



BRENTWOOD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The Alumni Connection

2221 HIGH SCHOOL DRIVE, SAINT LOUIS, MO 63144 • 314-962-4507 x6015

VOLUME 22, NO. 2

www.brentwoodhsalumni.org

AUGUST, 2025

From Your BAA Board President, George Clements '57

I want to thank all of our Alumni, who over the years have made contributions to the Brentwood Alumni Association's **Scholarship Fund**. Since our beginning, we have provided scholarships to 130 graduating seniors of Brentwood High School. Because of your support, we have awarded over \$442,500.00 in scholarships to-date.

As you know, your Alumni Association prints two newsletters every year. We try to provide information about what's going on at your High School -- events, pictures, reunions and various other articles of interest. Over 4000 newsletters are printed and mailed every six months. During these past years, the cost of printing and mailing has gone up significantly. To cover our costs, we rely on dues payments from alumni. **There lies the problem**; not enough of our alumni are paying their dues. Enclosed in this newsletter, there will be a self-addressed envelope in which to pay dues. It is only \$20.00 per year. Please take your time reading the newsletter, but when you finish, take a moment to pay your dues so we can continue to print and mail your newsletter. *Thank you to all those who have already paid their dues for this year.*

Also, the **3rd Weekend in September** All-School Reunion event will be held at BHS on Friday, September 19, 2025 and Saturday continues with Brentwood Days and class reunions.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

We're not getting any younger and need some younger alumni to help the BAA remain strong. Specifically, we need people who can help with the newsletter and other committees.

Just drop us a note at admin@brentwoodhsalumni.org letting us know your skills and experience.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIVE IN ST. LOUIS TO HELP!

Joe Johnson Family Continues to Support Brentwood Schools



In a small town in Arkansas, **Joseph Johnson, Jr.** and his future bride, **Virginia**, attended a small school and came to recognize the value of education in that environment. They moved to St. Louis in 1957 and specifically chose Brentwood because of the schools. Now, their children are giving back to BHS students in a big way through the scholarship fund.

Joe and Virginia had two children who attended Brentwood schools: **Joe III '70** and **Jane '77**, (now **Feltenstein**). Joe III was part of the first kindergarten class at McGrath Elementary and Jane also attended that newest Brentwood school. They both have fond memories of classmates, special teachers, and sports activities.

Joe, Jr. became involved with the school district, serving on the Board of Education from 1973-1985, including time as president. Virginia supported the schools in many ways that stay-at-home moms did in that era: PTO, class parties, and attending lots of games.

The children have donated to the BAA Scholarship Fund in honor of their parents, beginning this past April. Why honor their parents in this manner? Joe III responded: "Jane and I have fond memories of and great appreciation for our mom and dad. Brentwood schools were of great importance to them, and a large part of their life, so honoring their quiet yet steadfast passion for Brentwood Schools seems right. Brentwood schools provide many opportunities for students."

Thanks to the Johnson family for making this meaningful gift.

Submitted by **Ed Wright, Jr. '67**

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.

DOWN MEMORY LANE...

This is a photo from the BHS 1961 Yearbook:

GREAT BOOKS CLUB WIDENS STUDENTS FIELD OF LITERATURE



Row One, Left to Right: Marilyn Steidemann, Toni Forney, Pat Pifat, Mr. Beutennuller, Ann Biggs, Lorry Plagenz, Betty Lee. Row Two: John Paige, Nellie Mier, Ellen Vellios, Jill Wright, Pat Turner, Pat Kulla, Jim Strassner, Judy Turner. Row Three: Art Dietrich, Glen Doran, Dick Martin, Dennis Williamson, Stefan Offenbach, Tom Hrastich, Bob Kinlough.

Very sad to see Brentwood Bowling Lanes demolished, next to Gene-Del Printing. It was the first time many of us, as little kids, learned to bowl there, and, as teenagers, had much fun in the bowling alley! Brentwood Lanes was one of the first lanes to use automatic pinsetters in St. Louis. What great sound of pins being knocked down as you walked through the door.

