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Alumni Association Newsletter

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Alumni Association
60 West End Avenue
Oneonta, New York 13820
(607) 433-8299

A Message from the President

William Pirone

It seems like it has taken considerable time and effort to get to this point, but the OHSAA has finally gotten to the stage of being able to deliver our first general newsletter. I want to thank all of the alumni who have helped us get this far. I especially wish to express our deep appreciation of the efforts of Frank Getman ('49) for his assistance in gaining our tax-exempt status. Whenever help has been needed, it has been enthusiastically offered. Many alumni have been especially generous in their financial support, and I am deeply grateful for this.

I would like to believe that we have followed a reasonably logical procedure in getting ourselves established. First, we organized a group of committee alumni. Second, we ratified a constitution and formed our Board of Directors. We then set out to ascertain whether there was enough interest to sustain an Association and, at the same time, build an accurate database of alumni. The interest appears to be considerable – our membership is at 1450 and growing daily. Our database

(which changes almost daily in this wildly mobile society) is nearing completion and should eventually include information on about 9000 OHS alumni covering the years 1934-99. Obviously, we will add new classes as they complete their experience at OHS.

I feel that our organization can finally move in the direction of working toward the fulfillment of the mission statement that was ratified on March 29, 1999, as part of our Constitution. Since so few of our alumni have had the opportunity to see the mission statement, it seems reasonable to include it in this article:

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Association is to effectively promote interest, pride and awareness of Oneonta High School and its alumni, faculty, staff, students and friends.

In pursuance of this mission, the Association at its discretion will seek, but not limit itself, to:

- A. Encourage and support local and regional activities;
- B. Recognize and reward faculty and student academic excellence and achievement through awards and scholarships;



- C. Enhance Oneonta High School through educational, cultural and enrichment programs;
- D. Recognize the achievements of alumni, faculty and friends who have distinguished themselves in their careers and/or their service to Oneonta High School, the Association or their community;
- E. Foster community support for Oneonta High School;
- F. Maintain communication and contacts between Oneonta High School and its alumni and other constituent groups;
- G. Facilitate the growth, organization and maintenance of the school's archival material.

As you can see, our statement primarily requires us to work toward the improvement of the quality of the present-day OHS experience and the creation of increased opportunities for alumni activities. It is in the direction of these two basic responsibilities that our organization must now proceed.

We have already begun to provide some assistance to OHS. We have made a donation of \$250.00 to the OHS literary magazine, Silhouette to help defray the cost of a creative writing workshop that was in danger of not being held due to funding problems. Silhouette has been a feature of life at OHS for a period of 6 years, and like all new activities, needs occasional assistance to firmly establish itself. I have always believed that OHS is a large enough school to have its own literary magazine and that creative drawing, graphics and writing should be strongly encouraged. Our Board hopes to be able to support many OHS activities on a regular basis. The Board also supports the idea of providing financial assistance to the academic awards program. OHS has been

working for years on endowments established many years ago and some yearly contributions. OHS usually has about \$500.00 available to it for the funding of over 50 academic awards. We will give strong consideration to bringing all academic prizes up to \$25.00 each.

Many other ways to assist OHS are being considered. I especially hope that the life experiences of OHS alumni can be of benefit to its present student body. I have a very good idea now of the range of careers and activities of our alumni due to the membership cards that were returned following our first mailing. I can assure you that our alumni have not thought narrowly about the career options in life. The development of a student dialogue might fill a real need of young people seeking some answers in the area of vocational opportunity.

Our second charge is in the area of alumni activities. It now appears that we will soon be developing a regular yearly activity for OHS alumni which we may hold in conjunction with OHS' Homecoming Weekend and the Pit Run, which is an activity from which the proceeds go to an OHS scholarship fund. This newsletter will also act as a provider of information on alumni activities and reunions, and we eventually hope to establish an ALUMNI NOTES column. In order to facilitate this, each class will have a correspondent who will provide us with pertinent class information as well as any changes that need to be made to keep our alumni database current and accurate.

