

Sandscripts

Monterey Bay Academy
Alumni Magazine

FALL 2020



FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT



What Motivates You?

Saying that 2020 has been a tumultuous year would be an understatement... and it's not over yet. Without a doubt, we have all been faced with challenges, and dealing with the uncertainties COVID-19 has thrown at us has been difficult, to say the least.

So, what motivates you to press on during difficult times?

Throughout the challenges of this year, I have been inspired by the many people and organizations who have demonstrated the can-do spirit and have directed their energy towards what can be done to meet the needs of others, rather than focusing on what cannot be done. This can-do spirit and the desire to bring help and hope to others is what motivates them to press on.

As a healthcare worker, I have been on the front lines of dealing with the challenges of COVID-19. We are in the business of caring for the sick. However, being suddenly faced with a new disease in large numbers that comes with no protocols, no "best" practices, and no understanding has been very daunting. In spite of this, I witnessed the can-do spirit in our staff and administrators. We came together to work as a team, we adapted to our challenging environment, and we formed a positive mental attitude in order to meet the needs of the patients

in our communities. While we worked to navigate through this pandemic, individuals and business have rallied around us, donating the much needed personal protective equipment, as well as food, discounts on services and products, and offering free childcare to our healthcare workers. In addition, students and teachers from surrounding schools wrote hundreds of beautiful, heartfelt thank you cards to help encourage our staff. It was truly amazing to experience the generosity and support of our community. The thoughtful, caring actions of others brought us hope in a hopeless situation and motivated us to continue to press on.

Our beloved MBA has been faced with challenges, as well. However, I want you to know that I have witnessed a collective team effort by the staff, working tirelessly to continue the school's mission and legacy. I am proud of *our home on the shore*, and thank God for what has been accomplished in spite of the constant challenges. The staff truly have lived their *Press On* theme of this school year from Philippians 3:13-14. To PJ and the MBA staff—thank you!

Alumni family, now is the time to rally around our beloved school and show our love and support to help motivate this amazing faculty and staff to continue to press on. With donations, words of encouragement, and earnest prayer, we each have the awesome opportunity to demonstrate our can-do spirit. As the collective body of Christ, our actions will help to further His ministry through this school. Together, we will continue to press on toward the goal of the upward call of God.

Until we meet again!

Traci (Wareham) Follett '93

MBA Alumni Association President

PRESS ON

2020-2021 SCHOOL THEME

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 3:13-14 (NIV)

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Sandscripts is the official magazine of Monterey Bay Academy, produced by the Office of Alumni and Development, for the alumni and friends of the academy. MBA is owned and operated by the Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

On the Cover Class of 2020

Without you, not all of these smiling faces would be gracing our cover.

Thank you! See **PAGES 4-5** for more.

Alumni Calendar

APRIL 2021

22–25 | *Alumni Weekend*

71th ANNIVERSARY

Monterey Bay Academy, CA

JUNE 2021

4–6 | *MBA Graduation Weekend*

JULY 2021

15–25 | *Free gift for all alumni*

Soquel Campmeeting at 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



Survivors, One of Our Many Great MBA Qualities

One of the most inspiring stories of survival is of Sir Ernest Shackleton's 1914–1916 Antarctic expedition. For 10 months, their ship was stuck in and then crushed by ice, forcing the crew to abandon it. Stranded with only three small lifeboats, a couple tents, and some supplies, Shackleton led his crew across ice floes for five months, finally reaching Elephant Island via lifeboats, where the group lived on seal meat and blubber. Shackleton and five crewmates took 16 days to cross 800 miles of treacherous open-ocean to the uncharted South Georgia island. He and two others hiked for 36 hours to find a whaling station. Four months later, he returned to the crew on Elephant Island to bring them home. How did *the entire crew* survive? Endurance, perseverance, adaptability, mental positivity, and the motivation to press on.

As the challenging year of 2020 draws to a close and I reflect on everything we all have endured in our personal lives, in our communities, our country, and our world, the word “survivor” come to mind. That word means something different to every individual, often being attached to beating cancer or any other life-threatening illness, or living through a violent event or sudden loss. Upon reflection,

anyone who has experienced tragedy or stress in their life knows what it means to be a survivor.

The National Crime Victim Law Institute defines a survivor as, “a person who endures adversity, moves through it, and perseveres; a person with resiliency who remains undefeated.” This definition beautifully describes the characteristics of a survivor: *endurance, perseverance, and resilience*. Add to that, *adaptable, positive, and motivated to press on* and you have the true mindset of a survivor.

Normally, these characteristics apply to people, but I believe they also apply to institutions if they are to succeed and survive adversity. Throughout MBA's 70-year history, world events like the Vietnam and Iraq Wars, the stock market crashes of 1987 and 2008, diseases like polio and swine flu, and local disasters like the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake and several campus fires, all could have led to MBA's closure. Yet, through all this, MBA has continued to grow and prosper. How? The short answer is: God-inspired people, from dedicated staff to devoted alumni and friends. We have endured, persevered, adapted, and worked untiringly to continue the mission and purpose Elder Grunke envisioned many years ago. The MBA spirit has rallied time and time again, but more importantly, we continue to place our trust and confidence in God to see us through. We are survivors because of His grace!

