



# BRENTWOOD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION The Alumni Connection

www.brentwoodhsalumni.org

VOLUME 18, NO. 1

FEBRUARY, 2021

## A Message from your BAA Board President George Clements...

Well, 2021 has finally arrived and your Brentwood Alumni Association is beginning to organize the **3rd Weekend in September** All-School Reunion. This year's event will take place on Friday, September 17 and Saturday, September 18. Construction at the High School is six months behind schedule, but we have been assured by the School Board that the work will be completed by April 1, 2021. This year we will be holding the Hall of Fame ceremony which had to be cancelled last year. Also, in 2020, six graduating seniors were each awarded \$5,000 scholarships for their college education. Scholarship funds are provided by your donations and the support of the Peggy and Steve Fossett Foundation.

I am happy to announce that **Lisa Deimeke Featherston '80** has become a member of Brentwood Alumni Association Board of Directors. Hope to see everyone at the 2021 reunion! Thanks to everyone for your continued support through your dues and donations.

**George W. Clements, Jr. '57**  
Board President

## A few construction photos from Ed Wright '67 December, 2020



## BAA Class Representatives

*According to the BAA Mission Statement which perpetuates the spirit of Brentwood High School, keeps communications open between graduates and BHS, and helps students with future educational opportunities, the Class Representatives are an integral part of our BAA organization.*

The Class Representatives are in touch with classmates and keep an updated class list. They search for missing alums and pass on changes of address, phone numbers, email addresses and deaths for our database. Some set up separate Facebook pages; others are

in touch through group emails. Class Reps are great at finding reunion planners at least every five years, often putting a committee together themselves, and some even raise funds for our scholarship program. They volunteer to help with our **Third Weekend in September** All-School Reunion and provide articles, pictures, old memories and ideas of who to spotlight in our newsletter. **Let's give a hand to these volunteer BAA Class Representatives!**

*See two class rep spotlights on page 6.*

## 2021 BAA CALENDAR

February 9	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
March 9	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
April 13	BAA Annual Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
April	Senior Scholarship Awards Program	TBA
May 11	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
June 1	Deadline for August 2021 Newsletter	
August 10	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
September 14	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
September 17	<b>"3rd Weekend in September" All-School Reunion – BHS</b>	4:00 PM
	<b>Hall of Fame Induction – BHS Auditorium</b>	7:00 PM
September 18	Brentwood Days Parade – High School Drive & Wrenwood	Noon
	BAA Booth at Brentwood Days in Brentwood Park on Russell	1:00 PM
October 12	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
November 9	BAA Board Meeting, District Conference Room	4:30 PM
December 1	Deadline for February 2022 Newsletter	

## SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Contributions to the BAA Scholarship Fund and dues are tax deductible under Section 170 of IRS Federal Income Tax Code, section 501 (c) 3.

The Association is also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under Section 2055, 2106 or 2522.

A copy of the approval document is available upon request. Checks should be made payable to Brentwood Alumni Association.

# ACROSS THE DECADES

This is the second of new articles featuring Brentwood grade schools; some are gone, but some still exist. More to come, look for old Frazier next, followed by Mark Twain, then McGrath, and even St. Mary Magdalen and Mount Calvary where many alums attended grade school.

## No. 1 Grade School

We received the following responses from alums who attended No. 1 grade school. Thanks to those who contributed with their stories. Due to space limitation, some responses are condensed. Those who attended Frazier: let us know your memories, up next in August Newsletter.

**Dave Ryan '50** and **ORE** reports he attended No.1, but began at Mark Twain, due to several changes in school boundaries. The principal was **Miss Madge McGrath** whom the kids were sort of scared of at first. In later years, I found she was fair to all and did a very good job. My first- grade teacher, **Miss Gladys Barlow**, told us interesting stories about the early history of Brentwood. In second grade, **Mrs. Winnie Etherton** was a kindly gray-haired lady and truly loved all her students and frequently brought home baked pastries for us. In third grade, **Miss Koch** seemed much younger than Mrs. Etherton. Besides the basics, we learned a little about history as she had traveled to several countries and told us interesting stories; we were never bored in her class. Red-haired **Miss Hendrix** taught fourth grade and did not get along with **Kurt Hermann '50**; when he did something wrong, she set him in the cloak room and locked the door. She only stayed for one year.

**Regina Stimson Gahr' 58** had some of her best school years (1945 to 1951) there. In 1st grade **Miss Gladys Barlow** was my introduction to learning as fun. She was always nice, ready to listen to eager 6-year-olds and taught us sooo much. We learned colors, numbers, letters, simple arithmetic, words (*Dick and Jane* books), geography, helping, and sharing. But perhaps one of the most important lessons we learned was patriotism; we said the Pledge of Allegiance every morning. Then on to second grade with **Mrs. Winnie Etherton**. (*Mrs. Etherton retired at BSD's mandatory age and continued teaching for a while in Valley Park.*) Our parents opened canned goods



on the bottom and food boxes very carefully so we could place them in our little grocery store in the classroom closet, filled with all those cans and boxes. The shelves were made out of wooden peach crates; we had a counter and cash register. Everyone got to shop, stock the shelves and best of all, be cashier; we had play money and learned to count change. The highlight of the year was making apple butter! All got to peel and cut apples; yes, we all used knives and didn't even think of cutting anyone. Sixth grade was another memorable year. **Miss Josephine McGrath** was our teacher, who always wore sweaters and skirts which she amply filled out. She played with us on the blacktop playground which had swings, teeter totters, and a jungle gym. **Miss McGrath** played dodge ball, Red Rover, and softball with us. We would frequently ask her to play "old fashioned school teacher". This was done in the classroom where we would have to sit up very straight, hands folded on our desk top, feet straight and flat on the floor; she would walk up and down the aisles with a ruler pretending to hit us if we squirmed or moved. We never lasted more than one pass through the room before someone, then all of us, broke up laughing. The class size was about 25-30 students and believe it or not - we were pretty well behaved. Of course, we knew the teacher and principal would spank us if we misbehaved; and then we would get another spanking when we got home. **Mr. Dugger** was our Principal; his son **Eddie (Ed Dugger '58)** was in our class and he was my backyard neighbor so I really had to be good. **Brentwood No. 1** will always hold a special place in my heart.

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**BRENTWOOD  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**FEBRUARY, 2021  
VOLUME 18, NO. 1**

1201 Hanley Industrial Ct.  
St. Louis, MO 63144-1911  
314-962-4507 x6015

Website: [www.brentwoodhsalumni.org](http://www.brentwoodhsalumni.org)

### MISSION STATEMENT:

Our mission is to perpetuate the spirit of Brentwood High School, to keep communications open between graduates and BHS, and to help students with future educational opportunities - be they university, community college, or technical scholarships.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

**George Clements, Jr. '57**  
**PRESIDENT**

*3rd Weekend in September Committee Chair*

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*Editor & Newsletter Committee Chair*

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**Allison Reed '82**

*Hall of Fame Committee Chair*

**Pam Plagenz Ross '68**

**Linda Alexander Smith '61**

**Edward T. Wright, Jr. '67**

**DEADLINE NEXT NEWSLETTER:**  
**June 1, 2021**

**Judith Turner Peckham '61**

*Editor & Newsletter Chair*

[judi.peckham@gmail.com](mailto:judi.peckham@gmail.com)

636 451-0907 Cell 314 610-0907

Please let us know if you have any interest in serving on a committee, the Board of Directors, or Class Rep. 314-962-4507 x6015

# No. 1 Grade School

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**Dennis Kurre '58** reports that he lived just west of the trolley tracks and until the school boundaries were changed, he spent 1½ years at No. 1. Kids on the east side of tracks always went to Mark Twain. He described the somewhat long journey to school and cutting across the vacant lot, now part of the Congregational Church. There was an elderly street crossing guard, **Mr. Miller**, who ensured safe passage across Brentwood Blvd. Once, while playing tag or hide and seek on the playground, Dennis ran down the concrete steps on the Litzsinger side to the basement to hide. He lost his balance, fell, tore skin and tip of his middle finger, with bone showing. After the nurse banded him, he walked home and had sewing repairs by the family doctor in Maplewood. He remembers the famous **McGrath sisters**, legendary teachers, and after whom McGrath Elementary School was later built and named.

**Fred Abrams '61** reported 3rd grade teacher, **Mrs. Weeks**, allowed him to perform a Christmas music program on a piano out in the hall by the classroom door. His aunt was a professional pianist and organist; he could find and play all the right notes but no melody, so what he was playing was generally not recognizable – (sorry 3rd grade classmates.) It was in 5th grade with **Miss Jo McGrath** that Fred's dad abandoned his family – **Miss McGrath** was an absolute God Send for him, comforting him and keeping the “shame” of a family divorce her and Fred's secret. He remembers her as the warmest, friendliest teacher he ever had.

