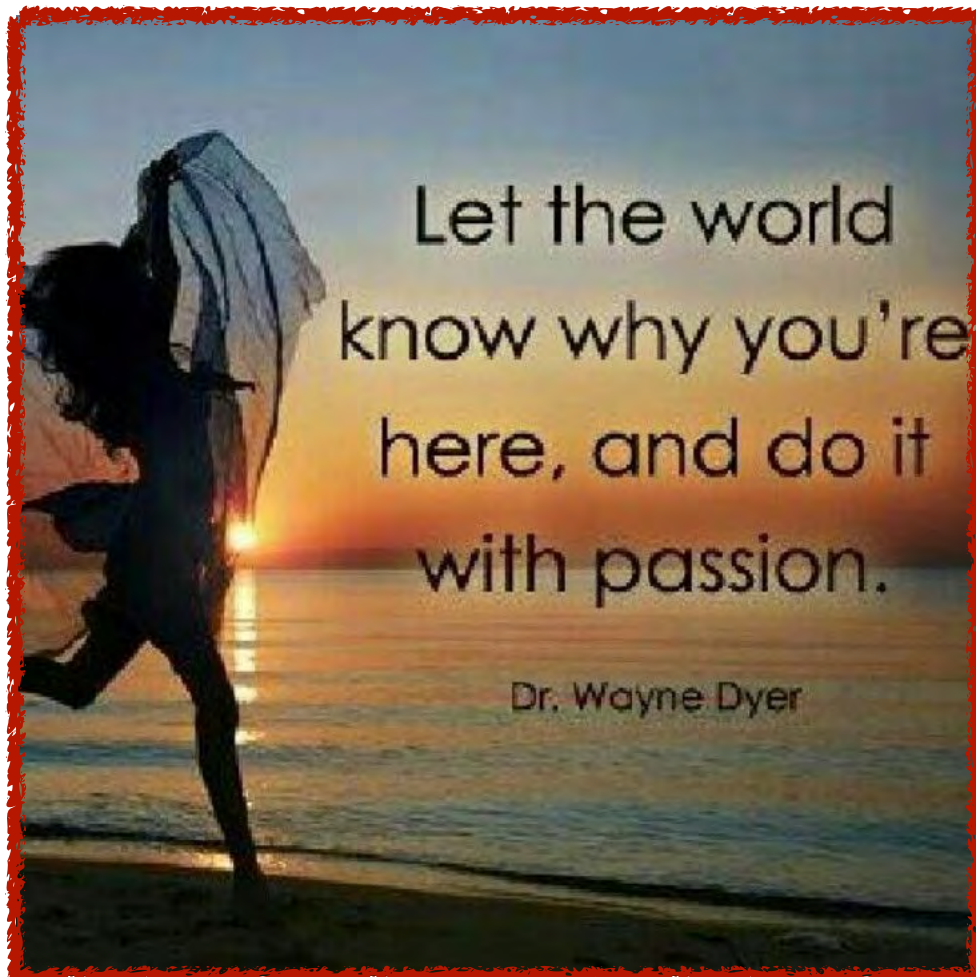




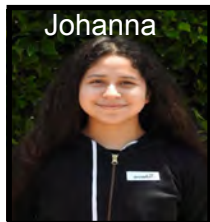
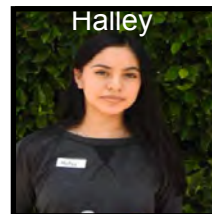
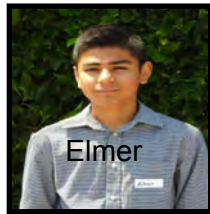
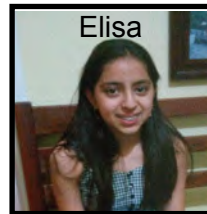
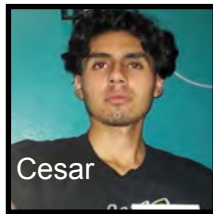
1st Quarter January - March 2021

The BSF Board of Directors hope that your 2021 has started with good health, love, laughter, and is getting better by the day!

