint in 10.3, the 200-yard sprint 22.5, Long Jump and the 880 Relay with Jim Shuttleworth, Steve Hamilton, Gary Groves and myself as anchor man.

April 5th.
Last date for Judy and I.

April 9th.
Track meet at Glendora scoring a total of 14 1/4 individual points in this meet. Two first place finishes in the 100 and 200 sprints 10.2 and 22.3. I also performed well in the 800-meter relay and long jump.

April 11th.
Arroyo Invitational Track meet. Track meet at Arroyo High School. I won the 100 Yard dash with a 10.3 and placed 2nd in the 200-yard dash with a 22.2.

April 14th.
Drove by Carols school she was walking with another girl up to Main Street for a coke. I saw her walking then pulled over and stopped in front of them. We talked and gave her a ride home after getting a Coke. No explanation as where I was for the couple weeks came up, but I did apologize for not calling her.

April 16th.

I competed at the Edgewood High School Track meet, where I won the 100 yd and 220 yd sprints with 10.5 and 23.2 times. I also won the 800-meter relay.

April 23rd.

This was one busy day for me. I was in men's glee and we were asked to participate at California State University Los Angeles (Cal State LA) as a group. We were performing for college students who were going to become future music teachers. They wanted to hear the voices of young men and after our performance, we were instructed to stand in a line next to each other. We didn't know beforehand that the students were going to pick a few of us to sing solo. It would be our choice of a song singing acapella, and I thought boy I hope I don't get chosen. Being the tallest in the group one of the college students said I like to hear him sing. A voice in my head said, "Oh my God, come on not me." This was stressful and to this day I don't know how well I did but I did get out a few verses of "Old Black Joe". The song was written and published by Stephen Foster back in 1953 and was one of the songs I could remember the lyrics to.

By the time we got back, I had to hustle over to the gym and get ready for the track meet which was against San Gabriel. I placed first in by events and had to get home rest up for the Mt. Sac Relays the Next day.

April 24th

Mt. Sac Relays competition. Friday after school we met at the gym and our coach Aubrey Tapp took four of us to compete at the Mt. Sac Relays. I had been there several times before when I ran cross country at Rosemead. It was a great experience but don't remember much about the event. It's probably was because we didn't do that well as a team.

April 28th

Asked Carol to the beach.

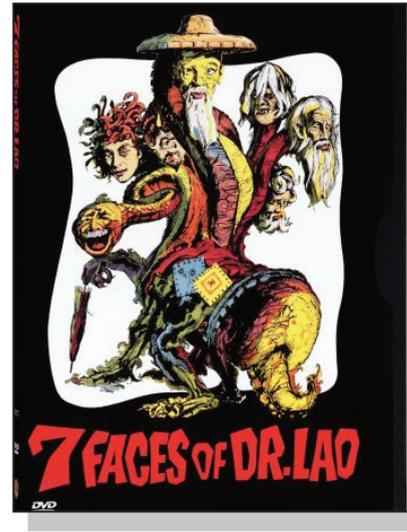
May 2nd

I went to the show with Carol to see Seven Fac-

es of Dr. Lao. The release date March 18, 1964.

May 5th thru the 8th.

Track League final at San Gabriel High School. See Panthers Tale Page #) I also accumulat-



ed 115 points to lead the track team with most overall point during the season. That day my dad took off work only for the second time to watch me run. The first event was the 100-yard sprint and I beat the guy from San Moreno High School who I lost to earlier in the season, but he beat me by an inch at the finish line for the 200 sprint. Lucky for both of us the first two places both qualified for the CIF Prelims.

May 16th

CIF Prelims at Arroyo High School. My track experience was quite interesting as I now look back on it, maybe because I was young and immature. Never gave it much of a thought of it other than it being fun, and I enjoyed being with my friends on the team. Could I have been better at it with some good coaching and training, no doubt about it. In fact, I believe I could have been an outstanding college track athlete. But here again, I had no support or direction from school or from my family.

May 22nd.

Junior Senior Prom called Twilight and Roses

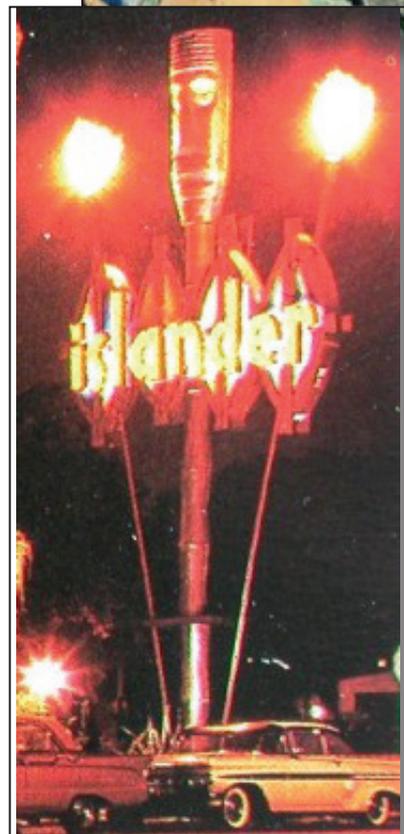
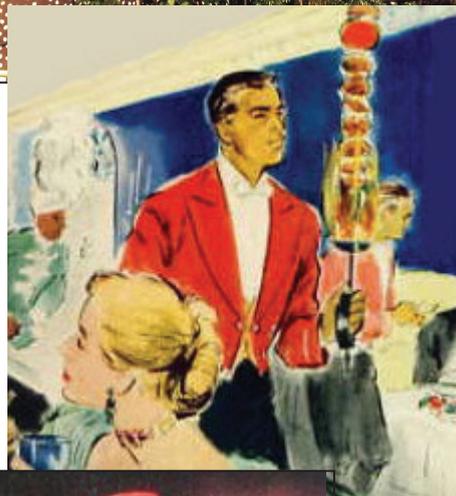
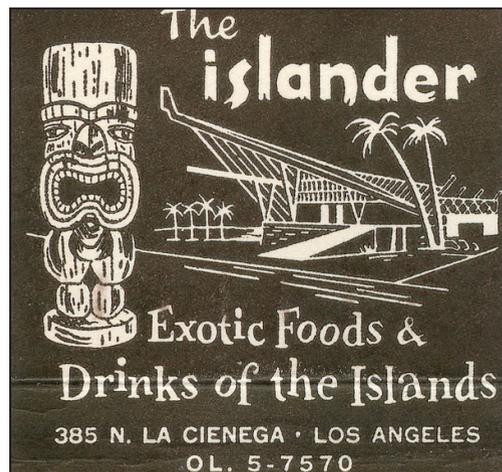


Carol and I at the prom May 22nd held at the Elks Lodge on Colorado Blvd. Pasadena.

