



Ottawa Hills Alumni

2125 Richards Road
Toledo, Ohio 43606

Support Your Alumni Association

Like all foundations, your Ottawa Hills Alumni Association needs your continued financial support. Our financial obligations continue, and we are seeking your financial assistance. We are asking for a \$20 donation from each alumnus. Please mail your tax-deductible donation to:

OHHS Alumni
2125 Richards Road
Toledo, Ohio 43606

Thank You!

Academics & Athletics - OH is #1

A State Championship!

In Columbus, on a brisk, rainy day in November, the Ottawa Hills High School Boys' Soccer team won the 2008 Division III State Championship. Previously unranked, the Green Bears defeated the number one and number two teams in Ohio. During the

regular season, Ottawa Hills outscored opponents 100-10. During the post season, the Green Bears scored 22 goals while their opponents scored only one.



photo courtesy of Donnie Stevens

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Class Reunions

'68, '69 & '70

August 7th and 8th

We plan a "meet and greet" on Friday night, but are not exactly sure of the venue yet. On Saturday, we're hoping to hold a golf tournament and a tour of the high school, hopefully with access to the Bear Cave's purchasable memorabilia. Respond with your interest to

Patti Price Tuschman
2549 Underhill Road Toledo, Ohio 43615

'74

August 7th - August 9th

Friday, 7pm - Rosie's Italian Grille
Saturday / Sunday - golf at Inverness Club
Saturday, 6:30pm - casual dinner at Inverness

RSVP by July 7th. For details, contact
Kevin Wexler 419-349-3663 partzco@aol.com

'79

July 17th & 18th

Friday, 8pm - Nick & Jimmy's on Monroe Street
Saturday, 7pm - Mary & Jim Geiger's home

RSVP by July 10th. For details, contact
Mary Lewis Geiger oh30threunion@yahoo.com

'84

Saturday, July 11th

Laura Nicholson Buckey lbuckey@sbcglobal.net

For more alumni reunion info, visit
www.ohschools.k12.oh.us
and click on the Alumni icon in left column.



Newsletter - Spring 2009

Names Have Changed, But Outstanding Achievement Remains the Same

Ottawa Hills Schools have received two outstanding distinctions this year. *U.S. News and World Report* named OHHS as one of 100 Gold Medal high schools in the country. Ranking is based on the magazine's college readiness index and state proficiency benchmarks. Ottawa Hills was one of four high schools in Ohio to make the list. The Ottawa Hills school district was also named the #1 school district in Ohio. The ranking is based on several factors including academic excellence as demonstrated by participation in accelerated programs, advanced placement course offerings and enrollment, overall proficiency test performance, attendance and graduation rate.

Alumni Stories

We are looking for stories about Ottawa Hills alumni. Punctuation and grammar are not important. Embellishing, like one would do when describing an injury from 30 years ago, is frowned upon. We want you to share *true* stories about achievement and helping others. Please send to:
ohhsalumni@gmail.com or
2125 Richards Road Toledo, Ohio 43606

Alumni Trivia

1. What is the song Mr. Vance McCarter would narrate while the choirs sang?
2. What is the name of the Lucas County library in the elementary school?
3. What is the name of the first OHHS librarian?

Submit your answers to: OH Alumni Trivia, 2125 Richards Road, Toledo, Ohio 43606, along with a 27-inch flat-screen television, to be eligible for the grand prize!



photo courtesy of Mickey Reams

Bobby McFerrin Visits OHHS

In January, the Ottawa Hills High School Choraliers, along with their director, Mitch Tyson, and other members of the OH family came face to face with a musical genius. Famed performer, composer and improv star, Bobby McFerrin, joined the Choraliers in the choir room for a workshop made possible by the Toledo Symphony. Mr. McFerrin performed for the students and they, in turn, performed for him. The sense of musical creativity emanated throughout the room as they improvised together and shared stories about the power of music and its ability to change the human condition. Students were invited to be guests at his Toledo Symphony performance that weekend where the audience joined him in singing his famed *Don't Worry, Be Happy*, truly completing the circle of education, composition and performance.



