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Old Orchard Beach
Alumni Newsletter
 WINTER EDITION

Volume 26 Issue 1 February 2026 A Seagull Pride Publication



Farewell Birdies Tavern & Grill Alumni Goes out with a Bang!
 Over 100 OOBHS Alumni showed up in our final year hosting the All-School Reunion at Birdies Tavern and Grill. For 17 years, we have gathered there for our annual reunion and 2 dances a year raising thousands of dollars for scholarships while bringing all classes together on an annual basis. In 2025 we held our last event ever at Birdies.

Birdie's management advised us they will be turning the Galley Room into full time golf simulators in 2026. The Class of '75 celebrated their 50th in style with one of the largest single class turnouts in history. Hundreds of Reunion pics, including the 2026 event, can be seen at oobeachalumni.com thanks to our resident photographer Dave Carr '61. The future looks challenging due to rising costs for food, venue rentals, and printing costs reaching levels TRIPLED + what they were when we started this organization. Your Alumni Team vows to move forward in 2026 to keep this group going for years to come. In keeping up with the times we are forced to raise our dues to \$10 a year to offset the costs of the mailings of this newsletter, website hosting, and deposit requirements for venues to hold our fund raising events. Researching several schools in Maine and throughout New England, OOBHS has the lowest dues at just \$5 a year, an amount we have made every effort to maintain. We have gone from 3 newsletters a year down to 2...but will not be able to keep our message out there if we had to cut it back to one. We, as a nonprofit, do sincerely hope you understand and will continue to send us dues money and support mailings and Alumni Scholarships. Details of the future are listed below and we will keep you informed on the future events in our July Newsletter and at oobeachalumni.com. We thank all of you who have supported us in the past, and if you haven't we sure can use your help in the future! Thank you for everything.

oobeachalumni.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



ALUMNI BASKETBALL CLASSIC
 Friday, March 13th, 6 pm
Seagulls of today vs. Stars of yesteryear!



SPRING DANCE
 Music from All YEARS!
 Sat. Apr. 25th, 7-10 pm
 Eagles Club, Birch St. Biddeford
 Raising money for Scholarships!

Only \$10



All-School Reunion Weekend
 Sept. 18th, 19th, 20th, 2026
Honoring years ending in 1 & 6
 Friday Night at Jimmy's FREE
 Saturday Dinner and Dance at The Elks Club in Saco is \$50 PER PERSON
 Pay in advance only

See Page 5 for details

Contacting The Association

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- Arlene Bellevue Hanson - Co-Historian**
 207-934-9391

oobeachalumni.com



Old Orchard Alumni Association Inc.
 P.O. Box 337
 Old Orchard Beach, ME 04064

2026 Reunion moves to Saco We're off to The Elks Club

The Elks Club will host the reunion September 19th at 5:30. This year we honor classes ending in 1 and 6. With the cost of our venue rental and food prices tripling from past years, we will have a small increase to \$50 per person as we posted in the last newsletter.

We feel very fortunate that Sharri MacDonald '90 now has a catering license and has done several catering jobs in southern Maine to hundreds of people as well as running the all new Beach Vibes Bistro in Old Orchard. Sharri promises us an "epic buffet" with more details coming in the summer newsletter. The cocktail hour begins at 5:30 to 6:45, Hall of Fame Award Presentation at 6:45, dinner at 7 with a short annual meeting following. The evening winds down with dancing the night away as we reminisce with old friends and meet some new ones. A new venue, a new caterer, and a new chapter awaits in The Old Orchard Beach Alumni Association, Advanced ticket sales must be paid by September 12th. Register on page 5 of this newsletter and come join the fun!



OUBEACHALUMNI.COM  Find us on Facebook



Former Principal Inducted into Hall of Fame

He was a decorated First World War hero. He was a Bates College grad and a life long educator. He was Old Orchard Beach High School's principal for 28 years before retiring in 1963. **Herbert R. Bean** was posthumously inducted into The Old Orchard Beach High School Hall of Fame at September 2025's All School Reunion.

