Spring 2016 www.BensalemOwls.org

Annual BAA Scholarship Golf Outing



June 15 2016 ~ Bensalem Twp. County Club

"Owl Walk" Bricks on Sale

A commemorative brick walkway called "Owl Walk" will be installed near the main entrance of Bensalem High School in 2017 during the final phase of an estimated \$80 million overhaul of the school complex off Hulmeville Road, officials said.

The Bensalem Education Foundation, in partnership with the Bensalem Alumni Association, is taking orders for the commemorative bricks, which will be created by Bricks R Us, project organizers said.

The bricks can be used to recognize a BHS graduate, convey appreciation or gratitude to parents or school staff members, honor a classmate or memorialize someone, they said.

Two sizes of natural gray bricks are being sold. A 4-inch by 8-inch brick costs \$100 and can be inscribed with up to three lines of 18 characters each. The characters include spaces and symbols. In addition, an 8-inch by 8-inch brick costs \$200 and can be inscribed with up to six lines of 18 characters each.

Proceeds from the brick sale will benefit the schoo library. Call 215-750-2800 or go to www.bensalemsd.org/BEF for more information About the "Buying Bricks for Owl Walk" initiative.

> ~ Bucks County Courier Times, 12/24/15

Dear Alumni,

by Ray Guim,

Welcome to 2016! Can you believe it's a new year already? The more that time goes by, the wiser I get —or so it seems!

First, thank you to all of the 2015 dues-paying members! Without your support, we wouldn't have been able to give out \$12,500 in scholarships last year. To continue supporting our Bensalem seniors, be sure to send your \$12 dues today (see attached form).

We have an announcement to make: we've had a change in the association! Our new vice president is Linda Panuccio '72. Linda has been with the organization for many years and has always been an incredible support. I'm sure she'll do great things in this position. Linda will be stepping into the shoes of Margie Knowles '82, our outgoing vice president. Margie has also been an invaluable team member these past years. We could always count on her to let us know what needed to be done. Thank you, Margie, and welcome, Linda!

If you haven't been to our website in a while, be sure to log in, update your information, and check out the new changes. Our site recently got a great overhaul from our Webbies! We're also getting close to having 6,000 profiles on our site which is over 21% of all Bensalem High School attendees. Yes, attendees, not just grads: if you know someone who went to BHS but for whatever reasons had to leave, we still consider him or her an alum, too. Once an owl, always an owl!

Additionally, the next phase of the yearbook project is about to get started. We will take every yearbook and make it available on our website for all members to see. This is another huge project (are they any other kind?!) so we're not sure when it will be completed. Nonetheless, we're hoping that when we get the ball rolling, it will go quickly.

Another project that our board is trying to achieve is to have a veterans' wall at the high school: a place to post the name of anyone who *Continued on page 3*

The official newsletter of the Bensalem Alumni Association, Inc. ~ A non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation since 1986.

29th Annual Golf

Wednesday, June 15, 2016 Bensalem Township Country Club

Our annual golf outing is open to all Bensalem HS alumni and their guests. The \$120/golfer registration fee includes: golf w/ cart, coffee & doughnuts in the morning, soft pretzels, soft drinks, water and beer on the course. Swing shot prints of all golfers are also included, with swing shot video's online at www.SwingMan.Smug.com. Prizes for every golfer are awarded at the buffet lunch immediately after the tournament.

Proceeds support our scholarship fund, which awards scholarships to seven deserving Bensalem High School seniors each year. To register as a golfer and/or a sponsors, visit www.BensalemOwls.org.

To register or for more information, visit our website ~ www.BensalemAlumni.org

THE OWLMANAG

Spring 2016 * www.BensalemOwls.org

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There's Still Time To Get On This Year's List!



President's Desk

Continued from page 1

served our country in a military function. We're still working out the details, so if anyone has any expertise on this subject, we would appreciate the help.

If you've been wondering about the All-Year Reunion, we have scheduled a date of September 10, 2015 at Bensalem Township Country Club for a picnic. We will have hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken and salads with soft drinks. The cost will be free to dues-paying members. Dues are \$12. Be sure to stop by to see some old friends and maybe make some new acquaintances.

Finally, the annual golf outing will be held June 15, 2016 at Bensalem Township Country Club. It's a blast every year, and everyone that comes out has a great time!

