

# Gryphon Gazette

Volume 4, Issue 7

May/June 2014

## Glacier High School Charter

### Special Dates

#### Of Interest

- Formal Dance 5/9
- CC Test 5/12
- EdPerf. Tests  
5/13-16 OKH  
5/19-23 KBG
- Grades Due & Board Mtg. 5/28
- GHS Grad 5/30
- Last Student Day 6/5
- Last Teacher Day 6/6

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## Graduation Slated for May 30th

The class of 2014 will observe its graduation at Mountain Christian Center in Oakhurst on Thursday, May 30th, starting at 4 pm.



This year's class is made up of a total of 26 students, 22 of whom will march in commencement exercises.

A number of local scholarship recipients will be recognized at the ceremony, and, as usual, all participants will be introduced and featured individually.

I can't wait to hear your name horribly mispronounced at graduation.



This year's class is almost evenly divided between Kingsburg and Oakhurst students. Girls outnumber boys by nearly 2 to 1, however.

## Common Core Inaugural Test

Eleventh graders will be taking the new *nearly* national standardized test (Common Core) on Monday, May 12th in Oakhurst and Friday, May 16th in Kingsburg. Juniors, please report to your site's testing area at 8:45 AM on the appropriate date. Testing should be done by 1 PM.

A significant portion of the test will be taken individually on computer, but there

is also a new, unusual group participation aspect to the exam.



Be a part of history as the first students to take this prototype exam!

# Spring Formal Dinner/Dance

Themed to "A Night in Paris," the 2014 spring formal will take place at the ECCO Center just outside of Oakhurst.

Tickets are available through

the front desk in Oakhurst and through charter teachers in Kingsburg.

Tickets are priced at \$45, which includes a delicious multi-course Chicken Parmigian dinner, dance instruction and music MC-ing by John and Trish Harris, and limited photo services.

While a photo package is not included in the price, there will be picture files posted and available for online printing.

ASB is sponsoring the dance, and a committee is involved in all preparations and planning for the event.

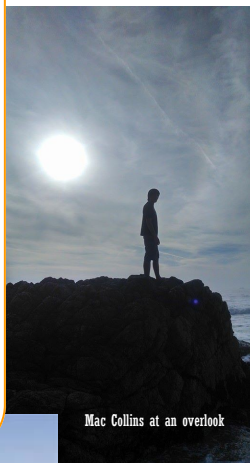


**The evening schedule is as follows:**

- 5 PM** early arrivals/photo shoot around lake
- 6 PM** dinner served
- 7-9 PM** dance
- 9 PM** cleanup

"San Francisco has only one drawback. 'Tis hard to leave"  
Rudyard Kipling

## Hearts Left in San Francisco



Mac Collins at an overlook

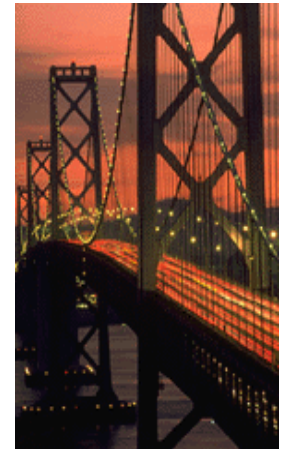
Sixteen students and nine adults took part in the overnight field trip to San Francisco on 4/30- 5/1.

Overnight accommodations were at the Montara Lighthouse Hostel (pictured). Other stops includ-

ed the Asian Art Museum and newly renovated Exploratorium.

Matthew Englund and Kaylene Friesen were faculty representatives on this outing.

Weather conditions were unusually warm for the trip over and back, reaching 92 degrees during the trip.



SF Etiquette 101: It's called "the City," or San Francisco. Locals NEVER call it "Frisco"



Montara Hostel

## EdPerformance Benchmark Tests

All students (besides graduating seniors) are expected to participate in EdPerformance computer-based tests as part of fall-spring benchmark testing cycles.

This year, Oakhurst students may choose a date between Tuesday and Thursday (13-15th); Kingsburg students are scheduled for May 19-23,

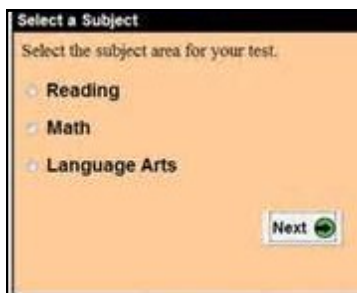
since extra laptops will be available that week.

Testing may be done in either a morning (9-12) or afternoon (1-4) shift. Your charter teacher will be assigning you to one of the shifts, so make your preference known while spaces are available.

Benchmark tests are an important way for educa-

tors to monitor progress both of individuals and groups- and are an important part of the school's evaluation by accrediting and governmental agencies, like WASC and the Ca Dept of Education.

Your cooperation in this process is greatly appreciated.



# ROV

Each year the competition focuses on a new theme in order to expose students and educators to the many different aspects of the ocean workplace and the scientific and technological advancements that are taking place. This year's competition theme highlights the role that ROVs play in exploring and documenting shipwrecks, studying sink-holes, and conserving our national maritime heritage sites in the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary.

