

UPDATE

POINT LOMA HIGH SCHOOL
FOUNDATION & ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

March 2002

FOUNDATION & ALUMNI ASSOC.

HARD AT WORK

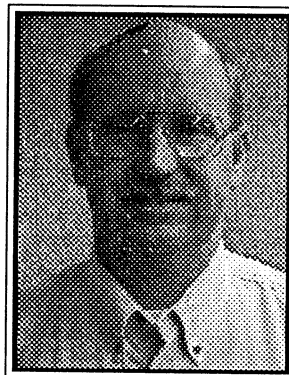
BENEFITTING PLHS

By Ruth Sandven, PLHSFAA President

It's been anything but a quiet six months for Point Loma High School Foundation and Alumni Association! Since we were all in shock in September, our first meeting was not until October and we immediately launched into A Mile of Dollars and our community-wide talent show "Point Loma Unplugged." A Mile of Dollars netted one thousand dollar bills, placed end to end, around the track at the Point Loma High School Homecoming football game. The talent show was performed before a 700-member audience in November to rave reviews. I hope you were part of it but if not, you



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Message from the Principal:

I want to start my remarks for this newsletter by thanking each supporter of Point Loma High School who has chosen to become a member of the Point Loma High School Foundation and Alumni Association this year. This has been our most successful membership year with 200+ members and your support for our students through the Foundation and Alumni Association membership is truly appreciated.

Our current major project involves replacing our Ross Field grass turf with an all-purpose artificial turf field. We are very close to reaching our fund raising goals however, if you have not had the opportunity to make a contribution to this effort your support would be gladly accepted and appreciated. I want to thank Ron Cunningham and the football Boosters Group for their leadership and hard work our students and community will benefit on this project. If all of the details fall into place you will see a new surface on Ross Field by opening day, fall of 2002.

A new opportunity that I am very excited about is the Foundation and Alumni Associations new Scholarship Endowment. Our president, Ruth Sandven, describes the opportunity in greater depth

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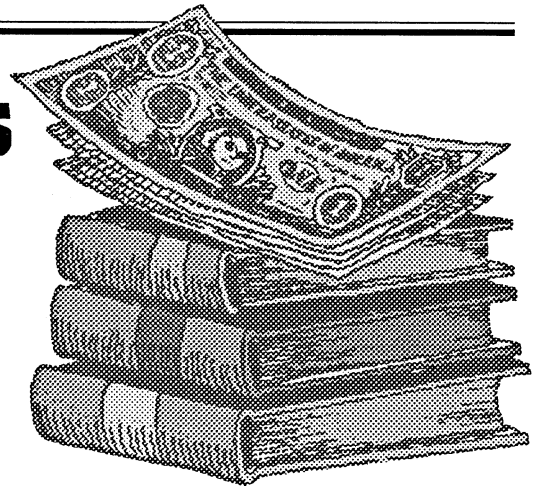
The PLHSFAA *Update* is published twice yearly by the Point Loma High School Foundation and Alumni Association, 1220 Rosecrans St., Box 247, San Diego, CA 92101-2674. Phone: 619-226-4509 Fax: 619-226-4512.

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PLHSFAA Launches Scholarship Endowment Fund

By Ruth Sandven



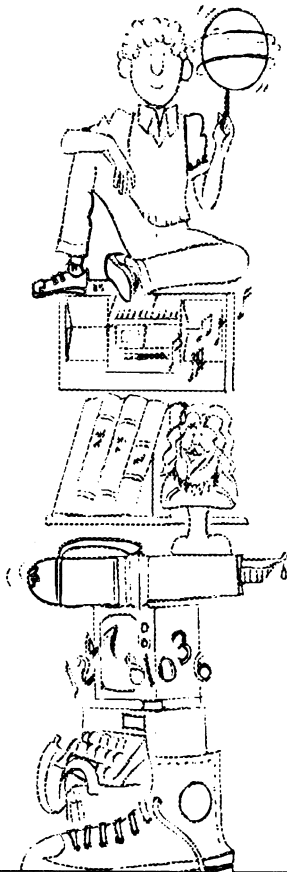
PLHS Foundation and Alumni Association is proud to present the PLHSFAA Scholarship Endowment Fund. The ultimate goal of the Scholarship Endowment Fund is to enable every Point Loma High School senior the opportunity for at least one year of college. In order to meet this lofty goal, our hope is to build the Fund up to one million dollars.

