

The Tradition

Parma Senior High Alumni Newsletter



Spring 2004 • Vol. 11, No. 1

From the Presidents Desk

by Anthony DeMarco '62

ARCHIVAL ROOM TO BE A REALITY

I have some great news for all alumni; we will soon have an archival room at Parma High School. With the help of the principal Gil Fritzsche, we have been given a small room next to our office. The carpeted room measures about 15 feet by 20 feet and has 2 windows. It has a large storage room attached to keep the memorabilia that we cannot display. It is located in front of the auditorium on the second floor, and it is a short walk up the stairs from the Hall of Fame plaques and the member recognition plaque. Our vision of the archival room is to open it every Friday to students and alumni from 10 AM to 2 PM. (It would also be open to reunion tours of the building) We would provide a volunteer alumni supervisor on Friday to answer questions and provide assistance. The room would display yearbooks and school newspapers from classes that have the same last year as the current senior class (example all the years with 5 in them would have their yearbooks and newspapers on display 2005, 1995, 1985 1975, 1965, 1955 etc.). In this way we hope to let the current seniors know what it was like to be a senior in years gone by. We will change the displays each year. We will also provide space for alumni to do research on PSHS.

In addition, we will have showcases and wall displays from our permanent collection of memorabilia from the three Parma Senior High Schools – Ridge Rd., Parma Schaaf, and the current Parma Sr. High. We will have wall space for photographs and hangings. In the hallway outside the room, we will display class photographs mounted and framed. We are now able to display some of the historical items that have been donated to us over the years and have been packed away in boxes. We can now also accept more donations from alumni to add to our permanent collection. We will give a list of items we hope some of you still have and would be willing to part with. We will also need display showcases and commercial wall display units. This has been a goal of ours since I started with the Alumni Association over 30 years ago. The information and memorabilia of PSH will soon be available for all alumni to see and enjoy.

Web Page continues to grow

The PSH web page is continuing to grow and change. We had over 400,000 hits on the web page since last September. We now have 37,000 names on the data directory. You can now pay and order for Alumni items online with your credit card. You will be able to pay for the scholarship fundraiser tickets online. We are very proud of the progress we have made since going online a few years ago. Log on and see whats new. www.pshalumni.org.

PARMA SR. HIGH 50TH ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSE APRIL 25TH

The PSH Anniversary Committee is planning an open house on April 25th from 1 to 4 pm at the High School. A number of events have been planned. There will be speakers, displays and tours of the building. A cake will be provided to celebrate the golden anniversary of the "Queen of High Schools". If you have not been back to your alma mater in some time, why not come back and see the proud lady as she looks today. There have been a number of changes over the past 50 years.

8TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND RAISING GOLF OUTING JULY 14TH

The PSH Alumni Association will once again have its 7th annual Golf Outing on Wed July 14th 2004 at Ridgewood Golf Course in Parma, Ohio at 9 am. The event is a shotgun start and is a 4-person scramble. The outing comes with breakfast, lunch, dinner, a cart, door prizes, and a trophy for best class team. There will be prizes for the top finishes in the men's, women's, and mixed couples divisions. The proceeds of this event will go entirely to the PSHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND. This year we will give 5 \$1,000.00 scholarships to deserving Parma High seniors and a \$300.00 teacher grant to a teacher in the Parma High Cluster. This is our only major fundraising event each year and we count on the profits from this event to fund our scholarships.

So please join us for a great time and a worthwhile event. We need golfers, door prizes, hole sponsors and corporate sponsors. You do not have to be a PSH graduate to play. The cost of this golf outing will be the same as last years - only \$85. The cost to sponsor a hole is only \$100 and gives you signage at a hole. The cost for a corporate sponsor is \$1000 and includes hole signage, recognition in the program, signage at the dinner tent and recognition in the fall Tradition that is mailed to 26,000 alumni and golf for four at the event.

Fill out the enclosed form and send it in with your check or pay the easy way, go online to www.pshalumni.org and register and pay all at once.

Reunion News

1944 60th Reunion Contacts Esther Pfister Varga 440-842-2763 and Robert Wirth In the planning stages for an October Sunday lunch.

1949 55th Reunion Contact Elaine Quint 440-843-3872 or Ethel Horvath in the planning stages.

1954 50th Reunion September of 2004 Contact Dr. William Tucheck at 330-725-5662 or billtucheck@aol.com September 17, 18, 19, at the Radisson Hotel in Middleburg Hts. on Engle Rd.

