



# VIKING ALERT

The Newsletter Published by The North Canton Alumni Association - 1st Quarter 2018

## Living The Dream

*New Book by Former Hoover High School Teacher/Coach  
And Distinguished Award Winner Gordon Knisely*

By Vic Stefan



Approximately two years ago, Hoover High School Sideliners member Ron Feltz attended a ceremony where former teacher and coach Gordon Knisely was being presented an award. During his acceptance speech, Coach Knisely told everyone present, "I have so many stories to tell, I could write a book!"

After Ron shared this story with yours truly, it struck a chord, and I contacted Coach Knisely and convinced him to write that book.

Together we decided that verbally recording his stories on digital CD would be the quickest, easiest and best way to proceed, vs. attempting to place everything down

into a printed format.

However, once Coach completed recording all four CDs, he still *really* wanted that printed version, and if at all possible, in the form of a book!

Patiently I transcribed the CDs over the next few months into loose chapters, and after much work, which included editing and several rewrites and what seemed to take a small eternity, the book slowly began taking shape.

Coach Knisely and I knew after reviewing the results that we still needed many more details added to all of these wonderful tales to make the project more likeable. Luckily for us, Coach Knisely's

daughter, Debbi (Class of '70), has experience in this area from having organized and edited yearbooks, and she saw exactly what was needed. After several more months of work, she was able to complete the chapters to everyone's satisfaction. All three of us then sat down and worked on selecting and inserting the digital images and arranging for the printing of the book along with the resourceful Charlie Grandjean, (Class of '76).

When last we checked, the book is just about ready to roll off the press, and better yet, all proceeds after expenses are being donated to the Hoover Sideliners. Be watching soon for *Living the Dream; A Look into the Life and Adventures of Coach and Teacher Gordon Knisely.*

The book should be hitting bookshelves by the end of this winter. To purchase a copy of your very own, contact the Hoover Sideliners at [hooversideliners.com/](http://hooversideliners.com/) and help continue your support of the Vikings sports programs!



### **From The Strength of Our Past**

By Jim Malone

Jim Malone shared this quick interview about his father, former Superintendent E. R. Malone.

E. R. Malone was Superintendent of North Canton City Schools for 15 years, from 1954 until his retirement in 1969. During his tenure, fantastic progress was achieved for the city's school system. Bond issues passed, permitting the building of two elementary schools, Orchard Hill and Clearmount, plus this same time frame also saw the construction of Hoover High School, (which is now North Canton's Middle School).

The district also enlarged to include Greentown. Mr. Malone expanded the curriculum in the city schools to include health education, art instruction, and physical education. At Hoover High, he inaugurated the guidance program, strengthened the faculty, and increased its curriculum. And amazingly, during his thirty years of administrative work, he only saw one tax levy defeated!

### **How Many Superintendents Has The North Canton School System Actually Had?**

By Matt Smith (with assistance from John Schick)

After reading the above article by Jim Malone regarding his father, the above question came to mind. Herein is a partial list gleaned from yearbooks from 1925 to 2002, with additional information gathered online and through the North Canton Heritage Society. Our fair school system's superintendents have been.....

C. F. McFadden	1925
Thomas G. Denton	1925-1938
Raymond E. Trachsel	1938-1954
E. R. Malone	1954-1969
Dr. James E. Brandau	1969-1987
Dr. Robert P. Roden	1987-1995
Thomas Shoup	1995-2004
Michael Gallina	2004-2012
Michael Hartenstein	2012-2016
Jeff Wendorf	2016-Present

### **North Canton New School Proposal Tied To School Levy Defeated Last November**

By Matt Smith

This news may come as a surprise to some of you depending on how closely you keep up with events in your old home town. School Superintendent Jeff Wendorf last March recommended that the district demolish six of its seven school buildings and build three new schools. A committee studying the facilities of the North Canton City School District wanted to reconfigure the district's seven buildings into four that more closely aligned with the direction of the city's population growth (to the North of town), while simultaneously updating the available facilities and hoping to take advantage of available money coming from the Ohio Facility Construction Commission.