Yearbook Signing by Carol

"Dear George,

January really began the year out great for me because it was the month I met you, and since then I've had more fun than anyone (except you) can imagine. All the times have been wonderful: Balboa (chocolate éclairs) the Shamrock, Harvey's, and the chance to see you at your best in track. I'm real proud of you too, George! I'll never forget the prom and the luscious dinner at The Islander, OK yes, and Louie's crazy driving too!? I know or at least I hope the good times won't ever end for us, at least for not for a long time. I'm really looking forward to Thursday and the all-night party. Oh yes, you're graduating that night, too, so I'd like to wish you the best of luck in everything, and save congratulations for that night in person. Okay? Okay. I was looking over all the pictures of you in this annual for about the zellionest time. And I think they're about the best in the whole book, and everyone I've shown them to agrees. Of course, Cathy agree by everyone, looks great too. No seriously you can tell her she really does. I'd better see a lot of you this summer or I'm telling you George, you're going to get it. Oh, I just remembered, were going to the same college. How about that? Doesn't that sound familiar? Just another habit I acquired from this boy I know. His name is George. I told you once I started everything would come easy. Now I can't seem to finish! I just wish you the best; now and always, Love Caroline Zarate"

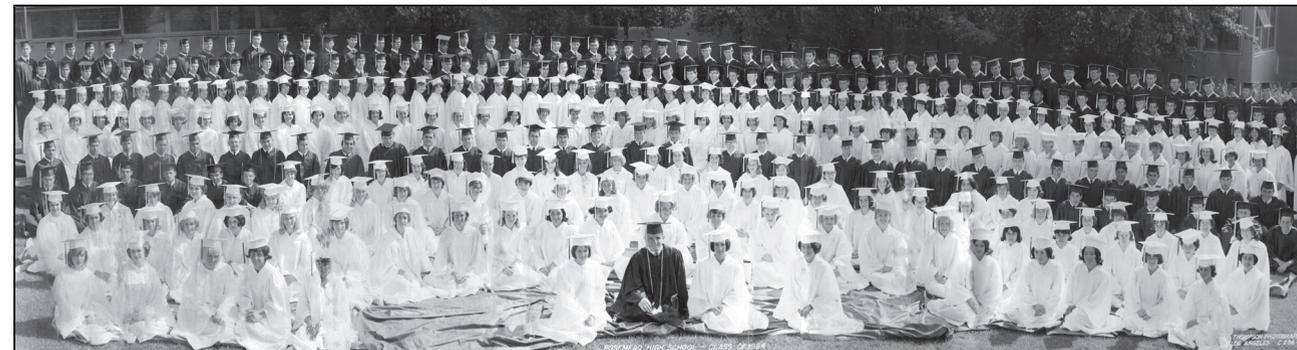


was held at the Elks Lodge 400 west Colorado Blvd Pasadena. (See RHS Panthers Tale page #). Double date with Louie and Glenda for the prom. Louie came over and we picked up his date and we headed out to pick up Carol. After leaving Carol's house on Portola Ave in El Soreno we headed north 15 miles to the Elks Lodge in Pasadena on 300 Colorado Blvd. We were there maybe an hour or hour and a half then drove to The Islander restaurant in Hollywood. It was located at 385 North La Cienega Blvd. This was an interesting place with its Polynesian foods and decor. One of us got the flaming sword that was Polynesian style meat presented on a flaming sword, a great experience. After dinner, we decided to take a ride in the Hollywood hills to a spot that Louie knew. One wild trip up this hill where Carol and I sitting in the back seat became very nervous of his driving. Louie wasn't known as a good driver and we were glad to get out of those hills for sure. Later we dropped off the girls and headed home.

May 23rd.
Without much sleep, I was on my way back to Carol's house to pick her up and we headed out to Balboa Beach, Newport.

May 25th.
Received two High school sports awards at the awards banquet. I wasn't aware I was going to receive them. Like I said I wasn't in it for the awards but the fun of competing.

May 29th Senior Day at Disneyland.



Rosemead High School Graduating Class of 1964.

June 10th.
Baccalaureate rehearsal after our first class period. (See Panthers Tale May 25th).

June 11th.
Senior Class Pictures in front of the school.

June 14th.
Baccalaureate at RHS football field.

June 15th.
Commencement Practice in the AM.

June 16th.
Commencement Practice in the AM.

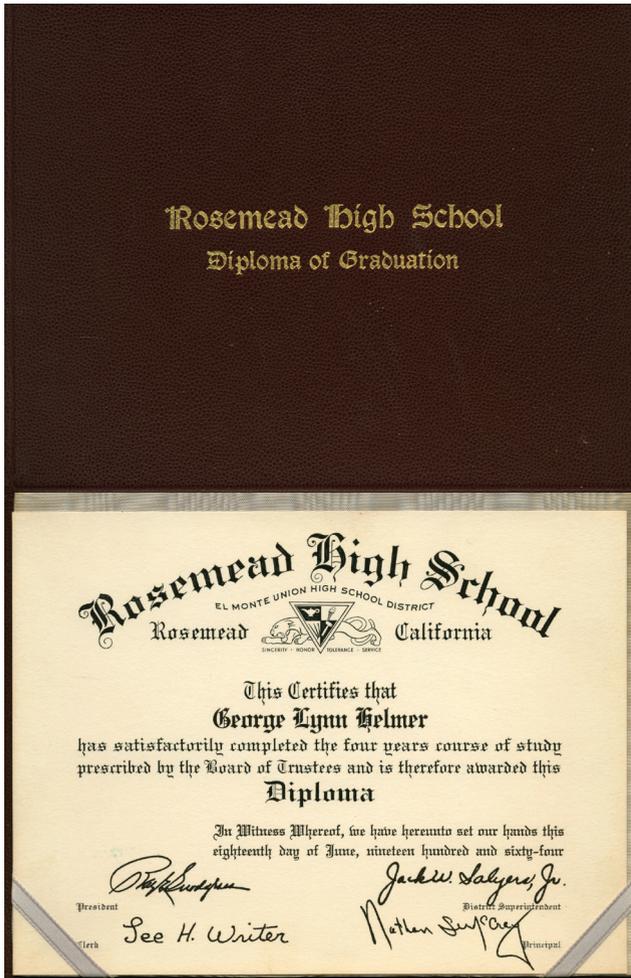
June 18th.
I graduation from Rosemead High School that night. In the early afternoon, I picked up Carol Zarate from her house. She came to my graduation and was my date for the All-Night Party for Rosemead. It was being held at the El Monte Community Center at 1330 Tyler Ave. and was called "Gone with the Wind" It was fun being with Carol but wasn't all that great of an event. We decided to go to the beach after they let us out of the center at 6 am on Friday morning. Of course, we headed to Balboa Beach Newport after we went to Carol's house where she asked her mom if she could go and picked up her beach things.



Top: is our class photo I'm in the upper right corner. above: a close-up of that photo in the center.



After 55 years I still have my Letterman's Sweater pictured above. It was the last year for the sweaters only jackets were offered for the Varsity. I like sweaters better always comfortable to wear.



Class of 1964 nears graduation

Busy seniors are preparing for their nearing graduation date. Since February the Senior Class has been busy with senior pictures, caps and gowns, ordering announcements, and the Senior Dinner-Dance, but the activity has just begun.

Yesterday in our gym, the PTA played host to seniors and their parents at the Senior Reception held at 2:30 p.m.

Tonight the annual Junior-Senior Prom, "Twilight and Roses," will be held at the Pasadena Elks Lodge, 400 West Colorado Blvd., Pasadena. The dance is formal and will be held from 8 to 11 p.m.