The Scholarship Endowment Fund is now able to accept tax deductible gifts of money, life insurance and property. The PLHSFAA Scholarship Endowment Fund may be named as a beneficiary in a will or trust or as a place to make donations in memory of a loved one.

Monies received by the Scholarship Endowment Fund will be invested by the Scholarship Endowment Fund Committee. These investments will be made as any prudent person would make using his or her own funds. Preservation of capital, income and growth of principal is our goal. All principal amounts will be retained and only the income expended for granting scholarships.

Our endeavor in this project is to show every high school student that we, the school, the community and the PLHSFAA are 100 % behind them as they create a productive future of their own.

This is truly the gift that keeps on giving!



GIFTS AND GRANTS

By Mary Abbey

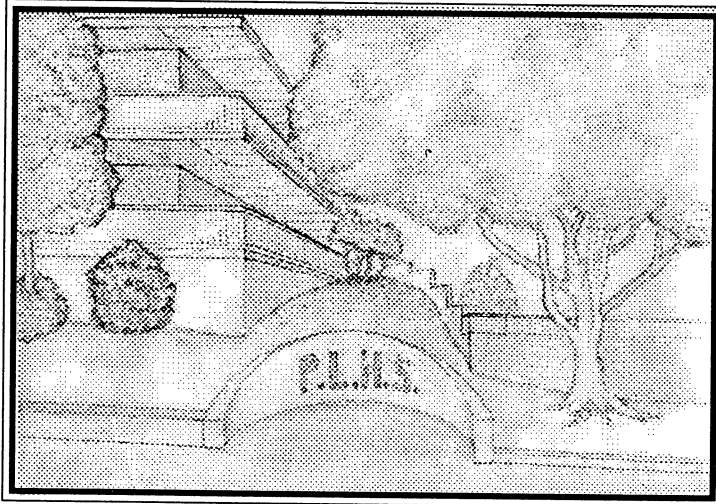
While the Point Loma High School Foundation and Alumni Association has been busy raising funds, the Gifts and Grants Committee has been receiving grant requests from various teachers and special groups at the high school. The G & G Committee takes these requests to the PLHSFAA Board to either fund or find another means of support.

Through generous donations and successful efforts such as the Mile of Dollars, Point Loma Unplugged, School and Community solicitation letters, the Membership Drive, and the upcoming Golf Tournament, we have been able to support a wide variety of dreams and needs at PLHS. These include new hurdles for the athletic department, percussion instruments for the marching band, materials for a Colorguard backdrop, an editing system for use in making films for all students and all departments, electric race cars to enable physics students to compete in the county "Electric Challenge", and a new copier for the office.

Also funded, is the Princeton Review program, which keeps the costs down for students wanting to increase their SAT scores with a month-long class, support for the Dance Team, who qualified for a National Competition, and the Sailing Team. The Board also pledged support for the community wide PLHS turf project, and gave tuition assistance to the Youth & Government program. Monies raised at the "Point Loma Unplugged" show will be used for improvements in the PAC, and the Board was able to give funds to the PLHS Scholarship Fund.

All funds raised through the PLHSFAA efforts have helped fulfill school dreams and meet worthy needs. On behalf of the PLHSFAA, thank you for your continued support. We all have good reason to be proud of Point Loma High School.

Landscaping and Site Improvements to Beautify PLHS



By David Crawford

A new PLHSFAA sub-committee (Landscaping and Site Improvements) is exploring needed improvements to the appearance and safety to the front of Point Loma High School along Chatsworth Boulevard. Current proposals include:

- A newly-designed school entry, enhancing the entry's appearance and visibility to the community.
- Widening the sidewalk along Chatsworth Boulevard to comply with recommended safety standards and provide adequate access for students entering and exiting the school.

