



## **Mendel Alumni Association Board of Directors Meeting**

**December 15, 2023**

### **MINUTES**

#### **President Tom Gavin Called the Meeting to Order at 6:04 PM**

*Craig Larsen, John Mikenis, David Milton, Mike Dreznes, Curtis Rempson, Don Triveline, Terry Gainer, Kelvin Lovely, Pat Regan, Tom Gavin, Andy Youpel, Rick Zarr, Ron Dubin, and Dennis Heitzmann were present. John Dreznes and Bill Johnson also attended the meeting as observers.*

*John Wilson, Bob Fioretti, Gene Rouse, John Knoebel, Bill Duffy, Billy Hilbring, John Franklin, and Bill Kushner notified the Board that they would not be able to attend the meeting.*

*Nolan Lane, (5th Consecutive Miss With No Explanation), **UPDATE: Mike Dreznes spoke to Nolan Lane, and he wants to stay on the Board. A new email address was added to the directory to ensure that Nolan Lane was aware of future Board meetings and activities.** Derek Lott (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation), Eric Rouse (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation), John Fanning (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation), David Ireland (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation), and Mike Foley (2nd Consecutive Miss With No Explanation), were Missing With No Explanation.*

#### **Opening Prayer**

Dennis Heitzmann opened the meeting with a prayer asking for inspiration to allow us to have a productive meeting and to allow us to make good decisions.

#### **Minutes from October 19, 2023 BOD ZOOM Call Meeting Mike Dreznes**

Mike Dreznes presented the Minutes from the October 19, 2023 Board Meeting. No one had any questions or comments regarding the ZOOM Call Minutes.

Ron Dubin made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Pat Regan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Plans to Fill Board Positions for Mike Anthony, and Rich Williams**

Terry Gainer ('65) was introduced to the Board as a possible new Board Member for the term ending on July 31, 2025. Don Triveline ('71) was introduced to serve term ending on July 31, 2024. Both candidates expressed their desires to work on the Board of Directors and to strengthen the reach and effectiveness of the Board in the future.

Mike Dreznes made the motion to accept both Board of Director candidates. Pat Regan seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously, and Terry Gainer and Don Triveline were welcomed to the Board.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Finance Committee Pat Regan**

Pat Regan made a motion to send Fr, John Sotak a check for \$250 in his name to Crowne Point. Andy Youpel seconded the motion, and the proposal passed unanimously.

Pat Regan presented the Financial Report as of December 13, 2023.

Year To Date Summary												
2023 Budget/Actual												
		ROMEOS & All Class Reunion		Golf Outing	Mendel Science Hall	Donation Gift		Veterans Day	Events Total	Corporate	Donations	Scholarships
#	\$					Xmas Party	BB game HOF					
Beginning Cash Balances 12/31/2022	20,334.12	8,996.29				599.03	-	1,955.45	31,884.89	(2,468.95)	(7,000.00)	-
<b>2023 Activity</b>												
<b>Revenue 2023:</b>												
Paid BB Game, Includes Donation Gifts							935.00		935.00			
Paid	1,060.00	19,131.00				3,982.00	2,395.00	2,500.00	29,068.00		275.00	5,455.00
Unpaid BB Game							99.00		99.00			50.00
<b>Total</b>	-	1,060.00	19,131.00	-		3,982.00	3,429.00	2,500.00	30,102.00	-	275.00	5,505.00
<b>Expenses 2023:</b>												
Paid	720.00	10,222.11	3,510.46			4,960.19	4,184.02	1,325.46	24,922.24	5,414.33	3,754.54	5,000.00
Paid BB Game							302.76		302.76			
Paid-Hickory Hills deposit-2024			1,000.00						1,000.00	(1,655.25)		33.08
Paid expenses for 2024			200.00						200.00			
Unpaid Hickory Hills												
Unpaid Other				1,174.98			616.03		1,791.01	650.00		
<b>Total</b>	720.00	11,422.11	4,685.44			4,960.19	5,102.81	1,325.46	28,216.01	4,409.08	3,754.54	5,033.08
<b>Net Cash Results for 2023</b>	-	340.00	7,708.89			(978.19)	(1,673.81)	1,174.54	1,885.99	(4,409.08)	(3,479.54)	471.92
<b>Net Cash Results 2021-2023</b>	20,674.12	16,705.18				(379.16)	(1,673.81)	3,129.99	33,770.88	(6,878.03)	(10,479.54)	471.92
Chase Bank Balance 12/14/2023												
In Process In Process Gift												
In Process In Process BB Game												
In Process In Process Gift												
In Process In Process Gift												
In Process Micro test deposits												
Less: O/S Checks Misc Bank Charge												
Less: O/S Checks Fr Sotak 250.00 #155 Voided 11-24-2023												
Less: O/S Checks Misc Micro Charge												
Less: O/S Checks												
Less: O/S Checks												
Prior year spending for Golf Outings:												
	2023	2022										
Rich Williams Fund for Golf Prizes	200.00	500.00										
Deposit for Hickory Hills	1,000.00	1,000.00										
Corporate Cost:												
	2023 Open		2022		Refund of IRS Penalty for 2021 tax return deposited 2/22/2023 Treated as offset to prior years' expenses							
D&O Insurance				1,615.00								
Web Fees		550.00		1,595.00								
IRS Filing Fees		100.00		600.00								
Mendel Picnic in Donations	500.00				Recorded as Donation							
		650.00		3,810.00								
Other items in 2022												
Foley Award				240.00								
Augustinian Ad Book				400.00								
Gift Cards for Reunion Support				780.00								
Other				28.00								
		650.00		5,258.00								

