

Sandscripts

Monterey Bay Academy
Alumni Magazine

FALL 2023

You Belong

You are no longer
outsiders and strangers...
you are citizens together with God's
people... you are members of God's family.

Ephesians 2:19-22



Monterey Bay Academy
1954

Where Land and Sea
Unite to Inspire



FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT



We All Belong

What does it mean to **BELONG**? One definition is, *being happy or comfortable as part of a particular group and having a good relationship with other members of the group because they welcome you and accept you.* When I think of the particular groups I feel comfortable in, I think of my work team, my family, my close friends, and my church. As the definition states, I feel welcome, accepted, loved, and supported by the people within each group. I know I belong.

Many of us belong to the Seventh-day Adventist community. I have been truly blessed to be a part of this community my whole life. From elementary school through college, I attended Adventist schools. One of the unique things I cherish about being a part of the Adventist community is the bond that keeps people connected over decades and generations through education, school activities, church events, and mission work. The friends I attended school with, I periodically see at camp meeting, at other churches, and at school events such as music programs or sports games and tournaments. Our children may attend different elementary schools, but then they meet at one of our academies or colleges and second-generation friendships are developed. It is awesome to be a part of this type of legacy. I am grateful I belong.

As alumni of MBA, we are part of the Alumni Association. Whether you attended

one year or four years—you belong! Lifetime friendships are created on this campus and I feel overwhelmingly blessed to belong to this amazing group of people. I experience such nostalgia when I return to campus and reunite with old friends or create connections with new ones. I am exceedingly thankful for MBA and for each of you who I have established friendships with or briefly crossed paths. Thank you for welcoming and accepting me, for making me feel that I belong.

The human heart has a longing to belong and feel loved by others. Being a part of a family, group, or team who love and accept you brings joy and fulfillment. Are there times you have felt you don't belong? Unfortunately, as a result of sin, human nature can be hypercritical, exclusive, and divisive, sometimes making us feel unwelcomed and unaccepted. We feel we don't deserve to belong because of our poor past or current life choices. However, there is one group in which we *all* belong—no matter our experiences, our backgrounds, our past or current mistakes—the group we call the family of God. In ISAIAH 49:16 NIV, God says, *... I have engraved you on the palms of My hands.* I look forward to the day when we are united in Heaven where we all belong.

Until we meet again!

Traci (Wareham) Follett '93

MBA Alumni Association President

On the Cover

Community Service Day t-shirts worn by our students as they serve others.

YOU BELONG 2023–2024 SCHOOL THEME

*...you are no longer outsiders and strangers.
You are citizens together with God's people.
You are also members of God's family....*

EPHESIANS 2:19–22 (NIRV)

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Alumni Calendar

APRIL 2024

25–28 | *Alumni Weekend*

74th ANNIVERSARY

Monterey Bay Academy, CA

MAY / JUNE 2024

31–2 | *MBA Graduation Weekend*

JULY 2024

11–20 | *Soquel Campmeeting*

At the MBA Trailer

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. As an event gets closer, double-check the alumni website or call the Alumni Office for an update.

Additional events and event details:
montereybayacademy.org/alumni-events

Who's Considered an Alum?

If you've *attended, worked, or taught* at MBA, we consider you alumni.

Stay Connected

Send us your career, education, family, or travel news and photos at alumni@montereybayacademy.org or mail to the Alumni Office at Monterey Bay Academy.

Sign up for our email directory on the MBA Alumni website to receive your alumni e-news.

go green

If you prefer to receive a digital copy of *Sandscripts*, visit montereybayacademy.org/sandscripts to sign up.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE



I Knew I Belonged

I have contemplated what it means to “belong” throughout different times in my life. These thoughts of “belonging” started during my early childhood and have continued into my adult years as I have journeyed through various life events. Here’s my definition of what it means to belong: *Belonging is feeling that you are safe, accepted, welcomed, and loved. It is a quality that can be developed over time and be shared with others.* To know that we belong is one of the greatest victories of our existence.

When I was a child, my family occasionally traveled for family reunions to Wooster, OH, where my paternal grandparents lived. With the last name of Yoder, it’s hard to mistake that my paternal ancestry is German. The Yoder family was large: six children, with my father being the eldest. As you can imagine, family reunions brought together a good-sized group of people. *Before I continue, you must know that my grandfather was a huge jokester and tease, had an incredible sense of humor, and an unforgettable laugh.* One evening, following one of these reunion meals, I was standing beside my grandfather as he sat at the dining room table. He turned, looked at me, and said, “Skinny Mae (his nickname for me, because I was rail thin), I think your parents must have picked up the wrong baby at the hospital when you were born. You don’t look like the rest of us!” He then threw his

head back and laughed that unforgettable laugh—only to quickly add, “You know I’m just teasing. You definitely belong to us.”

Why tease me? Out of his 15 grandchildren, I was the only one with an olive complexion, dark brown hair, and very dark brown eyes—all courtesy of my mother’s genes. Of course, those features don’t resemble the most common physical characteristics for a person of German descent—light complexions (that are prone to sunburn), light brown or blond hair, and blue or green eyes.

You might understandably think, “What an awful thing to say!” I must emphasize that I knew my grandfather was teasing. More importantly, I knew I absolutely belonged to the Yoder family. Why? Because I knew I was safe, accepted, welcomed, and loved unconditionally—by my parents, by my grandfather, and by the rest of my extended family.

Our theme for this school year is, *You Belong*. It is our mission, as a faculty and staff, to make each student feel they belong—not just here at MBA, but to the family of God. *You were bought at a price, 1 CORINTHIANS 6:20 NIV.* God rescued us. He accepts us just as we are. He welcomes us with open arms, and loves us unconditionally because of the price paid at Calvary. We belong to Him alone!

It is my hope that you will be blessed and inspired by the articles and stories you read in this issue of *Sandscripts*; that you will know, without a doubt, that you belong to the One who paid the ultimate price so that we can claim, with confidence, the promise in *ROMANS 8:38–39 TLB, ...nothing will ever be able to separate us from the love of God.*

Gladly serving our home on the shore!

Kinzie Speyer

Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76

Editor, *Sandscripts*

VP of Alumni and Development

The hunger to belong is at the heart of our nature.... Every one longs for intimacy and dreams of a nest of belonging in which one is embraced, seen, and loved.

JOHN O'DONOHUE

ALUMNI WEEKEND IN REVIEW

Scholarship Reception

The Scholarship Reception is held annually on the Thursday evening before of Alumni Weekend. It is much more than just a reception of shaking hands, sipping punch, and enjoying gourmet desserts. It is an event that honors the honorable and preserves the history of Monterey Bay Academy.

It is our hope that this event brings about a deeper appreciation for the alumni and friends who have donated to the various scholarships. The reception also provides the opportunity for the donors to become more acquainted with the recipients of the scholarships and gifts that have been given.



TOP Students and staff reviewing the biographies of the scholarships and donors

BOTTOM Nominees of the Josué Andrés Rosado Scholarship

Establish a Class-Endowed Scholarship

Contributions play a critical role in MBA's financial and operational plan. We are grateful that throughout its 75-year history many thousands of dollars have been donated by alumni and friends. These gifts from the heart continue to provide the much-needed assistance to maintain a Christ-centered education.

Alumni classes are growing their funds so that long after they are gone, their class will continue to make a difference in the lives of students. Named scholarships are also growing and provide not only scholarships for students, but also a wonderful way to remember loved ones who have passed away. Class scholarships, named scholarships and endowments make a difference. They are a gift that keeps on giving.

MBA ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2023 65-YEAR REUNION CLASS OF 1958



HONOR CLASSES

73RD ANNUAL ALUMNI HOMECOMING
APRIL 20-23, 2023

DIGITAL FILES (5x7-INCH SIZE) AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR PRINTING
DOWNLOAD FROM THE MBA ALUMNI WEBSITE

ROW ONE » Ronald Rille · Larry Morris · Lois (Lee) Currier · Gary Soderstrom · Beverly (Parfitt) Wilhelm · Winston "Bob" Dennis



ROW ONE » Peggy (Otto) Martinez · Glenda Jane (Elsen) Wazdatskey · LeeAnn (Shoemaker) Northrop · Elayne (Jorgensen) Zappia · Sharon (Corbari) MacLafferty · Karlette (Johnson) Winters

ROW TWO » Joleen (Murgalla) Slaughter · Martha (Whitney) Hendrickson · Bev (Clausen) Mendenhall · Bonnie (Zinke) Smith · Gail (Taylor) Rice · Shirley (English) Tsagris · Shirley (Neuman) Gregg+ · Larry Mitchel

ROW THREE » Carol (Ellis) Johnson · Bob Mendenhall · Lonnie Gregg · Curtis Birth · Pete Wiedemann · Lynden Williams · Sally (Josselyn) Blackmun · Gene Blackman · Jean Burgdorff · Doug Bolejack



ROW ONE » Sheryl (Goertz) Roberts · Mimi Miller · Donna (Urgolites) Salazar · Judy (Chaplin) Dant · Jose Rodriguez · James Rhodes

ROW TWO » Elisabeth (Ruth Chapman) Zemansky · Joyce (Fua) Chapman · Shelley (Warkentin) Clay · Joyce (Williams) Crocker · Elizabeth (West) Souza · Vicki (Yoder) Thompson · Marilyn (Ocheltree) Moore · Stephen Mulder

ROW THREE » Glenda (Brigham) Zeismer · Brenda (Brigham) Evans · Denise (Johnson) McEowen · Jeanne (Genn) Witcombe · Danny Badger · Sherri (Trager) Coey · Mark Wilson · Pat (Howard) Chaplin

ROW FOUR » Roger Sommerville · Ed Evans · Brian Kirk · Kirk Halverson · Dave Hansen · Jerry Kurtz · Shari (Huffman) Shoaf

ROW FIVE » Jim McMurry · Gary Schmidt · Debbie (Van Deventer) Anlauf · Cynthia (Nelson) Robson · Carey Robson

ALUMNI WEEKEND IN REVIEW

Golf Classic

After two years of not being able to have a golf tournament due to COVID-19, the 21st Annual **Golf Classic** was held at Seascape Golf Club in Aptos on Friday of Alumni Weekend. The day began with registration at 10am, followed by a putting contest, barbeque lunch, and a beautiful day of golf. The day finished with a raffle, prizes, and awards. All tournament proceeds go to MBA's Worthy Student Fund.

