

DC ALUMNI class notes

The 50's

Ray Osborn '53 and his wife, Joanna, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August. The Osborns reside in Defiance and have five children and five grandchildren.

The 60's

Dr. Daniel Ducatt '61 and his wife, Nancy, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2013. The Ducatts reside in Defiance where Daniel is a physician.

Mike Steirer '62 of Medina, Ohio, recently toured South America with his wife and daughters, where they visited Buenos Aires in Argentina, Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, and swam on the world-famous beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema. Long retired from the public schools where he served as teacher and administrator, Mike currently teaches English classes at Lorain Community College in Elyria, Ohio.

Carol Lee (Brown) Wortkoetter '63 and her husband, Robert, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in August. The Wortkoetters reside in Defiance and have three children, five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

The 70's

Jean A. Churchill '70 had two pieces of artwork accepted in the prestigious juried NAMI Art show and sale at the Mulford Health Science Library University of Toledo Medical Center. Jean resides in Toledo.

Father John Stites '70 has retired after serving 37 years as a priest, the last eight as pastor of Ottoville Immaculate Conception Church. His retirement plans include a trip out West with some high school buddies, driving Route 2 some 2,000-plus miles across the northern continental United States from St. Ignace, Mich., to Everett, Wash. Fr. Stites is now residing in Defiance.

Don Smith '71, Continental, was inducted May 24 into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame during a special ceremony in Columbus. Don swims to raise money and awareness for Diabetes Youth Services, the only nonprofit organization in a 34-county region that provides Type 1 diabetes education, programs and support to children and their families.

At their July 8 meeting, **Charlene Grant '72, Judy (Allen) Mumma '75 Christine Slattery '79, Bonnie Weller '90, and Mark Wooton '03** were recognized by the Paulding County Retired Teachers Association for their 25+ years of teaching and their 2013 retirements.

As the CEO and president of SB Financial Group, **Mark A. Klein '76** presided over the NASDAQ Stock Market closing bell on June 4. He was joined by members of the senior management team. Mark and his wife, Barbara, reside in Defiance.

Howard J. '78 and Mary J. (Brown) Popowski '65 recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in January. Howard is the author of four historical novels, and the couple resides in Galloway, Ohio.

Geromina "Jerri" (Ferrara) Courtney '78 and her husband Larry celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 22, 2013. Jerri was an adjunct professor of humanities for 21 years at Defiance College. The Courtneys live in Defiance.

Steven Zeigler '78 of Defiance retired from teaching and was recognized by the Defiance City School District for his 25 years of service teaching at the high school level.

The 80's

Tom Held '85 coached the Defiance High School baseball team to a Division 2 state title. In addition to coaching baseball, Tom is a business teacher at the high school. He and his wife, Deanne, reside in Defiance. Tom's cousin, Tim Held, also coached a state championship team last year.

Robin Sowers Groves '89 is excited to share that after many years, miles and failed attempts, she has **finally** run a Boston Marathon qualifying time! While running the scenic St. George Marathon in Utah in October 2012, Robin was particularly thrilled to finish with a new personal record of 3:38. She noted, "Regardless of age, we shouldn't place limitations on ourselves or abandon our goals. Sometimes through hard work and strategy we can accomplish - and surprisingly, even surpass them!" Robin thanks her husband, Mike Groves '90 and son, Mitchell

(the best running/race supporters); former Fairview H.S. (S.G. Brugler '68 and Ralph Ruffer '72) and Defiance College track and cross country coaches for their foundational instruction. The Groves family resides (and runs) in Kettering, Ohio. Go Boston Marathon 2014!

The 90's

Melanie (Cline) Castrita '93 graduated from Wright State University in Dayton with a Master of Science in Nursing with a concentration as an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Melanie is currently employed at Community Hospitals & Wellness Centers - Bryan, and resides in Ney, Ohio.



KEEP IN TOUCH

- ◆ MAIL IN THE FORM ON PAGE 40
- ◆ SEND IN A NOTE WITH YOUR DEFIANCE FUND PLEDGE CARD
- ◆ E-MAIL US AT ALUMNI@DEFIANCE.EDU

<http://alumni.defiance.edu/>

Leanette (Perez) Lopez '95 and her husband, Martin, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Aug. 8, 2013. The couple has one daughter, and they reside in Defiance.

Tim Held '96 of Cincinnati coached the Cincinnati Moeller High School baseball team to a Division 1 state title.

Linda (Austin) Badenhop '96 and her husband, William, of Napoleon, Ohio, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August. The Badenhops have five children and ten grandchildren.

