

ORA ET LABORA



A publication of **Benedictine High School** and **Saint Andrew Abbey**

Fall 2023

Introducing New President Dave Schroeder '90

See pages 2-3



BENEDICTINE HIGH SCHOOL NAMES FORMER DELL TECHNOLOGIES EXECUTIVE AS NEW SCHOOL PRESIDENT

David Schroeder brings nearly 30 years of executive experience to drive new goals

CLEVELAND – Benedictine High School, through Abbot Gary Hoover, O.S.B., its Membership Committee and Board of Trustees, has named former Dell Technologies executive and Benedictine Class of 1990 alum David Schroeder as the school's new president. The announcement follows an exhaustive nationwide search for a leader well positioned to drive the nearly 100-year-old school into the next century of transformative education.

Schroeder most recently served as senior vice president for Dell, where he worked for nearly six years. While there, he grew his department by more than 500 percent. Prior to that, Schroeder served as vice president for the Palo Alto, Calif. technology firm, VMware, where he played a key role in the new company's \$7-billion growth.

"David brings a level of business acumen that is often missed in educational settings," said Benedictine board president, Joseph Sweeney. "This is an unprecedented opportunity to move the school to the next level while preserving our cherished traditions and Benedictine charism."

With the recent completion of a \$6-million expansion project, which includes a new science wing, entrance and courtyard, the school is set to update its strategic plan. Schroeder said he will use this opportunity to significantly advance educational rigor, admissions and advancement while enhancing the campus experience and providing spiritual focus for our diverse student body.

"The best schools in the world today are heavily focused on new and advanced technologies," Schroeder said. "With



this fresh start and my background, we have an opportunity to create some very special things here that will position our current and future young men for enormous success."

David and his wife, Kathy, live in North Royalton, Ohio. They belong to St. Collette Catholic Church and have two grown daughters.

Benedictine High School was established in 1927 by the Benedictine Monks of

Cleveland. The school's role as a Catholic educational community is to model, educate and challenge each student to become a part of the tradition and spirit of St. Benedict. Benedictine is a community made up of enthusiastic young men who strive academically, spiritually and physically to become "Men of Benedictine." Benedictine High School offers an exciting experience of growth and development for young men from throughout Northeast Ohio.

The Schroeder Profile

COLLEGE: University of Dayton

FAMILY: Wife, Kathy; Daughters: Stephanie (20) and Melissa (19)

HOBBIES: outdoors, fishing, golf, family, dog, restoring old cars, and handy-man work

FAVORITE BOOK: Anything history related, love the Bill O'Reilly series.

FAVORITE TV SHOW: Succession

FAVORITE QUOTE: So many come to mind, but I try to live by what Eleanor Roosevelt said: "It's not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself."

Behind the Scenes with Dave Schroeder '90

What does it mean to be named the President of Benedictine High School?

Honestly, it is hard to put into words. There are so many emotions that I am experiencing right now, but honored and proud top the list. To return to the place that I called home for four years is incredibly special and the opportunity to continue building on our momentum is so exciting.

Can you share a little background of your experience at Benedictine? Who were some of the influential people or experiences during your time as a student?

I tell people all of the time that my high school years were some of the best in my life. From the first day of freshman football practice to graduation, there were so many special moments that shaped who I am today. I think about Coach O'Shaughnessy, Coach Russ and Coach Thamann who gave me an opportunity to compete on the field. Mr. Francioli without question made learning entertaining. Memories of Fr. Joachim's ceramic class always makes me smile and finally, Fr. Dominic's stoic, disciplined leadership will always stay with me. Of course I have to say that without Abbot Gary's sociology class I might still be a lost soul.

How did you get involved in the tech industry? What has the last 30 years looked like for you professionally?

I've always been interested in understanding how things work I guess. My sophomore year in college I took a programming class and declared MIS as my major, partially because I saw that starting salaries for this degree were above average and I knew that I needed to pay off my student loans. I was incredibly fortunate to work for some of the best companies along my journey and have

incredible mentors who believed in me. Hard to believe it's been 30 years.

What's your vision for Benedictine?

I would say that it is still in development but I can tell you that I want to continue the momentum we have with our new Howley Science Wing, courtyard and school entrance. I want to enhance our educational offerings by integrating more entrepreneurial and technology-related courses as well as experiment with offering opportunities for students to learn the trades. We have a special anniversary around the corner and setting up the next 100 years of Benedictine tradition is my top priority. Stay tuned for more on this one.

What are you most excited about in this role?

For me it's always been about seeing others who I've been fortunate to lead have

success and grow. Here at Benedictine if you look at our young talent like Chris, Dom, Brians (times 3), Mike, etc. how can I not be excited about contributing to their growth and success? Add on top of that the kids and all the positive energy we have right now, I mean it's hard to contain how excited I am.

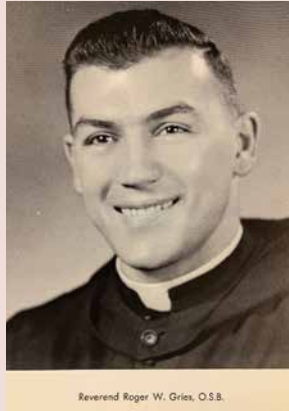
Why Benedictine? And, why now?