1959 No Information This class does not have its reunion money in trust with the Alumni Association.

1964 40th Reunion Contact Chuck Germana 1-440-842-8240 No information at this time.

1969 We do not have a reunion chairperson for this reunion, or an updated address for the previous chairman George Mihal.

1974 30th Reunion Contacts Brenna Babb Roth and Nancy Sawchak Kartali 440-777-3080. In the planning stage - no location or exact date but a fall date is assumed. Check the web page for further updates

1979 25th Reunion Contact Cathy Smith Kornaker at 1-330-666-6574 Planned for Nov. 27th at the Clarion Hotel on Rockside Road. More information to

follow. *New committee Chair

1984 20th Reunion Contact Albert Bessey 196 Central St. Holliston Ma 01746 1-578-429-6328 Sara Brinkman Toma 440-446-1858 No information to date.

1989 15th Reunion Contact Mark Fortuna 5217 W 16th St. Parma, Oh 44134 No information to date.

1994 10th Reunion Contact Kelly Coates Cheetham 1-330-730-5935 or Kelly.cheetham@firstmerit.com In the planning stage. A fall reunion is planned. *New committee Chair

Class of 1973 30th Reunion Report

The class of 1973 held their reunion on Aug. 29th to the 31st at the Clarion Hotel on Bagley Rd. Friday was an informal social held in the hospitality room at the Clarion Hotel. The Clarion provided a lighted tent and the use of the gazebo. We had 200 for the event. Saturday night was the dinner and dance. DJ Dave played our favorite tunes and the party broke up about 2AM. On Sunday we had a picnic at Bonny Park in Strongsville. We had 30 classmates and friends attend. Comment: What we found was that after 30 years no one was trying to impress anyone and we had a number of 1st time attendees. It was a great time and we will have a 35th.

Barb Bendler Gannon and Jen LiBassi Preising

Your Alumni is here to help

Recently I was asked to meet with the class of 1944 about their reunion. We meet for their monthly luncheon and I gave a brief presentation. I told them we must keep records of the amount of money we release to them, how much they take in for the reunion, the amount they spend on the reunion, all the receipts and the amount they have left after the bills are paid. These are the rules that the IRS has given us to follow. We must give them to the IRS if they ask us for them. I then explained the tax-exempt number we let them use, how to get a tax ID number to open a bank account, the 2 free sets of labels with current addresses and the web page help. The co-chairs told me they were planning an early October luncheon reunion. They both felt this would be the last formal reunion, but they would continue to hold monthly luncheons. I was really impressed how close this group was. Good friends after 60 years.

Alumni addresses

Web Page www.pshalumni.org
e-mail: pshalum@pshalumni.org
Snail mail: PSH Alumni Assoc.

6285 W54 th St
Parma, Oh 44129
Attn. A DeMarco

Phone No: 1-440-572-8505

In Memoriam

1972: Robert Varga - Died 1982 - Owned his own business

1963: Edward Anthony Varga - Died 2002 - Worked for 30 years for the N. Olmsted bus lines. Sent by their brother Gerald Varga class of 1964. The Varga family had 8 children go through Parma High School. Our sympathies go out to the family.

1962: Jim Mitchell - Passed away 01/04 - Jim was co-owner of C.C. Mitchell Co. with his twin brother Jerry. His wife Diane and two children survive him.

1962: Wally Jarvis Died of a heart attack 11/03

1944: Thelma Swift Hunt - Passed away January 2004

1952: Art Fink - Passed away August 13, 2003 of a heart attack. Attended Parma Schaaf High, but graduated from West Tech

1952: Ken Rogers - Passed away November 23, 2002 of a stroke.

1952: Joe Vlcek - Passed away February 3, 2003

1952: Nick Rosebaum - Passed away November 2th, 2002

1952: Marilyn Labor Tibbitts - Passed away September 2nd, 1999

1938: Howard J. Darborn - Passed away June 4th 2003 - Howard moved to

Arizona after WWII and after he retired, he moved and went into real estate in Kingman Arizona. His wife, Marion and a son survive him.

Teacher - Robert Dzama - Passed away of a heart attack on December 29th 2003. Bob was a French and English teacher. Bob is best remembered as the yearbook advisor for 20 years

We attempt to place notices in the Tradition in a timely manner and in the order we receive them. We must also work with the space available in the issue. We apologize for any delays or errors.

