

Unatego Alumni Association News

Fall 2021



Issue 13

Letter from the President

I want to thank you all for your support of our association. It has been an unusual and difficult time recently, but we were fortunate to hold our annual all-class reunion on July 16 and 17. The celebration was a great success, with more than 100 alumni and their guests attending events at the Long River Inn, Unadilla and at The O at 112 restaurant, Otego. Learn more inside this edition.

Also in this issue, you will find content highlighting Unatego athletics and academics, association membership, the UAA online store and more.

As we near the end of 2021, our association Board of Directors is looking forward to next year, at which time the board will revisit its 10-point strategic plan to further enhance activities and school and community outreach. The focus will be on increasing membership and enriching the association's relationship with Unatego students, staff and communities.

I encourage you all to visit our online store as the holiday season approaches. Visit unategoalumnigear.itemorder.com. Also find "Unatego Alumni" on Facebook to connect with other alumni and stay informed of activities and events related to the association.

Enjoy this 13th issue of our newsletter, and I hope to meet you at one of our upcoming events.

Keith Bachman, Class of '68

President

"In the end, it's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years." -- Abraham Lincoln

Our Board

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Superintendent's Letter

By Dr. David Richards

Following the spring 2020 school closures, and the ensuing uncertainty of remote and hybrid instruction, the Unatego staff spent summer planning how best to create as close to a normal educational experience as possible for all students. So far, the results have exceeded expectations!

All students returned to full-time, in-person instruction on Sept. 9 and, except for a power outage at the Elementary School that month, all three buildings have remained open. Students and staff have done their part to keep our school community healthy and safe, as our layered approach to COVID mitigation proves effective. As mandated by New York State, ALL persons entering a school building MUST wear an appropriate face mask at all times, except when eating or drinking.

Although it has taken some adjustment, by October and the time of writing, students and staff have settled into a routine that, with the exception of masks and social distancing, resembles that of pre-pandemic years. Due to federal grants and state aid, we have added several staff members to assist in the transition, including a school social worker, a school resource officer and several academic intervention staff. We offered a summer program, with academic and enrichment activities, and it was a spectacular success. We plan to have an expanded program again this summer to address any learning loss attributed to the pandemic.

All traditional fall sports have been offered, and the student athletes have remained healthy. Our girls' soccer team recently won the MAC League Championship and our merged Franklin-Unatego boys' team just captured the Tri-Valley League Championship. Our volleyball and football teams have been competitive, and we plan on offering an array of winter and spring sports this year. Physical education and music classes are also full-time, in-person this year, with steps being taken to ensure student safety.

Extracurricular activities are back, too. The Cue and Curtain Drama Club once again presented a fall musical. Mary Poppins debuted Friday and Saturday, Nov. 5, followed by a Sunday matinee performance on Nov. 7.

Band and chorus have been practicing and will be performing in-person concerts throughout the year. Our buildings are once again open for outside groups to use. Due to safety precautions, we have yet to hold our annual open houses, but hope to soon. And our recently approved capital project remains on track to commence Phase 1 in spring 2022.

Although there have been a few bumps in the road, the 2021-'22 school year at Unatego has been a resounding success. Our Spartan community has pulled together to ensure that we can keep our schools open to full-time, in-person instruction and for that, we are grateful. If everyone continues to follow the safety protocols in our plan, we expect that our buildings will remain open for the rest of the school year as we continue adapting to the "new normal."

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At Our Online
Unatego Alumni Store



<https://unategoalumnigear.itemorder.com>

Unatego Alumni Association Membership Form

Name (include maiden name): _____

Mailing

Address: _____

Email

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Annual MEMBERSHIP Fee/person \$10.00 _____

Paid by Check _____ or Paid with Cash _____

Lifetime MEMBERSHIP Fee \$250.00 _____

Paid by Check _____ or Paid with Cash _____

Additional Donation for Scholarship Fund _____

Paid by Check _____ or Paid with Cash _____

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memo should be Alumni Dues

Would you like to be contacted to join a committee or be a class captain?

