

# Licking Heights Alumni Report



Licking Heights Alumni Association Inc. P.O. Box 77, Summit Station, OH 43073



## Cheers and Singing Alma Mater at Banquet

It was maroon and gold as far as the eye could see. There were pom-poms, balloons, flowers, napkins, sweaters, jerseys, band and sports letters, posters and banners all celebrating the Licking Heights School Spirit in brilliant maroon and gold colors.



The social time was scheduled to begin at 5:30, but many of our anxious classmates started arriving as early as 5:00. By 6:00 there were close to 100 guests renewing old friendships and sharing stories from the good old days at Summit High and Licking Heights. By dinner time the count was in excess of 140 spirited alums.



Robert (Skip) Smallwood from the honored 50 year class of 1961 led us in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by Grace Deaver Oswald who gave the Invocation. As always the Old Summit Town Restaurant served a wonderful buffet style dinner with a main course of baked chicken, tender roast beef, and their famous Italian lasagna. The sides were green beans, creamy au gratin potatoes, garden salad with their signature house dressing, rolls and drinks. The desserts included cake, brownies, and home made pies.



### School Spirit Award

Judy Fries Casto and Bobby Kennedy both received a small gift for the best school spirit outfits. Many of our alums were still able to don their old sweaters and jerseys. Others complained that over the years the material must have shrunk while hanging in the closet.



### Longest Distance Award

Marj and Ike Stires made the 1,862 mile journey all the way from Fountain Hills, Arizona.



### Most Senior Attending Alum

Mrs. Clara 'Shorty' Appleman from the class of 1937. That's right classmates, 74 years and she still has that Summit High spirit. Shorty was accompanied by her son Ted '60 and his wife Judy.

**50/50 Drawing** Marilyn Green Selke won \$182 in the 50/50 drawing, which she gave back to the scholarship fund. Thanks for the generous donation Marilyn.

Barb (Blair) Triplett was our Mistress of Ceremonies for the evenings events. She introduced our Superintendent of Schools Dr. Thomas Tucker. He provided us with an update on the school district. Unfortunately Dr. Tucker informed us that he has accepted a position with the Worthington School District. Our President, Tom Dunkle, presented Dr. Tucker with a certificate of appreciation. His vision and leadership has made a significant difference at Licking Heights. He was a close friend and supporter of the Alumni Association and he will be missed.

President Tom then gave a brief report on the graduating class of 2011. HS Principal Ty Olverson said that 50% of the class had attained a 3.0 GPA or higher. 50% of the class indicated they intend to attend a four-year college and another 22% would attend a two-year college or technical school. Mr. Olverson said that they had received over \$3.5 million in scholarships.

*Banquet continued on page 3.*

## Dr. McCray Named Interim LH Superintendent



Dr. Nelson McCray has been named as interim superintendent by the Licking Heights school board. Dr. McCray (Nelson) is a graduate of Licking Heights, class of 1966, as well as a member and generous supporter of the Alumni.

Nelson is currently the Superintendent of the Licking County Educational Services Center. He will serve due to the resignation of Dr. Thomas Tucker, who is moving on to the Worthington school district and until a replacement is hired.

Nelson has been at the Licking County ESC for 14 years and has significant experience as superintendent. He served as superintendent of Beaver Local for seven years, Genoa Local for three years, and Monroeville Local for four years.

This appointment will allow the Board of Education time to search for and screen candidates for the best possible person. Board President Matt Satterwhite said having an official superintendent in place ensures that administrative duties can be carried out without any ambiguity.

This is not Dr. McCray's first time to step up and help the Licking Heights School District. Three years ago before Dr. Tucker was hired, Nelson was named interim superintendent. Our valued and talented alumni are always there to assist the District in many different ways. That's why we are all so proud of our alum, Dr. Nelson McCray.

## Entire Class of 1959 Represented Pathway to Victory Bricks

The entire class of 1959 is represented with a brick in the Alumni Pathway to Victory. The pathway is constructed with engraved paving bricks and provides the walkway that leads up to the Alumni Victory Bell Tower.

This class honor is in large part due to the generosity of one very determined classmate. She has purchased an engraved brick paver for any classmate that did not already have a one. She wishes to remain anonymous and said it was something she wanted to do for her classmates. They always made her feel welcome and a part of the class.

Because she has purchased so many bricks, one officer asked if the Association would consider a discount for her. When she heard about the possible discount she turned it down. Her response was that this was something she wanted to do for her friends and she wanted to support the alumni scholarship fund.

### *Pathway Bricks are Available*

Engraved bricks for the pathway are still available. Each year we continue to add new bricks to the pathway. All profits from brick sales go directly into the scholarship fund. Bricks are NOT restricted to alums only. You might consider one for yourself, a classmate, a teacher, a parent, or maybe a loved one that has passed away. Please see our website [www.lhalumni.com](http://www.lhalumni.com) for details, order forms, and pricing.



## 2011 Banquet Financial Report

Our Treasurer, Bev DeNune, submitted the following financial report (below) at the June 28th meeting.

