

# Perry Alumni News

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2006

## Officers

Rick Amos, 1968  
President

Larry Advey, 1969  
President Elect

Bryce Tischer, 1980  
Secretary

Larry Brainard, Jr., 1979  
Treasurer

Judy Miller Church, 1976  
Immediate Past President

## Directors

Ken Anzenc, 1964

Marv Bihn, 1954

Holly Such Egolf, 1968

Becky Miller Garry, 1980

Linda Brigleb Hofer, 1968

Tim Kline, 1980

Carole Compton Martin,  
1961

Charlene Gaskey Martorana,  
1979

Gina Horvath Toth, 1981



## Have you heard?

Ralph Rockow '51 has been selected to provide words of wisdom to the PHS Class of 2006. He will be the keynote speaker at the 2006 commencement ceremony.

Carole Compton Martin '61 was elected president of the Perry School Board. This is her 19<sup>th</sup> year in office and her 11<sup>th</sup> term as president.

Donna Simmons Nowak '70 was named as an Athena Awards Finalist by *Inside Business* magazine! Athena recognizes professional excellence in business, community service and mentoring others.

Nicole Altenweg '02, Seth Pirc '01, and Kyle Seibenick '02 were named to the Dean's List at Baldwin-Wallace College.

Kristin Rediger '05 and Michael Ryan '04 made the Dean's List at Marietta College. Kristin is a freshman working toward a major in sports

medicine. Michael is a sophomore majoring in athletic training.

Jennifer Pierce '00 and Joseph Elmore '01 have announced their engagement! They will be wed on May 27 at St. Cyprians Church in Perry.

Eight PHS alumni were elected in November 2005 to serve the Perry communities. Learn more about our classmates' success on page 7.

With sadness we report the loss of our 1941 Homecoming Queen, Marjorie Melcher Palmer, who passed away on October 17, 2005; Margaret Blosser Kneisley '31, who passed away on October 16, 2005; and Larry Earl Rogers '83, who lost his life in an automobile accident on November 28. Obituaries for our lost classmates can be viewed on our Web site by clicking on Remembrances.



We regret to report the deaths of two of our educators: elementary school teacher Margaret Few, who passed away on September 11, 2005, and principal at Manchester Elementary and Center Road Elementary, Thomas Davis, who passed away on October 29, 2005.

Don Densmore '50 participated in the 57<sup>th</sup> annual presentation of Handel's Messiah at Morley Music Hall. He has performed in the Messiah for 48 years!

# Hometown Heroes

Navy Fireman Steven A. Fielder '03, is assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt, homeported in Norfolk, VA. He conducted strikes on a known Improvised Explosive Device production facility northeast of Baghdad and is assigned to providing surveillance, reconnaissance and close air support to ground forces in Iraq.

Navy Seaman Recruit Billy H. Herron '05 completed basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, IL.

Air Force Airman Renee S. Baumert '04, graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, TX.

Richard Vaccariello '99 is a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corp currently serving in Iraq, or as he puts it, the "Big Sandbox." His address is:

2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Richard John Vaccariello  
 MWS-272 (Communications)  
 Unit 77151  
 FPO AE 09509-7151

Marine Corp Cpl Jeremy P. Johnson '01, took part in a community relations project during a port visit to Dubai, United Arab Emirates, while assigned to the 26<sup>th</sup> Marine Expeditionary Unit homebased at Camp Lejeune, NC.

**Annual dues of \$10 are now due.  
 Current Contributing Members will be invoiced.**

## Show Your Perry Pride

Alumni sweatshirts are now available for purchase! T-shirts will be available in April. If you'd like to be one of the first to show your PHS alumni pride, complete this order form and return it with your payment to the PHS Alumni Association.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- |                                       |                                |                                 |                                |                                  |                                   |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Sweatshirt with original pirate logo: | <input type="checkbox"/> Small | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Large | <input type="checkbox"/> X-Large | <input type="checkbox"/> XX-Large |
| Sweatshirt with current pirate logo:  | <input type="checkbox"/> Small | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Large | <input type="checkbox"/> X-Large | <input type="checkbox"/> XX-Large |
| T-shirt with original pirate logo:    | <input type="checkbox"/> Small | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Large | <input type="checkbox"/> X-Large | <input type="checkbox"/> XX-Large |
| T-shirt with current pirate logo:     | <input type="checkbox"/> Small | <input type="checkbox"/> Medium | <input type="checkbox"/> Large | <input type="checkbox"/> X-Large | <input type="checkbox"/> XX-Large |

Quantity of sweatshirts ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Quantity of T-shirts ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping: \$4.50 for first shirt; \$2.50 for each additional shirt: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to PHS Alumni Association and mail with order to:

PHS Alumni Association, PO Box 148, Perry, OH 44081



⇐ Current Pirate

Original Pirate ⇒



# Hall of Famers Honored



Elisabeth Brahler Mortimer '88  
Jack Melvin '71

Two Perry High School grads were recognized in September for their athletic accomplishments.

