# Newsletter-June 2023

Pasadena High School Alumni Association

#### **Teachers Who Made a Difference in Our Life**

I remember that my Eighth Grade English teacher at Wilson Junior High School told my mother (who had also been her student) that I was not smart enough to go to college. My mother, who was probably disappointed when she heard those words from her own respected English teacher, continued to encourage me in my education.

Two teachers at Pasadena High School changed my life forever. Lois Thomas was my Latin teacher for four years. Ironic, isn't it, that when we study a foreign language, it can improve our comprehension of English syntax and grammar. That worked for me. The second instructor was John Stewart who taught Literary Classics in my senior year. He could have been teaching at Harvard University. Mr. Stewart inspired my own creative writing. Both teachers were demanding, but they saw the best in me. I did go on to study at the University of Southern California, and later to teach philosophy for forty-five years at Saddleback Community College.

As you look back on your memories of PHS, there must be at least one teacher who inspired you to do your best and perhaps guided you toward further education or vocational training that made a difference in your life.

Let's affirm our gratitude for these PHS teachers by supporting the Pasadena High School Alumni Association with our membership and volunteer efforts.

Always a Bulldog, Fr. Brad Karelius PHS 1963



## **News from PHS Alumni Association Board Meeting**

Here are the news/notes from the June 10, 2023 Pasadena High School Alumni Association meeting.

- We received a Tournament of Roses Foundation grant for \$15,000. Funds will be used to remodel the library, including the addition of "PHS Past", "PHS Present", and "PHS Future" areas in the library showcasing these eras of Pasadena High School. The new librarian is doing an inventory of all the books to ensure we have new, fresh, and relevant materials available to all students.
- PSHAA treasury balance approximately \$3,000
- · We have an addition of five new PHSAA members.
- The Bulldog football team will be hosting a Community BBQ/Meet & Greet on July 30th. PHSAA has been invited to participate. Waiting on more information.
- No meeting in July. The next PHSAA meeting will be held on Saturday, August 5th. There will be a Zoom lnk set up and posted for those who cannot attend in person.





## Anton Perez -Valedictorian Class of 2023

Meet our Valedictorian -Anton Perez. Anton will be attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the fall. In addition to being Valedictorian. Anton is a California Scholastic Federation (CSF) Sealbearer, and a member of the National Honor Society (NHS. Anton is also a National Merit Commended Scholar. He also received the Pasadena Department of Water and Power Scholarship, The Class of 1967 Scholarship and the Malcolm Meguiar Award. Congratulations! We are so proud.



#### **Graduation 2023**

On Friday evening June 2, 2023 the Bulldog Class of 2023 graduated at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. In front of their family, friends, Pasadena High School staff, community representatives and district administration these 429 students walked across the stage to receive the diplomas that now make them Pasadena High School graduates.



# Justin Hong -Saliutatorian Class of 2023

Meet our Class of 2023 Salutatorian - Justin Hong. Justin will attend the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in the fall. In addition to Salutatorian. Justin is a California Scholastic Federation (CSF) Sealbearer, a member of the National Honor Society (NHS) and a Seal of Biliteracy recipient. Justin is also a National Merit Commended Scholar. He also received the Class of 1967 Scholarship and the Kiwanis Club Scholarship. Congratulations! We are so proud.







# Notable Pasadena High School Alum Dr. David Q. Wark (1918 - 2002)

This is from the Bulletin of the American Astronomical Society - December 2003.

Before he passed, Dr.Wark set up a scholarship at Pasadena High School honoring his sister (also a fellow alumni) Dorothy Mary (Wark) and her husband Joseph Anton Schaertie.

David Q. Wark, a research meteorologist at the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA/NESDIS) and its predecessor organizations for 55 years, died of cancer 30 July, 2002. He will be long remembered for his seminal contributions to the weather satellite program.

