# **COCALICO ALUMN**

A twice yearly newsletter brought to you by the Cocalico Alumni Association



VOL. 9 ISSUE 2



## CLASS OF 1999 Daniel McQuate

Dan was recently promoted to USCG Commander of the USS North Carolina on October 1, 2021. He is currently Chief of Inspections at Sector in Wilmington, NC. At his promotion ceremony on the USS North Carolina, he was accompanied by his wife Shawna and three children. His daughters Annie and Addison changed his mortar boards and his son Cooper exchanged his hat. Captain Matt Baer, the Commander of Coast Guard Sector North Carolina, presided over the ceremony. Cocalico Alumni Association had previously featured Dan as one of our Alumni in the Spotlight. Dan was in the class of 1999, and then attended the Coast Guard Officer Candidate School. Dan has made the Coast Guard his career and in doing so he has earned numerous service awards. Dan comes from a line of military men including both grandfathers, his father, and two uncles. Congrats

on your promotion Dan, and we wish you luck with your future endeavors!

## NATIONAL SIGNING DAY



On National Signing Day, Cocalico had 10 seniors signed Letter of Indent to play at College. They are as follows: Madeline Belchner to Albright, Ella High to Muskingum, Katelynn Nedimeyer to Alvernia, Carlina Christy to Sweet Briar, Rachel Eberly to George Mason, Caleb Sturtevant to Pittsbugh, Jacob Humphrey to Kutztown, Ryan Brubaker to South Carolina, Joey Current to Delaware State, and Trey Rios to Shepherd.

## **COCALICO ALUMNI SOFTBALL GAME**

WHEN: SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 2022

TIME: WARM UP 6:30PM - GAME AT 7:00 PM

WHERE: MANETAS FIELD (FORMERLY ZINN'S PARK)



FEE: \$25.00 AND INCLUDES T-SHIRT

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE COCALICO SOFTBALL ORGANIZATION. (WITHOUT THE YOUTH THERE WOULD BE NO ALUMNI.)

ALUMNI GAME IS FOR ALL COCALICO SOFTBALL PLAYERS WHO HAVE GRADUATED. NO AGE LIMIT. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW, PLEASE FIND US ON FACEBOOK: COCALICO SOFTBALL ALUMNI GAME. Email: kitra@ptd.net

#### Cocalico Alumni Bus Trip Wheels, Wine and (S)weets! Saturday, May 14, 2022

Join the Cocalico Alumni Association for a day of wine and chocolate tasting, a train excursion, a transportation museum, shopping, two meals... and catching up with old classmates and friends. To start the day, we will meet at the Cocalico High School at 8:00 AM.



Our first stop will be the Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles. At this museum we will be taking a museum tour back in time to discover Pennsylvania's transportation heritage. We will see more than 90 rare and handsome vehicles, trace the evolution of transportation, learn about unique technological innovations, and enjoy beautiful historic buildings. The museum is housed in the former home of the Boyertown Auto Body Works, which had continuous operations on this site from 1872 – 1990.

Our next stop will be Reppert's Own Made Candy. Here we will enjoy a goodie bag of samples, learn about the history of Reppert's Candy and the candy-making process, and have time to shop for a variety of milk and dark chocolate candy and fudge. Floyd and Dorothy Repport founded Reppert's Candy in 1945. In 1978, the Repperts decided to retire and sold the business to Larry and Jean Schell. Today the business remains in the Schell family. Reppert's Candy operates out of a



12,000 square foot facility in Oley Township. They offer over 65 varieties of candy and approximately 200 different styles of chocolate molds.

While at Reppert's, we will enjoy a boxed lunch provided by the Brakeman's Café of Boyertown. It will include 2 slider sandwiches, chips, a cookie, and a bottle of water.

After lunch, we will head to Maple Springs Vineyard for tours and tastings of their world class artisan wines. Established in 2008 by Marianne Lieberman, Maple Springs Vineyard is a small family vineyard in Berks County. They offer 2 distinct lines of products – single variety wines and premium red, white and rose' blends. They serve wine in over 60 restaurants in Pennsylvania and Maryland. We will have the opportunity to tour both the vineyard and production room, and sample 5 wines which includes cheese and charcuterie during tasting. Our time there will include an opportunity to purchase wine.