Class of 2008

The Ottawa Hills Hall of Fame Class of 2008 was inducted in November 2008 at the Inverness Club. Dave Baehren, alumnus, chaired the event and Diane Larsen, villager and local ABC-13 television newscaster, served as the MC.

The Hall of Fame Committee selects inductees who live(d) in Ottawa Hills because of their significance of service and influence locally, nationally and globally.

Dr. Libby Ruppert is highly regarded for her expertise and dedication as a pediatrician, teacher, researcher and writer. Throughout her illustrious career, Libby has championed the cause for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children.

1946 OHHS graduate **Evan Galbraith** served as the United States Ambassador to France from 1981 to 1985 under President Ronald Reagan.

During a 21-year span, **James Brennan, Sr.** served as Lucas County Republican Party Chairman three times. Jim's sphere of influence extended to presidents, governors, senators and corporate leaders.

During his 40-year tenure, **Coach Norm Niedermeier** led the Ottawa Hills Green Bear football team to 210 wins. His teams won eight league championships, celebrated four undefeated seasons and enjoyed a storied 23-game winning streak. Approximately 400 young men were coached by Norm. He was declared an honorary OH villager in order for him to receive this honor.

Jay and Clara Shuer worked tirelessly for nearly a half century as pioneer advocates for retarded citizens. Both Jay and Clara raised awareness nationally, orchestrated legislation and promoted the passage of levies so children who were shunned from public education could be helped.

Milton Olander was inducted into the Century Circle, which honors early OH villagers. Milt was one of the most beloved and respected men of his time. Communities, organizations and businesses all sought his expertise and creativity. He served on the Ottawa Hills School Board during the time our high school was built.

New Alumni Website

Visit our new alumni website at www.ohschools.k12.oh.us Click on the Ottawa Hills Alumni icon in the left column. Here you will find basic alumni and reunion information. **Please verify that you are in the database. Click on the Alumni Directory link and "Search" for yourself. If you aren't there, please register**

your information. Because we merged names from one format to another, we ask that you please take a couple minutes to update your information. We know many of the maiden names were accidentally omitted. We will certainly appreciate it if you update your information.

As an alumnus, you can search for other alumni by name or you can e-mail us at ohhsalumni@gmail.com. Personal contact information gathered by your Alumni Association is never shared at any time for any reason. We have a search routine.

facebook



Facebook has become another tool for contacting fellow alumni. The "Ottawa Hills Alumni group" is on facebook.com and ready for you. There are

several "groups" created for alumni of various ages and interests. The largest, "I lived in Ottawa Hills," is comprised of more than 750 members who live or lived in the village. Another group, "Ottawa Hills High School," is open to anyone who attended Ottawa Hills schools.

The fastest growing group is the "Ottawa Hills Alumni" group. For those of you who think Facebook is only for kids, you will quickly realize that it is for everyone. The "Ottawa Hills Alumni" group was created for older graduates and has nearly 300 members who graduated from 1947 to 1984.

When you go to Facebook, notice that there is also an Ottawa Hills High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan. In your profile, record that you attended **Ottawa Hills**, not Ottawa Hills High School.

New things are happening at Ottawa Hills Local Schools:

- Katharine A. Hurst, OH Junior / Senior High School Principal and part of the OH family for 27 years, is retiring in June.
- Artificial turf is being installed in Niedermeier Stadium for football, soccer, field hockey and lacrosse.
- The band has become so proficient that it now has its own biannual concert.



Hayden Bennett, class of '48

Bennett said, "I became the class of 1948 Alumni rep by surviving this long, and by having been the senior class president, a job that apparently can be vacated only by death." He also said to note his "somewhat cryptic resume."

- Attended the U of Michigan and the U of Toledo where I received a degree in Electrical Engineering
- Received commission in the Army Signal Corps
- Served in Pusan, Korea
- Became a design engineer with a company in Galion, Ohio, that manufactured telephone equipment
- Joined ITT, based in Puerto Rico
- Spent 18 years in Washington, D.C. with the Washington trade association