YES _____ NO _____

*Mail this completed form and your check made payable to **Unatego Alumni Association***

To:

Betsy Shultis, 7 Diane Drive, Otego, NY 13825

UNATEGO ALUMNI CLASS CAPTAINS' GUIDE

Roles and Responsibilities of the Class Captain:



The class captain is the class leader, contact person, reunion organizer and resource for their class. You must be a member of the Unatego Alumni Association to be a class captain.

As a class captain, you are responsible for maintaining contact with members of your class. Class captains must communicate information to fellow class members, help them participate in class events and facilitate member activity within the Unatego Alumni Association. It is recommended that you seek the assistance of one or more of your class members as co-captains to help organize your reunion and keep in touch with members of your class.

Reunion Planning

Twelve months is adequate time to prepare for your reunion and be certain that everything is in place to ensure its success. We recommend that you hold your class reunion event during the Unatego All Class Reunion weekend, the third weekend of July. This allows your class members to partake of the activities already established by the association, including the Friday night meet-and-greet, a Saturday dinner dance and tours of the Unatego Middle-High School building on Sunday.

Helpful ways to begin planning a reunion include searching Google Maps (to locate accommodations, restaurants and places of interest in our area), compiling contact information for such places and finally searching for classmates using yearbooks and social media.

Resources and Contact Information

UAA email address: unategoalumniassociation@gmail.com

Facebook group: Unatego Alumni Association

Class of 1974 Enjoys Returned Reunion



Back row: Kerry Fallot, Russ Southard ,

Dale Young; front: Diane Beers Coe

UAA All-Class Reunion 2021

This year we were fortunate to hold our All-Class Reunion after a year's absence. Gatherings at two venues, the Long River Inn on Friday and the O at 112 on Saturday, were well attended and enjoyable. We are already considering ways to enhance the activities and include at least one more venue to hold gatherings next year.

The above Class Captains' Guide offers information about how you can organize your class's reunion for 2022 and beyond. It was nice for members of the Board of Directors who attended to meet friends new and old and enjoy conversations, catch up and, in some cases, make plans to continue relationships with fellow Spartans.

The Unatego Alumni Store



*Check Out
Our Great Gift Items*



A sample of our store items



*Superb quality
Great selection
Customizing available (for an
additional cost)
Choice of colors and sizes
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Store Link:

<https://unategoalumnigear.itemorder.com/sale>

Don't forget: Find us on Facebook at "Unatego Alumni Association"

GROWING UP A SPARTAN

By Chad Angellotti



I was walking through the halls of what is now Unatego Elementary, once called Unadilla Elementary, about two years ago during my children's open house. Walking past the main office, I look to my right, and there on the wall is a picture of my uncle, Ron Hull, once a principal of the Unadilla Elementary School. The picture is of him and other teachers and volunteers: parents in the community coming together on a sunny day to construct a then-new playground. They look as though they've put in a hard day's work but are satisfied, because they know their efforts will benefit Unatego's little Spartans.

I guess that makes me second-generation Spartan, by blood and occupation. I have been a Spartan since kindergarten in 1985/86. I graduated in 1998 and went to Castleton State College, a small college in rural Vermont. I visited once and, when I learned their school colors were green and white and their mascot was the Spartan, I didn't give it a second thought.

Being a Spartan has always felt like home. It just made sense. Spartans were some of the fiercest warriors in history, who also prided themselves on taking care of their community. I remember when the movie "300" came out and, at the time, I was coaching JV soccer at Unatego; I made sure our team chant going onto the soccer field sounded just like an army of Spartans.

Declaring yourself a Spartan is a right, one we all gain as students and community members of the Unadilla/Wells Bridge/Otego communities. Spartans carry themselves with a sense of pride we would like to think sets us apart from other school districts. Spartans don't give up and our commitment to school and community is strong.

Now, I'm bringing a third generation of Spartans along for the ride. Two of my sons attend Unatego Elementary and my third is headed there next year. This brings a certain joy to my life. It's the kind of joy that comes from feeling pride, commitment and a sense of being connected to something bigger than yourself.

To my children, I'm hopeful that they will one day look back at our little community and see the beauty of its simplicity. Growing up a Spartan is to know about the "little" things that make a big difference. When Spartans pass each other on Route 7, we give a wave; when a student-athlete or team from our school goes the extra mile, we rally and give them a proper send-off and welcome home, complete with fire engines; when you're driving around and you go to park your car, and the SUV next to you has a Spartan head, you feel a little bit at home, even when you're not.

