

**VOLUME 21, ISSUE 2** 

www.greenvillealumni.net

**Fall 2018** 

# President's Message

By Dick Brown, '64, dickbrown64@gmail.com

Homecoming this fall will be the weekend of September 27-29, with the familiar traditions that we all remember. Led by the Band of Pride, the Parade will be Thursday evening, Sept. 27., at 6:30, from Martin Street, north on Broadway to Harmon Drive, and east to the new Band Shell for a Pep Rally and the crowning of this year's Chief Green Wave. The 82<sup>nd</sup> Homecoming Game will be at Harmon Field on Friday, Sept. 28, at 7:00, vs. Vandalia Butler. The Queen will be crowned about 6:30. The GHS Class of 1978 will have part of their 40<sup>th</sup> Year celebration at the game and hope to have participants in the evening's activities. This hasn't happened in recent memory, if ever before. Visitors to the game will also be able to see the new, beautiful Jennings Family Track Complex, just north of the football stadium.

GHS grad **Greg Gerlach**, '69, has done an in-depth study of the many students who traveled to the University of North Texas (Denton, TX), from Greenville, to advance their music education. This was an amazing accomplishment and can be credited to one teacher at GHS. This is a unique situation to Greenville and is a

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

tribute to the many dedicated musicians who studied there and have used their music talents in the years since. Thank you, Greg, for helping document this interesting part of Green Wave history (story on pages 16-20).

Our Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association will be held in October, but the date has not been set yet. We have to wait until after school begins to finalize our meetings schedule. You may email me at the address above or call me, 937-548-9895, to find out more details.

Dedication of Poster of all Students Present When the New Building Opened to Help Preserve Our History

The Greenville High School Alumni Association sponsored this framed document and donated it to the new school building, January 9, 2018. Hopefully, this framed unit will last for the next 50 years in the halls of GJHS for any students to return and see his or her name in print. Members of the Alumni Association are pictured here with the Building Principals and Assistant Principals. On the left side are Jody Hole Harter, GHS '95, Principal, K-2; Chris Mortensen, Principal, 7-8; Rhonda Schaar, Principal, 5-6; and Dick Brown, GHS '64, GHS Alumni Association President. On the right side are **Duane** Edwards, GHS '65, GHS Alumni Vice President; Sandy Snyder, Middle School Assistant Principal; Buzz Blanchard, GHS '52, GHS Alumni Association Newsletter; and Jennifer Statzer, Elementary School Assistant Principal.



#### **GHS Prom 2018**

Greenville High School's Prom for 2018 was held April 28 at Romer's Banquet Center near the circle for the 12<sup>th</sup> consecutive year. This year's event was "A Masquerade Ball" and was attended by 350 Juniors and Seniors and their guests. Guests could include those from other schools but be limited to the ages of sophomore class to one year out of high school. The Junior Class planned and tastefully decorated the Prom venue, and they were directed by President Dylan Snyder, '19, and Class Sponsor Ms. Mollie Willman Mendoza, GHS '89. The Prom itself lasted from 6:00 to 11:00 pm with an After-Prom at the High School which lasted until 2:00 AM. Local car dealer Steve Van Gorder donated a giveaway car to a lucky GHS Prom attendee, and this year's winner was Junior Noah Walker.

Queen Candidates included 4<sup>th</sup> generation GHS grad Payton Brandenburg (parents Ryan Brandenburg, GHS '90, and Allison Dynes Brandenburg, grandmother Cheryl Runner Dynes, GHS '70, great grandparents Jean and Duard Runner, GHS 1942), wants to attend Northern Kentucky Univ. and major in Sports Business; Lauren Burns (parents Tim Burns, GHS '76, and Darcy Burns, and granddaughter of Bob and Ann Burns), wants to attend Ball State Univ. and major in Dance and Business; the Queen Laura Fields (parents Ann and Mike Fields from Ansonia, granddaughter of Ray Austerman and Janet Seman Austerman, GHS '54), plans on attending Sinclair College and majoring in Interior Design; Lauryn Goehrich (parents Tracy Howard, GHS 1989, and Eric Goehrich, GHS 1987, grandmother Shirley Hatfield Howard, GHS 1970), wants to attend Kettering College and major in Radiology Technology; Emma Jennings (parents Steve Jennings, GHS 1990, and Beth Jennings, Uncle Brad Jennings, GHS 1994, the major Track Stadium donor, sister of Christian Jennings, GHS 2011), plans on attending Miami Univ. and major in Architecture; Larisa Schmitmever (parents Kevin and Lee Ann Schmitmeyer), plans on attending Indiana Wesleyan Univ. and major in Surgical Nursing; and Madison "Maddie" Shepard (parents Steve Shepard, GHS 1986, and Stephani Myers Shepard, GHS 1984, sister of 2016 Prom King Morgan Shepard), plans on attending Manchester Univ. and major in Elementary Education and minor in Coaching.

King Candidates were Alex Chui (parents Richard and Carrie Chui), plans on attending Purdue Univ. and major in Robotics Engineering; the King Will Coomer (parents Jon and Ami Franz Coomer, grandson of local business-persons Sally and Dan Franz, FM 1967), plans on attending High Point Univ. (North Carolina) Univ., and major in International Business and minor in Spanish studying abroad in Spain; Andrew Kocher (parents Kevin Kocher, GHS 1997, and Jennifer Anthony Fitzgerald, GHS 1999), and plans on becoming a Network Administrator; John LeMaster (parents Kathy Kline LeMaster, GHS 1980, and John LeMaster, and grandson of Kurll Kline and Judy O'Dell, with 4 older siblings Josh Dohme, GHS 2000, Jacy Dohme, GHS 2002, Justena LeMaster, GHS 2008, Jalena LeMaster, GHS 2014, and Jenna LeMaster), plans on attending a college and majoring in Robotic Engineering; Zach Massie (parents Jason Massie, GHS 1995, and Katina Stump, GHS 1992), plans on joining the Marines and eventually attending college to study Criminal Justice; Braden Russell (parents Bill and Terry Russell, brother of All-American Wave softball pitcher Ally Russell, GHS 2014), plans on attending Valparaiso Univ. to play football and major in Mechanical Engineering; and Noah Vanhorn (parents Stacy Miller Vanhorn, GHS 1985, and Mike Vanhorn, brother of Emily Vanhorn, GHS 2014), plans on attending Manchester Univ. and major in History Secondary Education and minor in Coaching.

Couples in Court photo at the traffic circle/fountain from left to right: Queen candidates: Payton Brandenburg, Lauren Burns, Laura Fields, Lauryn Goehrich, Emma Jennings, Larisa Schmitmeyer, and Madison Shepard. King candidates: Zach Massie, Alex Chui, Braden Russell, John LeMaster, Andrew Kocher, Will Coomer, and Noah Vanhorn. The Four at the Fountain are the Prom Queen and King Laura Fields and Will Coomer, and the Homecoming Chief Green Wave Ryan Trick and Homecoming Queen Grace Coakley.





50th Year Celebration of the 1966 MVL Baseball Champions

The first time ever reunion of the Miami Valley League Baseball Champions of 1966 was held at Turtle Creek Golf Course during the Fair, August 20, 2016. The team was coached by John Suba and Gary Pidock, at a time when the M.V.L. was quite strong in most sports. Much planning went into making this happen and this was done by one of the varsity players from that year, Dr. Alex Warner, GHS 1967, and included much long missed reminiscing. The players who attended and pictured here are: Front row: Cary Schafer, GHS 1968, Jim Holland, GHS 1966, Richard Harsh, GHS 1966 (holding the 1966 M.V.L. Championship trophy), Manager Charlie James, GHS 1966, and Bill Steck, GHS 1966. Back row: Rick Dill, GHS 1966, Bruce Drew, GHS 1967, Mike Anderson, GHS 1968 (since, deceased), Terry Coby, GHS 1968, and Alex Warner. Others not able to attend were seniors Steve Pipenger and Bill Cornett, and juniors Bill McVay and Jack Swank. Other deceased members of the team are junior Doug Sink and sophomore Steve Straub.

Legendary coach **John Suba** built this strong team with superb athletes. Suba and his successor coach **Stan Palmer** elevated the Green Wave Baseball program to a high level for the next 14 years. The teams either

won or tied for first place in at least seven years from 1970 to 1980 (1970, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1979, and 1980). There were other Wave teams with good records but no mention in the Chief yearbooks as to whether they won their league championship. The league affiliation changed after 1972, with the disbanding of the M.V.L. Many old M.V.L. teams went to the Western Ohio League (W.O.L.), but Greenville joined the Southwestern Buckeye League (S.W.B.L.), which had generally smaller schools than the M.V.L. or W.O.L.



*Front:* Cary Schafer, Jim Holland, Richard Harsh, Charlie James, and Bill Steck. *Back:* Rick Dill, Bruce Drew, Mike Anderson, Terry Coby, and Alex Warner.

## **Jack Raudabaugh Awards for 2018**

This year's winners of the prestigious **Jack Raudabaugh Award** were two of the top-rated athletes with high academic standings throughout their high school years. Mr. Raudabaugh was a successful teacher, coach, and principal in the Greenville school system from 1937 to 1973, and established this award to honor a leader in athletics and other school activities. They must be of good moral character be in the top third of the senior class.

