



# ReEchoes

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

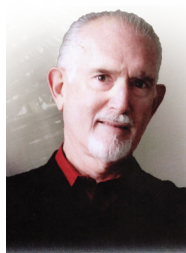
Greetings to all of you, especially those who have the distinction of being called USA Alumni!

Well, we're about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way through my time as president. I am pleased to say that there is an amazing group of officers who have worked many hours to accomplish the successes we've enjoyed so far. I have been very fortunate to be surrounded by dedicated and talented alumni who love the Lord and our school. Together, we have made incredible progress. And we're not finished yet!

As president, my time in this position will be ending in six months and the VP will be stepping in as that is how the system works. That means that I will transition to Past President, the VP will become President and we'll have a vacancy to fill. If any of you have a desire to serve or know someone who might, please let us know. The VP job is a two year position that leads to being President for two years and then to Past President.

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve here and would love to see the progress we've made continue into the coming years.

We pray that 2023 will be a great year for each of you and the same for the Alumni Association and, of course for our USA. Please pray for us as we work for the Master in this capacity and that souls will be in the Kingdom as we have tried to lift up the Lord through Christian education and alumni fellowship.



Blessings to all of you in the coming year.

**Jeff Hunt**  
*Alumni President, Class of '68*



## Alumni Association Executive Officers

### President:

Jeff Hunt '68  
jeffhuntministries@hotmail.com

### Vice President:

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### Membership Secretary:

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### Academy Liaison:

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Netta Smith-Blakes '82

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#### Archives/Memorabilia:

Ed Runnals '73 and Brent Runnals '99

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### Assistant Membership Secretary:

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### Alumni Facebook Coordinator:

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### Military Representatives:

Terry Schermerhorn '62 and  
Tim & Stephanie Moore '09

### Photographers:

Kay Duncan-Lavonier '98  
Ed Runnals '73

### Contributing Editors - Alumni Association Officers

#### Contributing Writers:

Jeff Hunt '68, Janica Kaltsas-Caster '90, Terralyn Greene-Dickerman '61, Penny Gebhard Pagett '92, Judi Bentz-Eells '65, and Patty Hitchcock-Dunham '85

## CHOOSE WISELY

The ancient bearded man dressed in the vestiture and hood of chain mail speaks quietly and with conviction: "You must choose, but choose wisely. For as the true grail will bring you life, the false grail will take it from you."

Directed by Steven Spielberg in 1989, the movie "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade" depicts a scene in a remote cave room. In this scene, Dr. Jones must select The Holy Grail (a cup presumably used by Christ at the Last Supper). The myriad of golden choices that are available to him is staggering. A 700-year-old knight explains that he alone has been guarding the cup for centuries.

### You Must Choose

Indiana Jones has the opportunity to choose a chalice from which to drink the water of eternal life. He chooses a simple, dusty goblet from behind two bedazzled specimens. He dips it into a pool of water and drinks from it. "You have chosen wisely" the old knight quietly whispers.

As far-fetched as this movie is, this scene has repeatedly played out in my mind over the last 20-plus years. "You must choose, but choose wisely."

This thought-provoking phrase has cycled through my brain in a way that would probably make Spielberg proud. His message stuck, and

it repeats itself often as I go through the daily task of living. If there ever was a statement that applies to humans in the 21st century, I am convinced that this is it. "You must choose, but choose wisely."

### Buffet of Choices

Life is a veritable buffet of choices and opportunities. I am inundated with media, compelling voices from the left and from the right—also music, news, books, magazines, hobbies, and relationships. Yet, with all the technology that exists, I am often left with this hollow feeling. I feel that I am simply unable to properly decide what to keep and what to leave. As intimidating as it sometimes is to choose correctly, we are faced with this daunting task in almost every moment of each day that we live.

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:3, NKJV).

My ability to choose wisely in every circumstance does not magically appear after spending time with my Creator. But I have noticed that my willingness to consider God's kingdom and His will gives me the peace I need to move forward.

Pastor Michael Temple, Class of 1982

## USA CAMPUS UPDATES

We are pleased to report that our second semester is off to a strong start, with a full calendar planned for the months ahead. God has blessed us with 90 students.

We had an amazing first semester, which included several choir tours, with two trips to New England, as well as tours here in the New York Conference. A number of music tours are also planned for second semester throughout our union, so keep your eyes open for concerts near you. Our music department is a wonderful witness through their ministry. We have been blessed to add a handbell choir to our music performance groups. Much appreciation to Dana Villarroel, who is new to our music department this year, for her energy and vision.

Our basketball teams are into their third month of the season, and going strong, both at home and away. The Eagles are looking forward to traveling to Andrews University for the Newmyer Classic Tournament, which takes place at the end of January.

Many of you joined us in December for our annual Walk Through Bethlehem, which was a great success. It was a memorable evening, with a record-breaking number of over 275 guests visiting our campus. The weather was chilly, but clear, with no rain, which made it a blessed experience for all.