1. The results have not been finalized for the BB Game Event on 12/12/2023 but preliminary results at a break-even including Donation Gifts.
2. We have created a new Donation source: -Donation Gifts which contains donations receive and when we provide Mendel memorabilia such as T-Shirts, Hats, Glasses and Decals.
3. Since 11/28/2023, which was the start of the "Giving Tuesday" promotion, we have received \$3,135 in direct Scholarship Donations.
4. We purchased 72 Mendel Logo 16oz Glasses that can be Donation Gifts. They will be available on the web site and at future Events.
5. Our Bank Cash Balance stands at \$19,177. Our Running Cash Projection is \$16,253.
6. I have included a separate Excel analysis showing the activity associated with the Mendel Science and Technology Hall Exhibit at St. Rita. This item will be discussed later in the Agenda.

		<b>Mendel Science Hall</b>								
		Original Estimate	Paid	New	Revised Projected	Due St Rita				
<b>Items and Description</b>										
1	New showcases for Trophies split 50/50 with St. Rita	925.00	920.00		920.00			<b>Framing Quote</b>	<b>Hobby Lobby Quote</b>	
2	Hallway wall mural of Gregor Mendel legacy and history	900.00	700.00		700.00	-		<b>Estimated</b>	36.5 x 36.5	
3	New Mendel Science Hall Signage over doorway entrance As dedicated by Mendel Alumni Association	300.00	289.15	-	289.15			Frame 97-21	112.57	
4	Reinstall existing entrance signage to inside of doorway	250.00			250.00			UV Glass Museum	120.00	
5	New protective covering for Gregor Mendel portrait	150.00	154.00		154.00			Black Matt	58.00	
6	Misc. painting electrical, wall mounting costs, etc.	100.00			100.00			Mounting	18.00	
7	Framing of school photos, Fr. Seary, Mendel history	400.00	441.82	-	441.82			Total	308.57	
	<b>Estimated 10/19/2023</b>	<b>3,025.00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,504.97</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,854.97</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>With Tax</b>	<b>333.58</b>	
8	Remake Trophies- 2 Wrestling, 2 Track, 1 Base, 1 BB		177.37		177.37			<b>Pro Cam Photos Print</b>	<b>108.24</b>	
9	Video streaming of HOF, History & Vets			500.00	500.00				<b>441.82</b>	
10	Steaming Monitor from B&H Sony 43" Monitc with 3 year warranty		712.10		712.10			<b>Other spending:</b>		
11	Other		35.26	50.00	85.26			Foam Board	17.27	
12	Additional level showcase 48" W x 38" H			274.98	274.98	274.98		Picture Cutting	17.99	
13	Half shelves for showcases		80.76		80.76				35.26	
	<b>Total New Items 11/8/2023</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,005.49</b>	<b>824.98</b>	<b>1,830.47</b>	<b>274.98</b>	B&H 43" Monitor	712.10	
	<b>Total Projected Costs</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,510.46</b>	<b>824.98</b>	<b>4,685.44</b>	<b>274.98</b>	Showcases		
								2 - 48 "x 20" x 72"	1,837.62	
								1- 38 x 18 x 48"	274.98	
								Total	2,112.60	
									1,194.98	

Request donations from Alumni via web site, email blasts to support the official dedication event of the Mendel Science Hall at St. Rita scheduled for January 10, 2024

Kelvin Lovely made the motion to accept the Treasurer’s Report. John Mikenis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Committee Reports**

Each Board of Directors was asked to serve on at least one committee. The Finance Committee will remain a one-person Committee for now. The HOF Committee is responsible for their own Membership. **UPDATE:** After discussion and calls, the BOD Members were assigned to the following Committees.