Grace Coakley lettered in track and cross country for each of her 4 years at GHS, and was team Captain, MVP, GWOC Scholar Athlete, Newcomer Award winner, Most Valuable Distance and Runner awards, GWOC 2<sup>nd</sup> team (cc), Regional track qualifier (track) 2018, a member of National Honor Society (2 years), Spanish Club, SADD Club, Student Council, and was this year's Homecoming Queen. She is daughter of Stephanie Reigle Lind, GHS '90 (Career Tech Medical Tech prep instructor) and Scott Lind, grand daughter of Rainee Reigle, GHS '69, and Susan Wehrley Reigle, Gettysburg '70, and sister of former Homecoming Court member Hannah Coakley, GHS '16. Her Grade Point Average = 4.132

Owen Paulus was the quarterback on this year's Green Wave football team, and was a 4-year athlete in football and baseball, and was team Captain, GWOC Scholar Athlete, GWOC Special Mention (baseball pitcher), a member of National Honor Society (2 years), Science Club, Student Council, National Technical Vocational Honor Society, and Skills USA (Career Tech) – VICA. He is the son of **Kelly Clemens Paulus**, GHS '86, and **Barry Paulus**, and brother of **Taylor Paulus**, GHS '10. His Grade Point Average = 4.027

This year's recipients are students who other team members "look up to", and this is an important trait that any Raudabaugh Award winner must have. Good luck in the future.



Owen Paulus and Grace Coakley

## Greenville Class of 1969 Planning for 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2019

The Greenville Class of 1969 has begun to plan for its 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion on Saturday, August 24, 2019, at Romers. We need information from each class member by this spring in order to create a directory and designate the cost of the reunion. To create the new directory we need this information: 1. name of classmate and 2.spouse or significant other, 3. mailing address, 4. Email address, 5. phone number(s), 6. birthdate of the classmate, 7. work history, and 8. hobbies.

Please comment yes or no about your interest in attending the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion as well as what other activities you would enjoy that weekend. Please mail your information to Debby Booker Sodders, 1001 Washington Ave., Greenville, OH 45331. The estimated cost is \$30 per person, but could change as prices may go up.

# New Paul C. Warner Principal's Leadership Award Given for the First Time

To honor an outstanding Senior student leader, a new award was presented for the first time by **Dr. Alex Warner**, GHS '67, and signed by **Mr. Stanley Hughes**, current GHS Principal. This is named for the longest serving Principal in GHS history, **Mr. Paul C. Warner**, GHS 1914, who was our school's leader for 25 years, from 1929 to 1954. He had been Class President in 1914 and taught Agriculture and Science from 1919 to 1929, before becoming Principal. He was one of the most respected figures in the history of Greenville High School. Alex is the grandson of Paul Warner, and was a teacher and coach at GHS and served many years on the Board of Education. The Award is presented to a student who exemplifies outstanding leadership qualities in class, in extra-curricular activities, and in the community, for being an outstanding role model for other students, and for earning the respect of the GHS Staff. The second longest serving GHS Principal was **Mr. Coney Cornett** (12 years, from 1959 to 1971), with no other Principal ever serving more than 10 years. This covers the years from 1888 to the present.

This year's winner is the very deserving **Landin Brown.** He is one of the 3 Valedictorians for this year, with a GPA = 4.2. He has been Class President for his 4 years of high school, and is President of the Student Council and President of the National Honor Society. He was also an officer in the Art Club, Key Club, SADD Club, and We Are the Majority. He is the son of **Kathy Cloyd Brown**, GHS '82, and **Mart Brown**, GHS '88, and brother of **Justin Brown**, GHS '17, and **Shawn McGuire**, GHS '99. Landin will join his brother at Indiana Wesleyan University to play football, and he will major in Graphic Design and Pre-Engineering. He is the definition of a true "Leader" at GHS.

The first Principal's Senior Leadership Award was initiated by Principal Mr. Jeffrey Hobbs in 2005 but was discontinued in 2016. The winners were: Betsy Brown (2005), Katie Hittle (2006), Amber Arnett (2007), Megan Raffel (2008), Tyler Martin (2009), Joey Conrad (2010), Kent Holmes (2011), Sam Jones (2012), Jessica Kerg (2013), Jennifer Murray (2014), Erika Jeffers (2015), and Kayli Duncan (2016). No award was presented in 2017. The new award will be a continuing one at GHS, to go along with the Eugene Phelps Citizenship Award (for boys), the Elizabeth Hill Citizenship Award (for girls), and the Kathryn Griner Academic Award, which are given every year.

Alex Warner
Presenting
the new
Paul Warner
Principal's
Leadership
Award to
Landin Brown



# 76<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion for the Class of 1942:

by June (McGowan) Young, Class of 1942

After our 60<sup>th</sup> Year Class Reunion in 2002, our class met every year until our final reunion in 2014. There was no one left of our class to plan and gather the few of us for a reunion this year. We were proud to be the class of 1942 and never wanted any other class to be included in our gatherings like some other classes do. I have written an account of the 1942 graduation as I remember it.

In early May, 2017, I was sitting in a dental chair having a tooth repaired. As I sat there, I listened to the dental assistant talk about her son's upcoming Senior Commencement. I thought the calendar date was similar to mine, but that was all that was similar. They were planning a bar-be-que for over 100 people and graduates, along with so much more. I asked for permission from the mother that I could write a graduation note to her son, Jacob. The following is what I sent, only to find out that he couldn't read the cursive writing. His parents had to read it to him! They don't teach script writing in schools anymore. Everything is in block print. That's not the only shock. I learned this year that many young people don't know who Annie Oakley is, what the Treaty City is, and the Treaty signed with the Indians to open up the Northwest Territories.

Here is my letter to Jacob: Dear Jacob,

I'm a stranger to you. I only knew you through your mother telling me about your upcoming graduation. Listening to her and in my mind about the upcoming date, I thought we had something in common—graduation in May! Yours is on the 28<sup>th</sup> and mine was the 29<sup>th</sup>, but 75 years apart.

Let an old lady tell you a story about the same event, my graduation, but so far apart in time:

In 1932, I became aware of gifts for high school graduation. Tagging along with my mother and older sister to a friend's home, I viewed all the gifts given to their graduating daughter. It wasn't Christmas or her birthday, but there were so many gifts! Hat a celebration, and from that day on I looked forward for that same occasion.

My day did arrive, but there was no party or gifts or celebration, not even from friends or relatives to come and wish me good luck in my next four years of college. It was 1942 and World War II had started in December, 1941. We were the first senior class to leave school and head into war. Some of my classmates never got to attend that May graduation night. They could be marching in Europe or sailing in the Pacific. Some never got to see home again.

There were dark days ahead and everyone was very serious about everything. I entered the Ohio State University that fall. Enrollment had been about 10,000, but dropped down to about 5,000 after the War began. It was a "big" girls' school until the military (ASTP) arrived to attend special classes at O.S.U. The ASTP was the Army Specialized Training Program where thousands of men soldiers were sent to U.S. colleges to take sped-up courses on engineering, math, sciences, medicine, psy-

chology, and foreign languages to better prepare for the War activities This was the single biggest education program in the nation's history. We could see the soldiers and watch them, but we were given the attitude "look but don't touch". There were plenty of rules and regulations, chaperones for events, with early-to-bed time curfews. Enough about life then. If all those rules and restrictions were enforced now, there would be a big rebellion.

I did receive a surprise graduation gift from my mother. She had found a brown metal wastebasket—just the right size to fit into a college dorm room. She had a painter print my initials (JAM, June Alene McGowan) in gold letters on its side. I still have the basket and now my daughter Nancy possesses it. All my children have used and loved it, as did I when I received it May 29, 1942!

Now I ask you: in 75 years, will you be able to tell about the gift you receive to-day? Will you remember? I promise I won't be around to ask you.

Best wishes, Jacob June Young A recent picture of June with her daughter Nancy Ratey, along with the 1942 Graduation present, "the J.A.M. Can"



# A Graduating Senior

by June (McGowan) Young, Class of 1942

Here goes another burst of memories kept in my aging head as I recall May 29<sup>th</sup> 75 years ago. First I need to set the stage for telling you of the events at that time. The war had started six months earlier and we were also still experiencing the effects of the great 1930 depression. Both affected our life and living conditions with rationings, outages, shortages of food and other essentials.

My mother, being a doctor in a rural county, the largest county in Ohio, had mostly farmers as patients. Hence she was paid for a \$2.00 office visit with whatever they could bring from their farm. She never knew from one patient to the next what to expect. It could be fruit, vegetables, pie, cake, cookies, chicken—live-- or dressed or ready to bake or fry. And there sometimes would be other meat included. We never knew what the day's menu would be. For sure we could, and did eat. We were blessed, for so many were going with little to eat, if any.

The county children's home was filled to capacity. Parents couldn't feed, cloths or house their own children. The same for the county old folks home at the edge of town. Many families were divided, but not by choice.

I liked to cook and was in the kitchen whenever my grandparents were fixing a meal, or said I could experiment in their domain. They had lived with us for fifteen years as part of our immediate family, helping my mother with domestic chores while she worked six days a week in her doctors practice, plus home calls.

