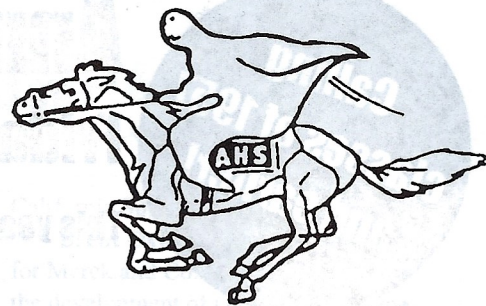


# Abington Ghost Stories



Spring 2007

## Leos roar: Service club sparked by AHS alum marks 50 years

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first Leo Club, an occasion that would not be likely to pique your interest unless you knew the rest of the story.

In 1957, Jim Graver was a member of the Glenside Lions Club and organizer of youth baseball in Glenside. At the prompting of his son, Bill Graver '59, Jim suggested to the local Lions Club that they start a service club for high school youth. As the story goes, he and co-founder Bill Ernst saw a need, rolled up their sleeves, and made it happen. The very first Leo Club was born.

When they needed a nucleus to start that first club, Bill Graver came to the first meeting with boys from the AHS baseball team along with nine other boys from the school. Together, the 35 teens formed a club. On December 5, 1957, the Glenside Lions presented a charter to the Abington High School Leo Club. Bill Graver married Louisa Ernst '59,



Bill and Louisa Ernst Graver

daughter of Bill Ernst, in 1963 and went on to become a Lion himself. Now living in Manchester, Conn., he's a retired educator and counselor who continues to volunteer and believe in the value of serving his community.

Today, there are more than 5,400 Leo clubs throughout the world, providing youth with an opportunity for development and contribution, individually and

collectively as responsible members of the communities in which they live. The desire to make things better, to commit to meeting human need, has for five decades defined the young men and women who call themselves Leos. And it all began at the suggestion of alumnus Bill Graver, the original Leo.

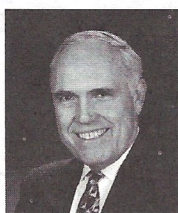
For more on the Leo Clubs, visit [http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth\\_leo\\_clubs.shtml](http://www.lionsclubs.org/EN/content/youth_leo_clubs.shtml).

## Starting early is key to planning your class reunion

I well recall the days gone by, back in the '60s, when the late Howard "Howdy" Shaffer '33 would phone me and say: "What are you doing about your class reunion?" I would answer: "We'll get around to it" and then forget about making any plans until he called several more times.

Now, 40 years later, I realize that Howdy pitched a timeless message. One glance at the reunion page of this newsletter will confirm that most classes wait until the very last moment before making reunion preparations. Two or more years in advance is not too soon, especially for those classes graduated 30 years or more or if you need to locate a venue available on a Saturday night. By the time you locate your missing classmates, you will discover that many have already made plans for the date you selected.

In my past two messages, I have made mention of the



From the  
President

annual Alumni Weekend concept, an idea strongly supported by the school, where ideally we could coordinate several reunion events with a home football game and for those eligible, even the Fifty Plus luncheon. Such coordination is very possible but requires at least 18 months advance planning. Our Ghost football program is a "force" these days (see Sports on page 5). Why not enjoy your reunion and on that same weekend, celebrate a Ghost victory in Schwarzman Stadium? If the idea of Alumni Weekend interests you, please call the Alumni Office and leave me a message. I will return your call and assist with your plans.

**If you graduated in 1957 or earlier, take note of the Fifty Plus Club luncheon form on page 2. This is the only invitation you will receive. Please send in your payment and menu choice and retain the top portion of the form as your reminder.**

Last year, the *Ghost Stories* feature article highlighted  
*Continued on page 6*



Calling  
classes of 1957  
and earlier!

# Annual Fifty Plus Luncheon

## Friday, October 12, 2007

This year's hosts: Class of 1952

Social Hour and Cash Bar – 11:30 a.m.

Luncheon – 1 p.m.

Williamson Restaurant, Easton and Blair Mill roads, Horsham, Pa.

For general information, please call

Joan Zimmermann Mosler '54 at 215-658-0132, e-mail jzimmie@aol.com

or Wayne Cunningham '50 at 215-657-2642, e-mail waynngin@netzero.net.

