



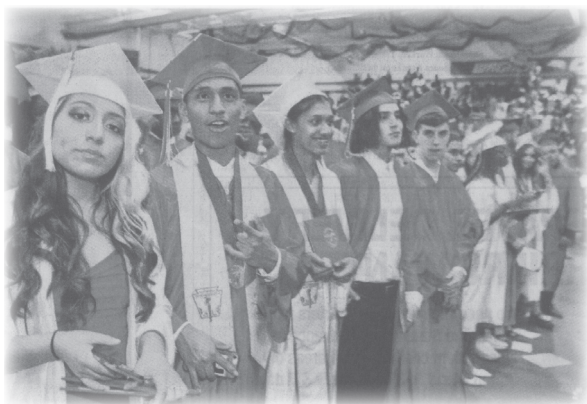
Port Richmond High School *Alumni News*

VOL. 28 NO. 1

BRIDGING THE YEARS TOGETHER

FALL 2019

PRHS GRADUATES 359



On Tuesday, June 25, 2019 the 89th graduation ceremony of PRHS was held on the campus of Wagner College at which over three hundred Raiders received their high school diplomas. State Assemblyman Charles D. Fall, a native State Islander who grew up in Mariners Harbor, was the commencement speaker. Principal Andrew Greenfield presided over the ceremony and former Principal Timothy M. Gannon attended as a guest of honor.



Assemblyman Charles D. Fall addresses the class of 2019



Principal's Message

Greetings to my fellow Minstrels and Raiders,



I can't believe it's already the end of October and the new school year is one-fifth over. We ended last year, with the highest graduation rate our school has had in over a decade and started this year with over 150 students more than projected by the Department of Education. As a result, we were able to hire sixteen new teachers in a variety of subjects, many of whom are loving their first two months working in our great school.

Our first two months of school have been extremely exciting with a restructuring of our small learning communities into grade academies. Each grade is now lead by two assistant principals, two guidance counselors, and two deans that will follow their grade until graduation. In addition, our COSA, Mr. Medugno, has instituted a friendly competition between the grades to promote higher academic achievement, better attendance in school and better participation in school activities. Our students and staff are loving the "Grade Wars" which has definitely had a positive impact on our school community.

The last two months have seen a number of positive articles in the Staten Island Advance about the great things happening at our alma mater. This school year, our senior government students were visited by U.S. Congressman Max Rose for an intimate roundtable discussion about gun control. Our students have already participated in four major fundraising events throughout Staten Island, including the MADD Walk, the Autism Walk, the Breast Cancer Walk and the Jar of Hope Push-Up Challenge for the fight against Duchenne's Muscular Dystrophy. In this challenge, our school broke the Staten Island record with over 740 students on the athletic field doing push-ups for this very worthwhile cause. Port Richmond High School has also been selected, for the first time, to host this year's Miss Staten Island Scholarship on November 17th.

Last week, all of Staten Island's elected officials joined me, former Principal Timothy Gannon and Executive Superintendent Anthony Lodi-co for the long-awaited groundbreaking of our new 15.7 million dollar athletic complex scheduled for completion in July 2021. Our new field, sponsored by Borough President James Oddo, NYS Assemblymen Michael Cusick, Charles Fall, and City Council Members Debi Rose and Steven Matteo (both proud Port Richmond graduates,) will consist of a brand new synthetic turf football / soccer/ lacrosse field, new rubber track, new tennis courts, and for the first time, new synthetic turf baseball and softball fields. It was a truly momentous occasion and I can't wait for our students to practice and compete and Staten Island's newest athletic complex.

Lastly, I want to invite you back to the Herbert Balish Auditorium for this year's SING performances scheduled for November 22nd and 23rd. I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season and look forward to seeing many of you throughout the school year at one of our exciting events.

Fondly,
Andrew Greenfield (Class of 1988)
Principal

President's Message

To All Alumni



In beginning my second year as President of the Alumni Association, I must express how extremely pleased I have been with what we accomplished during the past school year. As an example, the very successful Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony inducted five very worthy candidates (Gerard Peter Arpino '40, Dr. James Canfield '48, Gary Barton '74, James J. McBratney '79 and Jeanette E. Skow '94). This by itself should make all of us very proud.

As I've said before, another bright spot was the amount of scholarship money we were able to provide to nine of PRHS's 2019 graduating students which helped them pay for their first year of college.

