

# GHS Museum Newsletter

## August 2023

Dear Friends,

We want to share a few updates with you, some fun, some sad, and some informational. The past year without the museum has been challenging for us, but we are hopeful that we can recreate a place where Foothillers, past and present, can share their memories and learn of those who paved the path to the Grossmont High School of today.

As you can see, the new building is beginning to take shape. It will be closer to the cul-de-sac on Dennstedt Place and closer to parking adjacent to the tennis courts. The completion date is still December 2023. We hope to reopen in Spring 2024 if all goes according to plan. Fingers crossed, right?

### GHS Museum Early August 2023



### Campus Tours

In the past month, we led tours of the campus on two Saturdays. Because of the construction on campus, it was a challenge to navigate the upper quad due to the construction of the new stadium entrance, the new cafeteria, the new Weight room, Sports Medicine, and Museum buildings. The new home stands have been installed and were ready for the first football game.

**July 2023 Campus Tour  
Debbie Wilson Trumble and Peggy Jensen Watkins, Class of 1971**



**August 2023 Class of 1973 Classmates Tour the Campus  
Rick Plummer and Wife May Plummer (1974), Jim O'Donnell, Vicky Singleton,  
Gary Stockwell, Steve King, Craig Bashaw, Randy James**



**Class of 2013 Tours the Campus**

### **2023 Passing of Beloved Staff**

What a difficult 202-23 winter it was for our retirees! You can read more about the retirees we have lost at <https://www.foothillermuseum.com/alumni-pages/news> on our In Memoriam Staff pages.

### **Passing of Mike Eddy, Class of 1958 GHS Social Studies Teacher 1969-1973 GHS Vice Principal 1974-1979 GUHSD Administrator until 1999**

Mike became a GHS Social Studies teacher in 1969, teaching until 1974 when he became a Vice Principal. In 1979, a retiree believes he became Principal of Chaparral High School. Later he moved to the GUHSD office, where he was the Grossmont Athletic Conference President for many years. He was a Director in the district until 1999.

Retired teachers recalled Mike offering them advice and encouragement and alumni recall him with fondness.

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/sandiegouniontribune/name/michael-eddy-obituary?id=38468656>

### **Jeri Lundy GHS 1977 to 2007**

Jeri came to GHS from El Capitan in 1977, where she started teaching in 1972; she taught Home Economics at both schools that first year. 30 years later, she retired in 2007. Over the years, she taught many different classes in Home Economics, then Life/Survival Skills, then helped to develop the Child Development Program in the district and at GHS.

After her retirement, Jeri donated two quilts to the museum that she assembled for student projects: one hangs in the counseling hallway and was created in 1993 as a testament to the first Human Relations/Peer Mediators Club.

The squares were created by the Human Relations Council, guided by Dawn Miller and Leanne Quirk.

The second quilt was on display on a quilt rack in the museum and is a collection of blocks created in 2004 by photography students, guided by Photography teacher Eileen Mandell. The two quilts will continue to remind GHS of Jeri.

**Ken Lehr  
GHS Auto Shop Teacher 1978-2004**

For 26 years, Ken Lehr guided the GHS Auto Shop program into acclaim and modernization. Grossmont's program was the first Auto Shop in California to be National Automotive Teachers Educational Foundation certified. Lovingly nicknamed "Dr. Motor" by his students, Ken was twice named California Master Teacher. Ken's favorite quote was "What is the four stroke cycle?"

In June 2014, a bronze plaque dedicating the new state of the art Automotive Technology Facility to Ken was unveiled on an exterior wall of the building. At the dedication, Ken was celebrated by former students, students he mentored in the field, including Jordie Lehr, who followed Ken as the GHS Auto Shop teacher, as well as retirees and staff members.

**Pat Roberts  
GHS Industrial Arts And Math Teacher, 1964-1992,  
and Football Coach**

For 28 years, Pat Roberts was a GHS football coach and metal and woodworking and math teacher. Former students fondly recall him for his commitment, honesty, and sense of humor.

First as an assistant defensive coach beginning in 1964 and then as head coach from 1968-1981, Pat guided Foothiller football teams to three league championships, and in 1970, they were CIF runner up, and in 1971 CIF champions. After retirement, in 1997-98, Pat returned as head coach for one year.