Roger "Chic" Tousignant '55 (pictured left) accepted the coveted award from Mark Andrews '74 on Mr. Bean's behalf as his daughter Connie (Florida) and son Jonathan (Utah) were unable to attend. The actual trophy along with Mr. Bean's picture and historical write-up were put into the OOBHS Trophy case for all to see in the upcoming years.



MISSING



Back in **1980** a TIME CAPSULE was buried. Karen Murphy and Kevin Girard would like to know if ANYONE knows of its whereabouts and WHEN it is supposed to be opened. It's buried someplace on school property and the time has come to *possibly* open it up. Know about it? It's been 46 years since buried. Maybe not due to be opened for 50 Years? Please e-mail an alumni member if you know where it is and WHEN it's supposed to be opened or text 207-423-2975.



THANK YOU



Reunion and Dues Registration

Sept. 18th-19th-20th, 2026

**TICKET DEADLINE SEPT.12th**

Name : _____ Class of _____

Name : _____ Maiden: _____ Class of _____

Address : _____ City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone : _____ E-mail: _____

2026 Dues at \$10 = _____
 2000-2025 dues at \$5 = _____
 _____ Dinners @ \$50 each = _____
 Optional Postage Fund = _____
 Alumni Scholarship Donation = _____
 Seagull Foundation Donation = _____
TOTAL AMOUNT OF CHECK : \$ _____

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2026

I (WE) HOPE TO ATTEND

- _____ Friday Tailgate Party/Jimmy The Greeks **Sept. 18th, 7pm**
- _____ Reunion Banquet, Elks Club, Saco **Sep. 19th, 5:30 pm**
- _____ Sunday Farewell Breakfast Buffet at Jimmy's **Sep. 20th, 9am**

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO : OOBAA
 Mail to : OOBAA
 P.O. Box 337
 Old Orchard Beach, ME. 04064

OR YOU CAN VENMO...

Mark Andrews
@Mark-Andrews-269

venmo

IF NOT PAID BEFORE 2025 FALL DINNER...YOUR DUES ARE DUE NOW FOR 2026

ALUMNI WEEKEND '26



Tailgate Party at Jimmy's, Fri. Sept. 18th, 7:00PM

No ticket required! Come say hello to fellow alumni as we tailgate the night before our reunion! 7:00 pm at Jimmy's! FREE ADMISSION! Cash Bar, Pizza and arcade.

Reunion Dinner & Dance, Elks Club, Saco Sat. Sept. 19th, 5:30pm



Cocktail hour at 5:30, gourmet buffet dinner, and dance the night away at the Old Orchard Alumni's All School Reunion! Welcome all years! This year a special welcome to years ending in 1 and 6! Ticket required by Sept. 12th.

Farewell Breakfast at Jimmy The Greeks Breakfast Buffet Sun. Sept. 20th, 9am



Say goodbye for another year as we meet at Jimmy's for his famous breakfast Buffet. 9 am. Hope to see you there.

From the desk of The President Mark Andrews '74

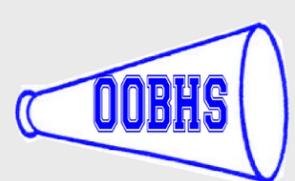


BY THE NUMBERS

An old saying about inflation is "Everything's going up but the wages." How true it is. Why do we do an All-School Reunion and many classes join us instead of having their own individual get togethers? There's power in numbers. Look at the potential costs involved based on every **100** people in attendance:

\$34 per person for a buffet, **20%** tip is **\$6.80** per person, hall rental is **\$6** per person, a DJ costs **\$6** per person, a keepsake Reunion Booklet **\$6** per person, dessert is even **\$6** per person for a total of **\$65** per person on a single night event. Thankfully, we do not have to pay for a DJ as I can cater to that personally with over **16000** songs to choose from as my contribution to the cause and Sharri MacDonald graciously does the booklet with one of her many contributions to the community...it still costs us **\$53** per person to break even on All-School Reunion night. We are very fortunate to have our sponsors in the Tri-City area who place ads in our Reunion Booklet and to **YOU** for purchasing **50/50** tickets the night of the event. It's all a numbers game. Printing costs, postage for your **6** page newsletter to be mailed to you becomes quite costly. Your dues are so important to help defray the expenses and if there IS *any* money left over after a Reunion...it helps students whose parent(s) graduated or was a staff member get a well deserved scholarship to continue their education. It's fun seeing everyone once a year but raising money for scholarships is our **12** month productive cause. Thanks to my TEAM's AMAZING support.

