

LEWISTON-PORTER
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni News

VOLUME II

ISSUE I

NOVEMBER 2008

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Lewiston-Porter
Alumni and Friends,

Why is Lew-Port now ranked as one of the best high schools in the nation? Top notch leadership, dedicated faculty/staff, challenging curriculum, and strong community support are all essential in producing high achieving students. And now Lew-Port is one of the few school systems in the country with hundreds of graduates working together in a formal Alumni Association to provide even greater added value to the school. Our 400 alumni, living throughout the country have signaled their eagerness to support Lew-Port by joining the Association.. Together we have launched multiple initiatives to strengthen Lew-Port's overall excellence and helped defray future college costs by awarding two \$750 scholarships to members of the Class of 2008. Two more scholarships await applicants for the Class of 2009. In August 2008, we helped sponsor and staff the Class of 2013 Freshman Orientation program for parents and students. September saw us in town greeting alumni and friends at the Peach Festival while showcasing the school with a power point presentation and bringing yearbooks for all to recall fond memories. Our Mini-grant program to support teachers and activity directors was launched in August and will make awards later during 2008 to help

fund special needs at the school. Our Distinguished Graduate program is already on the street soliciting nominations for exceptional Lew-Port alumni to be recognized in respective career fields and share their experiences with students during return visits to classrooms in all schools. We are collaborating with other Lew-Port organizations such as the Athletic Hall of Fame by supporting the awards program in 2007 and 2008, and helping Partners In Education communicate their Memorial Brick project. Our official Website www.lew-port.com/alumni has expanded considerably thanks to inspired work by Joe Lauzonis. And, the Association's several newsletter are a tribute to Ann Johnston's considerable hard work and collaboration with Lew-Port to keep us all informed. Finally in our first year we became formally incorporated by NYS thanks to legal help from attorney Max Coykendall. We also established our Lew-Port Alumni Association Philanthropic Fund to provide 501c3 status for capital donations. Leadership during this first year has been provided by our 17 member initial Board of Directors. At the LPAA annual meeting on September 29th, fifteen initial Board of Director members were reelected. Two new members, Sullivan Fitzgerald '08 and John MacArthur, our new

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DEAR ALUMNI,

The 2008-09 school year has opened up in fine fashion. Our \$28 million-capital project has brought significant improvement to our school campus. If you have not had a chance to be on campus recently, we now have an all weather eight-lane track, new field event facility, enhanced baseball and softball diamonds, expanded tennis facility, along with state of the art team rooms and concession stand to enhance the athletic experience for students and the community. The new look is the buzz among the students and certainly brings great pride to our entire school community.

I want to thank the LPAA for its sponsorship of the 2008 Freshman Orientation. Through the LPAA's generous financial support the event was a great success. I believe all of the LPAA members that volunteered their time had a solid experience. Their presence made the event very special and offered a nice connection between the past, present, and future of dear old LPHS.

For the 2008-09 school years we have introduced to LPHS an Air Force Junior ROTC Program. We have two instructors serving the program; Lt. Col. William Arrington and MSgt. Theresa Demers.

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John MacArthur,
Secretary LPAA

..Lew-Port
welcomes new
superintendent,
R. Chris Roser

Getting to Know Your LPAA Board Members

John MacArthur joined the LPAA Board at our annual meeting and will be the new secretary for the board. John graduated from Lew-Port in 1968 and attended Bryant and Stratton Business Institute. After graduating, he enlisted in the Army and served for three years as a personnel specialist.

John returned to Youngstown in 1975 and went to work for the Town of Porter as an assessor clerk. He served the town in many capacities, ie. court clerk, secretary for the Zoning Board, deputy town clerk and in 1996, was elected to town clerk for three consecutive terms.

John also is very active in the

community. He is the current president of the Friends of the Youngstown Library and past president of the Youngstown Lions Club a member for over 25 years. He is very involved in the Youngstown Presbyterian Church where he is an elder, a member of the Fix It Club, and various committees. John recently was appointed quartermaster for the V.F.W. Post No. 313 in Youngstown.

As you can see one of his greatest joys is helping the community.

John has a personal motto that he carries with him, "Nothing brings a smile to my face and a warm spot in my heart more than helping those who are less fortunate than I."

