



# VIKING ALERT

The Newsletter Published by The North Canton Alumni Association - Winter - 2019

## Holidays at Home

*For Those of You Who Now Live Elsewhere Besides North Canton,  
Here's How We Celebrate The Holidays In Our Old Home Town Today*



*One of many Christmas trees on the Hoover Company front lawn that made our home town holidays extra special.*

What memories do **YOU** have about celebrating the Holidays back when you lived in and attended school in North Canton?

Other than the presents you received (and possibly really didn't want i.e. socks!) there must be something during your formative years that comes to mind each November and December.

For many it's the multitude of homes where North Canton residents went all out to decorate the exteriors, with each house seemingly decorated bigger and better than the next, and definitely better than residents in surrounding communities.

The utilization of the older, larger multi-colored lights back then that were so common, hold a fond memory for many of us. Some have memories of the activities surrounding our places of worship. Still others lean towards their ever-present involvement

with school and the sports they were involved in, or other classes with extracurricular holiday happenings such as choir or band concerts, or one of the many clubs to which they belonged. Or maybe it was sled riding at Arrowhead Golf Course or another place around town that you looked forward to.

So what exactly has changed and what has stayed relatively the same around town all these years later? Let's start with the community decorations.

While we were use to having the large illuminated, center-hung stars which were on tinsel decorated swags running from one side of Main Street to the other, nowadays newer, more historic light standards have replaced the older wooden telephone poles, with the new standards sporting strings of mini-lights wrapped around each pole. Even though there are more of them they appear to be possibly easier to decorate than having to block traffic to string lights over the street. Other changes immediately noticed while cruising through town is that the natural, fresh-cut Community Christmas tree that was once a staple of the Hoover Company's front lawn has been moved across the street to the Southeast corner of the Square in

Bitzer Park, and with a quick inspection, one quickly surmises that it has gone from a real tree to a faux tree.

Much like times past, crowds still gather around the new tree to sing carols and welcome the coming of the season, and the arrival of Santa caps off the annual ceremony with cups of hot chocolate available to help stave off the cold.

Speaking of singing, Hoover High School still holds their annual Holiday Concert at the High School, now on 7th Street N.E. where past members of the choir are still invited at the end to join the choir onstage to sing the Hallelujah Chorus. No, I didn't join them this season due to not only knowing if these old bones would make it up the stairs without falling, plus I haven't practiced the Bass part for years untold, and would have stuck out worse than fingernails on a blackboard, (only at a much *lower* pitch).

### ***Annual Dues!***

It's that time again! Time to re-new your annual Alumni Association membership! Annual dues are \$15 and can be mailed to our post office box. Your dues entitle you to our mailed newsletter and help us with scholarships and other Alumni Association expenses.

Please consider upgrading to a Lifetime Membership for \$100!

Make your check out and mail to:  
North Canton Alumni Association  
P. O. Box 2534  
North Canton, Ohio 44720



### **Alumni Directory Update**

The Alumni Association has worked with publishers in the past to collect alumni information and publish a single-volume directory of graduates. Our last effort to do this was in 2008 with Harris Publishing. This past year the Alumni Association determined that we would like to do this again. Harris Publishing was purchased by Publishing Concepts (PCI), and we have partnered with PCI to contact alumni, compile the data, and publish a new directory.

We hope all of you were contacted by PCI via phone, e-mail, or postcard, with instructions on updating your contact information. This was NOT a scam! They provided the manpower to contact thousands of graduates so that our new directory is a useful tool for the Alumni Association and your class year reunion committees. PCI does make a pitch to sell you items (that's how they make money!) and we hope that their sales pitch was not too painful.

So where are we in the process?

PCI is in the home stretch. They have collected and compiled all of our data. During January they will proof the data and the artwork for the directory. They will have final approvals in March, and will ship in May.

I want to thank all who provided updated information on themselves and family members. It is this up-to-date information that will help us keep in touch with our thousands of graduates.