- Bob Fioretti
- David Ireland
- John Fanning
- Don Triveline
- Andy Youpel
- John Franklin
- Rick Zarr
- Billy Hilbring
- Curtis Rempson
- Dennis Heitzmann
- Terry Gainer
- Derek Lott
- John Wilson
- Nolan Lane
- Bill Duffy
- Eric Rouse
- Gene Rouse
- Mike Foley
- Ron Dubin
- John Knoebel
- Craig Larson
- David Milton
- John Mikenis
- William Kushner
- Tom Gavin
- Kelvin Lovely
- Pat Regan
- Mike Dreznes

- VETERANS, FIRST RESPONDERS**  
**OPEN**  
**WEBSITE, VETERANS**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**VETERANS (CHAIR), REUNION, GOLF, SCHOLARSHIP. PICNIC, FIRST RESPONDERS**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**WEBSITE (CHAIR), GOLF OUTING**  
**REUNION**  
**VETERANS**  
**HOF (CHAIR) SCHOLARSHIP**  
**VETERANS, FIRST RESPONDERS, MEMBERSHIP**  
**PICNIC (CHAIR)**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**PICNIC**  
**GOLF OUTING**  
**SCHOLARSHIP (CHAIR)**  
**PICNIC**  
**REUNION**  
**MEMBERSHIP (CHAIR), REUNION**  
**GOLF OUTING, REUNION**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**SCHOLARSHIP**  
**HOF, REUNION**  
**FIRST RESPONDERS (CHAIR), GOLF OUTING, SCHOLARSHIP, REUNION. PICNIC**  
**GOLF OUTING (CHAIR), SCHOLARSHIP, VETERANS, REUNION, PICNIC, FIRST RESPONDERS**  
**SCHOLARSHIP, VETERANS, GOLF OUTING, PICNIC, REUNION, FIRST RESPONDERS**  
**SCHOLARSHIP, FINANCE (CHAIR), REUNION, VETERANS GOLF OUTING, PICNIC, FIRST RESPONDERS**  
**SCHOLARSHIP. REUNION, VETERANS GOLF OUTING, MEMBERSHIP, WEBSITE, PICNIC, FIRST RESPONDERS**

**COMMITTEES**


- Finance
- Golf Outing
- Hall of Fame
- Website
- Membership
- Scholarship
- Reunion
- Picnic
- Veterans
- First Responders




## Chairman's Report-Golf Committee-Bill Johnson

Bill Johnson reported that the Golf Committee currently consists of Andy Youpel, Bill Duffy, Pat Regan, Tom Gavin, Rick Zarr, Don Goepfner, Kelvin Lovely, Tim Zimbauer, John Farris, Mike Dreznes and Bill Kushner.

The Golf Outing will be held on Wednesday July 10, 2024 at Hickory Hills Country Club. Every Board Member is asked to get involved, either by playing, attending dinner, helping to work the event or purchasing an ad in the Event Book.



MEDEL CATHOLIC PREP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



**WEDNESDAY JULY 10, 2024**  
**Hickory Hills Country Club**

**GO, YOU MEN OF MENDEL!**  
<https://mendelchs.org/>

*The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual*  
**MEDEL ALUMNI GOLF OUTING**  
WEDNESDAY JULY 10, 2024

Hickory Hills Golf Course  
8201 W 95<sup>th</sup> St  
Hickory Hills, IL

8:00AM CHECK-IN  
9:00AM HOLE SIGN START

This Outing is for Mendel Alumni and all Friends of Mendel. Proceeds above the cost of the event support Retired Augustinians, the Mendel Alumni Scholarship Program, the Mendel Hall of Fame, and the Mendel Website.

The cost of \$150 includes green fees, golf cart, open bar, dinner and door prizes.

Don't golf? Cocktails followed by dinner begin at 2:30 PM for only \$50. Don't have a foursome? We will fill it in for you.

Fill out the form below and mail it by July 6, 2024 LATEST. Make with checks payable to: Mendel Alumni Association c/o Pat Regan 16510 Bayberry Lane Wheaton, IL 60180

**ENTRY PACKAGES**

GOLF AND DINNER	<b>\$155</b>
DINNER ONLY	<b>\$55</b>
HOLE SPONSORSHIP	<b>\$100</b>

Bill Johnson (708) 710-6823 [bjm1ta@att.net](mailto:bjm1ta@att.net)  
Pat Regan (630) 408-1447 [ppr1249@att.net](mailto:ppr1249@att.net)

**Register and/or Pay Online:**  
[Alumni Association Golf Outing |](#)

A portion of the Golf Outing revenue will be donated to the Mendel Alumni Association Legacy Scholarship Fund

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CLASS OF: \_\_\_\_\_ PLEASE ACCEPT AN ADDITIONAL DONATION OF: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

"IF PAYING BY CASH: RETURN THIS FORM AND STATE THAT YOU WILL BE "PAYING AT DOOR".

WANT TO HAVE A HOLE SPONSORED BY AND NAMED AFTER YOUR GROUP OR BUSINESS? ADD AT LEAST \$100 HERE, ALONG WITH VERBIAGE FOR SIGN.

1. VERBIAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

OR EMAIL DESIGN/VERBIAGE TO: [bjm1ta@att.net](mailto:bjm1ta@att.net)

NAMES OF ADDITIONAL GOLFERS BESIDES MYSELF:

2. _____	CLASS OF: _____
3. _____	CLASS OF: _____
4. _____	CLASS OF: _____

**GO, YOU MEN OF MENDEL!**  
<https://mendelchs.org/>

Bill Johnson was asked to present a budget for the Golf Outing at the next Board Meeting. Golf and Dinner will cost \$110 and have a purchase price of \$155. Dinner only will have a purchase price of \$55, and Hole Signs will have a purchase price of \$100.