More **Golf Classic** info:
montereybayacademy.org/golf-classic

TITLE SPONSOR



TOP 2023 Low Gross — 59 (-12 under par)

L TO R Gary Bruckner, Bryant Worth, Brian Quill, Tim Kubrock

BOTTOM 2023 Low Net, Handicapped — 48 (-23 under par)

L TO R **Rob Wells '92 with wife, Aileen '93, Ed Evans '73,**

Tim Zytkoskee, Rick Wells '67

LUNCH SPONSOR



GOLD SPONSORS



Anonymous
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 Bruce '74 and Cindy Evans
 Tim and Nancy Kubrock
 The Rub Family

CART SPONSORS



The Koch Family
 Walton and Mitchell,
 Attorneys at Law

SILVER SPONSORS



King Chiropractic
 The Speyer Family
 Stan Wheeler '81

TEE SPONSORS



The Bieber Family
 The Law Office of
 Regina Jett
 Mark Young '80

See back cover for 2024 tournament information.

MBA ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2023 40-YEAR REUNION CLASS OF 1983



ROW ONE » Julie (Johnson) Tudor · Edith (Mall) Friesen · Darci (Eitzen) Hodder · Bunny (Mickle) Martin · Kelli (Matthews) Grier · Steve Cheng

ROW TWO » Lynelle Crabtree · Teresa Crew · Greg Hoenes · Julie (Smith) McSorley · Marlene (Baerg) Oddie · Jerry Wallace

ROW THREE » Darrell Butler · Jim Wilson · Michael Reid · Darryl Conrad · Douglas Parks · John Swanson



INSET » Justin Baldwin · Matt Ruckle

ROW ONE » Aileen (Poblacion) Wells · Mike Ferolino · Cherrie (Hernandez) Chilom · Jonathan Santos · Jon Tulio · Benita (Reynolds) Ames

ROW TWO » Sara (Gil) Ramos · Jenny (Grossman) Sundahl · Kari (Chang) Holten · Traci (Wareham) Follett · Sandy (Gurash) Cabreira · Les Giang · Chris Ames

ROW THREE » Jaymes Cloninger · Brad Harness · Mark Sundahl · John Loewen · Wilfred Brucker · Robert Bowes (Helhim) · Chris Patton · Jamie Reynolds



ROW ONE » Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76 [Sponsor] · Jordan Wareham · Ken Luk · Stephanie (Laird) Dillon · Andrew Chinnock · Jason Ciseneros

ALUMNI WEEKEND IN REVIEW

Friday Vespers

The first sacred program of the weekend began with the Friday evening vesper service planned by MBA's Campus Ministries. Elizabeth Worth gave a warm welcome back to our visiting alumni and then turned the time over to a group of students who led out in some congregational songs of praise. A special presentation was put together by the students who went on the mission trip to Puerto Rico. They shared the experiences they had will ministering to the people there. The MBA Music Department provided two musical numbers and MBA's pastor, Arturo Lopez, provided a wonderful worship thought on our journey through life, challenging the alumni to be intentional on how we live and put our focus on Jesus.



TOP During Vespers, MBA students relaying their Puerto Rico mission trip experiences.

TOP Pastor Jim McMurry '73 provides the Sabbath worship service sermon.

Worship Service

A panel of alumni started the service with a journey back to their MBA days, answering questions and sharing lessons they learned. Special recognition was given to **David and Lisa Lara**, and **Tim and Ruthi Zytkoskee** as the Hall of Faith inductees. **Robert Frost '59** was recognized as the Alumnus of the Year. The MBA Alumni Board secretly arranged to surprise the school's VP for Alumni and Development, **Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76**, by recognizing her as Alumna of the Year. Pastor **Jim McMurry '73**, from the 50-year honor class, was the guest speaker for the worship service. His sermon was titled, *What Is Your Journey?: Stories from an Uber Driver*, which reminded us that God is like the meaning of the word *über*—over and above the norm—and that's He wants for us, only the best. He challenged us to allow God to use us and when we allow Him to use us we can make a profound difference in the lives of people for his kingdom.



ROW ONE » Liz (Stacy) Martin · Angelique (Hamilton) Langston · Jessie Nemish · Teddi (McDowell) Kirkpatrick · Ashley (Kitto) Channer · Kenneth Channer · Nathan Oster



Members of the Class of 1963, celebrating their 60-year reunion, enjoy catching up over brunch.

49er Brunch

Alumni Weekend closes each year with the 49er Brunch on Sunday morning. This special event is in honor of the 50-year honor class. The Class of 1973 were the honored guests this past year. Class members visited during the breakfast, celebrating 50 years since their graduation. Entertainment was presented by the Oceanares, followed by a game of MBA trivia that tested everyone's memory. The morning was filled with fun, laughter, and even a little sadness as classmates said goodbye until their next reunion.



ROW ONE » Clarin Ng · Lizbeth Cadenas · Lorena Gonzalez · Nancie Reyes · Asia Osby · Roger Bautista

ROW TWO » Alissa (Simons) Sattemayer · Heather Wooten · Riley Tompkins · Samuel Loredo · Ugoala Okwandu · Tammy Shaffer · Forest Wells

TRIALS MAKE PURE GOLD

The Making and Molding of the Chuck Fulmore Trio

The following article was written by Becky St. Clair for the North American Division of Seventh-Day Adventist monthly magazine, *Adventist Journey*. It appears in the October 2023 issue and is reprinted in *Sandscripts* with permission.

Chuck '55 and Dona (Bentz) '54 Fulmore never set out to be—or even imagined it possible to become—musical evangelists. In fact, the more likely scenario for both of them was to follow in their parents' footsteps and become dairy farmers—Dona north of Seattle, Washington; Chuck near Modesto, California.

“Mother worked very hard in the house,” Dona recalls. “There were five of us girls and then the dozen or so hired men who came to help at harvest time who she also cooked for. She was a gentle, lovely lady.”

In addition to farming, Chuck's father “drove truck” during fruit harvest season. “He got a dollar a day doing that,” Chuck says. “It gave him a little cash to put in his pocket.”

Despite the demands of farm life, music played an important role in both Chuck's and Dona's growing-up years. When she was little, Dona's parents often sang together for evangelistic series at the local church, and when they got older, she and her sisters sang harmony together while their mother played piano. Chuck's mother, too, played piano and sang, and his father played trumpet. In

“They often did special music together,” Chuck says, adding that one of the highlights of his childhood was when his whole family pitched in to help prepare the church for an evangelistic series for which his parents provided music.

Church and a firm belief in God were central to both families' lives, and that meant a Christian education too. As there was no church school nearby, Dona's father remodeled a section of the family's home to serve as a classroom where she, her sisters, the neighbor kids, and children of the hired hands had school.

“The conference sent teachers to give us our lessons there,” Dona remembers. Then she adds with a laugh, “After a while, though, they wouldn't send us any more, as the teachers kept marrying the hired hands and leaving!”

A Special Friendship

The two met at Monterey Bay Academy in California. How Chuck came to be there is quite a fascinating and heartwarming story, outlined in the Fulmores' recent stories-behind-the-songs book, *Never Give Up*. In

this book Chuck also tells the very important story of when he noticed a particular girl in front of him in choir.

“I was impressed with her lovely, long hair,” he says. The story continues with Chuck later looking for someone to type an essay for him. The second name on the list the typing teacher gives him is Dona Bentz. When he goes to find her with his request, he discovers Dona is the choir girl with the beautiful hair. “Oh, boy, I should be so lucky!” Chuck writes in the book.

Dona agreed to type his essay for him, but it came at a cost: He was to pay the \$1 entry fee for her to attend an upcoming dinner with him. He happily agreed, and, as he concludes in the book, “That was the beginning of a special friendship”.

They were married soon after high school, and of course music remained an integral part of their home and church life. Dona taught Chuck how to harmonize, and they have continued making music together for many, many years.

“We've been together for 68 years—through thick and thin,” says Dona with a smile. “Recently Chuck gave me a card on which he had written, ‘They said all we had was puppy love, but this old dog still loves you.’ I thought that was cute!”

“God Could Have Given Up On Me”

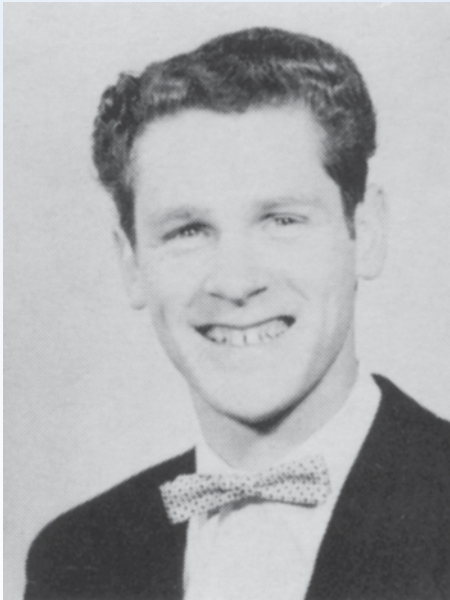
Chuck is a third generation Adventist on both sides of his family. As he grew up saying his nightly prayers, attending family worships, blessing each meal, and going to church every Sabbath, the salvation he learned was earned only through works.

