

**LEWISTON-PORTER
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

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Alumni News

VOLUME IV

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Lewiston-Porter Alumni and Friends,

This fall begins the fourth year of our Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association. The Annual Members' meeting September 29, 2010 was highlighted by election to the board of eleven new enthusiastic board members: Laurel Coutts '70, Edward Engel '58, Joshua Janese '06, William Leardini '65, Joseph Lauzonis III '93, Mary Grace Baker-Luff '60, James Oddy '10, Gary J. Raby Sr. '71, Michael Roemer '78, Raymond Tracy '66 and Dorothy Wedge '75. A hardy 'Welcome Aboard' to all, including newly elected Vice President Doug Diez, '63, for stepping into Association leadership positions on the board and committees. Notable also is the stellar leadership by Ann Johnston who continues as Newsletter editor and Membership Chair, both very time consuming, challenging jobs.

Congratulations also to our four most recent Distinguished Alumni inducted October 1, 2010: Dr. Lew Howell '58, International Management Professor; Ms. Susan J. Geissler '71, sculptor; Mr. Bruce D. Lund '69, Toy inventor/CEO; and USAF Brigadier General Thomas Masiello, '77. All were generous with their time meeting with students over two days to provide motivational career talks.

An important change over the summer was transition of our Philanthropic Fund into an Endowment Fund. This ensures prudent long term management of our financial assets while also providing for annual needs such as mini-grants and scholarships.

LPAA now has a permanent home on the Lew-Port Campus. Superintendent Roser has made available an outstanding office/meeting room space in the Community Resources Center. Outfitted with a complete suite of office furniture and equipment we now have and excellent place for meetings, files, and an operational base.

Lew-Port classes planning reunions in 2011 can again get support from your Alumni Association. A menu of assistance is potentially available including seed money, planning assistance, data base assistance, reference to local businesses, and other resource support to compliment your planning committee.

A record setting six scholarships will be available for the Lew-Port's Class of 2011. These are sponsored directly by the Alumni Association or in collaboration with families and local businesses where LPAA provides management and administrative support.

Overall, our successful three years has been made possible by the generous support of our loyal alumni members and over 60 local business partners. We look forward to 2010 – 2011 with a full slate of programs to continue bringing alumni together, enhancing school and community spirit, and sponsoring programs at Lew-Port that complement the excellent faculty and school leadership. In the end it is all about the education of Lew-Port students and the Alumni Association is proud of our continuing role.

Jack James '58 President

DEAR ALUMNI,

I hope everyone is keeping warm as we move into the blustery months of December, January and February. It certainly is special when Father Christmas bestows on us a white Christmas. After that it could all disappear without disappointment. To all the snowbirds enjoying a cold beverage on there lanai, we are all jealous. Minus 20 wind chill, you have know idea how much fun you are missing. Despite all the snow and cold, things are warm and spirited here at Lewiston-Porter High School. The holidays are a special time at LPHS. Our traditions club has the school windows festively painted and, as I write to you from my office, I can see the students decorating the tree in the main lobby. All the holiday finery certainly creates an air of excitement and anticipation even for our high school students. On Wednesday, December 22 we will have Kindergarten students from the PEC here at the High school and one of our fine seniors will dress as Santa Claus, gather in front of the tree and have the children offer to him their Christmas wishes. It is quite touching and a great tradition for our school.

Upon our return in 2011, we will be gearing up for January Regents and Mid-Term examination period. We have significantly ramped up our mid-term exam process in an effort to promote rigor and relevance for our students. As we continue to promote the tenets of a Professional Learning community at LPHS, we will look for opportunities to support student development and student success as we prepare our students for life after Lew-Port.

As I write to you, we are readying ourselves to host 33 students and 4 teachers from our sister school in Tianjin, China. This is the fourth year of our Chinese exchange and it is proving to be a signature opportunity in our overall school program. On Thursday, February 12th, we will take the

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Doug Diez
Class of 1963

Getting to Know Your LPAA Board Members

Doug Diez, Class of 1963, became a Board Member the first year of LPAA and is the new Vice President. He has been an intricate part of the board for over three years. Doug has been a member of the Mini-grant Selection Committee and a speaker at the 2010 Lew-Port graduation. He always works the Jason Raby Memorial 5K Run, Freshman Orientation, and the Peach Festival. Doug is easily described as a family man and a great contributor to many organizations and events in the area.

