

Bennett Beacon



Summer 2019 • Volume 21/Issue 2

Alumni Edition

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- Jennie DePerro Brummer, Faculty
- Deby Fox-Hahn, '60
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- Marilyn Wittman, Faculty
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Class of 2020

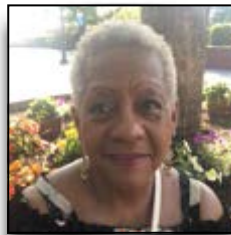
- Vacant
- Cecilia Henderson, Faculty
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- Lawrence Levin, '57
- Ryan Montgomery, '13
- Sue Shaffer Gardner, '48

Class of 2021

- Linda Barker Moore, '68
- Carol Newman Caserta, '60
- Vacant
- Marsha Jadd, '58
- Mark Overall, '03
- Vacant

News From Our President

BY IRENE MCLEISH GREENE, '57



What an exciting time for our Bennett Alumni Association. We have been meeting the needs of our students and staff for more than twenty years. Our Association was founded in 1998, under the guidance and expertise of **Phillip Brothman, '56**. During that time, the involvement of you, our dedicated alumni, has increased. Together we are guaranteeing that Bennett students are getting an equitable shot at success!

We are very proud to announce that our Alumni Association is now a 501(c)3 **not-for-profit organization!** All donations and dues are now tax deductible as the law permits. A huge thanks to the committee that worked so diligently with lawyer **Mark Longo, '80**, who provided his services to our organization pro bono!!! There's a more in-depth explanation of what this 501(c)3 designation means to our organization inside this issue!

We sponsor two events each fall, which I hope you will put on your calendars and attend! These events are designed to honor you, our alumni, for your contributions to our Bennett community.

Sunday, September 22nd at 12:30pm marks our 22nd Annual Meeting and Brunch, which will be held at Classic V Restaurant. The cost is \$25.00 per person. Not only is this a great chance to reconnect with friends, and see where you might be able to help in our Association, but it's where we recognize distinguished alumni through our Honor Roll Induction.

Our annual Sports Hall of Fame will be held on Saturday, October 19th at Bennett High School at 4:00 p.m. At that time, we will honor some of our outstanding former athletes. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

You will find further information concerning these events inside! Come and join us! It will be a great time to re-connect with old friends and to make new ones! See you there!

BY JACQUELINE HILLARY JORDAN, '72

Renovating the Mentoring Program

Bennett Tigers: It's good to be back! The mentoring program has undergone some much-needed renovation. We have been revamping our program to meet specific guidelines and standards required by the Board of Education's Volunteer Program. We have partnered with "Say Yes to Education" and have determined that their program meets our needs and goals. They, too, have the best interests of our students at heart. Needless to say, I am excited about the program, but we need more volunteers to become mentors.

Some of you may already have signed on and if so, I will be contacting you concerning your future involvement. For others, who to date have not yet volunteered or those who wish to reconnect with the program, please contact me at: Bennett High School, (716) 816-4250 or (716) 866-3689. I hope to hear from you soon!

Principal's Update

BY CARLOS ALVAREZ, JR.



As we approach the end of the year, I am encouraged by our accomplishments. As we continue to build our school, we have been persistent with working diligently to improve student achievement. The following demonstrates some of the successes our incoming Senior Class (our 2016 cohort) have had on New York State Regents assessments:

... **English Language Arts-**

92.9% of our 2016 cohort earned Regents credit and 9.8% scored 85% or higher (the 2020 Senior Class)

... **Global History and Geography** -85.9 % of the 2016 cohort earned Regents credit and 19.7% scored 85% or higher (the 2020 Senior Class)

... **US History and Government-**

70.4% of the 2016 cohort earned Regents credit and 26.7% scored 85% or higher (the 2020 Senior Class)

... **Living Environment**

(Biology)- 84.5% of the 2016 cohort earned Regents credit and 8.4% scored 85% or higher (the 2020 Senior Class)

... **Algebra-** 90.1% of the 2016 cohort earned Regents credit and 9.8% scored 85% or higher (the 2020 Senior Class)

During this school year, our students had an opportunity to participate in a District laptop distribution program in which they were exposed to the world of work. Students met with staff members within the entire District to troubleshoot problems and distribute laptops. We will resume this program at the beginning of next school year as we continue to offer students real-world work experience.

Our school will offer Advanced Placement courses in which students have an opportunity to earn

college credits. We will offer AP Literature, AP US History and Government, AP Biology, AP Computer Science and AP Environmental Science.

