

Dozens of MHS grads gather at Fla. reunion

The 32nd annual Marion-Florida reunion attracted 75 MHS alumni and friends on March 3 in Bradenton, Fla.

Among them was MHSAA Past President John Earnest, who urged his fellow alumni to join in efforts to raise funds for the Giant Dreams Endowment, and to join the Marion High School Alumni Association.

The group also enjoyed an Indiana history lesson from Rob Dawalt, in honor of the state's bicentennial this year.

The event also includes a meal and plenty of time to rem-

inisce with former classmates and friends.

The most senior alumni in attendance this year were Doris Copeland, Class of 1937; Ed Deering, Class of 1940; and John Copeland, Class of 1941. Among the 75, 32 people were in attendance at the Marion-Florida reunion for the first time.

All alumni and friends are welcome at this annual reunion, organized by Dr. P.J. Fisher. The next reunion is set for March 2, 2017, at Duff's Original Buffet in Bradenton, Fla. Email pjfish71@aol.com for more information.



MHS alumni and friends gather at the Marion-Florida reunion on March 3, 2016, in Bradenton, Fla. The annual event is open to all MHS classes. See more photos on Page 4!

On the calendar

- **Giant Challenge:** The second annual alumni vs. athletes extravaganza is coming July 22-24! [More details on Page 2.](#)
- **Homecoming:** Sept. 23. If your class has plans to tailgate, let us know! We'd love to connect! Email info@mhsalum.com.
- **Class of 1977 reunion:** July 9. More info at MHSalum.com
- **Class of 19- * reunion:** July 2H. More info at MHSalum.com
- **Marion Classic Basketball Tourney:** Dec. 22. See MarionGiantsSports.com.

Share with us!

We want to hear about interesting things being done by you and your classmates. You can email us at info@MHSalum.com, or mail it to P.O. Box 48, Marion, IN 46952.

Giants bring home 8th state title!



Congratulations to the 2015-16 MHS boys basketball team, who earned a hard-fought state title on March 26, the eighth in Giants history!

This ties Marion High School with Muncie Central High School for the most boys basketball state titles.

The team was led by four seniors (soon to be MHS

alumni): Vijay Blackmon, Reggie Jones, Jordan Smith, and Juswon White.

The team overcame a tough Evansville Bosse team, ultimately winning 73-68. (Bosse is coached by MHS alum and former basketball assistant coach Shane Burkhart.)

The Giants came from behind in the fourth quarter five times

in the tournament, including in the state championship game. This team's hard work, perseverance, poise, and heart have inspired the school and the community. And they've proved once again that GIANTS FIGHT, NEVER DIE!

>> Learn more about the title win and more at MarionGiantsSports.com!

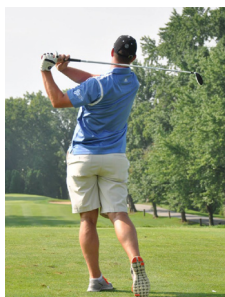
A look back: Giant Challenge 2015



Friday Night Lights: alumni vs. current Giant athletes

"I cannot put to words how much fun I had ... at the Alumni Challenge football game. I thought October of '96 would be the last time I would be under those Friday night lights."

— John Dulhanty, MHS alum



We want YOU here this year!

Second annual Giant Challenge: The alumni vs. athletes extravaganza is returning July 22-24! New this year: the Ronnie Russell Giant Bowling Bash; a choral reunion; and more. The Gallagher Golf Scramble, Giant Pride Run/Walk, and more will be back! More than \$17,000 was raised last year for Marion Community Schools students and programs. Will you help us surpass that this year? >> Watch for details on how YOU can get involved at www.MHSalum.com!



PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

To MHS Grads:

Wow! What an amazing season to be a Marion Giant, yes? Congratulations to our own IHSAA basketball state champs! This journey has brought back so much excitement and reminiscent memories for MHS graduates and community supporters of state championships of years past. It meant the world to our Vermilion and Beck family to see our own MCS kids thrilled and enthusiastic to "Be a Giant" and watch them experience all the fun that we had growing up as a Giant: pep rallies, fire truck rides, painting cars purple and gold, cutting the nets!



