

Alumni Association

Keeping Ties with Our Alumni



TAYLOR
School District



Enhance the educational atmosphere of the Taylor School District for both the graduates and the school district.

January 2018 Newsletter

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Taylor Alumni Association
11501 Beech Daly Road,
Taylor MI 48180
tayloralumni.org

Happy New Year

The Taylor Alumni Association Board hopes all your wishes are granted this coming year. The following individuals will continue to provide you with Taylor Public School's Alumni service.

Association Officers

- President - Mary Swartout Rusnak, JFK 1972
- Vice President for Taylor Center High - Judy Barnhart LaFleur, TCH 1965
- Vice President for John F Kennedy High - Ken Renner, JFK 1970
- Vice President for Harry S Truman High - Sheri Graham Engelbrink, HST 1977
- Treasurer - Nancy Miller Mascaro, JFK 1967

Others who do so much to help the Association

- Website - Caroline Craddock Patts, TCH 1973
- Monthly Newsletter Editor - John Pantalone, JFK ?
- Newsletter Layout - Michele Milledge Stephens, TCH 1975
- Social Media Director - Charles Bonner, JFK 1967
- David McGhee - Staff,
- Donna Hoffman Sigler – Staff, TCH 1960

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Many others have contributed and we thank all of you.

JFK final farewell blowout party

Below is the presentation committee chairperson, Ken Renner presented to the Taylor Public School's Board of Education. The alumni of John F. Kennedy request to have one final good-bye to our beloved school. While the turnout for the final Homecoming was outstanding, the weather may have kept older, more sensible alumni, home. That is why I am here today to ask that one last party be granted.

Here is what our committee of alumni from the Class of 66 upwards have come up with:

- The selected date is Saturday June 16th with June 23rd as an alternate date.
- Tour the school classrooms one last time.
- Invite as many faculty alumni as possible to their classrooms to greet their former students.
- Use of the cafeteria to display memorabilia from the Alumni Association.
- Hold a dance in the gym with live band(s) until no later than 10:00 P.M.
- Charge a fee for the dance to cover

expenses. Any money left will go to the Scholarship fund.

- Hold a car/bike show in the parking lot south of the Gym entrance.
- If needed for overflow, buses to and from the Sportsplex as used for the homecoming.
- Food trucks allowed on site, NO ALCOHOL permitted on premise at anytime.
- Taylor Auxiliary Police for security and traffic control.
- Use of rest rooms with the necessary supplies.
- Use of the 501c3 code for fundraising.
- Invite as many past Homecoming courts as possible for a parade along with class Presidents or distinguished classmate from each class.

While this is mostly the list of requests, there could be a few additional requests and they would be brought before the board prior to going forth.

The Farewell Committee and Alumni Association, we thank you for your time and considerations.

Respectfully,

Ken Renner

List of committee members

Ken Renner 1970 is Chairperson for the following committee members

Annette Jurkiewicz Berry 1978

Charles Bonner 1967

Ron Collard 1973

Darlene Slupski 1975

Adriene Trent Johnson 1995

Debbi Yuchuck Laramie 1989

Michele Rinehart Marchand 1969

Gary Matthies 1971

Terry Upshaw



WE HEARD FROM

➤ The following request was sent to us by Jerry Sobieraj, TCH class of 1976. I and a classmate of mine, Matt Mikesell, want to take former math teacher Mr. Walters out for dinner or something like that. Could you provide me with information on how to contact him. Happy to

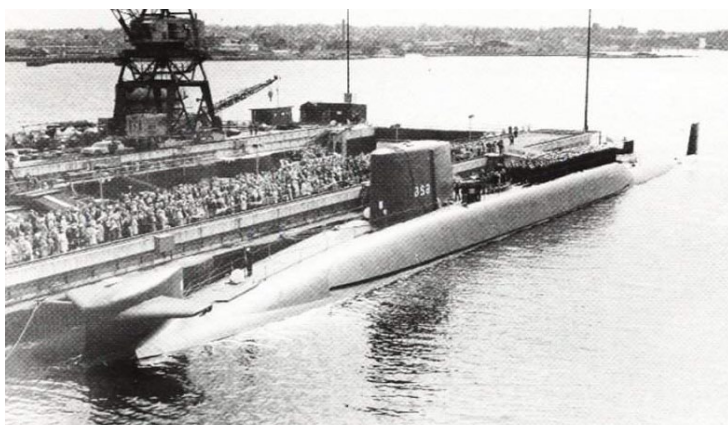
report that we contacted Mr. Walters and he gave us permission to provide information to Jerry and Matt. Mr. Walters was very pleased to have his ex-students wanting to get in touch with him.

