

Bobcat Alumni Banner

• Grand Blanc High School • 12500 South Holly Road • Grand Blanc, MI 48439 •

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The Alumni Newsletter of Grand Blanc High School

Distinguished Alumni Awards 2004

On Saturday, October 16th, 2004, the Grand Blanc High School Alumni Association honored five alumni with the Distinguished Alumni Award. The second class of inductees into the Distinguished Alumni Hall were nominated by fellow graduates, friends or family based on their life's work such as excelling in their career or profession, making a significant contribution to their local community, or making an impact on the lives of others.

Our second Alumni Awards banquet was held at the Atlas Valley Country Club and included a social hour, dinner, a video about our honorees, and the presentation of awards. It was a complete success - we hope you will consider joining us on October 8th, 2005 for our 3rd Annual Alumni Awards. Many that attended found it to be a mini reunion of Grand Blanc High School grads - many of which they wouldn't normally see at a class reunion.

Our inductees included:



Bob Stallcup, Betty Jennings, Pat McGrath, Craig Parks, and Jim Decou

Jim Decou - Class of 1979

Jim graduated from Cornell University with his degree in Mechanical Engineering, and went on to attend the University of Michigan's Medical School. Jim has completed additional residencies at Dartmouth, Yale and St. Jude's in Memphis, Tennessee, specializing in Pediatric Surgery. In addition to his practice in Grand Rapids, Jim is currently an assistant professor at Michigan State University Medical School. He is highly regarded in the field of Pediatric Surgery, often publishing his research for others to utilize.

Pat McGrath - Class of 1960

Pat graduated from Ohio State University School of Law

and has practiced in Ohio as an attorney for many years. For 18 years, Pat was the City Attorney in the city of Columbus. He is currently a judge in the Court of Common Pleas handling civil and felony cases. Pat has had the honor of arguing two cases before the United States Supreme Court - the only Grand Blanc High School graduate to ever have this distinction.

Bob Stallcup - Class of 1949

Bob taught Biology and coached Cross Country and Track at Grand Blanc High School from 1960 through 1990. He coached the school's first ever state championship team - the 1977 Boys Cross Country team. This team was also ranked #1 in the nation - our only team to ever have this distinction. In addition, Bob coached the 1979 Cross Country team to the state championship. Bob was named State Coach of the Year, and National Cross Country Coach of the Year - our first national coaching honor. Bob is the 1st GBHS graduate inducted into the Bobcat Sports Hall of Fame.

Jerry Jennings - Class of 1958

Jerry earned his bachelor's Degree from Eastern Michigan University, and graduated from the John F. Kennedy School at Harvard University. Jerry was a member of the Marine Corps, and was a CIA intelligence agent. He has worked in the Department of Justice as a Special Agent for the FBI. Jerry was selected to work in the White House as a National Security Advisor under Presidents Nixon through Reagan. He has been the head of the Selective Service, and the Director of FEMA. Jerry is currently the Assistant Deputy of Defense in charge of POW and MIA affairs. His sister, Betty Jennings McIntyre, Class of 1961, represented Jerry at the ceremony.

Craig Parks - Class of 1982

Craig received his Bachelor's Degree from Michigan State University, and his Masters and Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in Psychology. He was a professor of psychology at Siena College in New York, and is currently a professor of social psychology at Washington State University. Craig is an expert in the field of the psychology of cooperation. He has published two books and thirty-five articles on the subject, and is often cited by others in this field. In addition, two Nobel Prize winners have used his research findings as part of their knowledge gathering.

Memories of High Street

By Don Day, Class of 1930
September 23, 1994

My name is Donald W. Day, and I was born December 6, 1912 on a farm on East Hill Road near Vassar Road. This is written for anyone who is interested in what High Street in Grand Blanc looked like in 1918. It was a short, dirt street running from Davis to Saginaw Street. My parents moved into 223 High Street when I was 6 years old. At that time most people called Saginaw Street "Dixie Highway". It was a gravel road, not paved until the early 1920's.



The first building, nearest the "Dixie", was the Blacksmith Shop on the south side of the street. It was a real busy place at that time in history. Farming was the main occupation in the area and the "Village Smithy" was in great demand for keeping the horses shod and the farmer's machinery in good repair. I spent lots of hours as a youngster, watching the sparks fly and hearing his hammer in action.

Going west, the next building was a creamery. It was quite a large building holding cooling tanks and a storage area. The farmers brought their milk here for transfer to the dairies in Flint for processing. My mother used to send me there for a gallon tin-covered bucket and 25 cents for buying milk nearly every day.