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/sports/high-school-preps/story/2023-03-16/former-players-remember-former-grossmont-high-football-coach-pat-roberts-as-strong-committed>

**Passing of Marguerite Rohmer  
GHS Child Development (Teen Parent)  
Program Assistant 1996-2017**

Marguerite's photo first appears the 1997 *El Recuerdo* as part of the Teen Parent Program, which at its time, was a revolutionary approach to the education of students who have children while in high school. This on-campus program required both parents to participate in the classes, hopefully, ensuring better lives for the mothers and fathers and their children.

Marguerite worked with Jeri Lundy in developing the program, which is now part of the Educational, Child Development, and Family Services Pathway program at GHS and housed in the 2012 building, built specifically for it. The importance of this program cannot be overestimated. Marguerite's enthusiasm and dedication to the program was contagious.

### Museum Moments

While we are closed, we continue to receive wonderful donations. There are too many to name all of them here. Please visit our website donor pages: <https://www.foothillermuseum.com/museum-donors/232-our-generous-2023-donors>.

However, we want to share one story of the journey of one donation. Rick Hall, Vice President of the El Cajon Historical Society, contacted us a few months ago to share that "The plaque in the photo was left on the back porch of the Knox House with a few articles of clothing. It is difficult to make out the full name on the plate on the plaque; however, what we can see is that it was awarded to someone named Vernon in 1970. What we are wondering is if you folks would like it."

Of course, we did. But the story continues. Rick dropped it off at the GUHSD Superintendent's office, where Denise Broadfoot works. The plaque is enscribed "The Big Hit, Grossmont High, 1970." Denise Broadfoot's husband is Bruce Broadfoot, Class of 1972, whose best friend is Vernon Lindvedt, the football player honored with the trophy. Vernon wants the museum to have it.

We are having it "spruced up" by Awards by Navajo in Fletcher Hills. We will display it in the new museum or possibly in the new weight room, adjacent to the museum.

It's an amazing journey, which wouldn't have happened without Rick making the extra effort to "find its home".

### 1970 Golden Helmet Award



**Another Museum Moment...Looking Back at Hall of Honoree  
Major General Osmond J. Ritland, Class of 1927**

Last year we were contacted for information about General Ritland's years at Grossmont for a biography being written by Dr. David C. Arnold, Colonel, USAF (Ret), Professor of National Security Strategy. He visited San Diego in March for research. We toured the 1922 Castle with him, sharing the history of the building and the area, as well as stories and photographs of early Foothiller life.

After his visit, he shared, "I really enjoyed my visit and I certainly got a lot out of our conversation. I have a better understanding for the region in the 1920s and the world Ritland was growing up in. And thank you all for the photos! Wonderful stuff. I will share them with Ritland's family."

During his visit, we learned more about Major General Ritland's impact on the space program which led to our three Foothiller astronauts. To learn more about a remarkable man, visit his Hall of Honor plaque on our website at <https://www.foothillermuseum.com/1920-s-hall-of-honor>

*GROSSMONT UNION HIGH SCHOOL*

Here upon the rocky hill top  
O'er looking all the town,  
Where the wild winds blow the sweetest  
From blue mountains wafted down,  
Stands the High School which we cherish  
And whose tale's been oft retold,  
As we sing to all the praises  
Of the blue and of the gold.

Through the four, long years we spend here  
Underneath the sunny sky,  
In the schoolroom, court, or diamond  
We work for Grossmont High.  
And the friendships here cemented  
Future years shall ne'er withhold,  
But shall ever grow the stronger  
'Neath the blue and 'neath the gold.

When our High School days are over  
With their labor and their fun,  
And life's stern endeavor  
Has in truth for us begun,  
We'll remember this dear High School  
And in its code we'll mold  
Our lives, to be an honor  
To the blue and to the gold.

ALLENE SEYMOUR

**1926 El Recuerdo**

**We Appreciate Your Support**

Support the museum at [foothillermuseum.com](http://foothillermuseum.com) by donating using the gold donate button or mail a check payable to GHS Educational Foundation to Connie and Lynn Baer, 5990 Avenorra Dr., La Mesa, CA 91942.

There are so many ways Foothillers are leaving their footprints on campus; here are two campus displays.

