



SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNIZES SBAA FOR CO-EX GRANTS



The South Bend school board recognized the Alumni Association on December 5 for its Co-Ex Grants and other educational initiatives.

Steve Luecke, Alumni Association executive director, attended the school board meeting along with Jessica Brookshire, chair of the SBAA board; Dave Dunlap, chair of the Co-Ex Grants Committee; and Nancy Sulok, office manager.

As a retired teacher and coach, Dunlap said he appreciates the value of co- and extra-curricular activities in a student's overall educational experience. That is why he got involved with the SBAA's Co-Ex program. "Although most people think athletic teams when thinking extra-curricular," he said, "25 percent of the grants went to fine arts, academic, and civic service programs." Some 2,000 students have benefited from the grants, he added.

The grants program continues to thrive. Brookshire said \$56,463 was distributed

to schools in 2016. In return, students "pay it forward" by performing community service. "Our students are out serving meals, cleaning neighborhoods and parks, and helping and participating in various community events," said Brookshire.

Luecke noted the SBAA had just wrapped up its annual Community Hall of Fame Banquet, which recognizes outstanding members of our city. Proceeds from that event help to support the Co-Ex Grants.

But beyond that, Luecke said, the SBAA has co-sponsored a tennis tournament in April with the University of Notre Dame and a golf tournament in May.

The Ace for Science tennis tourney raised almost \$10,000 in 2016, which was awarded as grants to South Bend teachers for STEM programs. Proceeds from the 2016 golf tournament helped the SBAA to award \$39,500 in scholarships for SBCSC graduates.

Luecke thanked the School Board of Trustees for their support of these initiatives. School Board member Maritza Robles praised the SBAA for its support of local school programs. Board President Jay Caponigro said he looks forward to a continuing relationship with the SBAA.

Top Photo
Steve Luecke addresses school board.

Bottom Photo
Dave Dunlap stands at podium while addressing school board.



2016 HALL OF FAME SPONSORS

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Holladay Properties
Pathfinders, Inc.
South Bend Tribune
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Lois Clark
Electronics, Inc.
Four Winds Casino
The History Museum
Karl and Margaret King
Lake City Bank
Meridian Title Corp.
NIPSCO
South Bend Chocolate Co.

STUDENT PATRON TABLES

Lauren Davis & Co.
Duke Downey
Gurley Leep Automotive
Kathryn Shields
The Tire Rack

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Alums,

The South Bend Alumni Association is proud to be an active member of Team South Bend ... where students thrive, excel, and achieve SUCCESS! We welcome our new Superintendent, Dr. Kenneth Spells, and pledge our support for the SBCSC school corporation and its students.

We also welcome new SBAA leadership. Jessica Brookshire was elected chair of the Board of Directors. Ryan Kring is the new vice-chair, Kevin Fautz the new secretary, and Lauren Davis continues as treasurer. This leadership team is committed to the SBAA mission to provide grants for extra-curricular activities.

With your help in 2016 we were able to provide 41 Co-Ex Grants to 13 schools totaling \$56,463. These awards supported academic competitions, arts performances, and athletic teams. It was a record year for this program!

In his book "Our Kids," Robert Putnam writes: "Consistent involvement in extracurricular activities is strongly associated with higher grade-point averages, lower dropout rates, lower truancy, better work habits, higher educational aspirations, lower delinquency rates, greater self-esteem, more psychological resilience, less risky behavior, more civic engagement, and higher future wages and occupational attainment." In short, students who participate in extra-curricular activities are more likely to succeed in school and in life.

We want to make sure that all our students have that opportunity. You can read more about the Co-Ex program in this issue of Alumnews.

In 2016, in partnership with the College of Science at the University of Notre Dame, we hosted our third and final Ace for Science Tennis Tournament. This initiative raised almost \$30,000 to support science projects for students from kindergarten through high school.

We are grateful for the work of Dr. Margaret Dobrowalska-Furdyna and Kathy Peterson for their help in making these resources available in our classrooms, stimulating curiosity, creativity, and an appreciation for scientific discovery.

2017 will be another productive year for the Alumni Association. Plans are underway for our Scholarship Golf Outing in May, and we have already begun committee work to prepare for the South Bend Hall of Fame Dinner in November. That banquet has become a premier evening to celebrate the people who make a difference in our community. There are pictures and news from the most recent gala in this issue.