As I also have mentioned before, working with Principal Andrew Greenfield and his staff has proven to be a terrific experience for those of us on the Alumni Association Board and this has been a major reason in our having such a successful year.

We have several goals that I hope are accomplished in the coming school year. Among these goals are:

- 1) Having our newly designed website up and running so that all members of the Alumni Association have a place to see what activities are scheduled, what accomplishments have been achieved, and also learn what still needs to be done.
- 2) It's been a frustrating issue that we have not been able to get recent graduates to join and participate with the Alumni Association. A major effort will be made to try to get these graduates to join and be active participants for the 2019-2020 school year.

Sincerely,
John C. Woodman '62
(cell) 347 612-1379
(email) jwoodman1@si.rr.com



Retiring faculty and staff:



Congratulations August 2019 graduates

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS EXCEED \$15,000!!

As a direct result of the generosity of our contributing members, the Alumni Association was able to award over \$15,000 in scholarships and stipends to members of the Class of 2019.

Pictured above are the recipients of these financial gift:

Alumni Association \$1200 Scholarships:

Christeen Perera (IS51) Wagner College - Math. and Computer Science

Sarah Kovnator - Wagner College

Samara Sibblie (IS 51) Stony Brook University - Psychology

Raphael Pollante (IS 72) College of Staten Island – pre- Med.

Nicole Okoli (Mt. Carmel/St. Benedicta) Baruch -Finance and International Business

Selene Guadarrama - College of Staten Island

Thomas and Anderson Scholarship \$7000

Geradine Soto (St Peter/St Paul Elem.) NYIT – Mechanical Engineering

Robert Mathews Scholarship \$2500

Ryan Horgan (PS54, IS72) University of New Haven-Computer Science

Christopher Maiorano (IS51) Rider University – Sports Management

Total Raider Stipends \$250

Sheri Berger (IS27) College of Staten Island – Fine Arts

Angel Santiago (PS 21, IS 51) St. Thomas Aquinas College – Business Management



Ed Mattei seated with 2019 Scholarship Winners

TRI-CLASS REUNION

CLASS OF 1963

Class of 1963 members attending: Gail Burton Cardell, Frank Cardell, Edward Christiansen, Carol Salvesen King, Carol Steinle Lewers, Bernie Olsen, Kathleen Wetz Racz, Maureen Robinson, Edward Ronckovits, Patricia Connors Rychter, Ellen Simonetti and Mary Ann Hyland '64.



CLASS OF 1964

Class of 1964 members attending: Evelyn Steinle Anderson, Carl Becker, Mary Ellen Bennett, Shirley Wolf Bock, Patricia Wetz Bresnahan, Carlo Buonviaggio, Juan Carmona, Joann Catello, Alonzo Cobb, Carmen Cognetta, Bonnie Wylie Confessore, Ann Nora Barrettt Conte, Jean Mastrangelo Dansky, Henry Edgar, Rosemary Morasco Firestone, Anthony Furio, Susan Campbell Ganshow, Charles Goffredo, Judith Salvione Greff, David Hall, Donald Hauptman, Mary Hicks, Barbara Fastenrath Hoess, Ray Hyland, Bill Index, Robert Intartaglio, Russel Kohlmann, Arthur Levin, Claire Roche Long, Phyliss Jones Loveridge, Lois Schimming Lynch, Susan Mallen Marcea, Patricia Martone, Barbara Grimes Mattia, Mary Ann Hyland McGowan, Wayne McKinley, Virginia Bellotti, Menar, Michael Mezzacappa, Eileen Gebhart Moffit, Diane Wood Mohlenhoff, Edward Mohlenhoff, Nancy Walsh Moon, Diane Cornish Morse, Kathleen Brushett Murphy, Richard Novo-Mesky, Ruth Kolbjornsn Nybro, James Oldham, Dorothy Brahn Olsen, Larry Rampulla, Laurence Rudin, Richard Ryan, Epp Jurima Sonin, Christine Twaite Thorsen, Sal Tornello, Robert Wood.



CLASS OF 1965

Class of 1965 members attending: Gloria Espinosa Ambio, Louis Ambio, Karen Fisher Hurley, Jack Hurley, Arthur Kozma, Gay Morrison Kratzer, Harold Kratzer, Pamela Carlson McKinley, Nancy Elzer Pufliese, Mary Ann Hyland '64 and Faculty Member Barbara Pietracatella.

