

Homecoming  
Sept. 28 & 29th  
Honoring the  
Class of 1962

Fall 2012

# TCHS Alumni Association Newsletter

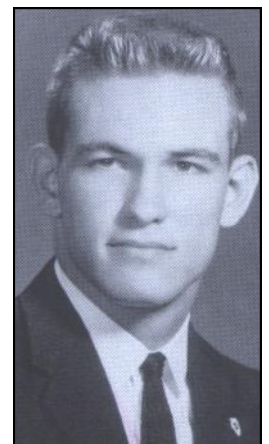
## HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED FOR 2012



Barb Lecher Utterback  
Class of 1962



Dennis Dietrich  
Class of 1950



Carl Kohrt  
Class of 1961

2012 is a very good year for the TCHS Hall of Fame! We have three graduates to induct into our prestigious group. Barb Lecher Utterback ('62) and Carl Kohrt ('61) will be at our luncheon on Sept. 29th. Posthumously, Dennis Dietrich ('50) will also be inducted with his family members in attendance. This event is open to the public.

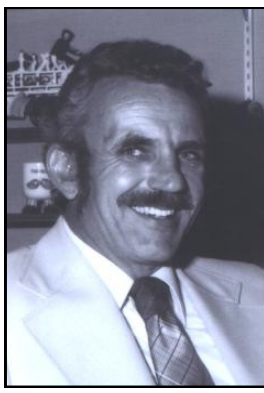
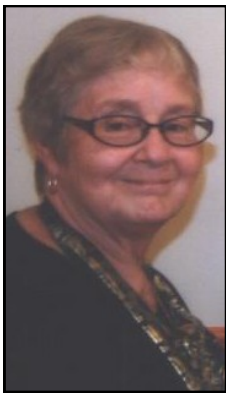
Barb Utterback was a cofounder of BETHS Place, a shelter for women and children involved in domestic violence. "She has given tirelessly of her time and emotional support to these victims since the mid-1990's," stated by Judy Wright Landeck, a classmate of Barb's who nominated her. "What began in her own home at the kitchen table led to the creation of a lovely home and safe house for victims. Barb spent countless hours with law enforcement officers, including judges and district attorneys, in order to prepare a handbook and guidelines for herself to be an advocate and to train volunteers in this position." Barb has been a parade marshall and Tuscolian of the Year for the Chamber of Commerce. Barb's community activities included: Youth Center director, member of Forty Martyrs Catholic Church, Bike-A-Thon chairman in the 70's and 80's, Tuscola Woman's Club member, Moose member and member of the Corvette Club. Barb has been married to Bob Utterback for 48 years. They've raised three daughters, Bobbi, Amy and Nicole, and have six grandchildren. Steve Hettinger('66) nominated Hall of Fame inductee, Dennis Dietrich, class of 1950. "While running a successful business and raising five children, he volunteered his time on all fronts, whatever needed done in the community, Dennis was there. When he became Chief of the Tuscola Fire Dept., he took charge with confidence and built one of the area's best fire departments," Hettinger stated. Dietrich married Jeanine Huber and raised Doug, Denise, David, Donna and Dirk. He served in the U.S. Navy (Korea), owned several small businesses in Tuscola, served as Douglas County Coroner from 1980-1994, was the sexton of Tuscola Township Cemetery from 1986-1994, and served as Tuscola Fire Chief for 33 years (1959-1994). Dietrich was named the first Tuscolian of the Year in 1966 for spearheading a search and recruitment of a local doctor. He was also

(Continued on next page)

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Douglas County ESDA coordinator, Douglas County Fire Assoc. President, won the State Firefighting Medal of Honor, was a member of Forty Martyrs Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus and Moose Lodge. "He was a community character and person who would be strikingly and sadly missing from the Tuscola Hall of Fame if he were not there."

