

# The Tradition

Parma Senior High Alumni Newsletter



Spring 2002 • Vol. 9, No. 2

## From the President's Desk "50 Year Anniversary of The Parma Senior High School Opening"



In the fall of 1953 the doors opened to the first class of students at the "Queen of High Schools", Parma Senior High School. This Georgian style brick building was built at a cost of 5 million dollars (an unheard of price for a school building at that time) and boasted of the latest innovations of technology and design in school building construction.

As we approach the fall of 2003 marking the 50th anniversary of the opening of Parma Senior High School, a number of events and activities are planned. The Alumni Association is working in partnership with the students, staff, and administration on activities which will recognize the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the "Queen of High Schools."

Alumni will be asked to participate in events, surveys and other activities from now until the end of the celebration in June of 2004.

## Two Activities for the Anniversary

• **A memory book- your favorite memory of Parma Senior High School.** You are invited to submit a one page or less typed account of a favorite memory of your days at Parma Senior High School. It can be of a general nature or of a specific event. Make sure you include your class graduation year and other important dates. Your accounts will be displayed in a showcase throughout the year and hopefully put into a memory book. Send all memories to the Parma Senior High School Alumni Association Memory Book, 6285 W54th St. Parma Ohio 44129. (copies of photos of events or activities would be appreciated if you have them. Nothing will be returned)

• **Your favorite staff member (teacher, aides, administrator, etc.)** We are looking for your favorite staff member at Parma Senior High School. In a brief typed account give your favorite staff member's name, what they did, (cafeteria worker, counselor, teacher, administrator, custodian, aide) and why they were your all time favorite staff member. These accounts will also be displayed so students can

read how these people affected the lives of former students in a positive way. Be sure to include your graduation date, the staff member's name, and any other important dates of information you may have. Send them to The Parma Senior High School Alumni Association Favorite Staff Member, 6285 W54th St. Parma Ohio 44129 (By mailing these in, it is understood that you are giving us permission to display these at Parma Senior High School, include them in a memory book, and display them on our web page.)

## Editorial

By Tony DeMarco

Over the past 12 years the PSH Alumni Association has grown and prospered. In no small part, Don Smerk, class of 77, former President and current Vice President, has worked to create the organization we now call The Parma Senior High School Alumni Association. Don was instrumental in setting up our first computer system and getting the database up and running. Recognition of Don's contributions to this association is long overdue. For the past 12 years as President and then Vice President, Don has helped lead this association in a direction that will better serve all alumni now and in the future. The officers and board members want to take this opportunity to thank Don for all his hard work.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

### Alumnus-Teacher-Coach: Bob Brugge

Bob Brugge is a 1944 alumnus of Parma Senior High School. Bob was an outstanding football player at Parma Senior and after his high school career he attended The Ohio State University. He was known as "The Buckeye Bullet" and in one 3 game stretch against Northwestern, Minnesota, and Pittsburgh, he ran for 3 touchdowns, passed for one and caught two touchdown passes.

Bob went on to be an "All Big 10" selection and was drafted by the Cleveland Browns. Bob's pro career was shortened by an injury and he started his teaching and coaching career at his Alma Mater, Parma Senior High School.

Bob's coaching career in the 50's and 60's produced 2 undefeated seasons, 4 consecutive LEL Championships, a 25 game consecutive victory streak and a number of college scholarships for his players. That period of Parma Senior High's football history is considered by many as the golden age and saw Parma recognized on three occasions as the best team in Northeast Ohio and recognition as one of the best teams in the state.

See "Brugge" on page 5

## REUNION NEWS

**1952** will have their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion on September 13, 14, 15, 2002 at the Clarion Hotel. Friday will be a casual get together in the hospitality room and Saturday will feature a ride on Lolly the Trolley with Saturday night being a dinner with entertainment in the Hotel Ballroom starting at 5:00 PM. On Sunday, the 15<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Sunday Brunch at Chrissy's Café located at the Clarion at 10:00 AM. The cost for the trolley ride will be approximately \$17.00 each. The dinner is \$40.00 per person/or if attending both the dinner and the brunch it is \$50.00 each/\$100.00 per couple. To attend just the brunch the cost is \$12.00 a person. If there are any questions, contact Mary Ann Gedeon Schmidt, 2816 Haggett Drive, Twinsburg, OH 44087—

Phone 330-963-0662.