Adding to the excitement has been the successes of all our Giants, from the Brain Game team's repeat Elite Eight appearance, to our girls basketball team's NCC title, to the success of our JROTC competitive teams in regional and national competitions, to our growing music program earning gold ratings in multiple ISSMA competitions, to our young artists advancing to national-level competitions

for the Scholastic Art Awards, to another MHS Lilly Scholar, and too much more to mention here!

During times of success like this year, I encourage all MHS alumni to dig deep and think about how you can help the mission of the Marion High School Alumni Association and our quest to leave a legacy with the Giant Dreams Endowed Funds. Here's how you can get involved:

- **Become a member of the Marion High School Alumni Association**, and join us in our mission to provide opportunities for graduates, educators and other MHS affiliates to reconnect, communicate, and to support further development of Marion High School and future Alumni Association members. Learn more at www.MHSalum.com.

- **Donate to the Giant Dreams Endowment**. Your gift will live on at MCS forever, ensuring future Giants have the athletics, arts and educational privileges that we enjoyed. Give now at www.givetogrant.org/UltGiantDreams (or at www.MHSalum.com).

- **Participate in the second annual Giant Challenge**, set for July 22-24, where MHS alumni take on current MHS athletes in friendly competitions. I promise you, you will not be disappointed



Aaron and Ann (Beck) Vermilion and the whole family show off their Giant Pride at the IHSAA boys basketball state championships in March.



in this weekend. It will charge you up, it will inspire you, and it will bring back your Giant spirit.

I am honored to be this year's MHSAA president. As you know, the Vermilion and

Beck families bleed purple and gold. And this school year, our tears of joy have also been filled with school colors!

— Ann (Beck) Vermilion
(Class of 1992)

News & Notes

Grant County Sports Hall of Fame adds several more Giants

The following Giants athletes were inducted into the Grant County Sports Hall of Fame on April 3, 2016:

- **Yvonne Blackmon**, Class of 1977: track state champion
- **John Chin**, Class of 1969: back-to-back state finalist in basketball, state finalist in baseball, football standout
- **Jay Smithley**: All-State tennis

player.

- **Steve Ward**, Class of 1965: basketball standout, track state runner-up.

McClure named to Tennis Hall of Fame

Kathy McClure, Class of 1988, was inducted into the MHS Tennis Hall of Fame on May 3, 2016 at the Bill Beekman Tennis Courts. Beekman, her former coach, remembered the four-year No. 1 singles player for the MHS girls tennis team for her mental toughness, her com-

petitiveness, and her drive for continual improvement.

The perfect gift for new graduates

An MHSAA membership will make a great graduation gift for the MHS graduates you know! Keep them connected to Marion and the exciting things MHSAA is doing. **Visit MHSalum.com to buy a membership for your favorite new alumnus!**

And if you don't personally know any members of the Class of 2016, but would like to spon-

We want to hear from you!

We hope you'll consider sharing your milestones, celebrations, and interesting news with us! You can email us at info@MHSalum.com, or mail to P.O. Box 448, Marion, IN 46952.

sor an MHSAA membership for a deserving new alumnus, contact us at info@MHSalum.com!

Scenes from the Marion-Florida reunion



Linda and Robert Reece



Ed Deering and Dr. P.J. Fisher



Karen Bostic Weaver, Nancy Burke Ray, Betty Ann Biddinger Cleaver, Sherry Campbell, Jane Bass Sharon, and Rosene McKillip Richcreek.



Kathy and Fred Malott



Suzie Shoemaker and Janice Evans



Joyce Eltzroth, Vicki Watt, and Barbara Weaver

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MHSAA members:

Class of 1940: Margie Vice

Class of 1943: Jeanne Michos

Class of 1949: George Dixon, Pierre Fisher, Robert Shirar

Class of 1950: Carol Fisher, Jane Kohlmorgen

Class of 1951: Alene Sloan, Kenneth Sloan

Class of 1952: James Sutter

Class of 1954: Lynn Wynston

Class of 1955: Jerry Jones

Class of 1956: Janice Evans

Class of 1957: Peggy Walton Pace, Dick Persinger

Class of 1960: Deanna Bergsma, Mark Boatwright, George Bragg, Avery

Chandler, Mike Conroy, William Dennis, Bernard

Diamond, Charles Esarey, Roselyn Farley, David

Fosnough, Mary Gough, Richard Green, Sondra

Haynes, Gloria Heinemann, Jim Hughes, John Jacob,

Jane Keene, Alice Kreissler, Bettieann Liddle, Michael

Not a member? Join today!

