



CHATHAM CONNECTIONS
CHATHAM CENTRAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 208, CHATHAM, NY 12037
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SUMMER 2011 NEWSLETTER
EDITOR: MARGARET SAWYER, CLASS OF 1966

ALUMNI WORK AT THE TANGLWOOD CONCERT
(PHOTOS COURTESY OF PAT BINZER)



Wilma and Vernon
Westover again this year
worked as our cooks



Above Peggy Sawyer and Hank
Binzer are ready to sell snacks. To
the left Joan Simard joins to help
the children make a selection.



ALUMNI WORK AT THE CONCERT (CONTINUED)



Nancy Knabe served as our cashier and took a little break to have her picture taken with Gordon Fitting.

All the proceeds are for the benefit of Chatham's Music Department.

M.E.D. ARBOR DAY A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION



Students continued Chatham's Arbor Day tradition with a new twist this year. Chatham Bookstore owner and community advocate Muriel Faxon was honored at this year's M.E.D. Arbor Day celebration for her contributions to the school and to the Chatham Community.

The ceremony was held in the Geologic Park on June 3rd and began with a history of Arbor Day in Chatham, presented by third graders. The Chatham Central School District has been celebrating Arbor Day since 1889 and a red oak that the Class of 1902 planted is the oldest living Arbor Day tree in NYS.

Following the history lesson and a poem about Arbor Day, students performed a play about Mrs. Faxon's life. Mrs. Faxon grew up on Woodbridge Avenue at a time when students from Canaan and East Chatham came to school by train. She used to go door to door with a record player to teach dance lessons to her neighbors. She later served as a Chatham school board member for 15 years, and has continued to be involved at MED as a volunteer promoting literacy. She also supports school performing arts programs and is a benefactor of a local scholarship program for Chatham students. She and her husband, Edgar, also organize the School Girl Queen contest held during the Columbia County Fair.

Following the play, the school presented Mrs. Faxon with a certificate of appreciation.

The fourth graders then performed the traditional Maypole Dance and the entire school sang "We've Got the Whole World."

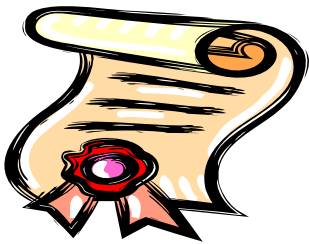
As is Arbor Day tradition at M.E.D., the outgoing fourth grade class planted a tree retiring MED teachers Pat Luvera, Nancy Piaggione and Diane Trainor, as well as Mrs. Faxon. This year's tree was a Sugar Maple, planted behind the school near the playground. The tree was donated by Dwileski's Tree Planting and Transplanting in East Chatham. (This article is courtesy of the Chatham Central School Website.)



**MEET THE
CHATHAM
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

From left to right back row is Vernon Westover, Judy Gagliardi, Pat Colburn, Jeff Westover, Sally Friedman, Peggy Sawyer, Hank Binzer and Nancy Knabbe. Front row is Gennifer Westover, Wilma Westover, Pat Binzer and Joan Simard.

This picture was taken after the May 2011 meeting. As you can see, the meetings are informal and we once again encourage all alumni to join us for the meetings which are usually held the second Wednesday of each month.



CHATHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL WINS NATIONAL SCHOOL OF CHARACTER RECOGNITION:

The Chatham Middle School, after two years of being the NYS winner, has now taken home “The Gold”. The Alumni Association sent a letter to the students, parents administrators and staff of the Middle School with congratulations on this great honor.

This letter will be framed and placed in the main office along with a letter from the Governor and State Senator. This is a great honor for the administrators especially as both Gordon Fitting, Principal and Larry Barud, Vice Principal will be retiring at the end of this school year. **THANK YOU FOR ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK.**

CHATHAM HIGH SCHOOL SPIRIT AWARD WINNERS FOR 2011

The Alumni scholarships were awarded to some really great students, some of whom are children or Grandchildren of graduates. They are: Emily Borsh, William Gauthier, Lauren Kneller, and Brian Mochrie. Congratulations to each one for their contribution to the Chatham High School. The students wrote their thoughts about what school spirit is and those remarks follow:

Emily Borsh

“School spirit refers to emotional support for one’s educational institute. High school, in particular, spirit arises out of relationships, including relationships between students and staff, and relationships between the different grades. It exists when the student body is alive and active. The relationship with peers and teachers make it part of a larger entity and help develop a sense of social and community responsibility.”