HISTORY OF PARMA HIGH SCHOOLS

Part III

By Ken Lavelle

Work was completed in the fall of 1953. Fulton, Krinsky, and Dela Motte, Architects designed Parma Sr High. It is located at 6285 West 54th Street at the corner of Longwood Avenue. The 2-story building was built in a modified Georgian style with red face brick and gray limestone trim with aluminum window frames. The front of the Parma Sr. High School has a 100-foot clock tower that dominated the “U” shaped classroom unit in 1953.

Parma Sr. High had several special features including a dramatics room, a food laboratory, a teachers’ dining room and a student cafeteria. The English room was designed for a cultural atmosphere. It had oak paneling, a fireplace, and leaded glass windows. The students, who sat in Windsor chairs, used no desks. Corridor wall displays have contained science exhibits and athletic sports trophies over the years.

The student auditorium with a seating capacity of 1,850 persons was located under the 100-foot clock tower. There was a biology room, chemistry and a physics laboratory on the second floor classroom area. There were 49 normal classrooms, 6 special student service rooms, a library, 8 shop classrooms, music rooms, and a little theater seating 325 persons.

Parma Sr. High was built with growth and expansion in mind in 1951. The school site consisted of 38 acres of land. The school building itself covered 20 acres, with a 300-car parking lot and five acres set aside for a wildlife sanctuary in 1953. School additions were built in 1972-74. One addition was in the front area for the new media center, guidance offices, and business curriculum. The two other additions included a larger vocational wing built in the rear of the school and a physical education swimming facility. The architects were Lesko Associates

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I graduated in the class of ’61. Are there any statistics about how many of my class went on to get a college degree? I graduated with a big class but didn’t know many kids that went on to college. What are the same stats for Parma today? Do you think they would be higher or lower? I remember taking “Bookkeeping” in my senior year. I had a woman teacher who treated me very well. She had me take a “National” business test and I scored in the top ½ percentile in the country. That made her very proud. Is there any way I can find out her name and if she is still alive? I love the alumni newsletter. All of the staff does a great job. My brother, Len Blasko, graduated with John Bailey whose father is the treasurer. Keep up the good work.

Bob Blasko
rblasko@att.net

Answer: We have no statistic on the number of seniors who go on to college. The figure they usually give is 50% from most PSH classes. The figure from current classes may be a little higher. The teacher you are looking for is in the 1961 yearbook, but we have no information on the current addresses of teachers who retire. The school board and administration does not keep track of its former employees after they have resigned or have been retired for 3 years. The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio in Columbus might be able to help you.

My favorite memories of PSHS were of band and orchestra. There has been no class that I have ever taken that has shaped my life the way those music classes did. Mr. Sentz and Mrs. Phillips provided me with a vast array of life skills. In four years I learned to be a leader, how to get along with others, and how to perform in front of an audience. So great was their influence, that I have dedicated my life’s work to teaching instrumental music. I can only hope that I have half the impact on my students as they had on me.

With much gratitude
Melissa Vaughn
Class of 1995

Thank you for the complimentary Alumni Newsletter. It brings back many good memories.

Elain Rennert Beeson
Class of 1951

I was in attendance at the recent “all 70’s Decade” football game. I want to thank you for all your hard work because that was one fantastic event. Hats off to you guys for coming up with such a great idea. I can tell you from everyone I met and talked with that night, that they all thought it was a fantastic idea and they all seemed to enjoy it immensely. It was a great time and I can’t even begin to tell you how nice it was to see people I haven’t seen for over 30 years. Thank you for including me that night won’t be forgotten for a long time to come.

Brent White

Brent- The concept was a joint effort by Bruce Saban, head football coach, and his staff and the PSH Alumni Association for the 50th Anniversary of PSHS. Thank you for those kind words, it was our pleasure to do this.

ALUMNI BAND

By Pat Jacques Bourquin ‘65

Homecoming this year was great fun for all who attended. Our Alumni Band is growing and was ready and willing to be a part of the Pregame show at Byers Field. We have grown to 35-40 members and are always looking for more former band/majorettes/flag corps members to join us!

Please send in your e-mail address to PSHALBAND@juno.com to be part of the action! You will be contacted in the early fall about Homecoming-dates and activity times. If you know other former ban/majorettes/flag corps members who would like to join in, have them send their e-mail address or just invite them along and we’ll catch up with them at the game. Hope to see you in the fall at the next Homecoming Game. Ready count...

TOGETHERNESS

By Frances Suter Bibbs 40’
Resident Alumni Poet

My father always said to me,
To you all kin are born.
Your friends are chosen carefully,
Their welcome won’t get worn.

