



# Marlington Alumni Association

Past.....Helping.....Future

Vol. X

Newsletter

Spring 1999

## Alumni Association Awards \$10,000 in Scholarships to MHS Grads

MAA was very pleased to present nine scholarship awards totaling \$10,000 at the annual banquet-meeting on June 27, 1998, held at Mount Union College. Scholarships were presented to: Erin Barker, Matt Boyce and Seth DeHoff, Jim Krabill Memorial Scholarships; Tim Bugansky, Hastings Journalism Scholarship; Robert Severns, Pete Moulin Scholarship; Jessica Harriman, Rita Moulin Memorial Scholarship; Erin Barker, Ford C. Davis Memorial Scholarship; and Jennifer Wilson and Patricia Pritchard, Marlington Alumni Scholarships.

Jerry Peterson served as master of ceremonies for the evening; Dave Albright gave the invocation. A delicious buffet dinner was enjoyed by many alumni and friends of Marlington. Jack Hazen ('58) of North Canton, Ohio, received the outstanding alumni award. Jack participated in football, basketball, and track in high school and is an associate professor at Malone College, where he has garnered many coaching honors in cross country and track. He also was a teacher and coach at Mount Vernon High School. While at Malone, Jack coached 134 All-American performers, 10 national champions, two Olympians and 47 Mid-Ohio Conference team champions. He was U.S. coach for men's cross country team, which competed in the world championships in 1992 and 1996, and served on the track and field competition management team for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Jack has been inducted into the Ohio High School Hall of Fame, the Malone Athletic Hall of Fame and the National Association of Inter-collegiate Athletics Hall of Fame.

Officers elected to lead the alumni association for the next year included Eleanor Ramser-president; Annabelle Bohaychuk-vice president; Pam Kraft-secretary; and Norita Webb-treasurer. Don Prather, Julie Johnson and Dave Traphagen were named to the executive committee. Cindy Battershell, Pam Boone, and Karen Robinson were named to the scholarship committee. Past Outstanding Alumni Award winners

were recognized, as were members of the classes of 1948 and 1973. Tom Robinson gave a report on the Marlington Milestones project. Robert Haines presented a donation in memory of deceased classmates from the class of 1945.

The evening's program was a video tape of the performance of this year's Senior Marlington Odyssey of the Mind team which placed 8th in world competition! Dave Kuntzman, coach of the team, showed the video, and he and several team members held a question-and-answer session. Marsha Graham led the singing of the *Alma Mater* to close the evening's festivities. Plan now to attend this year's annual banquet.

### MAA Wants Your News And Missing Class Lists

The MAA welcomes information from grads, friends and families about alums' achievements, promotions, community awards, etc. Drop us a line any time and mail to MAA, % Marlington Schools. Be sure to include the graduation year on any correspondence about address changes or grad news. Sifting through nearly 8,500 names to find yours is a very time-consuming task. A million thanks to retired teachers Eleanor Ramser and Joanne Lutz, who very kindly have spent many hours searching for those elusive names. You can reach the alumni office to leave a message at 330-823-7680.

The alumni association is still missing updated address lists from several classes, which means that we are unable to mail the newsletter to any of these grads. If you have a recent list or can get one for any of these classes, please get a copy for MAA. The missing classes are 1982, 1983, 1984, and 1987. We also need a *Scenario* from 1965. Thanks for any assistance you can provide.

## **From the Alumni Association President. . .**

*Common practice in many facets of our lives is to stop, take note of what has happened in the past and to consider what plans are needed for the future. The Marlinton Alumni Association has now celebrated its tenth birthday. I know that this does not seem possible but Tempus Fugit. Indeed, time flies and much has occurred in the infancy of our organization. With the suggestion and the dream that Marlinton should have an alumni association, a group of alumni met in the high school library to determine their options on such an undertaking. Needless to say, great interest was shown by a unanimous vote*

*With no finances, but a promise of cooperation from the administration and helpful suggestions from the very outstanding Salem Alumni Association, we began with a constitution and charter memberships. We were so proud to award two \$100 scholarships the first year at the MHS Awards Assembly. By the end of our tenth year we were awarding \$10,000 worth of scholarships. This is PROGRESS!*