Next Friday, May 29, seniors will travel to Disneyland during Senior Special Day.

First Baccalaureate rehearsal is set for June 10, periods 1, 2, and 3. Seniors will report to their first period class for roll call, then to Panther Field at 8:50 until 11:40 a.m. Caps and gowns will be distributed during lunch periods in room 27. The Senior Class picture will be taken June 11. Seniors will report to the front of the Administration Building after roll call is taken in first period classes. Caps and gowns will be worn for the picture. Boys must wear white shirts and ties. Girls must wear collars.

The Senior Class pictures are \$1.20 and must be paid for when the picture is taken. They will be distributed at the Activity Office at a later date. Immediately after the picture, seniors will report to Panther Field for Baccalaureate rehearsal until 11:40 a.m.

Baccalaureate will take place on Panther Field, June 14, at 8:30 p.m. Seniors must report to the gym no later than 5 p.m. Boys must wear white shirts and ties. Girls must bring their white collars. All seniors must wear caps and gowns.

Commencement practice is scheduled for June 15 and 16 during periods 1, 2, and 3. Seniors report to their first period class and then to Panther Field from 8:50 till 11:40 a.m.

Check-out cards will be distributed after practice on June 16. Commencement exercises are June 18, 6:30 p.m. on Panther Field. Seniors must report to the gym no later than 6 p.m.

"Gone With the Wind," the Senior All-Night Party, will be held that night at the El Monte Community Center, 3130 Tyler Ave., El Monte.

Boys will be refunded for their gym locks at the Student Store during P. E. class.

Check-out cards are to be returned, signed, to the Guidance Office between 12:30 and 2 p.m. on June 18. Diplomas will not be awarded if cards are not returned.

Seniors will receive their diplomas from the counselors at the north entrance to the Math-Business Building after turning in their caps and gowns on graduation night. Boys will return their caps and gowns to the Boys' P.E. office while the girls will return theirs to the Girls' P.E. office. Seniors may keep the tassels from the caps.

Seniors ORDERS FOR YOUR GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS WILL BE TAKEN

A TO L ON TUES. MAR. 2ND
M TO Z ON WED. MAR. 3RD

PRICES

GRADUATION ANNOUNCEMENTS	16¢
100 THERMOGRAPH CARDS	2.25
100 ENGRAVED CARDS	3.50
APPRECIATION BOOK	EACH .75
SOUVENIR COVER	EACH .35
"THANK YOU" NOTES	3 FOR .25

4% STATE TAX EXTRA



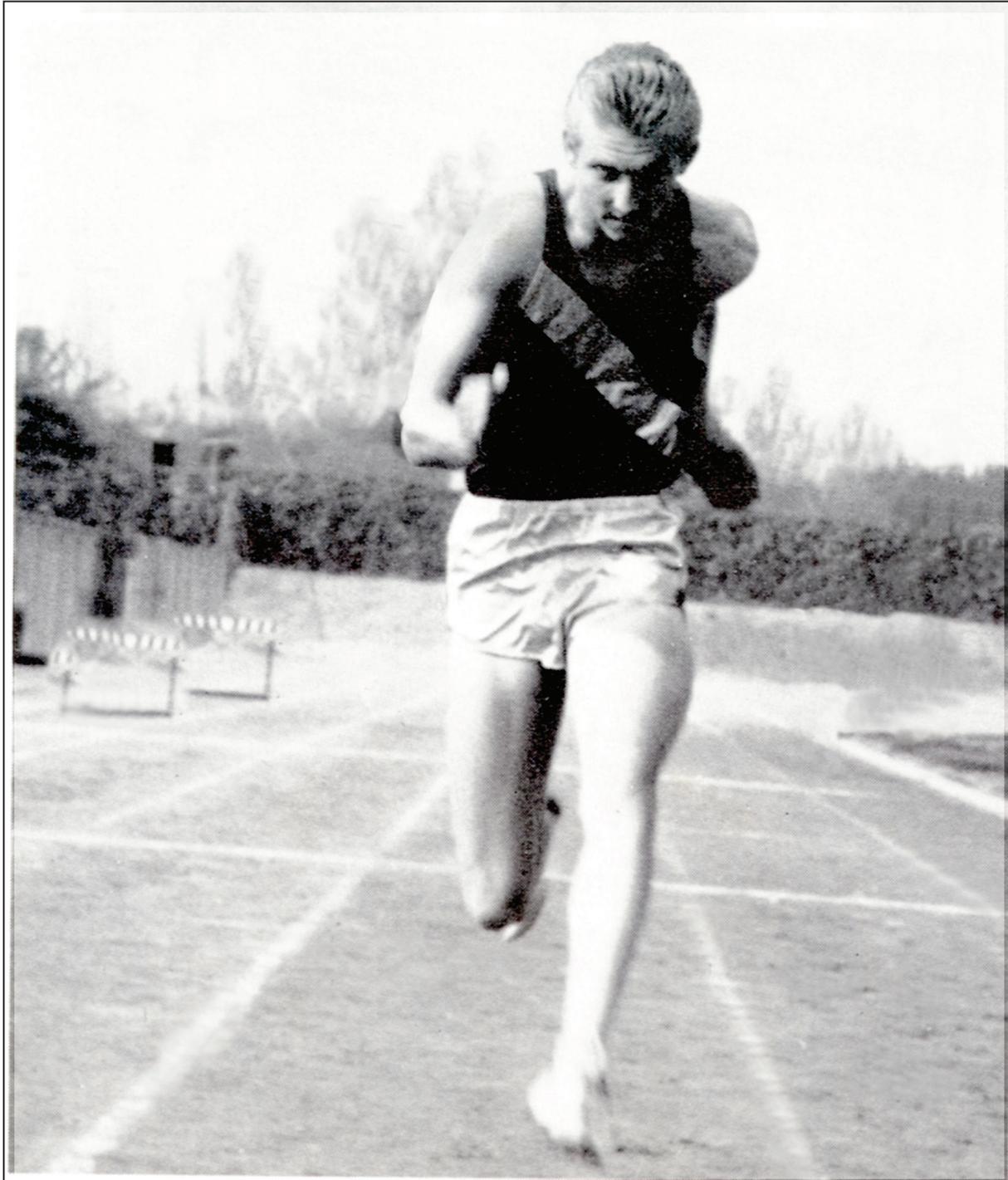
Carol and I in front of my house just before graduation.

Below: Walking to the field for graduation.