Thank you for your anticipated support.



Does your class end in a 1 or 6? Are you planning a separate event in 2026? If so announce it here in the next newsletter by sending a brief outline to mandrew1@maine.rr.com and we will be sure to share it in the next newsletter! If you plan on attending the big one in September 2026, we will do the work for you and reserve tables for your year! Always an incredible event.

Joel Barnes & Janet Doherty Memorial Scholarships

Please send donations for these scholarships directly to :

Scholarship Trust Fund Manager
 40 E. Emerson Cummings Blvd.
 Old Orchard Beach , ME. 04064

Come represent your class...



Your Alumni Association meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month in The Lord Conference Room at OOBHS. Come share your thoughts with us! We ALWAYS welcome new ideas. 6:30pm is when we begin and rarely goes more than 2 hours. Come see us!



Seacoast RV's & Brady Screenprint Alumni Basketball Classic

Seagull Stars of today vs. Stars of yesteryear.
Friday Night, March 13th, 6pm

All Alumni or staff members, male or female, are encouraged to show up between 5 and 6pm, lace up your sneakers, and get onto the court and show us your skills. A fun night, great fundraiser, and a ton of exercise.

ALL TICKETS \$5
ALUMNI PLAYERS PAY
AND GET FREE ALUMNI GAME T-SHIRT

MAXIMUM FAMILY PACK WITH KIDS \$20

SPRING DANCE



Oldies But GOODIES

Scholarship Fundraiser



Eagles Club
Birch Street, Biddeford
Saturday April 25th, 7-10pm

- CASH BAR
- DOOR PRIZES
- 50/50 RAFFLE
- BAG RAFFLE

Tickets at: MacDonald's Garage, OOB
Brady Screenprint, Biddeford
or Call : 207-423-2975

Mark Andrews
@Mark-Andrews-269



\$ 10 VENMO AND HOLD TIX AT THE DOOR! →

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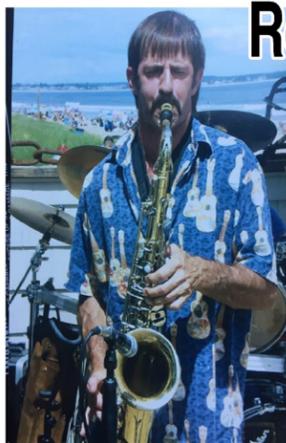
To All Fellow Alumni: Our OOB Alumni Association is facing a critical need for support to continue. We work hard to build and sustain our small Maine community by connecting alumni young and old through fundraising to provide scholarships to current high

school seniors. We build camaraderie through our social events, our reunions and our newsletters, keeping alumni informed and involved. We maintain school records (to the best of our ability), memorabilia, and history for future generations. Currently, there are *only 6-8 active volunteers* and we are struggling to make all things continue to happen.

Even a little contribution of your time or a donation can make a *significant* difference. As they say, many hands make light work.

We would be grateful for even a small commitment of time, whether it's providing fresh ideas for fundraising or offering up physical help for our events. Please consider joining us at one of our monthly meetings to see how YOU can get involved in lifting your community and giving back to OOB. THANK YOU !

Thank you for helping us keep our alumni community strong!



Reunion Weekend

Friday night at Jimmy The Greeks kicks off our Alumni Weekend with our "Friday Night Tailgate Party". Rick Perrone '77 leads an alumni cast of musicians including Gary Fortier '76, Lisa Shevenell '76, Rick Powers '77, Doug Doherty '79 and *more* for a Tailgate party of awesome tunes & a great time.

Our Friday nights have grown with Jimmy's generosity and support as this one is FREE for any and all alumni. We will have a donation bowl on the dance floor to help us raise money for scholarships for deserving future seniors. Rick is excited to bring his energy and sphere of influence of musicians (many OOBHS grads) to provide us with some amazing entertainment with rock, rhythm, and blues.