Elisabeth Brahler Mortimer, Class of 1988, and Jack Melvin, Class of 1971, were inducted into the Perry High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

Elisabeth excelled in volleyball and track while at Perry High School. In volleyball, she was the team MVP, top hitter, and led the Lady Pirates in aces. She received the League and District MVP awards, and was an All-Ohio honorable mention selection. She was also the girls track team MVP her senior year and was selected as the school's top female athlete.

After a stellar high school career, Elisabeth went on to attend The Ohio State University where she participated in volleyball. After graduation, she continued to play volleyball on competitive teams and has also coached at the high school level.

Jack was an exceptional athlete who participated in three varsity sports earning eight varsity letters over the course of his high school career. While attending PHS, he ran cross country and was a three-year letter winner.

During the winter months, Jack participated in basketball earning All-League and All-Lake County honors. He was also the leading rebounder on the 1971 team.

While running track, Jack became a two-time state qualifier in pole vault, and in 1971, he finished among the top five in the state. To this day, Jack holds the school record in pole vault with a vault of 13 feet, 11-1/2 inches.

**Congratulations to these two fine athletes!**

If you know a PHS alumnus worthy of induction into the Hall of Fame, please nominate him/her. The official nomination form can be found on our Web site. If you don't have access to the Web, drop us a line at

PHS Alumni Association  
PO Box 148  
Perry, OH 44081

and we'll gladly put an application in the mail to you. The nomination deadline for the Athletic Hall of Fame is January 31 each year. The nomination deadline for the Distinguished Alumni Hall of Fame is September 1 each year.

## Alumni contacts:

President: Rick Amos '68  
Phone: 440-259-2910  
Email: rick@ncweb.com

President Elect: Larry Advey '69  
Phone: 440-669-2788  
Email: stuffshop@alltel.net

Membership Chairman: Holly Such Egolf '68  
Phone: 440-428-3692  
Email: hegolf@ncweb.com

Scholarship Chairman: Toni Nocida Kramer '81  
Phone: 440-259-3661  
Email: tntk@alltel.net

Reunion Support Chairman: Linda Krivanek Clark '68  
Phone: 440-428-2643

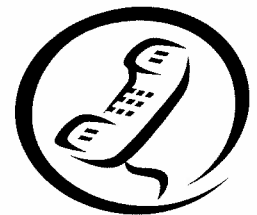
Web Team: Judy Miller Church '76, Alison Wakelee '03

Newsletter Chairman: Judy Miller Church '76  
Phone: 440-259-2926  
Email: jchurch@ncweb.com

Alumni/School Liaison: Patrice Carroll  
Phone: 440-259-9342  
Email: carrollp@perry-lake.k12.oh.us

Website: [www.perry-lake.k12.oh.us/district/alumni/index.php](http://www.perry-lake.k12.oh.us/district/alumni/index.php)

E-mail: [phsalumnisassoc@hotmail.com](mailto:phsalumnisassoc@hotmail.com)



## Teacher Feature: Mrs. Eleanor Baker

Perry students between the years 1957 and 1975 had the opportunity to receive instruction from an incredibly talented artist with a passion for teaching...Mrs. Eleanor Baker. Not only was she an educator, she was a refined lady, friend, mentor and role model.

Mrs. Baker received her Bachelor's degree from Kent State University in 1937, then spent two years in graduate school at The Ohio State University. "My lifelong desire was to become an artist. Realism set in during my sophomore year in college and I decided to become a teacher. It was the best decision I ever made. I loved teaching!"

She was right that teaching was her calling. "A smile and a word of encouragement is how I remember Mrs. Baker's success in getting her students to do their very best. I always felt she saw our potential and did her best to draw it out of us. Her genuine love for art and teaching showed in her enthusiasm in her class. Art was one of my favorite classes, and today it's still

something I enjoy. I know Mrs. Baker had something to do with that. I am so thankful to have had such a great teacher," said Diana Drain Matheny '74.

Mrs. Baker's Perry career began as the elementary and junior high Art teacher. After ten years on the job, she became the high school Art teacher, where she also served as the Art Club advisor until her retirement in 1975.