Benedictine was here for me in a time of my life when I needed it most. My parents were going through a bad divorce and my father moved out. If not for the friends, monks, faculty and positive influences of this school at that time, who knows where my life goes. I have always felt connected to this school and I know Mom was looking down and working with the Holy Spirit to make this happen. Now is the perfect time.



News from the Abbey

Bishop Roger Gries, OSB '54 reached his **60th anniversary as a priest** on May 18, 2023. The accompanying picture is from his ordination. He was ordained at St. John's Cathedral by **Auxiliary Bishop Clarence Elwell** along with three other BHS alumni on May 18, 1963. He was principal of Benedictine High School from 1969-77, Abbot of St. Andrew Abbey from 1981-2001, and was ordained a bishop in 2001 for the Diocese of Cleveland where he is now auxiliary bishop emeritus. Last year he returned to the abbey in retirement but is still a popular guest at many Benedictine events, although he has also retired his golf clubs.



Reverend Roger W. Gries, O.S.B.



Abbey Business Manager **Fr. Conrad Wald, OSB**, earned his master's degree in Education from John Carroll University on Saturday, May 20, 2023. He is pictured with one of his teachers Dr. Margaret Schauer (l) and his advisor Dr. Dan Reynolds (r) at the commencement ceremonies. Fr. Conrad also has a master's degree in Political Science from Ohio State University and a Master of Divinity degree from St. Vincent's Seminary.



Fr. Kenneth Katricak, OSB marked the 40th anniversary of his ordination as a priest with a Mass at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Lorain on Sunday, May 21, 2023 followed by an afternoon reception at St. Teresa of Avila Parish Hall in Sheffield. Fr. Kenneth, a native of Lorain, worked as an LPN at St. Joseph's Hospital in Lorain before entering the Benedictine community in 1978. He was ordained as a priest along with Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB by Bishop Edward Pevec in St. Benedict's Church on April 29, 1983.

He later earned additional degrees in nursing from Ursuline College and John Carroll University. In the abbey he served as the infirmarian and the director of junior monks. From 1992-2000 he worked at Villa Sancta Anna Home for the Aged in Beachwood and from 2000-2004 as the chaplain of the Incarnate Word nuns in Parma Heights. He currently works as a mental health counselor in Elyria. He is pictured with his brother Bob and sister-in-law Chris and Abbot Gary at his anniversary Mass.



Nancy Melchioris retired as the abbey seamstress after 15 years in the tailor shop. She and her husband Steve were honored with a special luncheon in the abbey dining room on Thursday, May 18. Even Fr. Joachim Pastirik, OSB, who first met Nancy and told her about the abbey in 2007, joined the luncheon by phone from his residence at Regina Health Center. Abbot Gary offered the gratitude of all the monks for her many years of service.



Former long-time BHS art teacher **Fr. Joachim Pastirik, OSB '60** marked his **60th anniversary of monastic vows** on July 11. He professed his first vows as a monk on July 11, 1963 along with his classmates **Fr. Timothy Buyansky, OSB '60** and **Fr. Dominic Mondzelewski, OSB '60** (both deceased) to **Abbot Theodore Kojis, OSB**. Fr. Joachim keeps busy sketching staff and visitors at Regina Health Center, 5232 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio where he has been in residence since 2016. He can receive visitors as well as phone calls from 8 am to 8 pm at 330-659-4161 by asking for Fr. Joachim. He is pictured with **Andrew Schrader**, a member of the Regina staff.



Norbertine Fr. Alan Benander, O.Praem., a member of St. Michael's Abbey in Silverado, California preached the annual retreat for the members of St. Andrew Abbey which was held at Loyola Retreat House in Clinton, Ohio from June 6-9, 2023. A native Cleveland, Fr. Alan attended St. Ignatius High School and John Carroll University before joining the Norbertine order in California. Three of his sisters married BHS alumni: **Ken Traben (Tausch) '86**, **Jeff Kadlub '92**, and **Jeff Heinrich '06**. While on vacation in Los Angeles in July, **Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB '71**, was able to visit Fr. Alan at his new monastery which opened last year and already houses 50 priests and 35 clerics. In the photo, Fr. Gerard is seen in the new abbey church in Silverado with Fr. Alan and **Megan Barr**, sister of **Sue Wrobel** of Orban's Flowers who lives in Los Angeles. While there, Fr. Gerard also had supper with alumnus **Dominic Powall '92**, who works in Hollywood.

Also present for the abbey retreat was alumnus **Fr. Johnnie Smith '59**, who is a retired priest of the Diocese of Memphis, Tennessee for which he was ordained at the age of 70 in 2010 following the death of his wife. Fr. Smith now resides in Geneva, Ohio and assists at local parishes. He is seen in the photo with Abbot Gary.