Our school has applied for a P-TECH grant and we are awaiting the outcome to determine if we will be awarded the funds to continue our technology-based work. The

P-TECH grant integrates high school and college coursework, enabling students to begin college courses while in high school. Students also participate in a range of workplace opportunities that

include mentoring, site visits and paid internships, which are designed to support students' academic and professional growth.

We are looking forward to welcoming eight new teachers and over 100 students to our school this Fall, as we continue to build our program. In addition, we will be adding Soccer and Volleyball to the athletic opportunities that our students have access to, as well as multiple technology-based clubs.

On behalf of our faculty, staff and students, I would like to thank the members of the Bennett Alumni Association for their continued support! It is so gratifying to have such a dedicated group of Bennett alumni who have such a passion for their alma mater. So many of our accomplishments are because of your dedication and involvement! Optima Futura - The Best is Yet to Be"

Bennett High
Ready to Graduate
92.9% passed English Regents
85.9% passed Global Studies
70.4% passed US History
84.5% Passed Biology
90.1% passed Algebra

BY CAROL NEWMAN CASERTA, '60

Annual Alumni Brunch and Honor Roll Induction

Come join your fellow

alumni at our Annual Meeting and Brunch on Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 12:30 p.m. at Classics V Restaurant, 2425 Niagara Falls Blvd, Amherst, NY 14228. This is a great opportunity to renew Bennett friendships, meet our Honor Roll recipients and reminisce about our Alma Mater. You also will learn about what's new at the Lewis J. Bennett School of Innovative Technology from our Principal, Carlos Alvarez, Jr.

The cost of this delicious brunch has remained the same for many years: \$25.00 per person. Please use the response form included on page 8 to complete your reservation in a timely (**now**) fashion.

Your RSVP and payment is needed by September 11, 2019. We look forward to seeing you!

This year's inductees will include:

- Toby Fink Laping, '56
Health Professions
- Teena Petties Jones, '86
Education
- Aaron Young, '91
Law Enforcement
- Elaine Moore Vandikirkland, '72
Education
- Duane A. Tananbaum, '67
Higher Education

• Mini Grants •
Alumni Contributions
Helping our Students!

Each year, our Alumni Board is able to offer grants up to \$500 apiece to deserving teachers to promote educational experiences that would not be possible with District funding. Included in this issue are reports and thank-you's from our staff and students!

• Mini Grants •
Alumni Contributions
Helping our Students!

The Social Studies
Department

We just wanted to thank you for enabling our students to subscribe to Study.com, which is a website that shows short, high quality videos of information in any subject area, then follows up with a short quiz. Students are able to take the quiz several times until they get 100%. Students can complete these assignments on both a computer or cell phone.

We had multiple teachers use this subscription and therefore were able to reach all students in all grades.

Again, we thank you for the generous grant to support student learning. We could not do all we do without your generosity.

Jackie Albarella: Renaissance Woman and Bennett Technology Teacher

A recent article in *Forever Young* publication (May 2019) by Michael J. Billoni, describes the amazing career of Jackie Albarella, who now teaches animation and digital design at Bennett. Her career has spanned business ownership (Avid Productions); Executive Director of the Arts in Education Institute of



Western New York; photography, including exhibits at Burchfield Penney Art Center and throughout New York State; writing, including *Women in the City of Good Neighbors* and *The Hotel Lafayette: Restoring Louise Bethune's Masterpiece* and three books about gardening!

Ms. Albarella also is an activist who currently is seeking to help

the disabled find housing by producing documentary films on group homes for the developmentally disabled, the Special Olympics and homelessness in Buffalo, which have won national broadcasting awards. She is devoting the proceeds of her book on *Women in the City of Good Neighbors*, to Suneel's Light Foundation, which supports efforts to find treatments and a cure for Duchenne muscular dystrophy, a genetic disease that primarily affects boys. In a recent article in the Buffalo News, Ms. Albarella advocates for the creation of a database of housing, activities and important information for the disabled.

We are so proud to have Ms. Albarella on our faculty where she can share all her amazing knowledge and experience with our students!

We are so proud to have Ms. Albarella on our faculty where she can share all her amazing knowledge and experience with our students!

Our MEMBERSHIP Year starts NOW!

Please renew your DUES and CONTRIBUTIONS!

Your former Bennett High Classmates would love to know what you are doing! Send a note about yourself and keep in touch with old friends.

