

Ever wonder how the first student newspaper got its name "Tibings"?

In the spirit of investigative journalism, here is a passage from the 1951 yearbook that introduced the first issue of the student paper...

"The angels brought glad tidings to a little town called Bethlehem nineteen hundred fifty-one years ago. Ever mindful of this event, we, the students of Bethlehem Catholic High School, in Bethlehem Pennsylvania, decide to call our first newspaper "Tidings," because we wish to bring good tidings about our school to our parents and to all those who have had the privilege at some time of attending this grand school, and to do our part in "wielding the offensive and defensive weapons of a loyal Catholic Press.""

As far as I know, the student newspaper is no longer published, and although the Alumni Newspaper that used to be named Tibings is now called the *Talon*, I thought I'd take the liberty of restoring the name to this newsletter, because in addition to sharing news with and about our class, I hope to restore the "...good tidings about our school to our parents and to all those who have had the privilege at some time of attending this grand school..."

As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, I came across the Becahi Alumni Directory from both 1991 and 2013. The names in the earlier directory included many of our parents', aunts' and uncles', cousins' and siblings' names. It was a nostalgic trip for me.

Just recently I was reminded of a saying that I long forgot. The reminder came in an email from **John Dobrota** '57, who closed by writing "..we want to be in that number, when the hawks go flying in". Amen!

There are only 551 days until the 50th Anniversary of our Graduation!

This month I heard from...

Sr. Regina Kropp '52 (Mary Catherine Kropp), John Dobrota '57, Carol Malone Oroskey '57, Pat Blaukovitch Culkins '58, Jean Herczeg Kalata '58, Richard Uhl '58, Dorothy Keating Steltzer '60, Mary Nolan Sek '61, Al Ortwein '61, Paul Vasko '63, Yogi Eddinger '67, Kay Lippey Kondash '67, Patti Ebeling Miller '68, Mike Fenton '68, John Maco '68, Matt Tevald '68, Patty Bellew Kottke '69, Don Brugger '69, Fran Farris '69, Andy Kametz '69, Kathy Kondash Curzi '69, Jane Sinnott Klucsik '69, Karen Tachovsky Pavel '69, Loretta Ulincy '69, Bobby Halbreiner '71 and Sally



Kammetler '78 ... after the latest Newsletter and Veterans Tributes were issued. From our class, I heard from Bob Alpago, Rick Cassidy, Jeff Jennings, Rick Jordan, George and Betsy (Horvath) Kane, Greg Ortwein, Sue Peters and Bob Roethke. Thanks for your messages!

I added names to the Becahi Veterans Honor Roll

Thanks to all who provided the following updates...

Charles Fenton '32
Joseph Bellew '35
Francis Almer '58
Charles Donches '58
Richard Uhl '58
Francis Macik '60
Frank Wehinger '60
U.S. Navy
U.S. Air Force
U.S. Army
U.S. Marines
U.S. Navy

Joseph Donches '61 U.S. Navy (Viet Nam)

Leo Lynch '61 U.S. Army (Green Berets in Viet Nam)

Al Ortwein '61

Stanley Sek '61

Alfred Teles '61

Joseph Gaal '63

U.S. Army

U.S. Air Force

U.S. Air Force

U.S. Coast Guard

Paul Vasko '63 PA Army National Guard Thomas Nolan '64 U.S. Military Academy
Len "Yoqi" Eddinger '67 U.S. Navy

Len "Yogi" Eddinger '67 U.S. Navy Dick Kondash '67 U.S. Marines

Mike Fenton '68 U.S. Navy Reserves (Viet Nam)

John Maco '68 U.S. Air Force

Dan Rice '68 U.S. Army (Viet Nam)

Matthew Tevald '68 U.S. Army
Bob Roethke '70 U.S. Navy
Christina Feist-Heilmeier '80 U.S. Air Force

Special prayers this month for Carolyn Volpinari, whose mother passed away in November.



I recently read old news about some of our classmates in a June 5, 1967 edition of Tibings...

...I thought I'd reminisce. Remember now, we were freshmen.