**Judi Turner Peckham '61** shared many of the same memories of Regina's above. Just loved **Miss McGrath's** old fashioned teacher episodes, **Miss Alma Wall** in 4th grade, who I thought was beautiful, **Miss Marian McDonald**, another beauty in my eyes, in Kindergarten, where she had us lie on little rugs for a nap while she played music, and **Mrs. Winnie Etherton**, **Mr. Johnson** (music), and others. **Miss McGrath** had a walk-in closet filled with old *National Geographic* magazines, where we kids spent a lot of time. I loved when she read a book about Marco Polo and Cathay, with her wonderfully soothing voice, which I can still hear in my mind. Third grade **Mrs. Weeks** later became **Mrs. Billingham**. I helped out in the lunchroom with **Mrs. Anna Merz**, a kindly older lady, and recall **Sandy Laws '60** could really slug the softball often back

in the field behind the school. Like Dennis mentioned, we neighborhood classmates really wore a path through the vacant lot with the mulberry trees next to the church, on the way to school. Also remembered kindly **Mr. Kinlough**, a policeman- crossing guard and father of **Bob Kinlough '61**, who guided us across Brentwood Blvd. **No. 1 was the greatest school.**

**Barbara Beekman Divincen '67** went to No. 1, Kindergarten through 2nd grade, and started at McGrath in 3rd grade.



**No. 1 Girl Scout Troop 741**

LtoR: Mary Beth Jacobsen, Ann Biggs, Pat Pifat, Diane Schall, Judi Turner, Sue Robertson, Pam Dunham, Janet Mays, Judy Ruesing, Judy Bishop, Sally Eskeles



**6th Grade Band in Basement – 1955**

LtoR: Known Alums, 1st row Diane Schall, Tom Hrstich, 2nd row Judi Turner, Top Row Ann Biggs, Judy Bishop, Pat Pifat, Fred Abrams



**Popular Jungle Gym**

# Continuing Past Brentwood Memories Now Beginning to Fade...

*Thanks to our readers who responded and shared their memories of Brentwood. Let us know if you have any to add for next newsletter. Editor's comments are in red italics below.*

Years ago, **Lowell Turner '47** wrote that during World War II, Brentwood students, including Boy Scouts, collected aluminum pots, pans, etc., depositing them in a pile about 100 feet in diameter by 10 feet high. *(Doesn't this relate to today?)* Flat trailer beds had to be pushed by hand. During this time, the quarry on Manchester just east of Brentwood Blvd. was half full of water.

**Dave Ryan '50** reported about the trolley incident between Dorothy and Mary streets. He lived on Mary, west of the tracks, and went to Mark Twain for a while. His classmates, **Jeanne Hey**, **Barbara Schmidt**, and **Louis (Guy) Keller**, from Salem Street, walked to Mark Twain on Dorothy along with Dave. (Since there was no access to Mark Twain, they had to walk west on Manchester to Dorothy.) Being kids, they didn't want to walk up the street to Mark Twain, but instead walked the trolley tracks and jumped between the wooden ties and often went on one side and then the other, too, back and forth. They could see and hear a trolley car at least half a block away and had time to get off the tracks. One day, though, Guy either tripped or fell and did not get across the tracks in time and was hit by the trolley and missed a few weeks of school, but that incident no doubt caused some changes in school boundaries.

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**Bob Wussler '66** attended No. 1 from Kindergarten through 3rd grade in the early/mid 1950's. **Jim Hellewege '67** attended No. 1 for Kindergarten, 1954, 1st grade, 1955, and 2nd grade, 1956. McGrath Elementary opened in 1957 when it replaced No. 1. *Thanks to Bob and Jim for submitting two each of No. 1 class pictures. Due to space limitation and student names unavailable, we will try to get names from the classes and either place pictures on the website or in the August newsletter.*

# Continuing Past Brentwood Memories Now Beginning to Fade...

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One time in **Dave Ryan's '50** science class, he told of a strange, rumored incident when Brentwood Blvd. (then North and South Road) made a very sharp, downhill curve (almost a right angle) in the area of what is now Strassner and Urban Dr. A man was killed there. The road was later straightened out. *(Hoping to get more details about this in next issue.)*

**Royanne Chipps Bailey '55** cleared up the "Homer Fudge" mystery. He was a plumber in Brentwood and had a granddaughter named **Royanne Fudge**, who our **Royanne** met when children and said, "I was thinking that maybe being named Royanne Chipps wasn't the worst thing that could have happened." Nevertheless, being named **Royanne** has sparked many ten-minute conversations about her name at past introductions and still to this day. She remembers, after the Brentwood School System integrated, her father, a school board member for many years, took her as a five-year old with him to a **L'Ouverture** graduation; he handed out diplomas there occasionally.

**Charles Kreichelt '57** said the grocery store at Brentwood Square was Brown's Piggly Wiggly. Charles worked there as a senior at BHS and "decided \$1.35 per hour was more important than being a 135 lb. weakling on the end of the bench on the football team."

**Dennis Kurre '58** said that the trolley ran daily from Clayton, the far side of Manchester Rd, past the old dump and ended at the wood line before it got to the creek. When the conductor got to either end of the line, he would just detach his coin changer, walk to the other end of the trolley and drive it in reverse direction back to where he had started. The trolley tracks also bisected Litzsinger, Eulalie, Rosalie, and all other streets that it crossed. *(That trolley sometimes ended up in Kirkwood, also, as I recall.)*

**Walter Henkel '60** remembers in the 60's, there was a big sign with bright-red letters, visible from Clayton Road at the south end of Brentwood Square for Brown's...first time he had heard a grocery store referred to as a supermarket. And down the road on the west, there were three shops with bright red enamel steel panels below the windows set back from Brentwood Blvd. The one on the south end was the Hobby Shop owned

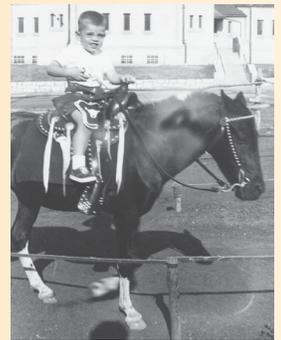
by Dorothy Mutrux. When it closed, York Signs moved in. The one in the middle was owned by Sam Orvalic, Shoemaker. *(I remember the nice smells of leather and dye in this shop.)* There were also four shops set closer to Brentwood Blvd.—Alco TV, Brentwood Barber Shop, Anthony Broz, Printer, and Russ Card, Jeweler on the north end. *(I also remember the sound of the printing press and the smell of ink, in that little shop, and little did I know that I later would be heavily involved in the printing industry).* Adding to this, there were five more shops in one building, set back the same distance as the Hobby Shop – Oxie's Café, Velvet Freeze *(where some alums scooped ice cream as part-time workers)*, Matthews' Shoe Store and two others. *(What about Colabianchi Hardware???) It was there also.* Then on the east side of Brentwood Blvd., there was Brentwood Hardware and Electric, which later became 50 Minute Cleaners *(this building was bombed in 1958 according to his memory)* and Harold Jordan's office with a house in back. When Jordan's moved a few doors north, the house was purchased by Conoco and razed to expand Sutterer's Conoco Station in 1957 **(Clarence Sutterer '48.)** *(And there was Sabbath's liquor store on the corner where our parents went some-*

*times. What about Posch's Drug Store in the 40's and 50's, corner of White and Brentwood Blvd, with owners' house in back?)* **Ted Holland '45**, pharmacist, and **Lowell Turner '47** worked there. *Lowell delivered medicine in Brentwood, and the yearbook kidded him by stating he was found selling drugs around town!*

Later, **Gerard Ganahl '65** reported there were 2 grocery stores in Brentwood Square – A & P at the north end and David and Goliath at the south end where the sign was. Worked both from 1962 to 1965.

**Terry Gaines '69** asked if anyone remembers the pony ride track at the NW corner of Brentwood Blvd. and Manchester.

*(The editor remembers quite well, and rode those ponies into the ground!)*



**Terry Gaines '69** on pony across from church

## A Brentwood Cave Story...

*I intended to ask for information from alums about the cave near end of Hilldale Street. Surprisingly "40 South News", **Doug Hauser**, just had an article about it. Thanks to **Dan Fitzgerald**, Brentwood Historical Society, and **Joe Light**, professional caver, for the information. (Recall seeing this cave years ago as a youngster and in later years, as a spelunker; I was always interested in it and wondered about it; now I know!)*



This cave was a part of an extensive cave system in Brentwood, The Berry and Johnston Caves. The cave, before it was sealed, was located where the old Doane building was and is now the Rosi Academy and near the Goff-Moll-Post building west of Schnucks. **Dr. John Marshall Berry**, a prominent physician in Brentwood, Richmond Heights, and the Webster Groves areas, lived in the home behind the cave from the early 1900's until mid-30's.

## PAST REUNIONS

### 1975 REUNION PLANNING MEETING FOR 2021 REUNION



L to R: Mark Kurtz, Keith Kornfeld, Kris Wirfs Hansford, Suzanne Swanson, Dan Stoverink and Leslie Williams Rabenau



L to R: Mark Kurtz, Suzanne Swanson, Kris Wirfs Hansford, Leslie Williams Rabenau, Gary Geisz, Myron Jenkins, Karen Stapf Hilf and Chris Surgener, Foreground: Gary Cruse

### 1985 35th

On Saturday, September 19, 2020, Brentwood's High School Class of 1985 celebrated its 35th Class Reunion. This was only the second time the Class held an organized reunion, since walking up on the BHS stage to accept their diplomas. Their only other official reunion was their 10th. Although the turnout was much lower than first expected, due mostly to COVID-19, the class had a nice sized group of 20 or so.

The 35-year celebration was held on the patio at Failoni's Restaurant and Bar in St. Louis. The reunion included great food and much dancing to the terrific live band (The Convertibles), who featured an outstanding local vocalist, Selena. The bandleader is BHS alum **Ron Sallee '72**.

On top of the local contingent, classmates from Illinois, Alabama, North Carolina and even as far as Florida made it back to "the LOU". Although it wasn't quite the same, with no football game, Friday night at the Trainwreck, Brentwood Days or the All-School Reunion at the high school this year, the focus was on the great people of the Class of 1985 and seeing them smiling, laughing and having fun again...if only for

one night. Class members have already been talking about planning future get-togethers, once we can leave this pandemic solidly in the rear view. It was a great time where "old" friends could see each other and catch-up on where they are. Go Eagles!