Carl Kohrt, PhD., Class of 1961, was nominated by Danny Matthews (Class of 1974 and Alumni Committee Member). This gentleman was raised in a family of musicians and teachers in Tuscola. He began his professional career in 1971 with Eastman Kodak in Rochester, NY where he served in numerous senior executive, international and technical positions during his 29-year Kodak career. His tenure included leadership of Japan and Greater Asia during which time he and his wife, Lynne, were headquartered in Hong Kong and from which he led one of the largest acquisitions of Chinese commercial assets by a foreign national company up to that time. He retired from Kodak in 2000. In Oct. 2001, Carl joined Battelle Memorial Inst. as the 8th President and CEO. Battelle, founded in Columbus, OH, as a charitable trust, operates one of the world's largest private research enterprises with revenues of more than \$4B, supported by a staff of more than 22,000 scientists, engineers and support staff serving more than 1,000 corporate and government customers each year. It invests in and commercializes its own, and others', intellectual property via its wholly owned but independently operated venture fund. It carries on major research with industry in infectious diseases and medical devices, energy technology, homeland security, and materials science. Carl retired from Battelle in Dec. of 2008. His professional career has been characterized by a passion for leading organizations in solving critical problems important to society through innovation, and a track record of successfully converting ideas into products that provide companies a competitive advantage. He is not constrained by organizational or geographic boundaries, but rather seeks out the best people and the best solutions on a global platform while building diverse and high performance cultures in organizations. Carl received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Furman University *magna cum laude*, a PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Chicago, and a Masters of Management Science from MIT. He was the recipient of a NCAA athletic scholarship, and has served as a NSF Post-Doctoral Fellow at the James Frank Institute, a NSF Graduate Fellow, a Woodrow Wilson Fellow (Hon.), a Sloan Fellow and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. He is the recipient of two honorary Doctor of Science degrees from Ohio Dominican University



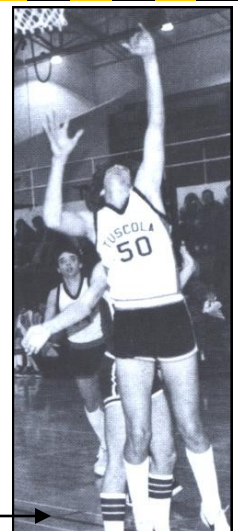
and Furman Univ. He holds four U.S. patents in imaging science. Currently, he serves as the Lead Director of Scotts MiracleGro Company, a Director of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, and a Trustee of Furman University. Carl and Lynne, his wife of 50 years, are residents of Salem, SC. They are active supporters of the performing arts, adult literacy, and public science and math education. Their most passionate interests are reserved, however, for the families of their three sons and their ten grandchildren.

## Winners of Alumni B'Ball Tournament

Winners of the 4th annual TCHS Alumni Basketball tournament held in July were Brian Bergeson, Wade Hoey, Justin Gensler, Luke Johnson, Matt Kincaid, Chris Brian and Tim Kohlbecker.

On the girls' side, members of the winning team included Lindsay Troike, Olivia Morris, Sammi Kohlbecker and Jessica Hardwick. Additional team members included current TCHS Warriors Kaleigh Smith and Taylor Bosch.

From 1980 yearbook



# Membership Funds/First Scholarship



**Robert Lopez**

First Alumni

Scholarship Recipient

The TCHS Alumni Assn. is now four years YOUNG. We are a very new club, but we have now accumulated some funds from membership dues, memorials and a 50/50 cash drawing which was held the last two Homecomings. What do we use these monies for? We have costs in our Hall of Fame inductees' plaques and awards, our reception in the Library after the Homecom- parade, and our luncheon at the Museum. The committee would like to see any excess funds be used to make a dif- ference at the high school and this year we ARE with our first scholarship given to a student who is the son/

daughter, grandson/ granddaughter or sibling of a past graduate of Tuscola High School. Robert Lopez—Class of 2012—was our first recipi- ent of a \$250 scholarship. He is the son of Emma Rahn Sil- ver (Class of 1978). Robert is attending Parkland then transferring to EIU in biologi- cal science. We'd like to make sure this alumni group can keep growing. Any ideas or suggestions you may have—our alumni—please, let us know at shoemak- erm@tuscola.k12.il.us. This group was formed to make a better Homecoming for the alumni and honor our Hall of

Fame—we feel it has!

COMMITTEE: Our present group consists of: Patti Wa- ters (Class of 1949), Bob Ut- terback (Class of 1959), Danny Matthews (Class of 1974), Bruce Wood (Class of 1975), Susie Harbaugh (Class of 1975), Clarice Hausman (Class of 1954), Alan and Mar- ci Shoemaker (Class of 1974). If you'd like to join in on the fun, let us know at 217-253- 9400 (Shoemaker's).