At the end of first semester, we said goodbye to our beloved math teacher, Dr. Eduardo Urbina, who is retiring. A dinner was held in December, to honor and thank him for his many years of service, as well as show our appreciation to this wonderful man, who has been a blessing to our Union Springs Academy community for over four

years. He will be greatly missed. We thank you, Dr. Urbina, for your many years of dedicated service!

Our principal, Jeremy Garlock, is healing from a recent surgery and finishing up some treatment in Boston for his cancer diagnosis. We are so thankful that the prognosis is good. All of us are looking forward to having him back on our campus, on a more regular basis, mid-second semester. As always, your prayers and support are much appreciated. We are grateful that the Union Springs Lions Club is holding a pancake breakfast fundraiser for the Garlock family on February 12.

The faculty and staff at USA have been expanding during this year. We have been blessed with several amazing new assistant deans in both dorms, to strengthen our dormitory experience and help things run smoothly, providing more support to our deans and residents. Our cafeteria is blessed to have a new director, Dennia Gomez, leading our outstanding food services team. With our math teacher retiring after first semester, we are pleased to welcome a new to us, yet experienced math teacher Mr. K ("Ben" Onyina Kutin-Boateng).

Don't miss the Alumni vs. USA Eagles basketball game on March 4 at 7:00 p.m. Also, coming to our campus, is Jaime Jorge in concert on Sabbath, March 11 at 5:00 p.m. This will be a benefit concert for Union Springs Academy. Be sure to also check out our Facebook page and school website for updates on other upcoming events at Union Springs Academy.

~Union Springs Academy Development Office

## UPCOMING ACADEMY DATES

**March 4:** Alumni vs USA Eagles Basketball Game - 7 pm  
Academy Gym

**March 11:** Jaime Jorge Benefit Concert - 5 pm  
Union Springs SDA Church

**March 12 & 13:** Academy Day/STEAM Fair  
For any student grades 7-11 interested in USA!

**March 18:** Florida Alumni Chapter Reunion – 2 pm  
East Pasco SDA Church, Zephyrhills, FL

**April 7 & 8:** Passion Play event held at USA Gym - 7pm

**April 30:** New York Conference Constituency Meeting - Held at USA

**June 2-4:** Graduation Weekend Exercises

**June 23 - July 1:** New York Conference 2023 Camp Meeting

**July 2 - 9:** 10th Annual Renovations Week with Maranatha

**July 16- 22:** 2023 Skills Week - 7th-12th Graders Welcome!

**August 20:** Back to School - New School Year!

**September 22-24:** 59th Alumni Homecoming Weekend!

# 2022 ALUMNI WEEKEND - HONOR CLASSES



**5-Year Class, 2017** | Too Say, Breanna Cenecharles, Tha Dah



**10-Year Class, 2012** | Front row: David Froehlich, Shawna Thomas-Drurey, Amanda Whitlow-Trecartin, 2nd row: Jeremiah Dapolito, Kevin Canas, William Acevedo Back row: Kenny Dapolito and William Max Main



**15-Year Class, 2007** | Andrew Whitlow



**20-Year Class, 2002** | Diana Dick and Cheryl Selvage



**30-Year Class, 1992** | Matthew Seymour and Greg Shepler Not pictured but present: Joseph B. Foote



**35-Year Class, 1987** | Don Mayer III



**40-Year Class, 1982** | Front: Michael Temple, Roberta Taylor-Temple, Netta Smith-Blakes 2nd row: David Cady, Carol Foote, Malcolm Proctor, Martin Caster Back: Scott Raney, David Murray, Kevin Peck, Don Buck



**45-Year Class, 1977** | Chary Cook-Hicks and Brenda Whittens-Caster



**50-Year Class, 1972** | Jerry Strayer, Marilee Robinson Allen, Gerry Lewis, Not pictured: Herb Mason



**60-Year Class, 1962** | Front: Terry Schermerhorn, David Spielman, Cheryl Kriegelstein Tremper Back: Linda Coudon-Tooley, Sharon Smith, Jeanne Peets-Rousse, Nason Mason-Caballero



**70-Year Class, 1952** | Jeannette Andrews



**VIP Alumni** | Front Row: Ed Roach '46, David Spielman '62, Ethel Carr '67-83, 2nd row: Bruce King '71, Judith Bentz-Eells '65, Jaqueline Fuller-Caster '54, Terralyn Greene Dickerman '61, Cheryl Kriegelstein-Tremper '62, Marie Repracht-Putman '65, Gail Carr-Mason '70, 3rd row: Linda Coudon-Tooley '62, Florence Robert '63, Sharon Smith '62, Mary Curren '70, Jeannette Andrews '52, Jeanne Peets-Rousse '62, Nancy Mason-Caballero '62, Tim Boundy '68 Back row: Don Martin '65, Charles Tremper '58, Robert Curren '63, Fred Parker '68, Wanda Carr-Cady '70, Jeff Hunt '68, Terry Schermerhorn '62, and Glenn Greenfield '66.



**Newly Inducted Honorary Alumni** | Barbara Boundy – with husband, Tim Boundy '68, and Emma Hunt- with husband Jeff Hunt '68.