**1957** - 45<sup>th</sup> reunion is being planned. Contact person is Nick Arena. Please send your e-mail address and any thought about having a 45<sup>th</sup> reunion. 1-440-582-7827 or nickarena@aol.com.

**1962** will have their 40<sup>th</sup> reunion on September 20 and 21, 2002. It will be held at the Radisson Hotel on Bagley in Middleburg Hts. The first mailing will be out soon with information on cost and the questionnaire. Contact person is Tony DeMarco-440-572-2375 or e-mail pshalum@en.com.

**1967** 35<sup>th</sup> reunion -no information to date. Contact person Dominic Scibilia-440-526-2036.

**1972** - 30<sup>th</sup> reunion will be held on July 27, 2002 at the Radisson Hotel on Bagley. Contact person is Greg Sawchak-440-356-

6155 orgsawchak@compuserve.com.

**1977** - 25<sup>th</sup> reunion has no information at this time. Contact person Don Smerk at pshalum@hotmail.com.

**1982**- 20th reunion Sat. Nov. 30th 2002 at the Terrace club at Jacobs Field. Contact Tom Wienreich 440-884-4300

**1987** -15<sup>th</sup> reunion will NOT be having a 15 year reunion. Contact person Kimberly Nickle Ferrone - kjferrone@aol.com

**1992** - 10th reunion Aug 2nd, 3rd at the Clarion Hotel at 17000 Bagley Rd. in Middleburg Hts Oh. contact T J Moraco at tjmoraco@hotmail.com or parma1992@yahoo.com or PSH 1992 po box 29267 Parma, Oh 44129. Call 216-227-8748

## Veterans' Memorial Plaque Update

We have made inquiries to the City of Parma and the Parma School system about the Memorial Plaques for our veterans from WW II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam War. To date we have found only one plaque for the Vietnam veterans killed or missing in action. No one seems to know anything about the WW II plaque and no one even knows if there ever was a Korean War plaque.

Since the City of Parma bought Schaaf Jr. High School about 6 years ago, they have no record of any plaques on the wall being removed. The school system knows that the WW II plaque was at Schaaf but they do not know if it was moved to Parma Senior High when it opened in 1953.

We have a list of names of those veterans who were killed in action during WW II and we have received some up dates on those names based on the list that appeared in the Summer 2001 issue of the Tradition. We have added Pvt. Albert J. Christ (Class of 1932?) who died of malaria in a prison camp on Bataan Luzon Philippines in the summer of 1942 at the age of 28. We have been notified that James Peterson was a Parma Schaaf High student in WW II. He was killed in a training accident as a member of the 112<sup>th</sup> Engineers at Camp Claybourne, Louisiana in September of 1942. We believe he was in the class of 1939. James was 23 years old.

*Continued on page 4*

## In Memoriam

1955 - Carol Kneebush Vaccariello 1/28/02

Carol Kneebusch Vaccariello class of 1955 passed away 1/28/02. We had written an article about Carol as the 1954 Homecoming Queen, and her bout with polio at the time, in our second edition of the Tradition. Sent in by her good friend Marie Hock Ponton class of 1956.

1955 - Robert Woodward died 12/7/01

1958 - Gail H Carruthers 12/26/01

1958 - Michelline Noga Mondry 2000

1959 - Leona (Eckerfield) Tressa died 3/6/86

1959 - John Nordquist 1986

1961 - James "Jimmy" Gottfried 1/27/02

1966 - Marcella Dittebrand Hall

1972 - Jan Mericsko Wenninger

1981 - Timothy VanSach 11/19/00

### In Memoriam correction

We reported in the Winter *Tradition* the death of **Marcella Dettebrand Hall** class of 66,

We reported the last name as Hale instead of the correct name of Hall.

## YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**President and Newsletter Editor:** Tony DeMarco '62

**Vice President:** Don Smerk '77

**Treasurer:** Lee Bailey '29

**Recording Secretary:** Dianna Pavisich Kall '78

**Corresponding Secretary:** Cheryl Korelic Kienast '77

**Newsletter Publisher:** Bill Peck '66

**Board Member and Newsletter Committee:**

Darlene Wendel DeMarco '63

**Board Members:** Chris Panek Sobolewski '62, Lou Bentzen '60, Nancy Fedak '66, Carol Bartel '54

## Alumni Addresses

**Web page:** www.pshalumni.org

**Email:** pshalum@en.com

**Snail Mail:** PSH Alumni Association

6285 W. 54th Street

Parma, OH 44129

Attention: Tony DeMarco

**Phone:** 1-440-885-3700





# Parma Sr. High

## 6th Annual Alumni Golf Outing



**Friday, July 5, 2002 • Ridgewood Golf Course  
2-man Scramble • 9:00am Shotgun Start**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I can attend street \_\_\_\_\_ city \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

Number in Group \_\_\_\_\_ Number x \$85 = \_\_\_\_\_

Names 1. \_\_\_\_\_

Names 2. \_\_\_\_\_

Names 1. \_\_\_\_\_

Names 2. \_\_\_\_\_

No, I cannot attend but I would like to donate

Prizes for the Scramble \_\_\_\_\_

Prizes for the Raffle \_\_\_\_\_

Cash to defray expenses \_\_\_\_\_

I would like dinner only # \_\_\_\_\_ x \$30 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For myself

For my guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to work at the Scramble

I would like to sponsor a hole @\$100 per hole

Company name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Logo \_\_\_\_\_

3 lines of print if different from above

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check made out to the "PSH Alumni Fundraiser" for the total amount and send it along with this form to:

The PSH Alumni Association  
Attention: Damon DeMarco  
6285 West 54<sup>th</sup> Street  
Parma, OH 44129

# Alumni Scholarship Fund Raiser

The Parma Senior High School Annual Scholarship Fund Golf Outing—



Friday, July 5, 2002—9:00 AM shotgun start at Ridgewood Golf Course—

\$85.00 Donation, 2 man scramble with prizes for 1<sup>st</sup> in the men's, women's, and mixed couple divisions—Includes golf, cart, breakfast, lunch, dinner and door prizes.

Once again it is time to prepare for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual PSHS Scholarship Golf outing on July 5, 2002. This is our major fundraiser for the 2 \$1000.00 college scholarships we give out each year. Over the past 25 years we have given thousands of dollars to Parma Senior High students who had a parent graduate from Parma Senior High.

The success of our scholarship golf outing can be traced to 4 important factors—The Corporate and Hole Sponsors who contribute so much financially—The companies and individuals who contribute gifts and prizes—The golfers who sign up for this great event—and the volunteers who spend countless hours planning a successful outing.

We ask again that Parma Senior High Alumni help to make this years event as successful as in the past by becoming a

corporate or hole sponsor, contribute prizes and items for participants, joining us as players in the event or volunteering to help at the event. With your help we can continue to make the dream of college a reality for 2 graduating seniors and with your continued support we can give out 3 \$1000 student scholarships next year.

Join us this year at Ridgewood Golf Course for this 2-man team scramble on July 5, 2002 at a 9:00AM shotgun start. You'll have a great time!

## Letters to the Editor

Hello! I am a frequent visitor to the PSH Alumni Website. I enjoy reminiscing about old times and my old friends.

Best regards,  
Wayne Ordakowski, 1982

Class of 1957 45<sup>th</sup> reunion change: Contact Nick Arena. Will not have a 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion but will have a 50<sup>th</sup> reunion in 2007. Please send e-mail addresses for the next reunion to Nick Arena, NICKFARENA@AOL.COM or 440-582-8727.

I am happy to be reunited with the PSH Alumni. I consider it to be an important link to an important segment of my life, which has long since passed.  
Bill Kovacs, Class of 1968.

Dear Mr. DeMarco and the Alumni Assoc. On behalf of the senior class of 2002, we would like to thank you for the trophies for our Winter Formal Dance. We really appreciate your help in making our dance a success.  
2002 Senior Class Officers  
Jessi Geisler

*Continued from page 2*

We will be creating two new plaques for these veterans to be displayed in the front of the auditorium at Parma High.