My wise mother knew of my passion for cooking, so she made arrangements with two of her woman patients to teach me how to fix food, meals and more. They were members of The Old Order Brethren Church. The two women were known for their wonderful meals and kitchen skills. They lived on a small farm at the edge of town where and we purchased our raw milk. I learned not only cooking and baking but how to milk a cow, separate the cream from milk in their separator. Best of all, their fried chicken was better than any restaurant in town, and they were instructing ME!

It was graduation on Friday evening and I was in charge of the kitchen as both grandparents had just passed on. The responsibilities fell on me with pleasure to help my mother. Mother called while I was trying to get ready for my big evening—graduation had arrived! I had lit the old side-arm gas water heater in the cellar so we could have hot water for our baths. I planned on washing my hair early so I could make bobby-pin curls and air dry my hair in time to take down and brush. It just had to look perfect—after all my strawberry-blond hair had been the cause of the color chosen for our cap and gown tonight. I was on the committee in selecting the color. The two fellow classmates decided on grey after they had me modeling for them to choose the color. They said the grey brought out the red in my hair. I had no say-so and I personally disliked grey! I just HAD to look good tonight in the cap and gown.

That afternoon I got a phone call from mother "I need your help! Will you fry the chicken that was left in the refrigerator today? My last patient said she put it there." No problem I said. Our home was never locked. The patient walked in with their items and would place them in our kitchen before leaving the unattended house. So I didn't know what was left until mother called. I had time to accomplish all, if I fried the chicken now, I said to myself. The heavy black iron skillet was ready along with the lard and flour. Opening the refrigerator for the chicken pieces I had an unexpected shock. There facing me was a WHOLE chicken--wings, head, neck, tail—all staring at me—no cut pieces to flour and fry! A hurried call to mother, a quick answer and a hang up—"CUT IT!" I'd never cut one before. One lesson I didn't receive and one I didn't want to learn now. Tears rolled down my face. No one to help me and time was passing fast. Finally with a large cutting knife in my shaking hands and looking through a flood of tears, I stabbed that bird with a vengeance, cutting anywhere that knife landed! Then all of a sudden I stopped and I saw that poor bird. I wondered just how you did get the legs, the wings —all of that off?

JUNE McGOWAN

With a big breath, a hankie to my face and some deep soul searching, I did somehow manage to get pieces to fry. At dinner that night no one remarked how strange some of the chicken pieces were that they couldn't identify.

It was a Friday night on May 29, 1942 that I will remember. Just my quiet prayer and one more learning experience before graduation. It's an old saying --a graduating senior—"You will never be this smart again."

-30-

# 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the '67-'68 Boys Basketball Team

Over the first 100 years of GHS boys basketball (from early 1900s to 2000's), no other team won more varsity games than the '67-'68 team coached by **Clarence Gueth**. One of the most impressive statistics about this team is that all the players went to college. Their combination of great athletes, high achieving and disciplined student-athletes, and superb coaching brought a sub .500 team in 1967 to one of the best GHS teams of all time. The team record finished 16-5 after a 14-4 regular season. *Records of other great boys basketball championship GHS teams of the past are: 1932 12-2, 1942 14-1, 1955 12-3, and 2015 18-5.* 

In 1968 there were only two school divisions in the Ohio High School Athletic Association: "AA" was the larger schools and "A" was the smaller ones. This Wave team was in the *Dayton Journal Herald* rankings of the Top-10 teams for all but one week of the season in larger schools "AA" division. They scored the most points in a single game in the first game of the year, defeating St. Marys, 96-60 – a record which stood for 30 years. This team held the record for points scored in a season, best scoring average per game, and best defensive average in 13 years. They tied the '54-'55 team for most league victories, following three years which had a combined total of two league wins. They were the first team to win the Freshman tournament at that time and were the only Wave team to advance to the District tournament finals (in '67).

Their coaches were **Tom Franz** (7<sup>th</sup> grade, 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and J.V./Reserve), **John Suba** (9<sup>th</sup> grade), and **Clarence Gueth** (varsity), who won the honors of Miami Valley League Coach of the Year and All Dayton-area Coach of the Year (*Journal Herald*). Coach G. was elected to the Ohio High School Basketball Hall of Fame with more than 100 victories. Words from Coach Gueth after this successful season, "I hope that you have learned to be humble in victory, and to accept defeat without bitterness, that with determination, hard work and the help of teammates, you can do many things."

The G.W.O.C. game between the current Green Wave team and Vandalia Butler on Friday, February 2, was the setting for this long-awaited reunion. Although not many of the near full house capacity in attendance ever saw this team play, nearly all applauded and stood in honor of the team, including the Butler fans.

*Pictured here* are Mr. Gueth's copy of the 1967-68 team photo:

<u>Front row:</u> #11-Mark Stickel '68, #31-Jim Koontz '68, #51-Ron McLear '68, #53-Brad Malcolm '68, #15-Tom Gueth '68, #43-Mark Copp '68, and #23-Steve Lantz '68.

<u>Second Row:</u> Coach Tony DiRocco, #13-Mike Buchy '69, #21-Chris Palmer, #33-Dave Grooms '69, #45-Dan Sullenbarger '69, #41-John Overmyer '68, #25-Dave Shoemaker '68, #35-Tom Sackett '69, Coach Tom Franz, and Head Coach Clarence Gueth.

<u>Third Row (back)</u>: Coach **Keith Clark**, and the four Managers **Phil McGriff** '70, **Barry Enochs** '70, **Charles Zirkle** '70, and **Steve Heinrichs** '70.

<u>Pictured here from left to right:</u> this year's reunion team and a brief biography of each player:

Jim Koontz, was 1<sup>st</sup> team All-MVL in '68, was 1<sup>st</sup> team All-Dayton Area (*Journal Herald*) '68, was the team's leading scorer, lives in Greenville, graduated from Western Kentucky Univ., was a Physical Educ. Teacher at GHS for 35 years, married to Cindi Koontz, children-Mark and Jimmy, grandchildren-Addie, Lainey, Brooke, Ava, Caitlyn, and Connor. GHS Hall of Fame member. Favorite GHS memory is sports teams.

<u>Steve Lantz</u>, was 2<sup>nd</sup> team All-MVL in '68, and Honorable Mention All-Dayton Area (*Journal Herald*) '68, lives in Greenville and Puerto Rico, graduated from Wittenberg Univ., retired from owning a hotel in Puerto Rico, married to **Francia Lantz**, 2 girls-Ciara and Kirby, GHS Athletic Hall of Fame member. Favorite GHS memory is the basketball team.

<u>Mark Copp</u>, lives in Chesterton, Indiana (45 miles SE of Chicago), graduated from Ohio State Univ, has held various positions for Engineering and Construction all over United States, Saudi Arabia, and Canada, married to **Candice Copp**, children-Leslie, Derek, Dustin, Brooke, and Jeremy (*deceased*), grandchildren-4. Favorite GHS memory is Graduating.

<u>Chris Palmer</u>, lives in Greenville, graduated from Bowling Green State Univ., taught high school for 10 years, coached football and baseball, was an assistant football coach with the 1980 S.W.B.L. Champions, children-Amber, grandchildren- Sierra, Shyanne, Caitlyn, and Kaylynn. Favorite GHS memory is his Senior season in baseball.

<u>Dave Shoemaker</u>, lives in Cincinnati, graduated from Purdue, Univ., career: Aeronautical Engineer, married to **Roxie Eyler Shoemaker**, GHS 1968, Children-Destin, Adam, Ben, and Emily, grandchildren-Aiden and Owen. Favorite GHS memory is meeting his wife Roxie!

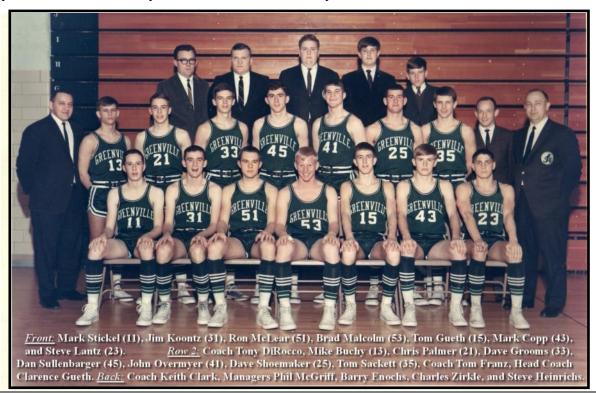
John Overmyer, lives in Lilburn, Georgia, graduated from Miami Univ. (B.A.) and Georgia State Univ. (M.S.), 16 year career in Electric Utility Industry in Environmental Affairs, 6 year career in Telecom/Broadband, Residential General Contractor for 17 years; married to Sharon Overmyer, children Ashley and David; grandchildren Amelia and Henry. Favorite GHS memory were basketball and tennis teams.

Tom Franz, 82, only coach still alive, lives in Louisville, KY, graduated from Ohio State Univ., married to Brenda, 5 children-Kathleen, Laurie, David, Lisa, and Amy, 9 grandchildren, was a teacher for 34 years: Franklin Monroe 1959-64, GHS 1964-69, Mechanicsburg 1969-93, and 6 years at a vocational school in Bellefontaine. Coach for 50 years included basketball, football, track and golf, and he retired as an assistant girls BB coach at Wittenberg Univ. under Pam Evans Smith until she died in 2006. Favorite GHS memory is his students.

