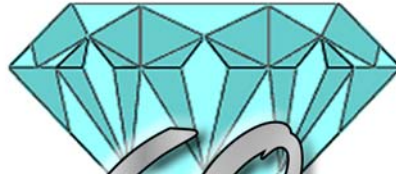


Diamonds are Forever



60th
Anniversary

Cleveland Heights
Teachers Union

Friday, May 7, 2004

Landerhaven Party Center

*6111 Landerhaven Drive
Mayfield Heights, Ohio*

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union
60th Anniversary Memories



Welcome

In 1944, a small group of teachers met secretly to form the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union. In those days, teachers were routinely intimidated and often fired for union activities. That act of courage and that commitment to advance the cause of public education and teacher unionism is a source of inspiration to all of us. For sixty years the strength and success of our Union has come from the dedication, wisdom, and sacrifices of our membership. That spirit continues today thanks to all of you.

On behalf of the Executive Board of the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union, I welcome you to our sixtieth anniversary celebration.

Tom Schmida
President, Local 795

Thanks for the Memories....

1940's

The first 795 banquet was a picnic in the woods. The first ten signatories to the charter would each know who the other nine were, for the first time. There was, after all, a danger of being fired if anyone undermined the administration controlled Teachers' Association and formed a union.

1950's

I joined Local 795 in 1957. That was my first year of teaching. My first year salary was \$4,200. There were no fringe benefits. The benefits came later because of our union negotiations. I taught chemistry and biology for 27 years at Heights High.—*Larry Bauer (Larry was an outspoken advocate for teachers and known state-wide for his promotion of a 13th check for retirees)*

1960's

Long time Local 795 President, Glenn Altschuld, began his teaching career and made his first of many speeches to the Union membership. This was before the Union became bargaining agent.

1970's

In 1971, 1973 and 1975 there were three bargaining agency elections. The Union won them all. In 1971, articles in the Sun Press and other papers heralded the coming of the union as the beginning of labor peace in the CH-UH School District.

1980's

A very special memory of the 1983 strike is that of my 83 year old mom insisting on coming (with a nurse and my daughter) to walk the picket line with me and my daughter-in-law, a Bellefaire teacher. — *Carolyn Grossman.*

1990's

After two strikes in the 1980's, the Union was able to negotiate fair contracts without one—although often at the last minute. Automatic Payroll Deposit was finally instituted. Medical benefits improved.

60 years of solidarity...



...and friendship.





Reflections—60th Anniversary

Years Gone By

Jeff Chapman, Second Vice President

As we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Cleveland Heights Teachers Union, I am filled with wonder and amazement. These feelings are not due to the Union's longevity, but rather to the fact that I've been actively involved with the Union for half of those years. I never thought I could do anything for 30 years!

It's an honor to have been asked to take a stroll down Memory Lane with you. It won't take long....

During the new teacher orientation in 1973, a presentation by Local 795 President Glenn Altschuld made quite an impression on me. I met Glenn and Vice-President Jack Quinn that day and immediately signed my Union card. I reported to Boulevard the next week and have taught there ever since.

During that first week, Jack Quinn called me and asked if I'd run a steward election. In 1973, the Union had gained bargaining rights only recently and many teachers were still Association members. There were just four other Union members at Boulevard and they promptly elected the guy running the election. Thanks, Jack.

Glenn, Jack, Tom Basler, Frank Hooks, Zetta Gross, Larry Bauer, Fran Herskowitz, Milt Jaffe...these are just some of the people I was privileged to learn from. Glenn taught me to choose my battles wisely, but I knew he never met a battle he wouldn't fight. They taught me the pleasure of helping others and along the way I fell in love with Public School teachers, actually one in particular. I met my wife Laurie on the first day of the 1974-1975 school year and we've been married for 27 years.

In the late 70's, I learned a valuable lesson on how Unions can make a difference. A wildcat strike at Wiley was staged due to dissatisfaction over disciplinary procedures (or lack thereof). Today, the discipline policy is part of our contract- not many school districts can say that. And while I certainly don't condone wildcat strikes...

The solidarity of our Union was vital during the 80's. Not one contract was signed without a strike or the threat of one. One of those strikes lasted 8 days. Relations between the Union and administration were bitter. We stayed united, though, and were buoyed by the promise of future leadership as Tom Schmida, Dan McDonald, Terry Rounds, and others assumed more responsibility.

The 90's saw a definite shift in Union perspective and relations with administration. The District Steering Committee, which later became the Summit, was formed to foster a more peaceful, cooperative workplace - dedicated to the common cause of improving student achievement. We have continued to be a vital partner with the Ohio Federation. We are extremely influential and involved in the our state organization .This past decade has seen an increase in political activity, especially as we've watched public education become threatened by groups that would like to see schools privatized.

Tonight, your officers are being sworn in. They represent the very best of the past and the future. They will lead you, in partnership with this administration, through many challenges: The expansion of the ER&D program, continuing the District Literacy Initiative, maintaining our Entry Year Program, exploring a new evaluation model, and of course, Small Schools.

And that is what I'll miss the most - watching intelligent, dedicated people, in the face of seemingly impossible challenges, join forces to overcome obstacles and provide our students with the best education possible. Please consider becoming a part of the heritage of the Union and the District- I guarantee your 30 years will fly by! Good Luck!

Jeff Chapman

Our Program

<i>Social Hour</i>	<i>Featuring Glenn Brackens (Wiley)</i>
<i>Open for Dinner</i>	<i>Grand Ballroom</i>
<i>Introduction</i>	<i>Guests, Executive Board</i>
<i>Ellen Krebs Award</i>	
<i>State of Our Union</i>	<i>Tom Schmida, President</i>
<i>Installation of Officers</i>	<i>(2004-06)</i>
<i>Solidarity Forever</i>	<i>Featuring Tamara Gray (Fairfax/Noble)</i>
<i>Dancing to</i>	<i>Tony Quarles and the Discovery Band</i>

Cleveland Heights Teachers Union

Presidents

Tom Schmida (1990-present)

Glenn Alstchuld (1970-1990)

Jack Quinn

Sol Wachtel

Truman Smith

Merrit Cliff

Ellen Krebbs

John Farinacci

Jack Fraier

Joe Lorz

Walter Kremm

Gil Hoff

Jim Roberts

Officers—2004-2006

President: Tom Schmida (Wiley)

1st Vice President: Daniel MacDonald (Heights)

2nd Vice President: Laurie Chapman (Fairfax)

3rd Vice President: Jeanne Lee (Heights)

4th Vice President: Veronica Hoyett-White (Wiley)

5th Vice President: Jennifer Bennett (Boulevard)

6th Vice President: Tina Reynolds (Coventry)

Retirees—2004

Patricia Baxter

Patricia Benedict

Jeff Chapman

Caroline Chesebrough

Leslie Clarke

Cynthia Collier

Phyllis Graves

Dawn Heintzelman

Virginia Hellstern

Jackie Johnson

Irma McQueen

Glenn Morrison

Joan Penny

Jim Price

Eugene Rackoff

Jonathan Schroeter

Susan Valins

Mark Wessels

Sally Winger

60th Anniversary Banquet Committee

Monica Carter—Local 795 Office Manager

Michael Carter—Heights High

Veronica White—Wiley Middle School

Virneal Finley—Wiley Middle School

Diana Sheppard—Oxford Elementary School

Debbie Frost—Monticello Middle School

Karen DiLillo—Wiley Middle School

Heather Vokic—Wiley Middle School

Damian Creel—Wiley Middle School