

Vol. 7, Circleville H.S. Alumni Association Achievement Hall of Fame 2016

*Circleville High School Alumni Association*

*Annual Dinner*

*Featuring*

*The Seventh Annual*

*Achievement Hall of Fame*

*6:00 Social 6:30 Dinner*

*Welcome, Invocation*

*Historical Highlights & Events*

*Scholarship Winners*

*Presentation of Inductees*

*Recognition of previous*

*Scholarship and HOF Recipients*

*Singing of the Alma Mater "The Red and Black"*

*~~~2016 Honorees~~~*

**ROBERT I. ELSEA '48**

**W. DOUGLAS McCOARD '59**

**JOHN T. DAVIS '60**

**JOSEPH G. LEAHY '78**

**E. J. WUNSCH '89**



**Robert I. Elsea '48**

As was common for the times, CHS 1949 graduate Bob Elsea and several of his classmates joined the United States WWII efforts directly after high school.

After honorable discharge from the Navy, Bob returned home for his bachelors and masters degrees at OSU and taught Industrial Arts at Ashville High School. He joined the Pickaway County American Legion, Pickaway Lodge #23 Free and Accepted Masons and the Eastern Star.

In 1961, he began with the Federal Bureau of Prisons accepting positions of increasing responsibility and ultimately appointment to be a member of the Senior Executive Service based on his leadership. He started teaching in Chillicothe, moved to creating productive farm programs in Indiana, then coordinating GED and trade tools in Kentucky. Appointments in Texas, Washington and Illinois culminated to Warden Positions in Wisconsin then back to Lexington, Kentucky where he retired with a total of 28 years of federal service.

In the mid '80s, Bob's legacy of service and leadership was focused on the Lexington Lions Club's Sight First, KidSight and Diabetes Committees. He was presented numerous awards for his 20 years of service, which captured his enthusiasm for these causes.

Upon retirement he also fulfilled a lifetime dream by joining the Lexington Shriners Dance and Brass Bands. The "Young at Heart" Band entertainment harkened back to his CHS activities which included class plays, Boys Glee Club, Youth Canteen, Operetta, HiY, four years of band and sports.

He was married to Ann Thomerson Elsea, CHS class of 1952, for 57 years. They have three children and four granddaughters. He passed in 2012. He was nominated by Nancy Ankrom Dye, class of 1956.



**Douglas McCoard '59**

“Circleville laid the foundation for me to aspire to greatness. I was in a supportive environment that made it possible for me to take risks,” according to Doug McCoard. His school and church relationships encouraged him to focus on his strengths which resulted in The Huckleberry House.

After graduating from CHS in 1959, Doug received his bachelor’s degree at OSU, masters in social work from University of Michigan and a Masters in Divinity from Union Theological Seminary, NYC. He was employed in chemical engineering in the early ‘60s before pursuing social work in New York City and for the National Council of Churches in Saigon, Vietnam.

In 1970, McCoard became the Founding Director of the Huckleberry House in Columbus. He was responsible for growth of the agency from its inception to its \$ 2.7 million budget when he retired. On its current website, this agency boasts: *“We believe that children must be kept safe from abuse or neglect. They must have food to eat and clothes to wear. And they must have a place to call a home.*

*Since 1970, Huckleberry House has been the primary provider of shelter services to (teen) runaway, homeless and at-risk youth in Franklin County.”*

Roger Koch '59 nominated his classmate and friend due to the great impact Doug made on society. “His entire family was immersed in Huckleberry’s support for the destitute teen girls” he said. Koch recalled how proud he and his parents were when Doug was ordained a minister.

McCoard has received awards from mental health boards, two from the Ohio State General Assembly, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Network of Youth and the President’s Volunteer Service award in 2013. The father of four currently lives in Lucasville with his wife Jean and continues to volunteer at the Chillicothe Correctional Institution’s multi faith program.



### **John T. Davis '60**

John Davis, a talented percussionist, once said he could not remember a time in his life when he didn't play the drums. In 1961, one year after graduating from Circleville High School as the class salutatorian, he organized the Davis Demons, a renowned marching group of young drummers ranging from 13 to 27 years of age.

Throughout Circleville neighborhoods the echo of drums was common on warm evenings when the drum corps practiced the unit's trademark Revolutionary War-era cadences. The Davis Demons, with its precision marching style and snappy uniforms featuring red cummerbunds, became a cultural icon and secured Davis a place in the city's history.