<u>Dan Sullenbarger</u>, lives in Spring, Texas (outside Houston), graduated from Bowling Green State Univ, and Ohio Northern School of Law, had a 38-year career with Marathon Oil, which included 23 years as an attorney and 15 years as a Vice President in several areas; married to **Laurie Drehs Sullenbarger**, GHS '70, 3 daughters and 6 grandsons, Dan served as 1969 Class President at GHS. Favorite GHS memory is every day at GHS!

<u>Tom Gueth</u>, was Honorable Mention All-MVL '68, lives in Troy, Michigan, graduated from Ohio State (B.S.E.E.) and Northwestern Univ. M.B.A., career: Engineering/Engineering Management/ Independent Information Technology Consultant, married to **Wendy Gueth**, no children. Favorite GHS memory: Senior year first game against St. Marys with the team scoring 96 points.

<u>Dave Grooms</u>, lives in La Jolla, California (San Diego), graduated from Bowling Green State Univ. Career: retired C.E.O. of Kyocera Corporation, a partner in a Private Equity firm, and a Professor at California State University, married to **Rosemary Grooms**, 4 sons-Justin, Tyler,



Logan, and Connor, grandchildren- Ellie, Reagan, and Brya. Was 1969 Senior Class Vice President at GHS. Favorite memory is Great Basketball!

Mark Stickel, lives in Athens, Ohio, graduated from Ohio University, career was 31 years in Athens County Children Services (retired 13 years), and is presently Chaplain for the Ohio University Men's Basketball Team, married to **Jody Stickel**, 4 children, 9 grandchildren. Favorite GHS memory: too many to name just one!

<u>Dr. Ron McLear</u>, lives in Durham, North Carolina, graduated from Ohio State Univ., career: Emergency Medicine Physician at Duke Regional Hospital, children- Justin and Walker. Favorite GHS memory is playing on the Basketball Team.

<u>Mike Buchy</u>, lives in Vandalia, Ohio, graduated from Ohio Univ., career is a retired teacher and coach at Vandalia Butler, married to **Joyce Buchy**, children-Andrea, grandchildren-2 boys. Favorite GHS memory: I forget everything!

Players not able to attend:

<u>Dr. Brad Malcolm</u>, lives in Lynchburg, Virginia, Graduated from Bowling Green State Univ., and Medical School, is a Doctor of Pediatrics, was the 1968 Senior Class Treasurer and is member of the GHS Athletic Hall of Fame

**Tom Sackett**, lives in Pataskala, Ohio. Career: High School Athletic Director.

Coach Gueth's comment after the season, "It certainly has been a great pleasure to have worked with a fine group of boys, who could play defense with the best in the country. I know that I will never forget the '67-'68 team. May the years to come be good ones and bring you success in whatever you want to do."

Brad Malcolm's comments sum up why this team was so successful, "Brings back fond memories. I think any given night, anyone of us could have scored 20, but we were more interested in being a team, playing tough defense, and setting each other up."

Editor's note: This was one of the best reunions organized in recent years honoring GHS athletes, and was well planned and coordinated by Athletic Director Dusty Yingst, Jim Koontz, Tom Gueth, Alex Warner, Kyle Kagey, Steve Lantz, and Dick Brown. Thanks to all for coming.



Left to Right:
Jim Koontz
Steve Lantz
Mark Copp
Chris Palmer
Dave Shoemaker
John Overmyer
Tom Franz
Dan
Sullenbarger
Tom Gueth
Dave Grooms
Mark Stickel
Dr. Ron McLear
Mike Buchy

Not present:
Dr. Brad
Malcolm
Tom Sackett

### 2018 G.H.S. Graduation

The 144<sup>th</sup> Annual Greenville High School Commencement took place on Saturday evening, June 22, 2018, at Harmon Field. This year there were 205 graduates in the Class of 2018 and they were presented by Principal **Stan Hughes.** The Senior High School Orchestra was led by **J.R. Price**, GHS 1980, and the Vocal Music Department by **Chelsea Martin Whirledge**, GHS 2007, continuing this longstanding tradition at Graduation. 67% of this year's class is planning to attend college this coming year. Scholarships award to the seniors amounted to \$1,206,528 for next year's education. Three students were recognized as having graduated with College Credit Plus, a high school degree at the same time as receiving an Associates' Degree from Edison State Community College. They were **Landin Brown**, **Paige Burns**, and **Zachary Miller**. The ceremony was concluded with the singing of the Alma Mater, "The Green and White".

For the first time since 1992 (when **Karl "K.C." Fahrbach** and **Robert Lantz, Jr.** were co-Valedictorians), there was more than one Valedictorian. The three highest students, this year's co-Valedictorians, also won all the four major Senior awards. All three were involved in many extra-curricular activities -- too many to mention here. They are pictured at Commencement and profiled here.

William "Will" Coomer won the Eugene Phelps Citizenship Award, and was one of the three Valedictorians with a GPA of 4.2. He was Reporter for the Senior Class and was V.P. of Student Council. He will attend High Point University (N.C.) to study abroad and major in International Business and Spanish. He is the son of Jonathan Coomer and Ami Franz Coomer, and grandson of Sally and Dan Franz, a basketball star at F.M. '67 and retired local businessman.

Hayley Maher was also co-Valedictorian, GPA=4.2, and won the Elizabeth Hill Citizenship Award, with GPA = 4.2. She was a Cross Country and Track Regional qualifier, and will attend the University of Mount Union (Alliance, Ohio) and major in Exercise Science. She is a third generation GHS Alum, with her parents being Gene Maher III, GHS 1987, and Amy Barga Maher, GHS 1990. Her grandfather is Gene Maher II, GHS 1959, and great grandfather was Gene Maher I, one of the original Maher family who founded the Maid-Rite.

Landin Brown is the third co-Valedictorian with a GPA of 4.2. He won two of the Senior major awards, the Kathryn Griner Academic Award, and the new Paul Warner Principal's Leadership award. He was President of the Senior Class and Student Council. He is the son of Mart Brown, GHS 1988, and Kathy Cloyd Brown, GHS 1982. Landin will attend Indiana Wesleyan University and major in Graphic Design, Honors Humanities, and Pre-Engineering.



The 3 Valedictorians
Will Coomer, Hayley Maher
and Landin Brown



# **Harmon Field Ribbon Cutting**

The first home football game of the year, Aug. 25, 2017, against Eaton was the setting of the ribbon cutting for the long-awaited first phase of the Harmon Field football field project. Those donors were invited to the sidelines and recognized for their gifts during the pre-game ceremony. The persons chosen to actually cut the ribbon were long time school employees **Kyle Kagey**, GHS '69, and his wife **Ginny Dohse Kagey**, GHS '71.

"It is very exciting to me to see the project come together, coming from the vision of **Matt Light**, GHS '96, and **Jon McGreevey**, GHS '96 over three years ago," said committee member **Dave Ernst.**"Personally, I have been asked why do we need this project, I answer very quickly, 'because the kids and the community deserve it'. It is time to honor the past, but prepare for the future. We are only half way complete. Help us get to the finish line."

Over 135 corporate, organizational, individual, and turf donors have supported this multi-million dollar project so far, and are listed on the **Friends of Harmon Field.com** website. The major contributors listed as of March, 2018 are the Jennings Family (\$800,000), and a Grant from the State of Ohio (\$250,000), along with significant donations from Second National Bank, Greenville Federal Bank, Greenville National Bank, the Brown Family Foundation, and the Greenville High School Athletic Boosters. The other donors range from \$1 to \$50,000. New donors continue to contribute to this worthwhile project on a scale we have never seen in Greenville before.

After the synthetic turf installation, more phases are yet to come. New stadium seating, new locker rooms and field house, restrooms and concessions, lighting, expanded parking will be some of the future improvements to be accomplished. Estimates for future improvements are \$1,000,000 for bleachers at the old stadium, and \$2,000,000 for the fieldhouse/ concessions/ restrooms building. Funding is still being sought for this worthwhile, long-range project. See the F.of.H.F. website mentioned above.



Ribbon Cutting Aug. 25, 2017

New construction continuing
On the Track Stadium

All GHS athletes surround the Greenie at 50-yard line from this drone photo





### End of an Era, 1967-2018

It would be hard to imagine a family that had their children and grandchildren attending the Greenville City Schools for over 50 consecutive years. This has happened and has come to an end. The family of **John Pequignot**, GHS 1945, and **Alma Simons Pequignot**, had 8 children and 19 grandchildren, <u>ALL</u> of whom graduated from G.H.S.

After attending St. Mary's Catholic Elementary School, **Becky**, GHS 1970, was the first to attend G.H.S beginning in 1967. From that time on the Pequignot family has had a member attending school here every year. Only 8 years of those 50+ years has there been no family members in High School.

The first generation of children and their GHS graduation years are: **Becky Pequignot Empie**, '70, **Jeanie Pequignot Hawley**, '71, **John Pequignot**, '73, **Jack Pequignot**, '74, **Jeff Pequignot**, '74, **Rachel Pequignot Jones**, '77, **Rhonda Pequignot Dorsten**, '81, and **Kay Pequignot Davis**, '87.

