



MRHS Class of 1974: October 2024

News for the Mount Rainier High School Class of 1974



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October 01, 2024



50th Reunion: MRHS Class of 1974

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IN A FEW WORDS

In a few words, please let your classmates know your favorite hobby or pastime! Share in the Facebook group or in the email group, your choice. I think many people will be surprised at the amazing depth and breadth of interests shared by our classmates!

Note that we plan to include the IN A FEW WORDS section as a regular item in the newsletter with a different ask each month!

COMMUNICATIONS CAN BE CONFUSING!

We know that having more than one way to keep in touch with the Class of 1974 can be confusing. There are several different tools available for getting or sharing information. Here are the platforms we are using and the special reasons/purposes for each one.


Facebook

The Facebook group page is the big dog right now with 239 members. It is probably the easiest way for classmates to stay in touch and interact as a community of people.

Facebook is great for two-way communication . . . if you are okay with using Facebook.

Many people are not okay with Facebook for various reasons. Because of this, we provide other ways to get or share information.

Email group



Several classmates asked for an alternative to Facebook that allowed two-way communication but also provided a way to keep email addresses private. We found a service that met these specifications and launched an email group at the end of August. If you don't want to converse on Facebook, the email group is for you! It is set up with "incognito mode" enabled so your email address will remain hidden. This new group has grown to 43 members in just a few weeks.

Website

The Class of 1974 website also captures key information and events. Most of the business activities of the MOUNT RAINIER 1974 nonprofit corporation will be shared on the website because it is easier to find information there than on Facebook. The website is essentially a reference resource for the Class of 1974. We can also run polls and surveys through the website.

Newsletter

The newsletter that was started in 2023 to help provide reunion information has been transitioned to a Class of 1974 newsletter. We changed to a new system at the beginning of September to provide content that is easier to read and easier for us to produce. The newsletter is aimed at classmates who want a monthly update instead of more frequent information. We intend to summarize key information from the other platforms in the newsletter. Currently, 54 classmates subscribe to the newsletter.

Which to choose?

Which platform should you select? It depends on what you want. To have **two-way conversations**, you'll want to join one or both groups: the Facebook group and the email group:

- To converse with the largest number of classmates or see what is happening with classmates, [join the Facebook group](#).
- If you want to converse with classmates but wish to keep your email address private, [join the email group](#). This is a good choice if you are trying to connect with one person, as long as they are in the group.

The other two options are **one-way broadcasts** of information:

- [The class website](#) houses reference information like announcements, corporation articles and bylaws, class lists, and reports.

- To keep up with key announcements and changes, [subscribe to the newsletter](#). Since the newsletter is usually published once a month, this option is also good for those who don't want to receive a lot of email. (And if you don't want to subscribe but want to read the newsletter, we post it on the website at <https://mrhs1974.us/newsletters/>.)

Please feel free to use any or all of these resources!

CLASSMATES LOST & FOUND

Lost and Found is about people in the Class of 1974. [Please reach out to the Council](#) with any information about missing classmates found, classmates who have passed, and other news about classmates!

Please welcome...

