

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HALL OF FAME

### **Paula Phillips Burger (Class of 1963)**



Paula Phillips Burger earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in political science at Duke University in 1967 and 1974, respectively. She received her doctorate in political science at Johns Hopkins in 1984 and then returned to Duke where she rose to executive vice provost before returning to Johns Hopkins in 1993.

Dr. Burger is vice provost and dean of undergraduate education at the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and previously was vice provost for academic affairs and international programs. From 1986 to 1993, she worked for Duke University, initially as vice provost for academic services, and later as executive vice provost. From the late 1970s to the mid-1980s, she held positions with the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, ultimately becoming assistant secretary for policy coordination.

She began her university administrative career in 1970 as dean of women at Duke's Woman's College, one of the youngest women in the country to hold that position. She later served as assistant dean of Duke's Trinity College of Arts and Sciences from 1972-1974. She returned to Duke in 1986, joining the provost's office and also Duke's political science department as an adjunct faculty member, teaching such topics as the federal bureaucracy and the politics of regulation.

Dr. Burger has been honored with the Duke University Award for Merit in 1989, has served the university as a board member of the Alumni Association and the Women's Center, on the executive committee of the Duke Annual Fund, and on the Council on Women's Studies. She has also served on the boards of American Schools of Oriental Research, Baltimore Collegetown, and the Maryland Network for Women Leaders in Higher Education. Dr. Burger was elected to the Duke University Board of Trustees in 2000.

Dr. Burger and her husband, Dr. Peter Burger, have one daughter and make their home in Baltimore, Maryland.

*Presented by Steve Bennett '63*

### **Robert J. Meder (Class of 1935)**



Robert J. Meder was not nominated for his athleticism, his professional career, or his academic success. Lieutenant Robert Meder was nominated for his heroic actions back in April of 1942. Lieutenant Meder was a member of the Doolittle Raiders who were the first American forces to attack the islands of Japan during World War II. Lt. Meder was a co-pilot on one of the 16 B-25 Bombers that participated in the first U.S. air raids on Japan. Unfortunately, Lt. Meder's plane, along with one other, did not make it and crashed off the Chinese coast. When Lt. Meder's plane went down his only hope was to swim to shore. With one of his crewmates on his back, he swam for four hours to the shore to be rescued by local fishermen. Later he was captured by Japanese troops, held captive, and tortured. During this time he kept the group's spirits up despite the daily horrors they were enduring.

On December 1, 1943, twenty-six year old Lt. Robert J. Meder died of malnutrition and beri-beri while still in captivity. His death was a blow to the others who kept asking why death had claimed this man whose humor and good will had helped sustain them throughout the last nineteen horrible months.

Many in Lt. Meder's class remembered him as a cheerleader who kept the crowd excited during those fall Saturday afternoon football games. But after the cheers have silenced, the records broken, and the championships forgotten, Lt. Robert J. Meder will always be remembered for his heroics during the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo and the impact he had on those who were there.

Following graduation from Lakewood High School, Lt. Meder attended Miami University where he was a member of Phi Kappa Tau fraternity. Miami's squadron of the Air Force ROTC honor society is named the Robert J. Meder Squadron in his memory.

Lt. Meder's military decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross and Chinese Breast Order of Pao-Ting.

*Presented by Maynard "Doc" Unger*

### **Joyce E. Peters (Class of 1964)**



Colonel Joyce Peters' illustrious military career was highlighted when she became the first female Staff Judge Advocate at Corps Level. Col. Peters was initially commissioned in the Women's Army Corps in 1972 and detailed as a lawyer to the legal branch, The Judge Advocate General's Corps. She was commissioned as a Regular Army officer in the JAGC in 1978. She served on active duty over 22 years as a Judge Advocate officer.

Col. Peters is a graduate of Harvard University and the University

of Michigan Law School. Her military career was marked by many firsts for the JAGC and the Army. Her first assignment was with V Corps in Frankfurt, Germany, where she served as trial counsel, defense counsel, and Chief of Administrative Law. She then attended The Judge Advocate Advance Course graduating in 1977 as the Distinguished Graduate, the first female Army Judge Advocate to attend the resident course and to achieve that honor.

In 1980 Joyce was promoted to Major and reassigned to 2d Infantry Division in Korea where she served first as Chief of Military Justice and then as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. She was the first woman to serve in that position in a forward-deployed Army combat division. In 1981, she became the first female Branch Chief in Defense Appellate Division and in 1982 moved to Military Personnel Branch of Litigation Division in the Office of The Judge Advocate General. Upon promotion to Lieutenant Colonel, she became the first female Branch Chief in Litigation Division. Col. Peters attended the Armed Forces Staff College in 1986 and was the first female Judge Advocate selected for intermediate service school. Graduating as a Distinguished Graduate, she then moved to Fort Lee, Virginia, where she became the first female Staff Judge Advocate for a major U.S. Installation. While there, she obtained a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Richmond with honors.

