

# **GALION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 5, 2008**

## **Galion graduates excel at College Athletics**

Two recent graduates of Galion High School have made their marks in major college athletics. J. B. Shuck, class of 2006, and Dustin Fox, class of 2004, have earned national recognition for their athletic prowess.

Shuck is in his sophomore year at The Ohio State University and has been recognized as the Big Ten Player of the Week for his performance on the mound and at the plate for the OSU Baseball team. J. B. was also honored as the Big 10 Freshman of the Year last year. This spring, as of March 24, his record on the mound was 3-1, with opposition hitting only .192. At the plate he is hitting .432.

On Saturday, March 22, Dustin Fox won the NCAA Division I heavyweight championship. His championship match was aired nationally on ESPN at 11:00 p.m. Wrestling for Northwestern University, Fox defeated J. D Bergman from Ohio State 4-2 for the title. During his high school career at Galion, Dustin was a two time state champion. His win at the national level made him the first Northwestern heavyweight to win a national championship in 76 years. At Northwestern Dustin's record was 109-29.

## **Alumni Association Membership Drive Underway**

"It's been very good so far," said Alumni Association chairman Brian Treisch about the response to the mailing of membership renewals for 2008. Letters have been sent or are being sent to all members of the Alumni Association to remind them that it's time to renew their memberships. "Membership is the key to our organization to allow us to do more for the schools and the community," said Treisch. "To all those who have sent their memberships in I say thank you. To those who haven't taken the time to do so, I urge you to get this done."

## **Have you seen the new entryway?**

The Alumni Association's very successful drive to fund the electronic entry sign for the new campus has been completed and the sign is up and running. The message board, controlled by the central office, has been showing information for the schools and has worked very well. The donor recognition memorial will be installed very soon. Committee member Steve Melchior has been working very hard to check spelling and other information.

## **Campus dedication set for May 4**

The campus dedication for the Galion City Schools is set for May 4. This event will begin at noon. The formal dedication ceremony will be at 1:00 p.m. Galion students are now all in brand new buildings. Entertainment will run throughout the day. This is the first time since the days of log cabin schools that all Galion students are in completely new buildings.

Reports from the first week in the new elementary buildings have been very positive. Check out the Galion City Schools webpage [www.galion-city.k12.oh.us](http://www.galion-city.k12.oh.us) for the latest on these new buildings. Watch the school website or the Alumni Association website for more information on the dedication ceremonies.

### **Galion Tiger Alumni Band reorganizes under new leadership**

Shawn Woerlein, Class of 1996, has taken the helm of the Galion Tiger Alumni Band. Shawn takes over from Brian Treisch ('74). Shawn is working with a new slate of officers, Brenda Eisnaugle ('75), Charlotte Tischer ('60), Mike Swick ('01) is secretary. Brian will be stay on as a music director with Rick Walker ('94). The Alumni Band will perform at the campus dedication on May 4.

The Alumni Band board will meet April 26 at 5:00 p.m. Check out their website at [galionalumniband.org](http://galionalumniband.org).

### **Alumni Basketball Tournament scheduled Memorial Day Weekend May 24 & 25**

Jim Hart (Class of 1996) is working to put together the Annual Alumni Basketball tournament. This annual event is a fund raiser for the Galion Alumni Association and a great activity to bring many different eras together in a fun weekend activity.

Jim is working out the details for this tournament. Tentative plans include using both the new Middle School and High School facilities. Watch the Galion Inquirer and the Galion Alumni Association website for more details as they are set. Call Jim at 419-462-1754 if you are interested in playing.

Galion High School Music Department Annual Chicken Barbeque set for May 3

Many alumni are former band members and remember the annual chicken barbeque. This year is no exception. All Galion bands, from elementary to high school will perform. A great chicken dinner is waiting for you if you attend this annual fund raiser for the band program. Three Galion graduates are working with the band program this year. Rick Walker is band director. Rick is aided by marching band assistant Randy Mann, and jazz band and pep band assistant Brian Treisch. Tickets for the Chicken Barbeque are \$8.00 and can be purchased from any band member or by calling Rick at 419-468-9392.

