OUTSTANDING ALUMNI 2014

Tracy (Vargo) Buder
Robert Hernandez
Jennifer (Traver) Northrup
Douglas Podiak

Daniel Soviar
John Wenzlick
Becky (Dooley) Ziviski
FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Outstanding Alumni and Friends of Penta:

Welcome to Penta Career Center’s 22nd Outstanding Alumni recognition event. We are happy to celebrate this occasion with representatives from our 16 member schools who are equally proud of our Outstanding Alumni Award recipients.

Since 1993, 125 former students have been honored with the Outstanding Alumni Award. This year we are proud to recognize seven former students who have displayed excellence and success in their careers. Each recipient has their own unique story about how their career-technical education helped them achieve their goals.

The alumni honored this year frequently attribute their career success to the training they received at Penta. They mention that the education and the career-technical skills acquired in high school provided a strong foundation that has led them to a successful career. Our alumni also recognize the dedication and commitment of the Penta staff that helped them build self-confidence, develop leadership skills and prepare for further education and/or employment.

The Outstanding Alumni recipients are advocates for education and training beyond high school. They believe that education is a life-long process in order to be competitive in today’s global economy. As educators we are always pleased to see our former students continue their education, whether it is through college, apprenticeship training, joining the military, earning industry certifications, or by completing continuing education programs.

Another common trait among our Outstanding Alumni recipients is their commitment to volunteerism. Many enjoy giving back to their communities through professional organizations, youth groups and non-profit organizations.

As we prepare to celebrate our 50th year of providing career-technical training for high school and adult students in our community, we are proud of our alumni. Their personal and professional success validates the mission of Penta Career Center that we have made a difference in the lives of our students since 1965.

Congratulations to the 2014 Penta Outstanding Alumni!

Sincerely,

Ronald W. Matter
Superintendent
Penta Career Center
Tracy Buder has been working in health care for more than 17 years and credits Penta Career Center for setting the foundation for her successful career.

“Penta provided a solid foundation for continuing my education,” says Tracy. Tracy completed Penta’s Nurse Aide/Health & Community Services program and graduated from Genoa in 1997. While still a student at Penta, Tracy earned her certification as a State Tested Nursing Assistant (STNA). She worked at Heartland in Oregon for four years as an STNA and at the same time attended classes at Owens Community College.

Once Tracy earned her degree in nursing from Owens in 2003, she worked for a short time at Magruder Hospital in Port Clinton and then worked as a staff RN for a doctor. Tracy’s strong interest in the area of labor and delivery directed her to new opportunities when she began her career with The Toledo Hospital.

Tracy has worked at The Toledo Hospital since 2004. She has worked as a staff RN, patient care supervisor and clinical manager. In these roles she gained a wealth of knowledge and experience in areas such as direct care of patients, management, scheduling, professional development, and collaboration with physicians.

Always a strong advocate for education, Tracy has completed the RN to BSN program through Spring Arbor University and is currently attending The University of Toledo. She is working on her master’s degree in the nurse educator program.

In 2013, Tracy accepted a great opportunity in her career when she was became the clinical director in the labor and delivery department at The Toledo Hospital. In this important job, she manages the duties and responsibilities of over 90 employees. In addition, she has budget and revenue reporting duties.

Tracy has coordinated fund-raising activities for the March for Babies event through the March of Dimes. She also is involved in planning perinatal conferences and has been a presenter at nursing research retreats. Earlier this year, Tracy received a prestigious honor at the hospital when she was named the 2014 Director of the Year.

In her spare time, Tracy and her family enjoy camping, boating and fishing. She lives in Oak Harbor with her husband Jon, daughters Olivia and Jenna, and niece Dannielle.
As a teenager, Rob Hernandez set ambitious goals for himself. While attending Penta Career Center, Rob participated in seminars and courses outside of school that would ultimately help him start his own business.

“I also gained experience in high school by working with a local electrical contractor wiring houses and small commercial applications,” says Rob.

Five days after graduating from Woodmore and completing the Construction Electricity program at Penta, Rob was accepted into the electrical apprenticeship program through the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 8. During this four-year apprenticeship, he gained skills and knowledge working with contractors in Fremont and Toledo. Rob became a journeyman electrician while working at the Enrico Fermi Nuclear Power Station in Monroe, Michigan.