During Doug's high school years he played football for four years. His first three years he was the center switching to tackle his senior year. Doug wrestled on an intramural team for two years coached by Pete Rao. Pete was a much loved part of Lew-Port's history who was inducted into UB's Hall of Fame this past fall. Doug also managed the swim team 1959-1960. While attending Lew-Port, he had perfect attendance from the 4th grade through graduation.

After graduation, Doug attended UB where he received a partial

football scholarship. Doug left UB and went to work for Harrison Radiator in October 1964. Where he worked his way up through the ranks. He spent 6-1/2 years in various hourly positions before moving into management. Doug retired after 37 years as Supervisor Receiving Operations. During his time at Harrisons, Doug was awarded a \$10,000 suggestion award that saved the company \$100,000 in a year. His education pursuits did not stop when he left UB. Doug has taken over twenty courses while in Management. He earned an AAS in Business Administration from Niagara County Community College in 1996.

On Good Friday 1985, Doug was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease, stage 2A. This was a life-changing event in his life.

A very active member of our community Doug has served on various boards for WNY United Methodist Church and completed over 150 hours of Theology training. He has served as Chairman of the Community Worship & Picnic, Cross Walk on Good Friday, and Pastor Parish

Relations Committee. Doug is a member of the Ransomville Business and Professional Association, BOD and a member of William McLaughlin Library. He was elected Town of Porter Citizen of the Year in 2007.

He is married to Connie Campbell Diez, Class of 1965. They have three children Suzanne Cassick, Class of 1982, a social worker with Family and Children's Service in Niagara Falls; Douglas, Class of 1985, a Chemical Engineer in Union City, CA; and Jeremy, Class of 1994, a Mechanical Engineer in Phoenix, AZ. They have four grandchildren Benjamin, Class of 2007, and Serena Cassick, Class of 2011 and Troy and Aurora Diez in AZ.

Doug says he love landscaping and tinkering around the house, ballroom and country dancing, and playing with his Lionel Train set. Doug truly has a jest for life and shares that with his family, community, and the Lewiston-Porter School system. LPAA is very fortunate to have Doug as an active member of their board.

Cabbage Festival Fall 2010

Cabbage is just one of the many vegetables and fruits that grow so well from Route 104 corridor to Lake Ontario. This is the reason to have cabbage on the menu and the modeling runway at the seventh annual Cabbage Festival, that was held October 3rd at the Ransomville Fire Company grounds.

Highlights of the festival include cabbage inspired cuisine from local restaurants and vendors, a recipe contest that consisted of appetizers, entrees, and desserts. Another major event was the cabbage toss—a competition somewhat like a shot-put for the adults, and a cabbage curling contest for the children. The children could also paint pumpkins and/or

stones, and also a petting zoo for the very young.

The main event of the day was the Cabbage Leaf Fashion Show where participants create their outfits out of cabbage leaves and parade their creations in front of a panel of judges.

Cabbage King Douglas Diez, resplendent in his golden crown and flowing ermine like cape, maintained his regal bearing and his brilliant smile while introducing the contestants to the audience. Diez, has won the Cabbage Leaf Fashion Show Crown twice during the past seven years, has moved up from Co-chairman of the Cabbage Festival to Master of Ceremonies

for the Cabbage Leaf Fashion Show. He has done this for the past two years.

The Niagara River Region Guidebook has a yearly calendar of events that encompasses the Lewiston, Youngstown, Ransomville, and Sanborn communities. Whether you are interested in history, arts, music, touring the various wineries, riding in the mighty rapids, enjoying some of the locally grown produce like a peach shortcake or coming for a class reunion at Lewiston-Porter, the Niagara River area has something for everyone.

Written by: Doug Diez

Casseri Continued

(Continued from page 1)

Chinese delegation along with a solid group of Lewiston-Porter students to Boston, New York City and Washington, D.C. This year's touring will have a more academic ring as we offer the Chinese students and Lewiston – Porter students tours of Harvard University, MIT, Princeton, Columbia and Georgetown. As always we will schedule a visit with Alumni Association President, Jack James and other alumni residing in the DC area. We are extremely proud that our DC area alumni continue to be so supportive of our efforts around International Studies and International exchange. We appreciate the great support our entire Alumni Association has shown this program. International studies/exchange continues to develop here at Lewiston – Porter High School.

