

Bennett Beacon



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Alumni Edition

Bennett High School • 2885 Main Street • Buffalo, New York 14214 • (716) 816-4250 • www.bennettalumni.com

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DIRECTORS

Class of 2020

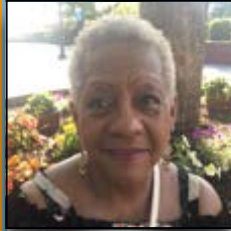
-Cecilia Henderson, Faculty
-Margaret Lanz Puzio, '68
-Lawrence Levin, '57
-Ryan Montgomery, '13
-Sue Shaffer Gardner, '48
-Vacant

Class of 2021

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

Class of 2022

-Deby Fox-Hahn, '60
-Christopher Hough, '73
-Neil Lange, Faculty
-Irene McLeish Greene, '57
-Marilyn Wittman, Faculty
-Jacqueline Hillary Jordan, '72



News From Our President

BY IRENE MCLEISH GREENE, '57

It is with Delight that I wish you Happy New Year!

First, I need to say thanks for all of your help. Your Alumni Board has approved almost \$10,000 in **Mini-Grants** for our Bennett students! For those who haven't heard of Mini-Grants, these gifts of up to \$500 are for teachers and administrators to conduct specific educational and extra-curricular projects that aren't funded by the Board of Education. We are so proud of the ways all of us are able to respond to the needs of our Bennett students. There is a listing of all Mini-Grant projects on page 3.

Last September, we held our Annual Meeting and Election of Board Members. As we had several of our most dedicated directors decide not to be on the Board again (for various reasons), we are looking for new directors to fill these slots. Our Alumni Board meets each month on the fourth Wednesday at 12:15 pm in the Alumni Room at Bennett. We use this time looking for ways to improve the education and daily life of Bennett students. There are currently three vacancies, and we would love to hear from you. If you would like to serve on a committee or on the Board, please leave a message at the school, and we will get back to you! We offer our sincere thanks to **Jennie DePerro Brummer, retired faculty**, and **Bobbie Allbert Dayer, '53** for their countless hours of work to make, not only our Board better, but also the Bennett community stronger. Each will continue to help in her own way!! A Tiger Roar to you both!!! We are so grateful for all you have done.

See... *News from Our President*
...continued on page 2

Principal's Update

BY CARLOS ALVAREZ, JR.

As we approach the end of the first semester, it is amazing how fast this school year is passing. As we continue to speak to many teachers and students, we often discuss how to build upon our culture of data-driven decision making, celebrating successes and technological innovation.



We have worked tirelessly with our senior class, and the fruits of our labor are beginning to show. We are truly excited about the current and future successes of our senior class. Students in our senior class are beginning to receive their college acceptance letters at a feverish pace. Students are sharing their acceptance letters on a daily basis, which are, in turn, posted in the

hallways, as we acknowledge their achievements. Along with their college acceptance letters, we have posted a "Scholarship Goal Thermometer" that is set at a goal of \$750,000 scholarship dollars. As of January 2020, our senior class has already surpassed our goal by earning \$913,000. There is no doubt

See... *Principal's Message*
...continued on page 2

Principal's Message

...continued from page 1

that we will surpass \$1,000,000, as we are still in the early stages of college acceptances.

The Bennett community celebrated our student progress during the first semester by hosting our quarterly Academic Achievement Celebration Ceremony. Each student that earned Merit Roll, Honor Roll, and High Honor Roll academic successes were invited, along with their family, to the celebration. Each student received a certificate and a letter with the school seal, highlighting their wonderful efforts. So much improvement meant that we ran out of High Honor Roll certificates due to the number of students being recognized for earning this **best of the best** category!

We were excited by a press conference that was held at our school in December, which focused on our student-led E-Sports program. The press conference was attended by most of the local media outlets and we were featured on local news channels as well as the Buffalo News. Our students received a \$4,000 donation from

AT&T that will go directly to the students participating in the E-Sports program.

Bennett continues to build upon our athletic programming, and our students are excelling in the classroom, as well as on the playing fields. We have three student athletes who have been offered scholarships to play college - level football, and we are expecting that number to increase. In addition, we are currently fundraising to purchase a rebounding machine for our basketball programs, at a cost of approximately \$6,500. We have built a partnership with Alternative Information Systems (AIS), who has donated \$1,000 towards the rebounding machine. We are hopeful that we will raise the necessary funds by next Fall, so that our student athletes will have an opportunity to improve their shooting skills as we compete to become New York State Champions! If you are inclined to help, give me a call at 716-816-4250!

Our school has also benefited from the continued generosity of the Bennett High School Alumni Association. The support of the Association has provided our teachers and students in

countless ways, including the following:

- 2 Xbox gaming systems for our Esports program
- Student achievement celebrations
- Senior college signing day celebration
- School-wide wellness activities
- Developing our in-house printshop
- Field trips
- Classroom supplies
- National Honor Society

On behalf of the entire Bennett school community, I would like to thank all of you for your support!