*With generous donations from the Jim Krabill family, the Ford C. Davis family, Pete Moulin, Jim Hastings, and many other donations, we now have invested over \$300,000. Various classes have donated sizable sums, for which we are extremely grateful.*

*Under the leadership of Dr. Tom Robinson, the Milestone Program was initiated with the goal of raising \$1,000,000 by the millennium. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will read about this and other goals of the MAA. I compliment the alumni who have become members and all those who locally have accepted responsibility in holding office or chairing our various projects.*

*Another special event took place this year. Hats off to the Marlboro Class of 1953 that set a goal for 100% class membership in the MAA and accomplished it. This is a first, and we recommend that other classes might wish to do likewise.*

*REMEMBER! It's you that we need to help us succeed.*

*Sincerely,*

*Eleanor Ramser*  
Eleanor Ramser, President  
Marlinton Alumni Association

## **Marlinton Alumni Association Welcomes New Members!**

If you have not yet become a member of the Marlinton Alumni Association, consider joining now so that you can continue to receive news about your schoolmates and alma mater. The MAA will finance future projects through member dues, donations and contributions. We are not charging annual dues. *New lifetime memberships may be obtained with a one-time \$20.00 fee.* Membership is open to all graduates of the schools of Marlinton district including the former Marlboro High School, to those who attended any Marlinton building, to current and former staff, and to friends of the school district.

The MAA will also gladly accept contributions not limited to memberships. Donations designated for the scholarship fund will help the association provide more and better scholarships in the future. Assistance from a professional investment planner is available to anyone wishing to establish a trust or deferred gift for the Marlinton Alumni Association. You may also want to consider a contribution in honor or in memory of someone special and/or gift memberships for graduates or future graduates!

## **MAA Accepting Nominations For Outstanding Alumni**

Marlinton High School graduates who have been more than moderately successful are plentiful. You may be one of them, or you may know one or more who have made exceptional achievements in their chosen field of endeavor or made unique contributions to their community. The Marlinton Alumni Association has honored such graduates for a number of years, presenting the Outstanding Alumni Award for career success or service to the school at each annual meeting.

In an effort to broaden the selection process, the association board of directors this year expanded categories for nomination to five areas: academic/career accomplishments, athletic accomplishments, cultural/performing arts achievement, contributions/service to Marlinton Schools, and special honorary achievements.

We hope that Marlinton grads will take a few minutes to think about classmates who might be considered for honors in these categories and submit their names with any pertinent information available (especially year of graduation) to Marlinton Alumni Association, 10320 Moulin Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601. Those preferring to use the internet can contact the association through Jimerma@aol.com.

## Class Reunion Plans

Class of 1949 - 50th year - Sept. 17 & 18, 1999  
 Kay Vaughn's Hall  
 Contact: Pauline Gressinger Begue  
 (330) 875-5146

Class of 1959 - 40th year - July 24, 1999  
 Alliance Country Club  
 Contact: Faye Moles Martin (330) 823-7537

Class of 1969 - 30th year - August 14, 1999  
 Oak Grove Golf Course  
 Contact: Joan Ellsworth (330) 823-8823

Class of 1974 - 25th year - November 14, 1999  
 Alliance Country Club  
 Contact: Ben Frustos (330) 823-1010

Class of 1979 - 20th year - August 7, 1999  
 Louisville Eagles  
 Contact: Laura Shearrow Hoover (330) 935-2518

Class of 1994 - 5th Year  
 Contact: Ryan Jones (330) 823-5964

If you are having a reunion, notify us at the alumni office as soon as possible so we can answer the many phone calls requesting information. After a reunion, please send us a corrected address list.

## MAA Golf Outing Planned for July 30 at Tannenhaut

The '98 Marlington Golf Fun Scramble was an unqualified success, with over seventy-five alumni and friends of Marlington arriving at Tannenhaut Golf Club in time to enjoy a breakfast buffet before tee off. The event, chaired by Bob Haines ('45) and Jerry Peterson ('68), raised over \$5000 for the alumni scholarship fund.

The Marlington Alumni Association will sponsor the third annual golf outing for alumni and friends of Marlington. The outing will be held Friday, July 30, 1999 at the Tannenhaut Golf Club near Alliance. Proceeds from the golf outing will go to the Marlington Alumni Scholarship Fund for the benefit of Marlington graduates. The cost of a ticket includes all golf fees and two meals. Prizes will be given for all levels of play. Why not get a four-some together and enjoy a day of golf and renew old friendships and memories. If you would like more information or to sign up, call Bob Haines at (330) 935-2323 or Jerry Peterson at (330) 471-5012.