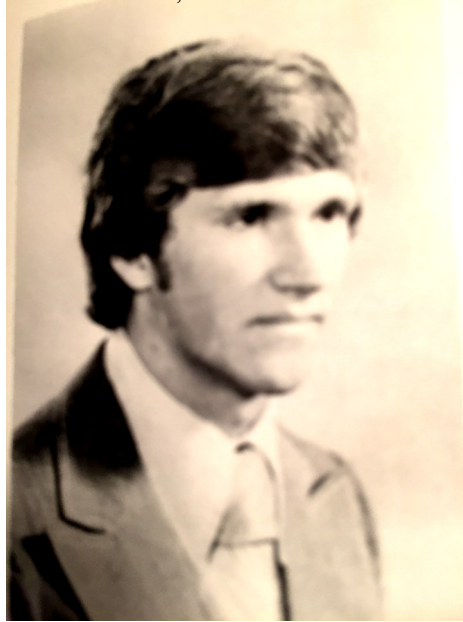
In college he rose to the top of his University of Michigan class and was nominated for a graduate level fellowship in classical studies. Pursuit of a doctorate fulfilled a second dream for Davis; a 5th year of eligibility in Michigan's marching band where he was the section leader for two of those years.

After graduation in 1967, Davis went to work building a legacy that became his crowning achievement.

He began a 28-year tenure at Ohio State University and gained celebrity status by creating and teaching one of the most popular classes on campus. "Classics 222," an introduction to Latin and Greek mythology, attracted more than 700 students each quarter to one of the few university lecture halls capable of holding such a large number.

Davis mesmerized his students by blending humor with his teaching style that utilized visual aids from his travels abroad. The class was difficult, but he made it enjoyable. By retirement he had taught more than 20,000 students and amassed numerous nominations for prestigious teaching awards.

Up until his death in 1995, his wife Marilyn Clifton Davis, also a CHS class of '60 graduate, said it wasn't titles or awards he treasured. "It



**Joseph G. Leahy '78**

The 1978 CHS valedictorian continued his education at OSU graduating with honors in 1982, then completing his masters at OSU in 1985. He received his doctorate in microbiology in 1993 at the University of Maryland.

While an Adjunct Faculty member at the department of chemical engineering and materials science at Wayne State University in Detroit, he was a post doctoral fellow at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

He began as assistant professor at University of Alabama, Huntsville (UAH) in 1997 which led to his current position as Associate Professor of Biological Sciences at UAH; a position he has held for 12 years.

His resume is highlighted with honors, accolades and professional achievements both in academia and the community. He received honors during his college years, the Student Government Association award at UAH in 1999 as well as two distinguished teaching awards.

His high school sports, honor society and class officer positions have led to coaching track, speaking at high schools and supervising microbiology demonstrations for home-schooled students. He has served on numerous university service committees as well.

In 2010, Joe's life and that of his family changed forever as he was shot in his head by a disgruntled co-worker during a department meeting. He underwent months of treatment and numerous surgeries, yet the bullet remains lodged in his neck. He currently has 20% of his vision. He continues to work full time, and remains active in his research to use microorganisms to naturally break up oil spills.

Joe has far exceeded all expectations for his recovery to the point of running 5K races with his family and friends. The father of two is married to Ginny. She states "although Joe is frustrated by his limited stamina, he overcomes that feeling with his positive attitude".



### **E. J. Wunsch '89**

While attending Circleville Schools from Kindergarten through senior year, E.J. Wunsch accumulated awards and accolades both academic and extra curricular. The '89 CHS graduate was valedictorian of his class, in National Honor Society, class president and Dispatch Scholar Athlete while receiving eight varsity letters.

Former Circleville Coach Jim Diltz recalls EJ's off-season pursuit to improve his jump shot. "Lots of kids were playing video games or swimming, but EJ put in the extra time to make himself better," he said. Tom Hamman also coached him in basketball. "Every season he was a better player than the year before. It is evident to me that he has maintained that attitude in his professional career," he said.

This perseverance continued as a magna cum laude Miami of Ohio graduate and cum laude graduate in 1996 from Northwestern University School of Law in Chicago.

Upon graduation, he was law clerk for US Court of Appeals in Lansing Michigan and associate for a law firm in Cincinnati. In 1999, he started his career with Procter and Gamble in Cincinnati as council for commercial practices, moving up to Senior Counsel then Associate General Council in several areas.