Please keep this portion as your only reminder!

Remember your menu choice by checking it here:

- ☐ Stuffed shells and grilled chicken with roasted vegetable marinara sauce  
☐ Broiled filet of fresh flounder with tartar sauce  
☐ Roasted loin of pork with savory stuffing and gravy

### Fifty Plus Luncheon reservation form

Menu Choice: (Check one  
per person attending)

☐ Stuffed shells and grilled  
chicken with roasted  
vegetable marinara sauce

☐ Broiled filet of fresh  
flounder with tartar sauce

☐ Roasted loin of pork with  
savory stuffing and gravy

Reservation deadline:  
Sept. 30, 2007

Mail this portion with your  
check to:  
Joan Zimmermann Mosler  
3 Twin Brooks Drive  
Willow Grove, Pa. 19090

Reservations will not be  
acknowledged.

January June

Class year Circle one Phone number

First name Maiden if applicable Surname

Address

City State ZIP Code

E-mail address (Reminders will be sent via e-mail in September)

Spouse or guest:

First name Maiden if applicable Surname

January June

Class year Circle one

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 per person = Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Fifty Plus Club

Table preference: Seat me/us with the Class of 19\_\_.

Please use a separate sheet for any additional notes or special needs.

Thank you!



# Where are they now?

**Marion Brown Stewart '32** is living in an adult care home in Phoenix, Arizona. She turned 94 in March.

**Charles N. Wilkins, MD, '41**, was recognized by Drexel University School of Medicine and the American Medical Association for 50 years of distinguished service. He lives in Fremont, Calif.

**Jean DeKalb Kraus '42** recounts her life during World War II in Margaret Hewett George's book, *We Knew We Were at War: Women Remember World War II*. In the early 1940s, Jean worked with the Army Hearing Board and the FBI. She now lives in Sellersville, Pa.

**Michael Adornetto '65** is a licensed clinical social worker in private practice with his wife. Michael and his wife and 3 daughters live in Medford, N.J. They enjoy traveling in Mexico and Europe.

**Leigh Altadonna '66** (pictured below) has served as assistant superintendent of schools for the Abington School District for the past five years. Leigh was one of the first recipients of an Alumni Association scholarship, and still recalls the moment with pride. He has served his alma mater as principal of Highland, McKinley, and Rydal



elementary schools and nine years as curriculum coordinator.

**Ian Malatesta '70** of Los Angeles, Calif., was selected as 2007 Southern

California Super Lawyer.

**Brent Oswald, PhD, '74** works for Merck and Co. and is involved in the development of Gardasil, a vaccine for preventing human papilloma virus, which can lead to cervical cancer. Brent lives with his wife and son in Doylestown, Pa.

**Craig Cunningham '75** is director of treasury operations for AAA in Wilmington, Del. He and his family live in Furlong, Pa.

**Brian Oswald '76** is teaching science and coaching boys and girls soccer at Cedar Ridge High School in Hillsborough, N.C.

**David Henze '76** is assistant athletic director for financial affairs at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. He lives with his wife and two sons in Hoover, Ala.

**R. Craig Gordon '88** is a lawyer and educator in California's San Francisco Bay area.

**Karen Marie Gordon '93** earned a master's degree in occupational therapy and is working at Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation Hospital in Bryn Mawr, Pa.



Seated, from left: Virginia McClay Cunningham '51, William J. Landherr Jr. '55, and Marilyn J. Levit '81. Standing, from left: Wayne Cunningham '50, Jane Sheppard Bean '65, David T. Clark '65, Joan Zimmermann Mosler '54, and Tim Simmons '65. Not pictured: Hank Brusca '60, Grace Pitassi Fanelli '55, and Kim Millar '76.



## Lend a helping hand

You're cordially invited to join the Abington Alumni Association. It doesn't take a lot of time and your help would be appreciated. Be a member at large or on the *Ghost Stories* news staff.

Contact the Association at: 215-572-8899; by mail at P.O. Box 55, Abington, Pa. 19001, or via E-mail at [alumni@abington.k12.pa.us](mailto:alumni@abington.k12.pa.us)



## Help the Association while you shop: Register for eScrip

If you've signed up with eScrip, you can raise money for the Alumni Association when you shop. Genuardi's supermarkets and many other merchants participate in eScrip, a California-based corporation dedicated to providing resources to organizations that support children. Your Association is registered with eScrip, but we need your active participation.