She has fond memories of the Art Club members' creativity, workmanship and enthusiasm as they built award-winning floats for the Cleveland Thanksgiving Parade. She also proudly remembers the Art Club members' community spirit. "They gave a lot of time outside the classroom to volunteer efforts. One organization, Delta Kappa Gamma (a teacher's society), is still using program covers that were silk-screened by our faithful students."

When asked about her most rewarding experience as a teacher in Perry, she responded, "The accomplishments of the

students." She admits, "Teachers learn a lot from their students. Many of the lessons I planned came from your creativity and your ideas."

She recalls her funniest memory, which she says was not so funny at the time: "The students had made full-size plaster mannequins and placed them in the office after it was empty for the day. The principal was aghast when he unlocked the door in the morning. He did not think it was funny!"

Does anyone remember seeing Mrs. Baker with a red nose just before Christmas vacation? In the spirit of the season, a group of teachers thought it would be funny to paint their noses red. What the teachers thought was humorous, administration did not! The teachers were reprimanded and this became one of Mrs. Baker's most embarrassing moments. She no longer had just a red nose, but a red face!

Allen Weaver '75 says, "Mrs. Baker was a wonderful person and teacher. Even though we were her students, she treated all of us as adults, as equals; she respected our individuality. I don't ever remember Mrs. Baker ever having a problem with any student as we all wanted to return her kindness and respect."

Susan Miller Finocchioli '78 adds, "She was a source of inspiration who left a



lasting impression on me, not just because of her artistic talent, but because of the fine qualities she exhibited as an individual."

Today Mrs. Baker is active in the Monday Morning Book Club in Madison, plays Bridge, enjoys luncheons and dinners with friends, and of course, paints and draws. She has been an active volunteer for both the Perry and Madison historical societies. She is a committed volunteer for the Mental Retardation/Developmental Disabilities program at Deepwood.

*Advice to alumni:* Stay active. Work at something you love.

*Proudest accomplishment:* Living for 90 years

*Favorite book:* *Michael Angelo*. He was a genius who never gave up.

*Favorite movie:* Sound of Music

*Favorite food:* Ice cream

*Favorite restaurant:* Bass Lake Inn, Chardon

**The mediocre teacher tells.  
The good teacher explains.  
The superior teacher demonstrates.  
The great teacher inspires.**

# Where are they now?

## Delores Stutzman Shaw Class of 1965



The hometown girl who grew up on Main Street made her initial claim to fame as a Playboy Bunny. Dee (as she was known in high school) went on to train as a computer programmer, win six national titles in one year in the American Quarter Horse Association, earn national sales awards, travel the world, and own two Migun thermal accupressure bed stores.

She is an accomplished equestrian, winning the American Quarter Horse Amateur Association Congress in 1992 and

again in 2005, and owning the Reserve World Champion Quarter Horse.

DeDe (as she's known now), the congenial, personable and ambitious girl from the Class of 1965, says, "Looking back, I believe being a part of the Class of '65 was an honor. They were good friends and good people. I believe each person in his or her own right has been very successful." She attributes much of her success to "the people I grew up with."

One of DeDe's most embarrassing moments in high school also became one of her most valuable lessons. She was "singing in a hootenanny with Barb, Ruth and Nancy, and I had stage fright and the words wouldn't come out. After losing my voice in the song, I vowed to always be prepared on stage." This powerful lesson helped her achieve success while working as part of the largest Shaklee organization, a job that required her to lead groups and conduct presentations. This skill helped her become the number one sales leader in the Network Marketing-Shaklee Corporation. For 25 consecutive years she won trips around the world in

recognition of her significant sales efforts.

She has devoted her time and talent to fundraising for non-profit organizations, including the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society, and has served on the board of the American Quarter Horse Amateur Association in Florida and the Masters Executive Board of the Shaklee Corporation.

DeDe calls Jensen Beach, Florida her home these days. She and husband of 35 years, George, raised a son and are now grandparents to three-year old Ella and five-year old Tyler.

When asked what she is most proud of, she responded, "My husband, our son and his family, and helping both of our parents." With pride she says, "My husband is very successful with his business, Shaw Stallion Management. He sends our stallions to Australia and New Zealand, and owns the number one stallion in New Zealand. He has been selected Representative of the Year for Small Business Owners and has served on two congressional committees."

*Favorite book:* *Elizabeth the Great* by Browning.

"It's amazing what women can accomplish staying focused and believing in one's self."

*Favorite movie:* *Chariots of Fire*

*Favorite food:* Fish, vegetables and hot fudge sundaes

*Favorite teacher:* Mrs. Grimm. "She gave encouragement and treated everyone equally."

*Funniest memory at PHS:* "After play practice, Ozzie and I (and some others) removed Mr. Cooper's distributor cap from his car. It had to be towed!"