The next generation of grandchildren and GHS graduation years, started with **Bob Hawley**, '97, and continued until 2018. Then **Dan Hawley**, '01, **Jennifer Pequignot**, '04 (Jack's), **Mallory Pequignot**, '05 (Jack's), **Tiffany Hawley**, '06, **Molly Jones**, '06, **Emily Pequignot**, '06 (Jeff's), **Stephanie Jones**, '08, **Joe Pequignot**, '08 (Jack's), **Jake Pequignot**, '08 (Jeff's), **Sam Dorsten**, '08, **Gabe Dorsten**, '09, **Jason Jones**, '10, **Amy Pequignot**, '10 (Jeff's), **John Pequignot**, '10 (Jack's), **Jessica "Jessie" Dorsten**, '12, **Aaron Jones**, '13, **Taylor Davis**, '13, and **Alexa Davis**, '18. Becky and John did not have any biological children.

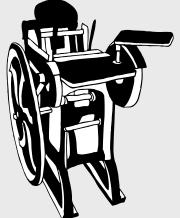
The next generation of great grandchildren will not be much of a factor in the future Greenville schools. Bob has 3 children, Emily 1, Joe 1, and Mallory 1, who do not live in Greenville and will not be GHS students. The only next generation Pequignot who still lives in Greenville is John, '10, who is married to **Megan Hilderbrand Pequignot**, '11, and who are expecting their first child in Dec., 2018.

Photo here is the original 8 Pequignot children taken in the early 1970's:

Front Row: Jack (born 1956), Johnny (born 1955), Kay (born 1969), Becky (born 1952), and Jeanie (born 1953). Back Row: Jeff (born 1956), Rachel (born 1959), and Rhonda (born 1963).



The GHS **AlumNews** is published twice a year by the GHS Alumni Association 100 Green Wave Way, Greenville, Ohio 45331



This newsletter Printed by:

Rapid Printing And Supply,

(Bob Claudy, GHS '71)

142 W. Fourth St.,

Greenville, Ohio

## An Ode to Halls of Fames and Other Diversions

By Buzz Blanchard, GHS 1952

In August 1947 my older sister **Loretta Blanchard Allen**, GHS 1943, was married, and I was just a 13 year old kid. After the wedding, I was invited by my Aunt and Uncle for a weeklong visit at their home near Canton, Ohio. My older cousin Donna Jean was the best friend of my sister **Helen Louise Blanchard Yake**, GHS 1949, but she couldn't go to Canton because she was working at the newly opened Hemer's Dairy Store as a waitress. I actually don't know if this is true, but I think my parents wanted to get me out from under foot while our contractor **Herb Baird**, GHS 1931, was beginning to remodel our kitchen at the house we lived at on Ash Street. My older brother **Ronald Blanchard**, GHS 1945, was attending Ohio State on the G.I. bill. Of course, my younger brother **Dr. Dennis Blanchard**, GHS 1959, was too young and couldn't leave his Mother. My Aunt Dorothy and Uncle Jack lived in Geno, Ohio, which was between Canton and Massillon, and Donna Jean was starting her Senior year at Massillon Washington High School. My Grandmother lived just down the road so I could visit her, too.

On the first day at their home, I found out that since my Aunt and Uncle worked in Canton, I would have to go with my cousin to her high school band practice every morning. My cousin Donna Jean (who I will now refer as DJ), was a percussionist in the concert band (playing the marimba) and in the marching band where she was a majorette and played the glockenspiel. Since they had only one car, they had bought a motor scooter (a Vespa) so DJ could get to the band practices. The week I was there was their version of a band camp! So, every morning after breakfast, DJ would fire up the Vespa and we would roar off in a cloud of smoke with me on the back seat holding on to DJ's waist for dear life! It was the most exhilarating, thrilling, and terrifying ride of my life. It was like playing dodgem balls on wheels, and DJ had a lead foot. In fact, we were literally playing tag with cars, trucks and a street car or two. This was quite a bit nerve wracking. When we arrived at band practice, I was flustered. After that, I was plain bored. We did manage to have a sandwich for lunch. Once practice was over, we would stop for a snack and I found out that their favorite snack was a hunk of swiss cheese and a huge dill pickle – a bite of one, then a bite of the other. During the week some of the senior boys thought that hazing was appropriate for the freshmen band members, and they decided to eat the sack lunches that the freshmen had brought. Not a good idea, and the band director applied a lot of discipline and nobody was happy. I will have to hand it to the band when they marched and went into their fight song, "Hold That Tiger" (they were the Massillon Tiger Marching Band), the place really rocked. The tuba players really made their horns roar on cue. By the end of the week, I was homesick and ready to go home.

My return trip was to be a bit different. Another Aunt and Uncle (Ruth and Kenny) came to Canton to see my Grandma Shawbill, and they gave me a ride to Columbus, where I would see my sister and her new husband and then take the train to Greenville with them. By the time we got to Columbus, I convinced Aunt Ruth to just put me on the train for home. Ruth did that and bought the train ticket and, after a lunch of a tomato sandwich, I was on the train and much later arrived at the Pennsylvania Railroad station on Front Street in Greenville. So I just picked up my suitcase and walked home to surprise my Mother.

Here is the whole point. DJ graduated from Massillon High School in 1948, and, since she wasn't going to go to college, she was recruited to join **George Bird's Marching Majorettes Band.** The criteria to be a member of this band were: 1. A very attractive female, and DJ was a looker with bright coppery-red hair, 2. An experienced majorette familiar with precision marching, 3. A good musician and she had that nailed! The Marching Majorettes put on the halftime shows for all of the Cleveland Browns home football games. They also acted as ambassadors for the Browns and supposedly toured all of the 88 county fairs in Ohio, and put on shows in front of the grandstands. I believe they even made an appearance at the Great Darke County Fair. This was before pro football had cheerleaders. Before the skeptics in the crowd snicker about the Cleveland Browns, this was in a time period when the Browns were in the AFL League and were a dominant team with such star players as **Otto Graham, Marion Motley, Lou "The Toe" Groza**, and **Dante Lavelli**. Most recently the members of the Marching Majorettes were inducted into the Professional Football Hall of Fame in Canton.

There is a picture of a group of 20 of these ladies in front of the Hall of Fame with Hall of Famer Lou Groza. You can read more about the Musical Majorettes and see a photo of them 50 years later, at: reminisce.com/majorettes

Now, I have an excellent trivia question, "My cousin was inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame in Canton, and what did my cousin play? Of course, the answer is "the glockenspiel".

Another story of a close encounter with a Hall of Famer was in 1948 when I began my paper route in Green-ville for the Dayton Daily News. One of my customers on West Main Street was the Swank residence. The Swank family had two daughters near my age, **Norma Swank Macci Unland**, GHS 1948, and **Joanne Swank Lear**, GHS 1954. While collecting for the paper, Norma paid me! Guess what? Norma married **Sante Macci**, GHS 1927. Their son **Rick Macci**, GHS 1973, was just recently inducted into the Pro Tennis Hall of Fame (written up in the last Newsletter). Hey, I didn't say that this was that close. Give me break!!

Pictures here are: the Marching Majorettes in 1948 on the Cleveland Browns Municipal Stadium grassed turf; the Marching Majorettes Band playing at a concert; and the time of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of when they played, and when the group was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1998—with Lou Groza on the left. DJ is in the back row, center right, with the light-colored hair.



The Marching Majorettes Band



The Marching Majorettes in 1948



The Marching Majorettes on their 50th Anniversary in 1998, at the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, with Lou "The Toe" Groza.

# Johnny's Boys By Greg Gerlach

Greg Gerlach is a 1969 graduate of Greenville High School. He and his wife Judy McCoy Gerlach ('70) live in Lexington, Kentucky.

It was the end of a great day of golf at the upscale country club in Columbus, Ohio. As I entered the men's locker room, members were taking their showers, getting ready for an evening of dinner and dancing with their wives. One dripping wet middle-aged man with a towel wrapped around his waist walked up to me and said, "Are you one of Johnny's boys?"

"Why yes I am", I said.

"Great!" the man replied. "We've heard all about you kids and we're looking forward to hearing you play tonight."

Then another man walked by and said, "Good afternoon, Governor." I couldn't believe it. Here I was, a high school kid, talking to the half-naked governor of Ohio, all because I was a member of the Johnny McCoy Orchestra. I was a teenage professional musician playing for the high society of Columbus. How did this happen?

It all began in 1961 when John McCoy moved his family to Greenville after being hired as the new junior high band director. He had formed the Johnny McCoy Orchestra in the Ironton, Ohio, area years before but now he needed to recruit new members in west central Ohio. He found some good professional musicians but came up short. So he hired a couple of high school students, his son Ken McCoy ('64) on trumpet and Bill Light ('64) on bass.

Bill played four years with John's band and says John was his musical mentor. Bill then went on to tour with the Si Zentner band for a couple of years, no doubt thanks to John's personal recommendation to Zentner.

