

# Bowles Hall Alumni Association News

Ut Tibi Sic Alteri

Vol. 1, No. 3, April 2007

with each other, UCB and Bowles Hall. Please read

## WELCOME

Welcome to the third issue of the Bowles Hall Alumni Newsletter. It is being published under the sponsorship of the Bowles Hall Alumni Association to keep present and past Bowlesmen informed on issues of interest to the Hall and continue the fellowship we enjoyed during our years at the Hall.

Our letter is published four times a year by email and US Mail to those without email service. Most importantly, we depend on material you send in to keep this letter interesting.

## President's Report

As we have advanced our case for *restoring the Bowles Hall Experience, in a restored Bowles Hall*, we have been asked by UCB administration, and even a few of our own, why? Why do you care, since you long ago graduated. Frankly, I'm surprised at the question, but I welcome the opportunity to answer it.

We, the members of the Bowles Hall Alumni Association, aspire to reestablish a special residential experience for undergraduates of all classes from freshmen through seniors. The key elements of this experience include older men coaching newcomers, the sense of community of a small group environment in a large university, dining together on site, responsible and accountable for self-government (especially as relates to social and judicial issues), a diversity of perspectives (geographic, ethnic, political and economic origins, and academic majors), pride in self and group, and respect for authority, traditions, benefactors and commitments. This environment fostered our transition to responsible adulthood and participative citizenship. We bonded



**Is This Hogwarts School of Magic from Harry Potter Fame? Remember How Imposing It Was As You First Walked Up The Stairs As A Freshman?**

place to party after football games" (as we have been characterized), we are not party to or advocating retaliation against the Housing Office, and we are not anti-Big Athletics, Big Technology or Big Science. Although we have goals aligned with many preservationists and the City of Berkeley (as relates to

Bowles Hall), we are neither for nor against the positions of these groups on other issues.

Quite simply, we are sharply focused on *restoring the Bowles Hall Experience, in a restored Bowles Hall*. Period! There is now considerable evidence that a "new" student residential model (*The Collegiate Way*) has emerged, which has many parallels to the *Bowles Hall Experience* to which we aspire. It rises because the model of the '70s, which is implemented at UCB, has failed, as we have seen. It is a 21<sup>st</sup>

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Century version of that experience designed by Mary Bowles and Robert Gordon Sproul, from which 2,000 Bowlesmen benefited before it was dismantled. I suggest that you visit <http://collegiateway.org/pdf/ohara-2001b.pdf>.

The evidence of our shared concern for the Bowles Hall experience is seen in the growth of our supportive membership—211 alums and 25 current Bowles residents (who will become alums in May). The *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Berkeley Daily Planet* have fairly reported our motivations and efforts. Look for future articles in these newspapers and the *California Magazine*. Bill Ragsdale '62 has worked diligently on this Newsletter and our website, which have been very helpful. The Bowles and Hart families have reconnected with the **Bowles Hall Experience** and the Hall itself, and support our efforts—some are strongly proactive. Many alums have stepped forward to participate in our leadership team, each bringing relevant life experiences and a strong desire to create the special environment called *the Bowles Hall Experience*. Many are new friends, and some were my roommates at the Hall.

The next six months are critical in our strategy to *restore the Bowles Hall Experience, in a restored Bowles Hall*. Job #1 is to divert the Haas Business School to an alternate site for its Executive Education Center. Joe Angello '54 and John Baker '68 are well qualified to lead our efforts in responding to the forthcoming EIR, and standing at the ready. They may well call upon some of you to assist with your relevant experience. In parallel, we will be strengthening our relationships with the UCB administration. John Heilbron '55, Norm Mineta '53 and Larry Peirano '51 are participating in this effort. Refining our proposals to *restore the Bowles Hall Experience, in a restored Bowles Hall* are Alexei Vranich '90, Charlie Johnston '88, John Edginton '57, Lionel Engleman '66 and Robert Fried '74—note every decade from the 1950s to the 1990s participating—they are working hard on every aspect of this complex proposal and the strategy to gain support for it.

What can you do? 1) If you have relevant experience with these issues, volunteer to participate. 2) Encourage your Bowles alumni friends to support BHAA with their membership. Volunteer to join the Membership Team, and help find your classmates. 3) Generously support BHAA financially—look for an announcement of the establishment of the Bowles Hall Foundation, a 501(c)3 tax-deductible entity in the near term. 4) Stay connected with BHAA and each other.

We are all very fortunate to have this opportunity. Some of you have inquired as to the best time to contact

the Chancellor personally. NOW is the best time! His address: Chancellor Robert J. Birgeneau, 200 California Hall, #1500, University of California, Berkeley, 94720-1500. Suggestion: speak to what we aspire to accomplish, and your personal experience of the impact of your *Bowles Hall Experience* on your life.