We are also implementing a new database that will help us to be in better communication with you and other friends of the SBAA. Your support helps us and our students thrive.

Let's stay connected.

JESSICA BROOKSHIRE ELECTED AS NEW LEADER OF SBAA

Jessica Brookshire sees the coming year as a time of continuing growth and development for the Alumni Association. She was elected in September to chair the Board of Trustees. Also elected were two new board members.



Brookshire, a graduate of Adams High School and an employee of the University of Notre Dame, sees the challenges of the new year in efforts to increase fundraising and membership. Implementation of a CRM (customer relationship management) program to help track members and donors will be a significant step forward, she says. Her goal is to move the SBAA forward into the digital age by becoming more of an “electronic organization.”

In addition to her work with the Alumni Association, Jessica is heavily involved with United Way, running the campus campaign every year. She serves on the St. Joseph County Health Improvement Alliance and sits on a committee for the Harper Cancer Research Institute. She also is on the state advisory board of the Community Health Partnerships.

Brookshire replaces Paul Laskowski, who served for two years. He will remain as a board member. The board presented him with an engraved clock to thank him for his service.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Derrick Wesley, a 1984 graduate of Riley High School, and Jason Whitmer, a 1995 graduate of Washington High School. Wesley owns an insurance agency in South Bend. He has been serving as a member of the SBAA's Co-Ex Grants Committee. Whitmer is an auditor at Crowe Horwath.

ELECTED OFFICERS

Ryan Kring, vice-chair, who works for Ancon Construction; Kevin Fautz, secretary, who works for Mutual Bank; and Lauren Davis, treasurer, who owns a CPA firm.

RE-ELECTED TO THE BOARD

Eric Crittenden, Lauren Davis, Angela Hall, Greg Humnicky, and Jim Kapsa.

Officers serve for one year, while board members serve for three. Dan Schmidtendorff completed a three-year term on the board. He offered to continue to work with the SBAA as it develops its CRM program. The board thanked him for his service.

The Board of Trustees meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the South Bend Chocolate Café. ■

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE

The Alumni Association is constantly changing, and during the past few months we have changed our address, telephone number, and email address.

The South Bend Community School Corporation, which provides our office space and other support, upgraded to a new phone system in October. That resulted in new phone numbers for us. The main office number now is (574) 393-6004. To reach Executive Director Steve Luecke, dial (574) 393-6003. The old phone numbers will continue to work for a while, but eventually will be phased out. Our address changed when the City of South Bend decided to rename the street in front of our building. Our new address is 215 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., South Bend, IN 46601. The change honors the civil rights leader from the 1960s.

Finally, we changed our email address to simplify it. The new address is sbaa@sb.school. It has fewer characters than the old email and will be easier to remember. The old email will still get through to us.

One thing that hasn't changed is our location. We remain on the first floor of the School Administration Building, just south of the Key Bank Building and across from the Century Center parking lot. ■

HALL OF FAME HONORS LOCAL CITIZENS

Community involvement “is something everyone can do, using the skills and talents they have,” according to Bruce Bancroft, local attorney.

He was one of seven new members inducted in November into the South Bend Community Hall of Fame. More than 500 people attended the induction banquet and award ceremony on November 17 at Century Center.

Other inductees were:

Howard Buchanon II, former South Bend fire chief; Lois Whitacre Clark, community activist; the late Joseph Luten, former principal in several South Bend schools; Ann Puzzello, former teacher, city council member and community promoter; and Gabrielle Robinson, retired IUSB professor and local historian. Florence Troeger, who died in 1981, was the historical inductee. She was the first woman golf pro in Indiana.

South Bend Common Council Member John Voorde received the Ideal Baldoni Distinguished Public Service Award. Peg Dalton, owner of Le Peep restaurant, received the Distinguished Achievement Award. Other honors were given to REAL Services, the Distinguished Community Service Award, and to Electronics, Inc., owned by Jack Champaigne, the Contributions to Education Corporate Award.

A notable change at the 2016 banquet was the elimination of the head table. Honorees were seated in the audience among their family and friends. They were brought to the stage at the

appropriate time to receive their honors. “It was nice to sit with our family for dinner,” Bancroft said. “The Hall of Fame Awards Banquet was perfectly planned and impeccably executed,” said Becky Zaseck, director of REAL Services. “I can’t imagine what a job it must have been for months to accomplish all that it must have taken to have every detail come off so well,” added Lois Clark.