Please follow us on **Instagram**. We post pictures often displaying our great school community.

Follow us:

@Lewis_J_Bennett_Tigers

Work Hard! 
Have Fun!
Celebrate Successes!
GO TIGERS!

News from our President

...continued from page 1

We are so delighted with the direction our alma mater is going. Thanks to the leadership of Principal Alvarez, student success is growing by leaps and bounds. Be sure to check out the **Principal's Update** for all the details!

And, finally, if you haven't become a member yet, I'm wondering what is stopping you? Basic membership is only \$20. As Neil Lange, membership chair, shares, "If only we had 1000 more alumni each give \$20, we'd have \$20,000 to help our beloved Bennett!"

Because of YOU, our dedicated Alumni, we have a school that is heading to the top of the District! If you've paid your Dues, Thank You!!! If you haven't paid your dues, please consider the importance your help makes!! Optima futura! Because of YOU, the Best is Yet to Be!



Mission Statement
of the
Bennett Alumni Association, Inc.

We, the Bennett Alumni Association, Inc., 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, Inc. 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, Inc. 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, Inc. 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."

BY MARILYN WITTMAN
RETIRED PRINCIPAL

Alumni Redesign Team at Work

The Bennett Redesign Team is continuing its work in the second semester of the 2019-2020 school year. Our goal, as always, is to advance the academic program at Lewis J. Bennett. The work of the Redesign Team reflects the Alumni Association's mission to actively support the work of administrators, faculty and staff, including academics and support services. For this semester, the Team has the following projects:

•••Space:

The Bennett campus has three separate schools currently occupying space in our building. As our enrollment increases, it is necessary for at least one of the programs to move. The District has scheduled Middle Early College High School, one of the schools in our building, to move closer to ECC Downtown. We are following the progress on this move, which is not yet confirmed. Housing so many students is no longer sustainable. We have to be sure that this project crosses the finish line.

•••Restorative Practices:

We would like Bennett to be the Restorative Practices high school model for the Buffalo District. Restorative practices are a system that allows students who make mistakes to fix them and to establish positive relationships with those affected. A restorative practices facilitator would train the staff and would identify students in need of extra support. The Redesign Team has drafted a proposal that will be submitted to the District for inclusion in next year's budget.

The educators on the Redesign Team are happy to lend their years of experience to helping Bennett students now.

Our 2020 Mini Grant Winners!

Lewis J. Bennett High School Faculty and Staff were awarded Mini Grants by the Bennett Alumni Association as follows:

Ms. Jackie Albarella	\$498	Two X-Box Computer Systems
Ms. Jackie Albarella	\$539.74	Batteries , Microphones and Memory Storage Materials
Mr. Carlos Alvarez Jr.	\$395	Two 60 x 60 in. Tiger Vinyl Wall Decals
Mr. Carlos Alvarez Jr.	\$500	Prom Deposit Fees and Photo Booth and DeeJay Costs
Mr. Carlos Alvarez Jr.	\$500	Support Blue, Green, Yellow, Red Academic Success Program
Mr. Jamie Barden	\$500	End-of-the-Year Field Days
Mrs. Lisa Fisher	\$200	College Signing Day Celebration
Ms. Emma Haupt	\$100	Award Ceremony and Pizza Party for ENL Students
Ms. Emma Haupt	\$225	Printing and Publication of the Beacon Yearbook
Ms. L'Toya Hooks	\$240	Math Graffiti Poster for Geometry and PreCalculus
Ms. Hillary Kelkenberg	\$489.94	Equipment and Materials to Enhance Anatomy & Physiology
Ms. Melissa Kenney	\$500	Paint Night Project with visiting Paint Instructor
Ms. Rachel Kull	\$500	NHS Annual Affiliation Fees and Induction Materials
Ms. Rachel Kull	\$100	Subscription to study.com Social Studies program
Ms. Genah Lasby	\$360	Niagara Falls Underground Railroad Field Trip
Ms. Genah Lasby	\$500	Start-up Funds for The Events Committee
Ms. Elizabeth Lenz	\$225	Field Trip to Assembly House Art Project in Architecture
Mr. Jesse McVerby	\$500	Annual January Exam Success Celebration
Ms. Christina Piekarski	\$120	Spec. Ed. Vocabulary Enhancement Program
Ms. Natasha Popovic	\$300	Pep Rally Supplies - Paint, Pom poms, Poster Paper, etc...
Ms. Natasha Popovic	\$350	Increase Attendance at Senior/ Junior Prom
Ms. Melissa Saad	\$500	PawPrints In-House Print Shop Vinyl Supplies
Ms. Melissa Saad	\$421.85	Global History Vocabulary Enhancement Supplies
Ms. Linda Scinta	\$500	Schoolwide Wellness Activities
Ms. Amy Visniesky	\$208.25	End-of-the-Year Critical Thinkers Club Trip to Bisons Baseball game
Ms. Amy Visniesky	\$ 65	Critical Thinkers Club Holiday Pizza Party

Class Notes

The 1930s



Betty Jane Feuchter Dettmer, '39, is 98 years old and doing remarkably well. Her daughter, Helen O'Brien, helps her out as needed and reports that they are "blessed to be overseeing her care!"