This issue presents you with more current student goals and dreams, a look into the life of our corporate sponsor's founder, biographies about 2 of our board member couples, and a walk down memory lane.



Happy Birthday!





Eric

Live in Playa de Rosarito where I presently live

Get married at 35 or at least after 30

Finish my studies in agricultural sciences and continue with the family business

Speak perfectly

Bonjour Hello Hola! Ohayó Gozaimasu Ciao

Technology Agriculture Science

Pediatric Surgeon

Teacher

Actress

Amsterdam, France, Italy, Spain, United States, Disneyland, some of the 7 wonders of the world

Improve Learn

Create a Foundation

Write a book

HELP FOR NEEDY

Andrea

Live in Playa de Rosarito near my parents

Family Business

Travel to various places to see some works by artists and learn about other cultures

Help others in need

Famous Song Writer

Global Goodwill Ambassador Mexico

Serve my country in any way and help it economically such as supporting tourism and improving the way of life

Finish my studies

Visas for the family to Live and work in the US

Columbia

Pediatrician because I like babies

Elisa

Live in Playa de Rosarito

Family Business

Travel to various places to see some works by artists and learn about other cultures

Help others in need

Famous Song Writer

Global Goodwill Ambassador Mexico

Serve my country in any way and help it economically such as supporting tourism and improving the way of life

Finish my studies

Visas for the family to Live and work in the US

Columbia

Pediatrician because I like babies

Aneth

Live in Playa de Rosarito

Family Business

Travel to various places to see some works by artists and learn about other cultures

Help others in need

Famous Song Writer

Global Goodwill Ambassador Mexico

Serve my country in any way and help it economically such as supporting tourism and improving the way of life

Finish my studies

Visas for the family to Live and work in the US

Columbia

Pediatrician because I like babies



Esther

I don't want to get married, but I want to adopt children

Write Books

Learn to play

I want to be a Forensic Doctor

Maria

I want to be an accountant after I finish my degree

Ariana

Raise a Great Dane from a puppy

Own

or - with organic food

Graduate as a Bachelor in International Business

Pursue a career in maritime logistics

Do you speak English? I'll teach you

Free classes to young children

Edgar

Adopt

Move to Tijuana

Chef Edgar



In due time

Goal has always been to become an engineer, but for reasons that are out of my hands I have found myself in the need to totally change my ideas and my way of thinking. Maybe administration, but I have not been able to realize that dream.

Cesar

Cesar's Adventures

Me

My Brother

Get my degree in gastronomy

Imelda

Take my parents traveling

Aaron

Know the United States

Onix

Lia

My own recording studio

Andrea

LOOK What's Happening With Johann

Sponsored by Julie & Mike Smith, and daughter Lily

We have watched Johann grow from a shy junior high school student to a young man, successfully attending University. We asked Johann what else is occupying his time besides his studies, here is his response...in his own words.



Honestly, it's very difficult for me to start talking about myself most of the time. But this time, there is something that excited me too much, and it is talking about my projects today; At the end of last year, and so far, I started a "streamer" project where I am putting a lot of desire and it is working, which makes me feel proud, because it has cost me too much work and effort, but the rewards are visible. This basically consists of making videos on the internet, where people watch you in real time and support you. About school, it is very common for people to tell me that I was wrong because of a little degree, that I would probably do better in something more related to art or law, but, personally I enchant I love the psychologist and it is something that excites me to study; be able to understand human behavior. And thus being able to support people is something that excites me too much, because I believe that everyone has a very great potential, only that sometimes it cannot be discovered. I have learned a lot of things, theories, and great people throughout my career, and that is a great motivation to achieve it, along with BSF that has supported me too much.



Cristina, Joanna, Eloisa, Rosemary, and Robbie

Christmas Gifts for each student were given out on Saturday, December 12, by Rosemary and other directors.



Halley



Bethal



Cristina Imelda



Gisel & brother Jesus Rosemary



Aneth Lupita



Lesly



Sonja

Tania



Agustin

Johann

A Special Friend and Sponsor



We have talked about our corporate sponsor, *Funko*, in previous editions of the newsletter, and a very generous sponsor they have been over the years. This edition we thought you might like to know more about the founder and former CEO Mike Becker. To say that Mike has boundless energy and an off the charts imagination are understatements.

