



# Alumni Historian

Mayville High School

Spring/Summer 2024

137 Years

## 2023 Reunion Social

CELEBRATING THE 50-YEAR AND 25-YEAR GRADUATES  
OF MAYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL



### 2023 Alumni Reunion Social

Photo Credit: July Ollila - '79



### 50 Year Graduates—Class of 1973

**Front Row:** Left to right - Barbara Haas, Donna Manwell, Phil Kaatz, Karen Brigham, Barbara Kilmer, Julie Tompkins, Brenda Beckman. **Back Row:** Joe Fowler, Brian Stout.

### 25 Year Graduate—Class of 1998

Mark Bodeis-inset-(directly behind Brenda Beckman).

*\*\*Last names of the ladies are maiden names.*

Thank you to everyone that attended the Reunion Social on Saturday, June 17, 2023. There were approximately 55 Alumni and guests in attendance. There were 9 class members from the Class of 1973 - the 50-year-graduates, and one alumna from the Class of 1998 - the 25-year-graduates. ...Continued on page 2



Please visit our website:

[www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com](http://www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com)

Sign up for our once-a-month email update—it includes the latest obituaries, news and important information for MHS Alumni. Never miss an important announcement again and stay in touch with what is happening!

# 2023 Reunion Social—Highlights

The Master of Ceremonies for the program was acting Alumni President, **Krystal Bodeis LaBair '77**, who opened the program with a welcome.

**Barbara Kilmer Kirn '73** welcomed the newest Alumni members, the Class of 2023, and **Rachel Friday**, President of the 2023 graduating Class responded to the welcome.

**Joe Fowler '73** former Norman Duncan recipient presented **Hunter LaBean Class of 2023** with the Alumni Scholarship and the Norman Duncan Award.

**Ron Johnson '67** (Mayville School Board President) handed out one Wildcat Pin to the only 25-year-graduate, **Mark Bodeis '98** and Golden Diplomas to the members of the Class of 1973.

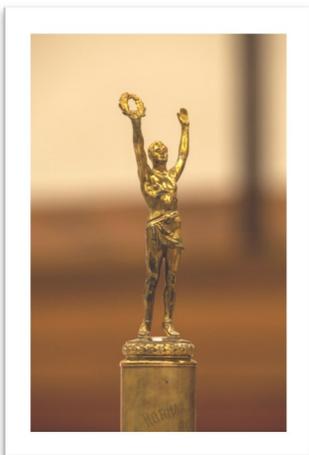
Two special Certificates of Appreciation were presented - one by **Sherri Secord Elenbaum '82**, to former MHS teacher Sheila Lambert and one to former MHS teacher Marie Curell by **Krystal Bodeis LaBair '77**. *Read the article about Sheila and Marie on page 11 of this edition of the Historian.*

**Patti Vollweiler '81** gave the closing remarks. She also announced the addition of a new member to the Alumni Board – **Jill Steele Pape '83**, a retired Mayville teacher, who will be taking over the office of Secretary/Treasurer in the fall. Patti will take the office of President and Krystal will resume her office of Vice-President. *(However, Patti has resigned from the office of President and Krystal is currently filling that position, as of February 2024 )*

A big thank you to the Lions club members **Ron '67** and **Shari Griffis Johnson '71** and Ken Bragg for all their help.

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## 2023 ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP & Duncan Memorial Award RECIPIENT - HUNTER LABEAN



**Joe Fowler '73** former Norman Duncan recipient presented **Hunter LaBean Class** with the Alumni Scholarship and the Norman Duncan Award.

*Since the first Norman Duncan Memorial Award was given in 1947, there have been 79 seniors who have received the Award. In three separate years, there were two seniors who shared the honor– 1976, 1985 and 1986. A full list of recipients can be found on the Mayville Alumni website.*

# 2023 Reunion Social—Highlights continued...



Standing L-R: Krystal Bodeis LaBair -'77, Patti Vollweiler -'81, seated: Betty Steele Harris -'61, Sherri Secord Elenbaum -'82.



Standing L-R: Mitchell LaBair -'76, Norma Bodeis Sayers -'75 and Karen Kilmer Sayers -'75.



See all the photos on the website in the photo gallery on the 2023 Reunion Social page!  
Photo credit: Judy Ollila



Seated: Sherry Reh Bodeis -'75, Standing: Melissia Bodeis LaBean - '96. Seated in the background: Lane Torrey - '77.



Left: Shari Griffis Johnson - '71 and Ron Johnson - '67



Standing: Shirley Colosky Schempp -'56, Violet Titus Mathews - '52, Robert Hazen - '53 (Robert passed away in November of 2023). Seated: back left: Betty Steele Harris - '61.

# REUNION SOCIAL 2023



# Congratulations Class of 2024!

Anthony Blackmer  
 Jace Brown  
 Jordan Burke  
 Dakota Coalson  
 Walker Crampton  
 Olive Dinsmore  
 Faith Dooley  
 Brennan Elliott  
 Isabelle Ertman  
 Ella Flynn  
 Thomas Fox  
 Connor Franzel  
 Mark Fryers  
 Hannah Garrison  
 William Gilbert  
 Christopher Gonzales  
 Gabriella Gow  
 Nathanael Grymonprez  
 Mason Halsne  
 Gavin Helgeson  
 Carly Hendershot\*  
 Gavin Iseler

Nikolas Jackson  
 Megan LaFramboise  
 Zachary Langmaid  
 Ashton Maize  
 Harmony McComb  
 Sebastian McConnell  
 Shawn Miller  
 Hannah Morey  
 Alley Myers  
 Mae Novak-Eghigian\*\*  
 Jason Pollum  
 Brett Shaver  
 Gabriel Simonds  
 Hadley Simpson  
 James Smithhart  
 Emma Steakley  
 Brooke Strother  
 Travis Taylor



\*Valedictorian  
 \*\*Salutatorian

## Class Officers -

President - Ella Flynn  
 Vice President - Mea Eghigian  
 Secretary - Hannah Morey  
 Treasurer - Carly Hendershot  
 Representative - Brooke Strother