Be sure to stay tuned to our web site! We send regular emails and keep everyone up-to-date on our message board.

Take care for now

Ray

more is less



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Twp. Bridge Re-dedicated for Marine Alum

"It's been more than 50 years and

so many of us still remember Neil.

I think that speaks as to the type of

PA State Senator Tommy Tomlinson

guy he was. He was a real hero."









A township bridge honoring Private First Class Neil Weintraub ('67) was rededicated in November, 2015, keeping alive the memory of a Bensalem High School graduate who gave the ultimate sacrifice for his country.

More than 250 family, friends and community members and leaders gathered for the ceremony on the bridge on Bensalem Boulevard, between New Falls Road and Leonard Avenue. There were also engines from the Union and Nottingham Fire Departments an official Marine Corps Color

Guard presentation of the Colors, a 21-gun salute, and a fly over of a U.S. Coast Guard HH-65 Dolphin helicopter.

"He was a little bit younger than me when we were kids, but we grew up in the same neighborhood, and you just don't forget a guy like Neil," said PA State Senator Tommy Tomlinson, who remembered Neil as an all-American boy. "He wasn't a real big kid – we had a saying when we played football that sometimes you had to play 20 pounds more than you were. Well, Neil played bigger than he was, and he fought for his country bigger than he was."

"For me to look out and see everyone coming out, and all the support we are getting, it's a good feeling," said Tomlinson. "It's been more than 50 years and so many of us still remember Neil. I think that speaks as to the type of guy he was. He was a real hero."

"The PFC Neil William Weintraub Memorial Bridge" was originally dedicated in 1969, but had been closed for renovations.

"When we heard the bridge was closed, Neil's friend George Delia, who is a Vietnam combat veteran, contacted Lee Cannon, who is also a Vietnam combat veteran, and me," said Brenda

Hecklin, one of the event organizers. "(George) wanted to have a re-dedication ceremony for him so he could honor his service and sacrifice. It was important to us because it was the only bridge that crossed over the Pennsylvania Turnpike named for a veteran, so by extension it also honors all veterans."

According to US Marine information, PFC Weintraub, a mortarman, was among several Marines killed during the Tet Offensive in Vietnam in June, 1968. He was 18 years old, and had been in Vietnam less than two months.

"He will never be forgotten," said Hecklin. "This bridge keeps his memory alive, and stands as a symbol of remembrance to all who see it."

Information appearing here was gathered from a story by Cpl. Matt Myers on the offical USMC website (http://www.mcrc.marines.mil/1stmcd/News/NewsArticleDisplay/tabid/9998/Article/630928/vietnam-marine-from-bensalem-honored-during-bridge-re-dedication.aspx)





Newly renovated auditorium!



Advertise in

Bensalem, Alum Tamm Receive Commemorative Super Bowl Football

As part of its "On the Fifty" program to celebrate the 50th Super Bowl, the National Football League has donated to commemorative "Golden Football" to every high school that has had a player on an active Super Bowl roster. Bensalem's Super Bowl representative is offensive lineman Ralph Tamm, ('84), a member of two Super Bowl championship teams, Washington in Super Bowl XXVI and San Francisco in Super Bowl XXIX.





Rates: Business Card - \$25; Quarter Page - \$40; Half Page - \$70; Full Page - \$130

Your ad appears in both the print and online versions. For more information, please contact: Ray Guim at President@BensalemAlumni.org or by mail: BAA, PO Box 26, Bensalem, PA 19020.

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"Once an Owl, Always an Owl!"

To Everyone Who Has Donated... THANK YOUS

> We do our best to make sure those who help us achieve our mission are recognized, but sometimes a name or two may not appear where it should in print. To those we say "we're sorry!" Please visit www.BensalemAlumni.org for a complete list, and let us know if anyone is missing!

And here's another way to support the BAA...



The Bensalem Alumni Association has partnered with Stream Energy's unique **Power Up! Program** to help raise scholarship funds, by paying us monthly commissions when our supporters enroll for their electricity or natural gas service through the BAA. *There's no extra out-of-pocket cost for you*, and we benefit on an ongoing monthly basis.

