

TYNER ALUMNI NEWS

Tyner Alumni Association

Summer 2025

**" WE DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE MAKING MEMORIES,
WE JUST KNEW WE WERE HAVING FUN"
(Winnie the Pooh)**

Twelve Tribes Remember

Twelve tribes came to this place,
stood silently, sometimes playfully, and waited for
the bell to beckon them inward.

Each year they lost a tribe, but a new one
formed among the young.

The doors were always huge, freshly
painted white, and usually locked except for certain rituals.

The natives knew their appropriate entrances.

The Little Ones gathered at the Main Door where stars and stripes waved at them in the wind. The Little Ones felt secure, they seldom wandered beyond their small room and the bathroom down the hall, except for lunch and basketball at noon.

Most of the Middle Ones, also known as the Loud Ones, entered with a view of the athletic field where they dreamed themselves as muscled champions, Herculean statues for the Township bus loads who had no cars or were not allowed to drive.

The Older Ones, also known as the Lucky Ones, drove their late 40 and 50 Chevy's, parked where they could enter through what was once revered as the Holy of Holies, a Hoosier Hysteria Arena, our Tyner Hardwood Floor. They would walk by the shadows of a Klinedinst, a Sarber, Bottorff, Moore, Smith, Stiles, Morris, a Kaiser, or the Young Ones coming on – a Jacobson, Stull then more Stulls.

Some of the Older Ones gathered in the boiler room, others in the coach's office just to have a morning talk, not knowing that these talks would never be forgotten.

The Elder Tribes would gather together year after year to remember those white doors, the shiny floors, the faces and places, all etched in sacred memory of people now gone, buildings turned to dust, all covered with pretty green grass.

All the Tribes knew that many years ago the Potawatomi Redmen, fired with passion, danced real hard, just as hard as we played on the holy ground.



William Killian, THS '57
Tyner High School, Tyner, IN
Written many years ago
Revised Wednesday, June 12, 2024



"Met on the Bridge"

Crossing the bridge in the Mackinac Bridge Antique Tractor Crossing, on September 7, 2024, 1265 antique tractors crossed the bridge as part of the 16th Annual Crossing. The "Mighty Mac" runs 5 miles and spans the straights of Mackinaw connecting the great lakes of Lake Michigan with Lake Huron.

. . . across the bridge and into the woods

Tom and Claudia Biggins, Mickey and LaVerne Replogle

THS ALUMNI AUCTION:

#1 DRAWING



Items: Two matted and framed colored pencil drawings of Tyner High School

Auction Location/Date: THS Banquet on 8/1/2025

Auctioneer: Michael Matz (Class 1964)

Artist: Marjory Balding Burkholder (Class 1967)

She has had a lifelong passion for the arts. She currently teaches classes at Heartland Gallery in Plymouth, IN, where many of her works are on display.

Technique/Medium: Colored Pencil

Framed sizes: Approximately 28" X 25"

#1 Drawing:

Frame: Professionally framed.

Drawing's History: Drawn in January 1986 (1/86) and sold to Regina Dipert (Class 1965)

Drawing's Gift: The estate of Regina Dipert presented the drawing to be auctioned and its proceeds donated to the THS Alumni Fund.

#2 Drawing:

Frame: Made by Alan Burkholder (Class 1964) from Tyner High School's Assembly/Study Hall/Library Flooring.

Drawing's History: Drawn in the mid-1980's and sold to Lawrence (Red) & Wanda Braner, lifelong Tyner residents. Wanda served as Tyner Postmaster for many years. It was given by them to their daughter Judy Braner (Class 1958).

Drawing's Gift: Judy Braner returned the drawing to Marge Burkholder and Marge requested it be auctioned and its proceeds donated to the THS Alumni Fund.

Absentee Bids: Those not able to attend the live auction, but would like to take part in it, may submit an absentee bid in writing to: Larry Mueller, 11035 Cougar Drive, Granger, IN 46530. These bids must be received on or before 7/25/2025, and contain the following information:

Name, Mailing address, Phone Number

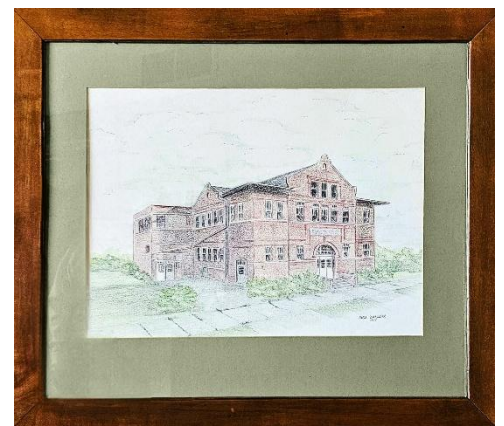
Drawing (specify #1 or #2 or both)

Minimum/Maximum Bid Amount

NOTE: The absentee bidder's identity will remain confidential, known only to Gene Reese and Larry Mueller. It will continue to be held confidential during the auctions bidding, then announced if their bid wins.