CLASS OF 1974

45th Reunion Celebration



Gary Barton, Lorraine (Eidhammer) Carilli, Rosemarie (Veneziano) Catalano, Leeann (Scaglione) Colacurto, Stephan (Satchell) Cooper Bynes, Isabel (Liotine) Deliberti, Susan (Granello) Delouya, Rick DeMarco, Dot (Merolo) DiBartolo, John Schaefer, Linda (Carroll) DiLorenzo, Anita Filosa, Fran (Agnello) Forte, Diana (Hennessy) Gavin, Gary Giovinnazzo, Fran (Sapone) Giovinnazzo, Patricia Glover, Anthony Goffredo, George Gioia, Joy Grant, Tricia (Zappone) Jarecki, Ira Kalbrosky, Rich Ladiana, Debbie (LeCornec) McGovern, Mark Minto, Kathy (Deignan) Nowak, Ron Ragucci, Nancy (Shostchuk) Ragucci, Doreen Rainey, Debbie (Kamback) Reynolds, Gina (Lamposona) Richiuso, Ray Rudick, Mary Beth (Jassack) Ruggiero, Frank Schiano, Barbara (Gundersen) Schiano, Jim Schoepfer, Lorraine (Naughton) Sheffield, Frank Singer, Mary Ann Sonnergren, Beverly Sorensen, Debbie (Rogers) Szczecinski, Diana Tanzosh, Karen (Zeller) Theung, Nancy (DeMonte) Tricorico, Maureen (Mohin) Ward, Lisa (Daniels) Williams, Debbie (Swanson) Zomerfeld,

1950'S Mini Reunion



PR 1950'S MINI-REUNION

For the past few summers, PR alumni from classes that graduated in the mid 50's have gathered at the home of Dottie Jensen Myhre in New Jersey to reminisce about their days as Minstrels. Although the weather was inclement 16 alumni made it to the party. Pictured below are some of those who attended.

Front Row: Esther McKee Timari, Amy Cangelosi, Ruth Fanuzzi Curry, Jo Tagliamonte Giordano, Roseanne Zenario Yoffredo, Joe Yoffredo, Dottie Jensen Myhre.

Back Row: Annen Anderson, Jack Healy, Bob Larsen, Dave Senden. Missing from the picture are: Charlie Mandrik, Lori Lambertson, Barbara Stonnel, Bob Parsons, Carmen Cognetta.

CONDOLENCES

The Board of Directors of the PRHS Alumni Association wish to express their sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the following members of the PRHS family who have passed away:

MICHAEL AMOIA '73
OTTO ANDERLE '47
GERALDINE URANGA BEYFUSS '62 – FACULTY
ROBERT BLAFIELD '46
JENNINE SPATAFORA BORKOWSKI '63 – FACULTY
OTIS B. BRUCE '60
GLORIA BOTTA CAPUTO '44
JOHN J. CARFAGNA '68
JOSEPH CHACON '64
CAROLYN KIRLEY COYNE '64
RUTH MINTO DALESSANDRO '35
MICHAEL D'ANGELO '57
HELEN ZARRELLA DEANGELIS '44
ALFONSE DEFRADESCO '59
CLARENCE B. DEHART '42
MARGARET FERENO DEROSE '44
GULIO FERRARO '64
HUGH FLEMING '39
DOMINICK FUMANDO '61

JOANNE FUMANDO '56
A. LEWIS GOLDBERG '55
RUSSEL M. GRILL '50
ROSE BLAICH GUNNING '39
SYLVIA CAPOBIANCO GUSALADI '69
DONNA BROGNA HEGELSON '73
LEROY B. HOLMAN '39
WILLIAM S. IRONS '63
MATHEW JAKUBOWSKI '11
HELEN KRULL KOCHMAN '34
MARTIN KOLOSKI '45
THOMAS LAMANTIA '70
LILLIAN ZIPF LEAHY '38
MARY BEARD MALLETTE '36
MARJORIE HARTUNG MARSHALL '44
DR ALBERT MARSHALL '44
PATRICIA SOSNOWSKI MANZELLA '61
JOSEPHINE CACCESE MCCLURE '45
FRANIS MCGILLIVARY '64