In 1989, she was reassigned to the Office of Legislative Affairs in the Office of the Secretary of the Army to serve as the Army's first Environmental Legislative Counsel. In 1990, upon promotion to Colonel, she became the first female Chief Legislative Counsel with responsibility for the Army's response to congressional investigations and action on legislative initiatives. She traveled with congressional staff reviewing the Army's response and National Guard preparedness for Operation Just Cause in Panama in 1989. In 1991, Col. Peters was the first female Judge Advocate selected to attend senior service school. She attended the National War College and upon graduation in 1992 was assigned as Staff Judge Advocate of I Corps at Fort Lewis, Washington, the first female Corps Staff Judge Advocate responsible for legal services to then the largest corps in the Army, as well as to Madigan Army Medical Center.

In 1994, the Secretary of the Army selected Col. Peters to be his Senior Military Assistant, an honor never before held by a Judge Advocate or a woman. In 1994 Col. Peters retired. Among the many honors she has received, Col. Peters has been awarded: Distinguished Service Medal, one of the highest military awards not involving combat service, based primarily on her service as a mentor and leader of women in the legal branch; a Legion of Merit with an oak leaf cluster (2 awards), a Meritorious Service Medal with 3 oak leaf clusters (4 awards), an Army Commendation Medal, an Army Achievement Medal, a National Defense Service Medal with an oak leaf cluster (2 awards), two Overseas Service Ribbons, an Army Staff Badge and a Korea Defense Service Medal.

After retiring from the Army, she served for almost 5 years at the Department of Justice in the Office of Legislative Affairs and worked daily with the Attorney General Janet Reno and other senior leadership in the Department. She left there in January 2000 when she became Bar Counsel for the District of Columbia Bar where she was responsible for investigating and prosecuting attorney ethical misconduct and supervised a staff of about

30, including about 12-15 lawyers and support staff. Col. Peters retired from the Bar Counsel in March 2005, applied for and was admitted on motion to the Virginia Bar in February 2006, and began work with Arquilla & Associates, PLC in Alexandria, Virginia.

Col. Peters and her husband Clifford F. Broome ("Frank"), a retired Army armor officer and a retired Dept. of Defense executive, make their home in Arlington, Virginia. They have two Portuguese Water Dogs: Nemo (after Captain Nemo) and Chanel, who keep them very busy.

*Presented by Jim Bonheimer '64*

### **Jack Rupert (Class of 1945)**



loans related activities.

Jack Rupert graduated with a B.A. from Cornell University in 1949 and then from Cornell University Law School in 1951. From college he went on to serve his country in the U.S. Air Force as a First Lieutenant J.A.G. His career growth in the savings and loans industry is nothing short of amazing. Jack's first job was that of a summer teller for The Broadview Savings and Loan Company. He continued to rise through the organization eventually being named Chairman and CEO in 1979. During his career in the banking industry Jack served leadership roles in a vast array of savings and

The length and breadth of his public service activities may be less well-known but are equally as impressive. Throughout the years, Jack Rupert has served his community in so many ways, only a few of which include: Life Trustee Cleveland Zoological Society, Trustee and Vice Chairman Lakewood Hospital, President Lakewood Board of Education, Trustee Musical Arts Association, Life Trustee WVIZ-PBS Ideastream, Board Member Ohio Canal Corridor, Board Member of Audubon Ohio. He has served his alma maters as well. Jack has chaired or co-chaired every LHS Class of 1945 reunion event. For Cornell, Jack is a Life Member of the Dean's Advisory Council, the Cornell Club of Northeast Ohio, and the Cornell University Council. He was among the first recipients of the university's Frank H.T. Rhodes Exemplary Alumni Service Award. Jack has also been an invaluable resource to LHS seniors applying to Cornell.

Jack and his wife Jinny have been married since 1951 and make their home in Lakewood. They have three children: Kristen, Karen & David - all Lakewood alumni.

*Presented by Jean Savage Barth '45*

## **Richard G. Shaffer D.D.S (Class of 1952)**



Richard G. Shaffer graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University, the Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry, and the George Washington University. He entered the U.S. Navy as an intern in 1960.

Dr. Shaffer served as the Commanding Officer of the Naval Regional Dental Center, Great Lakes, Illinois and was selected to Flag rank as a Rear Admiral in 1982. He then held the same post in Norfolk, Virginia, with additional duties as the U.S. Atlantic Fleet Dental Officer. In 1983, Dr. Shaffer became the first Vice Commander of The Naval Medical Command and in 1984 became the first navy dental officer to command a major medical command, The Naval Medical Command, National Capital Region with responsibilities for the President's Hospital at Bethesda, MD, plus healthcare in 5 states. He was also appointed Chief of the Navy Dental Corps.