A large white home, owned by Walt and Daisy Ames, sat next to the creamery. Walt was the town barber. I later shined shoes in his shop. The next house was the Hustead house. Between these two homes was a well with a windmill and a hand pump. I can remember when my sister Jane, at 2 years old, wandered down the street to this pump on a hot summer day and decided to cool off. She disrobed, pumped the pump, and took a bath. The neighbor, Daisy Ames, a good friend of our family, called mother and let her know where Jane was. Jane was in no danger, as our big bird dog, "Jim", was Jane's constant companion, and he was with her that day.

A small brick home is next in line. I remember many different families living there through the years, but now it is the home of Mae Taylor, a very dear friend of mine. Just west of the Taylor house stands one I've known all my life. It belonged to Pat and Merty Clune. They had five children near my sisters and my ages, so we became real close. We boys had a tree house in a large maple tree on their lot.

The next home in line was the Brainard house. I remember Mrs. Brainard and her granddaughter living there. In the next home lived a sweet little old lady in a neat, small house that is still there. Her name, to all of us, was Auntie Bird. Then comes the house I know best. I lived there from 1918 to 1934, when I married Arileen. We will celebrate our 60th anniversary this summer, 1994.



A vacant lot was next, on which, in the early 1950's, our Dad and Mother built the small white house that is now there. It is now owned by one of our grandsons who lives there. So you can see I still have a great connection with High Street. Arileen and I lived in this house from 1972 until 1975, when we moved to Florida.

I still call the next house the Babcock house. We knew them well and called them Uncle John and Auntie Babcock, as they were Grandma and Grandpa to many of my early friends.

On Davis Street, across from the Babcock house, the red brick home belonged to the Bert Walkers. The first home on the north side, off Davis Street, was owned by Lee and Bessie Taylor. Both of these houses were built around 1900 or before.

Now going down High Street from the Taylor home, there were no houses until the Ernest Clark house, now occupied by Dr. Jeremy. As there were no buildings across from our home, we could see to Grand Blanc Road and the property that is now the Michigan Bell Building.

In the early 1920's, George Chapel built a home for himself and family, directly across from our home. Then two more houses were built towards the Dixie Highway. I call them the Charles Stone and the Riberkorn houses. They were built on some property owned by the Congregational Church

(Continued on page 4)

Joe Jewett, My Father, and Me

By Wayne McDaniel, Class of '58

We all have memories of our teachers, some very fond and some not so pleasant. Most of us have one special teacher who made a special impact on our lives both at the time and later in life. For me, Joe Jewett was that teacher. I never had his wife Helen for a teacher, but I know from hearsay that she also impacted many lives in a positive manner.

Part of the reason he made such an impression on me was that I had more contact with Joe than other teachers. He taught me science and biology in the pre-high school days, and I and my brother Stan were in 4-H and FFA for much of our school years. Another factor was that he was a truly likeable man.

I remember countless field trips to the local farms where the "real" farmers in the class reveled in the castration of tiny piglets while the rest of us snuck out behind the barn for a smoke and to duck the bitter winds.

Joe liked to visit us at our tiny farm out on Van Slyke Road. I think he was amazed that my father could grow just about every fruit, vegetable and berry known to man on his ten-acre paradise. Our father also husbanded a horse, cows, goats, chickens, rabbits, pigeons, geese, hogs and probably a few animals I've forgotten.

It was our vegetable garden, however, that most impressed Joe. My dad grew up in the south and had the greenest of thumbs imaginable. He was often accused by other Southerners, his co-workers at the old Chevrolet plant, of smuggling produce in from the south to pass off as "Michigan-grown." He and Joe would wander along the rows of what could pass as a "truck garden," examining this variety or that with Joe asking lots of questions. My father did

sell a little produce to augment his tint GM paycheck, but he gave much more of it away, much to my mother's chagrin.

My brother and I put in long hours in that huge garden, and the combination of rich, sandy loam soil, lots of manure, our dad's green thumb and our sweat resulted in blue ribbons every year at the big 4-H Fair.

OK, so most of it was my brother's sweat. I had a tendency to sneak off to the woods and play while he toiled, hoe in hand, but I got my share of blue ribbons, earned or otherwise. I also got my share of whippings for skipping out and I pride myself for my contribution to pruning the fruit trees as my father would invariably lay a peach limb across my backside for my gardening transgressions.

Joe liked to grow things, too. In his retirement years he was renowned for growing dahlias the size of dinner plates and monsters of the pumpkin family that took two men and a boy to pick up.

He also liked to meet with friends, mostly venerable farmers, and swap lies about the size of the flowers and vegetables they grew. This group evolved into a more or less formal weekly meeting at the old Haloburger. The gathering was called, of all things, "The Liars Club".