## Song -

"Senior Year" by Drew Baldrige

## Flower -

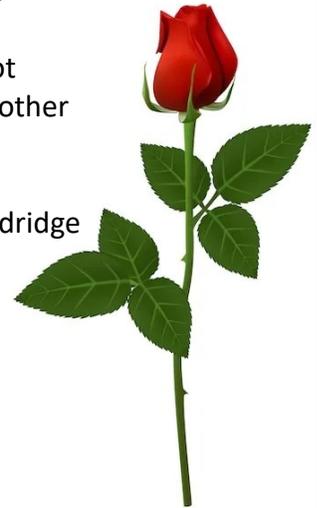
Red rose

## Colors -

Red and Silver

## Motto -

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you did not do than by the things that you did." ~Mark Twain



## Norman Duncan Memorial Award of Excellence

PRESENTED TO

# ????

2024

*Presented by the Mayville Alumni Association on behalf of George Foster and the Duncan Family*

*August A. Gabeir*  
Alumni Association President

The Norman Duncan Memorial Award was donated by his former schoolmate George Foster shortly after the war. The award continues to be given to the outstanding senior athlete based on an accumulated criteria of athletics, academics and citizenship over their four years in high school.

Born: January 28, 1920 Mayville, MI  
 Graduated from MHS Class of 1937  
 Graduated from MSU Class of 1941  
 Died: April 12, 1945 off coast of Okinawa, Pacific Ocean  
 Baseball Experience: Minor League  
 Position: Shortstop  
 Military Unit: US Navy—1942  
 Rank: Lieutenant (LTJG)  
 Area Served: Pacific Theater of Operations  
 Recipient of the Commendation Ribbon and the Purple Heart



# Scholarship

# To Be Announced



## Is It time For A New Tradition?



Historian Editor - Victoria Vollweiler Shields - Class of '75

The history of the Mayville Alumni Association is a long one, and that is a fact, at least according to what has been passed down throughout the years. When three alumni decided to meet in 1887, that was the beginning of what has been recognized as the oldest active Alumni Association in the state of Michigan. The state of Michigan even acknowledged the Alumni Association in May of 1997 by adopting House Resolution No. 69 in the House of Representatives. They gave the Alumni Association a copy of the resolution, complete with a gold seal as a “token” of their esteem.

As many Alumni like to say, “*The annual Alumni Banquet Dinner is a tradition!*” No argument there, however, the “tradition” has changed several times over the years – and along with those changes have come the challenge of adapting and keeping the Alumni Association alive and functioning.

Throughout the years the Alumni Association has continued to host a dinner and honor those who worked and graduated from Mayville Schools - teachers, school employees and the 25-year and 50-year graduates. Those long-ago dinners in the very early 1900’s consisted of fancy china plates and dishes along with snowy white linens, as well as music and dancing, and they were said to be very “formal” affairs. Alumni Banquet dinners of the past saw large crowds of 200 and even 300 attendees in some years. A record 600 people turned out to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alumni Banquet in 1987, and the Mayville Monitor even published front page news of the big event that year.

The venues changed from the Masonic Hall and the Mayville Opera House to the new High School Auditorium in 1935 and in the 1960’s the dinner was moved to the Elementary School, resulting in the music and the dancing portion of the program being dropped. Sometime in the 70’s the Banquet moved to the High School Cafeteria and finally to the High School Gym, where the last Alumni Dinner was held in 2019.

At the 2019 Alumni Dinner the Class of 1969 was honored and there were 29 class members present. The Class of 1994, the 25-year graduates, had three members attending. The years 2020 and 2021

saw the Alumni Dinner cancelled due to the fiasco that resulted from the Covid virus.

The next time the Mayville Alumni Association hosted an event was in June of 2022. Due to cost factors and the unavailability of a catering service, the decision was made to offer cookies and refreshments, outside the old High School auditorium following the program, rather than host a dinner. Approximately 125 people turned out to honor a total of six different years of Mayville Graduates.

The classes of 1970, 1971 and 1972 were recognized as the 50-year graduates and from those three classes there was a combined total of 52 Alumni who received Golden Diplomas. Of the three 25-year graduate classes - 1995, 1996 and 1997, only three members of the Class of 1995 attended.

A record low turnout in 2023 coupled with a few grumblings that reached the ears of the Alumni Association in the later days and weeks, would be a good indication that it is time for a change. When something isn’t working and the results aren’t good, do you continue to do the same thing, or do you look for a better alternative?

There is no question that we can’t go back to sit down dinners in the old gym. There aren’t enough hands to do the work it takes to set up tables and chairs and put out the decorations and then do the clean-up following the dinner. The cost of that scenario isn’t desirable either. Then again, is putting on a program to honor only a handful of Alumni and serving cookies and punch that most people pass up – is that the way to go?

*It has been said that the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again, but expecting a different result – do we continue the insanity, or is it time to invent a new tradition?*

**What do you think?**

**The Alumni Association Board members would like to hear from you and find out about your ideas!**

# Congratulations 50 year Graduates!

# 1974-2024

ANDERSON David  
 ANDERSON Donald  
 ARNOLD April  
 BAKER Kathleen\*  
 BEDNARSKI Debra  
 BINDER Jean  
 BODEIS Dorothy  
 BROWN Janet  
 BUGGIA Diane  
 COLE Linda  
 CUBITT Debra  
 DUNCANSON Jean  
 EASLICK Nettie  
 FORYS Michael  
 FOWLER Tom\*  
 FOX Kathleen  
 FOX Kevin  
 FOX Michael  
 FRIDAY Greg  
 FRITZ Ron\*  
 FRITZ Janis  
 GILLISPIE Susan  
 GRAHAM Pat  
 GREGORY Donald  
 HASCALL Linda  
 HASKIN Leslie  
 HILDERBRANT Rodney  
 IDE Bonnie  
 IHRKE Gary \*  
 IHRKE Lonnie  
 KEIPINGER Lucille  
 KLARICH Linda  
 KOPPELBERGER Ray  
 KREIS Kathleen\*  
 LEWICKI Gerald  
 LIEBER Jacob Jr  
 LINESKI Debbie  
 LOBDELL Archie\*  
 MARR Curtis  
 MC CARDLE Peggy  
 MC ELDFOWNEY Michelle

