

# TRUCKER LINE

NORWALK PUBLIC SCHOOLS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

December 2019 - Eighth Edition



## Coach Grace Hutchinson and NHS Girls Volleyball Team Alums to be honored in August



Pictured surrounding Coach Hutchinson are past team members, Teacher-supporters, students and the Norwalk Public Schools Alumni Association Committee. Pictured, front row from left are Lisa (Foster) Muenz, 1987; Tina (Linder) Davidson '87, Rachel (Helton) Schlotterer '01, Kaci (Fell) Oates '00, Jill (Ciersewski) Van Dresser '01, Robin Welch '80 and T.J. (Horner) Thomas '88. Second row from left, is Wes Douglas '79; Janet Brinker Schaeffer '60, Hutchinson, Jean (Geer) Richards '51, Judy (Pool) Emmons '63, and Kathy (Gorman) Veith '62. Third row, from left, Francesca Lendrum '77, Laura (Leach) Lesniewski '01, Jackie (Austin) Roth '83, Kristi (Meinke) Minor '87; Terri (Slone) Barman '83, Frank Staley '88; Jim Gregory '89 and Renee (Grose) Horton '97. Top row from left, Mark Hazelwood '99; Mike Grose, Mike Smith, Steve Traczek and Tom Gerrity, '83. Photo taken by Kathy (Geer) Root, '71. See full article in the Reflector, Friday, December 6, 2019.

The 2020 All-Classes Reunion will showcase **Maplehurst Elementary School and its alumni.**

Check out the memorabilia table set out for attendees at the Reunion to view and share pictures from the archives. **Bring yours from any year if you'd like to add to the collection!**



Four members of the Norwalk High School Class of 1944 attended the Norwalk Public Schools alumni reunion this past August.

In front (from left) are: Marjorie L. Miller Barr and Rose Kinkel Allen. Standing (from left) are: Frances Hawk Rang and Winifred Auble Kuhlman.



## NHS HALL OF FAME

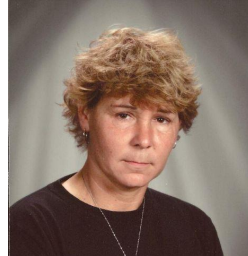
ACADEMIC | ATHLETIC | DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

The purpose of the Norwalk High School Hall of Fame is to recognize past graduates of Norwalk High School who would serve as role models for members of the current student body. The criteria for eligibility are as follows:

- Graduates who have distinguished themselves at the state, national, or international level through their chosen careers, vocations, or accomplishments.
- Graduates who have made a significant contribution to Norwalk High School and Norwalk City Schools, either as a student or an alumnus.

## 2020 Hall of Fame Inductees

Norwalk High School will induct four new members into its Hall of Fame on Saturday, January 18, 2020. The inductees are to be honored at a banquet in the school's Art Gallery prior to the Norwalk-Huron Boys' Basketball game. Pictured below and noting their honor category are left to right: Bob Cowman (soccer), Ryan Grose (basketball), Robin Welch (distinguished citizen) and Gary Wilde (baseball).



For more information and nomination forms go to [www.norwalktruckers.com](http://www.norwalktruckers.com) > Norwalk High School > Hall of Fame or contact Mr. Josh Schlotterer at 419-660-6521.



**Those having reunions, please contact NPSAA to help publicize and get in touch with classmates.**



**NHS Class of 1960, the 100th class to graduate from NHS, is holding their 60th reunion the weekend of the All Classes Reunion, Aug 14-16. For details, please contact Jan Schaeffer, [jlschaeffer@bex.net](mailto:jlschaeffer@bex.net) or 419-688-9115.**



**NHS Class of 1970 alumni are also getting together Aug 14-16. Look for the special table at the All Class Reunion! Contact Bil Brutsche for details: [wjbrutsche198@gmail.com](mailto:wjbrutsche198@gmail.com)**

**A Special Thank You to our Sponsors!**  
Support future Reunions by becoming an NPSAA Sponsor.  
Email for a commitment form: [NorwalkAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:NorwalkAlumni@gmail.com)

Lost sheep: We are still looking for contact information or leads for the following list of classmates (relatives/friends/business associates/etc.).