A pioneer in the use of satellite sensors to provide observations of the Earth's environment for application to weather forecasting and atmospheric science, Dr. Wark was noted for his brillant insights, dedication, and exceptional scientific achievements. He developed many of the theoretical and experimental techniques on which NOAA's current multi-billion-dollar meteorological satellite program is based. In the 1960's and early 1970-'s he and his NOAA collegaue Donald Hilleary were the motivating force and principal investigators for the first satellite instruments dedicated to sounding the atmosphere for temperature and water vapor. These instruments included the Satellite Infra-Red Spectrometer (SIRS) -A and B and the Vertical Temperature Profile Radiometer (VTPR), swhich were flown on NASA's Nimbus satellites and NOAA's ITOS-D satellites, respectively. With colleague Henry Fleming, he formulated the radiative transfer equation that quantities the special radiances of the Earth and its atmosphere (measured at satellite altitude) and inverted that equation mathematically to infer the atmospheric temperature profile from satellite based measurements of those radiances. A difficulty they had to overcome was that the mathematical problem is ill-posed, i.e., it admits of an infinite number of solutions. They arrived at a unique solution via an innovative application of a priori information on the atmospheric state. This work was described in the landmark 1965 Wark and Fleming paper in the American Meteorological Society's Monthly Weather Review. From that early period until just weeks before his death, Dr. Wark continued his work at the Office of Research and Applications in NOAA/NESDIS on developing advanced techniques for sounding the atmosphere from satellites.

Dr. Wark's work in remote sensing of the Earth's atmosphere and surface from weather satellites benefited from his skill both as a meteorologist and an astronomer. Most of his work was directed toward the goal of deducing vertical temperature and moisture profiles in the Earth's atmosphere, but he also proposed a method for obtaining cloud top altitudes using the oxygen A band. In the early days of this effort at NOAA/NESDIS and its predecessor agencies, Dr. Wark and others (most notably Dr. S. Fritz), assembled a remarkable group of internationally known scientists at NOAA to work on this pioneering effort and made Suitland, Maryland an exciting place to work. Included in this group of visiting scientists were G. Yamamoto, D.G. James, S. Twoney and F. Saiedy. In addition to his own insights, Dr. Wark proved to have a remarkable facility for subdividing the complex temperature profiling problem into smaller component problems that the visiting and U.S. scientists could attack without interfering with each other. Despite his well-deserved reputation for having a formidable personality, he guided the development of the satellite temperature profiling field with tact, diplomacy, and scientific acumen. During this time, Dr. Wark also brought to NESDIS, and guided, a number of younger scientists who went on to establish reputations of their own in the fields of satellite remote sensing and satellite meteorology. These included J. Alishouse, L. Crone, D. Crosby, H. Fleming, H. Jacobowitz, L. McMillin, W.L. Smith, L.Stowe, and M. Weinreb.

A Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, Dr. Wark received numerous awards from various scientific organizations, including a Silver Medal and Gold Medal from the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement from NASA, the 2nd Half-Century Award from the American Meteorological Society, the Lloyd V. Berkner Space Utilization Award from the American Astronautical Society and the Robert M. Losey Award, from the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

David Quentin Wark was born on 25 March 1918, in Spokane, Washington. He was the fourth and last child of Percival Damon Wark and Clara Belle (Mackey) Wark. In 1921 his family moved to Altadena and Pasadena, California where he lived until 1939. He attended Altadena Elementary School, Edison Elementary School, Washington Junior High School, Pasadena High School and Pasadena Junior College. From 1938 to 1939, and again in the summer of 1940, he worked for the Associated Press and David Lawrence to earn money to resume his education. In 1939, he entered the University of California, Berkeley, from which he graduated with a BA in Astronomy with honors in May 1941.

From 1941 to 1942 he did graduate study in meteorology at the University of California, Los Angeles. He resumed graduate studies part time in 1948 at the University of California, Berkeley, while working part time at the U.S. Weather Bureau and graduated with a PhD in Astronomy in January 1959. He remembered those times a tough days driving back and forth to Berkeley and living in Half-Moon Bay.

Dr. Wark's professional career began in 1942 at the IU.S. Naval Observatory, where he served as a Naval Officer until 1946. He then went to work for the U.S. Weather Bureau. He spent the first three years of that period in Istres, France, Frankfurt and Munich Germany and Cairo Egypt. From 1949 through 1958 he served at the Aviation Weather Forecast Office in San Francisco. He then moved to the U.S. Weather Bureau Office in Suitland, Maryland, where he worked from November 1958 until 3 July, 1999, when he officially retired. He actually retired from NOAA because during this time, he saw the U.S. Weather Bureau become part of ESSA which, in turn became a part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in 1970. But retirement did not stop his work or his contributions to science. In his last 3 years, Dr.Wark took a part-time post-retirement position at NOAA/NESDIS where he continued to work in the field he pioneered and to which he dedicated his life.

