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Your Teachers — April 2011

A number of your former teachers attended the 21th annual Jericho High School Alumni Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the Jericho Public Library on April 7, 2011, and the dinner beforehand at Milleridge Inn. We thought you'd like to see their photos, and so we muscled our way in to intrude upon private, even intimate conversations between people who hadn't seen each other for thirty, forty, fifty years, barking "Can I take your photo?" in a menacing tone of voice. Compliance couldn't have been better.



(Left) Mr. Robert Hoffman, who started the Hall of Fame back in 1990, with the class of '69's Marvin Schwartz, a 2009 inductee.

(Right) Les Scheinfeld ('73), accompanied by his wife, Nancy Mariano Scheinfeld, is associate director of Suffolk County Habitat for Humanity, which is one of the most successful HFH affiliates in the Northeast, building 14 to 15 homes a year for needy families, and more than 140 houses to date. Les is involved in the organization's fund-raising, as well as selecting the families who purchase the homes with an interest-free twenty-year mortgage. Before joining Habitat for Humanity in 2003, he'd worked in the corporate world. Les, who lives in Port Jefferson, has six children and five grandkids.





(Above) From the class of 1961, Robert Klein and Bill Harris. **(Below)** That's Richard Hammann in the middle and Don Larsen on the right.



(Above) Now arriving, teachers Mrs. Nancy Lynch and husband Bob Lynch with Linda Donovan. As Linda Bueschel, she taught the class of 1961.



(Above) Math teacher Mr. Louis Boroson, a member of the Hall of Fame selection committee, with his wife, Florence.



(Left) Inductee Steven Spencer ('71) and his wife, Lynne. Steven, who was president of the Jericho student government, is a partner in the Philadelphia law firm Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. He also teaches law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School and Villanova Law School. His expertise in employee benefits law has made him recognized nationally.

According to his classmate Bonnie Siber Weinstock, who nominated him, "Steve has a lengthy and distinguished record of public service," including serving as chairman of the board of the Vanguard School for children with special needs. "For more than ten years, Steve was the head of the Lower Merion Soccer Club's special needs program, serving children with a range of needs, from autistic children to those in wheelchairs. His patience and dedication are legendary." Steven, a graduate of Cornell University and Columbia Law School, lives in Winnewood, Pennsylvania. He and Lynne have two sons, one of whom is on the autistic spectrum.

(Right) Inductee Larry Licht ('72) has been an electronics enegineer for Motorola (now General Dynamics) since 1981. He was senior engineer on a vital top-secret defense project manufacturing encryption units for F-22 Raptor jet fighters. For years, he also "moonlighted" as part of the team for Vince Granatelli Racing (Vince being the son of racing legend Andy Granatelli). Larry has been active in community service ever since he joined the Jericho Volunteer Fire Department at the age of eighteen. If he hadn't moved to Arizona six years later, he says, he'd still be there. His very first year as a fireman, he got a call to extinguish a fire in the Jericho High School gym. (Some joker had lit a pair of gym shorts on fire and tossed them behind the foldout bleachers.) Larry lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, with his wife, Tovah. Their twenty-year-old son, Adam, is a student at Arizona State University. Shown with Larry is industrial-arts instructor Mr. Jack Latham.





(Left) From the class of 1961, Jill Bradley Mansberger and Grace Merrell Slezak.



(Below) Robert Klein, Dr. Richard Bobis, and someone who isn't wearing her name tag!



(Left) Barbara Krieger, president of the Jericho Board of Education.



(Left) Inductee Neil Goldberg ('81), second from right, with his mother and friends Ken and Mary Kaliski, is an independent artist and graphic artist. Since 1992, he has been exhibiting public art works, multimedia installations, and experimental videos all over the United States as well as in Spain, Cuba, Israel, Hong Kong, England, Mexico, Germany, Russia, Croatia, Canada, and Switzerland. Neil received the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship in 2003, just one of numerous fellowships. The Manhattan resident attended Brown University and volunteers with organizations such as the B'Nai B'rith/SPCA homeless shelter.

(Right) Mr. Andrew Chagalasian was a math teacher in 1961, later moving to the guidance department. With him is the class of '61's Roberta Brumby Boccio, who now lives in Hicksville.



(Left) From the Jericho Board of Education, Claire Hochheiser.

(Right) Inductee Gail Rubenstein Sider ('77) is a fourth-grade teacher at Siwanoy Elementary School in Pelham, New York. At Jericho, she was vice-president of the Blue Key society and graduated in the top ten of her class. A graduate of NYU Law School, Gail began her career as a tax attorney in the nonprofit sector. But after the birth of two daughters, she decided to take time off. When she went back to work years later, it was as a teacher: Gail enrolled in Pace University's master of science for teachers program on a full scholarship. Siwanoy Elementary was where she interned, and she's been there ever since. Students and parents alike describe her as an extraordinary, gifted, and dedicated educator. With her are her parents, Ann and Ben Rubenstein.



(Left) Les Scheinfeld with the class of 1971's Joan Baiman Rosenberg, now assistant principal at JHS. She's also in the Hall of Fame.