Sandy Boswell Sittler	Dave Cardman	David Carley
Evelyn Deiner Decker	Mary Donaldson	Sherry Faulks Stovall
Chuck Finch	Shelia Hotchkiss Helton	Madonna Houghtlen Scott
Shirley Jensen	Art Johnson	Debi Junk Lloyd
Bill Kuhlman	Ron Lykins	Drema Mellott Budd
Marie Milardo Geretz	Patty Mills Perry	Tom Oakley
Becky Obermiller Whitehead	Sharon Peadon	
Renee Riegel	David Shipley	Sharon Shook
Joe and Lois Bradt Simon	Nancy Stoddard Tittle	Dave Snyder
Linda Tanner	Roger Ungerer	Jerry Wechter
Penny Werkowski Braker	Jeaney Williamson	Mary Louise Young



The Employees of:



**FRANKLIN MONUMENT CO.**  
*The Area's Premiere Monument Store*

Alumnus Bob Mitchell



Wilde Pizza





## Norwalk Truckers have a mascot that is unique

Compliments of Madeline Roche, Ohio City News

Historical pictures were added to the walls of Norwalk High School earlier this year to remind students why the Trucker mascot is fitting for this city and school district.

“Historical connection means a lot,” Norwalk High School principal Brad Cooley told Norwalk Ohio News, adding, “I’m a history guy, so I just enjoy that aspect.” The pictures are located outside the gymnasium. The display was added shortly before the graduation ceremony for the class of 2019.

Cooley said the wall livens up the area around the concession and gym area and reminds students about the history of Norwalk and its mascot. Of course, as alumni, many of us know the story. A refresher reminds us of just how interconnected each student becomes as they travel through their years with NHS, and the benefit of that history.

The late John F. Ernsthause and Rolla Fader started Norwalk Truck Lines in 1912, eventually transforming the fruits-and-vegetables transportation business into the nation's largest independent trucking company. In the mid-1940s, Ernsthause offered to buy all new uniforms for Norwalk's football team and marching band if the school agreed to change the team name from Raiders to Truckers and adopt the colors blue and gold. The school agreed, and the new name and colors debuted in September 1946. (A first, no doubt, precursor to today’s mega corporate sponsorship. Mr. Ernsthause was always ahead of his time!)

The Truckers’ name [earned Norwalk a No. 9 ranking](#) on the list of Ohio's top mascots. *Aceable* — which offers online courses for drivers ed and defensive driving — considered all 1,453 high schools in Ohio in formulating its list for the 25 best mascots based on creativity, originality and historical meaning.

The Ernsthause name, meanwhile continues to live on in Norwalk. The John F. and Doris E. Ernsthause Charitable Foundation donated millions of dollars to help build the high school's performing arts center as well as the city's recreation center. The foundation was established in Cleveland in 1956 by the Ernsthause. The independent foundation supports Protestant religious institutions, services for the aged, higher and secondary education and community funds, primarily in Ohio. In addition, the foundation supports Baldwin-Wallace College, Bowling Green State University and the First Methodist Church.



Left Photo: John F. and Doris E. Ernsthause

Center photo includes: D. H. Gilhausen, Robert Fowler, Robert Boyd and John F. Ernsthause.

**Who can name others in the photos?**

Bring your answers to the All-Class Reunion or email [norwalkalumni@gmail.com](mailto:norwalkalumni@gmail.com)


<u>Alumnus Name</u>	<u>DOD</u>	<u>Class</u>
Sam Busco	18 Feb 2018	Teacher
P Michael Cooperrider	10-Aug-18	Class of 1977
Martha C Sharfenberg Williams	20-Oct-18	Class of 1942
Nancy Lee Welch Hoffman	3-Mar-19	Class of 1960
Deacon Jack Bible	8-Mar-19	Class of 1972
Alan M Camp Sr.	13-Mar-19	Attended NHS
Albert David Bradt	3-Jun-19	Class of 1965
Dale M Dickerson	6-Jun-19	Class of 1961
John E Robinson	19-Jun-19	Class of 1993
Charlie Wilson	20-Jun-19	Class of 1984
Michael Scott Day Jr.	22-Jun-19	Class of 1981
Jennifer Ross Rinehart	25-Jun-19	Class of 1964
Patricia A Terry	25-Jun-19	Class of 1966
Cleet Ivan Tyson	26-Jun-19	Class of 1955
Judy Hardesty	29-Jun-19	Class of 1961
Eugene A Schneider	3-Jul-19	Class of 1943
Mark B Widman	24-Jul-19	Class of 1981
Linda J Justice	25-Jul-19	Class of 1965
Charles S Fadley	1-Aug-19	Class of 1959
James R Wolford	6-Aug-19	Class of 1959
Thomas A Myers	16-Aug-19	Class of 1967
Lucille I Lucal	21-Aug-19	Teacher
George L Reamer	23-Aug-19	Class of 1953
Alfred R Nardecchia	25-Aug-19	Class of 1938