- Rosina, Betsy Horvath and Nancy Majczan received awards at the Junior Academy of Science State Finals in April, 1967.
- Mary O'Hare received top honors in the annual French contest sponsored by the American Association of teachers of French.
- Elections were held for Student Council for our sophomore year and we chose Bobby A, Sandy Check, Betsy Horvath, Cyndy Jubinsky, Rick Ressler and Chris(t) Wright to be our representatives.
- Mary Szvetecz wrote an essay piece entitled "Don't Let Democracy Die." (Interesting how relevant the topic is, even today).
- There was an alumni spotlight article on **Edward Dugan '36**...father to **Sheila '69**, **Jimmy '70**, **and Pete '78**.
- The late Walt King was selected as football coach for the 1967 season.
- The seniors were to graduate the largest class (to date), 195 students.
 - Deborah Toth '67 was Valedictorian
 - Joe Bacak '67 was Salutatorian

Notes about the Class of 1928... 90 Years Ago

This was the second graduating class of the "new" high school. There were 14 graduates including:

John Beckett	John Gallagher	Mary Maloney
Isabelle Blackton	Robert Hart	George Martin
Francis Boquel	Joseph Kelley	Robert Morgan
Harry Dougherty	Joseph McGoldrick	Helen Powell
James Dugan	·	Mary Reagan

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Joseph McGoldrick was Class President
Robert Hart was Class Treasurer
John Gallagher was Class VP
Mary Reagan was Class Secretary

The football team went 5 - 0 - 1; outscoring their opponents 245 - 6. The boys' basketball team went 13 - 3

The girls' basketball team went 3 – 9

Source: Yearbook "Brown And Gold"



Next School Mass is Friday December 21st ...The Alumni Christmas Candle Mass

...In the auditorium at 8:20AM. This is the annual "Christmas Candle Mass" where you can purchase a candle in memory of a loved one and it will be carried in procession to the auditorium and placed on the altar during mass. A flyer is attached with more information. Please try to get there by 8:10AM if you can make it.

Interesting observations...

I picked up a copy of the 2013 Bethlehem Catholic Alumni Directory and found out that we have alums in 49 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign countries. Guess which state doesn't have a single Becahi grad. Send me your guess.

As some of you may know, I was a guidance counselor at Beca and served the seniors from the Classes of '78, '79 and '80. Since this was the 40th Anniversary of the class of '78, and the next 2 years will see the 40th for '79 and '80, I thought I'd investigate to see how these "kids" were doing. You'll read some of their impressive journeys later in the newsletter.

I read that:

Sr. Mary Cuthberta Dick, IHM (Lucille Dick '44), celebrated her 60th Jubilee at the Cathedral Basilica of Ss. Peter and Paul in Philadelphia, back in September, 2014.

Dr. John Dobrota '57, who received his Bachelor's degree from Lehigh University and his MD from Hahnemann Medical School, retired after 40 years of practice at Grandview Hospital in Sellersville.

John Maco '68, a U.S. Air Force veteran, is the Sales and Leasing Consultant at Rentschler Motors in Slatington.

Dan Fox '79, a graduate of Moravian College with a BA in Religion, is pastor at the Actstoo Ministry in Shade Gap, Pa.

Daneen Griffin Pieper '79, who received a BS in Business Administration and Marketing from the University of Dayton, is the Director, Sales Operations at EPIC Connections, a global customer engagement and contact center consulting company in Omaha, NE.



Dr. Terri Guman Wignot '79, who received her BA and PhD from Lehigh University, was appointed Associate Provost for Enrollment Management at Wilkes University.

Lisa Hampsey Haggard '79, who received her BSN from The Catholic University serves on the Board of Practical Compassion, a small, hands-on nonprofit organization helping to enrich the lives of Haitians by supporting educational, medical and community-based needs.

Tom Slowey '79, who received a BS in Business Logistics from Penn State University, was elected chairman of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame. Tom has volunteered as an assistant wrestling coach at Torrance's (CA) West High School for the last 17 years.