So long and goodbye... This is my last newsletter as editor – 22 years and 44 newsletters! It's time to take a breather and turn this job over to others. It has been a great experience and very rewarding. I have had communications with SO many alumni, teachers, and administrators through the years, making it worth all the effort and long hours of work.

Thank you, Alumni, BSD personnel, and BHS Teachers and Administrators for all your many past contributions. And, especially **Mary Ann Eckler Koetting '59** as the best proof-reader and Joyce Locke, Gene-Del Printing, as a great pre-press and layout artist. I'll miss working with all of you!

Judith (Judi) Turner Peckham '61
Editor
The Alumni Connection



**BRENTWOOD
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

AUGUST, 2025
VOLUME 22, NO. 2

2221 High School Drive
Saint Louis, MO 63144-1725
314-962-4507 x6015
Website: 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
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DEADLINE NEXT NEWSLETTER:
December 1, 2025

Questions or News Articles, or if you are interested in serving on a committee, the Board of Directors, or as your Class Representative, email
admin@brentwoodhsalumni.org

FUTURE REUNIONS

Class of 1963 Members Have Celebrated An 80th Birthday During This Year

Let's all celebrate our special birthdays during the *3rd Weekend in September* All-School Reunion and Brentwood Days, Friday, 9/19 or Saturday, 9/20. We plan to meet for lunch on Saturday 9/20. The place depends on how many respond that they plan on attending. To join the celebration, please email **Annette Seigel Heller** at hellerap@aol.com if you are coming and if you will also be bringing someone.

60's

1965 60th

1. What would Brentwood Days be without the Class of '65 gathered around a festive table on Saturday evening? Credit **Judy Taussig Alles** with pulling together a St. Louis-based team of BHS '65 alumni to plan a dinner **Saturday, September 20 at 6:00 pm**. With a strong suggestion from **Kathy Heib Kartye**, the venue will be **Maggiano's at the Boulevard**, on Brentwood Blvd. across from the Galleria. (1) **Everyone will order off Maggiano's regular menu and settle his/her own check.** No problem with grouping checks among companions and friends. We just won't be handling money as a class; and (2) **Judy will need a number of attendees in order to keep Maggiano's informed up to and including the evening of September 20.** This number is subject to change as time goes on, but **keeping Judy informed in a timely manner will help her keep score.** Judy's email is jtalles47@gmail.com, cell 314-401-0640.

2. But wait...there's more! Since we may not have had enough of one another at Maggiano's, a second gathering is in its preliminary planning stage. This one would be in **Colorado, between Wednesday, October 1 and Monday, October 6.** Our classmates **Carol Wright Hotchkiss** and **Sue Rooney Brighton**, both longtime Colorado residents, have conceived a "roll your own reunion", beginning in Boulder and ending in Durango. The class will be based in Boulder beginning on October 1, then move on to Durango a few days

later. There's plenty to do regionally in both places. Boulder is convenient to Rocky Mountain National Park and Denver-area attractions. Durango, deep in the San Juan range, has the Narrow Gauge Railway to Silverton, river rafting opportunities and proximity to Ouray and Telluride. In early October the leaves will be amazing. Naturally details need to be hammered out, but the ground rules will be the same as for Brentwood Days. Accommodations, meals and activities will be paid for by classmates individually or in their chosen groups. Come for part of the adventure or stay for the whole week. Details will be coming.

We have one request for the entire class. There will be plenty of emails being traded as the summer goes on. **Some classmates do not have working email addresses.** Please get with your friends who do not have them and give them a hand activating new addresses.

Suggestion: Gmail is a perennial favorite and easy to use. Everyone stay safe, stay cool and stay well. We'll be back in touch. **Jim Coleman** and **David Serra** at bhsmo1965@gmail.com

70's

1970 55th

SAVE THE DATE! After responses from our 1970 classmates, we are going to have a low key 55th reunion **Saturday, September 20** corresponding with Brentwood Days. Information of where and what time will be emailed or snail mailed to you soon. Please try to come and enjoy our time together!!! Call, text or email me if you have any questions or would like to RSVP.

Thank you and see you there.