Class Notes

The 1950s

Lois Schaffran Conway, '50, reports that she has co-authored four cookbooks, titled: *Bread Machine Magic*; *The Bread Machine Magic Book of Helpful Hints*; *More Bread Machine Magic* and *Slow Cooker Magic*. Lois lives in San Diego, CA.

Kernan Davis, '50, fathered four children who are now 61, 58, 29 and 25 years old. He has been active in retirement, acting in local theater, editing a church newsletter, serving on a local government committee and cooking dinner five days a week for his wife, who works at a local college. "Down-sizing, piece by piece, a chore that brings little peace."

Sally Laurie Drake Murphy, '51, one of Bennett's most devoted alumni, writes that in her retirement community at Eskaton, CA, there are an additional two former

Buffalonians, one of whom, **Ralph Lubick**, was in the class of '54. The other, David Smith, has a sister, **Helen Smith, '54**. Sally continues: "You have literally saved a school . . . You can be so proud and I am so thankful!"

Kay Phillies, '54, writes: "Thinking of you at Bennett and all that our Alumni Association has accomplished. I am so proud of our Alma Mater."

Patricia Schiehr Frizelle, '55, reports that she splits her time be-

tween living in Amherst, NY and South Pasadena, FL. She loves gardening, classical music, choral singing and retirement. She would love to hear from old friends, using a landline and telephone book!

Peter Silverberg, '56, who lives with his wife in Newton's Landing, is an active member of the "Extra Miler Club". This organization has about 200 members who vow to visit as many of the 3141 counties in the United States as possible. So far Peter has visited 827.

Class Notes

The 1960s

Alan Linsky, '64, and his wife, Linda, want to thank Neil Lange for all the memorabilia donated to the 55th reunion held this past summer. All the items were a big hit, including the school banner!



James Sandoro, '62, is the owner of the **Buffalo Transportation Pierce Arrow Museum**. In 2018, the museum attracted

about 30,000 visitors. The museum has drawn raves for the creation of a Frank Lloyd Wright Fill-

ing Station, an exhibit James built from unused Wright drawings.



Bob Lanier, '66, Shakes hands with one of his former St. Bonaventure teammates from the 1970 Final Four Team. A sold-out crowd

honored Bob and the team on its 50th anniversary on Dec. 7 at the Reilly Center.

Cheryl Pleskow, '69, writes: "Thank you both, Neil and Carol, for the wonderful tour of Bennett during our reunion in August and for all the effort and heart you invest in Bennett."



Some members of the **Reunion Committee of the Class of 1960** enjoyed a lovely summer evening in August dining 'al fresco' at Amici's Restaurant in Kenmore. Pictured are: **Deby Fox-Hahn, Tim O'Brien, Bev Valvo LoTempio, Barbara Schwartz Krigstin, Don Brusky, Carol**

Newman Caserta, Dave Grant, Don Gilbert and Doug Baker. We are looking forward to our next summer's get-together!

Sanford "Sandy" Horwitz, '69, is president of Innovative Wine Cellar Designs in Scottsdale, Arizona. Each cellar is unique based on the customer's specific requests. You can see all about his creative rooms at WineCellarDesigns.biz

Class Notes

The 1990s



James Karagiannis, '99, accomplished his goal to deliver ice cream treats to EVERY street in Buffalo. He spent five months biking

at least 700 miles on 1,708 city streets with his custom-built 400 lb. ice cream trike. His last stop was on Oct. 29th on Fargo Ave. James now is re-entering college to become a high school Social Studies teacher. Maybe we'll see you back at BHS, James!

Class Notes

The 2010s

Jedidiah Gallagher, '15, graduated Daemen College with a BS in Sports Management and Social Development. He's now at St. Bonaventure for School Counseling. Jed is also a full-time college admissions counselor for Bryant and Stratton College.

David Hall, '15, finished his Associate's in Social Science. Finishing his Bachelor's at Buff State, David is also a fitness and health consultant and does carpentry. He works part-time at School #18.

Jeilyn Acevedo, '15, graduated with her Associate's Degree in psychology and is attending

school for her Bachelor's. Jeilyn is hoping to become a school counselor and would like to use that experience to open her own practice.

Do Khup, '15, achieved a business degree from Medaille College. He is going back for graduate school to receive his MBA. Currently, he works at M&T Bank and is working towards opening his own business.

