



## 2014 ALUMNI REPORT

### 135<sup>th</sup> ALUMNI DINNER JUNE 7, 2014

On June 7, 2014, 136 Alumni and guests met for the 135<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Dinner Meeting.

The meeting began with a Social Hour in the gymnasium of Tallmadge Middle School at 5:30 PM with live music by the band, Alan Cruz & the Galaxy. At 6:30 PM, the dinner, catered by Yummy's Bakery & Catering, was served. The menu included Romaine Mixed Salad, Bacon Wrapped Asparagus, Slow Roasted Chicken with Egg Noodles, Herb Crusted Pulled Pork, 3-Cheese Ravioli with Meatballs & Marinara, Fresh Baked Rolls with Butter and Assorted Desserts.

The decorations were the traditional Blue and Gold.



A welcome was given by President Mary Rzewnicki Cushing (1974) which included the introduction of Superintendent Jeff Ferguson, the 2014 officers (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Bill Hilbish (1974); 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Patty McNeal Hartshorn (1983); Secretary, Gayle Bross McMillan (1974); Treasurer, Mary Black Overholt (1963)). The invocation was given by Bill Hilbish.

After dinner, those gathered moved to the Les Bennett Center for the Annual Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Mary Cushing and the 2013 minutes were approved as corrected.



The Treasurer's Report for the calendar year previous was given by Treasurer, Mary Black Overholt (1963):

TREASURER'S REPORT – DECEMBER 31, 2013

Balance carried forward from 12/31/2012		<b>5767.78</b>
Income:		
	Dinners	1874.50
	Dues	1691.50
	Scholarships	1286.55
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>4852.55</b>
Expenses:		
	Post Office Box	244.00
	Scholarships – 3 @ \$750	2250.00
	Arrangements Committee	335.41
	Caterer	1874.50
	Apples	49.25
	Postage	40.00
	Entertainment	200.00
	Circle Fest vendor fee	100.00
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5093.16</b>
Balance on hand as of 12.31.2013		<b>5527.17</b>

There being no additions or corrections, the Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted.

Mary Cushing then welcomed Superintendent Jeff Ferguson. The Superintendent welcomed the Alumni back and thanked the Alumni Association for continuing to support the Tallmadge schools through scholarships given to Tallmadge graduates. He shared what an outstanding year Tallmadge High School had. The high school had 825 students and graduated 193 seniors. For the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, Tallmadge High School was rated Excellent by the Ohio Department of Education. U.S. News & World Report ranked it 76th best out of 700 high schools in the State of Ohio. That same report ranked Tallmadge High School as 1,566th best as out of nearly 20,000 high schools across the country. For little Tallmadge, 14 miles square, what a great accomplishment!

Tallmadge had two National Merit Finalists in the senior class this year. They had to score in the top 1% in the country on their PSAT exam to earn that prestigious national honor. 133 advanced placement students earned 325 college credits while still in high school showing their ability to learn at an advanced level. The Marching Band for the 10<sup>th</sup> consecutive year competed in the state competition and was rated Excellent. In the fine arts, Tallmadge High School artists earned six gold keys and five silver keys in the Ohio regional arts competition and one student was awarded a silver key in the national scholastic art competition.

Students also gave back to the community through service projects like Relay for Life, volunteering at the food bank and with Tallmadge Good Neighbors, and serving meals at the mission on Market Street in Akron. Not only are the students achieving in the classroom, but they are also achieving in what they give back to the community.

Recognition of 50-Year Class:

Mary Cushing then introduced the representative of the 50-year class, Gary Freed:

Our next order of business is recognition of our 50- year class, the Class of 1964. Presenting for that class is Gary Freed, who was class president. Gary tells me that he slept through most of his high school years, but, when he was awake he participated in track and football, the leadership corps at the Y and pep club at school. Apparently, some of the pep club got too peppy -- with some placards in the bleachers on the stage -- and Gary, as class president, got to show his leadership skills by being the one called into the principal's office to take the blame.

Despite his claim that he slept through school, Gary did get a good education at Tallmadge High. After graduation, he went on to become a science teacher, teaching chemistry and biology at the high school level for 35 years. He saw lots of graduating classes in those years, but says nothing can compare to his class, the Class of 1964 of Tallmadge High.