The Colebrookdale Railroad will be our final stop on May 14. A unique adventure into a forgotten land! Once the province of pioneers and patriots the Colebrookdale is your ticket to a verdant land lost in time. The Colebrookdale Railroad offers expeditions in the Secret Valley, one of the most scenic and historic regions in the northeast. We will board one of the meticulously restored century-old rail cars in Boyertown for a two -hour narrated expedition with dinner. A three-course dinner will be served on the first trek of our train ride. Dinner includes a salad, your choice of roast beef, chicken marsala, or salmon served with roasted

potatoes, green beans, rolls, and dessert. Coffee and tea are also available. On the return, you are free to roam the train, sit in a club car, or enjoy time outside on the open-air car. You will also be treated to a glass of champagne as we return to the station in Boyertown.

After the train adventure, we will finally return to the Cocalico High School around 8:30 PM.

The cost of the trip is \$158 per person (\$162 if using PayPal) which includes deluxe motor coach, lunch, dinner, 2 hour train excursion, entrance to the museum, chocolates, wine tasting, snacks and tours, and door prizes. Lack of interest and/or minimum reservations will result in the cancelling of the trip. Patrons will be notified by reservation deadline if trip needs to be cancelled and all payments will then be refunded. Please note that most of the establishments we are visiting presently have COVID protocols and may require wearing masks and social distancing.

Please join the Cocalico Alumni Association for a fun-filled day!

To register, fill in the form below or go to <a href="http://cocalicoalumni.org/bustrip/index.html">http://cocalicoalumni.org/bustrip/index.html</a>. Deadline for reservations is March 30, 2022.

 Name:
 \_\_\_\_\_\_Class of: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 Email:
 \_\_\_\_\_\_Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Number attending X \$158 = total payable to Cocalico Alumni Association

Dinner choice for each attending - Roast Beef Chicken Marsala Salmon Vegetarian meals are available upon request.

Mail to Cocalico Alumni Association, PO Box 177, Denver, PA 17517. Questions – 717-336-1405 or alumni@cocalico.org

### 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COCALICO ALUMNI

### **GOLF TOURNAMENT**



The Cocalico Alumni Association provides scholarships for graduating seniors and provides opportunities to connect alumni. As a result of last year's tournament, the Alumni Association will be awarding five \$1,000 scholarships to this year's graduating class.

DATE	COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK ARE DUE BY JUNE 3, 2022	
Friday, June 17, 2022	Player Name:	
TIME Noon: Registration Driving Range 1:00 PM: Shotgun Start 6:00 PM: Dinner and Awards COMPM: Dinner and Awards PLACE Foxchase Golf Club Stevens, PA SPONSORSHIPS* Eagle \$500 Birdie \$100 Donations *see next page for details	Business Name: Email:	
	Phone: Player 2 Name:	Class of:
	and the second se	
	Phone:	Class of:
	Player 3 Name:	
	Phone: Player 4 Name: Email:	
Awards Open Division 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Alumni Division 1 <sup>st</sup> Mixed Division 1 <sup>st</sup> Closest to pin Long Drive QUESTIONS Kent Sweigart 717-629-1961 kosweigart@gmail.com	Phone: REGISTRATION FEES Individual # x \$85 ** Dinner only # x \$35 Eagle Sponsor \$500 Birdie Sponsor \$100 Donation Grand Total	
COCALICOALUMNI.ORG FACEBOOK.COM/COCALICOALUMNI	Please make checks payable to: Mail form and check to:	Cocalico Alumni Association Cocalico Alumni Association PO Box 177 Denver, PA 17517
	**includes golfing, cart, dinner, beverages, prizes	

#### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### **\$500 EAGLE SPONSOR**

- 1. Two 36" x 24" signs with logo placed at tournament:

  - 1 at putting green area, visible when rounding from the 18<sup>th</sup> hole to the 1<sup>st</sup> hole
    1 at Foxchase entrance, visible when entering Foxchase and playing the 10<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> holes.
- 2. Sign with name located on a tee box 'Fun Hole'.
- 3. Recognition during dinner hour on day of event.
- 4. Recognition in tournament day brochure.
- 5. Recognition in all marketing materials.

#### \$100 BIRDIE SPONSOR

- Sign with your company name rocare.
   Recognition in tournament day brochure. Sign with your company name located on a tee box the day of the event.

#### DONATIONS

The Cocalico Alumni Association appreciates donations to support events such as the golf tournament to achieve our mission of impacting future Cocalico Alumni.