➤ Bruce Parker, TCH 1971, contacted us to get in touch with his high school baseball coach, Ken Avery. We were able to contact Mr. Avery and he is going to connect with Bruce. The Alumni Association was happy to assist.

➤ We heard from Darold Schonsheck, TCH 1960, he had retired and is living in New Smyrna Beach Florida. He decided to come out of retirement and is developing a gated community of 40 one acre lots on 63 total acres, including an 11 acre conversation area with nature trails throughout. The development will be known as Liberty Village.

➤ Dan Peterlin, TCH 1961 - Dan was a varsity tennis player in high school and is still playing tennis in retirement. In addition to tennis, Dan plays racquetball, handball and pickleball. After High School, Dan entered the Air Force. During his time in the Air Force, he became an electrical engineer. After the military career he spend 27 years with General Motors. Retirement has allowed he and his wife to spend winters in Arizona and Florida.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



USS Daniel Webster US Navy photo courtesy of Electric Boat on wikipedia.org

Greg Kortman, Taylor Center High Graduate 1963

After graduating from Taylor Center High, in June of 1963, Greg chose to enlist in the navy. The nuclear submarine program was underway by then and he volunteered for that. After taking a number of training programs, he became a reactor operator. He was then assigned to the Nuclear Power Training Unit in Arco, Idaho as an instructor. In a short period of time he earned a College scholarship... and attended the University of Kansas where he received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. The chemical engineering department there presented Greg with a one year scholarship to complete the requirements of the master's degree also in chemical engineering. Shortly after that he reported to his first submarine as a lieutenant junior grade and started his line office submarine training. He served on four submarines as a division officer, a navigator, and as an executive

officer. His first and last ship assignments were on missile carrying submarines. These were the USS Daniel Webster and the USS Nathaniel Greene. Greg retired after 21 years of naval service that consisted of about 8 years as an enlisted person and 13 years as a naval line officer. This period of time included the entire Vietnam War Era and much of the Cold War Era, too. Since retiring from the Navy he obtained a Masters' degree in Industrial Education Construction Management at Brigham Young University (BYU), worked for four companies in a variety of fields and had his own company for about ten years. While at BYU he met and married Yolanda; they have lived in Utah, Costa Rica, Central America, and Georgia. Their current home is in Marietta Georgia. From "yours, mine, and ours" they have four boys and three girls and a total of 20 grandchildren.

Greg wrote "There is no way while living in Taylor and attending TCHS could I have ever guessed what I would do with life or where life would take me. One thing for sure is I am completely grateful for all of it and all the people who have touched my life along the way."

The Taylor Alumni Association thanks Greg Kortman for his service to our Country and congratulates him for his magnificent achievements.



- January 18th TCH Class of 1960 luncheon. Each month a group of 15-20 meet for lunch in different locations. If you are interested in joining the group contact Barb Garner Belcher for more information. Email address belcher_barbara@hotmail.com
- March 3rd The "Dueling Pianos" event held this past year drew high praise from those attending. "Great Entertainment", "Really Enjoyed the Evening". So the Taylor Foundation is bringing back the "Dueling Pianos" 7 pm March 3, 2018. The show will be the chief fundraiser of the year. Tickets are now on sale and are available at the Taylor Board of Education Office. The \$25 ticket includes pizza and soft drinks. Must be 18 or older to purchase tickets. Full bar available at discounted prices. Table sponsorships are available, call Linda Newsom at 313-971-8440 for more information.
- August 18th JFK Class of 1978 40th reunion. Masonic Hall 23263 Goddard Road- Dinner and Dancing followed by a picnic in the park on Sunday, August 19th. The cost is \$35, please send check to "JFK Class Reunion" c/o Kathy Davis 11141 Westpoint, Taylor Mi 48180. For more info email Kathrynquiel12017@gmail.com.
- October 6th JFK Class of 1968's 50th Reunion. If planning to attend the cost is \$40. Please make checks to John F Kennedy Class Reunion and mail to Nancy Strong 35626 Pinecrest New Boston Mi 48164, If you have question please contact Nancy McVay Strong at 734-654-8395, Mary Burgraph Baugh 734-512-7272, or Lynn Carson Boughton at 517-902-4406.

OBITUARIES



The Alumni Association members would like to extend their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the former classmates mentioned below. You will forever be in our thoughts and prayers.

Taylor Center High

Joe Fisher, class of 1961, (passed September 2017)

Bridget Johnson, class of 1962, (passed December 20, 2017)

For more information about the deceased and there families, please visit the alumni website tayloralumni.org and click on "In Memoriam".