



The Brick & Mortar Board

the newsletter of the HHS Alumni Association, Inc.
www.hobartalumni.org

Volume 12, Number 5

July, 2023

Come to the 2023 BrickieFest Homecoming Picnic on Saturday, September 23 from Noon to 3

The 2023 BrickieFest Homecoming Picnic will be held on Saturday, September 23, from 12 to 3 pm, at the VFW, 540 S. Indiana Street in Hobart. The picnic is free, and all alumni of the Hobart schools and their families are invited. Free hot dogs, brats, chips, and bottled water will be available courtesy of the HHS Alumni Association.

The Homecoming football game will be against Lowell on Friday, September 22, at the Brickyard. Come and make a weekend of it!



Alumni Spotlight



Hollee, Tommy's mom Dorothy Kellar, and Tommy Forbes.

Tommy Forbes, Owner and Manager of Tavern on the Lake in Hobart

Our Alumni Spotlight is on Tommy Forbes, Class of 1994, who is the owner and manager of Tavern on the Lake at 200 Main Street in Hobart. Our conversation starts here.

Where are you living now, and how do you spend your time these days?

I currently live in Crown Point, Indiana with my wife Hollee and our 5 children. We love spending time together as a family, whether that's at the baseball or soccer fields, grilling/cooking dinner together, watching movies at home. However, most of our family time is now spent at our new restaurant, Tavern on the Lake in Hobart. We bring the kids with us to work some days, and they just have a great time with the employees or walking down by the lake.

Could you trace the path from high school graduation to what you are doing now?

After high school, my passion for food and cooking grew and I knew that I wanted it to be a large part of my life. So, I decided to attend the Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago. After graduating from there, I worked at numerous restaurants, working my way from a sous chef to an executive chef. I have also doubled as a restaurant consultant, helping other new restaurants to get established. Tavern on the Lake is the second restaurant that I have owned too. I was also an owner of another Tavern in Crown Point before selling in 2019.

(continued on page 2)

Alumni Spotlight (cont.)

What kinds of food and drinks does Tavern on the Lake specialize in?

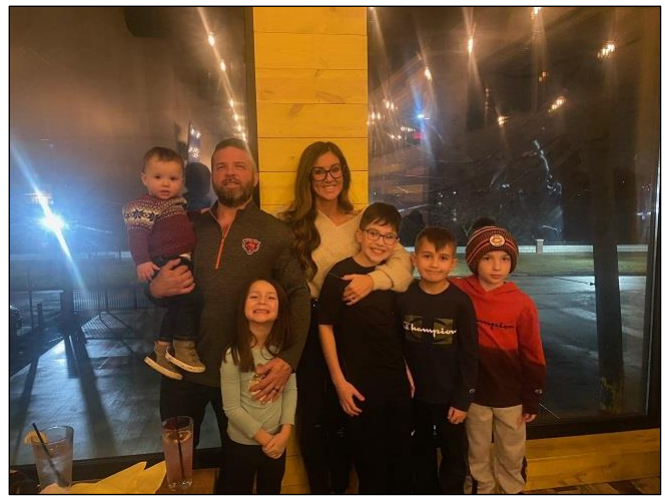
We like to say we offer upscale gastro-pub type of food. We feature many specialty burgers named after a few famous people, chicken and waffles, not yo mama’s meatloaf, protein bowls, Tavern wings, flatbreads and of course, our region-famous Tavern Original Cauliflower appetizer. Tavern on the Lake features many craft beers and special cocktails named after Hobart staples, like our Lake George Tiki Punch.

What do you like best about restaurant management?

I am a people-person. When you come into Tavern on the Lake and I’m there, we’ll be chatting in no time. I thoroughly enjoy getting to know our patrons and ensuring that they feel welcome at our place. We have so many repeat customers that are more like friends and family to all of us now. I really enjoy getting to meet new people, train our staff and interact with our patrons every day.

Were there any particular teachers or experiences at Hobart that influenced your choice of a career?

Hands-down my favorite teachers were my elementary teachers, Ms. Zoladz and Ms. Carnahan from George Earle. They made it fun to learn, and I really needed that in my youth.