Town of Porter Supervisor, Mert Wiepert named John, Town of Porter Citizen of the Year in 2008. In speaking of John, he said, "John deserves this honor for working diligently for the Town of Porter for so many years. John did his job and he did it well. He was always the last one to leave the office and the last one to leave a town event. He isn't boastful or political. He contributes to his church and his community, and he is a dedicated husband and father. He is one of Porter's unsung heroes who deserves to be brought into the spotlight...."

John is married to the former Sarah Oakes, Class of 1979 and they have a son, Tyler. Tyler is in the 7th grade at Lew-Port Middle School.

Welcome aboard, John.

LPAA Welcomes Supt. Chris Roser

It is with great pleasure I announce Lewiston-Porter again has a Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Roser was officially on campus October 1st but made visits in the interim between his appointment and start date. By everything that is apparent, he is up and running.

Mr. Roser grew up in the Binghamton area and graduated from SUNY Brockport. He started college as a physical

education major but after checking the odds on positions vs. applicants he switch to history. Mr. Roser was Asst. Supt. at Hornell High School where his three children attended and then served as Superintendent in several schools in the southern tier.

Mr. Roser and his wife, Anne are came to Lew-Port from Avoca, NY.



President's Corner Cont'd

(Continued from page 1)

Association Secretary, were added Cindy Bullis returns as Association Treasurer, Harold Shippy steps in as Vice President, and I am honored to continue as President and team with Paul Casseri, an outstanding leader who has been a key to our successes this year. **Looking ahead** we will reach out to

keep year groups planning reunions in 2009 offering Association resource support. A strategic plan will be developed with a view to articulating ways the Alumni Association can best accomplish its mission of supporting students, faculty/staff, programs, and community.

Casseri Continued

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I am proud to say the seventy-five students have opted for inclusion in the program in its first year. The coursework combines leadership training, PT and drill as well as a significant aeronautics and military history curriculum. The students are now wearing their uniforms one day each week and I can tell you they all look very sharp. Certainly, with Niagara County's close relationship with the Niagara Falls Airbase, the acquisition of an

Air Force JROTC seemed like a natural fit. That has proved to be true and I look forward to this program soaring to success at LPHS.

In addition, for the 2008-09 school year we have added an International Business component to our flourishing International Exchange Program. We have developed significant exchange relationships with three schools around the world; No. 2 High School, Tianjin, China, Colegio Juan Agustin Maza, Mendoza, Argentine and Notre Dames des les Champs, Bruxelles, Belgium. These partnerships are now flourishing and students and teachers from these school and LPHS have been vigorously exchanging for the past two years. Adding the International Business component to the program has been a natural outgrowth of these exchange relationships. We are presently solidifying the program and working on corporate/business partnerships. If any LPAA member would like to offer their expertise or financial support to this great endeavor, it would be greatly appreciated.

Please contact me at the school (716 286-7263) for further details.

Homecoming 2008 took place September 28th through October 4th. It was a great success and the entire body had a spirited time. Despite our loss to Tonawanda High School, the bonfire after the game and the dance on Saturday night were well attended. Over 600 students danced the night away to our 80's themed Homecoming dance. Remember when the nostalgic era was the 1950's, now it's the 1980's. It's hard to believe our students view the 1980's as ancient history. Thanks to the LPAA for all its support over the past year. The impact the LPAA is making on our school community is tremendous and in such a short time too. Well Done! As we approach the holiday season, I wish to off all LPAA member and their families a restful and blessed holiday season.

Go Lancers! Paul Casseri, Principal

Alumni Briefs:

Don Felice, Class of 1988 rode up to his third straight podium at the Tour de Loop in Oswego. Don finished the hilly 31-mile course in 1 hour, 18 minutes and 37 seconds, good for third overall and first in his age group. "I missed first place overall by just over a second," Don said. Don races for Team Fuji and Berts' Bikes. Don is trying to raise \$10,000 to race in Argentina.

The Brickyard held a fun raiser on September 25th. Of this race, Don said, "This is a rare chance and I will race as hard as I possibly can."

