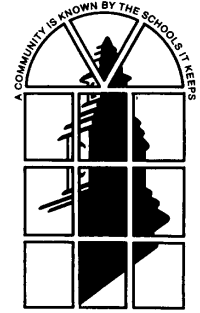


# Senior Shakerites



A newsletter for former Shaker Heights City School District Employees  
Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120

Spring 2015

Donna Brittain, Editor

The Fall 2014 Luncheon was held at the *Cleveland Skating Club*.



The following **Senior Shakerites** were in attendance at the luncheon:

Dee Arrington  
Ruth Berger  
Noreen Bertman  
Diane Bloodsaw  
Ruth Blumenthal  
Donna Brittain  
Liela Brode  
Lucy Burkett  
Cindy Campbell  
Mary Louise Cesa  
Carolyn Chapman  
Don Coffee  
Xiao Ying Coffee  
Carol Dunlop  
Ann Farmer  
Harry Farmer  
Patty Forsberg  
Carolyn Garvin  
Jacqueline Gholson  
Sonia Golden  
Joseph Greene  
Savannah Harbison  
June Hayes

Barbara Hise  
Donna Holtrey  
Lesley Homans  
Janet Houk  
Marcia Jaffe  
Constance Jefferson  
Ellen Kelly  
Mary Lambert  
Lillian Lichtman  
Clyde Loughridge  
Karen Loughridge  
Larry Marks  
Jean McDowell  
Cynthia Meyer  
Jean Morgan  
Tom Morgan  
Charlene Nevans  
Bertha Nungesser  
Madeline Obrock  
Kathy O'Neal  
Linda Pagel  
Renee Paige

JoAn Perkins  
Linda Powers  
Gary Raymont  
Sondra Saddler  
Annette Sankey  
Catherine Satola  
Sally Schwartz  
Donita Singerman  
Diane Smith  
Ellen Stepanian  
Judy Stewart  
Millie Talbot-Redon  
Karen Thailing  
Rebecca Thomas  
Jane Troha  
Mary Underwood  
Delette Walker  
Susan Weiner  
Rona Weiss  
Barbara Whitaker  
Marilyn Wilk  
Evelyn Wisham

## A Message from Donna

Dear Shaker Retirees,

Well, I survived my first luncheon as president of the Shaker Heights Retired School Employees' Association. And it was actually fun! I thank all those who attended and made me feel welcome as the leader of such an esteemed group of individuals. I feel blessed that I was able to enjoy a 35 year career in the Shaker Heights City School District, and am honored to be able to maintain associations with those who continue to thrive beyond our years of employment.

Our luncheon was absolutely delightful. The new chef at the Cleveland Skating Club (Chef Will) did an incredible job and the wait staff was kind and attentive. I am thankful to Kathy O'Neal for sponsoring us and for the work she put into making the arrangements for our event. Dan Ruminski, Cleveland Historian/Storyteller, entertained us with fascinating tales of the city's past and made publications available for our purchase; proceeds from which will provide iPads for children with autism. Thank you to Ellen Stepanian for introducing us to him.

Don Coffee has now embarked on his second retirement. He served our organization for the past 13 years. During his tenure, the attendance at our meetings has increased. Don has worked closely with Holly Wang at [www.shaker.org](http://www.shaker.org). Please be sure to visit and take notice of the information and resources available by clicking on the RETIREES' ASSOCIATION link. We can also thank Mr. Coffee for his work with the Emeritus Program and his continued offerings of educational trips to China.

Each spring, we ask our members to make a voluntary dues contribution of \$5.00. That money is used toward our speakers and to support the Shaker Schools Foundation. Please consider including your dues with your luncheon payment.

Please enjoy the rest of our Spring 2015 newsletter, and I hope to see many of you at our luncheon on May 6 at the Shaker Heights Country Club.



