

# *The Alumni Link*

A publication of the Sebring McKinley High School Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 141, Sebring, Ohio 44672-0141

**February, 2019**

## **Annual alumni meeting will be brunch for second year**

The 2019 banquet will once again be a brunch in April, as many alumni who attended last year said they preferred the new date and new format.

The brunch will be held at Heritage Oaks Banquet Center in Sebring on Saturday, April 27. The doors will open for socializing at 10 a.m., and brunch will begin at 11. The cost of the brunch is \$18 per person. Alumni and guests can mail checks with the reservation form in this newsletter to SHS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 141, Sebring, Ohio 44672.

The newsletter can also be downloaded from the Sebring Local Schools web site [www.sebring.k12.oh.us](http://www.sebring.k12.oh.us).

The meal will be followed by a brief business meeting, Distinguished Alumni awards, and then another hour for socializing.

All alumni and community members are welcome to attend.

Contact some classmates, and come enjoy some great food and long-time friendships! The deadline for reservations is April 15.

## **Three Distinguished Alumni to be honored**

The Distinguished Alumni committee chose three very deserving individuals when it selected honorees earlier this month.

Martha E. Thompson '65, J. Michael Pinkerton '67, and Susan Runyon Risbeck Sanor '73 are the 2019 honorees who will be honored at the brunch on April 27.

Nominated by classmate Joe Igro, Martha says she has "either been a student or teacher all her life." She completed a B.A. degree in sociology and psychology and a master's degree in sociology from Kent State. She has been an instructor at Washington and Jefferson College, completed a research position at the University of Chicago, and then taught at Northeastern Illinois University for 29 years. After retiring from that position, she created a graduate course on the college teaching of sociology for the University of Illinois, Chicago, and then taught that for nine years. Martha has also been involved in a 30-year career in Empowerment Self-Defense where she is a self-defense instructor and trainer. She holds a 5<sup>th</sup> degree black belt in Seido karate.

"Mike" as he is known to the people of Sebring spent several decades serving the community as a mayor, councilman, volunteer firefighter, and reserve policeman. He spent two years on council and 16 years as mayor before moving to Pennsylvania because of his career with Ohio Edison, which lasted 43 years. He returned to Sebring, becoming a councilman once again in 2008 and mayor again in 2012. Mike left the office last year because he and his wife Bertie '66 moved to North Canton. Alumni treasurer Evelyn Ferguson nominated Mike. (continued on next page)

Sue, who is the owner of Leonard Hardware, has been a mover and shaker in the community for many years. Her nominator and classmate Pat Brunt Poyser says, "Every town needs a Susan Sanor. If there is an event to promote the village of Sebring, Susan has either organized it or is deeply involved." Sue has served as a councilwoman and is on the Re-Imagine Sebring Ohio committee. She has worked tirelessly to promote the community as the organizer of the Schreckengost Park Summer Music series and the downtown Christmas open houses each year. She recently sponsored a coat give-away and every year collects back-to-school items for B.L. Miller Elementary. She is also involved with the Sebring Historical Society and the Sebring Business Association.

Each honoree will receive a plaque from Distinguished Alumni chair Beth Fahnert Seavy '70 and then will be given an opportunity to say a few words.

### **Donations**

Anonymous from the class of '71 IMO Martha Kilbreath

John '50 and Jean '51 Chambers

Sally Youmans Gednetz '75 IMO her husband Rick Gednetz

Anonymous from the Class of '82

Class of '58 for the scholarship fund

Class of '44 IMO Herbert Johnston

Ron Neafie '51

Cedar Valley Cloggers of Wooster IMO Esther Jane Krahling Coy '50

Jennifer Muerth Ripley '70

## FAQ about your alumni association

### **Q: Do we pay dues?**

**A:** No. We are supported totally by donations. Some people donate every year; some donate in memory of a loved one; some donate to support the scholarship fund. We welcome donations at any time.

### **Q: When and where are the meetings?**

**A:** Meetings are held at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday in February, March, April, May, August, September, October, and November in the teachers' workroom at the high school. The annual business meeting is at the banquet in April, and officers are elected then.

### **Q: Who are the current officers?**

**A:** JoAnn Warren Jones '72, president; Trista Evanitcka Bates '04, vice-president; Evelyn Ferguson, '72, treasurer; Jill Ferguson Puhl '80, secretary. Samantha Kerns Phillips' 04, along with Trista, takes care of the publicity and social media. Ken Roberts '46 picks up the mail at the post office.