He's one of the best Maine has to offer with his harmonica, sax and vocals. Best of all, he's an Old Orchard Beach High School Alumnus. He looks forward, as we all do, to seeing all of our friends and having a blast!



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- Arthur Geaumont '55
- Elliot Richard "Bud" Billings '55
- Peter B. Farr '56
- Silas Cummings '58
- Yvonne T. Brousseau DeLorenzo '65
- Richard Winslow '75
- Stephen C. Dube '81
- Wayne Norman McKee '81
- Craig A. Millett '87
- Anita B Beaulieu Reny 'Staff
- Sharon Ruth Austin Smarc 'Staff
- Beverly Ann Garramore Johnson 'Staff

*Thank you to those who have made donations on behalf of our departed Alumni to The Old Orchard Beach Alumni Scholarship Fund !
If you know of a classmate who passed and was not previously listed...please let us know.*

Hall of Fame

Do YOU know someone that is deserving of recognition for future induction into The Hall of Fame? It can be someone who attended, worked in, taught in, or administered in the Old Orchard Beach School System. Submit your suggestion in a short narrative to any Alumni Board member. Thank you.

WE WANT YOUR EMPTIES!

CLYNK!

Call Pam Trempe at 423-7908 for your Hannaford Clynk bags and donate YOUR returnable bottles and cans to The Old Orchard Beach Alumni Association

Alumni Profiles



Archie St. Hilaire '77
Tammy Ahearn '80
2 Successful Entrepreneurs
Join Forces in 2026

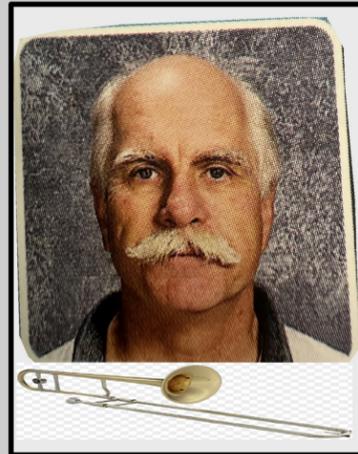
Archie always had a wrench in his hand loving fast cars going from waste management and adding a Nascar Team ownership to his resume. Tammy grew up in the hospitality business becoming the owner of her family's campground and now owning a very highly rated Abellona Inn and Suites in OOB.

What happens when 2 business brains get together?

Let's welcome the all new **Atwood Landing** in Old Orchard Beach. This 3 season park model resort is coming to Portland Avenue this summer! Retired in Florida and wanting to come back to Maine in the summer? Here's your answer! Near the beach, a beautiful pool, near The Eastern Trail and in a peaceful setting. For more info check out www.atwoodlanding.com. Congratulations and Best Wishes Archie and Tammy. We KNOW this will be amazing !

WHO AM I ?

Following in my Dad's footsteps and living in a very musical family, I was an All State musician in the early 70's, a trombonist with The Portland Symphony Orchestra, and an award winning conductor with many awards with the Old Orchard Beach School Musical Dept. Music is my life. From a band member to an educator, I retired after playing countless 'notes' along the way. **WHO AM I ?**



Email your answer to mandrew1@maine.rr.com or text 207-423-2975 with your name & year of graduation (or if a staff member) along with your shirt size. Maybe YOUR name will be drawn and win a golf shirt! Good luck!

Congratulations to **Lindsay Jacques MacDonald '07**, for correctly guessing **Mr. Rick Difusco** in July's contest. Her name was drawn from the several correct guessers and a highly sought after, much coveted golf shirt is headed her way. **TRY YOUR LUCK TODAY!**

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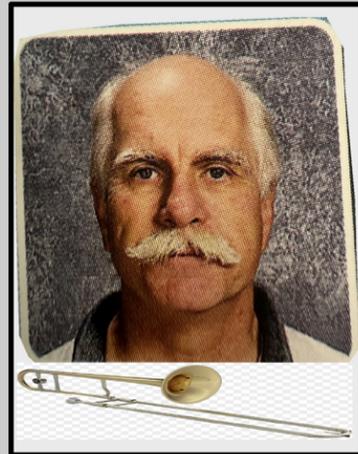
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