### **Girls Softball Team needs help**

The Galion Girls Softball team is raising money for new uniforms. Any alumni that wish to donate to this fund raiser can send a check to the Alumni Association, P.O. Box 22, Galion, Ohio 44833 and we will see that the team gets your generous donation. Are there any former softball team members out there that may have some stories about "back in my day?" to share with other alumni?

### **Some Galion Updates**

Many alumni no longer live in Galion and might want to know what's going on in the old hometown. You might be surprised at what's happening!

Have you seen the new hospital addition that opened recently? Galion has an incredibly up to date care facility, offering health care options that are not usually found in small towns. Through the efforts of Galion residents, the management of the hospital, and the Bishop Brown Trust, the hospital has been able to continually update the facility and stay abreast of medical technology and care.

How about the Galion Community Theatre? If you haven't been to see a local production or to catch the Jazz for a Sunday Afternoon concert series, you are really missing first class entertainment. The Theatre is planning a summer musical, and the Jazz Series has some great artists coming this spring and next fall. Watch for these productions. You really need to go into the Community Theatre and see what has been done. Over \$500,000 has been used to make this a showcase theater. Performers from Columbus, Pittsburgh, Scotland, (yes, Scotland), and New York have raved about the beauty of the building and the great reception they have had in Galion.

And what about the new schools? As far as the writer of this newsletter can tell, no other community in the state has all new, state of the art buildings. The campus setting is a great educational tool for our community. Come see this campus on May 4.

And what about the business community? Did you know that there are over 35 businesses just between Liberty Street and Union Street, not counting the other businesses in Galion? While large factory employment in Galion has declined, many of the industries in Galion are hiring and need qualified, trained help. Some Galion graduates have really made things happen. Gary and Steve Frankhouse have made Prints and Paints one of the largest Mohawk carpet dealers in the country; the Covert family has expanded Covert Industries; Dick Ekin and sons have built a new facility and then expanded the building for Elliott Machine Works. We even have one of the most stylish rebuilt McDonald's Restaurants in Ohio. And how about the Varsity Grille, opened by Ken Dye and friends?

In the last 4 years there has been over \$100,000,000 in building renovations and construction in Galion. Not bad for a small town in Ohio!

### **Some Comments from the President**

I have been serving as the Alumni Association president for a while now, and have been involved in several community activities, and opened a retail business in Galion. What has amazed me in all of these activities is the quickness that so many people have to say "No, that can't be done."

Look at the entryway project. In less than one year, we as an organization raised over \$55,000 to build a great looking entryway to the terrific new schools. Yet there were those that said, "It can't be done."

When the Jazz Series brings in some of the world recognized talent, I have been stunned by the response of Galion residents, "Well it can't be any good, this is Galion." What!?!? Galion can't appreciate the fine arts?

I am convinced that if instead of looking at a good project and saying no, we should all look at an idea and ask "How can we make this work and be even better?"

Look at what is being done right in Galion. The schools are improving on state education evaluations. There are four new state of the art buildings on a 70 acre site for the schools. US 30 is finally done. The hospital is outstanding. We have a terrific public library.

Think of what can be accomplished. Why aren't we working together to build a new auditorium to join the high school and middle school? Why aren't we challenging students with a mentor program? Why aren't we coming together as a community of alumni and sharing our talents to help our alma mater and each other?

Let's make the Alumni Association a "Can Do" organization. We need all of us to contribute. We may see different projects that need done, let us work together to start.

That's my view, what's yours?

### **1917 Building Project**

The Galion Cultural and Conference Center has taken the lead to work to save the old high school building. This organization can be reached at its website [www.1917ghs.com](http://www.1917ghs.com). Contact this website for any information or to make a donation.

### **Alumni Picnic and Annual Meeting**

Details are being set for the annual meeting and Alumni Day Picnic in late July or early August. Watch for more details on this fun event. This is the third year for this and we hope it continues to grow.

### **Homecoming 2008 will be October 10**

The annual Homecoming Football game and Alumni Band Night will be Friday October 10, 2008. If you are a former band member, make sure to mark this date and join the Alumni Band for the chance to march one more time.

While details for this event are still in planning, we know that we will meet at the Varsity Grill following the game to reminisce. See you there!

Watch for more details.

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