



# The Brick & Mortar Board

*the newsletter of the HHS Alumni Association, Inc.*  
[www.hobartalumni.org](http://www.hobartalumni.org)

Volume 12, Number 2

December, 2022

## **An HHSAA Membership Makes a Nice Christmas Gift! (Have You Renewed Your Own Membership?)**

Annual memberships in the Hobart High School Alumni Association expire at the end of the year, but we allow a grace period of one month before you are removed from the mailing list. Why not send in your \$10 now, instead of waiting until you get that reminder in the mail? Besides, postage rates are going up from 60¢ to 63¢ on January 22, so let's save some money!

And have you considered a gift membership in the HHSAA for family members and friends? On the membership form on the back page, be sure to put the recipient's name, address and email, so that we send it to the right place. There is a line where you can put your name and class, if you are giving a gift membership.

On our website, [www.hobartalumni.org](http://www.hobartalumni.org), we have a list of Lifetime Members. It's the one area of the website where you need to be registered to enter. Registering on the website is free. Just find your name, click Join Here!, enter your email address and choose a password, and you are ready to go! You can also add contact information that only other registered alumni can see.

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### Alumni Spotlight

## **Meet Your HHSAA Board!**

We are interviewing ourselves, to give you a chance to get to know the people on the Board of Directors of the Hobart High School Alumni Association. This issue features our board members Beth Scott Barney (Class of 1970) and Debbie Scharbach Vega (Class of 1971).

### **Beth Barney, HHSAA Board Member**

*What are you up to these days and how do you keep busy?*

When Paul asked me to write something for our class Alumni newsletter I was speechless. I love to talk; however, I thought where do I start?

When I'm not working, in my spare time I am a member of the Hobart Moose. We volunteer for many things such as fish fry, bingos, luncheons and helping our community. I also enjoy spending time with my family and friends.

I worked all our class reunions and presently have a 'Breakfast Club'. We meet ever third Saturday of the month at our local restaurants.

And that's how I joined the Hobart Alumni Association. I was talking to Debra Opolski, the treasurer, classmate, and friend and went to a meeting with her.



*(continued on page 2)*

## Alumni Spotlight (cont.)

*Could you trace your path from HHS to now?*

I graduated in May 1970 at Hobart High School, and that fall I attended Indiana State in Terre Haute. I attended for 2 years, actually started my 3rd year, and decided it wasn't for me and came home.

In 1973 I married Ron Barney, we were married 24 years and I decided I didn't want to be married anymore and we got divorced. We had 3 children: Guy presently 45, Karen and Kevin soon to be 40.

So, I have been single for 25 years, and in that time I went back to school at Purdue North Central and received to my Associate's degree in Organizational Leadership and Supervision in 1995. Then I attended DeVry University and receive my Bachelor's degree in business management in 2005.

My family owned Paul's Place in Hobart, a restaurant that was owned and operated by family 58 years, closed. I was devastated! So in my fifties I had to find another job, so I went to the Hobart City Schools and presently work at Liberty Elementary in food service. Yes, I'm a lunch lady! I have 13 grandchildren ranging in ages from 5 to 22 and have served almost all of them in our cafeteria.

One of the ideas I am proud of is a program to assist students who couldn't pay for their lunches. I had suggested an idea that later became the Brickie Lunchbox which assists children with their lunches.

*Were there any teachers or coaches at Hobart who had an influence on your life?*

When I look back on my school days, I enjoyed attending Mundell school. I had Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Moody, Mrs. Keefe, and Mrs. Mattix. Every one of those ladies were kind. I was shy and I remember each teacher was so attentive with me; however. Mrs. Mattix was my favorite! I know

I embarrass her every time I see her because I introduce her as my most favorite teacher ever.

When I attended junior high, I had Mrs. Partlow, who used to sit on the floor and watch a pizza bubble! Mrs. Kurth, who completed my dress in Home Ec by putting a zipper on it and of course Mr. Wuchner, who was my math teacher and in high school, my German teacher.

