



# Onaway Area Schools Alumni Association

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## Classroom Scholarships Given

OASAA classroom scholarships are given in response to applications from a teacher, a class, or a department for equipment they cannot afford without help.

This year, three applications for \$500 grants were approved. One grant will provide a camera for the yearbook class. In the words of the application: "Students, parents, family and friends will all benefit from seeing photos of special moment within the yearbook for many years to come." Since this newsletter often uses old yearbooks as a

source for pictures, we agree!

The second grant went to the math department in order to improve the technology that teachers and students use.

The third grant will provide video cameras for the history department so that students can check out a camera and make videos as part of classroom projects. The application states: "...many (students) may enter into professions where they will need to use a variety of technology...to document an event."

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Pictured: Teachers who submitted for scholarships- Kym Wregglesworth, Max Boettger and Marleen Brown



## Alum of the Year Sought

It's time to choose an Alum of the Year for 2012. If you would like to nominate someone, please let us know WHY you think the person is a good candidate for the award. In the past we've had a businessman, an anthropologist/professor, a teacher, and a professor/humanitarian, all of used the education they received at Onaway to become successful and to

benefit the world with their work.

You can contact us online at [oasaa.org](http://oasaa.org) or mail your suggestions to the PO box listed in this newsletter. Again, please be specific about why you are nominating the person. It's hard to judge from just a name and a vague "She/He's a great person." Board considers nominees in March.

Education is a better safeguard of liberty than a standing army.  
Edward Everett

## Spotlight Class-1971

The Class of 1971 was led by Sponsors Bernie Schmeltzer and John Srholec, working with Class President Don Holmes, VP Kevin Brown, Secretary Betty Karsten, and Treasurer Robin Mix. It was a group of 78 motivated and active people, both mentally and physically. Their senior play, *Finders Creepers*, was a big hit.

The band contained a whopping twenty senior members that year. The debate team, consisting of Kim Brown, Connie Waite, Pat Skinner, and Kevin Brown, received top honors for the Tip of the Mitt League, and the team qualified for state competition and ended up ranked 5th in the state in class C-D.

Outstanding athletes chosen that year were Rocky Cope in track, Don Holmes in football, Bob Campbell in basketball, Larry Visner and Scott Morgan in football and track, and Rick Boucher in football, basketball, and track. Voted best looking by their classmates were Robyn Brewbaker and Joe Miller, and best musicians were Jerry Palmer and Ruth Versnick.

One of the year's highlights was a donkey basketball game with several teachers

(Dunston, Evans, K, Magee, Pfister, Schaar, Schmeltzer, and Srholec); a group of senior boys (Larry Visner, Scott Morgan, Joe Miller, Don Everingham, Don Holmes, Glenn Chagnon, Dale Zampich, Jim Morgan, Jim Moran, Kevin Brown); and a few brave girls (Jackie Campbell, Betty Karsten, Myla Horrocks, Benita Larson, Robin McLennan) volunteering to entertain the crowd by attempting to force those stubborn donkeys to go where they needed to score a basket.

At Homecoming, the student body elected Queen Cathy McFall, and the football team won their first homecoming game in seven years. The football team ended their season 5-3, while the basketball team managed a 50% win rate, not bad compared to previous years. Track records were set by Rick Boucher, Jim Holmes, Norm Pickett, and a relay team of Boucher, Scott Morgan, Wayne Vermilya, & Jim Holmes.

When graduation time finally arrived, Valedictorian was Ruth Versnick, Salutatorian was Colleen Dittmar, and Betty Karsten was Honor Student. Then, like classes before and since, members of the class of '71 left school and went on to make contributions to our town, or state, and our nation.



Yearbook Staff, 1971: Don Holmes, Kim Brown, Joe Miller, Benita Larson, Myla Horrocks, Betty Karsten, Kevin Brown, Jackie Campbell, Trudy Whitsitt, Jim Holmes, Cindy Schaedig, Greg Larson, Cathy Palmer, Sandy Lonsdale, Bob Bauman.  
Adviser: John Srholec



1971 Debate Team: Kim Brown, Connie Waite, Mr. Pregitzer, Pat Skinner and Kevin Brown.

## Teacher Spotlight

Every school has a few people who become an integral part of the institution, and Charles Schaar is one of those people. Mr. Schaar came to Onaway in 1965 to teach shop and drafting after graduating from Central Michigan University. In the years that followed, he served the school as teacher, coach, administrator, and all-around father figure for many students.

