



# the Alumni Connection

*News & Information for Ticonderoga High School Alumni and Friends*

February 2009  
Vol. 6 Issue 1

## From the President

In these tough economic times your help is needed more than ever. The cost of attending college is escalating and aid for students diminishing. We ask you to donate to the Ticonderoga Alumni Association Scholarship Fund for the first time, to continue as a donor to the fund, or even to consider increasing your donation. Future Ticonderoga graduates need your help.

We are especially concerned about continuing the current level of our annual scholarship allocations. In the first three years of our scholarship, awards have averaged more than \$11,300 annually.

Following our recent affiliation with Dollars for Scholars (see adjoining article), our graduates have an even bigger opportunity to receive money for college because of Scholarship America's Collegiate Partners Program. Approximately 20 postsecondary institutions in New York alone will match our scholarship awards.

The excellent quality of education at Ticonderoga High School continues. More and more of our students are receiving the opportunity to attend outstanding colleges across the country. Please help keep the dream of attending college alive for Ticonderoga students.

Joyce Gallant Cooper '59  
President

## Dollars for Scholars Coming to Ticonderoga

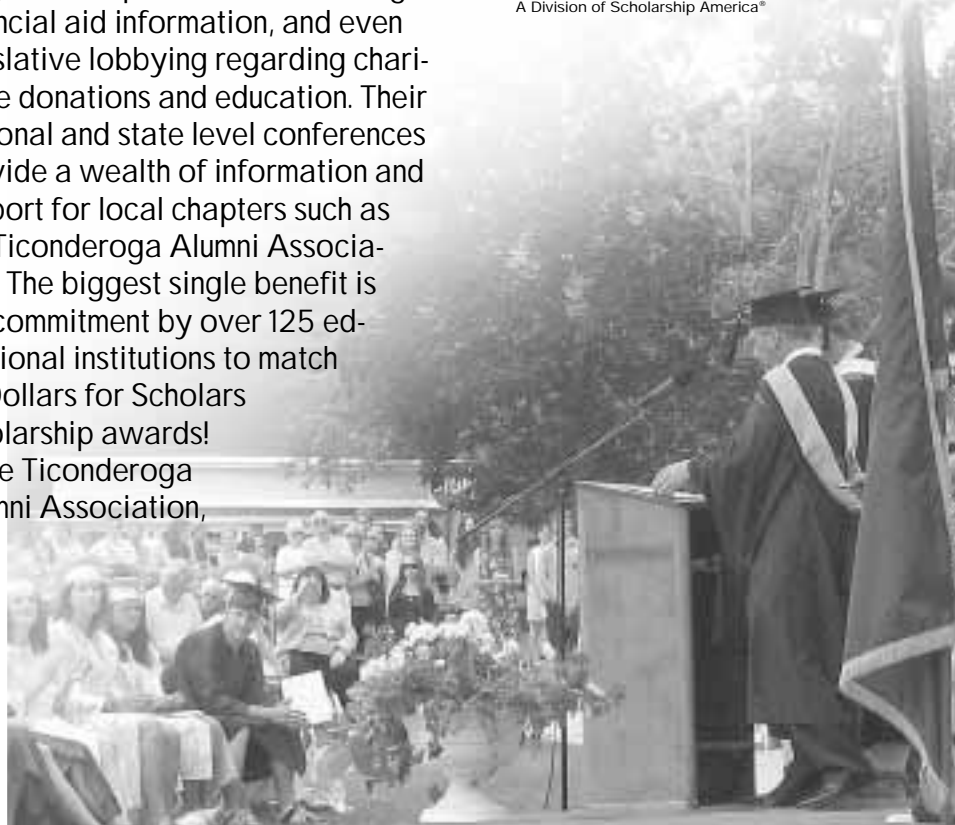
The Ticonderoga Alumni Association is proud to announce its new affiliation with Dollars for Scholars, a division of Scholarship America. This nonprofit is the largest, private sector scholarship and educational support organization in the United States.

