

Circleville High School Alumni Association

~~Achievement Hall of Fame Ceremony~~

March 23, 2025

Welcome, Invocation

Historical Highlights & Events

Scholarship Presentation

Presentation of Inductees

Singing of the Alma Mater

“The Red and Black”

~~~2025 Honorees~~~

Robert M. Johnson ‘44

Betty Leist Wolford ‘58

Jane Wiggins Shaw ‘68

Christine Nelson Williams ‘74

Adam Logan ‘00

Circleville High School Alumni Association

2024-2025 Executive Board

President Andi Porter Humphries '72

Treasurer Jeff Harr '72

Secretary Danielle Mogan Stultz '04

Board of Directors

Patty Ankrom Truex '73

Kara Valentine Davis '07

Rick Bumgarner '74

Maria Richards Roberts '10

Tom Strawser '76

Katie Love VanDette '04

Julie Kazmierczak Scherer '78

Ty Ankrom '70

Jenny Scherer Griffin '06

Anya Bingman '16

Honored Scholarship Recipients

Maddux Bigam will attend Northern Kentucky University and study biology. Maddux is the daughter of Brian and Nicole Bigam. Brian is a 1998 graduate of CHS.

Jack Sorrell will attend the University of Rio Grande and study history. Jack is the son of Bruce and Jennifer Sorrell. Bruce is a 1989 graduate of CHS.

Isaac Williams will attend Lake Superior State University and study geology. Isaac is the son of Michael and Angela Williams. Both Michael and Angela (Hill) are 1994 graduates of CHS.

The Circleville Alumni Association is dedicated to supporting the academic, athletic, arts and social service activities of students attending Circleville City Schools. It has been awarding scholarships since 2006. Recipients excel in academics and community service. Criteria includes a parent, grandparent or guardian who is a CHS graduate.

All scholarship recipients are invited to this annual awards banquet to recognize their achievements as they continue with their chosen studies and careers.

Scholarship Committee

Tom Strawser

Rick Bumgarner

Danielle Mogan Stultz

Circleville High School Alumni Association
380 Clark Drive Circleville, Ohio 43113

www.CirclevilleAlumni.org

Facebook: Circleville Alumni Association

Twitter: @CvilleAlumni

Email CirclevilleAlumni@gmail.com

Visit www.RoundtownClassic.com for information on alumni's annual fundraiser, the 5 K, 5 Mile Roundtown Classic Run/Walk.

Always set for the third Saturday of July

Special thanks and appreciation to the

Circleville City School Board of Education and Administration for allowing us to use the high school for this celebration.

Dr. Kimberly Halley Superintendent Greg Lahr, High School Principal

~Board of Education~

Tony Reeser, Jeff Burrow,

Terry Leasure, Patty Ankrom Truex, Kara Valentine Davis

2005 and moving forward celebrating Alumni Presidents!

Warren Gentzel '58, founding president. His "Hey Gang" emails kept us informed on those beginning days. He established the Bylaws, Non Profit Status and the order of business.

Terry Frazier '71 took charge of building another display case for the Athletic Hall of Fame during his reign.

Bob Johnson '48 brought new energy, board members and clarity to future goals.

Tom Scherer '77 initiated committees and established the Achievement Hall of Fame.

Tom Strawser '76 established the Scholarship procedure and still chairs it today.

Rick Bumgarner '74 continues to serve on the board after his presidency term.

Don Bradley '94 pushed for a clear budget process.

Kellie Willis Schwalbach '09, brought the board into the 21st century with viable Facebook page.

Casey Lockard '11 became president in 2019 He worked diligently to update our bylaws. As past president, he is the 13th board member.

Andi Porter Humphries '72 is currently the president

Circleville Grads receive Alumni Scholarships

JENNY SCHERER GRIFFIN '06

BEN WINNER '06

JUSTIN STYERS '07

KARA VALENTINE DAVIS '07

KORY HARTINGER '08

ELIZABETH SCUDDER RAYMOND '08

RACHAEL SPANGLER YODER '08

JILL TRUEX LIST '08

BEN ANKROM '09

ALEX GREENLEE '09

JENNIFER KELLER HEDGES '09

LYNSEY YOUNG '09

ASHLEY BIVENS COX '10

KASSANDRA COOPER HOLBROOK '10

LEAH HIVELY HOOKS '10

ZACHARY LANMAN '10

EDWARD STRAWSER '10

MICHAEL THEIS '10

NICHOLAS FOSTER '11

JENNA GRUNDEN COBB '11

REILY KISER '11

CASEY LOCKARD '11

EMILY MARCUM DOUGHTY '11

KAYLA THEIS THOMASETTI '11

JOSEPH HUGUS '12

SARAH KELLER SOWERS '12

JULIE RICHARDS '12

DENISE CLINE '13

ANDREW CRIST '13

TORY LANMAN LINDBERG '13

Behind the scenes:

Biography information was gathered from the original nominees, the inductees, and local writers David Crawford '76, Andi Humphries, '72 and Cindy Huffer Keiner '76.

Circleville students, including National Honor Society members, helped transform the cafeteria into this banquet hall. Ms. Devin Sims' class assembled the program.

Ohio Health Berger printed this pamphlet.