MC LANE Lonnie  
 MIHORA Terry  
 MILLS Charles  
 MITCHELL Dale Rev.  
 MOREY Linda  
 NAUGLE Robert  
 PRIBBLE Patrick  
 RAYMOND Robert  
 REED Randy  
 RICKARD William  
 ROBBINS Cynthia  
 ROBINSON Cindy  
 ROWBOTHAM Cynthia  
 RUMPH Barbara  
 RUTLEDGE Don  
 SACKA Victoria  
 SARLES Dale  
 SCHMENK Mark  
 SEABRIGHT Michael  
 SHAVER Tim  
 SILVERNAIL Brian  
 SMITH Scott \*  
 SMITH Cheryl  
 SMITH Bryan  
 SMITH Jeffery  
 SOWDEN Minnie  
 SULLIVAN Brad  
 TEEPLE Tim  
 THOMPSON Debra  
 THORNSBERRY Susanne  
 THORNTON Janice  
 TOMPKINS Donald\*  
 TURNER Patti  
 WAGONER Teresa  
 WEAVER Craig  
 WERNER Elisia  
 WILEY Elon  
 WOOD Richard\*  
 WOOD Christina  
 WRIGHT Jeffery

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Order of the Eastern Star Scholarship: Cindy Robinson. Maurice E . Eveland Memorial Scholarship: Jean Duncanson. Future Education Club Scholarship: Minnie Sowden. SENIOR AWARDS Activities - Linda Cole. Leadership - Mike Forys. Citizenship - Dave Anderson. Achievement - Lucille Keipinger. Service - Peggy McCardle. Merit - Jean Duncanson. All Around - Cindy Robinson. Duncan Memorial - Craig Weaver. Skip Stumpf Memorial - Craig Weaver



### Class Motto:

*"Hope for the best, prepare for the worst"*

### Class Colors: Blue & Gold

**Class Flowers: Blue Carnations & Yellow Roses**

### Class Officers:

President: Mike Forys  
 Vice President: Linda Klarich  
 Treasurer: Gary Ihrke  
 Secretary Cindy Robinson

*Names of the Class of 1974 are listed as they were at the time of graduation. In years past, the Historian has printed married names, but it has become increasingly difficult to keep up with the changes. If you have information on any deceased classmates we have missed, please let us know.*

\*Deceased

# 1999 - 2024 CONGRATULATIONS 25 YEAR GRADS!

Accord Michael Terrence  
 Andersen Benjamin Ivan  
 Batoha Joseph Martin  
 Beebe Aaron  
 Begley Aaron William  
 Bertrand Amanda Lynn  
 Bissonnette Katie Therese  
 Brant Corey Evans  
 Bringard Rod Christopher  
 Bringold John Patrick  
 Bugenski Gary Willard  
 Cook Kirt Edward  
 Daniels Jeremy David  
 Davidson Robert John  
 Davis Jamie Lynn  
 Dolmage Brandy Marlene  
 Dolmage Eva Jane  
 Downing Melissa Ann  
 Elenbaum Timothy Clyde  
 Folsom, Jr. Johnny Allen  
 Fowler Donald Dell  
 Freeland Jonathan Andrew  
 Frenzel Ann Marie  
 Garibay Nicholle Marie  
 Harrington Holly Lee  
 Hendershot Tina Lee  
 Higgins Leslee Catherine  
 Hilborn Chad Wesley\*  
 Hollenbeck Megan Marie  
 Iseler Jennifer E.  
 Jankowiak Brian Raymond  
 Kalvelage Peter Marc\*\*  
 Kester Aaron Joseph  
 Kumrits Grant Alexander  
 Langford Tiffany Michelle  
 Lepeak Kari Michelle  
 Lester Joshua Alan

Mallory Nicholas Dale  
 Marlow Melinda LeAnn  
 Mayer Jessica Lynn  
 Meed Daniel Wayne  
 Milostan Wesley Zell  
 Montague Shelly Marie  
 Muncy Melissa Kay  
 Nutt Jennifer Ann  
 Oliver Duane Eugene  
 Palmer Jason Michael  
 Palmer Melissa Rae  
 Pickeral Darik Alan  
 Raleigh John Ray  
 Ray William Allan  
 Roscoe Aaron Joseph  
 Russell Joseph Edward  
 Sanders Steven Michael  
 Sarles Pascal Joseph  
 Seger Nicholas Patrick  
 Shaver Valerie Ann  
 Springsteen Amanda Marie  
 Squires Roberta Ann  
 Stillwell Sarah May  
 Suttle Tiffany Louise  
 Sweet Roy Joseph  
 Teague Tom Carl  
 TerBush Amy Lynn  
 Toft Christina Marie  
 Topham Joshua Patrick\*  
 Trovillion Jason Michael  
 Tuck Brian Allen  
 Warnke Sara Ann  
 Weakley Christopher Sherman  
 Wegner Melissa Ann  
 Wilder Russell James  
 Yens Patrick John Michael  
 Yoe Roxane Sue

## CLASS OFFICERS

President  
 Timothy Elenbaum  
Vice President  
 Joseph Russell  
Secretary  
 Jennifer Nutt  
Treasurer  
 Ann Marie Frenzel

*"Sawing  
 the Best  
 for Last"*

## Senior Awards

**Achievement**  
 Shelly Montagues  
**Activities**  
 Katie Bissonnette  
**Citizenship**  
 Jon Freeland  
**Leadership**  
 Tim Elenbaum  
**Merit**  
 Valerie Shaver  
**Service**  
 Ann Frenzel  
**All-Around**  
 Jennifer Nutt  
**All-Around**  
 Joseph Russell

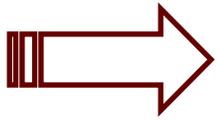
\*Deceased

\*\*Exchange Students

Names of the Class of 1999 are listed as they were at the time of graduation. In years past, the Historian has printed married names, but it has become increasingly difficult to keep up with the changes. If you have information regarding deceased classmates, please contact us with the names and dates.