Finally, my term as your President will end on June 30, 2007, and your Board of Directors will elect officers for the year beginning July 1, 2007. Please vote in the upcoming BOD elections. I thank you for this opportunity to advance this cause, and for the opportunity to work with some wonderful, talented, and dedicated men. There is huge satisfaction in advocating actions that will benefit others, as I benefited from the actions of those who preceded me, including Mary Bowles. For an all-volunteer organization, we have accomplished a great deal. But we have much more wood to chop!

All the best.... Thanks for the opportunity to work with so many of you, and for your support. **Bob Sayles '52**

### **A Brief Report On April's Board Meeting**

The Association Board met on April 7 in Lafayette, CA. A major portion of the meeting was devoted to the review of the current situation with Haas School of Business' interest in converting Bowles Hall into its Executive Education Center. We are monitoring the required Haas Environmental Impact Report expected to be released in the next one to two months.

We are examining a number of alternatives possible upon the Haas School of Business' decision to locate their Executive Education Center elsewhere. The overarching goal is the restoration of the *Bowles Hall Experience, in a restored Bowles Hall*.

Other issues addressed included: 1) Membership: current membership 236, and growing! 2) Financial: the Association is fiscally strong with all bills paid, 3) Nominating Committee recommendations: Lionel Engelman, John Edginton, Larry Peirano and Bob Sayles nominated for a second 2-year term, commencing July 1, 2007. John Edginton to conduct election by mail. Newly elected BOD will elect officers for the July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008, 4) Big Game Dinner: Garry Holman to complete arrangements with Sheraton Palo Alto to hold our annual Big Game Dinner on Friday evening, Nov. 30, 2007, 5) Next Board Of Directors meeting tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007. If you are interested in participating, please contact Bob Sayles at 916-851-0250 or [r.sayles@comcast.net](mailto:r.sayles@comcast.net)

### **Association Dues Modification**

The BHAA dues-year runs from July 1 through June 30. A recent Association Board action has modified this, such that new, first-year membership dues received after January 1 apply to the balance of the current dues-year plus the following dues year.

This will encourage new members to join the BHAA regardless of the time of year that they join. Those that join between January 1 and June 30 will not feel that they must renew and pay again on July 1.

### **Big Game Dinner**

The 2007 Big Game will be held at Stanford on Saturday, Dec. 1, 2007. Kickoff time has not been set.

We will hold our annual gathering to celebrate the Bears' victory, renew friendships, and share adult beverages and a meal the night before, Friday, Nov 30 in Palo Alto.

Please reserve the date on your calendar. This will be a great opportunity to meet your Bowles alumni friends and current Bowlesmen. Please plan to include your Big Game guests.

This event has been held annually since 1949, sponsored by the Bowles Alumni in the 1949-1953 range. Recently they have broadened their scope and Bowlesmen of all years have been attending. The event alternates between Berkeley and Palo Alto coincident with the Big Game venue. Information on reservations and reduced hotel rates will appear in our next newsletter.

### **A Quick Note From The Hall**

Our Spring Luau will be on April 15. We're working to get an above ground pool, sand, and some shish-kabobs.

We have some extra Bowles Hall zipper sweaters, 8 mediums, 2 smalls, 2 X-large, and 1 large. If any of the alumni are interested in buying them they cost \$25 each. (I'll attach a picture of what they look like)

At our request maintenance fixed the shower that I was complaining about. Besides that they really haven't done anything spectacular to the building.

See ya, **Marc Pfeiffer**, (BHA President, email at: marcman@berkeley.edu)

### **Bowles Hall Alumni Website**

Your Association now has a web site in order that we may keep in touch and capture the flavor of the Hall and its history. The site is at <http://BowlesAlumni.editme.com>

This is a WiKi site, which means you may register and then make entries to help build the site. The intent is to help build our Association to support the current Bowlesmen and capture the history and flavor of the hall over its 79-year history.

You don't need to know the vagaries of website management. Just click on the word "Register" at the right and then enter your name and a password. You may then make additions to the existing, public pages. If you have photos to post, email them to [Bill@BillRagsdale.cc](mailto:Bill@BillRagsdale.cc) for uploading.

### **Membership Report**

Since our November 2006 Newsletter, our membership has grown from 132 to 236—110 alumni Renewals, 101 alumni New Members and 25 current Bowles Hall residents. Our members now span classes from 1935 to 2010. Your support is very important in our discussions with the UCB Administration, as it indicates that ours is a broadly based effort by men who are genuinely concerned with the quality of the residential experience of UCB undergraduates.