*Submitted by Pat Conley '85*



L to R: Beth Klein Zuvanich, Chris Jones, Wendy Marx Marshall, Byron McNair, Todd Weston, Jerry Wicks, Mike Marshall, Michele Pitman Magner, Marybeth Wilson, Mark Niemeyer, Pat Conley, Vern Avanzado, Rick Saxon and Gary Peters.

## FUTURE REUNIONS 2021

### 1955 66th/1956 65th

Let's combine our classes for a reunion dinner on Saturday, September 18th. Your contacts are **Jim Bender (936) 537-6786 jimbender011@gmail.com**, **Ellie Keller White (314) 614-7705 elliewhite1@att.net** and **Jodie Thomas Welch (951) 769-3936 awelch5@verizon.net**

### 1961 60th

The Class of 1961 is planning its 60th reunion for the **3rd Weekend in September 2021**. On Friday, September 17th from 4-7 is the All-School Reunion with the Hall of Fame ceremony immediately following. On Saturday, September 18th we're planning a catered picnic at Tilles Park. For questions, and if you can help us locate these "missing" classmates - **Jackie Cameron Beck, Sharon Ottmer Coffman, Brenda McMillion Hunt, Emily Belger McLemore, Doug Payne, Peggy Poole, Brooks Pumphrey, Kathy Daddona Strutheit, Curtis Turner, Sandy Williams Walenga**, contact **Sandy Kurre LaGarce** at [sjlaga@gmail.com](mailto:sjlaga@gmail.com) or call 636-236-3286.

### 1966 55th

The Class of '66 is in the beginning stages of considering a 55-year reunion for 2021. We have no definite plans at this point, but stay tuned for updates! Input from any class members is welcome. Stay safe! **Jane Kraft Rabey (770) 241-2736 jrabay@bellsouth.net**

### 1971 50th

Believe it or not, 2021 will be our **50th year!!!!!!!** SAVE THE DATE! Our reunion is set for **Saturday, September 18, 2021** from 4-7 at CJ Muggs, 101 W Lockwood in Webster Groves with a private room and cash bar. This coincides with the Brentwood Days festivities. Let's participate in the parade as well. We will be sending out the "invitations" via a Facebook event or by website. We don't have emails for all our classmates, so if you know a classmate, ask them if they received this invitation. Please direct any questions or suggestions to any committee members. **David Stukenbroeker** [stukenbroeker@gmail.com](mailto:stukenbroeker@gmail.com), **Brad Burch** [bikerbsb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bikerbsb@sbcglobal.net), **Rick Moeckel** [mocone17@yahoo.com](mailto:mocone17@yahoo.com), **Missy Reisenleiter** [reisenleiter@yahoo.com](mailto:reisenleiter@yahoo.com), **Beth Paxton Osiek** [bethpo2026@gmail.com](mailto:bethpo2026@gmail.com) or **Sue Higgenbotham Byler** [sbyler72@hotmail.com](mailto:sbyler72@hotmail.com). We hope to have an excellent response and turnout! We look forward to hearing from everyone!!! Also, don't forget about Friday night at the high school for the usual gathering from 4-7 and then on to the Trainwreck afterwards. There will be more information in the August newsletter.

### 1980 40th

Due to Covid restrictions, we will be celebrating our 40th BHS Class Reunion in 2021. Planning is just beginning, so look for future updates on the BAA website [www.brentwoodhsalumni.org](http://www.brentwoodhsalumni.org) and I will be in touch with you. As your new Brentwood Alumni Class Representative, your input would be helpful. **Jeff Moore (314) 518-2050 jeffersonmoore@charter.net**

### 1981 40th

Class of '81 is starting to plan a reunion for 2021, maybe joining class of 1980. We haven't come up with anything yet, but welcome your suggestions and help. Contact **Doreen Jorn Farwig** at [doreenfarwig2@gmail.com](mailto:doreenfarwig2@gmail.com)

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# FUTURE REUNIONS 2022

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## 1965 – 57th

With age comes wisdom. Members of the BHS Class of 1965, now well into our seventies, have raised concerns about whether COVID-19 will be sufficiently under control by Brentwood Days 2021 to gather the entire class for a reunion. We all wished that the pandemic would be winding down by now, but that's just not the reality we're facing. We're disappointed, but we also care about one another. We've made it this far and don't want to see anyone lost to something as avoidable as COVID-19, whether in a crowd of a hundred classmates in one room, or by boarding flights to St. Louis before we're comfortable doing so. **So, we're tabling our reunion for another year, looking ahead to Brentwood Days 2022.**

Let's continue to encourage small, impromptu gatherings where short or no travel is involved, or to visit one another when we get the chance. Mask up when necessary and keep appropriate social distances when together. The class will remain connected via email. Should anyone wish to share news or stay in the loop and obtain a class contact spreadsheet, please contact reunion coordinators **David Serra** and **Jim Coleman** at [bhsmo1965@gmail.com](mailto:bhsmo1965@gmail.com). Everyone stay safe and stay well!

## 1970 – 52nd

With all the ups and downs of Covid, the committee has decided to postpone our Reunion till September 17, 2022. I know it is over a year away, but please pencil it in your calendar so we are able to see as many classmates as we can. If you have any questions, please contact me **Cathy (Stockwell) Whitney** by email, [cathybob24@gmail.com](mailto:cathybob24@gmail.com) or text/call 858-699-5528.



# CLASS REP SPOTLIGHTS

Meet our newest class rep!

## Paul Eckler '64

After BHS, Paul attended the University of Missouri at Rolla, now Missouri University of Science & Technology. He was a co-op student with Monsanto and graduated with a degree in chemistry in 1969. He attended graduate school in chemistry at the University of Oregon, but was drafted in 1970. After training at Ft. Leonard Wood, the army sent him to Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, DC. After discharge in 1972, he returned to the University of Oregon and completed a PhD in chemistry in 1975. He was hired as a research chemist at Commercial Solvent Corporation in Terre Haute, IN. A series of business sales took him to Baltimore, MD and then Cranbury, NJ retiring as Manager of Technical Services from Rhone-Poulenc, later Rhodia, now Solvay in 1996. A temp position at Bayer Agfa's printing plates business became permanent. He retired January 1, 2000, but remained in New Jersey to research family tree for a book published in 2012. He moved back to the St. Louis area in 2006 and is active in Kiwanis, serving as district chair for officer training and webmaster. He volunteered as a robot inspector for First Robotics, and serves as a trustee for the Wildwood Historical Society. He has 5000 friends on Facebook, is active on the Motley Fool discussion boards, and has over 100 book reviews posted on Amazon. He has two cats and enjoys cooking, gardening, investing, and traveling.



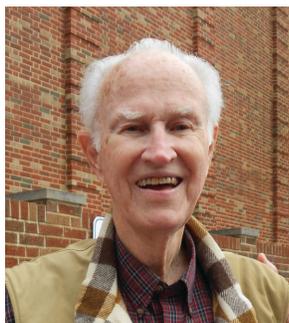
## Dave Oppenheim '79

Immediately following graduation from BHS, Dave spent 9 months as an exchange student in Mexico City (thank you, Mrs. Hille). Upon returning, he attended Central Missouri State University and married his wife, Beth, in 1981. In 1985 Dave graduated from Webster University, and began his life-long career in the insurance industry.

Today, Dave is the President of The Oppenheim Group Insurance & Bonds, with offices in Saint Louis and Alton, Illinois. Beth and Dave have two sons, Michael and Stephen. Sadly, Michael passed away in 2019 at the age of 30. Stephen and his wife, Miki, live in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where they work for Sweetwater Sound. Most of Dave's free time is spent at Wellspring Family Church, where he currently serves on its audio/visual team, and is also chairman of the Elder Board. He also serves the BHS Alumni Association as class representative for the class of 1979. Dave's favorite BHS memories revolve around the great comradery with other students, playing sports, and participating in the band programs. Both sports and music have been constants in Dave's life. Beth and Dave enjoy traveling, with San Diego as their most frequent destination. Dave also hopes to broaden his musical horizons by learning to play the harmonica in 2021!



## Former Teachers Brown and Wicks



Earl Brown, Ned and Nancy Wicks

# ALUMNI NEWS 2021

50's

**1952 Charles Combs – Ballwin, MO** – Just trying to stay healthy.

**1952 Shirley Russell Drake – Katy, TX** – Can't do much safely now, so I am reading until my eyes can't take it anymore. Also, taking my dog for lots of short trips around the circle where I live – can't be out long outside down here in the summer!! I'm blessed that, so far, I'm healthy and feeling great. Hope you all are, too.

**1952 Phyllis Elliott Oakley - Washington, DC** - I moved to an independent home last December. Then the pandemic set in and we are under strict quarantine rules, but no cases! Lots of old State Department friends, CIA and journalists - the deep state! I am in a happy group. All 5 grandchildren out of college.

**1953 Ann Hysmith Reckelhoff – Brentwood, MO** – Still painting and drawing in my home studio. Until the pandemic struck, I was exhibiting with the St Louis Watercolor Society. My last exhibit was at the Drury Inn during the Brentwood Century Foundation Celebration last year.

**1954 Bud, Jr. and Joanne Robertson Stark – Cicero, IN** – Married 64 years in November, 2020. Four great kids, 2 boys and 2 girls – 7 terrific grandchildren – 2 great-great-grandchildren. Still running at about 75%. All is well. Stay safe.

