



The Alumni Newsletter

Publication of the Afton Central School Alumni Association
www.aftonnyalumni.org

FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

President's Message:

Happy Spring! It sure doesn't seem like Spring here yet in upstate New York. Winter was cold—most of the time past cold. We had steady snow, usually just enough to shovel or plow driveways and walks. Mostly it was just a nuisance. We are looking forward to green grass and May flowers.

We have had many questions, primarily about two topics. First is membership: the cost of dues is still five dollars a year. Your continued membership aids us in providing the two newsletters per year and covering other administrative costs. The second question is about the Alumni Weekend date, which is always the second Saturday of July. This year it is July 11th and 12th. Your Alumni Planning Committee has provided two days of activities to participate in. Friday is the Ice Breaker at the River Club, and Saturday morning is the Golf Tournament. Saturday early afternoon is the School Tour, and Saturday afternoon is the Alumni Dinner.

In past newsletters we have reminded our members that we can always use help during the year to organize our major events. We appreciate all those who step up time and again to help us make the weekend a success. Again, without help it would be impossible to continue having this important weekend. It is always great seeing past classmates and renewing old friendships.

We have in our Bylaws the outline of running for an office in the Alumni Association. If you would like to run for a position on the board, please contact Wendy Doing-Poyer and have your name placed on the Slate of Officers for the election. This takes place every July. Names must be submitted by late May for placement on the ballots. We want to remind everyone to get your menu item selections in as soon as possible. It helps the River Club properly plan for meal quantities and the wait staff they need to help get the meal out to us efficiently. With your help and consideration, we can make it a success.

VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

MISSION STATEMENT

Afton Central School Alumni Association is a social and service organization inclusive of all alumni of Afton Central School.

Its social mission is to continue and to enhance the social bonds of the alumni with their school mates, family, friends, and the community. Its service mission is two-fold:

- a. to support the role of Afton Central School in educating our future alumni,
- b. to support the continuing education of our current alumni to cope better with the challenges of this ever-changing world.



**STRENGTH OF A KNIGHT
HEART OF AN INDIAN**



We as your Alumni Board want to say, "Thank You!" We appreciate the trust you place in us. We look forward to seeing you in July. Be safe and see you soon.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ernest R. Cutting, Jr.
President—Class of 1983

JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND DONATION FORM

If you wish to sign up for another year or several years, this will give you the opportunity to remain in touch, get the bi-annual newsletter, and to participate in the Alumni activities.

If you wish to do a onetime membership of \$250.00, less what you have paid ahead towards your membership dues to date, this would give you lifetime membership. This would take the guesswork out of remembering to register your yearly membership.

Please contact Keith Willes for Net amount due. kwilles47@gmail.com or 607.739.5831

There is a winter newsletter edition in November and a spring newsletter edition in April. In the spring edition, you will receive an application for the Annual Alumni Reunion, which is held each year on the second Saturday in July, and the golf tournament application form.

As a graduate or past member of the Afton Class of _____ (year), I wish to stay informed of school happenings and news about people who attended my school.

Therefore, I wish to join the Association by donating \$ _____ (\$5 for each year) for _____ years of membership or lifetime _____. The membership year runs from July 1, to June 30.

If you wish to donate more than the minimum, how should that money be used? Check box

☐ Scholarship Fund ☐ Expenses ☐ Other _____

For membership dues and donations, please mail a check made out to ACSAA to:

Keith Willes – Treasurer ACSAA
4885 Pinecrest Road, Millport, NY 14864

Donation or not, please submit updated information to Keith Willes via snail mail or email: kwilles47@gmail.com

YOUR NAME (First, maiden and current last name) _____

SPOUSE NAME (if married) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

VISIT THE AFTON ALUMNI WEBSITE: www.aftonnyalumni.org

ACSAA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Afton Central School Alumni Association reorganized in 2004 with a new purpose of providing scholarships to Afton graduating seniors. The first \$1,000 scholarship was given in 2005. These scholarships were made possible through donations by past graduates, by past teachers, donations in memory of past graduates, and by fund raisers like the ACSAA Golf Tournament and raffles. Since 2005 the ACSAA has paid out \$92,500 in scholarships.

In 2024 the ACSAA awarded \$12,000 in scholarships. To receive their scholarship graduates must have successfully completed their first semester and be enrolled in the second semester. Graduates going into a trade or technology fields must have completed the first phase of their training or apprenticeship toward receiving a certificate or license.