NOTE: If an absentee bidder wins, then they will be notified Within 24 hours and determination made on how to collect their money and deliver the framed drawing.

#2 DRAWING



SOMETIMES YOU MAY NEVER KNOW THE
VALUE OF A MOMENT
UNTIL IT BECOMES A MEMORY

Do you remember.....

60 YEARS AGO - PALM SUNDAY TORNADOES



A warn spring Sunday that turned deadly. We all have stories about that Palm Sunday in 1965 – where we were, what we saw. Most of us were spared, others lost everything. Some lost their lives.

As reported by the National Weather Service: “On Palm Sunday, April 11, 1965, Indiana was one of the six Midwest states to be raked by deadly tornadoes. In all, 47 tornadoes, killed 271 people, and injured over 1500.

This was the 4th deadliest tornado outbreak in US history and the deadliest of all for Indiana. In Indiana, 137 people were killed and 1200 injured by 10 tornadoes during the late afternoon and evening hours that day.”

We lost farms and livestock and homes. We can never forget.

For further information about these storms go to Tyner.org and tap on “New Items” on the bottom right then tap on “Palm Sunday 1965 The Forgotten Super Outbreak.”

Do you have some memories you would like to share?

“SPREAD THE WORD”

Reach out to your classmates! Ask them to come and enjoy the Alumni Banquet.....

Reconnect and reminisce. Let's keep the Tyner Alumni Banquet going!

Friday, August 1, 2025

Swan Lake Resort Conference Center

5203 Plymouth-LaPorte Trail, Plymouth, Indiana



1965 60th Class Reunion

We will be having a luncheon reunion on August 2nd, 2025. This will be held at the new Walkerton Community Building, 606 Washington Street, Walkerton, Indiana at noon. The food will be provided by Bob's Country Store, North Liberty, Indiana. More information will be provided.

Tyner-Teegarden-Polk Twp.-Walkerton-North Liberty-Green Twp. Florida Reunion

According to Don Knowlton there was no gathering of the group of townships in 2025. There will not be any more gatherings because of lack of interest.

Unfortunately, Don passed away in May, and he was the only one trying to keep this gathering going.

2024 – 2025 SHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Vera Klinedinst	Oscar Villa
Mary Ellen Hission	Theodosia Kogiones
Wilma Martin	Anna Shoue
Mavis Shank	Brianna Wolff

TYNER INDIANA ALUMNI FACEBOOK PAGE

You are invited to join the Tyner Alumni Facebook Page. This group is for any person that attended Tyner High School whether they graduated or not. Also, this site is open to include spouses of Tyner Alumni and Tyner Community friends.

Come share in school memories, photos and be made aware of upcoming events. There are approximately 546 members and perhaps there is someone here that you have had a desire to connect with but haven't been successful up to this point - you may find them today.

Joining this Facebook page is very easy. As noted in the following 3 steps:

1. Did you attend Tyner School? What year would you, or did you graduate? What is your connection to Tyner High School?
2. If you are a son or daughter of an alumni, please give the name of your parent that attended Tyner. If it's your mom, please provide her maiden name. Thank you.
3. Did you or a family member attend Tyner? If so, what is their name, including maiden name, if applicable, and what is the class year, if you know it?

Group rules

Include your group rules and ask pending members to select that they agree to them.

NOTE: The Group Administrator, Linda Drews Benjamin will review your answers and respond soon. Please consider this invitation now while it is fresh in your mind.

Matz Barn Basketball

Michael Matz

Like many other farm kids, the love of playing basketball all started at a young age and in our case the Matz barn. My dad, Wayne Matz, introduced me to the game by taking me to the old original Tyner gym where I watched Redmen like Dick Morris and the team from the 50's play. Since I took a liking to the game, my grandfather, Milo Matz, constructed a very nice accurately sized backboard with support brackets, painted a light gray and all. My brother, Steve and I both do not remember the actual hoisting and attaching that large backboard so the rim hung exactly 10 feet. Steve seems to remember dad using the pickup truck and backed it over the heavily reinforced floor to position it and I think Grandpa Milo assisted.

Now like many barns, we had to share the space for the court with the hay crop. Once the barn was full in the summer, we began to play at the Walkerton Centennial Park court where we began "rubbing" elbows with our future competition, the Walkerton Indians.