• Adding a small retaining wall along the school side of the widened sidewalk, usable as seating for students waiting for transportation, while also retaining the hillside along the school where new landscaping is envisioned.

The proposed sidewalk and retaining wall incorporates an area for students waiting for bus transportation that will have a high circular retaining wall along the hillside, displaying the school's initials.

The high school's current border along Chatsworth Boulevard has a narrow sidewalk and lacks needed clearance for pedestrians passing along this busy thoroughfare. Moreover, the school entry is nearly invisible to the community.

These proposals are preliminary and the sub-committee is seeking a landscape architect to help with the design and is exploring available financial resources from the school district, city and community to help create these improvements. Anyone interested in assisting is encouraged to contact the sub-committee members: **Doug Harvey, Camilla Ingram, Ann Hix, Glen Vieira, and David Crawford.**

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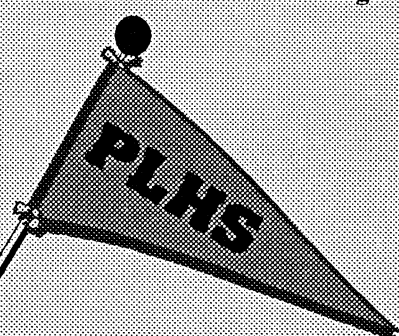
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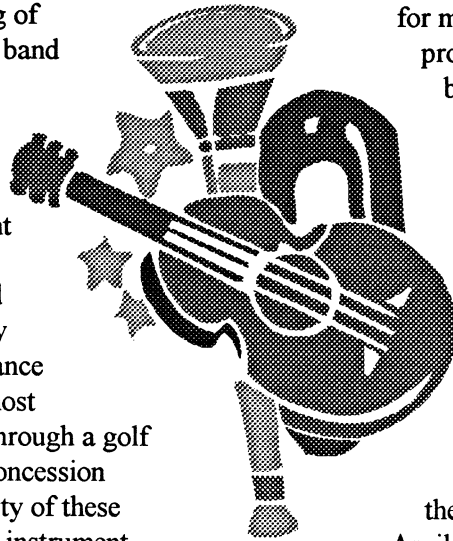
Point Loma High School Band News

By Ann Hix

The Point Loma High School Band Spring Concert will be the evening of March 21, 2002 in the PAC. The band will play music they are preparing for two upcoming High School Band and Orchestra Festivals at Grossmont High School (March 16) and Clairemont High School (April 13).

The Band students and Band Booster parents have been actively raising money to support and enhance our growing music program. Almost \$6,000 has been raised this year through a golf tournament, fees and donations, concession sales and candy sales. The majority of these funds has been or will be spent on instrument sectional coaches, transportation, competition fees, and band awards.

Additionally, thanks to \$25,000 in funding from the City of San Diego—obtained through the efforts of Councilmember Byron Wear—the Point Loma High



School band room now sports brand new lockers for musical instrument storage! These lockers provide secure (and attractive) storage for both school- and student-owned instruments, as well as a location for the band's music library.

The Band has also been able to replace \$4,000 worth of worn out percussion equipment through a generous grant from the PLHSFAA, and to purchase an instrument strobe tuner, a synthesizer/keyboard/MIDI, and several new instruments through 75th Gala funds raised last year.

The last PLHS Band fundraiser of the year will be a giant rummage sale on April 27 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Dusty Rhodes Park in Ocean Beach. If you have items you would like to donate, contact band parent Susie Leon at (619) 758-9526, and she can arrange for immediate pick up (and storage at our donated space courtesy of Storage USA on Sherman Street).

PLHS Band Members Honored

By Ann Hix

Five musicians from the Point Loma High School Band auditioned for and were accepted into the San Diego School District Honor Orchestra or Honor Band. The final concert for both groups will be April 21, 2002 in Copley Symphony Hall.

Honor Orchestra

Codie Henrie, Trumpet
Greg Hix, French Horn

Honor Band

Nick Crisafi, Clarinet
Alexandra East, Flute
Shawn Henrie, French Horn

Fore! Heads Up!