One could not talk to Dr. Wark for long without learning of his keen interest in sailing. He was especially proud of his 4-year adventure in which he took periodic time from work to sail around the world (from 1982-1986) on his 38' cutter the Capella. During this time he (and a crew of 2) spent almost an entire year on the open seas, beginning the trip at Solomons, Maryland and including stops in Ft. Lauderdale, Cancun, Panama, Galapagos Islands, French Polynesia, Cooke Islands, Niue, Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu, Australia, Christmas Islands, Mauritius, Reunion, South Africa, St. Helena, Brazil, the Virgin Islands and back home again along the North Carolina coast. His meteorological interest showed in the detailed series of bucket temperatures he took on this trip. On his return he obtained the corresponding satellite measurements and made comparisons between his temperatures and the surface temperatures measured by the satellite. He often made comments about how rare a cloudfree sky was, at least in the vicinity of oceans. A few years later he circumnavigated the eastern half of the United States via rivers, inter-coastal waterways, and canals, a trip of approximately 2000 miles. This voyage ended in 1990, when he was 72 years of age. Some of the segments of this voyage he sailed single-handedly, a remarkable achievement.

This biography would not be complete without mentioning the famous cigars. Dr. Wark acquired a reputation among his colleagues for hardly ever being seen without a well-chewed cigar, damp on one end, lit on the other, in his hand. When computers were in their infancy, discs were not as well sealed

as they are today, and the one in Dr. Wark's office seemed to experience an inordinate frequency of failures. Finally, in exasperation, he decided to investigate. On pulling the disc out and examining it with a microscope, he observed a speck of cigar ash that had landed on the disc's surface and scratched it. From that time on, although he was seldom seen without a tattered cigar, it was never lit when he was in his office.

Dr. Wark was dedicated to his parents and the field of meteorology. This dedication was demonstrated when he provided a generous donation to the AMS to establish the Percival D. Wark and Clara B. (Mackey) Wark Scholarship. This is an annual scholarship to be awarded to a student majoring in atmospheric or related oceanic and hydrologic sciences.

Dr. Wark is survived by his nephew Walter Damon Wark of no fixed address, and his great nephew Christopher Hal Wark of Fresno, California. His two brothers, Francis Walter and Robert Damon, as well as his sister, Dorothy Marie (Wark) Schaerti, pre-deceased him.



# **Grand Prize Recipients of the Games for Change Student Challenge!**

A huge Bulldog Congratulations to our four App Academy students. It was announced on Tuesday that these students were the recipients of the Grand Prize for the Games for Change Student Challenge! They received a \$10,000 scholarship for their game.

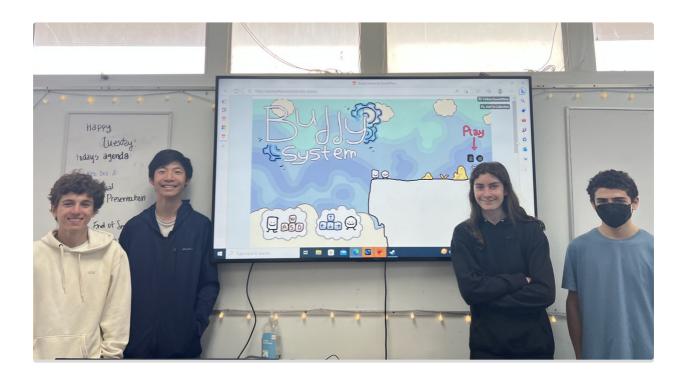
Games for Change said "Their exceptional use of game design effectively illustrates a positive social impact game while being fun and engaging with impressive gameplay mechanics."

These students developed this game "Buddy System" over the course of this last semester, going through the industry process - from ideation, to initial prototyping, to usability research, character design, and development/testing.

#### The students are:

- Finneas Moser '26 (Developer/Designer)
- Eden Bashan '25 (Developer/Researcher)
- Alexander Soultanian '25 (Designer)
- Warren Kwok '25 (Project Manager)

We'd also like to acknowledge Deborah Orret, the App Academy Lead Teacher. We are so very proud of their accomplishment!









### Join the Pasadena High School Alumni Association

The first steps of your participation in the synergy of PHS Alums is to join the Alumni Association. We all have had different high school experiences and each one of us can remember a teacher or activity that was a highlight of our PHS experience. Grateful for those students. teachers and activities you enjoyed, consider joining the PHS Alumni Association. It all begins at www.phsalumni.org.

# Class of 2024 Panda Express Online Fundraiser

Available at Panda Express locations nationwide!
Support the Class of 2024 on Friday, July 14th. Order online for pickup using Code 915450 and 28% of the sales will be donated to the Pasadena High School Class of 2024.