\$2508.90 OST; dinners, room, tax, and tip (133)  
\$ 440.54 Decorations, flowers, and gifts cards  
\$ 105.00 Programs - Printing  
\$ 163.86 Newsletter printing & postage (\*50%)  
\$3218.30 Total Expenses  
\$3165.00 Total Income  
**(\$ 53.30) Loss**

Yes, we lost a few dollars on the banquet, but that's okay. The banquet is not intended to be a fund raising event. We believe that the banquet should serve three major purposes.

First, the banquet is a social event for all our alums and their guests. It's our way of preserving the past and serving our alums. Second, it is the kick off for our annual membership drive. (\*50% of the newsletter printing and postage is charged to the membership drive and the other 50% to the banquet for invitations) And third, it serves as our annual meeting and election of officers.

The officers and directors work very hard to make the banquet an enjoyable and fun experience for everyone. They make every effort to keep the costs down and the price reasonable and affordable for all. If you have any suggestions or comments, we would love to hear from you. We hope that everyone enjoyed the banquet this year and will attend again next year.

(Continued from page 1)

How many were in your graduating class? This year there were 167 graduates and next year they anticipate 200. The 1st grade class for 2012 is projected to be 400. This is just an indication of how fast Licking Heights is growing.

President Tom then welcomed our newest scholarship recipient Ms. Catherine Campbell. Catie graduated with honors and attained a 4.225 GPA. She was on the honor roll every quarter throughout her high school career and she was voted Best All-Round Girl. She will attend the University of Mount Union, where she plans to major in athletic training.



### Bruce Baird Closes Banquet

Mr. Bruce Baird, class of 1956 has closed our banquet the past few years. Everyone enjoys his Will Rogers style of storytelling and his unique sense humor.



Here are some excerpts from Bruce's closing remarks this year. **"School Spirit"!** That wonderful bond you feel with your classmates! So evident in your pride in wearing the school colors, a school sweater or jacket with a "letter" sewn on it, and maybe even a uniform if you were on one of our teams, a cheerleader or in the band.

We all have special memories from our school days; the teachers, the superintendents like Mr. Craig, the coaches, the band directors, the principals, the year book that we poured over, the games, the trips, the school plays, the proms and other dances, and our classmates. We developed a loyalty, a precious bond, and a feeling of pride in our school. We had, and still have, that wonderful school spirit that makes us want to attend this annual alumni banquet.

We have this one thing in common with our classmates and other alumni of Summit High and Licking Heights, don't we? We feel this bond when we run into each other at games, events held at school, or even at the store. Some of you may remember a teacher named Faye Smith who wrote our alma mater which further inspired school spirit.

At this point Bruce asked everyone to join him in singing the school alma mater. As he began, everyone joined in. And then a wonderful thing happened, people began to stand as we sang and I even noticed a few tears. I have to admit that I had goose bumps as we sang the alma mater that night. Bruce went on to lead us in a few cheers and then thanked everyone for coming as he bid us a good night and a safe trip home.

The officers and directors have agreed that singing the alma mater should become a tradition at each banquet. So if you decide to come to the banquet and share in that school spirit, be prepared to sing the alma mater. If you don't remember the words, we will have it printed on the back of the banquet program. We hope to see you in 2012.

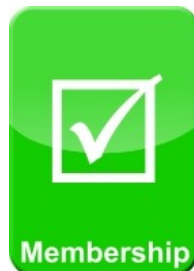
**Go Hornets!**  by: Tom Dunkle

Banquet pictures are posted on the Alumni website @ [www.lhalumni.com](http://www.lhalumni.com)

### Next Year's Banquet Theme is "Patriotic" / Red, White & Blue



Join us next year on June 16, 2012.



#### Membership

Please help support your Alumni Association and the Scholarship Fund by becoming a member or renewing your membership today. Thank you for your support.



#### Association Officers and Directors

- President / Editor: Tom Dunkle '64
- Vice President: Susan Baird '88
- Treasurer: Bev (Galloway) DeNune '53
- Recording Secretary: Keith Edmonds '75
- Corresponding Secretary: Lori (Sikora) Hewitt '79

- Director: Barb (Blair) Triplett '60
- Director: Howard Emswiler '57
- Director: Dan McDonnell '69
- Director: Milly (Cole) Shaffer '47
- Director: Robert Shaffer '45
- Director: Judy (Conway) Gogolin '59



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## Licking Heights Alumni Newsletter

### Licking Heights Receives \$750,000 Early College Grant

The Licking Heights Local School District has been awarded a \$750,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Education to start an Early College High School. The district is one of six in the state to earn the grant out of 122 applicants. The ECHS will be a part of Licking Heights High School and will provide high school students the free opportunity to earn up to two years of college credit and an associate's degree, in addition to their high school diploma, by the time they graduate.

An ECHS will amplify the district's K-12 focus on college and career readiness and prepare graduates to enter traditional colleges with junior class standing or enter the world of work with an associate's degree in hand.

A press conference with the Governor's office, State Board of Education, and ODE leaders to officially award the grant was held in the lobby at the Ohio Department of Education on Wednesday, June 29.

Visit us on the web @ [www.lhalumni.com](http://www.lhalumni.com)