I now call on Gary Freed to speak to us for the Class of 1964.

#### Class of 1964 Report:

Hello, welcome to the 135th Tallmadge Alumni Association Dinner and Meeting. My name is Gary Freed and they told me as class president it is my job to represent the class at this meeting; in spite of my protests, I am honored to speak on their behalf. I haven't lived in the Tallmadge area for 38 yrs and haven't been to an annual meeting. But an Alumni Assoc. that has existed for 135 years is amazing. Thank you to those of you and your predecessors for giving this organization life.

The class of 1964 graduated 192 scholars (well, students). At this time we have lost 23 class members, but they will be in our hearts and minds as we celebrate the fifty years since our graduation. We have had a reunion every five years since high school except for one that was six. We have planned our celebration for Aug. 21st, an informal gathering & Aug. 22nd, an informal gathering with dinner. I guess for some of us, those dressier work clothes have gone out of style, and for others they just don't fit anymore. The events will take place at Bumpas Drug store. How could an institution like Bumpas Drug now be called The Venue? I guess many things have changed, except how I feel about 30 yrs old in my mind; it's that darn body that won't cooperate.

I'm going to trace some of the events that occurred before graduation, some the year we graduated and touch loosely on the time after graduation.

We are the oldest official "Baby Boomers." Our parents lived through the Great Depression and many fought or served in a related capacity to support the US efforts in WWII. They came home determined to make a better world for their families and country. Under their watch, unions-- sometimes overreaching-- demanded fair wages, healthcare and pension plans to secure their retirements. Tom Brokaw called them "The Greatest Generation". Interesting that yesterday was the 70th anniversary of D-Day. They built houses, freeway systems and many moved to smaller towns creating the suburbs. That was our childhood; it was a time of relative peace, except for "duck & cover drills", to ward off the effects of nuclear attacks; we were free to explore our environment, other people and were fearless about our futures.

Many of our families moved to Tallmadge and built new homes (avg. price \$19,300). Some went to elementary school at Dunbar, others to Overdale, each unaware that the other existed. They met at the middle school on N Ave. just off the circle. It was next to the high school. Both were old buildings that the growing population of our town had pushed to their limits. The gym, capped by a gallery that prohibited players from shooting from the corners, was dark and small. Our community built a new high school and we would be the first class to complete all four years there. The only downside was we wouldn't be able to walk to the circle for lunch, eating at Lee's Dog House (soon to be replaced by one of those new fast

food places, Burger Chef), Lujan's (I long for onion rings that good), Dairy Queen or the longer walk to the A&W root beer stand or Sperry's maybe a half mile away.

The circle: what a place to learn to drive-- an early roundabout. By SW Ave, the First Natl. Bank where the tellers knew all their customers by name and next to that the Sunoco Station where grown men in uniforms would run out, fill your car, check the oil and clean your windshield at \$.30 per gal. There were other choices too; Pure, Humble ("Put a tiger in your tank"), Exxon and Standard Oil were also available. Our spiritual needs were taken care of by the historic Congregational Church in the circle, the Methodist church at the corner of S. Ave. and Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church across from the schools on N. Ave. Our final needs were taken care of by the Hennessy Bagnolia Funeral Home at the corner of S.W. Ave.

There always seemed to be enough to do; trunks filled with teenagers sneaking into the E. Drive-In. What happened to that area? It looks like the new Chapel Hill. Dances at the Parish House after the games. Cruising Lujan's & A&W. Dances at Tallmadge Springs & the Chesterfield on State Rd in the Falls. The New YMCA had dances sponsored by Y Teens on Wed nights, our favorite band, The Bonnevilles, with our own class mate, Jeff Crislip, playing guitar and singing. We did the twist, the pony, the swim, the jerk and even the mashed potatoes. After basketball games we would go to the first McDonalds in Akron and stand outside, buying a hamburger, french fries and a milkshake for \$.47.