Some of the scholarships offered include the Shirley Stump Barre scholarship for a student planning to become a teacher, the Karen Zablocki scholarship for a student studying environmental science, forestry or

conservation, and the nurse Celia Liggett, Dr. Charles Graf and nurse Mary Jane Graf scholarship for a student studying a field of medicine.

At the request of the Bob and Anne Briggs family, the ACSAA started administering the funds for the Bob and Anne Briggs Family scholarship in 2024. This scholarship may be applied toward college or toward a trade or technology training.

In 2024 a new scholarship was suggested by Deborah Eiss Kelliher, class of 1974. This will be a military scholarship supported by donations from the class of 1974. To receive this scholarship of \$1,500, the graduate must enlist in a branch of the service and successfully complete basic training. If more than one person enlists, the first to complete basic training receives the scholarship.

The ACSAA will offer up to nine \$1,500 scholarships in 2025 plus the military scholarship of \$1,500.



**STRENGTH OF A KNIGHT
HEART OF AN INDIAN**



AFTON CENTRAL SCHOOL ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT ENTRY/SPONSORSHIP

**This Tournament is OPEN to ALL – you don't need to be an alumnus to play!!
See Registration Form in this newsletter.**

The Afton Central School Alumni Association (ACSAA) is hosting their Annual Golf Tournament this year on July 12th to benefit our Scholarship Fund. We welcome anyone who would like to play. The format will be a Captain and Crew, (Four Person Team). Don't worry if you don't have a full team, Everyone plays! Limited to the first 30 Teams signed up and paid.

Date: Saturday July 12, 2025
Afton Golf Course
175 Afton Lake Rd
Afton, NY 13730

7:30 am – 8:45 am: Registration (coffee/Snacks)
8:45 am: Teams Gather at Clubhouse Entrance
9:00 am: Shotgun Start

We are asking for support from you and/or your organization for:

1. Team Participation - \$65.00/person or \$260.00/team (\$10.00 off if Afton Golf Course Member)
2. Tournament Sponsor - \$300.00 (Includes Large Banner at Event Entry, Tee Box and Putting Green Signs, Names announced before and after the tournament, at Awards Presentation and Alumni Banquet.
3. Hole Sponsorship - \$150.00 per hole (Tee Box - \$100.00, and/or Putting Green - \$50.00)
4. Monetary Donation – All proceeds go directly to Scholarship Fund

Any Participation from you or your organization would be appreciated. Since the inception of the Annual Golf Tournament in 2005, the Alumni Association has been able to give out over \$92,500 dollars to Graduating Seniors. That is all thanks to you and your organization's generous donations.

Included in the entry fee is 18 Holes of Golf, Golf Cart, Snacks at the turn, Lunch, and Prizes. There will be Skins and Mulligans available at Registration for an additional fee. Prizes awarded for Closest to Pin & Longest Drive (Men and Women). During the Tournament, a Hole in 1 where you could win \$20,000 Dollars! If you participate in or want to become a sponsor for the event, and need more information, contact either Daron Schultes at (607) 343-7198 or email drschultes@gmail.com or Jeff Schultes at (302) 242-4192 / schultesJL@gmail.com. If a check is submitted, please make the check payable to ACSAA. Please fill out the attached page with your team and/or sponsorship before returning. Again, limited to the first 30 teams signed up and paid.

The Afton Alumni Association is a 501 (c) 3 Charitable Organization and you will receive a receipt for your Donation for your tax purposes. We thank you for your consideration participating in and/or sponsoring our annual event and look forward to hearing from you soon. See you on July 12th!

Respectfully,

Ernest Cutting, Jr.
President – ACSAA
Executive Committee

ANNUAL ALUMNI REUNION BANQUET

Saturday, July 12, 2025

River Club Restaurant | 1 Maple Street, Afton, NY 13730



PROGRAM

- 3:00PM** Registration, Socializing
Cash Bar, 50/50 Raffle
Gift Baskets
- 4:45PM** Welcome and Invocation
- 5:00PM** Dinner (sit down)
- 6:15PM** Program
Short Business Meeting
(Voting on Officers by Class Delegates)
Drawing for 50/50
Drawing for Gift Baskets

COST

\$30.00 Per Person – due by June 28, 2025
(Includes meal and gratuity)

ACTIVITIES: 50/50 Raffle to benefit ACSAA; Gift Baskets; Awards for the class with the largest number in attendance; Furthest Traveled

cut on dotted line

DINNER MENU Choice of one per person:

Prime Rib
Chicken Cordon Bleu
Manicotti

DESSERTS MENU Choice of one per person:

Chocolate Cake
Strawberry Shortcake
Cheesecake

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ACSAA

Mail to: Afton Central School Alumni Assoc.
C/O Wendy Poyer
31 Mill Street, Whitney Point, NY 13862
607-343-3707 (cell) Email: wpoohp@aol.com

Please detach and return THIS PORTION of the sheet to make your reservation for the banquet.