#### **Renewed Alumni Members (since November 2006)**

Michael Astin ('62)	Martinez, CA
Don Auslen ('54)	Tiburon, CA
James R. Clark ('53)	El Macero, CA
Ken Fat ('61)	Sacramento, CA
James Gnam ('00)	Napa, CA
Mark Gomez ('92)	Berkeley, CA
Harry Harris ('57)	Fresno, CA
Milt Honea ('56)	Santa Barbara, CA
John Klauder ('53)	Gainesville, FL
Markos Kounalakis ('78)	Sacramento, CA
Ira Lapidés ('84)	Oak Park, CA
Jonathan Lederer ('96)	Sacramento, CA
Don McNary ('46)	Davis, CA
Henry Miller ('52)	Saratoga, CA
John I. Nelson ('55)	Mercer Island, WA
Bill Ragsdale ('62)	Woodland, CA
Reed Robbins ('45)	Stockton, CA
Reuben Smith ('51)	Stockton, CA
Alexei Vranich ('90)	Philadelphia, PA

#### **New Alumni Members (since November 2006)**

David Armstrong ('49)	Orange, CA
Steven Aronson ('40)	Palo Alto, CA
John Baker ('68)	Sacramento, CA
Thomas Baker ('64)	Petaluma, CA
William Beckman ('49)	Oakland, CA
Harold Berry ('58)	Cupertino, CA

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Jimmie Boatright ('58) Orange Park, FL  
 Brendan Bolles ('97) San Francisco, CA  
 Robert Bone ('50) Sacramento, CA  
 Newell Booth ('62) San Diego, CA  
 Matthew Booker ('91) Raleigh, NC  
 Robert Brady ('64) Redwood City, CA  
 Bob Brooks ('57) Manhattan Beach, CA  
 Mark Buzbee ('09) Berkeley, CA  
 Dan Cirule ('91) Oakland, CA  
 Willard (Bill) Clark ('52) Hanford, CA  
 Frank Collin ('60) Napa, CA  
 Robert Coop ('35) Walnut Creek, CA  
 Mathias Craig ('01) San Francisco, CA  
 Dean Crowder ('52) San Diego, CA  
 Gary Davis ('63) Graeagle, CA  
 Dickson Dean ('62) Centennial, CO  
 Peter Dinkelspiel ('53) Orinda, CA  
 Joe Ehrman III ('48) San Francisco, CA  
 John Engvall ('54) Sonora, CA  
 Lars Enevoldsen ('71) Modesto, CA  
 Douglas Fagg ('60) Ione, CA  
 Eric Feigenbaum ('91) Los Angeles, CA  
 Terry Feigenbaum ('60) Los Angeles, CA  
 James Frederick ('62) Tokyo, Japan  
 Robert Fried ('74) Kensington, CA  
 Bob Fry ('50) Costa Mesa, CA  
 Mark Gieser ('87) Huntington Beach, CA  
 Richard Goldman ('41) San Francisco, CA  
 Dan Grimmer (?) Fremont, CA  
 David Hall ('60) Belmont, CA  
 Scott Hamilton ('00) Cupertino, CA  
 James Hartung ('72) Santa Monica, CA  
 David Harris ('60) Saratoga, CA  
 Edward Holman ('03) Arlington, VA  
 David Hornung ('02) Berkeley, CA  
 Loren Hov ('50) Sacramento, CA  
 Clive Jones ('62) Larkspur, CA  
 John Kern ('52) Livingston, NJ  
 Glenn Loney ('50) New York, NY  
 Jim Lyon ('48) Los Gatos, CA  
 Frank Mason ('50) Arroyo Grande, CA  
 Jim Matthews ('54) Grand Junction, CO  
 David Mayer ('49) Santa Rosa, CA  
 James McFarland ('49) Gold Canyon, CA  
 Robb Montejano ('04) Seattle, WA  
 Thomas Nelson ('42) Davis, CA  
 Russ Palmer ('51) Pasadena, CA  
 David Potter ('90) San Francisco, CA  
 George Schulze ('54) Concord, CA  
 Ken Snow ('62) Saratoga, CA  
 Rick Snow ('67) Livermore, CO  
 David Sonnikson ('67) Santa Rosa, CA

Joe St. Clair ('67) Sacramento, CA  
 Yasuto Tana ('62) San Diego, CA  
 Nathan Tarr ('51) Santa Ana, CA  
 Arthur Taussig ('63) Costa Mesa, CA  
 John Taylor ('50) La Mirada, CA  
 Richard Vignolo ('50) San Francisco, CA  
 Richard Walker ('51) Concord, CA  
 Joseph Wharton ('69) Lafayette, CA  
 J. Michael Wharton ('67) San Mateo, CA  
 Frank Wright ('50) Monterey, CA  
 Boback Ziaecian ('02) Laguna Beach CA

**Current Bowles Hall residents who have become BHAA members.** 25 current Bowlesmen have joined the BHAA.

**Membership Team.** The success of our membership recruiting efforts to date is due largely to you, our Bowles Hall alums, sending us contact information for your fellow Bowles Hall alums, AND the diligent searching and contacting of alums by members of our Membership Team. We thank you all!