The Point Loma High School Annual Golf Tournament is just around the corner! Join the fun on Friday April 19th. The scramble tournament will start at 1 pm at the Auld Course in Chula Vista. Cost is \$100 if you register before March 22, and \$125 after that date. Put together a foursome or sign up yourself. Call Mike Hix for information at 619-595-5377.

All proceeds benefit Point Loma High School.



PLHS Football Boosters Seek Final Donations for New Playing Surface

By Ron Cunningham, President, PLHS Football Booster Club

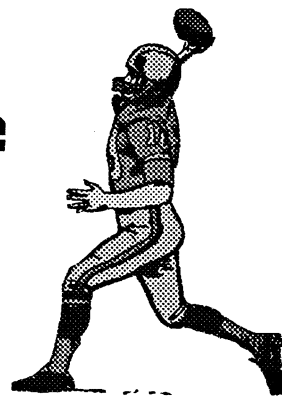
Well it's March and we are already in the middle of March madness. NO, not the college basketball kind, but the "let's get the rest of the money so we can install the new playing surface in the high school stadium" kind. We come a long way since those early big dream meetings of July and August last year. We have had to experience the impact of a national tragedy and the competition for charitable dollars that those events brought about. In America, in San Diego, and in Point Loma, we have experienced the generosity of our community.

To complete the field project we need \$650,000. Today we have \$550,539 in cash and pledges toward the installation of a new playing surface. I want to thank David Wells, Nike, Liberty Station (Corky McMillin), everybody who bought snacks at the football games, football and soccer parents, relatives, friends and parents of the PE students who sent out letters, Pop Warner Football, PLHSFAA, PLHSASB, parents from Correia, the San Diego County Soccer League, the San Diego Unified School District, and many others for their financial support of this project.

So, where are we going to get the remaining \$99,461? We believe that of the presentations made to interested parties, another \$50,000 in pledges will come in before the end of the month. Although we have ideas on where to get the balance of \$49,461, we can always use your help in identifying potential donors. **WE MUST GET OUR COMMITMENTS IN PLACE PRIOR TO THE END OF MARCH AND NO LATER THAN THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL.**

If you have any ideas, we would love to hear them. Please contact me at (619) 995-4063, any PLHSFAA Board Member, Coach Hastings, or Mike Price regarding any funding sources of which you may be aware. It will be greatly appreciated.

We are very close to completing our funding. With your help we can give our children and community something to enjoy and something that will enhance the high school experience at Point Loma High. Thanks.



Cheerleading Team Boosters Kick Up Support

By Linda Weber

"Go! Fight! Win! Go, Pointers!" The familiar cheers can be heard at sports events fall, winter and spring, led by enthusiastic Pointer cheerleaders boosting their team. This year, however, the cheerleaders have their own boosters – the Cheer Team Boosters. As a competition squad, PLHS cheerleaders incur significant costs. The Cheer Team Booster group was established in November to raise funds to support the team. A rummage sale was held in November as our first event.

Cheerleading today involves more than rooting at games. Cheer teams prepare and perform complicated routines at local and national competitions. Requiring strength, coordination, precision and endurance, cheer is the "sport of choice" for the many young women who tryout each year. The dance, gymnastics and stunts of cheer require year-round coaching. Not recognized as a sport by CIF, the team must cover their own costs for uniforms, coaching, competition and travel fees. By raising funds to support the team, the Cheer Team Boosters group reduces the burden of the Cheer Advisor and the cost of participation for the cheerleaders.

Cheer Team Boosters is open to parents/guardians of cheerleaders, PLHS alumni, and interested community members. Our meetings will be held in conjunction with cheer parent meetings (contact Cheer Advisor Donna Gramm-Gonsalvas at PLHS for meeting info.) Following upcoming tryouts and selection of the 2002-2003 cheerleaders, Cheer Team Boosters will meet to plan and implement fundraising events. Any parent, alumni or other interested individuals who would like to help may contact Booster president Linda Weber (619) 226-7726, lindaw@sdhc.org. Donations to the cheer team may be sent to Cheer Team Boosters, c/o Susan Hinrichs, PLHSFAA at PLHS (checks should be made out to Cheer Team Boosters).