### **Foundations Can Decay - Reprise**

Buildings, homes, and bridges can deteriorate when their foundation weakens. So what's the point?! It was 29 years ago that a small group of dedicated people got together to form the North Canton Alumni Association. In those 29 years this group has put

together the annual Hall of Distinction banquet and ceremony which recognizes organizations and individuals who have done outstanding work in the community. Please see this link for our honorees:

<http://www.northcantonalumni.org/honors-awards/hall-of-distinction-honorees/>

Would you like to build a new community with these people as your foundation?

The North Canton Alumni Association presents four to six scholarships each year to graduating seniors. These are possible through the generosity of the William A. DeGregorio family, the Frank Berroddin family, and other faithful donors.

Some recent scholarship recipients are: Mackenzie Matulich, Ariana Chovan, Emily Schaefer, Eleni Volas, Cameron Logan, and James E. Nixon IV.

Would you like a school system full of these young people?

The answer to both questions is that you already have it!

Sometimes we are too close to it to realize it. Fewer than 10 people meet once a month to keep alive our tradition of recognizing outstanding graduates and community leaders. They also provide this newsletter to keep you informed about activities in the community and updates on former classmates. When you drive through the square of North Canton and see the statue of "Boss" Hoover, remember that the North Canton Alumni Association was asked by two local outstanding citizens to be the driver to make it a reality, and we did.

Our foundation needs to be rebuilt from both a financial and a personal commitment from new volunteers. Without this support, we will not be able to survive. Burnout occurs in all walks of life, but especially in volunteer organizations where you do it only for the love of it.

What do we need to rebuild our foundation? Here is our list and we ask for your support.

- 1) Fill out one of our membership forms and send it in.
- 2) Donate additional dollars to help us shore up our financial foundation.
- 3) Donate 8 to 12 hours per year by attending a few meetings and volunteering to help out.

You can help us with:

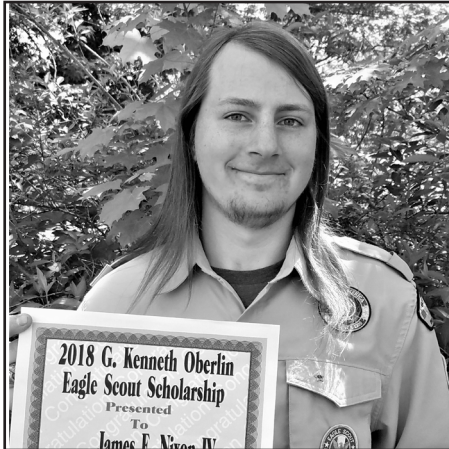
- Scholarship committee
  - Hall of Distinction banquet and program
  - Hall of Distinction nominating committee
  - Write a column or feature in our newsletter
  - Help maintain our website or social media presence
  - Monitoring our e-mail account
- 4) Make a sizeable donation to our scholarship fund.
  - 5) Create a new scholarship in honor of a family member or cherished educator.
  - 6) Ask your employer if they have a matching fund program and make a donation to the "North Canton Alumni Association".
  - 7) If you are involved with any foundations, ask if the North Canton Alumni Association or our scholarship program are eligible for financial assistance.
  - 8) Organize a fundraiser to help raise funds.
  - 9) Organize our community presence at the Main Street Festival and other events.

Our small group has spent many hours trying to keep the memories alive, but without strong support our foundation will decay. Suggestions and comments can be forwarded to me at [jim.strauch75@gmail.com](mailto:jim.strauch75@gmail.com), [NorthCantonAlumni@gmail.com](mailto:NorthCantonAlumni@gmail.com), or at home at 2381 Mohler Dr NW, North Canton, OH 44720.