Mail your UPDATES to:
Bennett Alumni Beacon
Attention: Class Notes
2885 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214



We, the Bennett Alumni Association, believe in the power of education to transform lives. We are committed to educational equity, dignity and social justice for all. We will strive to remain mindful of our ever-changing society and its effect on our students.

The Bennett Alumni Association supports students, parents, staff, and administrators in their work toward graduation for all. It endorses the creation of an atmosphere of affirmative problem-solving to create and maintain positive relationships among students, faculty, administrators and the community.

The Bennett Alumni Association is committed to being substantive and creative and to continually evaluate the fulfillment of our mission. We are proactive as well as preventative in establishing and maintaining the belief system and values of our Alma Mater.

The Bennett Alumni Association respects the traditions of the past, is engaged in the issues of the present, and has aspirations for a great future for we know "The Best Is Yet To Be."

Sports Hall of Fame - 17th Induction

The Bennett High School Sports Hall of Fame Committee is delighted to announce that the 2019 Induction Ceremony will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019. The festivities begin at 4:00 p.m. with a reception in the front foyer of the school. Hot sandwiches, salads, desserts and soft drinks will be served. The Induction Ceremony commences at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium.

This year's Induction Class includes the following:

- **Bernice Beeks, '72** – Basketball, Softball, Volleyball
- **Maggie "Peachie" Beeks, '73** – Basketball, Softball, Volleyball
- **T. J. Blackmon (CHS) '86** – Career Achievement Award
- **Al Brown '67 (deceased)** – Track, Football, Basketball
- **Nicholas Costantino, '62 (deceased)** – Earle Y. Hannel Award
- **Pat Thayer Pietraszek, '73** – Basketball, Softball, Volleyball
- **Darius Pridgen, '81**, Msgr. John Zeitler Memorial Award
- **Sean Waller, '86** – Football, Basketball, Track

Tickets are \$20.00 per person. Please make checks payable to Bennett Sports Hall of Fame and send to :

Bennett Sports Hall of Fame Committee
3842 Harlem Rd., Suite 400, #290
Cheektowaga, NY 14215

Please remember to include your name, return address and names of those attending with you. We look forward to celebrating the accomplishments of our inductees on Saturday, October 19th at this wonderful event. See you there!



• Mini Grants • Alumni Contributions Helping our Students!

Mr. Jesse McVerby Regents Exams

I would like to thank the Alumni Association for its generous grant of \$500.00 to fund the celebration of our success on the January final exams. We had 74% of our students reach their graduation requirement for Math; 64% for Global Studies; 69% for US History and 80% for English Language Arts. (*ed. These are January results, not to be confused with the June results reported in the Principal's Update.*) All of these students will have a chance to improve their grade when they attempt the exam again in June. A few repeaters got credit for Biology and Earth Science as well. All told, 114 of our young people were invited to the celebration.

We had the pizza party on February 15th to celebrate our success on the Regents Exams, featuring pizza, pop and chips. Our Administration Team and many teachers volunteered to come up to the cafeteria to help serve the kids.

I also would like to thank the Alumni Association for its endless support of your Alma Mater. There is an old saying that says: "It takes a village to raise a child". I want to thank you for being a part of ours. We are doing something special here. I can feel it in my heart. I've been teaching here at Bennett for 19 years and I know the Best is Yet to Be!

Class Notes

The 1940s

Suzanne Marvin Flynn, '44, writes: "Still here and so happy to see that Father Connelly '40, was still with us until February. He was always faithful to his fellow classmates. He was there for my marriage to **John (Joe) Flynn, '43** and officiated at his funeral. His presence always was a blessing and a comfort."

Ruth (Greenbaum) Nasca, '46, died on Oct. 4, 2018, but her daughter, Sally Morrison, wrote to say that Ruth was a prolific artist who was in many one-person shows and received many top prizes. If anyone wants to learn more about Ruth, you can contact Sally at morrisonsubject@optonline.net or view her art on Instagram: RNascaArt.

Class Notes

The 1950s

Marvin Elster, '50, writes: "I'm happily living in Maryland, 20 miles and 45 million votes from the White House. I still work, part-time, as a commercial arbitrator. Recently, I shared an impromptu Bennett mini-reunion evening in Sarasota, Florida, with **Michael Zimmer, '48**, **Richard Lesses, '49** and **Norma Kushner Cohen, '51**. I also occasionally lunch with **Paul Gonson, '49**, who lives here in the Washington, DC area." Marvin can be reached at elsterm@comcast.net or (301)330-8154.