(Below) See the woman on the left? That's Mary Vitale, and without her, the Hall of Fame would basically cease to exist. With her is Hall of Fame committee member Judy Ornstein, a teacher at JHS.





(Left) You know when you wind up taking all the pictures at a party you forget to have one taken of yourself, so it looks like you weren't even there? The class of 1972's Philip Bashe, a 1996 abductee into the Hall of Fame and now on the selection committee, hands off the camera for a shot, just to prove he wasn't absent.



Each inductee is paired up with one of Jericho's Super Seniors. These kids are so accomplished, it's ... sickening. Above are Nikko Price and Jonathan Orr, and at left, Robin Schnitzer and Nadine Hassan.



(Above) Gail Rubenstein Sider, second from left in back, surrounded by family and friends, was paired up with JHS senior Courtney Wong (far right).



(Above) While being escorted around the school the following morning, speaking to several classes, Larry Licht was talking to Nadine Hassan and discovered that she and her family live in Linda Caputo Friedmann's old house in West Birchwood. Nadine will be studying medicine at Johns Hopkins in the fall.



(Left) From the class of '61, Jill Bradley Mansberger on the left and William Mansberger on the right. The couple now live in Brentwood, Long Island.

(Right) Mr. Jack Latham was one of four teachers present from the first graduating class. "He looks exactly the same," marveled Bob Hoffman. "Hasn't changed a bit." Speaking of Mr. Hoffman, we somehow missed taking a photo of his wife, Dolores Poltorak Hoffman, who also taught at Jericho in '61 and was also at the dinner. Not a big deal, though, since she too hasn't changed. The Hoffmans recently celebrated their fortieth anniversary.



(Left) Mr. Chagalasian with JHS math teacher Brian Cummings, a member of the Hall of Fame selection committee.



Cake!



Obligatory crowd shot.

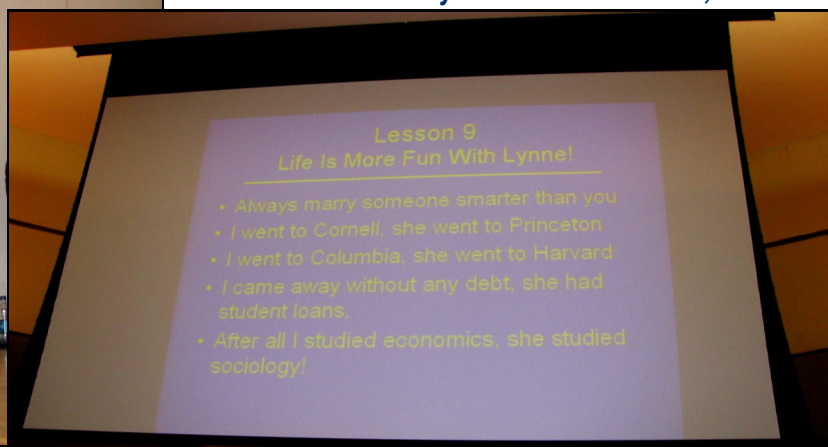


(Above) It's a cross to bear for all inductees into the Jericho High School Alumni Hall of Fame: sitting under a two-by-three-foot poster of your high school yearbook picture. In public. If you can brave that, it demonstrates a definite strength of character. From left to right: Steven Spencer ('71), Les Scheinfeld ('73), Neil Goldberg ('81), Larry Licht ('72), and Gail Rubenstein Sider ('77). **(Below)** Longtime master of ceremonies Nicholas Maraventano, a JHS teacher, always does a terrific job.





Podium? I don't need no stinkin' podium! Steve Spencer's creative acceptance speech utilized Power-Point to presented life lessons such as "Always marry someone smarter than you." How about richer, too?



(Above) Les Scheinfeld fondly remembered some of the rock concerts he used to attend as a kid, like Grand Funk Railroad and Humble Pie at Shea Stadium in 1971; Gail Rubenstein Sider told a story of being so studious as a teen that her parents had to take away her textbooks. (Below) Neil Goldberg poked fun at his teenage 'fro, while Larry Licht recalled the difficulties of being a teenage techie in a liberal-arts world and noted how things dramatically things have changed.





(Above) Retired teacher Mr. Rudy Cesarini presents JHS Hall of Famers Marvin Schwartz and Dr. Adam Levy ('86) with the Emil Voigt Memorial Award for their charitable work on behalf of the Sunrise Day Camp for children with cancer.



(Left) Plenty of friends come out for these ceremonies. Posing with Lynne and Steven Spencer is fellow class of '71 member (and Hall of Famer) Bonnie Siber Weinstock.



(Right) Rick Baiman ('73) joins his bud Les Scheinfeld. Rick is Joan Baiman Rosenberg's brother. And their mom, Bernice Baiman, is a member of the Hall of Fame selection committee.



And, of course, teachers attend, too. Around the horn from top left, Knicks fan Mr. Ernest Savaglio, who still works for the Jericho school district; a great shot of Ms. Phyllis Mandell; Mr. Ken LeCluse, who nominated Les Scheinfeld and who has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity for many years; Mr. Rudy Cecarini, who represented the Jericho Retirees Association; and Ms. Maureen Tracy, one of several teachers to receive shout-outs of appreciation from the evening's honorees.