Bill Johnson asked for a list of golfers from 2023. He will ask John Farris to supply this list.

Bill Johnson suggested that we purchase new hole signs for 2024. He will inspect the existing inventory to determine if any of the existing signs can be reused. Kelvin Lovely pointed out that Angelo Williams ('78) wants to supply the hole signs. Ken Sitkowski ('73) from Bannerville also wants this business. Bill Johnson will get quotes from both individuals, and the Golf Committee will make the final decision..

There was considerable discussion regarding gifts for the golfers. Some individuals wanted to give the golfers Mendel Polo Shirts, others wanted Mendel Tote Bags, and others suggested that no gifts be given. The Golf Committee will make the final decision.

Bill Johnson is working on a variety of activities to raise funds at the Golf Outing. He suggested Split the Pot Raffles and Silent Auctions. His Committee will work to make liquor baskets and gift cards for the silent auction. Mike Dreznes offered to contact Chuck Cebuhar to get donations from him. **UPDATE: Message sent to Chuck Cebuhar on December 27, 2023.**

Craig Larsen recommended that Mendel contact local bottlers to get donations.

**ACTION ITEMS: Golf Committee to determine what Hole Signs are needed and who will supply them. Golf Committee to determine which gift, if any will be given to golfers. Bill Johnson to talk to John Farris to get list of 2023 golfers. Bill Johnson to contact local bottlers for donations.**

## Chairman's Report- Hall of Fame Committee-Dennis Heitzmann

Dennis Heitzmann recently agreed to serve as the HOF Chairman. The HOF Directors also asked John Mikenis to serve on the HOF Committee. Dennis Heitzmann will familiarize himself with the HOF and make a report at the next BOD Meeting.

## Chairman's Report- Website Committee- Rick Zarr

The Mendel Website continues to receive rave reviews. Rick Zarr and John Dreznes were congratulated for their excellent work.

From October 20, 2023 to December 14, 2023, seven hundred fifty-five new people have visited the website.

Rich Williams did an amazing job submitting Christmas recipes that are published on the "What's Cookin', Monarch?" segment on the website.

Pat Regan proposed that John Dreznes be put on a \$75 monthly retainer for his work on the website. Andy Youpel seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The BOD was asked to create an Annual Report showing the accomplishments in 2023. Mike Dreznes is willing to work on this if he has help. Without volunteers, this Report may not be possible.

**ACTION ITEMS: All BOD Members are encouraged to sign up to make reoccurring Monthly Donations on the Mendel Website., and to notify Mike Dreznes if they want to work on an Annual Report. .**

## Chairman's Report-Membership Committee-Ron Dubin

Ron Dubin had to leave the meeting early. Mike Dreznes emphasized the need to get Email addresses for Alumni to make them aware of the Alumni Association's existence and the Alumni Associations Events and Activities. Mike Dreznes explained that the goal of the Membership Committee is to locate good email addresses for 50% of the known living Alumni. Currently that number is at 31%.

Since June 20, 2023, Rich Williams has helped to find 584 more Deceased Monarchs and 476 more Email addresses for Alumni. Mike Dreznes encouraged all Board Members to get actively involved to find more email addresses since email is the Alumni Association's typical mode of communication. Andy Youpel offered to find missing Alumni in the Class of 1966 whose last names begin with "K" or "L".

MENDEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP 6/20/2023

CLASS	NAMES	DECEASED	LIVING	EMAIL ADDRESSES	%
1955	293	74	219	31	14.16%
1956	274	83	191	28	14.66%
1957	250	51	199	27	13.51%
1958	325	49	276	54	19.58%
1959	377	52	325	71	21.85%
1960	413	67	346	53	15.31%
1961	366	55	311	59	18.99%
1962	318	121	197	140	71.07%
1963	376	57	319	60	18.81%
1964	440	45	395	80	20.25%
1965	488	62	426	55	12.91%
1966	487	59	428	83	19.43%
1967	389	32	357	70	19.61%
1968	354	70	284	192	67.61%
1969	362	39	323	79	24.46%
1970	294	18	276	63	22.83%
1971	327	30	297	98	33.00%
1972	264	25	239	72	30.13%
1973	258	23	235	110	46.81%
1974	229	16	213	32	15.02%
1975	168	12	156	45	28.85%
1976	140	5	135	23	17.04%
1977	75	5	70	20	28.57%
1978	136	9	127	36	28.35%
1979	176	13	163	33	20.25%
1980	111	7	104	17	16.35%
1981	116	7	109	21	19.27%
1982	96	3	93	21	22.58%
1983	120	4	116	12	10.34%
1984	141	2	139	24	17.27%
1985	135	5	130	22	16.92%
1986	128	4	124	21	16.95%
1987	137	4	133	30	22.56%
1988	99	2	97	16	16.49%
1989 MDP	111	3	108	2	1.85%
1990 MDP	88	0	88	1	1.14%
1991 MDP	90	1	89	0	0.00%
UNC CLASS	61	1	60	13	21.67%
ALUMNI	9012	1115	7897	1814	22.97%
TEACHER	23	8	15	6	40.00%
TOTAL	9035	1123	7912	1820	23.00%