*Most memorable moments at PHS:* Bonfires before games, fish fries, and proms.



# Alumni Association to Award Second \$500 Scholarship

The Perry High School Alumni Association Scholarship was established in 2005 to recognize a graduating senior who is the child or grandchild of a PHS alumnus and who has exhibited commitment and loyalty to his/her school and/or community.

## Elibility

Candidate must:

- ◆ be a graduating senior
- ◆ be the child or grandchild of a PHS alumnus
- ◆ complete the scholarship application (below)
- ◆ plan to pursue post-secondary education immediately following graduation from high school
- ◆ possess a 2.5 or higher grade point average at time of application and provide verification
- ◆ submit an essay (see Essay Guidelines)
- ◆ submit two letters of recommendation addressed to the PHS Alumni Association Scholarship Committee: one from a high school teacher, school staff member or Perry High School alumnus, and one from any other individual

## Essay Guidelines

The essay must respond to the question: *What have you done to make your community and/or school a better place?* The essay must be typed and contain no more than 500 words. The candidate's name, home address and home phone number must appear in the upper right corner of the essay.

## Deadline

The scholarship application, letters of recommendation, grade verification and essay must be postmarked by April 1.

## Notification

The scholarship recipient will be notified by May 15.

*Mail scholarship application and essay to: PHS Alumni Association Scholarship Committee, PO Box 148, Perry, OH 44081*

# Scholarship Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

GPA at Time of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

College planning to attend: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Graduating Class: \_\_\_\_\_

List participation in extracurricular activities (include school year)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List participation in civic/volunteer projects at your school or in your community (include dates)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If more space is needed, please attach a separate page.

## The results are in: PHS produces leaders

Have you ever stopped to think about how many Perry High School graduates have taken on leadership roles in the Perry communities?

There are many!

Congratulations to the following PHS alumni who were elected to Perry leadership roles in November 2005:

Rick Amos '68  
Perry Township Trustee

Phil Haskell '64  
Perry Township Trustee

Larry Logan '58  
Perry Village Mayor

Susan Gyure Rideout '77  
Perry Board of Education

Nancy Angeloro Steele '72  
Perry Township Trustee

Bryce Tischer '80  
N Perry Village Council

Michael Zinn '86  
N Perry Village Council

Other PHS alumni who are currently serving as Perry elected officials include:

Carole Compton Martin '61  
Perry Board of Education

Dick Shreve '78  
N Perry Village Council

Those who previously devoted their time, energy and talent as Perry leaders include:

H. Russell Adams '30

Larry Advey '69

Tom Advey '67

Tom Barrett '65

William Barrett, Jr. '61

Richard Brainard '33

Tim Brainard '61

Ted Brewster '23

Steve Butsko '75

Maurice Champion '32

Roger Champion '19

Russ Champion '25

Dennis Courtwright '62

Don Densmore '50

Norman Droese '24

Norman Droese '46

Charles Dugan '32

Gary Dugan '64

Gail Fankhauser '41

Harry Few '08

Ray Few '01

Frank Fovargue '40

Paul Golding '44

Tom Haas '55

Coletta Hazel '60

Linda Brigleb Hofer '68

Kathleen Compton Homerick '59

Catherine Hovlik '44

Bill Hoyt '42

Charlotte Hoyt '42

Charles Hull '42

Vaughn "Dutch" Johnson '40

Jean Kempton '62

Ed Klco '67

Jon Kline '65

Tom Langshaw '57

Ed Lawrence '24

Don Locke '45

Wade Means '31

Dean Moore '69

Bob Orosz '39

Marge Palmer '41

Richard Palmer '42

Ben Pierce '58

Bob Plummer '26

Charles Poulson '41

Ed Salkeld '26

Dale Schlauch '76

Gene Secor '47

Jim Secor '44

George Seith '36

Nellie Shook '07

Terry Sines '71

Richard Thompson '46

Art Warren '43

Richard West '30

Charles Wood '22

Thanks for making a  
commitment to your  
hometown!

**Real leaders are ordinary  
people with extraordinary  
determination.**

### Class of 1976 to Reunite

The PHS Class of 1976 will hold their 30-year reunion on Saturday, August 5, 2006 at the Perry Community Center. If you're interested in serving on the planning committee, contact Cindy Zinn at 440-417-1695 or Darlene Welch Farren at 440-357-5646.

# What are you waiting for? Join today!

Interested in...

- renewing old friendships,
- discovering what your classmates have been up to,
- reconnecting with your past, or
- participating in alumni activities?

Then consider membership in the Perry High School Alumni Association.