Our deepest thanks to all our Donors.

- Point Loma High School Foundation and Alumni Association

FOUNDATION CIRCLE

(\$500 - \$999)

Lawrence Cushman

Tony Crisafi

Gilbert V. Jones

John Landis

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(\$250 - \$499)

David Berman

Marie Huff

Jay Timmons

Salvador & Fely Cacatian

John B. & Katherine Wilson Clark

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Ray Ellis
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PLHPFAA Donors, continued

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Nick Fintzelberg



The Show Must Go On:

News From the Performing Arts

by Larry Zeiger

In the coming months when you come to the Performing Arts Center, you will see new curtains, thanks to \$6,700 in proceeds generated by the PLHSFAA show, *Point Loma Unplugged* and the 75th Anniversary celebration of Point Loma High School last year. As many of you know the curtains have been falling

apart for years. At the start of Jenny Gardham's fall production, the curtain would not open. As a result, in front of a crowd of nearly 300, Jenny had to climb a ladder and cut the curtain rope on the ceiling in order to pull the curtains open so her performance could start - and this was definitely not in her job description!

Thanks to the generous donation of the Foundation and the Alumni Association, we will not only have new curtains, but ones that will open by simply pushing a button (hopefully, we won't blow any fuses. . .) The arts are a vital part of our lives and the Performing Arts Center is not only used by drama, music, and musical theater, but also by almost every department on campus as well as for assemblies, guest speakers, faculty meetings, ASB meetings, PTSA presentations, fundraisers, political forums, and community meetings. In the coming years, we hope to continue to make more improvements to make the Performing Arts Center one of the finest theatrical facilities in Point Loma.

I'd also like to thank alumnus, Matt Novotny for helping us find a new spotlight and several lights for the theater which we purchased from the Old Town Theater's production of FOREVER PLAID (these lights were purchased from musical theater ticket sales and from the advertisements for the Zeiger program).

AND THE SHOWS MUST GO ON. . .

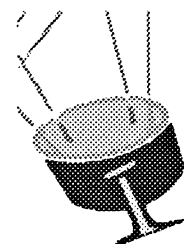
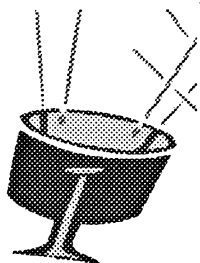
Tracking with Performing Alumni

by Larry Zeiger

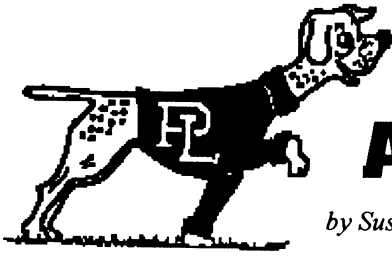
I had a terrific time in Los Angeles on December 5th when alumnus Erik Fleming organized a party in my honor, inviting several Point Loma alumni who are working in film, television, and theater. Erik Fleming (1987) is a film and television director. Also in attendance at the Tahiti Restaurant in Hollywood were Halle Stanford (1987), producer and writer of children's television; Guy Lia (1988) writer; Randy Rosa (1988), award winning Special Effects artist, several Cleo awards; Devin Price - stage actress; Alli Spotts - stage actress, Barbara Streisand's back-up singer for final concert; William Ledent (1995) - actor, filmmaker; and many more distinguished alumni.

Here's more alumni news - Joe Hutshing (1972) was a guest speaker in my film classes, fascinating students with his stories about his most recent work, *VANILLA SKY*. Joe received an incredible honor this year: the film *JFK*, for which he won the Oscar, was selected by a national poll of filmmakers as the greatest achievement in film editing in the history of motion pictures!

