

# Union Springs Academy Alumni Association

Vol. 129 Summer 2024



ALUMNI NEWS, UPDATES, AND INFORMATION

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## ALUMNI WEEKEND 2024



### WEEKEND SPEAKERS

Lynée Stevens Hamm '74  
50 Year Class



Gail Riddick Masondo '69  
55 Year Class



Sam Greene '84  
40 Year Class



### Guest Musical Artists

Point of Grace & Dan Dean

## 60TH ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 20 - 22, 2024

### HONOR CLASSES

50 Year Class - 1974

1944 & 1949	1984 & 1989
1954 & 1959	1994 & 1999
1964 & 1969	2004 & 2009
1974 & 1979	2014 & 2019

### WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

- Friday Night Afterglow Bonfire
- Inspirational Worship Services & Programs
- Sabbath Alumni Banquet Luncheon - In Gymnasium
- Gary Raymond Memorial Basketball Game - Saturday Night
- Sunday Pancake Breakfast, Soccer & Volleyball Games
- Sunday Musical Benefit Concert: Point of Grace & Dan Dean



For more information and to register, visit [UnionSpringsAcademy.org/alumni-weekend](http://UnionSpringsAcademy.org/alumni-weekend)

Our 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Alumni Weekend is coming right up September 20 – 22! It is not too late to plan to be here. This is a year you will not want to miss! Weekend speakers include Sam Greene '84, Chaplain Gail Riddick Masondo '69, and Lynée Stevens Hamm from the 50<sup>th</sup> class of 1974. Tickets are available now for this year's Sunday concert featuring *Point of Grace and Dan Dean* on [www.iTickets.com](http://www.iTickets.com). Point of Grace is a contemporary Christian vocal group singing around the world since the early 1990's. They have won 12 GMA Dove Awards and been nominated ten more beyond! Dan Dean, a member of Phillips, Craig and Dean, has his own solo album releasing this year, and will be opening for the concert For a full schedule on alumni weekend see page 11.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings Alumni,

I hope our ReEchoes finds you well, enjoying your summer months, and making plans for Alumni Weekend this fall.

As Alumni Weekend approaches, I want to thank each of our volunteers who are willing to share their time which makes our Alumni Weekends so successful.

To our Union Springs Academy staff members and students, I wish to thank you all in advance for giving us a warm welcome during Alumni Weekend. We look forward to coming and reliving your high school experiences with our classmates. I've often said that Union Springs Academy is where friendships are forever forged.

We have an outstanding weekend in store, including another benefit concert for the Academy. This year, Point of Grace and Dan Dean are coming to USA to close out Alumni Weekend! To purchase tickets, go to [www.iTickets.com](http://www.iTickets.com) and enter USA Alumni for a special discounted price. All proceeds will benefit the Student Aid Fund.

Reach out, call those old friends, and get yourselves together here on our campus or otherwise. God brought you all together for a reason and He knows the value that a great friendship can have on your life.

Congratulations to the Class of 2024! As each of you takes on this new challenge in your life's growth, we wish you God's blessing. Keep your eyes clearly focused on Christ and He will assist you in keeping your eyes on your goals, whatever they are. You will make a difference in someone's life, guaranteed, as that is always Christ's dream for you.



John Cardinell, '78  
President, USA Alumni Association

Until we meet again, always keep your eyes on Christ.

I hope to see you at Alumni Weekend!