Brother Gregory Coyne, OSB, attended the Benedictine Junior Institute from July 12-21, 2023 at **St. Bernard's Abbey** in Cullman, Alabama. The workshop provided an opportunity for young monks of different abbeys to meet each other and to explore and expand their appreciation of Sacred Scripture. They also went on field trips to **Mother Angelica's Shrine** of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Hanceville, the Civil Rights Museum in Birmingham, and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville among other social and formation experiences. In the group photo, Bro. Gregory is fourth from the left in the back row while visiting the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration at Our Lady of the Angels Monastery with the other junior monks. He also got to know two junior monks from St. Vincent's Archabbey in Latrobe, Pennsylvania which is the closest abbey to Cleveland. In the photo, Bro. Gregory is in the center flanked by **Brother Bosco** (left) and **Brother Jose** (right) from St. Vincent's. He also had a chance for involuntary penance when his connecting flight to Cleveland was cancelled and he had to spend the night in the Atlanta airport.



Saint Andrew Abbey Annual Benefit

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023



CELEBRATING ABBOT GARY HOOVER'S, OSB 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

This year's Abbey Benefit fittingly is dedicated to our Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB, who is celebrating his 40th anniversary as a priest having been ordained by Bishop Edward Pevec, along with our Fr. Kenneth Katricak, OSB, on April 29, 1983 in Saint Benedict's Church. Born in Cleveland in 1956, Abbot Gary grew up in Garfield Heights as the son of Ray and Dorothy Hoover. He has one brother, Mark, sister-in-law Kris, niece Jenny (Brendan, husband), nephew David, and two great-nephews Benjamin and Henry. Abbot Gary attended Elmwood Elementary School and graduated from Benedictine High School in 1974. He professed vows as a Benedictine monk in 1977 and was ordained a priest in 1983. He taught sociology and served as the school and athletic team chaplain. He was named prior of the abbey in 2008 and was elected the seventh abbot of St. Andrew Abbey in 2014.

Known for his genial personality and Marian spirituality, Abbot Gary has touched many lives in his four decades of priestly ministry through high school retreats and through his weekend pastoral assistance especially at St. Ambrose and St. Colette's Parishes in Brunswick. Ad Multos Annos!

Assumption of Mary Parish Church

9183 Broadview Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147

Mass at 4:00 PM

Woodside Event Center at St. Michael's

5025 Mill Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147

5:30 PM – Reception and Dinner

For ticket or sponsorship information, please contact Ainsley Gialamas at gialamas@cbhs.edu or 216-421-2080 ext. 280.

New Venue Continues Old Tradition:

Benedictine holds Commencement on the brand new Rufus Courtyard for the first time.

The final week for seniors at Benedictine is always marked by Baccalaureate Mass, the Academic Awards Ceremony and Graduation. This year, we held all of these events on campus for the first time. The 2023 Class Valedictorian was **Gabriel Beltavski** (pictured below) after he achieved the highest GPA in his class over his four years. Gabe won many other awards,

including the OHSAA Award of Excellence and the Kiwanis Service Award with fellow Mr. Benedictine Finalist **Patrick Morse**.

The 2023 Salutatorian was **Luke Parker** for achieving the second highest GPA in his class over four years.



continued on page 8



Athletic Director Mr. John Carter presents the OHSAA Scholar Athlete Award to James Cole.



James Cole was the Phi Beta Kappa Award winner for academic excellence and initiative. Cole, along with being a Mr. Benedictine Finalist, was also the OHSAA Scholar Athlete and a Christian Witness Award Winner.

Aidan Kenny was the Fr. Donald Award winner for his work writing and editing for the Bennet and Literary Magazine. Freshman Balin Kimbrell was the Fr. Stephen Award winner for Speech and Debate.

The winner of the Jack T. Hearn Music Award was freshman **Cameron Huggins**. Senior **Brandon Jordan** won the Fr. Timothy Award for Drama. The Fr. Raphael Award for science was won by freshman **Jeremy Ade**.

The inaugural winner of The Abbot Clement Award for Faith and Science was senior **Xavier Thomas**.

Patrick Morse, in addition to his Kiwanis Club award and being a Mr. Benedictine Finalist, was the Fr. Robert Award winner for outstanding Business Student.

The Smith Faculty Award is awarded annually to a faculty member who shows entrepreneurial spirit with their program and comes with a \$5,000 award. For her work growing the band and drama programs, **Hannah Westfield** was deservedly awarded the Smith Faculty Award.

Closing out the Award Ceremony, those assembled heard from the 71st Mr. Benedictine, **Jacob Dolan (pictured at left)**. Jake was also a Sonny Powell Scholarship award winner, along with **Roman DiNovo**.

Jake spoke to the student body about why he's so glad he chose Benedictine, although early on he couldn't quite put his finger on what made Benedictine so special. He eventually decided that Benedictine is great for one simple reason: It's the people.





The Vincent Award is awarded to a rising senior who exhibits an interest in history or government, and who best demonstrates the spirit of Vincent Francioli. The second annual Vincent Award winner is junior **Danny Winterich**. Danny also won the Notre Dame University Book Club Award.

Benedictine was visited by the US Army, who presented senior **Mason Adrine** with a full 4-year ROTC Scholarship to The Ohio State University, a value of over 67,000 dollars. Mason will be pursuing Cyber Security and will graduate from OSU as a 2nd Lieutenant in the US Army upon completion of the program. Mason and his family were on hand to be recognized for this outstanding achievement. Mason was also the winner of the Fr. James Award for his Senior Scholars project in physics and electricity with Dr. Lindway.