NAME: _____

SPOUSE/GUEST(S): _____

PHONE: (_____) _____ CITY/STATE OF YOUR RESIDENCE: _____

GRADUATING CLASS YEAR: _____

DINNER(s) (HOW MANY OF EACH): # _____ PRIME RIB # _____ CHICKEN CORDON BLEU # _____ MANICOTTI

DESSERT(s) (HOW MANY OF EACH): # _____ CHOCOLATE CAKE # _____ STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE # _____ CHEESECAKE

DINNER(s) COST (\$30.00 PER) \$ _____

ANY OTHER REQUESTS/ COMMENTS (ex. Would like to sit with) _____

AFTON CENTRAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

April 1, 2025

Accounts - Visions Federal Credit Union

Savings 1 - to be used for scholarships \$ 5,422.50
Savings 1 – CD - 7 months \$ 6,444.96

Military scholarship CD - 11 months \$11,471.60

Savings 2 - Karen Zablocki scholarship account \$202.73
Zablocki CD – 11 months \$ 7,519.10

Savings 3 –
Briggs scholarship savings account \$ 4,583.26
Briggs three-year CD \$15,962.99
Briggs two-year CD \$10,409.95
Briggs three-year CD \$10,077.38
Briggs 17-month CD \$10,070.83

Checking - to be used to pay expenses \$ 2,184.69

Vanguard Investments -
7 funds (as of 3-31-2025) \$177,000.00

The goal is eventually to earn enough dividends each year to sustain the scholarship program in the future.

Total assets: \$261,349.99

The ACSAA investments are now being managed by L & M Wealth Management, Amherst, NY, with a satellite office in Vestal, NY. This firm recommended a diversified portfolio from Vanguard to grow our investments while preserving our initial investment. Our advisor is Matthew Burwick.

The ACSAA awarded \$12,000 in scholarships in June 2024 and all were paid in the Spring of 2025.

Since 2005 the ACSAA has paid out \$92,500 in scholarship awards.

Submitted by,
Keith Willes – Treasurer

SCHOOL TOUR

A personal tour of the school during **Alumni Weekend, Saturday, July 12, 2025, at 2:00 pm.** Everyone should meet at #2 Door, Main Entrance (Academy Street).

BASKET RAFFLE FOR 2025

As we approach our July alumni weekend, the quest for the 2025 basket raffle continues. We did receive \$225 in basket raffle donations. So, we are asking that Afton alumni consider donating money to the effort, or donate baskets that are no longer needed. Baskets may be donated in memory of a person or to recognize a specific class year. The basket raffle proceeds are used to cover expenses such as newsletter printing, postage and banquet expenses. The basket raffle is a popular event following the banquet each year and requires a lot of expense and effort to put together a dozen or more baskets.

Questions about the basket raffle may be addressed to Keith Willes: kwilles47@gmail.com. Donations may be sent to Keith Willes, 4885 Pinecrest Rd Millport, NY 14864. Make checks payable to ACSAA and put "basket raffle" on the memo line.

TOP ALL-TIME ACSAA DONORS

We are proud to recognize the alumni who have donated over \$500 each to this organization so generously over the years.

