

The Southern Junior High/Middle School Alumni Association

January Newsletter

2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD: Donna Bird; Harry Eisenbise (President); Tom Gajewski; Linda Greth; Ted Jamula (Treasurer); Lynn DeAcosta (Secretary); Kelly Leone; Charlie Randazzo; Mark Reichardt; and Mary Ann Zerkowski.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT: This Association's mission shall be to recognize the lifetime achievements of distinguished alumni, reward the academic achievements of Reading High School seniors who attended Southern, and provide opportunities for alumni to reunite in celebration of their years at Southern.

BREAKFAST UPDATE: Due to its popularity, we plan to have a breakfast for our alumni every Spring and, thanks to the efforts of Lynn DeAcosta and Tom Gajewski, our next breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, March 18th, at Wegman's Restaurant on Route 61. We're looking forward to another fun time, so **please be sure to complete the enclosed yellow form and note that reservations are due by March 10th!**

REUNION PLANS IN 2023: We will be having our Biennial Reunion on Saturday, May 13th, at the DoubleTree Hotel. This year will again be a luncheon from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and we look forward to another fun time reminiscing about the good old days at Southern. **Additional information about the Reunion is provided on the enclosed pink form, and note that the deadline for reservations is Friday, May 5th.**

HALL OF FAME ELECTION IN 2023: The biographies of our nominees are enclosed for your consideration, and the top three (3) vote-getters will be inducted into our Hall of Fame during a ceremony at Southern on Friday, May 19th. If you would like to attend this ceremony, contact Harry Eisenbise at 610-775-3758 to reserve a seat in advance. **Please be sure to cast your vote on the enclosed blue ballot and return it by Friday, March 24th.**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS IN 2022: Note that each recipient is an RHS graduate who attended Southern.

- The **Bernard J. Lillis Scholarship** for the highest-ranking male graduate was presented to Javier Camilo-Vidal, who is now attending Penn State University.
- The **Arthur R. Kline, Jr. Scholarship** for the highest-ranking female graduate was presented to Mariana Vazquez, who is now attending Wilkes University.
- The **Ronald G. Browne STEM Scholarship** was presented to Breandha Saint-Louis, who is currently pursuing a degree in Biology at Alvernia University.

We're truly proud of these graduates and extend our best wishes for their continued success in college and beyond!

S.O.M.S. AWARDS IN 2022: We are also pleased to recognize current Southern students with the **Southern Outstanding & Motivated Student (S.O.M.S.) Award**, which is given to the top all-round student in each team. Last year, plaques were presented to the recipients by our President Harry Eisenbise and Southern Principal Andrew Kidd at the Southern Awards Program on May 27th; and we expect that one of these students may very well be one of our scholarship recipients or a Hall of Fame Inductee in the years ahead!

SOUTHERN SERVES THE COMMUNITY: As we mentioned in previous newsletters, Southern Principal Andrew Kidd and his staff have been delivering food packages to local families, along with valuable information about community resources. Their "**Adopt-A-Block**" program was featured in the Reading Eagle, and we urge you to support their efforts. Please contact Southern at 610-371-5803 for additional information about how you can become a contributor or a volunteer!

Continued Reverse Side

CONTRIBUTION UPDATE: Your contributions help to sustain the ongoing efforts of our Association, and once again, our members responded with exceptional generosity in 2022. **We are sincerely thankful to the following members for their contributions and memorial gifts!**

Corrine Ahrens	Harry G. Eisenbise	Gwendolyn E. Malecki	Robert A. Schmale
Ronald W. Austin	Ruth A. Fetterman	Dr. James D. Nicholas	Michelle A. Smith
Anna J. Bolton	Emma L. Gilbert	Thomas Pasko, Jr.	Robert A. Spatz
Ronald S. Bortz	Ted Jamula	Linda L. Reedy	
John & Marian Boyer	Doris A. Leisawitz	Randy L. Rick	

Katherine A. Belinski in memory of her beloved Science teacher, Ronald G. Browne

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: One of our priorities has been to increase membership, and we are pleased to report that 23 new members joined the Association in 2022! You can help us this year by encouraging a family member or friend to join. They simply need to go to our website, download an application, and sign-up. **Let's extend a warm welcome to our newest members!**

Jayne (Richards) Arms	Debra (Wloczewski) Glovenski	Christopher Ninfo
Andrea Carabello	Adam Heister	Karen (Paskowski) Sadlowski
Estella (DeAngelo) Carabello	Kim (Siekierka) Heister	Alex Sandor
Gail (Eberly) Dengler	Shaun (Smedley) Madary	Mark Schlott
Robin (Rupp) Dornes	John Madeira	Alan Simmons
James Eppenstein	George Manning	Amy (DeLong) Snook
Debra (Kenderdine) Fields	Joseph Manning	Richard Wloczewski
Tracy (Wade) Gehris	Doris (Stricker) Murray	

IN MEMORIUM: We also extend our sincere condolences to the families and friends of members listed below, who have passed away since (or prior to) our last mailing. **May they forever rest in peace!**

Sherry Lynn Courtney	Rita N. Majewski	Pearl M. Seyler	Leon H. Shultz
Frank Gajewski	Donald R. Reber	Patricia Shaner	Janet C. Zabodyn

YOUR DUES STATUS: Our dues records for you, _____, are shown below. Note that our policy of removing members who have not paid dues for more than three (3) consecutive years has been reinstated, so please consider making any back payments if that applies to you.

- **Your dues have been paid through the following year:** _____.
- **The amount of dues you owe at this time:** \$_____.
- **Total amount of dues you have paid so far:** \$_____.
- **Please consider becoming a Life Member by reaching the \$100 plateau!**

PAYMENT INFORMATION: Please send your dues and/or contributions to the Southern JH/MS Alumni Association, P.O. Box 12662, Reading, PA, 19612. **Note that checks must be made payable to the "Southern JH/MS Alumni Association", and that the deadline for payment is Friday, March 24, 2023.**

FINAL REMINDERS:

- Your **Hall of Fame Ballot** is due by Friday, March 24th (the blue ballot is enclosed).
- Your **Breakfast Reservation** is due by Friday, March 10th (see the enclosed yellow flyer for details).
- Your **Reunion Reservation** is due by Friday, May 5th (see the enclosed pink flyer for details).
- Please visit our Association's website at southernalumniassociation.com for news and updates.

THANKS FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!