Lew-Port's math teacher, **George Decker, 93**, recorded his third career hole-in-one this past summer at Niagara Frontier Country Club. George used a five-wood to ace the 134-yard third hole. In other golf news, LPAA-VP, **Harold**

Shippy Class of 1956 aced his second hole-in-one on the 138 yard 18th hole at Willowbrook Golf Course. Harold who has golfed for 20 years, used an 11-wood to ace the par-3 shot. **Bruce Sutherland, Class of 1964** was awarded The George Vanderhoek Award for his work in renovating the Lewiston Museum. He is a board member of

(Continued on page 4)

Notes:

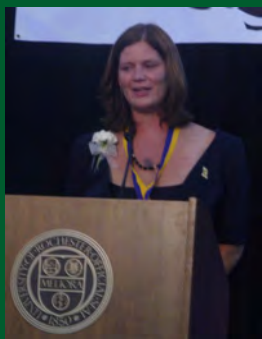
Thank you to Lewiston-Porter and Nicole Krawczyk for the help in publishing the Alumni newsletter.

Find us on the Web: www.lew-port.com with our dropdown link for the LPAA thanks to Joe Lauzonis and Shannon Niccola.

Thank you to Patty Yacus and Karen Oddy for sharing photographs of reunions.

If you have an article you would like to see in our newsletter or comments, please contact Ann Johnston at annjohnston@verizon.net.

Alumni Briefs Continued



JoAnn Allender
at her induction into
University of
Rochester's
Hall of Fame

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the Historical Association in Lewiston and also the treasurer and LPAA Board Member. The Vanderhoek award is the associations highest award presented to the most outstanding board member of the year. This award was presented on June 30, 2008 at the associations annual membership meeting.

JoAnn Johnston Allender, Class of 1986 was inducted to the University of Rochester Ath-

letic Hall of Fame on October 17, 2008. JoAnn was a 4-year letterwinner in soccer and helped the team to win back to back NCAA Division III national championships in freshman (1986) and sophomore (1987) years. She had clutch saves to preserve 1-0 win over William Smith in 1987 final at Fauver Stadium. JoAnn was selected Best Defensive Player in the Flower City Tournament as a junior and named to the All-University Athletic Association Second team as a junior and senior years. JoAnn set con-

secutive shutout record holding first ten opponents scoreless and tied record for most shutouts in a season as a senior. She is still ranked among the top 10 for career goals-against average by the NCAA Statistics Service.

Mary Ann Tower Rolland, Class of 1957 and husband Bill have been recognized for their restoration project of historical homes in the Echota district of Niagara Falls. They already restored a house in Lewiston that had belonged to the Underground Railroad. Mary Ann has worked on getting properties on the national historical registry.

Lt. Col Patrick Roemer home from Iraq



Patrick Roemer, Class of 1981 was serving our country during this past spring at Sather Air Base, Iraq with the 447th Air Expeditionary Group. Their mission was to maintain and operate the airfield and aerial port. "The 447 ELRS is critical to supporting the Operation Iraqi Freedom effort by ensuring all associated units have fuel, supplies, vehicles and the equipment required to ensure mission accomplishment. This unit supported 5,700 aircraft missions and moved passengers and equipment into and out of the Victory Base," reported Lt. Col. Dana Pelletier. Lt. Col. Patrick Roemer, "Sather is the stepping

off point for many units in Iraq. The 447 ELRS is instrumental in maintaining the base, and it's very important to keep Sather functional." Pat is the 447 ECES commander and full-time base civil engineer for Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, NY. Of their tour, Col. Fred Cheney said, "They have made this one of the most successful AEF teams in the history of Sather AB."

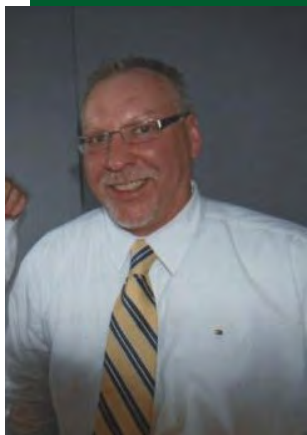
In June, Pat stopped by the Lew-Port campus to thank the member of the Lewiston-Porter Builders Club for their thoughtful gifts of Valentine cookies and personal items sent to him while in Iraq. He presented them with a flag and the following proclamation, "Let it be known that this American flag was flown over the skies of Sather Air Base, Baghdad International Airport, Iraq 31 March 2008 in honor of the Lewiston-Porter Middle School Builders Club." Pat also presented a flag to the Niagara

Powerlifting Club for their work in raising money for the Military Support Group. Pat gave a short speech of gratitude and how the money the club raised over the past four Red Brick Competitions has helped so many families of the Air Force, Army, and Marines. Besides the flag, they were presented with a large picture of 70+ soldiers holding the club's Red Brick banner in Iraq.