Please go to **http://bensalemalumni.streampowerup.biz**/ to learn more about Stream Energy, and see how you can help us raise funds while possibly lowering your energy bill. It's a win-win for all! Questions? Contact John Paone '79 (jspaone@yahoo.com).

> Sign up TODAY:

http://BensalemAlumni.streampowerup.biz

Save The Date!

BAA All-Year Reunion

September 10, 2015

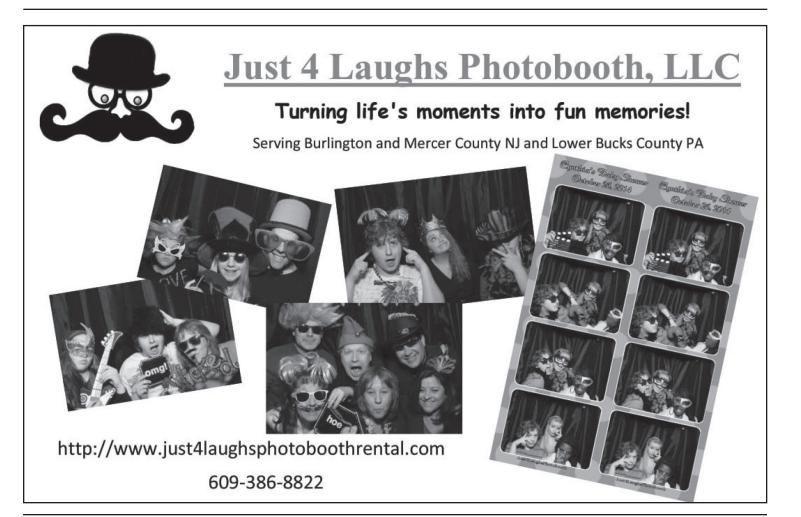
Bensalem Twp. Country Club

Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Chicken and Salads w/ Soft Drinks. Free to dues-paying members!

See You There!



Golf team gets BAA Back Packs!



~ In Memory ~

Love, Laughter, Courage

By J.D. Mullane ~ reprinted from The Bucks County Courier Times

It was a June night and I was in my sweltering city apartment with three college roommates, broke and bored. Until the phone rang. It was a friend, Cheryl Wallace, and when I explained our plight, she instantly invited us to

her parents' house in Bensalem, PA. "Bring beer," she said.

Scrounging cash, we bought a case and headed to Bucks County. Arriving, we realized there was no ice to keep the brew chilled. Cheryl had a new blue Pontiac Grand Prix and, eager to show it, took me with her on a run for ice. We pulled up to the store and "Dancing in the Moonlight" by King Harvest came on the radio. The night was soft and clear.

Cheryl said, "We gotta dance!"

What?

She turned up the volume and got out of the car.

"Come on," she said.

So we danced, right there in the parking lot, with people coming and going. It's true what King Harvest sings: You can't dance and stay uptight.

We imitated Bruce Springsteen's dance move in "Dancing in the Dark," a music video then in rotation on MTV.

But it wasn't until we spun around that we noticed a Bensalem police officer standing there, arms folded. We stopped dancing and Cheryl cupped her hands over her mouth, trying not to laugh. I just stood there like a dope. The cop shook his head, turned and left. We got the ice and drove back, laughing.

> 1938 Clara B. Stenberg Miehle 1949 Walter W. Frederick 1949 William P. Brucks 1950 Roberta Redwitz Bachman 1951 Frances V. Piotrowski Murawski 1951 Mary Virginia Lappan Stallone 1953 June Guerra Hartman 1954 Edward W. Rutecki 1955 Robert Kee 1955 Frank E. Lesher 1955 Harry E. Loessy 1956 Harriet C. Durr Hoshorian 1957 Norma Gaugler Murray 1958 Thackery K. Bullock

That was not the first time, or the last, that Cheryl Wallace Doan was able to get me to do something completely out of character. Such as dancing the Time Warp at "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" on two occasions. Or racing wheeled office chairs down a corridor toward a toilet paper finish line in the Student Union (today the Rollins Center) at Bucks County Community College. Or seeing who could slide faster down a sliding board, hands overhead, at Samuel K. Faust Elementary, the school she attended as a child while growing up in Nottingham, PA.

