



DHS Alumni News

A Dexter High School Alumni Association Publication

Spring 2019

Dear Alumni --

Been thinking about Mrs. Dunavin lately. She was my 8th grade English teacher...and I certainly wouldn't have thought of her as my favorite teacher at the time.

She was older. Well, okay, old. Kind of brittle. Very formal.

Plus, she lived right around the corner from our house on Baker Road in Dexter. And she seemed like the kind of teacher who might just drop in on you at home to give your parents a little update on your efforts.

This was 1970 and a lot of teaching was going on that was moving toward a softer, less rigid type of instruction.

Mrs. Dunavin, however, was having none of that. Her approach was firmly rooted in early 20th century methods.

It was just what this undisciplined, big mouthed, aspiring writer needed.

She was firm, clear, and fair. Not warm and fuzzy, but not unkind, either. And it always seemed that she saw something better in me -- and expected something better from me.

And she somehow made it clear that someday that potential would eventually rise to the surface.

I've had a lot of teachers over the decades... Martial Art teachers, of course. Business mentors. Professional coaches. But Mrs. Dunavin always makes my list of favorites.

Inside, you will find other favorite teachers mentioned.

As you read these, I believe you will join me in appreciating how fortunate we were to have such fine men and women speak into our lives.

Your friend,

Keith Hafner

Alumni Association President



Dexter High School, we raise our cheers,

Faithful to you throughout the years,

We'll stand beside you, loyal we'll be

Cheering you on to victory!

Dexter High School, through thick and thin,

We will be there, and we will win,

Dreadnaughts forever, maroon and white,

We will always be true to you,

Fight! Fight! Fight!

'The best teachers are those who show you where to look, but don't tell you what to see.' - Alexandra K. Trenfor

Alan Mosher ('57): The faculty at DHS in the 50's were fantastic, many WW2 vets! Ray Miller was my idol! However, I don't want to slight the ladies who all were the very best!!

Carol Jones ('64): Al Ritt was my favorite teacher. He was the one that encouraged me to go to college when I was in 8th grade. Math became my best subject and I went to MSU to study math. Although I changed majors to Home Ec. I minored in math and returned to DHS to teach Home Ec. It was great to have Al as a fellow teacher.



Tim Chaffee ('70): Dan Teare was my hero. He taught the printing classes at the high school for a really long time. He saved me from having a really bad High School experience and helped me with college at Ferris State University.

Roberta Nicholson ('95): Lance Klinge was my favorite high school teacher.

Roberta Lacefield ('75): Two teachers immediately come to mind: Jim Hollister, 8th grade social studies. Mr. Hollister provided us with many interactive experiences but one in particular has always stood out. We played a game where we exchanged chips to try to earn the golden one. After playing for a while, I realized that if you didn't have the right chips to begin with, you were never going to win. I complained that the game was not fair and he agreed. It wasn't until years later I understood the powerful social lesson he taught us that day. Mrs. Miller, HS art: My senior year I took an art seminar class with Mrs. Miller. I was part of a group of senior girls who just felt done with the whole school experience...and Mrs. Miller kept us going by treating us like the adults we felt we were. She took us seriously, listened to what we had to say, and gave us the freedom to express ourselves. I appreciate that by doing so, she kept us sane and helped us prepare ourselves for the big bad world.

Jennifer Westlake Gresham ('93): Tammy Schirmer (hopefully I spelled it right) who helped me get through algebra and geometry. Also Richard Grannis for being a such a great track coach and getting me through biology.

Gretchen Rhoads ('81): Judy Weber, creative writing! Made me become an English Teacher and fall in love with writing.

Amy Marie ('92): Al Ritt earned the respect of all and was an amazing leader. I knew his reputation long before I ever met him as I had 6 siblings graduate prior to me. Gerald Wolfolk inspired not only a love for music, but taught from a true passion from the heart which all could see. Kirby Fischer, an amazing teacher who was able to make a unique connection with his students that would impact them for years to come. Cheryl Wells, for being a pioneer and a leading woman of science, for setting an example that science is not limited to gender. Mrs. Hartman for instilling a passion and love for sewing and cooking in so many.