If you would like to "follow" high school updates—@TCHSWarriorNews on Twitter or "like" Tuscola Warrior News on Facebook to stay up to date on all the great things happening at TCHS through Guidance Coun- selor Justin Bozarth's (Class of 2004) updates.



Can Do for Classrooms is proud to sponsor the 2012 Homecoming 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, September 29 at 8 a.m. at Ervin Park. Can Do for Classrooms is a local organization which helps provide educational supplies, equipment, training and other needs of the Tuscola School District. Since 2010, Can Do for Classrooms has raised and invested over \$42,000 in Tuscola classrooms. It is a partnership of administrators, teachers, parents and the commu- nity. 100% of the proceeds raised from the 5K will be invested in Tuscola schools.

To register for the 5K Run/Walk and Kids' 1K Fun Run, please visit [www.tuscola.k12.il.us](http://www.tuscola.k12.il.us) and click on the 5K link on the home page. Also at the top of the home page is a Can Do video showcasing purchases made for Tuscola classrooms over the past two years.

We hope to see returning alumni for the 5K Homecoming week- end!

# 1982 Football Team to be Honored

Coach Reinhart states that the football team will honor the 1982 Warrior football team who went on to play in the state playoffs and win their first game. Their record was 9-2, second in the Okaw Conference. Coach Bill Vangel was awarded "Coach of the Year" for the All-Okaw Conference. He was in his 5th year coaching for the Warriors. "Player of the Year" was awarded to Steve Bates. He had an incredible 2,224 yards for 28 touchdowns. The team is invited back for an amazing Homecoming weekend!



Front row, l-r: Phil Jacob, Duff Hoel, Gerald Farlow, Rob Spraker, Roger Harris, Troy White, Neal Borries, Tom Peach, Chris Conerty, Lee Grimm. Second row: Scott Day, Jeff Leininger, Mark Stahler, Jeff Young, Todd Ryan, Richard Rentsch, Joe Farlow, Mike Stahler, John Kleiss, Tim Borries, Rob Spence. Back row: Coach Scott, Coach Dietrich, Mark Wigall, Brad Johns, John Brookins, Steve Bates, Bill Fruit, John Murray, Dan Meyer, Brad Hunt, Mike Bergner, Brian Dobson, J. P. Yoars, Coach Vangel

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

### ***-Friday, Sept. 28, 2012-***

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>2:45-3:10</b> | <b>Parade/Pep Rally on football field</b>  |
| <b>3:10-5:00</b> | <b>Tours/Alumni Reception in Library</b>   |
| <b>5:00-7:00</b> | <b>Tailgate (fee benefits Pow-Wows)</b>  |
| <b>6:32-6:37</b> | <b>Recognition of the Class of '62 - 50<sup>th</sup> reunion - please report to the football field at 6:30</b> |
| <b>6:38-6:45</b> | <b>Recognition of 1982 Football Champs and Warriors - please report to the football field at 6:36</b>          |
| <b>7:00</b>      | <b>Kick-off of Tuscola/Central A&amp;M football game</b>   |
| <b>9:00</b>      | <b>Post Game Social at Ironhorse Golfcourse</b>  |

### ***-Saturday, Sept. 29, 2012-***

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>8:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Can Do 5K Run/Walk, Ervin Park</b>  |
| <b>12:30</b>     | <b>Hall of Fame Induction Lunch - Douglas County Museum, 700 S. Main St., Tuscola, for reservations call 217-253-2377 (TCHS office) by 9/24, \$15/person, \$10 for children 10 and under</b> |
| <b>7:00</b>      | <b>TCHS Coronation &amp; Dance</b>   |



## REUNION PLANS

Sue Otto Elder has informed the Alumni Assn. of their plans to celebrate their 45th reunion of the Class of 1967 during Homecoming weekend. The event will be held at the Ironhorse Golf Course at 6:00 p.m. Sat., Sept. 29th. Class of '72 will be marking their 40th reunion at the Moose Lodge on Saturday evening of Homecoming. Jan Schweighart Hastings is the contact person.