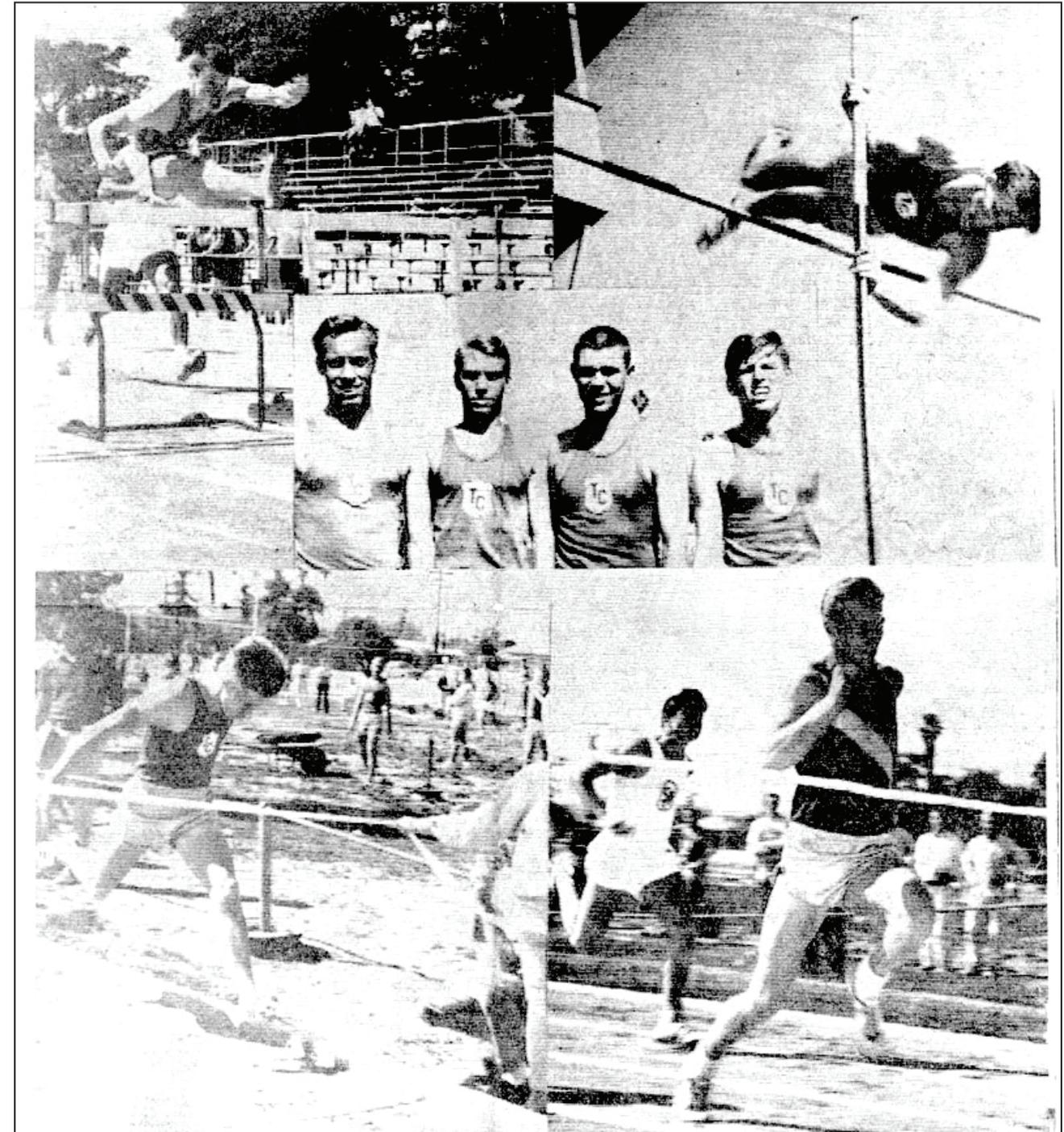


Above: Just as we were ready to graduate. This was the last minutes of the ceremony.

Rosemead High School 1964 track season.



When this article was written, versatile, swift George Helmer was the Outstanding Trackman. Thus far he has run the 100 yard dash in 10.0, and the 220 yard dash in 21.4. At the Temple City Relays, where the fastest sprinters from six schools competed, George captured the varsity hundred.



TEMPLE CITY RELAYS HIGHLIGHTS—Temple City dominated their own relays last Saturday and pictured above are some of the highlights. In the upper left, South Pasadena's Gene Clark is clearing the last barrier on his way to the Invitational 120-yard high hurdle victory. In the upper right is Temple City's Mike Widder clearly over 12-9 in the pole vault. Widder hit the bar on the way down but the Rams the event any way. On t

lower left Widder dives into the tape at the finish of the sprint relay. In the lower right George Helmer of Rosemead wins the special 100-yard dash. In the center is the winning sprint medley relay team from Temple City. Pictured, from left to right, are Ken Ratzloff (220), Don Cross (110), Ross Turner (440) and Mike Widder (880).

—Arcadia Tribune photo by Steve Brand

Arroyo trackfest next for Tappmen

Panther trackmen will travel to Arroyo tomorrow at noon to participate in the annual Arroyo Invitational track meet.

Rosemead's varsity track squad came within four points of winning the first league meet of the year, losing to Azusa 54-50, April 3.

George Helmer won two events for the locals, taking the 100 yard dash in 10.6 and the 220 in 23.9.

Gary Groves won the 880 yard run in 2:09.2 and Steve Hamilton won the 440 yard dash in 54.6.

The 880 relay team also won for Rosemead.

Winning eight of eleven events, the B thinclads beat the Aztecs 54-41.

In the sprints John Madison won the 100 yard dash in 10.9 and Larry Staggs won the 220 yard dash in 24.3.

Mark Shapiro won the 120 low hurdles in a time of 15 flat.

In the distance runs Jim Labanowski won the 660 yard run in 1:29.3, while Fred Herrera took the 1320 yard run in 3:29.5.

In field events Jerry Sutter won the shot put with a throw of 45'1", while Roy Gingrich tied for first in the pole vault at 10'.

The 440 relay team also won their race to help in the win.

Winning in their first league meet, the C squad trounced Azusa 60½-25½.

Ruben Hernandez won the 660 yard run and Phil Day won the 1320 in 3:40.9, as RHS swept the distance races.

Tim Garcia won the 120 low hurdles in 15.5.

A major factor in the win occurred as they won the high jump, shot put, and pole vault in field events.

Randy Rhode took the high jump with a jump of 5'. Dennis Poulin won the shot put with a throw of 42'9", while Doug Grafius won the pole vault with a vault of 9'6". The 440 relay team also won.

Larry Staggs was the only local runner who could win at the recent Baldwin Park distance Carnival.

Staggs won the B 330 yard dash. This is the first time it has been run in this meet.



April 9, 1964

The last ribbons that I have left from track.

Thinclads compete in Mt. SAC meet

Rosemead will send their best runners in all events to compete in the Mt. SAC invitational which starts today at 2:30 on the college's field.

Rosemead just couldn't seem to get in front of the Edgewood Trojans as they lost 65-33 on the winner's oval.

George Helmer was the brightest spot as he took first place in the 100 yard dash with a clocking of 10.5 seconds. He also took the 220 yard dash with a time of 23.2.

Terry Garkow also scored a win in the 440 yard run in a fast time of 51.3.

Also scoring five team points for the Rosemead squad was Andy Klukowski who won the shot put with a throw of 48½'.

The 880 relay team also won, consisting of Garkow, Helmer, Gary Groves, and Steve Hamilton.

Staggering score
Winning by the staggering score of 85-10, the Panther B's took first in 10 of 11 events as they smashed Edgewood on April 16.

Steve Shapiro led the Panther onslaught as he captured the 70 yard high hurdles in a time of 9.7. He also took first in the 120 yard low hurdles in 14.6. In the high jump he scored with a jump of 5'10". Steve was also on the winning 660 relay team.