## 2024 Honor Classes List with Class Representatives (CR) and Alumni Officer Liaisons (AOL)

<u>Class Year</u>	<u>CR &amp; AOL</u>
75 Years – 1949-----	Dr. Edward and Addy Sheldon Jeff Hunt
70 Years – 1954-----	Beatrice Horner Genet Janica Kaltsas Caster
65 Years – 1959-----	Retha Wells Rempher Terry Greene Dickerman
60 Years – 1964-----	Richard Wright Judi Bentz Eells
55 Years – 1969-----	Dr. Brian Strayer & Tari Hafner Tibbits Janica Kaltsas Caster
50 Years – 1974----	JoAnn Cooley & Lori Whitens Caraccicolo Penny Gebhard Pagett
45 Years – 1979-----	Virginia Bourne Trecartin & Nancy Hudak Clayburn John Cardinell, Jr.
40 Years – 1984-----	Rob Raney Bill Boyd, Jr.
35 Years – 1989-----	Darrin Caster Ingrid Satelmajer Pelley
30 Years – 1994-----	BJ Conable & Jessica Closson Cobb Penny Gebhard Pagett
25 Years – 1999-----	Stefanie Adams Fraker & Brent Runnals Gerald Greene
20 Years – 2004-----	Danae Caster Tallini John Cardinell, Jr.
15 Years – 2009---	Ross Trecartin & Tim and Stephanie Moore Mitch Strong
10 Years – 2014-----	Johnathan Ryan Jeremy Garlock
5 Years – 2019-----	Mary Htoo Netta Smith Blakes

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW PRINCIPAL



With a deep commitment to fostering both academic excellence and spiritual growth, Timothy Raymond is honored to serve as the new Principal of Union Springs Academy. Bringing over 20 years of experience in educational and pastoral leadership, Mr. Raymond is dedicated to creating a nurturing and inspiring environment for students, faculty, alumni and the broader conference constituents.

He holds a BA in Religion and Secondary Education from Atlantic Union College, completed his master's from Northeastern Seminary, and in recent years finished his MDiv from Andrews University. Mr. Raymond previously served for 14 years at USA as the history teacher and Chaplain, successfully impacting the lives of students for Christ. He then went into pastoral ministry, and now has come back home to USA. Mr. Raymond's love and dedication to the Academy has strongly rooted his family's connection to the school. His grandfather, Silas Raymond, graduated from USA in 1925, along with several other relatives in those beginning years of the school's history. His father, Richard, graduated in 1956. While Mr. Raymond did not have the opportunity to attend USA as a student, his wife, Melanie, '80, and two sons Kyle, '12 and Kurt, '18 are all proud USA alumni.

Mr. Raymond's approach to education is rooted in the belief that every student is uniquely gifted and called to fulfill a purpose, and it is the role of the school to help them discover and develop their God-given talents. In addition to his professional qualifications, Mr. Raymond is actively involved in proclaiming through pen and voice the eternal gospel and the soon coming of Jesus. He is passionate about integrating faith and learning, ensuring that students not only excel academically, but also grow in their relationship with Christ.

Mr. Raymond looks forward to partnering with parents, teachers, and alumni to continue the tradition of excellence at Union Springs Academy, and to lead the school into a bright and promising future!

## DEVOTIONAL

***“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you or forsake you.”*** Deuteronomy 31:6

Wow! Fifty years! That is a long time since 1974 and a lot has happened with many of us, to many of us, and through many of us over the past 50 years. The Bible verse above immediately took hold in my thinking that the promise found there is applicable to us. This was a promise given by God through Moses to Joshua, the one to lead the people of God into the “Promised Land.” Considering this promise, I see a parallel of that Bible moment for Joshua which is like the graduation moment for us at USA. Stick with me and read on, I will explain.

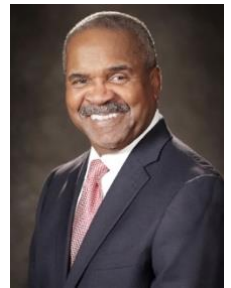
Now, I am not saying that you and I were a Joshua back in the day. Not even close, but Joshua's moment represented a graduation for him. He had matriculated through the school of “Wilderness Academy” for 40 years. He was taught a lot of things academic, spiritual, and practical to help prepare him for this launch. He had encountered daily the ways of Moses, one of the greatest influencers on record. He observed up close and personally what leadership should look like. He recognized the attention to detail that is needed to prepare for the future. He understood the fortitude and resolve required to work with people who were prone to always challenge leadership.

