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Brush Alumni Association



your NEWSLETTER

This is **your** newsletter! Although we are here to facilitate its publication, we cannot be entirely responsible for its content. That's up to you! Doing something interesting that you think other alumni might want to read about? Getting together with some classmates for a dinner? Weekend? Vacation? Take some pictures, write an article, and send it in! Articles and photos can be submitted to our email: **brushalumniassociation@gmail.com** We look forward to hearing from you and ask you to help us keep the ARC spirit alive!

Yearbooks Needed

In order to keep a complete set of yearbooks, we are in need of yearbooks from the following years: 1932, 1933, 1934, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1943, 1952, 1956, and 1992. If you have a yearbook from any of these years you would like to donate, we would appreciate it.

Join Us!

To Join the Alumni Association and/or to sign up for our electronic newsletter, visit <https://www.brushalumni.com/>

Venmo

We now have VENMO! @BrushAlumniAssociation

Alumni Association

TRUSTEES:
Debra DiLillo Betz '76
Neil Brofman, '73
Chris Ricchiuto, '76

PRESIDENT: Norm Rogozin, '63

TREASURER:
Bonnie Slabaugh Abbey, '68

SECRETARY:
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Highlighting the Past, Illuminating the Present, Sparking the Future

**BRUSH HIGH SCHOOL
100 YEARS**

100 year centennial celebration



Alumni Weekend

2026
October 2 October 3

*Celebrating
All that We Were...and Everything We Are*



**CLASS of 1976
50 year reunion**

Friday, August 28, 2026
Stonewater Golf Club and Venue
1 Club Drive, Highland Heights

Saturday, August 29, 2026
Mayfield Country Club
1545 Sheridan Drive, South Euclid

Golf outing, Friday, August 28, 2026
Approx. \$70
Contact Steve Pasquale at scutch@sbcglobal.net
Details including exact times and prices for all events will be coming.

Questions? Contact Mary Ann Berkey thru Facebook Messenger or Maberk77@aol.com or Beth Carr Cohen thru Facebook Messenger.



Deborah Cassidy
Class of 1979
Social Studies



James Fanger
Math



David Perout
Science



John Scramling
Science



Ed Jacquet
Social Studies

**Upcoming
Reunions
&
Fun Teacher
Photos
(1992-1993)**



Ken Sprafka
Health



Don Mastrobuono
Class of 1969
Language Arts

Rich Hagen
Math



Jean Wall
Language Arts



Joan Banister
Audio Visual

**CLASS of 1986
40 year reunion**

**Saturday, July 18, 2026
6 PM-11 PM**
Glen Eagles Golf Club
Twinsburg, Ohio

<https://www.postable.com/Classof1986>
Click above for more information or contact Ken Fox at ken-fox1967@gmail.com or 440-391-0624.

NOMINATE AN ARC FOR THE WALL OF ACHIEVEMENT

Please consider nominating a deserving ARC for the Wall of Achievement.

We look for ARCS who have displayed outstanding achievement in leadership, service to the community, service to Brush High School, humanitarianism, creativity, courage, and careers which have benefited others.

For a nomination form, visit the Alumni Association page on the South Euclid Lyndhurst City Schools website. <https://www.sel.k12.oh.us/WallofAchievement.aspx>

The Fabulous Blue Moons

Deb DiLillo Betz, '76

1972...a Sha Na Na concert and a backyard summer party was where it started. The next, and supposedly final goal, was to impress choir director, Lindley Hall, enough to let them perform in the Brush Vocal Music Fall Concert. They auditioned, Mr. Hall smiled, and a phenomenon was born. Between high school and 2005 *the Fabulous Blue Moons* performed often. Neil Brofman, John Anderson, Howie Feldenkris, Greg Sladek, Tony Sharaba, John Walz, Tim Duffy, Keith Fredrickson, Tom Federico and Dave Sarafian all graduated from Brush during the '73 - '76 era. However, as these 17 year olds found themselves turning 50, life led some of them to different parts of the country and it became more and more difficult for the group to coordinate their schedules to accommodate rehearsals and performances. According to Neil, "We kind of live and die as a unit." ...and so, in 2005, the *Fabulous Blue Moons* took their final curtain call.

On April 30, 2005 they shot for, and landed one final time, on *the moon*. Approximately 625 people crammed Normandy Party Center for their "Farewell Tour", proceeds of which were donated to the Brush Vocal Music department. In attendance were several hundred Brush High alumni from various years, along with family, friends, and groupies!

The hall was too crowded, the tables were too full...and no one cared.

There wasn't room to move on the dance floor...and no one cared.

All anyone cared about was being together and celebrating the end of an era.