I have been far more verbose than I hope to be in the future. However, our Board clearly wants everyone to be well-informed in regard to what has been done and what is being planned. The present plan is to provide a newsletter every January and July, and I

hope you will look forward to them. Once again, I want to thank everyone for their support. We will only be as good as our membership, and any ideas you have will be very much appreciated. Finally, if you are not yet a member of the Association and wish to join, please send the annual dues of \$10.00 to Madolyn Palmer, 18 Telford St., Oneonta, NY 13820. You may wish to pay for two years, since our mailing for 2000-2001 dues will be sent out this July.

OHS News

OHS has finally completed a four-part renovation project that has taken almost four years to complete. Part I was the complete renovation of the Wright Pool at the north end of the school. Part II was also at the north end of the school and involved the construction of a new science wing. This part of the project called for the construction of 8 new science rooms, a large-group instruction room, a computer technology room, a new room for the OHS publications program and two additional classrooms. Part III of the project involved the renovation of the original building, both in terms of needed infrastructure changes and changes in function and design for most parts of the building. Finally, private donations funded a fourth project, the updating of the football field and the installation of an all-weather track. The present OHS structure is a far cry from what it was like just five years ago, and it is a wonderful educational facility that should be very impressive for any alumni who might wish to visit.

OHS continues to have a fine student population and a fine instructional program. The Class of 2000 has established the 2000 Hours Project which is providing 2000 hours of service to the community under the direction of Class President Frances D'Imperio and adviser Maria Colone Fisk ('81). The Class of 2000 boasts two National Merit Finalists – Willa Friedman and Joy Forsythe. Both girls

expect to spend the next few years in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Willa, who is President of this year's Student Council, will spend a year as an exchange student and then will attend Harvard where she plans to major in Political Science/Journalism. Joy, who is the Editor-in-Chief of the ECHO will be attending MIT and plans a major in Engineering. Three members of the senior class plan on taking advantage of the Rotary Exchange Program. Willa will be in France, Andrew Lunn (son of Will Lunn '73) will be in Mexico and Ben Scheim will spend the year in the Netherlands.

The OHS activity program continues to be solid. Two students, Brian Horne and Paul Masse, have been selected for the All-State choir. The band and choir are now preparing for the traditional Pops Concert; and following the Concert, the organizations will ready themselves for their formal adjudication in May. The music groups have received excellent ratings from NYSSMA judges in recent years. The ECHO, now in its 93rd year of publication, received a gold award as one of the state's finest high school newspapers from the Empire State School Press Association; the seventy-fifth edition of the school yearbook, the OHSan, received a silver award. The Dramatics Club produced The Matchmaker in the fall and is now making plans for the spring musical.

The fall sports Program at OHS brought an unusual amount of success to the Blue and Gold. Athletic Director Joe Hughes ('76) reports that all seven varsity teams in the fall season qualified as New York State Scholar-Athlete teams due to exceptional classroom performance. He further reports some special success stories. First, the Boys' Soccer Team has an unbeaten season (24-0) and swept through the State Tournament with almost ridiculous ease, defeating Long Island's Hauppauge 4-0 in the State Championship game. This is the first boys' team state championship in OHS history and is the third OHS state championship team in the last four years. Senior Mike Austin (son of Jim '68 and Carolyn '70) set an OHS single-season scoring record with 46 goals. The team set a state record for scoring and for scoring differential. The Girls' Soccer Team captured their third Section IV championship in the last four years. The OHS Football Team struggled early at 1-5, but finished the year at 4-5 by defeating Norwich, Maine-Endwell and Windsor. Norwich came into the OHS game undefeated and ranked 8th in the state, but were shocked by OHS 13-0. OHS was captained by senior Joe Rizzo whose father Joe ('61) was a dominating player on the 1960 unbeaten OHS team.

Random Thoughts

The generosity of our membership has been exceptional. We have raised over \$26,000 to date. This will allow us to establish an OHS Scholarship Fund that will be self-sustaining in addition to funding yearly gifts and alumni activities.

The OHSAA is very interested in the establishment of an archives of materials relating to OHS. If anyone has old pictures, programs, yearbooks, etc., that they wish to donate, it would be very much appreciated. Simply send the memorabilia to 60 West End Avenue in Oneonta, and it will be catalogued and added to the collection. It would be especially helpful if any pictures could be accompanied by identification of the subjects as well as approximate date.