Philip Celniker, '54, regularly donates to the Bennett High School Alumni Scholarship Fund at the Community Foundation. Thank you, Philip, for remembering!

Thomas J. Guttuso Sr., MD, '53, died rather suddenly in January, but celebrated the Class's 65th Reunion at the Bennett Alumni Luncheon in September. He not
Bennett Beacon SUMMER 2019

only generously contributed to Bennett, but also to the UB Medical School, where he had a long and distinguished career, both as an ophthalmologist and as an administrator.

Robert Sloan, '53, writes: "So many friends are amazed at the work and dedication of our high school alumni group. Congratulate ourselves! Cheers, 1953!

Phyllis Hanes Vogt, '53, and her husband, Alan, recently celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary at Asbury Pointe, surrounded by family and friends.

Idrian N. Resnick ('Champ'), '54, has published a new novel, **BLIP**, a historical cop story set in NYC in 1998 based on the Howard Beach 1986 hate crime killing of a black man. In **BLIP**, following a brutal assault on an African American law student, for the first time in America, blacks bring their rage and revenge to white neighborhoods.

Jim Brunner, '56, and his wife, Jan, have moved to Fox Run in Orchard Park, where they join fellow alumna, **Roberta Allbert Day-er, '53**, in living the good life!

Judy Seyse Oehler, '57, encloses a few photos "just to let you know I'm thinking of you. Keep up the good work. It is nice to know Bennett is thriving. I have many fond memories of my time with you. Optima Futura!"



Class Notes

The 1960s

Sheila Goldman Weisman, '61, writes: "Thanks for the work you have been doing."

Tony Cox (a regular dues contributor) writes that "While I only spent my freshman and sopho-

more years at Bennett, (1967-69), I'll always be a Bennett Tiger. My older brothers (**Andy, '69**, and **Dave, '65**), were both Bennett grads."

Gary L. Wolfe, '68, was one of 15 artists selected to display at the Burchfield-Penney Art Center from March 30th to June 2nd. The exhibit was entitled "Contemporary Portraiture". P.S. Your Spanish teacher is very proud of you!!!

Class Notes

The 2000s

Captain Anthony Nash '06, was married on June 28, 2019 in Michigan. Tony and Lindsey are relocating from Hawaii to Ithaca, New York where Tony will pursue his Master's Degree and Lindsey will teach ROTC at Cornell University!

Class Notes

The 2010s

Officer Ryan Montgomery, '13 graduated from the Baltimore, Maryland Police Academy, where he received the Director's Leadership Award! Congratulations, Ryan!



Notes From

The Faculty

Victor Shanchuk, a retired art teacher from Bennett and City Honors, displayed his experimental photography in an exhibit entitled, "Chemical Light" at the Burchfield-Penney Art Center from June 5th to July 28th.



Joseph Richardson, '56
Patricia Rose Stemper, '46

Arthur Jewell, '49

Martha E. Boskat, '40s,
March 2, 2016

Charles E. Johnson, '36,
April 20, 2018

Charles A. Volkert, '48, May 23, 2018

Rose Longberg Berg, '42, June, 2018

Ruth Greenbaum Nasca, '46, age 89,
October 4, 2018

Thelma Jean Schawel, '49,
December 30, 2018

Joseph Hogues, age 77,
January 22, 2019

Maria Lemones Busmalis, '56,
January 29, 2019

Charles "Chuck" Parker, '51,
February 5, 2019

Marjorie Jean Schenk Decker, '38,
age 99, February 8, 2019

Rev. Msgr. James Connelly, '40,
age 97, February 24, 2019

Theodore "Ted" Sullivan, age 86,
March 5, 2019

Anthony L. Skora, age 90,
March 4, 2019

(Reported since Winter 2019 Bennett Beacon)