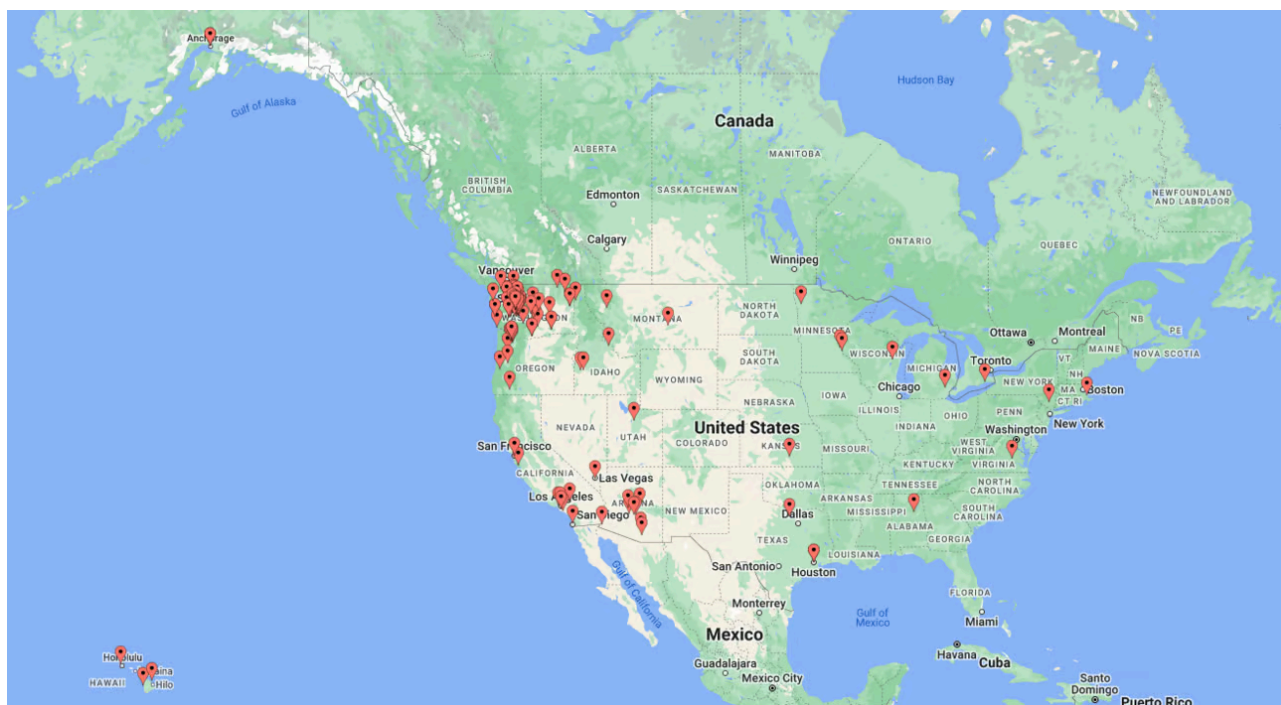
- We are happy to report that **Danna Robinson** and **Jody Robinson** have checked in so their names are removed from the list of classmates we've lost contact with ("missing classmates").
- **Lynne Whitcomb**'s contact information is updated in the class database.
- **Claire B. Troftgruben**'s information is updated in the class database.
- **Daniel Olson**'s information is updated in the class database.
- **Jan (Notley) Rosebrook** was listed as missing but was found on Facebook.
- **Jeff Stockman** was listed as missing but was found on Facebook.
- **Joyce (Spencer) Moehrle** was listed as missing but was found on Facebook.
- **Karen (Somerville) Swidergal** was listed as missing but was found on Facebook.
- **Jennie (Skelly) Williams** was listed as missing but was found on Facebook.
- **Jayne Schiller** was listed as missing. She gave the okay to list her as verified!
- **Sheila (Nicholson) Blandy** was listed as missing but was found on Facebook. OK to list as verified!
- **Connie (McCullough) Meriwether** was missing but is now verified.
- **Deanne (DeWitt) Sullivan** is found on Facebook.
- **Gayle (Lockwood) Gibson** is found on Facebook.
- **Kathy (Ringis) Morrow** is found on Facebook.

- **Janice (Kooch) Campbell** reached out on Facebook so she is also found.
- **Phil Lang** reached out on Facebook.
- **Becky (David) McClellan** used our contact form to let us know she was not missing!
- **Dan Nelson** responded to our inquiry on Facebook and he is doing well.

If you were “found on Facebook,” we need your email address! It is very hard to reach out to a large group of people, one at a time, via Facebook. We’d like to not lose contact! The easiest ways to update your information are through a simple form at <https://mrhs1974.us/contact/update-your-information/> or contact the Reunion Committee at <https://mrhs1974.us/#contact>. *Thank you for your help!*

Besides Facebook, we also use the [Washington State Archives](#) to look for lost classmates. For those who are interested, we are using [Baserow.io](#) for the Class database.