Cathy Stockwell Whitney (858) 699-5528 cathybob24@gmail.com

1975 50th

The Brentwood High Class of 1975 will celebrate its 50th reunion at The Trainwreck Saloon, Rock Hill, MO, Friday night, starting at 6:00 pm, September 19, 2025. Owner and classmate **Kris Wirfs Hansford** will have a place on the patio reserved for our gathering! Classmate

extraordinaire **Keith Kornfeld** will be buying your first drink. Classmate extraordinaire **Gary Cruse** will be buying your nightcap. Media extraordinaire **Ken "Iggy" Strode** will be signing autographs for everyone. You can beat the rush and dine early with classmates **Karen Stapf Hilf** and **Leslie Williams Rabenau**, if they invite you. **Gary Geisz** will have a raffle for a free boat! Lots of fun and activities for everyone. Bring your kids! Bring your memorabilia (just your school stuff Iggy, none of the boring awards). Let me know if you can attend, and the number in your party. Eagle Power - Purple and Gold! Be There or Be Square!

Due to overwhelming response, our reunion party will continue the next night, Saturday, September 20, 6:00 pm at Llewellyn's Pub, 11 Moody Ave, Webster Groves, MO. Cost is \$18.00 per person; cash bar. Celebrate our 50th year anniversary with classmates, spouses and significant others, all in a special intimate party room, procured by the original party girls themselves, **Leslie Williams Rabenau** and **Karen Stapf Hilf**. Don't have the cash?? Don't worry, Leslie and Karen are buying drinks all night!!! See you in September at the best party in 50 years. Don't hesitate to come and commemorate the greatest class in BHS History, the Class of 1975. Don't Be Square - BeThere. **Mark Kurtz (314) 399-0544** cell markekurtz@gmail.com

80's

1980 45th

The Brentwood Days weekend kicks off at BHS for the *3rd Weekend in September*. This All-School Reunion begins any time after 4:00 pm on Friday, September 19. Attend the home team football game, visit the city's carnival in Brentwood Park and join your classmates after hours at the Trainwreck Saloon. On Saturday, September 20, we have reserved a Tilles Park picnic shelter, including your families. Picnic style lunch will be made available to those who RSVP to **Bob Ronkoski (314) 280-8847** bobronkoski@aol.com or **Jeff Moore (314) 518-2050** jeffersonmoore80@gmail.com

ALUM NEWS

50's

1951 Martin Gabbert – Ballwin, MO – I am now living at Brookdale, a retirement facility.

1952 Norm Ramsey – Ballwin, MO - Recently sold my condo and live in a villa in Ballwin. Treated myself to a Christmas present – a Miata. Joined the club and enjoy the events.

1954 Marian Hounsom Lewis – New York, NY – Involvement in activities at my wonderful Senior Center. It is devoted to intergenerational programs with junior high and high school kids – conversation groups, improv, board games and more.

1956 Carol Kottmeier Cooper – Pomona, CA – I visited my oldest son and his wife in Fairhope, AL in May. It's a lovely little town on the Gulf Coast. (Gulf of Mexico)

1956 Elaine Lieberthal Kahn – Collinsville IL – Have always loved riding on excursion and regular trains. Got to experience Big Boy Steam Engine 4014 close up when it came through St Louis on 9/10/2024. Still active in the Lion's Club and Computer Club. Married 62 years.

1958 Barb Higginbotham Novotny – Valley Park, MO – Still traveling out of the country twice a year and growing my business of buying and selling vintage everything. Also entertaining friends and family at my lake house. And best of all, perfect health!

1958 Jacqueline Schuster Thursby – Provo, UT – Enjoying our family. Our twelfth great-grandchild arrived in May. We are well.

60's

1960 Jim Thomas – Dallas, TX – After 47 years in the Texas Hill Country of Comfort and Fredericksburg, Barbara and I have moved to Dallas and live in a high rise in the Turtle Creek area.

1961 Tom Hrastich – St Louis, MO – Got new knee in December 2024. Joined Masons, joined National Sojourners, became a Shriner.

