

# Blue 'n' Gold

Spring 2017

HVRHS Alumni Association

Volume 19, Issue 1

## Wall of Honor To Be Established

Housatonic has a long impressive list of graduates. There are those who have succeeded in the business world or made their mark in humanitarian pursuits. Still others have quietly lived their lives raising families and contributing to their communities. From this small rural high school, they have gone off to all corners of the world. The Alumni Association has decided that it is only fitting to recognize the accomplishments of our graduates.

Working along with Housatonic Vice Principal Ian Strever, members devised the guidelines and application form to allow for the consideration of candidates.

The wall shall support the core values of Housatonic by recognizing the individuals who exemplify them in their life's work: "The HVRHS community promotes personal and academic growth as well as independence of thought and spirit for all its members, within a culture of respect, responsibility and safety. The core values that support this statement include a

commitment to 21<sup>st</sup> century academic expectations which encourage all members to grow to their potential, accept and respect different learning styles, solve problems and think analytically, and communicate their ideas effectively. Members of the school community are also expected to make ethical choices, demonstrate social and civic responsibility, and show pride and care for the school and its environment."

A diverse committee made up of association members as well as staff and students from the school will convene every other year to vote on approving membership. The induction will alternate with the Athletic Hall of Fame. Rules call for:

- Having attended Housatonic for at least two years
- Having graduated from Housatonic
- Having been an alumnus for at least 10 years

- Having made significant contributions in their chosen fields, in volunteer service or to Regional School District #1
- Having modeled high standards of excellence in personal and/or professional life.

Up to 10 candidates will be inducted. Posthumous nominations will be accepted. The Wall of Honor display case will be located in the front hallway and consist of a series of plaques listing recipients' names and their year of graduation. An additional video display will feature a multimedia presentation elaborating the accomplishments of the inductees. A membership plaque will be given to each inductee. Selected candidates will be notified and a ceremony will be held in the fall.

To obtain a nominating form, go to [HVRHS.org](http://HVRHS.org). Deadline for applications is July 31.

## HVRHS Alumni Association Remembered



Carolyn Camp Moore

Members of the Alumni Association were recently faced with a mystery, albeit a very nice one. The organization received a most generous bequest from a graduate named Paige Mallory, but a search of yearbooks found no such person. Not to be daunted, some in the group became sleuths and **Bunny McGuire**, class of '55, solved the case. We had a clue that Elsie Jenkins may have known Paige Mallory, so Bunny contacted her. It turns out that Elsie's mother and Paige were first cousins. Elsie wrote that Paige's given name was Caroline Camp Moore. She took the last name of her stepfather. Raised in Canaan, she left for New York City after graduation and changed her name to Paige Mallory.

Association President **Patricia Allyn Mechare**, class of '64, was able to track down Paige's friend Mary Johnson, who filled in more of the blanks. When Paige first came to New York, she enrolled in advanced dance classes and eventually became a member of the

celebrated June Taylor Dancers, performing all over the country. Realizing she'd always be a member of the chorus, she took courses at New York University, got a business degree and enrolled at Katherine Gibbs. Mary met her in New York when Paige was working for publisher and media mogul Rupert Murdoch. Previously she'd worked for the Racing News and The Star in managerial positions. Her last job was at News America where she was a personal assistant for Mrs. Murdoch. She later retired to Florida, where she died in April 2016.

Of her friend, Mary wrote, "There was only one Paige Mallory. This was a great lady who was full of charm and joy. She was smart and sassy and wise beyond belief. She would listen to a problem, mull it over in conversation and solve it in such a way that it would always make the questioners believe they came up with the resolution. She was a tough, self-confident boss—a hard task master, but a compassionate, caring and loyal friend."

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## Association remembered

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In looking through her class's White Oak, it was apparent she took an active role as a student. Her name is scattered about as a member of several organizations, including the Debating Club, features editor of the Northwest Corner, the Commercial Club and the Glee Club. She was named "the most sophisticated girl" under class superlatives and dubbed "A half-pint of sophistication" beneath her class photo. Mary said Paige often spoke nostalgically of her years in Litchfield County and "credited her high school teachers for instilling her with self-confidence to follow her dream." Perhaps that explains why after all these years, she still remembered the influence Housatonic played in her life and chose to honor it with this gift for which we are most grateful.



### A NEW LOOK

Mountaineers of a certain era remember Housatonic in its earlier spiffier condition. As the years have gone by, some of the facilities have taken on a tired look and need attention. A large renovation project is about to begin this summer. Voters in the six towns approved the \$5.7 million expenditure at a referendum last year. Top on the list is an upgrade to the science classrooms, which unfortunately have not been touched since the 1960s. The sports locker rooms will also get a facelift, with a designated space for visiting teams and an elevator to make the lockers handicapped accessible. Reroofing sections of the building is also in the plan.