The recent publicity, in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Berkeley Daily Planet*, of our efforts, as well as the BHAA advertisement in the current edition of the *CAA California Magazine*, has encouraged new memberships as well. If you didn't see these articles, contact Bob Sayles and we'll send them to you.

Bob Sayles ('52) Acting Team Leader  
 Phil Ernsberger ('50), responsible for 1949-1951  
 Don Auslen ('54), responsible for 1952-1955  
 Richard Rice ('62), responsible for 1960-1965  
 Rick Snow ('67), responsible for 1967  
 John Baker ('68), responsible for 1968  
 Jim Hartung ('72), responsible for 1971-1972  
 Alexei Vranich ('91), responsible for 1988-1994  
 Jed Gnam ('00), responsible for 1997-2000  
 Max Chen ('07), responsible for 2006-2007  
 Mark Buzbee ('09), responsible for 2009  
 David Wong ('10), responsible for 2010

We need more volunteers for our Membership Team, especially for the classes not represented above. If you are able to so participate, please contact Bob Sayles (916-851-0250) or [r.sayles@comcast.net](mailto:r.sayles@comcast.net) or by USPS at 11785 Long Bar Court, Gold River, CA 95670.

This strong, supportive membership is fundamental to our collective success!

**Lost Bowlesmen.** Gentlemen, we need your help with finding some of our Lost Alums. If you have contact

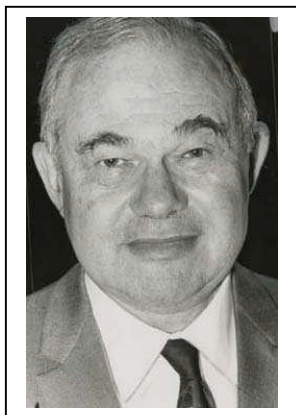
information relating to these men, please send it to Bob Sayles ([r.sayles@comcast.net](mailto:r.sayles@comcast.net)) or by USPS to 11785 Long Bar Court, Gold River, CA 95670.

Karl Borgstrom '62, Phil Callicini '54, William Capps '50, Philip Compton '50, Brooks Gleason '50, Robert Gustafson '49, Thomas Kauwling '62, Ron Kim '59?, Philip Krinitz '62, Dan Lee '62, James Porterfield '54, Glenn Reid '48, James True '54,

**Leadership. Bob Sayles '52** has been serving as Acting Membership Chairman. However, we seek a replacement for Bob, which would allow Bob to focus on advancing our initiatives with the UCD administration. Please contact Bob.

## **In Memoriam**

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, 12/29/06] In 1930, **Louis H. Heilbron**, the first Bowles Hall President, standing before his UC Berkeley graduating class at commencement offered, "The chief difficulty with the modern university is that it gives little time for thinking. There is too much noise at the university, too much activity."



More than 30 years later, the intellectual idealist with a penchant for poetry and a head for law would become the first leader of an even more modern system of 15 state colleges -- as noisy and active as they come.

Mr. Heilbron, the first chairman of the new Board of Trustees for what later became the California State University system, died Dec. 20, 2006, after a short illness. He was 99.

He was born on May 12, 1907, in Newark, N.J., but grew up in San Francisco, attending Lowell High School with the future Gov. Edmund G. 'Pat' Brown. At UC Berkeley, Mr. Heilbron earned a law degree and met his wife of 64 years, Delphine Rosenblatt. The two were married in what a newspaper item called a "simple wedding" on Oct. 30, 1929, the day after the stock market crashed.

In 1932, with the Depression raging, he went to work for the State Department of Public Welfare, becoming the secretary of the Social Welfare Commission within a few months. He then helped establish and direct the California Relief Administration. In 1934, he joined the prominent law firm of Heller, Ehrman, White and McCauliffe, where he would spend his entire career.

He took leave in 1942 to participate in World War II, including restoration of the Austrian government and its labor relations after the war. Upon his return to San Francisco after the war, Mr. Heilbron helped create the World Affairs Council of Northern California and became an active supporter of KQED television and the first moderator for the station's "World Affairs Are Your Affairs."