One of John's protégé's was trumpeter Steve Blocher ('68) whom John hired when Steve also was still in high school. Steve wanted to lead a band of his own so he asked John if he could borrow his dance band book and play some gigs using high school students. I was lucky to be among those chosen to play in Steve's band. We were known as The Octet and we performed at civic luncheons in the Greenville area. John was pleasantly surprised at how good The Octet was and it got him thinking. What if he filled his entire band with young musicians? After all, it would be easier to schedule rehearsals and gigs with musicians who didn't have families and day jobs. Plus, being the extraordinary teacher he was, John could teach us how to play his style of music on the job.

And so the musical adventure began. The Johnny McCoy Orchestra could well have been renamed "Johnny's Boys". We played night clubs and country clubs in the Dayton area along with sojourns to Columbus and Indianapolis. We were living the high life, hobnobbing with the movers and shakers.

The Johnny McCoy Orchestra library contained a wide range of genres. We would play jazz standards by the likes of Duke Ellington but also the popular music of the day, including Beatles tunes. John wrote nearly all of the arrangements himself but his son Ken contributed some as well. John taught me how to arrange music and paid me to write arrangements for his band. It was known in the music business as a little big band: 2 trumpets, 3 saxes, 1 trombone plus guitar, bass and drums.

Most of the gigs began at 9:00 pm and ended around 1:00-2:00 in the morning. John drove a station wagon loaded up with his music library and other equipment; the rest of us packed into a couple of our own cars. Quite often, we wouldn't get back into Greenville until four or five o'clock in the morning. Sometimes we'd go straight to Wagner's bakery in the wee hours to eat doughnuts fresh out of the deep fryer.

But the best part was the pay. We were making about \$35-\$45 a night. So if we worked both Friday & Saturday night, we'd pull in \$70-\$90 a weekend. Sometimes we'd make up to \$75 a night for special events such as



JOHN E. McCOY Instrumental Music Marching Band A.B. Music Ed. Marshall University Graduate Work Marshall University

News Year's Eve. By today's standards that doesn't seem like much but back then, the minimum wage was \$1.60 an hour so making up to a hundred bucks in one weekend sure beat flipping burgers.

Trombonist Jeff Hufnagle ('74) saved enough money from gigs to pay his way through the first two years of his college

education. Jeff went on to make a career out of music and became one of the best known jazz pianists in the Dayton/Cincinnati area. He also became a popular piano teacher.

John McCoy was a strict disciplinarian who demanded our best whether it was in the band room or the ballroom. If you made a bad musical mistake or did something stupid, he could stare you down with his piercing blue eyes before sternly scolding you. In short, he could be a very intimidating man. Saxophonist Vince Pressly ('73) remembers John McCoy's discipline. While playing a fundraiser hosted by WHIO's Gil Whitney, Vince was late getting back to the bandstand after a break. Vince says, "Johnny turned towards me while playing and totally engulfed my head with the sound of his trumpet. I heard nothing but that trumpet totally chewing my butt out as he played. I was never late again."



### **Steve Blocher and The Octet**

Front row (L-R): Steve Blocher ('68), Mike Westfall ('70), Roger Dismore ('68), Greg Gerlach ('69), Dave Keller ('69), Dave Brant ('69).

Back row (L-R): Bill Combs ('69), Dennis Koch ('70), Dan Byram ('70).

Drummer Bill "Woody" Combs ('69) knew at the time it was a rare opportunity as a high school student. He says, "John McCoy could not have been a better leader in establishing a level of professionalism that carries my attitude to the present day." Bill has been a long-time drummer in the Dayton area.

Guitarist Doug Coppess ('76) says playing in John McCoy's band was one of the most educational and rewarding experiences of his life. He learned a lot about chord voicing, harmonic structure, and voice leading as the result of John's mentoring. Doug says, "With each passing year, I appreciate even more the patience and understanding that John exhibited while working with the young developing musicians in his band."

Wayne Schultz ('67) says he had been playing his drum set for only two years when John McCoy hired him to play in his dance band. But Wayne learned quickly and he says the Johnny McCoy Orchestra was the best band he ever played in. He remembers playing in three Dayton area venues: The Scotch Club, Green Derby and the Forest Park ballroom.

Bassist Jon Johnson ('75) says when he was with John's band, they played the Black Knight and Tropicana nightclubs.

Saxophonist Larry Blocher ('71) subbed in the Johnny McCoy Orchestra and credits John McCoy as being an important influence in his life. Larry has been a long-time music educator at the college level and is currently the Director of the School of Music at Troy University.

Bassist Bill Ely ('68) used the Johnny McCoy Orchestra as a stepping stone to an entire career in music. Bill has been a long-time professional musician in the Dayton area.

Teresa Ross Falkenstein ('76) says singing with John's band while still in high school was an important stepping stone for advancing her career as a professional singer.

JR Price ('80) never played in the Johnny McCoy Orchestra but had John McCoy as a teacher in elementary school beginning band. JR is now the Greenville HS orchestra director and director of the Greenville Municipal Band.

John McCoy exposed us to a lot of great musicians. He was able to get jazz legend Stan Kenton to come to Greenville for a concert where we played some of his famous arrangements. Kenton was duly impressed with what he heard. In subsequent years, John McCoy scheduled other guest artists including jazz trumpeter Clark Terry & trombonist Kai Winding. Greenville had become the jazz capital of west central Ohio.

Playing with the Johnny McCoy Orchestra whetted our appetites to pursue music as a career. In the fall of 1968, three GHS grads enrolled in the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. The three musicians were trumpeter Steve Blocher ('68), saxophonist Roger Dismore ('68) and drummer Wayne Schultz ('67). North Texas had a world-class music program but the main attraction for the Greenville grads was the jazz program that featured ten student big bands called lab bands. Many aspiring musicians from all around the nation enrolled in North Texas and auditioned to play in the lab bands. The competition was fierce. Both Steve & Roger worked their way up the ladder to perform in the prestigious One O'clock Lab Band which featured the very best students.

After graduating from North Texas, Roger has been working as a professional musician in the Dallas area, performing with the likes of James Taylor, Tony Bennett, Harry Connick Jr. and Trisha Yearwood just to name a few. Roger also became a college music professor.



**Stan Kenton and John McCoy** 

Big Band legend Stan Kenton and John McCoy in Memorial Hall lobby just before concert in April, 1969.

After his graduation from North Texas, Steve Blocher became a professional musician but a discouraging stint in Las Vegas convinced him that a career in music was not for him. He returned to Greenville and became successful in the construction business.

In the fall of 1969, a second wave of Greenville grads enrolled at North Texas. That group included trumpeter Ken McCoy ('64), trombonist Ted Jockel ('66), French hornist Maury Rhynard ('69) and me, saxophonist Greg Gerlach ('69). Most of us enrolled at North Texas without visiting the campus first. That's

how certain we were that North Texas would be a great place to learn music. Maury and I drove down to Texas and ended up rooming together our freshman year.

After working himself up into the One O'clock Lab Band, Ken McCoy graduated from North Texas, taught band in Greenville & Versailles before accepting an arranging position with the U.S. Army Field Band. After retiring from the Army, Ken arranged music for the Ohio State Marching Band.

Maury Rhynard graduated from North Texas and pursued a successful career in music both as a college professor and a musician. He credits the sight-reading skills he acquired at North Texas with his success as a professional musician.

After North Texas, I became an instrumental music teacher in the Ansonia school system. After a decade of rewarding teaching, I switched careers and became a TV



## **Clark Terry Concert (1971)**

Renowned jazz trumpeter Clark Terry performing on the Memorial Hall stage. John McCoy is on the right playing electric piano.

news anchor/reporter. Eventually, I started my own video & film production company. But the strive for excellence & professionalism I learned at North Texas has played a big role in my life.

All in all, a total of 19 Greenville grads attended the University of North Texas during that time period. Although all went down to North Texas for music, many ended up pursuing other careers. At least four of these GHS grads decided to make Texas their permanent home.

Bassist Jerry Winkler ('73) says John McCoy and orchestra director Stan Linder inspired him to make music a part of his life. Jerry ended up getting a journalism degree from North Texas. He says he became a newspaper gypsy on staff at daily newspapers around Texas for five years until he landed in Corpus Christi. Today he lives in San Antonia and still dabbles in music.

Saxophonist Neil Cerny ('71) says the education he received at North Texas gave him the basis to be successful in the oil and gas industry, a career he pursued for 36 years. Studying music taught him focus and helped with his math skills.

Drummer David Cromwell ('73) received a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and a Masters in Information Systems. He lives in Dallas and continues playing drums/percussion with the band "Connections" led by several United Methodist ministers supporting United Methodist Committee on Relief. David says the mentorship of John McCoy and following fellow Greenville grads to Texas led to a degree from UNT and a very successful career in business.

After attending North Texas, saxophonist Ritchie Sizemore ('74) joined a band and played gigs in Texas. Then he returned to Ohio for another stint with the Johnny McCoy Orchestra. Ritchie once played a concert with The Dells and The Ojays. He now lives in McKinney, Texas.

It's truly amazing how John McCoy inspired so many musicians to make music an important part of their lives, including hundreds of his students who never played in his dance band.

