



MARCH 2007 – CLASSMATES' NEWS ITEMS



FRAN CHARBENEAU

Thanks and appreciation go to **Fran (Charbeneau) Huddleston** for being the **first one** to submit a bio to our *Classmates News Corner!* Your reward, Fran - you have the illustrious honor to continue working with the **40-year Reunion Organizing Group** - of which you are already an active member. For those who do not already know, Fran has been a dedicated worker on each and every reunion committee - the **10th, 15th, 20th and 30th** - so let's hear a cheer for Fran and her continued dedication to **RHS** after all these years!

After a career in **banking** for **37 years**, Fran retired just in time to begin remodeling their newly inherited home where her husband, **Richard Huddleston** (RHS Class of 66), grew up. Fran and Richard have a son, **Jason**, and anxiously await the day when Jason marries and makes her a grandmother. By the way, Jason, we found out after talking with Fran that mom is ready whenever you are - but no rush!

Fran and Richard continue their traveling adventures this summer with a trip to **Eastern Europe** that will include a jaunt down the **Danube River**. Reuniting with her brother in **London** after 7 long years will complete the trip for Fran, adding to the long list of previous trips to **Egypt, Israel, Germany** and **Australia**.

A personal note from Fran: **She cannot wait to see Y-O-U, at the reunion in 2008!**

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BOBBY CASAS

After some coaxing from committee members and a friend from the neighborhood where he grew up, we received news back from **Bobby Casas!** Our **President of the Senior Class of 1968** has been busy, and his **career in education** has been spent in service of students within the public education system of California since graduation.

Bobby attended and played football at **Pasadena City College from 68-70**. There were several RHS grads on that team: **Steve Ruiz, Louie Trujillo, Marty Buck, Bud Kalama** (one year only). After the PCC experience he transferred to **Cal State LA** where he earned his **B.S. degree in Sports Administration**, along with a **teaching credential, an M.A. in Educational Administration, and an administrative services credential**, along with **community colleges credentials**. His doctorate (**Ed.D.**) was earned from **Nova Southeastern University**, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Whew, that's a lot of homework assignments!

In service of public education for **34 years in seven school districts**, Dr. Casas has held various positions working from the bottom up in the educational system from **an instructional aide, teacher**

(teacher of the year in 1978: Alhambra School District), assistant principal in both middle and high school, principal in both middle and high school, coordinator, director, assistant superintendent, deputy superintendent and superintendent of Brawley Union High School District (1992-96). For a time, **Doc C** as he is known to most of his colleagues these days, also served as a professor of educational leadership at Chapman University and at Cal State, San Bernardino.

Now for the fun--and the Bobby that we remember well was, and still is, all about having fun! Bobby worked as a **professional musician** (Latin percussion and drums) for various artists and bands. He has two sons, **Rene**, age 28, a recent **Citrus College** graduate and a bass player for the band, **Better Chemistry**, and **Nathan**, age 21, a junior at **Cal State Fullerton**, also a musician. Bobby currently lives in Chino with his wife Hilda along with a stepson, **Luis Padilla**. Bobby speaks proudly of his family, and currently he has **five (step) grandchildren!** He is looking forward to retirement in about four years, but in the meantime, there is not a more dedicated **Rosemead Panther** around than Bobby Casas. **Go Panthers** is what he says when he meets up with anyone from the good ole days at RHS! Check out his picture on the **CLASSMATES PHOTOS** page with another Rosemead panther from 1968, currently working on a recent project together in education.