Our annual Mr. Benedictine Dinner was a great opportunity for our 71st Mr. Benedictine, Jacob Dolan, to meet many of the past winners. From Left to Right, TOP ROW: **Joe Sweeney '98 (Board President)**, **Tommy Zagorski '03**, **John Colagiovanni '75**, **Ronald J. Hodakievic '76**, **Chuck Palsa '68**, **Tom Evert '69**. 2ND ROW: **Nolan Hopkins '17**, **Jim Kehres '90**, **Ed St. John '84**, **Dr. James Lewis '59**, **Michael DiGeronimo '10**, **Michael Zelenka '97**. BOTTOM ROW: **John Dosen '18**, **Jim Betts '67**, **Jacob Dolan '23**, **Nobby Lewandowski '55**, **Bishop Roger Gries '54**, **Jamie Georgeson '78**, and **Dr. Manny Martinez '73**





Kyan Lewis '93, Martino Harmon '83, Martin Dunn '83

Pete Germano '78, John DiPaola '78, Julius Nagy '78

REUNION WEEKEND

It was great to have everyone back on Friday, June 16, 2023 Stag Night for Reunion Weekend! Those who attended got to see all of the newly completed construction projects, see old friends, and meet some new ones from across the decades. There were also some former faculty members who came out for the festivities including **Bishop Roger Gries, OSB '54, Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB '74, Fr. Anselm Zupka, OSB '58, Mr. Steve Krajnak '61, Mr. Joe Cszasz, Coach Tony Russ '66, Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB '71, Mr. Rick DiGeronimo '73, Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB, and Fr. Bede Kotlinski, OSB.**

The Classes of 1973, 1978, and 2008 all got together at The Black Forest in South Euclid for another night of fun and remembrance with other Men of Benedictine, family, and friends. It was great to gather together and remember what makes Benedictine a special place! Thanks to all who came and celebrated with us!



Dell Robinson '83, Lewis Alvis '06,
Bill Wilkinson '82



The Class of 2008



Matt Karpoff '08, Jeff Heinrich '06,
Dave Bertsch '08



The Class of 1963

The Class of 1973





Joseph Csaszar and Steve Krajnak '61

Richard DiGeronimo '73, Terry Pluto '73 and Dennis Shalala '73



The Class of 1978



Abbot Gary Hoover '74 with the Class of 1998



The Class of 1983



The Class of 1958



The Class of 1968

New Rufus Courtyard and Atrium Dedicated July 27, 2023

The Centennial Campaign has progressed nicely, with the completion of the Atrium and the Rufus Courtyard earlier this year. The Howley Science Wing has seen a lot of progress as well. Many of our alumni got a sneak peek during Reunion Weekend. The east side of the Atrium opens into the Rufus Courtyard, named after legendary Coach and Athletic Director Joe Rufus, who coined the name “Home of Champions” after coaching the Bengals to city championships in basketball, baseball, and football in 1948.





Bishop Roger '54, Abbot Gary '74, BHS Board President Joe Sweeney '98 (far left back row), BHS Vice-President for Advancement Chris Lorber '04 (second from right) pose with Joe Rufus's son Greg '74 and his wife Kathy (third and fourth from the right) and Joe's daughter Mary Kay Popovich and her husband John (sixth and seventh from the left) and their families at the dedication of the new Rufus Courtyard. Over 150 benefactors gathered for the occasion which also marked the inauguration of the new entrance atrium for BHS, the renovated labs in the new Howley Science Wing, and renovated coaches room and gymnasium.



Students and visitors now enter the school through the Atrium, where they are greeted in the Smith Family Welcome Center.



All of the lab spaces in the newly named Howley Science Wing have been refaced with a familiar layout with many newly renovated areas, including a brand new bathroom and refurbished storage and study areas.



In addition to the Centennial Campaign, Athletics recently completed several facility updates. The Trueman Memorial Fieldhouse completed its renovations in the fall, which included newly refurbished flooring, new video scoreboard and sound system. The Benedictine Coaches Room has been in use since the winter and features infographics about Joe Rufus.



BENEDICTINE HIGH SCHOOL
EST. 1927

Open House

Sunday, November 5th
Mass 10^{AM}
Open House 11^{AM}–12:30^{PM}

High School Placement Tests
Oct. 14 – 9^{AM}–12:00^{PM}
Nov 15 – 5^{PM}–8:00^{PM}
Dec. 2 – 9^{AM}–12:00^{PM}

Campus Tours
Oct. 4 – 5^{PM}–6:30^{PM}
Apr. 17 – 5^{PM}–6:30^{PM}



cbhs.edu

For admissions related questions at Benedictine, please contact:

Mike Stircula
admissions@cbhs.edu
216-421-2080 ext. 356

The Benedictine Admissions Team is excited about the arrival of the class of 2027 this fall! This new class of freshmen consists of 92 students from 45 schools in the Greater Cleveland area! As we bring the Benedictine experience to new families, we also want to continue sharing that experience with our legacy families. If you have family members interested in private, Catholic, high school education for their sons, please have them contact us at admissions@cbhs.edu or call 216-421-2080 ext. 356. The Home of Champions cannot wait to see the sons, grandsons, nephews, cousins, and friends of the Men of Benedictine this upcoming admissions season!