Tommy Forbes, his wife Hollee, and their five kids.

Do you have any advice for students planning on going into restaurant management?

Be ready to work hard! It’s a lot of work but it’s so rewarding when you talk with a customer and they tell you how much they enjoyed your food, your ambiance, your outdoor patio, and more. If they’re out to dinner celebrating a special occasion, and they chose our place out of the many other wonderful local restaurants – it makes me feel so proud. And even more proud when they tell me how much they enjoyed themselves. But I always tell anyone that is interested in this career, that WE WORK while EVERYONE ELSE PLAYS. We are the reason they get to have a good time. Nights, weekends and holidays – we work! But honestly, it’s the best decision I ever made! See you all soon at Tavern on the Lake!

HHS Alumni Association Board

The Hobart High School Alumni Association was officially incorporated on July 17, 2010. The current members of the Board of Directors (as of May 20, 2022) are:

OFFICERS

- Paul Addison, Class of 1970 *President*
- Lynn Sheets Kostbade, Class of 1966 *Vice-President*
- Debra Broker Opolski, Class of 1970 *Treasurer*
- Tracy Estabrook McCullough, Class of 1978 *Secretary*

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

- Shaun Zoladz, *Dean of Students, Hobart High School, Class of 2006*
- Beth Scott Barney, Class of 1970
- Debbie Scharbach Vega, Class of 1971

Class Reunion Roundup

Please send reunion information to us at info@hobartalumni.org. Updates are posted on our website, at: <https://www.hobartalumni.org/ClassReunions.htm>. These events are listed in order of their occurrence.



CLASS OF 1973 50th YEAR REUNION (August 19, 2023):

The Class of 1973 will hold its 50th year reunion on Saturday, August 19, 2023. We will have our dinner at Gino's Banquet Hall, 1967 E. 37th Avenue in Hobart. There will be music at Festival Park on Thursday and we may meet for a relaxing evening on Friday at a winery. For more information, contact: Leigh Huminsky, lhuminsky@yahoo.com, or friend her on Facebook.

CLASS of 1958 65th YEAR REUNION (September 23, 2023):

The Class of 1958 will hold its 65-year reunion on Saturday, September 23, 2023. We will have our dinner at the Paragon restaurant in Hobart starting at 4:00 PM. A fixed menu (about \$22) will be served; head count needed by August 22nd. A night-before reunion get-together will be Friday, September 22 at 5:00 pm at the Paragon. Contact Lyle Hatten at 760-941-4606 for all reunion info.

REGULAR CLASS GET-TOGETHERS:

Classes of 1952 and 1953: The classes of 1952 and 1953 are having breakfast the second Thursday of each month at the Paragon at 8:30. Any questions, call Marlene (Baier) Krawczyk (Class of 1952) 219-942-6301, or Martha (Jordan) Nichols (Class of 1953) 219-942-3062.

Class of 1958: The Class of 1958 is having their luncheon the third Saturday of each month at the Paragon Restaurant at 1:00 PM. Any questions, contact Larry Koziol at larry58koziol@gmail.com.

Class of 1960: The Class of 1960 is having their luncheon the second Saturday of each month at the Paragon Restaurant at 1:00 PM. Any questions, contact Linda (Quinlan) Koziol at larry58koziol@gmail.com.

Class of 1970: The Class of 1970 meets for breakfast at 10:00 am, usually on the third Saturday of the month. Check our Facebook page for the location: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/110625168719>, or check on the HHSAA website during the week leading up to the third Saturday.

Our Newest Supporters

NEW LIFE MEMBERS:

Susan Demmon Bartlett (1970)
Beverly Lockwood Bolwerk (1961)

NEW OR RENEWED ANNUAL MEMBERS:

Dennis King (1971)
Harry Kneifel (1969)
Darrell Murphy (1966)
Ronald Smith (1961)

*The Brick & Mortar Board is a publication of the Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc., a non-profit, 501(c)(3) corporation. It is an electronic publication, delivered by email to members of the Association. Membership is \$10 per year, or \$100 for a Life Membership, and donations are tax-deductible. Make your check payable to: **HHS Alumni Association**, and mail it to: HHSAA, PO Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342. Our website is: www.hobartalumni.org. The editor of The Brick & Mortar Board is Paul Addison.*

Your Brickie Stories: What Do You Remember?