By the time fall and winter rolled around and we are fast forwarding to high school Steve and I worked arduously to open the court and free it from the bales of hay which held it captive all those months. Prime basketball time could begin in January when 3 on 3 games became feasible for the first time. The hay bales on each side of the court still surround us like a set of bleachers and balcony looming 20-25' high! The one thing to watch for was making sure the hay shoots on each side of the court were covered with the steel plates and kept in place, not doing so could ruin your day! We tried avoiding landing on them at all costs.

For the long set shot straight on by the large door opening you had to shoot a high arch shot because of the horizontal frame that the large door rolled up on.

We had plenty of kids come by to where we had to sometimes wait our turn to take on the winner. I remember kids from my class of 1964 playing Sunday ball that were not on the Tyner team but still liked to come over and play like Holger Moeller, Roger Swanson, and Carl Carlson on occasion. My mother, Hope Matz, would make large noon dinners sometimes and we'd go play ball afterwards.

Then there were also the serious ballers of Lee Zumbaugh, Norm Ross and several others. In fact, we had several guys from other schools come over on Sunday and play, Dick Jackson, LaPaz and Jerry Sheaks, Walkerton, to name a few. Eventually, it was not uncommon for several girls to drive by during those afternoon games. We are talking about mid-winter barn basketball here. We were always hoping for moderate Sunday weather, but we played regardless. A memory I have of those coldest Sundays was going down to the milk house to grab a bucket of hot water to thaw our hands out to better handle the ball and just provide some warmth.

The Matz barn still stands today with that backboard intact as I understand it on Teegarden-Walkerton Road on the old Peterson (Pete, Fred, Steve) place. A timeless memory of growing up and the love of the game.

Swan Lake Information for Alumni Banquet

The cost of the meal will be \$30 this year. There has been a block of rooms set aside if anyone wants to stay the night. The rates are \$159+tax for a Queen, or King room. The cost is 299+tax for the Owners Suite w/patio. Make sure you mention the Tyner Alumni Banquet. The telephone number is 574-935-5680. There will be a golf cart for anyone needing assistance from their car to the banquet hall. There will also be help available with getting food from the buffet table

Tyner Alumni Banquet Minutes 2024

August 2, 2024, the 106th Tyner Alumni Banquet was held at Swan Lake Conference Center for the second year. Located in Polk Township, it is a beautiful facility and as you arrive it feels like “coming home.” 176 people attended the banquet, a few more than last year and a few new faces. The word has spread and families are coming together to celebrate “Tyner.”

Linda Drews Benjamin opened the evening, welcoming everyone. Invocation was led by Larry Mueller. The Color Guard from the Plymouth American Legion Post #27 once again presented the colors. Gene Reese led us all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

We had some volunteers this year, Mike and Kathy Lowry. They were a tremendous help before and during the banquet. Dinner was served buffet style.

A lot of socializing and attendees finished their meals and circulated around the tables. Linda was able to restore order and opened the business meeting. Larry Mueller acknowledged the Class of 1964, the Legacy Class celebrating their 60th Anniversary. Great job by Mike Matz contacting fellow classmates. Fourteen classmates with spouses filled three tables. Several 1964 graduates stood and spoke of their Tyner memories, all about Tyner bus drivers, most especially Dwight Burch. Good memories and fun to hear.

Linda Drews Benjamin acknowledged our oldest alumni attending. Roy “Oscar” Oscarson, class of 1947. Congratulations. Five graduates from the class of 1954 attended with their spouses and filled a table.

Next was a tribute to Hal Muncie, honoring his roles as teacher, coach, principal and superintendent. Gene Reese read a poem, “Coach” by William Killian.

Susan Leininger moved to accept the Tyner Alumni Minutes of 2023, Charlene Lemert Minger seconded the motion, all approved.

Gene Reese read the finance report, motion to accept by Steve Matz, seconded by John McGee, all approved.

The Alumni of the Year for 2024 was Linda Drews Benjamin. Linda has been a huge asset in supporting the Tyner Alumni Banquet. Susie Lowry Litchfield introduced Linda and brought smiles with the introduction. Linda’s family attended, and her daughter Holly spoke about her mother. Congratulations Linda, it was well deserved.

It was a great evening, a special place with special people. As I entered the banquet hall, after dinner I spotted a large group

sitting or standing in front of the large Tyner High School sign ready to get their picture taken – our veterans. A wonderful sight, honoring our veterans.

Again, this year, there were tables of memorabilia and a large overhead screen displaying “all Tyner.” A lot of memories and reacquainting. So, until next year – Go Redmen!