Cedric Maxwell, '15, joined the Navy and is currently stationed in Bremerton, Washington, on the USS Nimitz. "I did one tour in Bahrain for two years and I'm going on my first deployment soon."

Qwane Hanes, '15, joined the Army and earned a rank of E5/SGT in three years. "I completed a tour in Afghanistan; I just re-enlisted; I will start college for forensic science and I gave birth to a beautiful baby girl."

Alexander Lofton, '15, played Division 1 football at Albeine Christian University in Texas and has an NFL pro day coming up. He hopes to play for an NFL team. After his pro career, he would like to get a degree in sports management.

We'll have more Class of 2015 updates in our next issue thanks to Jed Gallagher!

Notes From

The Faculty

Alicia Grantos, a retired BHS Spanish teacher, writes: "Dear Bennett Family, I enjoyed reading the summer issue of the **Alumni Beacon** a great deal. I was moved to get on the ball and renew my membership upon realizing that the versatile, bon vivant and WNY connoisseur, Jackie Albarella, is now a Technology teacher at Bennett. What a wise addition! Continued success!

Julianna (Julie) Ricci, a former English teacher at BHS in the late 1960s, published her first novel in 2018, titled *Telling Stories*. She and her three daughters presented readings from the novel at the Botanical Gardens at a reception on Nov. 3, 2019. Congratulations, Julie!

Jackie Albarella, a faculty member at BHS and local artist and author, lectured at the Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site on September 9, 2019. Her subject was *Presidential Photography and how it has changed over time*.

Class of 1952



Back In the Day - Cape Cod

Front: Sue Huggan Scheer, Catlett, VA, Jane Shoemaker Storm, Exeter, NH. **Row 2:** Martha Dorries Whipple, Fairfax Station, VA, Barbara Jekel Odenkirk, Lebanon, PA. **Row 3:** Julie Thomas Murtha, Wethersfield, CT, Gerry Thornton Ray, Vedra Beach, FL, Ann Strunk Seibert, Norwich, VT.



See Page 9 for the August 2019 85th Birthday Party Photo

(Reported since Summer 2019 Bennett Beacon)

• In Memoriam •

Natheer Hasan, '68, age 35,
October 31, 1982

Leland Fish, '46,
April 3, 2012

Patrick Dunford, '50,
October 19, 2012

Patricia Maue Nichols, '48,
October 2018

Edward M. Schilling, '43, age 93,
December 9, 2018

Joan Brendel Compo, '48,
January 2019

Dennis R. Dwyer, '61, age 76,
April 22, 2019

Charles G. Ridler, '42, age 94,
April 27, 2018

Phyllis Schiehr Schilling, '46, age 91,
May 6, 2019

Dr. Herbert Berkoff, '55,
June 2019

Barbara Bickel Alderdice, '49
July 28, 2019

Jack Peter Dorfman, '55, age 82,
August 20, 2019

Patricia Walsh Herman,
August 30, 2019

Edith Baumgartner Joyce, '51,
September 2019

Elaine Feinman Nissberg,
September 19, 2019

Mabel Hill Chambers, '54, age 82,
September 25, 2019

Crystal Austin-Seymour, age 59,
October 8, 2019

James R. Golding, '60,
October 16, 2019

Sandra Weinstein Sheldon, '58, age 79,
November 4, 2019

Robert L. Schweizer, '41
November 10, 2019

Judge Herbert R. Johnston, '55, age 81,
November 12, 2019

Judith Clarke, '59,
November 17, 2019

Dr. Gary Cohen, '51, age 85,
December 5, 2019

Joan Maier, '51,
December 21, 2019

Gregory W. Clark, '68, age 69,
December 22, 2019

Vincent Kruik, '88, exchange student
from Belgium,
December 30, 2019

Jerome "Jay" Schiller, '56' age' 81,
January 5, 2020

Dr. Melvin M. Brothman, '50,
January 6, 2020

Gerald M. Prince, '52,
January 7, 2020

Faculty and Administration:

Mary H. Lesses, age 81,
August 8, 2019.
Mary was a Special Education
Teacher

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



2019 Sports Hall of Fame Committee

FRONT: Carol Newman Caserta, Mary Evanco Caryk, Peter Cammarata, Karen Hopkins Carr. **BACK:** Charlie Garfinkel, Larry Veronica, Richard Fink, Carmen Iannacone, Ken Parr, Don Gilbert, Jennie DePerro Brummer, George Lewis, Roslyn Righetti. **Not Pictured:** David White - photographer.



2019 Sports Hall of Fame Inductees

BY CAROL NEWMAN CASERTA, '60

17th Annual Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

A wonderful event was shared by all who attended the 17th Annual Bennett Sports Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony on Saturday, October 19, 2019. We all enjoyed a lovely reception and tasty refreshments in our main lobby, followed by the Induction Ceremony in the auditorium.