Frederic Andrews - Class of 1963	Mr. & Mrs. Paul C Graf - Class of 1972	David Renner - Class of 1957
Doris Terry Bamford - Class of 1978	Victoria Pinney Gregory - Class of 1974	Janice (Shupe) Schmidt - Class of 1970
Shirley (Stump) Barre - Faculty	Terry Hartwell - Class of 1974	Alfred Donald Schultes - Class of 1960
Brian Briggs - Class of 1985	Dr. Allen Herkimer - Class of 1942	Dr. Rudy Schuster - Class of 1952
Elizabeth Briggs - Class of 1971	Charles Holmes - Class of 1959	Betty (Stohner) Sears - Class of 1953
Laurie Briggs - Class of 1978	Deborah Eiss Kelliher - Class of 1974	Margery (McCullough) Secrest - Faculty
R Michael Briggs - Class of 1972	Susan (Fenner) Kopyar - Class of 1966	Harold Fay Todd - Class of 1940
Richard Briggs - Class of 1974	William Griggs - Class of 1957	Mary (Guy) Tucker - Faculty
Robert Briggs Family	John Lashway - Class of 1954	James Vance Sr. - Contributor
William Briggs - Class of 1980	Bryce Lockwood - Class of 1957	Dr. Marie (Fuller) Walker - Class of 1960
Elnora (Merritt) Boyken - Class of 1936	Patricia (Sorensen) Luckel - Faculty	Dr. Wayne Westhoff - Class of 1964
Donald Conklin - Class of 1952	Michael Lurenz - Class of 1976	June Burnett White - class of 1969
Janet Conover - Faculty	Mark Moore - Class of 1976	Betty (Snedaker) Wu - Class of 1975
Ernest Cutting Jr. - Class of 1983	Phyllis Cutting Niles - Class of 1950	Irene Zablocki - Class of 1956
Mary Birdsall Decker - Class of 1949	Fred Parker - Class of 1950	Theresa Zablocki - Class of 1980
Dr. Raymond Decker - Class of 1948	Dionne "Dee" (Fuller) Parker - Class of 1955	Patricia Willes Schultes - Class of 1963
Carol (Andersen) Dubiel - Class of 1965	Stanley Prentice - Class of 1952	Curtis & Gloria Harvey - Class of 1965 & 1970
June Park-Ewing - Class of 1978	Kenneth Rakowski - Class of 1973	

AFTON CENTRAL SCHOOL ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEKEND

This is an important milestone for many Afton Central School alumni. If you are sharing information, please inform classmates of:

**The Icebreaker being held on Friday, July 11, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.
at the River Club in Afton and**

**The All-Class Reunion Dinner, also being held at the River Club on
Saturday, July 12th at 3:00 p.m.**

Please consider registering a group of classmates/ friends for **the Alumni Golf Tournament being held at the Afton Golf Club on Saturday morning, July 12, 2025 at 7:30 a.m.;** registration information is also in this newsletter.

No reservation is necessary for the Ice Breaker, just come and enjoy!

OFFICERS CONTACTS

PRESIDENT

Ernest Cutting Jr
PO Box 260, Afton, NY 13730

VICE PRESIDENT/DATABASE

Wendy Poyer (Doing)
31 Mill Street, Whitney Point, NY 13862
(C) 607.343.3707 (H) 607.634.4134
wpoohp@aol.com

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP

Keith Willes
4885 Pinecrest Rd, Millport, NY 14864
(H) 607.739.5831 (C) 607.846.5138
kwilles47@gmail.com

SECRETARY/NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Michael Lurenz
763 River Road, Binghamton, NY 13901
mlurenz@stny.rr.com

WEBMASTER

Scott Latsha
153 Treadwell Rd, Binghamton, NY 13905
607.768.0227; sdlatsha@yahoo.com

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Keith Willes Daron Schultes
Wendy Poyer Mary Maricle
Ernie Cutting

BANQUET/SPECIAL EVENTS CO-CHAIRS

Mark Lee Mary Maricle
Vicki Lee Glenda Schrantz
Brenda Davy

GOLF COMMITTEE

Daron Schultes Bruce Schultes
Jeff Schultes Alan Schultes
Bonnie Barr

BASKET RAFFLE COMMITTEE

Mary Maricle Brenda Davy
Kathy Willes

MAJOR EVENTS MC

OPEN

DELEGATES CHAIRPERSON

OPEN

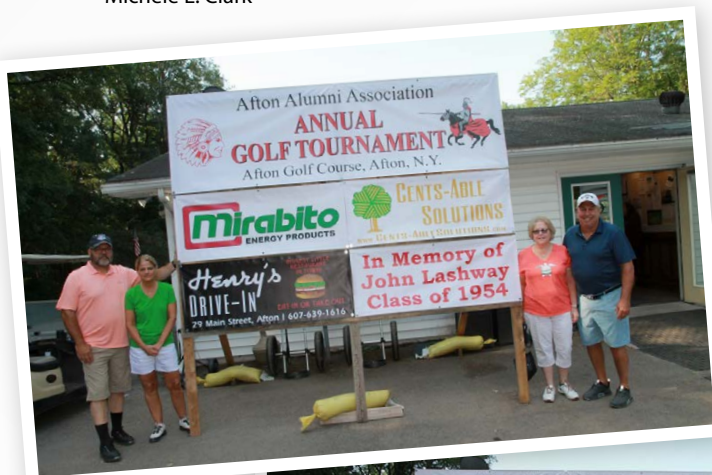
NOMINATIONS

Interested in running for a position with the ACSAA? Contact Wendy Poyer at wpoohp@aol.com

Please express your interest as soon as possible so your name can be added to the Slate of Officers to be elected at the Annual Dinner and Meeting.