THANK YOU VETERANS



THANK YOU VETERANS

If you would like to make a suggestion for the next Alumni of the year, please bring your suggestion to the Alumni Banquet, along with a paragraph explaining why you are nominating this individual. If you will not be attending the banquet, please mail your suggestion to:

Gene Reese, 128 Gemini Lane, Walkerton, Indiana 46574

2024 Alumni of the Year Linda Drews Benjamin

Linda Drews Benjamin was born December 18, 1947, to Alfred and Josephine Drews. Her parents were instrumental in her success in school and life. Al and Jo were deeply committed to their community and served as great examples of sacrifice and love. Linda's mom and grandmother decorated for the prom when the juniors oversaw decorating. Her grandmother painted a huge mural of a moon over the sea, with flowers and greenery, in a tropical motif. Clothes hangers were fashioned into leis.

Linda lived at Koontz Lake, Polk Township, until her senior year. She started 1st grade at Tyner High School, at age 5. Linda's two older sisters, Damaris and Norma, both deceased, and two younger brothers, Dave and John, all attended Tyner High School.

She was active in Rainbow, a group for young girls that teaches them community engagement and public speaking. Linda served as president of her senior class of 1965, which had 43 classmates. She was a member of the Sunshine Girls, and a B-team and Varsity cheerleader. She won the Betty Crocker Homemaker Award in her senior year. She and her friends had a good laugh over that since she wasn't much of a cook, nor a seamstress. It turns out, the test covered a lot of common-sense subjects.

Gloria Replogle Haynes was one of her best friends in high school. On one of the paper drives, the head scarf that Gloria was wearing got caught on the handle of the door of the mailbox. She was stuck and they laughed so hard they couldn't get her unstuck! Another memory Linda has is visiting Gloria when she was married and lived in the little house in Tyner. In the beginning, they had no indoor plumbing. When she went to the outhouse, the wooden peg that held the door closed, fell, and she was locked in the outhouse! There were no cell phones then. She had to wait until Gloria missed her and came to let her out.

Linda has lived in Indiana, Kansas, Florida, and now resides outside Nashville, Tennessee. In Walkerton, she was the Office Administrator for American Roller Company for 28 years. While in Florida, she volunteered at Gulf Coast Medical Center, until she was hired as a Surgical Waiting Desk Representative. Always active in church, she served as an Elder in Fort Myers. Currently she is a Nursery Coordinator volunteer at her church in Nashville.

Linda is married to Dave Benjamin and had four children: Bart Clark, Cameron Clark, Jared Clark, and Holly Clark Linebaugh. Sadly, Cameron was killed in 2005. She has 7 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren.

Despite living in Tennessee, Linda gets back to Walkerton several times a year. On many of those trips, she organizes lunches for her classmates. Linda cherishes her relationships with friends and family. She always makes sure to reach out with a card, call or visit.

In 2018, Noral Baughman, who kept the records for the Tyner Alumni Association, wanted to step down for a much-deserved rest. Linda agreed to take on the task. Noral's records were sent to Linda, and she put together a great team to help her. She has overseen the Tyner Alumni Association ever since. Worried about the distance, she tried to step down, but her committee wouldn't let her. A few years ago, Linda created the Tyner Indiana Alumni page on Facebook. That has been a great help in creating interest in Tyner High School and the Alumni Banquet. Currently, there are 546 members. Anyone who attended Tyner, their family members, and others who are involved in the town of Tyner are eligible to join. Linda's efforts to help people stay connected and feel cared for make her a perfect recipient for this award. It is a well-deserved honor.

LEGACY CLASS 1965

This year we will be honoring the class of 1965. Please encourage your classmates to attend the Tyner Alumni Banquet and enjoy reminiscing.

**DECEASED ALUMNI
2024-2025**

CLASS	NAME	DOB	DOD
1939	Joan Kirkley Folin	11/30/24	01/13/21
1942	Ella Stull Smith	11/23/24	01/09/25
1951	Esther Pontius Bradley	10/31/33	11/21/15
1957	Joyce Franklin Lacher	01/23/39	03/03/25
1962	Linda Smith Henry	08/14/44	05/03/25
1963	Ben Burger	02/09/45	07/29/24
1964	Dewey Colon	04/04/46	06/18/24
1964	Larry Barden	12/08/46	01/09/25
1966	Linda Lemert Northam	10/17/48	03/17/25
1969	Danny Barden	01/22/51	09/10/24
1970	Gwen Amor Crum	11/16/51	10/17/24
1970	Carol Pontius Duncan		05/04/25