Gabrielle Robinson, who was born in Berlin and settled here as an adult, said “it is a tremendous honor to be in this group of educators and public servants, dedicated to making South Bend a better place to be.”

Ann Puzzello, who grew up in Niles, said she wouldn’t choose to live anywhere but South Bend. “I do love South Bend,” she said, “and will continue to serve my community in the best way I can.”

Andy Troeger traveled to the banquet from New Mexico to accept the induction of his great-aunt, Florence Troeger. “We recognize her,” Andy Troeger said, “because she devoted her life to the service of others, and especially the kids who grew up golfing at Studebaker (Golf Course).”

James Kapsa, Hall of Fame committee chairman, said plans already are underway for the 2017 banquet. A search committee began meeting in February. ■



Top Photo

Pictured from left to right: Bruce Bancroft, Ann Puzzello, Andrew Troeger, Lois Whitacre Clark, Howard Buchanon II, Della Luten, Joseph Luten Jr., and Gabrielle Robinson.



Bottom Photo

Peg Dalton, Jack Champaigne (Electronics Inc.), Becky Zaseck (REAL Services), and John Voorde.

Nominations are accepted year-round for induction into the South Bend Community Hall of Fame. Anyone can submit a nomination with a biography and two letters of support for the person being nominated. Candidates must have resided in or been involved with the South Bend community for 10 or more years. They must have significant achievements and/or made notable contributions when serving others locally, statewide, nationally, and/or globally. Names are considered first by a search committee, which selects roughly 20 names for forwarding to a selection committee. The selection committee reviews the names and selects the six inductees, along with a historical inductee. Candidates not selected remain on the HOF list for consideration in the future. For more information, look on the SBAA web site, www.southbendalumni.com.



MAYOR PRESENTS LUECKE WITH KEY TO THE CITY

South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg surprised Steve Luecke during the Community Hall of Fame Banquet by presenting him with a Key to the City. Luecke has been executive director of the SBAA since June 2013.

The presentation was kept a secret from Luecke, who served as South Bend's mayor for 15 years before retiring from that job in 2011. Mayor Buttigieg, who succeeded Luecke in the mayor's office, said the Key to the City is the highest honor bestowed by South Bend.

Buttigieg said Luecke laid the groundwork for many of the projects that either were completed or are proceeding to fruition under the current administration.

Luecke received a standing ovation from the Hall of Fame audience. ■



KEEP TRACK OF YOUR CLASSMATES WITH CLASS CREATOR

More than 20,000 names and senior pictures have been entered into the Class Creator web site sponsored by the South Bend Alumni Association.

Class Creator is a national web site that helps classmates keep in touch with each other. The site is a great resource when planning class reunions and other events. Local businessman Jack Champaigne, an SBAA board member, has underwritten the cost of the service to enable the SBAA to offer it for free to South Bend graduates.

Classmates can join the site by following the links under the reunions tab on the SBAA web site.

The links for South Bend's high schools are:

www.southbendadams.com

www.southbendcentral.com

www.southbendclay.com

www.southbendjackson.com

www.southbendlasalle.com

www.southbendriley.com

www.southbendwashingtonhs.com



Champaigne's twin brother, Jim, and their sister, Pam, have been scanning yearbooks and entering information for South Bend high schools. Jim Champaigne has been training alumni to administer their class sites.

Jim and Jack have met with officials at Adams and Riley high schools to enlist student help with scanning yearbook photos. We can use other volunteers and captains for each high school class to maximize the potential for this useful tool.

If you are interested in learning how Class Creator can keep you connected, contact Nancy Sulok at sbaa@sb.school.

GOLF TOURNAMENT PLANNED IN MAY

Whether you're better at hitting pin-seekers or rainmakers, birdies or duffs, we know you look forward to the annual Scholarship Golf Tournament in May.

Plans are being made now for the 24th annual tournament, co-sponsored by Teachers Credit Union. Proceeds support the SBAA's scholarship program, which last year awarded more than \$35,000 to local students.

This year's event will be held Thursday May 25th at Elbel Golf Course. If you're not a golfer but would like to support the scholarship program, you or your company can become a hole sponsor. Hole sponsors are acknowledged with signs on the golf course. They are mentioned in the written materials given to golfers, and they are listed on the SBAA web site and in Alumnews.