• In Memoriam •

Peg Yeates Ehrmann, '41,
March 7, 2019

Nicholas "Nick" Costantino, Esq., '62,
age 74, March 10, 2019 *

Keva Richman, '53, age 82,
March 31, 2019

Nancy Kwasman, '59, age 77,
April 12, 2019

George Munschauer, '49,
April 13, 2019

Herbert Thier, '42, April 14, 2019

Glen H. Grundtisch, '44, age 93,
April 14, 2019

Bruce Beyers, '66, age 70,
April 15, 2019

Richard J. Fildes, age 90,
April 18, 2019

Doris Hadley Guenther, '52,
May 2, 2019

Seena Sultanik Singer, '41, age 94,
May 3, 2019

Sally Hanavan Hartmayer, '43, age 93,
May 3, 2019

Brian Z. Levite, '68, age 68,
May 14, 2019

Marvin Jainchill, '60, May 19, 2019

Salvatore Volpe, '90, June 11, 2019

John Tolley, '90, June 26, 2019

Barbara Cohen Brenner, '52,
age 84, June 30, 2019

Ira Robbins, DDS, '56, July 23,
2019

Faculty & Administration

Paul J. Ludwig, age 84,
February 12, 2019

Don Chelf, age 87, July 16, 2019
Assistant Football Coach for five
seasons in the 1960s

Terry Neugeboren, age 72, July 25,
2019, History teacher late 1960s -
early 1970s

***Nick Costantino** was a most valued member of the Bennett Alumni Association Board of Directors. He also was a member of our Redesign Team and a respected member of Bennett's Sports Hall of Fame Committee. Without question, as an honorary coach, Nick played a major role in keeping the Tigers Football Team alive and successful. As you can tell, Nick was a passionate Bennett booster and will be sorely missed by the Bennett community. Our heartfelt sympathy is extended to his wife Karen, his children and grandchildren. Rest in peace, Nick.

Your additions or corrections are requested. Please forward to the Bennett Beacon staff.

• Mini Grants • Alumni Contributions Helping our Students!

We would like to send out a great, big tiger ROAR of a THANK YOU to our Alumni Association!!! Your generous Alumni Mini Grants allowed us to have a Holiday Pizza Party and to attend the Buffalo Bisons Baseball Game! A great time was had by all!

Ms. Amy Visniesky The Chess Club

We believe that L.J. Bennett High School is truly a family: Staff, Faculty, Administration, Students, Parents, the Community and you, the Alumni Association. All working together, we make an unbeatable team.

Your generosity and continued efforts do not go unnoticed and are deeply appreciated!

Thank you, again.



1965 Class Reunion

BY CAROL WOLKIND WEINGARTEN

Save The Date

The Class of 1965's 55th Reunion will be held on August 1 & 2, 2020

If you changed email address or contact info, please send it to:
1965bennett@gmail.com

Thanks!

BY CAROL NEWMAN CASERTA, '60

Thanks, Sherwin Williams Paint Company

Bennett High School was selected as this year's local community betterment project! Approximately two dozen Sherwin Williams employees (and some Bennett Alumni Board members) volunteered their time (and 50 gallons of paint) to paint the interior walls along the first floor hallways during Spring Break. It took the crew about eight hours to complete the job! The leaders were excellent in planning and executing this project! And the results really are spectacular.

We are so pleased that we were selected! Stop in any time, Alumni, to see how great it looks!!!!



BY MARILYN WITTMAN, RETIRED PRINCIPAL

Alumni Redesign Team Enjoys Support of Superintendent Cash!

The Redesign Team

works as a committee of the Bennett Alumni Association Board. The Redesign Team's task is to be advocates for the academic program at the school. The Team worked on many projects. Here are some of the highlights of the Team's accomplishments:

Evening School: After being closed down for years, the Buffalo Evening Community School at Bennett will reopen this fall. The new Evening School blends digital and traditional learning to afford students lacking Regents credits an opportunity to graduate in a timely way. It will be open to students district-wide. It is anticipated that the graduation rate across the city will increase significantly. The Redesign Team is gratified that its proposal to restore the program was well received and funded.

Positive Media: The Redesign Team has established a positive media presence on Facebook and Instagram. Thousands of people "like" us and hundreds have commented positively. Just search for

Bennett Alumni Association to see the posts.

Academics: The Team collected and analyzed the data that supported the need for an art teacher at the beginning of last school year. An additional art teacher

sure that he can offer all the courses students need plus Advanced Placement (AP) courses.

Tech Support: The Redesign Team has worked on the initiative that directly connects the curriculum with the Buffalo District computer support team. Students are partners who work with technicians on registration, set up, and troubleshooting for teachers in need of customer service.

The Bennett Alumni Redesign Team recently received a letter of support from Superintendent Kriner Cash in which he stated: "It is evident that the Bennett High Alumni Association is a key

strategic partner for the school and a valuable asset to our youth. I commend the Association for your advocacy of LJB as a New Innovative High School and for representing a strong proof point in collaboration for the Educational Bargain."