“My grandmother once told me I wasn't going to make it into God's ‘good’ book, and she meant it,” Chuck recalls. “I figured I was just born bad. Life was a real battle for me, and I couldn't live up to the standards that were expected of me. I reached a point where I just got really discouraged.”

He got so discouraged he stopped attending church. As he recalls this period of



Fulmore Family, 1969



Chuck Fulmore '55



Dona Bentz '54

their life in the book, Chuck points out this didn't mean they no longer believed in God; they still prayed, still enjoyed family worship, and still regularly sang their favorite gospel songs together.

"A friend I worked with, who also attended church, gave me the idea to start every day by reading my Bible and having prayer," Chuck explains. Though it did become a habit, he says at first he was just reading words and not applying much meaning to them. "Every once in a while, though," he admits, "something would click."

One of those "somethings" was John 12:32, which says, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me" (κϳν).

Though Chuck knew Christ was referring to hanging on the cross, what hit him was the second part.

"He'll do the drawing and converting," Chuck expounds. And in the book, he adds, "What I have discovered in my personal journey after all these years [is that] God is the One who changes us...He leads us to find God. He gives us the understanding. He gives us the desire to know more. He does the miraculous things that happen along the way. And they *are* miracles."

Quietly over the phone, Chuck says, "I often look back over my life and see all the times God could have given up on me...but didn't."

"It's the Darkest Just before Dawn"

Thanks to the patient nudges and grace-filled love of the people around them, Chuck eventually returned to church. Once he was back, he and his family, who never stopped attending, unsurprisingly became deeply involved in music.

"We sang wherever we lived," Dona says. "We did duets, and sometimes Chuck sang solos. We did church services, camp meetings, and evangelistic meetings, and as soon as the kids were old enough to join us, they did."

Chuck found himself regularly inspired with tunes and lyrics—usually around 3 a.m.

"I'd wake up and hear the piano in the early hours of the morning, and I'd smile to myself," Dona recalls. "I knew that by the time I got up to make breakfast the next morning, we'd have a new song to learn."

One of the most poignant facts about the music Chuck has written is that it was most often inspired by difficult situations. Many of these challenges—certainly the bigger ones—are detailed in their book, and perhaps the most heartbreaking of them all was the loss of their oldest daughter, Dianne, to leukemia at age 13.

"Dona and I...both [had] a difficult time adjusting to our unbelievable loss," Chuck writes. "The weeks and months following the funeral were so extremely difficult! And then the Lord brought us courage through the following chorus:

"Never give up; Jesus is coming. It's the darkest just before dawn.

"Never give up; Jesus is coming. Never give up; keep holding on"

Dona adds that someone recently mentioned the hardest thing about being a Christian is never giving up, which may explain why their song, "Never give up," struck a chord with so many.

...GOD IS THE **ONE** WHO
CHANGES US...

"I'd never thought of that before," Dona says, "and they're right; it is hard. But if we hang in there and keep trusting Him, leaning on Him, and holding on, He will see us through."

"Don't Talk Religion!"

Though their quartet was now a trio, The Fulmore's faith did not lessen. They still got off work in the evening, drove dozens of miles to sing, and then drove home to do it all again the next day, filling their weekends with church music and events.

The time and effort didn't faze them, however. Their passion for honoring God through song only grew, and soon they were taking their ministry on the road, singing for camp meetings and evangelistic series across the country. Dona did all the public relations and marketing for their scheduled performances, and when they arrived, they stayed in church members' homes.

"We met so many wonderful people



The Chuck Fulmore Trio perform at a church event, circa 1990.



The trio in 1988.

throughout the years by staying in homes,” Chuck shares. “That was really special to us.”

But touring from Boston to Los Angeles, Seattle to Miami, and many cities in-between didn’t exactly pay the bills.

“We never really made a living with our music,” Dona admits. “Freewill offerings and record sales helped, but what kept us afloat were our day jobs.”

...REGARDLESS OF WHAT THEY NEEDED, GOD FOUND A WAY TO PROVIDE...

It always seemed that regardless of what they needed, God found a way to provide—sometimes in the strangest ways.

“Allow me to paint you a picture,” Chuck says, amusement in his voice. “A Volkswagen beetle, one giant speaker strapped to the top, the other tied to the back bumper with rope, Dona and me trundling down the highway inside it. That was our first sound system!”

A friend who did a lot of gospel music in another church helped them track down pieces to create a makeshift sound system, and they used it for years. When they needed a pianist who could accompany them by ear, God must have been chuckling when he

solved that problem.

“The accompanist we found was an atheist,” Chuck explains. “The three of us, plus Dianne and Carla, would get in that vw on Sabbath morning, and he would always say, ‘I’ll go as long as you don’t talk religion!’ But sometimes, he asked us religion questions as we drove. It was an interesting experience.”

“Look Up, Hold On, and Never Give Up”

Over the years, The Fulmore Trio, consisting of Dona, Chuck, and their daughter, Carla Dawn, recorded 10 albums and released six songbooks. Their songs have been recorded by well-known singers such as Del Delker, The King’s Heralds (now The Heralds), and the Heritage Singers. It was truly an amazing feat for musicians who lived off their day jobs and had never learned to read music or put music down on paper.

The Fulmores built a close relationship with the Heritage Singers, as Dona had attended school with Max Mace and his cousin, Gary Andregg, and Chuck wrote many of their songs too. When Max started his own record company, Chuck and Dona worked for him. Their reach grew because of these connections, and their music has traveled around the world and across generations.

“We never sang for recognition at all,” Chuck comments. “We always sang to encourage souls.”

Dona agrees.

“Obviously the Lord has brought us a long way, and has helped us immensely over the broken spots and rough patches,” she says. “The bottom line is that we love the Lord and we want to influence other people to look to Him for strength, hope, and answers in life.”

Their book, *Never Give Up*, was written for the same purpose: To encourage and uplift “some discouraged, struggling soul...needing help along the way. To help that person to look up, hold on, and *never give up*.”

“He’s Changed Us”

At times the Fulmore story sounds like a modern-day Job story—the death of a child, recurring illness, loss of livelihood, unexpected financial hardship, obstacles at every turn. Listening to Chuck and Dona talk and reading their book simply solidifies that idea,

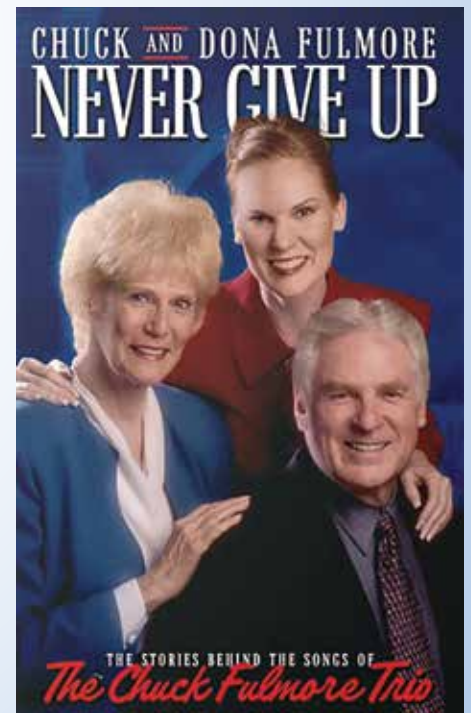
as their faith, despite everything they’ve encountered in their lives, remains stronger than ever.

“Trusting God to do what he wants to do with our lives has been a big thing for us,” she says. “He’s changed us—many times over. We’re just glad he’s let us live this long, so we can get to know him better and better.”

Though Chuck and Dona admit their singing days are over, they still very much enjoy music in church, the fellowship of their church community in Boise, Idaho, and spending time with God. They look forward to the day Christ comes again and they are able to once again make music as a family quartet. In fact, Chuck already has plans.

“The music in heaven will be fabulous—truly out of this world,” he says with a grin. “If there’s a recording studio in heaven, that’s where I’m going to be.”

SS



Fulmore’s ©2023 songbook contains sheet music and stories behind 21 of their most beloved songs.

Music by The Fulmore Trio can be found on YouTube. *Never Give Up: The Stories Behind the Songs of the Chuck Fulmore Trio* is available at your local Adventist Book Center or via their online store at tinyurl.com/fulmoretrio. Also available on Amazon.

DARREN L. RICH, DDS

Honoring A Man Who Knows Where He Belongs

by Carolyn Lombard

The family and office staff of Darren L. Rich, DDS, would like to wish him a Happy 50th Birthday on September 14, 2023 and a big *thank you* for 20 years of service to the community of Exeter, CA, and the surrounding towns.

Darren Rich '92 was raised in Three Rivers, CA, before he went away to Monterey Bay Academy at age 17. After MBA, he went on to college, eventually graduating with a doctor of dental surgery (DDS) degree in May 2003 from Loma Linda University. He married his college sweetheart, Steffani, in September 2003. As a physical therapist at PRO-PT for many years, Steffani has also served the Exeter community, including many of Darren's patients.

Darren originally joined his dad, Darrell Rich, DDS, in his Exeter practice in September 2003, expecting to stay only a few years and then set up his own practice, most likely out of the state. Exeter quickly became his home for he and Steffani and they had no plans to move. The couple have raised their two daughters, Haven and Rylan, in Exeter and have enjoyed their association with Sierra View Junior Academy and now Exeter High School. Darren has supported the Exeter community over the years and was a past president of the Tulare Kings Dental Society. He supports an ongoing mission project in the Philippines and has served in the mission field intermittently for several years, as well as short term projects during and since college. He takes his service commitments very seriously and can always be counted on to do his very best at whatever he undertakes.