**1955 Darlene Brink Roland - Town & Country, MO** - Spent 3 months of 2020 in the hospital, focusing on health problems and family. Pray that they will find a vaccination for this terrible virus. Better days are ahead for us.

**1956 Barbara Schaefer Borghoff – Arlington Heights, IL** – So sorry to tell our friends from BHS that Bill passed away in July. We never forgot those “happy days” in Brentwood!

**1957 Susan McManis Speichinger – Morton, IL** – I've been masked and socially isolated in Morton, IL and so far, so good. It's really not so bad, as I can be outside in my yard and neighborhood and I've read some really good books.

**1958 Irene Ledbetter Christenson – Lake Barrington, IL** – Retired from United Airlines in March. Started my career in May, 1963 with time off to have 3 children. Travel is not on my current agenda; readjusting to a new life-style is. Gardening and landscaping are passions. Daily work-out a must, as is my daily faith practice. I'm sure the future will surprise me, and yet “just for today” seems enough right now.

**1958 Jacqueline Schuster Thursby – Provo, UT** – We are well and always busy, but resting more often. I was eighty in October and am amazed to have lived this long! Great life, great family, and constant gratitude for the blessings.

**1959 Charlene Brinkmann Evjen – Phoenix, AZ** - Trying to stay cool in the desert!

**1959 Gloria Morgan Roseman - Imperial, MO** - Hi Everybody - Living the good life. I'm retired. (Had a great gift shop in Kimmswick for 25 years.) My son, Chris, is VP of the St Louis Sports Commission. Daughter, Kim, lives in Gerald, loving the farm life.

**1959 Julie Chipps Tamarkin - Brimfield, MA** - I live with my husband, of 58 years, a retired college professor in rural Massachusetts. I retired as an editor of the Connecticut Law Journal and now do freelance editing. I enjoy swimming and walking. Four kids, seven grandkids and one great-grandchild.

60's

**1960 Suzanne McWhirter Davis – Fenton, MO** – I retired, for the second time, in September 2019. Covid has shut down my volunteer work at Circle of Concern Food Pantry, but I'm still going to the gym for my weight lifting; been doing this for 5 years now and still have not broken a nail. Ha! Will plan travel when this virus stuff makes it safer. Wishing everyone good health.

**1960 Walter Henkel – St Louis, MO** – The National Museum of Transportation is operating under Covid-19 rules, so I haven't been out there.

**1961 Ann Biggs Zuvekas – Falls Church, VA** – Completed 10 years of service as a member of the Fairfax County (VA) Health Care Advisory Board.

**1964 Nelson Koopman – Darien, IL** – Chair of Academic Affairs Committee of Benedictine University Board of Trustees.

**1964 Scott Marshall – St Louis MO** – Moved in May, 2020 and celebrated 50th wedding anniversary in August, 2020.

**1965 Glen Fuse - Dunwoody, GA** - It seems some solid early plans for a special 55-year reunion were well underway for 2020. It will now be a special 57-year reunion postponed to September, 2022. I enjoy receiving the Connection. I know it takes dedication and hard work to put it together. I am always impressed by the accomplishments of our classmates. What a smart and caring group of individuals they are.

**1967 Jeanne Brunner Cavender - Rolla, MO** - I read the BHS newsletter from beginning to end. Kudos to the alumni responsible.

**1967 Linda Schirmann Creech – Dallas, TX** – Said “Good Bye” to my amazing 50-year airline career, as I retired August 01, 2020. Started a bucket list early, and it was a fabulous journey. Now, to slow it down a bit by spending time on our ranch and in my home in Dallas. Will eventually resume my travel, but in a way more relaxed manner.

70's

**1971 Missy Reisenleiter – St Louis, MO** – My husband successfully completed hiking the entire Appalachian Trail in December, 2019. I kept the “home fires burning” and kept him fed by shipping the food boxes. I am proud of his accomplishment and of playing a part in helping him check this off his bucket list.

**1975 Fred Heger – Chesterfield, MO** – Relocated to Tulsa, OK and back to St Louis at beginning of 2020. Had a grandson, Mike Brunworth, born in March, 2020. Lost my father to Covid-19 in April, 2020. Still playing baseball and hockey on local men's teams. Now working as controller of Meridian Medical Technologies (Pfizer) in the Westport area.

80's

**1981 Karl E Heger - Brookfield, WI** - I just hit 25 years as a Special Agent in the FBI. In August 2019, I was selected to be the SWAT Team Leader for the FBI Chicago Bravo SWAT



Team. I command one of the two Chicago FBI, 21 member SWAT Teams. The Chicago FBI SWAT Team conducts high risk search warrants, hostage rescue, active shooter response, and other tactical missions as required. Prior to the Bravo Team Leader position, I was the Chicago FBI Sniper Team leader in charge of 12 snipers. I am assigned to the FBI Chicago Regional Training Facility where I have the responsibility of training all Chicago FBI Agents in Firearms, Defensive Tactics and Arrest Tactics. I also conduct SWAT, Sniper, Firearms and Tactical Schools for Police Officers from all over the country. I recently was part of protection detail for the United States Attorney General's visit to Zagreb, Croatia and the Director of the FBI visit to Paris, France.

90's

**1992 Mark Taylor - Los Angeles, CA** - Was nominated for a 2020 Primetime Emmy award for Outstanding Production Design for a Narrative Period or Fantasy Program. (He was the Art Director on the Netflix series, Hollywood.)

**ORE - Ruth Rangel - Chesterfield, MO** - I so enjoyed the August newsletter. Your magazine is both newsy and inspiring. I was a teacher of German and History at Brentwood High School from 1990 - 1995.



**Does this belong to you or a classmate?** Letter jacket from '96 with wrestling letter and two bars on the sleeve. If you know who belongs to it, contact Ed Wright at [wrikink@aol.com](mailto:wrikink@aol.com)

# BAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROFILE

## Lisa Deimeke Featherston '80



After graduating from BHS Lisa attended Hickey Business School in Clayton, Missouri which prepared her for her roles in the Execu-

tive Offices in both education and health care institutions in Missouri, California and Texas. After returning to Missouri, Lisa has been employed by Mercy Health for the past 32 years.

Lisa married a fellow Brentwoodian, **Jerry Featherston, '83** and they reside in Brentwood. Their two children, Nicholas and Natalie, are both graduates of Brentwood High, making them 3rd generation BHS graduates for both the Deimeke and Featherston families. **Nicholas '13** is currently serving our

Country after graduating from the Air Force Academy, and **Natalie '17** graduated in December, 2020 from Missouri State University with a degree in Child and Family Development.

Lisa's volunteer roles include the Alumni Association at St. Mary Magdalen in Brentwood, the PTO for Brentwood High School and most recently joined the Board for the BHS Alumni Association. She has many years of Board experience in her professional career for both the Missouri Hospital Association's Missouri Health Care Executive Assistant Board (MHCEA) as well as the Association of Administrative Professionals, a national organization (AHCAP), serving as President for both organizations.

Lisa and Jerry as well as their family, enjoy the outdoors and can be found boating at the Lake of the Ozarks and Table Rock frequently through the summer months with their family and friends.

## IMPORTANT MESSAGES

- **Class Representatives** are urgently needed for '45, '46, '47, '56, '68, '88, 2000, 2001, 2004. Contact **Sandy Kurre LaGarce** [sjlaga@gmail.com](mailto:sjlaga@gmail.com)

- We have a request for a 1959 Yearbook and also need some from 1980-1989. If you have an extra one to spare, contact **Mary Ann Koetting**, [jmakoetting@gmail.com](mailto:jmakoetting@gmail.com).

- **The Newsletter Committee** has received many nice compliments from alums about the newsletter and it's very appreciated. **Thanks!**

- With so many cancellations due to COVID restrictions, we are not expecting many photos for the August newsletter. If you are getting together with a few of your classmates, here and there, please send a picture with names to editor at [judi.peckham@gmail.com](mailto:judi.peckham@gmail.com). Any other photos are most welcome, too.

- **Reminder to those who attended Frazier Grade School:** Let us know your memories, and provide pictures, if any, for the August newsletter, where Frazier will be featured. Names on any pictures will be appreciated. Email editor: [judi.peckham@gmail.com](mailto:judi.peckham@gmail.com).

**Let us hear from you!** Your input makes your alumni newsletter even more interesting. Use the enclosed envelope to tell us of your activities this year.



# SCHOOL NEWS

## EAGLE DIVERSITY

*(EAGLE DIVERSITY is an ongoing column by Ed Wright, Jr. '67 in the BAA newsletter to focus on groups that may have been out of the mainstream in some ways, but still contributed to the success of Brentwood schools.)*

### “Nobody Knows You Better Than You”

A 2017 study found that 10.5% of high school students considered themselves LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, or queer/questioning.) Whatever numbers you believe, the fact is that there have been LGBTQ students at BHS through the years. High school is a tough experience. Imagine it if you were hiding a personal secret or just discovering your sexual identity.

Two BHS alumni who have gone through this experience are **Howard Haynes '53** and **Shane Stinson '11**. Though they attended BHS 60 years apart, they faced similar challenges while traveling quite different paths.