## Theater Lobby

4 of the 7 Framed Early Foothiller Performing Arts Groups  
Funded by Alumni: Mahr Kay Byers, Class of 1968, David Lundin, Phil Pratt,  
Walter and Carol Smith, and Lonnie Rowell



1921 Senior Class Play; 1921-22 Orchestra;  
1921-22 Boys and Girls Glee; 1931 Band and Orchestra



Original Little Theater Sign and Plaque  
At the Entrance to the Black Box  
Funded by Pat Mercer Potter, Class of 1948

### Final Thoughts

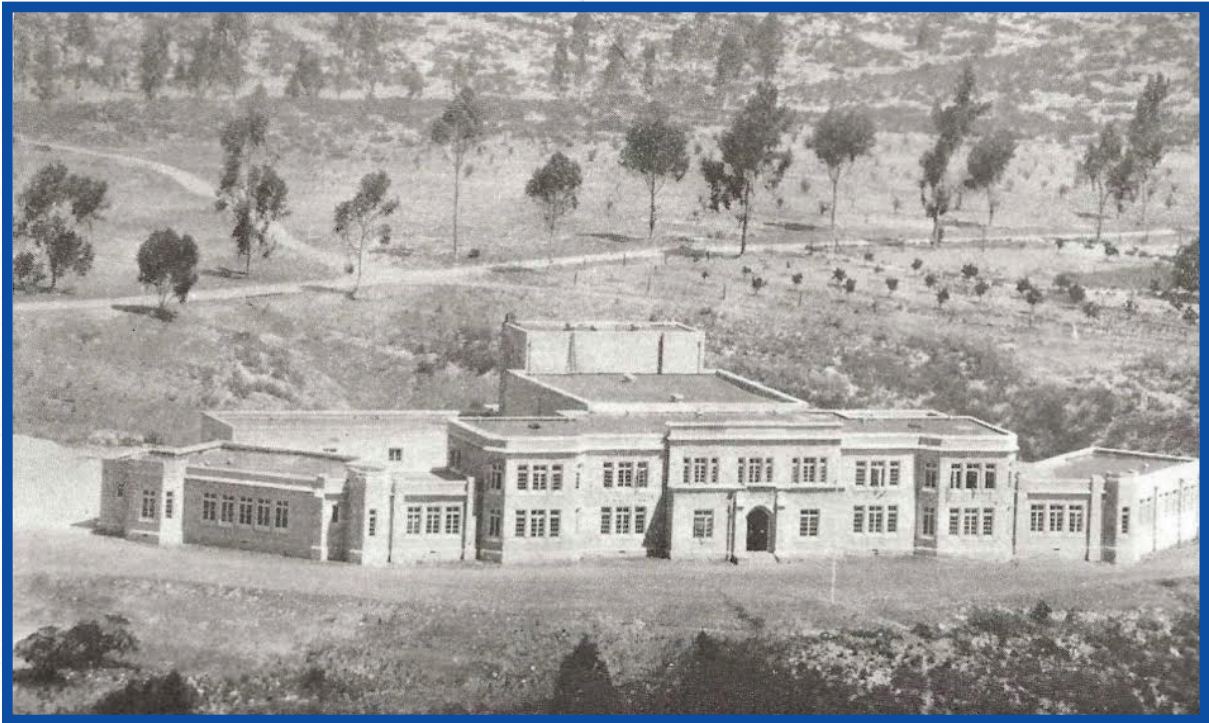
Please take a few minutes to explore our website at [foothillermuseum.com](http://foothillermuseum.com). We have been updating it!

Visit our “Foothillers in the News” pages as well as our Museum Stores pages to see “what’s new”. We’re adding CDs of records and soon DVDs of 16 mm films we’ve digitalized this summer. We welcome financial donations to fund these projects.

If you have any additions to our Foothillers in Memoriam pages, please email them to us at [ghsmuseum@guhsd.net](mailto:ghsmuseum@guhsd.net).

The past year, we have realized how much enjoyment we received from sharing the museum with students, alumni, and retirees. We have missed those interactions. As GHS begins its 103rd school year, we know you agree with us, “Aren’t we lucky” to be Foothillers?

Connie, Lynn, Jerry, and Paul  
Contact us at [ghsmuseum@guhsd.net](mailto:ghsmuseum@guhsd.net)



**GUHS 1926 El Recuerdo  
Before the 1926 Kate Sessions Landscaping**