



Dwayne Dinucci

As a kid during the summer, I would go fishing with my grand father along the Half Moon Bay coast. This along with watching "Sea Hunt" on TV is what started my love of the ocean. Little did I know, that I would spend my entire career teaching at Half Moon Bay High School.

After graduating from Hillsdale High School, I attended CSM and San Jose State University where I received my teaching credential. Following graduation, I sent out several applications and heard back from a few high schools in extreme northern California. Wanting to stay in the Bay Area, I turned down these offers. At that point, I figured that I would just sit out the year and start looking for a job for the start of the next school year.

Then, about 4 days before the start of school in 1974, I went diving at Moss Beach with a couple of friends from Half Moon Bay. After the dive, one of the guys mentioned that HMBHS was looking for an Industrial Arts teacher. On my way home, smelling like a wetsuit and without a résumé, I walked into the office at Half Moon Bay High School and met principle Don Berry. It turned out that their Industrial Arts teacher had to take a last minute leave of absence. Yes, they were desperate and I was damn lucky! 33 years later, I'm still up on Cougar Hill.

Why have I stuck it out in the teaching profession for so long? Because I never received the phone call from Jacques Cousteau. Actually it's because of the students, fellow workers and the community who have made me feel at home even though I did not live in Half Moon Bay. To all of you , thank you for 33 wonderful years, *Dwayne*