Coaches and Staff Assist in Scholarships

From Lyle Hatten, Class of 1958: Coach Deal started recording all football home games about 1955, using the videos to further train his teams and to assist players in the future. This story starts in the 1957 season where college and university scouts would attend high school games looking for candidates and offer scholarships. Upon selection, the scouts would contact Coach Deal for help in contacting the player and parents, as well as asking for information about that player. After the season ended, Coach Deal would receive several offers for different players, and in my case, I had 3 offers. Coach Deal contacted my parents and me as to any interest, and we selected 2 schools: Eastern Illinois University and Wyoming University. As they went through many videos, the coach and staff selected videos they thought were best and sent the films with comments to the university's coaching staff to review. Afterwards, the university might contact the football player. Eastern Illinois and Wyoming Universities asked me to visit their campus and meet their coaching staff, and I enjoyed visiting both campuses.

Into mid-season several football players came down with the flu. For three years, Coach Deal only played me at ends and tackle, but now with players out ill, he moved me to the guard position for this one game. The following week, I had the flu and was out. Before the game I felt better and drove my car to the East end of the field to watch the game, and a Hobart High School girl watched the game with me. Attending practices the following week, the coaches gave me the business stating "Ha, are you sure you don't want to get sick again and take your girlfriend to see the game?" What fun harassment!

A few weeks later as I came home from my part-time work, there were 2 men visiting my parents. As Dad introduced me to the football scouts from Auburn University, we found out that Coach Deal had referred me to them. They stated that they enjoyed watching the Brickies play ball, and laughed when they found out that this was my only time as a running guard. They offered to fly Dad and me to visit Auburn University; however, we decided not to go. At the end of the school year, I decided not to accept any of the scholarships.

Thank you to the Coaches and Staff who helped many players achieve their goals.

Can you add any information as to coaches and staff assisting athletes in securing scholarships today? If so, please contact Paul Addison at paul@hobartalumni.org.

Recent Obituaries (since our April 2023 newsletter; in PDF form, these are links to each classmate's In Memory page)

JULY 2023:

[Thomas \(Tom\) Braun, Class of 1974](#)

[Victor Levan, Class of 1962](#)

[Anthony \(Tony\) Sailors, Class of 1982](#)

[Paul Camarena, Class of 1981](#)

[Harry Hopkins, Class of 1959](#)

[Tammy Caldwell Gullede, Class of 1988](#)

[Stephen \(Steve\) Goodrich, Class of 1970](#)

[Michael \(Mike\) Gregor, Class of 1949](#)

[Marvin "Dewayne" Oglesby, Class of 1969](#)

[Barbara Mijdak Mayersky, Class of 1955](#)

JUNE 2023:

[Robert \(Bob\) Englebert, Class of 1968](#)

[Walter \(Wally\) Bielewicz, Class of 1959](#)

[Marcia Peck Speer, Class of 1952](#)

[Suzzanna Sewell Smith, Class of 1963](#)

[Ronald Lach, Class of 1959](#)

[Robert Morgan, Class of 1953](#)

[Freddie \(Fred\) Crawford, Class of 1953](#)

[Sharon Dammarell Simmons, Class of 1966](#)

(continued on page 5)

MAY 2023:

[Maureen Boudreau Larson, Class of 1965](#)
[Nicholis Batalis, Class of 2022](#)
[LaDonna Gabriel, Staff](#)
[Robert Berndt, Class of 1950](#)
[Robert \(Bob\) Gunter, Class of 1984](#)
[Cecilia Schuman, Teacher's Aide](#)
[Donald \(Don\) Luke, Class of 1952](#)
[Janet Harkins, Class of 1968](#)
[Kevin McCord, Class of 1981](#)
[Linda Skees Mayes, Class of 1957](#)
[Roland Lewis, Class of 1968](#)
[Clyde Metz, Class of 1958](#)
[Robert \(Bob\) Boyle, Class of 1994](#)
[Sandra \(Sandy\) King Longfellow, Class of 1957](#)
[Dorothy Ehrhardt Hausman, Teacher](#)