Driving had greatly expanded our territory. Mr. Rossiaky had put fear into our hearts with his films on driving safety, especially, "Signal 30" and with the refrain "Keep your eyes moving, get the big picture". We returned the favor when we launched those big Chevy stick shifts into ditches all over Tallmadge, including in front of the high school. Some would take their newly purchased cars out to the under-construction, super highway east of Tallmadge (yes, I 76). They put their mark on the on the new concrete, writing with the smoking tires of their or their parents cars; some were caught in the act of drag racing by one of the excellent Tallmadge police who helped gently guide us through our teenage years. While driving, we listened to songs from the Beach Boys, Four Seasons, Brenda Lee, Little Leslie Gore and Little Stevie Wonder. I don't know what's with the little; it seemed alright at the time. It was a quiet time in Tallmadge, but the world was poised for an ever increasing rate of change.

Russia had launched the Sputnik into space in the late 50's and the US was responding by putting men into space; first it was Alan Shepherd, then Gordon Cooper, John Glen and others. The following events occurred in and around our senior year. Betty Friedan wrote the "Feminine Mystique" which launched the women's movement; Rachel Carson wrote "Silent Spring" which was followed by the environmental movement; Martin Luther King gave his "I Have A Dream" speech before a crowd of 200,000 people in front of the Lincoln Memorial, galvanizing the Civil Rights Movement. On Nov 22, 1963 the nation lost its innocence when John F Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas. Where were you at that moment? I was in Government class with Miss Alexis when the announcement came over the PA.

The British invasion began in Jan 1964 when Ed Sullivan introduced us to a new kind of music delivered to us by The Beatles. "I Want to Hold Your Hand", I remember thinking, that's a stupid song; I guess I thought "Flying Purple People Eaters", hound dogs and blue suede shoes were more relevant. Initially the Beatles were a "Pop" group, but with the release of their film, "A Hard Day's Night," they moved to more complex songs. They were joined by the Rolling Stones, who delivered a "Blues" based sound and Detroit responded with a revitalization of R&B, Motown. All this occurring in the first half of 1964.

In the background of all this was the Cuban missile crisis which resulted in the hot line between Moscow & Washington (the Red Phone), and the beginning of treaties to reduce tensions in the Cold War. There were stirrings in another part of the world that few of us had heard of, South Vietnam. In Nov 1963 S. Vietnam president Diem was assassinated and in July 1964, President Johnson committed troops to

Vietnam. Many of our classmates fought in this new kind of war. Several were injured; however, to the best of our knowledge none were killed. Hootenannies were replaced by demonstrations and the class of 1964 must have felt some unrest and the need for changes.

We began with a card section at basketball games, protesting the calls of referees and chanting the name of our class mascot the Rat-fink. Unappreciated by the adults, I as class president, was invited to Mr. Wearstler's office; here I was invited to get my classmates under control. I'm thinking, "Yea, I'll use my presidential powers; you know, like a real president gets congress under control." Then came the cafeteria strike. I've tried to find out, what was the reason behind it? No one knows. Changes occurred, I guess; I'm just unsure what they were, because I packed my lunch. Senior week was pretty tame; a week of activities implemented by our class. Mostly we dressed alike and wore tags like Seniormanias, We are the greatest (soon after borrowed by Cassius Clay/ Mohamed Ali), I'm a senior color me gone, It's about time and Senior party or bust. Senior Night had the combined themes of Las Vegas casino and beach party, and in a final irony we were entertained by a hootenanny; and the person winning the most casino money won a Beatles album. One of our actions was "Senior Flick Day". Many of us met at a park played ball, hiked, ate and traded ideas for excuses to give Mr. Saus. Poor guy, called all those parents who mostly made no excuses for their student. Our creativity mitigated our punishment. Excuses like jungle rot, couldn't find a parking space in the student parking lot, hunting accident, injured by stampeding buffalo and many others equally as good.

Much change originated at the time of our high school tenure. Some of these changes have resulted in tremendous social progress; civil rights legislation that is working to fulfill the promise of our constitution, that all people are created equal; social security, that works to dignify life after work; Medicare, because a country takes care of its own; environmental legislation, attempting to keep a healthy environment for future generations. Many of these ideas need to be tweaked, some are under attack. In the spirit of our high school years, I hope we can use some of our time as senior citizens to help guarantee the financial, environmental and democratic security of our grandchildren and future generations.