Membership is open to any former Perry High School student or current or former educator.

There are four types of membership:

- Contributing Member
- Lifetime Member
- Associate Member
- Educator Member

Contributing Member:

These members pay annual dues of \$10. They are entitled to have their name and profile included in the alumni database, have voting rights at membership meetings, receive the alumni newsletter, and have access to all pages of the alumni Web site.

Lifetime Member:

Members at this level pay a one-time payment of \$100 and enjoy the same rights and privileges as Contributing Members without paying annual dues.

Associate Member:

These members pay no dues. The main benefit to being an Associate Member is that these individuals are listed in the alumni database making them easier to locate for reunions and alumni events. They will be listed with a profile on the alumni Web site, but will have limited access to the site, will not receive the alumni newsletter,

and will not be able to vote at membership meetings.

Educator Member:

Current and former Perry teachers are eligible for free membership. They do not have voting rights, but do receive the newsletter.

To become a member, complete the application on this page.

If you have questions about membership, contact Holly Such Egolf '68, Membership Chairman, at 440-428-3692 or [hegolf@ncweb.com](mailto:hegolf@ncweb.com).

## Membership Application

### Perry High School Alumni Association

PO Box 148, Perry, OH 44081

Forward completed form to the above address. Make checks payable to PHS Alumni Association.

Any graduate or former student of Perry High School will be considered an Associate (non-voting) member of the Association by submitting this completed application for inclusion in our alumni records. Contributing (voting) members shall be graduates or former students who have paid membership dues and have submitted application in full.

- Membership type:
- Contributing (voting) Member — \$10 annual dues
  - Lifetime (voting) Member — one-time fee of \$100
  - Associate (non-voting) Member — free
  - Educator (non-voting) Member — free

Name \_\_\_\_\_ *Please print (include maiden name, if applicable)* Class of \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please **DO NOT** list my name on the Perry High School Alumni Association Web site



# Greetings from Thailand

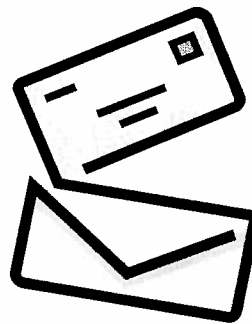
We received a letter from Soontorn Bandasak, foreign exchange student from the Class of 1967. He writes:

*I was an American Field Service student from Thailand in 1966-67. It was 39-years ago. I came to Perry in 1966. I lived with Ronny Fovargue's family on Davis Road. I got home in 1967. I worked in an elementary school for 31 years. I retired teaching in 1999. I have two sons, two daughters and three grandchildren. I would like you to tell my friends that I am still alive and I still think of them. I had a wonderful experience at Perry High School that I will never forget. I send my best wishes to you all.*

*Sincerely,  
Soontorn Bandasak*



Pictured left to right: Soontorn's aunt, mother, son (who is going to be a monk), wife and Soontorn



Soontorn would like to hear from his former classmates. His address is:

Soontorn Bandasak  
483 Mool Tambol Huaitalong  
Amphur Huaitalong  
Nakhon Ratchasima 30240  
Thailand

## Thank You...

Holly Such Egolf '68 for coordinating the sale of alumni clothing;  
Marilyn Burt Johnson '41 and Dutch Johnson '40 for researching Perry leaders over the past century; and Becky Miller Garry '81 and Dan Garry '81 for creating the Homecoming Parade float!

***The Perry Alumni News is published quarterly for Contributing, Lifetime and Educator members of the Perry High School Alumni Association.***

***If you received this newsletter and are not currently a member, you're the recipient of a courtesy copy. If you'd like to continue to receive the newsletter, please join the Association by completing the membership application on page 8.***



## They're in place and looking great!

The first of the alumni engraved bricks were put in place in September. They're now part of the sidewalk leading to the home bleachers at Alumni Stadium.

If you ordered a brick and didn't find it in the walkway, it's because our brick consultant is committed to providing exceptional service – he'll only accept the very best! If he found a brick with even the slightest imperfection, he sent it back to be replaced. Sorry if you looked for your brick and

didn't find it. We appreciate your patience as we make this project one we can all be proud of.

If you haven't already ordered a brick, it's not too late; this is an ongoing project. Bricks sold by July 15, 2006 will be added to the sidewalk prior to Homecoming.

Bricks sell for \$40 each. To order a brick, clearly print on a piece of paper the text you'd like to have appear on the brick. You have up to three lines of text

with no more than 18 characters/spaces per line. Bricks may contain the names of former Perry

students, teams, clubs or current or past Perry School faculty, coaches or administrators.