John Brady '80, who attended Penn State University, has done over a hundred TV and radio commercials and has spent ten years in "The Lion King" on Broadway and in "Newsies" on Broadway.

Dr. Elizabeth "Libby" Cerva '80, who received a BS in Biology from the University of Scranton and a DO from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, is a Family Physician and Primary Care Doctor in the greater Philadelphia / South Jersey area.

Rosemary Decker Stinson '80, who received her BSN and MSN at Villanova University, is a Nurse Practitioner in the Division of Allergy at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Christina Feist-Heilmeier '80, a U.S. Air Force veteran, an RN who holds a MSN and a RN with over 30 years is the healthcare profession, is the author of a book entitled "Nurses Are From Heaven."

Daniel Roebuck '81, received the Pinnacle of the Arts Award at the third annual Linney Awards given by the ArtsQuest Foundation to celebrate extraordinary artists, arts educators, businesses and philanthropists who live and work in the Lehigh Valley.

Pat Santoro '84, is now in his 11th season as the head wrestling coach at Lehigh University.

Sports Update...

• Tennis... **Brenna Magliochetti '19** finished her stellar career with a secondplace finish at the PIAA State Championship and becomes the all-time leader in Becahi Girls Tennis victories with 130, including 113 Singles victories. Brenna,



who intends to continue her career at Providence College, competed in three State Championships and finished with one first-place and two second-place finishes. Congratulations, Brenna!

- Football... 11 wins 4 losses; **District XI 4A Champions**; made it to the PIAA 4A State Semifinals. Overall record in 54 seasons since 1965: 392-215-8, winning percentage: 0.637
- Boys' Basketball... Scott McClary has been hired as the Golden Hawks new varsity boys' basketball coach. McClary was head coach at Muhlenberg College for eight years. Welcome aboard and best of luck, Scott!

The Angels are coming!

Last month in this newsletter we set out to help Alex Tucker, a Becahi junior who lost his father in 2010 and his mother to cancer last July, raise money to complete his education at Beca. (Tuition is \$10,200/year). I'm excited to report that we have received \$2,400 from multiple donors to date. THANK YOU! We're well on our way to achieving our goal as a class. If you have been thinking about helping out, now is your chance. Please know that each gift is important. No gift is too small, but a sacrificial gift is greatly appreciated and will compensate for those not in a position to donate at this time.

If you are willing to commit to a pledge with a one time or recurring payment, the Advancement Office notes that there are many ways you can donate to Alex Tucker's Bethlehem Catholic High Schools tuition and become an Angel Sponsor:

- 1. Call the Advancement Office and pay with a credit card. Call Tina Giordano at (610) 866-0791 ext. 321 and pay with a credit card. Be sure to say that this is for Alex Tucker's Tuition.
- 2. Use this link to donate using our online form all major credit cards are accepted. Click the link https://becahi.org/advancement/ and then click on "Donate Today!". Be sure to note in the "Tribute" field Alex Tucker.
- 3. Mail a check payable to "Bethlehem Catholic High School" to "Bethlehem Catholic High School, 2133 Madison Ave., Bethlehem, PA 18017. **Be sure to note "Alex Tucker's Tuition" on the subject line.**
- 4. Or, stop by the Advancement Office at Bethlehem Catholic High School if you wish to pay with cash and say hello!

Below is a bit more information about Alex.



Alex Tucker is a Junior at Bethlehem Catholic High School with three older siblings who also attended Beca. He has achieved Honors each quarter, was on the wrestling team and is described as respectful and conscientious with amazing potential. He works part time, loves sports in general and the Philly sports in particular. Alex's mother Mary passed away from brain cancer on July 23, 2018. She was predeceased by Alex's father, Brian Tucker, who passed away on May 2, 2010 at the age of 53. For a student who has lost both parents, the Bethlehem Catholic family and the spiritual strength that a Catholic Education offers provide stability and strength. Freshman Guidance Counselor, Kathy Henry, said, "I watched Alex grow up while working at Notre Dame of Bethlehem School. Now at Becahi, I see what an awesome young man he has become. Alex is a humble, thoughtful, and kind person due to the love and guidance he received from his parents, Mary and Brian, and the influence of his brothers and sister. There are people in our lives who are more than friends. They are like family. Alex is that kind of person to our community. He is a special part of our Becahi family."