**Regardless of the theme, the competition consists of the following components:**

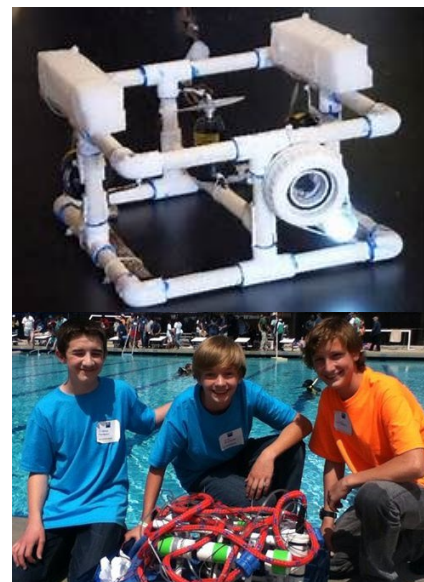
**Underwater mission tasks /Technical reports / Engineering presentations /Poster displays**

Tasks include:  
 Conduct a sonar scan of the wreck  
 Unlock and open a container to determine the cargo

Search for the date the ship was built on the outside of the wreck

Retrieve a ceramic dinner platter to determine the home port of the ship

Estimate the total number of zebra mussels on the shipwreck using quadrants.



## CSUF Physics Outreach Visits GHS

On Friday, May 2, Professor Don Williams and several student assistants came to the Oakhurst site for an outstanding presentation of basic principles of physics.

The program started with a "bed of nails" demonstration, which showed how an even distribution of weight can make this experience painless.

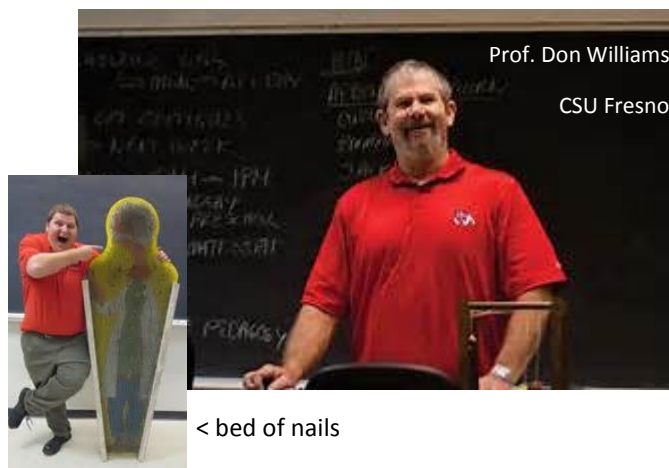
Other highlights were:

creating a magnet using PVC tubing and wool

Demonstrating inertia and conservation of energy through a Newton cradle

States of matter and temperature demonstrations utilizing dry ice.

Rotational momentum and fulcrum lifting demonstrations.



Prof. Don Williams

CSU Fresno

< bed of nails

## Planning for Next Year

Maybe you aren't graduating this year. Even if you aren't, this is the best time of year to step back, inventory your high school progress, and see what lies between you and the finish line.

Your charter teacher tracks your progress towards graduation and is responsible to see that nothing is overlooked in your fulfillment of state grad requirements.

Beyond basic requirements, it

is important that you establish your goals in order to know what particular coursework would best serve your plans. Prepping for vocational school looks a lot different than UC Berkeley. Be open with your charter teacher about your educational and career goals- it helps us help you!

Summer is a great time to kick tires for elective courses - browsing bookstores and the internet, for example.

In addition, your charter teacher can check out textbooks over the summer if you know specific classes that you will be taking. It never hurts to get a head start on reading, for example.

Your mind is understandably on finishing this school year.

But it's never too early to start planning for fall.





# Glacier High School Charter

41267 Highway 41  
Oakhurst, CA 93644

(559) 642-1422  
(559) 642-1592 FAX

## GHSC: A Unique Blend

- Hybrid of independent homeschool, onsite, and online study
  - YUSD chartered public high school
  - Governed by a non-profit corporation
    - Fully WASC accredited
  - Customized and Personalized Education

## “Home of the Gryphons”

[glacierhighcharter.org](http://glacierhighcharter.org)

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### Workshops, General Classes Winding Down

With the close of the school year upon us, in some ways, it's sad to see onsite classes and workshops come to a close. Some already have; others will be finished by May 21.

Teachers and students alike will miss the regular social interaction and common goals of learning a subject area together.

Whether it be this year's Algebra, Mosaic Tile, or Chemistry, students and teachers naturally bond when they spend time and work togeth-

er. There have been a lot of good times along the way, and friendships are formed.

It's time, however, to pat yourself on the back (assuming you passed!) and re-create for the ten weeks of summer break- while you have the chance.

New workshops this year included EMT training and Personal Finance. Repeated workshops included Art, French Cafe and Guitar.

To those that participated in onsite classes and workshops, thanks for taking part!