(Taken in part from Forbes Staff Writer Peter Carbonar' s January 19, 2019 Article "Even In The iPhone Age, Funko's Fast-Moving Toy Business Is Thriving")

Funko was born in a garage in Snohomish, Washington in 1998. Mike was a designer at a T-shirt company at the time, loved hunting for kitsch collectibles, particularly those with a 1950s feel that reminded him of his childhood. Convinced there were enough tchotchke enthusiasts like him to support a modest-size business making figurines with a vintage vibe, he used \$35,000 in savings to launch a bobblehead company, which he called Funko because he wanted to create a business that was both fun and funky. His original product: "Wacky Wobblers," a line of bobbleheads that included the Bob' s Big Boy mascot and an original character, Freddy Funko, who would have looked at home on a 1960s cereal box. They were sold in souvenir emporiums like Sparky' s, a store at Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida.

A Special friend and Sponsor



(continued) “The first year out I think we did almost a million in sales, which to me is still crazy,” Becker says. “That was the hardest I ever worked in my life and the most stress I ever had in my life, but, boy, it was the most fun and the most gratifying.”

By 2005 Mike was exhausted. As CEO of a growing merchandise company, he was not only doing the usual dickering with licensors, suppliers and retailers but was also organizing and attending fan events, where he acted as Funko’s ambassador, emcee and main cheerleader.



A Special friend and Sponsor



(continued) Mike wanted out and he sold the company to a friend of several years, Brian Mariotti. "He's the great relief pitcher in the toy business," says Becker, who rejoined the company in 2017 as Vice President of Apparel.

Not one to rest on his successes his imagination was working overtime as usual and he has started a new venture called



Not once during his business ventures has he forgotten BSF or the students. He currently sponsors Mariana, who is in college studying accounting, and is pictured below with Mike.



Many thanks to Mike, *Funko*, and Brian Mariotti for being such good friends and ardent supporters of BSF!



Board Member Couples

Robbie Walker and Taki Okamoto

Joanna and Bill Wood

(by Judie Kesson)

Over the years the BSF has been fortunate to have a few talented couples serving on our Board. We currently have two, Robbie Walker/Taki Okamoto and Joanna and Bill Wood.

Taki was the first in the family to serve on the Board of the BSF, serving as Treasurer for many years as BSF started to grow into the organization it is today. Taki came well prepared for the job, was immediately committed to the students and was anxious to share his experience in marketing and finance. Taki is a Japanese citizen and still conducts business in that country, commuting whenever necessary.

When Taki's parent's health began to deteriorate and his business in Japan needed him more, Taki reluctantly stepped down as a Director and became a non-voting Advisor to the Board.

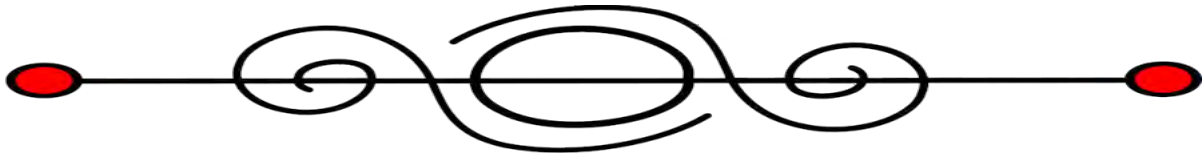
In the meantime, Robbie had stepped up and began serving on the Board. She continued to serve as a very able Secretary even though her other public service commitment was huge and in those early years, still working.

Before there was an English school in our area, Robbie volunteered every single weekend to teach English to our students. This grew to include many parents and younger siblings who wanted to attend. During those years, Robbie became known to the students as she got to know the families in a very unique and personal way. This relationship cemented Robbie's dedication and interest in this community that we serve.

Board Member Couples
Robbie Walker and Taki Okamoto
(by Judie Kesson)

(continued) Robbie attended the University of Chicago, as did Taki, spent some years living in Japan with their three children, and worked as an editor/writer assisting international graduate students with their applications and essays. She is an avid reader and writer and is active in a writers group in Rosarito.

