



### PRE-K/KINGERGARTEN NEWS



by Teacher Karen Logan

“...te, te, te, T as in teacher, Tim, tree, turkey, time, Thanksgiving”... Wait! What? ...th?”

The pre K/K class is learning to read, to count, to play fair and with everyone. This year, three little girls and a teacher are coloring, putting together puzzles, doing dot-to-dot with numbers and letters, playing kitchen, or working on the computer, learning about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit—how much He loves and values us, takes care of us and that He’s where the power comes from.

Halloween was especially fun this year as our 3 princesses got to fish for prizes, toss a pillow through the pumpkin mouth and watch the big kids eat 3 1/2 hot dogs in 5 minutes and finish a pie with NO hands and lots of whipped cream!

We’re having much fun with lots of stimulating learning and growing. Also did I mention, taking instructions in French?! They’re practicing the French R and U and wondering how you ever wrap your tongue around those sounds!

I look forward to my time with these little ones—such a great age of discovery and I really enjoy helping them grow.

Honestly, I’ll never get used to getting up before the sun does, but my time at PCA is generally a great delight to me. I enjoy the children, and the staff who make for a peaceful, safe, warm inviting, stimulating environment for learning and maturing. These and having my 9th grade son in a wonderful school are good reasons to take the ride from Penngrove each day. The morning sun shining on the yellow vineyards against the red poplars in a setting of verdant green is an exquisite view worth the drive any day!

This teacher is rich!! I think all who come to PCA each day are rich in the most valuable and important ways. And the dollar cost for students to attend is reasonable, but the benefits are high, thanks to 90 years of experience and some great leadership which have worked to create a wonderful opportunity for students.

PCA is struggling to provide this ministry and this service to our community. These young ones are bound to build up our culture as they become mature adults.

### K - 2ND GRADE CLASS NEWS



by Tyler LaNier & Chance Miller

Our Kindergarten through Second Grade classes have been working on recognition of alphabetical order, number recognition, addition and subtraction, and dictionary skills. Our reading has been in the content areas in relation to the Monthly Events.

We are in charge of chapel about once a month. We read or recite Bible verses.



*Success is such a great feeling!!*

The above picture shows the two Kindergarten girls that join Miss Johnsons’ class in the afternoon.

## Mrs. Rimal's Classes

By Kristin Rimal



*Student Chess Competition*

In Mrs. Rimal's World History class, we are studying Late Antiquity (A.D. 300-A.D. 600) and the early establishment of the Christian Church. The students are regularly practicing writing 5-paragraph essays. By the end of the year they should be able to support in writing any argument that is important to them. There is a lot of material to cover in World History. We hope to work our way through to modern times by June.

In English I, our students participated in Sonoma County Reads. In the past, this reading initiative had us studying *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck and *Zorro* by Isabel Allende. This year, we read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Along with reading the text, we do writing exercises and critical thinking. In English II, our students are analyzing their most deeply held beliefs. Each person will research and write about how their beliefs developed and where they got them. Also, in both classes we are preparing for the annual PCA poetry contest.

The first half of the year, our seniors are studying geography. In the second half, they will be working on Economics.

Every year, our PCA students engage in a highly competitive Chess competition. As a group, we read books with information that will help us improve strategy and tactics of the game.



*Mr. Lanier's Computer Class*

## Mrs. Gordon's Classes

By Lois Gordon



*Lois Gordon tutoring Good*

The main focus of my junior high English classes has been to employ lessons designed to improve each student's communication skills that are needed for accurate reading.

The term "communication" is defined as "a process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, signs or behavior." This definition assumes that any communication's success depends upon the job of the writer to offer a well written message for the reader to accurately receive. It takes two to do the job.

Therefore, I as the teacher must choose well written articles for my students to use when practicing accurate reading of an author's message.

The approach is somewhat like a game. We have a goal, a reward, and of course, rules. The goal is improved reading. The reward is improved receiving. Motivation is the collection of stars for each perfectly read paragraph. Accuracy is important and includes correct pronunciation of each word along with accurate interpretation of the author's intended meaning.

When reading articles, students take turns to try and earn stars. These stars are recorded and when the quarter ends they can help improve a report card grade.