This year, Steven Withers (1979) was the principal keyboardist for *DRACULA* at the La Jolla Playhouse and *JANE EYRE* on Broadway. He continues to be one of the most sought after pianists and music directors on Broadway. He is currently working on a project in London with the composer of *RAGTIME*. Scarlet Keys (1984) who now resides in Nashville, just completed her new CD of original songs (and it is superb). Chris Brinker



continued next page



Eye on Alumni

by Susan Ballantyne

wife, Theresa Azeveda '50 and 5 of their children (PLHS grads) greeted the ship as it docked at its new home port.

Thanks to the *San Diego Union-Tribune* we find Terri Mann'87 is living in Georgia, has 5 children and is a schoolteacher. Terri's accomplishments in basketball for PLHS are unparalleled.

The late Jimmie E. Howard, who was a volunteer assistant to Benny Edens for many years has been honored by having a navy destroyer named for him. His

NEWS FROM 1931 Pointer Newsletter - Volume 1, No.1 November 6, 1931

■ Enrollment increased by 122 students making a total of 892 which included junior high school.

■ PLHS made a radical change in its period schedule. Lunch went from 40 minutes to 30 minutes, time between classes cut to 4 minutes from 5 minutes. The rescheduling was done to make more time for home room, assemblies, etcl.

■ The cost per pupil of operating San Diego schools for the year 1930-31 was \$117.00.

Thanks to Molly Karlsgodt '66 for donating this Pointer back to the school. Her mother, Lois Stephens, was an assistant editor on the Pointer staff in 1931 going on to be editor her senior year.

IN MEMORIAM

Betty Plaister Gay	Class of 1932
Richard Huntington	Class of 1942
Salvador H. Dippollet	Class of 1942
Alfred M. Clough	Class of 1946
Jeanne Miller Brown	Class of 1949
Joy Hocott Hammel	Class of 1949
Kay Ketchen Moore	Class of 1949
Robert M. Cosgrove	Class of 1951
Cliffie Smith Evans	Class of 1952
Laurel Smedley Hurley	Class of 1970
Craig Aalseth	Class of 1975
Edward J. Madruga	Class of 1982
Peter C. May	Class of 1983
Mary Young	Teacher

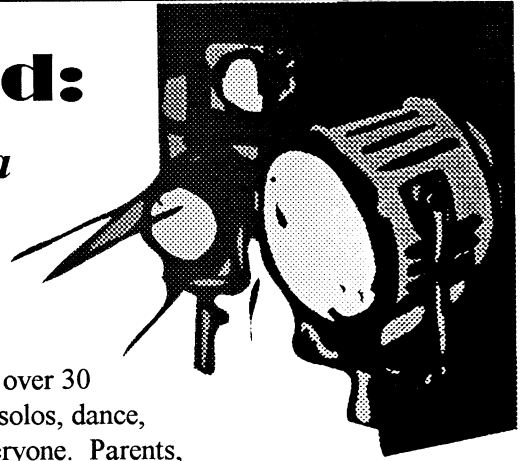
Tracking with Performing Alums, continued from page 8

(1986) is producing the sequel to Willem Dafoe's film, *BOONDOCK SAINTS*. **Breehn Burns** (1993) who has had several animated films in the Spike and Mike Festival of Animation and was one of the principal animators for Bill Cosby's *LITTLE BILL* series is now working on his own comic book series. **Michael Ford** (1987) is writing a film text and designing special effects for numerous films. **Glen Fisher** (1982) is one of the key organizers of the Peninsula Arts Alliance and continues to pack in audiences at Croce's Jazz Club in the Gaslamp. **Aaron Zigman** (1980) composed the score and theme song for the film, *JOHN Q.* **Gia Kersulis** (1997) wowed audiences at her senior opera recital at San Diego State University. **Jason Scheff** continues to tour the world as lead singer, guitarist, and song writer for the world famous band, *CHICAGO*. **Bryan Verhoye's** (1979) piano recitals are drawing standing room only crowds throughout the city. **Lynn Terrell** dazzles audiences in the Baltimore/Washington D.C. area with her starring roles in numerous musicals and operas. I know I've left out several of my former stars - feel free to e-mail me and I'll get you next time! (LZeiger@aol.com)

Point Loma Unplugged:

A Cluster of Hidden Talent and a BIG Success!