CORNELIA PHILP MCNEE '47
ROCCO MELCHIORRE '52
CAROLINE BROWN MILAM '43
FLORENCE NAPOLITANO MOLITERNI '50
MILDRED SULLIVAN MONAHAN '45
WILLIAM J. MONTALBANO '68
JOHN NAGENGAST '60
EE JOHNSON PFEFFER '48
RUTH BOGNES POULSEN '45
HELES SOBIESIAL PSZCOLA '73
DR. MARGARET APPEL ROCHELEAU '47
ROBERT RONCKOVITZ '64
RUTH DWYER RYAN '47
ROBERT SCHUBERT '52
KENNETH SCHNEIDER '36
JACK SERPI '45
REGINA NEUMAN SINGER '43
PETER STARLIN '61
EDWARD M. STRATTON '61

ALBERT THREATT '79
JOHN P. TOBIN – FACULTY
ALICE KEHL OTTEN '52
LISABELLE TOLNES – FACULTY
PASQUALINA CANGEMI VADALA '37
RITA AHERNE VAMVAKAS '64
ROBERT VAN DER OSTEN '38
DEANNA VAUGHN '54
FAY OLIVER WEGENER '52
LILY KRUSE WHITTET '51
ROBERT WHITTET '50
GERTRUDE HOLDORFF WIDGREN '45
GLADYS HENZ YUNG '45
LORRAINE ZGARDOWSKI '49
MARY LOU ZAMBORSKY ZUNTAG '53

May They Rest in Peace

Class Notes

1949 - Bill Raun, Class of 1949, almost had the opportunity to meet one of his childhood heroes when he was a corporal in the 398th anti-aircraft automatic weapons battalion during the Korean War. While Raun was coming off duty at the communications shed at the R-86 Sabre Jet base that his battalion was defending he heard a signal on the radio that his childhood hero, Boston Red Sox baseball player, Ted Williams, crashed his "Marine Corps F9F Panther jet at the K-13 base that was 15 minutes away" from where Raun was stationed. (Raun, "Batting for the Marines", *Reminisce Magazine*) Raun accepted an invitation to go on a mail run to the K13 base with the hope that he would get to meet Williams a second time. When Raun arrived at the base he saw the wrecked Panther jet; however, he was not given permission to see Williams. "Unfortunately, I couldn't meet Ted again - not that he would have remembered me - because he was being treated in the medical unit. I hoped he wasn't badly hurt," stated Raun in "Batting for the Marines."

Williams made a lasting impression on Raun when he was a 9 year old boy enjoying a Yankees baseball game and signed his baseball. On that day, in 1941, Williams became one of Raun's heroes.

Raun has more than the Korean War in common with Williams. Raun shares Williams' dedication to his career. Raun came home from the war to become a junior clerk with the Great Northern Railroad. He retired 37 years later as much as a baseball fan as he was when he was 9 years old.

(*Reminisce Magazine*, "Batting for the Marines," March 2019)

-Arianna Powery, PRHS Class of 2020

2000-2001-2002 – A multi-year class reunion is being planned for May 9, 2020. The event will be held at The STAATEN Restaurant from 6:45pm to 11pm. The cost is \$100 per person and will include dinner, open bar, DJ and a photo booth. The deadline for making reservations is March 1, 2020. Please contact Monica Jones Eustache '01 at PRHSRAIDER@GMAIL.COM or 347-816-7725 for further information. Please follow us on Facebook at Port Richmond 2001 Graduate Class for updates.



Ground Breaking for Athletic Field Rennovation



In October, ground was broken on a 15.7 million dollar upgrade of the PRHS athletic complex. All fields will be updated with new turf and a new field for our championship softball team will be added as well as new new tennis courts.

**If you have moved,
be sure to include
your new address
on membership form**

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Amt. \$ _____

Ck. # _____

Date _____

Port Richmond High School Alumni Association Membership Form 2019 -2020

General Membership	\$15 per year	Patron	\$100 per year
Co-Sponsor	\$25 per year	Business Sponsor	\$250.
Sponsor	\$50 per year	Benefactor	\$500 one lifetime payment

(Dues Are From July 2019 - June 2020)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

MAIDEN NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____ YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

Renewal ☐ New Member ☐

Please enroll me as a: General ☐ Co-Sponsor ☐ Sponsor ☐ Patron ☐ Business Sponsor ☐ Benefactor ☐

Please make check/money payable to: Port Richmond High School Alumni Association and mail to:

CARMEN COGNETTA, TREASURER

70 SPRINGHILL AVENUE, STATEN ISLAND, NEW YORK 10301

F-2019

It's the start of a new school year and Dues are Due!!!!