1961 Sandy Kurre LaGarce – Ellisville, MO – Charlie '61 and I and our sister-in-law, Paula, were vacationing in Top Sail, NC for one week with my brother, **Dennis '58** and his family. We narrowly missed the tropical storm that was coming up the coastline from SC. Although we had to drive in a torrential rain storm when we left, we eventually drove out of it heading for WV for a week at his summer house, where one of our cousins joined us.

1963 Nancy Stone Crabbe – San Carlos, CA – Travel these days is limited to trips to South Carolina to visit family. But, we have a wealth of local friends who helped both of us get through some health issues in '24 - walking our dog, Gracie, was the most popular task!

1963 Judy Zahner Rothman – Clayton, MO – Enjoying living in "Old Town" Clayton the last two years – Everything is convenient! Ghost writing for two mystery authors and collaborating on a screen play currently. Planning on a knee replacement late summer and gifting myself a sporty red car for my 80th!

1965 Susan Rooney Brighton – Longmont, CO – After 10 years, our 1971 Jaguar XKE is finally restored and drivable. Woo Hoo!

1966 Linda Dollar – Springfield, MO – Still playing a lot of golf! You gotta love those senior tees.

1966 Sandra Brick Roberts – Cumming, GA – Still traveling the world as much as possible. Have done 3 transatlantic cruises in the past 8 months. Great experience.

1968 Gary Grindler – Great Falls, VA - Adjunct professor Georgetown University School of Law. My 6th grandchild was born in September, 2024.

1969 Steve Moritsugu – Riverside, CA - I 'm still working at my computer job in SoCal and as a local professional opera singer. I recently performed in a new opera called *The Camp* about the relocation of Japanese Americans from the west coast in WW II. <https://www.broadwayworld.com/los-angeles/article/Review-THE-CAMP-at-Aratani-Theatre-20250223>

70's

1971 Deborah Henne Clary – Springfield, MO – Retired from 28 years teaching Home Economics and Gifted Education. Living in Springfield, MO with son and daughter nearby. I have two wonderful grandsons, five and three. I play pickleball and do dance aerobics.

1971 Deborah Schwartz Miller – Haverford, PA – I am semi-retired and living in the Philadelphia area. We love being close to our children and their families.

1972 Gregory Kornfeld – St Louis, MO – In September, 2024, I was inducted in the Kappa Sigma Hall of Fame at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Brentwood High School classmate, **Tom Heapes**, also received the award.

The ceremony took place at the Mizzou-Vanderbilt football game.

1972 Rick Reece – Salem, OR – I had a busy travel year last year with trips to Florida, New Orleans, DC, Sweden and Romania. Sad to report that I lost my son, Richard, to cancer in April this year due to a genetic condition called Lynch, which also took my wife in 2022. I try to keep looking ahead.

1976 Dean Lawrence Evans – Arnold, MO – Joined the US Navy from 1977-1981, worked for a commercial printing company for 27 years, worked for Fox C-6 School District for 13 years. Retired in 2023. Coached Brentwood Jr Football from 1978-2000. I have one son and three grandchildren. Married for 28 years. Loving life.

1976 Dave Slazinik – Fenton, MO – Retired on 12/27/24 from a 46 year career in broadcast sales. Plans for retirement include golfing, hockey, sailing, cycling and birdwatching.

80's

1983 David Heger – St Louis, MO – I feel excited and blessed to welcome my first two grandchildren! David James Terschulose was born in March and Mary Virginia Rueve was born in April.

20's

2025 Jackson Curd – Brentwood, MO – The *St Louis Post Dispatch* has named Jackson as Scholar Athlete for BHS this year. He excelled in cross country, soccer and baseball, plus was an officer in the National Honor Society for three years. He was actively involved in community service efforts – local food drives, river cleanups and school fundraisers. His favorite subject was math.

ALUM NEWS

THE PACK - OUT TO LUNCH - CLASS OF 1970 UNDEFEATED!



L to R: Zach Cartwright, Bob (Bolling) Behymer, Rick Westling and Bill Jackson

From Vicki Beekman Mansfield '70

LUNCH AT TUCKER'S



A few guys from BHS Class of 1972 got together for lunch at Tucker's Place, South County. A fun time was had by all!