As a self-proclaimed "outdoor guy," Darren enjoys talking with his patients about bicycling, backpacking, and anything "mountains". In cycling competitions and mountaineering, he's a go-getter, but chairside his quiet, gentle, and caring manner will calm even the most anxious of patients.

Darren's office staff has tenure from one year to 38 years for a total of 114 years of dental experience. Darren's sister, Darla Rich

'90, has been a hygienist in the office since graduating from dental hygiene school.

The office staff state that they appreciate Darren for his kindness, not only to them, but to their patients. His steady, gentle spirit can be counted on in all circumstances. The staff also say that his commitment to quality care with up-to-date technology is high on his priority list.

Since their current computer records go back to 2009, the staff know there are many loyal patients who have been cared for by Darren and his staff over the last 20 years in the Exeter and Three Rivers practices. They appreciate the loyalty of their patients and look forward to future opportunities to serve. Darren would like to thank the communities of Exeter, Three Rivers, and surrounding towns for welcoming him in 2003 and for supporting him over the last 20 years. **SS**



Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76

Alumna of the Year

Kinzie Speyer has been a part of MBA for 38 years: two years as a student and 36 years as an employee. She has dedicated her life to this school, the students, and to our very large alumni association. Over the years, Kinzie has served in many capacities from running the MBA store to being the school librarian. In 2008, she began working in the Alumni and Development office, eventually becoming the Director. In this role, Kinzie has excelled.

All of us have experienced at some point the annual Alumni Weekend. It is always an event to remember. This takes hard work throughout the year to coordinate, plan, and run. Besides her organizational and creative abilities, which make these weekends a success, one of the unique and exceptional things about Kinzie is her strong connection with the alumni. She is a trusted, well-known MBA representative that people know and love. She knows individual alumni over decades and can tell you what year many have graduated, even those who graduated years before her! She loves the interactions she has with the alumni. Because of her connections and the very personal relationships she builds, she has been very successful in raising thousands of dollars for various capital projects, scholarships and student aid, and the MBA Annual Fund.

Kinzie is also editor of *Sandscripts*, the alumni news magazine, which is published, without fail, twice a year. This is always done with high quality and keeps the alumni informed of all the wonderful things going on at MBA, as well as with our alumni friends. Each issue has a theme that she has chosen and they are always unique and inspiring. *Sandscripts* is something MBA can be very proud of.

Presented by Traci (Wareham) Follett '93

Kinzie's passion for this school is palpable. It radiates in her interaction with students and alumni. She goes above and beyond for our school, filling in wherever she is needed to ensure that MBA is a *home on the shore* for all. She takes the initiative to fill in where there are gaps, never hesitating to help her colleagues—even covering dorm supervision when needed! Her extensive knowledge and experience with academia and boarding school life make her a valuable asset to the MBA administration team. In this position, she has the ability to influence positive change across the campus. Her signature sign-off in every *Sandscripts* is, *Gladly Serving Our Home on the Shore*, and that is what Kinzie does every single day.

Kinzie also creates strong bonds with the students and her fellow faculty. She is an excellent "counselor" on life, offering a shoulder to cry on if needed, as well as giving sound advice rooted in God. She is very giving of her time and attention to everyone—opening her home to students, making trips to town with them, baking her famous cinnamon rolls, helping them at times with their studies, and establishing a friendship with them that will last well past graduation. She truly cares for each student, demonstrating the love of Jesus and pointing them to Him.

The Monterey Bay Academy Alumni Association is honored to recognize Kinzie Speyer for her love, devotion, and commitment to *our home on the shore*. SS



Robert W. Frost '59

Alumnus of the Year

Robert W. (Bob) Frost was born and grew up in the Sacramento and San Francisco Bay area. Bob enrolled as a Monterey Bay Academy freshman in 1955. At MBA, Bob was introduced to the work/study program, which has been a life-long blessing. His work program included poultry, dairy, and farm, and he looks with satisfaction these work opportunities offered. He also was active in the sports programs. He participated in basketball and baseball, and could often be seen charging down the court, sweat pouring down his face, jumping to score a basket. Bob liked to win and he put forth every effort to be on a winning team!

Following his MBA graduation, Bob attended Pacific Union College (PUC). During his junior year at PUC, Bob was in a tragic auto accident. His fiancé died instantly and he suffered multiple severe injuries. At first it looked like he wouldn't live, and if he did, he wouldn't walk again. Bob was out of school for two years and it was during this time of recovery that he rededicated himself to a lifetime of service to God and others. He returned to PUC in 1964 to complete a degree in business administration in 1965.

Bob's post-degree track included serving as a business intern with the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (SDA) Auditing Service and then Chief Accountant for the Loma Linda Foundation. In 1966, Bob and Danetta Johnson were married. They were blessed with daughter, Wendy, in 1970, and son, Rob in 1972.

Bob is an alum of MBA, and graduated in 1990.

In the summer of 1973, Bob was asked to serve as treasurer of the Japan Union Mission of SDA on an interim basis. Bob ended up serving there for the next nine years. In 1982, Bob and Danetta moved to Hawai'i where Bob served as Treasurer of the Hawaii Conference of SDA. The next employment opportunity was an invitation to join the Central California Conference of SDA as the Association Treasurer.

In 1987, the Loma Linda University board recruited Bob to serve as the manager of the Loma Linda Foundation which manages non-academic activities of the university including

Presented by Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76

investments, trusts, real estate, and other services. He officially retired in 2011 after 46 years of service to SDA organizations. Since 2010, Bob has volunteered as the CFO for Adventist Health International, a management organization that assists mission hospitals and clinics in providing health care services in developing countries.

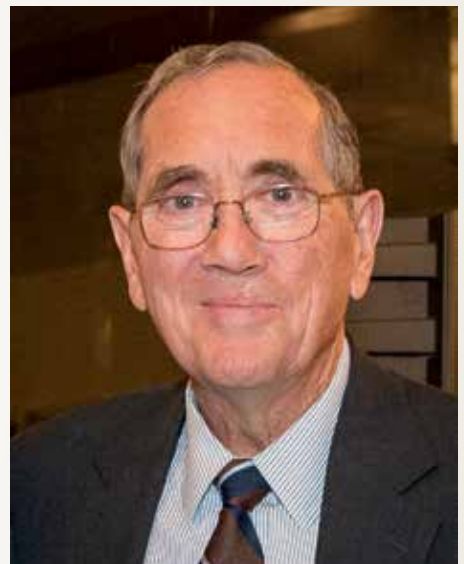
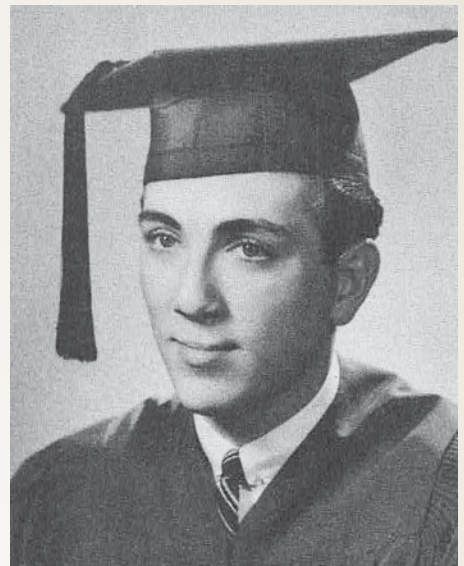
Bob's career path has taken him around the world. It has provided him the opportunity to apply his business experience to various health institutions and other organizations that seek to enhance human life and to put in practical form the essence of the Christian gospel as exemplified in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. Throughout his career, Bob has directed his efforts to demonstrate what it is to practice ethical behavior and responsible management. He has a determination to adhere to policies and practices consistent with those found in the life and teachings of Jesus.

Over the years, Bob has been involved in church and community service. Included in his definition of community service is assisting with the MBA Class of 1959 Scholarship Funds. As of 2023, scholarships averaging \$1,500 each have been provided to 80 MBA students. The class also has an endowment fund that has reached \$85,000. Bob is quick to state that both scholarship fund and endowment fund welcome additional contributions!

Bob and Danetta live in San Marcos, CA, near their children and grandchildren. They enjoy being grandparents, gardening, swimming, church activities, and taking several trips a year to visit family and friends across the US.

The Monterey Bay Academy Alumni Association is honored to recognize Robert Frost for his dedication and devotion to the Class of 1959, and his ethical behavior and responsible management that is consistent with the life and teachings of Jesus.

SS



David and Lisa Lara

Hall of Faith

David and Lisa Lara arrived on the Monterey Bay Academy campus in the summer of 1989 from Thunderbird Academy in Arizona. There was a position that had opened up in the maintenance department and David had applied and was hired. At the time of David's hiring, Zeb, another maintenance worker, took David under his wing and mentored him, teaching him all there was to know about the world of maintenance at MBA. However, six months later, Zeb accepted a job offer elsewhere, leaving David to fill his position as the campus locksmith, along with managing a maintenance department. This included taking care of 50 campus homes, two dormitories, a cafeteria, three instructional buildings, a gymnasium, and a myriad of other buildings occupied by industries on campus.

Lisa also worked when they arrived in 1989, but not on campus. From 1989–1991 she worked for Food and Nutrition Services in Capitola. In 1994, she was hired as a cafeteria worker when Versatron managed boarding academy food service programs. It wasn't until 1997, when MBA decided to run its own food service that Lisa became the Food Service Director, a position she held for 24 years until she retired last June. Her talent and skill in the food service industry is outstanding.