Recent Passings

Alumni	Class	Passed Away	Age
Suzanne Deegan Cressman	1945	11/26/2018	91
Patricia Sabota Leperi	1951	11/19/2018	85
Jack Egan	1957	11/21/2018	79
Mary Beth Monaghan Eckert	1961	11/17/2018	75

Family and Friends

Jack Egan '57, brother of William '58, Kathleen '59, Anne Marie '63, father of Chris '77, Matt '80, John '84 and Maggie, on 11/21/18
Lawrence Kneiss, father of Peggy, Larry '69 and Marian '72, on 11/28/2018
James Ney, father of Dave '73, Cathy '76 and Mary '80, on 11/23/18
Patricia Sabota Leperi '51, mother of Dominic '94, on 11/19/18
George Sterzen, husband to Nancy Hepp '64 on 11/09/18
Mary Vidonya, mother of Steve '68, Annette '69, Bill '72 and Joe '84, on 11/01/18
Margaret Volpinari, mother of Carol '70, Lynn '71, Kristine '75 and Pete '80 on 11/09/18

Please remember our classmates who passed away in the month of December

Francine Ferreira on 12/19/1969
Sue Nickel Santley-Lazaro on 12/10/2013



"BLinkedIn"

LinkedIn is an online platform that people use to build social networks with other people who share similar personal or career interests, activities, backgrounds or real-life connections. Many of our classmates have profiles on LinkedIn that are viewed by and shared with the public. In future newsletters, some of those profiles of Becahi grads will be posted so we can continue to share our stories and connections with each other. It's a great way to market the school and the alumni. (...and because they are Becahi Grads, I call it "BLinkedIn"). The following grads were found on LinkedIn this year:

Constance Spagnola Weiskopf '68, who received a BSN from Villanova University, an MSN from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a PhD in Nursing from the University of Connecticut, is the Director of Patient Care Services at the University of Connecticut's CT Health Center, Correctional Managed Health Care in the greater Hartford, Ct area.

Kelly Gillespie Vreeland '78, is a Senior Investigator, AHFI (Anti Healthcare Fraud Investigator), at Guardian Life Insurance in Bethlehem.

Dan Reisteter '78, who received a BS in Political Science from the University of Scranton, is the Vice President of Government Relations at Pennsylvania Bankers Association in Harrisburg.

John Sweetz '78, who received his AA from Northampton Community College and BS in Business Administration from Kutztown University, is a Real Estate Broker at Spot Real Estate in Wilmington, NC.

Tom Vargo '78, who received a BS in Accounting from Moravian College, is Director, Appeals at Lincoln Financial Group in Omaha, NE.

Rich Waldraff '78, is a PA Registered Professional Land Surveyor based in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Judy Walker '78, is now a retired Trooper/Criminal Investigator for the Pennsylvania State Police.

Maria Horn Cowen '79, is a Compliance Manager at Home Savings & Trust Mortgage in Centreville, VA.

Dave Fradeneck '79, who received his degree in Electrics from Lincoln Technical Institute, is the Customer Engineer (CE) Team Lead at NCR Corporation in Hollidaysburg, PA.



Maryellen Golden Oroskey '79 is a Nurse Assistant at the Whitehall-Coplay School District.

Ron Koach '79, is a Pastoral Assistant at Holy Ghost Church and at the Neumann Center of Lehigh University.

Dave Kravatz '79, who retired from the City of Bethlehem Police Department after 27⁺ years, is a Deputy Sheriff in Northampton County

Mike Nesfeder '79, who received a BA in Political Science from Mount St. Mary's University and a JD from Samford University, Cumberland School of Law, is a Shareholder/Partner at Fitzpatrick Lentz & Bubba, P.C. in Center Valley.

Lisa Rich Schwalm '79, who received a BS in Elementary Education and a MEd from East Stroudsburg University, is a Reading Specialist in the Bethlehem Area School District and an Instructor/Adjunct Summer Reading Clinic at Moravian College.