Dollars for Scholars has chapters in 42 states and has been an active nonprofit since 1958. In 2006, their chapters raised more than \$67 million and provided financial assistance to more than 38,000 students. They offer expertise in fund raising, financial aid information, and even legislative lobbying regarding charitable donations and education. Their regional and state level conferences provide a wealth of information and support for local chapters such as the Ticonderoga Alumni Association. The biggest single benefit is the commitment by over 125 educational institutions to match all Dollars for Scholars scholarship awards!

The Ticonderoga Alumni Association,

in partnership with Dollars for Scholars, will be hosting a phone-a-thon in the spring to help raise funds to sustain our goal of giving a scholarship to every graduating senior going on to some form of higher education.

Please contact the Ticonderoga High School guidance department for specific information about the criteria and format for the alumni scholarships.



# Special Service Awards Bestowed

During the Friends of Ticonderoga Celebration, Special Service Awards were given to Robert C. Dedrick and William G. Dolback for their service to the Town of Ticonderoga.

## Robert C. Dedrick

A 1965 THS graduate and a Plattsburgh State graduate, Bob Dedrick's teaching career in Ticonderoga spanned 32 years. He coached every level of basketball and football. Bob was a Founding Father, one of the 100 Charter Members, and an original board member of the Ticonderoga Alumni Association. He also served on the Organization Committee for the first Alumni Extravaganza Weekend in 2001 and still helps with special events.

Bob served on the Town Board for 2 years until he was elected Town Supervisor in 2002. He is now in his eighth year as supervisor, and tremendous strides have been made under his leadership. He was instrumental in bringing Lowe's to Ticonderoga, in the construction of the new North Country Community College building, and the formation of the Ticonderoga Main Street Partnership.

Under his leadership, Ticonderoga has seen the creation and construction or pending construction of six major sewer projects. He was also instrumental in bringing a potable water line to the International Paper Company plant, a move needed to ensure continued plant operation. Bob had an important role in the purchase of The Armory for one dollar. Today this building serves as Ticonderoga's Youth and Senior Citizens' Centers.

Realizing the importance of special events, he has played a key role in the Waterfest event the past 2 years and is responsible for the town becoming a stop for the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train the past 4 years. An organizer of the first Lord Howe reenactment in 2001, he was a co-sponsor of 2008 Battle Reenactment in the park for the 250th Anniversary of the French and Indian War. To enhance this celebration, he brought historic actors portraying



***Distinguished Alumni and Special Service Award winners are, from left: Howard W. Rathbun, Charles Moore, William Dolback and Robert Dedrick.***

George Washington and Henry Knox here, making this and the battle living history events for residents.

His continued contact with state representatives has played an important part in the receipt of \$4,345,000 in grant money for projects such as the Black Watch Library addition, new beach building, sewer projects, and downtown improvements.

He is a committee member of the Lake George Watershed Conference, and chair of Essex County Economic Development, Planning and Publicity Committee. In his spare time, Bob serves as a board member for the Essex County IDA, the Lake George Lake Champlain Planning Board, and Connecting Youth and Community!

Bob Dedrick's love of Ticonderoga and the area is certainly evident.

## William G. Dolback

Bill Dollback graduated from Ticonderoga High School in 1963 and Adirondack Community College in 1965. He served in the Navy and held financial and management positions before he returned to Ticonderoga in 1992 and served as Deputy Supervisor of the town.

It was about this time the Public

Service Degree Bill received at Russell Sage College was put to work and Ticonderoga became the benefactor. Bill currently has the title of Sexton of the Municipal Cemetery and Public Lands, primarily a volunteer position. The job of overseeing the preservation and maintenance of Mount Hope Cemetery has now been expanded to overseeing and working alongside a dedicated group of workers who mow all town land and maintain the cemetery, parks, and Black Point Beach. Under his leadership park benches, tables, and lights have been repaired, trees in the park pruned and mulched, the park cleaned up after major events, and the beach and its new building made ready for summer use, all at considerable savings to the town.