Jaime Army '98, Kyle Tietje '13, and Raquel Aquilar '08 were all hired to teach at the Continental Local School District. Jaime is teaching high school science, Kyle is teaching physical education, and Raquel is teaching Spanish.

The 00's

Herbert Laughman '00 is the new Loveland High School Lady Tiger varsity basketball coach. Herbert has taught at Loveland Middle School since 2010 and has coached various sports since 2000. Herbert and his family currently reside in Milford, Ohio.

Jonah Benjamin Schmunk was born on March 26, 2013. He was welcomed by big brother, Zachariah, age 7, and parents **Sarah (Jermeay) '02** and Matt Schmunk. The Schmunk family resides in Lima, Ohio.



Jonah Benjamin Schmunk

Marcia Mohre '04, '10 of Blakeslee, Ohio, has been named the national president of Psi Iota Xi, a philanthropic sorority that encompasses 130 chapters in five Midwest states. Marcia became involved through the Theta Kappa chapter of the organization in Edon,

and at the state level before being invited to join the national executive council in 2009. Marcia is employed at Mohre Electric in Blakeslee.

Emily Ohlrich '05 was married to Brett Gerken on June 15, 2013, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Napoleon, Ohio. Emily and Brett reside in Napoleon. Emily is an intervention specialist at Bowling Green City Schools.

Jessica (Nicely) West '05 and her husband, Eric, welcomed their second child, Connor James, on January 28, 2013. Jessica is employed as a Health Initiatives Representative by the American Cancer Society and resides in Defiance, OH.



Connor James West

Stefan '06 and Emily (Meyer) Faerber '08 announce the birth of their son, Brenley Michael Faerber, on June 8, 2013. The Faerber family resides in Guyton, GA.

Brandon McCann '07 was wed to Lindsey Brenner on April 26, 2013, in Key West, Fla. Brandon is vice president of ServiceMaster by McCann, Defiance.

Alex Fritz '09 and Megan Gerken exchanged wedding vows on April 6, 2013 at St. John Lutheran Church in Defiance. The couple traveled to Los Cabos, Mexico, for their honeymoon.

Sarah Bowling '09 married John Cates on May 1, 2013, in Maui, Hawaii. Sarah and John reside in Defiance.

Tony Steffes '09 and Michelle Clark were wed on July 27, at Sandhill Crane Vineyard in Jackson, Mich. Tony is a police officer in Lima, Ohio.

Jason Bushong '09 and Ginger (Obermyer) Bushong '09 announce the birth of their son, Cooper Matthew Bushong, on January 16, 2013. The family resides in Marshall, Mich. Jason works as a social studies and English teacher at Charlotte Public Schools, and Ginger works as an accountant at Eaton Rapids Public Schools.



Cooper Matthew Bushong

Nick Nicol '10 of Ypsilanti, Mich. graduated from Herzing University with an associate's degree in surgical technology. He is currently employed as a certified surgical technologist at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor.

Keith Wade '10 and Kristin Goldstein '10 were wed on April 19, 2013, in Raleigh, N.C. Keith and Kristen reside in Fayetteville, NC.

Aubrey McCandless '11 married Shawn Baden on July 20, 2013, in a ceremony at St. John's Church in Sherwood, Ohio. Aubrey is the fiscal manager for the Defiance County General Health District.



Aubrey McCandless '11 and Shawn Baden

Sarah Hornish '12 married Brock Bostelman on July 27, 2013. Sarah is employed at St. Paul Lutheran School in Napoleon, Ohio.

Zach Johnson '12 and Alesha Musgrave were married on June 29, 2013, at the Heritage Baptist Church in Defiance. Zach is an assistant department manager at Menard's. He and Alesha reside in Oakwood, Ohio.

Erica Noggle '13 of Haviland, Ohio, is now the marketing and events coordinator with the Defiance Area Chamber of Commerce, where she works with another DC alum, **Isaac Lee '09**, who is president of the Defiance Area Chamber.