By Kim Jessop



The first annual Point Loma Unplugged community variety show took place on November 17, 2001.....and it was a huge success! With over 30 acts in the show, from original piano compositions, martial arts, vocal solos, dance, comedy, and even the Alma Mater rapped, there was something for everyone. Parents, students, community members, **Alan Bersin**, **John DeBeck** and **Byron Wear** all took part. There were several family acts, including **Penny and Eri Hawkins** music duet and the **Kersulis Family's** "Livin' in O.B." The only complaint we had was that the show was a little long.....with the suggestion that perhaps we should do it over two nights next year if we have as many great acts!

Special recognition and thanks go to **Ed Holly** for pulling the show together with his M.C. skills. The rest of the committee deserve a huge thank you for all their hard work....but they must have enjoyed it because they have all agreed to come back next year to do it again. (If you want to be on next year's committee contact **Kim Jessop** at 226-1492 or thejessops@cox.net.)

Several acts received donations to the Foundation in their name that night. The Four Corners Deer Mice Bluegrass band featuring PLHS parent **Kim Cyr**, and **Katie Reynolds'** vocal solo were crowd favorites. All proceeds from the show - **\$6,700!** - will go to PLHS Performing Arts.

Plans are already being made for next fall's show, "Point Loma Unplugged....generating our own energy." Many people, inspired by the fun we all had this year, have caught the theater bug and are already thinking about their acts for the next show! Watch for flyers with info coming this spring. Audition reservation forms will be available the first week of school on campus, in Mr. **Zeiger's** room, or on the website at www.plhsfaa.com.

PLHSFAA Style!

Attention PLHS Fans, now you can walk the talk - in style! New PLHS gear will soon be available through the school website! Check out www.plhsfaa.com and invest in some Pointer style. Expect to find:

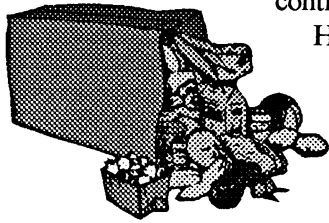
- ◆ T-shirts - white for \$10 or maroon for \$15
- ◆ Sweatshirts - \$35 plus shipping
- ◆ Warm-Up suits - maroon and white with lighthouse logo for \$75 (jacket and pant offered in separate sizes)
- ◆ Collared button-down shirts - natural or denim long sleeve for \$30 or short sleeve for \$29;
- ◆ Polo shirts - solid maroon for \$23 or maroon with tri-colored collar for \$33
- ◆ Baseball Cap with lighthouse logo for \$15

**Check
this
OUT!**

E-SCRIP: Free Money to PLHS Have YOU Registered?

by Julie Belsha

E-scrip is the easiest way for you make a regular contribution to Point Loma High *and it costs you nothing*. All you have to do is register your grocery store Club Card and every time you shop using your card, a percentage of your total is sent directly to PLHS.



You can register your grocery card, gas card and many other credit cards.

There are several ways to register and it's *so easy*. Simply pick up the phone and dial 1-800-592-0942 and give them the Point Loma High School ID# 138376810. You can even register and review the entire program online at www.escripinc.com.

If you have any questions or would like us to register for you please call Julie Belsha at 224-8848 or Radmila Fulton at 223-7208

Please take a moment to register and you'll be helping your school - *effortlessly*.

PLHS President Ruth Sandven, continued from page 1

missed a great time so please join us next year. November also was the month for a most successful direct solicitation and membership drive. This campaign was underwritten by board member Ray Ellis and his former company, M.C. Direct. This type of fund raising takes a huge effort and many board members spent hours working on it. We welcome our new members in this newsletter issue and thank EVERYONE who contributed! We have received approximately \$17,600 from this effort and have put the funds to great use (see page 2 re: gifts and grants).