Bill also serves as Vice President of PRIDE and President of the Ticonderoga Historical Society, a position he has held for over 20 years. He is presently working on Hancock House exhibits for the 2009 Champlain Celebration. The current Town Historian, his knowledge of local history and historic figures is unparalleled. Bill is also working on the restoration of the town's over 60 historic markers, what you might call a "monu-

***Please Turn to Page 4***

# Distinguished Alumni Honored

The Distinguished Alumni Committee and Alumni Board of Directors are pleased to announce the newest members to be honored as Distinguished Alumni: Charles (Chuck) A. Moore Jr. and Howard W. Rathbun Jr. They were recognized in a special ceremony on July 26 during the Friends of Ticonderoga Celebration at the Country Club.

## **Charles A. Moore Jr.**

Chuck Moore graduated from Ticonderoga High School in 1968. As a student, he was on the Sentinel football, baseball, and track teams. Music was also important part of his life, and he participated in band and chorus throughout high school. After high school he attended State University of New York in Canton, receiving a degree in Accounting.

It was then Chuck's long career in the paper industry and his ascent up the ladder of success began. He began working in the Ticonderoga International Paper Mill in 1970 and stayed at the mill until 1995 where he held positions as a Process Manager and Area Manager.

A transfer to the IP Saybrook, Ohio facility found Chuck serving as the Technical Resource during the start-up of a million square foot converting and distribution center. This was followed by a year in the same position in Hammond, Indiana for the start-up of that center. In 1999 he transferred to Lock Haven, Pennsylvania where he worked as the Business Unit Manager until the mill's closure in 2002. He began work at Finch Pruyn & Company following his early retirement from IP. At Finch Pruyn he served as Director of Human Resources for 5 years. In 2007 he was promoted to Vice President of Human Resources.

A gifted musician (trombone and guitar) who played professionally for 15 years, Chuck has generously shared his musical talent with area organizations including the Chilson Fire Department, Moses Ludington Hospital, and Ticonderoga Chamber of Commerce. He performed at our 2005 Alumni Extravaganza. He has also served as Master of Ceremony for several Ticonderoga and Crown Point parades and as a Junior

Miss judge. While living in Chilson, he served as a member of the Chilson Fire Department for 28 years and as Fire Chief for 13. He also found time to coach Little League for 13 years. A Past President of the Ticonderoga Employees Mutual Association, he is currently President of his Homeowners Association.

Always ready to take time from his busy schedule to share his talents and help others, Chuck currently lives in Queensbury with his wife and daughter. He is also the proud father of 4 married children and has six grandchildren.

## **Howard W. Rathbun, Jr.**

Born at the old Moses Ludington Hospital in 1943, Howard Rathbun grew up in Ticonderoga and did many of the things boys of his generation did: played Little League, was a member of the Boy Scouts, and was active in a local church. At the same time he spent a lot of time with his father at the family business, Rathbun Jewelers, learning the skills of a jeweler. He played football and baseball in high school and was a member of the celebrated THS 1960 Championship Football Team. In 2007 he was inducted into the Ticonderoga High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

Following his graduation in 1961, Howard attended Stetson University in Deland, Florida and Ithaca College in New York. After college he worked in the banking field at the State Bank of Albany, was soon promoted to Head of the Commercial Loan Department, and graduated from the American Institute of Banking. Just starting out in his career, he still found time to become a member of the Albany Area Junior Chamber of Commerce and coach a Pop Warner Football Team. Always a strong family man, Howard supported his sons' activities, rarely missed their sporting or music events, and later became a Boy Scout leader. Family activities came first.