Debbie Melvin Cook '73 and the Elegant Eats staff provides our dinner.

Jerry Isaac '78 has engraved all the plaques until his retirement in 2023. He helped with the original design and the unique wall materials which will continue to be featured on the permanent display at the high school. JT Brewer has cut the granite for the wall plaques.

Circleville Grads continue to receive scholarships

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| ASPEN DOWDEN '14 | MADelyn CLARK '19 |
| SARAH RUFF '14 | VICTORIA BIRCHER '20 |
| ETHAN WARNER '14 | WHITLEY CALDER '20 |
| DARBI BREWER '15 | PEYTON PERINI '20 |
| HANNAH JOHNSON '15 | JACOB BELL '21 |
| ALYSON LEIB '15 | KENZIE McCONNELL '21 |
| TANNER BIGAM '16 | AUTUMN DEROSSETTE '21 |
| ANYA BINGMAN '16 | ALAINA FRANCIS '22 |
| JARRED UTT '16 | JACK HOLCOMB '22 |
| MORGAN BIRCHER '17 | JORDAN RHYMER '22 |
| ASHLEY SARK '17 | CLAIRE BARTHELMAS '23 |
| GREG BREWER '17 | ERIKA KLUCZYNSKI '23 |
| EMILY DENGLER '18 | BROOKLYN LIST '23 |
| OLIVIA FAUSNAUGH '18 | RYAN ROY '23 |
| JACOB RHYMER '18 | ALYSSA HATFIELD '24 |
| GARROTT KENNEDY '19 | MALLORY HOLCOMB '24 |
| LAUREN CRABTREE '19 | GRANT PINKERSON '24 |

2020 HALL OF FAME HONOREES...HONORED IN 2022

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| ELIZABETH CATHARINE
"LILLIE" DARST 1865 | SUSAN CRITES PRICE '68 |
| DR. EMILY LUTZ '46 | ROBERT HIVELY '76 |
| DAVID HUTZELMAN '58 | RICHARD SNOUFFER Coach,
Administrator 1958-66 |
| LINDA BOWERS GORTON '66 | |
| | 2023 |
| JOHN FOSTER BALES 1928 | DAVID SHANK 1973 |
| STEVEN R. ISAAC 1969 | ELIZABETH SHOLLENBERGER 1974 |
| ELIZABETH SPIRES 1970 | |

In Memoriam...

As some of Circleville's finest were deceased at time of their induction, others passed after the celebration.

Ralph Starkey was alive at the time he was chosen for the award, however passed before he was notified of the honor.

Rex Haecker was aware of the award, but couldn't come over from Pickaway Manor to receive it in 2010. He passed in 2011.

Clifford Kerns was honored in 2011 and both he and his wife passed in 2014.

Joseph Leahy was recognized in 2016 and passed in 2017.

In 2020, Coach Boyd passed after recognizing his predecessor Coach Snouffer as a new nominee.

Both Dwight Radcliff and Barry Adams passed in 2020.

In 2022, Calvin Ellis and George Kerr passed.

In 2024, Bill Richards passed.

Achievement Hall of Fame Committee

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Chair, Julie Kazmierczak Scherer '78 | Tom Strawser '76 |
| Amy Kazmierczak Rhymer '89 | Danielle Mogan Stultz '04 |
| Andi Porter Humphries '72 | Jenny Scherer Griffin '06 |
| Carol Ann Johnson Bowling '57 | Patty Ankrom Truex '73 |
| Rick Bumgarner '74 | Anya Bingman '16 |

HALL OF FAME HONOREES...

2015

CALVIN L. ELLIS '59
LARRY SCHIEBER '76

BRAD FOX '81

2016

JOHN T. DAVIS PhD '60
JOSEPH G. LEAHY PhD '78
ROBERT I. ELSEA '48

W. DOUGLAS McCOARD '59
E.J. WUNSCH '89

2017

JOHN STEVENSON '51
RONALD BENNINGTON '54
TRACEY BECK SIEMS '84

MATTHEW CURTIS ' 93
DR. SAMANTHA JAGLOWSKI ' 98

2018

JOSEPH W. ADKINS ESQ 27
HON WILLIAM AMMER '37
RICHARD L. GERHARDT, ESQ '59

KARA GERHARDT ROSS '88
JEFFREY A. DEAN MD '89

2019

ADDISON E. DEWEY ESQ '39
DAN MUSSER '50
W. BARRY ADAMS '66

KATHY ULAND KELLEY '74
RICHARD L. GERHARDT II '89



Robert M. Johnson '44

Robert M. Johnson, a proud Circleville native and CHS Class of 1948 graduate, has a rich history of academic, professional and community achievements.

During high school, Bob participated in the Canteen, Hi-Y Club and Epsilon Mu Sigma. He was on the Scholarship Team all four years and demonstrated leadership in athletics, arts and student committees.

Bob graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1952 with a pre-medicine major,

actively engaging in fraternity life, chemistry club and ROTC. Following graduation, he served in the Air Force during the Korean War, retiring as a reserve officer. While serving his country, he met and married 2nd Lt. Marilyn "Cookie" Cook.

In his professional career, Bob initially worked with C.F. Replogle Co. before founding two successful businesses, Contractor & Industrial Supply Company and Contractor & Industrial Builders.

Later, alongside his children, he expanded into R/P Johnson Inc. and Four J Properties, offering diversified services in construction, property management and real estate. His ventures significantly contributed to economic growth in Ohio and beyond.

A pillar of the community, Bob's contributions are extensive and enduring. He served as a president or founding member for several organizations, including our own Alumni Association, YMCA, Historical Society and Airport Authority.