Dr. Shaffer retired from the Navy in January 1989 with awards including: The Distinguished Service Medal, Three Legions of Merit, The Meritorious Service Medal, The Navy Commendation Medal and two Commendations from the President of the United States. In 1988, Dr. Shaffer was selected Alumnus of the Year by the CWRU School of Dentistry.

After retirement, Dr. Shaffer served 10 years with the International College of Dentists and remains as chairman of the Convocation Committee. He has been honored with: The Otfofy-Okurmura Award, ICD's highest award in 1999; the Gold Medal Award, the Pierre Fauchard Academy highest award; a Master Fellowship from the ICD; and was named a Cabellero for the Bernardo O'Higgins Award from the President of the Republic of Chile. He also serves on the Board of Visitors of the National Museum of Dentistry; as a Trustee and Teacher at the McLean Bible Church in McLean, VA; a Consultant and Visiting Lecturer at the Navy Dental School and is a Red Cross Volunteer at the Naval Hospital, both in Bethesda, MD.

Dr. Shaffer and his wife of 51 years Barbara reside in Potomac, Maryland. They summer at their home on Lake Michigan. They have three sons and nine grandchildren.

*Presented by Barb Shaffer*

## SPORTS HALL OF FAME

### **Jeremy Neal Bare (Class of 1991)**



Jeremy Neal began swimming at an early age. At age 7, Jeremy swam at her first Lakewood Recreation Swim Club meet, less than 24 hours after moving to Lakewood from Reading, PA. While at Lakewood High School, Jeremy set two school records in the Briggs Pool and five records in the new pool. She holds the all-time girls best times in the 200 meter Individual Medley and the 100 meter Breaststroke. She also is second in LHS history in the 200 meter Medley Relay and the 400 meter Freestyle Relay.

Jeremy was a District gold medalist in both the 100 yard Breaststroke and 200 yard Individual Medley. She was also a state medalist in both events. Other honors include All Lake Erie League, All District, All Scholastic, All Ohio and All American. She was a team captain and MVP of the LHS team was honored as Lakewood High School's Female Athlete of the Year in 1989.

Jeremy credits much of her success to her LHS coach Bill Dorsch, and to age group coaches Todd Urban, Bob Sedlak and Jim Stacy. Jeremy joins her late brother Jack, an outstanding baseball pitcher, golfer and swimmer in the Athletic Hall of Fame. She graduated from Miami University in 1995 and has worked for Macy's, Inc. for 13 years. Jeremy, her husband Bill Bare and daughters Elizabeth and Sydney reside in Moreland Hills.

Presented by Coach Bill Dorsch '69

### **Gabe Kovacs (Class of 1961)**



Gabe Kovacs was an all around athlete at Lakewood High School. He was a two way player on the varsity football team at end. He was an excellent outfielder on the JV baseball team which he gave up after his sophomore year to concentrate on basketball. The Ranger basketball team won two LEL titles during his playing tenure. His senior year, Gabe was named a Ranger MVP along with two of his teammates, Scott Lawson and Grant Sherwood, and was the team's leading scorer with 17.1 points per game. In addition, he led the team in field goal percentage and rebound average per game. Gabe was an outstanding student earning membership in Lakewood High's National Honor Society and was awarded a four year academic scholarship to Wittenberg University.

While at Wittenberg, Gabe continued his basketball career playing four years during which Wittenberg won the Ohio Athletic Conference title every year and one year

finished second Nationally in Division III. His senior year, Gabe led Wittenberg in both scoring and rebounding and was named first team all Ohio Athletic Conference.

Academically, Gabe continued his record of achievement as a member of the Dean's List majoring in chemistry. After graduating from Wittenberg, Gabe continued his education at The Ohio State University earning masters degrees in both chemistry and business. Upon graduation, Gabe began a 37 year career with Battelle Industries based in Columbus, Ohio, retiring as Senior VP and Division Manager in 2006. Gabe and his wife, Carolyn, reside in Hilliard, Ohio and have two grown children and two grandsons.

*Presented by Scott Lawson '61*

### **John Mihocik (Coach 1979-1993 & LHS Class of 1962)**



John Mihocik returned to his alma mater to teach and coached the Ranger Golf team. During his tenure, he compiled a very impressive dual and tri-match record of 200-128. Included in this record were five seasons of 20 more wins, six L.E.L. titles and two Northeast Ohio District Championships. In 1983, Coach Mihocik took Lakewood High School's golf team to the State Tournament, the only time this feat has been accomplished in the school's 120 year existence.