You hear me now... a way cross-town,
In my old neighborhood.
The streets, the shops, the schools and grounds,
You’re there where I once stood.

To tell the truth, I must confide,
Before our worlds do end.
We share the past of both our lives,
Does make our friendship...blend!

SCHOOL NEWS

The Parma High wrestling team had one of its best seasons ever. To date 3 wrestlers are headed to the state championships.

New teachers at Parma Senior high are : Art - **Mr. Hanchuk** BW and **Ms. Lisy** BGSU, English – **Ms. Starr** Toledo, Computer Applications – **Mrs. Hoagland** Kent, U.S. Government – **Mr. Hanchuk** BW, U.S. History – **Mr. Schneider** BW. This is the first half of the new teachers.

The Student Council will open a coffee shop as a fundraiser at PSH. The coffee shop is to be open from 7 AM to just before 1st period each day. You can now get coffee and pastry at the Redman Café.

First Rural Brick Road in the United States 1893

by **Kenneth Lavelle**

On August 3rd 2003 at 12 noon, an Ohio Historical Marker was dedicated commemorating the first rural brick road in the **United States** at the corner of Olde York Road and Pearl Road in Parma Heights, Ohio. The first rural brick road was built as a four mile long test pavement laid between Parma Township and the Village of Albion, now Strongsville, Ohio along the Wooster Pike, now Pearl Road. Construction began in the fall of 1893 and was completed in 1896 at a cost of \$16,000 per mile. Area residents used the paved brick rural road for their early automobiles, trucks, and fully loaded farm wagons. The unpaved dirt portion, which ran along side the paved section of Wooster Pike, was used for empty horse drawn wagons, vehicles and animals. Ohio was a leading manufacturer of brick paving bricks for city roads. An act passed in 1892 authorized Cuyahoga County to levy a road tax. With funds levied, the commissioners selected the Wooster Pike (a former stagecoach route from Cleveland to Wooster) as the first of three road improvement projects.

PSH FOOTBALL ALL DECADE TEAM

1950's

Kenneth Abbott '52	Ralph Lynch '55	Gary Mates '56	David Condon '59
Jack Loesch '52	Max Schindler '55	James Tutie '56	Frank Gaal '59
Ron Mottl '52	Raymond Shaker '55	Robert Boulton '57	Nick Pontikos '59
Mike Skowronsky '52	Ronald Stock '55	David Stebner '57	Rich Shaker '59
Charles Cline '54	Bernard Zisko '55	Robert Dakdduk '58	Larry Tsonton '59
Gerald Neumann '54	Milt Altnauer '56	Robert MacFarlane '58	John Wood '59
Robert Bodeker '55	Robert Jarus '56	Donald Mates '58	Larry Zipsir '59
Ronald Kacic '55	Edward Kagels '56	Angelo Amato '59	
Ernie Lees '55	Richard King '56	James Campi '59	

1960's

George Bourquin '60	Carl Roloff '62	James Bistricky '66	Jack Jisa '67
William Brucchieri '60	Joseph Angey '63	Norman Chabek '66	Timothy Lehotsky '67
Frank Brzygot '60	Alfred Hoehn '63	Raymond Froelich	Gary Meyer '67
Ken Harants '60	Russell Jacques '63	Ray Kowalski '66	Tom Kerr '68
Doug Lyons '60	William Mengerink '63	David Polak '66	Robert Mason '68
John Tarnovecky '60	Jerry Staten '63	Denny Prahll '66	Lou Platt '68
Raymond Wilk '60	Julian Teul '63	Darryl Scherba '66	Bill Ribich '68
Frank Zaremba '60	Carl Zipfel '63	Bruce Walker '66	Richard Shuleva '68
Arnold Chonko '61	Laurence Fedak '64	George Widdersheim '66	Gary Brezina '69
Lawrence Csire '61	Ronald Freeman '64	Russell Beamish '67	Frank Felice '69
Kim Hill '61	Robert Maresh '64	David Erdelyi '67	Max Huebner '69
Thomas Scholl '61	Robert Haas '65	Peter Filipic '67	Jeff Calabrese '69
Douglas Huth '62	Stan Jankowski '65		
Gerald Kline '62			