Mr. Wuchner had my brother, my later to be brother-in-law, then me, next he had my niece and then my oldest son, and finally my daughter. He was also my oldest son's tennis coach. He was such a special man.

I know this next one isn't a teacher, but my mother influenced me so much. We worked together every day at Paul's Place, and she and Paul taught us all how to work and respect others. She was my best friend and I miss her every day.

After the restaurant closed, I substituted in the schools in the teaching departments. I have high regards for our teachers. We have the best staff at Liberty Elementary!

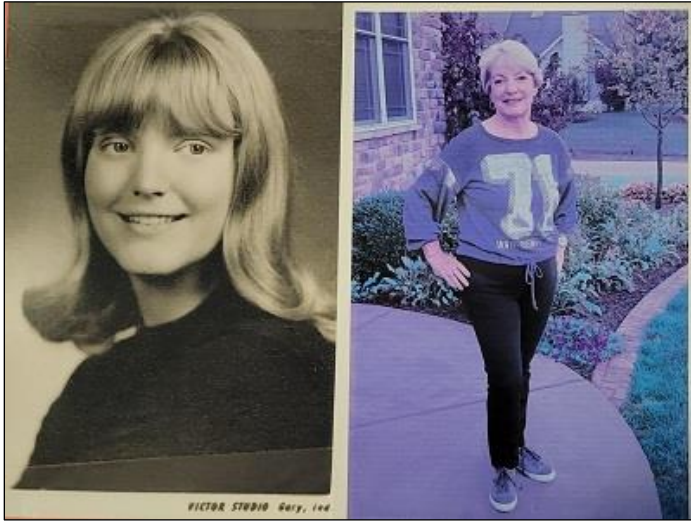
I love Hobart and can't believe I am going to say this but, "Once a Brickie, Always a Brickie"!



*Beth (circled) with HHS classmates at a recent Saturday brunch.*

**The Brick & Mortar Board** is a publication of the Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc., a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation. It is an electronic publication, delivered by email to members of the Association. Membership is \$10 per year, or \$100 for a Life Membership, and donations are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to: **HHS Alumni Association**, and mail it to: HHSAA, PO Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342. Our website is: [www.hobartalumni.org](http://www.hobartalumni.org). The editor of The Brick & Mortar Board is Paul Addison.

## Debbie Vega, HHSAA Board Member



*Deb then and now*

*What are you up to these days and how do you keep busy?*

I retired from being a Kelsey's restaurant server in 2009--for the next 5 years I worked with Laine Kasarda's "All Soup'd Up" food truck – we did the Thursday farmer's market at the Lakefront. Since then, I've spent a lot of time with volunteer activities – I was on our HHS 50th reunion committee – held Sept. 2021 – been a HHS Alumni board member for the past 3 years – and both my husband – Mike – and I are Comfort dog handlers for the Lutheran Church. We take Jael (our golden retriever) to Portage hospital, Linden House and Brentwood in Hobart and StoryPoint in Chesterton. I'm also a ballroom dance enthusiast – alternate going to Second Street in Schererville and Valpo ballroom for classes and for dances. In the winter months we enjoy Florida as our snowbird getaway!!!



*Mike and Debbie graduate as dog handlers*

*Could you trace your path from HHS to now?*

I attended I.U. and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in 1975. Although I worked as a child welfare caseworker for 5 years – I returned to the restaurant business and worked as a server for the next 30 years. I married Mike Vega 30 years ago and we have 2 children and 3 grandchildren. I spend a lot of time doing things with/for my grandsons – we even go to a weekly weight-training exercise class with Pat Devery – owner of Region Way Fitness/nutrition – what fun it is to exercise next to your grandsons!!! I'm also privileged to spend time with other family members – our 2 daughters and my mother-in-law – Angie – and other friends we've met along the way.