The 1977 class of TCHS will be observing their 35th and the class of 1982 will observe their 30th—all during Homecoming weekend. 1977 graduating class will meet at J&J's Sat., the 29th at 7 p.m. Class of 1982 will meet at the football game, play golf at Ironhorse Sat. morning and attend their reunion at the Log Cabin that evening. 1952's class will observe its 60th reunion at the Douglas County Museum Sat. evening, Sept. 29th.



1955: (l-r) Dale Rutan, Ann Ohlsen, Larry Little, Sandra DeBolt, Richard Valentine, Caryl Lossman, Charles Conner and Rita Stackhouse. The class of 1955 will hold a reunion at the ASCS Bldg., S. Washington St. at 6 p.m. on Sat., Sept. 29th—Homecoming weekend.



1982: (l-r) John Kleiss, Fran Cothron, John Baird, Nancy Holden, King: Eric Hastings, Queen: Jana Carie, Denise Coon, Jim Davis, Linda Melanson and Todd Kerns

Chief Tuscolian



### TCHS Warrior Chiefs,

**Hope you'll join us for Homecoming 2012!!**

This is Lynne Rahn in 1964 when she portrayed the Chief as a sophomore. We believe the Warrior Chiefs were a spirit factor at sporting events from 1962—1992. It has been difficult to locate many of these Warriors. The Alumni Assn. would like to make sure that you ALL know you are invited back to TCHS for a festive Homecoming Sept. 28 and 29. Anyone with information about the history of the Warrior Chiefs, email [shoemaker@tuscola.k12.il.us](mailto:shoemaker@tuscola.k12.il.us).

**Like getting these  
newsletters?**

Keep them coming to your email/mailling address by sending in your donation for membership today to TCHS Alumni Assn., 500 S. Prairie, Tuscola, IL 61953. Annual membership fees will be due each Homecoming or make a donation. Membership forms on the school website: tuscola.k12.il.us or in the high school office. **THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST FREE NEWSLETTER!!**



**Did  
you  
know???**

**The first annual TCHS Homecoming was held in 1931 on Sat., Oct. 31st. Here is an excerpt:**

The Tuscolian

**FIRST ANNUAL HOMECOMING**

The big parade comes down Sale Street. The famous High School Band blares out the high school "Loyalty." The mighty Seniors march in wavy lines. The student body parades, short and tall, fat and slim, side by side.

Kickoff at 2:30 p.m. Be there! Bement vs. Tuscola. "Hold that line!" "We want a touchdown!" Right over here delicious homemade candy and hot dogs.

Program: 12:30—School Parade; 1:00—Pep Meeting; 2:30—Bement vs. Tuscola; 7:30—Carnival and Dance

The orchestra is playing in the old gym—Alumni greet old friends—You dance with a sentimental thrill—The sax whines irresistible jazz—Intermission—You wander through the old corridors—You dance with your old flame—Twelve o'clock—Goodnight.

**TCHS Class of 1962**

**Celebrates 50th**

"Moon Glow" shines on this Homecoming Court: (l-r) Janet Charnetzki, Jim Manwaring, Donna Beard, Bob Wetzel, Kathleen Boylson, Queen-Barbara Lecher, King-Paul Donley, Rex Bridges, Jane Rothgeb, Dick Bean, Marsha Graham, and Morris Reece.



The class of '62 celebrated their 50th class reunion June 29, 30, and July 1, 2012. This class will also be honored during Homecoming for their 50th during the reception in the library following the parade and introduced before the football game Friday night, Sept. 28. Hope classmates will attend the luncheon, too.

**\*\*LUNCHEON & 50/50\*\***

Please sign up for the Hall of Fame Induction luncheon in the TCHS Office (217-253-2377) by Sept. 24th. You may pay the \$15/person fee at the door, children 10 and under \$10. This event is so memorable and open to the public. You won't want to miss it!! 50/50 raffle tickets will be for sale by committee members — catch us at the home football games— from now through the end of the luncheon where the drawing will take place for the cash—need not be present to win! Any questions: email Marci Shoemaker (Class of '74) at shoemakerm@tuscola.k12.il.us or phone 217-253-9400.



**We are on the web:  
[www.tuscola.k12.il.us](http://www.tuscola.k12.il.us)  
For Hall of Fame list—  
click on Hall of Fame on  
the left at the website**