Please scan the QR code which will take you to our inquiry page!



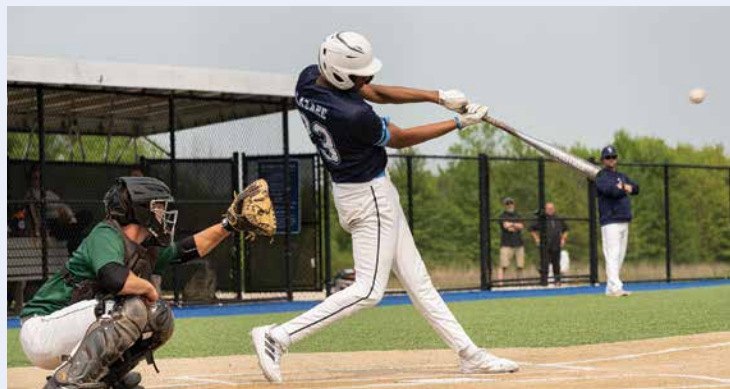
TRACK



The Bengals 4x200 Relay team advanced to the State Final at Jesse Owens Stadium in Columbus, Ohio and finished with an impressive time of 1:29;18 to place 6th overall in Division II Track! The Bengals were anchored by **Keion Mayberry '24** (left) and started off by **Thomas Maloney '24** (below) with senior **Elijah Drake** and junior **Tearon Powell** handling the exchange in the middle. Congratulations to them and their success!



BASEBALL



The Bengal Baseball Team advanced to the District Finals this past spring after an exciting walk-off 1-0 win over Lodi Cloverleaf in the semi-final. Senior **Nathan Lazare '23** (above) made an impact, driving in that winning run after hitting a homerun in the previous playoff game.

The Bengals made a valiant effort but eventually lost to Gilmour Academy 3-0 in the District Final in a game where they just couldn't get their offense going. **AJ Slemc '23** and **Dawson Williams '23** (below, with Athletic Director **John Carter**, left, and Principal **Dominic Fanelli**, right) captained this District Runner-up squad in a season they should be proud of, even though it didn't end how they wanted. The Bengals graduated many seniors but have a lot of young talent with varsity experience to lean on for years to come.



LACROSSE

The Lacrosse Team found more offense this year but came up on the short end of many of their matches. They still gave teams trouble and improved as the year went along. They were led by seniors **Nolan Patton (21)**, **AJ Green (15)**, and **Aiden Kenny (47)**. AJ will continue his lacrosse career on a scholarship to the University of Mount Union.





Jerome Baker '15, Miami Dolphin, Ohio State Buckeye, and Benedictine Bengal, returned home on Friday, July 7th, for his annual football camp at Benedictine High School. Camp participants got coaching from Jerome, prolific football agent Drew Rosenhaus, New York Jet Justin Hardee, and Georgia Assistant WR Coach CJ Germany. They were joined by the entire Benedictine football program including head coach Joe Prevesk, his staff, varsity, JV, and freshman players.

The experience gained by all was extremely valuable and Jerome spent a lot of time after the event to speak with and take photographs with all the participants. We are so proud to call Jerome a Man of Benedictine and we are honored to be a part of Jerome's mission to give back to the community!



Class of 1964



Deacon John Talerico marked his 40th anniversary of ordination to the diaconate on June 4, 2023 with a Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Parma followed by a reception in the Corrigan Gym. **Fr. Jack Carlin**, pastor of St. Charles, remembered John's recently departed wife, Ann, and congratulated John and his classmates who were ordained in 1983 because they were among the first permanent deacons in the Diocese of Cleveland. Fr. Carlin wrote, "We also thank him for his many years of service to St. Charles, coordinating the Parent Baptismal Program for thirty plus years, dependable liturgical service at all major ceremonies, Baptisms, Weddings, moderating the Holy Name Society, and faithfully preaching whenever called upon."

Class of 1968

Mark Tenaglia, Sr. retired after 38 years with the City of Brooklyn Police Department. He retired as the Chief of Police. A Vietnam veteran (1970-71), he is widowed with two grown children, Mark, Jr. and Lisa.

Joseph Gaidelis reports that he and his wife, Susan, are spending a lot of time watching their 1 year old grandson with a break on weekends. Joe loves being a grandpa, but he also misses his old job.

Class of 1973

Charles Williams has been married for 42 years and has two sons and seven grandchildren. He retired after 42 years as an iron worker, but is currently teaching Construction Communication and Construction Lab at Tri-C Metro Campus. He is also the past president of the Catholic Diocesan Union of Holy Name Societies of which he has been a member for 40 years.

Joe Miklavic marked his 45th anniversary of marriage with his wife, Kathy, on May 20, 2023. They are proud of their family of three children, Joseph, Brian, and Jackie, and their nine grandchildren. Joe retired as an underground electrician for First Energy and lives in Medina.

Ed Sovol has reached the 50-year mark with his career at United Parcel Service Worldwide and his 47th anniversary of marriage with his wife Barb. He greatly enjoys the time he now spends with his family, especially his children and grandchildren.