Our membership year runs from July 1-June 30, Soooo it is time to get a jump on the New Year and get those dues in. We use the dues money to provide six scholarships at graduation, fund our Hall of Fame event, and buy items, not provided by the Department of Education, to enhance the educational experience at Port Richmond for our students. Last year we helped fund the new STEM lab at Port Richmond, the first high school to have one on Staten Island. This year we awarded more than \$9,000 in scholarship money. Fill out the form above and send it in. Please add your email address so we can send the newsletter by email to as many graduates as we can. If you wish to pay by credit card (via PayPal) go to www.portrichmondalumni.com and click on either of the donate buttons. Fill out the information requested and it's done! Don't forget to enter your class year and maiden name if applicable in the box where you can add information. If you have any questions about dues you can reach the treasurer at treasurerprhsalumni@gmail.com. All dues received after June 15 this year have been credited for the 2019-2020 year.

Hall of Fame Nominations

It is that time of year again to think about nominations from our 11th Hall of Fame ceremony to be held on Monday, April 27, 2020. It is one of the best events held every year at the school. This year we are moving the ceremony to a Monday to make the event available to the student body. Nominations can be sent by mail to **Carmen Cognetta, 70 Springhill Ave, Staten Island, NY 10301** or by email to treasurerprhsalumni@gmail.com.

All nominations are considered. We are looking for graduates who have made an outstanding contribution to their chosen field, community or PRHS. Please remember that if your nomination is not selected this year they are retained for consideration in future years.

New Lifetime Members

We received a record number of eleven new Lifetime Members from our summer newsletter. New members include our current Alumni President John Woodman and three members from the class of 1970. We wish to thank the following graduates for becoming **Lifetime Members**. They are **Gladys Udal Thompson '45, Florence Ronckovitz Dewey '50, Trudy Simonson Van Name '61, John Woodman '62, Maureen Robinson '63, Gary Ferraris '70, Virginia Minto Ferraris '70, Patricia Kruse Yandoli '70, Alexis Capofari Ventre '71, Joanne Falco Love '77, and Maria Codd-Perez '85.**

Port Richmond High School

Alumni News

85 St. Joseph's Avenue

Staten Island, NY 10302

www.portrichmondalumni.com

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PLEASE SEND IN YOUR DUES TODAY

PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL AND NYCID
PRESENT

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RICHMOND
HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNI BAND**

CALLING ALL ALUMNI AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS!!
COME JOIN OUR NEW
ENSEMBLE!!
FREE TO JOIN!!

**EVERY MONDAY
STARTING 11/4/19
FROM 7PM-9PM**

FOR ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR
QUESTIONS CONTACT US:
FRANK SCARANO
FSCARANO@SCHOOLS.NYC.GOV

MEETING DATES **BEGIN AT 7:30 P.M.**

**Dec. 11, Jan. 15, March 11,
April 22, May 13, June 10**

Enter St. Joseph's Aveue (New Addition)

PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

JOHN WOODMAN '62 President
JUDI ROGOFF SASNAUSKAS '66 Vice President
JOSEPH CRESCENZI '83 Recording Secretary
EDMUND J. MATTEI '58 Newsletter Editor
CARMEN COGNETTA '64 Treasurer
CHRISTINE TWAITE THORSEN '64 Archivist

Bill Drinnan '47 Sophia Ling Donohue '88
Gary Lane '69 Richard Bros '79

PAST PRESIDENTS

GREGORY HALL '65 1986 - 1988
CARMEN J. COGNETTA JR. '64 1988 - 1990
WILLIAM MCANDREWS '65 1990 - 1992
CARMINE COLCA '53 1992 - 1994
ROBERT MATHEWS '48 1994 - 2001
BEVERLY WURTH NEUHAUS '62 2001 - 2005
JOHN JANKOWSKI '79 2006 - 2018

Written correspondence maybe be mailed to:

Ed Mattei PRHS Alumni News

Port Richmond High School

85 St. Joseph's Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302