Rounding one of those curves of life, Howard and his family took the road back to Ticonderoga in 1969. His father was retiring from the business, and Howard returned to run Rathbun's Jewelers. Howard and his wife Susan have successfully operated this business for 39

years. Community spirit is evident when you enter the store where books and art work by local people are displayed, and one can often find local event posters displayed and tickets sold as a courtesy. Howard is generous to those requesting sponsorships or donations for local organizations and fund raising events.

Howard has also been generous with his time. He has served on the Ticonderoga Country Club and the Moses Ludington Hospital Board of Directors. Perhaps still a banker at heart, he served on the Champlain Valley Savings and Loan Board of Directors for more than 20 years and even served as Chairman of the Board. Over the years he has also served as a member of the Ticonderoga Joint Planning Commission, Chair of the Downtown Merchants Association and many Christmas Parades, committee member of Rogers' Rangers Snowshoe Races, and member of the Sentinel Booster Club. He was a founder of the Ticonderoga Festival Guild. Currently he is Treasurer of the Valley View Cemetery Board and a member of the Stephen Potter Memorial Foundation Board of Directors.

To fellow members, it is obvious Howard is a devoted Kiwanian. A Kiwanis member for almost 38 years, he has served as president twice, the first time at the age of 29. He helped establish the High School Key Club, a service club, and worked on many community improvement projects. These projects include the development of the Kiwanis Skating Rink and Percy Thompson Bicentennial Park. At the park he provided countless hours of labor as the club worked on the construction of the covered bridge, the pavilion and playground, and the clearing of the LaChute River Trail. Perhaps his favorite role, Howard has served as Chair of the Kiwanis Golf Tournament for 20 years raising money for the annual Kiwanis Scholarships.

A successful businessman and strong family man, Howard has always shown his love of Ticonderoga and worked to enrich its quality of life.

# Recent THS Graduates Excel

## Julie Cunningham Russell Sage College

Julie Cunningham, a May graduate of The Sage Colleges' Russell Sage College in Troy, NY, is one of 60 college students in the country to receive a national Phi Kappa Phi fellowship award to use toward her studies at the University of Alabama, where she has been awarded a fellowship to complete her masters and Ph.D. in clinical psychology.



Cunningham did her Sage psychology honors research project on gender differences in the experience of flow among runners. In April, she presented her research at the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) in Maryland. At the Russell Sage's Honors Convocation in April, she was awarded the highest honor as valedictorian of the class of 2008. Julie has distinguished herself as both a student and leader in her four years at Russell Sage. Julie is the daughter of Jim and Linda Cunningham.

## Kaitlin Staudt Wellesley College

Kaitlin Staudt has been named a prestigious Fulbright Scholar, one of only 800 American faculty and professionals sent abroad each year. The Fulbright Program is sponsored by the United States Department of State, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. While Fulbright scholars lecture or conduct research in a variety of fields, Kaitlin plans to be a university teaching assistant in English and American and Comparative Literature in Adana, in southeast Turkey. She is also planning to study Turkish language and literature.



Kaitlin graduated from Wellesley College in May 2008 with a double major in English and French, and departmental honors in English. Her thesis has been a study of Ernest Hemingway's depiction of women and gender. Kaitlin has also traveled to Istanbul at Robert College's English Immersion summer program for Turkish children ages 8-14. She is the daughter of Calvin and Karla Staudt.

## Special Service

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mental" job! Reaching beyond Ticonderoga, he has also served as Advisor for the Essex County Office for the Aging and as board member for Hudson Headwaters Health Network.

As Bill talks about the projects he has been involved in, one senses a feeling of pride for those projects that have improved the appearance of Ticonderoga. These projects have included lighting the Lower Falls, the berms and period street lights near the Frasier Bridge, downtown streetscape, the development of the lower LaChute trails, and Liberty Monument restoration and period streetlights. Bill designed the upper LaChute Trail. His grant writing skills enabled the town to rehabilitate/improve several town facilities.