Class of 1978

Andy Smith and his wife, Annie, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on the Benedictine campus on Saturday, July 15, 2023. Around 150 guests joined them, along with their daughter Carly Senefeld, her husband, Jack, and grandchildren Jameson and Margaret, and son Drew and his wife Michaela. Mass was first celebrated in the Abbey Church by **Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB '71** with **Fr. Michael Brunovsky, OSB** providing the music and **Bro. Simon Corrigan, OSB** serving. **Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB '74** concelebrated the Mass.

Then the guests walked out of the church and into the new **Rufus Courtyard** (which would not be dedicated for another two weeks) where the festivities continued under a big tent with food and music in the shadow of the Home of Champions. Andy and Annie have moved their primary residence from Chicago to Hudson, Ohio with Andy's company, Houlihan Capital, having a new branch office in Cleveland on Superior Avenue.



Michael Mullins has been married to his wife, Maxine, for 36 years. They were married in Tennessee and lived in Colorado and Ohio, moving over 15 times! He retired in 2020 from Cardinal Health and is now devoted to caring for his wife. He dedicated his life to the Lord in 2000. He still likes sports that don't require him to run or jump like bowling, cornhole, shooting baskets, and playing cards.

Dr. Greg Ward, M.D., and his filmmaking colleagues were recently honored at the Diversity at Cannes Short Film Showcase. ***Building Minds With Chess*** is a short film that features Chess Grandmaster Pontus Carlsson and explores the mental benefits of the game. This short film is just the latest in a body of work for which Ward has been involved. In 2019, Ward and Ken Mask, M.D. worked together on ***The Opera Game*** which is set in New Orleans in the 1850s featuring a chess prodigy. Ward and Mask are also among the executive producers of ***Stronghold*** for which a North American distribution deal was just secured. An August 2023 release is anticipated for this apocalyptic thriller.

Class of 1998

Tom Fejes was named one of the leading planners of the Northeast Ohio Division of Lincoln Financial Advisors Corporation placing him among the firm's most elite professionals of the thousands affiliated with Lincoln Financial Advisors.

Class of 2017



Noah Schrader received his master's degree in Theology and Integrative, Pastoral,

Human, and Spiritual Formation from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend in June. He had received a full scholarship for the two-year program that trains pastoral ministers after he graduated from Xavier University. He also received the **Gerard F. Baumbach Award for Excellence in Catechesis**. He is currently working at St. Colette's Parish in Brunswick.

Timothy Shean married **Megan Mooney** (photo to the right) on Friday, July 21, 2023, at St. Clare's Church in Mayfield Heights where they are both involved in teaching PSR (Parish School of Religion). Representing BHS was **Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB '71**. Tim's brothers **Joe '16** and **Tyler '22** are alumni and **Jacob '24** is beginning his junior year.



Class of 2021

John Hannan, who was named the manager of the University of Dayton's Men's Basketball team last year, has been awarded the **Colin Connor Connection Scholarship** that covers his full tuition as well as room and board until he graduates from Dayton. Each year, one student who works in the UD Athletic Department receives this award. It is named after Colin Connor whose family are major supporters of UD athletics. Colin has Down Syndrome and is a big Dayton Flyer fan. The family also created a facility called "**Colin's Lodge**" which "is a safe place for adults with cognitive differences to be their best selves." Part of the award requires John to volunteer at least once a week at Colin's Lodge. This is a good continuation of John's commitment to causes that promote the dignity of all human lives which he was involved with at BHS in the Pro-Life Club.



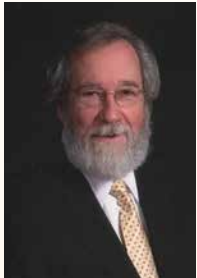
Matt Stauffer '20 along with Dan Keenan '19, and Max Monachino '19 – at a Benedictine Baseball Playoff Game on May 22, 2023.

In Memoriam

of alumni and friends of Saint Andrew Abbey and Benedictine High School



Florceda Petcavage, 92, mother of Fr. Paschal, OSB, died on April 19, 2023. She was preceded in death by her husband Albert and children Margaret and Richard. She worked as a bank secretary for the former Lorain County Bank. Abbot Gary and Fr. Paschal concelebrated her funeral Mass at St. Mary's Church in Elyria.



Stephen Merker, 81, of the Class of '60, died May 2, 2023. He grew up in the Hungarian Buckeye Road neighborhood. After service in the U.S. Air Force, he was a research physicist and earned a doctorate in Systems Science from the University of Louisville where he became a professor of Urban and Public Affairs. A natural inventor, throughout his career he contributed to many patents. He was the first lay president

of the board of Mercy Academy in Louisville, Kentucky and was active in St. Brigid's Catholic Church. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, and three children.



Robert Jaksa, 70, of the Class of '71, passed away on May 18, 2023 in Port Lucie, Florida. Growing up in the Buckeye neighborhood where his family owned a popular butcher shop, Bob played in the BHS band and was a member of the golf team. He later served in the U.S. army and became a police officer in East Cleveland and a detective in Eastlake. His former principal, Bishop Roger Gries, OSB celebrated his funeral Mass at St. Ann's Church

of Communion of Saints Parish in Cleveland Heights.