L to R: Mike Conley, Greg Kornfeld, Jim Darlington, Larry Bush, Tom Ginos, Alex Munoz, Gary Byrd and Dave Jaco

From Greg Kornfeld '72

ENJOYING A CARDINAL GAME



L to R: Denny DeJong '71, Casey Geisz '69, Brentwood teacher/coach, Ed Wright '67, and Guy Sachs Brentwood teacher/coach '81 through '99. A beautiful day even if they did lose.

From Ed Wright '67

1995 BHS CLASSMATES GATHER FOR LUNCH



L to R: Katie Thaman Stalter, Audra Davis Barrett, Abby Heil Drew

More get-togethers will be planned in the near future. Stay tuned on Facebook or text or email Katie Thaman Stalter (314) 698-8389 or kstalter22@gmail.com

From Katie Thaman Stalter '95

2025 BAA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Since 2004, the Brentwood Alumni Association has been presenting scholarships to graduating seniors thanks to the generosity of our **Alumni** and **Charitable Giving Partners**, who this year are: Fossett Foundation, Brentwood Congregational Church, John Titus, Joseph Johnson III, and Jane Johnson Feltenstein. Due to the generosity of the many donors that BAA has had over the years, BAA has been able to increase the number and amount of the scholarships awarded. On May 1, 2025 the Brentwood Alumni Association presented a \$6000 scholarship to each of eight members of the Class of 2025.

BAA wishes each member of the Class of 2025 the best as they begin their next chapter!

Lisa Deimeke Featherston '80
BAA Scholarship Committee Chair

Nathaniel Ayotte

Nathaniel will be attending Bradley University this fall, majoring in Game



Design. During his time at Brentwood, he was one of the co-leaders of the Feminist's Coalition Club, starred in multiple theatre productions,

was a member of the Student Council and National Honor Society alongside playing varsity soccer, cross country, and wrestling. The thing he is most proud of in his Brentwood time was making his website:

riseandswinestudios.com. Here he taught himself how to program and publish the video games he made. He is incredibly glad he could grow up in the Brentwood community and can't wait to take his next steps into his future.

Jackson Curd

Jackson, a 2025 graduate at Brentwood High School, is very grateful to have



received this scholarship. He's looking forward to using it so that he can pursue additional opportunities at a four-year university as he focuses on school and baseball.

Abel Curdt

Abel will attend the University of Missouri-Columbia in the fall to study Natu-



ral Resources Science and Management. While at Brentwood, Abel participated in Wrestling, Baseball, Chess Club, and was a class

officer in Student Council and National Honor Society. He is incredibly grateful for the support of the Alumni Association in pursuing his education!

Logan Hawkins

Logan, a graduate of Brentwood High School, was the Student Council presi-



dent as well as the leader of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and a member of the National Honor Society. He played four sports (basketball, soccer, track, and cross country) and

enjoyed Brentwood a lot. The community was great, and the people he met and built relationships with at BHS are very important to him. He will be going on to Missouri Baptist University next year to study education and play basketball, and he couldn't have done it without the help of each and every person at Brentwood.

Lucas Kelley

Lucas Kelley will be attending Mizzou this fall, where he will be majoring in



Computer Science. While at Brentwood High School, he was a member of the National Honor Society, the Student Council, and played

four years of Varsity Soccer and Tennis. What meant the most to him, was all the time he spent with his friends, which he will never forget. He is extremely grateful and honored to have been awarded this scholarship.

Aoife Mahoney

Aoife will be attending the University of Denver in the fall, with a double major



of Physics and Philosophy and a minor in Fine Arts. During high school she has played several varsity sports, including Ice Hockey, Volleyball, and Wrestling.

While at Brentwood, she also participated in Jazz Band, Theatre, National Honor Society, Student Council, and numerous clubs. Outside of structured extracurriculars, Aoife is also an avid artist and musician and is so very grateful, as well

2025 BAA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS *continued*

as honored, to be a recipient of this scholarship. She is very thankful for being welcomed to Brentwood for her senior year, and for all the amazing instruction and support she received from teachers, staff, and friends. Despite not being at Brentwood for long, she will miss it dearly as she moves on to the next chapter of her life.