<u>Alumnus Name</u>	<u>DOD</u>	<u>Class</u>
Kathleen Susan Leak	5-Sep-19	Class of 1966
James H Stark	5-Sep-19	Class of 1948
Viona Leonaus Carey	6-Sep-19	Class of 1953
Donald Harry Burdue	9-Sep-19	Class of 1945
Lynn E "Louie" Ditty	16-Sep-19	Class of 1971
CW4 (Ret) David Charles Thill	16-Sep-19	Class of 1966
Janet Andrea Huntley Immel	24-Sep-19	Class of 1972
Doyal D Cutnaw	6-Oct-19	Class of 1950
Robert E. "Bob" Dreyer	6-Oct-19	Class of 1976
Dewey Robert Kerr Jr.	6-Oct-19	Class of 1965
Ruth E Perkins	21-Oct-19	Class of 1944
Ted McGinn	26-Oct-19	Class of 1956
Dr Robert Michael Factor	31-Oct-19	Class of 1962
Ethel V Hildreth	2-Nov-19	Class of 1964
Carol A. Scheetz	13-Nov-19	Class of 1956
Roy Lynn Adcock	14-Nov-19	Class of 1974
Alice White Rau	18-Nov-19	Class of 1943
Edward E. "Eddie" Heald Jr.	30-Nov-19	Class of 1980
Betty J. Witter Griffith	1-Dec-19	Class of 1947
Barbara A Hawley Weltlin	15-Dec-19	Class of 1948
George Michael Higgins	18-Nov-19	Class of 1956
Gregory H. McDonald	21-Dec-19	Class of 1968
Joan Lorcher Camp	23-Dec-19	Class of 1948
David G. Robertson	29-Dec-19	Class of 1963

**NPSAA Board Members**

**President** Tom Gerrity  
**Vice President** Janet Brinker Schaeffer  
**Treasurer** Kathy Gorman Veith  
**School Liaison** Barb Widman

**Members-At-Large**  
 Judy Pool Emmons  
 Jean Geer Richards  
 Francesca Lendrum  
 Jonathan Morgan



**Email us:**  
[norwalkalumni@gmail.com](mailto:norwalkalumni@gmail.com)

**Write us:** Superintendent's Office  
 Norwalk Public Schools  
 134 Benedict Ave.  
 Norwalk OH 44857

**Like us: Facebook** — "Norwalk Public Schools Alumni Association"

**SEE MORE ALL-CLASSES REUNION PHOTOS AND INFORMATION AT:**  
[www.norwalktruckers.net](http://www.norwalktruckers.net)

Click on: **Community > Alumni Association and / or Alumni Spotlight\***

\*Share your unique story with the Norwalk community by emailing:  
[widmanb@norwalktruckers.net](mailto:widmanb@norwalktruckers.net)



**Trucker Pride ~ World Wide**

**Annual ALL-CLASSES REUNION**

**3RD SUNDAY IN AUGUST**  
**2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**at NHS Auditorium**  
**FREE and Casual**

**Why Alums attend the All-Classes Reunion**

Barb D: "Listening to the Band. I like seeing everyone."  
 Vivian Eberly: "I come to see friends."  
 Regina Rider-White: "Seeing Everyone I used to know."  
 Dale Meyers: "I come to visit old classmates- we are old!"  
 Travis C: Seeing how young I still am!  
 Justin: Update on our great sports program!  
 JR: Best thing about them - my class! ('68)