## Honorarian Gifts

MHS Secretaries

Ray & Eleanor Ramser's  
 50th Anniversary

## Memorial Gifts

### In Memory of:

Roy Umberger  
 Deceased Classmates '53  
 Roy Umberger  
 Deceased Classmates  
 Deceased Classmates  
 Mildred Young  
 Deceased Classmates '48  
 Jerry Frank  
 Deceased Classmates '48  
 Ralph Green  
 Deceased Classmates '53  
 Deceased Classmates '53  
 Roy Umberger  
 Bill Cole  
 Roy Umberger  
 Ruth Steffy Long

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### Given by:

Edward & Nancy Jacks  
 Rex E. Duff, Jr.  
 Thomas & Mary Kuhn  
 Class of 1948  
 Class of 1968  
 Eleanor Ramser  
 Grace Haines Dimit  
 Gerald P. Graham  
 Sally Green  
 Sally Green  
 Jim Hastings  
 Mary Yoder Hilmer  
 Robert & Betty Poto  
 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Ramser  
 Carl & Andrea Schultz  
 Class of 1945  
 Donna Lare Bell  
 Glenn Bergert  
 Naomi Teter Breit  
 Donna Green  
 Twila Woods Grimm  
 Leo Haidet  
 Robert Haines  
 Eugene Kenaley  
 Gordon Knisely  
 Donald Moore  
 Bill Zirblis  
 Marie Wittensolder  
 Thompson

## Milestone Gifts

\*Class of 1962  
 \*Helen Wittensoldner Beck  
 \*Darla D. Burris  
 \*Douglas Cunningham  
 \*Betty & Harold Davies  
 \*Nadine Donachy  
 \*Don W. Gibson  
 \*Tom Hagan  
 \*Janice A. Linder King  
 \*Tina Lammers  
 \*Richard & Carol McGirr  
 \*Jerry Peterson  
 \*Ray & Eleanor Ramser  
 \*Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Robinson  
 \*Nancy Schwan  
 \*Thomas R. Schwartz  
 \*Ray Sluss  
 \*F. Carl Walter  
 \*David & Wendy Williams

# Mel Snode: Good Friend, Community Activist, Guidance Counselor Extraordinaire

--by Jim Hastings ('53)

Not many of us respect a bum. That's not the case with thousands of Stark County High School graduates or a multitude of co-workers, friends and acquaintances of Mr. Melvin "Bummie" Snode, retired guidance counselor at Marlington High School and a former teacher at Fairmount Children's Home and Middlebranch (later Glenwood) High School. Respect for that "bum" is very, very high. The "bummie" handle was from the description applied by a hired hand at the family farm in discussing his work clothing selection.

It's a rarity for Snode to appear in public without some younger person coming up to renew acquaintances from his days as classroom teacher or guidance counselor. Most of them still respectfully call him Mr. Snode, but those who know him best—former students or just friends—call him "bummie" or "Uncle Bum" with the same amount of respect.

Life's road for Snode has been long (he's now 79) and eventful, with plenty of ups and downs, successes and disappointments, all of which he met with an eternal sense of optimism, faith, and determination.

He endured the scorn of his Alliance High School classmates for being a country kid and later was elected postgraduate class president. His diminutive stature and work demands of the family farm eliminated any hopes of participating in high school sports, but didn't prevent him from developing baseball skills to the extent that he was invited to try out for the Cincinnati Reds baseball team. A busy life style didn't deter his passion for bowling and golf, and a competitive nature lives on when he plays or watches any sport.

His parents instilled discipline, a respect for education and a work ethic, all of which contributed to his success as teacher, coach, and counselor. His strong religious faith provided added support in the untimely death of his first wife. "It's easy not to believe (in a supreme being) when things are going

well," says Snode. "But wait until the going gets tough." He took that faith beyond just establishing an enviable attendance record at Science Hill United Church of Christ by working as Sunday School teacher and member of the church board, while contributing many hours of maintenance efforts.