Deaths

Marcelia Yeh '39
February 2, 2008 -- Berkley, CA

Charles Pixler '50
June 20, 2013 -- Defiance, Ohio

Robert J. Hahn '51
August 24, 2011 -- Bristol, CT

C. Louise Hilliard '52
October 12, 2012 -- Danville, PA

Alvin Schubert '54
May 29, 2013 -- Defiance, OH

Robert W. Westerbeck '56
November 18, 2012 -- Shelbyville, IN

Mary Etta Ward '58
May 3, 2013 -- Bryan, OH

Frances Ann Berger '60
April 4, 2013 -- Leipsic, OH

Sharon Decker '60
March 30, 2013 -- Dublin, OH

Richard Wellington Stevens '60
February 17, 2013 -- Marion, OH

Troas P. (Dally) Jacoby '61
May 19th, 2013 -- Kendallville, IN

Betty D. (Meyer) Schroeder '62
February 16, 2011 -- Defiance, OH

E. Joan Schwartz '64
May 20, 2013 -- Delphos, OH

Robert L. Moore '66
May 23, 2013 – Frisco, Texas

John Harris Adams '67
Sept. 3, 2013 – Macungie, PA

T. William "Bill" Troup '68
Sept. 19, 2013 – Chardon, OH

David K. Case '70
February 1, 2007 -- Cleveland, OH

Jane Hurst Bell '72
May 20, 2013 -- Bryan, Ohio

Letha L. (Nelson) Noehren '76
October 28, 2012 -- Fort Wayne, IN

John David Hengen '78
February 27, 2013 -- Reading, PA

Gerald "Jerry" Ludwig '79
February 20, 2013 -- Elkhart, IN

Michael R. Walters '81
January 2, 2013 -- Troy, OH

Daniel H. Pierce '86
August 31, 2013 – Montrose, CO

Donald Buchman '95
May 3, 2013 -- Paulding, OH

Patricia Deatrick '96
April 11, 2013 -- Defiance, OH

Amanda L. Potts '99
July 31, 2013 -- Gallup, NM

Mark A. LeMaster '12
September 22, 2013 – Defiance, OH



Dr. Allen L. Gaspar
of Defiance passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, June 22, 2013.

Born May 7, 1951 in Toledo, Gaspar graduated from Anthony Wayne High School and went on to complete his undergraduate education at Ohio State, before attending the Ohio State University College of Medicine. After completing his residency in Columbus, he joined the Defiance Clinic in 1979.

Dr. Gaspar served as a trustee of Defiance College from 2003 to 2011.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Paula, two daughters, Rachel Anne and Andrea Christine, his sisters Rita Farley, Lois Binkley and Kathy Birt, and his brother, Keith.

Receives National Recognition

A DC alumna recently received national recognition for her service to Alpha Xi Delta

Jill Foster Bortel '71 has been the Bowling Green State University Beta Mu Sorority advisor for 40 years, and was recognized for this service with the Advisor Excellence Award for Midwest territory, the Edna Epperson Brinkman Award for devotion and meritorious service to Alpha Xi Delta, and the Alpha Xi Delta Foundation Mary P. Headley Award for the most outstanding current service to a college chapter. These honors were presented at the national convention in San Francisco in July.

Jill came to Defiance College from Connecticut, looking for a small college to study elementary education. "It was a home away from home," she says, looking back. On campus, she joined the DC chapter of Alpha Xi Delta in April 1968. She remembers connecting with the other women in the sorority and how she enjoyed participating in the chapter's philanthropy projects, focusing on children's reading and providing materials for underprivileged children. The friendships she made through the sorority have lasted throughout her life.

She continued her sorority affiliation after college. "When we moved to Bowling Green, I didn't know anyone, so I joined the Alpha Xi Delta alumni association," Jill explains. Through that, she connected with the BGSU chapter, taking over as advisor when their previous one left. She has provided assistance to DC's chapter and fostered collaborative activities between the two college chapters over the years. In April 2013, BG's sorority celebrated its 70th year anniversary and she was surprised to be honored for her 40 years of service there.

Jill is a retired fourth grade teacher. She is married to Stan Bortel, and they love to travel.

Keep in Touch

We'd like to know about your new job, recent marriage, new member of the family, new address, or other happenings in your life. For photos, please send those of Defiance College people only, identify everyone, and label the back with your name and address. If you are moving, please send this form in with your new address.

Name: _____

Maiden Name: _____ **Class Year:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

News: _____

Mail this form to:

Alumni Office, Defiance College, 701 N. Clinton St., Defiance, OH 43512, or email your news to: alumni@defiance.edu.

DUKE

HCAC Conference Champions 9-0

With an undefeated record, the Yellow Jackets claimed the title of outright Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference volleyball champions for the regular 2013 season. The team's perfect record in conference play is the first for any squad in the HCAC. Senior Chelsea Ludeman was named Conference Player of the Year, and head coach Brie Brenner was selected Coach of the Year.

Making history



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



Yellow Jacket
CLASSIC

Mark your calendars!
June 7, 2014