

The

Chalkboard

A Report from the Wattsburg Area Schools

2008/2009 School Year

June 2009

<http://www.wattsburg.org>

Congratulations Class of 2009!

Baccalaureate services for Seneca High School's Class of 2009 will be held on Sunday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Mr. Charles Hager will be the guest speaker. Mr. Hager is a teacher from General McLane who also works with "Footsteps", a Christian Teen Retreat. Graduation ceremonies will take place on Wednesday, June 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

The 2009 Valedictorian will be Amy Scalise. Three students are competing for Salutatorian this year, Geran Lorraine, Mary Sallach, and Ashley Ace. Faculty Choice is Mary Sallach, and Class Choice is Sarah Shreve. Formal announcements of these positions will not occur until the school year ends and final grades are calculated.

Continued on page 2



*Amy Scalise
Valedictorian*

*Learn from Yesterday.
Live for Today.
Dream for Tomorrow*



Mary Sallach

Class of 2009

Continued from page 1



Geran Lorraine

Amy Scalise is the daughter of Sally Scalise and the late Francis Scalise of Greene Township. Amy has been active in Seneca's Student Ambassador Program, Future Business Leaders of America, as well as the National Honor Society. She has completed volunteer work at Springhill Retirement Community, the YMCA Daycare, and has done her internship at WAEC. Amy loves outdoor activities such as snowmobiling, four-wheeling, and snowboarding. She will be continuing her education in the fall at Gannon University where she will major in education.

Mary Sallach is the daughter of Cynthia Sallach and the late Reverend Mark Sallach of Greene Township. Mary has been active in sports at Seneca through participation in soccer and basketball. She was recently honored as Seneca's Female Athlete of the Year (sharing that honor with Beth Meabon). She also received the Wendy's High School Heisman Award recognizing her as Seneca's top scholar athlete. She has been a valued member of the National Honor Society, Seneca's Student Ambassador Program, and the Yearbook Staff. She has completed volunteer work at the Erie City Mission and is very active in her church. Mary will continue her education at Waynesburg University this fall, majoring in Athletic Training. She will also play basketball at Waynesburg.



Ashley Ace

Geran Lorraine is the son of Theodore and Cynthia Lorraine, residing in Greene Township. Geran has been involved in numerous activities at Seneca including basketball and Seneca's school store. He is also completed an internship with the Multimedia class. As a sophomore, Geran participated in the People to People International Ambassador Program, visiting Washington D.C. along with an international contingent of teens. This year he, along with several peers, helped develop a bullying prevention video that received first place honors at Seneca. Geran has a strong interest in business. He has taken numerous business related elective courses throughout his four years at Seneca. He will be attending Penn State Behrend in the fall, majoring in Business.

Ashley Ace, daughter of Robert and Susan Ace, also resides in Greene Township. She is a unique student in that she attended the Erie County Technical School's Cosmetology program, while also completing college courses through the Regional Choice Initiative (RCI). She is currently completing an internship at Studio Hue. Ashley has displayed her musical talents through her past participation in Seneca's Fall Play and Spring Musical. She has also completed volunteer work at the Greene Township Building Food Pantry. Ashley will be pursuing employment in the field of cosmetology for a year before beginning her college career.



Sarah Shreve - Class Choice

Sarah Shreve, daughter of Dennis and Tammy Shreve, is a resident of Swatsburg. While at Seneca, Sarah was very active in the Performing Arts. She had leading roles in the Fall Dinner Theatre productions of "Heaven Can Wait", and "Exit The Body." Sarah was also seen in Seneca Musical Productions of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat", "Little Shop of Horrors", and "Wizard of Oz", and she played Aida in "Aida." Sarah, a member of PMEA District Band and PMEA District and Regional Chorus, was also a member of Seneca's Marching Band as Drum Major, Concert Choir and Band, French Club, Drama Club, Yearbook Financial Staff, and was Editor of "The Bobcat Pride", Seneca's school newspaper. After graduation, Sarah plans to attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania with a dual major in Music and English Education.