## **ALUMNI OBITUARIES**



Carol Ann (Steffy) Henly, 75, completed her lifetime journey of selfless devotion helping others on February 25, 2022. A wife, mother, grandmother, friend and teacher, she passed away peacefully with her daughter by her side following a brief illness. A native of Lancaster, PA, she was an educator for more than 30 years - traveling the world with her beloved husband as a proud Army wife they were stationed in various places including NY, CA, AZ, GA and Germany. Following retirement, she founded an educational travel company with her daughter, Cheri Henly Isenhour, where her passion for educating continued to flourish -

working with both teachers and students. Her imparting wisdom to hose she taught? Seize the day. It was a mantra she carried in both her career and life - spending time with friends, serving the community, traveling the world and being a devoted grandmother to her two granddaughters. She was a woman of faith as a member of Epiphany Lutheran church in Conyers, GA for 25 years then Christ Lutheran Church in Gainesville, GA. Through the trials and tribulation of life, Carol stood fast in her devotion to the Lord and spoke of this quote often. "It isn't the mountains ahead to climb that wear you out, it's the pebble in your shoe". Her Faith in God and strong will helped her overcome each pebble.She is preceded in death by her husband, Lieutenant Colonel Larry Henly; sister, Cathy Seeman; and her parents, Harry and Kathryn Steffy. She leaves behind a daughter, Cheri; Son-inlaw Mark Isenhour; and two granddaughters, Ashlyn and Lexi.



Jeffrey A. Leid, 54, of Ephrata, passed away Friday, February 4, 2022, at Well-Span Ephrata Community Hospital. Born in Ephrata, he was a loving son of Peggy Leid and dear companion to Cheryl Walker for many years. Jeff was a graduate of Cocalico High School, class of 1985. He worked at the former Weaver Industries where was the CNC lathe operator. He then took interest in long-haul trucking and worked as a driver for Terre Hill Concrete and produce transports for L & M Transportation. Most of all, he enjoyed owning and operating his own truck, self-contracting long-haul services until retiring his truck

in 2017. He most recently worked for Ned Bard & Son and Wolfpak Transport. He enjoyed bowling and playing in local softball and baseball leagues. His love of travel and adventure was shared with Cheryl. Their cruises to Alaska and tropical destinations were his favorite. He enjoyed dressing up, going out, and being around people. He could talk to anyone about anything. He was bright, fun, a true extravert, and always inclusive of others. Jeff was a member of the Reamstown Athletic Assoc. and the Elstonville Sportsman's Assoc. He was formerly a member of the Muddy Creek Lutheran.



Kelly Renee (Moskal) Aleman received her wings on the afternoon of January 19, 2022, after gracing us all with her beautiful soul and loving heart for 44 years. On October 30, 1977, Kelly was born to her adoring parents Gary and Linda (Cantwell) Moskal in Mt. Holly, New Jersey. Their small family relocated to Denver, Pennsylvania in 1989 where Kelly finished school and met the love of her life, Jose Aleman. She and Jose made a beautiful family and life of their own together, moving to Charlotte, North Carolina, as a temporary steppingstone to where they planted roots in Huntsville, Alabama. Wherever she went, Kelly was a master at proving herself to be the best daughter, the most incredible mom, and the most wonderful wife—the three most honorable vocations any woman can have. In addition, she was a kind, generous,

supportive, and patient friend to all and shared everything she possibly could with anyone in need. This joy and generosity made her beautiful, inside and out, and fueled all those special times that made unforgettable memories we will forever treasure and thank her for. Kelly was preceded in death by her brother, Brian Moskal, and niece Alexandrea Moskal Her loving spirit leaves behind her devoted husband Jose, parents Gary and Linda, her three beautiful daughters Kirsten (Zack), Keighlyn, Karleigh, and adorable grand puppy Toby.