To become involved, call the school and leave a message. We will call you back! (716)816-4250!

It is evident that the Bennett High Alumni Association is a key strategic partner for the school and a valuable asset to our youth.

Dr. Kriner Cash • BPS Superintendent

was assigned, which created an opportunity for many more students to earn the fine arts credit that they need for graduation.

Site-Based Management Team (SBMT): Members of the Redesign Team serve on the school's SBMT. Representatives worked with Principal Alvarez on next year's staffing budget to en-

Big V. - Bennett Teacher Revered by Students and Staff



I first walked through the doors of Bennett High School in 1993 and I knew instantly, this was my home away from home. I began my career working with Julie Christiano. Julie, my mentor, confidant and friend, graciously allowed me to complete my junior participation hours and senior method hours with her. When it came time to student teach, Julie welcomed me with open arms into her English I classes. After college graduation, I became a substitute and later a teacher aid before I became a full time English teacher.

My first room was 249 (Mr. Feinstein's room before mine!) I remember looking out the window and thinking how lucky I was to work in such a magnificent building; one so rich in history and tradition. I knew that one day I would become part of BHS's traditions. I was at home in 249 for the first 11 years of my career.

In every class that I teach in, every year, I take a minute to soak in the room and surrounding areas. In 1993, it was room 189 (a student teacher on hall duty!), then room 249 and my first homeroom (Two students!); 214 at "Little Bennett"; 255; 365; 155; 355 and back to 155. Where will September 2019 take me? What room will I be in and what will I learn from that room?

There were many room changes, and they were difficult. But, the hardest change of my career was when Bennett's old programs were closing. It was like watching something you love, die. Honestly, it was heart breaking. I couldn't imagine Bennett not being Bennett! I couldn't see light at the end of the tunnel until the Alumni Association stepped in and saved BHS. I am forever grateful for all the time, efforts and sacrifices so many alumni made..

At the end of the tunnel was Bennett's reopening as Lewis J. Bennett High School of Innovative Technology. I was honored to be invited back: I could not see myself anywhere else but here. And what a great place to be! There are so many new and exciting ad-

ventures to be had: Learning new technology, new teachers and staff. The students are eager to learn and Principal Alvarez and Assistant Principal Barden have created an atmosphere of learning. I feel as if I've had a career face lift!

I don't know how this tradition got started, but somewhere along the way, students started calling me "Big V". To this day, the kids and staff call me "Big V".

It's a name I am proud to have and I am grateful for the opportunity to continue teaching at Bennett.

Life is good: Very, very good!

Memorial Gifts

Elaine Diringer ... in Memory of
John Vella



Remembering our Dear Friend, Nick Costantino. A passion for sports and Bennett High!

Annual Alumni Brunch

We'd love to have you at the Annual Brunch!

- Sunday, September 22, 2019 at 12:30pm
- Classics V Banquet & Conference Center • 2425 Niagara Falls Blvd. • Amherst, New York 14228 • (716)691-6000

Please make checks payable to: Bennett Alumni Association Inc.

Please PRINT! • Please respond by September 11, 2019

\$2500 *per person*

Name _____ Class of _____

Maiden Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Please attach Additional Names to this form and mail to:

Bennett Alumni Brunch • 2885 Main Street • Buffalo, New York 14214

2019 Community Foundation Donors

**As of JULY 5, 2019. We apologize for any omissions or errors.*

Diamond Club - \$500+

Marland L. Berdick, '49
Richard Berkson, M.D., '64

The Class of 1968
Sally Laurie Murphy, '51

Marilyn Wittman, Faculty

Platinum Club - \$200 - \$499

Class of 1963
Dr. Al B. Benson III, '68
Sheldon Berlow, '50
Lawrence Block, '53
Joan Broderick Mooney, '64
Philip Celniker, '54
Frederick Clarke, '58
James Douglas Crawford, '66
Dale Eddols Goodyear, '65
Robert S. Fink, Ph.D., '65

Stuart A. Gellman, '54
Seymour Gitin, '52
Dr. Robert M. Green, '67
Linda J. Greenberg Shohet, '68
Phyllis Hanes Vogt, '53
Sanford Horwitz, '69
Diana Human Frazier, '65
Salvatore J. Illuzzi, Ph.D., '64
Harold Leader, '57
Herbert I. Lubick, '54