Although change has accelerated, some things haven't changed at all. Whenever the members of our class get together, it's like we just saw each other yesterday. In spite of our differences there is mutual respect, admiration and comfort between us. They are wonderful people and have supported and put up with me throughout my life. I taught high school for 35 years and always compared the class of "64" with my schools current graduating class; some were very good classes, but few had the camaraderie that I have enjoyed with mine. Thank you, Rat-finks, for over 50 years of friendship and fun. I hope the rest of you here tonight have enjoyed your years with classmates as much as I have with mine.

#### 50-Year Pin Presentation/Recognition of Golden Agers



Gayle McMillan then presented the 50-year pins to members of the Class of 1964 and recognized all Golden Agers in attendance including Margaret Orr Bumpass, Karl Starks, and Ileana Crites Williams, Class of 1944, oldest alumni in attendance. Golden Agers are the 50-year class and older.





### Recognition of the 25-Year Class:

Bill Hilbish introduced the 25-year class representative:

It is my pleasure to introduce Clifford Horvath representing the 25-year Class of 1989. Cliff is a third generation graduate of Tallmadge High School. After graduating from THS, he went on to study biology at Kent State. Cliff moved to Westerville Ohio in 1999, where he now resides with his wife and 2 cats. Please welcome from the Class of 1989, Clifford Horvath.

### Class of 1989 Report:

Good evening everyone. As a proud member of the Tallmadge Alumni association I am honored to speak to you on behalf of the class of 1989. Now just to issue you a warning. I'm not a public speaker. My last public speech was in Ms. Bair's English class just down the hall twenty five years ago. So bear with me!

Science shows us that smell and memories are linked. Your eyes rely on four different kinds of light sensors. However your nose has over 1000 different smell receptors. The smell of ionized air after a thunderstorm. The smell of chlorine. To me those smells scream summer. Just a whiff of a certain smell can transport you to moment in time.

You're probably wondering where I am going with this. I hold in my hand a can of Aqua-Net Mega hold hairspray. It's my very own time machine. This smell brings me back to a simpler time, a time forever linked to my years in this very building. In fact it was the first smell I can remember when we came here for our three years of high school. Yes, three years. The freshmen class was still at the middle school and would remain so until our senior year. Girls and a few guys were lucky if a can would last out the entire week. Hair seemed to just get bigger and bigger as each year ticked by. It was truly a combustible atmosphere in here. We didn't exactly help the Ozone layer.



Thankfully all that big hair didn't impede the athletic ability of my classmates on the softball field. As you drive into Tallmadge their accomplishments are up for all to see. All of our high school years, 1987, 1988 and 1989 the girls won the state title. Many were offered full college scholarships. The boys didn't fare nearly as well. Our football team was perfect, we didn't win a game. Same for the Wrestling team. But Tallmadge is known for solid softball and baseball teams. The boy's baseball team went 21-2.

But that is all history, and historically speaking here are some the things that happened in 1989.

1. Skydome opens in Toronto.
2. World's first HDTV broadcast goes out in Japan.
3. The first of 24 satellites that make up the GPS system are put into orbit.
4. Scientists pronounce 1989 are the warmest on record possible a sign of the greenhouse effect. Maybe it was all that hairspray?
5. Microsoft releases the first version of Microsoft Office
6. Nintendo releases the Game Boy
7. Cedar Point debuts Magnum XL-200 the first rollercoaster to top 200 feet.
8. Toyota launches the luxury brand Lexus
9. In Las Vegas the Mirage Hotel and Casino opens
10. The US Government provides a \$150 billion dollar bailout for hundreds of savings and loan associations due to poor real estate lending practices.

11. The Exxon Valdez spills 240,000 barrels of oil in Prince William Sound after running aground.
12. The Berlin wall falls and East Germany collapses.
13. On June 4th, the day we graduated, thousands of students occupied Tiananmen Square protesting for democracy. Many were killed that evening in a government crackdown.
14. Notable deaths in 1989 include Gilda Radner, Sugar Ray Robinson, Salvador Dali and Lucille Ball.

And what did things cost back then?