Howard in high school (above) and Howard today (right)



**Howard Haynes** is a distinguished alum and a 2018 member of the Brentwood Alumni Association Hall of Fame for his many years as a college administrator and civic and charity work by him and his partner, Bill Harris. In 2016, Baker University's President awarded him an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

Though he went to BHS games, he confesses to being “a mediocre student” who was obsessed more with leaving school to ride his favorite horse, Soupcon. As to his sexual orientation, Howard says, “I came out when I was three. It was never an issue with me or my family. In fact, my mom said she was proud of me when the Brentwood librarian called to say I had requested a book on lesbians.”

At school, **Howard** had a group of friends... “an inner circle”, supportive of Howard and other gay students at school. “My junior year, there was already a lot of bullying against several of us for whatever reason. The jocks pretty much ran the school. They would mostly do silly things to harass us.” Howard's group of friends included his '53 classmates: **Sue Weber Young, Ann Hysmith Reckelhoff, Ruth Hounsom Carr, Betty Rick Dilthey, Brad Susman, and Ron Alberter.**

Howard also fondly remembers staff at BHS who were supportive: **Bill Steerman** - the drama teacher and life-saver, “An extraordinarily perceptive man;” **Edith Low** - “the librarian who provided opportunities and books;” **Don Edwards** the principal; and **George Saltzman** the superintendent. “Everybody knew there were gays in the school. There were maybe a few bumpy roads at BHS, but it got me going in the right direction.”



Shane in high school



Shane today

Sixty years later, **Shane Stinson** forged a different path. **Shane** went by a different name and pronouns when he went to BHS. He was a typical high school student in many ways—played softball, field hockey (all-conference goalie in 2010); was a member of National Honor Society, French Club, and sang in the choir under the direction of his mom, **Deb Stinson**; and painted his face purple and gold as a member of “the Purple People” at football games.

When Shane came out as a lesbian in his junior year, he had been heavily involved with a local church. “I was asked to leave the church and many people who attended either no longer wanted to associate with me or spent their time trying to ‘save’ me... A

handful of these students went to BHS, but I was lucky to have a core group of friends at the high school who did not attend the church who embraced my identity and loved me for who I am.”

Shane felt that BHS was supporting him as an individual, but the district and staff “didn't have resources to offer LGBTQ students or clubs where they could organize and build community. There were times I felt isolated and alone because there weren't many openly LGBTQ students or teachers.” Shane did feel support from some faculty especially his mom, **Deb**. “She has always loved me whole-heartedly through every season of change in life.” Other staff members Shane felt supported by included: **Kelly Smoller, Christine “Madame” Stevenson, John Schalda, Ivy Hutchison, and Ed Wright.**

But there's more to Shane's story. “There was a community of people at BHS who showed me love and supported me throughout my coming out process. Many of them still showed me that support when I came out as a transgender man four years later.” He started using the name Shane in 2013 and then began hormone replacement therapy in 2014.

Shane has continued to work in LGBTQ studies and resources. He is currently a Recruitment Consultant for the University of Missouri-Columbia. “I was able to embrace my transgender identity because of the community I had built at Mizzou and the strong friendships I had from Brentwood.”

**BHS has had a Gay-Straight Alliance club for over ten years. Attendance is usually a mix of students who identify as LGBTQ and their “allies”. More students are feeling comfortable coming out during their teen years, but it can still be a challenge for some. What reflections do Howard and Shane have for today's students? Howard says: “Students have an advantage today because of the support of other students. I applaud the whole new movement. It's brilliant.” Shane's advice is: “Don't be ashamed of your identity, even if you are the only person who identifies that way in your class. Nobody knows you better than you.”**

**Two BHS alums—one a member of our Hall of Fame, the other a respected member of the Mizzou administration. Two Eagles who make us proud.**

**Ed Wright, Jr. '67**

# SCHOOL NEWS

## ORE - What is it?

The ORE is the **Organization of Retired Eagles**, which includes retired teachers, administrators, and staff from the Brentwood School District. The members meet occasionally for lunch and share memories of their years at Brentwood High School. Members range in age from their 50's to 90's. **Mary Beth Powell** coordinates the group.

## Carmalita Collier, ORE

Those of us who had **Carmalita** as a class teacher at **Mark Twain** or **BHS**, or have just known her over the years from school or family association, her 100th birthday was on October 4, 2020.

Due to COVID-19, her living facility, Sunrise of Alexandria, was shut down over her birthday, and sadly, there was no celebratory event. One of her former students at **Mark Twain's** 6th grade class, **Eleanor Olds Batchelder '57**, graciously put together a "Book of Letters" from former students. Carmalita's tenure of 26 years in the Brentwood School System was from 1950 to 1976. Beginning at **Mark Twain**, she taught there for 15 years before being assigned to BHS from 1965 to her retirement at which time **Ned Wicks** was the high school principal.

Like so many others, she has been in a "lock down" mode at Sunrise of Alexandria for many months now. I recently spoke with her, and her mental faculties seem to still be strong, but may be slipping a bit because she is now having a little trouble remembering some short-term things. However, her long-term memories of her days & students in Brentwood are still sharp.

**Dennis Kurre '58**

Mrs. Carmalita Collier  
c/o Sunrise Senior Living  
3520 Duke Street #216  
Alexandria, Virginia 22304  
Phone: (703) 212 – 5033

## More "Thank You's" from Scholarship 2020 Awardees

To: Brentwood Alumni Association,  
I am really thankful for everything that Brentwood has offered me over the last four years of high school. I am grateful to receive this scholarship and look forward to making a difference in the world thanks to the generosity of the Brentwood Alumni Association.

**Nathan Butler**

Dear BHS Alumni Association,  
I am incredibly grateful for the scholarship you have granted me for my college education. I have never been one to turn away from my dreams and your contribution has allowed me to turn my dreams into reality. My time at Brentwood has shaped me into a person who is ready to take on the chaotic and complicated adult world from across the pond in Wales. I will deeply miss the Brentwood community and the caring and giving individuals within it.

Thank you,  
**Ben Haug**

Brentwood Alumni,  
I want to personally thank you so much for the Alumni scholarship I was awarded this past spring. I am so grateful for the support, and cannot wait to utilize it during my time at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Again, thank you so much.  
Best regards,  
**Zoe Krause**

## Former BHS Coach Digs All the Way Back to 1947

**John Titus, ORE**, who served as BHS's head football coach from 1958 to 1973, wrote a fascinating article for the former *Brentwood Spirit* newspaper. Titus came to Brentwood after coaching three seasons at Warrensburg Public High School. The article begins on page 11 as Part 1 and will continue as Part 2 in the August newsletter. The article is also on our website, [www.brentwoodhsalumni.org](http://www.brentwoodhsalumni.org), under History. *Check it out!*



## BAA Committees

**3rd Weekend in September**  
George Clements, Jr. '57, Chair  
All Board Members

**Class Reps and Membership**  
Sandy Kurre LaGarce '61, Chair  
Debbie Sutterer Houlihan '73  
Mary Ann Eckler Koetting '59  
Judi Turner Peckham '61  
Marcia Hunsinger Werremeyer '66

**Events & Publicity**  
Judi Turner Peckham '61  
David Pentland '56

**Finance**  
Debbie Sutterer Houlihan '73 Chair  
Mark Madras '74  
Linda Alexander Smith '61  
Marcia Hunsinger Werremeyer '66  
Edward Wright, Jr. '67

**2020 Hall of Fame**  
Allison Reed '82 Chair  
Debbie Schott Bott '69  
Pat Kleisly Brinkhorst '61  
George Clements, Jr. '57  
Jennifer Abernathy Paez '98  
Linda Alexander Smith '61  
Linda Kaufman Zeman '65

**Newsletter**  
Judi Turner Peckham '61, Chair  
Mary Ann Eckler Koetting '59  
Sandy Kurre LaGarce '61  
Mark Madras '74  
Dave Ryan '50  
Edward Wright, Jr. '67

**Nominating**  
George Clements, Jr. '57  
David Pentland '56

**Scholarship**  
David Pentland '56, Chair  
Debbie Schott Bott '69  
Linda Pribble Hamberg '66  
Sandy Kurre LaGarce '61  
Mark Madras '74  
Pam Plagenz Ross '68  
Linda Alexander Smith '61  
Marcia Hunsinger Werremeyer '66

**Website**  
Mark Madras '74, Chair  
Mary Ann Eckler Koetting '59  
Marcia Hunsinger Werremeyer '66

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## John Michael (Mike) Lavin '63

### Grade School memories –

Mike began at Frazier in Mrs. Wandling's 3rd grade class, where in a Show and Tell, he indicated a new baby brother. In Mrs. Morresey's 4th grade class, he made a 3D map of Greece on cardboard using flour, water, and salt and painted it with tempura colors to mark elevations. On to 5th grade, he had lovely Miss Hughes. Mr. Rice, for 6th grade, told Mike's parents he would never be college material. He became involved in Cub Pack and Troop 339, with camping and hiking and even continued in Scouting through college, military life and to this day.



Mike Lavin

Mike and grandson

### High School and College –

To earn money during his BHS days, Mike worked for his father's toy store at Ballwin Plaza, many times walking the 11.3 miles along Manchester Road from Brentwood. Despite Mr. Rice's prediction, Mike graduated in four years from Westminster College in Fulton. He had joined the ROTC program for a commission to the U.S. Army upon graduation, and by fall, 1967, was in the Army!

### Military Service –

Basic training was in the U.S, but Mike found himself in a 2-year stint in Germany as his first assignment. (He speaks German as a second language.) As an officer, Mike lived off the post, with freedom of living state-side. He drove two Ford Mustangs and visited many places throughout Europe. Orders for Vietnam came in 1969—orders that would change his life forever.