From the moment David and Lisa arrived on the MBA campus they were a "kid magnet." Their home was regularly filled with not just high school students, but neighborhood faculty children, as well. They had two young elementary-aged daughters and it wasn't long before all the faculty kids on campus figured out that "Mama Lisa," as she is affectionately known as to hundreds of students, was a fabulous cook and there was always good home-cooked food available. The Lara's never seemed to mind how many students filled their home. It was always, "the more the merrier." I can remember walking outside my home and smelling the aroma of food cooking in the air. I would comment to my husband, "I think the Lara's are having a BBQ. Should we run up and see what Lisa's cooking?" And when we showed up—uninvited by the way—we were always wel-

Presented by Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76

comed with open arms, and this went for students as well.

Here's a small example of how you knew the love the campus kids and MBA students had for the Lara's and the love the Lara's had for the kids. You know how every home has a door jam in the house with little tick marks up the side with names and dates after the markings, keeping track of the growth of the children in the family? Well, their door jam was just like that. But it didn't just have their children's growth progress marked, it had campus kids and high school kids on the door jam. There were so many tick marks and so many names, there was very little blank space left. I believe that's a sign of love. It's a sign of family. David and Lisa became family to many kids down through the years.

As I was preparing my remarks for this award, I asked the Lara's if I could stop by their house and chat about the past 34 years. As we talked, I realized the magnitude of what these two individuals have provided MBA with over the years.

- In the early years of MBA's existence, all the maintenance staff were required to get a bus license. David drove for class trips, music trips, varsity trips, field trips, mission trips, and much more.
- In 1990, David became responsible for planning the Mission Trips and that continued for nine straight years
- In 1991, David and Lisa began a 12-year, nonstop stretch of sponsoring classes. They sponsored 1991, 1996, 2000, 2004, 2011, and 2014.
- In 2003, David and Lisa took over Senior Survival, with the Class of 2023 culminating their tenure.
- In 2005, former industrial arts teacher, Rick Regester, started the First Responder class—still currently taught. Rick needed a co-teacher and David obliged.
- In 2006, David took over teaching the First Responder course and has continued teaching it for the past 18 years.
- Somewhere along the way, they found time to coach the girls' basketball team.



Did I mention that this is all on top of his maintenance job?

- Lisa's job, as Food service director, included preparing food for five banquets per year, along with many other school functions. David was right by her side, helping her basically move the cafeteria to various locations when the event was held somewhere other than the cafe

After we had reminisced for a while, my heart became sad when I realized the hole that will be left when the Lara's are no long on campus. For me personally, it is hard to imagine MBA without them here because they are not just friends, they are family. I don't know about you, but I'm tired of saying goodbye to people I love and care for deeply. I long for heaven where there are no goodbyes.

As David and Lisa look forward to their soon retirement, MBA wishes them only the best that life can offer. It is my privilege and honor to induct them into the Hall of Faith. We are forever grateful for their talent and skills that have touched the lives of others during their 34 years of dedication and commitment to MBA.

Congratulations David and Lisa!

SS

Tim and Ruthi Zytkoskee

Hall of Faith

Tim Zytkoskee was born into a family of educators. His father was an educator and eventually a youth director for the church. He loved, admired, and respected his father, a man who loved, admired, and respected history. He grew up in a home where history and politics were regularly discussed, deliberated, and debated. As a result, the love of history became a part of his very being. So there was never a question that he would receive a degree in history.

He accepted his first job as a teacher in Caldwell, ID, and was there for four years before he got the itch to move and go back to school to obtain a graduate degree. A principle's position became available in Hayward, CA, a short distance from PUC. He applied for it and got the job. For the next two years, he worked and went to school, graduating in 1985 with a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction.

For the next nine years, Tim worked as a principle, first at Feather River in Orville, CA and then at Sierra View Junior Academy in Exeter, CA. In 1994, he decided it was, again, time for a change, and this time he really wanted to do what his true passion was—teaching history. A position opened at Monterey Bay Academy. He applied and was offered the job. Tim only stayed long enough, however, to see his two children graduate from MBA before getting that itch to move again.

Over the next nine years, thinking he wanted back in Administration, Tim served as principle at Highland View Academy in Maryland, Mile High Academy in Colorado, and San Diego Academy in Southern California. By the time he arrived in San Diego, however, he began to realize just how much he missed MBA. He started having a reoccurring dream that he was back at MBA, teaching history, only to wake up and realize...it was just a dream. What would the chances be of him returning to MBA a second time? He was pretty sure they were slim to none.

Then one Sabbath afternoon, in the spring of 2006, his wife, Ruthi, was looking on the North American Division website for possible job positions when she saw that MBA was

Presented by Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76

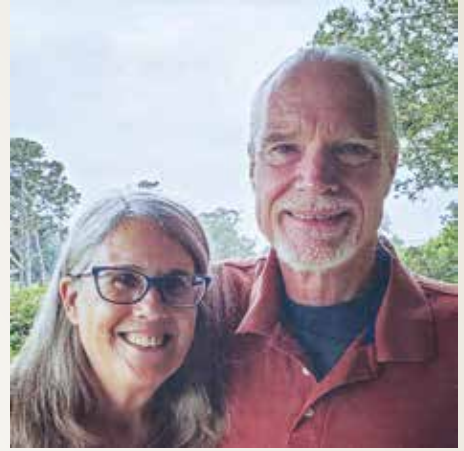
looking for a history teacher. However, the last date to apply for the position and request an interview was the day before, on Friday. He was one day late.

Thinking that it was unlikely anything would come of it, he told the Lord, "if MBA was where he was supposed to be, He would have to make it happen." So, he called and left a message, asking for an interview. His reoccurring dream was about to become a reality.

In the summer of 2006, he had come full circle. Tim came back home to the same job he had and loved in 1994. He even ended up living in the same campus house he had lived in in 1994. What is the likelihood of that happening? Probably next to none, but I believe that God, in His infinite wisdom, knew this is where Tim and Ruthi belonged....

That brings me to Ruthi. There is a saying that goes, "Behind every great man is a woman," and I think if I asked Tim if that statement is true of him and Ruthi, he would wholeheartedly agree. Through thick and thin, through highs and lows of life, through the good times and the bad, Ruthi has been by Tim's side and has literally followed him from coast to coast throughout his career as an educator. She has held various positions at the schools they have worked at and in the communities they have lived in. During their first tour of duty at MBA, Ruthi worked in the office of the Campus Laundry. When they returned for the second tour of duty she went to work in the business office. Most recently, Ruthi has been volunteering for MBA in the operations department. She has been a blessing to not just the school in general, but to students she has come in contact with. She is a fun person to talk to, has a wonderful sense of humor, and if you need help, she is always willing to step in and then makes you feel that she's the beneficiary, even when she is the one providing the help.

At the end of 2023 school year, Tim and Ruthi retired. When I asked Tim what their plans were for retirement, his words were, "Ruthi has followed me wherever I wanted to go for 44 years. I think it's time for me to follow her where she wants to go." They had a plan for



retirement and where they were going to live, but those plans changed unexpectedly due to family circumstances. There's a saying that goes, "once is by chance, twice is by choice, and three times is a pattern." We like the pattern we are seeing, Tim and Ruthi, and we are so happy we don't have to say goodbye just yet—because you are family. We are thrilled to be blessed with their presence for a third time, but this time both of them are now volunteers. Ruthi will continue to volunteer in the operations department and you will find Tim riding a lawn mower and teaching one class: AP History.

On behalf of the Monterey Bay Academy Alumni Association, I am so honored to induct Tim and Ruthi Zytkoskee into the MBA Hall of Faith. Thank you for your dedication to teaching and for the lives you have touched through your work and volunteerism during your 44 years of service to Christian education.

SS

HONORING CLASSES ENDING IN 4^{&9}

ALUMNI

APRIL
25-28

THURSDAY, APRIL 25

Scholarship Reception (by invitation only)

FRIDAY, APRIL 26

22nd Annual MBA Golf Classic
Vespers

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Worship Service
Honor Class Meetings
Honor Class Photos
Concert/Evening Program

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

49er Brunch
Honoring the 50-year classes: 1974

more details

SPRING 2024 SANDSCRIPTS

or at

montereybayacademy.org/alumni-welcome

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



You Belong

It's an interesting study in human nature to realize God has created within each one of us—introverts and extroverts, the loquacious and those of few words, the bold and the meek alike—the desire to be in a community of some sort; the innate desire to know that, with all of our faults and foibles, there is some group of people that is still willing to take us in as one of them. We all hope to find some collection of individuals with whom we share a similar worldview, habits of mind, and traits of character.

At the beginning of each new school year, students arrive on the MBA campus from places near and far, many returning to a school and experience with which they are already familiar, but a surprisingly large number that is coming to MBA for the first time. Yet each new school year possesses elements of the unknown, and so every student arrives with questions waiting to be answered, doubts and misgivings waiting to be quelled, and hopes and expectations waiting to be realized. Seasoning this stew of thoughts, ideas, and emotions is a deep need for belonging.

Young, still-developing minds often feel this need for belonging much more keenly than some of us more seasoned life travelers. So, it is imperative that we as a school community create an environment where students from many different cultures and contexts can quickly find as many ways as possible to

“fit in.” For this year's theme, the faculty and staff have chosen *You Belong*, and based it on Paul's letter to the Ephesians in which he also was trying to help them feel a sense of community around their newfound belief in Jesus Christ. In the pivotal verse Paul tells them, *You are no longer outsiders and strangers... you are citizens together with God's people... you are members of God's family.* EPHESIANS 2:19 NIRV

We count it a special privilege to be God's instruments in helping this important Bible promise become a reality for our students. Nothing we do this year will be as important as helping young people to recognize and accept their place in God's family. To be sure, the knowledge and skills our students will attain this year are important, but it's only through the realization of our worth in the eyes of God that any skills and abilities He has blessed us with have meaning.