In addition to their three children, they enjoy two grandchildren...alas one in the Sacramento area and the other in Chicago. When COVID isn't hanging around, they manage special visits as often as possible. Robbie and Taki have always been sponsors of a BSF student and step up whenever needed.



Board Member Couples
Joanna and Bill Wood

Joanna and Bill came to Rosarito in 2015 and in their first month here were invited to a BSF luncheon at Susanna's. Of course, they loved Susanna's and the people attending. It was their first glimpse into BSF and they were intrigued. Then they were asked to go to Judie and Ken's home and hear more about the organization. They were very interested and Judie invited them as guests to the 3 Kings event to meet the students and their sponsors. It was there that they met the first student they sponsored. Today, they sponsor two more students.

Board Member Couples

Joanna and Bill Wood

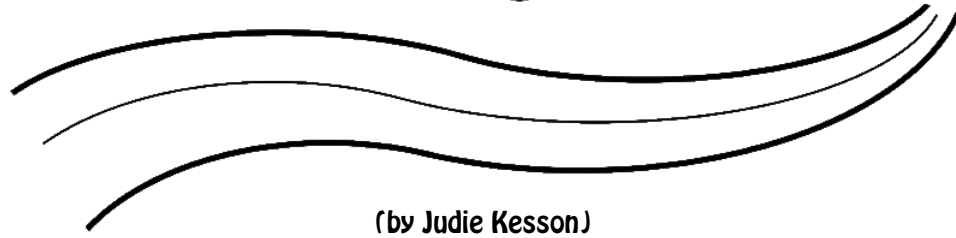
(continued) According to Judie Kesson, "The Woods truly live their beliefs in their everyday lives. Giving, whether it is to their family or their community, they are always available in the truest sense of the word. We're so lucky to have both of them, each with their own set of skills and talents."

BSF fit right into Joanna's background of making a difference. As an adult, she received her MA degree in Counseling Psychology and did her internship at the Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center creating programs that would effectively allow women to change ingrained patterns of behavior due to years of drug use. For 12 years, she volunteered her time to counsel and teach these classes. Due to her work at the Salvation Army, Joanna was awarded the "Making a Difference for Women" award from the Soroptimist International of North Coast San Diego. Prior to her work with the Salvation Army, she worked at McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach working with their space program putting a man on the moon!

Bill's education includes a degree in Civil Engineering. His professional experience includes 5 years as a sales representative with IBM in Toronto; 10 years as President of EDP Industries Inc; 10 years as Vice President of Knowlton Realty and 20 years of successful real estate development and investment.

Both take an active role in BSF. Joanna's creative side came into play designing the BSF brochure, the student handbook, gift certificates for the Classy Bag Affair and putting together a BSF Newsletter. Bill's business acumen came into play looking at new venues for the future of BSF, meeting with our corporate sponsor Funko, and creating the BSF webpage.

MEMORY LANE



(by Judie Kesson)

Lily Stewart (Walker) and her late husband, Governor Dan Walker, made Baja their home for more than 20 years, only leaving after the “Guv’ s” death and Lily’ s somewhat declining health.



Not ones to sit and look out their windows, both became involved in community affairs. Lily’ s passion was the Baja Scholarship Foundation, a demonstrated love she showed until the end of her life on January 20th.

Lily created the much needed position of Historian when she joined the BSF Board. She was energetic in all she did, whether it was finding her “special goodies” for a BSF Auction or taking food and other necessities to our families with special needs.

Travel was Lily’ s other passion! In fact, she started her adult life as a Registered Nurse on a WW II Merchant Marine ship, the only woman aboard! Other travels around the world were less unique, but many travel roommates described her as hilarious, funny and “one of a kind.” She was an avid collector of folk art and had an amazing collection of beauties from around the world. She could be caustic and demanding, at times, but absolutely never wavered from being a great friend.

Lily made a genuine contribution to the BSF and we will remember her with love and a smile.

Note: It was the intention of the author and editor to publish this article about Lily hoping she would enjoy seeing it while still alive, but alas COVID-19 took her before publication.