### Vietnam, First half of tour –

Arriving at Camp Eagle, home of the 101st Airborne Division, sheer size of the post presented some security. For six months, Mike had it good, working in a somewhat air-conditioned office, sleeping in a hootch of plywood and screen on a steel frame bed with mattress, a storage locker and laundered clothes, living a somewhat normal life, three meals a day, movies, and doing what he wanted in his free time. On Sundays, he drove his jeep into the city of Hue

to attend a local scout meeting, with all boys in full uniform. What irony, he says, "We're in a war zone."

### Vietnam, Second half of tour –

The second half of the tour became a different story. He became the Company Commander of the 515th TC, a motley group of 155 men... boys... including two heroin addicts, potheads, juicers, and a pimp, along with 67 five-ton trucks. He, the paper pusher, now found himself around a bunch of guys with loaded guns. They hauled ammunition and food to the firebases of the 101st Airborne. Six weeks later, after his strong leadership, the guys became a cohesive group. Time in the field would become a blur of memories in later years for Mike. He remembers twice swimming in the river near Khe Sanh. "We survived by stealing what we needed and could not get; we did what we had to do to survive and accomplish the mission," Mike reflects. This was war. "It was Operation Lam Son 719, and we moved into Laos."

### Back to the U.S. –

He stayed a short time here, but was uncomfortable and returned for one year to be a guest worker in Germany. He chilled out in Finland for a while and returned home to the U.S. only to suppress his experiences and move on with life. In watching the movies *Platoon* and *Born on the Fourth of July*, Mike remembered a promise he had made to his men, "Do your job and I will get you home." He then began locating the men of his company of 155 guys. Fifty were deceased, but he would eventually talk with 70, inviting them to his home. On June 29, 2013, he held a formation of the 38 that came to Kirkwood, bringing them home as a group, not as individuals, the way they were returned 43 years ago.

He talks to high school students, about his experiences ... things that he carried so many years ago. It comes from the book by Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried*, a book of fiction, but not for Mike. Also, the US Army wrote a book about him and his men in Vietnam in 2017. Currently Mike goes inside the Menard Correctional facility in Chester, IL to talk with residents every other week and occasionally in four-day sessions.

He and his wife, Joyce, married for 44 years, have five children and twelve grandchildren.

# Former BHS Coach Digs All The Way Back to 1947

By John Titus



The BHS football team takes the field before a game in 2013, led by (from left) John Surgener, Connor Hancock, Jake Zivic, Devon Couch and Demetrius Graves. (Photo by Steve Bowman)

What Brentwood High School football player went on to star in the movies "Platoon" and "Major League"?

What former Eagle still holds the world record in the 100-yard dash?

Who made it all the way to the roster of the San Francisco 49ers?

What BHS quarterback never lost a game in three seasons?

These are just a few of the things I discovered while researching this article. Actually I already knew some of the answers, having served as Brentwood's head football coach from 1958 to 1973. I still live in the area and have continued to follow the team since retiring from the school district in 1989.



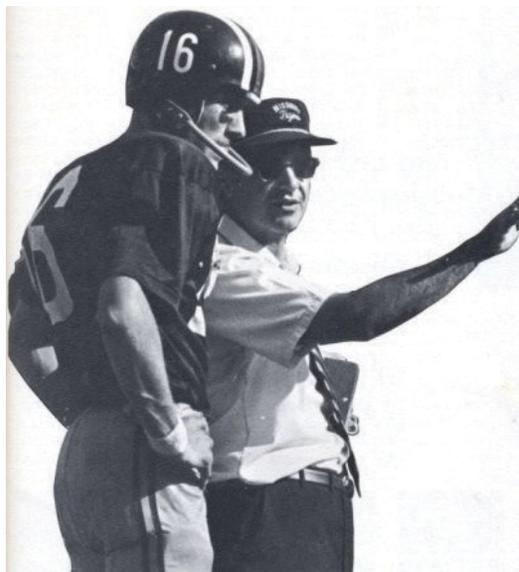
Current football coach Keith Herring (left) chats with former coach John Titus (1958-73) at a basketball game in 2014. (Photo by Steve Bowman)

continued on page 12

# Former BHS Coach Digs All The Way Back to 1947

continued from page 11

Back when I was teaching I wrote a “Brentwood Athletic History” since no records existed in any sport at the time. I started with the football and track teams, which I coached, and moved on to the other sports. I got most of the information from yearbooks, newspapers and written records submitted by coaches. Last year I started updating what I wrote and I’m happy to share it with you in a series of articles. This first article highlights BHS football. I have tried to stress outstanding events and people but my intimate knowledge begins with my arrival in 1958. I would appreciate hearing from any of you who may have additional knowledge of earlier football events. (See the note at the bottom of this article.)



Quarterback Chuck Roper listens to Mizzou head coach Dan Devine in 1970, the year he passed for 1,097 yards. He played in 32 games for the Tigers from 1969-71. (Photo courtesy of University of Missouri)

The BHS football program has an exciting, 68-year history. It has made it to the state championship twice, gone undefeated in the regular season nine times, put together a 26-game win streak, and fielded at least two Parade All-Americans.

Before we go back to the beginning, I’ll answer those four questions I opened with. The movie star is Tom Berenger, who as Tom Moore captained the freshman team in 1963 before moving away. The world class sprinter is Ivory Crockett, who played here two years before finishing up at Webster Groves and going on to break the world record in the 100. The 49er was 1977 graduate Jeff Brockhaus. And the undefeated varsity quarterback was Chuck Roper, 26-0 from 1965-67.

## Snake dances in 1947



Brentwood’s first head football coach, Carlton Roels, led the team in the fall of 1947. (Photo from 1947-48 BHS yearbook)

The first students arrived at Brentwood High School in 1928. Early athletic teams competed in soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball and track. A cinder track was ready in 1934. The first cheerleaders were organized in 1941-42.

The first football team was formed in 1947 under Coach Carlton Roels, who had played college football and basketball. With no field yet, all home games were played in Maplewood.

In the first game, the Eagles held Clayton scoreless in the first quarter before losing 32-0. That was followed by losses to five other Suburban League teams: Kirkwood, St. Charles, Maplewood, Wellston and Ritenour. The first touchdown in school history was scored on a short run by Frank Tallis against St. Charles. Though the inexperienced Eagles went 0-6 and scored only 26 points, the turnout of almost 40 boys was seen as a promising start.

“Football had the interest of all the students,” the 1947-48 yearbook proclaimed. “Before the first football game a ‘pep rally’ was held on the football field with a very large number of the student body being present. A bonfire, cheers, snake-dances, and more cheers showed the enthusiasm of the students.”



Brentwood High School’s first football team, in 1947, is identified from left to right. FRONT ROW: Bill Thoelke, Stewart Kenney, Oliver Fischer, Frank Tallis, Bill Shaver, Tom Elliott, Clarence Sutterer, Don Oscarson, Al Preston, Carl Day, Kurt Herrmann. SECOND ROW: John Eschbach, Bill Ashlock, Bob Green, Bob Jones, Don

Emerson, Charles Moritz, Russell Strong, Bob Schaeperkoetter, Arnold Pierce, Bob Patty. BACK ROW: Eddie Ernhart, Joe Bowers, Richard Krech, Ted Short, Leon Hirsh, Assistant Coach John Behrens, Otis Lankford. Not pictured: George Baumstark, Clyde Damon. (Photo from 1947-48 BHS yearbook)



Kurt Herrmann (31) sweeps right in 1947. Though one of the shortest team members, Herrmann was stocky and powerful and led the team in scoring that year. (Photo from 1947-48 BHS yearbook)

Bob Sweeney, who had played football at Mizzou, took over the team for another winless season in 1948. But in 1949 the experience started to pay off as the Eagles won their first game ever, 26-12 over Eugene Coyle High School of Kirkwood, which later became Vianney. BHS went on to beat Ferguson, St. Charles and Lutheran and ended up 4-6.



Brentwood’s second head football coach, Bob Sweeney, poses with members of the Letter Club. Club members are identified from left to right. FRONT ROW: Kurt Herrmann, Don Dunham, Bill Ashlock. SECOND ROW: Bob Jones, Monte Shomaker, Arnold Pierce, Richard Krech, Bob Sweeney. BACK ROW: Ted Short, Bob Reiter, Bob Schaeperkoetter, Tom Bernero. (Photo from 1948-49 BHS yearbook)

