

Encinal School PTA-1969-70  
Historian's Report

1969-70 was a brand new year for a 20-year old school. We had a new age-group of students (Encinal became a 4th through 8th grade school); new school boundaries (the Lorelei Manor Annexation was included); new teachers (the former 4th through 6th grade teachers at Laurel school joined our staff); a new vice-principal who had just joined the school district; and new parents (those who before the boundary changes had resided in the Laurel School attendance area, or in the Lorelei Manor area.)

The smooth transition to all these new experiences reflects credit on everyone involved. Particular credit goes to Mrs. Robert Procter who was chairman of the PTA effort to reach each family concerned through information coffees, parent questionnaires and school bulletins.

Under President, Mrs. Burton Blackwell, the first PTA event of the school year was the traditional luncheon honoring new and returning teachers. It was arranged by our Hospitality Chairmen, Mrs. Robert Laird and Mrs. Roy Westly.

Under Program Chairman Mrs. Arthur Hausman, the events in September were a dinner at Encinal School to welcome new and returning parents, which 358 people attended; and Group Conferences in the evening of September 24 for grades 4, 5, and 6, and on September 25 for grades 7 and 8. During these Conferences, parents had opportunity to visit each of their child's teachers. Membership Chairman, Mrs. Robert Spiegelman reported that 78% of the Encinal families joined our PTA during the September Drive.

The high point of October was our traditional Halloween Carnival under Chairman Mrs. Roderick Harris and Mrs. Walter Aron. A live rock music dance for 7th and 8th graders was the loudest activity of the evening and was judged a successful experiment. The financial profit was approximately one thousand dollars, and the active interest of parents and children on Halloween is hard to calculate, but certainly valuable.

In November the general meeting was an evening program titled "Impact of Drugs in our Community." Our speakers were Mr. Ray Cruickshank of the Menlo Park City School District, and Officer Richard Moore of the Atherton Police Dept.

Events in December were a clothing drive for Christmas House under Chairman Mrs. Elmer Dohrmann, and our Christmas Program featuring the Encinal Chorus and the School District Orchestra.

In January we held a cocktail party and potluck dinner for the PTA Board and spouses with an American Heritage theme and menu. Speakers from the Council for Intergroup Education were our guests, and presented information about the Council.



The February Founders' Day Tea was held at Encinal School this year under Chairman Mrs. Robert Duncan. Mr. Richard Van Houton, Mrs. Philip Rice, and Mrs. Henry Gay received Honorary Life Membership Awards, and Mrs. Ina Porter received the newly-created Continuing Service Award.

In March we presented a morning program on Outdoor Science Education. Parents from Willow and Belle Haven schools were our guests. The Menlo Park City School District has considered this year's pilot program successful and will introduce it in all schools next year.

In April, in observance of Public Schools Week, parents were urged to visit their child's classroom during the school day. Also in April, an evening program was held on the subject of Drug Abuse. Parents were urged to bring their children to an informational program giving the viewpoint of a Atherton Police officer familiar with the school, a doctor treating addicts, and a teen-age former user.

The highlight of May was the Mother-Daughter Tea and Fashion Show under Chairman Mrs. Mervin Morris, and in June we finished the school year with a luncheon at the Menlo Circus Club for the PTA Board and Room Mothers. Our parent-run Summer Recreation Program under Chairmen Mrs. Robert Larkin and Mrs. Vincent D'Andrea was the final event of the PTA year.

In addition to these monthly events, year-long activities supported by Encinal PTA this year include:

After-school Sports--Chairmen Mrs. Robert Huber and Mrs. Perry Wood. This program is managed and funded by Encinal School parents. This year \$2037.00 provided a program for 200 students.

Liaison with the Menlo-Atherton High School--Chairman Mrs. Leslie Harrod. We contributed \$25.00 to United M-A.

Liaison with Laurel School--Chairman Mrs. Robert Procter.

Liaison with the Encinal Student Council--Mrs. George Clark.

Liaison with the Council for Intergroup Education--Chairman Mrs. Fred Rice. We contributed \$10.00 to the Council.

Our PTA Newsletter, the Encinal Echo--Editor Mrs. Henry Gay. The newsletter was mailed to each family once a month.

Responsibility for the School Yearbook--edited by Encinal Students under the guidance of Mrs. Curtis Morehouse.

Greeting all families moving into the Encinal School attendance area--Chairmen Mrs. Donal Smith and Mrs. Willard Jones.

Attendance at the semi-monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees, and a monthly report of their decisions to our PTA Board--Chairman Mrs. D.S. Hamway.

Help with the Safety Patrol, the appointed students who assist at the street crossings adjacent to the school--Chairman Mrs. Eugene Rossi.

Room-level coffees at which each parent had opportunity to talk with his child's homeroom teacher; with Mrs. Porter; and with Mr. White, District Superintendent. In addition, parents of students in the 8th grade were invited to a coffee with Mr. Douglas Murray, Menlo-Atherton High School Principal.

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Assistance in staffing the Well-Baby Clinic--Chairman Mrs. Robert Medearis.

Parent Volunteer Program--Chairman Mrs. Robert Medearis. This program enabled interested parents to assist in the classroom.

Library assistance in our school library--Chairman Mrs. Paul Jones.

Continuous involvement, through informal efforts, of many Encinal parents in the development of remodeling plans for the school. The remodeling is to start in June and to be completed by September.

So salute to each one on an especially successful, innovative and productive year.