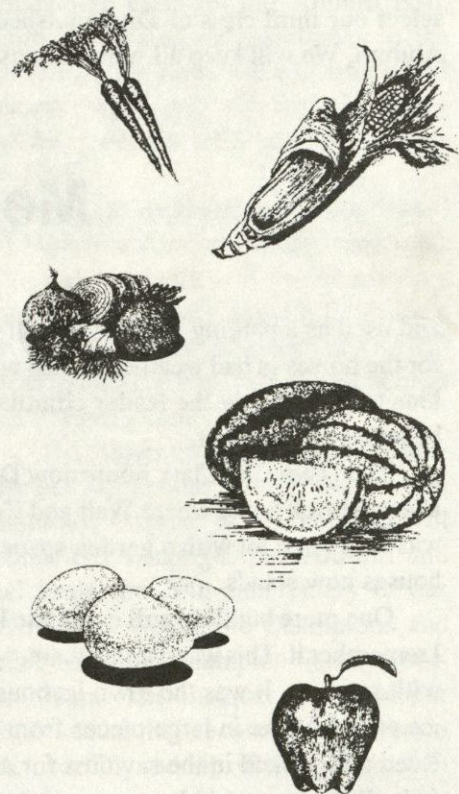
I, like countless others, miss Joe Jewett terribly. He has been gone for nearly ten years. I will never forget him and there is hardly a day that goes by that I don't think of him and the things he taught us.

When I thought about writing this story, I planned on contacting some of the "Old Ag Boys" and getting a comment or two from them. You know, guys like Charlie Stone, Don Harrison, Mar-

shall Forbush, Frank Harris, and Dave Burgess. The list goes on and on. That was the problem. I couldn't ask one and not offend the other and the Banner only has so many pages. So instead, you ask them the next time you see them. They will all have fond memories and many "Joe Jewett" stories to tell. I had one myself but Dennis Karas told me it was too racy for Grand Blanc readers.

So just ask me the next time you see me and I'll tell you. It's a good one.

I did call Tom Jewett, Joe's son, who is an attorney near Lansing, in a town called Mason. This is where Joe grew up on a farm. It's also where his sister forced him off the farm and into the Michigan State Ag College. I'm thankful to his sister for that or else I may have never had the pleasure of knowing Joe.



Distinguished Alumni Nominations

The Alumni Association is sponsoring its third annual Distinguished Alumni Awards. We are looking to honor Grand Blanc High School graduates that have excelled in their career or profession, made a significant contribution to their local community, or made an impact on the lives of others.

Tell us about it! We would like you to submit the names and accomplishments of those alumni that you think meet the qualifications above. It would be helpful if you have a current address and phone to contact the alumnus you are submitting.

Nominations are due by June 15th, 2005. Your Alumni Board of Directors along with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gary Lipe, and GBHS Principal, Dr. Michael Newton will help select our third class of Distinguished Alumni. We will keep all nominations

submitted on file for future consideration.

The Distinguished Alumni will be introduced Friday, October 7th, during the Homecoming Football game, and honored at the Distinguished Alumni Awards banquet on Saturday, October 8th. More information will be in our Fall Alumni Banner concerning the banquet, and how you can make reservations to join us for a memorable evening. In addition, a picture of each inductee will be placed in the Distinguished Alumni Hall, located in the front entrance atrium at GBHS.

Please send your nominations to:
GBHS Alumni - Distinguished
Alumni Award
12500 Holly Road
Grand Blanc, MI 48439 or
ccarmody@grandblancschools.org



**Bob Burek and Joan Batchelor Kifer
at the 2004 Distinguished Alumni
Dinner**



Memories of High Street

(Continued from page 2)

and used as a parking lot for years. It had a long open shed for the horses in bad weather. It also was a great place for us kids to play follow the leader climbing along the big wide beams under the roof.

Then came the Clark home now Dr. Jeremy's. Next was a larger brick home where Walt and Cora Parker lived. This was on a large lot with a garden space where one of the fire houses now stands.

One more building will complete High Street in 1918 as I remember it. This was a tall, square, wooden structure filled with sawdust. It was the town icehouse. During the winter, ice would be cut in large pieces from Smith Lake on Holly Road and packed in the sawdust for use in the summer. By fall, all the ice would be gone and the building empty until the next winter produced some more ice. This left a great

play area for us kids. Ropes and pulleys hanging from the roof made a great place for us to practice flying flips and somersaults into the soft, damp, sawdust.

Our mothers were not too happy to see us come home. We usually were made to disrobe outside to shed the sawdust before we were allowed inside. Grand fun though!

It was a great street on which to live and grow up, even if it was only dirt and without too many sidewalks. No bathroom either. Every home had an outside toilet, and we took baths in a wash tub which Mom brought into the kitchen. I think our inside bath was put in our house in the early 1920's.