Bernard Dietzel, 70, of the Class of '70 died suddenly on June 6, 2023 at his home in Concord Township. He is also survived by his wife Maria, his mother Elizabeth, his brother, Dan '72, two sisters, and his aunt Sister Mary St. John of the Poor Clares. His two sons are BHS alumni: **Patrick '02** and **Andrew '05**.

Bernie was a vice-president in commercial banking. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Mary of the Assumption Church in Mentor.



Jack Vodrazka, 80, of the Class of 1961 entered Eternal Life on June 6, 2023. He is survived by Dorothy, his wife of 59 years, son Todd and daughter Shelly. Jack was a well-known funeral director in Independence, Ohio and served as a professional embalmer. He was a 1966 graduate of the Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. His funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Michael's Church in Independence.



Dorothy Hoover, 96, the mother of Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB '74 and Mark Hoover '75, died on July 8, 2023. Dorothy served as the main office secretary at BHS from 1947-54. Later she worked for the White Motors Company. *In the famous photo from the April 23, 1954 "Bennet"*

newspaper, Dorothy is showing her engagement ring from Ray Hoover to seniors Chuck St. John and William Gries (Bishop Roger). Dorothy and Ray were married for 65 years before his death in 2019. Abbot Gary was the main celebrant and homilist for his mother's funeral Mass at the Abbey Church on July 13. She is also survived by her daughter-in-law Kris, grandchildren David and Jennifer (Brendan), and great-grandchildren Benjamin and Henry.



Vincent Kleindeinst, 28, of the Class of 2013, died after a long battle with illness on August 17, 2023. At BHS, Vince was active with the Priory system, the Italian Heritage Club, the Film Club, the Marketing Club, the National Honor Society, the Key Club, the Blood Drive team, and the Lacrosse team. He graduated from Miami University of Ohio and the University of Kentucky College of Law. He is survived by his parents Mark and Antonia,

his brother **Nick '09**, and his nephew Enzo at whose recent baptism, Vince became his godfather. Representing BHS at the funeral Mass at Holy Redeemer Church were Abbot Gary '74 and Fr. Gerard '71.



Stephen O'Neill, 56, of the Class of 1984, passed away on June 17, 2023. Steve was one of three brothers who attended BHS with **Mike '82** (deceased) and **John '88**. As a senior running back and defensive back during the 1983 varsity football season, Steve's best game came in a 36-14 win over Holy Name when he carried the ball 19 times for 198 yards scoring four touchdowns. Later in life Steve became an avid and respected horseman who excelled in

playing polo throughout the Midwest. He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Heidi, and children Mary and Jayme. His funeral Mass was celebrated at Holy Angels Church in Chagrin Falls.



Joseph Lechowicz, 86, of the Class of 1954, died on March 25, 2023 in Mt. Vernon, New York. As a student, Joe rode to and from BHS each day 68 miles on a commercial bus from his home in Lorain. He earned a college degree in physics and math and as Fr. Casimir was a member of the Benedictine faculty from 1964-68. He achieved a doctorate from the University of Georgia and for 40 years he taught and

mentored graduate students in rehabilitation counseling at Hofstra University in New York.



Ronald Grobelny, 81, of the Class of 1959, passed away on July 12, 2023 in Sarasota, Florida where he lived with Sheila, his wife of 54 years. Two of his sons are Benedictine alumni, **Kevin '88** and **Christopher '89** and his grandson Michael is beginning his sophomore year at BHS. Ron worked as a Materials Manager in the manufacturing industry at SPS Technologies, TRW, and MTD Products. He had a personal passion for music and performed

with the Cleveland Institute of Music and was a piano and trumpet teacher. A memorial Mass has been scheduled at St. Clare's Church in Mayfield Heights on Saturday, September 2, 2023.



Lt. Col. USAF (Retired) Eugene Wagner, 89, of the Class of 1951, died on February 25, 2023, in Cape Coral, Florida. His wife of 62 years, Beverly, preceded him in death. He is survived by his five children. He attended the University of Notre Dame and Texas A&M University. He served in the Air Force for 28 years reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. As a hobby he built and flew remote radio-controlled airplanes and even helped to develop the first flying airfield in

Cape Coral. He attended St. Katherine Drexel Catholic Church.



Augustine Stefanek, 96, of the Class of 1945, died May 9, 2023 with his wife of 69 years and 11 months, Ruth, at his side. He is survived by his 6 children, 10 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren. A proud graduate of the University of Notre Dame (where he was buried), Gus was a C.P.A. who worked for Inter-City Trucking in Detroit and eventually became co-owner. He served as vice-chairman for the

American Trucking Association and was president of the Michigan Trucking Association.

RECENTLY DECEASED

The following members of our Benedictine Community have gone on to Eternal Rest between April 15th, 2023 and August 17th, 2023. May they all Rest in Peace.