#### **Turkey Tussle**

The Turkey Tussle is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at the Rose Bowl. Mark your calendars for this annual homecoming game between Pasadena High School and our cross town rival John Muir High School. Pasadena High School is the current holder of the Victory Bell.

#### **Class Reunions**

Looking to see if your class has a reunion coming up? Check the Alumni section of the Pasadena High School website <a href="www.pusd.us/phs">www.pusd.us/phs</a> or our website at <a href="www.phsalumni.org">www.phsalumni.org</a>.

Reunions are being planned for the classes listed below.

**Class of 1963** - October 6 - October 8, 2023. For more information go to their Facebook page PHS63Reunion

**Class of 1964** - The Class of 1964 is seeking input from the class members to see if there is interest in holding a 60 year reunion in 2024. email Dennis Miller with your thoughts. <a href="mailto:eprisepro@aol.com">eprisepro@aol.com</a>

Class of 1971 (Belated 50th) - September 23, 2023 pasadenahs71.com

**Class of 1973** - 50th Reunion - Saturday, October 28, 2023 Clearman's Galley ("The Boat") For questions email <a href="mailto:phsbulldogs1973@gmail.com">phsbulldogs1973@gmail.com</a>

**Class of 1975** - 48th Graduation Anniversary Mlxer - Friday, November 10, 2023 at the Brookside Golf Club Patio Restaurant. For more information go to their <u>Facebook</u> page

Class of 1983 - September 2, 2023 Facebook









#### Oh the places we will go.....

Future plans for the Class of 2023:

- Arizona State University
- Azusa Pacific University
- Bellevue College
- Brigham Young University
- California Institute of Technology
- California Lutheran University
- · California Polytechnic University Humboldt
- · California Polytechnic University Pomona
- California Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo
- California State University Channel Islands
- California State University East Bay
- California State University Fullerton
- California State University Long Beach
- California State University Los Angeles
- California State University Monterey Bay

- · California State University Northridge
- · California State University San Marcos
- · Cerritos Community College
- · Chaney College
- · Citrus College
- · City College of San Francisco
- · Colorado State University
- Columbia College Chicago
- DigPen Institute of Technology
- Employment/Gap Year
- · George Washington University
- · Glendale City College
- · Intgegrity College of Health
- · Jewish Theological Seminary of America
- · Lane Community College
- · Los Angeles College of Music
- · Los Angeles Valley College
- · Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- · Moreno Valley Community College
- Mount Saint Mary's University
- · Mt.San Antonio College
- · New York University
- · North-West College
- Ohio State University
- · Oregon State University
- · Pasadena City College
- Providence Christian College
- Rio Hondo Community College
- · Riverside City College
- · Roanoke College
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- · Saint Francis University
- · San Diego State University
- San Francisco State University
- · San Jose State University
- · Santa Barbara City College
- · Scripps College
- · Texas Southern University
- Tuskegee University
- · United States Air Force
- · United States Marines
- United States Navy
- · University of Arizona
- · University of California Berkeley
- · University of California Davis
- University of California Los Angeles
- University of California Riverside
- · University of California San Diego
- University of California Santa Barbara
- · University of California Santa Cruz

- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado at Boulder
- · University of Houston
- University of La Verne
- University of Oregon
- · University of Portland
- University of Redlands
- · University of Southern California
- Utah Valley University
- Vanderbilt University
- West Los Angeles College



#### **Social Media Links**

Listed below are a few Pasadena High School social media links that might interest you.

#### Pasadena High School Alumni Association

Website

**Facebook** 

Twitter @PasHSAlumniAssc

Instagram @pasadenahsalumniassoc

Pasadena High School

**Website** 

<u>Facebook</u>

Twitter @PasHSBulldogs

Instagram pasadenahsbulldogs

Pasadena High School Bulldog Band Centennial

<u>Facebook</u>

Pasadena High School Football Boosters

<u>Facebook</u>

**Pasadena High School Aquatics** 

<u>Facebook</u>

**Pasadena High School Sports** 

Twitter @Pasadenahs



### **Pasadena High School Alumni Association**

**Facebook** 



@PasHSAlumniAssc

We are a nonprofit organization 501(c)(3) focused on helping the students and staff at Pasadena High School make our former alma mater into a great learning experience. We organize fundraisers, award scholarships and hold community-building events.



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