### **Q: When and where is the annual banquet?**

**A:** The banquet/brunch is on the last Saturday in April at Heritage Oaks Banquet Center in Sebring.

### **Q: How do I get a newsletter?**

**A:** We no longer do a mass mailing of the newsletter. Our mailing costs were too high, and many alumni moved without notifying us so those newsletters were just trashed by the post office. Alumni can access the newsletter in various ways:

1) Through providing an email address; 2) Asking that the newsletter be mailed first class; 3) Accessing the school district's web site [www.sebring.k12.oh.us](http://www.sebring.k12.oh.us) 4) By picking one up at Leonard Hardware, Gromoll Drug, Ashton's, or the high school.

## Yearbook search

Several people are looking for yearbooks that the alumni association does not have. They have asked about getting these yearbooks on our Facebook page. The list of those we have is on the page. These are the ones people for which people are searching:

**1964, 1965 (at least two), 1969, 1987, 1990.**

All the ones from the 1980's on will have to come from the yearbook staff because they were never given to the association. We will be working to try to find yearbooks for people who want them.

## Athletic Hall inducts five

The Sebring Athletic Hall of Fame inducted five new members on Dec. 21.

Sean Thomas '99 was inducted for golf and baseball. Earning four letters in golf, he was a TCL first team selection three years in a row and was a sectional champion in 1998. Thomas, who resides in Poland, also earned four letters in baseball. He then played four years of golf at Mount Union College. He received his business administration degree from Mount Union and is currently a risk management specialist for Area Wide Protective.

Josh Dean '03, who now lives in Norfolk, Va., earned three letters in basketball and two in football. He is number 13 on the all-time scoring list for basketball and was named to the All-Ohio honorable mention team his junior and senior years. He was also on the first team for all area newspapers for two years. As a senior, Josh helped lead his team to the district championship and a regional runner-up spot. Retired from the U.S. Navy after receiving numerous honors, Josh earned a bachelor of science degree in information technology from the University of Phoenix. He is now a network infrastructure specialist at the United States Navy Cyber Defense Operations Command.

Currently a police officer for the city of Alliance, Joe Amabeli '05 was a three-sport athlete, earning four letters for football and baseball and two for basketball. Joe's football accolades include being named first team All-Ohio and Northeast Ohio for the defensive line as well as first team TCL as a wide receiver. In baseball he was on a sectional championship team while in basketball he was a member of the 2004 Final Four team. Joe, a Sebring resident, earned an associate degree in criminal justice from Youngstown State University and graduated from the university's police academy in 2010.

Joe James '05 was also a member of the 2004 Final Four team. He played basketball his junior and senior years and was named to the third team All-Ohio as a senior. He received special mention All-Ohio his junior year and was named to the first team for Northeast Ohio that same year. As a senior he helped lead the Trojans to the regionals. Until this season, Joe held the record for three-pointers in a season and in a career. It was broken by another Joey, Joey Clark. Joe lives in Beloit and is employed at A.J. Oster Foils.

Zachery Tieche '08 earned 11 letters in his four years of high school: four in baseball, four in golf, and three in basketball. In baseball he was named to the first team All-NEO in 2008 and first team ITCL his junior and senior years. Zach pitched a no-hitter and also set a school record with a .568 batting average his senior year. In basketball he was named to the honorable mention All-Ohio team in 2008 and the special mention team in 2007. He was named to the first team All-NEO his junior and senior years and first team ITCL as a senior. A resident of Vero Beach, Fla., Zach earned a degree in criminology from Kent State University and also attended the Harry Wendelstedt Umpire School. He umpires for the Big Ten, the Mid-American Conference, and other NCAA conferences. He is also a sales representative for Route 60 Hyundai in Vero Beach.

**Donation Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year of graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Update:

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**BRUNCH RESERVATION FORM**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2019  
HERITAGE OAKS BANQUET CENTER  
DOORS OPEN 10 A.M. BRUNCH AT 11 A.M.**

NAME(S) AND YEAR(S) OF GRADUATION \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ENCLOSE \$18 PER PERSON      AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_

**RESERVATION DEADLINE: MONDAY APRIL 15, 2019  
CHECKS PAYABLE TO SHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION; MAIL TO P.O. BOX 141, SEBRING OH 44672**