# In Memoriam

1939 James Clayton (Jim) Roehm – 10/07/2017  
1942 Jane Eschbach Finney – 11/28/2017  
1942 L Vinson Freeman – 04/18/2020  
1943 Marion Allen Green – 12/07/2020  
1944 James Walter Luttrell – 04/28/2019  
1947 Rosemarie Schweizer Kornfeld – 11/04/20  
1948 Patricia Lee Koelling Deffry – 07/29/2016  
1948 William Stewart Kenney - 08/07/2020  
1948 Marilyn Louise Compton Miller – 07/18/2020  
1949 Donald J Dunham – 01/31/2020  
1949 Celeste Lowe Haman – 03/04/2019  
1950 Louis T (Tom) Bernero, Jr - 06/25/2020  
1951 Nancy Ann Bosche Jones – 08/17/2020  
1951 Richard August Schweer – 07/24/2019  
1951 Valona Thomassen (Lonnie) McKown –  
05/10/2020  
1952 Robert Frank (Bob) Henkel – 08/07/2020  
1953 Charles Gemmill Arthur – 10/09/2018  
1953 John Edward (Ed) Reider – 11/23/2020  
1953 William Carlo Schweer – 05/27/2001  
1956 William Robert (Bill) Borghoff – 07/11/2020  
1957 Lynn Schulte Crowder – 08/29/2020  
1958 John L Ault – 06/17/2020  
1958 Mary Jo Martin Dusenberry – 12/22/2020  
1958 Marjorie West (Margie) Fischer – 12/20/2020  
1958 William Michael Vreeland – 06/09/2020  
1960 Sandra Lee Laws Buckman – 01/12/2021  
1960 Julie Swyers Loftin - 2020  
1960 J Dwight Prade – 10/29/2020  
1961 William Harry Beauman – 01/09/2021  
1961 Janell Jackson Tessaro – 09/2020  
1961 Donald Earl Whitlock – 12/29/2020  
1962 Marsha Gail George Richeson – 08/15/2020  
1962 James Craig (Jim) Weatherly – 06/05/2020  
1964 Michael Wayne Clark – 02/13/2016  
1964 Elizabeth Ann Rice Hillis – 03/22/2010  
1964 Linda Ruth Huffman – 11/14/2020  
1964 Michael Joseph Kapper – 04/28/2019  
1964 Patricia Lois Harrigan Mahan – 02/02/2010  
1964 Sonja Anita Jones Smith – 05/24/2019  
1967 Laura Susan Muench – 07/18/2020  
1969 Vikki Hasty Belgeri – 11/03/2020  
1972 Susan Marie Haynes Acuff – 04/06/2020  
ORE K Douglas Cormack – 12/01/2020  
ORE Charles D Duggan – 10/06/2020

## SCHOLARSHIP GIFTS IN MEMORY OF

1943 Bonnie Fritz Dunham  
By Richard K Dunham '62  
1947 Deceased of BHS Class of 1947  
By Rosemarie Schweizer Kornfeld '47  
1947 Virginia Walsh Andrews  
By Marcella Jean Walsh Provencher '50  
1947 Rosemarie Schweizer Kornfeld  
By Norma Hodges Murphy '41  
By Mary Ann Eckler Koetting '59  
By Ed Wright, Jr '67  
1952 Robert Hitt  
By Anne Hitt Hegwer '45  
1952 C Edward Schuster  
By Jacqueline Schuster Thursby '58  
1952 Alice Southard Youngermann  
By Ruth Diebold Peetz '56  
1954 Ray Booker  
By Bud Stark '54  
1954 Mick Davenport  
By Bud Stark '54  
1954 Dick Pippert  
By Bud Stark '54  
1956 Bill Borghoff  
By Barbara Schaefer Borghoff '56  
1956 Rita Boshans  
By John Boshans '57  
1958 Joseph S Stark  
By Dennis Kurre '58  
By Bud Stark '54  
1958 Bruce Swaine  
By Cary Lang '58  
1960 Steve Davis  
By Suzanne McWhirter Davis '60  
1960 Charles E Dilly  
By Donald F Dilly '62  
By Judith Dilly Harris '64  
1960 Barb Kraus  
By Walter Henkel '60  
By Carole Kelley Mailander '60  
1960 Sue Frossard Taylor  
By Carole Kelley Mailander '60  
1960 Julie Swyers Loftin  
By Anonymous  
1961 John Robert Reisenleiter  
By Missy Reisenleiter '71  
1961 Carolyn Becht Wolff  
By Donald R Wolff '57  
1962 James C (Jim) Weatherly  
By Jenny Weatherly  
1963 Kell Brown  
By Julie Cleveland Hovis '63  
1964 Tim Diffley  
By Jeffrey Johnson '64

1964 Jill Wright  
By Stan Lumb '64  
1966 Mike Cook  
By James Dobernic '66  
1967 Laura Muench  
By Ed Wright, Jr '67  
1968 Tim Cook  
By Gary Grindler '68  
1969 Alan Bott  
By Terry Gaines '69  
1969 John Geppert  
By Terry Gaines '69  
1969 Mark Henry  
By Terry Gaines '69  
1969 Dan Howard  
By Terry Gaines '69  
1970 John T Carr  
By Rodney Carr '73  
1974 Robert L Carr  
By Rodney Carr '73  
1974 Todd Henne  
By Anne Kraft Petersen '74  
1976 Donna Niehoff Fink  
By Jean Niehoff Steele '73  
1976 Jane Campbell Moeckel  
By David Shapiro '75  
ORE Paul Beuttenmuller  
By Julie Chipps Tamarkin '59  
By Judi Turner Peckham '61  
ORE Gerald Burgoyne  
By Philip Hedrick '68  
ORE Charles Duggan  
By Judi Turner Peckham '61  
ORE Sharon Enzenauer  
By Linda Dollar '66  
ORE Jack Head  
By Randy Seagrist '71  
ORE Coach John Lauer  
By Judi Turner Peckham '61  
ORE Wayne Martin  
By Judi Turner Peckham '61  
ORE Madeline Price  
By Judi Turner Peckham '61  
ORE Bill Steerman  
By Julie Chipps Tamarkin '59

## SCHOLARSHIP GIFTS IN HONOR OF

1960 Don Eves  
By Jean Eves Anton '66 –  
Just because  
1967 BHS 1967 Class  
By Jeanne Brunner Cavender

# In Remembrance

## A Very Special Brentwood Citizen and BHS Alum – What a lady!



**1947 Rosemarie Schweizer Kornfeld** passed away on November 4, 2020. A long-time Brentwoodian, she was a homemaker, raising five sons, a worker in several Brentwood businesses, and a community volunteer. She was very active in the Brentwood Alumni Association, having served as Class Representative for '45, '46, and '47 from 2003 to 2020, and a Charter Board Member 2003 – 2008. Adding to all that, besides **Rosemarie's** sons, **Greg '72, Gary '73, Keith '75, Kevin '77 and Dan**, she was a grandmother of six, and great-grandmother to nine. Rosemarie spent her last months, adjusting beautifully at Anthology of Clayton View. During her lifetime, she was kind, always cheerful, and very proud of her sons. She will be missed. *Pictured left is Rosemarie and Greg.*



**1948 Marilyn Compton Miller** passed away July 18, 2020 in Jefferson City. At Washington University she earned a B.A. in Business Administration, served on many university organizations, and was voted Hatchet Queen for a yearbook, and worked for the Jefferson City public schools, Elementary Library Service, and 3M Company, where she was the first woman in the US to hold a regional sales position. **Marilyn** served in positions on many community and business boards. As a widow, she became a world traveler, visiting every US state and most continents; she rode an elephant, rode a camel, ate breakfast with a baboon, and held a boa constrictor for a picture. She is survived by three children, five grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. *A very versatile traveler*

**1951 Nancy Bosche Jones** passed away August 17, 2020. She was Class Representative from 2004-2020. It was **Nancy's** idea to laminate the obituaries of alumni and place them in BHS yearbooks at the Brentwood Historical Society. She was married to James J Jones for 63 years, mother of **James (Debra Montoya) Jones, Jr '76, Kathleen Goding '77, Deanna Jones '79 and Michael T Jones '82**, plus grandmother of 3. *A wonderful volunteer for BAA.*

**1955 Thomas Victor White** passed away May 16, 2020. He was a BAA Class Representative from 2004-2015 and shared his business expertise as a Board member from 2008. **Tom** is survived by his wife, **Ellie Keller**, a Class Representative for 1956, two children, Sheryl and Dave, and four grandchildren. *A great remembered BAA board member.*

**1960 J. Dwight Prade** passed away suddenly at Mercy 10/29/2020 of a stroke. He was a graduate of Mizzou and a long time State Farm agent. Sadly, because of Covid restrictions, there was no visitation or service. *The best insurance agent!*

**1962 Marsha George Richeson** passed away August 15, 2020. She received a B.A. in Economics from Washington University. Beginning as a social worker, she helped children find placement in foster

care, continuing her career as a volunteer for non-profit organizations. Active in politics and lobbying in Jefferson City along with her husband, **Marsha** was a leading voice for legislatures that enforced the Constitution and Bill of Rights. An accomplished pianist, her special interest was gardening as a master gardener. A widow, she is survived by three children and six grandchildren. *An amazing life!*



**1962 Jim Weatherly** With sad news, I would like to inform you that my husband, **Jim Weatherly**, a 1962 graduate of BHS, died of natural causes on June 5, 2020. We were married 52 years, and he has two children, James Carlisle Weatherly and Julie Marie Weatherly and two grandchildren, Kasie and Carsen. Jim loved to fish, hunt and most of all, spend time with the kids at our second home in Bowling Green, MO. After college, Jim became interested in business and was in management and sales and was an owner of a NAPA auto parts store. He was well known for his knowledge and honesty. Jim was semi-retired until the day we put him in the hospital. We lived in Eureka, MO for 40 years and moved to Union in 2010. Jim will be missed by his family, church friends, and business friends. *What a loss!*

Jenny Weatherly, 166 Indian Prairie Ln, Union, MO 63084

**1969 Vikki Hasty Belgeri** - The class of 1969 lost one of our favorite people. **Vikki Belgeri** has had some health issues over the years. She passed peacefully on 11/3/20 at her home, surrounded by members of her family. She has served as our Class Representative for the Alumni Association from 2008-2020, and has been part of the Class of 1969 Reunion Committee forever. She also was a BAA volunteer, helping at the sign-in table at **3rd Weekends**. Vikki is survived by her husband Bill Belgeri, her two brothers, and many other relatives. Her classmates will miss her beautiful singing, her hilarious sense of humor, and her love of her BHS family. *A BAA volunteer extraordinaire!*