Thomas G. Shober, 81, formerly of Denver, passed away Sunday, January 16, 2022, in Bridgeport, WV. Born in Denver, he was a son of the late Roy L. & Dorothy (Gensemer) Shober. Tom was a graduate of Cocalico High School, class of 1958 and served in the Air National Guard during the Vietnam War. He grew up working in the family business, Shober & Sons Inc., a local butcher shop in Denver, where he worked with his father for many years. In the late 1980's Tom started his own meat cutting business at the Fairgrounds Farmers Market. He was very outgoing and enjoyed the friendly relationships he had with his clients at the butcher shop. When Tom moved to South Carolina, he again picked up work as a

meat cutter. He truly enjoyed his work. Most recently he lived with his daughter, Sandi, in West Virginia. A man of faith, Tom was a former deacon and held various service roles through the years at churches he attended. In his younger years, Tom was very athletic and enjoyed playing baseball, football, softball, and volleyball for Cocalico and the local sports leagues. He was a huge Philadelphia Eagles fan and Boston Celtics fan. Tom loved his family with his whole heart; everything he did was for his kids. Tom is survived by six children, Connie Sue Shober of Richfield, MN, Amy Jo (Matthew) Kalberg of Flower Way, GA, Sandi Lynn (Marc) Zerega of Bridgeport, WV, Mark Alan Shober of Reading, Adam Roy (Kristina) Shober of Reading, and Aaron Paul (Tracey) Shober, Piedmont, SC; a brother, Patrick G. (Sharon) Shober of Denver; a sister Susan G. Shober of Auburn,



John C. Schutter, 72, of Stevens, passed away Monday, November 22, 2021, at Lehigh Valley Hospital, Allentown, Pa. Born in Reading, he was the son of the late John N. & Mary Jane (Leed) Schutter and the loving husband to Sandra M. (Snader) Schutter for 50 years. John was a graduate of Cocalico High School, class of 1967, and a graduate of McCann School of Business in Reading. He and Sandra were high school sweethearts and married in 1971. John was an Accountant for Cambridge-Lee Industries in Leesport for 41-years where he worked in inventory control, retiring in 2013. A faithful member of Muddy Creek Lutheran Church in Denver, John taught Sunday school, volunteered on church council

and was formerly lay leader. He read his bible daily and had read the bible in its entirety many times. John was a history-buff and enjoyed civil war books and trips to Gettysburg. He was a sports fan; his favorite teams were the Phillies and the Seattle Seahawks. He enjoyed the outdoors and vegetable gardening. Most of all, John loved his family and was wholly devoted to his wife and sons. In addition to his wife, John is survived by his two sons, J. Jason Schutter of Stevens, and Jared J. Schutter of Stevens; sister-in-law Sharon Wert (Rodney); and brother-in-law A. Troy Snader (Barbara).



Allan David "Webby" "Ameck" Meckley, 73, of Denver, was welcomed into the loving arms of Jesus after a very courageous 2 year battle against myeloma leukemia, while a patient at Hershey Medical Center on Monday, November 15, 2021. He was the son of the late Clarence S. and Myrtle C. (Becker) Meckley. He is survived by his beloved wife, Brenda, as well as his sisters, Linda, and Joyce, wife of G. David Wade, and numerous nieces and nephews. Allan was a Cocalico High School graduate, as well as the Berks Center Penn State and later Penn State University. He was an Army veteran serving as an ambulance driver in Stuttgart, Germany. His education as an electrical engineer landed him employment for

Gilbert Associates, Dana Corporation, and Hershey Foods for 22 years. Upon retirement, he worked for Class 8 Auto Parts, a courier service, and as a custodian at St. John's U.C.C., Denver. A lifetime member of St. John's, he served on the Consistory, Mens Brotherhood, an elder, deacon, electrical worker, and enjoyed cooking for the steak sales. His faith was very important as he read his daily devotions and Bible. Allan volunteered for various organizations over the years which included over 50 years for the Denver Fire Company; on the Denver Zoning Board, Denver Watershed, Homes of Hope, Denver Park Board, and fire police. He was a Mason and Shreiner of which he served as the golf league secretary. Allan's great love for Penn State Football was known by many. He was a member of the prestigious Nittany Lion Club holding season tickets. He only missed 3 home or away games in 40 years. He loved his blue and white team. Also, he was an avid golfer in area leagues. He enjoyed playing pinochle, especially with his late father. Allan hunted upstate at a hunting camp. Allan always loved music, and years ago he played drums for a local rock group, "The Cougars", with his friends. He and Brenda enjoyed camping at Chincoteague, Virginia. Allan will be missed by many, as he was always available with a helping hand.