Here's how it works: You register one or all of your grocery loyalty cards,



debit cards, and credit cards for use in the program. **Designate the Abington High School Alumni Association as your group. Our group ID is 129066266.** When you use your card to make a purchase, the participating

merchant makes a contribution to the Alumni Association. You can track your purchases online and see how much you've earned for the Association. A list of participating merchants also is available online.

Remember, your registration **must** be renewed every year. You can sign up online at <http://www.escrip.com>, or pick up an enrollment form from a participating merchant.

## Hall of Fame

As you enter the lobby leading to the auditorium of Abington Senior High School and look to your left, you will see the plaques of those alumni who have received the distinctive honor of being inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Each award recipient was recognized following a process initiated by their nomination. A committee comprised of alumni and high school faculty, solicits further information

from the nominees and screens the nominees in each of seven categories for the purpose of choosing the most outstanding candidate for induction into the Hall of Fame.

The next induction ceremony is planned for the fall of 2008. The selection process will begin in the fall of 2007. Now is therefore an appropriate time for you to nominate graduates of Abington High School who have distinguished themselves in one or

more of the following categories:

**Education, science, arts, government, business, athletics and service.**

Your Alumni Association selects a posthumous recipient with credentials in any of the named categories.

You are encouraged to use the nomination form below. As you place names in nomination, please understand that only achievements after graduation will be used as a basis of selection.

---

## Hall of Fame Nomination Form

The next Hall of Fame is planned for 2008.

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

to the Abington High School Hall of Fame in the category of \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for nomination (attach extra sheets if needed) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's address (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's phone number (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to William Penderghest, Chairman, Hall of Fame Committee,  
Abington Senior High School, 900 Highland Ave., Abington, Pa. 19001.



# New life members

## Class of 1940

Walter Allen  
Charles Brackbill  
Harry K. Buck, Jr.  
C. William Clayton  
Dr. Robert A. Cochran  
Wm Harry Cook  
Mary Craven  
James Gaskins  
Thomas B. Haire  
Alfred W. Holmes, Jr.  
Anita M. Hess  
Eva Hoffman Hedlund  
Herbert K. Horton  
—*Gifts by Norman Kelly '38*

Lois Bardsley Besse  
Josephine Chick  
Rambola  
Bernice Dankelman  
Weikel  
Margaret Dixon Boeve  
San Drumheller  
Julia Granieri Bell  
Eleanor Grubb Bauer  
Alice Frantz Williams  
—*Gifts by the Class of 1938*

Winifred Gill Geesey

## Class of 1941

Robert Allen  
—*Gift by Norman Kelly '38*  
R. Evelyn Prince  
Carpenter

## Class of 1950

Muriel Bryson Lightcap  
Joan Behan Clark  
Walter Gearhart  
Susan Harris Gaines  
Thomas O'Brien  
Lloyd Painter  
Jane Porter Ockershausen  
Craig Ream  
Charles Reitenbaugh  
—*Memorials by the Class of 1950*

## Class of 1951

Ronald Waeltz  
Lloyd Joseph Conard

## Class of 1953

Edward Alkins

## Class of 1955

Nancy Watson Coy  
Laura Mc Avoy Zack

## Class of 1958

William Schwab

## Class of 1964

Gail Owens White  
—*Memorial by Gail Heber Taylor*

## Class of 1966

Erich Lauff

## Class of 1972

Michael S. Baurer

## Class of 1976

Robert W. Young

## Class of 1981

Vicki Epstein Friedman  
Carolyn Myers Muller  
Marcy Olin

## Class of 1988

Christopher Parker

## Class of 2003

Laura K. Martin

## Class of 2004

Eric Pleier  
Adrian Sieradski

## Class of 2005

Allison N. Martin

## Class of 2006

Lexi A. Bell  
Kyle David Benetz  
—*Alumni Award for Culinary Arts*  
David R. Benjamin  
Brock A. Benson  
Kevin A. Brooks  
Jaime A. Cairone  
Hae Young Chang  
Ashley B. Cole  
Pauline E. Corrigan  
Cyprian W. Corwin  
Tiffany N. Crouse  
James A. Daniel  
Nicole D. Drew  
Kristina Nichol Gold  
Derek Granieri  
Christopher C. Johnson  
Sarah Anne Johnson  
Eric M. Joseph  
Julia M. Kaiser  
Erik J. Kister  
Rachel B. Lakner  
Amanda L. Lentz  
Ryan Michael Lord  
Alexandra McDowell  
Michelle C. McNally  
Jenna M. Meyer  
Daniel N. Miller  
Brian J. Oleksiak