Visit www.MHSalum.com to learn more.

Members: Update your profile

Log on at www.MHSalum.com and share your graduating class and other information. The directory is viewable only by members.

Maidenberg, Kay Miller, Frances Pack, Marsha Pence, John Smith, Janet Tenhula, James Thorne, Rosilyn Vyhnaelek, Carole (Knotts) Wandrei, Thomas Westfall
Class of 1961: Jane (Baas) Sharon

Class of 1962: Amy Anderson, Virginia Boatwright, Carolyn Brooks, Sue Cook, Leelia Cornell, Janet Davis, John Earnest, Gayle Faunce, Suellen Huff, Jean Jacob, Terry Porter, Robert Burke, Steve Sharon, Jerry Shull, Sarah Smith, Susan Sutton, Sandy Van Hoose-Clevenger, Charles

Young

Class of 1963: Norma Achor, Darlene Burke

Class of 1964: Judy D. (Achor) Agee, David Albertson, Jim Arnold, Berniece E. (Detamore) Andrews, Bill Beekman, Lee Ann (Babcock) Brown, Ruth A. (Sherman) Detamore-Reynolds, Joyce Eltzroth, Paul F. Esler, Evelyn M. (Giegler) Grubb, Glen Hefner, Tom Holloway, Jackie Hoss, Lee Maidenberg, Jack L. Marshall, Adrian Messe Jr., John Milford, Susan Nation-Resler, Charlotte E. Real, Marshall Stewart, Becky Stubbs, William Thorne

Class of 1965: Carole Cardwell, Linda Kitts, Anthony Maidenberg, Kathi Richey

Class of 1967: Frank Ireland, Cheryl Wiggs

Class of 1968: Charles Burns

Class of 1969: Arthur Hewitt

Class of 1970: Jennifer Maidenberg, Steven Moritz, Carol Murphy, Susie Oylar,

Twanna Scroggins, Judi Woodward

Class of 1971: Philippa

Culley, Terry Johnson,

Jacquelyn Reed

Class of 1973: Cindy Wright,

Steve Wright

Class of 1974: Mike Barney

Class of 1975: Patty Barney,

Michael Flynn

Class of 1976: Robbin Smith

Class of 1978: William Wilds

Class of 1979: Kathy

Landrum, Reggie Nevels

Class of 1980: Cathy Moritz

Class of 1981: Kelly Snyder

Class of 1982: Wayne

Seybold

Class of 1983: Jeff Hutchens,

Sabrina Wilds

Class of 1984: Kellie Street

Class of 1988: Matt Bennet, Angela Dale, Kara Morley

Class of 1989: Greg Kitts,

Tade Powell, Aaron Vermilion

Class of 1992: Ann Vermilion

Class of 1993: Bobby

Browder

Class of 1994: Kyle Kirby

Class of 1997: TJ Dailey,

Troy Jones, Meredith

(Earnest) Miller

Class of 1998: Josh

Matchette

Class of 1999: David Culley,

Trent Dailey, Ryan Earnest

Class of 2001: Ashley Braun,

Brittany Pelz

Class of 2003: Bradley Norris

Class of 2005: Shane Nevers

Class of 2007: Regan Reese

Class of 2011: Katie Landrum

No Year Noted: Mark Bilger,

Carl Bleke, William Carson,

Clayton Edwards, Sara

Edwards, Judith (Long)

Guerrero, Tim Harris, Linda

Mark, Rebecca Moses,

Jonathan Perez, Jack

Robinson, Rhonda Stewart,

Christopher Wagner, Tim

Wentz, Lucinda Witt