Pat's daughter, Shannon, a Lew-Port senior was crowned the Peach Queen at the annual Peach Festival held in Lewiston in September.



Lew-Port Reunion Season



Eddie Wocjik
Class of 1973

Summer time in the Lew-Port area is an unsurpassable place to be. It is also a time for high school reunions. Two of the favorite places to hold the welcome event are the Ontario House (The Jug) in Youngstown and the Brickyard in Lewiston.

Both of these places are owned and operated by Lew-Port alumni. Ed Wojcik class of 1973, Ken Bryan, class of 1985 and Eric Matthews, class of 1987.

Ed's family has own and operated the Jug since the late 1930's and has always been a family operation. The alumni from the 60's will all remember Rennie Sikoski bartending at the Jug who is still often seen at lunch. Ed came into the business after high school and took over the operation in 1977. In 1985, Ed turned the upstairs into a beautiful bed and breakfast. The Jug had always had rooms to rent and was very busy in the 60's during the Power Project. The porch view from the Jug is one of the most impressively beautiful sights in the village of Youngstown. (Photo on the left). This summer the residents became very distressed when they learned there were

plans in process to build a condo on the vacant lot across Main Street thus sealing off the great view. Edie has two sons living in Yakima, Washington. Caylen Class of 1997 who served and was injured in Iraq and is now in school to become a private commercial jet pilot. Peter left Lew-Port in 2000 when his mother relocated to the State of Washington and is currently in college studying physics.

One can now find the next generation working in the kitchen as a cook. Stephen Sikoski class of 1997, had high hopes of a career in politics when he left for George Washington University. At his graduation party, Stephen and his friend, Dominick Sirianni, were going to be our next politicians. After an internship in a senator's office Stephen's eyes were opened that it was not for him. So after his freshman year, he left Youngstown to work at Disney World. He held many positions in his ten years at Disney from restaurant manager, hotel manager, but his favorite was Special Events Coordinator. Steve returned to Youngstown while he looks for his dream position. When asked what his dream position would be, he quickly replied he would like to be the head of quest services operation in an athletic setting. He applied to the Dallas Cowboys and interviewed with the Philadelphia Eagles. In the interim, you can find Steve in the kitchen cooking the old standards and if you

are lucky one of his specialties. I got a taste of his chicken pot pie—delicious.

Ken Bryan class of 1985 and Eric Matthews class of 1987 started talking in their senior year at Niagara University that they should start a brew club. They graduated from NU in 1991 and are partners in the Brickyard and Tin Pan Alley. Ken graduated from Niagara University with a dual degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management and Business. After college Ken worked for Marriott Hotel for nine years. When management was changing, he decided on a change too. Ken and Eric decided to follow their dream. Their first choice was the former Amanda's that was closing after 24 years but an agreement couldn't be reached. Mike Johnson, owner of Tin Pan Alley called Ken to meet him at 5 a.m. at the restaurant the next morning. Ironically, the owner was ill and the business was turned over to them. Early morning hours seem to be very eventful for the duo as they received another call at 2 a.m. to meet at the lawyer's office the next day, The owner of Amanda's was ready to sell. That was 2004.

Ken and Eric spent a year remodeling the now Brickyard and open the doors in 2005. The first reunion at the Brickyard was Ken's class of '85's 20th reunion and has now become a popular place for reunions and other meetings. The new plans are to remodel the back room as you can see them hard at

(Continued on page 10)