## Megan R. O'Toole

Felicia Perretti

—*Alumni Award for Cosmetology*

Igor Petrick  
Robert J. Pisch  
Alexandra M. Porreca  
Karen E. Powers  
Frances S. Robinson  
Thomas P. Rossi  
Allan A. Rozarto  
Stephanie L. Schwoebel  
David J. Scott  
Laura F. Seeholzer  
Christine E. Shaw  
Lindsay M. Spaide  
Maureen A. Spier  
Julia A. Steever  
—*Alumni Award for Culinary Arts*  
Jacob T. Stevens  
David N. Summerall  
Jeffrey C. Summerall  
Robert E. Sweeney  
Scott Vernick  
Elizabeth A. Vozzy  
Laurie G. Zinberg  
Anne Stephanie Zwiil

## Class of 2007

Kevin Joseph Bloomfield  
David M. Corrigan  
Lisa K. Nichols

# Sports

Abington High's football team turned its program around this past fall with an 8-5 record. Expanded district playoffs saw Abington being the 16th and last-seeded team. In a thrilling first round game, Abington upset top-seeded Council Rock North 21-20.

In the second-round game, Abington defeated Souderton 25-22 on a field goal with 7 seconds remaining. A rematch of a 4-overtime loss against Pennsbury ended Abington's season, as the team came within a 2-point conversion of tying Pennsbury 14-14 with 2 minutes to play.

Pennsbury hung on to win 27-12. A victory for Abington would have sent the Ghosts to play Ridley in the district final (which would also have been the Pennsylvania state quarter-final game). Pennsbury topped Ridley in the District 7 final, but lost in the state semifinals in 4 overtimes. Congratulations to



*Ghost gridders stand ready for action behind Head Coach Tim Sorber '92.*

Head Coach Tim Sorber and his staff for a great year!

In other sports news, Abington boys' soccer team went 15-5-1 under

Coach Randy Garber. They also reached the District 1 playoffs, but lost in the second round.

The girls' basketball team had a highly successful season, winning one game 56-52 against Norristown in the district playoffs, before falling to Conestoga 43-29 in the second round. Their final record under Coach Dan March was 20-6.

Abington's wrestling team also finished with a winning record. One wrestler, David Osei, finished third in the south-eastern region and qualified

for the state tournament, giving Coach Jeff Franko an exciting trip to Hershey with his sophomore star.



# Memberships and donations 2006

## 500 Club

- 41.....Michael Rhoads '59  
42.....Margaret M. Bracelin Marshall '36  
43.....Samuel W. Green '36

## Century

- 411..... Jane L. Locker Sproat '44  
412..... Jeffrey Berg '84

## Cornerstone

- 179..... Michael Adornetto '85  
180..... Ave Little Rawdon '39  
181..... Edward Bailey '42  
182..... Joy Rogers Bailey '44  
183..... Carol Gantman '66  
184..... Lewis Gantman '70  
185..... Laura Begley '04

## Maroon and White

- 179..... John Newman '81  
180..... Vera O'Neill  
*Memorial by Mary Ellen O'Neill Quinn '79*

## Boosters

- \$75.....Norman Kelly '38  
\$25.....Nancy Ogle Macur '63  
\$750.....Verizon Foundation  
(Tim Simmons '65)  
\$10.....Nancy A. Schwarz Settar

## Specified Donations

- \$50.....Overlook Hills Womens Club  
\$5,000...Bill Rapp '50  
\$1,000....Fifty Plus Club