In 2010, he was designated a "Rising Star" in Corporate Governance by Corporate Secretary Magazine. E.J. was designated one of Cincinnati's "Next Generation of Leaders" by the Cincinnati Business Courier in their "40 under 40" issue. He's a founding member of "Build Cincinnati" and has served on the city's Media Bridges, Business Roundtable and Community Action.

From 2011 through 2013, his position took him to Singapore as Associate General Council in developing markets for India, Australia and Asia. EJ, his wife Sara Wadley Wunsch, also a '89 CHS graduate, and their three children have now returned to Cincinnati. He continues to lead teams of lawyers at P&G, as well as volunteer in the community.

## *Scholarships*

The Circleville Alumni Association is dedicated to supporting the academic, athletic, arts and social service activities of students attending Circleville City Schools.

Since 2006, it has awarded thirty-nine \$1,000 scholarships. Due to the fundraising efforts of the Roundtown Classic Race in July of each year, the Alumni Association has recently awarded three \$1,000 scholarships to college bound seniors. Besides academic and extra curricular excellence, these honorees must have a parent or guardian who is a CHS Alumnus.

### *2016 Circleville High School Senior Scholarship Recipients*

Tanner Bigam, will attend The Ohio State University and study psychology. Tanner is the son of Travis Bigam and Andrea (Hinton) Downs. Andrea is a 1996 graduate of CHS.

Anya Bingman, will attend Ohio University and study nursing. Anya is the daughter of Janice Bingman. Janice is 1970 graduate of CHS.

Jarred Utt, will attend Ohio University and study electrical engineering and computer science. Jarred is the son of David Utt and Dawn (Morris) Utt. Dawn and David are both CHS graduates with Dawn graduating in 1988 and David in 1982.

### *Alumni Scholarship Winners and Honoree Escorts*

JENNY SCHERER GRIFFIN '06	ASHLEY BIVENS COX '10	JOSEPH HUGUS '12
BEN WINNER '06	KASSANDRA COOPER HOLBROOK '10	SARAH KELLER '12
JUSTIN STYERS '07	LEAH HIVELY HOOKS '10	JULIE RICHARDS '12
KARA VALENTINE DAVIS '07	ZACHARY LANMAN '10	DENISE CLINE '13
KORY HARTINGER '08	EDWARD STRAWSER '10	ANDREW CRIST '13
ELIZABETH SCUDDER RAYMOND '08	MICHAEL THEIS '10	TORY LANMAN '13
RACHAEL SPANGLER '08	NICHOLAS FOSTER '11	ASPEN DOWDEN '14
JILL TRUEX KEMPTON '08	JENNA GRUNDEN '11	SARAH RUFF '14
BEN ANKROM '09	REILY KISER '11	ETHAN WARNER '14
ALEX GREENLEE '09	CASEY LOCKARD '11	DARBI BREWER '15
JENNIFER KELLER '09	EMILY MARCUM '11	HANNAH JOHNSON '15
LYNDSEY YOUNG '09	KAYLA THEIS '11	ALYSON LEIB '15

## First, Busy Year 2005-06

- Warren Gentzel, first president
- First board of Directors
- First Logo, first newsletter
- Bylaws drafted by Attorney Bob Huffer and approved as a 501-C3
- Data Base collected by Pete Hartinger from class representatives
- Electronic Data Base developed by Don Wolford
- Letters were sent requesting funding for “Founding Members”

### Founding Officers

- President Warren Gentzel '58
- Vice President Ralph Ankrom '43
- Treasurers Hillary Dumm Herbert '97 and  
Kim Allison Hartinger '75
- Recording & Corresponding Secretary  
Andi Porter Humphries '72
- Directors  
Pete Hartinger '59  
John Stevenson '51      Cheryl Kirkwood Stout '76  
Greg Heiskell '71      Ty Ankrom '70  
Rick Hartinger '74      Patty Ankrom Truex '73  
Don Wolford '60      Tom Scherer '77

## **What's going on in 2016**

- **Your Circleville High School Alumni Association has been very busy planning for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Roundtown Classic 5 mile/5K walk/run at Mary Virginia Crites Hannah Park on July 16 of this year.**
- **This fun family event also includes a free Kids' Fun Run, The race is alumni's primary fund raiser**
- **We also provide a team meal for all of the athletic teams and many other CHS school organizations.**
- **This year we have provided financial support for the**
  - **Mock Trial program,**
  - **Yearbook,**
  - **After prom**
- **We continue paying for our committed \$50,000 to the Circleville Schools new building campaign.**
- **We are thrilled that the School Board and many other groups meet in the Alumni Room at Circleville High School .**
- **We recently hosted the reception for the Athletic Hall of Fame inductees in the high school cafeteria.**
- **We are looking at THE NEXT TEN!**