William Gauthier

“School spirit is representing your school in a positive way. School spirit contributes enthusiasm to the community and classmates. During spirit week, the different activities and representations bring people together who may not have similar interests. School spirit forms community with itself.”

Lauren Kneller

“School spirit isn’t just standing on the black and red bleachers while the varsity football team gets another Chatham Panther’s First Down. It’s about supporting your school through victories and defeats. School spirit creates a bond between a person and their school that will continue to hold even after graduation.”

Brian Mochrie

School Spirit is pride for one’s own school, also an emotional support of a school. School Spirit enhances (the) school. Students who have school spirit want to help support the school so they donate time and supplies to fundraisers.”



REUNION NEWS:

The **CLASS OF 1961** will be holding their 50th Class Reunion on October 1st at Lippera’s (For those of you who do not know Lippera’s used to be the Chatham House). The class is hoping for a great turn out. Columbia County is especially beautiful at this time of the year. For whoever would like, there will be a golf tournament and brunch the following day. The committee has worked very hard to contact all members and they would like to see a great turnout.

The **CLASS OF 1966** will be holding a reunion August 27th at Winding Brook Country Club and there are some classmates they have not located. It would be a great help if you know where any of the following are that you would let John McGowan know at (518) 392-3257 or Lumpco@taconic.net classmates we are trying to locate: Christina Barden, Jane Belliveau Vandewalker, Mary Christiana, Anne Demler Moore, Linda Oliver, Susan Phillips, Wayne Smith, and John Thomas. Thanks for your help in locating our classmates...



OUR LAST QUIZ – THE ANSWERS

It is gratifying to know that so many of you read the newspaper and send in answers to our little quizzes.

Some of you, like John Dardess, remembered their teachers from 1st grade through high school and since there are too many to include in this newsletter we are sticking to the original question: Who taught high school Math, English, History and Language. When thinking of a question with a short answer I did not stop to think of the time period that it covered, therefore I am lumping them all together.

I will say that middle age does not dull your memory as Nelson Charron '42 gave correct answers with English: Miss Dardess; Math: Miss Potter; History: Miss Morris; and Language: Miss McGee. “Way to go Nel”.

Here is the break down of the courses:

Math: Mr. Mallon, Ellen Quinn, Mr. LaValle, Miss Mraz, Tom Jones, and Dan Herrick.

English: Mr. Weaver, Frank Keating, Mrs. Robinson, Frank Vosburgh, Mr. Manaco, Mr. White, and Miss Sinichak.

Language(French, Spanish, Latin) Miss McGee Miss Ashley

History: Mr. Kraham, Mr. Speed, Mr. Anson, Mr. Witham, Tom Gavin, Marty Schmidt, and Mrs. DeLyser

We know that were many more but I am giving you your responses.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Where was the Firehouse before the new one was built?

How many classes used to be housed in the Chatham Middle School?

How was the downstairs in the library used ?



CHATHAM IS DOING OK IN THE SPORTS HEADLINES

We now play in the Patroon Conference and seem to do well.
Baseball we tied for 1st with Cairo,
Softball we won the Patroon Conference for the 1st time in our history.
Girls track finished 3rd and the boys tied for 1st.
GREAT Job Athletes!

ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

If you know someone who should be considered for the Athletic Hall of Fame, please forward the name and information to: Scott Steltz, Athletic Director, Chatham High School, Woodbridge Ave, Chatham, NY 12037.



2011 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PICNIC

This year the Alumni picnic will be at Crellin's Park in Chatham starting at noon, Saturday September 10th. We hope to see all of you there, just bring a dish to share.

REMINDER – DUES FOR 2011 ARE DUE

Thanks to all of you sent your dues in after the last newsletter. We depend on your contributions to carry out our good work...Also the additional few dollars in your check are certainly appreciated.

If you did not send your dues in already, please do so now. The alumni association's fiscal year is the calendar year which means that the alumni association needs your dues to continue to send you this newsletter. Please fill out the form below and mail it in with your 2011 dues.

YES, I WANT TO JOIN THE CHATHAM CENTRAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND I ENCLOSE MY ANNUAL \$10.00 DUES AND I WANT TO GET INVOLVED BY SERVING ON THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE(S)

Community Relations Finance Communications Social Events Education Support

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No(s): Home: ()____-_____, Work: ()____-_____, Cellular: ()____-_____

E-mail Address: _____ Best Time to Call: _____

Year of Graduation _____

Please mail this form to: Chatham Central Alumni Association, P.O. Box 208, Chatham, NY 12037. If you have any questions, please e-mail the Alumni Association office at: alumni@chatham.k12.ny.us, **Thank you for your support!**