This year's recipient of the Msgr. John Zeitler Memorial Award was the **Honorable Darius G. Pridgen, '81**. The Earle Y. Hannel Memorial Award was presented to the family of the late **Nicholas 'Nick' Costantino, '62**, a beloved former member of the SHOF committee and Alumni Association Board Member.

The other 2019 inductees were: **Bernice Beeks, '72**, **M. "Peachie" Beeks, '73**, **T.J. Blackmon, '86**, **Alfred 'Al' C. Brown, '66**, **Pat Thayer Pietraszek, '73** and **Sean D. Waller, '86**.

The SHOF committee members would like to send a special thank you to **Coach Larry Veronica**, who is stepping down from his position as Chair of the Committee after 18 plus years. He has worked diligently to sustain this event, which is so meaningful to all our inductees. Fortunately, he will continue to be a committee member. We will miss his leadership. Congratulations, Larry, for a job well done.

BY ANN CRITTENDEN, FACULTY

Great Inaugural Swim Season

The Boys and Girls Swim Teams have made tremendous progress in the pool perfecting their strokes: butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle as well as learning competition skills such as flip turn, open turns, racing starts and relay starts.

Combined with students from Research Lab and Middle Early College, the L. J. Bennett Swim Team made quite a splash featuring swimmers competing in numerous events including relays, long-distance, individual medley, etc.

Our season concluded on January 17, 2020. Our record is not reflective of the growth nor champion spirit that this team possesses. Our record was five wins and five losses!

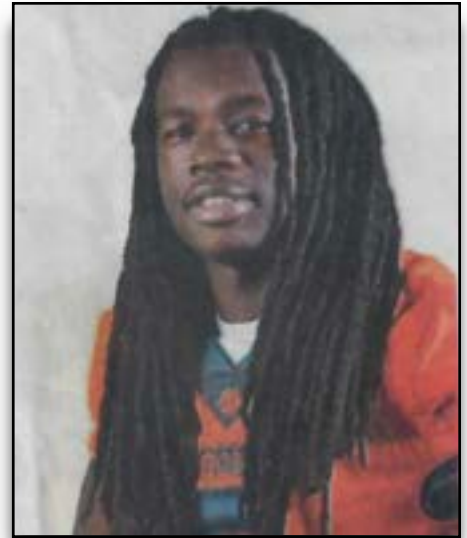
We participated in an Invitational Swim Meet against St. Joe's High School on January 24, 2020, held at Buffalo State College.

All High Championships will be held at City Honors. Carlos Guzman, Owen Guzman, Fernando Vega, Nay Soe, Kasseem Harris, Khalil Carter and Lamborghini Lucas all qualified!

In addition, the team has been encouraged to participate in the Police Athletic League Lifeguard program.

The team did a fundraiser to defray costs of the banquet. The Chuck A Duck Fundraiser was a lot of FUN! Participants donated \$1.00 and received three ducks to chuck in the floating basket. They were able to raise \$200 to go toward their first-ever banquet.

Congratulations to D'Jae Perry, who was elected to the Buffalo News 2019 All WNY Football Team. D'Jae was a senior Running Back on our L. J. Bennett Football Team.



BY MARY DELSIGNORE, FACULTY

Soccer Boys 1st in Division

The LJ Bennett Boys Varsity Soccer Team kicked off their Inaugural season finishing in first place in their division and advancing to Sectional Play.

The team consisted of 16 players from LJB and 2 players from the Research Lab School, housed inside of LJB.

The Tigers faced Ellicottville in Sectionals at All High Stadium on October 24, 2019. The team fought hard throughout the game, but fell short in a 2 - 1 loss. The score was tied 1-1 at halftime until Ellicottville scored the winning goal with under 2 minutes left in regulation.

Coach Mary DelSignore returned to LJ Bennett H.S. this year and coached the boys team. She also brought back former players, **Jedidiah Gallagher, '15** and **Abdi Maalim '14** to assist her.



E-Sports Competition Begins in January

The Tigers of L. J. Bennett will begin their inaugural E-Sports season in January, thanks, in part, to a generous \$4,000 donation to the Alumni for that purpose. A beginning roster of 45 video gamers, both varsity and junior varsity, will be competing with students at I-Prep High School.

Coach Jackie Albarella notes, "E-Sports allows all students to participate in a team activity. This is particularly important to our Special Education students and students who cannot physically qualify for traditional sports.

She continues, "Any activity that engages students, teaches them teamwork and compassion and gives them a safe place to stay for a few hours after school is worthwhile!"

Your Bennett Alumni Association is looking for new

Committee Members and Board Members.

If interested, please call Carol Caserta at 716-873-2836 for more information.