1. Minimum wage was \$3.35/hour
2. Median household income in Ohio was \$28,706
3. Mailing a letter only cost a quarter
4. Buying a dozen eggs would run you 96 cents
5. A gallon of milk cost \$2.34
6. Loaf of bread was 67 cents
7. The average new car cost \$15,250
8. Gas? The average was \$1.02 but I remember it always being under a dollar at the Sohio on the Circle.
9. The average house cost \$94,000 and mortgage interest rates were 10%
10. Apple released the Mac IIcx. It featured a 16 MHz processor, 1MB of RAM, 1.4MB floppy, and a 40MB hard drive. It cost \$5,370.
11. Motorola releases the first portable cellphone for only \$2,995

I'm glad the price of technology has come down. Plus it's much faster. My iPhone here is about six hundred times faster than that Mac.

The past 25 years really have been a blur, and those High School years went by so fast. I really do appreciate growing up in this school district. It's shocking how well my High School education prepared me for the future. I work in IT for a HR and Payroll consulting firm. My job didn't even exist when I graduated. Yet I use more of what I learned here than what I learned in college. When I was in Mrs. Conway's Algebra class I thought it was all a waste of time. Now I use it all of the time!

In closing I am proud of the memories we made here. With Social Media sites like Facebook reconnecting with other classmates has been great. I look forward to what the next twenty five years will bring all the while wishing for time to slow down. Unfortunately it seems to be speeding up. Thank you for listening. And thank you for inviting me to speak on behalf of the class of 1989.

#### Welcome of Graduating Class:

Bill Hilbish then introduced the 2014 Class representative:

It is my honor to officially welcome the Class of 2014 to the Tallmadge High School Alumni Association.

Representing the Class of 2014 is Steven Clark. Steven was active in both cross-country and tennis. He was the academic challenge team captain and national Honor Society treasurer. Steven will be attending Colorado School of Mines to major in either Engineering Physics or Applied Mathematics. Please welcome the class of 2014, class Vice-President, Steven Clark.

#### Response by Class of 2014:

As Mr. Hilbish said, my name is Steven Clark and I am the vice president of the class of 2014. The president, Chase Schertzinger, had prior engagements, so I guess you're stuck with me instead.

The class of 2014, or 2k14 as we've dubbed ourselves, was yet another successful class from this district. In Athletics, we watched our golf team win its fourth consecutive suburban league title. Our cross

country team won the league for the first time in 41 years, and produced one first team all Ohio runner. Boys' basketball made it far into the playoffs and the girls' basketball team won the district championship. Our track team sent one runner to states, Brian McGovern, who competed today in the 800m. Softball again advanced to the state final four. The Tallmadge softball team now has made it to the state final four 15 times, more times than any other school in the state.

The class of 2012 also has an impressive resume for future plans. We've produced 3 division 1 collegiate athletes, Joseph Lowery for football, Patrick Ferguson for cross country and Brian McGovern for track. We also have a myriad of students who will be attending prestigious universities such as The Ohio State University, Case Western Reserve University, and Columbia University, to name a few. We even had the honor of sending one of our students, Patrick Ferguson, to the U.S Military Academy at West Point. 2014 has given birth to doctors, lawyers, engineers, soldiers and so much more.

This year also proved to be memorable for a few staff members at the high school. Principal Rebecca DeCapua ended her tenure at Tallmadge, as did history teacher Kappy Sarver and art teacher Nancy Jones. It was a year full of memories and tears as we sent these teachers off to retirement. They experienced a wonderful surprise pep rally in their honor, and one of my favorite moments was when the seniors circled around them and sang the alma mater together. Certainly none of these ladies will be forgotten.

As we each go our own separate ways, the class of 2k14 will remember where we came from and what brought us to where we end up. No matter where we go we will always be Tallmadge High School graduates.

I would like to thank the Alumni association for all they do throughout the year and for inviting me to speak today. I wish best of luck to the incoming seniors, as they attempt to be as successful and enjoyable as we were. Thank you.

Mary Cushing then announced that with the inclusion of the 193 members of the Class of 2014, the total number of Alumni who had graduated from Tallmadge High School was 14,408. Mary presented the Class of 2014 table placard and asked Steven to bring classmates from the Class of 2014 to future Alumni dinners.



### Memorial:

JoAnn Stem Wood (Class of 1948) then presented the memorial, reading classes and names. This information was included in the program along with dates of death and age at death which is included here. Also included are names presented to us at the dinner.