I took from USA those broad themes that have helped me experience what I consider to be a modicum of success. During my matriculation at USA, I observed examples of what good leadership should be. I recognized the importance of attending to the details of life. I understood that working with people, especially God's people, would require resolve and patience. I believe from that day in 1974, and through these experiences, God was speaking to me, whether I realized it or not, and He would be with me no matter what. *“He would never leave me or forsake me.”*

Over the past 50 years, I have fallen short of some things, and I have accomplished some things. I am okay with that because He has stood by His promise, during the difficulties, to never leave me or forsake me. I have had cancer. I have had heart bypass surgery. My wife of 45 years and I have lost infant children. Through all of this, He has never left me or forsaken me. At the same time, I have achieved higher academic degrees. I have ascended from teaching in the classroom to leading at the executive level of education administration. He has never left me or forsaken me. There were times when I chose to leave and forsake Him, but He stayed right there by me until I figured out that His way is best.

Classmates and friends, as we approach the upcoming alumni weekend, reflect on the goodness of God and how He has stuck with you every step of the way, even if you did not realize it. He has never left you or forsaken you. That is what I will bring with me as we reminisce. Hey, I look forward to seeing you this September 20 to 22, 2024, at our USA alma mater, near the “shores of Lake Cayuga where the rippling waters play....”

James Preston ‘JP’ Willis, ‘74  
VP for Education - Southern California SDA Conference



## ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: GRADUATION AND ALUMNI AWARDS

### Congratulations to the Class of 2024!



Zoie Isaacs, '24 receiving the Atlantic Union Conference "Caring Heart" award from Jeremy Garlock, then Principal & current Superintendent of Education, NY Conference.



**Isaiah Crespo - recipient of the THIRD GENERATIONAL MEDAILLON.** His parents are Miguel Crespo class of 1987 and Bonnie Dickerman Crespo class of 1988. His grandparents are Penny Gadway Dickerman and Eugene Francis Dickerman both class of 1959.

**Jessica Cordon - recipient of the FOURTH GENERATIONAL MEDAILLON.** Her mother is Keryn Peck Cordon class of 1985. Her grandparents are Lawrence and Phyllis Caster Peck, both class of 1959. Great grandmother Marion Johnson Caster, class of 1928 and great grandfather Merton Caster class of 1929.

## ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS: PASSION PLAY



Jesus played by Vinicius Barbosa '24



Left: Gabriel played by Shayla Logan '24. Right: God the Father played by Jeremy Franco, '24

## 1972-1976 BONANZA REUNION

Bonanza Reunion 2024 – A Success!  
June 28-30, 2024

Alumni from the classes of 72-76, and Faculty of the Era, were invited and about 35 attended from CA, ID, NY, PA, VA, FL and other states. We had the cafeteria as the “home base” during these dates that coincided with the NY Conference Camp meeting. Sign in and visitation was Friday and Saturday afternoons, and three events were scheduled. A Friday catered Supper, Saturday evening Banquet, and Sunday Farewell Breakfast were well attended, and each venue had excellent food that we all enjoyed.

Two highlights were Saturday afternoon when Dave Foote '73, who must have been the only student to own and use his camera back in the day, shared a carousel of slides. As each photo came up, the people were identified, and names were yelled in unison by our crowd gathered around. Even an elbow, back of a head, or clothing were identified, and a cheer arose for whomever came up with the correct names! There were many laughs, and our brains were exercised with a lot of memories and shared stories. We also gathered around tables with past scrapbooks and photos of other reunions and the Memoria Yearbooks from 72's Freshman year (69) through 76's Senior year.

We acknowledged and remembered our deceased classmates and faculty on a Memorial Board. We've lost many but they are not forgotten. Another theme of our group was that many Bonanza Alumni seem to be moving this year, due to retirements, life choices, and downsizing, and therefore couldn't attend this event. You were all thought of if you didn't come, and you missed a special time together!

