

June 2023

Dear Alumnus,

The Annual Alumni Banquet is just around the corner! We will be meeting on **Saturday, July 8th** in the Otselic Valley Central School multi-purpose room. Masks are not required, but definitely accepted if you choose to wear one. **The Social Hour will begin at 4:00 p.m. and the Buffet Dinner will follow at 5:00 p.m. The Business meeting will be after dinner about 6:00 p.m.** We will be honoring the 50 year class of 1973, and the 25 year class of 1998.

During the Social hour, punch and appetizers will be served. School tours will be given so you can see the changes since you were a student! This year we welcome our new food service, Shelly of Shelly's Restaurant of DeRuyter. Our caterer of many years, Lonnie Guernsey, has retired! The cost will be \$15.00 per person. However, the actual cost of the dinner is \$18.00. **Members of the 50 and 25 year honor classes will be our guests. We will cover the cost of your dinner. You need only to pay for anyone who attends with you who is not an honoree.** The Alumni Association will make up the differences with past dues, donations, and our 50-50 raffle.

There are many ways to support your Alumni Association. They include alumni dues and donations to the alumni awards for graduates. More details about each award is on the enclosed donation and reservation form. We THANK YOU for supporting these awards; even a small amount helps us support the current graduates. Please fill out the enclosed form and send it with your reservations.

Please send your DINNER RESERVATIONS and MONEY by June 30, 2023 to:

Karen Nauman Wightman

PO Box 335

Norwich, N.Y. 13815

Payment at the door is accepted, but the **reservations are necessary**, as we have to guarantee a number of dinners. We look forward to seeing you. Invite a fellow alumnus to come with you and catch up with your classmates and friends. It's amazing how we change, yet are the same!

If you cannot attend, but you would like to support the association, please send in your donations and your current contact information. Also, please fill in your preference of how to contact you. You can find this information on the Reservation and Donation form.

Alumni are invited to arrive early on July 8th to participate in South Otselic's 40th anniversary ceremonies recognizing placement on the National Historical Registry. Town Historian Sheridan has activities planned starting with a concert by the Smyrna Citizens Band at 1 p.m. in the Methodist Church. Following the concert, a historical marker will be unveiled at the "Ford House" (next to the Methodist Church). Dr. Ford was the first physician to practice in South Otselic. Light refreshments will conclude the festivities. Alumni will have ample time to visit high school classmates and friends before the banquet.

On a final note, if you are interested in becoming more involved with your Alumni Association, we are always looking for new people to join the executive team. New people bring new ideas, and we really need some new alumni to consider becoming an officer. Please contact anyone of the executive team below if interested.

Sincerely,

Judy Robinson Stone

Judy Robinson Stone '73

Diane Parkhurst Comfort '86

Thomas Neal '80

President

Vice-President

Treasurer

Karen Nauman Wightman '73

Virginia Robinson Dehner '70

Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary

ALUMNI RESERVATION AND DONATION FORM 2023

Make checks payable to: **OV ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (no personal name)** for the total amount.

Please include your current complete mailing address. Also, please return this form to

Karen Wightman,

PO Box 335, Norwich, N.Y 13815 by June 30.

of Dinners: _____ \$15.00 each _____ (honoree dinners FREE)

Alumni Dues _____ \$2.50 each (help support Alumni Association expenses)

Lillian Thompson Scholarship _____ (a managed, structured entity, funded by tax deductible donations. This award is given at graduation. Please see enclosed letter for information).

Alumni Donation _____ (helps run the organization: banquet supplies, mailings, Alumni Award given at graduation, etc.).

Alumni Scholarship _____ (given to an Otselic Valley graduate who has completed one year of college and intends to continue, student applies for this; sent to the recipient's school).

Total Amount _____ Enclosed _____ or Pay at the door _____

Name and Address: _____

aa

Email _____

Accommodations are available to assist entrance into the building. Someone can meet you at the door or parking lot.

_____ Yes, I would like some help. This is the make of my car and license plate number:

_____ I prefer to have the annual alumni banquet information sent to my **email address**.

_____ I prefer to have the annual alumni banquet information sent to my **mailing address**.

Please send any address changes to corresponding secretary -

Karen (Nauman)Wightman, Class of 1973 or email @ kdwightman73@gmail.com

UPDATED INFORMATION NEEDED! THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

If you know of any alumni who have either had a name change, moved, or passed away, we would greatly appreciate any updates that you can send our way. You may use the space on the back.

June 2023

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Lillian Thompson died in May 1972, shortly after celebrating her 91st birthday. She never married and outlived nearly all of her relatives, leaving only two family survivors and the South Otselic Central School Alumni Association (and perhaps other civic groups) to inherit her modest estate. She had taught English at SOCS for 30+ years and had an lasting love of the area children and an understanding of the economic struggles many of those children to attend college. Thus, the Lillian Thompson Alumni Scholarship Fund was established in 1972. Funds were collected from alumni for ten years and added to the funds from the Thompson estate. The first scholarship was awarded in 1982. In the past 41 years alumni have continued to generously make annual donations, helping the scholarship fund grow. June Cole Wood Rose, another long time SOCS teacher, bequeathed a generous amount from her trust fund upon her death. And many alumni have contributed to the fund on an annual basis.

Originally, only one deserving alumni received the scholarship each year. The dollar amount varied, as only the interest was given away. That insured that the fund could grow as long as contributions were received. Federal legislation now require that a certain percentage of the fund be awarded each year. It is considerably larger than is earned from interest, and several awards are given each year. So without the continued generous support of current alumni, this wonderful scholarship fund will eventually disappear.

Please consider making a donation to the Lillian Thompson Scholarship Fund. You may include the donation in a single check with your dinner reservation. Simply write the desired amount on the reservation form. Your donation will be greatly appreciated and help keep the scholarship fund viable. THANK YOU.

Marjorie Davis
Class of 1966
For the Lillian Thompson Scholarship Fund