One of my favorite promises in the Bible is Isaiah 46:4 (NIV): *I am He, I have made you. I will carry you. I will sustain you. I will rescue you.* When your life is hit with difficulties and hardships, how do you respond? Do you feel helpless or overwhelmed? Does the mountain you have to climb look so steep that you give up? My prayer is that each of you will claim the promise that God will carry you and rescue you; that He will give you the needed strength to endure, to survive, and to press on.

Gladly serving our home on the shore!

Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76

Editor, *Sandscripts*

Director of Alumni and Development

BRING THEM HOME CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

“ I WANT TO GO HOME,”

SOPHOMORE GREG ARNOLD* SAID TO HIS TEACHER.

“WELL, WHERE ARE YOU? I THOUGHT YOU WERE HOME,” HIS PUZZLED TEACHER ASKED.

“NO, I MEAN I WANT TO GO HOME TO MBA.”

The March 31 session with student Greg Arnold* and his MBA academic tutor, Linda Schaffner, was the beginning day of online education for our students. The unprecedented times COVID-19 has placed on all of us led to our MBA teachers working tirelessly online and on the phone to provide not only the academics, but the nurturing and connection our students were accustomed to and yearning for. Two weeks of temporary online education turned into four weeks, then six weeks, and by the end of April 2020, we realized it was our new normal for the remainder of the 2019–2020 school year.

According to a national poll reported by Statista.com, an estimated 43% of families in America had at least one parent who either lost a job, or had their wages reduced as a result of COVID-19. The daily news seemed to verify that number, and we quickly realized that a number of our MBA parents were part of that startling percentage. As the MBA administration looked forward to graduation for the Class of 2020, we

estimated that 28 of the 40 MBA seniors had parents who had been financially affected by COVID-19. We also realized that bringing our students back in the fall would present challenges as well.

Throughout our seven decades, there has been one constant that is as unseen to the eye as the COVID-19 pandemic sweeping our world: The MBA Spirit “with all of its might.” While COVID-19 is a new challenge, MBA has survived other crises: the swine flu, regular flu quarantines in the dormitories, fires, national economic plummets, the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, and more.

How did we overcome these challenges? The MBA Spirit rallied around this campus and supported us financially, with materials, with volunteer labor, with hard work, and with prayers. So, once again, we asked the MBA Spirit “with all of its might” to rally around our Class of 2020, as well as our other students, and help us bring them back to their *home on the shore*. After all, *you* are the very backbone

of MBA, *you* are the MBA Spirit that rallies, and *you* came through.

In just less than three months, we exceeded our \$93,000 goal to help the Class of 2020 graduate debt-free from MBA by raising \$103,545. In June, we shifted our focus to bringing students back in the fall. By August 15, with several generous financial aid gifts from the Central California Conference as well as from other organizations, an additional \$176,000 was raised. Even though we were unable to bring our students back for in-person learning during the first semester, they came home this fall to the online program—and for many students, it was made possible by your financial support.

Thank you so much for your generosity, your support, and your positive can-do attitude. Thank you for standing in the gap, and for partnering with us as we continue to train and educate young people. You are a remarkable group of alumni and friends, and we could not have done this without you. **SS**

*FICTICIOUS NAMES

These returning students benefited from your donations! You helped bring them back!



Words of Thanks

► **Micole (Jackson) Dyson '80**, parent of senior, **Malachi Dyson**, wrote, "How can we say thanks? We are so grateful to the contributors for giving so generously of their own resources to aid in ensuring that the Class of 2020 graduated debt-free during this crisis and pandemic.

This has been such an unexpected, and yet awesome blessing to our family! We feel as if someone has personally written us a check! When we received the news, we knelt in prayer together and thanked God for His blessing to our family! We often remind our children of when Jesus healed the 10 lepers, but only one returned to say thank you. We *always* want to be that one that returns to say, 'thank you.' Thank you for this amazing gift!"

► Barbara Wright,* parent of a Class of 2020 graduate, wrote, "COVID-19 caused significant financial challenges for our family and we were not sure how we were going to clear our daughter's tuition account before graduation. The unexpected gift that appeared on our statement was such a blessing. There are no words to express our gratitude. Thank you so much."

► Senior, Kacie Cartwright,* emailed the alumni office in July, heartbroken that she would not be able to come back to MBA in the fall. "Dear Mrs. Speyer," Kacie wrote. "My family just moved for my father's new job, but then his new employer had to cut his hours due to COVID-19, and now money is really tight. It doesn't look like my family can afford to send me back to MBA. Is there anything the alumni office can do to help?"

When I told her about the *Bring Them Back* campaign and that financial aid was available, she could hardly contain her excitement. Kacie was able to "come back home" because of your gifts.

► "My commitment to providing my children with a Christian education has been a huge financial challenge. So, to receive financial aid that helped cover the registration fees this fall was such a blessing. It made it possible for me to enroll both my kids at MBA. Thank you, thank you." From a parent of two currently-enrolled students.

Giving is not just about making a donation. It's about making a difference.