**Please give suggestions and join the fun!**

## *HALL OF FAME HONOREES...*

### **2010**

<b>REX HAECKER '30</b>	<b>DWIGHT RADCLIFF '50</b>
<b>TED LEWIS '05-'07</b>	<b>W. W. HIGGINS, Inst.</b>
<b>RICHARD BOYD, Inst. Coach</b>	<b>GEORGE KERR '56</b>
<b>WILLIAM "BILL" RICHARDS '49</b>	<b>JOHN MAXWELL '65</b>
<b>RALPH STARKEY '49</b>	<b>WARREN SNEED '91</b>

### **2011**

<b>JAMES G. DUNTON '17</b>	<b>ANNE ADKINS WEISSENBORN '57</b>
<b>CLIFFORD KERNS '42</b>	<b>RICHARD A. BANKS '57</b>
<b>WILLIAM J. BARTHELMAS '54</b>	

### **2012**

<b>DR. HARRY D. JACKSON '01</b>	<b>THE REV. GEORGE FRY '54</b>
<b>ANNETTE GROCE WILL Inst</b>	<b>ROBERT D. SHADLEY '60</b>
<b>M.E. JACK SENSENBRENNER '19</b>	

### **2013**

<b>DR. ERNEST WALKER IRVING 1889</b>	<b>JO A. MYERS THOMPSON '74</b>
<b>DANIEL M. DICK '66</b>	<b>SCOTT E. WUNSCH PhD '88</b>
<b>MARY ANNE YATES '67</b>	

## *...2010 THROUGH 2015*

**2014**

**CLARENCE A. REID '13**  
**CHARLES L. JACKSON '35**

**NED BARTHELMAS '45**  
**CHARLES L. ZAENGLEIN Inst**

### *2015 Hall of Fame Recipients*

**Calvin L. Ellis**  
CHS Class of 1959  
Sports, Fulbrights, Linguistics  
Lead to Southeast Asia Journalism,  
Technology and Humanitarianism

**Larry C. Schieber**  
CHS Class of 1976  
Pharmacist Businessman Civic Leader  
Improving the Lives of Others

**Brad Fox**  
CHS Class of 1981  
Technology Innovator  
Engineering Educator  
Academic Leader

### **Achievement Hall of Fame Committee**

Chair, Terri Strawser Carter '78	Andi Porter Humphries '72
Pete Hartinger '59	Carol Ann Johnson Bowling '57
Amy Kazmierczak Rhymer '89	Rick Bumgarner '74
Nancy Ankrom Dye '56	Tom Strawser '76
Julie Kazmierczak Scherer '78	

*Program information was gathered from the original applications, then embellished  
by the inductees and local writers David Crawford and Andi Humphries.*

*Kudos to CHS students in Fred Styers' Class for assembling tonight's program.*

**Circleville High School Alumni Association  
2015-16 Executive Board**

President Don Bradley '94  
Treasurer Jeff Harr '72  
Recording Secretary Terri Strawser Carter '78  
Corresponding Secretary Andi Porter Humphries '72  
Past President Rick Bumgarner '74

**Board of Directors**

Nancy Ankrom Dye '56	Patty Ankrom Truex '73
Carol Ann Johnson Bowling '57	Fred Mavis '75
Ace Elsea '59	Tom Strawser '78
Pete Hartinger '59	Jenny Scherer Griffin '06
Don Wolford '60	
Mike Hamrick '72	

*Circleville High School Alumni Association*

*380 Clark Drive Circleville, Ohio 43113*

*Visit our website for news or to order alumni apparel*

*[www.CirclevilleAlumni.org](http://www.CirclevilleAlumni.org)*

*Visit [www.RoundtownClassic.com](http://www.RoundtownClassic.com) for information on*

*Alumni's biggest fundraiser, the 5 K, 5 Mile Roundtown Classic  
Run/Walk. Always set for the third Saturday of July  
at Mary Virginia Crites Hannan Park*

Special thanks and appreciation to the Circleville City Schools Board of Education and Administration for allowing us to use the high school for this celebration.

John Edgar Superintendent    Chris Thornsley, H.S. Principal

Board of Education:

Amy DeLong, Todd Stevens, Tony Reeser, Patty Rothe and John Moats