Stephen Sikoski
Class of 1997



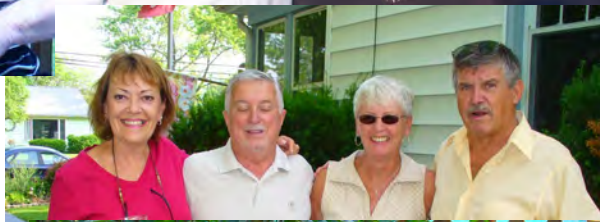
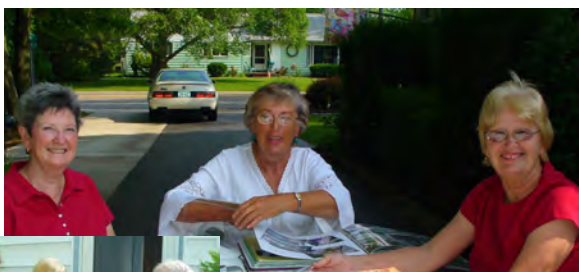


Class of 1968



40th REUNION





Class of 1958

50th
REUNION

Alumni Soccer Game







Every fall Tom Tower hosts the kindergarten classes from Lew-Port at his farmer's market. The children are introduced to Gertrude the apple tree. They are asked what does Gertrude need to live. The first answer was a place to live; then sunlight, water, and dirt. Tom explained to the children that dirt is where Gertrude gets her nutrients. Apples also have a natural wax so they don't spoil. Tom shined an apple a bright red. The most important thing Tom's apples need is children to eat them. He told the children what other fruits he grew on his farm and asked them if they knew which fruit he grew that had a hole in the middle. No answer, everyone was stumped.

Next was a math lesson as Tom broke an apple in half and then half again. When he asked the children what he had now, Aspyr responded, "apple dippers." Tom also cut an apple in half

horizontally to show the children the star in the middle. The children are our stars. After a walk in the orchard where the children got to pick two apples, one to eat now and one for later. Tom had first shown them how you lift an apple to pick it.

Then it was back in the market for a lesson about vegetables and colors. They looked at all Tom's beautiful displays of fruits and vegetables. They learned that cauliflower doesn't only come in white but also purple and green.

The children were introduced to Parker his guard pig and a pen on a shelf. He told them the unusual thing about Parker was he slept with his eyes open. They were told Parker doesn't like to be disturbed when he was sleeping and would oink very loud if disturbed. Tom carefully took a stick and poked the cage. There was a very loud oinking noise. I guess Parker was sleeping. Tom asked, "who made that noise Parker or me?" Most of our kindergarteners thought it was Tom. Tom's acute sense of humor was shown throughout the field trip.

Before the children returned to Lew-Port they were treated to a cup of cider and given a small pumpkin.

Tom graduated from Lew-Port in 1966 and went to Cornell University in an Air Force ROTC program. He was planning on becoming a pilot but the idea of killing people he didn't know turned him off. So after graduation, he returned to Youngstown and worked as an ironworker for seven years. In the Tower Family tradition he began farming, then opened his very successful market, and was instrumental in opening a farmer's market at Bidwell and Elmwood in Buffalo and serves as a board member. Tom stressed several times he believes in our children, teachers and Lew-Port. By the way, the fruit with a hole, a raspberry.



Lew-Port Reunion Season continued



Eric Matthews and Ken Bryan

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work in the photo.

Ken & his wife, Kathryn have two boys and live in Synder. Eric and his wife, Mary Sue Velky, Class of 1989 and Mary Sue's daughter Danielle live in Lewiston. Danielle graduated from Lew-Port in the Class of 2004.



Photo by Derek Johnston, Class of 1988

Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association

Lewiston-Porter Central School
4061 Creek Road
Youngstown, NY 14174

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Permit No. 25

Once a Lancer always a Lancer



Time to renew
membership for
all LPAA
members who
joined for a
one-year
membership in
2007-2008

LPAA Grant Winners

The LPAA awarded nearly \$2000 in grant money to the following Lew-Port personnel.

Senior High: Terri Faut, Library Media Specialist, "A Camera, A Camera, My Kingdom for a Camera"

Middle School: Nina Calarco, "A Geocaching Adventure" (GPS)

Intermediate School: Mary Ann Mohr, "Fostering Fluency Recording Artists"

Primary Building: Heidi Kazulak, "Enhancing Technology Instruction"

Primary Building: Lori Boss, Debbi Delmar & Candy Allen-Thomas, "Multisensory Math & Literacy Learning"

Next Alumni Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 6:00 p.m.

Senior High Library