Whenever we return to Grand Blanc, High Street is the first one we like to visit.

~

Grand Blanc To Honor Veteran Graduates

Calling all veterans who graduated from Grand Blanc High School, Marcia Kramer would like your name. Kramer, an Assistant Principal, wants to erect a permanent display at the high school that lists all the veterans who are Grand Blanc graduates. But first she needs to compile a list so she is seeking names.

"I'd like it to be as complete as possible," she said.

Kramer came up with the idea during a Veteran's Day program at the high school, during which the high school band played the respective songs for each branch of the service.

"During their song, all these people stood up and what I saw was a great deal of pride," she said.

Anyone who knows of a veteran who graduated from Grand Blanc High School is encouraged to contact her by calling (810) 591-644, faxing (810) 591-6513, e-mailing at mkramer@grandblancschools.org or writing to her at 12500 Holly Road, Grand Blanc, MI 48439.



Joe Dewey,, 1944 - Class of 1930



Lyle Wolfgang, 1944
Class of 1945



Al Blessing, 1944 - Class of 1941

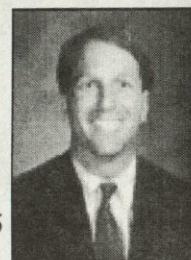


Nathan Myers, 1944 - Class of 1937



Jerry Wolfgang, 1971 - Class of 1969

A Message From the President



Charlie Carmody
GBHS '80

I hope you enjoy our Spring Banner '05 brought to you by your Alumni Board of Directors. Your donations to the Alumni Association helps us produce this newsletter and fund other special projects. Thank you for your continued support of the Grand Blanc High School Alumni Association.

We are in the process of acquiring a new Bobcat mascot for our school. Our old Bobcat is deteriorated so much that it can no longer stand on its own. Chris Millikan '84 and Bob Haight '55 have located our new mascot and will be preparing it for display in our new entrance at GBHS. We hope to have this special project completed by the end of the year. In addition, John Schlaud '52 continues to build class composite pictures of each graduating class for our Alumni Hall. John is working on the classes in the 1990's at this time. We will frame and mount them along with the other composites from the 1926 graduating class to 1992.

You are welcome to join the Board of Directors for our monthly meetings. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, June 15 at 6 p.m. at Mario's Restaurant & Pizzeria which is located at G-5227 Fenton Road. Please join us and help us plan future Alumni activities.

The Alumni Association is sponsoring our 3rd annual Alumni Banquet on Saturday, October 8th - where we will honor our Distinguished Alumni and celebrate the 20th anniversary of our 1985 Girls Golf State Champions and 1985 Big Nine Champion Varsity Football team. The Banquet is part of our 69th annual Homecoming celebration October 7th and 8th. Please join us this Fall.

-Charlie Carmody

...Reunions and Messages...

Homecoming 2005 - Friday, October 7th - Parade, Football game vs. Flushing, halftime and post game activities. Saturday, October 8th - Alumni Banquet.
More details in the Fall 2005 Banner.

Classes of 1969 and 1970 - 35th Class reunion is being hosted by the Class of 1970 - August 13th - Contact Judy (Mathews) Paczkowski at cudyjudy@aol.com.

Class of 1974 - 31st Class reunion - August 13th - Contact Barb (Manutes) Massey at 810-629-0919 for more information.

1970's Bobcat Bash - All GBHS grads from the 1970's are invited to the first annual all 70's Class reunion, sponsored by the Class of 1974. Friday, August 12th starting at 6 p.m. at Southmoor Golf Club on Dort Highway. The cost is \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Contact Joni Johnson at 248-651-9348.

Class of 1980 - 25th Class reunion weekend - July 15th and 16th, 2005. Friday, July 15th - 1980's Bobcat Bash at Southmoor Golf Club. Saturday, July 16th - Class reunion at the Flint Elks Club starting at 6 p.m. Contact Charlie Carmody: ccarmody@grandblancschools.org or 810-591-7378.

1980's Bobcat Bash - All GBHS grads from the 1980's are invited to this 2nd annual all 80's Class reunion, sponsored by the Class of 1980. Friday, July 15th starting at 7 p.m. at Southmoor Golf Club on Dort Highway. The cost is \$10 per person, a DJ and munchies will be provided. Contact Charlie Carmody at 810-591-7378.

Class of 1985 - 20th Class reunion - August 13th at the Atlas Valley Country Club. Contact Lora (Hood) Kalkman at grandblanc85@comcast.net.

Class of 1995 - 10 year reunion - October 8th at Woodfield Country Club - Contact Mindy at c_mrandsdell@netzero.com

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