His leadership extended to the Circleville School Board, Red Cross, and various civic and economic initiatives. Bob was recognized as Rotary Young Man of the Year and remained a longstanding Rotary member, exemplifying "Service above Self."

Bob and Marilyn both passed in 2024. They are the parents of all CHS grads Virginia Johnson Davis '73, Kathleen Johnson Sassa '75, Paul Johnson '78, Eric Johnson '80 and Patricia Johnson Rothe '83.



Betty Leist Wolford '58

Except for several years when she was working in the banking industry, Betty has devoted much of her life to community service. Not one to embrace public recognition for her achievements, it's hard to ignore her professional contributions and power of perseverance.

At Circleville, she concentrated on her studies, sang in choir and was president of National Honor Society. Her work ethic earned her a position in the school office where her efficiency caught the attention of principal J. Wray Henry. He recommended her to a local bank president for a job.

Within a few days of graduation, she was a 17-year-old working at the Second National Bank. During her career, Betty mentored others, a role she embraced with pride and enthusiasm "Just as I did with our children, I stressed the need for honesty and hard work in our lives which accomplishes positive results" said Betty.

After retiring as a Banking Officer from Ohio National Bank, Wolford was hired as Executive Director of American Cancer Society, Pickaway County. In that position she quickly learned to be successful assisting non-profit organizations, one must recruit many volunteers to assist with projects. The fundraisers 3 on 3 Basketball and Relay for Life were started in the county under her leadership. As an active member of Community United Methodist Church, Betty serves in many areas.

She was a member of PICCA, Circle of Caring, Friends of the library, serving as president of each. Presently she serves on the board for Hands for Disabled. She received the Service to Mankind recognition from Sertoma in 2009.

In 2021, Betty organized a group of volunteers to establish The Corner Closet, a free clothing store. This project is greatly supported by many volunteers and used clothing donations from our county. In 2025, the Corner Closet continues to provide this service based on her strong founding leadership.

2010 Inaugural Hall of Fame honorees

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

2011

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| JAMES G. DUNTON '17 | ANNE ADKINS WEISSENBORN '57 |
| CLIFFORD KERNS '42 | RICHARD A. BANKS '57 |
| WILLIAM J. BARTHELMAS '54 | |

2012

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

2013

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

2014

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| CLARENCE A. REID '13 | NED BARTHELMAS '45 |
| CHARLES L. JACKSON '35 | CHARLES L. ZAENGLEIN Inst |

2024 Hall of Fame Recipients

Robert H. Huffer Esq.

'48

CHS Class of 1948
Humble Beginnings
Honorable
Generous Servant

Asa James Elsea

CHS Class of 1959
Hobbies lead
To lifetime of
Community Giving

Jay Sharrett

CHS Class of 1984
Loyalty
Loyalty
Loyalty

Dr. Cynthia Russell Gerhardt

CHS Class of 1987
Professor and
Researcher in
Pediatric Cancer

Aaron Turner-Phifer

CHS Class of 2005
Public Service
Health Care
Progress



Jane Wiggins Shaw '68

Jane Wiggins Shaw, a 1968 graduate of Circleville High School, has dedicated her life to her community through a remarkable career as a volunteer and advocate for historical preservation.

As the 2024 President of the Clarke-May Museum and a trustee of the Canal Society of Ohio, she has tirelessly worked to preserve and promote the rich history of Pickaway County.

She played a key role in petitioning the National Registry to recognize the Southern Section of the Ohio and Erie Canal and has contributed significantly to

the creation of Canal Park in the area.

Her commitment extends to reorganizing the Clarke-May Museum, where she completed an inventory of all artifacts. Because of her efforts, the museum is now well organized into thematic sections. She continuously promotes activities at Mt. Oval, another key historical site in Pickaway County.

Her passion for history and education is evident in her long-standing role as a 4-H advisor and as a prominent speaker about the importance of monarch butterfly conservation across Ohio. In fact, she is known as the "Monarch Lady" as she travels around the state encouraging the importance of planting milkweed and other beneficial information for maintaining these precious butterflies. (migratory species ? too much??)

Recognized for her impactful efforts, Jane was nominated as Pickaway County's Volunteer of the Year in 2022.