Colleen Mastoris Lambros, '56
Mario Nunez, '66
Anne Osborn Krueger, '50
Robert A. Russell, '63
Patricia Schlehr Frizelle, '55
Owen W. Schultz, '92
H. Leigh Severance, '56
Rhoda Stein Greenwald, '59
Bruce R. Thielking, '66
Frederick J. Wallace, '50

Gold Club - \$101 - \$199

Roberta Allbert Dayer, '53
Kenneth L. Barley, '50
Richard M. Bender, '46
Judith Bernbeck Kiley, '56
Shirley Bonham Galisdorfer, '48
Elvira Brinson, '84
Dr. Melvin M. Brothman, '50
Phillip Brothman, '56
Pat Burke Young, '55
Peter M. Cammarata, '75
Alan S. Carrel, '60
Richard F. Carver, M.D., '55
Fr. James Connelly, '40
Jennifer J. Crumpley, '68
Beverly Davis Blue, '61
Ronald K. Dollman, '60
Patricia Drown Notarius, '64
Laurence D. Edelman, '57
Donald P. Edwards, '65
Frank G. Emerling, '60
John P. Emerling, '64

Lance Fogan, M.D., '58
Hon. Paul L. Friedman, '61
Sandra Fruit Haas, '60
Scott W. Gehl, '70
Mary Gordon Perkins, '52
David K. Grant, '60
Judith Lynn Green Brothman, '59
Gretchen Himmele Munroe, '56
Christopher J. Hough, '73
Dr. Russell F. Houseman, '45
Dr. Leonard Katz, '53
Glenn Kraemer, '68
Kenneth A. Kreinheder, '57
Carolyn "Cookie" Kulick Weil, '60
Dr. Ed & Linda Lazzaro, Faculty
Lawrence H. Levin, '57
Corinne Elliott Marillo Carter, '53
Miriam Maslekoff Ganz, '68
Eugene A. Morgulis, '51
Harold "Mort" Morrison, '46

George W. Munschauer, '49
Carol Newman Caserta, '60
Danis J. Norman Gehl, '70
Dr. Robert Allen Nover, '57
Oliver L. Poppenberg, '55
Dr. Cary Presant, '60
Nancy Preston Broderick, '36
Carolyn Price Singletary PhD, '66
Melvin L. Reinheimer, '62
Robert C. Rettke, '60
Nancy Rice Hunt, '45
Larry River, '68
Charles E. Rush, Jr., '57
Joyce A. Savasta, '57
Linda M. Scheffer, '61
Elaine Schruett Brothman, '53
Janet Severance Reynolds, '61
Natalie Shupe Abramson, '57
Peter M. Silverberg, '56
Judith Stecker Kugel, '60
Lawrence A. Veronica, Faculty

Century Club - \$100

Shirley Arbogast Schara, '56
Marilyn Bass Buxbaum, '54
Richard W. Bronstein, '59
Barbara C. Chamberlain Lyons, '57
Melinda Chilcott Wolcott, '63
Anthony Cox, Friend

Richard Dattner, '55
Jennie DePerro Brummer, Faculty
Hugh J. Devine, '55
Cecelia B. Henderson, Faculty
Jacqueline Hillary Jordan, '72

Merle Katz Goldstein, '55
Neil J. Lange, Faculty
RoseMary LoCurto Arnone, '79
Alvin H. Spector, '71
Jean Travis Boccuti, '57
Gloria Van Riper Askren, '56

Please let us know if there are omissions or errors in our records. We'd be happy to check!

Alumni Honor Roll 2020 Nomination Form

Check Category:

please use this form to make your nomination

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Health Professions | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Artisans & Crafters | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Pharmacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance | <input type="checkbox"/> Principals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clergy | <input type="checkbox"/> Law | <input type="checkbox"/> Superintendents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coaching | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> Science/Aerospace |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Management/
Consulting | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dentistry | <input type="checkbox"/> Media | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Medicine | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finance | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Travel/Hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Responders | | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteerism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Careers | | <input type="checkbox"/> Writing |

Nominee _____ Class of _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____

Briefly describe the accomplishments of this graduate in the field of endeavor.

Information of person submitting the nomination.

Name _____ Class of _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please feel free to duplicate this form and send in as many nominations as necessary. We would like to recognize all those Bennett Alumni who have done so much for our community Please submit your nominations before June 30, 2020!