*Debbie with her daughters Michelle and Amanda*



*Deb and the boys Jake, Aaron, and David*

*Were there any teachers or coaches at Hobart who had an influence on your life?*

I had a few favorite teachers – Mr. Jacobsen was our choir teacher and led us to a 1st place at one of the contests. I still have the record album we had made – also appreciated Mr. Neff – my first Spanish teacher where I developed a



*Deb and Mike Vega (right) with Lori and Mike Puro (left)*



Cakes made for the Class of 1971 50th Year Reunion

life-long love of learning the language. And Nancy Scarborough – my home ec teacher. She had the cheeriest disposition and helped us learn how to follow a recipe. Another super fun class -- got to eat what we made!! Lots of good memories made and I'm always happy to have been and still am a Hobart Brickie!!

## HHS Alumni Association Board

The Hobart High School Alumni Association was officially incorporated on July 17, 2010. The current members of the Board of Directors (as of May 20, 2022) are:

### OFFICERS

Paul Addison, Class of 1970 .....*President*  
 Lynn Sheets Kostbade, Class of 1966 .....*Vice-President*  
 Debra Broker Opolski, Class of 1970 .....*Treasurer*  
 Tracy Estabrook McCullough, Class of 1978..... *Secretary*

### AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Shaun Zoladz, *Dean of Students, Hobart High School, Class of 2006*  
 Beth Scott Barney, Class of 1970  
 Debbie Scharbach Vega, Class of 1971

## HHSAA Scholarship Fund

You can donate to the Hobart High School Alumni Association and be certain that your donation will go toward scholarships only. Simply write "Scholarship Fund" in the memo line of your check, made out to **HHS Alumni Association**, and mail it to: **HHSAA, PO Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342**.

## Class Reunion Roundup

If your class is having a reunion, or meets regularly, please send the information to us at [info@hobartalumni.org](mailto:info@hobartalumni.org).



### **CLASS OF 1973 50<sup>th</sup> YEAR REUNION** (August 19, 2023):

The Class of 1973 will hold its 50<sup>th</sup> year reunion on Saturday, August 19, 2023. We will have our dinner at Gino's Banquet Hall, 1967 E. 37th Avenue in Hobart. There will be music at Festival Park on Thursday and we may meet for a relaxing evening on Friday at a winery. For more information, contact: Leigh Huminsky, [lhuminsky@yahoo.com](mailto:lhuminsky@yahoo.com), or friend her on Facebook.

### **REGULAR CLASS GET-TOGETHERS:**

**Classes of 1952 and 1953:** The classes of 1952 and 1953 are having breakfast the second Thursday of each month at the Paragon at 8:30. Any questions, call Marlene (Baier) Krawcyk (Class of 1952) 219-942-6301, or Martha (Jordan) Nichols (Class of 1953) 219-942-3062.

**Class of 1958:** The Class of 1958 is having their luncheon the third Saturday of each month at the Paragon Restaurant at 1:00 PM. Any questions, contact Larry Koziol at [larry58koziol@gmail.com](mailto:larry58koziol@gmail.com).

**Class of 1960:** The Class of 1960 is having their luncheon the second Saturday of each month at the Paragon Restaurant at 1:00 PM. Any questions, contact Linda (Quinlan) Koziol at [larry58koziol@gmail.com](mailto:larry58koziol@gmail.com).

**Class of 1970:** The Class of 1970 is meeting for breakfast at 10:00 am on the third Saturday of the month. Check our Facebook page for the location: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/110625168719>, or check on the HHSAA website during the week leading up to the third Saturday.

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## Woodwork Career Alliance Names its Scholarship Fund in Honor of Hobart HS Alumnus Greg Heuer

Hobart High School alum Greg Heuer, Class of 1965, was honored by the Woodwork Career Alliance of North America by naming its teacher scholarship program after him. Congratulations, Greg! We published part of the article on our website. Here is the complete article.

### WCA Names Scholarship Fund in Honor of Greg Heuer

August 12, 2022

*Colleagues laud Heuer for his vision, dedication and leadership to create the WCA's credentialling system.*

NELLYSFORD, VA –

As a fitting tribute to one of its most influential founding fathers, the Woodwork Career Alliance of North America announced the renaming of its teacher financial aid program to the Greg Heuer EDUcation Scholarship Fund.