This newsletter is a first attempt and will probably undergo many changes in format in the future. The present plan is to provide regular information on alumni activities, events at OHS and changes occurring in the Oneonta area. If you have any ideas as to what you would like to see in future newsletters, please let us know. For now it is best to contact us by mail. There are plans for a website which should eventually make correspondence and an exchange of information much easier

ALUMNI NEWS

The year 2000 seems to have sparked some interest in the creation of a fairly large number of OHS Alumni activities. The final plans for all activities should be well established in time for our next newsletter which is planned for either late June or early July. This is our most current list of all activities planned by various graduating classes.

1940: 60th Reunion June 9-11
Contact: Jeanette (Baldwin) Hanson (607) 547-5395.

1941-49: All graduates of these years are planning a get-together Oct. 13-15. Each class will have a contact person.

1950: 50th Reunion June 23-25.
Contact: Molly Swain, 252 Lower Reservoir Rd. Oneonta.

1955: 45th Reunion Sept. 29-Oct. 1
Contact: Bob Holstead (607) 431-1080.

1960: 40th Reunion Sept. 29-Oct. 1.
Contact: Jim Konstanty (607) 432-4965 FAX: 432-4337.

1965: 35th Reunion June 30-July 2
Contact: Geoff Smith (607) 432-1333 (W) 432-3054 (H).

1970: 30th Reunion July 14-16.
Contact: Anne Sommer Jorgensen (831) 423-7488.

1975: 25th Reunion Aug. 4-6.
Payment due at 291 Chestnut St., Box OHS, Oneonta, NY 13820 by March 1.

1980: 20th Reunion July 7-9. To register log on to: oneontahsclassof1980.com; call Gina at (607) 432-9125 or Rich at (607) 988-9471 or write to 15 Ravine Parkway N in Oneonta.

1985: Contact: Annette Colone (607) 433-0696 for information.



Photo at left: The Large Group Instruction in the New Science Wing.



Photo above: One of three showcases in the center foyer of the new Science Wing.



Photo bottom left: Biology classroom in the new Science Wing. Mike Vagliardo (OHS '87) is the biology teacher responsible for instruction in this room.

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

We have been fortunate enough to find people in almost all of our graduating classes who are willing to act as correspondents for their class. These correspondents have essentially two responsibilities. First, they should maintain an accurate and current list of addresses for all class members. Second, they will make the Association aware of any future class or individual activities which they wish to have included in future Association newsletters. Class members are asked to inform these correspondents of any change of address as soon as possible. A class may have more than one correspondent.