The North Canton Alumni Association Proudly Announces

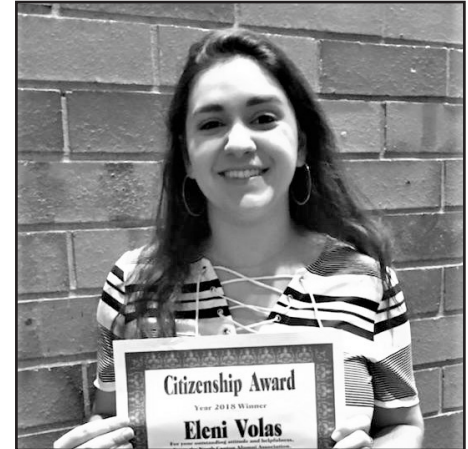
## The 2018 Scholarship Recipients



**James E. Nixon IV**  
Eagle Scout Scholarship Recipient



**Mackenzie Matulich**  
William A. DeGregorio  
Alumni Scholarship Recipient



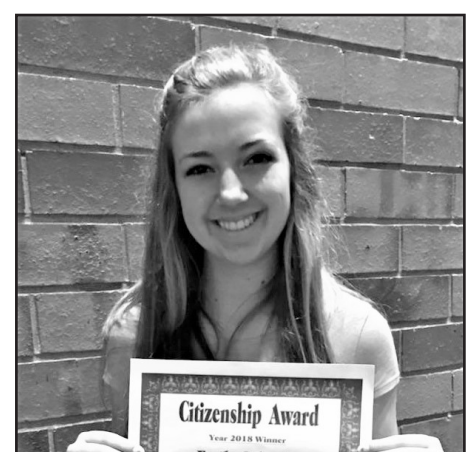
**Eleni Volas**  
Citizenship Award Recipient



**Ariana Chovan**  
William A. DeGregorio  
Alumni Scholarship Recipient



**Cameron Logan**  
Fred & Barbara Stevens  
Memorial Scholarship Recipient



**Emily Schaeffer**  
Citizenship Award Recipient

### Upcoming Class Reunions!!!

#### Class of 1989 - 30th Year Reunion

**Date:** Saturday, August 3rd, 2019

**Time:** TBD

**Venue:** Arrowhead Golf Club  
1500 Rogwin Circle, S.W.  
North Canton, OH 44720

#### Class of 1979 - 40th Year Reunion

**Date:** Saturday, August 31, 2019

**Time:** 6:00 P.M.

**Venue:** Arrowhead Golf Club

1500 Rogwin Circle, S.W.  
North Canton, OH 44720  
details to follow...

#### Class of 1974 - 45th Year Reunion

**Date:** Saturday, August 17, 2019

**Time:** TBD

**Venue:** North Canton Eagles  
6979 Sunset Strip Ave.  
North Canton, OH 44720  
details to follow...

#### Class of 1969-50th Year Reunion

Friday Night Gathering

**Date:** Friday, July 19th, 2019

**Venue:** Arrowhead Golf Club

1500 Rogwin Circle, S.W.  
North Canton, OH

#### SATURDAY NIGHT REUNION

**Date:** Saturday, July 20th, 2019

**Venue:** Tozzi's on 12th  
4210 - 12th Street N.W.  
Canton, OH 44708

**Details:** E-mail [hooverclassof69@gmail.com](mailto:hooverclassof69@gmail.com)

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

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### **Recent Deaths**

*Class of 1939 - Theda Rohrer Donovan*

*Class of 1948 - Ginni Loutzenheiser*

*Class of 1949 - William Bishop*

*Class of 1953 - Don Noebe*

*Class of 1955 - Marjorie Alice Shenk Rudolph*

*Class of 1956 - Bonnie Flagg Hanood*

*Class of 1960 - Sheila Stahl Epstein*

*Class of 1961 - James Currie*

*Class of 1963 - Gregory Gray*

*Kenneth Ray Oberlin*

*Susan Wagner*

*Class of 1967 - Linda Jane Rohrer*

*Class of 1968 - Chuck Caniford*

*Class of 1969 - Dan Fosnaught*

*Class of 1970 - Randy Carlson*

*Mike Sowers*

*Class of 1974 - Nikki Demos*

*Class of 1976 - Paul Jaeb*

*Barry Wood*

*Class of 1977 - Brenda Sadler*

*Class of 1982 - Danielle Meuschke Montgomery*

*Donald Roan*

*Class of 1988 - Sean Ransom*

*Class of 1989 - Cory Mitchell*

*Class of 2006 - Stephen Soni*

*Former Teacher - Ernestine Griel*

*Hall of Distinction Inductee - Cindy McDowell Lazor*

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).