SINCE START OF CAMPAIGN

• 584  
• More  
• Deaths

476  
• More  
• EMails

MENDEL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP 12/15/2023

CLASS	NAMES	DECEASED	LIVING	EMAIL	%
1955	289	124	165	39	23.64%
1956	275	123	152	41	26.97%
1957	251	76	175	32	18.28%
1958	324	75	249	69	27.71%
1959	376	92	284	81	28.52%
1960	409	150	259	68	26.25%
1961	365	77	288	69	23.96%
1962	323	127	196	152	77.55%
1963	374	104	270	81	30.00%
1964	436	111	325	159	48.92%
1965	478	142	336	151	44.94%
1966	487	100	387	139	35.92%
1967	387	40	347	75	21.61%
1968	354	84	270	216	80.00%
1969	362	41	321	90	28.32%
1970	294	20	274	70	25.55%
1971	326	32	294	104	35.37%
1972	262	25	237	71	29.96%
1973	256	36	220	160	72.73%
1974	227	18	209	46	22.01%
1975	168	13	155	46	29.68%
1976	140	5	135	24	17.78%
1977	76	6	70	20	28.57%
1978	136	9	127	36	28.35%
1979	176	13	163	34	20.86%
1980	111	7	104	18	17.31%
1981	115	8	107	21	19.63%
1982	96	3	93	22	23.66%
1983	120	4	116	14	12.08%
1984	142	2	140	32	22.86%
1985	134	6	128	25	19.53%
1986	128	4	124	24	19.35%
1987	138	5	133	35	26.32%
1988	99	6	93	14	15.05%
1989 MDP	112	4	108	3	2.78%
1990 MDP	88	0	88	2	2.27%
1991 MDP	90	1	89	0	0.00%
UNC CLASS	60	1	59	14	23.73%
ALUMNI	8984	1694	7290	2289	31.40%
TEACHER	37	13	24	7	29.17%
TOTAL	9021	1707	7314	2296	31.39%

## Chairman's Report-Veterans/First Responders Committee-Andy Youpel

Andy Youpel reported that the November 11, 2023 Veterans Day Mass went very well. All in attendance at the St Rita High School Chapel were very appreciative of the effort made by the Veteran's Committee

**WELCOME FROM THE MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

Certain people react well in life-threatening situations, and our Military Veterans and our First Responders tend to be those kinds of people. When everyone else is running away from danger, they run into it.

The Mendel Alumni Association salutes all Military Veterans, in particular Mendel Alumni who have served so gallantly. Today, we especially remember and honor the fifteen Mendel Monarchs who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam.

Thank you for your service. You are the real heroes who protect our world and make it a better place, and we all owe you a huge debt of gratitude.

*"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them." – John F. Kennedy*

**MENDEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

**Chairman Bill Kushner ('71)**  
**President Tom Gavin ('67)**  
**Vice President Kelvin Lovely ('78)**  
**Treasurer Pat Regan ('68)**  
**Secretary Mike Dreznes ('68)**

John Knoebel ('75)	Nolan Lane ('86)	Gene Rouse ('72)
Ron Dubin ('63) US ARMY	Derek Lott ('84)	Craig Larson ('68)
John Fanning ('68) US ARMY	Curtis Rempson ('83)	David Milton ('78)
Bob Fioretti ('71)	Eric Rouse ('75)	John Mikenis ('73)
Mike Foley ('71)	John Franklin ('77)	Rich Zarr ('71)
Billy Hilbring ('81)	Andy Youpel ('66) US NAVY	John Wilson ('72)
David Ireland ('78)	Dennis Heitzmann ('64) US ARMY	
Bill Duffy ('64) US NAVY		

The Veteran/First Responder Committee consists of Jim Chevalier ('66) US NAVY, Mike Connolly ('60) US ARMY, Mike Dreznes ('68), John Fanning ('68) US ARMY. Tom Gavin ('67), Bill Kushner ('71), Terry Gainer ('65) US NAVY, Kelvin Lovely ('78), Pat Regan ('68), Curtis Rempson ('83), Bob Fioretti ('71) and Marty Gainer ('70) US ARMY.

Andy Youpel will act as the Chairman for the Veterans activities, while Bill Kushner will act as the Chairman for the First Responder activities.

The First Responders Committee will host a Mass during Police Week May 15-21, 2024. Bill Kushner will organize a Committee ZOOM Call to finalize plans regarding dates and locations for the Event. The Board recommended that this Mass be for all First Responders and not just Police. Terry Gainer offered to work with Bill Kushner on this Event.