**Empty Chairs at Empty Tables
Song by Eddie Redmayne**

There's grief that can't be spoken
There's pain that goes on and on
Empty chairs at empty tables
Now my friends are dead and gone

Oh, my friends, my friends forgive me
That I live and you are gone
There's grief that can't be spoken
There's pain that goes on and on

Empty chairs at empty tables
Where my friends sit no more

**Tyner Alumni Finances
2024**

CD #1- \$4000 w/interest @ 5%
CD #2 -\$2000 w/interest @ 4.75%
\$1000 added

Checkbook Opening Balance \$ 1233.00

***Revenues:

 Donations \$ 2376.00
 Tyner Alumni Reservations \$ 4474.00

*** REVENUE TOTAL: \$ 6850.00

***Expenses:

 Alumni Newsletter
 Postage & Labels \$ 415.00
 Printing \$ 163.00
Tyner Alumni of Year Plaque \$ 40.00
Flowers/Displays/Developing Pictures \$ 260.00
American Legion \$ 50.00
Benjamin & Bob Mueller refund \$ 128.00
Swan Lake \$ 4550.00
Banquet Programs \$ 10.00
Bank Fees \$ 36.00

***EXPENSE TOTAL: \$ 5652.00

CHECKBOOK CLOSING BALANCE \$ 2431.00

***Switched to Electronic Banking saving \$36 (\$3 monthly fee)



**2025
Tyner I.O.O.F. Tractor Show
Friday, July 25th 10 am - 8 pm
Saturday, July 26th 10 am - 4 pm
Tyner Community Building
4836 French Street
Tyner, Indiana**

OUR BANQUET AND INFLATION

We escaped the large inflation cost increases in the last few years! John Bryan, at Swan Lake has helped us by giving us a good deal on our meals, but with new management, we had our cost per meal increase by 40%. The Banquet Committee decided to use all the individual donations. (we realize that some are able to donate, while some are not) We used money from our saving account to help the increase! Your cost will **only increase 10% - \$30 per meal**

TYNER HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI BANQUET

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE 107th ANNUAL
TYNER HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI BANQUET
FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2025
SWAN LAKE RESORT CONFERENCE CENTER
5203 PLYMOUTH-LAPORTE TRAIL, PLYMOUTH, INDIANA
REGISTRATION AND SOCIAL HOUR BEGINS AT 4:30 P.M.
DINNER BEGINS AT 6:00 P.M.

DINNER MENU SERVED BUFFET STYLE

Herb Roasted Chicken w/Rosemary Madeira Demi-Glace, Season Roasted Sirloin
w/Mushrooms and Onions Topped w/Au Jus Sauce, Red Skinned Potatoes,
Green Beans w/Caramelized Onions, Salad & Dinner Rolls, Assorted Dessert Bar,
Coffee, Iced Tea, Water, Cash Bar

We on the committee have such fun working together.
We hope to share that enthusiasm at the Banquet – see you there!!!
Linda – Gene – Larry – Rose (Rosalie) – Susie – Connie – Pat

Please Return This Form To

Gene Reese
128 Gemini Lane
Walkerton, IN 46574
(email) genereese@yahoo.com
Cell: (574) 952-0616

Please Return Reservations by
July 25, 2025 Make Checks Payable to
Tyner Alumni Association

_____ Please check here if your mailing address or email has changed

Total Number of Reservations _____ @ \$30.00/person Total enclosed _____

Your Name _____ Your Class _____

Your Guest's Name _____

Your Email Address _____

Your Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Land Line _____ Cell Phone _____

Do you and your guest want to be seated with another class? If so, which class? _____

ALUMNI OF THE YEAR 2025 SUGGESTION _____

1965 LEGACY GRADUATING CLASS



TYNER HIGH SCHOOL

CLASS OF 1965 – Martha Baughman, Allen Capes, Regina Dipert, Linda Drews, Frank Erdelyi, Larry Ernsberger, Myra Foster, Steve Frazier, Darold Hathaway, Claudia Henderson, Phil Jacobson, Jim Jordan, Norman LaMunion, Judy Lowry, Fred Miller, Lyle Miller, E. Garry Norton, Hal Patterson, Mary Ann Pugh, Trudy Ream, R. Eugene Reese, Janice Rennells, Gloria Replogle, Joseph Ross, Norm Ross, Shirley Ross, Janet Rough, Jerry Schmeltz, Linda Shank, Sharon Skiles, Delmas Stiles, Linda Stiles, Marjorie Stoneburner, Linda Struble, Sandra Thomas, Linda Warren, Linda Whitaker, Dale Wringer, Leland Zumbaugh