## Memorial Donations

- \$150.....For Dorothy Norman '62 by Clara Clayton, Brenda Crowley, Pat McCloskey, Janice Rieker, Mary Beth Rodger, Thea Schemm, and Ann Ward  
\$50.....For Josephine Hunter Chubb '43 by Ruth Sorber Ratliff '43 and Polly Mathers Wanner  
\$25.....For Jeffrey D. Wall '69 by his parents, R. Bruce Wall '41 and Adele Ritchie Wall '41  
\$100.....For Howard W. Schaefer '35 by Jane Wiggins, Nancy and Hugh Brown, and Barbara and Ned Wiggins  
\$50.....For Howard W. Schaefer '35 by Jean and Tom Cameron '36  
\$50.....For Howard W. Schaefer '35 by Mr. and Mrs. William M. Watson  
\$25.....For Joan Plunkett Decker '46 by Carolyn Crouthamel Nagel '36

- \$20.....For Grace Kirschner Kondan '48 by Dolores Hildebeitel Burns '48  
\$50.....For Herbert K. Horton '40 by his wife, Jo Ann D. Horton  
\$100.....For Joseph Francis Siegl '54 by his wife, Jeanette R. Siegl  
\$700.....For Joanie Nagel Schmauk '49 by Dorothy Garrison Synnestvedt, Helen Powell Morgan, Winifred Wright Keller, Dean Silverman Speigel, Jacquelyn Priester Wall, Louise Wilhelm Baker, Elizabeth Spencer Derck, Georgina Garrett Duff, Esther Harrar Hutchinson, Joann Hoffman Flather, all from the Class of '49  
\$25.....For Bruce Levitt '60 and Eddie Levitt '56 by their sister Phyllis Levitt '60  
\$25.....For Ronald A. Stella '56 by his brother-in-law, William Sheriff '60, and his sister-in-law, Jane Whitney Sheriff '60  
\$100.....For Ruth Schmidt Spencer Rittenhouse '31 by Edith Spencer Layman '34

## Five in Class of 2006 garner AHSAA scholarships

The Alumni Association awarded \$13,000 in scholarships to deserving graduates of the Class of 2006. Scholarship recipients are:

- Rachel Peacock, attending West Chester University,
- Lindsay Spaide, attending Philadelphia Biblical University,
- Christine Kim, attending the University of Pennsylvania,
- Amanda Frisco, attending Temple University, and
- Christopher Simpson, attending DeSales University.

We wish them much success in the future in their chosen fields.

## President's column

*Continued from page 1*

the career of Sara "Sally" Young Pease '23, then our oldest living alum. It is with regret that I advise of her passing at age 101. Sally is succeeded on the pinnacle of the seniority list by Bertha Ambler Cunningham '26, who at age 99 still has many places to go and things to see.

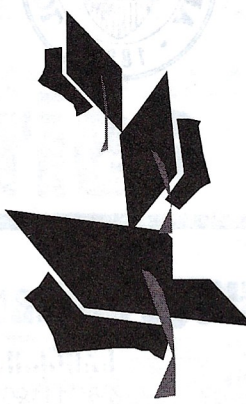
As I travel about town, I meet many AHS graduates who have never taken advantage of the opportunity to become life members of their alumni

association. Unless we happen to meet; however, the only invitation you will receive will come once a year from this newsletter. In 2007, we will award \$15,000 in scholarships as a direct result of alumni contributions. If you are not now a life member, you can become one for only \$20. If you are a life member, please consider a membership upgrade or a donation in memory of a deceased relative, classmate or friend.

*For the Maroon and White,  
Bill Landherr '55*



# Class reunions



**Class of 1947 (60th)**—Noon brunch and social hour, Saturday, October 20 at the Holiday Inn, Fort Washington, Pa. Contact John Duff at 610-495-7566 or Bob Powers at 267-464-5023, e-mail bobingwynedd@aol.com

**Class of 1952 (55th)**—In conjunction with the Fifty Plus Luncheon. Contact Sandy Shapin at 856-464-0055 or Jim Kirkner at 215-675-7185.

**Class of 1954 (53rd)**—Mixer on Saturday, October 13, time and place to be determined. If interested, contact Joan Zimmermann Mosler at 215-658-0132 or e-mail jzimmie@aol.com.

**Class of 1955**—Annual picnic to be held on Wednesday, May 19 at Alverthorpe Park. Contact Bill Landherr at 215-646-2493.