Let me share one example from last school year: Mikela came to MBA as a senior from Poland with an interest in aviation. She enrolled in our Aviation Ground School, not because she was interested in learning how to fly, but because she wanted to understand every aspect of the aviation industry in preparation for a career as an aviation executive. The fact that this aviation experience was available within a Christian high school context proved to be mildly irritating for Mikela sometimes, and at other times a much bigger annoyance. Early in the year, she paid the principal's office several visits to express her frustrations with the many religious services she was required to attend. As the year progressed, however, something seemed to change. Mikela's attitude toward these expectations seemed to soften. She started to ask more questions and take more interest in her Basic Christianity class. While some of the changes were noticeable, it didn't seem to most of us that the needle had moved very much. As a staff, our prayer was that we might simply plant a seed and maybe someday we would hear that she had given her life to Jesus.

Fast forward to the end of the school year. Our campus pastor had been studying the Bible with another senior, Camila, who expressed a desire to be baptized on gradu-

ation weekend. Just after the baccalaureate service ended and people began to gather around the outdoor baptistry to watch Camila commit her life to Jesus, the totally unexpected occurred. Mikela stepped to the side of the baptistry and asked the pastor if she too could be baptized... not later... now. While we had all been praying that the Holy Spirit might do something in the future, He had other plans. Because Mikela responded to the Holy Spirit's gentle urgings, the pastor wasn't afraid to go off script a little bit and the family of God grew that day. Mikela's decision to become a part of God's family happened because she experienced a sense of belonging.

As a faculty and staff, we believe that the Holy Spirit will move in the lives of our students if we will place ourselves daily in God's hands. We know that there are others who will come to recognize that they ... *are no longer outsiders and strangers...* but they are actually ... *citizens together with God's people...* and are truly ... *members of God's family.* This is our prayer for our students and our prayer for each one of you, our MBA alumni and supporters.

You belong...

Dan Nicola '80

Principal

principal@montereybayacademy.org

Turn the page to read a special request by Principal Nicola.



Mikela Ciamciak '23

PRINCIPAL'S REQUEST

As a principal, a decision I am faced with almost daily is one involving whether a student can participate in a program or activity that has fees associated with it that the student cannot afford. We want our students to experience the full range of opportunities available at MBA. We don't want finances to be a barrier to participation. My dilemma is what to do when the budget doesn't have room in it for me to simply waive the fee.

Another scenario that often comes up is how to show appropriate appreciation to our faculty, staff, and volunteers for their sacrifices of time and resources. A nice dinner, a bouquet of flowers, or a small gift is a nice way to say thanks but could seem like an extravagance when other areas of the budget are watched so closely.

Would you be interested in becoming a part of the *Principal's Circle* and helping me to build up a small fund that would assist me in showing our students, faculty, staff, and volunteers how much we value them? I am looking for twenty individuals who would be willing to give \$5,000 each toward this fund. To date, two have already given and another has pledged their support. Joy is found when we invest in others. Will you join these three in becoming a member of the *Principal's Circle*? **SS**



EF TOUR

Education is more than sitting in a classroom and learning information from a textbook. Learning includes taking field trips, serving on mission trips, performing on music tours, participating in sports, and when given the opportunity, traveling to other countries. Each year, MBA plans either a domestic or international educational tour for students to enhance their academic experience. This school year, an educational tour to Austria, Germany, and Switzerland is scheduled from March 16–26, 2024 (exact dates to be determined). This tour is organized through EF Educational Tours. The group will depart from San Francisco International airport for Vienna, Austria, where the experience will begin.

This tour was last taken by MBA students in 2018 and it was an unforgettable experience for them. The sights seen and places visited immersed the students in the culture, language, people, food, and way of life. We are excited to be able to offer this opportunity to our students once again.

Austria

Vienna is first on the list, visiting the Ringstraße (The Ring Road), Parliament building, and Schönbrunn Palace (the childhood home of Marie Antoinette). After a brief pause in Salzburg (birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart and the setting for the film *The Sound*

of Music), the tour moves to Germany, with Munich as the next destination.


Germany

The Olympiastadion (Olympic Stadium), Marienplatz (Mary's Square) central square with the Rathaus-Glockenspiel mechanical clock at the Neues Rathaus (New Town Hall), Frauenkirche (Munich Cathedral), and Dachau (one of the first World War II Nazi concentration camps). Exiting Munich, the tour will visit Neuschwanstein Castle before stops Tyrol and the microstate of Liechtenstein before continuing to the Lucerne region of Switzerland to view the majestic Swiss Alps.

Switzerland

Swiss sites will include the Löwendenkmal (Lion Monument), Kapellbrücke (Chapel Bridge), and Lake Lucerne. Before reaching Frankfurt, Germany, to board a plane and return home, students will visit Heidelberger Schloss (Heidelberg Castle).

When this amazing travel opportunity is over and the students arrive back at MBA, they will realize the benefits of this life-changing experience are not over, but rather they have just begun. **SS**

 eftours.com/educational-tour/austria-germany-switzerland



UKRAINE...BECAUSE THEY BELONG



You may recognize this page from a similar appeal we had in the Fall 2022 *Sandscripts*. Last year, following the invasion of Ukraine, Pastor Violeta “Violet” Bilan, associate pastor of the Living Word Adventist Church in Oregon City, OR, received requests from Ukrainians—parents reaching out to get their children to America for safety. Everything these families owned was confiscated, leaving them with no money. Regardless, MBA said yes to four students.

All four students have returned to us again after a very successful first year. They are kind, dedicated, and enthusiastic kids who have become fully engaged in life at MBA. One serves as principal accompanist to the Oceanaires and another has been elected as SA Executive Vice President/Student Senate President. These incredible students have

added so much to the MBA family.

The tuition cost for an Adventist international student is \$20,000. Our goal was to raise \$80,000 for these four students for the 2022–2023 school year—and *we did it*. We need your help again this school year. As you can see in the yellow box below, two students were eligible for scholarships, which helps to lower the amount we need to raise.

Below is a QR code where you can view a video of Sasha’s grandmother’s home which was severely damaged in the attack on Kyiv last year. Sasha’s grandfather was killed in this attack, and his grandmother has vowed to rebuild her home in spite of the loss and devastation. Last year, a donor gave each of these students \$1,000 each at Christmas, to purchase gifts for their families and to help with holiday travel expenses. Sasha chose to give his funds to his grandmother to help her rebuild her home.

The spirit of these four students is strong, fully placing their situation in God’s hands. Please consider making a gift to help cover this year’s tuition for these amazing, resilient, faith-filled young people. **SS**

WILL YOU ACCEPT The Challenge?

Our goal is to find sponsors to help with the necessary tuition to educate these precious kids. Please ***pour your love and financial support*** into these students so they can continue their education at MBA!

The Challenge

GOAL \$80,000
 RAISED \$14,000
including scholarships and donations to date
 NEEDED \$66,000



Sasha’s Grandmother’s video — 3:5 minutes
<https://youtu.be/oLyEFZLxuM8>

ROBOTICS

by Jovina Mustard

Team *Mighty Cypress* for MBA performed very well in the school's inaugural participation at the Adventist Robotics Qualifying and Championship this last May at Forest Lake Academy, Apopka, FL. In the Alliance Selection, paired with another academy, MBA ranked fourth. Overall, the team finished in seventh place out of the 15 schools that participated. <https://ftc-events.firstinspires.org/2022/USARLCMP>

The students had a wonderful experience, not only as part of the learning experience within the competition, but also the opportunity to meet fellow Adventist students from all over the country. To continue the learning experience, students were able to visit the Epcot theme park at Disney World, as well as have a little fun at the Gatorland wildlife preserve.

The Adventist Robotics Competition is an annual event that brings together students from all over the North American Division to compete in a series of robotics challenges. The competition is open to all age groups, from elementary to high school students, and encourages creativity and innovation in the field of robotics. It is not only a platform for students to learn about robotics, but also an opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals who share a passion for science and technology.

Attending this competition is a remarkable experience for young robotics enthusiasts and aspiring engineers. It offers a unique opportunity to showcase technical skills, foster teamwork, and learn valuable life skills. As technology continues to advance, events like this play a crucial role in nurturing the next generation of innovators and problem solvers. Whether you are a participant or a spectator, this competition is sure to inspire and ignite a passion for robotics and STEM fields.

SS



The robotics team with their robot.



The robotics team with their medals and certificates, along with sponsors Jovina and Jason Mustard.



MBA Robotics/STEM Club
sites.google.com/view/montereybayacademyrobotics/



Adventist Robotics League
www.adventistrobotics.net



FIRST Tech Challenge
www.firstinspires.org/robotics/ftc

NEW STAFF



Cochrans



DeChicchis



Hansens



Espinals

Director of maintenance and school nurse, respectively, **Neal Cochran '01** and wife, **Faith**, met at Pacific Union College (PUC), when they agreed to sing at a wedding together. Upon graduation and marriage in Fall 2008, they moved to O'ahu, HI. Neal spent almost 10 years as the maintenance director for the Hawai'ian Adventist Conference. From Hawai'i, the Cochran's headed to Faith's alma mater (Rio Lindo '02) where Neal served as maintenance director.

In July 2021, Faith suffered a subarachnoid hemorrhage from a ruptured aneurysm. The support of their boarding school community, during her miraculous and full recovery, made it clear to them that living in that environment was important in raising their three children. When Neal got the call from MBA, they found another special community where Faith could utilize her skills a registered nurse, Neal could continue his service, and their children could enjoy being by the ocean again. Welcome to MBA, Cochran family!