One attendee summed up the evening when he said "I was overwhelmed by the feeling of love in the room".

All in all, everyone had a ball at this bash !

And through the tears and tributes that endings bring, everyone was grateful to be a part of one last time, one final show...**UNTIL NOW!**

21 years later, and 54 years after first stepping on the stage in the Brush High School auditorium, the Moons will again shoot for the stars as we celebrate the Brush High School Centennial on Saturday, October 3 from 6-11:30 p.m. at La Vera Party Center. This is a party you won't want to miss!

Don't wait!

For more information and to make your reservation visit our

[100th Anniversary Blue Moons Dinner Dance page](#)

(<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/brush-alumni-association>)

Space is limited and reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis.



More Moons...Past and Present

Neil Brofman

Tim Duffy

John Anderson



Dave Sarafian



John Walz

Howard Feldenkris

Greg Sladek



Alumni Social & Soccer Game

Brush High School Alumni Reunion Social & Soccer Game - September 20, 2025

It was a wonderful day at Brush High School on Saturday, September 20, 2025 as alumni from the 1970s through last year's graduating class came together to celebrate their shared Arcs pride! Both the Brush High School girls' and boys' soccer teams claimed victories in their matches against Brooklyn High School, giving everyone even more reason to cheer.

A big thank-you goes out to the Brush High School soccer coaching staff and to Joe Compola of Tasty Pizza for their generous support and contributions, which helped make the event such a great success.

Henry Shelby was honored as the 2025 \$1,250 Scholarship Recipient at the Brush High School Senior Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, November 19. Henry's moving essay truly stood out and captured the spirit of dedication and excellence we strive to recognize. In addition, Frank Fantozzi presented a scholarship donation to the Brush Soccer Program, continuing his support for student-athletes and their future success.

2026's Alumni Soccer Reunion game will be held, Friday August 15 and we can't wait to see everyone back on the field for another day of celebration, and Brush pride!

4:30 pm Girl's Varsity Soccer
6:15pm - 7:15pm Alumni Soccer game
7:30pm Boys Varsity Soccer

Special Thanks to our BHS Volunteers!

Jamar Ross, Athletic Director, Rick Bloom, Athletic Assistant and Boys Soccer Head Coach Michael DiMatteo for their support and assistance in planning our game day.

About the Award

Established in 2018 by former Brush High School soccer player, Frank Fantozzi (Class of '81'), the Brush High School Soccer Alumni Award recognizes the positive role the team sport of soccer can have in building character, teamwork and leadership skills among young men and women. The award is presented each fall to a deserving senior soccer player on each of the Brush High School men's and women's team. Scholarship criteria require the applicant to be a member of the soccer team and maintain a 2.5 GPA.



Frank Fantozzi, '81 and Henry Shelby, '26



Scholarship Sponsorships

Bonnie Slabaugh Abbey, '68

Alumni Association scholarships are awarded to help deserving students pay for continuing their education after high school at a full-time college/university, a community college or an accredited trade school. For some, a scholarship can make the difference between furthering their education and not. Your membership dues help fund these much needed scholarships.

What many don't know is that the Brush Alumni Association facilitates a scholarship program that awarded over \$30,000 in scholarships to deserving 2025 graduating seniors. On behalf of future seniors, the Brush Alumni Association would appreciate your consideration of supporting one of the current scholarships with a donation:

Jo Ann Soderquist Kramer ('60) Scholarship

Thomas J. Murnick (former teacher/administrator, '40) **Scholarship**, sponsored by daughter Beth Murnick DeCapite/family

Eugene A. Torok ('46) Scholarship, sponsored by his widow Louise Torok

Class of '61 Scholarship, facilitated by Richard Bernstein ('61)

Class of '61 Vocational Scholarship, facilitated by Sheila Hazzard Bechert ('61)

Junie Speed Davis Blackmore ('64) Scholarship, previously sponsored by her late sister, Susan Heisler ('66)

The Straub/Jakse Scholarship, sponsored by Sarah Straub and Nick Jakse ('12)

The Phillip & Harriet Miller Scholarship, sponsored by Phillip Miller ('68)

The Joseph Burriss ('60) Memorial Scholarship, sponsored by his widow Joan Peterson

The Theodore Bell Mathematics Prize, sponsored by alumni Michael Wertheimer ('75)

The Bill Kopf Science Scholarship, sponsored by Dr. William Kopf ('60)

John Jacque Memorial Scholarship (former teacher), funded by General Scholarships/individuals

Class of 2011 Scholarship, facilitated by Sam Hartman ('11)

If you would like to support one of these, simply designate a specific scholarship or "General Scholarships" when you return your donation envelope that is included in the twice-yearly newsletter. If you choose to donate through PayPal or Venmo, you can note where a donation to a scholarship should go.

