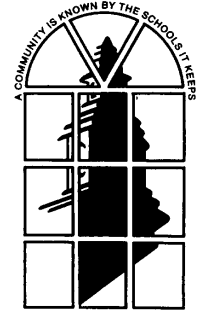


Senior Shakerites



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

Spring 2020

Donna Brittain, Editor

If COVID-19 had not come along, we would have met today for lunch. Instead, I hope all of you are managing to stay safe through this pandemic. There is no way to know how long it will be before we are able to resume our activities.

As I announced earlier this year, Charles “Chuck” Candel is raring to go as our leader. He was just getting started on some ideas for future gatherings when we were forced to cancel plans for the spring luncheon. Back in the fall, when I published an abbreviated newsletter, I said I hope everything will be “back to normal by spring”... ha! NOT!! And now...WHAT IS NORMAL going to be like?

On October 2, 2019, the Senior Shakerites met in Bedford Heights at the *Mediterranean Party Center*. We enjoyed a delicious meal, heard from Karen Laurence of the Case Western Reserve Siegal Lifelong Learning Program, and we were entertained by the vocal stylings of Charita Franks, accompanied by Donna Brittain. If you have not seen it yet, or if you’d like to stroll down memory lane and remember what it used to be like to get together for a good meal, here is the photo slide show from October:

Shaker Retirees slide show <https://youtu.be/z0Co8-9Y5qc>
TRT= 5:43

These folks were in attendance:

Dee Arrington	Janet Houk	Linda Powers
Diane Bloodsaw	Constance & Harold	Donita Singerman
Donna Brittain	Jefferson	Diane Smith
Liela Brode	Mary Lambert	Judy Stewart
Cindy Campbell	Ken Looney	Karen Thailing
Chuck Candel	Karen & Clyde	Jeanette Throne
Don & Xiao Ying Coffee	Loughridge	Jane Troha
Ann & Harry Farmer	Susan Mears	Mary Underwood
Adrienne Geszler	Cynthia Meyer	Delette Walker
Joseph Greene	Jean Morgan	Rona Weiss
Vicki Griminger	Charlene Nevans	Barb Whitaker & John
Delores Groves	Renee Paige	Danford
Ruth Heide	JoAn & Jim Perkins	Evelyn Wisham

Over the past few years, the *Senior Shakerites* newsletters have consisted of a luncheon recap, information about the upcoming luncheon and featured guests, contact info for our leadership, and life cycle events. At one time, our newsletter also included anecdotal contributions by our retirees who told of their travels, shared family milestones, and recommended interesting reading materials.

Why not take a trip to www.shaker.org and go to **OUR DISTRICT** and select **RETIREE INFORMATION** in the pull-down menu? There you will find a letter (soon to be updated ... don't judge me!) and information on other helpful topics. There is a list of digital newsletters from 2013 to the present. There are also a few luncheon photo slide shows. You may enjoy reminiscing and seeing familiar faces.

Emails to these recipients continues to bounce back. If there is someone on this list with whom you communicate, please let them know their email address needs to be updated.

Bea Kauffman

Joanna Kobilis

Joe Kocian

Roberta Donaldson

The following notifications regarding life cycle events come through the Shaker Heights Administration Building. Please inform Jennifer Kuhel, Kuhel_j@shaker.org to have your announcements included:

Celebrations Are in Order...



Congratulations to Shaker Heights High School School Psychologist, **Sagar Patel** and his wife, Pooja, on the birth of their daughter, Syah Patel, on June 28, 2019.

Shaker Heights Schools Chinese teacher **Luling (Raina) Li** and her husband, Daly Vaughn, welcomed their second son, Grant Emerson Vaughn, on January 25, 2020. Grant was 8 lbs., 11 oz. and 19.5 inches.

Shaker Heights High School Math teacher **Adam Thomas** and his wife Stephanie welcomed baby girl Ellanora Sage Thomas on February 14. Ellanora was 21 inches long, and weighed 9 pounds, 5 ounces.

Congratulations to Shaker Heights High School English Teacher

Jamison Kolaczko and her husband Andréas, who welcomed James Bennett Kolaczko on February 20.

Congratulations to Shaker Heights High School Individuals & Societies teacher **Joe Konopinski** and Fernway third-grade teacher **Megan Konopinski** on the birth of their son, Benjamin Konopinski. Benjamin was born on Saturday, March 14.