As a teacher, Mr. Schaar had high expectations, starting from the "old days," when only males took drafting, and moving into the days of mixed classes and CAD, where the teacher learned along with the students about using computers to draft plans for everything from machinery to houses.

Schaar coached several sports, and it was under his direction that Onaway's boys' basketball team reached its highest level in

recent memory in 1989, ending with a record of 18-4 and advancing to regional competition. Among the successful track athletes he recalls are Jim Holmes and the relay team of Tom Hoffmeyer, A.J. Paulus, Jay Diller, and Stan Chaskey.

In 1986, Schaar became athletic director and several years later took on the additional job of middle school principal. He performed those jobs with the same straightforward style and practicality that he showed as teacher and coach.

In 2000, Charlie retired from work at the school. He continued his 25-year summer occupation, building contractor, until recently retiring from that as well. These days he spends his time chasing bear, deer, and coyote rather than freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.



1970 Track Team: 1st row: Mike Waite, Greg Larson, Doug Paulus, Herman Reiger, Laurel Tucker, Wayne Vermilya, Bob Ellenberger.  
2nd row: Ray Ellenberger, Dave Webster, David Morgan, Frank Gilbert, Dave Pauly, Tim Badgero.  
3rd row: Mr. Pfister, Norm Pickett, Harry Waldie, Jim Holmes, Steve Porter, Don Martin, Mr. Schaar.  
4th row: Larry Visner, Jim Veihl, Rick Boucher, Rob McLennan. 5th row: Chuck Beckwith, Joe La-Fave, Rocky Cope, Jim Morgan.  
5th row: Dennis Horton, Scott Morgan, Mike Domke, Jack Stump & Harley Freel.



Charles Schaar  
Drafting

"Whatever is worth doing at all, is worth doing well."

-Chesterfield-

Charlie-1976



Charlie-1970

## OASAA Information

### Board Members:

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**We're on the  
 web:  
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**"Working together to  
 celebrate and support our  
 schools."**

## Reunions

As of now we have two reunions to report on for 2012. If your class is having a reunion, let us know and we'll put it in the spring news-letter and on the website.

*From Jessie Crowe Palmer*

The 1977 class reunion will be held on Saturday, June 30, 2012, at the UAW. It will be at the Beach House, which facilitates 175 people, and will be a Luau-type setting with all the amenities. We can stay until 2:00am. We are having ribs, chicken, grilled pineapple and of course all the other goodies. Full cash bar is available and for sure '70s music along with limbo (!!!) and a bonfire on the beach!!!! In the event of rain we will just stay inside. They have lodging available, and I have a motel in town for all of our classmates that need a place to stay.

We will be sending out "save the date" letters soon to see if we get any back so we will have time to locate anyone's that is returned. The official invitation will be sent as soon as all the details are worked out like time, etc. We will keep everyone posted and please pass this along to everyone that you keep in touch with.

*From Doreen Schaar via Facebook*

The Class of '87 is planning a reunion for the Fourth of July weekend of 2012. If you haven't got the details, they've got a site on Facebook to help you keep up with the plans. Go to Onaway High School Class of 87 Reunion 2012.



Class of '87  
 members  
 Todd Friday &  
 Matt Nave



Senior Baseball Players-1977  
 Paul Freel, Colin Freel, Tom Peterman,  
 Noble Hughes & Gilbert Morgan



Senior Band -1977: Kim Crowe, Debbie Stoner, Crystal Wregglesworth, Vickie Freel, Kathy McDonald, Marlene Horton, Sherry Badgero, Diane Grainger, Paula Camp, Scott Ellenberger, Kathy Snyder, Verma Tucker, Kim Price, Katie Dean, Jessie Crowe, Tammy Veihl, Keith Schaedig, Kathi McDonald, Pam Bauman, Ken Schaedig, Pam Badgero, Michelle Miller, Mark Ball, Eileen Winter, Ray Szymoniak & Tom Peterman