Anne Anderson Penkal '80, who received a BS in Chemical Engineering from Lehigh University, is an Experienced Product Marketing Professional with over 21 years' experience in multiple positions at Severn Trent Services in the greater Philadelphia area.

Elizabeth "Lisa" Kaercher Eichler '80, who received a BA in Theatre and Speech from DeSales University, a MA in Theatre Education from Rutgers University and an MBA in Marketing from Wright State University, is a Lecturer Management & Marketing Fellow at the University of Dayton.

Grace Herron '80, who graduated from St. Luke's Hospital School of Nursing is a Registered Nurse at Rx Home Care in Bethlehem.

Janice Kachmar Miller '80, who received a BSN from DeSales University and a MSN from Mount Mercy University, is a Lecturer at the University of Iowa School of Nursing.

Laura Martocci '80, who received a BA in Sociology and Anthropology from Lafayette College and a PhD from the New School of Social Research, is a Consultant, Author, Community Programmer on anti-bullying initiatives and SEL program development in Staten Island.

Sally Redding Irwin '80, who received her BS in Medical Technology and a MS in Occupational Health and Safety Engineering from West Virginia University and also a MA in Teaching from Frostburg State University, is the Director of School Engagement - Pennsylvania at Project Lead The Way in Hagerstown, Maryland



Bob Seidenberger '80, who received a BS in Finance/Accounting from Penn State University, is Vice-President at Bay View Funding in Bethlehem.

Paula Susa Guidon '80, who received an AAS from Northampton Community College and a BA in Communication from Muhlenberg College, is a Business Analyst for Guardian Life Insurance

Lou Vittorio '80, who received a BS in Geology/Geophysics from the University of Pittsburgh and a MS in Geology from Lehigh University, is VP and Principal Geologist at EarthRes Group, Inc. in the greater Philadelphia Area

Beth Ann Scheller Wandler '86, is an Executive Administrative Assistant, Office Manager at Cambridge Co1mmunications, LLC in Bath PA

Robert Lysek '87, who received a Bachelor of Applied Science (BASc) in Education from Lock Haven University, is the Founder and CEO of the Executive Education Academy Charter School in Allentown.

Roberta Bukvics Moir '89, who received a BS in Retail/Fashion Merchandising from Marywood University, is the Store Director at Saks Fifth Avenue OFF 5TH in Philadelphia.

Dave Domchek '89, who received a BS in Criminal Justice, History from the University of Scranton and a MS in Special Education from Lehigh University, is the Principal of Pen Argyl High School.

Veronica Jaramillo '90, who received a BS from Moravian College and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Arizona, is a Chemistry Professor at Pasadena City College in the greater Los Angeles area.

Lisa Weber Kanyuk '90, who received a BSN from the University of Pittsburgh, is a Senior Clinical Application Analyst at St. Luke's Hospital.

Scott Klapac '90, who received a BS in Exercise and Sport Science from Penn State University and a MS in Exercise Physiology from West Chester University, is a Senior Sales Representative for McGraw-Hill Education in the greater Philadelphia area.

Melissa Zeller Kiebort '90, who received a BS in Marketing from St. Joseph's University, is Marketing Account Manager at CSTMR Content Marketing and Support Specialist in the Exton, PA area.

Michele Anfuso '95, who received a Bachelors Degree in English from DeSales University and, more recently, a MS in Library Science from Clarion University, is the



Information Services and Interlibrary Loan Librarian at Lehigh Carbon Community College.

Jacque Parker '04, who received her AA in Education from Northampton Community College and a BA in Communications from DeSales University, is a Major Gift Officer at DeSales University.

Becahi Class of 1978 held their 40th class reunion...

...on Friday October 26th and Saturday October 27th, beginning with a casual gathering at Tocci's Tailgaters with approximately 30 people in attendance. The night was full of food, drinks, conversation and lots of laughs.