Email us at: [mhsalumniassoc2019@yahoo.com](mailto:mhsalumniassoc2019@yahoo.com)





# 2024 Reunion Announcements



*Mayville High School*  
GRADUATING CLASS OF  
**1974**  
**50<sup>Year</sup>**  
CLASS REUNION

*please join us*

AUG <b>8</b> Thursday	Frankenmuth Credit Union Community Room Frankenmuth, MI	Dinner at 5:30 PM
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\$28 per person - Doors open 4:00 PM

*RSVP* Dorothy Bodeis  
989-799-6086 or  
dorothybodeis@gmail.com  
*Let's get together & catch up Wildcats!*

## LET'S MEET, CATCH UP & CELEBRATE

# Planning A Class Reunion?

Contact the Alumni Association if you are planning a class reunion and we can help! *We DO NOT have a mailing address database.* We can however, post on our website and send out a notice in our monthly email to help get the word out.



The Class of 1975 is starting to look ahead and to plan their 50th Class Reunion in 2025



If you are interested in helping with the planning, please contact class President John Jordon at: [jtj0063@gmail.com](mailto:jtj0063@gmail.com)

Or email the Alumni Association: [mhsalumniassoc2019@yahoo.com](mailto:mhsalumniassoc2019@yahoo.com)



## Attention Class of 1975



## Class Reunions of 2023



**The Class of 1973** celebrated their 50th Class Reunion Saturday, August 5, 2023 at the O'Brien Farm - 2445 O'Brien Rd, Mayville. There were 19 class members who attended.

Left to right: Back row - Dan O'Brien, Richard Hiiter, Bill Hunt, Gary Anderson, Bill Frenzel, Gary Stonerock, Fred Beach, Phil Kaatz. Front row - Bruce McNally, Donna Manwell, Roxann Johnson, Barb Kilmer, Karen Brigham, Doreen Steele, Virgil Rexin. Front - Brian Stout and Valerie Geib. Not pictured - Marty Plain and Brenda Beckman. (Gals are listed by maiden names)

**The Class of 1998** celebrated their 25th Class Reunion Saturday, July 22, 2023 at the Golden Years Club - 277 West Snover Rd, Mayville. There were 12 class members in attendance. Back row: Amy Jo Wright, Steve Turner, Terry Smith, Mark Bodies, Tony Hoffman, Jenelle McKeage Front row: Julie Cook, Randi Penland, Shannon Hudie, Rachel Lieber, Nikki Emerson, Janice Williams (Gals names are listed as maiden names)

Photo credit: Terry Smith



A few members from the **Class of 1981** met in Frankenmuth for dinner and a visit with **Juan Lorenzo** and his wife. Juan was an exchange student from Vigo, Spain with the Class of '81. Front Row: Patti Vollweiler, Juan Lorenzo. Back Row: Michelle Scott Steele, Jeff Steele, David Gregory, Robert Higgins and Juan's wife Montserret. *Juan lived with Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Haindl of Mayville while he was attending Mayville High School.*

**Class Reunions of 2023 continued on the next page...**

## Class Reunions of 2023 Continued...



The Class of 1988 got together on Friday night October 6th, 2023 at Friends Bar, formerly known as Hollywood & Vine in Silverwood.



Class of 1988 who attended the Friday night event in Silverwood

- 1) Denise Ostrander LeGault
- 2) Jennifer Colosky Carpenter
- 3) Cindy McLane Eveleigh
- 4) Janice Johnson Ashford
- 5) Kerri Smith Dunton
- 6) Tammy Rowbotham Blackwell
- 7) Michelle Walker Amend
- 8) Jeni Kopka
- 9) Tracey Jagodzinski Childers
- 10) Tricia Sue Tompkins
- 11) Pauline Lieber Brooks
- 12) Mark Brown
- 13) Mike Carpenter
- 14) Buddy Scoggins



On Saturday, October 7th, the Class of 1988 met at the Willow Springs Golf & Country Club, in Vassar. **Class Reunions of 2023 continued on the next page...**

You can see more photos on the Alumni web-site.

[www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com](http://www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com)

Click on the **More Pages** tab at the top of the homepage and then click on "Classes 1950-1959" or whichever years you are interested in viewing.

**If you are using a cell-phone look for the three bars.**



## Class Reunions of 2023 Continued...



Mayville's **Class of 1983** gathered to celebrate their 40th reunion on Saturday, July 22nd at the home of Kim (Perry) Copeland. There were 21 classmates in attendance.

Front Row: Donna (Gregory) Gray, Toni (Irvine) Craig, Linda Taylor, Rebecca (Workman) McNiell.

Second Row: Rhonda (Richardson) Wright, Jill (Tewksbury) Wiechec, Kim (Perry) Copeland, Holly (Davis) Brown, Barb (McConnell) Bennett, Brad Moss.

Back Row: Mike Pilly, Jill (Steele) Pape, David Pape, Tim Elling, Rene' (Honoway) Hampel, Bryan Hampel, Vickie (Taylor) Acha, Gordy Brown, Marty Tompkins, Wayne "Rick" Grant. Not pictured: Sandy (Lamphere) Thompson

# Having A Class Reunion?

Why not share your photos - we'd love to see them!



**Above:** Tresa Stout McGuire, Carol Stover, Bob Houle, Sheila Lambert, Marie Curell.

**Right:** Mary Carol Ernst-Mrazek, Karen Bradley, Robert Tallman, Diane Tallman.

*Photos courtesy of Sheila Lambert*

## Retired Teachers

The retired teachers meet at various restaurants in the Thumb and Bay areas every other month. They do not repeat locations unless they have new owners or big remodels.



# Sheila Lambert and Marie Curell

If you attended Mayville High School in the 1970's anytime through the year 2010, then chances are good that you know Sheila Lambert and Marie Curell.

Sheila was born and raised in Marlette, Michigan and graduated from Marlette High School.

In January of 1970 Sheila was interviewed and hired by the Mayville Community Schools. She hadn't even graduated from Central Michigan University, or done her student teaching at that point. In her own words,

*"It was love at first visit!!! I immediately felt at home!!!"*



Sheila began teaching at Mayville Schools in the fall of 1970 and retired from Mayville Schools and from teaching in 2000. The subjects she taught were HS Home Economics, HS Chemistry and MS Math.

Sheila and her husband Tom currently reside near Marlette and Sheila is still very busy. She is part of several Marlette Regional Hospital Committees, the Marlette Chamber of Commerce and several of their committees, as well as the General Federation of Women's Clubs in Marlette and at the District level.