Heuer, secretary of the WCA Board of Directors since its inception in 2007 and one of the first WCA chief skill evaluators, recently retired from the board. He is credited by his colleagues for being the driving force that led to the development of the WCA Skill Standards and Passport credentialling system. Together, the Skill Standards and Passport form the foundation of new and evolving WCA programs used by a growing number of schools and wood products companies to teach and train the next generation of woodworking professionals.

The scholarship fund benefits WCA EDUcation member schools. Woodworking instructors can apply for financial aid to help defray the cost of travel to industry events like the International Woodworking Fair or to cover the WCA membership fees for their students.



*Greg and Linda Heuer*

“The WCA Board of Directors chose to rename our scholarship fund The Greg Heuer EDUcation Scholarship Fund in honor of Greg’s lifetime of work dedicated to educating those of us within the woodworking industry,” said Scott Nelson, WCA president. “Greg has always been an advocate for the need of skill standards in the industry. He worked tirelessly to help create the Woodwork Career Alliance of North America and see his vision come to fruition.”

Heuer was a staff member of the Architectural Woodwork Institute (AWI) when he got involved with the WCA on the ground floor. During his 29-year career with the AWI, Heuer was especially instrumental with helping update the AWI’s Quality Standards. That experience, coupled with his prior

*(continued on next page)*

Greg Heuer (cont.)

career running an architectural woodworking company, made him uniquely qualified to lead the development of WCA's consensus standards. He took the lead to create a wiki that allowed members of the WCA Skill Standards team across North America to collaborate online.

"Without Greg Heuer, the WCA wouldn't exist!" said Patrick Molzahn, director of the Cabinetmaking and Millwork program at Madison College, and a founding board member of the WCA. "His vision and leadership early on helped shape this organization. We were able to pull together an impressive set of standards on a shoestring budget by utilizing a wiki. In a post-Covid world, we take online collaboration as routine. However, back in 2007, the world was a much different place. With Greg spearheading the charge, we accomplished this task with minimal face-to-face meetings, creating a set of standards for the wood industry at about one-tenth of the cost compared to the standards for the metal industry. Greg's ability to leverage technology was just one of his many skills."

"It's hard to believe the WCA would be as successful as it is today without Greg's guidance and dedication early on," added Greg Larson, vice president of the WCA. "His ability to keep us on track, inspire us during our brainstorming sessions, and his relentless attention to detail certainly helped guarantee our success. I will always remember how he pushed us during our skill standard writing sessions to create the most concise and usable standards we could; I can't imagine where we'd be today without Greg's early support and hard work."

Duane Griffiths, another founding member of the WCA board of directors, also gave high praise to Heuer for his indispensable contributions to the WCA. "Without a doubt, Greg has been one of the major leaders in WCA. Through his numerous contacts and hard work, he has advanced the organization. When individuals think of WCA they think of Greg."

For his part, Heuer said he is humbled to have the "ongoing fund associated with my name."

"Years ago, I felt my legacy to our industry would be the AWI Quality Standards. That turned out not to be the case. In fact, I couldn't be more proud and grateful that my legacy to our industry includes the founding and nurturing of the Woodwork Career Alliance. This trade/craft has given so much to me and our family. The feeling that I may have returned a small portion of those gifts is heartwarming."

Heuer added that he has been gratified to played an active part in helping a growing number of woodworking teachers join the WCA. "Influencing young people to think of our industry as a career, more than just a job, and showing them the pathways to success is vital for the continuation of woodwork manufacturing in North America. I think the future is bright and the possibilities are endless. I hope we can effectively track the young people who earn credentials in their careers. I hope we can tell success stories of WCA folks who rise to their full potential, contribute to their companies, and take personal pride in being practitioners of our trade."

(This article was obtained from the WCA website, at: <https://woodworkcareer.org/2022/08/12/wca-names-scholarship-fund-in-honor-of-greg-heuer/>.)