SHS Summer School

Seneca High School will be offering summer school for eligible students in July. Eligible students are those students that failed a course in the current school year with a final grade of 61-69%. The program is designed to remediate students in their specific areas of weakness relating to specific course content. Areas of instruction for this year will be in English, Math, Social Studies, Science, and Computer Skills

The program will start on Monday, July 13, 2009, and run through Friday, July 24, 2009. Classes are scheduled from 9:30 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday. Courses are offered at a cost of \$135, based on an enrollment of six or more students in each of the content areas. Students will be responsible for their own transportation. Registration is now open through Seneca High School's guidance office and will close Friday, July 3, 2009. Please contact the guidance office, at 824-3400 ext. 4518, if you need further information or would like to enroll your child in the program.

Track and Field News

On May 22nd and 23rd, six Seneca students participated in the state track and field events at Shippensburg, PA.

Seneca High School is proud to announce that Allison Gibbens finished 7th in the State Final of the 400M. The relay team of Allison Gibbens, Kiera D'Antonio, Beth Meabon and Christie Wnukowski also finished in 7th place in the 3200M relay, setting a new school record in the process.

New Electives at Seneca for 2009-2010

Advanced Placement Studio Art

The AP Studio Art course is designed for highly motivated students who are seriously interested in the study of Art. The program demands significant commitment.

Special Topics in Theatre

This theatre course will offer a more in-depth look at specific topics in theatre, drama and performance that are of special interest to those in the class.

Advanced Placement Psychology

In this college level psychology course (equivalent to Psychology 100), students will prepare rigorously for the AP Psychology exam by analyzing the scientific study of human behavior and mental processes.

Pennsylvania History

The Pennsylvania History course studies the history of the state of Pennsylvania that emphasizes the key role it has played in the history of this nation.

Advanced Placement French Language

AP French Language is open to students who have successfully completed French 3. This is an advanced composition and conversation course conducted almost exclusively in French.

Robotics

Robotics helps students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills. Robotics integrates the technological problem solving method with knowledge of science, mathematics, communications and other disciplines.

Media and Medals

In this course, students will make connections to the past and senior generations by developing an understanding of what individuals had to endure during major historical conflicts.

*Graduation is only a concept.
In real life, every day you graduate.
Graduation is a process that goes on until
the last day of your life. If you can
grasp that, you'll make a difference.*

—Arie Pencovici

National Recognition for a Seneca Senior!



Mr. Robert Hart and Sarah Shreve

Mr. Hart's AP Economics class participated in a mock Stock Market Simulation game this semester. His class competed against over 5100 other classes across the country. The class researched stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and market trends. The students were given imitation money to invest and were allowed to trade and buy from the Stock Market Daily. Upon completion of this project, students were to write an investment strategy based on what they learned. Each student was given \$100,000 and asked to explain how to invest it and why they chose this particular strategy. Sarah Shreve's essay and investment strategy was selected as tops in the State of Pennsylvania. She received a \$300 Savings Bond from the Foundation for Investors in Education. Her essay then represented the state of Pennsylvania in the national contest, which had each state send their best essays.

Sarah's written work finished 2nd nationally and will receive additional prizes that include a laptop and Ipod. Sarah was recently recognized at a school assembly for her accomplishments in writing and economics. While she does not consider economics her strength, Sarah appreciates the knowledge that was gained through this contest and Mr. Hart's class. She is most proud of her ability to write and the sense of accomplishment this award has brought to her, Mr. Hart, and the Wattsburg Area School District.

Academic Sports League Students Enjoy Luncheon

The ASL (Academic Sports League) has over 450 participants from 25 schools in Pennsylvania and Ohio. Colleges in Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio recognize and provide financial aid to students who participated in ASL. The League has been in existence for 16 years, with this past year being Seneca's second year of participating.

The ASL team enjoyed a wonderful luncheon at the Bayfront Convention Center while listening to keynote speaker Terry Cavanaugh, CEO of Erie Insurance and acknowledging the scholarship winners from ASL. The team is looking forward to next year's theme of The French Revolution. Special thanks to our supporters in administration and on the school board, and a special thank-you to Mrs. Sue Nolan for her help and assistance this past year!