Name		Deceased
William Eggett	Class of 1958	9/18/22*
Daniel Szymanski	Class of 1947	9/23/22*
Eugene Bodziony	Class of 1948	11/23/22*
Lt. Col. Eugene Wagner	Class of 1951	2/25/23*
Joseph Lechowicz	Class of 1954	3/25/23*
John Kochik	Class of 1960	4/1/23*
Florceda Petcavage		4/19/23
Elizabeth Kunicki	Wife of Tim '86	04/26/23
Jack Wygonski	Class of 1945	4/3/23*
Stephen Merker	Class of 1960	5/2/23
Charles McCormick	Class of 1978	5/3/23
James Roski	Class of 1951	5/7/23
Gerald Sulhan	Class of 1966	5/11/23
Richard Sadd	Class of 1953	5/13/23
Dorothy Lafko		5/17/23
Robert Jaksa	Class of 1971	5/18/23
Augustine "Gus" Stefanek	Class of 1945	5/9/23
James Arth	Class of 1960	6/1/23
Patrick Dowling	Class of 1952	6/4/23
Bernard Dietzel	Class of 1970	6/6/23
John Vodrazka	Class of 1961	6/6/23
Richard Brichta	Class of 1966	6/8/23
Raymond Burovac	Class of 1953	6/11/23
Anthony Antonelli	Class of 1960	6/14/23
Gerald Wrobel	father of Jerry '86 and Derek '90	6/17/23
Stephen O'Neill	Class of 1984	6/17/23
Carl Lorenzo	Class of 1953	6/20/23
Carole Sadd	wife of Richard '53	6/22/23
James Sennet	Father of J.P. Sennet '07	6/25/23
Anthony Halas	Class of 1957	7/7/23
Dorothy Hoover		7/8/23
Ronald Grobelny	Class of 1959	7/12/23
Gerald Rudowsky	Class of 1971	7/16/23
Elaine Nicolli	wife of Tony '61 (dec) and mother of Jason '93, Tony '95, and David '97 (dec)	7/16/23
Norbert Eidam	Class of 1945	7/29/23
Keith Johnson	Former Asst. Football Coach	7/30/23
Adam Kozlowski	Class of 1954	08/4/23
Vincent Kleindeinst	Class of 2013	8/17/23

If anyone knows of other recently deceased alumni, please contact the alumni office at 216-421-2080 ext. 342 or alumni@cbhs.edu

* late notice

Joe Marino Memorial Golf Outing

The Joe Marino Memorial Outing, named after deceased alumnus and former BHS Advancement Director Joe Marino '78, is held each summer on the first Thursday of June. Funds raised support the Marino Scholarship Fund at Benedictine. This year on June 1, the event was once again a success with beautiful weather and another sellout crowd at the Red Tail Golf Club in Avon, Ohio.

The Joe Marino Scholarship celebrates the inspiring life and never-quit spirit of Joe Marino. This scholarship is awarded by Benedictine High School to incoming and currently enrolled Benedictine students who meet the criteria established by Alison Marino and outlined in The Joseph A. Marino '78 – High Top Memorial Scholarship Fund application.

We look forward to seeing you all next year!



Dear Family and Friends,

As you read through this summer's issue of *Ora et Labora*, you have seen the significant developments and positive momentum taking place at the Home of Champions. It has been a blessing to see this growth, and add to our 96+ year history!

With our growth as an institution, also comes opportunity. Last month, our community was blessed to celebrate the ribbon cutting of the beautiful Rufus Courtyard and our atrium. And, later in September, we will look to unveil The Howley Science Wing to our community, as well. These attractive additions on campus provide a safe, welcoming, and special learning environment for the Men of Benedictine and our guests.

What is most exciting about all of this is that our rising freshmen along with our prospective students and families will get to experience this for all four years as we make our way to the school's 100th year celebration in 2027!

I communicate this excitement because it's important for our alumni and friends, who have 7th and 8th grade sons, grandsons, nephews, etc., to understand the special opportunity that lies ahead to further their education and to develop in mind, body, and spirit. Throughout the fall, our admissions team will be facilitating private tours to families and highlighting all of the strong benefits of the Benedictine education. To arrange these private tours, please contact our Director of Admissions, Mike Stircula '05, at mstircula@cbhs.edu or ext. 356.



Chris Lorber '04

Just as we highlight the excitement for our new students and their families regarding the special opportunities at BHS, we extend our appreciation for all of the benefactors for the significant support you provide to continue our mission. Your support allows us to maintain our rich tradition of educating, and off-set the tuition expense of \$14,100 for over 97% of our families. If you are interested in supporting our tuition assistance program, educational programming, or capital needs, please contact me at lorber@cbhs.edu or 216-421-2080 ext. 246. The investment you make today will impact our society's future!

We look forward to visiting with you this Fall!

Yours in St. Benedict,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chi L '04".

Mr. Chris Lorber '04
Chief Operating Officer



2023 National Honor Society

ORA ET LABORA

St. Andrew Abbey/Benedictine High School

2900 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Cleveland, Ohio 44104-4898

Change Service Requested

**Ora et Labora: A publication of
Benedictine High School and
Saint Andrew Abbey**

Abbot Gary Hoover, OSB '74
Publisher

Mr. Chris Lorber '04
Chief Operating Officer

Fr. Gerard Gonda, OSB '71
Editor and Donor Relations

Mr. Brian Devers '08
Director of Media and Communications

Ms. Ainsley Gialamas
*Director of Advancement
Operations & Events*

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CLEVELAND, OH
PERMIT NO. 2280

BLUE AND WHITE

GALA


benedictine
HIGH SCHOOL

SAVE
THE
DATE

Saturday,
MARCH 16
2024

INTERCONTINENTAL
HOTEL