Sheila began attending various class reunions with Marie Curell in 2021. She says that she loves seeing her former students at these reunions and has even ran into former students on her travels with husband Tom in Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Missouri and Nevada.

She has a lot of fond memories of her time teaching at Mayville and says that,

*"My happiest years were at Mayville!!!"*

Marie Curell began her teaching career at Mayville in 1974 and remained with Mayville schools until her retirement in 2010.

During her 36 years at Mayville Schools, Marie taught a variety of subjects: Many: P.E., Health, 1 year Physical Science, Advanced Health, Anatomy & Physiology, Weight Training, Alternative Education, Animal Science (Jr. High Exploratory).

Marie currently resides in the North Branch area and continues to be very busy serving on several committees and working with the 4H club.

She presently serves as the North Branch Township Treasurer, the North Branch Finish Line Livestock Administrative Leader and Swine Project Leader as well as the North Branch Schools Equestrian Team Coach and as a MIHA (Michigan Interscholastic Horsemanship Association) District 14 Chairmen.

Last year Marie received the **Michigan Farm Bureau 4-H Excellence in Agriculture Award** on Sept. 30 during the Michigan 4-H Legacy Awards Celebration. The event was hosted by Michigan State University Extension and the Michigan 4-H Foundation in East Lansing.

Sheila and Marie began attending Class Reunions several years ago and Marie says, that she can recognize names and voices of former students, but not faces so much.



When ask about her time at Mayville Schools, Marie had this to say,

*"My entire teaching career was spent at Mayville Schools. It was a major part of my life for 36 years. I am grateful for those years and their memories."*

# Eight Novels Flowed From One To The Next

*By Dave Vizard  
Class of 1970*

I didn't set out to become a novelist and write eight books. They just kind of happened as a natural progression of events in my work life.

Let me explain. I was a journalist for 40 years. It was a great career and a good life. But I saw the end coming for daily newspapers. I knew that part of my life was screeching to a halt. I wasn't worried about making a living. I knew I could find a job and keep working until retirement. That wasn't a concern. But what did worry me was finding a way to remain creative and feed my need to write, something I've been doing for as long as I can remember.

My desire to write goes back to my days as a kid on a farm in Silverwood, a small town seven miles east of Mayville. I absolutely loved the Detroit Tigers. Throughout the season, a radio at our place was regularly tuned into the games. I yearned to write about the Tigers like the sports reporters at the Detroit News and Free Press did. My dad, also a big fan, encouraged me to write about each game and then we'd compare my stories to what appeared in the newspapers the next day. I got really good at it, which prompted me to try my hand at writing about Mayville High School sports events as a teenager.

The Mayville Monitor agreed to give me a try. For each story accepted, I was paid \$5 – a good weekly newspaper free-lance fee for the 1960s. I was ecstatic. The Monitor and the school were supportive. I recall my first interview was with varsity football coach Terry TerBush, who I learned was a stickler for statistics and accurate quotations. I learned as much from Coach TerBush during our interviews as his guys did out on the field.

I was allowed to write about all sports that I did not participate in, which, in my case, ruled out basketball and baseball. In addition to football, I wrote about cross-country and track. It was great fun, and I learned the very basics of reporting.

But my development as a journalist actually advanced in the classrooms of Mayville High School. In the 1960s, we had an array of young, smart teachers who had just come out of universities

where the social issues of the day – civil rights, women's rights, war in Vietnam, the military draft, politics, and drugs – raged on campuses in ways that were not familiar to daily country and farm life in small towns like Mayville.

As young students, we only saw the volatility of the day on TV news broadcasts and in newspapers. We didn't live it or experience it. But many of our high school teachers had been right in the middle of it and they encouraged vigorous discussion of current events, including those sometimes very controversial issues. Our teachers pushed us for critical thinking. They urged us not to simply accept the common practice of the day or dogma of politics.

And one of our veteran teachers, Mrs. Ewing, taught civics – examining the role of government in our every day lives. She encouraged us to evaluate that role and become active participants in government at all levels. I recall dynamic discussions in her class, particularly in regard to the growing protests on college campuses across the country, culminating in the Kent State shooting of students by members of the Ohio National Guard in May 1970 – just before our class was set to graduate.

Those four years of high school in Mayville helped shape me as a journalist and I was always grateful for the educational opportunities I had. And, of course, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the role teacher Robert Warren played in my development as a writer and journalist. He kicked me in the pants to improve my reporting and writing skills at every turn. I'll never forget his parting words to me just before graduation: "You have serious writing talent and I'm going to be very pissed off if you don't develop it and become a professional writer at some level."

From there, I wrote for my college newspaper for two years. When I enlisted in the U.S. Marines, I was sent to combat correspondent's school. But instead of getting orders to the front lines in Vietnam, I was blessed and ended up as the editor of a base newspaper in South Carolina. During my final year at Wayne State University, I earned a reporting internship at the Detroit News. Later, I

**Continued on next page.....**

## Eight Novels... Continued

was hired by The Flint Journal to cover the UAW and the auto industry. From there, I was promoted to features editor and then managing editor at The Bay City Times.

Like I mentioned earlier, it was a great career, and I loved every minute of it. When newspapering began its long, slow, death march, I decided to fulfill a bucket-list item – write a novel. Now, lots of people declare they're going to write a novel or place it on their bucket lists, but very few do.

With that in mind, I started writing my first story, *A Formula for Murder*, with Nick Steele as my protagonist reporter. Within the first 500 words, I realized I had no idea what I was doing. It became clear that I had to learn a different kind of writing, which pushed me to attend three week-long seminars of the American Mystery Writers Association.

It took almost five years to complete *A Formula for Murder* and I had no expectations for the book. I checked "Write Novel" off the bucket list and moved on. But to my surprise, the book was very-well received, and I started getting emails from readers who wanted to know when the next novel was coming out.

In the back of my mind, I was tinkering around with another story idea, so I started writing *A Grand Murder*, which took just over two years to write. It did even better than the first book, so I started a third – *Murder in the Wind*, which also did very well with readers. By now, I believed I had the making of a very good series in the works. Plus, I had begun loving the process and my need to write was being satiated.