KATHY CALVIN, CEO/PRESIDENT
UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION

*FICTICIOUS NAMES

Bring Them Home Contributors

HP Phoenix Construction	Jeff and Amy Deming	Samuel Macario	Aileen (Andres) Sox
128CM Foundation	Lance Downing	Clay and Susan Maddox	Kent Specht
Evans Property Management	Larry Downing	Emily (Sabino) Mangoba	Fred Speyer
Anonymous (x3)	Thomas Duerksen	Cindy Mauk	Gianna Starr
Duane Ablamis	Kelly and Jennifer Dunbar	Linda (Justesen) McCumber	Gary Suter
Don and Teresa Adams	Heather Dunn	Evniki Meneloas	John and Wendy (Piner) Taylor
Marlene Adams	John and Terri (Schroeder) Eggers	Calvin and Sherry Miller	Robert and Robin Tesch
Donna (Bostwick) Albor	Jeff and DeeAnna (Nieri) Eller	Donna Moore	Daniel Tran
Betty Baerg	Donna (Baerg) Entze	Larry Morris	Jonathan Travis
Charlotte (Fukuji) Beier	Ed and Brenda (Brigham) Evans	Arladell Nelson-Speyer	Gordon Travis
Janice (Conte) Blair	Chuck Frederick	Titus Osundina	Lavon (Richert) Turner
Duane and Andrea (Moser) Blech	Gary French	Ellen Park	Melville Uechi
Mary (Lacorazza) Boele	Wayland Frye	Tim Patten	Lorraine Viehmann
Marnie (Breckenridge) Loomis	James Georgeson	Christopher and Rosanna Patton	Peder Viehmann
Stephen Brinkerhoff	Ben and Virginia (Liang) Giang	Paul Patton	Justin and Pam (Sugihara) Wagner
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Gaile Chenowith	Eryn Hales	Charles Roesel	Myron and Phyllis Whiting
Frank Cherne	Esther Hamel	David Rouse	Martin Wiedemann
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Natalie Cline	Naedo (Brauer) Henry	Gloria Sanders	Lee and Helen (Burden) Wilson
Jim and Bonnie Comazzi	Laren Hirst	Brian and Linda Schnaffer	Craig and Kathy (Petersen) Wilson
Luis and Joda (Fleetwood) Consuegra	Carla (Howard) Jones	Tom and Betty Seibly	Cheri Love and Mark Young
Lonnie Cornwell	Doug Kingsfield	Eugenia (Hughes) Shipowick	Tasha Ziegenbein
Robert and Janet (Clift) Cowan	Wayne Knittle	Linda Shultz	Bruce and Judy Zimmerman
Irving and Pat (Grady) Curtis	Oleg Litvak	Maxine (Georgeson) Smith	Cheri (Ames) Zuccarelli
Claudia Davis	David and Carolyn Lombard	Kenneth and Jean Smith	
Evangeline (Haas) deFluiter	Christine (Huffman) Lopez	Gary Soderstrom	

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2021

HONORING CLASSES ENDING IN — 0 | 1 | 5 | 6

APRIL 22–25

IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL

OR

VIRTUAL ONLY

EVENT STYLE TO BE DETERMINED BY **FEBRUARY 1**

WATCH FOR DETAILS IN THE **SPRING 2021** ISSUE OF SANDSCRIPTS

OR CHECK OUR WEBSITE — montereybayacademy.org/alumni-welcome

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Adapt—By the Day or For a Lifetime

Thirty-two years ago, I experienced a life lesson that I never imagined would be so important and necessary in helping me deal with the challenges I have faced during the 2020 school year.

In May 1987, I was finishing my freshman year at Union College in Lincoln, NE, and I knew I was ready for a different style of education. I had planned to go with my close friend and fellow theology student, Byard Parks, to Nazareth, Israel, for the year. Unfortunately, right around Christmas the General Conference closed all “calls” to the Middle East, so I headed to the Campus Ministries office and looked through the “call book.” Adventist colleges and universities offered, and continue to offer, experiences that take you out of your

comfort zone through the Student Missions (SM) program. I found my “call” and decided to go to Japan during my junior year. On a humorous note, being a person who does not care for rice, I should have thought that choice through a little more.

During spring semester of 1988, I attended an evening class with all the other SM students who were planning to go abroad. One particular evening, senior student, Mark Learned, was the guest speaker. Mark was someone I looked up to, and was from my home town of Minnetonka, MN. He had just returned from serving as a SM in Japan and as he spoke that night, he said something that has stuck with me. “The most important thing to remember as you go out in service,” Mark said, “is to be adaptable!” What a concept!

Upon my arrival in Japan, the first challenge I faced was that rice was served at every meal... even breakfast. I had to adapt! Door frames were shorter in Japan and being 6-foot 2-inches tall, I had to adapt and stoop at most doorways. Being in a place where I knew no one, I had to adapt!

My first Sabbath in Japan, our SM group went to Minoo Falls. After the Sabbath services, our assignment was to spend time alone and then make it back to Osaka by using the unfamiliar train system. Feeling extremely lonely, lost, and even a little scared, I went to Shinto Shrine Park to spend my alone time and read my Bible. I prayed a silent prayer for help, and in that moment, was reminded of that word—adapt. As I had aimlessly opened my Bible, I looked down onto the words of Isaiah 41:10 (NKJV)—

‘Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.’

For 32 years, this verse has been a constant companion, but never as much as it has been during 2020, where every day has brought new challenges and obstacles. Navigating through these uncertain times, along with my colleagues, neighbors, students, parents, and alumni, has been one of the most difficult experiences in my professional life. At every turn, what appeared to be a good plan, had to be changed moments before implementation. In every area of life—in our homes, schools, communities, and world—we all have had to adapt. I don’t know what future problems or difficulties will require my attention. However, I do know whose Hand I am holding on to and I am not afraid or anxious. I love the Billy Graham quote, “I have read all the way to the last page of the Bible, and it is all going to turn out alright.”