Contact the SBAA office for more details. ■



A golfer from the Laven Insurance team follows through with his drive during the TCU/SBAA Scholarship Golf Tournament at Erskine Golf Course.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

TCU SUPERINTENDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The SBAA will continue to offer its signature TCU Superintendent Scholarships in 2017, according to Connie Varga, Scholarship Committee chairman. These awards provide \$1,000 a year for four years to one graduating senior from each of the five South Bend Community School Corporation high schools.

JACK CHAMPAIGNE SCHOLARSHIP

The Alumni Association will also offer the Jack Champaigne Scholarship and the South Bend Press Club Scholarship, which are funded by outside donors. The Champaigne Scholarship is worth \$5,000 and is offered to a graduating SBCSC senior who plans to attend Purdue University, either in West Lafayette or at the South Bend campus. It is funded by Mishawaka businessman Jack M. Champaigne, a 1961 graduate of Adams High School.

THE SOUTH BEND PRESS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

The Press Club Scholarship is worth \$500 and is offered to a senior who plans to study journalism or mass communications in college. The student must be a SBCSC student or have a parent or grandparent who is an active member of the South Bend Alumni Association.

SECOND CHANCE GRANTS AND THE KURT & TESSYE SIMON STUDENT ASSISTANT GRANTS

Second Chance Grants and the Kurt & Tessye Simon Student Assistant Grants will also be available. Full details about the scholarships, along with application forms, are available on our web site, www.southbendalumni.com.

LUNCH CLUB UPDATES

The Central High School Alumni donated handmade stuffed snowmen to use as table prizes at the December Lunch Club. One person at each table was selected to win the snowman, and a few leftover snowmen were given as door prizes.

Attendance at the monthly luncheons has been declining in recent months, according to Bill Przybysz, Lunch Club chairman. Some regular members have stopped coming because of health issues or injuries. Others travel to warmer states during the winter. Attendance has been in the 80-90 range. Przybysz hopes to turn that trend around in 2017.

The Lunch Club meets on the second Thursday of each month (except January) at the Elks Lodge on South Bend's east side. Lunches feature entertainment by school students or speakers from the community. If you would like to join us, the cost is \$12 per person for SBAA members, \$14 for non-members. ■



UPCOMING EVENTS

THUR
13
APRIL

Lunch Club

WHERE: Elk's Lodge 235

WHEN: April 13, 2017

THUR
25
MAY

Scholarship Golf Tournament

WHERE: Elbel Golf Course

WHEN: May 25, 2017

Proceeds benefit the SBAA scholarship program.

CLASS REUNIONS

ADAMS CLASS OF 1955. Planning ahead: A 65-year reunion will take place **June 13, 2020**, at Holy Family Parish Center.

ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967. 50-year reunion planned for August 19 at Juday Creek Country Club, 14770 Lindy Drive, Granger. Pre-reunion gathering will take place at 5 p.m. August 18 at Barnaby's Pizza, 713 E. Jefferson Blvd.

ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL ALL-YEAR GATHERING. The second annual gathering is planned for August 18 at the Riverside Terrace in Mishawaka.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL ALL-CLASS REUNION. The annual gathering is scheduled for June 30 at the St. Peter and Paul Serbian Hall.

CENTRAL CLASS OF 1967. A 50-year reunion will take place July 1 at the Studebaker National Museum.

LASALLE CLASS OF 1967. A 50-year reunion will take place July 21-22. A Friday night gathering is planned for Corby's at LaSalle and Niles Avenues. The main event will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at Hedwig Memorial Hall.

RILEY/JACKSON CLASS OF 1967. A combined 50-year reunion is planned for August 5 at the Serbian Hall on Keria Trail.

RILEY OVER THE HILL GANG. This is a reunion for all graduates who matriculated more than 50 years ago. It will take place August 5 at Hedwig Memorial Center.

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1967. A 50-year reunion is planned for August 4-5. An informal get-together will take place from 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, August 4, at Bowlers Country Club. A tour of the school will happen from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday, August 5, followed by a party at 5 p.m. at Juday Creek Country Club.

WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1997. A 20-year reunion is planned for June 24 at Hedwig Memorial Center in South Bend.

For details about these events, visit our web site, www.southbendalumni.com and click on the Events link.

South Bend Alumni Association

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