Coach Mihocik served the Ohio High School Golf Coaches Association as Vice-President 1984 - 1987, as President 1988 - 1991, and as Past President 1992 - 1995. He also served on the state golf tournament rules committee for 18 years. Coach Mihocik was selected to the Lake Erie District Board #55 Basketball Officials Hall of Fame in 2004, and in May 2008 was inducted into the Ohio High School Golf Coaches Hall of Fame.

Dozens of Coach Mihocik's athletes went on to play intercollegiate golf at all levels including Division 1 play. His love of the sport and enthusiastic leadership style motivated many of his former players to follow in his coaching footsteps. Coach Mihocik believed deeply that golf should be a sport in which honor, fair play, and sportsmanship guide behavior on the course and in the clubhouse. He would insist that his players behave as gentlemanly and courteous in the hallways and classrooms as they did on the course. In addition to his contributions through the LHS golf team, Coach Mihocik coached football for ten years and taught English for 25 years.

*Presented by Brian Wisner*

## STAFF HALL OF FAME

### **Mariann Miller Becks (Class of 1944)**



Mariann Miller Becks was hired in 1964 to be the first swimming pool guard in the city of Lakewood. Nine years later, she was named to coordinate the entire swim instruction program for the Recreation Department by Lakewood Board of Education, post she held until 2002. In 1973, Mariann was named the L-Room Director which also gave her the responsibility of social director for the high school. She supervised students in this social center at the high school and coordinated dances and other activities. Mariann served in this capacity until the 2002-2003 school year.

In 1983, Mariann, together with Mrs. Myrna Pizir, a Lakewood parent of a special needs child, co-founded the special needs Camp-Can-Do Program. The program was held at Madison Park Pool and provided a summer camp experience focused on swimming for special needs children. Their efforts evolved into the Camp-Can-Do and STOP (Satisfaction Through Opportunities Program) which still thrive today. In addition to the camp programs, Mariann helped establish a special needs swim lesson program, which provided access to swim lessons for all children regardless of skills or ability.

Thousands of Lakewood children and their families participated in swimming lessons, camps and other social programs that Mariann founded and served in her 30+ years of service to the Lakewood schools and community. On July 25, 2007 Madison Park Pool was dedicated in a ceremony and renamed Mariann Becks Pool.

*Presented by Teresa Coyne Andreani '82*

### **Pat Fahey**



Pat Fahey was a dedicated teacher and coach for 35 years and spent the last 20 years of his career at Lakewood High School. Pat was a committed teacher to his students in the Marketing Education Program and DECA. During his years at Lakewood High, he established the Students Against Drunk Driving Program (SADD). Each year at prom time, Pat would bring in the mother of a young girl who was killed by a drunk driver. Mr. Fahey believed that if this emotional speech prevented even one student from drinking and driving then the program was a success.

In the classroom Pat's Marketing Education students showed their excellence by competing in state competitions. Each year, without fail, one or more of Mr. Fahey's students reached the state finals. Character and good citizenship was also important in

Mr. Fahey's class. Included in his lessons were daily positive affirmations, "adopt a family" holiday program, and visits from Judge Carroll to reinforce the consequences of bad choices.

Pat also coached football at Lakewood High for all 20 of his years in Lakewood. As the Defensive Coordinator he helped the team win seven L.E.L. titles and four state playoff appearances. Of course, the undefeated season in 1995 which included beating cross-town rival St. Edwards was especially memorable. Coach Fahey believed that if a student came to practices and worked hard, they should enjoy the excitement of being in the game.

*Presented by Patrick Fahey, Jr.*

### **William McNamara**



Bill McNamara was an outstanding teacher, department head, and administrator in the Lakewood City Schools for over 35 years, the entirety of his career. After completing his student teaching at Lakewood High School, Bill was hired to teach social studies. He was a creative teacher who was not only admired by his students but also highly respected by his colleagues. As a result, he was appointed social studies department chairperson where he helped develop a curriculum rich in social involvement, commitment, and creative thinking. The department's offerings, teaching techniques and emphasis on active citizenship served as a model curriculum for other schools.

Mr. McNamara was appointed Assistant Principal in charge of the high school curriculum. In this role, Bill was able to influence and facilitate necessary changes to the curriculum by working collaboratively with the school's department chairpersons and with individual creative teachers who respected him as a leader, educator, and innovator. Bill will always be remembered for his leadership in helping to establish an excellent labor/management climate for the district. He played an important role in establishing the Lakewood Communications Forum which began in the 1970s and continues to meet today. As a testament to his work, the teacher's union and school administration together selected him to serve as the Forum's facilitator for the last five years.

While Bill has been honored repeatedly throughout his career, one of his greatest honors and experiences was when he was selected a National Fulbright Scholar and Exchange Teacher. Bill's smile and laughter, his wit and his great people skills have endeared him to everyone who has had the pleasure of working with him.

*Presented by Vince Barra*