That was Cheryl's gift, coaxing playfulness, and best was the happy memory it left. It's what I'll miss most. She died Wednesday after a heroic 8-year fight with breast cancer. She was 52, and leaves her husband, Ron, and five sons.

We met at the community college 34 years ago. She wanted to be a radio disc jockey, I was studying business administration, but later came to my senses and switched to journalism.

That June at her house, the bunch of us talked and laughed into the small hours. The memory is burnished. Kept fresh through reminiscence, that long ago night doesn't seem so long ago.

Cheryl loved life. She fought the cancer, hard. A picture was posted on Facebook of her at St. Mary Medical Center in a hospital gown, dukes up.

No matter who you were, she was always curious about you, your ideas, your plans. Almost 30 years ago she asked me if — besides writing, airplanes and motorcycles

> 1964 Gerard P. Laich 1965 Lynda L. Reynolds O'Shaughnessy 1966 Harry C. Kellerman 1966 Joseph Rishar 1967 James N. McKeown 1967 Robert R. Ostrander 1969 George Herrschaft 1970 Sharon L. Finkbeiner Carr 1970 Ruth L. Parmer Emmons 1972 Michael J. Perry 1973 Joseph F. Coakley 1973 Joseph F. Coakley 1973 Joann Mastandrea 1973 Thomas Shields 1975 Therese E. Baker Bassler 1975 Kimberley Rogers Wistner

there was anything that interested me.
 "Astronomy," I said.

She kept after me about that for a couple of years, asking, "Did you ever get around to that astronomy?" Eventually I did, and studied until I could read the night sky.

Rolling from youth to middle age, we kept in touch. These last two years we met for lunch every month or so and, as always, discussed kids and family and life. I cannot recall any conversation with her that didn't have laughter. I asked how, with the pain of chemo, losing her hair, feeling her mortality, she kept so upbeat. Without hesitating she counted on three fingers, "God first, others second, me last."

That was the last time we talked.

Wednesday evening, I grabbed some beers from the fridge. As always at times like this, I found myself outside, alone, looking up into the night sky, asking questions with no answers. Why did she have to die? And suffer? And her family suffer?

The night was soft and clear.

Up there, blazing in the darkness, was Venus commencing its nightly descent in the western sky. Nearby was Jupiter, jovial god of the ancients. Next to it, Regulus, flickering blue and white, marking the heart of the lion in the Leo constellation.

Love, laughter, courage. That's Cheryl for sure.

J.D. Mullane can be reached at 215-949-5745 or jmullane@calkins.com. Twitter: @ jdmullane

1975 Patricia A. Condran Dunleavy
1977 Frank A. De Leone
1977 Michael A. Petrick
1977 David J. Dingley
1979 Joseph (Joe) Mackereth
1979 Patricia Potero
1985 Angela Cunane Leonardo
1986 Dawn A. Thiele
1989 Ann Funk
1990 Kimberly D. Bolmarcich Hagney
1991 Robert J. Celauro
1995 Steven M. Osterhout
1995 Kristen S. Arbeiter Swaim
2002 Christopher Leonard

~ In Memory ~



Charles Briggs '02







Cheryl Wallace Doan



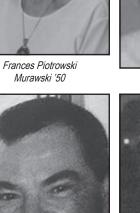
Christopher J. . Salmon '88



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Francis Hellings '71



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Bryan Husted '02





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~ In Memory ~



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Robert J. Celauro '91

~ In Memory ~



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Nellie Vandegrift-Rigby '38





William Peter Brucks '49



Dolores Lignore McMahon '46



Donald Earl Leight '79



Donna Perry Santiago '96



Doris Ely Anderson '42



William Stubbs '63





Edward T. Lowe '81



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Elaine Bishop Yeagle '48



Edith Stuhlrager Kellogg '41



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Edna Garwood Klein '55



Emily Menzen Howe '34

Bensalem Alumni Association

Zeinez Jimenez-Ramey '13

~ In Memory ~



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Gladys M. Adams '37



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Harry E. Loessy '55



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Wayne A. Warner '61





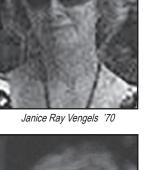
William Daley '55



Jeff Ludlow '74



William E. Cancel '67



Virginia Ruth Ritter LeSaint "59

~ In Memory ~



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