*Donna Brittain*  
President

# Senior Shakerites Annual Spring Luncheon

Welcome to all Shaker Heights School Retirees

WHEN: Wednesday, May 6, 2015

WHERE: **Shaker Heights Country Club**

3300 Courtland Boulevard

Shaker Heights 44122

(216-295-5519)

TIME: Gather at 11:00am for refreshments ... Lunch served at **NOON**

**1:00 Program...Connie Schultz, Journalist/Author (see info on next page)**

## Menu Selections

1. *Grilled Salmon Fillet with Chive Butter Sauce*

2. *Chicken Marsala*

3. *Mushroom Ravioli with Brown Butter, Balsamic, Wilted Spinach and Parmesan*

*All entrees will include Chef Select Seasonal Vegetable and Starch, a Mixed Green Salad, Rolls and Butter, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, and Iced Tea.*

**COST: \$27 includes tax and gratuity.**

(Spouses & friends welcome)

**Please send reservation slip with check payable to:  
SHAKER RETIRED TEACHERS AND STAFF**

Send to: Jerry Graham

12154 Waywood Dr.

Twinsburg, OH 44087 Phone: 330.963.0715

**RSVP by Tuesday, April 28, 2015**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle Menu Selection 1 2 3**

Guest Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle Menu Selection for Guest 1 2 3**

Luncheon: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \$5 \_\_\_\_\_ Donation for Shaker Schools Foundation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**



**Connie Schultz** is a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist for *The Cleveland Plain Dealer*. She has also won the Scripps-Howard and National Headliners awards for commentary.

She is married to Senator Sherrod Brown, a Democratic Congressman representing northern Ohio. Because of her husband's campaign for US Senate, Schultz took a leave of absence from *The Plain Dealer* and actively campaigned across the state of Ohio.

In 2006, Schultz published her first book, *Life Happens: And Other Unavoidable Truths*, a collection of her previously published columns. Her current book, *And His Lovely Wife: A Campaign memoir From the Woman beside the Man*, is a journal of her experiences on the campaign trail during her husband's campaign for Congress.

In 2004, she won the James Batten Medal for a three-year body of work of stories and columns illuminating the struggles of underdogs and ordinary folks. In 2003, she won Best of Show in the National Headliner Awards competition for her narrative series, *The Burden of Innocence*. The series also won the Robert F. Kennedy Award for social justice reporting (domestic) and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize in feature writing.

She previously was an American Society of Newspaper Editors finalist for commentary, resulting in the publication of one of her columns in the book, 2002 Best Newspaper Writing. She also has been named the best feature writer in the state by the Associated Press Society of Ohio and an American Association of Sunday and Feature Editors Award for best short feature. In 1998, her narrative series on a dying woman, *Losing Lisa*, was judged the best in Ohio.

Schultz grew up in the working-class town of Ashtabula, Ohio, near Cleveland. She was the first in her family to go to college, and graduated with a journalism degree from Kent State University in 1979.

Schultz and her husband have four grown children and three grandchildren.

## Senior Shakerites are Active and Busy...

Fall luncheon attendees pictured on our front page are Ann Farmer, Dan Ruminski (guest speaker), Don Coffee, June Hayes, Annette Sankey, Evelyn Wisham, and Joseph Greene.

**June Hayes** retired from the High School several years ago and was thrilled to attend her first retirees' gathering and connect with old friends.

**Evelyn Wisham** shared with us that she and her husband, wed September 4, 1964, recently celebrated 50 years of marriage!

**From Dee Goss:** "We were able to get back to Shaker Hts. last winter to visit some friends (including the Hises) and see the fantastic production of 'Les Miserables' in the Sanctuary of the First Baptist Church. What a thrill for us to be there. Meanwhile we have been happily living in Hertford, NC for almost 10 years. I am currently tutoring a 10 year old boy in reading and am having great fun doing that once a week. We've also been traveling but are very involved in the local community here. Please give my regards to any who might remember me. Thanks, Dian Embury Goss"

**From Joan Servis:** "In June, I took a trip to England (Cornwall & Devon) with a group of 11 women, including my daughter-in-law, Nancy Servis. 'As You Like It' Tours. Beautiful countryside, beaches, and the accommodations were five stars.