## *MEMORIAL*

*We often think of days gone by, when we were all together.  
We call their names a final time, our classmates gone forever.*

**Since the Alumni Banquet in 2013, we have learned about the loss of these Alumni:**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>
1938	Emma Holmes	93	December 5, 2013
1941	Alberta Crossen Bauch	90	October 8, 2013
1944	Dorothy Senglar Schroedel-Wilson	87	June 16, 2013
1946	Wilma Sheppard Beatty	85	September 30, 2013



1946	Pauline Faye Griffith Woodward	85	April 14, 2013
1947	Carol Stilenbauer Wolcott	84	October 12, 2013
1948	Gene E. Young	84	March 13, 2014
1950	Barbara Ragle Lucak	81	January 1, 2014
1950	Janet Taylor Porter	81	June 19, 2013
1950	Andrew Lewis Sanford	81	August 22, 2013
1951	Paul Hersek	81	February 16, 2014
1952	Nancy Atwood Kemp	79	October 31, 2013
1953	Neval T Chaney, Jr	79	February 16, 2014
1953	Helen J Sokol	78	April 22, 2014
1953	John Williamson	78	February 26, 2014
1958	Patricia Bertsch Boggs	73	January 23, 2014
1958	David Mortimer	74	January 31, 2014
1959	James H Swartz	72	November 28, 2013
1961	James E. Moore		February 12, 2014
1962	Beverly Jean McCready	69	November 15, 2013
1963	Francis Cooper	69	December 24, 2013
1964	Edgar E. Ridenour	66	June 8, 2013
1965	Mark A Huth	66	December 29, 2013
1966	Ronald (Perry) Tyndall	65	May 20, 2014
1967	Irene Scaccio Dickey	64	December 13, 2013
1967	Greg Steffy	65	January 2, 2014
1971	Timothy Ahart	60	December 14, 2013
1971	Lisa Dutton	59	February 20, 2013
1972	Jeffrey Seymour	59	October 8, 2013
1973	John Bittner	59	July 25, 2013
1976	Rodney K Bowser	56	April 20, 2014
1977	Roberta (Bobbi) Loch Hindel	54	March 7, 2014
1977	John A Thomas	56	May 16, 2014
1978	Jon Colbert	54	August 22, 2013
1978	John Van Oss	53	December 14, 2013
1981	Romy Domjan Klotz	51	February 27, 2014
1983	Richard W Clem	49	December 16, 2013
1985	Kenny M Schley	46	August 18, 2013
1986	William (Bill) Shackelford	45	September 9, 2013
2000	Wendy Ralston	31	August 10, 2013
2007	Danielle Underwood	25	March 27, 2014

Teachers and Principals:

Teachers	Sue Ellen Hughes	64	December 11, 2012
Principal	Charles McDermott	76	June 4, 2012
Teacher	Hilda Rohlf	96	October 7, 2013

Unfinished Business:

There were no formal nominations for the Alumni Hall of Fame.

## New Business:

Mary Cushing announced that the Alumni Association received a letter from Rebecca DeCapua, the Principal of Tallmadge High School, announcing the three winners of the scholarships provided by the Alumni Association. Each winner was provided a \$750 scholarship. The 2014 winners of the Tallmadge High School Alumni Association Heritage Scholarships are: Adam Blatt, Sarah Burch and Karly Helmuth. The winners are all children or grandchildren of Tallmadge High School Alumni.

Mary Cushing reported on what the Alumni Officers did since the last annual meeting.

First, we again set up a tent at the Tallmadge Circle Festival on August 17, 2012. We had another phenomenal evening.

Our goal in being at the Festival is to get our name out there, let alumni know that the organization exists and has a website, get updates from alumni and sell some memberships and some goodwill. I think we accomplished every one of those goals, while having fun doing it.

Again, we knew there were lots of people visiting our booth, but there was no way to really count them all. Based on the fact that many alumni had non-alumni spouses, kids and friends with them, we're guessing that we probably had 250-300 people stop by. Here are some details:

DIRECTORY UPDATE FORMS: 35 update forms.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS: 5 new memberships.