In addition to fundraising, the PLHSFAA has been expanding to encompass all adult fundraising (except for PTA fundraising) on the high school campus. We now include Football Boosters, Band Boosters, Cheer Boosters and Baseball Boosters. Each of these booster clubs operates under their own bylaws and as an Advisory Group to PLHSFAA. Fundraising for these groups as well as for the Foundation and Alumni Association is now well coordinated rather than overlapping. And, all contributions, even if designated for a specific group, are tax deductible. All funds are held in earmarked PLHSFAA accounts until spent.

Generous community partners have come forward this year to support PLHSFAA in various ways. It is always a treat when a group volunteers to help instead of being dragged. I want to thank Ray Simas (a Point Loma High School alumnus) and San Diego National Bank for a generous contribution to PLHSFAA and for seeking out opportunities to become involved in the Point Loma community school cluster.

As we spring into March, April and May our work is still not complete. Our annual golf tournament will be held April 19th at the Auld course in Chula Vista. We encourage all community golfers to get a foursome together and play

continued next column

for fun, prizes and local fame!

Our Programs Committee is digging into a beautification project and researching doing some major landscaping along Chatsworth Blvd. As Prop MM begins to address our worn and well-used buildings we want the grounds of PLHS to reflect the pride we have in this educational institution in the heart of our community.

The month of May will bring our second membership and direct solicitation drive of the year. As you read through this newsletter, we hope you will feel your money is being put towards significant use and will understand the importance of an additional donation.

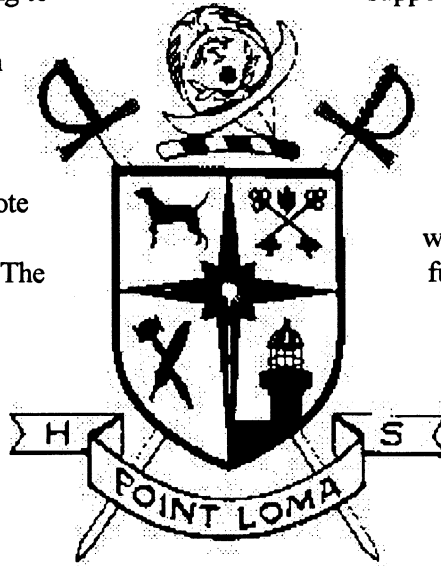
As I wrote in our fall newsletter, our PLHSFAA goals are two-fold. Our first goal is to strengthen the visibility of Point Loma High School in the community. We want all community residents to regard PLHS as a premiere public high school and a vital place in our community. Our second goal is to raise funds to support the academic programs that set PLHS apart from other high schools. With your help we are accomplishing both of these goals this year. Together, we are making an impact on our community and an investment in our teenage students.

If you are interested in being part of this extraordinary group of people that makes up PLHSFAA, please contact us via email at info@plhsfaa.com or call our office (located on the campus of PLHS) at 619-226-4509. We will be electing new Board of Director members this June. If you don't want to be on the board, but would like to volunteer for any of our projects, we welcome your participation.

If you know of someone who would be interested in receiving membership information, please send us their name and address. Let us hear from you. Email us! Visit the school when you are in town! Visit our web site and attend your class reunion! In other words (actually the words of Garrison Keillor) "Be well, do good work and keep in touch!"

Message from the Principal, continued from page 1

elsewhere in this newsletter but I wanted to share while it's important and exciting to me. I see this Scholarship as the beginning of the realization of a dream that I shared with you some six years ago when I became principal of Point Loma High. At that time I wrote you that I wanted to build a \$1,000,000 endowment fund. The annual interest income would provide support to all of our graduating seniors for their first year of college expenses. As college costs rise, so does the pressure on students and their families.



This endowment fund would provide needed support for all students who meet the application and attendance criteria for their first year of college. Please carefully consider your ability to quickly build the fund through gifts to the PLHSFAAA Scholarship Endowment Fund. You will leave a lasting legacy that will further the influence of Point Loma High School on our world.

Thank you for your support, your generosity, and your involvement with our students.

Michael Price

Check out the Point Loma High School Foundation & Alumni Association website! www.plhsfaa.com

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