*The cost of printing and mailing the Blue 'n' Gold has become prohibitive. We know many still want to receive a paper copy to keep up with their alma mater, but we need donations to allow for such mailings. Please send them to HVRHS Alumni Association, 246 Warren Turnpike Road, Falls Village, CT 06031. Thank you.*

## VISITING WITH SOME GRADUATES

### John O'Hara, Class of 1947

I was born in Torrington and grew up on Twin Lakes. While at Housatonic, I became involved in activities the school had to offer. I was on the Student Council for three years; its president during senior year. I was also in the Junior Assembly, on the Junior Prom Committee, the Senior Play Committee and a member of the Sophists (a/k/a the debating club for those interested in world affairs), which was under the direction of Mr. Clark.

I was also active in athletics, playing on the varsity football and basketball teams, and was a member of the Sports Club. I was voted most popular and the senior year's male expert gum chewer!

I went on to receive a degree from the University of Virginia in 1951, joined the ROTC and spent time in Korea. Upon my return, I enrolled at the University of Virginia Law School and graduated in three years.

I worked for 10 years at the prestigious law firm of Rogers & Wells in New York before relocating to R.L. Polk in 1968, a private company in Detroit where I accepted a position of general counsel.

I married Mildred Michels, whose brother owned the Canaan Country Club. Talk about a win-win situation; a lovely bride and a great golf course just might be every man's dream! I lost my wife in 1980. We had three wonderful children who are located in Tennessee, Michigan and California.

In 1990, I received a Distinguished Service Citation from the Motor Vehicle Hall of Fame at a ceremony in Las Vegas. My new wife, Sally, whom I married in 1984, joined me for the trip.

Despite my extensive travel and commitments, I often returned to Twin Lakes and our homestead built in 1888. I quickly found myself taking care of the many issues of two elderly aunts who lived next door. That led to upgrading and improving our lakeside marina and the buildings on the property. The marina was a daytime destination for swimmers, fishermen and people who enjoyed the great outdoors. I found a qualified gentleman to manage the operation of the marina, an arrangement that works for both of us.

Sally and I split our time between Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., and Twin Lakes, with time spent in between at our children's homes. Sally has four children: two in North Carolina, one in Boston and one in Ohio. We're not sure where we'll be when we leave California, but what will remain stable is our home in the country, which is filled with many wonderful memories and hopefully more good times to come.

### Donna Carberry DiMartino, Class of 1970



As an entering freshman in 1966, I soon realized that the world was changing. Many of us would end up wanting to be a part of making that change happen. I am forever grateful for meeting all the people I met that freshman year. Today I am still thankful for being able to call them my friends.

Some of my fondest memories include the music of the times. Holly Brickman and I got to know each other creating a collage of the times using Simon and Garfunkel's "Old Friends/Bookends." Today, listening to the song, I realized it is more poignant than ever to me. I remember panicking through chemistry and finally understanding why it would be important to me in nursing school! I loved geology with Mr. Lindsay. He helped us all gain a



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## Alumni News by Class and Decade

### 1940s

Housatonic holds very fond memories for **Nancy O'Connor Hardy**, class of '42. She said she attended during World War II when many of the young men were off in the military. The school was new when she entered and she recalls the floors not being finished and light bulbs hanging from the ceilings. Nancy now resides in Reno, Nev., where at 91 she lives independently and still drives!

### 1950s

**Fred Lebuscher**, class of '53, reports that he's now living in Durham, N.C. He retired after a long career as an elementary school counselor in State College, Penn.

The Gustafson Center, Southern New Hampshire University's welcome center and home of several of the important offices in the student-life cycle, opened in February. It was named after the university's fourth president, **Richard Gustafson**. Dick, class of '59, was from Canaan. He is married to **Joanne Walters Gustafson**, class of '61.

### 1960s

In October, **Jack Logan** and his wife, **Martha Gulley Logan**, both from the class of '60, completed the Grand South Pacific Tour by visiting New Zealand, Australia, Bali and Singapore. They live in Texas.

**Carolyn Coon O'Connor**, class of '60, retired as town clerk of Canaan on March 27, her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. She'd been in the position for 28 years.

In July, online-ordained **Richard Brown**, class of '60, will be performing the nuptials for his second daughter. He did it for his first in 2009.

**Bill Streckas**, class of '61, who was a victim of a fire that destroyed his home approximately two years ago, is residing in an assistant living facility in New Britain and has recovered very well.