We now have thriving exchange relationships, in China, Argentina, France, Germany and Italy. These programs have brought great focus to our school and have impacted the students involved in a most meaningful way.

Our hope is always that out of one of these relationships the next great innovation will develop that will change the world. The cost of these programs is supported to certain extent by the school district however students and families pick up a significant portion. The cost for any of these travel opportunities is generally between \$1500 - \$2000. If any alumnus wishes to support a specific student or offer a pledge of support to one of the specific exchange groups they may contribute to the LPAA and earmark the use of the funds for the LPHS International Studies program. Your generosity will help us create opportunity for those students that might not be able to fund an exchange experience on their own. Please contact me at the high school, 716-286-7263 if you would like further information. It is a most worthy cause.

As we move into January and February things really pick up with our winter inter-scholastic athletic program. Basketball for men and women, wrestling and boys swimming are all in full swing. All of our winter athletic programs offer exciting competition. Why not come out and catch a game. If your bold enough, come over and sit with

our Green

Machine, the official Lancer student cheering section, you won't be disappointed. Great excitement abounds as we celebrate the green and white and fan support always gives our winter sport teams an extra push into sectional play.

Also, our Music department is getting ready for its performance of The Sound of Music. After a short hiatus, musical productions have now been back at LPHS for two years. The Sound of Music marks the latest iteration of this great LP tradition. Performances will be March 11, 12 at 7:00pm and March 13 at 2:00pm. I would encourage all alumni that are in the area to come out and view a performance. Our music students are extremely talented and our music faculty does an excellent job with the production.

Well, I hope that 2011 will usher in fine fashion. We wish you only happiness and good health in the New Year. We hope to see you at a school event soon.

Go Lancers,

Paul J. Casseri

LPAA Announces Mini-grant Winners

The Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association presented the 2010 Mini-grants at the Lew-Port Board of Education meeting on November 16, 2010.

Seven Lew-Port teachers won mini-grants this year to enhance learning in science literacy, chemistry, earth science, math and English language arts. These winning grants will support teaching needs this year at the Senior High School, Middle School and the Intermediate Educa-

tion Center. Grants ranged from \$475 to \$500 each with a total of \$3,475 in grants being awarded.

At the Senior High, Kirsten Gresko, Michelle Hinchliffe and Colleen Glor received grants for the "Smart Response Interactive Systems" for use by ten teachers in the Science Department. The systems are used in connection with classroom smart board technology.

At the Middle School, Colleen Duffy, Sharon George, and Nina Calarco from the Math Department for "Smart Response Interactive Systems." The devices allow teachers to instantly assess their students knowledge and understanding of skills being taught.

At the Intermediate Education Center, Mary Ellen Aureli, School Librarian's winning grant is for audio books to support teaching English Language Arts.

The Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association also funded Mini-grant program in 2008 and 2009. Together with the 2010 awards 25 Lew-Port teachers have received grants totaling \$9,209. The Alumni Association plans to continue this program again next year to directly support classroom learning.



Mini-grant winners at November Board of Education Meeting: Mary Ellen Aurelli; Kirsten Gresko, Shelly Hinchliffe, Jack James, President of LPAA; Sharon George; and Colleen Duffy.



Andy Mess
Class of 1969



David Smith
Class of 1963

Lew-Port Honors Bus Drivers

The week of October 18-22 was designated as Bus Driver Appreciation week on the Lew-Port Calendar. This was started six years ago by the Principal of Primary Building, Mrs. Peggy Beech, as a way to say Thank you to the Bus Drivers of the Primary and Intermediate Grades. Muffins, coffee and juice were available to the drivers, while some of the Primary grades sang, read a poem or would do a skit about riding the School Bus. Thank you notes and gifts were given to the drivers from the Primary students.

The Intermediate Building sent our invitations to each of the bus drivers to visit a classroom. While in the classroom, some of the drivers were asked various questions about being a Bus Driver. Questions asked were, "How did you decide to drive a bus?," "What is involved in being a bus driver?," "Did you go to Lew-Port?," "How long have you been driving a school bus?," "Are the children on your bus well behaved?," "One teacher asked, "How do you drive a bus and handle a problem on the bus, when you have 50-60 children?," "When I am teaching in front of a class of 22 children, I have trouble handling the problem when I am facing the white board?"