Snode's education included stints at Union Grove and Science Hill one-room schools, Alliance High School and Mount Union College. During a break in his military service with the U.S. Army, he did post-graduate work at the University of Basel in Switzerland and wound up his academic career with a master's degree from Kent State.

Snode had his share of brushes with death during the war. A sniper bullet just missed him shortly after arrival in Europe, and his artillery forward observer post was demolished by a German shell moments after he left. His unit was involved in the Battle of the Bulge and was to be a part of the Japanese invasion force had the Japanese not capitulated after the atom bomb was dropped. A flat tire on his jeep resulted in his missing a flight for schooling in England aboard a plane which crashed.

Fate and a knowledge of German led to his assignment in Europe while his original training unit was decimated attacking the Japanese at Okinawa. It was during his time in Europe that Snode's baseball skills attracted the attention of his service team coach Harry "the Hat" Walker. Walker became manager of the Cincinnati Reds after the war and invited his service team members for tryouts.

Snode turned down the \$500 offered by the Reds for a tryout and married Ruth Oyster, resuming his teaching career and starting a family, which eventually became three daughters and a son. Ruth died tragically of hepatitis in 1960. In 1964, Snode met Marilyn Anderson Chapman. The day after Christmas in 1965, they were married. Marilyn's son and two daughters meant seven stockings hanging on the mantle at Christmas. That mantle is now obscured by the stockings of children, grandchildren and in-laws today, for a grand total of 33. "Some men never have a wonderful wife," says Snode. "I've been blessed with two of them." His praise and compliments are lavish for the job done by Marilyn in merging the two families into one.

Snode, eldest son of the late Ben and Ida Snode, was born on the family farm in Lexington Township which is now the site of Tannenhaut Golf Course. For years he spent every spare minute mowing fairways and greens, as well as assisting in all other aspects of the operation of the course, jointly owned with his brother Kenneth and sister Alda Williamson. His retirement from education allowed even more time to work at the course, where you can count on seeing him aboard a tractor mowing, doing other maintenance, swatting a golf ball, or possibly sampling the food in the kitchen.

His first coaching success came at Fairmount Home, where he guided the eventual national marbles championship runner-up. His love of sports led to 30-plus years as official scorekeeper for the Marlinton baseball team, serving as captain of local bowling and golf teams (with a number of championship trophies to display), and ardent support of various Ohio college and professional teams.

Laurels and accolades have been plentiful, including awards by the Ohio School Counselor's Association and Lexington Ruritan Club, but none caught the attention of the public the way students at Middlebranch reacted when Snode's contract was not renewed in 1950.

After the board of education, miffed at the resolution of a contractual misunderstanding, told Snode of his non-renewal because of missing service record documentation, more than 340 students left school at noon and walked home in protest of the action. They were later joined by their parents in support of Snode. As if that show of support wasn't enough, a red-faced board of education found the necessary documentation in Snode's file and hastily reversed their stand.

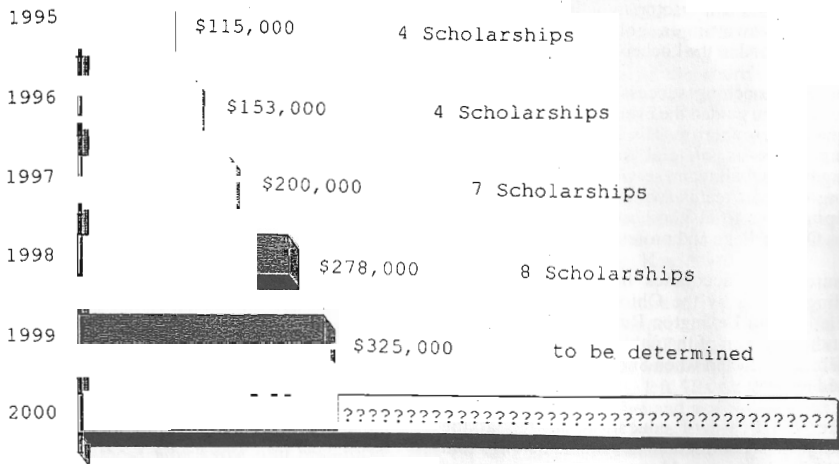
Snode jumped from the classroom to counseling because he thought he could be of more help to students. As always, Snode put all his energy into that new aspect of his career, doing his best to ensure that students would balance the mental, physical, spiritual and social facets of life. In addition to his cheerful attention to students and countless transcripts prepared under his direction, Snode was well known as "Mr. Test." Hardly a student who came within his sphere of influence can fail to recall Bummie Snode intoning, "Open your test booklets. Read the instructions to yourself silently while I read them aloud..."