Mark Shapiro, the eldest of the two brothers, won two events, the 100 yard dash and the long jump. He also took second in the 220 yard dash.

The other winner in the sprints was Larry Staggs who scored a win in the 220 yard dash with a time of 23.6.

Labanowski wins
Jim Labanowski won the 660 with a time of 1:37.7, and Fred Herrera annexed the 1320 in 3:32.4.

Roy Gingrich captured the pole vault with a jump of 10'8".

Winning their third league meet in a row, the C tracksters overpowered the Trojans 56½-29½.

Bruce Christle led the the squad by winning firsts in the 100 yard

nandez took the 660 yard run in 1:31.1 and Day took the 1320 yard run in 3:28.7.

With Helmer scoring 14½ individual points, the varsity came close to winning their first league meet, but still lost to Glendora 53-51, April 9.

Helmer turned in a tie for his best time of the season as he won the 100 yd. dash with a time of 10.1. He also nabbed the 220 yd. dash in a time of 22.3.

Groves took the 880 yd. run in a time of 2:08.2.

Garkow turned in his fastest league time in the 440 of 51.3.

Still unbeaten in league meets, the B thinclads edged the Tartans 51-44.

Staggs was outstanding for the team as he won the dashes. He sprinted the 100 in 10.5, his best for the year, and the 220 in 22.6.

In the hurdle department, John Randles won the 70 high hurdles in 9.5 seconds and Mark Shapiro took the 120 low hurdles in 13.9 seconds.

Herrera won the 1320 in a time of 3:28.4, while Leroy Eubanks won the broad jump with a jump of 19' 6". The squad also nabbed the 660 relay, a deciding factor in the meet.

Winning their second league meet in a row in the young track season, the midgets smashed Glendora 63½-22½.

Dave Vasquez led the team as he scored 16½ individual points.

Vasquez annexed the 100 yd. dash in 11 seconds, the 180 yd. dash in 19.5 seconds, and the broad jump with a jump of 18' 5". He was also on the winning relay squad.

Azusa league opener for tracksters; place in Temple City Invitational meet

Varsity, B, and C tracksters will meet Azusa in their first league meet of the year April 2, on the Rosemead oval.

With the B squad winning their division, the Rosemead thinclads took an overall second place in the Temple City Invitational track meet.

George Helmer took first in the 100 with a time of 10.2. This was the only win for the varsity, but coupled with a quantity of seconds and thirds, they were able to grab the third spot.

Winning relay

Winning the distance relay were Ruben Hernandez, Al Gonzales, Ray Coughlin, and Phil Day.

Temple City tracksters squeezed by the Rosemead runners as they won 48-56 on the Panther track, March 10.

George Helmer won three events to lead the locals, but to no avail.

Helmer won the 100 in 10.3 and the 220 in 22.5 seconds.

Later he followed these two wins up with a win in the broad jump. Rosemead jumpers swept this event with Lowell Hudson and Steve Hamilton right behind Helmer.

Pat Tapia won the mile for the Panthers with a good time of 4:55:7.

Tom Rogers scored a victory in the high jump as he got over 5'9". Jim Lovera took second for Rosemead.

Runners win

Panther runners won the 880 relay. Relayers were Helmer, Hamilton, Jim Shuttleworth, and Gary Groves.

Rosemead B tracksters won their fourth meet in five attempts as they downed Temple City 60-35.

Mark Shapiro won two events as he took the 100 in 10.6, and then came back later to win the broad jump with a jump of 20'3".

Steve Shapiro won the 70 yd. high hurdles in a time of 9.6. John Reynolds won the 120 yd. low hurdles.

Larry Staggs took the 220 in a time of 22.9, while Roy Gingrich won the pole vault with a jump of 11'.

won the broad jump with a jump of 18'3".

Lynn Martin took the shot put with a throw of 43'10".

Losing their third meet in a row, the varsity tracksters fell to the San Marino Titans 66½-37½ on the winners' track, March 5.

Terry Garkow, Jim Lovera, and Vernon Gingrich were the only thinclads who could post victories.

Garkow, only beaten once this year, won the 440 yard dash in a time of 51.6 seconds.

Lovera wins

Lovera won the high jump for the first time this year with a jump of 5'8". Rogers took the third for the locals.

Gingrich, who is still unbeaten this year in the pole vault, won again with a jump of 12'6".

Panther relayers, Hamilton, Helmer, Shuttleworth, and Groves, won the 880 relay for Rosemead.

Medals won at League Finals



Panther tracksters meet Temple City

Looking for their first win of the season, the varsity track team will face Temple City on the local oval next Tuesday.

B and C track teams will meet at the same time.

Terry Garkow and Vernon Gingrich were the only Rosemead varsity tracksters who could take first place as the varsity fell to Arcadia, 76-28, February 28.

Garkow won the 440 yd. dash in the fast time of 51.5 seconds.

With two of their top men missing, the B thinclads could only score 28 points as they lost 67-28 to the Arcadia Apaches. Steve Shapiro, Jerry Sutter and Roy Gingrich were the bright spots in the meet for Rosemead.

Rosemead could only manage to take two first place ribbons. One went to Phil Day for winning the 1320 yard run in 3:27.7.

Showing only spurts of strength, the varsity track team fell to Montebello 76-28, February 21.

Helmer takes two firsts

George Helmer managed to earn two first place ribbons, winning the 100 in 10.2 seconds and the 220 in 22.4.

Vernon Gingrich won the pole vault with a 13 feet vault. Gingrich has a good chance of breaking the school record in this event, which is 13'2" held by John Koch.

Another high point in the meet for the Panthers was Gary Groves with a very fast time in the 880 yard run.



Medals won at the Temple City Relays

Spring athletes receive letters at Sports Award Night Monday

Trophies and letters will be distributed at the Annual Spring Sports Award Night next Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria.

"All the boys who competed in baseball, track, tennis, and swimming are invited with their parents," announced Coach Aubrey Tapp, head of the Boys' Physical Education Department. "For those who lettered, it is imperative that they be there to receive their letters," he said.

Commissioner of Athletics Doug Manning will be master of ceremonies, as each coach will present the awards to the top performers of their respective teams.

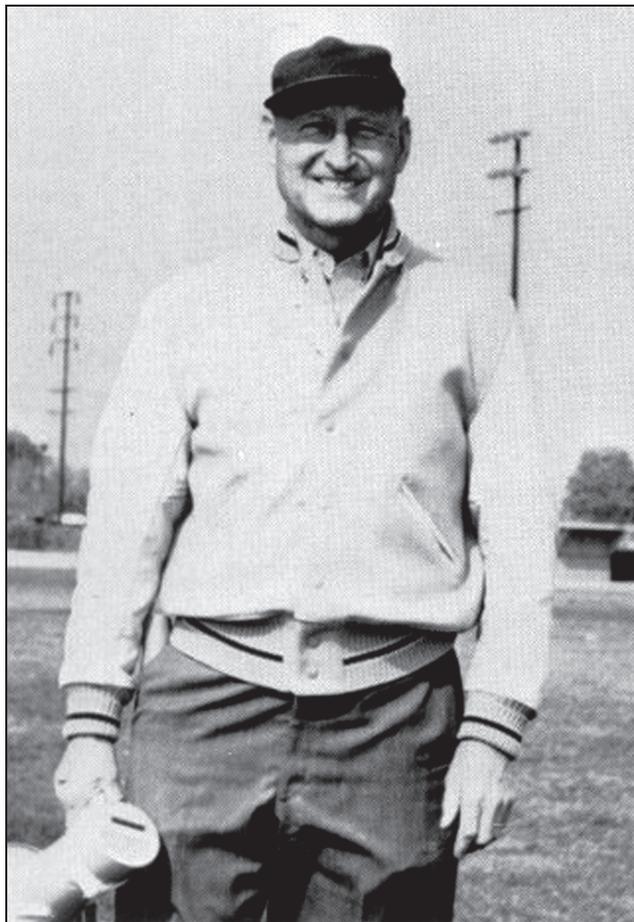
Plaques will be given to the out-

standing, most improved, and most valuable players of the year on each team.