## World War II List of Veterans

- 1931 Donald Murphy
- 1932 Albert J. Christ
- 1934 Paul Kopal, Charles Meyer
- 1935 Robert Peters, Nick C Shirokey
- 1936 James Peterson, Robert Weber
- 1937 Howard Geiss, Joseph Ujczco, Frank Janzo
- 1938 Frank Glover, Frank Nemeth, Ted Rybka, Christian Singer
- 1939 Harold Cunningham, John Lezan, Kingston Mote, James Peterson
- 1940 John Dudas, Roy Geshwilm, Gene Kronenberger, Don Villers
- 1941 William Dudas, George Harley, Dick Krieger, George Mack
- 1942 Hubert Blechschmidt, William Wiecking
- 1943 Richard Burkart, William Carlson, Pete Demianchyk
- 1944 Claton Cookson, John Pastor, Donald Schwarzer
- 1945 Harold Sawitke

If you have any additional names of vets who lost their lives during WW II Please send them to the Alumni Assoc with any verification you may have.

## Korean War Veterans

We do not have any names of PSH alumni Veterans who died during the Korean War

## The Moondog Coronation Ball

March 21<sup>st</sup> 1952 – Rock "N" Roll

by Tony DeMarco

Fifty years ago as an 8 year old growing up in Parma, I can remember going to bed on a school night at 9 PM and staying awake to tune in WJW 850 and The Moondog radio show at 10PM with Alan Freed. I would put the radio under the covers so my parents couldn't hear it and I would listen to the music of the Dominoes, Tiny Grimes and the Rockin Highlanders, Paul Williams, Lloyd Price and other black R&B artists. On March 21<sup>st</sup> 1952 I and some of my friends knew the Moondog ball was going on in Cleveland, but we were just too young to go. Some of my friend's older sisters and brothers were

## A Bit of Parma History: By Lee Bailey The Organ Grinder Man and His Monkey

Another welcome sight in the neighborhood was the organ grinder man and his well-dressed monkey. He would play the streets of neighborhoods with his organ grinder box which he cranked to emit sounds of music and to which the costumed monkey would execute somersaults and other gymnastics to the wonderment of all the kids that followed him as he played his trade. He made his living by getting donations from the assembled crowd, which the monkey would collect in his little hat, as he sat on the shoulders of the kids and adults in the crowd. He was always a welcome sight and the kids considered it a rare privilege when the monkey chose their shoulder to sit on.

## 2002 Winter Formal

The Winter Formal Dance took place at PSH on February 2. Mrs. Sharon Jones



2002 Winter Formal King and Queen: Jessie Taylor and Mike Guzman

crowned Jessie Taylor as Queen and Mike Guzman as King. The overall winner of the Spirit Week Award for 2002 was the senior class. The Alumni Assoc. provided all the trophies to the king, queen and the court. Spirit week was filled with a pep rally and dress up days - just plain fun after mid terms.

### Moondog from page 4

supposed to go and we couldn't wait to hear what went on. That show was stopped at 9:30 that night because a crowd of about 25,000 tried to get into the Cleveland Arena, which held only 11,000. It was the beginning of "Rock n Roll"; a term coined by Alan Freed and Leo Mintz, and for many Parma kids, we were aware of the new music and wanted to be a part of it. Hard to believe that was 50 years ago.

## Mural Depicts Student Life at Parma High

In 1966, Art Department Chairman, Bob Rewalt approached the Art IV class with a bold plan. His idea was to have the students paint a mural in the lobby of the auditorium. Until then, the wall behind the center marble bench was

blank. The project would be an ambitious undertaking which would involve the entire class.

All students submitted plans for their vision of the mural. Ideas ranged from scenes from student life to Parma's place in the larger cultural community of Greater Cleveland.

The winning entry was submitted by Tom Brachna. It became his responsibility to draw the mural on the wall and coordinate the style and colors. Each student had a hand in the finished work with Tom bringing



## Apple Rice Pudding Cafeteria Memories

Serves 80 to 100

- 1 lb. 8 oz. - sugar
- ¾ oz. - Salt
- 2 tbsp - cinnamon
- 1 ½ gal. - milk
- 14 lbs. 12 oz. - apple sause
- 9 lbs cooked rice
- 1 tbsp. - vanilla
- 1 qt. - chilled heavy cream
- 8 oz. - miniature marshmallows

### Directions

1. Stir sugar, salt, cinnamon, milk, and applesause into rice. Mix until well blended.
2. Pour mixture into 4 pans (12x20x2), about 9 lbs. 4 oz. Per pan.
3. Bake at 350 F. for 40 minutes.
4. Cool
5. Add vanilla to cream. Whip until stiff.
6. Fold in marshmal-lows.
7. To each pan of pud-ding, stir in about 3 cups whipped cream mixture.
8. Chill
9. Invite 75 of your closest friends for desert.