Being a Spartan raising Spartans is an honor. Seeing children raised in the community in which you grew up is a privilege that not a lot of people get. Being a Spartan parent means that I get to contribute to the greatness that is Unatego and ensure that my kids have a bright future in the community. So many of us who grew up here are now giving back and setting a tone for future generations to also give back.

We all hope that one day a second, third or further generation is writing a similar article about the greatness that is "growing up a Spartan," perhaps after they just got done installing a new playground.



Above left: Brayden and Carter Smith flank Parker Angellotti (center). Above: Spartan Chad Angellotti kneels in the center front row.



Unatego Hall of Distinction

I. PURPOSE

The Unatego Central School Hall of Distinction was established to:

- honor Unatego Central School graduates who have distinguished themselves through recognition, honor, and distinction during their lives.
- identify role models for the current students of Unatego Central School.
- make a connection to the District's history for the current students of Unatego Central School.
- provide public awareness of the successes of Unatego Central School graduates.

II. LOCATION

A public display of plaques honoring each of the inductees will be maintained on a wall near the auditorium in the Unatego Jr. Sr. High School building. Each year's new inductee plaques will be on the wall opposite the auditorium. Plaques of previously honored inductees will be permanently displayed on the wall opposite the superintendent's office. The District's website will be used to publicize the Unatego Central School Hall of Distinction.

III. INDUCTION AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Candidates for nomination for the Unatego Hall of Distinction must have graduated from Unadilla Central School, Otego Central School, or Unatego Central School. Any waivers must be unanimously agreed upon by the Selection Committee. To be eligible for consideration and induction, the individual must have demonstrated noteworthy or outstanding achievement in any of the following categories:

- A. Leadership
- B. Community, National, or International Service
- C. Academics
- D. Arts
- E. Athletics
- F. Professional Accomplishments

Please note: An induction ceremony honoring Ilse Jenouri, '83, and Joshua Greenman, '03, is being tentatively scheduled for this winter, as the association awaits further guidance regarding indoor gatherings

Unatego High School Hall of Distinction Nomination Form

YOUR INFORMATION

DATE _____

Name _____ Class Year (if applicable) _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone No. _____ Email _____

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name _____ Class Year _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone No. _____ Email _____

Please provide as much detail as possible for your nomination. Feel free to attach ***copies*** of newspaper articles, certificates, or any additional supportive documents. Please do **NOT** submit originals as they will not be returned.

Return completed form to:

Hall of Distinction Chairperson
Unatego High School
2641 State Highway 7
Otego, NY 13825

Or email completed form to:

UnategoHOD@Unatego.stier.org

Deadline for submitting nominations is January 31. Nominations received after this date will be reviewed the following year.

The Unatego Alumni Association would like to recognize the 1970 Unatego "Green Machine" Spartans on its Pioneer League Championship led by Coach Gerald Green. This is the first team to win a championship on the still unnamed high school football field.

The 1971 yearbook dedicated the sports section of the Ye Unatego to, and I quote, "A man whose value to the Athletic Department to our school has been immeasurable, Mr. Gerald Green. He has fulfilled his last year as football coach by leading our team to victory in the Pioneer League Championship. The 'Green Machine,' as the Spartans came to be known, surpassed every team last season."

The team went 7-0 handily beating every opponent, and outscoring them 230-30. Coach Green left his traditional single-wing offense and adopted the power 1 offense that proved to be a hard offense to stop. The defense was aggressive and held off most drives to give the ball back to the offense. A total team effort for this well-disciplined football team.

Champion Team Reord:

Walton	-----	0 -- 47
Harpursville	-----	0 -- 26
Hancock	-----	0 -- 39
B-G	-----	6 -- 38
Afton	-----	6 -- 22
Oxford	-----	12 -- 40
Deposit	-----	6 -- 18

Unatego Green Machine is Pioneer Champion

(article from 1970 newspaper)

Unatego's fine football season has to be accredited to a whole team effort. All the mechanisms of the Green Machine were in fine working order.