Our Bonanza Donation Project raised a total of \$1,855 with \$855 for the Alumni Association's General Fund and \$1,000 for the Student Aid Fund at Union Springs Academy.

We will post more photos on-line and will have the link on the USA Alumni Facebook page, so, please look for this soon.

Until the next Bonanza Reunion,

Your Bonanza Committee:

Linda Nord Ulrich, '75 - Alyce Peters Winkworth, '74

Judy Greenburg-Christopherson, '74 - Lynce Stevens Hamm, '74



**Back Row:** L to R Robin Caster '75, Mary Young-Quiring '73, Blin Richards '75, Dennis Hague '75, Dave Foote '73, Ron Taylor '75, Evan Nudd '74, Steve Roche '74.

**Third row:** Lynce Stevens-Hamm '74, Derrick Dozier '74, Kevin Holman '75, Joyce Greenfield-Brown '75, Sam Mina '73, Linda Nord-Ulrich '75, Ed Runnals '73.

**Second row:** Kevin Phillips '76, Melody Bohnert-Runnals '75, Laurel Wesson-Longo '75, Vicki Farnsworth-Stone '76, Marcia Brown- Toledo (faculty), Judy Greenberg-Christopherson '74, Alyce Peters-Winkworth '74.

**Seated front:** Joan Foote-Fischer '76, Martha Tessier-Olson '74, Sally Wesson-Hafner '73, Deb Lloyd-Foote '73, Jan Hunt-Wall '75.

**Present but not shown:** Steve Galutia '76, Leon Hungerford '74, Ron Doane '72, Malcolm Meacham '73, Bill LaRock '75, & Gloria Blair '75.

# SENIOR PIZZA LUNCHEON AND STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE FEED



USA Alumni Association officers including Netta Smith Blakes '82, Bill Boyd '80, Jeff Hunt '68, and Janica Kaltsas Caster '90 welcomed the Senior Class of 2024 into the Alumni Association with a wonderful pizza luncheon. In attendance were the senior sponsors Sarah and Abraham Navarro, and Craig Gilmore. Emma Hunt '68 (honorary alumna) and Annette Muniz Boyd '80 were also present. These dedicated women are frequent volunteers at alumni events!



Luscious mounds of sun-kissed strawberries and the aroma of fresh baked biscuits greeted alumni at the 7th annual strawberry shortcake feed. Once again, the event was hosted in the cafeteria at Union Springs Academy on the first Sabbath of camp meeting.

A couple of short presentations were given by Janica Caster, the liaison from the academy, and an alumnus herself, where she thanked alumni for their generous support during the past year and provided highlights of this past academic year.

Also, alumnus Bill Boyd shared some of the exciting plans for the 11th annual Renovation Week being held in July.

Each year increased numbers of alumni and their families come to enjoy the dessert and fellowship.

We look forward to seeing you next year!

~Leeann Knowlton Fairbanks, '81



Shayla Logan '24 presenting John Schumacher-Hardy '86 with an autographed picture from the USA Les Chanteurs & Band members. These groups stayed at the College Town Inn in Lancaster, MA during their Spring Tour across Southern New England in May 2024. We greatly appreciated John's hospitality to our students. The lodging and entertainment were spectacular!

~Janica Kaltsas Caster '90

# CAMPUS PROJECTS: RENOVATIONS WEEK



Theme: Side by Side, Cemented in Christ!

What an amazing group of volunteers we were privileged to host and work alongside to better our Union Springs Academy and elementary schools! A group of 60 selfless volunteers came from all over the United States and Brazil!

This particular group of volunteers were on fire for the Lord, eager to put all their might towards the projects put before them.

The Administration building and Boys Dorm's old sidewalks were broken up and removed. Forms were made, cement was poured, and new sidewalks were completed!

Much was accomplished in the Greenhouse to prepare it for growing food for our schools. There was landscaping updated around the campus by both dorms and the Ad Building, and a retaining wall was built by the Boy's Dorm parking lot.

The back of the cafeteria entrance was cleaned of weeds and trees growing in window wells. Windows were washed around the entire campus.