After a four-month evaluation the steering committee recommended the following:

- To demolish the Mary L. Evans Childhood Center, (the former Portage Elementary) built in 1922
- To demolish two elementary schools, Clearmount built in 1959, and Northwood built in 1971.
- To demolish two intermediate schools, Greentown built in 1928,

and Orchard Hill built in 1956.

- To demolish one middle school, the former Hoover High School located on Fair Oaks built in 1957.

In their place they proposed to build two elementary schools for students from pre-kindergarten to fifth grade, one middle school for students from sixth through eighth grades, with Hoover High School on Seventh Street N.E., being renovated under the plan, and continuing to serve students in grades 9-12.

However the ballot issue for the proposal was rejected by voters with the unofficial results showing 68 percent opposed, and only 32 percent in support.

Plans now call for a new tax levy for the May 2018 ballot, with the Financial Advisory Committee also recommending postponing all of the new facilities projects.

### **Who Would Have Thought?**

By Kris Miller Freday

Ever wonder how many of your fellow classmates ended up working after high school and college for your alma mater? Well here's a little bit of surprising information for you regarding that very subject!

From the Hoover High School Executive Secretary for the Superintendent, our very own Kris (Miller) Freday (Class of '69)....

"I have done a survey of our current North Canton City School staff members and we currently have 93 Hoover High School graduates on staff. Along with that, three of our current board members are also Hoover grads. I must admit that I was totally surprised by that number. I never would have guessed we had so many of our graduates here!"



### Upcoming Class Reunions!!!!

#### Class of 1988 - 30th Year Reunion

##### Friday Night Gathering

Date: Friday, July 20th - please visit our web site (address below)

##### Saturday Night Reunion-

Date: Saturday, July 21st, 7-12

Venue: LaPizzeria Restaurant  
3656 Dressler Rd. N.W.  
Canton, OH 44718

Details: Visit our web site regarding all planned class events at [hoover88reunion.com](http://hoover88reunion.com)

#### Class of 1978 - 40th Year Reunion

##### Friday Night Gathering -

Date: Friday, June 15th, 6-11 p.m.

Venue: Walther's Twin Tavern  
440 Applegrove Rd, N.W.  
North Canton, OH

Details: No Charge for this event! Food and Bar are available at cost.

##### Saturday Night Reunion-

Date: Saturday, June 16th, 6-11 p.m.

Venue: Arrowhead Country Club  
1500 Rogwin Circle N.W.  
North Canton, OH

Details: Please contact Susan Clayton Gibbs at [slcgibbs@att.net](mailto:slcgibbs@att.net) for all information pertaining to this event.

#### Class of 1973 - 45th Year Reunion

##### Friday Night Gathering -

Date: Friday, August 24th, 6-10 p.m.

Venue: Walther's Twin Tavern  
440 Applegrove Rd., N.W.  
North Canton, OH

Details: Open to ALL Hoover Alumni!

##### Saturday Night Reunion -

Date: Saturday, August 25th, 5:30-11 p.m.

Venue: Arrowhead Banquet Center  
1500 Rogwin Circle N.W.  
North Canton, OH

Details: Please contact Debbie Theirl at 330-323-4430 or Susan Cahill Smith 330-479-0552.

#### Class of 1968 - 50th Year Reunion

##### Saturday Night Reunion

Date: Saturday, August 11th, 7-? p.m.

Venue: Arrowhead Country Club  
1500 Rogwin Circle N.W.  
North Canton, OH

Details: This will be a Splash Party around the pool. There will be food stations, cash bar, and music. Gary Johns and Suzanne Herdlicka are co-chairs. Contact Suzanne at 917-291-1401 for more details.