*Greg Heuer, one of the original WCA chief evaluators, leads a training workshop for woodworking instructors aspiring to become accredited skill evaluators.*

*If you have an interesting article featuring Hobart High School alumni, please send it to me at [paul@hobartalumni.org](mailto:paul@hobartalumni.org). Thanks! (Paul Addison, Editor)*

# Your Brickie Stories: What Do You Remember?

## Reply to: Do You Remember: Did You Drive to School?

**From Lyle Hatten, Class of 1958:** Students driving their cars to high school in the 1950's? They would park on 4th Street in front of the old high school building as well as across the street at the library and the Methodist church. Students choosing 4th Street had to be careful about parking there because it was marked 2-hour parking, however Center, East and New Streets were safe to park on. Every 2 hours, the Hobart Police would drive by and chalk-mark the tires, return 2 hours later to ticket cars that had chalk-marks, and then remark the tires. Most of those students that chose 4th Street parking would run outside between classes all day long and remove the chalk-mark from their car tires.



*The high school on 4th Street, circa 1958*

Did you drive to school? What kind of car did you drive? And where did you go for lunch? Send your stories to me at [paul@hobartalumni.org](mailto:paul@hobartalumni.org).

## Do You Remember: Report Cards

Report of Attendance, Punctuality, Department, AND SCHOLARSHIP.		E - Excellent 95-98		M - Very poor Below 70																			
REPORT for the YEAR ENDING 1917.	Days Present	Days Absent	Time Tardy	Punctuality	Department	Spelling	Reading	Writing	Math	Examination	Class	Average	Attendance	Punctuality	Spelling	Reading	Writing	Math	Examination	Class	Average		
September	29	11	3	0	F	A	E	E	F	E	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
October	27	20	0	0	100	E	A	E	E	A	F	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
November	24	30	0	0	100	E	E	E	A	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
December	22	20	0	0	100	A	E	E	A	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
January	26	18	2	0	90	E	E	E	A	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
February	23	19	4	0	95	F	E	E	A	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	
March																							
April																							
May																							
June																							
Total and Average																							

*Wilbur Hatten's report card from 1917*

**From Paul Addison, Class of 1970:** Have any of you kept your report cards from your Hobart school days? I have all of mine through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. (Heck, I even have the graduation program from Trinity Lutheran Kindergarten, Class of 1958.) My dad used to take us to Walgreen's for a milk shake if we brought home a good report card.

But do you know what they looked like in 1917? Here is the report card of Wilbur Hatten (Lyle's father). With all those E's for "Excellent", we figured that the F's must stand for "Fair". Do you have any stories about report cards? Send them to me at [paul@hobartalumni.org](mailto:paul@hobartalumni.org).

## Reply to: Do You Remember: Tattoos

**From Lyle Hatten, Class of 1958:** Tattoos were a way of permanently marking people with their blood type. Hobart's elementary schools as well as most schools throughout Lake County from 1951 to 1952, blood-typed students (with parents' permission). By the end of spring of 1952 there were about 30,000 Lake County students and residents who had received their blood type tattoo. Are you one of them? This information comes from the book "Hoosier Tales", by Tim Bean and Nicholas Orange, [www.orangebeanindiana.com](http://www.orangebeanindiana.com).

## Our Supporters (not previously listed)

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS:

Richard Bonczek (1973)

Margaret Scott Salisbury (1971)

### NEW OR RENEWED ANNUAL MEMBERS:

Vicki Small (1961)

## Recent Obituaries (since our November newsletter; in PDF form, these are links to each classmate's In Memory page)

**NOTE:** I'd like to give a shout-out to **Bill Spiller, Class of 1990**, who has sent me nearly 300 links to obituaries for HHS alumni, many of which were not published in newspapers. A memorial page has been created for each of them on our website, and I understand there are many more to come! These alumni can now be remembered and honored. Thanks, Bill!