MBA family, God has promised to give us the strength to adapt to whatever challenges we are faced with and He will give us the courage to press on!

Until another moment in time ...

Keep Looking uP,

Jeff “PJ” Deming
Principal

principal@montereybayacademy.org

Target® and You

 Take Charge of Education

HERE'S HOW IT WORKS When MBA school supporters use their REDcardsSM (Target® Visa® credit card, Target Credit CardSM or Target Check CardSM) Target donates up to 1% of their purchases to Monterey Bay Academy. It's minimal effort for your school with maximum reward.

Give Back to MBA

MBA receives Target contributions twice a year! Thank you to all who are currently enrolled in the *Take Charge of Education* program. You have made a difference!

To participate, all you need is a REDcardSM to enroll.

Enroll at www.target.com/tcoe or 1-800-316-6142.

WHEN YOU SHOP amazon smile AMAZON DONATES TO MBA.

AmazonSmile is a simple, automatic way for you to support MBA every time you shop—at no cost to you. AmazonSmile has the same low prices, vast selection, and shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to MBA.

TO PARTICIPATE <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-1279792>

Select MBA as your charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping.

If you have an Amazon.com account, use that same account on AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, registries, and other account settings are also the same.

UPDATE

State of the School

► **WHY? BECAUSE WE CONSIDER YOU VALUED FAMILY AND INVESTORS TO OUR MISSION AND OUR VISION.**

Due to COVID-19, we anticipated a significant drop in enrollment for the 2020–2021 school year. To adapt our budget to that forthcoming reality:

- MBA made \$1.532 million in reductions to counter the resulting \$1.7 million deficit (addressed below).
- Student enrollment fell from 211 last year to 142 students currently. We are grateful for each and everyone of those students. A majority of international students cannot return due to various countries' travel restrictions.
- Students are conducting online distance learning from their own homes, while MBA teachers remain on campus.

Santa Cruz County COVID-19 restrictions have prevented in-person learning until second semester, according to information available at the time of publication.

In anticipation of a January reopening, dormitory and cafeteria staff remain employed. What are those employees doing with no students on campus? As a result of your generous capital improvement donations, we now have extra hands to help execute those improvements.

- 80% are replacing carpet, painting, and landscaping the campus.
- 20% are temporarily replacing student labor, helping as teacher assistants, office staff, and assisting at-risk students who need additional tutoring and mentorship with online learning.

► **“WHAT ABOUT THE \$168,000 BUDGET DEFICIT? IF YOU ADAPTED THE BUDGET, WHY THE SHORTFALL?”**

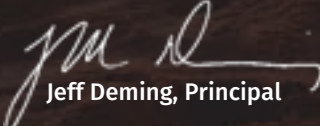
The short answer: the unexpected fire of Beach Auditorium in July. The required Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) testing of the building's remains indicated notable levels of lead that mandate a specific disposal method—specialized encapsulation—then shipment to an authorized site in Nevada to be buried where underground water levels will not be contaminated, and must be completed in a short and strict timeline. Initial budgeting allotted \$150,000 for the process, but MBA was later told the cost would be \$300,000—thus the shortfall.

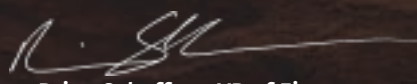
► **“WASN'T BEACH AUDITORIUM INSURED? DID YOU RECEIVE INSURANCE PAYMENTS TO HELP WITH THE DISPOSAL?”**

Many have asked, but the answer is “no,” on both counts. Our campus facilities are self-insured by Adventist Risk Management, which determined a while back that the building was not insurable.

The good news—the concrete foundation was undamaged. In Santa Cruz County terms, this allows that building's “footprint” to be retained and reused at that site. The possibilities are numerous, such as an outdoor amphitheater.

Our last note in this update is to acknowledge and thank the Central California Conference for their offer to loan \$500,000 to assist MBA in these difficult times. We greatly appreciate their desire to help us continue God's purpose for His beautiful campus. It is our prayer that we will not need to accept that offer if we can meet the \$168,000 shortfall. **Stewardship is a priority; we do not want to borrow money! That's the bottom line.** With God's blessing, we have adapted and are able to move forward despite the financial challenges that COVID-19 has thrown our way. We are close to being debt free, and we are determined to meet the challenge before us.


Jeff Deming, Principal


Brian Schaffner, VP of Finance

➤ **HARD TIMES DON'T CREATE HEROES. IT IS DURING THE HARD TIMES WHEN THE 'HERO' WITHIN US IS REVEALED.**

BOB RILEY, FORMER GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA

Never were truer words spoken than when we summarize what has taken place on behalf of Monterey Bay Academy just since March of this year. Yes, there are 72 years worth of heroic efforts by heroic, spirited supporters since the inception of MBA to where we are today. The very concept of this military-base-turned-high-school, is just one of many examples.

Many of you, as MBA's heroes, assisted us—beyond measure—with the call for student-aid funds to support last school year's students due to the adverse effects of COVID-19—and we did it! On top of that, we are also covered for the current year's student-aid needs. The parent and student recipients were ecstatic! Thank you so much!

➤ **"WHAT DO YOU NEED NOW? HOW CAN WE HELP?"**

Thanks for asking! Now that we have "settled" into this school year, we can answer that question. For countless years, we have asked you to designate your year-end gifts to our Student Aid Fund. Thankfully, due to your generous gifts, that is not where we need the assistance this time.