*Front, left to right: Jennifer Ballus, Beverly Allen, Brianne Drumm, Brooke Schupp, Shaylyn Walberg, Jaimie White, Lauren Winkler
Back, left to right: Mr. Erickson, Britney Trayer, Tessia Koprowski, Nicole Donaldson, Ryan Murphy, Patrick Nolan, Dalton Charcalla*

WASD Honors Two Retirees

Mrs. Rosemarie Damon is retiring from the Wattsburg Area School District after twenty years as a nurse's aide. During her career, Mrs. Damon provided care for children at Greene Elementary and Wattsburg Area Elementary Center. Upon retirement, Rosemarie plans to spend time with her daughter and granddaughter, relax and play golf! "I will miss Wattsburg very much. The friendships and support have meant a lot to me over the years and I will always remember that," stated Mrs. Damon.

Mrs. Dian Willert will also be retiring from WASD after teaching Health and Physical Education in the district for 35 years. Dian plans to spend time with her grandson, Nathaniel. "The most important change in my life is the birth of my grandson this spring. I will have the privilege of caring for him a few days each week. I can hardly wait!" Mrs. Willert stated. She also plans on doing some traveling, reading, gardening, painting, and building treehouses. "...and, of course, the pleasure of staying home on those awful snowy mornings. Life is good. God is good," Mrs. Willert added.



Mrs. Rosemarie Damon



Mrs. Dian Willert and Nathaniel Isaac Cooper

Bobcat Bullet...

Seneca junior, Allison Gibbens, won the District 10 Championship in the 400 meter run on Saturday, May 16th, at Hickory High School. Her time of 58.92 also qualifies her for the state championships.

The Seneca High School 3200 meter relay team of Christine Wnukowski, Kiera D'Antonio, Beth Meabon, and Allison Gibbens qualified for the state championship and finished 2nd at the district championships with a time of 9:47.75



WAEC's Butterfly Garden Sanctuary

Eagle Scouts Brian Johnson and Corey Smith recently presented WAEC elementary teacher Mrs. Barbara Burdick with a plaque for the butterfly garden and a certificate stating that the Butterfly Garden is now a registered sanctuary.

Brian and Corey are both Eagle Scouts of Troop 133 and are Brotherhood members of Langudowi Lodge 46, Order of the Arrow, French Creek Council. They began scouting as Tiger Cubs, earned their "Arrow of Light" award and crossed over into Boy Scouts. Both Brian and Corey spent many, many hours working on the Butterfly Garden as their individual Eagle Scout projects. Brian constructed a pathway of stone pavers and installed four park benches. Corey added a teacher's chair, student's bench, butterfly houses, and many plants, mulch, and a sign.

Brian Johnson is the son of James and Linda Johnson (WAEC secretary) of Greene Township, and brother of Adam Johnson, also an Eagle Scout. He is currently finishing his junior year at Collegiate Academy. As a member of Troop 133, Brian served as Patrol Leader, Order of the Arrow Troop Representative, Librarian, Assistant Senior Patrol Leader, and is currently serving his second year as one of two Senior Patrol Leaders. He has earned 28 merit badges and awards such as "100 Night Veteran Camper" award, "Pope Pius XII" religious award, two "50-Miler" awards and was the recipient of the "Scout Spirit" award in both 2006 and 2007.

Corey Smith is the son of Terry and Lisa Smith (SHS secretary), of Amity Township and the younger brother of Tony and Brett. He will be a Seneca junior in the fall. During his scouting career, Corey also held multiple leadership positions including Chaplain's Aide, Order of the Arrow Troop Representative, and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. He was also awarded the "100 Night Veteran Camper" award, as well as two "50-Miler" awards, and "Scout of the Year" award in 2006.

Thank you, Brian and Corey, for all your hard work. The Butterfly Garden will be enjoyed by many students and teachers for many years to come.