By the way: MRHS Class of 1974 alumni are found all over the place (even in Australia)!



MRHS1974 classmates in the USA

Please help...

We want to continue reducing the number of classmates we’ve lost contact with so if you are in contact with anyone on the missing classmates list, please ask them to [contact the Council](#).

One of the projects we could use help with is confirming the status of the 239 members of

the Class of 1974 Facebook group. Please contact [Tom Salzer](#) if you are able to help.

Please remember...

We also have [individual pages for classmates who have passed](#). At the bottom of each person's page is an opportunity to leave a comment. We encourage you to post a memory of a classmate to share with your classmates. To do this, [navigate to the summary page](#), click on a person's photograph, and leave a comment at the bottom of that person's page.

FACEBOOK NOOK

The Facebook Nook touches on recent items of interest posted to the [Mount Rainier High School Class of 1974 Facebook group page](#).

- This new newsletter (hosted by [Beehiiv](#)) was announced on the [group Facebook page](#) in September. The website subscription link was updated to reflect this change.
 - **Joni (Jobs) Boness** met up with a few classmates for lunch in Federal Way.
 - **Debbie (Romine) Osley** posted a photo from graduation.
 - It was great to hear that a few of our classmates remained safe from a large wildfire!
 - And there is always more to be found in the Facebook group.
-

WEBSITE BITES

What's new on the [MRHS Class of 1974 website](#)?

- [Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes to Website and Services](#), published on September 8th, describes some changes to the MRHS Class of 1974 website, the new newsletter system, and the new group email service.
 - The [class database](#) and the [missing classmates list](#) have been updated.
-

PHOTOS: WHERE ARE THEY?

The three places to look for photos of classmates are:

- [Mt. Rainier 1974 Facebook page](#)
 - [50th Reunion \(2024\) at Taylor Mountain Ranch](#)
 - [Professional photos by FirstLight Photography](#)
-

BY THE NUMBERS

- **518** classmates in the [class database](#)
 - **203 184 177 176** classmates we've [not heard from](#) since the 40th reunion
 - **61** classmates have [passed on before us](#)
 - **239** members in the [Mt. Rainier Class of 1974 Facebook group](#)
 - **43 46** [group email subscribers](#)
 - **54 63** [newsletter subscribers](#)
 - **2024** was the most recent reunion year
 - **2026** could be a 70th birthday party for the Class of 1974 (*this has not been decided but [the Council would love to get your feedback on this idea](#)*)
-

SOMETHING FOR ANYONE IN OCTOBER

You might think there is little to celebrate in October. Au contraire! Consider these moments:

- October 1: International Coffee Day
- October 4: National Cinnamon Roll Day
- October 8: National Pierogi Day
- October 12: National Farmers Day

- October 16: National Fossil Day
- October 20: National Day on Writing
- October 25: National Frankenstein Friday
- October 30: National Checklist Day

The full list linked below has something for anyone and everyone. We send best wishes to all our classmates for a wonderful October 2024!

October holidays and observances to add to your 2024 calendar

There's so much to celebrate during the spookiest month of them all.

www.today.com/life/holidays/october-holidays-and-observances-rcna33576



THIS EDITION COMES TO YOU FROM KANSAS!

Editor Tom Salzer has been traveling. Our visit to Moab was a bit of a bust since the National Park Service chose to test a [timed entry system](#). I did not do my research so we were a bit stuck. When we went to buy a pass, we learned that a computer program had been upgraded but had not been approved by federal IT security folks, so the ability to purchase a pass was down across the country.

We still had a great visit, discovering more places in and around Moab. We did visit [Canyonlands National Park](#) where the ranger let us in, despite no pass and not being able to purchase one.



On our way through Colorado, we also stopped at the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. That was a fascinating visit with great, helpful staff.

We are not the only classmates who have been traveling. Hopefully, some of our fellow Rams will share their travel experiences in a future edition of the newsletter!

This newsletter comes to you from a hotel room in Manhattan, Kansas.

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