APRIL 2023:

[Marjorie Wegmet Ramsey, Class of 1947](#)
[Anthony \(Tony\) Radulovich, Class of 1988](#)
[Karen Braun, Class of 1971](#)
[Tami Pender Rigg, Class of 1977](#)
[George Ewing, Class of 1958](#)
[Cynthia Gray Kleist, Class of 1973](#)
[Jimmye \(Jim\) Boatright, Class of 1963](#)
[Karen Dunn Reynolds, Class of 1967](#)
[Dennis Rittenmeyer, Class of 1962](#)

OLDER OBITUARIES RECENTLY RECEIVED:**MARCH 2023:**

[William \(Bill\) Gentz, Class of 1958](#)
[Roger McKuhen, Class of 1963](#)

FEBRUARY 2023:

[Sylvia Ellen Campos/Andrews Schenk, Class of 1947](#)

DECEMBER 2022:

[Margaret "Peggy" Titko Ciesla, Staff](#)

OCTOBER 2022:

[Roberta "Jeanie" Kovich, Staff](#)

NOVEMBER 2021:

[Michael \(Mike\) Mohler, Class of 1956](#)

OCTOBER 2021:

[Brenton Wolfe, Class of 1956](#)

SEPTEMBER 2021:

[Rich Sailors, Class of 1981](#)

AUGUST 2021:

[Carol Spain Rudd, Class of 1956](#)

MAY 2021:

[Phyllis Carroll Gonder, Class of 1958](#)

[Arthur Thomason, Class of 1954](#)

NOVEMBER 2020:

[Bettye Prince Shadrack, Class of 1956](#)

AUGUST 2020:

[Sandra \(Sandy\) Gregor Bowman, Class of 1976](#)

JULY 2020:

[Ralph Messina, Class of 1956](#)

APRIL 2020:

[Paula Brasser Doman, Class of 1958](#)

DECEMBER 2018:

[James \(Jim\) Langendorfer, Class of 1951](#)

MARCH 2018:

[Fred Comer, Class of 1964](#)

APRIL 2017:

[Robert Shearer, Class of 1956](#)

MARCH 2017:

[Larry Buckreus, Class of 1947](#)

DECEMBER 2016:

[Rose Valovich Sorg, Class of 1957](#)

FEBRUARY 2016:

[Rose Varga Boznak, Class of 1956](#)

[Leon Klausen, Class of 1956](#)

FEBRUARY 2014:

[Charles Ronald Walter, Class of 1956](#)

JUNE 2013:

[George Fasel, Class of 1943](#)

FEBRUARY 2012:

[Rita Cobble Fujawa, Class of 1964](#)

AUGUST 2011:

[Richard LaBerteaux, Class of 1940](#)

DECEMBER 2010:

[Joseph Richard Wegmet, Class of 1949](#)

[Robin Gunter Huke, Class of 1982](#)

[Robert \(Bob\) Albers, Class of 1955](#)

MAY 2010:

[Fred Fasel, Class of 1948](#)

FEBRUARY 2010:

[Gregory Strom, Class of 1945](#)



Membership Application Hobart High School Alumni Association, Inc.

Membership is \$10 per year per person, or \$100 per person for a Life Membership
(proceeds go towards student scholarships and teacher grants)

Check one: New member ____ Renewal ____

Check one: 1-year membership (\$10) ____ Lifetime membership (\$100) ____

First Name _____

Last Name (in high school) _____

Married Last Name _____

Your class graduating year at HHS _____

(Renewing members only need to fill out the following if anything has changed)

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

"Once a Brickie, Always a Brickie!"
Thank you for your support!

Make your check out to: HHS Alumni Association

Mail to: HHSAA, P.O. Box 68, Hobart, IN 46342

Our website is: www.hobartalumni.org