Your former Bennett High Classmates would love to know what you are doing, what you have done, where you're living and simply how you're 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

Toby Fink Laping
 Class of 1956



Elaine Moore
 Vandi-Kirkland
 Class of 1972

Duane Tananbaum
 Class of 1967



Aaron Young
 Class of 1991



Teena Petties Jones
 Class of 1986

Your Ticket Awaits
Showcase
L. J. Bennett HS
& Annual Meeting

• • Save the Date • •

Friday, September 25, 2020

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Bennett High School

2885 Main Street

Buffalo, New York 14214

Details will follow on our website and in our next issue of the Alumni Beacon

**22nd Annual Alumni Brunch
 and Honor Roll Induction**

The Bennett High School Alumni Association Annual Brunch and Honor Roll Induction took place on Sunday, September 22, 2019, at Classics V Banquet Center.

After Principal Carlos Alvarez and Assistant Principal Jamie Bar-den reported on the accomplishments which have been achieved, and the exciting future plans for L. J. Bennett High School of Innovative Technology, a delicious brunch was enjoyed by all.

At the impressive Alumni Honor Roll Induction Ceremony, the following outstanding alumni were honored:

- * Teena Petties Jones, '86:
Education and Administration
- * Elaine Moore Vandi-Kirkland, '72:
Education and Administration
- * Toby Fink Laping, '56:
Health Profession
- * Duane Tananbaum, '67:
Higher Education
- * Aaron Young, '91:
Law Enforcement

We congratulate the new inductees, and we invite you to nominate other deserving Alumni. The form is available on our website!

We also thank **Cecelia Henderson, Faculty**, and **Sue Gardner, '48**, for co-chairing the Induction Committee.

2020 Major Alumni Donors

* As of January 18, 2020. We apologize for any omissions or errors.

Diamond Club - \$500+

Alternative Information Systems

Marland L. Berdick, '49
Jack Heims, '54

Sanford Horwitz, '69
InfoTech Niagara, Inc.
Bruce R. Thielking, '66

Platinum Club - \$200 - \$499

Class of 1964

Sheldon Berlow, '50
Joan Broderick Mooney, '64
James Douglas Crawford, '46
Robert S. Fink, Ph.D., '65
Jeffrey M. Freedman, '68
Terrence Gamble, '65
John E. (Gene) Garrison, '49
Seymour Gitin, '52
Linda J. Greenberg Shohet, '68

Salvatore J. Illuzzi, Ph.D., '64
Sally Laurie Murphy, '51
Harold Leader, '57
Corinne Elliott Marillo Carter, '53
Colleen Mastoris Lambros, '56
Robin McNallie, '56
Andrew G. Mesches, '64
Anne Osborn Krueger, '50
Robert A. Russell, '63
Rhoda Stein Greenwald, '59

Leslie Wright Jones, '60

Gold Club - \$101 - \$199

Roberta Allbert Dayer, '53
Charles D. Bayless, '60
Phillip Brothman, '56
Peter M. Cammarata, '75
Richard F. Carver, M.D., '55
Barbara C. Chamberlain Lyons, '57
Beverly Davis Blue, '61
Elaine Diringer, Faculty
Thomas J. Dixon, '64
Frank G. Emerling, '60
Larry Fink (River), '68
Lance Fogan, M.D., '58
John M. Garrity, Atty., '48
Mary Gordon Perkins, '52
Judith Lynn Green Brothman, '59
Philip H. Hubbell, '56
Paul J. Jacobs, Jr., '67
Janet Kellner, '61
N. Richard Kinsman, '54
Carolyn "Cookie" Kulick Weil, '60

Neil J. Lange, Faculty
Dr. Ed & Linda Lazzaro, Faculty
Lawrence H. Levin, '57
Rona Lichtman Tananbaum, '60
Hazzan Leon S. Lissek, '56
David E. Manch, '60
Kenneth W. Matasar, MD, '60
Carol Newman Caserta, '60 & Faculty
Katherine A. Phillies, '54
Harry L. Powazek, '73
Nancy Preston Broderick, '36
Carolyn Price Singletary PhD, '66
Melvin L. Reinheimer, '62
Linda M. Scheffer, '61
Louise Seereiter, Faculty
Natalie Shupe Abramson, '57
Alvin H. Spector, '71
Duane A. Tananbaum, '67
Gloria Van Riper Askren, '56
Gordon T. Warme, '66

Century Club - \$100

Arlene (Susie) Alt Hogan, '58
Charles Breinin, '51
Anthony Cox, Friend
Hugh J. Devine, '55
Francis J. DeYoung, '57
Thomas L. Freudenheim, '55
Lynn Gilmore Canton, '66
James F. Guderian, '51
Phyllis Hanes Vogt, '53
Cecelia B. Henderson, Faculty
Jacqueline Hillary Jordan, '72
Gretchen Himmele Munroe, '56
Elaine Kaiser Kellick, '59