Painting was done in faculty homes, the girl's dorm, and the ad building. Carpet was pulled up in the elementary school to ready for new flooring that is being installed. Volunteers stayed one night past 10:00 p.m., skipping supper to complete this project. Their determination was unwavering.

Many volunteers helped in the kitchen to prepare and serve meals for everyone. A lot of hours were spent in the heat of the kitchen preparing food and helping to clean after meals. Their help was such a blessing!

They worked tirelessly and did their very best at any task presented to them. Even with temperatures in the sweltering 90's and high humidity, not a complaint was heard!

Among the group was a chef who graced us with her talents and prepared supper one evening. The meal was made from scratch with fresh ingredients and was well received by all-she even included vegan alternatives!

How amazing it was to see the hands of God working together so selflessly and tirelessly on our behalf.

Over \$40,000 was raised to make our matching gift challenge a total of \$83,000!!!! We cannot express our gratitude adequately for all the blessings we have received through this yearly event and for the generous hearts that have made it a success.

Truly the presence of God was with us all week manifested through the hearts and sacrificial giving of these dear souls. We made new friends, greeted some old ones, and grieved the absence of former volunteers who could not make it this year. We bonded in Christian love as servants for God, cementing our friendships for when we meet our Heavenly Father for eternity!

May God continue to bless all who helped to make another Renovations Week a huge success!

~Sue Ballweber Reed, '81  
USA Cafeteria Asst. Director



USA faculty and staff celebrating another successful year of fundraising! Ray Halbritter '68 and Fred Parker '68 presented a check for \$47,000 from the Ray Halbritter Charity Golf Classic; \$40,000 for the Renovations Week Projects and \$7,000 for Student Aid scholarships.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ALUMNI WEEKEND - PLAN TO ATTEND!

We have been planning a fantastic fall Alumni Weekend for you and we hope you will come 'home' and be a part of the celebration! More information will be updated regularly on the USA Alumni Facebook group. Join today if you are not already in the group. Lodging information, meal reservations, and other details are also on the school website on the Alumni tab. Camp Meeting cabins will be available for those who regularly rent them at camp meeting.

## PHILLIPS CRAIG, & DEAN IN CONCERT – SEPTEMBER 22

Tickets to the *Phillips, Craig & Dean* benefit concert during Alumni Weekend are on sale now at [www.iTickets.com](http://www.iTickets.com)! Get yours **NOW** at a special alumni price of \$30! Don't miss this inspiring event! (Originally, the a cappella group, Take 6, was scheduled to come. Due to unforeseen circumstances they are not able to be here this year, but will be a part of our future concerts here at USA.)

## TREASURER VACANCY

We are still looking for someone to fill our treasury position. If you are interested or know someone who is, please reach out to John Cardinell, Jr. at [USCGHighseassailor@gmail.com](mailto:USCGHighseassailor@gmail.com).

## MEMORABILIA WANTED!

If you have any USA memorabilia or old yearbooks that you would like to donate, please bring them to alumni weekend for the USA Museum. We are especially looking for the years 1936, 1937 and 1938. Please contact USA's archivist, Ed Runnals, at [vtrunnals@gmail.com](mailto:vtrunnals@gmail.com) to communicate any donations.

## FOR SALE

The centennial history book, *Our USA We'll Ever Love Thee*, by Dr. Brian Strayer, is only \$25. You can purchase your copy at Alumni Weekend, or order through the website and we will ship it to you! Dr. Strayer will be autographing books throughout the weekend.



Visit the website [unionspringsacademy.org](http://unionspringsacademy.org) and click **Donate Here** to order from the Alumni Association tab. There are also copies available of the *Centennial Memoria Yearbook* for \$25.

Weekend guest speaker and author, Gail Riddick Masondo '69, will be autographing her book entitled, *Home*, during alumni weekend.