**Class of 1957 (50th)**—Saturday, October 27 at Old York Road Country Club in Springhouse, Pa. Contact Del Supplee at 610-285-0328 or Bill Hower at 215-884-7462.

**Class of 1958 (planning 50th)**—Classmates interested in helping with the planning process for the 50th reunion in 2008 should contact Bob Fernandez at 610-275-6766, e-mail fernandezb@aol.com, or Jeanne Remmey Hoeppner at 610-646-8561, e-mail rghoep5738@aol.com.

**Class of 1967 (40th)**—Looking for someone to take the lead in planning this reunion. Contact Beverly Garnett

Boice at gadgetwoman@hotmail.com.

**Class of 1969 (planning 40th)**—Planning reunion for 2009. Contact Linda Altadonna Gray at 215-766-2057, e-mail lindacarolarts@yahoo.com.

**Class of 1972 (35th)**—Organizer needed.

**Class of 1977 (30th)**—Organizer needed.

**Class of 1982 (25th)**—6:30 p.m. Saturday, November 24, at the Huntingdon Valley Country Club. Contact Debbie Clark at 215-886-4283, or visit the website, <http://www.abington82.myevent.com>.

**Class of 1987 (20th)**—Organizer needed.

**Class of 1988 (20th)**—Organizer needed.

**Class of 1996 (planning 10th)**—Contact Rachel Hammond at abington96@hotmail.com.

**Class of 1997 (10th)**—Thanksgiving weekend, November 23-25, venue to be determined. Contact Krystal Houghton at abingtonclassof97@gmail.com.

**Class of 2002 (5th)**—Organizer needed.

**Planning a class reunion?** Send your information 1 year in advance to the Alumni Association. Contact information is on page 6.



## Membership and Donation Form

### Membership

- ☐ Life, \$20 (one-time donation)
- ☐ Cornerstone, \$25
- ☐ Maroon & White, \$50
- ☐ Century Club, \$100
- ☐ 500 Club, \$500

### Donations (any amount)

- ☐ Booster donation
- ☐ Memorial donations—other than life membership memorials
- ☐ I am willing to give a little time to work for the Alumni Association.

Class year	Present membership	Phone number
First name	Maiden if applicable	Surname
Address—please check here if this is a new address <input type="checkbox"/>		
City	State	ZIP Code
Spouse's full name		
Please add memorial donation information here. Attach second sheet if needed.		
Total enclosed (make checks payable to Abington High School Alumni Association) _____		
Please detach form and mail to AHSAA at P.O. Box 55, Abington, Pa. 19001.		



Abington High School  
Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 55, Abington, Pa. 19001

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# Ghost Stories

Spring 2007

Abington High School  
Alumni Association

**MAROON & WHITE**



DATE

TREASURER

■ **Classes of 1957 and earlier, register for the Fifty Plus Club luncheon. See the invitation on page 2. This will be the only notice for this event.**

■ **Attend the annual Association business meeting at 7:30 p.m. May 17 in the Alumni Office in the Administration Building on Highland Avenue in Abington.**

■ **Contact your class coordinator now to plan your next reunion!**

■ **Visit the Association's web page at <http://www.abington.k12.pa.us/alumni/alumni.htm>, or phone 215-572-8899.**

## ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL Alumni Association 2007 Officers

William J. Landherr Jr. '55  
*President*

Marilyn J. Levit '81  
*Corresponding Secretary*

Kim Millar '76  
*Recording Secretary*

Tim Simmons '65  
*Treasurer*

### MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Wayne Cunningham '50      Joan Zimmermann Mosler '54  
Virginia McClay Cunningham '51      Grace Pitassi Fanelli '55  
Jane Sheppard Bean '65

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

David T. Clark '65, Chairman  
Tim Simmons '65      Hank Brusca '60

### SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Samuel Hogg '61, Chairman  
Kim Millar '76      Norman Kelly '38  
Bonnie Parkhouse '65      John Worthington '60  
Jane Lyon Scarborough '59      Leigh Altadonna '66

### NEWS STAFF

Jan Corwin Enger, Editor  
Virginia McClay Cunningham '51      Wayne Cunningham '50  
Kim Millar '76      Joan Zimmermann Mosler '54