Douglas Lang, '56
Kathleen Lappin Calabrese, Ph.D., '65
Leonard Ludwig, '55
Robert B. Mooney, '48
Donna Moslow Lawler, '60
Kenneth J. Munro, Jr., '57
Marilyn Newman Walsdorf, '53
Mario Nunez, '66
Margie Redstone Rosenstock, '65
Jacquelyn D. Rettke Parkinson, '67
Nancy Rice Hunt, '45
Sue Shaffer Gardner, '48
Niils A. Vigeland, '68

Donna Wyglon, '65

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

Reunion

CLASS OF 1970

SAVE THE DATE

The Bennett Class of 1970 will celebrate its 50th Reunion on Saturday, August 29, 2020. More information and updates are on our Facebook Group: *Bennett Class of 1970*. Look us up and join. Tell fellow classmates about this exciting event. You also can email:

Janice Spector at:
janicemichele52@gmail.com

or Linda Steinfeldt at:
happycamper7252@yahoo.com.

Hope to see you in August!

Thanksgiving Canned Goods Drive

Thanks to your support, the National Honor Society's (which was funded by a Mini Grant again this year) Food Drive was a success! Over 400 non-perishable items were collected and will be donated to Friends of the Night People. The homeroom with the most food items collected was Ms. Frankowski's! Special thanks to Akeru Hunter for his large donation.



Here they are!! Maine ~ August, 2019
Waiting for lobster to celebrate our 85th birthdays. L-R; Sue, Marty, Jane and Ann. We were missing Julie, Gerry and Barb who were unable to join us. See Page 5 for the whole story!

BHS Sorority Days - Delta Gamma Delta

Imagine my excitement when, as a ninth-grader, I received an invitation from Delta Gamma Delta Sorority to attend the Rush Tea. Pledging was a little scary because you never knew what your superiors were going to ask of you. After ten weeks, it was worth it: I was a member!

From the time I earned my sorority pin, to the time I graduated, my four years being in a sorority was a learning experience. Delta Gamma Delta held three dances each school year - one Fall, one New Year's and one Spring. Dances were held at various downtown hotels. All of the sorority sisters had a part in securing the venue, hiring a band, selling tickets, decorating the hall, arranging refreshments, etc.

Helping the community was also a big part of the sorority. We provided food for a needy family, helped serve refreshments to Cerebral Palsy patients, read and played games with patients at the Children's Hospital, put on a Christmas Show at the Veteran's

Hospital, and contributed to AFS to sponsor an exchange student.

Field trips were a major part of the sorority days.. Touring the morgue was a chilling experience, learning how the Buffalo Police Department worked (Thanks, sisters, for selecting me to take the lie detector test!) and learning how milk is processed by touring a dairy were just a few of my more memorable trips!

There were many Delta Gamma Delta chapters across the country. Every year a convention was held. When it was our year to host, we learned every detail of running a stellar event. Booking hotels, hiring buses, choosing restaurants, providing fun activities and conducting the business meeting taught us skills to be used for the rest of our lives.

Nowadays, sororities and fraternities have less than stellar reputations. I cannot tell you how much good we learned and how grateful I am that these organizations existed when I was in school!

Thanks for the Considerate Gifts

... Our sincere thank you to the estate of **Herman R. Rodenberg, '44** who graciously donated funds to the Bennett Library in his name.

... Thank you to the **Class of 1964** for their generous donation of \$250.00 to the Bennett Alumni Association, Inc. in honor of their 55th reunion.

... Thank you to **Gordon Perkin, '52** who made a donation of \$152.00 in honor of the class of 1952. What a wonderful idea, alumni — we hope others in ALL classes will do the same!

... Thank you to **Joanne Szejbka**, a former Chemistry teacher at Bennett, for making a donation in memory of **John Vella**.

... Thank you to **Bob Kreinheder, '53**, for sending an additional contribution beyond his dues to the Bennett Alumni Association, Inc. He writes, "I appreciate the effort of all those involved. Keep up the good work."

CLASS OF 1965 SAVE THE DATE

Our 55th reunion will take place on Saturday, August 1st (dinner at Tewksbury Lodge) time and price to be determined, and Sunday, August 2nd (lunchtime picnic – location, time, and price to be determined).

Interested classmates can inquire about sign up by writing us at 1965bennett@gmail.com. They should also send updated contact info to that address as everything will be done via email.

Although the Alumni Beacon often runs articles about alumni events and get-togethers, Bennett Alumni Association, Inc. is not responsible for any of these events sponsored by other organizing alumni groups.

Removing the Barriers

It's Sometimes the Little Things that Make Coming to School Hard

Some of our Young People Really Need Your Help

The caring staff at Bennett has created *The Tigers Den*. *The Tigers Den* is a cute name for a room with a serious purpose. Many of our students and their families experience the obstacles that poverty presents—every day. We want to join the staff in removing anything that prevents a young person from coming to school. For that reason, we are asking you to consider donating any of the following items:

- body wash
- deodorant: men and women
- plastic hangers
- school supplies
- shampoo
- soap
- toothbrushes/toothpaste
- jackets
- leggings of all sizes
- sneakers
- socks
- underwear
- women's sweatpants

Donations may be dropped off at the Bennett Main Office or monetary donations for *The Tigers Den* maybe made on the Bennett Alumni Association website: www.bennettalumni.com. or by sending an additional contribution with your annual membership dues check marked **Tigers Den** in the memo.