### NOVEMBER 2022:

[Lorena Williams Coppes, Class of 1958](#)  
[Dan \(Danny\) Abner / Marci Dupree, Class of 1987](#)  
[Alice Fehrenbacher Shields, Class of 1958](#)  
[Jerry Chapman, Class of 1947](#)  
[Teresa Bulanda-Musso, Class of 1982](#)  
[Barbara Bergeson Yank, Class of 1957](#)  
[Cheryl Warren Ensign, Class of 1972](#)  
[Margie Howard Hooten, Class of 1973](#)  
[Michael "Mick" White, Class of 1979](#)  
[Adolph "Abe" Lesczynske, Class of 1998](#)  
[Donald \(Don\) Daniels, Class of 1968](#)  
[Kathy Timpe Byrum, Class of 1965](#)

### OLDER OBITUARIES RECENTLY RECEIVED

#### SEPTEMBER 2022:

[Delores Spiller Hefty, Class of 1956](#)

#### JULY 2022:

[Betty Nelson, Class of 1970](#)

#### 2021 (MONTH UNKNOWN):

[Linda Harrelson Edwards, Class of 1961](#)

#### DECEMBER 2021:

[Irene "Puggy" Schmelter Kostoff, Class of 1950](#)

#### NOVEMBER 2021:

[Carl Perrotta \(Teacher\)](#)

#### SEPTEMBER 2021:

[Elizabeth Christner \(Teacher\)](#)

#### AUGUST 2021:

[Beuford \(Beau\) Bunnell, Class of 1947](#)

#### MAY 2021:

[James \(Jim\) Krygoski, Class of 1973](#)

#### DECEMBER 2020:

[Sandy Schafer Trafficanto, Class of 1961](#)

### NOVEMBER 2020:

[Esther Bulza Wilson, Class of 1950](#)

[William \(Bill\) Crites, Class of 1946](#)

### OCTOBER 2020:

[Phillip Jones, Class of 1992](#)

[David \(Dave\) Brandenburg, Class of 1961](#)

[Terry Matthews, Class of 1979](#)

### SEPTEMBER 2020:

[Palmer Mart \(Teacher\)](#)

### JULY 2020:

[Nancy Wagoner Detterline, Class of 1953](#)

[William \(Bill\) Nault, Class of 1961](#)

### MARCH 2020:

[Barbara Distell Ehrhardt, Class of 1948](#)

### JANUARY 2020:

[Stanley Leszczynski \(Leszynski\), Class of 1942](#)

### DECEMBER 2018:

[Edward Schmelter, Class of 1943](#)

### JUNE 2018:

[David \(Dave\) Flick, Class of 1972](#)

### JUNE 2017:

[Charles Merodias, Class of 1948](#)

### MARCH 2016:

[Barbara \(Barb\) Titus Allen, Class of 1968](#)

### MARCH 2015:

[William \(Bill\) Merodias, Class of 1946](#)

### DECEMBER 2012:

[Bernice Redar Ruge, Class of 1941](#)

### JULY 2010:

[Kenneth Kostbade, Class of 1936](#)

### MARCH 2010:

[Donna Stumke Springman, Class of 1955](#)

### JANUARY 2010:

[Willetta Klug Kennedy, Class of 1947](#)





## Membership Application Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc.

Membership is \$10 per year per person, or \$100 per person for a Life Membership  
(proceeds go towards student scholarships and teacher grants)

Check one: New member \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_

Check one: 1-year membership (\$10) \_\_\_ Lifetime membership (\$100) \_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name (in high school) \_\_\_\_\_

Married Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your class graduating year at HHS \_\_\_\_\_

*(Renewing members only need to fill out the following if anything has changed)*

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_

**GIFT SUBSCRIPTION? WHO IS IT FROM? \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS \_\_\_\_\_**

*"Once a Brickie, Always a Brickie!"  
Thank you for your support!*

**Make your check out to: HHS Alumni Association**

**Mail to: HHSAA, P.O. Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342**

**Our website is: [www.hobartalumni.org](http://www.hobartalumni.org)**