We are asking that your generosity be directed to our MBA Annual Fund, which is for unrestricted funds. This allows us to use your gifts to resolve the Beach Auditorium fire-related expenses, as well as other items that we could not have predicted in the past year.

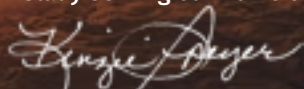
➤ **WOULD YOU CONSIDER A GIFT TO THE MBA ANNUAL FUND TO HELP US END THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR DEBT-FREE?**

Without a doubt, God has led you to be our heroes throughout these unprecedented times—times that you are also enduring and trying to get through unscathed as well. It's been tough for everyone and we are all exhausted mentally and emotionally—if nothing else.

Our prayers are with you, our alumni and friends of MBA, for your health and safety, and all other life aspects that this pandemic has brought on us.

If you are in a position to assist MBA, we thank you in advance. We appreciate how you have rallied to retain and bless our students and this campus... *Where Land Sea Unite to Inspire.*

Glady Serving our home on the shore!



Kinzie (Yoder) Speyer '76
Director of Alumni/Development

P.S. Thank you for demonstrating the 'hero' within you. Your unrestricted gift to the MBA Annual Fund will help us meet the challenge resulting from the Beach Auditorium fire.

We must meet the challenge rather than wish it were not before us.

WILLIAM J. BRENNAN, FORMER ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

A gift envelope is attached, or you may give online.

www.paybill.com/mba/donation

MBA ANNUAL FUND 2020 Year-End Giving

*May your holiday season be filled
with His peace.
Blessings to you and yours!*



KEVIN CABREIRA

HAIL! MBA WE LOVE YOU

Facebook post on July 19, 2020

MBA Loses a Piece of History to Fire

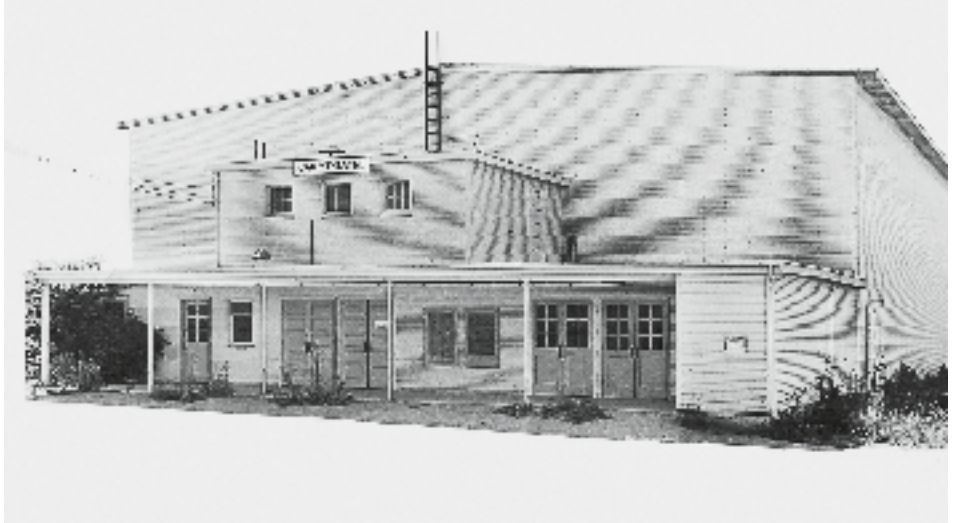
At approximately 9:45 pm Saturday evening, MBA's Beach Auditorium caught fire and was lost to the flames. The fire was contained to only Beach Auditorium and all other buildings were untouched. There were no injuries and everyone on campus is safe. We do not know the cause of the fire, but we are very blessed that no one was harmed and the fire was contained.

The building was the original auditorium from the WWII Camp McQuaide and was used for decades in the early years of MBA. It's a sad historical loss to the MBA campus and we ask for your prayers as we face the cleanup project.

Memories pressed between the pages of my mind. Memories sweetened through the ages just like wine. Those are the first two lines to the song, *Memories*, made famous by Elvis Presley in 1968, and that's what we are left with after losing our beloved Beach Auditorium. No doubt, many of you are aware of the loss MBA experienced on July 18 when the auditorium went up in flames. Many alumni were stunned and saddened when the news of the fire was put up on MBA's Facebook page—especially those who attended and graduated from MBA between 1949 and 1987.

For many of us, Beach Auditorium was more than just another building on campus. It was a place where many wonderful and fond memories were made, as was evident by the many comments that were shared on MBA's social media accounts. It was the place where talent shows, fall and spring concerts, Christmas programs, movie nights, Alumni Weekend events, and graduation ceremonies took place. A Santa Cruz Symphony performance, and a Miss Santa Cruz County beauty pageant were held in the auditorium one year when the Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium was under construction. After 1987, it was no longer used for events, but remained a landmark on campus and a place many alumni reminisced about.