Zach and Natalia DeChicchis, math teacher and history teacher, come from Georgia-Cumberland Academy (GCA). Zach has a math degree from PUC and will teach math and worship ministries. Natalia has a religious studies degree and a minor in history from Walla Walla University (WVU), and will be the campus ministries coordinator. When asked why they decided to come to MBA they said, "We loved the vision that Principal Nicola has for MBA, and secondly, our families will be nearby, which is important to us." Welcome to the MBA family!

Richard Espinal, cafeteria, comes to us with extensive culinary training and experience. He served for eight years as chef at the Wildwood Lifestyle Health Center in Georgia and three years as sous chef at Camp Au Sable in Michigan before arriving in 2019 at Holbrook Indian School in Arizona. Richard has now joined us here at MBA as the Cafeteria Service Department Head, taking responsibility for all of the equipment and logistics, in addition to being in the cooking rotation. Richard's wife, Shenee, came from Holbrook last school year with their three boys and has been serving as our Food Service Director. Richard stayed back last year to give Holbrook the opportunity to search for a replacement for these two dedicated, mission-driven, and very hard-to-replace people.

Tim and Sheri Hansen, VP of Academics and music teacher, are not strangers to MBA. This is their second "tour of duty" here. Sheri was our music teacher from 1992–2001. She took a sabbatical for the 2001–2002 school year

and attended Indiana University where she completed a masters degree in Music Education. Tim was at the same school, working on the same degree. A relationship developed! They both returned home, Sheri to MBA, and Tim to Mountain View Academy, then married in December 2002. They both taught at MBA from 2003–2005. From MBA, they taught music at Paradise Adventist Academy from 2005–2013. Their two children, Caleb and Elijah, were born there, before the family moved to Southern California to teach music at Glendale Adventist Academy. When asked why they have returned to MBA, they both said, "It's where our family is supposed to be."



Spears

Wil Spears, science teacher, came to MBA from Colorado where he was a lab scientist for the stateo and a marine biology educator for the Denver Aquarium. Will holds a bachelor's degree in biology from WVU and will serve as our life sciences and health teacher. Welcome to MBA, Wil!

SS

GRADUATION 2023 IN REVIEW



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2023!

The long-awaited day finally arrived. On June 4, 2023, MBA graduated the Class of 2023. Congratulations on completing your journey at Monterey Bay Academy! A journey that, no doubt, was filled with challenges as well as successes, a journey that was different for each student. The Class of 2023 had 60 graduates, including 16 four-year students, 19 international students, and nine second-generation students.

The weekend began with Friday evening's consecration address by Pastor **Daniel Gregory '86**, MBA's Bible teacher and IT Director. Boy's Dean, Greg Gryte, gave the Sabbath morning baccalaureate address. The much-anticipated graduation day arrived under foggy skies, but that did not diminish the spirits of the senior class. Tim Zytkoskee, history teacher, concluded the weekend with the commencement address.

It is our prayer that as the Class of 2023 leaves MBA and makes their way in the world that God will be their guiding light and He will remain first in their lives. MBA will always be their *home on the shore*.



BACCALAUREATE GREG GRYTE



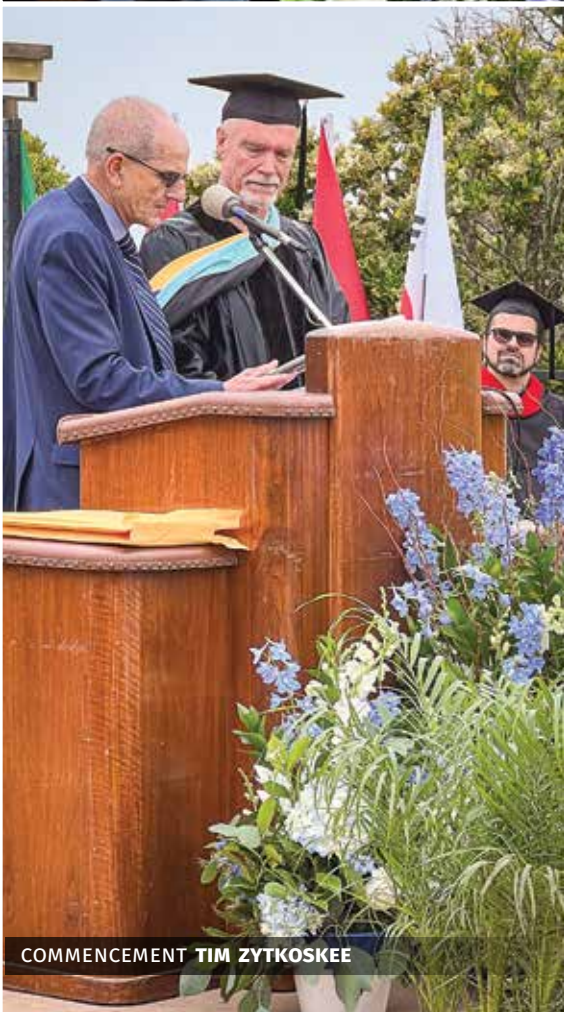
NEW GRADUATES AVA KRICK, LUKE GARCIA, CALEB PIZARRO, AND SYDNEY AMES



THE REST IS STILL UNWRITTEN



CONSECRATION DANIEL GREGORY '86



COMMENCEMENT TIM ZYTKOSKE



CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2023!

MBA NEEDS YOUR HELP. YES, YOU!

by Jay Ketelsen '76, VP for Operations

Since 2006, much has been done in the way of improvements to classrooms, dormitories, the cafeteria, and faculty homes. However, in the past 50 years, very little has been done to improve the facilities and commercial industrial buildings. As has been documented in past issues of *Sandscripts*, the past two years has shown a flurry of improvements in these often overlooked, but absolutely critical areas of our home on the shore.

The various campus shops and commercial industry buildings make it possible to execute the day-to-day and long-term mission of MBA. Shops are full of tooling and materials to keep things running all over campus. Industry buildings provide space where companies successfully conduct their business and allow for employment of MBA students, collaborate with the school's curriculum as learning labs, and to provide income through building space leasing.

The east end of the grounds building and the construction of a vital concrete bridge were completed two years ago—all that work was made possible by the generosity and kindness of John Solomon '61. Thank you!

Last school year, the roof, exterior siding, and windows were replaced on the main physical plant building, topped off with a paint job. This building is the maintenance headquarters with offices, conference room, several shops (carpentry, electrical, locksmith, and paint), and a vast inventory of plumbing, lumber, and electrical materials.

We were also able to paint the grounds building, motor pool, bus barn, and the mechanical garage. The new paint scheme on these buildings is a theme that will be carried through all our facilities and industrial areas. These buildings look great now—but, they need new roofs!



MAINTENANCE BUILDING TEARDOWN



AUTOMOTIVE SHOP TEARDOWN



INDUSTRY BUILDINGS NEEDING REPAIRED



MAINTENANCE BUILDING COMPLETED



AUTOMOTIVE SHOP NEW SIDING AND PAINTING



INDUSTRY BUILDINGS NEEDING REPAIRED

Volunteer Project: Spring 2024

The current goal is to complete the painting of all the industry buildings that run parallel to the cut to the beach (Lakeside Way). Completing these painting jobs and installing new roofs is a major undertaking that desperately needs funds and volunteers. The overall estimate is \$160,000, which includes materials (\$130,000), as well as equipment rental, and food and lodging for volunteers (\$30,000).

It is critical to replace the roof on the garage building before winter arrives. The remaining roofs and painting projects are planned to be completed in the spring with a 10-day volunteer effort.

Can You Help?

Are up to some hard work, like to paint, or can help with the roofing? Lodging and meals will be provided by MBA.

Two weeks *before* Alumni Weekend 2024 is the planned date range—but is not firmly set.

If you are unable to attend, but would like to contribute financially, it would go a long way to help complete this work before Alumni Weekend 2024.

Come out this spring and swing a hammer, paint with brushes and rollers, or buy some materials. Whatever you are blessed with in skills or treasure, help make an investment in MBA. You will have some great fun while helping out with your fellow alums. **SS**

Project Contacts

Volunteering — Jay Ketelsen

jay@montereybayacademy.org

Financial Contributions — Kinzie Speyer

alumni@montereybayacademy.org

COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY

The academic curriculum at MBA has included performing community service hours as a graduation requirement for the last 25 years. It is not only a positive and vital part of the communities we live in, but an important aspect of a Christ-centered curriculum. What better way is to introduce our youth to a life of serving others than to actually give them the opportunity

to do so? The people and community being served by the students' efforts also receive the wonderful benefit of knowing that they, too, belong.

Community Service Day is scheduled bi-annually for students to give their time and talents to various organizations throughout the county, as well as on the MBA campus. This school year's first service day fell within

the Fall Week of Prayer event. Students began the day with a worship presentation by the week's guest speaker, Kevin McCray. After dividing into assigned groups and meeting with group sponsors, students donned their *You Belong* t-shirts, and dispersed to their assigned locations on campus and our community. **SS**



1950S



Hartman

Cyril Hartman '53 and his wife, Charlotte, met at PUC and married in 1958 during medical school. They served 16 years at mission hospitals in Nigeria, Ghana, and Monument Valley, UT. Then, for the sake of their five children's education, they moved to Ceres, CA. In their empty nest years, they sang with a chorale and visited friends all across the country. After Cyril retired, they settled near Orofino, ID, where gardening and supporting small churches has kept them active.

Gregory (Jerry) Dean '57 and his wife, Margo, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary this year with their son, Carter.

1960S

Marlene Lockwood '60 shares the following update: "As we all have, I've been blessed. I am an 'outlier' who has survived metastatic brain melanoma cancer for 13 years after having been given three months to live. My friends and family even threw me a life celebration party. We had so much fun, and I was ready to move on to whatever was to be next. However, I had the opportunity to live longer and to enjoy my children, Brent and Holly, who are compassionate, bright and caring mid-life adults now, and to see my grandsons, Gavin and Brayden, become young men developing and finding their own future life paths.