I rescue cats and foster kittens with Janice, my trapping partner. Example: Fostered 12 kittens in August, and found good homes for all of them.

My daughter, Marie Servis Fowler (SHHS '79) and her husband, Dale went on an Alaskan cruise for 2 weeks to celebrate their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in July."

**From Linda Rozman:** "Got more seriously into birding this past winter (1/14) with feeding the little guys. Joined "e-bird" and "Project Feeder Watch" to add to their database. But also learned that one's yard and area surrounding it become staked-out areas that one is "expected" to maintain – namely food, shelter and water. (Buster keeps the squirrels and cats at bay.) It's well worth the effort. But the learning curve is steeper than I expected."

**From Sylvia Tallentire:** "Since my accident last May 24<sup>th</sup>, we gave up our little manufactured home in Ft. Myers, Florida. We would like to spend some time in Ft. Myers, Florida again some day but haven't figured out the logistics for such a trip. In the past few months I have gotten very busy with calls from craft friends, mostly from Ft. Myers, asking for something I have made or something special they want me to make for

them. Although I can not get out of this wheel chair except with the use of a special hydraulic lift, I am able to sew and operate my sewing machine since my left leg works from the knee down, at least.

In the last few months I have gotten busy with my sewing crafts again. We recently stopped to have 'tea and scones' at an English store-front restaurant. They served our teapot with an unusual tea cozy. I spoke to the owner/manager and ended up getting an order for 4 tea cozies with matching pot holders after making him a sample cozy of my own. It will likely lead to more orders.

Are any of you Clevelanders planning a trip down to Waynesville, Ohio to go shopping at the shops here in our neighborhood? On Main Street, at the Cobblestone Restaurant and Gift Shop, Don and I have a special table set aside for us for lunch on Fridays. And starting this week a number of my special hot pads will be on sale in their gift shop. Please let me know when you might come to Waynesville and Don and I will join you for lunch.

I want to thank you, former teachers and administrators, for your kind words during my struggles.”

***From “Morelanders for Life”:***

Since its closing in June of 1987, members of the staff of the old Moreland School (now the location of the Shaker Heights Public Library) continue to enjoy spending time together. In October 2014 Charlene Nevans, Mary Underwood, Diane Bloodsaw, and Donna Brittain shared lunch at *Brio*.



## Senior Shakerites Recommend ...

*Linda Rozman* has read [John Muir and the Ice That Started a Fire](#) by Kim Heacox. She says, "If you like nature and the outdoors, you will enjoy this easy read about John Muir and the history of the conservation movement in our country."

*Joan Servis* read [The Bully Pulpit](#) by Doris Kearns Goodwin. It is 800 pages of excellently detailed history about Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and the Golden Age of Journalism.



**What are YOU reading?  
Please send us your book  
recommendations.**

.....  
**[www.shaker.org](http://www.shaker.org)**

If you haven't been there yet, go to the District's website. At the top of the page select the tab labeled **Staff**. In the column to the right select **For Our Retirees - Retirees' Association**. There you will find links to our newsletters, events, SERS and STRS, Forms, Lists, Photos, Shaker Educator Emeritus info, and information about our group.

(When using a mobile device, be sure to choose the DESKTOP VIEW.)

## Fall 2015 Luncheon

The fall luncheon is normally held the first Wednesday in October. **Save that date on your calendar.** If you are able to provide us with a location, please contact Donna Brittain [dawoim@earthlink.net](mailto:dawoim@earthlink.net). Everyone will receive a mailing with the confirmed date and location in the spring.