Since then, I've completed and published a total of seven novels – the Nick Steele Mystery Series. Each story simply flowed from one to the next. And just as I started working on book number eight, I connected with Mission Point Press, the noted and acclaimed publishing house in Traverse City.

When I finished writing novel eight on April 4, it took seven weeks to write. Mission Point Press read the book and accepted the manuscript. The publisher now has my new novel, *Mackinac Murder – Pipe Dream of Terror*, scheduled for release in October.

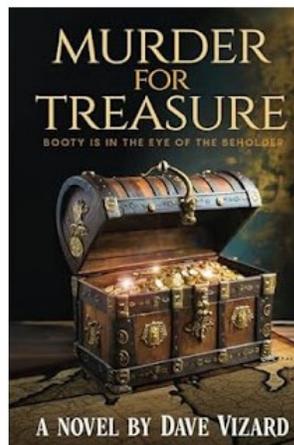
My first book took five years to write, and my latest took seven weeks to complete. Who says old dogs can't learn new tricks?



**Dave Vizard** is a former award winning newspaper and magazine writer and editor. He has taught journalism and writing at the college level. Each of his murder mysteries is rooted in Michigan and revolves around the exploits of news reporter Nick Steele. If Steele is on the scene, then there's very likely at least one lifeless body nearby. "Murder, so Sweet" is sixth novel, "Murder, Key West Style" is number five, "A Place for Murder" is fourth. "Murder in the Wind" is his third Michigan work of fiction. "A Formula for Murder" and "A Grand Murder" are his first two books. (*Books are available on Amazon or contact Dave directly.*) Vizard lives with his wife, Barbara, near Lake Huron in Michigan's Thumb region. He is an active member and co-founder of the Huron Area Writers Group, the Thumb Arts Guild, the Historical Society of Caseville, the Pigeon Lions Club, and the Caseville Eagles Club. Vizard is happy to conduct presentations of his works or discuss the writing and editing process in person or by Zoom with book clubs, writer's groups and civic organizations. He can be contacted at:

[davidv1652@gmail.com](mailto:davidv1652@gmail.com)

**A note from Dave:** *Most Wildcats know the protagonist in my series is old schoolmate and friend Nick Steele, who, in the series, is a news reporter who solves the mysteries and gets the bad guys. This story, in large part, is about the connection and lasting bond forged in school by friends. So, I dedicated this story to other schoolmates in Wildcat nation by naming **Murder for Treasure** characters for Floyd, Lonnie, Dan, Bob, Joe, and Dave. Now, the nefarious characters in this story are nothing like my old friends in real life. This is merely my tip of the cap to old buddies who helped me transition from youth to young man.*



“Long-lost treasure from a sunken Great Lakes steamer is the link between two Michigan killings and an attempted murder. Plenty of cut-throat desperadoes are eager to get their hands on the vault of silver and gold. Follow Bay City news reporter Nick Steele as he solves the murders, tracks down the killers, and goes on a wild run to beat the bandits to the booty in this fast-paced thriller.”



# The Old Fostorian

*“Memories ...*

*They mean  
so much  
more these  
days.”*

## **Cycling Through Life – “It Takes A Village”**

By Gary Wargo

My boyhood home was on an 80-acre farm about 6 miles south of Mayville. After a few years away from the area, for military and the years getting settled back into society, my wife and I purchased a home and settled just two miles south of my dad and his wife Hazel and my boyhood farm. I have lived in the Fostoria, Mayville, and North Branch area all but about 8 years of my 75 years.

Whenever I went into any of the local towns it was not uncommon to see groups of 2, 3 or 4 people chatting and laughing in the stores, parking lots, restaurants or, on downtown sidewalks. It didn't matter whether it was winter or summer. The conversations were just shorter in winter. In Fostoria the groups were smaller, but still there, in front of the grocery store, tavern or the Tribesmen Motorcycle club house. If you caught someone's eye in passing you had to be quick to give your greeting nod before they did. Seeing people in a hurry was rare. The front door of the local taverns was often left wide open to release the aroma of beer and cigarette smoke to anyone passing by. Maybe you

couldn't understand the conversations but you could surely hear the laughter.

When I attended Mayville junior high and high school from 1958 to 1963, I played sports, but football was my game. My dad wasn't available to transport me back and forth to practice or the games so between the time I got out of school and the Friday night games I would often get invites to stay with one of my in-town teammates. Some nights after a game I occasionally walked home or caught a ride with the parents of the other players that happened to be going my way. I stayed with many families throughout those years. There were several times when I stayed overnight after a game and had to find my way home Saturday morning. No matter where I stayed, I was always welcomed. I was treated like family, maybe better.

All the years we lived in the area, before and during my adult years, we never locked our doors to the house or the car. Keys were often left in the car's ignition at home. When I stayed with classmates in town we would simply walk into homes with just a twist of a knob, no key needed. There was one family in Fostoria where every kid in town just walked in through front screen door. It was home to all the kids whether they lived in town or not.

I am always amazed at how many alumni returned to teach the upcoming Wildcats. Many families often returned to the area after being away for a while, some to retire. Some families never leave. Family heritage has lingered. It's pleasing to hear familiar family names still around that are from my own era in those two small towns. There's a reason people stay or return.

Being a good parent is difficult. It takes a lot of work. But it is rewarding to both you, the parent and the child and the rewards are great. Your children want to be with you because they enjoy being with you, and you enjoy them. It's simple. Being a good parent produces good people and productive members of society and a pleasure to have around.

.....Continued on page 17

## Cycling Through Life – “It Takes A Village” continued...

Anyone can breed and have babies. Those babies, are the unfortunate souls of immoral or amoral people. If the parents don't care about their offspring the offspring won't care either, including about the lives of others. They often become a burden to society. Community dictates what kind of people it produces.

If something is unethical, bad or evil it is not looked on favorably in this these communities. Not just Mayville, my children grew up going to North Branch schools, it wasn't any different there. Good morals are just as important in educating our young as the 3-R's, and play an important part in making a good person.

Continue to look out for one another.

