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Pomona High's Class of '63, gathering to open time capsule, learns capsule is missing

By Jessie Gomez

The highlight of the Pomona High School Class of 1963's 50th reunion last month – expected to be the opening of their five-decade-old time capsule buried when they graduated – turned out to be another kind of surprise altogether – despite the digging, the time capsule was nowhere to be found.

Class members, members of the school's first graduating class at the Bangor Street location, had traveled from throughout the country to celebrate the special event but seemed to take the disappointment in stride.

Dick Eiden, student body president of the Class of '63, opened the ceremony with a welcome speech.



POMONA HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF '63 -- Members of the Pomona High School Class of '63, after the "opening of the time capsule" that didn't happen (it was missing at reunion time), pose for cameras with their favorite English teacher, Ada Jeppeson, age 92, seated, who was flown in from Nebraska for the occasion. At left is an architectural rendering of the school's upgraded football stadium and track, along with an oversized version of the \$4,000 check the class presented to the school to help renovate the Devil's Circle Theatre.

Photo: Jessie Gomez

He also added that the Pomona Unified School District maintenance employees were kind enough to cut

open the 1963 square and dig for the capsule. However, they dug and dug but could not find the time capsule.

In a moment of disappointment, Eiden added that the class will not be deterred and will continue the

search for the missing time capsule. The Class of '63 decided to organize a search for the real location of the time capsule and hopefully solve the mystery by the time the Class of 1963 holds its 60th class reunion this October.

Despite the missing time capsule, the Class of '63 awarded Principal Roger Fasting a \$4,000 check for renovations of the school's Devil's Circle Theatre and the theater program.

"So much has happened since we became the first graduating class from the Bangor Street campus 50 years ago," said 1963 alum Rick Asper. "The school and

we have matured as we return to a town far more culturally diverse

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than when we were in high school.”

“And we are genuinely curious about what we thought was important enough to put in that capsule so many years ago,” he added.

“This is really what being a graduate from Pomona Unified is all about, taking the skills and knowledge acquired here and succeeding,” said Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez. “And then, coming home to Pomona to help the next generation on their path to greatness is great testimony to the values we taught them so long ago.”

“Hats off to the Class of '63 and welcome home,” Martinez added.

Making a special appearance at the event was Ada Jeppesen, age 92, who taught the class English. Jeppesen, who the class flew in from Nebraska for the occasion, praised their efforts and thanked them for the years of joy they had given her.

The ceremony concluded with a visitation of Jeppesen's former classroom.

The Class of '63 will continue in its efforts to find the missing time capsule and revisit the memories it contains.

Ex-alumnos de Pomona High School en búsqueda de la desaparecida cápsula del tiempo

Los graduantes de Pomona High School del año 1963 enterraron una cápsula del tiempo para ser desenterrada en su 50 aniversario. Sin embargo, se llevaron una gran sorpresa, pues a pesar de mucha excavación la cápsula no fue hallada.

Varios ex-alumnos viajaron a través del país para celebrar este evento especial, pero tomaron con calma su desilusión.

Dick Eiden, presidente del cuerpo estudiantil de los graduantes de 1963, abrió la ceremonia con un discurso de bienvenida. Eiden dio mención y agradecimiento al equipo de mantenimiento del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona por su ama-

laron la cápsula, no serán disuadidos y seguirán en la búsqueda de la cápsula perdida y esperan poder resolver el misterio a tiempo para que los graduantes de 1963 celebren su 60 aniversario en Octubre.

A pesar de este sucedido, los graduantes de 1963 allí presentes le otorgaron a Roger Fasting, director de Pomona High School, un cheque de \$4,000 como ayuda para la renovación al Teatro Devil's Circle y el programa que este ofrecerá.

“Mucho ha sucedido desde que nos graduamos hace 50 años,” dijo Rick Asper, alumno de 1963. “La escuela y nosotros hemos madurado y regresamos a una ciudad mucho más

nosotros fuimos estudiantes.”

“Estamos genuinamente curiosos de saber lo que en ese entonces era lo suficiente importante para que nosotros lo depositáramos en una cápsula,” dijo Asper.

“El real significado de aquel que se gradúa de nuestro Distrito Escolar es tomar las habilidades y los conocimientos que adquirieron aquí y ocuparlos para el éxito,” dijo Richard Martinez, superintendente de el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona. “Y entonces, regresar a esta comunidad para ayudar a una nueva generación a formar su camino es un gran testimonio de los valores que se les enseñó tantos años

“Nos quitamos el sombrero para los graduantes de 1963 y bienvenidos a casa,” culminó Martinez.

Haciendo una visita especial al evento fue Ada Jeppesen, quien fue maestra de Inglés. Los graduantes de 1963 le pagaron el boleto a Jeppesen desde Nebraska para que ella estuviera presente en este evento especial. Ella elogió los esfuerzos de ellos y les agradeció por todos los años de alegría que le dieron.

La ceremonia concluyó con visitar el viejo salón de Jeppesen.

Los graduantes de 1963 continuarán con sus esfuerzos de encontrar la cápsula del tiempo y volver a visitar y a recordar las memorias que