Mr. Heilbron's specialization in labor law again proved helpful, when he helped negotiate to end a CSU teacher strike in 1969. That year, he would also publicly denounce violent student actions on university campuses across the state and country, calling on nonviolent students and teachers to condemn the violence.

He was active in the Jewish community, as president of the Jewish Community Center, Temple Emmanuel and the American Jewish Committee's Bay Area Chapter.

"When he became attached to an organization, he gave good service and usually ended up as the head," said his son John.

In the 1950s, Mr. Heilbron was the first president of the Public Education Society of San Francisco, helping bring extra textbooks into schools.

"It seems to me so absolutely and natural and kind of inevitable that father would be interested in education," said his son David. "He was sure that it was the way for society to succeed and individuals to succeed in it."

Mr. Heilbron was preceded in death by his wife. He is survived by his sons John Heilbron and his wife, Alison, of Oxfordshire, England, and David Heilbron and his wife, Nancy, of Tiburon; sister, Juliette Krasne, of San Francisco.

**Donald E. Hutcherson**, class of '50. Don entered Bowles Hall in 1946 from Scotia, CA and majored in Political Science. On graduation he served in the Army during the Korean War as a commissioned officer. Most of his service was in England, where he met his first wife, Helen. After the War he returned to the Graduate School of Education at UC where he earned his M.A., Administrative Credential, and Ed.D.

Don had a distinguished career in education. He was a teacher, a college professor at Chapman College, a supervisor for student teachers, and a high school principal in Livermore. When he worked in Newark the school district created a special position just for him. He was the Master Lead Teacher for the district. The position was like an assistant superintendent, but he was to focus on helping teachers improve their teaching. Don loved to travel, particularly on the train and took many cross country train trips.

Don passed on Thursday, March 15 from throat cancer. He was living in San Francisco at the time of his death. He lost both his first wife, Helen and his second wife, Mary to cancer. He is survived by two sons, Philip (Emily) and Jonathan (Michelle) and 5 grandchildren. [Bill Grafft]

**1945.** Basil Garrett, in December 2005.

**1946.** Kirk Darling, on October 25, 2006.

**1949.** Larry Frank, in July 2006.

**1950.** Cecil Agee, in 1996; Bob Brownell, in 1987; Clary Heller; Charles Warren Henderson; Don Hutcherson, on March 15, 2007; George Mack, in 1968.

**1951.** Forrest Duranceau; Emmett Forrester; Dave Hood, in 2001; Spencer Thorpe, in 1996.

**1957.** Stu Hall, on November 10, 2005.

**1963.** Tom Glau, in February, 2005.

**1968.** William J. Walker, Viet Nam; Richard Homoth, Viet Nam.

### **The Heartfelt Dedication of Bowles Hall**

At the Dedication Ceremony of Bowles Hall on January 26, 1929 the donor of Bowles Hall, Mary Amanda McNear Bowles offered these words to commence the legacy of Bowles Hall.

“Today is to me a very happy one because it is the culmination and the realization of a dream—a dream come true; and so I am very fortunate, for it is not always that our cherished dreams come true.

“In presenting Bowles Hall to the University, I had two thoughts in mind. The first was to provide a suitable memorial to my husband, who always had a great love for his *alma mater*, who was keenly interested in its welfare, and who would wish to do something that would be a benefit and a help to the student body. During the latter part of his life he had often discussed the desire to do something along these lines. After his death in January 1926, the carrying out of his thought devolved to me.

“After several discussions with President Campbell and George Kelham, architect, both intimate friends, a dormitory, long desired, seemed to be the thing most needed. Dr. Gordon Sproul and Dr. Kelham went east and studied some of the dormitories of Eastern universities, and upon their return the plans of the present were submitted and accepted as the ones most desirable. And right here, I want to thank Dr. Kelham, the architect, for his wise guidance and for his hearty cooperation in carrying out my ideas.

“My second thought was, in planning the arrangement of the rooms and their equipment, that

Bowles Hall, the initial dormitory on campus, should set a standard, that it should not be a mere boarding house where men would eat and sleep, but that it should be a home, with home surroundings, and that the men who lived in it would look upon it as such, and would carry it into the world, when they left, memories of the “home” life that they had enjoyed during their university career.

“As the years pass, perhaps Bowles Hall will have its traditions, as have the dormitories in older universities; and when some one of the residents does something worthwhile, and we hope all our men will do something worthwhile, it will be said: **“You remember him—he was a “Bowles Hall” man.”**

“President Campbell, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I give Bowles Hall to the University, dedicating it, as you suggest, to “Education Through Fellowship” and, may I add also, as my own dedication to “Ideals and Aspirations.”