*Cycling Through Life - "It takes a village ..."*



# Check out our website!

- ◆ Reunion Social Highlights & Photos
- ◆ Recent Obituaries
- ◆ Recent MHS Graduates
- ◆ In Memory—Decesased classmates and faculty listed by graduating year
- ◆ Alumni in the News
- ◆ Norman Duncan & Alumni Scholarship Receipts
- ◆ Alumni Donors
- ◆ Class Notes and Reunion photos
- ◆ Reunion Announcements
- ◆ Photo Galleries
- ◆ Historian paper PDFs for downloading & printing
- ◆ History of the MHS Alumni
- ◆ Current Board Members
- ◆ Alumni Association Postal Mailing Address
- ◆ Alumni Association Email Addresses



### Historian Newsletter

Published one-time yearly  
by Heritage Press, Caro, Michigan  
**Mayville Alumni Association**  
c/o Jill Pape 5709 Plain Rd.  
Silverwood, Michigan 48760

Victoria Vollweiler Shields -'75, Editor  
[mhsalumniassoc2019@yahoo.com](mailto:mhsalumniassoc2019@yahoo.com)

Back issues can be found on the  
Alumni website at:  
[www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com](http://www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com)

### Alumni Association Board Officers:

**President:**

**Vice President:**

Krystal (Bodeis) LaBair '77

**Secretary/Treasurer:**

Jill (Steele) Pape '83

**Archivist:**

Betty (Steele) Harris '61

**Historian/Website Editor:**

Victoria (Vollweiler) Shields '75

**Members at Large:**

Sherri (Secord) Elenbaum '82

Judy Ollila '79

facebook

Gary has two pages on Facebook and these stories and more can be found on his page **"The Old Fostorian"** -



<https://www.facebook.com/TheOldFostorian>

He is also the creator behind a page called **"My Home Town, Mayville, Michigan"**. It is open to anyone that wants to join and is "about growing up or living in the great town of Mayville, Michigan." It is a place to share past and present experiences regarding

Mayville and the surrounding areas.

Gary and his wife Sherry currently reside in the panhandle of Florida.



Do you have a story, an article or a photo you would like to share?

Please contact us—we'd love to hear from you!

Deceased Classmates & Faculty

January 2023 - December 2023

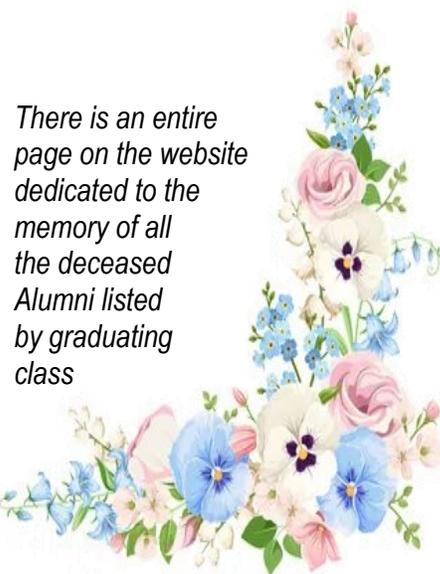
Yr	Last Name	First Name	Married Name	DOD
1943	MC LANE	Donna	Chapin	2/12/2023
1944	TEMPLE	John		12/24/2023
1947	GOHS	Arlene	Robinson	10/24/2023
1949	CROSBY	Helen	Frenzel	1/14/2023
1949	SMITH	Richard		11/12/2023
1950	WESTOVER	Lois	Walker	3/28/2023
1950	HASKINS	Freida	Tompkins	1/26/2023
1950	CALKINS	Alma	Sarles	3/14/2023
1951	RICH	Marvin		2/12/2023
1951	HEBBARD	Betty	Czackowski	1/20/2023
1953	HAZEN	Robert		11/25/2023
1953	MARR	Janet	Bertrand	2/25/2023
1955	FRITZ	Marion	Smith	5/16/2023
1955	ANDISON	Tom		4/29/2023
1956	SEDDON	Mina	Hale	2/25/2023
1957	AUMACK	Patricia	Ware	8/12/2023
1957	TERBUSH	Hazel	Wagner	7/8/2023
1957	SEDDON	William H.		3/2/2023
1958	CRONOVER	Erma Jane	Brown	12/23/2023
1958	SPAVEN	Fredrick W		6/24/2023
1958	MOORE	Barbara	Buhl-Scott	3/2/2023
1959	RAYMOND	William		11/17/2023
1959	SECORD	John		9/18/2023
1959	DUCKER	Kenneth		7/30/2023
1959	PICKENS	Sylvia	LaRose	3/14/2023
1960	DAY	Daniel E		12/27/2023
1961	GARNER	Bob		4/10/2023
1961	WASIELEWSKI	Onaleigh	Andrews	1/31/2023
1964	TITUS	Sharon	Tracy	6/23/2023
1965	COUTHER	Terry		3/14/2023
1965	KONTAK	Patricia A		9/2/2023
1967	TERBUSH	Terry		7/4/2023
1968	LONG	Michael		4/1/2023
1970	REXIN	Floyd		2/6/2023
1973	STRASBURG	Cindy	Stratton	2/5/2023
1974	TOMPKINS	Donald		1/11/2023
1975	SARVISS	Terri	Reames	5/19/2023
1976	HIITER	Robert		11/21/2023
1976	FOX	Scott David		4/27/2023
1976	BLONDE	Cindy Ann	Torres-Mejia	3/2/2023
1978	VOLLWEILER	Boyd		10/31/2023
1979	LABAIR	Lori J.	Bellor	11/29/2023
1979	MACGREGOR II	John J.		2/17/2023
1981	DIETZ	Frances M		1/16/2023
1982	MIETZ	David		2/8/2023
1984	LYON	Michael Patrick		1/26/2023
1985	POLLION	Sean		8/12/2023
1985	TAYLOR	Timothy Alan		9/26/2023
1987	BINDER Jr.	Ernest		8/11/2023
1996	STRATTON	Steven		6/20/2023
1996	FOLSOM	Charity	Stratton	6/20/2023
2000	MANN	Caleb Andrew		12/4/2023
2002	MOCNIAK	Christopher Alan		3/24/2023
<b>Staff</b>	<b>LABAIR</b>	<b>Patricia</b>		<b>10/25/2023</b>
<b>Staff</b>	<b>MORRISON</b>	<b>Robert</b>		<b>6/12/2023</b>



**If We Could Bring  
You Back Again**

If we could bring you  
back again,  
For one more hour or day,  
We'd express all our  
unspoken love;  
We'd have countless things  
to say.  
If we could bring you back again,  
We'd say we treasured you,  
And that your presence in  
our lives  
Meant more than we ever knew.  
If we could bring you back again,  
To tell you what we should,  
You'd know how much we miss  
you now,  
And if we could, we would.