Led by Captain Jim Hall, a fine triple-threat high school football player (run, pass and kick) as well as his team-leading defensive statistics; Captain Dave Hendrickson, who was just outstanding with eight yards-plus per carry and electrifying runs, breaking tackle after tackle; and Captain Scott Herring, who was the mastermind on the field, quarterbacking the team and doing an excellent job of play selection, ball handling and defensive halfback.

Joe Hurlburt was made an honorary captain for his leadership. His blocking at the guard position, as well as his defensive work at the middle guard, was outstanding.

Steve Beers, the other back, was called on in the tight situations for short yardage and came through brilliantly. He was runner-up in the defensive statistics.

Terry Smallin's sure hands caught passes several times in key situations and his outstanding work as a defensive end, along with Tom Dalton, kept the opponents from running our ends with much success. Tom also did a tremendous job at center.

Lynn O'Dell, guard, Butch Wormuth, tackle, and Elmer Johnson, tackle, were the big three in the middle of the line, marking holes to help the backs through. Their work as a defensive tackles kept the opposition's statistics in the lower brackets.

Wayne Beadle improved greatly during the season and worked his way into the defensive starting unit at tackle for the first few games.

Jeff Shultis did a very good job as an offensive end with his blocking. He took over the position when Mike Hall was injured. Mike had proven himself a tough blocker and a fine tackler in the first game.

Gary Washburn was always there in the clutch as a defensive halfback as he picked off enemy passes. He and Jerry Hall did a good job as backup men in the offensive backfield.

Mike Sommer filled in very well as a defensive end in the key games in the end of the season, as injuries could have been a factor.

Bill Holowacz was an able backup man at the offensive end. Doug Wilber, Rod Camp, Ron Kane and Gary Carson were called upon in tough situations as backup men in the front line and came through time and time again.

Mike Burns became a tough-hitting lineman in a short time, as this was his first season.

Dick Puffer directed the prep team. Those are the boys who ran the opponent's plays. On his team were Doug Gage, Russ Southard, Terry Mroczkowski, George Lundin, Victor Acosta, Doug Blakelock, Rhett Hill, Kevin Spracklen and Allen Yager in the line. Pete Barnhart, Jim Jordan and Steve Jurash made up the backfield. These boys did a commendable job every Monday afternoon in their scrimmages with Unatego opponents.

Managers Philip Baumes, Dale Carmichael, Larry White and Donald Wood must be mentioned for their jobs that are so necessary.

In order to make it all work, there must be some able assistants, which we had in coaches Dan Parsons and Bob Strom. Their work with segments of the team kept the parts in place and operating efficiently.

Varsity Football



BOTTOM ROW: Manager: Toby Baumes, Joe Hurlburt, Steve Beers, Elmer Johnson, Tom Dalton, Dave Hendrickson, Scott Herring, Jim Hall, Lynn Odell, Butch Wormuth, Terry Smallin, Steve Shultis, Manager: Larry White.

TOP ROW: Manager: Donnie Wood, Rodney Camp, Doug Wilbur, Mike Burns, Ron Kane, Wayne Beadle, Bill Hollowaca, Mike Sommer, Gary Carson, Gary Washburn, Jerry Hall, Coach Parsons, Coach Strom, Coach Green, Manager: Dale Carmichael.

Unatego Athletics: Varsity Football

Because not all team sports photos were available at the time of publication, look for a special "mini" winter edition of the UAA newsletter, highlighting fall and winter sports & the Drama Club's fall musical!



No. 2 Shea Barber is seen running in with his touchdown against Unadilla Valley.



Above: Spartan Coach Frank Microni gives his QB some pointers during a game. Right: No. 3 Logan Utter is pictured after a touchdown against Unadilla Valley. Below: Shea Barber runs the ball in a recent game versus Moravia.



Unatego Athletics: Varsity Girls' Soccer



At home vs. Chenango Forks, clockwise: Junior Kylie Mussaw is seen taking the ball up the field; alongside her is senior Annabel Rommer. Senior, No. 18 Hannah Brandow, is pictured taking charge of the ball. Senior, No. 9 Tatum Codington, passes in a recent game. The team returns to the line, following a goal.



From left at a Schoharie tournament: Sophomore, No. 10 Bailey McCoy, is seen getting ready to pass the ball during a recent tournament at Schoharie. Senior, No. 4 Alexa Lucia, gets the ball out of goal range to take it up the field.

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