Also the Post Advocate Iron Man Award will be presented to a Rosemead athlete by the sports editor of that newspaper.

Those athletes who have already lettered in a particular sport and have lettered again in the same sport this year will receive an emblem, since only one letter per year is awarded to an athlete.

"Ice cream will be served after the ceremony to all attending. I would like to remind everyone that parents are also invited to attend this annual event," said Coach Tapp.



AUBREY TAPP
Head Coach

Helmer cops top award at annual Sports Night

Trackman George Helmer was presented with two awards at the annual Spring Sports Awards Night, May 25.

Helmer received the "Most Valuable" trophy for varsity track and also garnered the Post-Advocate "Iron Man Track Trophy."

Other track trophies went to Mark and Steve Shapiro for being named "Most Valuable" on the B team. Phil Day was presented the "Most Valuable" trophy for C track.

Coach Terry Bartron presented the "Most Valuable" award for varsity baseball to Doug Manning, and the "Most Improved" award to Bob Drake. Cecil Stalnaker was named the "Most Valuable" and Mark Sovern, the "Most Improved" in JV baseball.

In tennis, Doc McDonald was presented with the "Most Improved" award for the varsity. Captain Bruce Bowman was given the "Most Valuable" award for JV tennis and Mike Heflin was presented with the "Most Improved."

Coach Pete Swanberg presented the "Most Valuable" swimmer for the Varsity, Mare Young. Mike Lewis won the "Most Valuable" B award, while Ken Brown took the C trophy.

Eric Okamoto was presented as the "Senior Athlete with the highest scholastic standing."

The senior award "exemplifying outstanding sportsmanship," was presented to Jim Lovera.

The senior award contributing "the most good to sports and athletics" was given to Phil Truman.

The Award Night was presented in a different manner this year. After a message from Dr. Nathan McCray, principal and Coach Aubrey Tapp the audience broke into two groups. The swimming and track awards were given in the gym, while baseball awards were given in room 86. This innovation was brought about in order to keep the event from becoming too long and drawn out.

PACIFIC OCEAN PARK

Santa Monica, Calif

Come to P.O.P.'s

BIRTHDAY PARTY

July 22, 1964

Enter P.O.P.'s

Birthday Sweepstakes!

May 29 to July 22

WIN A 1964 BARRACUDA

(Automobile)

HUNDREDS OF

FREE PRIZES

- - -

Open Friday Night

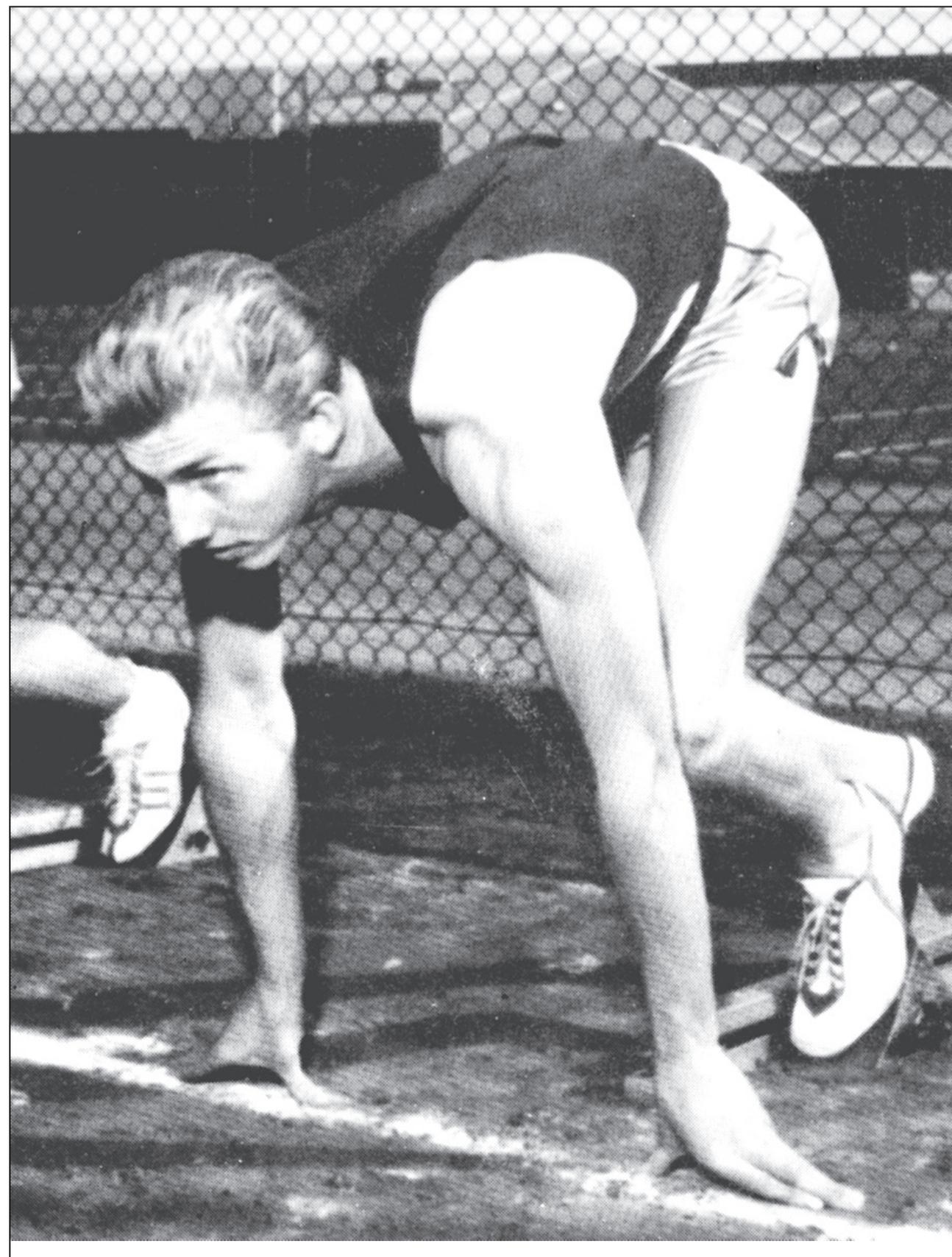
And All Day Saturday

and Sunday to June 20

Open daily Starting June 20

From 10 a.m.