James Johnson, Terri Smith, Corey Smith, Barbara Burdick, and Brian Johnson



2nd Graders Ashley Smith, Alexis Keener, Alyssa Pence, Addy D'Antonio, and Catheryn Szymanski enjoying the Butterfly Garden



Graesyn Tefft, Nicholas Lincoln, Cassandra Langdon, Cassidy Hall, and Megan Napierski take a break from reading for a picture.

Bobcat Bullet...

WAMS staff would like to wish all of the students and parents a safe and happy summer!



WAMS Science Olympiad Team Competes in Regional Competition



*Front Row: Mr. Tim Schweitzer (8th grade Science teacher), Mrs. Mary Beth Hengelbrot (CFF Coach), & Katie Pavkov.
2nd Row: Emma Kowalski, Mary Beth Burbules, Christian Herman, Jared Heitzenrater, Trent Heitzenrater, & Joe Stroup
3rd Row: Seth Magee, Ryan Berti, Steven Perry
Back Row: MacKenzie Crable, Kelsey Leasure, Lindsey Jarema, Donna Hinkson, Kyle Strickenberger, Zach Wolf, Alex Burke. Not pictured: Mr. Mike Ellicott*

On March 26, 2009, WAMS Science Olympiad Team traveled to Clarion, PA to compete in the 25th Annual Regional Science Olympiad. Events included building and operating a catapult, designing a better propeller for a windmill, and identifying fossils. Overall, 23 academic science topics challenged students across the area to determine master of their subject.

Medal winners included:

- 1st place: Environmental Chemistry - Zach Wolf and Trent Heitzenrater
- 2nd place: Crave The Wave - Steven Perry and MacKenzie Crable
- 3rd place: Compute This - Jared Heitzenrater and Joe Stroup
- 4th place: Anatomy - Kyle Strickenberger and Zach Wolf
- 4th place: Amphibians and Reptiles - Donna Hinkson and Emma Kowalski

The 15-member team placed 5th, earning them a spot in the State Science Olympiad competition on May 1st. This was the third year of competition for the WAMS team and this was the first time they qualified for the State level. The team placed 35 out of the 35 schools, but gained experience and now know what it takes to compete at the state level. Each year the teams have advanced further and next year we expect to continue that trend.

It's Easy Being Green

Sixth grade students combined Reducing, Reusing, and Recycling with a service project as they held a school-wide craft fair called "It's Easy Being Green" from May 5th through the 7th. The boys and girls used old tire inner tubes, baby food containers, cereal boxes, plastic grocery bags, and other items that would have been thrown away to create juggling sticks, banks, magazine holders, wreaths, and more! In addition, student Jacob Afton sponsored a Chinese Auction. He collected over 30 prize donations from businesses and individuals. Gifford's Nursery also helped out by adding a ten feet tall birch tree to the auction.

The 6th grade Green Craft Fair was very successful. Proceeds from the craft fair and Chinese Auction totaled more than \$400. Half of the proceeds were donated to the House of Healing, a local residential program which offers an alternative to women who are involved in the criminal justice system. It seeks to reunite women with their children and teaches them basic life skills such as parenting. The



Jade Will and Kaelyn Ramsdell mix up a batch of salts for the Green Craft Fair

Continued on page 8

Kindergarten Students Enjoy Trip to Courthouse

The Crime Victims Center of Erie County presented Good Secrets/Bad Secrets to the Kindergarten class of Wattsburg Area Elementary Center. The children created posters based on what they had learned from the presentation and the following six children were chosen as kindergarten poster winners:

Lacy Kolodziejczak	Jordan Morschhauser
Gregory Gross	Kaitlyn Griffith
Morgan	Will Brown

On April 15, 2009, WAEC Co-principal, Gina Rullo, accompanied the six poster contest winners to an awards ceremony at the Erie County Courthouse. Judge Stephanie Domitrovich hosted the award ceremony in her chambers where Erie Magnetics, WAEC school sponsor, gave each child a gift certificate. The children's parents met the group at the courthouse to join the ceremony. After the ceremony, the children were treated to a pizza lunch at Two Friends Italian Restaurant in Erie. The elementary center's PTO generously agreed to provide this special lunch for the children.