Thanks for your help!!!

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 sport or academic honors did you earn at BHS? _____

Please make checks payable to Bennett Alumni Association, Inc.

<input type="checkbox"/> Basic Dues • \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Century • \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> Gold • \$101 - \$199	<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum \$200 - \$499	<input type="checkbox"/> Diamond \$500+

You can now use PayPal!

Visit us at www.bennettalumni.com

*** For any questions about your DUES (to see if your dues are current; to make additional contributions; to find out about our legacy program) call Neil Lange at 716-308-5451!

Please Mail to: Bennett Alumni 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!



Mini-multi-Class Reunion

A **Mini-Reunion** took place on August 13, 2019 at the Elma home of Gloria Fibich Ferreri '58 and her husband, Sal Ferreri. It was a beautiful day to have a cook-out. Seventeen people were in attendance and nine ladies are Bennett graduates. Take a look at the photo: How many do you recognize?

BACK: Deby Fox-Hahn '60, Carol Hutton Woepfel '58, Karen Simpson Ray, Carol Duquin Beaver '61, Joyce Duquin Irving '58, Christa Scherer Cunningham '58. **FRONT:** Antoinette Deveso Harrington '58, Joette Deveso Fox '62, Gloria Fibich Ferreri '58.

Class of 1964 Holds 55th Reunion, August 16-18, 2019

The Reunion began with a "meet and greet" at the Parkside Meadow Restaurant, owned by a Bennett Tiger from another class. We only expected about 30 people, but more and more people kept pouring in as we madly wrote name tags for everyone. Our total was over 50! Saturday's double deck bus tour was an adventure which we highly recommend for other class reunions. Riding along the waterfront, touring the ships, South Buffalo and downtown were especially entertaining for the out-of-towners.

Dinner at Templeton Landing was preceded by brief introductions of the committee members: Diane and David Nathan; Sharron and David Frommann, Jim and Roberta Lawson, Tom and Fran Dixon, Pamela and Ilja Weinrieb and Linda and Alan Linsky. The highlight was the intro-

duction of our AFS exchange student, Toshiko Sujimoto, who flew in all the way from Japan! Our other exchange student, Lin Leam Lin, was from Malaysia, but she was unable to attend as it was her mother's 100th birthday. She sent a lovely letter to be read to the class.

Sunday brunch at Pam and Ilja Weinrieb's home was like walking through the Garden of Eden! Sadly, we had to say goodbye too soon, but not before we promised to hold a 60th Reunion! There will be pictures on our website: www.bennett64reunion.com.

We'd love to report about your Reunion. Send your information, with complete contact information, to Bennett or call the school and leave a message!



Learthist Tyson - GPA: 90.89

Interests: Football, playing video games, criminal justice

College Acceptances: Canisius College, Alfred University

Scholarships: Canisius College Magnus Scholarship (\$38,000) Alfred University Jonathan Allen Scholarship

(\$72,000)

Future Plans: Career in criminology, detective

Lewis Jackson Bennett's Best



Nicole Baker - GPA: 88.14

Interests: Volleyball, tennis, bowling, volunteer work @ Buffalo Scenic Railroad

College Acceptances: Villa Maria
Awards/Scholarships: National Federation for Just Communities WNY Community Leader Award

Future Plans: Attend college to study Graphic Design, possibly start her own business

Lewis Jackson Bennett's Best

WORK HARD, HAVE FUN,



Jermil Anderson - GPA: 97.15

Interests: Engineering, architecture

College Acceptances: Akron University, Cleveland State University, U/Michigan-Dearborn, Ohio University

Scholarships: Alfred University Presidential Scholarship (\$92,000), Cleveland State University (\$8,000), U/Michigan Blue Scholarship (\$8,000), U/

Michigan Non Residential Tuition Scholarship (\$12,600), OHIO Distinction Scholarship (\$4,000), OHIO Promise Scholarship (\$4,000), OHIO Trustee Award (\$16,000)

Future Plans: Mechanical engineering, corporate job for a car manufacturer, entrepreneur

Lewis Jackson Bennett's Best

CELEBRATE SUCCESSES...



Davon Scott - GPA: 85.18

Interests: Basketball, hanging with friends, playing video games

College Acceptances: Edinboro University, Niagara University, Hilbert College, Wright State University, Cleveland State University, Alfred State College, Tuffin University

Scholarships: Hilbert College Trustee Scholarship (\$28,000), Tiffin University Dean Grant (\$40,000)

Future Plans: Sports broadcasting, general manager for a professional sports team

Lewis Jackson Bennett's Best

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