Mary Elizabeth Stricker, 97, of Denver, passed away on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at United Zion Retirement Community. She was born in West Cocalico Township to the late Charles P. and Florence V. (Krick) Stricker. She was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Denver for 80 years, where she volunteered with various activities over the years. She enjoyed embroidery and walking. Mary was a graduate of Denver High School Class of 1943. She worked as an examiner/packer for F and M Hat Factory for many years prior to her retirement.

Mary is survived by a sister, Charlotte, wife of the late Lynn Martin, of Denver, sister-in-law, Patricia (Burd) Stricker of Reinholds; 3 nieces and 3 nephews; and several great-nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister, Rachel Shimp and a brother, Robert Stricker.



Sharon L. Martin, 74, of Akron, went home to be with her Lord and Savior on January 10, 2021 after a two year struggle with liver cancer. She was born in Ephrata to the late Paul and Evelyn (Hertzog) Kilhefner and she was the wife of Rev Clyde L Martin with whom she shared 56 years of marriage. She was a member of the Akron United Zion Church where she was a pastor's wife, SS teacher and song leader. She served as President of the Auxiliary for the United Zion Retirement Community. She was a homemaker after retiring from the Mennonite Central Committee. Prior to that she worked for the Ephrata Area School

district office. She loved her annual trips to the beach and cherished spending time at the cabin with her family. She was very involved with her grandsons. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her two sons, James (Sharon Mast) Martin, Akron and David Martin, at home; three grandsons, Keller, Ellis and Brody Martin; sisters, Elaine (Ted) Woods, Adamstown and Nadine Fisher, Denver. She was preceded in death by her brother, Gary Kilhefner and step mother, Alverta Keenan Kilhefner.

Gwen Keller Shrom who loved to be called "Mom" or "Grammy" by her family, went home to rejoin her heavenly family and gained her wings on November 23, 2021. Gwen was born in Stevens on December 15,1952 to Ruth F. Keller and Jacob W. Keller. She was a 1971 graduate of Cocalico High School. Gwen was married to Abram R. Shrom, Jr for 28 years. Mom to Andrew Shrom, John Shrom, Mary Romaquera married to Chris, Nicole Wanger, James Wotring married to Jan, Jared Wotring married to Tammi, Abram Shrom III married to Stephanie and Bethany Shrom. Grammy to Andrew, Amari, Jacobi, Gabrielle, Aidin, Evan, Lilian, Alivia, Cecilia, Lauren, Abram IV and Sergio. Great Grammy to Carsen, Leo, Thea, Avery, Addison, Megan and Mattley. Resilience, perseverance, and determination describe her battle with CMT. There was no quit in Gwen. Spending time at the cabin, "Flat Landers Lodge", crocheting and time with her grandkids were among the things she enjoyed.

Richard 'Dick' A. Plank, 70, of Adamstown, passed away Friday, November 19, 2021, at his home. Born in Ephrata, he was a son of the late Kenneth A. and Arletta (Haws) Plank and the husband of Robin (Brown) Plank until her passing. Dick was a graduate of Cocalico High School, class of 1969. He worked for many years at the Boose Aluminum Foundry in Reamstown and Bollman Hat Co. in Adamstown. He was an avid bowler, playing on various leagues and winning multiple trophies. Dick is survived by his sister, Margaret Shutter of Lebanon; a niece, Lisa Moyer (Herman Jr.) of Myerstown; and a nephew, Gary Fake of Florida. Services will be private, and his final resting place will be Cedar Grove Cemetery, Adamstown.



Glenn E. Gerhart, 79, of Stevens, passed away on Friday, February 4, 2022, at WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital. He was born in Denver to the late John A. and Katie E. (Eshelman) Gerhart and was the husband of Donna (Scheetz) Gerhart with whom he shared 56 years of marriage. Glenn was a member of Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver. He enjoyed antique cars (Pontiacs), hunting, fishing, Nascar, going to the cabin, and working on his vineyard. He was always tinkering with something. He loved spending time with his grandchildren. Every summer was Grandpa Camp. Glenn worked for Ford New Holland prior to

his retirement in 2000. In addition to his wife, Glenn is survived by daughter, Lisa, wife of Adrian Borry of Ephrata, son, Steven Gerhart, husband of Mary of Reinholds; 5 grandchildren, Samantha and Aidan Borry, Katie, Kellie, and Kara Gerhart; and a brother, John Gerhart, husband of Carolyn of Yuma, AZ.