*By Joanna Fuchs*



*There is an entire  
page on the website  
dedicated to the  
memory of all  
the deceased  
Alumni listed  
by graduating  
class*

# 2023 Contributors



If you would like to make a donation to the MHS Alumni Association, please make your check payable to: **Mayville Alumni Association**. \*Please designate which fund you are donating to. If there is no designation, the donation will be added to the General Fund.

A donation form can be found on the last page of this publication.

*If you want your year of graduation and maiden name to appear in the list of donors, IT MUST BE INCLUDED with your check.*

Sheila Lambert  
 Daniel Ignotov ('57)  
 Tom Wargo ('60)  
 Gary Wargo

Class of 1953 *In Memory of Janet Ann Marr Bertrand* ('53)  
 Linda Harmon *In Honor of Dolores Davey Turner* ('48) - 75 year grad.  
 Richard ('45) & Mildred Woern Fox ('47)  
 Barbara Haas Sullivan ('73)

Milan Ignotov ('54) *In Memory of his mother, Sophie Ignotov - teacher*  
 Patricia Wingert *In Memory of Dale Wingert* ('59) & Aaron Wingert ('92)  
 Patricia Lynch Hamilton ('63)

Mark ('80) & Holli Penland Tompkins ('79)  
 Lane Torrey ('77) & Kathy Lieber Bodeis ('79)  
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Tim ('69) & Kathy Thienes ('71) Hormel *In Memory of Jerry & Rosann Thienes*  
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Lois McKenzie Bushaw ('65)  
 Sherry Reh Bodeis ('75)  
 Marjorie Duncanson ('76)  
 Patti Vollweiler ('81)

Peggy McCardle Nguyen ('74) *In memory of her mother, Sally McCardle, Elementary Teacher*  
 Matthew ('95) & Angela Cheney Steele ('94)

<b>Yearly Summary of All Accounts</b>	Balance Forward	Income	Expense	Ending Balance
<b>Year Ending 2023</b>				
Banquet Fund Balance	2.00	0.00	0.00	2.00
Historian	563.44	317.50	249.00	631.94
General Fund Balance	2926.69	645.00	322.85	3248.84
Scholarship Fund Balance (NOT CD)	8273.80	1695.00	500.00	9468.80
CFC Fund Balance	0.00	420.00	0.00	420.00
School Supplies Fund Balance	0.00	3600.00	1431.12	2168.88
Miscellaneous	0.00	20.21	0.00	20.21
Check Book	\$11,765.93	\$6697.71	\$-2502.97	\$15,960.67
Scholarship CD	\$12316.05	247.85		\$12,563.90



# Stay Informed !!

The Historian paper is published one time a year... but did you know that every month there is an Alumni Update that you can receive by email? It is very simple - log on to the Alumni website: [www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com](http://www.mayvillewildcatalumni.com) - If you are logging on using a cell phone - click on the three bars ≡ and then scroll down to the **SUBSCRIBE TO UPDATES**.

**IMPORTANT:** Fill in your email address and click the Sign up button! You will receive an email and you MUST open the email and click CONFIRM SUBSCRIPTION to verify your subscription.

This is last week to order the Historian!  
**April 2024 Update**  
 Save The Date!!! Note the new location!  
 Veteran's Park Mayville Museum

June 2024  
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

2024 Reunion Special

**December Obituaries**

Daniel Day  
 Class of 1960

John Temple  
 Class of 1944

Erma Cronover Brown  
 Class of 1976

Calab Mann  
 Class of 1953

"The special memories of you will always bring a smile"

## SUBSCRIBE

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Instructions:

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- 4) Open the email and click on the link - this is to VERIFY your email to complete your subscription.

Email

**Sign up**

**December Update**  
 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
 5709 Plain Road, Silverwood, MI 48760  
[mayville.alumni@yaho.com](mailto:mayville.alumni@yaho.com)

"It's hard to turn the page when you know someone won't be in the next chapter, but the story must go on." - Author Unknown

Every week this Alumni website is updated with news and obituaries, and it is a pretty obituaries is a hard process, but rather it is a sad one.

It is the fact that our friends and family have left this world. In many cases far too soon, and accepting that is often a difficult process, with good days and bad days. Every Alumni or staff member, whose obituary is posted here, as well as the names on the Memorial page, are greatly missed by many and are remembered every day.

That is the case of two very special friends, Boyd Volkwer - Class of 1978 and Robert Volkwer - Class of 1976. They both fought hard to stay as long as they could, but it wasn't possible and those of us who are left to cherish their memories, will remember them and miss them for the rest of our days.

My sister, Patti Volkwer - '81, Alumni President, and nephew, Victoria Volkwer Oleski - '76, would like to thank everyone who sent condolences, words of sympathy and prayers on behalf of our brother Boyd.

Many of you visited the funeral home and attended the funeral. Your hugs and support will never be forgotten.

**November Obituaries**

Boyd Volkwer  
 Class of 1978

William "Bill" Raymond  
 Class of 1959

Robert T. Volkwer  
 Class of 1976

"The special memories of you will always bring a smile"

**MHS Alumni Association - C/O Jill Pape 5709 Plain Rd., Silverwood, MI 48760**

Please Fill out this form completely.—Missing information may cause a delay in processing. Thank You!



\*Is your Donation in Honor or Memory of someone? Please list their name/graduating year if applicable—**PLEASE PRINT**

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Donation to Cash For Class*		
Donation to Supply Closet Fund*		
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<b>Historian Paper @\$5.50 per copy</b>		
Subtotal		
Check #		
Amount Paid		

Name

Address

City  State  Zip Code

Graduating Year  Last name at Graduation

Contact Info (email or phone)

**THANK YOU!**