John McCoy passed away in 2007. Sadly, many of his gifted student sidemen have passed away as well. Musicians such as trombonist Dave Brant ('69), saxophonist Dave Keller ('69), percussionist Steve Brown ('73), drummer Chip Thomas ('74), drummer Greg Baldschun ('75), trumpeter Mark Boltin ('77), trumpeter Steve Blocher ('68), and John's son Ken ('64) who passed away earlier this year.

Who knows, perhaps John McCoy is getting his band back together up in Heaven. If so, you can bet it's well-rehearsed and perfectly in tune. That's the only way Johnny's Boys know how to play.



#### Johnny McCoy Orchestra (1974)

Standing (L-R): John McCoy, Terry Reigelsperger, Jeff Hufnagle ('74), Steve Brown ('73), David Cromwell ('73), and Jerry Winkler ('73).

Seated (L-R): Bill Emerick, Dennis Dean, Greg Gerlach ('69), and Vince Pressley ('73).

#### **GHS OBITUARIES -- 2017**

#### Help keep us informed about recent events

Many of the obituaries published in the papers or by the funeral homes have biographies, relatives listed, and pictures of the decedent. We are listing the websites of the funeral homes which can provide this data to the public who asks. The sites listed have obituaries or archived obituaries on which you can click. Over 90% of the listed entries have website accessibility. Some of the older obits may be timed out or dropped, and may not still be there. If you cannot reach one of the ones by website, and would like a copy of a specific obituary we have listed, please let the Alumni Association know. We will send you a copy electronically or by mail of documentation that we have.

We have decided to go beyond the GHS graduates, and include those we can verify or remember attending GHS, even if that person did not graduate. He/she attended GHS in earlier years and is listed with the class with which that person would have graduated if he/she had stayed through commencement.

Our listings are arranged with oldest GHS alums listed first, his/her age at death, member of which class year, date of death, place of most recent residence, and the website where more information can be obtained. To find a deceased, you may use a search engine, like Google, and type in "person's name, the word > obituary, year, state, etc." This list is far from complete, using just the data we had access to, or could find.

Many funeral homes have websites with the written obituaries and some have pictures of the decedent. If you go to these websites, click on obituaries and find your person of interest by name or by date. The .com address next to each person's name will tell you which websites to go to.

TYPE IN THE WEB ADDRESS AND CLICK ON "OBITUARIES".

#### GHS OBITUARIES for 2017 (from oldest class):

```
Rev. John J. Seeley, 88 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                           1947 d. Aug. 19, Greenville, OH
Jack Arden Clark, 88 (SnyderFuneralHomes.com)
                                                           1947 d. July 1, Delaware, OH
Raymond Edward "Lefty" Westfall, 91 (ZecharBailey,com)
                                                           1947 d. May 26, Greenville, OH
Wanda Lee Prasuhn Rismiller, 87 (Zechar Bailey.com)
                                                           1947 d. Feb. 25, Greenville, OH
Howard Cull Patton, Jr., 88 (NewcomerDayton.com)
                                                           1947 d. Dec. 28, Fairborn, OH
Mary Ellen Yoder Byers, 86 (gsbFuneralHome.com)
                                                           1948 d. Apr. 14, Eaton, OH
Robert Kaye "Bob" Forney, 86 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                           1948 d. Aug. 5, Greenville, OH
Joanna Lee Weaver Hugo Swisher, 86 (CraigFlaglerPalms.com) 1948 d. May 6, Ormond Beach, FL
Glenn P. Showalter, 79 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1948 d. Aug. 21, 2009, Greenville, OH
Donna Ross Canan, 85 (VernonFH.com)
                                                          1949 d. Jan. 23, Urbana, OH
Mary Margaret Murphy, 84 (legacy.com)
                                                          1949 d. Oct. 18, 2016, Fresno, CA
Janice Rismiller Crumrine, 86 (legacy.com)
                                                          1949 d. June 22, West Chester, OH
Jack Lee Sharp, 85 (OliverFloyd.com)
                                                          1949 d. June 16, Greenville, OH
Dick L. Canan, 87 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1949 d. Dec. 22, Greenville, OH
Barbara Bowman Gibson Williams, 84 (OliverFloyd.com)
                                                          1950 d. Feb. 7, Greenville, OH
Robert C. "Bob" Murphy, 85 (OliverFloyd.com)
                                                          1951 d. June 7, Greenville, OH
James E. Hufnagle, 85 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                         1951 d. Dec. 14, Bowling Green, KY
Lora Jane Caupp Landis, 85 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1951 d. Sept. 26, Greenville, OH
Arlene Skidmore Runner, 84 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1951 d. May 30, New Madison, OH
William James "Bill" Miller, 84 (obits. Dignity Memorial. com) 1951 d. Dec. 9, New Bern, NC
Dr. William Jay "Bill" Carder, 80 (NewcomerFamily.com)*
                                                                d. June 22, 2015, Aurora, CO
    * Mr. Carder taught English and Social Studies at GHS 1960-64; graduated from HS in W.Va.
Thomas Michael "Mike" Randall, 83 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1952 d. Nov. 20, Greenville, OH
Marjorie L. Sharp Strait, 82 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1953 d. Feb. 13, Greenville, OH
Jane E. Holzapfel Deardourff, 82 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1953 d. Mar. 14, Greenville, OH
Richard D. Wion, 82 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1953 d. Oct. 18, Greenville, OH
Robert Louis "Bob" Marchal, 81 (EarlyBirdPaper.com)
                                                          1954 d. Jan. 30, Greenville, OH
Peggy Lou Mullenix Goubeaux, 81 (OliverFloyd.com)
                                                          1954 d. June 12, Greenville, OH
Elizabeth "Betty" Mills Burkholder, 81 (ZecharBailey.com)**---- d. Mar.20, Columbus, OH
  **Betty was a Special Education teacher in elementary, from 1986 -?; not GHS graduate
Robert Lee "Bob" Longenecker, 81 (OliverFloyd.com)
                                                          1954 d. Sept. 30, Ansonia, OH
Janet Larea Pence Headley, 79 (ZecharBailey.com).....
                                                       ....1955 d. Jan. 30, Greenville, OH
Anne Longfellow Lloyd, 80 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1955 d. May 23, Greenville, OH
Rev. Richard Ray Shockney, 78 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                         1956 d. Aug. 14, Greenville, OH
Donald William "Bill" Funderburg, 78 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                         1956 d. May 8, Greenville, OH
Travis Dudley Nixon, 78 (obits.DignityMemorial.com)
                                                          1956 d. Jan. 21, Livonia, MI
Alden Ernest Hittle, 80 (ZecharBailey.com)
                                                          1956 d. Sept. 10, Dayton, OH
James Richard "Jim" Snyder, Sr., 79 (NewcomerDayton.com) 1956 d. Sept. 18, Huber Heights, OH
Charles M. Musselman, 80 (Zechar-Bailey.com)
                                                          1956 d. May 23, Ansonia, OH
```