The **Waymarks**, our own USA Alumni recording artists, have CD's and USB's available for purchase. To order, contact Jeff Hunt, '68 at 315-264-7215 or at [jeffhuntministries@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffhuntministries@hotmail.com). Proceeds will benefit the Alumni Association.

## BRICK CAMPAIGN

Looking for a unique way to support the Alumni Association and the Academy?

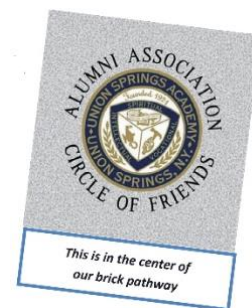
Do you have a special memory, class, or individual you'd like to honor?

You can do both with one brick purchase! For just \$75 you can have a brick engraved and added to our Circle of Friends walkway.

Your \$75 will be divided among the following accounts:

- \$18.75 (25%) Alumni Expenses
- \$15.00 (20%) Alumni Scholarship Fund
- \$24.00 (32%) Special Projects
- \$17.25 (23%) Campus Beautification

Please consider supporting each of these important funds by ordering your own special brick. Additional details are available by calling the Development Office at USA (315-889-7314) or via the Alumni tab on the school website ([unionspringsacademy.org](http://unionspringsacademy.org)).



## HELP WANTED

**Website Manager needed to organize alumni information and add yearbooks to our website.**

**This is not a high-tech position but one involving basic computer skills.**

**Contact any Alumni Officer to apply.**



# ALWAYS REMEMBERED – NEVER FORGOTTEN

Mary Gilchrist Atwell '51 ~ November 23, 2023



# ALUMNI FINANCES

## Established Alumni Scholarships with Union Springs Academy

Name of Scholarship	Balance		Description
	Previous	Current	
Class of '55 Scholarship:	\$450.00	\$550.00	A financial need-based scholarship for USA students started by the class of 1955 at their 50 <sup>th</sup> reunion.
Class of '61 Lombard & Puebla Scholarship:	\$2,435.00	\$7,535.00	For USA graduates going into musical or pastoral ministry. Scholarships are sent to the college of their choice. This scholarship was created in the loving memory of Carl Lombard '61 and Bill Puebla '61.
Lucille Cardinell Nursing Scholarship:	\$2,100.00	\$2,100.00	For USA graduates who have chosen a nursing career. This scholarship was created in the loving memory of Lucille Cardinell by her family.
John B. Foote '68 Memorial Scholarship:	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	For a 10 <sup>th</sup> grade boy who resides in Capman Hall, has a strong work ethic, and has made a positive impact on USA. This scholarship was created in the loving memory of John Foote '68.
Alumni Generational Scholarship:	\$738.24	\$738.24	For USA students who are children or grandchildren of an alumnus.
Gary Raymond '66 Memorial Scholarship:	\$500.00	\$500.00	For USA 11 <sup>th</sup> grade students who excel in athletics and sportsmanship. This scholarship was given in the loving memory of Gary Raymond '66.
Spirit Award Scholarship:	\$1,157.62	\$1,182.62	For USA 11 <sup>th</sup> grade students who show a significant interest and ability in either history or writing, or who play a major role in supporting the institution. This scholarship was created from the proceeds of Dr. Strayer's Centennial book, <i>Our USA We'll Ever Love Thee</i> .
 Gail Riddick Loress Masondo '69 Scholarship:		\$9,350.00	For USA female students of color who show leadership potential in school, church, community or civic spheres of service. This new scholarship will be presented to a student for the first time at the 2024 Alumni Weekend.
 Class of '88 Music Scholarship:		\$1,250.00	For a USA 10 <sup>th</sup> through 12 <sup>th</sup> grade student. A minimum of \$500 scholarship will be awarded each year to a student who shows interest and excels in music, one whose musical ability impacts the school and helps strengthen Union Springs Academy's music program.