## Mr. Ondo Retires

He is quite simply a legend to students who attended Parma Senior High. He is quite definitely a mystery to middle school students who have heard the stories and are not sure what to believe. He is quite likely to have a copy of your schedule in his notes, if you crossed paths with him and have attended PSH sometime in the last 18 years. Does he really hide in closets? Does he really keep watch from the clock tower? Is it possible that he knows your schedule better than you do? He would probably not admit to the stories, but he would like for you to believe that they are true.

Tony Ondo, "Ondo-Man" to the Parma Senior High School students, will finish his 18<sup>th</sup> year monitoring the PSH campus this March. A veteran of the U.S. Navy in WW II, Mr. Ondo joined the staff of PSH in March of 1984 after owning his own bakery, and working as a roofer for several years. In the time he has spent at PSH, Mr. Ondo has had quite an effect on the student population. His name always comes up at class reunions, and it seems every PSH graduate has a story that starts "I remember the time Ondo caught me...".

As an alumnus and a "Monitor" at PSH, Tony is a great friend and co-worker. Tony is well respected by staff and all who walk the halls of Parma Senior High.

Good Luck Mr. Ondo in your retirement, enjoy, relax and please come back and see us.

Cheryl Kienast  
Class of '77  
Corresponding Secretary  
Parma Senior High  
Alumni Association

### Brugge from page 1

After his coaching career, Bob continued his teaching in the areas of health and sociology. He is credited with teaching and establishing, in the 70's, one of the first classes designed for special needs students in the Parma system.

Bob retired and still lives in Parma with his wife Lois Katzback Brugge'46". They have 3 children Scott, Sandy, Diane, 11 grandchildren, and 3 great grandchildren.

### Parma High Alumni Newsletter Order Form

- Check One  1 year \$6.00  
 2 years \$11.00 (save \$1.00)  
 3 years \$15.00 (save \$3.00)

Please send your subscription order in by 2/28/02 so you will receive the next issue. Make checks payable to:

**PSH Alumni Newsletter**

c/o Parma Senior High Alumni Assoc.  
 6285 W. 54th St. • Parma, OH 44129  
 Donation is tax deductible

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### FUNDRAISERS, SWEATS, ORNAMENTS, AND MUGS

Since the PSH Alumni Association does not receive financial assistance from the Parma School System, fundraising helps to defray costs. Here are some items for any occasion.

Order by sending a check or money order to PSH Alumni Assoc. 6285 W. 54th St., Parma, OH 44129. State size of shirt. Allow 4 weeks for delivery.



Golf Shirt \$25 (L, XL) Mug \$7.50 T-Shirt \$20 (M, L, XL, XXL)  
 Sweatshirt \$30 (M, L, XL, XXL) License Plate Frame \$6.00

### Yearbooks for sale

Dianna Kall

If anyone has any yearbooks they no longer need, consider donating to the Alumni Association. Sales benefit the scholarship fund and many alumni are seeking years we no longer have for sale. Contact our email or our web page for further information.

1942 5	1951 4	1963 4	1978 16	1993 2
1943 1	1952 13	1964 5	1980 24	1995 12
1944 7	1953 6	1966 1	1983 1	1996 6
1945 5	1954 2	1969 12	1985 1	1997 3
1946 1	1955 2	1970 1	1989 7	1998 106
1948 5	1956 6	1974 5	1990 1	
1949 2	1957 1	1976 10	1991 89	
1950 5	1961 3	1977 4	1992 12	

### YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Yearbook Year \_\_\_\_\_ \$40.00  
 Postage 5.00

Make checks payable to:

**PSH Alumni Association**

**6285 W 54<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Parma, OH 44129**

Allow 3 weeks for Delivery

**Parma Senior High Alumni Association**  
**6285 West 54th Street**  
**Parma, OH 44129**

Non Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
 Cleveland, OH  
 Permit No. 2054