Perseverance and persistence are as much a part of Mel Snode as his close-cropped hair. Add loyalty to family and friends, faith in God, and a solid work ethic and you have the man so many people are proud to call friend.

## News About MHS Grads. . .

- \* Carol Wearstler ('56), recently retired Mount Union College secretary, was honored with the Exchange Club's National Book of Golden Deeds Award for service to others.
- \* Tom Bixler ('59) has retired recently from the faculty of Ohio University/Zanesville Branch, where he also served as athletic director.
- \* Dale Mani ('62), who has bowled in 9 ABC tournaments and competed in 27 state tournaments, was inducted into the Greater Canton Bowling Hall of Fame.
- \* Mary Albright Fisher ('66) has recently graduated from Mount Union College, where she is employed as bookstore manager.
- \* Mary Smith Poston ('72), has been ordained as a pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.
- \* Scott Cline ('73) chairman of the retail division, was voted United Way's Volunteer of the Year in Alliance.
- \* Tom Richards ('77) has obtained a patent for clutches and brakes used in mining and railroads.
- \* Vanessa Bohaychuk Richards ('77) is vice president of investments at Canton's United Bank.
- \* Technical Sgt. Daniel Wareham ('78) retired from a 20-year career in the U.S. Air Force.
- \* Geoffrey Frank ('83) received a doctor of philosophy in engineering from the University of Dayton, where he is a research engineer.
- \* Allan Funk ('89) is pursuing a career in professional wrestling.
- \* Dr. Scott Aberegg ('90) is a resident in internal medicine in Albuquerque N.M. and is sub-specializing in pulmonary and critical care medicine.
- \* Dr. Elizabeth Draper Muckley ('90) has a degree in optometry and is practicing in Alliance.
- \* Dr. Michele Charlton ('93) is now practicing as a doctor of chiropractic medicine.
- \* Matt Coldsnow ('94) was commissioned in the U.S. Army as second lieutenant following graduation from West Point and is attending flight school.

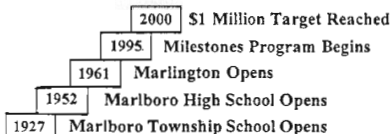
# Marlington Milestones



Marlington Milestones is a successful Alumni campaign as shown by the steady increase in funding, scholarships per year, and total scholarships to date. Be part of the First million!!! Join the effort to help students further their education. Others have given generously. Take this opportunity to contribute now to this very worthwhile cause. Contributions and questions are welcome at our Alumni Association office.

Detach and return to: Marlington Alumni Association, 10320 Moulin Ave., Alliance, OH 44601

## Marlington Milestones



Total Pledge ☐ King \$1,000 or more  
☐ Duke \$500 to \$999  
☐ Prince \$150 to \$499  
☐ Squire \$5 to \$149  
☐ Jester \$1 or less

Paid Now ☐ Bill Quarterly (Up to 20 Qtrs)  
☐ Bill Annually (Up to 5 Yrs)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# Alumni Banquet Scheduled for June 19; Gold & Silver Classes to be Honored

The Marlington Alumni Association's annual banquet will be held on Saturday, June 19 at the Elks Lodge, 606 Glamorgan St. in Alliance. A punch reception begins at 6:30 pm, with dinner served at 7:00 pm. During the evening's program, scholarship winners will be announced and the outstanding alumni award will be presented. Special recognition is planned for the classes of 1949 and 1974.

Don't miss this enjoyable evening! The cost is \$15.00 per person. Reservations are required and may be mailed to MAA using the reservation form at the bottom of this page. Deadline for reservations is June 12. For more information, contact Eleanor Ramser at (330) 821-2407.

## The Honor Class of 1949

Twenty-nine seniors in the Class of 1949 began the final trek toward graduation by "breaking in" three new teachers—Orin McGlone, Virginia Bridges, and Gulielmo (Bill) Shori—in the fall of 1948. Before graduation day rolled around, the class said farewell to William Herron, who transferred to Alliance for his final semester.