To prepare for these oral reading sessions I mount an interesting Press Democrat article on theme paper where I also list any words that might be unfamiliar to the students. Then I box and number each paragraph so it will be easy to take turns in a prescribed way when the oral reading begins.

At last, on the day set for practicing accurate reading each student is handed a copy of the lesson. We begin by checking the unfamiliar words and on the title of the article so we will keep it in mind as paragraphs are read. After each paragraph has been accurately read we note how it developed and supported the authors top statement.

## ALUMNI NEWS

### DEATHS



*Ethel Schrader LaNier*

Living a full life that nearly spanned a century, Ethel LaNier peacefully reunited with her Lord on July 3, 2008. She was born in the family farmhouse outside of Bernie, Missouri on November 6, 1908. She obtained her teaching certificate after going to college in Cape Girardeau, Missouri. She met her husband Sherman LaNier while both were attending Harding University in Morrilton, Arkansas in 1929 - Sherman being a ministerial student from Santa Rosa, CA. Both having earned B.A. degrees, they were married in 1935. Both her sons, Jim and Chuck, were born while the family lived in Nashville where Sherman taught at David Lipscomb High School and Ethel taught at the Elementary School connected with David Lipscomb College. Ethel was widowed in 1944 after Sherman died unexpectedly at age 35. Two years following his death Ethel accepted a teaching position here at PCA where she taught for nearly 60 years! She taught Junior High and High School English, and Journalism, directed the yearly school dramas, initiated this POST - continuing as its managing editor until she retired 58 years later. At the time of her retirement at 95 years of age, Ethel was still teaching one journalism class and putting out the school paper. She greatly influenced the lives of so many students and up until her death, she continued to receive phone calls, letters, cards, and personal visits from thankful students she had taught. She was also the teacher of her sons, her grandchildren and even some of her great-grandchildren here at PCA.

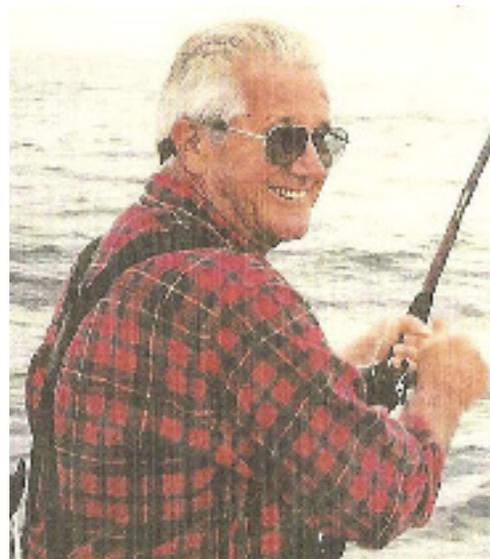
Besides her sons Jim and Chuck, Ethel will remain in the loving memories of her brother Ralph, grandchildren (Cindy, Angie, James, Michael & Janet) and great-grandchildren (Gina, Andrew, Jennifer, Christopher, Tyler, Chance and Hanna).

Should you wish to leave your personal remembrance of Ethel, please visit PCA's website at [www.pacificchristianacademy.org](http://www.pacificchristianacademy.org).



*Mary Ellen (Moreland) Fougner*

Mary Ellen (Moreland) Fougner passed away and joined the Lord August 7, 2007. She was born in 1941 in Sebastopol, attended PCA for all 12 years, graduating in 1959. She worked for a while at Optical Coating. After graduation she and her brother David attended Magic Valley College. She went on to graduate from Abilene Christian University. From Abilene she went into her chosen profession of teaching high school Biology, but her passion was Marine biology, teaching in New York then in Los Angeles. She leaves behind her husband Allen, daughter Pamela, sister Lucy May ('54 grad) and brother David ('61 grad), and a massive number of students and friends.



*Gerald Davis*

Born in Sebastopol in 1930, Gerald Davis resided in the area most of his life. He attended and graduated from PCA in 1948. This is also where he met and married Laura Perry. During their 58 years of marriage they raised four children, Gary, Barb, Diana, and Randy. He was the grandfather of 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.