Thank you for your giving over the past three months, which is reflected in the financial report above. Your monetary support to a scholarship listed above is valued. An easy way to give is to click "[Donate Here](#)" on the Union Springs Academy website or mail a check to the academy at the address listed below.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Accounts	Previous Balance	Current Balance
General Expenses Fund	\$23.20	\$1,444.25
Campus Projects Fund	\$1,456.20	\$1,456.20
Communications Fund	\$534.15	\$3,207.90

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$  
**Help Wanted**  
 \$ We need someone to serve as Treasurer. The work can be done remotely and the duties are light. \$  
 \$ No degree or special training is required. \$  
 \$ Please contact any alumni officer to apply. \$  
 \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

# HONOR CLASSES

## Where Are These Alumni Now?

Below is a list of some honor class alumni who we have lost touch with. We would like to reconnect with them and let them know about the fall reunion. Please let us know if you have any information on the below alumni by emailing Gerald Greene, our Membership Secretary, at [alumnimembership@unionspringsacademy.org](mailto:alumnimembership@unionspringsacademy.org). Thank you!

### **Class of 1944:**

Walter Jordan  
Noreen Kennison  
Howard Larkin  
June Oles  
Arlene Parker  
Helen Perry  
Shirley Searle-Polack

### **Class of 1949:**

Hilda Barbis Dryer  
Donald Goodness  
Joyce Menhennett  
Margaret Prescott  
Delores Smith Thorton

### **Class of 1954:**

Loretta Kysar Armistead  
Patricia Mote Prest  
Wilma Thomas  
Loretta Wade  
Paul Whittaker, Jr.

### **Class of 1959:**

Raymond Goodness

### **Class of 1964:**

Marilyn Gravatt Pizziferri  
Cheryl "Cherry" Gregory  
Roger VanOrnum  
John Wallraff  
Beverly Wethey  
Sue Wiles Walters  
Donna Willard  
Dave Wright  
Candyce Young Reynolds

### **Class of 1969:**

James Christianson  
Marilee Gibbous Levinson

### **Class of 1974:**

Melta Johnson

### **Class of 1979:**

Dwagne Haskins  
John Pearsall  
Frank Sheldon

### **Class of 1984:**

Valarie Baggett Peters  
Todd Hudak  
Ruth Poyuzina  
Dawn Robert Whitehurst  
Sonya Suckert Beisiegel

### **Class of 1989:**

Tim Burpee  
Tassy Johnson  
Rhonda LaSalle  
Lymary Munoz Dunkley  
Jennifer Perry  
Jill Reiss  
Sarah Tolles

### **Class of 1994:**

James Bombard  
Lyn Czerwonka  
Laura DeCarvalho  
Renee Dupraw  
Jessica Ela  
Aislinn Landstrom  
Renee LaFrance  
Karissa Lee  
Peter Sax  
Emir Torres  
Amy Wade

### **Class of 1999:**

Walta Belai  
Kerek Belizaire  
Allyn Binns

### **Class of 1999 (cont'd)**

Jenny Bordenuick  
LeShaunette Carlyle  
Jennifer Coleman  
James Collins  
Marie Darrah  
Nathan Dinsley  
Alicia Griffin  
David Hall  
Aliya Hardtman  
Carey Jemine  
Lori Kleinschmidt-Rodriguez  
Lysandra McLean  
Mary Oyedijo  
Igdaly Peralta  
Joseph Rodela  
Jared Spano

### **Class of 2004:**

Katie Lewis

### **Class of 2009:**

Silvia Bernard  
James Rockwell  
Kelly Wolfe  
Nathaniel Wolfe

### **Class of 2014:**

Solomaa Bernard  
Darle Binns  
Lexi DeCoteau  
Ashley Halbritter  
William Levy  
Catherine Morris  
Mairely Rodriguez  
Lah Say  
Sara Thompson