Congratulations to Shaker Heights High School Biology Teacher **Maggie Parks** on the birth of her daughter, Josephine Bernice Palmer. Josephine was born at 1 a.m. on Thursday, April 23, weighing 8 lbs., 13 oz. She was 22 inches long.

We Extend Our Sympathy

Elvira Oriani, mother of Woodbury Intervention Specialist **Carmelina Mutillo**, passed away Monday, October 28. She was 85 years old.

Leslie Colvin, the sister of bus monitor **LaShawn Colvin**, passed away in November, 2019.

Clyde Loughridge, husband of retired educator **Karen Loughridge** passed away in November, 2019.

Janet L. Reeds, sister of Mercer Administrative Assistant **Jane Ng**, passed away on December 1 surrounded by her family. She was 76 years old.

Morris L. Finney, Jr., father of Lomond Kindergarten teacher **Adrienne Zucker Tildsley**, passed away on Sunday, December 15. He was 96 years old.

Edward D. Lancy, Sr., father of Woodbury teacher **Sherri Jarvie**, passed away on Thursday, January 16. He was 85 years old.

Skylar Malcom, the daughter of Shaker Heights High School Paraprofessional **Charmayne (Norwood) Hardy**, was deceased at the time of her birth on Friday, January 24.

Carl Cottingham, husband of Shaker Heights High School Administrative Assistant **Gloria Cottingham**, passed away Monday, February 17.

Carol Cassidy, mother of Shaker Heights High School Spanish Teacher **Kimberly Ponce de Leon** and grandmother of SHHS graduates **Adriana** ('15), **Tino** ('17) and **Isabela** ('19), passed away in March. She was 78 years old.

Theresa Anne Smith, sister of retired librarian and SHTA Past President **Rebecca Thomas**, passed away Tuesday, March 17.

Paul Carroll, husband of retired Shaker Heights Middle School social studies teacher **Maureen Carroll**, passed away on Friday, March 20.

Arthur B. Martin, husband of retired Mercer teacher and literacy coach **Loretta Martin**, passed away on Saturday, March 28.

William "Billy" Taylor, brother of bus driver **Fred Taylor**, passed away Sunday, March 29.



In Memoriam...

Retired Shaker Heights Schools administrative assistant **Patricia Vlah** passed away Wednesday, November 20. She was 78 years old.

Shaker Heights Schools proctor and former substitute teacher **Allen Grigsby** passed away Thursday, November 28. He was 88 years old.

Helen Perttula, a longtime District administrative assistant in the Human Resources Department who retired in 1993, passed away on November 29. Her children were all graduates of Shaker Heights High School—**Rebecca Nazaretz**, **Tim Perttula**, **Nancy Johnston** and **Amy Barry**. Her daughter, Ms. Johnston, taught at Shaker Heights Schools for 38 years and retired from Onaway in 2015.

Retired Mercer Art Teacher **Betty Ptak** passed away Sunday, December 29.

Marcia Joan Jaffe, a longtime Shaker Heights Schools teacher and co-founder of the Shaker Heights High School Student Group on Race Relations (SGORR), passed away today, January 10, 2020. She was 85.

Former Shaker Heights High School attendance office administrative assistant **June Maxine Hayes** passed away Friday, January 17. She was 88 years old.

Retired Woodbury and Middle School physical education teacher and former High School Athletic Director **Joe Katzenstein, Jr.** passed away on Monday, March 2. He was 88 years old. Mr. Katzenstein worked at Shaker Heights Schools for 43 years.

I am sorry to report that Woodbury educator **Dian “Dee” Goss**’s husband recently informed me that she passed away in 2017 after a 2-year battle with mantle cell lymphoma.



The Officers and Committee Chairs

Charles Candel, President – ccandel@sbcglobal.net

Jerry Graham, Treasurer - jrg574@roadrunner.com

Donna Brittain, Newsletter Editor – donnabrittain57@gmail.com

Vicki Griminger, Luncheon/Dues payments bgsu73@aol.com

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 us.

If you do not wish to continue receiving *Senior Shakerites*, please let us know. You can email Donna Brittain at brittain_d@shaker.org.

Senior Shakerites

15600 Parkland Drive
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