To give you a brief history of this building, Beach Auditorium was considered a historic



Camp McQuaide era (1940s) "Camp Theater"

site. It was originally named the Pacific Amphitheater and was built by the military sometime between 1938 and 1942 on the grounds of Camp McQuaide. It served as the theater and place of entertainment for the 1,900 officers and enlisted men of the 250th Coast Artillery Regiment who were based there. In 1943, after the threat of a coastal invasion significantly diminished, the camp became the housing facility for US Army prisoners and guards until it was closed in April of 1947. Pacific Amphitheater continued to be a venue for entertainment, even for the prisoners. It is rumored that famous entertainers once performed in the Pacific Amphitheater for the military personnel. After Camp McQuaide closed, the War Assets Administration assumed accountability for the property until it was awarded, at no cost, to Central California Conference of Seventh-day Adventist on August 13, 1948 and the property converted to Monterey Bay Academy.

Many have asked about the status of the investigation of the Beach Auditorium fire. According to the official report that MBA recently received from CalFire, the cause of the fire is inconclusive as the building was so completely burned the investigators were unable to determine a starting point of the fire or any evidence of what caused it. It is important to mention that there was no electricity or gas going to the building, nor was the building insured. Four years ago, Adventist Risk Management,

the insurance company for the Central California Conference (and MBA), refused coverage on the building due to the age and state of deterioration. Therefore, there is no insurance to collect and as a result, no plans at this time to rebuild. However, we will maintain the footprint of the site with the possibility of using the foundation as an outdoor amphitheater area for the students.

The loss of the Beach Auditorium is, without a doubt, a very sad event for MBA. A lot of history for both MBA and the military was destroyed when it burned. While we cannot afford to replace the building, and as devastating as it is to lose this landmark on campus, We are constantly reminded that *this world is not our home, we are just passing through*, but we will always treasure the sweet memories and good times we shared together in that grand building.

SS



Camp McQuaide era "Camp Theater"

Memories Shared

➤ I spent four years there, and remember walking down the long aisle for graduation and receiving my diploma from Mr. Howlett. Campus won't look the same—an original gone. Thanks for the memories! **Linda (Mulay) Downing '61**

➤ I could tell you about every square inch of that building! We believed the tunnel that Mr. Baerg hid in on the day that the guys had their big [hide-and-seek] game trying to find him, must have come out of that building, and we tried to find it. **Joanna (Woods) Moore '80**

➤ I have so many great memories of the Beach Auditorium (talent shows, etc.). One night, my dear friend, **John Benton '81** (now resting in Jesus) and I, performed *Dust in the Wind*. I believe it was on that same night that John's brother, **Barry '79**, performed an impressive rendition of *Dueling Banjos* with his crew. Wonderful school. Awesome memories! **Barry Butler '80**

➤ Of course, I have many good memories of attending programs in this building while at MBA. But I also liked, while I sat in the auditorium, to think of all the military personnel who also must have attended programs that made them laugh and smile during the Camp McQuaide days. This amazing venue made many people very happy over the decades. **Nancy Jane Perry-Gimbel '83**

➤ That makes me *so sad!* Sneaking out and exploring every inch of that building late one night with **Bridget (LeBard) Kern '84** and **Rolanda (Zimmerman) Everett '84**, is one of my favorite MBA memories. My mom snuck in with us and stood guard at the door! **Shonna (Witzel) Dalusong '84**

➤ As a child, I remember several times sneaking up the ladder to the catwalks above the stage, getting a unique perspective of the performances. I remember many concerts, talent shows, and movies there; my first time seeing the movie, *The Love Bug*, was there, and a panoramic audio-visual event, *Theater of the Universe*, making a few showings there. **Ron Webb '90**

➤ This is tragic. Beach Auditorium was always my favorite building on campus. When I was a student, I managed to get a key to the building. (That's another story.) We used to love to sneak in, turn on the lights, and see the old ghost light up. Decades later, as an MBA administrator, my dream was always to rebuild it. Like many of the other legends of MBA, it will always live in our hearts. **Brandon Parker '92**



Front view from behind campus garages



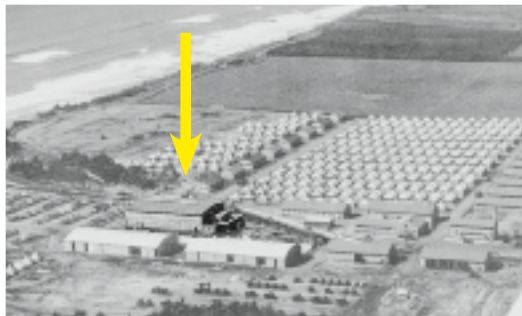
Rear view from Rainbow Fin Company



Aftermath — Front porch view looking toward ocean



Aftermath — Remaining foundation



Camp McQuaide — Beach Auditorium location



Class of 1950



1952 Annual Amateur Hour



1964-1965 MBA Concert Band



Class of 1966 Graduation



Class of 1966 Graduation



1979 Music Program



1984 Christmas Concert

NEW STAFF

Last school year, Steve Walls stepped out of retirement to fill an unexpected vacancy in the English department—just one month before school was to begin. We are extremely grateful for his willingness to do so, as it provided the needed time to find proper staffing for the 2020–2021 school year.

Please welcome Ashley Bower to the MBA family. She was born in Anchorage, AK, but spent most of her life in Texas and that is where she calls home. Ashley graduated last year from Union College with a Bachelor of Science degree in English Language Arts Education. She says she chose Union College because her grandparents and parents graduated from there. “I absolutely loved my time there, and it changed my life for the better,” says Ashley.

