

The 64<sup>th</sup> annual Blairstown High School reunion was held September 9, 2023 at Belvidere Manor where fifty six alumni and their guests enjoyed an hour of cocktails and hor d'oeuvres before being welcomed by President Robert Sydrock with a special recognition to Secretary/Treasurer Nancy VanSyckle thanking her for all her hard work organizing this year's reunion after a four year hiatus due to the covid pandemic. A moment of silence was observed for deceased alumni: Walter Vass '41, Maria Woodruff '47, Irene Gaus Litz '53, Gayle Lambert Salamone '53, Carolyn Biles Simonetti '53, Ross Marshall '55, David Feitsma '57, Joan Garon Ostrowski '61, Della Mae Gulick Darst '61, Phillip Zabowski '62, Sally Faraday Paul '65, Dennis Oravits '67, Charles Cowell '68, John Brown '70, Patricia Crawbuck Whipple '70, Warren Depuy '71 NWR. A buffet was enjoyed following the invocation by Jerry Labar. A 50/50 raffle was conducted throughout the evening with one \$100 winner along with door prizes.

President Sydrock opened the meeting and introduced the other officers: Sal Simonetti, Vice President and Nancy VanSyckle, Secretary/Treasurer and trustees: Barbara Quinn and Clarinda Stoffels. There were no nominations for officers. The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting in 2019. The treasurer reported we currently have funds in the investment fund to continue the scholarship for at least 3 more years. We awarded 3 scholarships this year since we had awarded only one in the last four years. They were awarded to Hunter Rydell, grandson of Harold Rydell '56, Jeffrey and Brett Dorfman, grandsons of Anita Heins Krauth '60. Vice President Simonetti read the roll call of attending alumni: William Beegle and Elizabeth Latteman Beegle '43, Ellen Beegle Costa and Adonis Cooke Dean '53, Alice Frutche Lockburner, Sal Simonetti and Seren (Jack) Skow '54, Carol Johnson Collinson, Harold Rydell, Jean Smolha and Harold Swisher '56, C. Wayne Lambert '57, Frederick Fiessler, Lester Shotwell and Rosemary McMullen Wilson '59, Dorothy Appel, George DePuy, Fred Gouger, Joanne Grandin Oleszek, Dianne Shuster Pankey, Josephine Shuster Labar and Barbara Stoffels '60, Earle Burdge and Gerald Labar '61, Sharon Davitt Cook '62, Joyce Birbner Moone, Ronald Pittenger, Esther Bufis Semken, Martin Semken and John Whipple '63, Carol Cook '64, Mabel Sliker Klaver '65, Barbara Stankowitz Quinn '66, Clarinda Gouger Stoffels and T. Robert Sydrock '67, Jerry Stoddart '68, Jerry Ferrari, Dolly Sliker Ferrari, Karen Kise Kohler, Karen Muller Miller, Mildred Castonguay Rice and Patricia Guiler Shaffer '69, William Kise, Sharon VanSyckle Kise, Nancy VanSyckle and Gary Washburn '70, James Erd, Gail Keogh-Dwyer, Joyce Bennett Newport and Kenneth Shaffer '71, Gail Catalano Lauer, Pauline Guiler Leupo, James Ramm, Donna Meshach Reade and Donna Siple Stoddart '73, and Roddy Kise '74. Prizes were awarded to William Beegle '43 as the oldest alumni in attendance, along with Roddy Kise '74 as the youngest and Ellen Beegle Costa '53 who traveled the farthest from Florida.

President Sydrock introduced Christine from the Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee who gave a presentation on how life has changed since the first graduations from Blairstown High School. Following the drawing for the 50/50 and door prizes, Jay Labar led the alumni in singing the alma mater. The meeting was adjourned, and alumni continued to reminisce while enjoying the music of DJ "dug".

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