**ACTION ITEMS: Bill Kushner to organize a ZOOM Call with his Committee to decide the coordination for the First Responders Mass during the week of May 15, 2024.**




## Chairman's Report-Scholarship Committee-Eric Rouse

Eric Rouse was not on the call. He will be asked to present an update on the Legacy Scholarship at the next Board of Directors Meeting.

The Scholarship Committee is comprised of Eric Rouse, Craig Larson, David Milton, John Wilson, Dennis Heitzmann, Don Triveline, Pat Regan, Andy Youpel, Tom Gavin, Ron Smith, Kelvin Lovely, Bill Kushner, Bob Fioretti, Danny Randall, John Franklin and Mike Dreznes. Board Members were encouraged to notify Eric Rouse if they wanted to be on the Scholarship Committee.

The Scholarship Committee has a meeting scheduled on December 19, 2023.

**UPDATE: The Scholarship Committee prepared the following Announcement and Application to be used for the 2024 Legacy Award: The decision was made to call the Award the Mendel High School Alumni Association Legacy Award instead of a Scholarship.**

<p>Mendel High School Alumni Association \$1,000 or \$2,000 Legacy Award Open to Immediate Descendants of Mendel Catholic High School Alumni</p>	<p><b>Mendel Alumni Association Legacy Award Application</b></p>
  	<p>Please print legibly: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____</p> <p>Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____</p> <p>Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p> <p>Name of Related Mendel Alumnus _____</p> <p>Mendel Class Year _____ Relationship to Applicant _____</p> <p>ACT or SAT Score _____ Grade Point Average _____</p> <p>School You Will Attend in Fall 2024 _____</p> <p>Required Documentation with Submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copy of SAT or ACT Score</li> <li>• Proof of 2.8 GPA</li> <li>• Copy of College, University or Technical School Acceptance Letter</li> <li>• Essay: <i>In 300 words or less, share your goals as you prepare to advance your education. What are your career aspirations after you graduate from college? Why?</i></li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION &amp; ESSAY SUBMITTAL MARCH 15, 2024</p>
<p><b>2024 REQUIREMENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child, Grandchild or Great Grandchild of Mendel Alumni</li> <li>• Current High School Senior – 2024 Graduation Class</li> <li>• Minimum ACT Score-21 or 1100-SAT Score</li> <li>• Minimum 2.8 GPA</li> <li>• Proof of Acceptance to a 2 or 4 Year, Institution of Higher Education (College, University or Technical School)</li> <li>• Proof of Community/School Involvement</li> <li>• Written Essay Topic:</li> <li>• The Mendel High School Fight Song Opening Words Are: <i>"Go you Men of Mendel, we've got to reach our goal!"</i></li> <li>• <i>In 300 words or less, share your goals as you prepare to advance your education. What are your career aspirations after you graduate from college? Why?</i></li> </ul> <p style="color: white; font-weight: bold;">SUBMIT APPLICATION &amp; ESSAY TO <a href="mailto:larsen@ellijay.com">larsen@ellijay.com</a> CLEARLY MARK IN SUBJECT LINE "MENDEL LEGACY AWARD"</p> <p style="color: white; font-style: italic;">"Remember That Goals Without Plans Are Just Wishes"</p>	<p>I verify that the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.</p> <p style="font-size: small;">APPLICANT SIGNATURE</p> <p style="font-size: small;">SUBMIT APPLICATION &amp; ESSAY TO <a href="mailto:larsen@ellijay.com">larsen@ellijay.com</a> CLEARLY MARK IN SUBJECT LINE "MENDEL LEGACY AWARD"</p>

## OLD BUSINESS

### Mendel Basketball Revival Report December 12, 2023

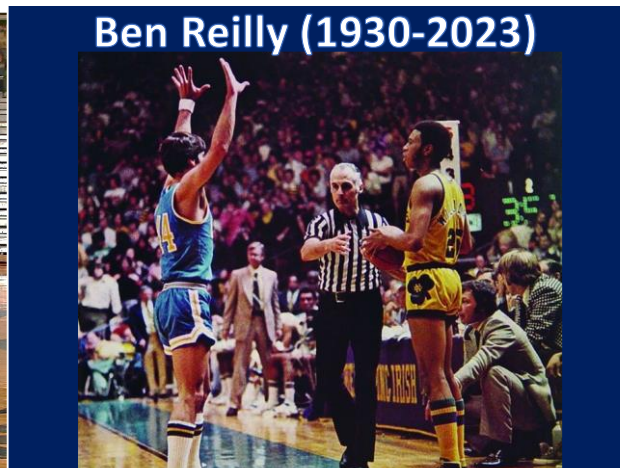
Kelvin Lovely reported that thirty-seven basketball Alumni, including at least one from each decade Mendel was open, including Tom Leo from the inaugural Class of 1955, showed up for the game between St. Rita and Providence High School on December 12, 2023. Both teams wore Mendel gym shirts as warmup.

Before the game the Mendel Alumni met for pizza and beverages. AJ Avery the AD at St Rita and Ross Burt, the Basketball Coach at St. Rita were wonderful hosts.