...on Saturday afternoon, 40 classmates and guests gathered at Becahi for a tour of the school given by the principal Holly DeNofa followed by Mass in the Becahi chapel, which was celebrated in remembrance of the 22 deceased members of our class. On the altar, each deceased member was represented by a lit votive candle. The Mass's celebrant was Msgr. Ronald Bocian, our former Theology teacher. The Sisters from the Becahi convent also joined us for Mass along with **Debra DeSanto** '85, a current teacher at Becahi, who supplied the music for the Mass with her talented guitar playing.

Following Mass, the reunion took place at 7 p.m. until 11 p.m. at The Steel Club in Hellertown where 54 classmates and 75 people in total in attendance. A portion of the reunion cost along with the proceeds raised from a basket raffle held during the event were donated as a class gift back to Becahi in the amount of \$1,600. The money donated will be equally shared between the Becahi Art and Theatre departments.

The reunion provided us time to catch up, reminisce about our days at Becahi, lots of conversation and laughter. We are looking forward to our 45th! – Sally Kammetler '78

"Wanna go to Bermuda next April?" asked an Angel.

The second annual alumni cruise sets sail from New York City next April 28, 2019. Angel Rivera '71, has provided an attached flyer for your reading pleasure and planning for this 7-Day Bermuda from New York escape.

Last year's cruise sailed out of Miami with 34 Becahi faithful. Many from the class of '67 celebrated their 50th class reunion.



This year's cruise is out of NYC. There are currently 15 people "on-board" including a group from the class of '59, celebrating 60th class reunion.

A group cruise class reunion is the "newest" alternative to the "traditional" type reunion.

Anyway, the final deadline to sign up for this year's cruise is December 15th with final payment due December 21st. (See the attached flyer for more information.)

From the Advancement Office...

Mentoring Program for current students launched

The program is designed to be a light-touch, digital-based program that revolves around empowering students with insights into career paths of alumni. If you are an alumni or parent in the Bethlehem Catholic High School community who would like to share your career experience with students who may be interested in your chosen career path, then please consider joining our Mentor Program.

The link below will take you to the first step which is completing a simple online survey. You may also upload your resume if you so desire. https://goo.gl/forms/5lKxKSGtGTx6fsrn1

There is a link at the beginning of the survey with four slides further explaining the program: https://drive.google.com/open?id=1N6t6d8lbq_nAAKjNh46MjC0Le2S-7f-

Essentially, by completing the survey, your name and information will be maintained in a database which the Guidance Counselors can access if they have a current student interested in your career path. They may then reach out to you for a three-way call between the counselor, student and yourself. Additionally, you may be asked to participate in a Career Day or Speed Mentoring Day.

Dan Roebuck Meet and Greet

Pinnacle of the Arts Award-winning actor **Dan Roebuck** '81 will be at the school on Saturday, December 8th from approximately 11 AM - 4 PM selling his DVD, "Getting Grace" and signing copies. He will also be present in the evening during the Partner School Play, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever". Stop by and do some early Christmas Shopping.



Reflection

Tomorrow is the first Sunday of Advent. As we were taught, Advent is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. This is a time of preparation, directing our hearts and minds to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas and to Christ's second coming.

May reflection and prayer each day help us within the Becahi community to experience the manifestation of God's goodness in a more profound way on Christmas Day.

BTW, Do you remember what we called the third Sunday of Advent?

And now...

Despite every effort to prevent errors, sometimes they occur. If I inadvertently misinterpreted a story or fact, or if your name has been omitted or misspelled, please notify me and/or the Advancement Office and accept my sincerest apologies, and...

If you have any stories, comments, concerns, opinions, etc., that you'd like to share, please let us know.

Sincerely, JohnnieO (John O'Boyle) jobisob1@yahoo.com

Key Points of Contact at the school:

Ms. Holly Magalengo, Director of Advancement, 610 866-0791, ext. 322 hmagalengo@becahi.org

Ms. Connie Druckenmiller, Events Manager, 610 866-0791, ext. 323 cdruckenmiller@becahi.org

Ms. Tina Giordano, Advancement Assistant, 610 866-0791, ext. 321 tgiordano@becahi.org