OR...you can join the list of scholarship providers by creating your own scholarship, either personally, through your graduating class or maybe just a group of friends. Simply contact Bonnie Slabaugh Abbey '68 (blabbey@aol.com). She will help you put together the framework for the scholarship that you have in mind. It is requested that the scholarship be established for at least \$1,000 per year and can be offered one year at a time or be funded on a multi-year basis.



Brad Carr

Jeff Croft

Mike Mack



Tony Sharaba

George Shernit



Phil Hartman

Al Rapp



Carl Walz

Keith Fredrickson

Tom Federico

Steve Schachter

Tim Beck



Flashback...Happy 70th Brush High School

In September of 1996, Brush High School celebrated its 70th Birthday. To help celebrate, events were planned to be both memorable and nostalgic. To begin the festivities, the varsity football team played at home against Maple Heights. The game attracted both young and old, since many people were in from out of town to celebrate their alma mater's birthday bash. The Class of 1947 also celebrated their 50th class reunion on Friday night.

Vocal music teacher, Barb Sterbank, accompanies English teacher, Sy Levine. Mr. Levine performed often during his long tenure as a teacher at Brush



As celebration continued on Saturday, the varsity soccer team played at home against Parma, contributing to the celebration with an exciting victory. Later on Saturday night, a parade was held to kickoff the annual Brush Band Spectacular. The Brush band, and several other local marching bands, presented their halftime performances. The evening ended with a performance by the Brush band, ending the night with a bang when the unexpected fireworks lit up the sky and the faces of the audience!



On Sunday, the party continued with an all-star Brown and Gold Review talent show, featuring talent from both past and future graduates. Performances included Richard Amiot and Becca Berenson, the Alumni Choral, the Blue Moons, magician Eric Brouman, Eric Carmen, Tony Cistone Costible of the Pony Tails, Jennifer Burke Cochran, teacher Sy Levine, Evan and Jamie Sanders, Antwain Thomas, Gilbert and Andrew Wong.



Memorabilia of Brush's proud history was displayed in the cafeteria, including sports uniforms of the past, yearbooks, trophies, and nostalgic pictures. In the east gym, the Blue Moons held a sock-hop which was fun and entertaining for all. The weekend long bash proved that Brush has school spirit that has and will always live on. Always and forever proud ARCS!

Irish folk dancers, under the direction of English teacher, Sheila Murphy Crawford, perform an impressive jig.



Brush High School 100 All that we Were...and Everything we Are

Sally Shortle Miller, '71

As our centennial celebration approaches, let's explore our history.

Charles F. Brush High School was born in January, 1927. Our high school education was received in the old Green Road School building. The well-seasoned Green Road classic was a noble institution, but it lacked accommodating space for the growing number of South Euclid scholars. Something had to be done.

About this time, South Euclid's neighboring village, Lyndhurst, found itself in need of a high school. Neither town was financially able to support the much needed school, so the two municipalities combined their resources and built Brush High School. The new institution was named in honor of the distinguished scientist, Charles F. Brush, who is known especially as the inventor of the arc-light.

On March 11, 1927, the dedication took place. Mr., S. C. Vessey, then President of the Board of Education, presided. The program included musical selections rendered by the Junior and Senior Glee Clubs, and speeches by the Mayors of South Euclid and Lyndhurst, the Superintendent of Schools, the President of the June Graduating Class, and the Chairman of the Building Committee. The school was dedicated by Dr. Robert E. Vinson, president of Western Reserve University.

Brush High School was constructed so that additions can easily be added as they are needed. Because it was expected that the school would expand some day, the gymnasium and auditorium were built unusually large in proportion to the rest of the school. The building expansion has not taken place to date, but many improvements have been made in the school grounds, since January 1927. The most striking is the beautiful fountain and garden arrangement that marks the front entrance. It was a gift of Mr. Angelo A. Palermo.

Mr. Karl N. Keller, our highly-esteemed history and civics teacher, was Brush High's first principal. The position was next filled by Mr. Robert H. Owens. The school was also fortunate to obtain Mr. Lincoln Elliott formerly of South High, as its chief executive. (Reprinted from the 1936 Hi Lite)



After over 800 votes from current students, staff, community members, and alumni, we are proud of the official logo selected for the Charles F. Brush High School centennial celebration! The logo was created by sophomore Cyan Evans in Mr. Bellet's design class.

It was difficult to narrow down the student submissions to five finalists, and the vote was close. Brush students brought their best to this project.

Thanks to Mr. Bellet for his guidance and thanks Cyan,...we love your logo!