Prior to the start of a game, a moment of silence was held for Coach Ben Reilly who was Mendel's first coach and he passed away on November 26, 2023. Ben also was a St. Rita Alum. As fate would have it, Coach Reilly's son was the referee at the game.

Coach Mike Sheahan ('61) and Coach Mike Flaherty sat on the benches during the game. All who attended enjoyed themselves and more than one person suggested that this becomes an annual event, possibly named the "Ben Reilly Memorial Classic." No decisions were made on future games.

Kelvin Lovely (Chair), Billy Hilbring. Pat Regan, Andy Youpel, Rick Zarr, Tim Zimbauer. Bill Kushner and Tom Gavin were thanked for their help to make this event a success.



**Ben Reilly (1930-2023)**

## “GIVING TUESDAY” Update November 28, 2023

On Tuesday November 28, 2023, Mendel Alumni were asked to join the National “Giving Tuesday” Event by donating money to the Mendel Legacy Scholarship Fund. A total of \$3,135 was donated. Directors were encouraged to donate what they could prior the end of the campaign on Christmas Day.

## 2024 Christmas Luncheon Update December 19, 2023

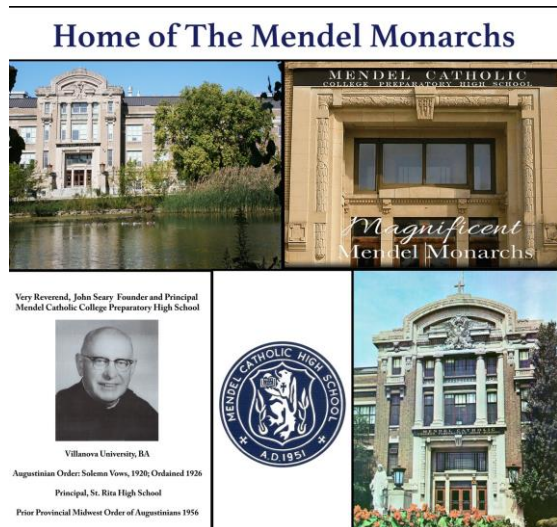
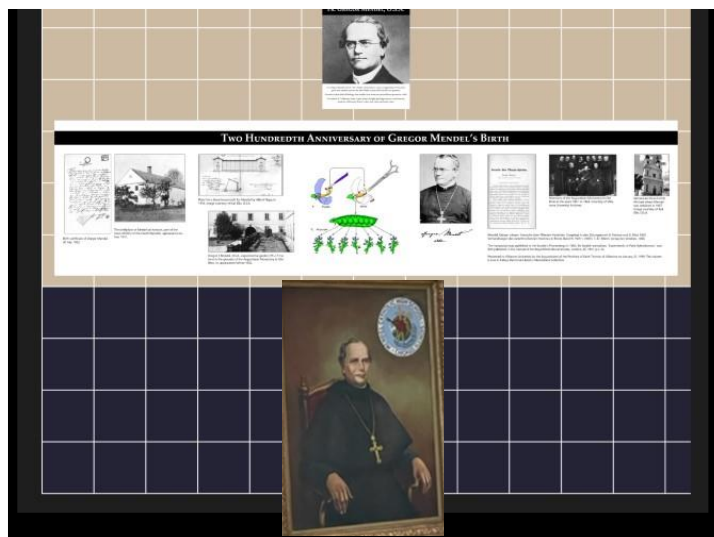
Twenty-four Monarchs attended the Mendel Christmas Luncheon Celebration on December 19, 2024 at JJ Kelley’s in Lansing, Illinois. The food was great, as was the comradery. A variety of gloves, hats, socks and toys were donated to help needy families during the Christmas season.



## Mendel Hall of Science Rededication Plans January 10, 2024

The pieces for “The Mendel Hall of Science-Dedicated to the Mendel Catholic Prep Alumni Association” at St. Rita High School are slowly coming together.

Pat Regan, Rick Zarr, Andy Youpel and Johnny Dreznes have put in many hours to make this “shrine” something to make Mendel Alumni proud.



The rededication ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday January 10, 2024 to honor Gregor Mendel’s 200<sup>th</sup> Birthday. All of the St. Rita students, as well as Mendel Alumni will be invited to the rededication ceremony.



Andy Youpel reiterated that the Mendel Alumni Association will sponsor two \$500 STEM Awards that would be granted in the form of a credit toward their senior year tuition at St. Rita High School. The winning students will demonstrate a proficiency in Science, Technology, Engineering and/or Math. The Administration at St Rita High School will make the selection of the students.

### Western Suburb "R-O-M-E-O" February 21, 2023 Update

Bill Duffy announced that the next R.O.M.E.O. would be held on February 21, 2023 at Ballydoyle in Downers Grove, IL. Details will be available on the website soon.

### **2024 All-Class Reunion Discussion May 3, 2024**

Mike Dreznes announced that the next All-Class Reunion will be held on May 3, 2023 at Gaelic Park, in Oak Forest, IL. The Classes of 1973 and 1974 will be honored for their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries.