Sprinter George Helmer achieved the highest total of points to become the top varsity trackman with a season total of 115 points. Helmer won the 100 yard dash and placed second in the 220 in the league finals. He also participated in the broad jump and relay competition.



MONTEBELLO FIRST MEET

Trackmen open season

Coach Aubrey Tapp's trio of track and field teams open their 1964 slate today as they entertain Montebello in a practice dual meet starting at 3:15 p.m.

Three returning lettermen will be the backbone of the varsity team this year.

Vernon Gingrich will be back pole vaulting again this year after having cleared 13'2" last year.

Another returnee from last year's team is Gary Groves who holds the school record in the 880.

Letterman Terry Garkow has gotten off to a fast start with a 51.5 quartermile in time trials.

"Because of the depth of this year's B team, they should have a good shot at the Sierra League championship," stated Coach Tapp. "We're strong in every event."

Feb. 21	F	Montebello	at	Rosemead	3:15 p.m.
Feb. 28	F	Arcadia	at	Rosemead	3:15 p.m.
Mar. 5	Th	San Marino	at	San Marino	3:15 p.m.
Mar. 10	T	Temple City	at	Rosemead	3:15 p.m.
Mar. 14	Sat	Invitational	at	Temple City	12 noon
Apr. 2	Th	Azusa	at	Azusa	3:15 p.m.
Apr. 9	Th	Glendora	at	Glendora	3:15 p.m.
Apr. 11	Sat	Arroyo	at	Arroyo	12 noon
Apr. 16	Th	Edgewood	at	Edgewood	3:15 p.m.
Apr. 23	Th	San Gabriel	at	Rosemead	3:15 p.m.
Apr. 24	F	Relays	at	Mt. SAC	2:30 p.m.
Apr. 30	Th	Arroyo	at	Rosemead	3:15 p.m.
May 5	T	Sierra League	at	San Gabriel	3:15 p.m.
May 8	F	Sierra League	at	San Gabriel	3:15 p.m.
May 16	Sat	CIF prelims	at	Arroyo	12 noon
May 23		CIF semi-finals	at		
May 29		CIF finals	at		
June 5-6		State Meet	at	L.A. Coliseum	

These are my times that I ran according to the Rosemead High School Panthers Tale biweekly newspaper 1964. Always competed in 100 & 220 (now 200 meter) yard sprints, Long Jump and 880 (now 800 meter) Relay. Meet at Rosemead not sure which But ran under the record but for some reason they didn't think I could run that fast and didn't report my time. During these years the track surface was of clay and times were hand timed with stop watches.

1st 100 in 10.2, 1st 220 22.4
2nd in 100, 220, Long Jump, relay. (See story)
2nd 100, 1st 220 in 21.9
1st 100 in 10.3, 1st 220 in 22.5, 1st L.J., 1st place 880 Relay
1st special 100 in 10.1
1st 100 in 10.6, 220 in 23.2
1st 100 in 10.1, 220 in 22.3 accumulated 15.6 points that day
1st 100 in 10.3, 220 2nd
1st 100 in 10.5, 1st 220 in 23.2, 1st 880 Relay
1st 100 in 10.2, 1st in 220 in 22.0
Unsure of placing in relays
No Data This is where I ran the questest times they didn't record.
Believe this was for the slower time during the year runners by time.
1st 100 in 10.1, 2nd 220?
Placed 4th in my heat Missed the 200 (See story)

Looking back at my track season.

In my sophomore year in track, I started out kind of slow because I never had ran track before. Always coming in third of fourth and the beginning of the season. Then I got the mumps and was off school for a week or so. When I returned, I was getting really tired of hearing from the Schapiro brothers of how I couldn't beat them or ever would. The next track meet was held at Edgewood High School in West Covina, I did just that, beat them both. The look on their face was total disbelief and the brothers knew I had their number now.

In my Junior year, I didn't go out for any sports. I needed a break and was busy with other things but was very active, roller skating, surfing, dancing, hiking, and riding my unicycle. I believe it was all this plus the riding the unicycle that held me develop my legs and cardiovascular system. You had to pedal fast and it was a great workout.

In my senior year I once again started training and went out for cross country at the beginning of the year as I did in my sophomore year. At the beginning of the season we were training hard and Mr. Tapp my coach said that he wanted me to get a short haircut like the other guys. He said don't come back to practice without one. That made me mad and I got stubborn and decided not to go back to practice.

My friend Gary Groves who had a great physique and the best running form showed me a few exercises in the gym to increase my upper body strength. Gary ran the 400 yd event. Now working out in the gym during the time I was to be training at cross-country I was doing weight training. One day Mr. Tapp walked in the gym looked at me lifting weights on the flat bench and said, "Helmer are you still in my class?" I said yes and told him that he didn't want me training with the team, so I been working out here. He just shook his head and walked out.

After cross-country had ended, he saw me in the locker room and said are you going out for track? And I replied was yes. Are you going to cut your hair? I said no, he mumbled and walked away. I started training with the team and made ready for the season.

I believe that all the training in the gym and the other physical things I was doing had gotten me into great shape. I should have worked harder during the season, but my personal life got into the way, which I wasn't sorry about but could have been faster. I could have improved getting out of the blocks faster and perfected my running style.

I was disappointed once during the season. At this one meet at Rosemead I was timed in the 200-meter dash or called then the 220-yard dash. I came in first and beat the school record. The

teacher who was helping with the meet timed me with the record but didn't believe his watch. I walked over to him and found that I broke the record. He was looking at the watch and said he didn't believe it and didn't record the time. The strange thing was later they put down a slower time in the book which made me really upset.

Even though Mr. Tapp and I were at odds sometimes we really liked each other, and he was a really good guy. I miss running and loved the feeling of speed and power.

My First Job after Graduation.

The following Monday after graduation Ed was over at my house and we were discussing where we could find jobs for the summer. My mother worked part-time at the Midway Shopping center in a lady's shop there. There were other shops, a Bowling Alley, and a Grocery Store located there. We had prior box-boy experience and thought maybe we could find a job there.

The center was located at 10412 Lower Azusa Road in El Monte. We applied at the grocery store filling out employment applications. When we finished and turned them in, they said that they didn't have any openings but would keep our applications on file.

As we walked out of the store we started thinking about where else we could look for work. Half-jokingly I said maybe we should join the Army and become mechanics. That didn't actually sound that bad. We drove over to the Army recruitment center in El Monte. I remember sitting in front of the recruiting sergeant with Ed as he told us that if we signed up that day the Army would guarantee that we would be sent to mechanic school and that we would be on the buddy plan. The buddy plan is where they would keep you together through Basic Training.

At that time Ed was 18 which meant when he signed, he was committed. In my case, I was 17 and was underage and had to have my parents sign for me. The day was set as July 8, 1964,

that we were to be sworn into the Army. We would first have to take a physical that would be performed at the induction center in Los Angeles.

After leaving the recruitment center Ed and I returned to our homes to tell our parents what we had done. Ed told his mother Bernice, that we had joined the Army. She said what if George's parents don't sign for him, you'll be going in by yourself.