ALUMNI YEARBOOK: lots of new signatures in the yearbook

WEBSITE MAGNETS and PROUD TALLMADGE ALUMNI stickers

We have continued to add new content to the website, including the minutes from the Annual Meetings. We worked on using social media, particularly Facebook to get our name out there. I posted pictures from the Alumni dinner, notice that we would be at the Tallmadge Circle festival, pictures the Historic Church on the Circle at Christmas, New Year's Greetings, news articles about alumni (at least the good ones – not the murders or convictions), news about the old hometown, a Save the Date for the Alumni dinner, and, of course, the invitation for the dinner.

There was one posting that I want to mention in particular because it shows what using social media can do to help get our name out. On Friday, January 31st in the early afternoon, I posted the following:

It's time to let all Tallmadge HS Alumni know about this page! Please share the THSAA page and ask all your Tallmadge alumni friends to LIKE the page. We're at 435 likes as I post this. Can we get to 500 likes this weekend? To increase its visibility, the posting was shared

A "like" is a thumbs up icon you click to indicate you like a page or a posting. To increase its visibility, I shared the post to any page set up by a class, for instance the Class of 1974, the Class of 1983, etc. and to some specific Tallmadge-focused groups. I then commented on the post, because that increases the visibility and wrote:

We, the current officers of the alumni association, have had a great time trying to build the organization up, setting up a webpage, building our email lists, connecting on Facebook. We stand on the shoulders of GENERATIONS of our alumni predecessors who have kept this organization going for 135 YEARS in the days before computers. We want every Tallmadge HS alumni to know that this organization exists to represent them. Our annual dinner meeting brings classmates together each year from near and far. We honor the 50-year and 25-year classes and the graduating class. We give scholarships to graduating seniors. Please LIKE the THSAA Facebook group and spread the word to other alumni. Stay connected, my friends!

Before 5 PM that evening, we had 500 likes. By the end of the weekend, we had 600 likes. More importantly, that posting was viewed by 1353 people.

Our ongoing challenge is to make sure alumni know the organization exists and then, of course, to have them support the organization by paying dues and attending this dinner. The efforts on Facebook, the website and the tent at the Tallmadge Circle Festival will, we hope, pay off in future years.

One last item of New Business: Next year's annual meeting will be held on Saturday, June 6, 2014.

A 50/50 raffle and door prize raffle was then held with prizes donated by local businesses. Mary Cushing thanked the sponsors for their donations of gift certificates, Gayle Bross McMillan who donated gardening gift package and the flower arrangements on the tables and all attending for their support of the Alumni Association.

After the singing of the Alma Mater, the 135th Annual Meeting of the Tallmadge High School Alumni Association was adjourned.



**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

\* = Donated to Scholarship Fund

**1944**

Margaret Orr Bumpas  
\* Karl Starks  
Ileana Crites Williams

**1945**

Donald Williams

**1946**

\* Bruce Detweiler  
Theodora Scott Urban

**1947**

Shirley Sanford Booth

**1948**

Helen Reznik Butler  
\* Catherine Cate Detweiler  
Gene Riddle  
Alvin Sayre  
\* Beryl Vandersall  
\* JoAnn Stem Wood

**1949**

Carolyn Atwood Mackey

**1950**

\* Norman George  
\* Elizabeth Jacobs-Griffith  
Vernon Petty  
Mary Ledgerwood Riddle  
Marian Parks Schopper  
Marcene Riddle Scyoc  
James Wharton  
Paul Zurschmit

**1951**

\* Delores Seckman Baldwin  
Joan Smith  
Fay Seevers Wharton

**1952**

\* James McGuire

**1953**

Janet Wheatley Lawley  
Gale Stem

**1954**

Eugene Ilg

**1955**

Barbara Scherer Horvath  
Dorothy Fike Ilg  
Patricia Booker Keener  
JoAnn Aber Stem

**1956**

Anna Flanagan Collins  
Roger Crislip

**1957**

Judy Sylvester Avila  
Paul Hood  
Sandra Norton Taylor

**1958**

Janet Jacobs McCaulley

**1959**

\* Irene Baer Brandt  
Rex Houze  
Phyllis Coleman Jones  
Gretchen Kalbaugh Kuhlke  
Judy Finney Kupersmith  
\* Pat Pifel Pander  
\* Willard Peters  
William Williamson