John Mikenis ('73) has been a tremendous help with the publicity for this Reunion. John agreed to help with the Reunion organization, but he does not want to chair the Event. Mike Dreznes agreed to Chair the Reunion. Volunteers are needed to help with the Reunion, especially volunteers from the Class of 1974..

Bob Lopez ('73), who is the head of Football Operations at Vanderbilt University will be the honored speaker for the Class of 1973. Mike Dreznes volunteered to ask Bill Callahan, who was the Super Bowl Coach for the Oakland Raiders in the 2003 Super Bowl, and now is the Offensive Line Coach for the Cleveland Browns, to be the honored speaker for the Class of 1974, and possibly the Man of the Year.

**UPDATE: Due to the NFL Draft and Rookie Camp, Bill Callahan cannot guarantee his availability for the Reunion. Jack Gavin was suggested as the Honored Speaker for the Class of 1974.**

The Mendel Alumni Association Announces  
**MENDEL MONARCHS ALL-CLASS REUNION**  
Honoring the 50 Year Anniversaries for the Classes of 1973 & 1974  
**FRIDAY MAY 3, 2024**  
Spouses & Significant Others Welcome  
**Gaelic Park**  
6119 West 147th St.  
Oak Forest, IL 60452  
**6:30 Cocktails | 7:30 Dinner**  
\$75 Per Person if paid by March 9, 2024  
\$95 Per person after March 9, 2024  
\$560 Per Table of 8 (Only until March 9, 2024)  
Pay online or send checks to Pat Regan  
15510 Bayberry Lane, Wheaton, IL 60189  
or Call Pat Regan with Credit Card Details at (630) 408-1447  
VISIT [www.mendelchs.org](http://www.mendelchs.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

**SAVE THE DATE**

**PROGRAM**  
Mendel Alumni Association All-Class Reunion  
Friday May 3, 2024 Gaelic Park, Tinley Park IL  
6:30 PM to 10:30 PM

**MENDEL CHS CLASS Reunion**  
**HONORED GUESTS**  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
1973 & 1974 Classes

**SEND MESSAGES TO YOUR CLASSMATES WITH THE REUNION PROGRAM BOOK**  
DONOR (1 LINE MESSAGE & NAME) \$35  
HALF PAGE \$85  
FULL PAGE \$125  
INSIDE BACK COVER (ONLY 1) \$300  
INSIDE FRONT COVER (ONLY 1) \$300  
OUTSIDE BACK COVER (ONLY 1) \$500  
Pay & place ads online at [mendelchs.org](http://mendelchs.org)  
or send Checks and ad content to Pat Regan 15510 Bayberry Lane, Wheaton, IL 60189 or Call Pat Regan (630) 408-1447 to pay with credit card

Mike Dreznes asked for recommendations for the Mendel Man of the Year. Mike Dreznes suggested John Boyer ('64), who left his role as the Dean of the undergraduate College at the University of Chicago in June 2023 to begin a new role as Senior Advisor to the President. He served as Dean of the University from 1992 until 2023, making him the longest-tenured dean in the College's history. Mike Dreznes volunteered to reach out to John Boyer to gauge his interest to receive this Award.

**UPDATE: Mike Dreznes has not been able to contact John Boyer. He has tried multiple times to reach him by phone and email. He will continue to try to reach him. A personal visit may be necessary if the Board selects John Boyer as the Mendel Man of the Year**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Modification to Articles of Association Article 2A**

**Mike Dreznes made a motion to modify Article 2A of the Articles of Association as shown below. This was deemed necessary to clear up potential confusion in the future.**

**Andy Youpel seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Article Two**

##### **Purpose**

purposes of this Association shall be as follows:

- A.** The specific and primary purpose for which the Association is formed is to preserve the memory of Mendel Catholic College Preparatory High School, to advance the ties of friendship which unite the brotherhood of Mendel Monarchs, faculty, family and friends, and to support related charitable endeavors, including but not limited to the Augustinian order, Mendel Alumni and descendants of Mendel Alumni for purposes of scholarships or medical hardships. **(For purposes of this document, "Mendel Alumni" will include individuals who attended Mendel, but did not necessarily graduate)**
- B.** The general purposes for which the Association is formed are to operate exclusively for such religious, educational, and poverty relief purposes as will qualify it as a fraternal organization under 26 USCA §501(c)7 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax law, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations which qualify as tax exempt organizations under the Internal Revenue Code. The Association shall function as an incorporated association because the Board has determined by a majority of those voting to incorporate.

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**Mike Dreznes announced that the Board had been requested to produce an Annual Report for 2023. Mike Dreznes said that this would only happen if volunteers stepped up to produce this document. No one volunteered during the meeting. This concept will be considered at the next meeting.**

## **NEXT MEETING**

**The next BOD ZOOM meeting will be held on Tuesday February 20, 2024 at 7 PM Chicago time.**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 PM.**