Zeke Steensma

Zeke is going to the University of Rhode Island and will major in Wildlife Conservation Biology. At Brentwood, Zeke played four years of Varsity Baseball, two years Varsity Basketball, two years Varsity Cross-Country, and one year of Varsity Soccer. Zeke was a National Honor Society officer as well as Student Council secretary. He plans on working in fisheries conservation and management post college.



Emma Trostel

Emma will attend the University of Kentucky to study nursing in the fall. While at Brentwood, Emma was a member of the National Honor Society; a member of Student Council; attended South Technical High School her junior and senior year to earn her Certified Nursing Assistant. She participated in four years of Varsity Volleyball (and was the captain her senior year), four years of Varsity Soccer, and one year of Varsity Winter Cheer at BHS. She has attended Brentwood schools for all 13 years and is so grateful for the opportunities and individualized education earned throughout. She is also very thankful to the Alumni Association for granting her this scholarship and is super excited for the next chapter.



THANK YOU NOTES FROM 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

*Dear Brentwood Alumni,
I thank you so much for the extremely gracious donation you have given me. I cannot express my gratitude enough! Brentwood has been so incredibly kind to me. No matter where I go and what I end up doing, Brentwood will always be my home. I loved our deep conversations during my interview! Thank you once again for giving me this opportunity to share my passion with the world! I can't wait to begin my future, and I owe my first steps to Brentwood!*

*Sincerely,
Nathaniel Jude Ayotte*

Thank you very much for this scholarship. It means a lot to me and will allow me to expand on my opportunities as I go to college. I look forward to hearing from you!

*Thanks,
Jackson Curd*

*Hello!
I would just like to say thank you for choosing me to give one of your eight Alumni Scholarships. I appreciate the involvement you have with the Brentwood community and the investment you have in its future. I will use the money well, to pursue my education at Mizzou and strive to improve the community and the world as a whole with the support you have given.*

*Thank you,
Abel Curdt*

Thank you so much for awarding me this scholarship. It was a great honor for me to receive and I enjoyed my conversation with each and every one of you. This money will be a great help to me and I will make sure to use it wisely.

Logan Hawkins

Thank you very much for awarding me the Brentwood Alumni Scholarship! This school has meant so much to me, all my greatest friends, memories, and teachers all came from here, and they're something I'll remember for the rest of my life. I'm excited to be able to represent this community, and make it proud!

*Thank you!
Lucas Kelley*

*Dear Brentwood Alumni Association,
I'm writing this letter to thank you all so much for your generosity, and the opportunity this scholarship will bring me. I'm very thankful, and honored to have been awarded this scholarship, and I'm excited for the continuation of my education. Thanks again!*

Aoife Mahoney

Thank you so much for the Alumni Scholarship. This is a huge honor and I am very appreciative and thankful. This will help me pay towards room and board. Thank you for all you do.

Zeke Steensma

*Brentwood Alumni Association,
Thank you so much for awarding me with one of your scholarships. I cannot express my gratitude. With this scholarship, you have helped alleviate some of the burden that comes with paying for college, and your kindness is truly appreciated. I cannot wait for these next four years and thank you for helping me keep a piece of Brentwood with me wherever I go.*

*Thank you again! Love,
Emma Trostel*

SCHOOL NEWS

2025 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

August 28 vs Principia High School at Principia High School	7 pm	Thur	
September 6 vs Westminster Academy at Westminster Academy	6 pm	Sat	
September 12 vs Gateway STEM at Home-Clayton	7 pm	Fri	
September 19 vs Windsor C-1 High School at Home-Brentwood	7 pm	Fri	(Homecoming Game)
September 27 vs University City High School at Home-Clayton	12 pm	Sat	
October 3 vs Affton High School at Affton High School	6 pm	Fri	
October 11 vs Jennings High School at Jennings High School	1 pm	Sat	
October 18 vs Normandy High School at Normandy High School	1 pm	Sat	
October 24 vs Riverview Gardens High School at Home-Brentwood	7 pm	Fri	(Senior Night)

Ms. Jamesia Tuiava (jtuiava@brentwoodmoschools.org) is the new Director of Athletics and Activities, Brentwood School District. She replaces Stephen Ayotte, who has retired on June 30.