Bill has also been the driving force behind recent major events for the town. He was chairman of the rededication of the Civil War monument in Central School Park. As chairman of Ticonderoga's Bicentennial Celebration in 2004, local residents were given the opportunity to attend a New Year's Ball and many other events. He was Chair of the 2008 Centennial Celebration for Moses Ludington Hospital and is presently chairing Ticonderoga's 2009 Samuel D. Champlain Celebration. Because of his efforts, new plantings and a beautiful monument honoring Champlain will be placed in the park near the Lower Falls. Thanks to Bill, the beauty of Ticonderoga has been enhanced and the town's rich history emphasized and showcased for residents and visitors alike.

## How to nominate Distinguished Alumni

Any graduate of Ticonderoga High School prior to 1999 is eligible.

Nominations will be accepted until April 30, 2009 for this year's candidates.

To receive nomination forms, you can call Joyce Cooper at (518) 585-2640 or write to the Alumni Association, at PO Box 644, Ticonderoga, NY 12883. Forms may also be downloaded from the Association's Web site at [www.ticonderogaalumni.org](http://www.ticonderogaalumni.org)

### Ticonderoga Alumni Association Board of Directors

Betty (Pond) Arthur '59	Wendy (Shaw) Davis '78
Tracey Cross-Baker '86	Dale Dolbeck (Treasurer) '65
Margo (Foley) Bartolomeo '58	Sally (Wickes) Hayes (Vice President) '58
Steve Boyce '64	Sharon (Vilardo) Maneri (Secretary) '60'
Anne (Van Hoesen) Charboneau '83	John McDonald Jr. '84
Joyce Gallant Cooper (President) '59	Charles (Chuck) Moore Jr. '68
Jim Davis '58	

# A Day to Remember

The Friends of Ticonderoga Celebration, privately sponsored by alumni Michael Hayes and Dieter Schmidt, provided a fantastic backdrop for the 9th annual Alumni Golf Tournament. This popular tournament is a major fund-raiser for the Ticonderoga Alumni Association, whose aim is to provide scholarships for graduating seniors. Over 122 golfers enjoyed a full day and night of golf, games, good food and entertainment.

The day began with 24 single-digit handicap golfers from the tournament roster being invited to participate in an early morning skins game worth \$2,000. This new event was also privately funded by generous alumni and gave the golf tournament a great beginning.

The midday shotgun start of the golf tournament was preceded by a Marine Corp Color Guard honoring "fallen" alumni who had served in the military. The tournament had some very early winners when Mark Wood flew his plane over the golf course several times dropping gift certificates, shirts and hats to the lucky golfers below. Laughter floated back to the clubhouse all day as golfers enjoyed the competition and treats. There were bottles of water on ice, chilled apples, and "stuffed" fish for

those whose balls found the brook on the 11th hole. On other holes golfers found gifts of coffee cups filled with packages of ground coffee from Cool Beans. A hole in one on the 6th would have gained some lucky golfer a nice car, courtesy of Christopher Chevrolet. There were prizes everywhere!

As the golfers finished, The Friends of Ti celebration moved into high gear. There were two roasted pigs, tended by Charlie Granger. The Gourmet Gal put on a feast of barbecue chicken with all the trimmings. It was definitely "all you could eat" fanfare and it was all free!! A strolling bagpiper provided unique background music for over 500 folks enjoying the festivities.

Another special event was the annual Alumni Association presentation of the Distinguished Alumni and Special Service Awards led by Association President Joyce Cooper. Information about the recipients is given in a separate article.

When the golf tournament was officially over, the new games began! Many guests enjoyed putting and chipping contests. The contest winners each received a silver coin worth \$20 -- not bad, considering these contests were also free! But that is not all..... The winners

became eligible for a special version of Deal or No Deal created by Mike Hayes. Happy participants went home with gifts, cash and memories of a good time.

Two classes, 1958 and 1978, chose to combine their reunions with the Friends of Ticonderoga Celebration. Lots of visiting and reminiscing went on as DJ, John Mackey provided nice background listening and dancing music.

It was indeed a day to remember!!