#### New Viking Alert Editors

By Vic Stefan and Matt Smith

Having put in more than his fair share of contributions to the Alumni Association through the years, Mr. Robert Berrodin has decided that it's time to step aside and pass the baton onto a couple of 'youngsters' and allow them to help bring all of you the latest news from your home town.

Starting with this issue, the co-editors of the Viking Alert will be Vic Stefan, Hoover Class of '73, and Matt Smith, Hoover Class of '71.

Vic's background is comprised of a combination of teaching Computer Science and Industrial Technology for 37 years for both the Sandy Valley and Lake School systems. He also has been the publisher in Stark County of Historical and Inspirational stories through Oliver House Publishing.

Matt's background includes heading up the art and marketing departments at different ad agencies, art studios, and manufacturers. He's served in positions from Staff Artist to Director of Marketing Services. He was also a Member and Chairholder in Color Marketing Group, an association that forecasts color trends up to three years in

advance for a variety of manufactured products and services.

Together, their combined skills should prove worthy of continuing our publication into the foreseeable future.

### CANTON CIVIC CENTER

#### BASKETBALL

#### TOURNAMENT DATES

2018

#### Div. I Girls Regional Tournament

Tuesday, March 6 - 6:15 p.m.

Tuesday, March 6 - 8:00 p.m.

Friday, March 9 - 7:00 p.m.

#### Div. I Boys District Tournament

Wednesday, March 7 - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 8 - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 10 - 1:00 p.m.

#### Div. II Boys Regional Tournament

Thursday, March 15 - 6:15 p.m.

Thursday, March 15 - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 17 - 12:00 p.m.

**Do YOU have a news-worthy article or piece of interest that you would like to share with your fellow classmates in our newsletter? If so, please drop us a line at: North Canton Alumni Association, P.O. Box 2534, North Canton, OH 44720 OR contact us at [www.northcantonalumni.org](http://www.northcantonalumni.org) OR contact us by email: [northcantonalumni@gmail.com](mailto:northcantonalumni@gmail.com).**

*The North Canton Alumni Association  
P. O. Box 2534  
North Canton, OH 44720*

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Canton, Ohio  
Permit #58

### **Recent Deaths**

Paul A. "Bud" Kliner - age 90, Jean M. Shelly - age 92, Robert J. "Bob" Boettler, Jr. age 81, – all graduated from Greentown

**Class of '41** - Lucille E. Druckenbrod Trachsel

**Class of '45** - Norma Jean Kolp Hardgrove

**Class of '48** - Richard A. Seeman, Rachel Givler Soderquist

**Class of '50** - John M. Cross

**Class of '54** - Bonnie Joan Speicher Surbey

**Class of '57** - Judy Kay Willaman Cawthorne

**Class of '63** - Thomas Jones

**Class of '67** - Dean Owens

**Class of '71** - David Morris

**Class of '74** - Joan Michele Pujazon Wabschall

**Class of '83** - Scott Kingsley Brown

**Class of '96** - April Ann Finnin-Remsin

**Class of '07** - Ryan Adley

**Class of '44** - Rose Theresa Whitman Wolfe

**Class of '47** - Delvin R. Baker

**Class of '49** - Ned Richard Stull, Mary Mason Arter

**Class of '51** - Margaret Walker Drath

**Class of '56** - Sandra Kay Shaw Lichty,  
Lance B. Swann, Thomas Scharver,

**Class of '58** - Larry Lear, Glenn T. Herdlick,  
Thomas Joanning

**Class of '64** - Jack Sanford

**Class of '68** - David Lee Humphrey,  
Margaret A. Escola Quinnette

**Class of '72** - Ric Volpe

**Class of '78** - William B. Wise

**Class of '85** - Eric A Smith

**Class of '03** - Steven J. Gurganus

**Class of '14** - Dominic Marazita

***Also*** - Virginia 'Ginny' N. Bilkert - One-time Hoover High School Library Assistant - age 93