Lukas Tasker ('04): Of all the classes I've taken, of all the classrooms I've been in, it's hard to pick a single teacher who made a difference. Mrs. Hill in elementary school taught me that following directions were tantamount to creativity (the jury is still out on that, 25+ years later). Mr. Fisher in 7th grade taught me that nothing should ever be taken too seriously, including authority. Mr. Scott in 8th grade taught me that mathematics were about discipline and definite rules. Mrs. Sepcik taught me that biology is hard, but I still remember that the mitochondria is the powerhouse of the cell and that I should never ever record a VHS sock puppet show for a group project. Mr. Callaghan in 12th grade taught me that when you're basically finished and you've got experience, it's okay to maybe play it a little differently and break a few rules. All my music teachers from Ms. Scharchsburg up to Mr. Woolfolk and Mr. Moore taught me how to get along with others, cooperate and achieve awesome results as a team, and push myself to do the best I could on my own. This year, it will be 15 years since I graduated. I hope that other members from my class feel the same way I do about their experience at Dexter; growing up and remembering only the good things, leaving that intersection of history on a positive note and doing the best we can for the future.



Lisa Greenway ('70): Marlene Uphaus, a woman before her time. She was part of the reason I became a Physical Education teacher.

Robert Farrell ('66): I had several teachers that made a lasting impression on me, but the top three are: Susan Burroughs - 8th grade math, 9th grade algebra and German One, and 11th grade English. She made math fun and exciting. Al Grasser, 11th grade algebra II did the same with the advanced math. William Eisenbeiser was great in physics class.

Victoria Bigelow ('71): Janine Rider. Journalism.

Jane Boyce ('69): Sister Philippine (St. Joe's) for opening my mind and encouraging me to question and seek answers instead of just accepting whatever someone tells me. Paul Cousins (DHS) for proving in many ways that

COME JOIN US AT THE

2019

ALUMNI

BANQUET

DINNER - AWARDS - CELEBRATION

Saturday,

JUNE 15TH

*Join us and
reconnect with
your DHS
Alumni Friends!*

Check-in opens @ 3:00

Event begins @ 4:00

Creekside Intermediate School

2615 BAKER ROAD, DEXTER, MI

FRIENDS

★★★

FOOD

★★★

FUN

Registration Form on Other Side



2019 Alumni Banquet Registration and Dues Payment Form

(Mail by June 1st, 2019 or pay online by June 8th, 2019)

\$ _____ Banquet Fee (\$17 each) _____ Number of people attending

\$ _____ Annual Dues (\$10 per alumnus, \$15 per alumnus couple)

[Provides for the newsletter, the website, alumni events, email communication, postage, database maintenance, promotional efforts, etc.]

\$ _____ Scholarship Program Donation

\$ _____ Total Amount Enclosed

Banquet Location:

Creekside Intermediate School
2615 Baker Road, Dexter
(the old high school)

Check-in begins at 3:00.
Banquet begins at 4:00.

Name DHS Class Year

Spouse/Guest DHS Class Year

Address Apartment/Lot

City State Zip

TWO WAYS TO REGISTER:

One: Register online at www.dexteralumni.org

Two: Mail this form, with payment, to: DHS Alumni Association, PO Box 83, Dexter, MI 48130
Make checks payable to DHS Alumni Association

2019 Honored Classes

At this year's Banquet, we will be recognizing the **Honored Classes** of: **1949, 1954, 1959, 1969, 1979, 1989 and 1994.**

If you have anything special about your class that you wish to have acknowledged at the banquet, please contact your class spokesperson (or the Association if a spokesperson is not available).

Banquet Menu

Roasted Turkey, BBQ Shredded Pork, Mashed Potatoes w/gravy, Roasted Redskins w/herb & garlic, Baby Glazed Carrots, Green Bean Casserole, Tossed Salad, Rolls and Buns, Coffee and Lemonade.

*Catered by Gene Davis & Sons
Desserts from Desserts by Diane*

he actually cared about his students and encouraged them to be good people as well as good students.

E Brooks Hinerman ('73): Reginald Smith was the Photography and Drama teacher, and put in many evening hours producing the Drama Club theatre productions. He was very important to those of us who loved acting and all aspects of putting on a play. He taught us scene design and construction, and lighting, among many other aspects.

Marilyn Haschle Boer ('59): Myrtle Bergstrom. She was an excellent drivers ed teacher. The things she drilled into us have stayed with me and defensive driving which is sorely needed today!

Brigid Sullivan ('69): Dave Millar, Frank Wilheme, Al Ritt.

Carla D Bravo ('74): Julia Shea brought out my love of reading and an appreciation for the English language. Terry Walters taught 6th grade math. It was not my best subject but his enthusiasm and direction made it easier to learn. Plus, his 'pop quizzes' were legendary! I can't forget Mrs. Miller. She gave me the freedom to express myself through charcoal, clay and so many different mediums. Dexter schools offered so many great teachers and a well rounded curriculum. Very proud to have graduated from there.



Ken Howard ('75): Mr. Linn. Let's not forget Auto Shop. Mr. Linn was a mentor and good influence on many of us.