## In Memorium

### John T. Britcher 1927 – 2008

John T. "Jack" Britcher passed away in late 2008. Born in Schenectady, NY, Mr. Britcher taught school in New York State for 25 years. He taught 7th grade Social Studies for the Ticonderoga Central School District.

A disabled veteran, he served in the US Navy during World War II and the Korean Conflict.

### William H. Sola 1928 – 2008

Born in Astoria, NY, William Sola was an accomplished artist who taught in Ticonderoga Schools for almost 30 years.

While at Ti, he coached varsity football and directed senior plays.

After retirement, he served 13 years on the Ticonderoga School Board.



## Alumni Association Awards \$12,000



Thirty-three members of the Class of 2008 received a total of \$12,000 to help them further their education. This was the first year that seniors earned points based on their scholarship, behavior, attendance, extra-curricular activities, community service, and family involvement in school activities. The awards ranged from \$278 to \$433, with an average award of \$364.

All seniors who are attending a college or technical school after graduation are eligible for the scholarships and are awarded points based on their four years at Ticonderoga High School. Students receive the awards after they have successfully concluded their first semester in college or tech school.

Since 2006, The Alumni Association has made \$34,000 available to 102 students.

# Quiz Bowl Team Fares Well in D.C.

Would you know the answer to the question "When Einstein made his famous comment, 'God does not play dice with the universe,' he was expressing doubts about what theory of matter?"

The 2008 Ticonderoga High School Quiz Bowl team did, and such answers helped them place 38th out of 125 teams in the nation at the National Academic Championships held late last spring at Marymount University in Washington, D.C. This was the Sentinels' second trip to the national competition. Only six New York teams competed in 2008: Ticonderoga, Queensbury High School, and four from Westchester County.

*(From an article by Team Captain Amanda Powers)*

The Alumni Association is proud of the Sentinel Quiz Bowl Team and its continuing successes. We commend their teamwork and academic prowess under the leadership of teacher Deb Breitenbach.



## Ticonderoga's Tradition of Excellence Continues

Ticonderoga High School has been ranked among the nation's best for a second straight year. U. S. News and World Report magazine ranked the top high schools in America in its December 9, 2008 issue, listing Ticonderoga High School. The rankings examined almost 19,000 high schools in 42 states using factors such as college preparation, student achievement, and performance of disadvantaged students.

Ticonderoga is among the top 500 high schools in the country, according to the magazine. That places THS among the top 2 percent of schools nationally. U.S. News, in collaboration with School Evaluation Services, a K-12 education and data research and analysis business that provides parents with educational data on [scholmatters.com](http://scholmatters.com), analyzed academic and enrollment data from 18,700 public high schools to find the best across the

country. The top schools were placed into gold, silver, and bronze medal categories. Ticonderoga was rated silver.

Schools that exceeded state expectations on standardized tests were given bronze status. Those schools could then get silver status based on the number of Advanced Placement exams taken by students. Ticonderoga currently offers AP and college-level courses in math, English, social studies, biology, French, and Spanish. Gold status was awarded to the top 100 schools in country on the silver list. There are 1,800 schools on the bronze list, 400 on the silver, and 100 on the gold.

Most of the New York schools on the U. S. News list are found in wealthy, suburban areas such as Westchester County. No schools from Clinton, Warren or Washington counties made the list. One other Essex County school was recognized at the bronze level.

(Thanks to the Times of Ti for allowing us to reprint portions of this Dec. 20, 2008 article by Fred Herbst.)