. 490		
GHS Alumnus or Student, Age at Death(www.websi		
Charles M. Musselman, 80 (Zechar-Bailey.com)	1956 d. May 23, Ansonia, OH	
Billy Wayne Subler, 79 (KindredFuneralHome.com)	1956 d. Sept. 15, Englewood, OH	
Brenda L. Reed Spurlock, 79 (ZecharBailey.com)	1956 d. Nov. 23, Greenville, OH	
Marvin R. Byers, 80 (EarlyBirdPaper.com)	1957 d. Nov. 28, Greenville, OH	
Emerson Wayne Arnett, 78 (OliverFloyd.com)	1957 d. Aug. 12, Greenville, OH	
Edward Lee Blinn, 77 (ZecharBailey.com)	1958 d. Dec. 11, Greenville, OH	
Marilyn Lynn Canan House, 78 (OliverFloyd.com)	1958 d. Dec. 11, Greenville, OH	
Jack L. Arnett, Sr., 76 (ZecharBailey.com)	1959 d. Mar. 11, Greenville, OH	
Shirley Ann Matthews Aldridge Snyder Hoff, 75 (Zechar.Bailey.com) 1959 d.Mar.9, Woodbridge,VA		
Elsie Mae Malinas Delaplane, 76 (ZecharBailey.com)	1959 d. Nov. 14, Greenville, OH	
Craig Edmund Plessinger, 73 (MorelandFuneralHome.com)	1961 d. Jan. 18, Westerville, OH	
Keith Leon Caupp, 72 (KindredFuneralHome.com)	1962 d. Mar. 13, Dayton, OH	
Warren Emerson Bowman, 71 (Rabenhorst.com)	1962 d. July 14, 2015, Baton Rouge,LA	
Linda Elaine Swank Deeter, 72 (ZecharBailey.com)	1963 d. Jan. 31, Greenville, OH	
Mary Ann Reed, 72 (OliverFloyd.com)	1963 d. Jan. 7, Greenville, OH	
Myron Dain "Cork" Sharp, 72 (OliverFloyd.com)	1963 d. Oct. 10, Greenville, OH	
Tonia Lynn "Toni" Van Dyke Edwards, 70 (OliverFloyd.com	u) 1964 d. Jan. 11, Greenville, OH	
Sharon Jill Jasenski Overbay. 71 (ZecharBailey.com)	1964 d. Dec. 19, Wayne Lakes, OH	
Barbara Faye Amburgey, 70 (NorthcuttAnd Son.com)	1964 d. Jan. 24, Clearfield, KY	
Robert Eugene Johnson, 70 (ZecharBailey.com)	1965 d. Apr. 28, Eaton, OH	
John Louis Klipstine, 70 (OliverFloyd.com)***	1965 d. Dec. 15, Ansonia, OH	
***John was a teacher at Gettysburg school for 6 years; not a	g GHS graduate	
Bonnie Lou Shiverdecker Shields, 68 (OliverFloyd.com)	1966 d. May 29, Greenville, OH	
Jack Berner Hufnagle, 69 (ReichardFH.com)	1966 d. June 16, Union City, IN	
Ronnie K. Gilbert, 69 (ZecharBailey.com)	1966 d. Sept. 1, Greenville, OH	
Linda K. Hogue McGuire, 70 (ZecharBailey.com)	1966 d. Nov. 25, Greenville, OH	
Evalyn Jane Johnson Baker, 67 (Legacy.com)	1967 d. Jan. 28, Durham, NC	
Cindy Bryer Farrell, 68 (ZecharBailey.com)^	d. Sept. 20, Wayne Lakes, OH	
^Cindy was employed by Greenville Schools as a bus driver	not a GHS graduate	
Stephen H. Blocher, 67 (ZecharBailey.com)	1968 d. May 7, Greenville, OH	
Roger Alan Flory, 67 (ZecharBailey.com)	1968 d. Sept. 4, Greenville, OH	
James P. Marshall, 66 (ZecharBailey.com)	1968 d. May 25, New Madison, OH	
Michael Curtis Anderson, 67 (ZecharBailey.com)	1968 d. Oct. 24, Greenville, OH	
Laverne "Al" Hofacker, 67 (ZecharBailey.com)	1968 d. Oct. 29, Hollansburg, OH	
Linda Sue Riegle Bright Zumbrun, 67 (OliverFloyd.com)	1968 d. Dec. 22, Greenville, OH	
Pamela Jo Wade, 66 (Legacy.com)	1969 d. July 24, Delphos, OH	
Melissa F. Engelken Cremeans, 66 (ZecharBailey.com)	1969 d. Jan. 15, Greenville, OH	
Rose Mary Goodpaster Wetzel, (ZecharBailey.com)	1970 d. Mar. 30, Greenville, OH	
James Duane Henry, 65 (ZecharBailey.com)	1970 d. Feb. 24, Greenville, OH	
Harold William "Bill" Worthen, 66 (ZecharBailey.com)	1970 d. July 30, Algonac, MI	
Timothy Edward "Tim" Stauffer, 65 (The Adams Funeral Home.com) 1970 d. Nov.14, Sidney, OH		
Terri Lynn Demorest Martin, 63 (ZecharBailey.com)	1971 d. Jan. 25, Rossburg, OH	

Carl John Hoeflich, 63 (StockerFraley.com)	1972 d. Sept. 30, Bradford, OH	
Robert J. "Joe" Best, 63 (OliverFloyd.com)	1973 d. Nov. 1, Greenville, OH	
Larry Charles Rapier, 62 (ZecharBailey.com)	1973 d. Aug. 1, Greenville, OH	
Cheryl Lynn Braun Lipps, 61 (ZecharBailey.com)	1973 d. May 20, Greenville, OH	
Steve Allen Brown, 62 (EarlyBirdPaper.com)	1973 d. Oct. 21, Port Orange, FL	
Barbara Elliott Potter, 64 (OliverFloyd.com)	1973 d. Nov. 27, Greenville, OH	
Donald D. Weaver, 63 (OliverFloyd.com)	1974 d. June 5, Greenville, OH	
Jerry Lee Tinkham, 61 (ZecharBailey.com)	1974 d. June 3, Greenville, OH	
James Lancaster Fox, 58 (ZecharBailey.com)	1976 d. Feb. 4, Wayne Lakes, OH	
David Andrew Burke, 59 (ZecharBailey.com)	1976 d. Jan. 29, Greenville, OH	
Kent Duane Miller, 59	1976 d. Mar. 14, Crestview Hills, KY	
Mark William Boltin, 57 (Weil.mem.com)	1977 d. Mar. 20, Cincinnati, OH	
Kenneth Allen Bolin, 58 (ZecharBailey.com)	1977 d. Nov. 1, Greenville, OH	
Tammie Lee Gilmore, 60 (ZecharBailey.com)	1977 d. Dec. 30, Piqua, OH	
Timothy Patrick Fornshil, 57 (OliverFloyd.com)	1978 d. Mar. 18, Greenville, OH	
Jane Ann Rogers Boone Smith, 58 (ZecharBailey.com)	1978 d. Oct. 6, Greenville, OH	
Pamela Kay Hollinger Boner, 58 (KreitzerFuneralHome.com		
Rebecca Maureen "Becky" Grice Dyer, 56 (ZecharBailey.com) 1979 d. Apr. 13, Greenville, OH		
Tamara Lynn Miller Fisher, 54 (ZecharBailey.com^^)	d. Feb. 4, Greenville, OH	
^^Tammy taught 20 years at Greenville City Schools; gradi		
Jeffery Lee Eubank, 53 (EarlyBirdPaper.com)	1982 d. Aug. 22, Columbus, OH	
Gavin G. Gibbons, 52	1983 d. Nov. 6, Greenville, OH	
Linda Rose Goehrich Boltin, 52 (ZecharBailey.com)	1983 d. June 6, Greenville, OH	
Linda Sue Pierron Malott, 52 (ZecharBailey.com)	1983 d. Aug. 7, Greenville, OH	
Mike Lee Buschur, 52 (ZecharBailey.com)	1983 d. Nov.22, Greenville, OH	
Mark Leon Sides, 52 (ZecharBailey.com)	1984 d. June 22, Greenville, OH	
Gina Michele Rose, 50	1985 d. Mar. 4, Woodbridge, VA	
Tracy Lynn Royer Baerwald, 50 (ZecharBailey.com)	1985 d. Apr. 15, Greenville, OH	
Michael David Wilson, 48 (ZecharBailey.com)	1987 d. Mar. 13, Bellefontaine, OH	
Benjamin Todd Cook, 44	1990 d. May 22, Cincinnati, OH	
Christopher Lee Rogers, 40 (ZecharBailey.com)	1994 d. Feb. 6, Greenville, OH	
Lisa Marie Calvert Stahl, 37 (ZecharBailey.com)	1997 d. Jan. 9, Greenville, OH	
Tracy Lynn Shiverdecker Bailey, 36 (ZecharBailey.com)	1999 d. June 27, Greenville, OH	
Travis Lee Foutz, 35 (ZecharBailey.com)	2000 d. May 23, Bend, OR	
Brian Scott Peters, 34 (OliverFloyd.com)	2001 d. Feb. 9, Greenville, OH	
Mathew R. Addis, 32 (ZecharBailey.com)	2003 d. July 1, Greenville, OH	
Sara Ashley "Sara Bear" Fletcher, 29 (ZecharBailey.com)	2006 d. Apr. 13, Greenville, OH	
Nicole Marie Lachat, 31 (OliverFloyd.com)	2006 d. Mar 7, Greenville, OH	
Steven Marshall Dakin, 26 (OliverFloyd.com)	2009 d. June 1, Ansonia, OH	
Erica Nicole Neff, 25 (ZecharBailey.com)	2010 d. July 20, Greenville, OH	
Katelyn Marie Kenworthy, 23 (OliverFloyd.com)	2012 d. Nov. 20, Greenville, OH	
Eddie Dean Manning III, 23 (ZecharBailey.com)	2012 d. Nov. 20, Greenville, OH 2012 d. Jan. 21, Greenville, OH	
Eduic Dean Manning III, 23 (Zechardaney.com)	2012 u. Jan. 21, Greenville, Un	

# **Our Tenth Annual Open House Was a Success**

This was our 10<sup>th</sup> year of sponsoring and holding an Alumni Open House at the G.H.S. Cafeteria, and it was our biggest and best ever. Alums from 1,000 miles away made this trip. We held it on Sunday afternoon May 6, which is the first time it was not held on a Monday. We had a running video Power Point presentation by **Bruce Klepinger**, GHS 1980, along with free cookies and punch. The GHS Principal **Stan Hughes** spent the afternoon showing our alums in attendance how to use the large TV-screen kiosk located near the cafeteria and gym. This kiosk contains GHS history from the last 100 years. Here are some candid pictures of the event.



The attendance table was busy



Pete Hemer '54, John Robert "Johnny Bob Slonaker '53, Jim Buchy '58, Larry Dill '54



Kay McCarthy Reall '61, Pat McCarthy '58, Linda Trostle Rehmert '63, Meg Rehmert '17



Class of 1962: Ted Hicks, Charlie Crumrine. Jacque Malinas Curran, Tonna Brown Gilbert, Sharon Doss Wintrow. Back Row: Bob Sharp, Jim Sommer, Alice Ann Morrison Brown, Georgia Swab Young, Roger Oliver.



250 Trifold presentation boards of school history

Esther Goubeaux Joslin '64, Kathy Hoblit Bowen'67 Jill Lorton Thompson '67 >>>>