**1960**

\* Daisy Ilg Scalia  
\* John Scalia  
James Walters

**1961**

Kenneth Anderson  
Pam Mullett Coomes  
\* Jon Houze  
Fred Metcalf  
Mary Smith Richmond  
Tom Sackett  
Richard Ward  
Howard Williams

**1962**

Michael Corathers  
\* Joanne Houger Gray

**1963**

Bob Anderson  
Merlin Bertschi  
Robert Clark  
\* Bobbie Eddy  
Marilyn Nickson Gryder  
\* Richard Kline  
Jim Letvin  
Michael Mahaney  
Mary Black Overholt  
Bob Richmond  
Sandra Herstich Williams

**1964**

Eileen Willey Bertschi  
Gary Freed  
Kayann Wheatley Hawkins  
Christine Fernella Hill  
Sandra Diffenbaugh Miller  
John Pavkov  
\* Kenneth Penix  
David Pifel  
Karen Knapp Ritchie  
Bonnie Theiss Robinson  
Vernon Saylor  
\* Jerry Wasson  
Donald Williamson  
Suellen Buess Yoder

**1965**

Joyce White Houze  
Lynne Alexander Penix  
Kathy Breiding Pifel

**1966**

\* Linda Arnes Melia  
Linda Papoi

**1971**

\* Judy Wood Ripple  
Elizabeth Letvin Walters

**1973**

Marilyn Smith Locke  
Dino Massaroni

**1974**

\* Mary Rzewnicki Cushing  
\* Christine Mackey Farquhar  
\* Bill Hilbish  
Gayle Bross McMillan

**1975**

Clifford Yeager

**1977**

Karen Scyoc Greene

**1978**

Susan Wood Yeager

**1979**

Janet Grand

**1981**

\* Chuck Skidmore

**1983**

Eileen Morgan Arrington  
Patty McNeal Hartshorn

**1986**

\* Shelley Sir Louis Hargrove  
\* Kyle Klever

**1989**

Clifford Horvath

**1995**

Rocky Pavkov

**1997**

Heather Shellenberger Pavkov

**2014**

Steven Clark

# MEMBERS PAYING DUES BUT UNABLE TO ATTEND:

x = Donated to Scholarship Fund

Class	Donation	First Name	Maiden Name	Last Name
1936		Richard		Emmitt
1938		Beatrice	Acken	Watts
1939		Ellis		King
1940		Hilda	Crites	King
1942		Jean	Point	Call
1944		Don		Dean
1945		Betty	Heiser	Dean
1946	x	Alice	Wade	Gallo
1947		Melvin		Metcalf
1947		Melvin W.		Woerz
1948		Maxine	Hoke	Metcalf
1949		Lavonne	Gomoll	Dodge
1949		Paul		Hawkins
1949		Ruth	Wheatley	Stephan
1949		Audrey	Jones	Woerz
1950		Norma	Oxford	Shaffer
1950		Irma	Shephard	Zema
1951		Donna	Zurschmit	Beard
1951	x	Sarah	Jones	Bennett
1951	x	Lowell		Ripley
1952		Mary Ann	Bailey	Anzallo
1955		Kenneth		Keck
1955		Jean	Jackson	Whitlock
1955		Donald		Woerz
1956	x	Martha	Stephens	Gabrosek
1956	x	J. Thomas		Jones
1957	x	John		Tuel
1957	x	LaVerne	Henderson	Tuel
1958		Ina	Oxford	Paulus
1959	x	Margie	Saylor	Metcalf
1959	x	Ronald		Smith
1961	x	Craig		Buente
1962	x	Lee		McCoy
1966	x	Lonnie		Drayer
1969		Vic		Rzewnicki
1970	x	Jim		Mallory
1971		Chris		Bauch
1971		William		Neitz
1971		Jan	Myers	Rzewnicki
1973	x	Rick		Baird
1973		Suzanne	Naso	Bauch
1977		Karen	Mackey	Horton
1980		Edward		Mackey
1982	x	Susan	Romanish	Boling
1983	x	Kathleen	Thornton	Piotrowski