When asked what made her choose to come to MBA to begin her teaching career, Ashley said that she was impressed by how much Principal PJ Deming cares about his staff and wants only the best for them. “I’ve been blown away by the hospitality, creativity, and hard work everyone at this school contributes.”

Ashley enjoys books, people, and planning, so teaching English is a perfect career for her and is what she feels God has called her to do. One of her greatest desires is to let her students know she will always listen and not judge, and that English can be fun and still learn at the same time. “I want them to take skills they have learned in my class and carry with them into their everyday lives.”



Bower

CAMPUS PROJECTS UPDATE



Grunke Hall exterior repair and painting

Amidst the continual challenges,* MBA has been incredibly blessed during this crisis with amazing support from alumni and friends, which has allowed for the completion of a few urgent projects. Due to a very generous gift from Dr. Edward Allred, one such project was a much needed exterior repair and painting of Grunke Hall. Allred recently extended his gift to paint both dorms and the cafeteria. Now, we just need our students to return to *our home on the shore* to fill the halls once again.

* See [PAGE 8](#) for a detailed description.



After new paint and solar panels—at no expense to MBA

CRYSTAL APPLE AWARD

Every school year, the California Central Coast news station, KSBW, awards eight teachers the prestigious Crystal Apple Award, presented by the Pebble Beach Company and featured on-air by local anchor, Dan Green. This award is given to educators, who are nominated by their students or peers, for their inspirational teaching and positive impact they have on students’ lives.

This past school year, MBA was delighted

to learn that history teacher, Tim Zytkoskee (known as “Mr. Z” by students), was to be presented with the award! On February 26, 2020, Dan Greene made the presentation to Mr. Z in Baker Chapel. On March 26, 2020, a news segment aired on KSBW showing the presentation.

Congratulations, Mr. Z! You are an amazing teacher and so deserving of this award. View the February 26 presentation on MBA’s Facebook page: <http://ow.ly/qwyf50yVDNJ>



Green and Zytkoskee

FIRST DAUGHTER OF MBA

It is with our deepest sorrow that the Monterey Bay Academy Alumni Office inform you of the death of our beloved *First Daughter of MBA*, Darlene Grunke. Darlene was the daughter of Elder Leal V. Grunke, founder of our *home on the shore*.

In 2000, during the 50th Alumni Weekend celebration, Darlene's father was honored and inducted into the Alumni Hall of Faith. That weekend, Darlene started a scholarship fund, *The Leal V. Grunke Leadership Scholarship*, to be awarded to a student each alumni weekend. In 2009, when the Scholarship Reception was added to the events of alumni weekend, Darlene faithfully attended each year to make the scholarship presentation. She would participate in the weekend activities, with one of her favorite being the alumni golf tournament. She enjoyed riding in the golf cart alongside Kent Cabreira, former MBA staff and current contract graphic designer and photographer for the alumni office, as he photographed each team. During those rides, Kent had the opportunity to develop a friendship with Darlene.

A life so beautifully lived deserves to be beautifully remembered, so I asked Kent to share a few words due to his unique relationship with Darlene.

Golf Cart Conversations

Several years ago began the tradition of Darlene riding along with me as I photographed MBA's golf tournament teams. Our conversations were always in snippets; the time it took to drive between the starting holes of the tournament. Over the years, those brief chats developed into a friendship that I will always cherish.

Of the many things we shared, some of my most memorable were about her father's influence on MBA's creation and my admiration of his humbleness and dedication to God's guidance; her utter devotion to God's care, despite her own struggles, as well as a gentle reminder to me that God's presence is always with MBA—regardless of the ebb and flow of life; and my favorite was the sheer joy she expressed of not just seeing friends and alums playing golf, but of the awe of God's nature that we witnessed as we zipped through the golf course. Each Alumni

Weekend, her first words were to see how I was doing, quickly followed by asking if she would get to see my "beautiful wife" sometime during the weekend events. Rest in Christ, Darlene! I look forward to renewing our friendship when we meet again in heaven. *KC*

Darlene's presence on this campus each alumni weekend will truly be missed. Her willingness to help wherever needed, her kind words of encouragement, and her deep love for MBA will never be forgotten. Until we meet again for that glorious reunion in heaven, rest in peace, dear friend! **SS**



Darlene Grunke



Darlene as a child on MBA's beach



2016 Scholarship Reception



Darlene and her parents, the very first residents of the MBA campus

1950S

Vernon Scheffel '53, writes, “The Administration Building photo you included in the recent email brought back memories. A man named Eddie Robinson was the construction foreman and he knew my father was a plasterer. He remembered that I had carried hod for my father, so when a plasterer was brought in (a very old man), Eddie asked me to mix and carry for the man. He enticed me with an offer of double pay, \$1.00 instead of \$0.50, which was the highest pay at MBA at the time. I worked for the man for about two weeks. I would shovel the “mud” onto his hock so he could put it on the wall. I was soon offered a job as a hall monitor and left my plastering friend to someone else. That picture sure brought back memories.”

Velma Anderson '57 writes, “I’m a great grandmother again, as **Michelle (Lara) Love '04**, had another baby. I still feel that MBA is the only real home I ever had.”