ALUM SPOTLIGHT

Jim Gibson: Still Takin' Care of Business

I'm sure **Jim Gibson** could play a mean guitar riff to fit this title. Music has always been a big influence for Jim (BHS-'68-'70; South County Tech '72). His favorite classes at BHS were "music, gym, lunch, and dismissal." He graduated from St. Mary Magdalen in 1968 and spent his freshman and sophomore years at BHS. A favorite memory was when his band played at a high school party.

After graduating, he served in the Air Force. In 1984, a friend referred him to the Brentwood School District, beginning Jim's 25-year career. He eventually worked on every custodial shift in every building in the district, but his contributions were extensive: running the PA system (when nobody else could), hooking up 3 TV sets to one VCR, serving on the negotiating committee, and famously barbecuing at the Friday night football games.

But Jim's musical contributions were his favorite memories. He played guitar in five school musicals and conducted seminars on guitars for music classes. He loved "being able to educate the guitar playing students about the finer points of the instrument." Some former students still come to him for guitar repairs and upgrades.

Jim now owns "a roomful" of guitars and "deafens the neighborhood on New Year's Eve with a loud, raw rendition of Auld Lang Syne." Summarizing his days at Brentwood? "They were the best of times; they were the worst of times," Jim chuckled. (Dickens would be proud. Guitar riff, please.)



BRENTWOOD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
HALL OF FAME 2026 NOMINATION FORM

Please join us in celebrating the Brentwood School District's rich heritage of exceptional education by nominating distinguished alumni for the Brentwood Alumni Association's Hall of Fame. Finalists will be inducted during the *3rd Weekend in September* All-School reunion celebration September 18, 2026.
The deadline for nominations is November 18, 2025.

Alison R. Reed '82
Hall of Fame Committee Chair

1. Nominees must have attended school in the Brentwood School District for a significant part of their education or graduated from Brentwood High School.
2. Nominees must have achieved distinction in a particular area including, but not limited to academics, athletics, business, community service, science, medicine, military service, public service, visual arts, or performing arts.
3. Nominees must have demonstrated good character and citizenship.
4. Both living and deceased alumni are eligible for nomination.
5. Nominees must present resume information of accomplishments, both professional and volunteer, with some documentation.

Nominee Name: _____ [] Living [] Deceased

Address: _____

Primary Phone No.: () _____ Email: _____

Years attended Brentwood High School: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Elementary School: _____ Years attended in District: _____

Area of Distinction: _____

Attach one page, printed or typed, which details and documents the nominee's achievements and accomplishments within this area.

Nominator Name: _____ Affiliation with nominee _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone No. _____ Are you a BHS graduate? _____ If so, year: _____

Email address _____

Date Submitted: _____ *Visit www.brentwoodhsalumni.org for more information.*

Mail this completed form and one page documentation to:
HALL OF FAME, Brentwood Alumni Association
Alison R. Reed – HOF Chair
2221 High School Drive • Brentwood, MO 63144-1725
Email reedallison3@yahoo.com • 314-322-6375

Nomination must be postmarked on or before November 18, 2025
Supporting documentation must be postmarked by January 20, 2026

IN MEMORIAM

1945 Anna Mae Schneider Burkhardt – 03/25/2024
1950 George David (Dave) Ryan – 05/19/2025
1956 Gordon Delette Swor – 03/06/2025
1957 Betty June Millican Barnes – 07/08/2025
1957 Judith Jan Ganger Opfer – 03/10/2025
1958 Barry Arnold Short – 04/25/2025
1958 Carole Jeanette Kraus Wilkerson – 10/25/2024
1959 Paul Leslie Hammond – 01/22/2025
1959 James P (Kimo) Harrison – 07/06/2025
1959 Roshelle Phillips – 02/27/2025
1961 Lois (Carol) Gillespie Wipke – 06/21/2025
1963 Michael Carl Ramsey – 12/27/2024
1965 Barbara Ann Dahlin Watson – 02/24/2025
1967 Russell Rhodes Lake – 05/29/2025
1968 Robert Timothy Nisbet – 03/12/2025
1970 Gail Ann Johnstone Schmidt – 2022
1979 Kevin Scott Aydelott – 05/15/2025