Jane continues to do educational programs. She has worked tirelessly to debunk the myths and rumors associated with the Underground Railroad moving slaves to Canada. With her research she now has found documentation that establishes places and people involved.

Achievement Hall of Fame recipient Barry Adams said in his endorsement: "Jane's efforts as a volunteer in these many arenas help make Circleville a better place to live.

"Her passion and enthusiasm for these projects is infectious and she gets many others involved in these causes. She grew up in this community and has spent her life helping to keep it an amazing place to live and work".



Christine Nelson Williams '74

Christine Nelson Williams is a distinguished professional and community leader whose life journey exemplifies excellence in education, career achievements and service to her community.

A 1974 graduate of Circleville High School, Christine excelled academically, graduating with honors.

Reflecting on those who made a difference to her success, she credits High School English teacher Meg Bower Lares for teaching her how to write and organize her thoughts and the positive encouragement from guidance counselors Doris Gilespeie and Dick Fisher.

She pursued higher education at the University of Tennessee and the Ohio State University, earning a BA in Political Science summa cum laude in 1978.

Christine's remarkable 40+ year career in retail management includes key leadership roles at Federated Department Stores, Madison's, Kohl's and Tween Brands/Justice. Notably, she spearheaded Tween Brands' first e-commerce platform, managed international partnerships and led strategic merchandise planning for a \$1 billion enterprise.

Along the way, she mentored those around her, helping them to reach their goals and learn for themselves what makes them happy and fulfilled.

Beyond her professional life, she has devoted her time and expertise to community service. She served for 15 years on the Circleville City Schools Board, including terms as President where she played a pivotal role in consolidating schools and developing a new educational campus.

Additionally, she contributed to the Circleville City Schools Foundation, leading record-breaking fundraising efforts.

As Chair of The Ohio State University Fashion Retail Studies Advisory Board, she has bridged academia and industry, enriching student experiences and fostering future talent.

Her consulting work since 2015 includes strategic planning and development for businesses and nonprofits. Her dedication extends to personal causes, such as raising over \$25,000 for cancer research through Pelotonia.

Christine and Steve are the parents of CHS graduates Amanda, Kimberly Wallace and Tara Whitten, and grandparents to four grandchildren.



Adam Logan '00

Adam Logan, a 2000 graduate of CHS, was an average student. He concedes school did not come easily to him. Due to working long hours, he was often late for school and sometimes sleep through some classes.

He was most engaged when working with his hands and seeing a project through to completion. Looking back, he wishes he had attended vocational school during high school.

While at Circleville, Logan participated in soccer, football and wrestling. He holds a school record for a 52-yard field goal in football. He was class president for three years and a member of Student Council. At the same time, he ran a lawn care business, Mighty Fine Outdoor Operations, which employed several classmates. He sold the business to a competitor before leaving for college.

Logan received a football scholarship to the University of Indianapolis. However, after a year, he decided college was not the right path for him and started another business.

That business grew into FORJAK Industrial, which provides industrial blasting and coatings, architectural painting and concrete restoration. Starting in his parents' garage, Logan faced a series of challenges as he built the company.

FORJAK evolved into a multimillion dollar enterprise employing over 90 people and is still growing. The company has worked with national firms and the U.S. military, earning strong vendor performance ratings.

Outside of work, Logan is involved in his community. He has served as a homeowner's association president and quietly supports charitable initiatives.

In 2023, he transitioned FORJAK into an Employee Stock Ownership Plan, offering long-term financial opportunities to employees. His collaborations with colleagues, including his sister Katie Hedges and wife Kelly, reflect shared values of perseverance and dedication.

Katie nominated her brother because "he epitomizes what it means to maximize achievement through lifelong learning, hard work and steel resolve..I'm indebted to him for all that he has taught me - both in business and in life."