To be a bus driver, you have to be a special person. You must be able to

drive a 38 foot bus in traffic, and have a clean driver's license. You should like children, and know how to handle the children when they are happy and be a comforter when they are sad. You must also be a good listener, for as Art Linkletter used to say, "Kids say the darnedest things." The rewards are small, but the smiles of your students and the 'Thank you' that you receive from the parents of these children is overwhelming.

The recognition that the bus drivers receive at Lewiston-Porter Central School would not be possible without the cooperation and efforts that Ransomville Bus Lines, and the Schultz family have brought to Lewiston-Porter Schools. When the Lewiston-Porter Central School system was formed in 1953, Transportation Director Richard Knapp wanted a reliable, safety conscience bus company to transport the students.

Les Schultz's Bus Company was suggested as a good bus company because of their safety record. Since 1934, when Mr. Schultz started with a couple of buses and at the time when Mr. Knapp approached Mr. Schultz, he has six buses servicing the Wilson Central School District. To get a contract with Lewiston-Porter, Mr. Schultz purchased thirteen buses that were stockpiled by the Army. The next

problem was finding drivers for those buses. Mr. Schultz went door to door to the various farmers in the area figuring that if they could drive a farm tractor, they could drive a bus. This was how Mr. Schultz filled the requirements to meet the need of the contract for Lewiston-Porter.

In November 1954, Les's son, Paul, had just gotten out of the service and was going to work at Carborundum Company when Less offered Paul a job at the bus garage for \$60 a week. Paul had to make a decision.

In 1976, Paul's son, Kenny, joined the company and in 1978 Paul's other son, Steve, joined the company. Today at Ransomville Bus Lines and School Bus Service which also serves the Wilson Central School a fleet of 100 vehicles are ready to go daily with 85 employees.

Lewiston-Porter continues to make gains in educating and meeting the students needs in preparing them for their endeavors of the future. The bus drivers at Ransomville Bus Lines are part of the education team at Lewiston-Porter, for they transport the most precious cargo—the students!

Students from Miss Chapman's 3rd grade class decorate gingerbread houses for the Senior Center of Lewiston.

Picture 1 Natalie Beilein helping Valeria Martinez, Frank Previte, Will Beilein and Dean Brochey.

Picture 2: Miss Chapman admires gingerbread houses.



Lew-Port's Alumni Soccer Game



Justin Simms
Class of 2005



Libby Broderick
Class of 1990

By Jeff McBee ('69)

The Odds, behind three goals from Justin Sims ('05) and a pair by Marc Niccola ('93), defeated the Evens 6-4 Saturday afternoon in the 21st annual Lewiston Porter Alumni soccer game played under ideal conditions before an appreciative crowd at Blakeslee Field.

Dena Novak ('91) opened the scoring for the Odds in the 9th minute when she fired a low shot from 22 yards out that skipped by Libby Broderick ('90) at the near post. The Evens surged back, with Jim Alessi ('86) just missing by a whisker at the left post. Both teams continued to have good chances, with Dena Novak being turned away by Broderick and Bob Minicucci ('84) hitting the post for the Evens.

Both goalkeepers came up big in the next few minutes, with Broderick besting Niccola in the 17th minute on a break-away and Ken Tewsley ('89), at full extension, palming away a clever chip from Dave Vitch ('80) in the 23rd minute.

Minicucci brought the Evens level at 1-1 in the 32nd min-

ute with a pinpoint shot from 21 yards out that just eluded Tewsley's dive and caromed in off the left post. After a scrappy period when neither team could claim superiority, Niccola was brought down in the penalty area by Mark Davies ('80) in the dying seconds of the first half, and Niccola converted from the spot just before the half-time whistle to give the Odds a 2-1 advantage at the break.

It took less than a minute after the restart for the Evens to pull level. Joe Novak ('86) put a pinpoint cross into the box and Monica Aderhold Blake ('88) converted to knot the score at 2-2. Two minutes later the Odds regained the lead when Niccola scored his second goal of the game with a left-footed shot from a corner kick. Joe Novak leveled for the Evens two minutes later with a shot that sneaked inside the far post. Seven minutes later Justin Sims ('05) broke the game open with two goals in two minutes, the first off a rebound after Broderick

had saved an initial shot from Niccola and the second from the penalty spot as Davies was called for a handball on the goal line to make it 5-3.

