Shrewsbury High School Alumni Association

ALUMNI NEWS

June 2007

Alumni Association Grants Wishes

How to give back to SHS...That was on the minds of Alumni Association members as far back as our first meeting in 1993. After researching several possible avenues and consulting with high school administrators, Joyce Bartlett Perreault recommended that we offer grants to SHS student groups and organizations. The Alumni Council agreed, and interested members met to develop criteria and decide on an application process.

In 1996, $900.00 was awarded to three groups, and the Grant program was off and running. Now in its twelfth year, the program has grown tremendously, but its basic goal remains the same...to support projects that involve or benefit SHS students and that promote educational or charitable projects or foster a sense of community.

This year, we gave over $5,000.00 to support 17 projects, bringing the total to almost $40,000.00 over the life of the program. Thank you to all who’ve made this possible through memberships, donations, and support of Alumni fundraising events!

--Janet Pope

Read all about this year’s grant recipients on page 6.

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Newsletter staff and contributors:
Janet Pope, ed.
Judy Donahue
Sandie Lucas
Ron Sanguinet
Dick Pope

Mailing address:
SHS Alumni Association
c/o Shrewsbury High School
64 Holden Street
Shrewsbury, MA 01545

Visit us online at
www.shrewsburyalumni.org
In Memoriam...

FACULTY AND STAFF:
Shirley E. (Duff) Prescott, 86, of Shrewsbury; Shrewsbury schools cafeteria worker over 22 years; retired in 1983; April 9, 2007

ALUMNI and CLASSMATES:
Nancy P. (Crouse) Cadigan, 50, of California; May 12, 2007
Violet A. (Benoit) Wright, 63, of Webster; May 10, 2007
Jennifer L. (Terhaar) McLaren, 35, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1989; April 26, 2007
Harriette (Herbert) Lawrence, 96, of Stoughton; SHS Class of 1927; April 16, 2007
Arthur R. "Art" D’Amato, 83, of East Brookfield; SHS Class of 1942; April 16, 2007
Samuel Mark Perotto, 47, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1978; April 10, 2007
John Bresnahan, 63, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1962; April 8, 2007
Marie H. (Bliven) Goodwin, of Springfield; April 5, 2007

Anne F. (Joubert) Tyer, 83, of Holden; SHS Class of 1941; March 29, 2007
Alan C. Englund, 46, of Sutton; SHS Class of 1978; March 28, 2007
Jane (Ryan) Brunelle, 66, of Northborough and Bass River; SHS Class of 1958; March 22, 2007
Anthony J. "Tony" Maenzo, 80, of Shrewsbury; March 25, 2007
Laura Ann (Culbreth) Parlee, 48, of Tyngsboro; SHS Class of 1977; March 4, 2007
Elizabeth M. “Lizzie” Flynn-Barry, 30, of Grafton and Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1994; March 4, 2007
Lester J. Fyffe, 91, of Leicester; SHS Class of 1934; March 5, 2007
Paul O. Pelletier, Jr., of Worcester; SHS Class of 1962; March 4, 2007
Joanne R. (Daboul) Cellucci, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1953; February 23, 2007
C. Michael Sullivan, 59, of Orlando, Florida; SHS Class of 1966; February 21, 2007
Thomas J. Dunlap, 68, of Auburn; February 17, 2007
John E. Lever, 90, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1935; February 9, 2007
Norma E. (Trinder) Dobie, 99, of Worcester; SHS Class of 1927; February 7, 2007
George R. "Fritz" Mowry, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1951; February 5, 2007
Sharon A. (Rexford) Mars, 58, of Leicester; SHS Class of 1967; February 4, 2007
Barbara L. Morey, 90, of Richmond; SHS Class of 1934; February 2, 2007
Gladys V. (Bourbeau) Clapp, 82, of Worcester; SHS Class of 1943; February 2, 2007
Robert M. DeFino, 70, of Shrewsbury; SHS Class of 1955; January 25, 2007
Helen T. (Fadgen) Sheehan, 78, of Paxton; SHS Class of 1946; January 8, 2007
Dorothy M. (Eichmiller) Ploss Johnson, 86, of Shrewsbury and Clearwater, FL; December 12, 2006
Richard W. Quist Sr., 78, of Shrewsbury; December 8, 2006
Charlotte R. (Ferrantino) Duprey, 57, of Worcester; SHS Class of 1968; December 7, 2007

Moquin Square Dedicated

The intersection of Oak Street and Maple Avenue was dedicated to PFC Brian M. Moquin, Jr. in a ceremony on Sunday, May 27, 2007. Private Moquin died in a military helicopter crash on May 5, 2006 in Afghanistan. He was 19 years old. Brian was born in Worcester, attended Shrewsbury schools, and later moved to Millbury.
The Alumni Association lost a good friend when Bob Defino, Class of ’55, passed away in January. Here, classmate Ron Sanguinet shares some of his memories of Bob:

Let me begin by reading what was written about Bob in our class year book:

A born athlete and a mighty good fellow...Everyone’s friend...Slick personality...Is highly versatile in all manly sports...A triple threat halfback...Co-captained the Beal courtmen...A sensational southpaw on the mound...Gone steady for four years...Boasts a proud report card...An inspirational leader of many clubs...Just a terrific guy.