**Bill Mancini** and **Stuart Norton**, both from the class of '61, usually get together monthly for lunch. They live about 10 miles apart in Phoenix.

**Ray Smith**, class of '62, is requesting that all classmates send to his email, raysmith3@comcast.net, their email addresses so that he can put together a class list with email addresses for contacts and communication.

**John Barton**, class of '64, is retired and living in Kent, having been a public school and university librarian. He is very active in the Danbury Railway Museum, serving as a car host and tour guide, car host instructor, archives assistant and a frequent presenter at the weekly slide/video programs on Wednesday evenings. He is also active in the Motor Bus Society, Massachusetts Bay Rail Enthusiasts and the Electric Railroaders' Association, participating in various trips sponsored by these groups throughout North America. John is a member of the vestry of Saint Andrew's Church in Kent and is active in the beverage cans and bottles recycling program which benefits the Kent Center School Scholarship Fund.

### 1970s

The class of 1972 is having its 45<sup>th</sup> reunion on Saturday, July 15, at the Canaan Country Club. Happy hour is from 6 to 7 p.m. followed by a buffet dinner from 7 p.m. to midnight. More emails will be coming out through emails and Facebook. The

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Observing the class of 1961's 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary, approximately 60 people (37 classmates) gathered on Sept. 17 to attend optional celebratory activities. A morning tour of the Beckley Furnace and historical narration of the region's iron industry was given by classmate **Tony Cantele**, a member of the Friends of Beckley Furnace. A wine pairing followed at the Land of Nod with the evening celebration held at the Canaan Country Club, which included a free raffle of humorous-sayings T-shirts, donated by classmate and Salisbury native **Doug Griffiths**, who was unable to attend. Class donations were made to the HVRHS Alumni Association and to the Friends of Beckley Furnace.

## Alumni News by Class and Decade cont.

organizers are on the lookout for these classmates: **Glen Bower, Jeff Goldberg (Gold), G. Erik Holmes, Merrill Lockwood, David Lorch, Eric MacNeil, Colleen McKee, Marie Negri, Carol Potter, Geoffrey Sadwith, Laurie Scott, Timothy Smith, Barry Tuncy, Michael Warner, J. Anthony White and Kenneth White.**

**Michael Dunsmore**, class of '76, is an amateur golfer who caddies for pro Fred Funk.

### 1980s

**Scott Jack and Sara Sinclair Lloyd**, both of the class of '87, were married on Sept. 4, 2016. Scott is the father of two, a boy and girl, senior and freshman. Sara is the mother of one girl, currently a sophomore at Housatonic. Scott is a cabinetmaker and Sara is celebrating the start of her 24th year working at Housatonic, formerly as an education paraprofessional and currently as the secretary at the Agricultural Education Department. They live in Falls Village.

### 1990s

**Sam Adams**, class of '93, is living in Seattle. His wife, Jane, is a Starbucks lawyer and they have three children. Using his architectural degree from the University of Oregon, Sam runs a successful design-build business called Cherry Design Build. Last year, he bought a 1,400-square-foot fixer-upper in his own neighborhood and transformed it into a beautiful little house. He put it on the market and got nine offers over the asking price in five days. He sold it for over \$600,000. Check out the transformation on Facebook or view some of Sam's other projects at [cherrydesignbuild.com](http://cherrydesignbuild.com).



The class of 1966 celebrated its 50th reunion the weekend of Sept. 16 and 17 during which more than 50 members enjoyed reconnecting. The weekend schedule included a "meet and greet" at the Canaan Country Club on Friday evening. Saturday's activities included a presentation by class of '66 teacher Ed Kirby at the Beckley Furnace; tours of the high school by former teacher David Bayersdorfer and a dinner dance at the Litchfield Inn. Pictured below are the majority of the attendees at Saturday's dinner dance: **McGee Allyn, Carol Atwood Eigenbrot, Thelma Barton Thompson, Bob Davidson, Eugene Delaini, Bob Dell'Anno, Linda Deprodocini Wenkert, Karen Dickinson, Rich Donati, Deb Donovan, Bert Fitch, Christa Foster MacDonald, Peg Fracaro, Gus Franklin, Christine Franks Christinat, John Fulco, Joe Golden, Dick Heinz, Maggie Hines Hoppenwasser, Terry Waldron Holst-Grubbe, Suzanne Hutchinson Ullram, Rob Kearcher, Denise Werner King, Chuck Lewis, Ed Lisk, Bob Lundeen, James Mansfield, Jean Marlow Dillon, Mary Ann McGuire Lisk, Don Meuten, Karen Mercer Mrdalj, Bev Perotti Nelson, Drew Ohmen, Bob Palmer, John Perotti, Paula Pickert Weir, Bill Potter, John Pshenishny, Doug Rick, Ron Segalla, Lucia Segalla Jakubiak, Bob Stone, Dave Togninalli, Bob Ullram, Shirley Wilbur Perotti, Andrea Yurtin Bruce, Betty Zavagnin Kowalski and John Zoffoli.** The class made a generous donation to the alumni association.