I have experienced life to its fullest—good, bad, and the ugly! I loved being a mom, had a great career that included being a RN when the kids were young, then going back to graduate school (MPA), survived a divorce, created a new life away from healthcare, moved to

southwest Georgia where I traveled the world as Director of Strategic Planning for Habitat for Humanity International for five years. I made wonderful new friends, expanded my world view and learned contentment definitely comes from deep within. I learned happiness from children who played hard and smiled even bigger while having so very little.

I treasure my four years of MBA memories that I made with so many of you, the best decision my folks made for me. I hold my Higher Power very close and personal. I'm writing this note after another post successful brain surgery. I am in a new acute hospital rehab center in Sacramento, CA, where I am spending time regaining better thought progression, learning to compensate for peripheral vision loss by scanning, improve my balance, and gain strength. It's my 'quarterback' rehab! The care is on target and excellent. I tell others, 'if you are going to have brain tumors you need a strong sense of humor!'

May this greeting find you, as I am, at peace and filled with gratitude."



Osborn

Since retiring four years ago, **Dick Osborn '65**, has enjoyed service on six university boards, including Loma Linda University Health, and consulting with 25 universities around the world. After helping Qatar University achieve American accreditation, he is working with colleague Joseph Hoey of National University on helping the country of Qatar establish its first higher education accreditation agency for the 34 universities within this small country. In the photo, Dick (left) and Joseph (right) enjoyed a productive meeting with Qatar's Minister of Education, her Excel-

lency, Buthaina bint Ali Al Jabr Al Nuami, in her office. Dick attributes much of what he enjoyed in his career and now in retirement to important lessons learned at MBA.

Dale Wolcott '65 writes, "In celebration of my 75th birthday, I have stepped aside from week-to-week pastoral duties at the Chinle SDA Church on the Navajo Indian Reservation, where Nancy and I have been blessed to serve since 2014. I am now the interim network manager for Diné Adventist Radio, with responsibility to complete the implementation of a full-power FM radio network to reach virtually all the vast Navajo Nation. The Navajo Reservation is a remote area the size of West Virginia where many people's main link to the outside world is radio, and the radio dial is mostly static in many areas. If you want to know more about this project which is also Adventist World Radio's first-ever North American project, I would love to hear from you: navajowolcott@gmail.com."



Raymond

From **Majorie (Wheeler) Raymond '66**: "Hail! MBA, we love you! Just contemplating how many of our family members have been a part of you! My father, **Pastor Lawrence Wheeler**, taught Spanish there soon after we moved to the US from Central America. Others include my brother, **Joe Wheeler '54**, his wife, **Connie Palmer-Wheeler '58**, brother **Rollo (Romayne) '60**, and cousin, **Avenelle Bisel-Newell '62**.

This summer, I hosted the best Artists Retreat ever. There were 17 of us painting and creating all day and some stayed for two weeks! Together, we *Paint the World a Better Place*. My hubby, Elmer, and I decided we needed to work on the car we dated in—a

1972 Datsun 240Z. It has over 500,000 miles and still runs! We almost have it ready for a paint job, and it's very exciting to have it on the road again. May MBA keep thriving and inspiring!"

Janelle (Jenks) Dixon '67 shares, "I lost my husband, Harold, to a heart attack on May 23. We were close to our 53rd anniversary. As much as I miss him, I know it won't be long. I use my remaining time helping our Heavenly Father recruit." Our thoughts and prayers are with you, Janelle.

Ralph Owens '68 writes, "This isn't news, just a bit of fun I cobbled together that I thought others might enjoy too. You'll probably recognize where it comes from."

The Lord is my Jockey—I lack nothing.
His bursting barns feed me.
His cool waters restore me.
His training builds my strength and endurance.
His race-entries are chosen to enhance His reputation—and mine.
His hands guide my reins, so I walk on rutted roads without danger.
His lash and whip correct my digressions.
His reward is lavish—in the winner's circle and without.
His handling cools my race-induced heat.
His kindness fills my crib with oats.
His goodness and faithfulness provide all my needs,
And I will live in His marvelous stable for eternity.

1970S

Kathy (Van Skike) Sandquist '71 writes, "I just want to begin with, it's very interesting to hear of all the faculty who, I think, are 'descendants' of the faculty that were at MBA when I was: 1969–1971. I have very fond memories of those years! My husband and I will be celebrating our 47th wedding anniversary in October this year. We had our 14th and 15th great-grandchildren in April, twins, Victoria and Bailey. They joined, older brother, Brandon. What a joy! We still live in Shelton, WA, going on 11 years. I hope you all have a wonderful rest of the year and I hope and pray that 2024 will be our last year here on



Sandquist

earth and that we will soon be living in our forever home, with our Creator, Redeemer, and Friend!"



Wong

Don Wong '71, and his wife, Vivian, had a wonderful visit from some MBA folks this past June. Don shares, "It was fun to eat and talk stories with Nancy and Tim Kubrock, and Bryan and Donna (Baerg) Entze '86."



Kent

Richard 'Dick' Kent '72 writes, "Our big news, Ginger and I became grandparents. Our son, Trevin, and his wife, Kylie, welcomed

Trevin Richard Kent, Jr. (TJ), on October 18, 2022. **Arladell Nelson-Speyer** would appreciate knowing that he loves music! In other news, our son, Royen, graduated with a master's in Speech Pathology from Northwestern University. As a side note, I really enjoyed our 50th reunion. Great to know how many of our class really love our Lord!

1980S



Young-Love

Mark Young '80 and **Cheri Love '80** have retired and moved to Winston-Salem, NC. They are traveling a lot in their trailer and blogging about it at www.TheYoungLoveReport.com. They are also in the process of designing a new house. Enjoy your retirement, Mark and Cheri!

2000S



Atkinson

Anagh (Chohan) Atkinson '02 and her husband, David, welcomed their second baby girl, Anaiya Grace, on June 22, 2023. She joins her two-year-old big sister, Priya Rose. Congratulations to the happy family.

Rika (Gemmel) Meyer '03 writes, "After living and working the academy lifestyle for 12 years at Rio Lindo Adventist Academy, I have moved to Georgia to do marketing and communication for AdventHealth Georgia. I am married with two children, Aulden, 8, and Everett, 5. We miss California, but love the green landscapes and thunderstorms here. Give us a shout if you're ever in area. We are an hour away from Atlanta or Chattanooga."

Natalie (Cline) Paraison '08 and her husband, Sanders, welcomed the birth of their baby girl, Sahnaya, on August 17, 2023.



Dunn

Kyle Dunn '14 and his wife, Licenna, welcomed the birth of their baby boy, Cahlen Finn, on June 26, 2023. The family is currently living in Spokane, WA.



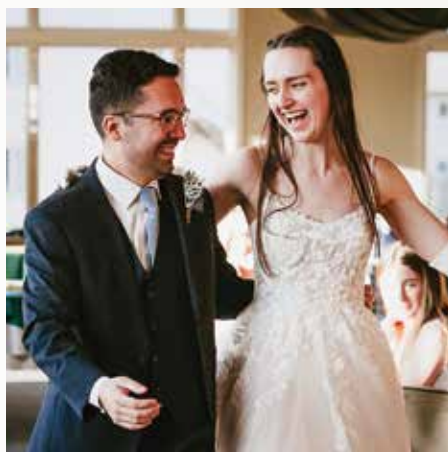
Marschall

2010S



Caster

Dani (Nobuhara) Caster '10 and her husband, Jared, welcomed the birth of their second baby girl, Addison, on August 19, 2023. She joins big sister, Clara, who takes her role as "big sister" very seriously.



Macario

Samuel Macario '15 and Ella Cornell were married on December 18, 2022 right here at MBA. They currently live in Seattle, WA, where Samuel works as an occupational therapist and Ella works as an actuary.

It is with great honor that **Marina (Blech) Marschall '86** and her husband, Travis, announce the commissioning of their daughter, **Genevieve Marschall '18**, as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army. She graduated from Ball State University, *magna cum laude*, and commissioned all on the same weekend in May 2022. Fellow high school classmate **Will Duncan '18** attended Genevieve's commissioning ceremony and proudly administered her official first salute.

Hannah Follett '19 and **Stefano Fratianni '19**, were married on August 6, 2023 on the MBA bluff overlooking the beautiful Pacific Ocean and



Follett-Fratianni

the reception was held in the courtyard of the campus church. Hannah and Stefano currently live in College Place, WA, where Hannah is working as a nurse in one of the local hospitals and Stefano is in graduate school at Walla Walla University.



Deming

Sabrina Deming '11 and Augustine Olivas welcomed the birth of their baby boy, Ozzy Edward, on March 18, 2023. The family currently resides in Houston, TX.

At Rest
OUR MBA FAMILY AT REST

Velma Anderson '57
May 2023

Tom Rupert '68
May 2023

Gary Fritz '72
April 2023

Jennifer Stiles '89
June 2023

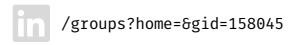
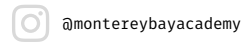
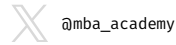
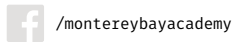
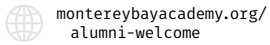
Travis Romero '90
September 2023

Monterey Bay Academy

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SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL MONTEREY BAY ACADEMY

Golf Classic

See page 6 for 2023 winners and sponsors.



KENT CABREIRA
PROFESSIONAL

SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS

montereybayacademy.org/golf-classic
alumni@montereybayacademy.org
831-728-1481 x1222

All proceeds go towards the MBA Student Aid Fund.