1970's

Jerry Franklin '70	Frank Crish '73	Russell Wells '74	Paul Sileo '77
Bruce Issac '70	James Darwal '73	Brent White '74	John Skory '77
Chuck Sitka '70	Al Fuller '73	Mark Degennaro '75	Daniel Stelmach '77
Paul Soukup '70	Tom Hehmeyer '73	Gregory Faustina '75	Bob Cierchi '78
Phillip Majher '71	Don Homek '73	William Fink '75	Tim Hahn '78
Jon Darwal '72	Robert Larner '73	Dave Feichtmeier '75	Jeff Kaiser '78
Robert Dubelko '72	Thomas Kohan '73	Bill Horvath '75	Nick Nardi '78
Rick Francesangelo '72	Michael Ozdowski '73	William Schroeder '75	John Smykowski '78
Larry Leveranz '72	Tom Paterson '73	Timothy Harr '76	Doug Turchanik '78
Rich Panzanella '72	Albert Sutula '73	Michael Kohan '76	Mickey Vittardi '78
Steve Sabo '72	Ken Brooks '74	Chuck Vargo '76	Kenneth Dabrowski '79
James Vargo '72	Timothy Jones '74	Rudy Bulic '77	Bernard Ehlert '79
Larry Vasil '72	Kenneth Panzanella '74	Matthew Degyansky '77	Thomas Fox '79
Dave Bania '73	Steve Shuleva '74	Tim Malley '77	

1980's

Al Ehlert '80	William Belinsky '84	Robert Aleksandrovic '86	John Hwodeky '88
Robert Dorsey '81	Carl Filut '84	John Dempsey '86	John Hwodeky '88
Dragan Pantic '81	Erwin Grabisna '84	Jeff Jones '86	Mike Lascu '88
Matt Budzik '82	Jeffrey Koncelik '84	Jeffrey Lusk '87	Frank Musial '88
Mark Raiff '82	Tom Scott '84	Drew Syder '87	Bruce Saban '88
Phillip Bell '83	Jim Yambor '84	Shane Wagoner '87	Christopher Sutyak '88
Ron Nypaver '83	Tim Magda '85	Nick Degennaro '88	Jason Turk '88
Paul Alic '84	Dennis Solensky '85	Dave Haffner '88	Scott Mielke '89
Albert Bessey '84			

1990's

Jeffrey Blue '90	Charles Bessey '95	Nathan Koorey '98	Nathanael Broz '99
Dale Higginbotham '91	Terry Chacalos '95	Brian Kruse '98	Gary Coupe '99
Brian Myers '91	Randall Munshower '95	Frank Novak '98	Nathaniel Ferrer '99
Timothy Huemmrlich '93	John Lombardo '96	Angelo Samerigo '98	Roy Haber '99
John Ignacio '93	Timothy Dadich '97	Keith Sanicky '98	Ronald Karpus '99
Aaron Frank '94	Robert Dedrick '97	Joseph Sykes '98	Michael Malone '99
Scott Giomini '94	Jeffrey Jacko '97	James Vanek '98	Paul Spooner '99
Nicholas Loya '94	Jason Donovan '98	Phillip Yanak '98	Jason Wilson '99
Daniel Shaffer '94	Dominick Gruttadauria '98	Gregory Brenner '99	

2004 PSH Directory and Newsletter Order Forms

Name _____ Graduation Year _____

Address _____

Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

On-Directory__\$10 Newsletter 1 year__\$6 2 years__\$11

3 years__\$15 CHECK ONE

Make checks (**no cash**) payable to: *PSH Alumni Association.*
Send to: PSH Alumni, 6285 West 54th St. Parma, OH 44129

PSH FUNDRAISERS

SWEATS, GOLFSHIRTS, LICENSE PLATEFRAME, CAPS, AND MUGS

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.



PSHS Alumni gifts

Caps \$15 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

Parma Senior High Alumni Association has acquired yearbooks from various sources and we are selling to support the college scholarship program.

If you have yearbooks you no longer want, perhaps you will consider donating to this project. We are missing from the permanent collection 1932, 1934, 1937, 1938. Yearbooks are sold, as is, most are in "healthy" condition, some might have a few pages loose, or the spines split.

1942	5	1949	2	1961	2	1983	12	1997	1
1943	2	1950	4	1963	3	1988	2	1998	106
1944	4	1952	2	1964	3	1989	9	2000	6
1945	4	1953	2	1969	5	1990	1	2001	3
1946	1	1955	1	1977	1	1991	89		
1947	1	1956	3	1978	15	1995	10		
1948	6	1957	1	1980	21	1996	7		

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 54th Street

Parma, OH 44129

Allow 3 weeks for Delivery

2004 Anniversary Yearbook

\$50 includes shipping _____

Order now sent 6/11/04