During the reunion, four members joined together for a photograph to recapture an earlier photo that featured all their grandmothers. **Bob Stone, Betty Zavagnin, Ron Segalla and Andrea Chevalier** posed as did Maria Boscardin, (Bob's grandmother), Elizabeth Zavagnin (Betty's grandmother), Guistina Segalla (Ron's grandmother) and Nella Santin, (Andrea's grandmother). Elizabeth Knickerbocker (Bob's aunt) and Emelia Dalfero (Andrea's great-aunt) were also pictured. The photo was taken on Nov. 29, 1947, at Andrea's parents' wedding.



A group of friends who went through North Canaan Elementary School and Housatonic, class of '69, together held a mini reunion last fall. Caught taking a tour of the newly installed robotic milking system at Freund's Farm in East Canaan were: **Debbie Dixon Bourbeau** of Marlborough, Conn., **JoEllen McGuire Russell** of Tolland, **Dorothy Cross MacRitchie** of Kent, **Joan Segalla Baker** of Canaan and **Gloria Freund** of McLean, Va.

## Visiting with Some Graduates

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respect for the tectonic plates and the minerals of our world. I loved the Wednesdays when the ladies in the kitchen would serve up spaghetti, meatballs and salad, a favorite of my family now.

The challenges we learned about continue to this day. I remember working to change the rules; back then girls could not wear pants!! Seems almost unimaginable given the current attire of students. I shudder today realizing that women are still fighting for equal pay and reproductive rights.

I will never forget Jack Mahoney, one of my favorite teachers. He would never allow students to be mediocre if he knew they could do better. He had no problem letting them know! It was Mr. Mahoney who started a Black Literature group. And, it was through this that we really came to understand civil rights, learn black history and appreciate how far we had to go to make our society equal for all citizens.

I remember our senior class picnic at Kent Falls and really wrecking my parents' car as Dona Olsen, Faye Stahovec and I didn't pay attention backing up and tore the car door off! There were sunny days on the back of a motorcycle, the junior prom, the senior ball, a wondrous mix of learning, fun and growing up before the responsibilities of adulthood were fully ours.

One of my favorite memories is rolling the Earth Ball across the front green on the very first Earth Day in 1970. It was a bright warm day and we were ready to go fight against pollution and those things that would harm Mother Earth. That day was first celebrated in 1970, and is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network and celebrated in more than 193 countries each year.

It is amazing that many of the causes and concerns that I learned about at Housatonic almost 47 years ago still need to be fought for and require continued active support. Donna went on to have a distinguished career in nursing and retired as the director of Hospice at the Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association.

She and her husband, Jim, live in Sharon.



***Support Your  
Alumni Association***



The class of 1976 held its reunion this past year.

## ***In Memoriam***

**Katherine Segalla Aliano, '41**

**Daniel J. Gasperini, '41**

**Flora Betty Giddings Kallstrom, '42**

**Lorraine Laboudy Platt, '43**

**Caroline Camp Moore (aka Paige Mallory), '44**

**Gwendolyn Parsons Hansen, '46**

**Abraham "Bucky" Brown, '47**

**Peter J. Marcon, Sr., '47**

**Raymond Hart, '47**

**Peter Suzuki, '47**

**Barbara McLane, '48**

**Ralph Matson, '53**

**Anna Colli Smith, '55**

**Robert deVergey, '58**

**Raymond Pickert, '59**

**Edward J. Hoostowski, '63**

**Judith Tyrell Scanlon, '63**

**Robert Storm, '65**

**Carol Riva Amenta, '66**

**Roslyn "Roz" Ramsey Fenderson, '66**

**Margaret Ann Seabury, '69**

**Flora Nelson Murphy, '70**

**Faye L. Stahovec Blakey, '70**

**Sheree Ann Jackson Sawyer, '73**

**Megan Alexander, '76**

**William Solan, '76**

**Patricia I. Johnson, '83**

**Sean Quentin Kauffholz, '84**

**Eugene Wright, '84**

**Jennifer Marie Frank, '87**

**William Corey, '93**

**Kim Chizinski, '98**

**William Mark Lundeen, '05**

**Gared Waldron, '06**

### **Faculty**

**Frank Ruotolo**

**Marjorie Stevenson Hicks**



***HVRHS Alumni Association***

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