CLASS DELEGATES

1942	Altha Spaulding Drake	1975	Cindy Manderville Maloney/ Norma Briggs Bear
1944	William Little		
1948	Raymond Decker	1976	Trudy Harris-Alford / Mike Lurenz
1949	Mary Birdsall Decker		
1950	Fred Parker	1979	Dennis Ashley
1951	Beverly Lashway Doughty	1980	Glenda Butts Schrantz
1954	Audrey Pratt Bartlett/ Betty Row Benfatta	1981	Bruce Schultes
		1982	Kevin Moisan
1955	Fred Spoor	1983	Gina Caratelli McManus/ Ernest Cutting Jr
1956	Carol Ann Williams Vail		
1957	Roberta Riley Snow/ Thomas Vail	1984	Judy Naab Hinman
		1985	Audra Ridikas
1958	Roger Barr	1986	Patrick Dedman/ Denise Odell Dedman
1959	Carolyn Tryon Davies		
1960	Sharon Eldred Hulbert	1987	Wendy Doing Poyer
1962	Judy Still Fothergill/ Judith Vail Giblin	1991	Ken Moisan/ Dan Vail
1963		1992	Jamie Baciуска/ Daron Schultes
1965	Keith Willes/ Cheryl Shupe Barbaisch	1993	Donna Lockwood Ruttkiewicz/ Shannon Beck Stringfellow
1969	June Burnett White	1994	Tracy Matzen Holgash
1970	Gloria Bacuiska Harvey	1996	Marci Nickerson Germond
1971	Elizabeth Briggs/ Linda Pell Hitchcock	1997	Kerri Insinga Green/ LeeAnne Beckwith Bennett/ Timothy Fletcher
1972	Paul Graf		
1973	Kim Hadden/Ed Ramsey Lewis/ Martha Sutton Lamb	1998	Karen Baciуска Rought
		2001	KatieLynn Shuart-Barker
1974	Linda Buman	2010	Becca Baudendistel
	Laura Oestrich		
	Michele E. Clark		



**AFTON CENTRAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

SPONSORED BY AFTON CENTRAL SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
To Benefit the Scholarship Fund

Afton Golf Club - 175 Afton Lake Rd, Afton NY 13730
Saturday, July 12, 2025 7:30am-8:45am Registration
TEE TIME IS 9:00am PROMPTLY

CAPTAIN AND CREW - FOUR PERSON TEAMS

\$260.00 per team - \$65.00 per person / Afton Golf Course Members - cost is \$10.00 less per person
Register Early as possible, (we can hold the check till July 12th, please let us know)

CART - GOLF - FOOD - PRIZES

We will have Snacks and Drinks at the turn

****We're upping the Stakes - Hole In One - Chance to WIN \$20,000 DOLLARS!!***

Thank you for your support!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Daron Schultes 607.343.7198 (cell) drschultes@gmail.com

Jeff Schultes 302.242.4192 (cell) schultesjl@gmail.com

**** **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "ACSAA"**

*** MAIL CHECKS AND FORM TO : Keith Willes - Treasurer, 4885 Pincrest Rd, Millport, NY 14864 ***

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORM - 2025

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

TEAM NAME:

CAPTAIN'S NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP:

DAY PHONE:

NIGHT PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

TEAMMATE'S NAME -

TEAMMATE'S NAME -

TEAMMATE'S NAME -

SPONSOR A HOLE FOR THIS WORTHY CAUSE

I would also like to sponsor a hole. Have my Hole Sponsor Sign read as follow:

Breakdown that applies:

_____ Golf Team - \$260.00 (\$10.00 less per Afton Golf Course member)

_____ Tournament Sponsor - \$300.00

_____ Hole Sponsor - \$150.00 per hole (Tee Box-\$100.00, and/or Putting Green-\$50.00)

_____ Monetary Donation

_____ Total Enclosed

Afton Central School Alumni Association
c/o Wendy Poyer
31 Mill St.
Whitney Point, NY 13862

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GET INVOLVED!

We always need more class delegates!

A person is needed to represent every class. Check the 'Delegates' page, and if your class does not already have a representative, please consider volunteering to become your class delegate.

You will have the opportunity to renew contact with your classmates and to vote their wishes at the Annual Reunion. Some will simply share some good memories with you.

Contact any officer or committee member or email Wendy to volunteer.

Wendy (Doing) Poyer '87 is the Delegate Chairperson. You will find her very helpful and encouraging. Email her at wphoohp@aol.com.