### **Words Of Bowles – A Special Feature**

We all know that life at Bowles Hall took on aspects of its own society. Below follows a selection of the language of Bowles. More will follow in future issues.

- **The Dink.** In the ‘20s and ‘30s Cal Freshmen wore a beanie called a Dink. This tradition was preserved into the mid-1960s at Bowles Hall. Freshmen were expected to wear their Dink with their name on the brim for the first several weeks until the Brawl. Enforcement fell upon your upperclassmen side-roommates and, most particularly, to the kitchen staff. No Dink meant no meal.
- **The Brawl,** an interclass competition at house meeting, marking the end of the Dink wearing orientation period.
- **The Whips,** two sophomores who acted as mentors to the Freshmen. Motivated them to clean up after Hall events.
- **Social Secretary** currently known as the A.S.S./H.O.L.E (Asst. Social Secretary/Holder Of Light Entertainment) who presents the Minutes. Always begins then presentation of the Minutes with “Good Evening, Gentlemen.”
- **Semi-Purple Shaft,** the badge of office of the Secretary.
- **Minutes,** a humorous (?) presentation at house meeting reviewing events of the previous weeks.
- **zzzz- often the fate of Dorques and Secretaries.** No more can be said here.
- **The Dorque (Dork),** the annual award recognizing the Bowlesman most adept at extracurricular activities. The keeper and protector of The Thing. Much more about this in future issues. Stay tuned.

- **The Thing**, the trophy of and badge of honor for the Dorque. Also known as the Lombard Memorial Trophy.
- **The Arc Lamp**, made from door knobs, carbon rods and a welding ballast. Used to illuminate the Big C if a Stanford painting party was feared.
- **Water bagging**, using sweater bags from the laundry.
- **Room Stacking**, moving a Bowlesman's room, all the furniture, clothing, etc. somewhere else and set it up in the proper positions such as median on Piedmont in front of the stadium.
- **The Luau** the Spring Dance first held in 1950. Usually a waterfall appears from an upper floor into the lagoon below.
- **The John P. Erdman Memorial Beer Bust**, the annual fall picnic at Tilden park. It originally had "Work Day" in the title but John objected to having anything connected with work associated with his name.
- **Weightlifting Event**, the highlight of the JP Erdman Memorial Beer Bust in which freshmen are lured into being the object of derision by the upper classmen.
- **Crew Races**, interclass competition at the JP Erdman Memorial Picnic.
- **Coffee Throw**, ostensibly a reception at 11 PM each evening of Dead Week. If The Switch killed Hall power it turned into the Coffee Throw.
- **The Switch** obligated to find a way to kill Hall lights at special events like the Coffee Throw.
- **House Decs** done on the lawn during Big Game week.
- **RFs**, pranks often occurring between class years.
- **J.P. Lindsay Memorial Trophy** - in the 60s the first Bowlesman to be engaged each year would be the custodian of the perpetual Lindsay Trophy, a five pound can of Vaseline. It was inscribed, "We're giving you this because we're not dumb. We know you'll need it in years to come."
- **Whaleboat Races**, a social event at Lake Merit
- **Dress Dinner**, the coat and tie dinner each Wednesday and Sunday.
- **The Lantern** As Dress Dinner on Sunday was at 3 PM we often made evening trips to The (Green) Lantern on Webster in Oakland. A Bowlesman of the mid-1950s had a family connection to the Lantern.
- **Bowles Hall Stairclimb** A Spring foot-race beginning at the sidewalk on Rim Road, climbing the outside front stairs, through the front door, ascending the center staircase to the eighth (attic)

floor, to the base of the tower, and up the ladder to the tower. Touching the flagpole constitutes finishing.

- **Side Rooms, Center Rooms.** As Bowles Hall consists of three room suites, the side-rooms and closets went to upperclassmen. Freshmen shared the center-rooms and the back of the side-room closets.

### **Bowles Alums Lead Fight to Preserve Beloved Hall** *By Richard Brenneman, Berkeley Daily Planet*

For Bob Sayles, the awakening moment came in May 2005, "That was when I heard that Bowles Hall was to be for freshmen only."

To former residents like Sayles, a retired IBM executive, and Norman Mineta, a former member of the House of Representatives and member of two presidential cabinets, their years in the UC Berkeley residence hall are fondly remembered as a powerful, life-shaping experience.

Now retired and living in Gold River near Sacramento, Sayles is president of the Bowles Hall Alumni Association, formed by former residents in response to the university's decision.

Now numbering more than 236 dues-paying members, the Association includes retirees who graduated before World War II and current undergraduates no longer able to live in the hall where they started their years at UCB. Their common goal: restore the hall to its former glory and the critical role it played in all their lives.