Class of 1932 Louis Bertuzzi 119 Oneida St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-1460	Class of 1933 None	Class of 1934 None	Class of 1935 Dominic Lattocco 20 Gardner Place Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-8423	Class of 1936 Frances Van Zandt 16 Fitzgerald St. Marlboro, MA 01752 508-481-3174
Class of 1937 Wanda St. John 14 Walling Blvd. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-8347	Class of 1938 Millie Riesen 82 E. Main St. Sidney, NY 13838	Class of 1939 Marion Green 265 Co. Hwy. 59 Cooperstown, NY 13326 607-293-7798	Class of 1939 Mary Hodges 5106 St. Hwy. 2 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3082	Class of 1940 Audrey Munson 10 Otsego St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-0760
Class of 1941 Beverly Mindnich 116 Trinity Pl. Syracuse, NY 13210 315-472-8094	Class of 1942 Louise France 13 Raymond Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3056	Class of 1942 Mabel Hodges 5106 St. Hwy. 2 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3082	Class of 1943 Jean Guarino 13664 Endicott Magalia, CA 95954 530-873-5281	Class of 1944 Arlean Norton 66 Woodside Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-6177
Class of 1944 Kenneth Weatherly 419 East Union Lockport, NY 14094 716-434-2443	Class of 1945 Richard Collier 12725 Cold St. Ft. Myers, FL 33912 941-768-1439	Class of 1945 Beverly Thomson Box 147K Mt. Vision, NY 13810 607-293-7516	Class of 1946 Pauline Collier 12725 Cold St. Ft. Myers, FL 33912 941-768-1439	Class of 1946 Wanda Perry 1752 C. Hwy. 10 Laurens, NY 13796 607-263-5482
Class of 1947 Francis Sprecco 9761 Lakeview Lakeside, CA 92040 619-443-3143	Class of 1948 Helen Frankl 8 Irving Pl. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-6468	Class of 1949 Barbara Whitmarsh 1430 Dean St, Schenectady, NY 12309 518-372-0398	Class of 1950 Frank Gallucci 11 Hudson St, Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-4553	Class of 1951 Arnold Pickett 112 Township Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-5115
Class of 1952 John Clarke 410-3 Clubhouse Rd. Vestal, NY 13850 607-724-7724	Class of 1953 Anne Warren 9 Pleasant Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3697	Class of 1954 Barbara Blanchard 3 Spencer Dr. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-2957	Class of 1955 Jeanette Miller 3 Boylston St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-0021	Class of 1956 Janice Downie Lower Reservoir Rd. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-6200
Class of 1957 Barbara Rizzo 4 Pleasant Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-1304	Class of 1958 Mary Hathaway 155 Glen Dr. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-1962	Class of 1959 Sandra Decker POB 796 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-433-0115	Class of 1960 Emilie Gaisford 196 River St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-4562	Class of 1961 Sharon Corna 15 West End Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3643
Class of 1962 Jean Hobkirk 67 Spruce St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-0970	Class of 1963 Donna Null 718 St. Hwy. 205 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-6121	Class of 1964 Carla Norton 232 Cooper Rd. Cooperstown, NY 13326 607-286-9231	Class of 1965 Terrance Powers 2 Willow Brook Ballston Lake, NY 12019 518-877-5905	Class of 1966 Dorothy Zeh 4 Mountainview Dr. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-433-2327
Class of 1967 Elizabeth Morley 1777 Co. Hwy. Laurens, NY 13796 607-263-5822	Class of 1968 Arlene Turner 103 Forest Lane W. Oneonta, NY 13861 607-432-0380	Class of 1968 Janet Hungerford POB 1111 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-8963	Class of 1969 Dean Erbe 738 St. Hwy. 205 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-3504	Class of 1970 Anne Jorgensen 632 Windsor St. Santa Cruz, CA 95062 831-423-7488

Continued from page 5

<p>Class of 1971 Denise O'Brien Gifford Hill Rd. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-0132</p>	<p>Class of 1972 Robert France 18 Jackson Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-4592</p>	<p>Class of 1973 Margaret Baroni 3616 Trintel Ct. Walnut Creek, CA 94598 510-933-4263</p>	<p>Class of 1973 Mary Drago 53 Dietz St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-1397</p>	<p>Class of 1974 Kathy Hewlett 2791 St. Hwy. 7 Otego, NY 13825 607-988-6808</p>
<p>Class of 1975 Carolyn Marks 12 Hazel St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-4435</p>	<p>Class of 1976 Linda Perry 6500 St, Hwy. 7 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-7493</p>	<p>Class of 1977 Debra Chipman 2593 Hunter Pt. S. Wexford, PA 15090 724-934-1905</p>	<p>Class of 1978 Robert Pondolfino 47 Elm St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-6476</p>	<p>Class of 1979 Kathy Lazarovich 58 Nestlenook Middleboro, MA 02346 508-7890</p>
<p>Class of 1980 Richard Ranieri POB 22 Wells Bridge, NY 13849 607-988-9471</p>	<p>Class of 1981 Margaret FitzPatrick 3913 Washington Kensington, MD 20895 301-942-0631</p>	<p>Class of 1982 Mary Harrison 441 Co. Hwy. 47 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-1470</p>	<p>Class of 1983 Gabrielle Giordano 5 Queen Ave. Hopkinton, MA 01748</p>	<p>Class of 1984 Kari Ahlquist 31 Orchard St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-4727</p>
<p>Class of 1985 Amy Brazier POB 1212 Oneonta, NY 13820 607-436-9085</p>	<p>Class of 1986 Dianne Rock 195 River St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-432-0241</p>	<p>Class of 1987 Frank Microni 14 Pine St. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-433-0696</p>	<p>Class of 1988 Michelle Grover 20 Gardner Pl. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-431-1960</p>	<p>Class of 1989 Jenee Rasmussen 32 Linden Ave. Oneonta, NY 13820 607-433-5203</p>

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