Return this form to: Bennett High School Alumni Honor Roll
 2885 Main Street
 Buffalo, New York 14214

1969 Class Reunion

The Bennett Class of 1969

is holding its 50th Class Reunion on Saturday, August 10 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m., at Ac-Qua Restaurant, 2192 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207. The cost is \$55 per person and includes appetizers and dinner buffet. There will be a cash bar. The web site with payment link (credit card or PayPal accepted) is <https://bhsbflony1969reunion.com>. There is a link to discount hotel accommodations at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Buffalo Amherst/University on that page.

There will be a tour of Bennett' on Saturday morning, August 10 at 11:00 a.m. The tour group will assemble in the front hall. If interested in attending the tour, please notify Claudia Marschall at bhsbflony1969reunion@gmail.com so we can get an accurate head count.

• Mini Grants •
Alumni Contributions
Helping our Students!

Ms. Lisa Fisher
Tiger Clothing Den

On behalf of the students on the Bennett Campus, we thank you for the Mini Grant which helped us to establish the Tiger's Den. Tiger's Den provides clothing and cosmetic items for students who can't get these items at home. Students now have a central place to visit to have their needs met. We were able to purchase shelving, organizational supplies and clothing for our neediest kids. It also allows teachers to refer students to one central location.

2019 - 2020 Dues Statement

Membership runs from September 1, 2019 until August 31, 2020

Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

What is/was your career and/or hobby? _____

Your Bennett Alumni Association is now a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization!

Your donations may qualify as a charitable donation for Federal Income Tax purposes.

Please make your check payable to: **Bennett Alumni Association Inc.**

Or PayPal is available on our website: www.bennettalumni.com

Please Check One: Diamond \$500+ Platinum \$200 - \$499 Gold \$101 - \$199 Century \$100

\$50 \$25 Basic Membership \$20 Other _____

Please Mail to:

Bennett High Membership
2885 Main Street
Buffalo, New York 14214

I am requesting that all future copies of the **Bennett Beacon** are sent only to my email address!

BY NEIL LANGE, RETIRED TEACHER

The possibilities of being a 501(c)3 Not-For-Profit

Bennett Alumni Association Inc.

My hope is that as you read President Greene's article on the front page, you were as excited as I to see that we are now our own NOT-FOR-PROFIT organization. I also hope that you noticed the Dues Form has changed! No longer will you have to write a separate check, because we are able to offer the same benefits that the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo offered. Rest easy, as we will still be working with the Community Foundation to continue investing your funds!

You might be wondering how this happened. After more than 20 years of being a for-profit organization working directly with the school, the District changed how they wanted our donations received. As an organization, we decided that it would be in your best interests, to handle all aspects of our donations to the school directly, avoiding the District middleman.

A Board committee was formed which worked with lawyer **Mark Longo, '80**. By late January 2019 (in spite of the government shutdown), we received the good news!

So, what does this mean for all of us?

First of all, the tax benefits. *(And fewer checks for you to write!!!)*

Secondly, we can now start thinking of planned giving and legacy bequests. *(Have you considered supporting your beloved alma mater in perpetuity?)* **We could use a few interested alumni to help with this!**

Next, it means we can start actively pursuing grants. *(A couple committee members have already submitted a grant!)* **We're hopeful other alumni will step up to assist!!!**

Lastly, this is a clear indication the direction our Board has taken our Association. We can do more for the students as we continue to grow! Call me to help: (716)308-5451!!!!

• Mini Grants • Alumni Contributions Helping our Students!

Ms. Melissa Kenney
Painting Club

Students in Ms. Kenney's

English classes were given the opportunity to express their literary feelings through the after school Paint Club.:

"Thanks for letting us paint! It was really fun!" *Breana M.*

"Thank you for giving me the opportunity of participating in our painting program. I had a really fun time." *Briana B.*

"Thank you Alumni for giving us the opportunity to paint. We hope you will continue to fund activities like this!" *Zionna*

• Mini Grants •
Alumni Contributions
Helping our Students!

I would like to thank the Alumni Association for its support of our Bowling Team. We had a great season, including the boys' team going on a 26 game win streak to end the regular season.

Our boys' team was invited to the sectional tournament. Through the Alumni Mini Grant and the help of Ms. Saad, we were able to design and make sweatshirts to celebrate a great season. Please see the attached pictures. Thank you so much for your never-end-

Mr. Jesse McVerby
Bowling Team

ing support of your Alma Mater.

Note: Some of the team members modeled the beautiful sweatshirts for us at a recent Alumni Board Meeting. They were very proud as were we!



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