SCHOLARSHIPS IN HONOR OF

Sue Rooney Brighton '65

By Michael Rooney '62

SCHOLARSHIPS IN MEMORY OF

1952 C Edward Schuster

By Jacqueline Schuster Thursby '58

1958 Colleen Moran McMillan

1958 Joseph S Stark

1958 Lester O Wagner

1958 Bruce Swain

By Dennis Kurre '58

1962 Jim Weatherly, *in memory of Jim's birthday 4-4-44*

By Jenny Weatherly, Wife

1963 James Dobernic

By Mike Ramsey '63

1964 Allan Hrastich

By Tom Hrastich '61

1965 Terry C Kurre, *brother of Dennis Kurre '58 and Sandy*

Kurre LaGarce '61

By Dennis Kurre '58

1966 Judy Olson Weber

By Linda Dollar '66

1968 Jessica Hopkins Dahlin

By Gary Grindler '68

1969 Alan Bott

1969 John Geppert

1969 Mark Henry

1969 Dan Howard

By Anonymous – *All Good Guys*

1970 John T Carr

By Rodney A Carr '73

1974 Robert L Carr

By Rodney A Carr '73

ORE Paul Beuttenmuller

ORE Madeline Price

By Judi Turner Peckham '61

ORE Vivienne Kueneke

By Leslie Brann, ORES

IN REMEMBRANCE

1945 ANNA MAE SCHNEIDER BURKART

Anna Mae passed away on March 25, 2024 at age 96. She was an artist in Ramona, CA and is the cheerleader on the left in this picture.



1950 GEORGE DAVID “DAVE” RYAN (Also BHS TEACHER 1956 to 1989)

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops. — Henry Brooks Adams

Mr. Ryan, as we all knew him, passed away on May 19, 2025 at age 92. He lived in Brentwood and then earned a BA from Southeast Missouri State University and a Masters from the University of Colorado. After serving in the Army during the Korean War, he returned to Brentwood High School as a Math, Science, and Computer teacher and was BAA Class Representative for BHS Classes of 1949 and 1950. He is survived by two sons, Steven and Scott.

Note: Dave talked about living on Mary Avenue and using the street car bridge as a short cut over the creek that blocked access to the main part of town making sure to beat the street-car. While the street car was long gone in the mid 70's, the tracks and part of the trestle were still visible. He also talked about and walked on a path by the Moss property displaying a long row of colorful lilacs (across from the Bentwood Theatre; of course, both are not there anymore.)

1957 BETTY MILLICAN BARNES, CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

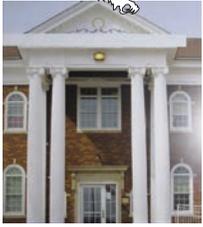
Betty passed away 07/08/2025 at age 86. Even though she lived in San Mateo, CA, she didn't hesitate to step up to represent her class for BAA. Her classmates enjoyed keeping in touch through regular Zoom meetings.

CONTINUING DOWN MEMORY LANE *from page 2*





BRENTWOOD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



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3rd Weekend in September - 2025

Annual All-School Reunion & Brentwood Days

- ★ **Friday September 19, 4 pm:** Join in on our fabulous yearly **All-School Reunion** at the BHS Commons -- high school tours, view Hall of Fame Wall, see commemorative bricks off the Commons, meet your classmates!
- ★ **Saturday September 20: Brentwood Days Parade** begins at 12 noon at Brentwood Forest, and ends Brentwood Sports Complex (formerly Brentwood Park)
- ★ **Many class reunions and get-togethers will be held over this special weekend.**