The Evens surged back, and only a fine diving save from Tewsley on Joe Novak kept the Evens off the score sheet. The Odds, rejuvenated by Tewsley's save, swarmed the Even goal. Broderick made three fine saves but Sims slotted the fourth attempt into the corner of the net to complete a natural hat trick, extending the Odds lead to 6-3. Six minutes from time a bad back pass to Tewsley was cut off by Minicucci, who scored his second goal of the game to make it 6-4.

Broderick was chosen as the game's outstanding female player in a losing cause, making 14 saves, several of them outstanding. Sims, scoring three goals, was chosen as the game's outstanding male player. The Odds victory brings the series tally to 11-6-4 in favor of the Odds.

Do you have a classmate or fellow alumni that you would like to see as a Lew-Port Distinguished Alumni?

Please use this form to nominate your candidate, the induction will be held homecoming weekend of October 2011.

Lew-Port Distinguished Alumni Award Nomination Form

Nominee _____ Class of _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Briefly describe the accomplishments of this graduate in the field of endeavor (attachments welcome) _____

Name and address of person submitting nomination:

Name _____ Lew-Port Class of _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Please feel free to duplicate this form and send in as many nominations as you like. We want to recognize as many deserving alumni as possible.

Return this form to:

LPAA Senior High School

or

Bill Vrooman

4061 Creek Road

19 Gilbert Place

Youngstown, NY 14174

White Plains, NY 10604

LPAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Graduation/Attendance Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Spouse's Name _____ Lew-Port Alumni? _____

Children's Names _____ Lew-Port Alumni? _____

_____ Lew-Port Alumni? _____

_____ Lew-Port Alumni? _____

_____ Lew-Port Alumni? _____

Dues Contribution: 1 year \$10.00 _____ 3 years \$25.00 _____

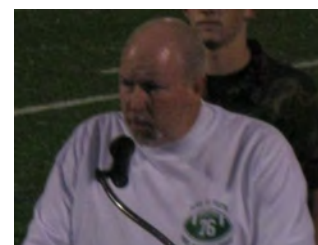
Lifetime \$150.00 _____ Husband & Wife Lifetime \$250.00 _____

Tax Exempt Contribution to support LPAA programs at Lew-Port _____ \$100 _____ \$500 Other
_____ Unrestricted Contribution to be applied to LPAA where needed most

_____ Restricted Contribution to be applied to: _____ Scholarships

_____ Mini-grants _____ Distinguished Alumni _____ Other (specify)

Electronic: Go to www.lew-port.com/alumni to join, renew, or contribute online



Events at Homecoming Weekend

October 2010

Lewiston-Porter Senior High School had a busy Homecoming Weekend with four alumni being inducted as Distinguished Alumni, Jonathan Miller's 76 jersey being retired at the Homecoming Football Game along with the many other games and Homecoming Dance.

Current Lew-Port students Derek Tucker, Corrine Dubetsky, Audrey Krause and Kevin Basta introduced Bruce Lund, Susan Geissler, Lew Howell, and Thomas Masiello to the audience.

Bruce Lund encouraged the students to be aware of the changing landscape of our world and to stay focused by exploring all the opportunities that life offers.

Susan Geissler credited the paper mache projects in Polly Nelson's art classes as the reason she is a sculptor today. Ms. Nelson attended the unveiling of "Freedom Crossing."

Lew Howell credited being involved in the many variety of opportunities at Lew-Port that impacted his life's direction. A most vivid memory is raising chickens in Bob Cunningham's class.

Tom Masiello remembered Miss Hannah, 10th grade geometry teacher as instrumental in his Lew-Port experience noting that she ran her classes as a drill sergeant. He considered her his best teacher at Lew-Port.

At Friday night's game the Miller family was present for the unveiling of Jonathan's retired jersey. Before the game got underway the football field was lined with students, family, and friends who had purchased J-Mill's 76 tee shirts in support of the scholarship in remembrance of Jonathan. Mr. Casseri read a note from Daryl Johnston on the honor it would be to share the stadium with a young man of Jonathan's character and enthusiasm he brought to Lew-Port. Kevin Miller, Jonathan's father thanked the Lew-Port community for the compassion and strength their family has received this past year and for the honor bestowed on Jonathan with the retiring of his jersey.

Lewiston-Porter Alumni Association

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

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Memory Brick Walk at Stadium



Please join the LPAA.

There is an
application on page 7
for your convenience.

Your support is
needed to continue
our programs.

Class of 1961—50th Reunion

October 7 and 8, 2011

Contact: Joanne Hargrave

gert289@msn.com