Class leaders were James Monter, president; Floyd Haines, vice president; Jean Frank, secretary; and Arlene Kyle, treasurer. Miss Elda Zurcher was the class sponsor. During the year, seven seniors paid a visit to the Mount Union College campus to get a look at college life; Pauline Gressinger was chosen to be a speaker on WHBC radio; and Margaret Vaughn served as honorary football queen.

The class chose the motto "We will find a path or make one," and selected green and white carnations as the class flower. They put their thespian talents to work with a play "Adam's Evening" and rejoiced as

the Cleveland Indians won the World Series, to the dismay of English teacher and diehard Braves fan Charles Maurer. Seniors sponsored a magician on April 1 (no fooling!) for a school assembly. Baccalaureate arrived May 29; Dusty Miller was the June 1 commencement speaker. Nadine Davis won valedictorian honors, while Jean Frank was salutatorian.

## The Honor Class of 1974

Our silver anniversary class listed 264 members in the yearbook, *Scenario*, which was dedicated to Tom Hazen, "a Christian gentlemen who goes out of his way to help others...a man of dedication, he has spent countless hours over and beyond the call of duty." Class officers were Mike McMinn, president; Dave Merryman, vice president; Deb Sweitzer, secretary; and Tana Carli, treasurer, who would go on to become a Miss Ohio and local TV newscaster.

The class mixed athletic ability (Ray Nicol was cross country MVP and Sam Melaragno had that honor in football) with academic excellence, as exhibited by Kevin Mather, who placed first in the state chemistry scholarship test.

Royalty included Teresa Cotton and Dave Brown, queen and king of the band dance, "A Bavarian Castle Ball," as juniors, and Marty Poole, winter sports queen at "A Valentine's Fantasy." Bunny Brush was selected as Prom Queen; the theme was "Somewhere Over the Rainbow."

The *Scenario*, a 208-page record of the school year, was co-edited by Carol Neely and Mary Todd, while Kim (Bunny) Brush and Patty Breiding were co-editors of the *Shield*, the school newspaper, which appeared monthly during the school year.

Complete the following information and return this form with your check made payable to the Marlington Alumni Association. Deadline for banquet reservations is June 12.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Alumni Assoc. lifetime memberships @ \$20.00 Total \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Banquet reservations @ \$15.00 Total \_\_\_\_\_

If memberships are different than the person above, please list names and addresses on a separate page and attach to this form. REMEMBER TO INCLUDE CLASS YEAR! Mail this form and your check to the Marlington Alumni Association, 10320 Moulin Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601.

*The MAA Newsletter is published annually by the Marlinton Alumni Association,  
10320 Moulin Avenue, Alliance, OH 44601. Eleanor Ramser, President.*

## Marlinton Alumni Association Welcomes New Members

### **Class of 1953**

John Clapsaddle  
Russell Bergert  
Mary Yoder Hillmer  
James VanCamp  
Connie Johnson-Sledden  
Charles E. Jones  
Nancy Baum Monea

### **Class of 1959**

Carol Nidy Worlow

### **Class of 1963**

Janice Linder King

### **Class of 1965**

John Battershell  
Sally Myers Petrucci

### **Class of 1967**

Susan Linder Thomas

### **Class of 1968**

Marcella Kennedy Disman  
Cindy Kimes Battershell

### **Class of 1969**

Dr. Jeffery Hahn

### **Class of 1972**

Virginia Wallace Crowell

### **Class of 1973**

John Hagan  
Dr. Kim Moore

### **Class of 1974**

Mark Dickerhoof  
David King

### **Class of 1977**

Paula Detchon Haigler

### **Class of 1979**

Laura Shearrow Hoover

### **Class of 1986**

Jim Fisher

### **Class of 1988**

Tina Lammers  
Leonard Jenkins

### **Class of 1992**

Sharon McCann  
Randy Hoover

### **Class of 1993**

Aaron Krabill

### **Class of 1994**

Erin Lukens  
Victoria Perkins

### **Class of 1996**

Travis Thomas

### **Class of 1997**

Benjamin Battershell

### **Class of 1998**

Tim Bugansky

### **Friends of Marlinton**

Patricia Hahn  
Richard Mallernee

## **Marlinton Alumni Association**



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Alliance, OH 44601

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