But the event that galvanized the alumni was the discovery that the university's Haas School of Business wanted to transform their cherished hall into a collection of upscale suites worthy of corporate executives willing to pay hefty charges for courses that would let them update their skills and network with fellow execs.

Sayles and fellow alums discovered Haas had started looking at Bowles Hall after the school received a \$25 million anonymous donation in August 2005.

Two months earlier, university officials confirmed that Bowles Hall would become a freshman-only dorm, citing disturbances and parties that had occurred at the facilities.

At the time, Haas Dean Tom Campbell—like Mineta a former US Congressman—was willing to talk to the Bowles alums. "He told us Bowles was only one of a number of sites being considered, and not necessarily the preferred one," Sayles said.

"We've learned a lot more since then. Bowles is the only site being seriously considered, and the primary

reason, we believe, is that the faculty are insisting that they be able to walk across the street to teach there. Several university officials have told us that.”

Late last year the university issued a call for bidders to conduct a seismic study of the hall, which may sit on two different traces of the Hayward Fault.

Accompanying the call was a drawing showing two new additional structures, one a partially underground classroom and meeting room facility to the west and the other a building with additional guest rooms to the east.

Later design iterations triggered by construction cost estimates have surfaced the underground structure and moved it closer to the Greek Theater.

### **History of conflict**

The current battle isn't the first one waged by Bowles alums for their hall.

A 1988 announcement of a proposal to demolish the building motivated then-current and former residents to file an application with the National Parks Service to list the building on the National Register of Historic Places. The service complied, listing the building on March 16, 1989.

Sayles, who moved into Bowles as a 16-year-old freshman, said he and his fellows will continue to fight for the institution that played a crucial role in their lives.

Transformation into a first-year-only residence completed the demolition of the Bowles experience. “If you take away the older participants, the whole thing begins to fall apart,” Sayles said.

Sayles remembers Bowles as the ideal undergraduate residence, “The older guys steered the younger ones in all kinds of ways, both academically and socially. I later realized that these four years were really important to my life. Something important had happened, and Bowles Hall had played an important role.”

Six months after graduation, he—like Mineta—was in uniform, serving as a Marine Corps platoon leader.

For Sayles, Mineta and their compatriots, “the goal is to restore that experience in a restored Bowles Hall,” he said. But even if Haas finds another home for its program, restoration won't be easy,” Sayles said.

“The university stopped putting money into maintenance 10 years ago, and now the housing office has a huge maintenance deficit,” he said.

If Haas gets its wishes, the interior would be gutted, with the hall's living room and stairs to be preserved



**The Hall Tower In Preparation  
For A Pirate Themed Dance.**

along with a restored kitchen. “They would gut the rest and turn it into 70 hotel rooms, each with attached baths.” Then the state's oldest university residence hall would become a hotel for corporate executives.

Bowles, a city landmarks and a National Register site, was conceived by donor Mary Bowles, Robert Gordon Sproul (later UC President) and George Kelham, chief architect of the 1915 Pan Pacific Exposition in San Francisco and successor to John Galen Howard as architect for the university.

### **Reminiscences**

**From Frank Mason '50,** "I was standing in the Commons once when the oars for Dave Brown and Butler (?) were being hoisted up close to the ceiling. When Dave, the coxswain, accepted the gold for Cal, he was so excited that he dropped the medal into the Thames River, so

instantly jumped in, dove down to the bottom and retrieved it.

"The Army had it's ASTP (Army Specialized Training Program) guys at Cal during WWII. A year later, in the summer of '47, an architect for the University was at Bowles coordinating the rehab of the Hall, mostly painting. My friend Fred Lumbard and I ran into the architect who asked us if we could think of anything he could do with the left-over money from the project. It was Fred's idea that two things be done: put in the red brick patio with fireplace to the rear of the Hall, and excavate and install the game room. That's where those came from. The patio with fireplace was a very special and gorgeous addition to the Hall. We used it a lot."

The note above was excerpted from a letter from Frank Mason. Frank first enrolled at Cal in 1938 as a freshman, originally class of '42, but got drafted in '43. Frank returned to Cal and moved into Bowles in the spring of 1946, just out of the Army. The Hall was loaded then with ex flyboys: pilots of bombers and fighter planes, navigators, bombardiers and some ex-enlisted types. Frank got his diploma in '50. He now lives in Carmel, "a retired business man enjoying life enormously, and gets to Europe about once a year."

## Correspondence

Dear Editor,

Greetings from a member of the class of '60, **Dave Harris**. I saw the article about our beloved "Home of California Men", in the SF Chronicle last week and my old buddy from our class of '60, **Howie Pelzner** found the alumni web site. Neither of us knew of the existence of the alumni association, but we both are joining immediately.