Left to right, Lacey Kolodziejczak, Gregory Gross, Morgan, Jordan Morschhauser, Kaitlyn Griffith, Will Brown, Mrs. Rullo and Judge Domitrovich in back

Easy Being Green

Continued from page 7

balance of the funds were donated to Bethany Outreach Center. The 6th grade class would like to thank everyone for their support!

In addition, the Letters to Iraq project was far more successful than anyone could have hoped for! On Tuesday, May 5th, more than 800 letters were sent to the servicemen and servicewomen of the 1-7 Cavalry at Fort Taji in Sadr City, Iraq. A special thank you to Mr. Chris Ward for creating a fantastic Power Point presentation that summarized the information so smoothly, to Mr. Don Pearce and the elementary teachers for their adorable cards, bubble gum and socks, to Cindy and Jim Szymanski who donated 30 boxes of Girl Scout cookies, and to everyone who made sure that our troops know that they are in our thoughts.

Bobcat Bullet...

On May 19th, volunteers from Junior Achievement taught grade-appropriate lessons about economics and financial literacy to all twenty-eight classes at the Elementary Center.



YMCA Summer Program

Once again, Wattsburg Area Elementary Center will be a site for YMCA summer programs. The YMCA is currently enrolling students for Summer Camp, which includes two weekly field trips, as well as lots of outdoor activities. The YMCA is also enrolling students for preschool and before and after-school care for the fall of 2009.

The YMCA is participating in the Pennsylvania Pre-K Counts program, which offers a quality preschool program to help your child learn the skills they need to be ready and excited for kindergarten. Benefits of this program include:

- highly qualified teachers with experience in working with young children.
- small class sizes so that teachers have more time to work with children individually and in small groups.
- a rich curriculum with learning activities that help children thrive.
- a time for your child's teacher to review your child's development with you.

Please call the YMCA at 825-2706 for more information.

Go West!

On May 5th and 6th, the third and fourth grade classes provided evening performances of the spring musical under the direction of elementary center music teacher, Mrs. Lesley Lopez. The musical was entitled "Go West," and focused on pioneers who settled the American West. Children played the parts of historical figures including Robert Fulton, Peter Cooper, and the Yellow Rose of Texas. Hats off to Mrs. Lopez and the third and fourth graders for two outstanding performances!



The Chalkboard

A Publication of
Wattsburg Area School District

Equal Opportunity Employer

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WATTSBURG, PA.
PERMIT No. 8

School Board

Mr. Joseph Walko, President
Mr. Elwin Rose, Vice-President
Mrs. Sue Afton
Mr. Eric Duda
Mr. Scott Rose
Mr. John Rzepka
Mrs. Linda Smith
Mr. James Thompson
Mr. Kenneth Watkins
Ms. Cheryl Nye, Board Secretary
Mrs. Nancy Sadaly, Acting Superintendent
Mr. Thomas Rinke - Acting Asst. Superintendent

BOX HOLDER OR CURRENT RESIDENT

ATTENTION - PARENTS & GUARDIANS

FOR ATTENDANCE IN ALL GRADES IN 2010/2011, CHILDREN WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING:

- 4 doses of Tetanus* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 4 doses of Diphtheria* (1 dose on or after the 4th birthday)
- 3 doses of Polio
- 2 doses of Measles**
- 2 doses of Mumps **
- 1 dose of Rubella (German Measles)**
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B
- 2 doses of Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine or history of disease.

* Usually given as DTP or DTaP or DT or Td

** Usually given as MMR

Children ATTENDING 7th grade in 2010/2011 need the following:

- 1 dose of Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis (Tdap)
(if 5 years has elapsed since last tetanus immunization)
- 1 dose of Meningococcal Conjugate Vaccine (MCV)

These requirements allow for medical reasons and religious beliefs. If your child is exempt from immunizations, he/she may be removed from school during an outbreak. Pennsylvania's school immunization requirements can be found in 28 PA CODE CH 23 (School Immunization) Contact your health care provider or 1-877 PA HEALTH for more information