Jenny Davenport Heide ('78): Frau Mouw. She made learning German so much fun. She became a Methodist minister.

Cathy (Johnston) Jackson ('81): All of the teachers that I came in contact with from K through 12 touched me in some way. There's Mrs. Bender who I had for English in either elementary or middle school. She was a stickler for good grammar, and to this day, I can hear her voice in my head as I write for work and home. There's Mr. Woolfolk and Ms. Scharchburg that I had for 8 years of band. They both influenced my love of music and love of marching band! Richard Grannis, Mr. Jaworski, and Ms. Bitters for science, and Mr. Ritt and Mr. Proctor for math – I didn't love math, but I loved being in their classes!

Jasmyn Piccolo ('91): My faves were Mrs. Newsome (6th grade) Mr. Wells (7th & 8th), Mrs. Walls through high school, Mrs. Wells, Mrs. Lisa Bauer, Mr. Kirby Fisher and Mrs. Jones. These are all people that helped me get through difficult times in my life and are the reason I graduated. Erika Warner, Gerald Woolfolk, and Martha Scharchburg, for instilling a lifelong love of music to pass on to my kids. Richard Weaver and Joe Romeo for letting

me TA in computer lab, without which I probably wouldn't be a tech nerd. Joe Romeo, Kirby Fisher, and Bill Eisenbeiser for encouraging me to follow my passion into engineering when it wasn't popular for women.

Linda Ludwig ('69): I had two teachers that influenced me and made me comfortable in school. I came from a small religious school to a large high school and was lost. Lucile Zemke, as I loved English and she influenced me to continue my studies in English on a college level. Mrs. Mathis, as I loved home economics. She helped me find my love of cooking and crafts, which I still have today.

Vicki Bailey-Jensen ('79): Dan Teare was great. Very patient. He had an abundance of knowledge.



Jessica MacFawn ('13): Becky Nelson Mann, Matthew A. Brown, and Kirby Fisher always supported me academically but also in my activities. Always asking how dance was, supporting my team and helping me strive to get good grades. To this day they all stay in touch, congratulate me on the little successes they hear about and that means the world! Now a teacher myself I strive to lead in the ways I learned from observing them and many others that impacted me.

Josh Prusakiewicz ('02): It's too difficult to name just one teacher because I learned so much from many of them. I had a run from K-5 that was pretty awesome. Mrs. Wolfhanger and Mrs. Harlow started it off at the old Copeland building. Mr. Stan Coveleski was an amazing 3rd grade teacher. $13 \times 13 = 169$; I will never forget that. His passion and dedication to his students was energizing. Mrs. Kessler was my 4th grade teacher who was so kind yet stern with her students and ended up almost becoming a second mother to me during some hard times. Mrs. Susan Wescott was my 5th grade. Much like Mrs. Kessler, she too became a very close relationship even though her kids went to Chelsea. 😊 She helped me through a lot.

Monica Schultz ('95): Lance Klinge was amazing. He always knew how to connect with his students, and treat them with respect. He was funny, and kind. I took every class he taught.



Patrick Ritt ('86): I had many fantastic teachers at Dexter. I always remember Julia Shea (6th grade) because she was very patient when my behavior was disruptive. She never made me feel guilty or punished me. I always felt challenged and encouraged in her class.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 2019 Annual Alumni Banquet

WILL BE HELD ON

**Saturday,
June 15th**

AT

Creekside

**Intermediate School!
(the old high school)**

Details Inside!

13 Teachers mentioned inside this newsletter
are embedded in this puzzle...

How Many Can You Find?

O F L O R C O C J G J F P I M
A J L E E Y W A Q E A J A P O
D U M M U I N H I R N O U R R
A L T O A L N C G A I L L E T
V I Z R B Z A U E L N H C S S
K A X E A D M X K D E C O S G
Z S J O S F Y T M W R R U A R
F H M J I H K Y E O I C S R E
J E I X L M C G Z O D R I G B
N A O I W Y E C S L E S N L E
J X F J I U B T I F R S S A L
S U S A N B U R R O U G H S T
S W R M W W P B O L B O I Z R
N A A L R I T T D K R V Z O Y
U Z S U A H P U E N E L R A M

DHS Facts...

DHS Faculty, 1926

High School Principal: H.J. Lickly

Jr. High Principal: Rachel B. Fox

English: Alice B. Whitlow

Music: Helen O'Brien

7th & 8th grades: Margaret Hoy

5th & 6th grades: Marie Logan

3rd & 4th grades: Jane Baird

1st & 2nd grades: Emily Schmid

1946: Dan Shirtliff was elected Superintendent. During his term, sixteen acres on Baker Road were purchased for \$4,800, for a possible new school building.