When I got home it must have been shortly before 5 pm and my dad hadn't gotten home from work yet. I walked in through the back door of our house and saw my mother standing at the sink preparing dinner. As I walked towards her, I said, "I found a job" She then turned around with a smile that was short lived. She said, "where?" I then dropped the bomb and said, "I joined the Army." She about dropped the bowl she had in her hands. "You better discuss this with your father when he gets home." Just then dad walked in and mom said, "George has something he wants to tell you." I turned around and said, "Ed and I joined the Army." Without any emotion, he said, "I'll tell you three things, don't volunteer for anything, don't stick out, and do what you are told, and you'll be just fine." They signed the papers and I took them the next morning back down to the recruiter's office in El Monte.

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I feel bad not talking tis over first with family and Carol but in the heat of the moment I wasn't thinking too clearly and acted on instinct. Too late to back out at that stage, although it turned out to be the best decision I could have made at the time.

My List of Top Songs for Early 1964

1964 was a very interesting year in music for me. The first half was the last half of my senior year in high school and the second half of the year was when I was in the Army. Both have some great memories and the songs still take me back to those times.

The last half of my school year was easy for me. I had all but a couple of class that was required but most were elective classes like woodshop, machine shop, Art, Men's Glee and physical education (PE). Songs like "Walk Don't Run" by The Ventures and other instrumentals songs are what I liked dancing to plus a few slow songs like "You Don't Own Me" by Lesley Gore.

There were the surfing songs plus all the hot rod car songs like "The Little Old Lady from Pasadena" by Jan and Dean. Songs like this would get me motivated to work on my car and take it up to Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena which the song was all about.

"Walk, Don't Run '64", The Ventures

"I Get Around", The Beach Boys

"Love Me Do", The Beatles

"Suspicion", Terry Stafford

Viva Las Vegas, Elvis Presley

"Rag Doll", The Four Seasons

"Dawn (Go Away)", The Four Seasons

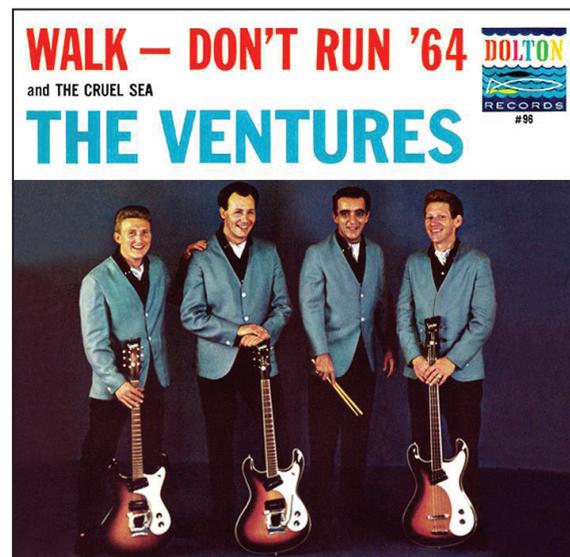
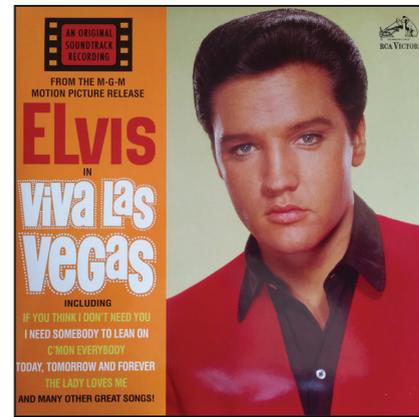
"Dead Man's Curve", Jan and Dean

"You Don't Own Me", Lesley Gore

"G.T.O.", Ronny & the Daytonas

"Hey Little Cobra", The Rip Chords

"I Want to Hold Your Hand", The Beatles



"She Loves You", The Beatles

"The Little Old Lady from Pasadena", Jan and Dean

"Do You Want to Know a Secret", The Beatles

"Out of Limits", The Marketts

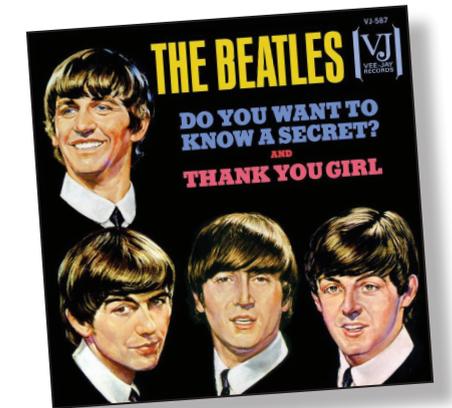
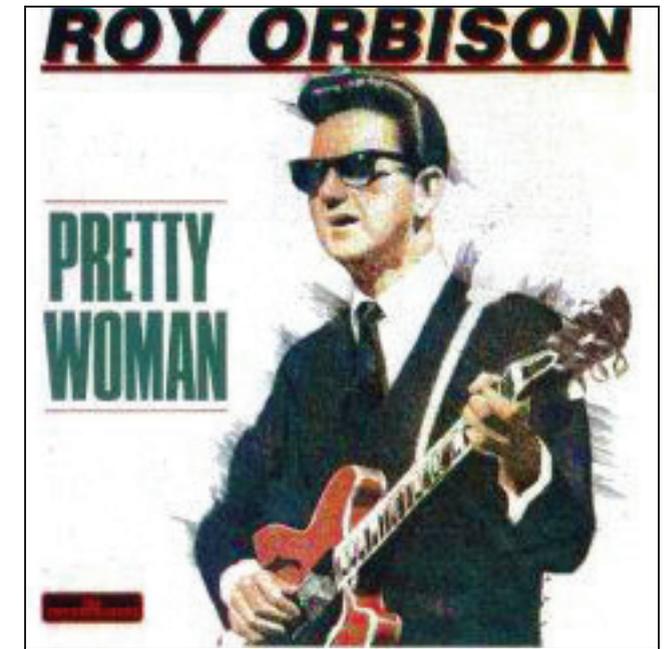
"Little Honda", The Hondells

"The Shoop Shoop Song (It's in His Kiss)", Betty Everett

My List of Top Songs after June 1964

The Army's Basic Training and Mechanic School took up most of the second half of the year. Songs like, "Pretty Woman" by Roy Orbison, "Everybody Loves Somebody" by Dean Martin and "We'll Sing in the Sunshine" by Gale Garnett still remind me of Basic Training at Fort Ord. Songs like "A Hard Day's Night" by The Beatles and "My Guy" by Mary Wells are songs I associate with Fort Eustis in Virginia during December of that year.

Carol Zarate and I danced every chance we got which reminds me about one of Rosemead's High School dances. As the norm for us, we danced every dance, and most were fast songs. We were the best dancers and it was obvious. One of the teacher chaperones at the dance was my track coach Mr. Tapp. He was always on me to train harder at practice. He walked up to us right after one of the fast songs played and said with a straight face, "If you worked as hard at track practice as you do dancing, you would never lose a race." I now can see he was probably right.



"Everybody Loves Somebody", Dean Martin

"We'll Sing in the Sunshine", Gale Garnett

"Pretty Woman", Roy Orbison

"Under the Boardwalk", The Drifters

"Walk On By", Dionne Warwick

"A Hard Day's Night", The Beatles

"Dancing in the Street", Martha and the Vandellas

"My Guy", Mary Wells

"Baby Love", The Supremes