This was reflective of his years at Beal High and most prophetic of the remainder of his life. Bob continued his athletic endeavors in college and in town basketball and softball for years. His “gone steady for four years” continued into a lifelong relationship with Judy. The inspirational leader carried on through his years at Ford Motor Company. Everyone’s friend!

Bob and I went to different grammar and junior high schools, but his athletic accomplishments were legend and he was known to all of us by the time we reached Beal High. Bob should have attended Coolidge Jr. High, but you could play high school sports in the eighth grade if you were located in the high school building, so Bob and a few other student athletes attended junior high at Beal. He garnered 14 varsity letters in three sports...Five letters in both baseball and basketball and four in football. In the 1954-1955 season, Bob co-captained the basketball team to a league championship and was named to the All Star team in both the Clark and Assumption Tournaments. In 1954 he was selected to play in the East/West State All Star Game and pitched in Fenway Park. Bob was selected to the All County Football team and the All Central New England team in his junior year. Had he not been injured so early in the season of his senior year, he would have received many more awards.

My own recollections of Bob: We used to practice at Dean Park, and after practice, Bob would run back up the hill to Beal in an attempt to beat the coaches who rode in a car. He was a triple threat halfback; Bob could run, pass and punt. In one game I remember, the Millbury game in our senior year, Bob ran wild and scored five touchdowns, leading Shrewsbury to a 42-0 win. Against St. John’s of Concord, NH he threw a long touchdown pass to Tommy St. Pierre in a 12-0 win. His season was cut short that year when a South High player threw a block long after the play was over, breaking Bob’s leg.

His outstanding accomplishments in high school earned him an athletic scholarship in baseball and football to Holy Cross. Bob was co-caption of the freshmen team along with Holy Cross Hall-of-Famer Jim Healy. Bob played on both sides of the ball. He became a starter on the varsity team his junior year at right halfback, he did all of the punting and played in the defensive backfield. Bob played against the best in the game: Syracuse, Penn State, Pitt, Marquette, and Colgate, to name a few.

Bob’s biggest accomplishments were in baseball. In his freshman year he pitched a one-hit shutout against UMass with a perfect game for seven innings. His ERA that year was an impressive 0.97 with a 3-1 record. As a sophomore, Bob’s record was 4-2 with an ERA of 0.60. That same year, 1957, Bob was credited with hitting the longest home run at Providence College’s Hendricken Field, approximately 430 feet. (Jimmy Fox of Red Sox fame was the only other player to hit one over the left field fence.) In 1958, Bob helped the Holy Cross Crusaders win selection to the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska, where they won the first game 2-1 over USC. Bob pitched the second game a 4-1 loss to Missouri. In his senior year, Bob was elected co-captain. Bob’s varsity ERA was an outstanding 2.20, one of the lowest in Holy Cross history, and his freshman stats were not included in the computation. His senior year was impacted when four teammates from the previous year elected to forego college ball for the pros. Bob pitched the complete nine innings of every game he started at Holy Cross. (I would like to acknowledge Tom Cullinane who provided the stats on Bob’s career at Holy Cross. Tom compiled this info as part of his nomination of Bob for the Holy Cross Hall of Fame.)

Bob was a unanimous selection to the first group inducted into the Shrewsbury High School Athletic Hall of Fame. For the past six years Bob had been a member of the Hall of Fame selection committee.

Truly a class guy--an outstanding athlete and a great friend to all of us.

--Ron Sanguinet
Alumni and Teachers in the News

Sue (Sanders) and Andy DiLeo were presented with the Harry S. Cutting Award for community service at the Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services awards dinner held in April at Indian Meadows Country Club in Westboro. Outstanding Youth of Shrewsbury also recognized at the event included SHS students Christine Guarino, Thomas Imbalzano, Daniel Levine, Meaghan McLean, Emily Peeples, and Sumana Setty.

Laurence Van Atten has been appointed development coordinator for International Animal Rescue. As part of her master’s degree program in animal welfare and behavior at the University of Edinburgh, Laurence spent three months in Agra, India. There, she worked at a sanctuary where IAR is helping to put an end to the cruel treatment of sloth bears by rescuing them and providing them with a nurturing environment. More information about International Animal Rescue can be found on the web at www.iar-us.org.

James J. Hester, Jr. was sworn in as Shrewsbury police chief on January 22. Chief Hester joined the police force as a patrolman in 1987, and was promoted to sergeant in 1996. He’d been elected president of the department’s Superior Officers’ Union. Chief Hester holds both a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in criminal justice from Anna Maria College.

The Shrewsbury School Department’s Director of Business Services, Patrick Collins, will be leaving the district next month. He has accepted the position of Director of Business Operations at Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School in Marlboro, effective July 16.

SHS social studies teacher Dennis Klug was ordained deacon by Bishop Robert J. McManus in a ceremony at St. Paul’s Cathedral on April 21.