Gerald held many jobs some of which included railroad worker, fisherman, and long time plant manager at the apple cannery in Sebastopol. He achieved his lifelong dream of owning his own commercial fishing boat in 1970. But aside from all his work accomplishments, his proudest accomplishment has and always will be his family whom he cherished above all.

(DEATHS, continued)

**EVENTS***John Wesley Diggs II*

John Wesley Diggs II ...finally is home with God July 28, 2007. He had been preparing and waiting for this his whole life.

Wesley was born August 31, 1918 in Lark, Oklahoma, and from that time on, his life was one of service to the Lord and his fellow humans. At the age of 4 his mother died and with his father working, he, and his younger sisters Edna and Ira-bell, were raised by his older sisters Lola and Leonora. He met Mabel and they married in 1940. They have had a fruitful marriage with 3 sons, 9 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Wesley was accomplished in many areas; retail sales, a carpenter, a civil engineer in the army and a contractor. He was a Boy Scout leader, built his own home (and others), painted cars, taught children to read, served on the PCA school board and grew amazing gardens.

Mabel said it best, "Wesley was a God fearing man, who lived life to serve God; he was thankful for all he was blessed with. The thing that made him the proudest was his 3 sons. He was proud of their love and devotion to God, the way they raised their families, and of their active roles in the church." He lived according to Mathew 25:31-46.

*Gravenstein Apple Fair, August 2008*

After more than 25 years Gloria Pires and PCA supporters again made and sold Apple pies and turnovers (almost 1000) and informed customers about PCA and its educational goals. Alumnae Janet Lanier and Jennifer Davis were put to work during their school break (see picture below). Thanks go to Lee and Shirley, of the Walker Ranch, for donating ALL the apples, as they have nearly every year.

*Roast Beef Dinner, Nov. 2008*

A big success! Gloria Pires and her cooking crew (along with four from Concord that came to pitch in) prepared meals for some 100 hungry patrons. Jim Davis performed his beautiful piano music during and after dinner. Some PCA students are shown above and below eating a well deserved dinner after serving as waiters and waitresses.

*Carla Peterson's 4-6 Grade Class (below)*

Our class has been very busy during the first quarter of school. In addition to our studies in Bible, Science, Math, History and Language Arts, we have been busy with many activities, including our garden and field trips. We have given some chapel presentations, including one on the topic of fire and fire prevention and one on praising and thanking God. We have been working on our class garden, which was entered into the Sonoma County Harvest Fair School Garden Contest and won a first prize! Our wheelbarrow garden is planted with lettuce, violas, nasturtium, kale, and peas. Plant name signs were decorated by Alexx and Andrew. Come and visit our classroom. You can see our garden and see the bulletin boards of our work in our classroom and in the gym.

**PICTURES AND PLEAS**



*Tim Diggs' Culinary Class*



*School Secretary, Mrs. Glória Pires*



*PCA Boys Basketball Team with coach Tim Diggs*



*Kerrick Drives to the Basket*

**INFORMATION REQUESTED:**

We need your help! Please keep us up to date with the happenings in your life by contacting us at:

Pacific Christian Academy  
 P.O. Box 369  
 Graton, CA 95444

You can visit us on the internet at:  
<http://www.pacificchristianacademy.org/>

Or you can email us at:  
[admissions@pacificchristianacademy.org](mailto:admissions@pacificchristianacademy.org)

We'd like to know about weddings, births, deaths, or other relevant information. Pictures welcome!

Also we'd like to compile a complete record of anyone that has ever attended PCA. Please let us know the name(s), date(s) of yourself and others you can recall. Thanks for your efforts!

And as always, especially in these hard economic times, Pacific Christian Academy is in desperate need of donations and prayers. Bless you for caring!

**THANK YOU TO:**

Andrew Davis (alumni 2002), Tony Pires, and a hard working crew for resurfacing the asphalt over last summer break.

Alumni Benny Benelli, Jolly Christian, Chuck Lannier, school board member Lela Peterson and parent Mark Thomen for their efforts in repairing the leaky roof in the gymnasium.

Hot Lunch Ladies who volunteer time and effort to lovingly prepare a hot meal each and every Wednesday for staff and students.

Chapel Speakers who also volunteer to come once a month and present a lesson during chapel to our students.