## Mark Your Calendars!

Ticonderoga will be the site of the following events July 25 & 26:

Alumni Awards Ceremony  
and Golf Tournament  
Adirondack Waterfest  
Champlain Celebration  
Fort Ticonderoga Centennial

## Going, going, gone!



*The George Burrough's House (Ticonderoga School District Administrative Offices) is demolished to make room for High School construction. The site will be used for parking.*



# Thank You 2008 Donors!

**Sentinel Honor Circle**  
**(Cumulative Donations)**

**\$10,000 to 19,999**

Deborah (Clarke) Mars

**\$5,000-9,999**

Bridget (McDonald) Fawcett  
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**Sentinel Circle**  
**\$1,000 to 1,999**

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Class of 1951

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**Lord Howe Circle**  
**\$50-\$99**

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Every attempt has been made to correctly list our donors. Please contact Joyce Cooper should there be an error.



## **Memorial Gifts**

In Memory of Kimberly & Michelle Arthur  
*Elizabeth and Richard Arthur*

In Memory of Jennifer Barber  
*Keith Barber*  
*Craig and Aletta Sanders*

In Memory of Kenneth C. Brannock  
*Terry and Shari Brannock*

In Memory of Evelyn C. Burleigh  
(Honorary Graduate)  
*Jane Burleigh*

In Memory of H.G. Burleigh  
*Anonymous*

In Memory of George Burroughs  
*Paul and Mary Lloyd Burroughs*

In Memory of David Clark  
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In Memory of Joey D'Attilio  
*Pamela M. D'Attilio*

In Memory of Louis (Bud) & Clarence (Butch) Denno  
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In Memory of Lou DiFebbo  
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In Memory of Gladys Drake  
*Charles and Sharon Maneri*

In Memory of John C. Dreimiller, Sr.  
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In Memory of John DuRoss  
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In Memory of Family and Friends  
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In Memory of Mary McCarthy Gauger  
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In Memory of J.P. (Butch) Gunning  
*Michael J. Gunning*

In Memory of Patricia Vigliotti Hendrix  
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In Memory of Marie J. Huntington  
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In Memory of Kathryn Lamb  
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In Memory of Tom Malaney  
*Carolyn and Michael Anderson*  
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*Gerald and Nancy Russell*  
*Patty, Tony, Michael Sisti*  
*Lucille Sprague and Family*  
*Ticonderoga Elementary Staff*  
*Ticonderoga Teachers Assoc.*  
*Susan and Victor Valaitic*

In Memory of John E. (Jack) McCarthy  
*Colleen T. McCarthy*  
*Virginia LaPointe*

In Memory of Clayton McDougal  
*Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bright*

In Memory of Evelyn Mischenko  
*Patricia Dziuba*

In Memory of Frank Moore  
*Edward Moore*

In Memory of Margo Morhouse  
*Jane and Christopher Breiseth*  
*Charles and Sharon Maneri*

In Memory of Isabelle C. Mott  
*Russell L. Mott*

In Memory of Patricia McKeown Mulligan  
*Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bright*

In Memory of Jane Kosier Nadeau  
*Heather Nadeau Pontikes & Family*

In Memory of Norman and Pearl Nadeau  
*Keith Barber*

In Memory Bernard N. "Ozzie" Osier  
*Chris Osier*  
*Florence H. Osier*

In Memory of Dominic Paniccia, Jr.  
*Dominic T. Paniccia, Sr.*

In Memory of Walter R. Porter, Jr.  
*Evelyn A. Porter*

In Memory of Andy Powvorznik  
*Jim and Joan Charboneau*

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*Mark Baker*  
*Aletta and Craig Sanders*

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*Mark Baker*  
*Wendy Davis*  
*Elliott and Peg Shaw*

In Memory of William Sola  
*Paul and Mary Lloyd Burroughs*  
*Virginia LaPointe*  
*Charles and Sharon Maneri*

In Memory of Jeanette Poulos Spinelli  
*Kenneth and Patricia Smith*

In Memory of Mary Bessett Tennien  
*James Bessett*

In Memory of Thomas E. Thompson  
*Betty F. Thompson*

In Memory of Josephine Pozzouli Tobin  
*Janette Free*

In Memory of Stanley Varmette  
*Patricia Dziuba*

## **Honorary Gifts**

In Honor of William Bolton  
*Council of School Superintendents*

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