Reinholtz

Laun '57 and **Barbara (Horst) Reinholtz '58** recently celebrated their 60th anniversary. Their three children, Launnies Schwarz, Gayle Pleasants, and Rocky Reinholtz, traveled from across the US to celebrate this milestone anniversary with them. “We met and fell in love at MBA, thus fulfilling our version of MBA’s motto—where land and sea inspire to unite,” writes Barbara. “After three years of dating, we were married September 4, 1960, in Shafter, CA. We reside in Berrien Springs, MI, where we have lived for 50 years. We’re enjoying retirement after spending our working years in Adventist education. We are thankful for good health and the many continued blessings which God has given us.”

1960S

Irene Parker '64 writes, “No changes with us, other than in spite of COVID-19, we managed to each turn one year older! I lost one Red Hat Lady to the virus at age 84. We are trying not to breathe in too much smoke sent from all the West Coast fires. I’ve stayed busy and “sane” with all my responsibilities, keeping in touch with family and friends all over the US, Austria, and Vietnam, and by sewing and crafts. I have sewn over 70 masks so far, not counting other gifts this year. My husband, Lee, mows the acre of lawn. And we’ll both be throwing snow this winter.”

Wayne Knittle '65 writes, “My friends and family know me as Wayne Knittle. In MBA’s records I am Walter Wayne Knittle. My accomplishment is ‘staying in place.’ I have lived at and worked for Fletcher Park Inn for 30 years—a great retirement community on the campus of Fletcher Academy, which is a self-supporting academy in western North Carolina.”



Raymond

Each summer, **Marjorie (Wheeler) Raymond '66** escapes the heat of Red Bluff, CA and takes her RV to Mt. Lassen National Park. She sets up a tent or two with tables and art supplies for children who come to camp at the park. She had the most incredible summer doing art with kids and adults. Pictured with Marjorie are two children who made *Bark for Jesus* cards.

Rosie (Schonert) Montoya '68 writes, “Dear Class of 1968, this is the year most of us already have, or will soon, turn 70 years old! Wow! How did that happen? I hope the years have been good to you, and a very special *Happy Birthday* to all!”

1970S



Frederick

Chuck Frederick '71 reports that he and **Randy Zeisler '71** recently made a trip to Carson City, NV, to see classmate, **Bobby Gillings '71**. Bobby retired on April 1, 2020, as a radiology technician, and he and Randy had a great time talking and comparing notes on laws, equipment, and procedures.

1980S

Charles Thomas '81, writes, “I’m staying healthy from COVID-19, but have had other symptoms. My doctor diagnosed me with early stage Parkinson’s disease. I know from personal experience that God will give me the strength to endure. God bless you all there at MBA.”



Bates

Nerida (Taylor) Bates '82, shares, “I am now the president of the Association of Adventist Women and edit their blog. I am always looking for Adventist women with interesting stories to tell. Send me a message via Facebook or on our website. You can also catch our fall vespers series on finding God’s purpose for your life in these uncertain times at our website as well.”



Entze

Donna (Baerg) Entze '86 shares that after 22 years at MBA, she has transitioned and is now serving as Associate Superintendent of Schools for the Central California Conference (CCC). She enjoys visiting the 19 schools in CCC as she provides specific support and guidance with accreditation and standardized testing. She and her husband, Bryan, celebrated five years of marriage in July and are now living in San Jose, CA. Her husband works for Google as a hardware test engineer.

1990S



Khoury

Amine Khoury '91 and **Suzanne Hutchinson-Khoury '92**, proudly announce the graduation of their daughter, Sumaia, from Justin-Siena High School in Napa, CA, in 2019. She served as co-president, was very active in student leadership, and spoke at graduation as the valedictorian of her graduating class. She is currently attending Biola University (albeit digitally) and is pursuing a degree in biology. All because her parents met at MBA!

2000S



Love

Michelle (Lara) Love '04 and her husband, Jake, and big brother, Hudson, are happy to announce the birth of the newest member of their family, Kalan David, born on September 20, 2020. The Love family lives in Redlands, CA.



Srikureja

Alexis (Dunn) Srikureja '04 and her husband, Dave, and big sister, Sadie, welcomed Deacon Chase to the family on September 18, 2020. Alexis and Dave live in Loma Linda, CA, where Alexis works as a NICU nurse at Loma Linda University Medical Center and Dave is a dentist. Congratulations, Srikureja family.

2010S

Wyatt Donesky '18 and **Chloe Cook '18** are happy to announce they were married August 10, 2020. The happy couple currently lives near Fort Lewis, WA, where Wyatt is currently serving in the army. They will be moving soon to Fort Bragg, NC, and due to COVID-19, Chloe is taking online classes as she works towards her college degree. Congratulations, Wyatt and Chloe.



Donesky

FORMER STAFF

Congratulations to former faculty, **Iva Armstrong**, on the completion of her Doctorate of Philosophy in Psychology. What an accomplishment!



Sica

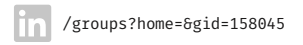
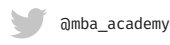
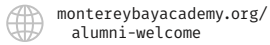
Naomi (Jungling) Sica, former art and music faculty (1958–1968), shared that she has followed the career of 93-year-old Adventist conductor, Herbert Blomstedt, for several years. She and her husband have enjoyed several New York Philharmonic concerts he has conducted in Lincoln Center. Naomi has occasionally corresponded with Blomstedt and he recently shared with her a documentary that was done this last March, detailing his work with several German orchestras, as well as his personal life – including his faith and his father's career as an Adventist pastor. Have a listen! <https://youtu.be/-bEwQcAeqg0>

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PHOTOGRAPHY

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