## THANKS!!!

A special *thank you* to all those who make our luncheons and this newsletter possible:

Kathy O'Neal and Ellen Stepanian – luncheon/guest speaker arrangements  
Sonia Golden - calligraphy on name tags  
Xiao Ying Coffee - photos  
Karen Dunbar - assistance at the Ad Bldg  
Mark O'Keefe - mailing  
Adrienne Geszler, Gary Raymont, Becky Thomas, Dee Arrington, Vicki Griminger, Jean Morgan, Barbara Hise, Pam Anderson - printing, mailing and assistance with the newsletter

You can help improve our communication efforts by sending email addresses to [dawoim@earthlink.net](mailto:dawoim@earthlink.net).

We also need to update our mailing addresses. If you know of someone who has moved or changed names, it would be appreciated if you would call one of the officers.

## Celebrations Are in Order...

**Megan Dora**, High School science teacher, and her husband Ryan welcomed baby girl Emily Christine Dora on September 18.



**Stacey Steggert**, High School SPED Co-Chair, and Polly Karr welcomed twin boys, Samuel Walter and Jonah Saul, on November 26.

**Damien Johnson** of the Middle School faculty and his wife Tiffany welcomed baby boy Carter Damien Johnson on January 9.

Orchestra director **Donna Jelen** and her husband, Todd, welcomed a son, Felix Todd Jelen, on January 6.

**Erik Johnson** of the High School Theatre Arts department, his wife Megan, and their daughter Sylvia welcomed baby boy Forrest Edgar on January 10.





# We Extend Our Sympathy

Andrew Kacsanek, father of Boulevard administrative assistant **Darlene Frantz**, passed away on October 6. Mr. Kacsanek is also survived by grandchildren **Renee Frantz** (SHHS '04) and **Bridget Frantz** (SHHS '07).

The grandfather of Middle School Principal **David Glasner** passed away in October. Services were held in Maryland.

Jordan Band, father of **Claudia McCord** of the Fernway library staff, passed away in October.

Jack McMahon, father of Middle School RTI Coordinator **Robert McMahon**, passed away on October 13.

Lynn Ruffner, a former PTO Council President and Shaker Heights City Council member, passed away on October 27. Her survivors include her son, **Michael Bowen** (SHHS '05) and sister, **Sharon Bell**, coordinator of MyCom South Shaker.

Peggy Musselman, sister of Woodbury intervention specialist **Patsy Lease**, passed away on October 27.

Dossie Bush, father of High School security monitor **Michael Bush**, passed away in November.

John McGuinness, father of students **Leo** (6<sup>th</sup> grade at Woodbury), **George** (4<sup>th</sup> grade at Fernway), and **Theodore** (Kdg. at Fernway) passed away on November 14. Mr. McGuinness is also survived by his wife Janele Kampas.

Lewis Harris, brother of Middle School teacher **Tracey Warren**, passed away on Sunday, November 16.

**Jim Douglass** (SHHS '73), father of SHHS junior **Francisca Douglass** and **Robert Douglass** (SHHS '14), passed away on November 26.

John Penfield, the father of Woodbury library assistant **Stacey Reed**, passed away December 3.

Donald T. Moss, father of former Woodbury teacher **Candace Sheffler**, passed away on December 6. He is also survived by grandsons **Roland Robinson** (SHHS senior) and **Kenneth Robinson** (SHHS '08) and longtime companion **Jacqueline Gholson**, retired Woodbury social worker.

Doris Johnson, mother of Woodbury administrative assistant **Jean Johnson**, passed away on December 13.

Ruth Ellen Maenner, mother of **Jim Maenner**, maintenance mechanic at the Service Center, passed away on January 3.

Ernest White, father of **Derek White** (SHHS '89) of the Mercer faculty, passed away on January 15. Mr. White is also survived by daughter **Tiffany White** (SHHS '93.)

Samuel Sankovich, father of **Sharron Sankovich** of the High School science department, passed away on January 14.