### **Class of 2019:**

Gianna Smith

# ALUMNI WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS AND MIRACLES STORY CORNER

## 60TH UNION SPRINGS ACADEMY ALUMNI WEEKEND

### SEPTEMBER 20-22, 2024 WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS



#### FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 20TH

- 3:30 PM: Alumni Welcome/Check-In - Church
- 4:00 PM: USA Campus Tour - from Center of Campus
- 5:30 PM: Supper - Cafeteria
- 7:00 PM: Evening Vespers: Speaker Sam Greene '84 - Church  
\*Followed by Bonfire Afterglow & Refreshments



#### SATURDAY - SEPTEMBER 21ST

- 9:00 AM: Alumni Check-In/Registration - Welcome Tent at Pavilion
- 10:00 AM: Sabbath School: Chaplain Gail Riddick-Masondo '69 - Pavilion
- 10:45 AM: Roll Call: All Alumni & Former Staff
- 11:00 AM: Worship Service: Speaker Lynce Stevens-Hamm '73 - Pavilion
- 11:00 AM: Children's Church - Church Fireplace Room
- 12:30 PM: Honor Class Pictures - Pavilion
- 1:00 PM: Alumni Banquet Luncheon - Gym
- 1:00 PM: Honor Classes Visitation in Reserved Classrooms -All Afternoon
- 3:00 PM: Campus Tours - Start at Student Lounge
- 4:00 PM: Musical Selections, Scholarship Presentations, & Military Recognition - Church  
\*Followed by a reception in the foyer
- 7:00 PM: Food Concessions & Ice Cream Social - Gym  
Gary Raymond Memorial Basketball Game - Gym  
Half-Time Entertainment Show - Gym  
Alumni Authors Book Signings & USA Merch Store - Ad Building

#### SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 22ND

- RSVP HERE!
- 10:00 AM: Pancake Breakfast & Annual Business Mtg. - Cafeteria
  - 10:30 AM: Alumni vs. USA Eagles Soccer Game - Soccer Field
  - 11:00 AM: Volleyball Pick Up Games - Gym
  - 1:00 PM: Drawing and Painting Classes - Ad Building
  - 4:00 PM: Point of Grace & Dan Dean Benefit Concert - Pavilion  
\*Purchase tickets on [www.itickets.com](http://www.itickets.com)



To RSVP for the weekend and order meal tickets, scan the QR code. You can also visit [unionspringsacademy.org](http://unionspringsacademy.org) or call 315-889-7314.

#### Miracles Along the Way

This one happened at USA. My son, Ronald, was a student at USA 1988-1989. Born with a hearing deficit, he wore hearing aids from the age of six. We chained them, glued them, all but welded them to his frail little body. As responsible as he was, we experienced a couple of close calls. Riding a horse in a thirty-acre field, he lost a hearing aid. Some would call it a coincidence that we found that hearing aid. Our family considers it a *miracle*. That experience was not nearly as impressive as what Ronald encountered one morning in the boy's dorm at USA. He could not find one of his hearing aids. He called home a bit concerned, and I got on the phone with John Foote, '68, the boys dean at the time. They had already searched Ron's room and all of the places he had been that morning. John said, "I'm going to go out and look in the dumpster. Who knows?" John said, "I'll go look." The story could stop right here. I choke up when I think of John Foote.

Knowing we serve a God who cares about hearing aids because without them, quality of life was significantly impeded for Ron. Knowing we serve a God who 11 years earlier put a man at USA who would care enough to get into a dumpster and look for a hearing aid for one of the boys. Knowing we serve a God who performs *miracles*.

Yes, he found that hearing aid in a dumpster full of a week's worth of garbage. And thirty years later I saw John Foote at Camp Meeting. The first thing I said was, "John, the hearing aid." He said, "I know."

*Miracles.*

~Submitted by Paul Gebhard, father of the late Ronald Gebhard, class of 1992

## NOTICE

If there is an asterisk \* next to your name on the mailing label, we need your email address. Please send your email address to [alumnimembership@unionspringsacademy.org](mailto:alumnimembership@unionspringsacademy.org)

We want to continue sharing miracle stories that alumni have experienced. Please send your stories to our editor at [pjadams73@windstream.net](mailto:pjadams73@windstream.net)

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