New principals will be leading two town schools effective July 1: Alice Brennan at Beal Early Childhood Center and Jane Lizotte at Sherwood Middle School. Mrs. Brennan, who has been a kindergarten teacher, curriculum specialist, and instruction coach in the Shrewsbury schools, will replace Judith Rogers, who’s retiring after seven years at Beal. Mrs. Lizotte has taught at Paton and Spring Street schools, was assistant principal at Floral Street School, and is currently principal of Spring Street. She’ll replace Sherwood’s Dan Costello, who has accepted a high school principal position in Connecticut.

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Stay in touch--

The Find a Grad section of the Alumni Association website is back by popular demand!

http://www.shrewsburyalumni.org/findagrad.html

Host Families Wanted

Alumna Michelle Moreno Lee is offering an opportunity for Shrewsbury residents who would be interested in hosting an international student. See the alumni website for more information: www.shrewsburyalumni.org

Check your Discount Card or the alumni website for details.
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

The SHS Alumni Association administers three scholarships that are funded by generous donors and given annually to graduating seniors at SHS. Members of the Alumni Council announced the winners of the scholarships at Awards Night on May 22. Congratulations to this year’s recipients:

Meaghan McLean – SHS Alumni Association’s Scholarship for Achievement
Michael Taher – Peter Perreault Student Athlete of the Year
Christine Guarino and Scott Wentzell – Robert M. Defino Class of 1955 Memorial Scholarship

GRANTS (cont. from p. 6)

Increasing Students’ Exposure to and Appreciation of American Literature—
All eleventh-grade English classes include a survey of American literature. Grant money will be used to purchase multiple copies of two additional novels. (Advisor: Paul DePalo)

Jobs for Bay State Graduates Career Conference Day—
The annual Career Conference brings together students from the 16 JBSG programs in Massachusetts. Grant funds will help defray attendance and transportation costs. (Advisor: Lee Diamantopoulos. Student applicant: Travis Sullivan)

New Entrant Assistance Team—
Members of NEAT provide support to new students in their transition to SHS. Grant money will be used for orientation supplies. (Advisor: Kathleen Floyd)

SHS Photography Club—
To keep current with the ever-changing trends in the field, this club would like to transition into digital photography. Grant money will help defray the cost of a film and negative scanner and a photo printer. (Advisor: Justin Marra)

Special Education Dept.—
Over 25 students will have access to required readings in audio format when grant funds are used to purchase a membership to Recordings for the Blind and Dyslexic and additional tape recorders and headphones. (Advisor: Kelli McSweeney)

Speech and Debate Team—
Members participate in more than 15 competitions per year. Grant funds will help pay transportation expenses. (Advisor: Sara DiGiorgio. Student applicant: Sirisha Nalamati)

Stained Glass Studio—
Members of the newly-formed Art Club plan an art activity for each of their monthly meetings. Grant money will be used to purchase tools needed to introduce stained glass, a medium not available in the current curriculum. (Advisor: Kristine Cobb)

Supplementing Media Center Fiction—
Grant funds will be used to expand and update the fiction collection in the SHS Media Center. The newly-formed Book Discussion Group, as well as the entire school community, will benefit. (Media Specialist: Claire Donovan)

Town Crier—
The Town Crier has been Shrewsbury High School’s student newspaper since 1909. Grant funds will help defray the cost of journalism conferences and an awards night. (Advisor: Laura Cronin)

U. S. Academic Decathlon—
The U. S. Academic Decathlon team competes in up to three regional competitions each year. The grant will help pay for study materials. (Advisor: Nancy Lowery)

Visiting Artists—
Two practicing artists will each spend a day at SHS, giving presentations and conducting workshops for many of the art students. (Advisor: Shari Fried Fox)
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS GRANTS

The SHS Alumni Association was pleased to award grants totaling over $5,000.00 this spring, supporting 16 student groups and projects:

Advanced Career Exploration—
ACE is a career exploration program in which a number of seniors participate in six-week internships. Grant funds will provide materials for the associated portfolio and resume workshops. (Advisor: Susan McGuirk)

Black History Committee—
The Black History Committee promotes respect for diversity. Their annual trip to New York City includes visits to museums and galleries that showcase notable African Americans. Grant funds will help defray the price of the trip for students who could not otherwise afford to participate. (Advisor: Denise Fair)

ELNA High School Leadership Conference—
Members of Educational Leadership for a Non-Violent Age will attend a youth leadership conference at Clark University. The grant will pay for bus transportation. (Advisor: Dawn Vigiatura)

Boston Landmark Tour—
Student assistants and staff members will accompany eight Life Skills students as they learn about our state’s capital and its historic landmarks on a guided tour of Boston. The grant will help defray admission and travel expenses. (Advisor: Brooke Hendrucks)

Future Teachers Club—
The goal of the Future Teachers Club is to give members the opportunity to explore the many facets of the teaching profession. Grant funds will provide seed money for this newly-formed organization. (Advisor: Richard Marchand. Student applicant: Cate Schneider)

(continued on p. 5)