Elijah Williams, Sr., father of bus driver **Shelia Campbell**, grandfather of bus driver **Chari Rudolph** and brother-in-law of bus monitor **Mattie Collier** passed away on January 29.

Harlan LeRoy Jennings, brother of bus driver **Jean Jennings-Anderson**, passed away on Sunday, February 8.

**Elias Marks**, who was a Shaker student in the late 1990s and early 2000s, passed away in February.

Elizabeth Clemons, mother of bus drivers **Felita Clemons** and **DeAndre Clemons**, passed away on March 17.



## In Memoriam...

**Loretta “Lori” Nye**, who was a secretary in the Shaker Schools for a number of years, died last April. She was at Byron and then the High School. She is survived by her husband Bill, son Richard, and several grandchildren.

**Jim Caffrey**, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Woodbury, passed away in January. He was the father of **James Caffrey**, a senior at the High School, and **Julie Caffrey**, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at the Middle School.

Retired Fernway teacher **Paula Krumlauf Freiberg** passed away February 12. Paula was a Shaker graduate, as are her husband, **Ian Freiberg**, and their daughter, **Morissa**.

[http://www.brown-forward.com/sitemaker/memsol.cgi?user\\_id=1519521](http://www.brown-forward.com/sitemaker/memsol.cgi?user_id=1519521)



# Shaker Heights Schools

A community is known by the schools it keeps.

You can read more about these stories at [www.shaker.org](http://www.shaker.org).

[Read More...](#)



## **Student's Work Pops at Science and Engineering Fair**

Marie Claire Inniss, an eighth-grader at Shaker Heights Middle School, received a third place medal for her chemistry project at the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair.

[Read More...](#)



## **SHHS Student Captures the Art of STEM**

Junior Chesaria Reffner is the second place winner in the high school category of the 2015 Art of STEM competition.

[Read More...](#)



## **Shaker Again Named a "Best Community for Music Education"**

Shaker Heights has been named a 'Best Community for Music Education' by the NAMM Foundation for the seventh consecutive year.

[Read More...](#)



## **2 SHHS Students to Exhibit Work in State Art Show**

Art by High School students Megan Jones and Audrey Anderle was selected for inclusion among 300 works to be exhibited at the 2015 Ohio Governor's Youth Art Exhibit.

[Read More...](#)



## **Shaker Repeats as State Latin Champ**

Forty-two Shaker Heights High School and Middle School students swept all three overall awards at the 2015 Ohio Junior Classical League Convention. [Full results...](#)

[Read More...](#)



## **Selection Process Set for 6 Administrative Positions**

Parents, staff members, and community members will be included on interview panels for Boulevard principal, High School assistant principal, and four central office positions.



## **The Officers and Committee Chairs**

**Donna Brittain**, President – (440)786-0612

**Jerry Graham**, Treasurer (pay luncheons and dues)

12154 Waywood Dr., Twinsburg, OH 44087 [jrg574@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrg574@roadrunner.com)

**Dottie Bruggeman**, Secretary – [dbruggeman1@hotmail.com](mailto:dbruggeman1@hotmail.com)

**Donna Brittain**, Newsletter Editor – [dawoim@earthlink.net](mailto:dawoim@earthlink.net)

**Ellen Stepanian**, Programs – [elns@windstream.net](mailto:elns@windstream.net)

**Vicki Griminger**, [bgsu73@aol.com](mailto:bgsu73@aol.com) and

**Adrienne Geszler**, [ageszler@roadrunner.com](mailto:ageszler@roadrunner.com) – Mailing

Anyone who has membership in a club or would like to suggest a location that we might use as a future luncheon site, please contact Ellen Stepanian.

If you do not wish to continue receiving copies of the Senior Shakerites, please let us know. You can email Donna Brittain at [dawoim@earthlink.net](mailto:dawoim@earthlink.net) .

### *Senior Shakerites*

15600 Parkland Drive

Shaker Heights, Ohio 44120