Well, reading the news letter brought back a flood of wonderful memories, and a great appreciation of the extraordinary privilege we had to have spent our college years as Bowlesmen. Howie and I spent overnight camping outside the housing office to secure a spot in Bowles, and that uncomfortable, cold 16 hours was about the best investment of time we have ever shared.

I am looking at my ashtray, which has sat on my desk from the moment I received it as Senior Class President, Spring '60. Through Med School in the East, internship, residency, the army, academic and private practice, It was the very first thing I placed on each successive desk I occupied. Funny, I never once gave it a thought. I always just felt that this small memento was my special link to those golden days at Berkeley.

And they were great days! Howie and I lunch together almost every week, and not one goes by that we don't reminisce about some Bowles Hall event, prank, or some other mischief into which we got ourselves.

Warm regards, I hope we can meet soon, and enjoy our shared memories. Dave Harris, Saratoga, CA 95070, drhderm@aol.com

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Dear Editor,

I graduated Class of '57 after four memorable years residing at Bowles Hall. I'll never forget those eight semesters. One memory that alumni might enjoy revisiting is the traditional Monday night meeting held in the lounge/living room where residents crowded wall to wall to hear that week's announcements by the Hall's elected leaders. One of the popular and featured events was the "Reading of the Minutes" which, typical of Bowles Hall originality, rarely had anything to do with the proceedings of the previous Monday. The semester's elected Secretary conducted the Reading and the minutes ranged wildly in subject matter. What passed for risqué in those innocent days, was not neglected.

In the first semester of my senior year I was elected Secretary The Minutes became a tool of Hall self-discipline as miscreants were identified, hooted at and ridiculed. The gossip style Minutes proved popular and I was re-elected to a second term, which was unheard of.

I should report that all those Minutes of mine were

typed, bound, and left by me for the guidance and enjoyment of succeeding Secretaries. Oh, if they had only survived the decades! [Editor's Note: about one-half of the Minutes before 1960 were microfilmed and are in our Association library. The paper file location is unknown.] Wouldn't they be something to see today? And think of the blackmail we could extort from fellow, now esteemed, Bowlesmen. **Richard May, '57**

**Thanks To Our Writers.** Let's see your class year represented here in our next issue. Anyone can submit memories of their Hall experience or updates on your current activities. Either email news and photos anytime to <mailto:BHAA@BillRagsdale.cc>, or mail to PO Box 1500, Woodland, CA 95776.

## Receive The Association News By Email

Spread the word. It's easy. Just send us a list of the email and/or US Mail addresses of your Bowles Hall classmates and send it to [r.sayles@comcast.net](mailto:r.sayles@comcast.net) or mail to Bob Sayles, 11785 Long Bar Court, Gold River, CA

## New News??

Thanks for loads of input for this issue. We'll again send an email request for input in May for more Bowles Hall news. Send reports of your activities and newsworthy future events to: Bill Ragsdale <mailto:BHAA@BillRagsdale.cc>). Thanks!

### Calendar

June, 2007	Issue 4 BHAA Newsletter
Aug. 2007	Issue 5 BHAA Newsletter
Aug. 18, 2007	BHAA Board Meeting
Nov. 2007	Issue 6 BHAA Newsletter
Nov. 30, 2007	BHAA Reunion Big Game Dinner At Palo Alto
Dec. 1, 2007	Big Game, Cal vs. Stanford at Palo Alto

**Bowles Hall Alumni Association  
Membership Application 2007-2008**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Office phone \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation (if retired, last position held) \_\_\_\_\_

BHAA Dues July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008 \_\_\_\_\_

current UCB students	\$5.00/year
recent graduates (2003 to current)	\$15.00/year
all others	\$25.00/year

Additional Contribution \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed (not tax deductible) \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in participating in the BHAA in the following areas:

UCB Administration relationships \_\_\_\_\_

BHAA membership \_\_\_\_\_

Establishing fund for long-term support of Bowles Hall \_\_\_\_\_

Working with BHAA community partners \_\_\_\_\_

Bowles Hall history and traditions \_\_\_\_\_

Bowles Hall facilities (the building) \_\_\_\_\_

Working with Bowles Hall Assn. (i.e. coaching, career counseling, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Communications (BHAA, press, CAA, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

BHAA Events (Annual Meeting, Big Game Dinner) \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information for additional Bowles Hall alums (name, class, address, phone, email)

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Please make checks payable to: Bowles Hall Alumni Association  
Please send to Bob Sayles, 11785 Long Bar Court, Gold River, CA 95670 (916-851-0250)