# TENNESSEE CHAPTER REUNION

Southern Adventist University Campus

It was a beautiful evening on the campus of Southern Adventist University when Alumni of all ages met to celebrate our roots. We all had the wonderful opportunity to count USA as a place where we blossomed as students. Many of us knew each other, many did not. But that did not affect the strength we all felt while we sang and harmonized our school song. There was great emotion during the evening as friends were rewarded for their part in keeping our Alma Mater alive and thriving. Young and old were brought together who had never met, yet they were connected by former students, parents of students or former faculty. The web of former Alumni, whether young

or old, is connected in so many ways. Our newest Alumni provided us with special music and background music. Everyone had that special look on their face that you can only have if you attended Union Springs Academy. The room was crowded and the food was great! Many found themselves looking through yearbooks, reminiscing about friends found on the old pages. The whole evening was almost better than alumni weekend. The USAA will be planning one of these events again, maybe close to you. We hope to see you there!

Terralyn Greene Dickerman, Class of 1961

# SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER REUNION

Formerly Atlantic Union College Campus



The Southern New England Alumni Chapter reunion was held on November 6th at the Village Church in South Lancaster, MA. We began the day with a pancake breakfast prepared by the Senior class of our sister school, South Lancaster Academy, who is celebrating their 140th year. This was a fundraiser for their senior trip.

There were about 25 alumni in attendance. We enjoyed pancakes, breakfast sausages, eggs, freshly made applesauce and good fellowship on a beautiful fall day.

Janica Kaltsas-Caster gave an update on U.S.A. The great work going on at the school

was very encouraging and examples include new industries which provide work opportunities for students, several courses that will give college credits, spiritual training, and occupational certifications.

Jeff Hunt, the current Alumni President, joined the gathering via a video call. He was very enthusiastic about plans for the Alumni Association and appreciates the involvement of the Alumni.

The gathering came to an end with the group singing the school song and taking a photo.

Jannette Edison Kling, Class of 1985

Front row left to right: Sheila Fleming '1989, Bonnie Close Alfke 1962, Deb Knutson Bezerra '1985, Wendy Tessier Hall 1980, JoAnn Cooley 1974, Yvonne Edison (Cox) 1956, Joan (Barbara) Mitchell 1957  
2nd row: Karen Walker 1997, Phyllis Orsburn 1968, Amy M Main (Foote) 1996, Mary Roberts 1989, Teri E Dana Foote (USA staff 1977-1997), Karen Linda 1971, Bonita Desens King 1982, Jan Kling (Edison) 1985, Janica Kaltsas Caster 1990, Katrina Cobb McLaughlin 1991  
Back row: Matthew Seymore 1992, David Lacy 1958- graduated, former staff 68-73, John C. Schumacher-Hardy 1986, and Daniel Foote 1968

## ALWAYS REMEMBERED ~ NEVER FORGOTTEN

We do not always receive notification when a death occurs so if there are alumni missing from this list, please let the Alumni Association know by emailing the full name and date of death to our Executive Secretary, Terralyn Greene Dickerman at [usaexecutivesecretary@gmail.com](mailto:usaexecutivesecretary@gmail.com) or calling the school Advancement/Alumni Office at 315-889-7314. We truly want to remember and honor each person so thank you for helping us in this important matter.

Class of 1951	Esther Fritz -Schmidt	March 21, 2019
Class of 1950	Letha Beman- Hardy	August 28, 2021
Class of 1955	Benjamin Dempsey	October 13, 2022
Class of 1957	Arthur Franke	October 29, 2022
Class of 1976	Kimball Strong	December 2, 2022
Former Staff	Charles Drechsel	September 15, 2022
Former Staff	Sandra Pratt	November 1, 2022
Former Staff	Judy Hodder	November 4, 2022

\*Updates since our last report in the Fall 2022 issue of ReEchoes



Union Springs Academy Alumni Association  
59TH ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEKEND

September 22 - 24, 2023

Honoring the Following Classes:

1943 - 80 Years	1948 - 75 Years	1953 - 70 Years
1958 - 65 Years	1963 - 60 Years	1968 - 65 Years
1973 - 50 Years	1978 - 45 Years	1983 - 40 Years
1988 - 35 Years	1993 - 30 Years	1998 - 25 Years
2003 - 20 Years	2008 - 15 Years	2013 - 10 Years
		2018 - 5 Years

For More Information: Call 315-889-7314 or  
visit [unionspringsacademy.org](http://unionspringsacademy.org)



Church Service Speaker:  
Pastor Eric Doran, '73

Coming Soon...

Alumni Weekend  
September 22-24, 2023!

*"OUR USA, WE'LL EVER LOVE THEE!"*  
CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF  
UNION SPRINGS ACADEMY  
BY  
DR. BRIAN STRAYER



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JAIMÉ JORGE

THE  
*Healing Music*

CONCERT TOUR



**Union Springs SDA Church**

31 USA Way, Union Springs, NY

**Saturday, March 11, 2023**

**5:00 p.m.**



Union Springs Academy  
Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 524  
Union Springs, NY 13160

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