Yvonne Cherie Suess '69

**ORE - K Douglas Cormack** passed away, suddenly and peacefully, at age 78 on December 1, 2020. He is survived by his wife Kathryn, of 56 years, son, Christopher (Karen), and three grandchildren. **Doug** retired from BSD after 33 years. He started as a music teacher at Frazier, then worked at McGrath, was Assistant Principal and taught Music and Choir in Brentwood Middle School, and eventually served as BSD Assistant Superintendent when Dr. Cleary was Superintendent. A musical celebration of Doug's life will be held at a later date. *Many will remember him!*



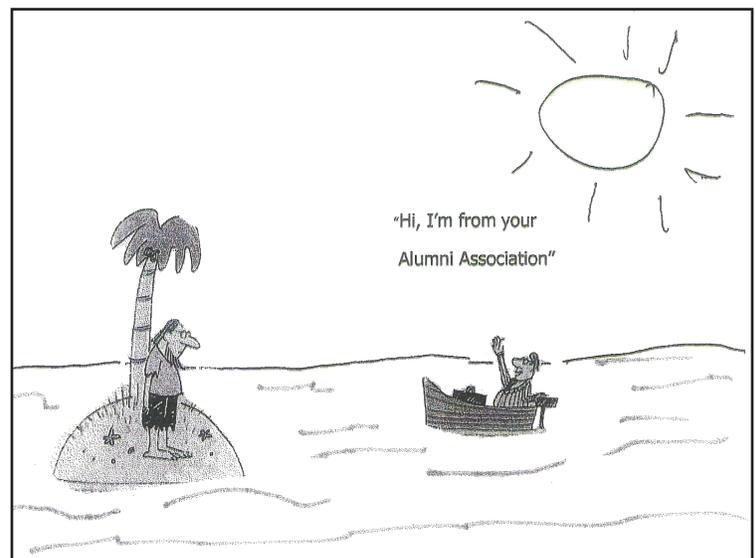
**ORE - Charles D. Duggan** passed away peacefully October 6, 2020 at daughter, Liz's, home in Philadelphia. At BHS, he taught 7th grade Science and High School Chemistry 1954 – 1961, and continued his career after BHS at Roslyn High School in NY. He later attended the '61 class reunion in 2011 all the way from Long Island, NY. **Mr. Duggan** had served in the Army Reserves for 30 plus years and attained the rank of colonel. *A dedicated and knowledgeable teacher!*

# CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

YEARNAME	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS			
1940	Norma Hodges Murphy	636 227-7927		1992	David Kemmling 720 252-4212 musclewars@aol.com
1941	Maxine Gray Reisenleiter	314 750-7385 gaboon2230@gmail.com		1993	Amanda Dorries Jones 314 565-2909 nojones4u@gmail.com
1942	Norma Hodges Murphy	636 227-7927		1994	June Wright Burkhardt 314 740-5394 junebug81399@hotmail.com
1943	Norma Hodges Murphy	636 227-7927		1995	Katie Thaman Stalter 314 698-8389 katie_thaman@hotmail.com
1944	Leroy Amen	636 733-0726 cleroyamen@gmail.com		1996	Chandra Gines 314 719-6101 crgines@hotmail.com
1945	OPEN			1997	Halima Martin 618 967-6289 halimamartin@gmail.com
1946	OPEN			1998	Jennifer Abernathy Paez 314 757-0574 jabernathy98@yahoo.com
1947	OPEN			1999	Chrissy Ellis Blancett 314 276-1747 christinaerin81@yahoo.com
1948	Marianne Hill Vahlkamp	314 966-8562 mvahlkamp@sbcglobal.net		2000	OPEN
1949	Dave Ryan	314 722-1694 2daveryan@earthlink.net		2001	OPEN
1950	Dave Ryan	314 722-1694 2daveryan@earthlink.net		2002	Blake Hasty 314 570-7164 cid52984@yahoo.com
1951	Carolyn Sheffler Baker	636 812-2400 cbaker026@gmail.com		2003	Jennifer Zeller Disbennett 314 435-2230 zellerjn@yahoo.com
1952	Dian Keller Rekart	912 598-8256 DKR40LUV@aol.com		2004	OPEN
1953	Shirley Parker Horine	636 227-6382		2005	Kaitlin Fitzgerald 314 609-5084 kait.fitzgerald@gmail.com
1953	Sue Weber Young	314 961-4243 suecyoung@aol.com		2006	Julia Madras 314 223-0003 madrasjc@gmail.com
1954	Charlie Dayton	314 962-6164 cdayton@sbcglobal.net		2007	Carrie Smith Spencer 314 922-0933 carriespencer624@gmail.com
1955	Jodie Thomas Welch	951 769-3936 awelch5@verizon.net		2008	Leigh Durham 314 322-4581 leigh.f.durham@gmail.com
1956	OPEN			2009	Emily Youngstrom 314 443-8588 emily.youngstrom@gmail.com
1957	Betty Millican Barnes	650 342-3599 bety.luci80@gmail.com		2010	Andrew Minshall 314 933-6400 minsh314@gmail.com
1958	Regina Stimson Gahr	314 962-8375 rgahr@sbcglobal.net		2011	Molly Imergoot 314 629-3343 mollyimergoot@yahoo.com
1959	Charlie LaGarce	636 346-8633 clagarce@me.com		2012	Sean Koster 314 954-0541 sean_koster@yahoo.com
1960	Sue Zingre Lee	314 962-2780 suelee60@hotmail.com		2013	Evan Marshall 314 496-7050 evanmm13@gmail.com
1961	Sandy Kurre LaGarce	636 236-3286 sjlaga@gmail.com		2014	Dylan McGehee 314 962-6452 dylanmcgehee@yahoo.com
1962	Betty Hughes Edelmann	314 961-8629 jmbedelmann@sbcglobal.net		2015	Austin Koster 314 954-1450 austinkoster15@gmail.com
1963	Jeannette McWilliams Horvath	618 340-6631 roosterhillfarm1@aol.com		2016	Kate Gilmore 573 380-5407 katie.bug119@gmail.com
1964	Paul Eckler	636 273-5398 Paul.Eckler@att.net		2017	Anna Grace Conway 314 963-0169 ohglive@yahoo.com
1965	Linda Kaufman Zeman	314 517 6953 zemanlj@yahoo.com		2018	Jenny Laseter 314 406-3768 jennylaseter@gmail.com
1966	Jane Kraft Rabey	770 241-2736 jrabey@bellsouth.net		2019	Gino Kler 314 817-6538 ginokler@gmail.com
1967	Ed Wright, Jr.	314 962-3713 wrikink@aol.com		2020	Sofia Flores Gonzales-Otoya 314-728-1226 sofiaflores2588@gmail.com
1968	OPEN				
1969	Yvonne Suess	314 660-3207 ycsflash@sbcglobal.net			
1970	Vicki Beekman Mansfield	314 609-7242 summervlm@sbcglobal.net			
1971	David Stukenbroeker	314 221-1444 stukenbroeker@gmail.com			
1972	James Foster	314 645-3806 foster@mcmahonberger.com			
1973	Mindy Mann Stegall	314 995-7035 mjstegall@sbcglobal.net			
1974	Jan Wuestling Burris	619 888-4363 jwuestling09@gmail.com			
1975	Mark Kurtz	314-399-0544 markekurtz@gmail.com			
1976	Anne Drury Matheis	314-313-4615 ataroo@sbcglobal.net			
1977	Marie Shoemaker Olten	314 608-6574 mwingron@sbcglobal.net			
1978	Rich Emery	314 374-8895 richcher@yahoo.com			
1979	Dave Oppenheim	314 443-3602 dave@daveoppenheim.com			
1980	Jeff Moore	314 518-2050 Jeffersonmoore@charter.net			
1981	Doreen Jorn Farwig	314 685-4495 doreenfarwig2@gmail.com			
1982	Kim Ruhl Schimweg	314 283-4673 skischim@gmail.com			
1983	Kathi Cartwright	314 570-9796 kathicartwright@yahoo.com			
1984	Tina Brejot Turasky	636 675-3799 tturasky2014@gmail.com			
1985	Wendy Marx Marshall	314 265-2089 wmarshall085@gmail.com			
1986	Theresa Peters Nigus	314 378-4450 theresacts@hotmail.com			
1987	Cindy Camp Kramer	636 227-1817 campfoley1@aol.com			
1988	OPEN				
1989	Yvette Trokey	314 920-6179 yvette.trokey@maritz.com			
1990	Aimee Goodman	314 659-8198 aimee_morton@yahoo.com			
1991	Cindy Peetz Watson	314 808-1623 cindyw4573@gmail.com			

## NEW CONTRIBUTORS 01/01/20-12/31/20

- 1938 Janet Spratte Tuthill
- 1963 Sharon Heib Camp
- 1966 Charles James Nowell
- 2010 Benjamin M Aronov
- ORE Lee and Emily Wynn





# BRENTWOOD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Brentwood Alumni Association  
c/o Brentwood School District  
1201 Hanley Industrial Ct.  
St. Louis, MO 63144-1911

## 2021 “3rd Weekend in September” All-School Reunion, September 17, 4pm

*Join alums for a very special Third Weekend –  
“Come Home to Brentwood High School”, including Hall of Fame  
Ceremony, High School Tours to view completed construction.*

*On Saturday, watch the Brentwood Days Parade at Noon and visit the  
BAA Booth in Brentwood Park on Russell which opens at 1 pm.*



Construction photos by Ed Wright '67

February, 2021