Rob advanced in the industry quickly after completing his apprenticeship training. He worked as a foreman from 1984-1989 for Dunn Electric and Romanoff Electric. During this time, Rob began researching the best areas of the country for starting a business in the electrical industry.

By 1989, Rob was ready to take his first big step to business ownership. He left Toledo for Columbus when he was hired by Advantage Electric as an estimator/project manager. Working for this company provided Rob the opportunity to learn about the electrical industry in Central Ohio and prepared him for his goal of becoming a business owner.

In 1994, after spending more than 14 years working for others, Rob realized his dream and opened his own electrical contracting company called Knight Electric in Columbus. Over the last 20 years, Rob has grown Knight Electric into a multimillion dollar electrical firm. The company averages 25 electricians on staff, but has employed 150 during peak activity. Knight Electric engages in heavy commercial and industrial projects.

Rob enjoys giving back to the community. He has served on the Board of Directors for: the American Red Cross of Greater Columbus and the Ohio Cobra Club, a car club that conducts fund-raisers for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. In addition, Rob has served as a judge for the Ohio SkillsUSA Championships.

Rob is married to AmyJo and they have two adult daughters, Alaura and Elizabeth. They live in Powell, Ohio.
Jennifer (Traver) Northrup

For Jenny Northrup returning to Penta Career Center after working in the area of human resources for 21 years has been a wonderful opportunity and new adventure. She believes Penta provided a great start to her career.

Jenny frequently recommends Penta to potential students. “I like to tell them that Penta will get you ready for both work and college and in the end you will have the skills needed to succeed in whatever career path you choose,” says Jenny.

Jenny completed Penta’s Word Processing program and graduated from Woodmore High School in 1990. That same year she got her first job as a grain accountant for Luckey Farmers Inc. After three years in this position, Jenny’s ambitions led her to accept a new job at Owens Community College.

Jenny was employed with Owens for 21 years. She was first hired as a receptionist in 1993 and that same year she quickly advanced to the position of secretary in the area of employment/placement. In this position, Jenny had many responsibilities and gained skills in the area of human resources. She reviewed employment applications, managed all application materials and coordinated employment advertising.

In 2003, Jenny received a promotion at Owens. She became an employment specialist in the human resources department. Jenny had multiple responsibilities that included: the administration of an online job description and evaluation system; trainer for job applicants and employees; and coordination of all aspects of employment.

While working at Owens, Jenny took business classes at the college. In 1997, she earned an associate degree in microcomputer business systems. In addition, she has participated in numerous human resources training sessions throughout her career.

Professionally, Jenny has held memberships in several organizations. These include the Toledo Area Human Resources Association, the Society of Human Resource Management and the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources.

Jenny is active in 4-H and has served as an advisor for more than 10 years. She is also a member of the Ottawa County 4-H Advisory Board.

Jenny lives in Elmore and has been married for 21 years to Todd. Jenny and her family own three horses. Her sons, Todd and Colton, enjoy horse roping. As a family, they spend much of their free time attending rodeos and cattle shows.

Class of 1990
Career Program
Word Processing
Member School
Woodmore
Current Occupation
Secretary, Curriculum
Organization
Penta Career Center
9301 Buck Rd
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419.666.1120
Douglas Podiak

For Doug Podiak, change has always been a good thing in his life. Throughout his career, Doug has held a variety of jobs and believes his training at Penta set the foundation for his success.

“At Penta I developed a strong work ethic and learned what it’s like to work as a team to achieve a final goal,” says Doug.

After completing the Cement Trades program at Penta and graduating from Maumee High School, Doug embarked on a career that has taken him in many interesting directions. He first worked in his career field replacing sidewalks in the City of Maumee. In 1984, he joined the United States Army Reserve based in Perrysburg and served as a heavy equipment operator.

Doug became interested in law enforcement and earned his state certification as a police officer through the Criminal Justice Training Center. Doug worked for 14 years as a police officer for the Waterville Township Police Department. During this time, he often worked part time which enabled him to work as an operations supervisor for the Waterville Gas & Oil Company. Through this job, Doug gained supervisory and management skills that led him into a new career experience.

In 1990, Doug became the maintenance and operations manager at Toledo Express Airport. In this position, he was responsible for the daily administration of the facilities, mechanics, groundskeeper, and janitorial departments.

Doug changed jobs in 2012 when he accepted the position of facilities state superintendent for the Adjutant General’s Office. He managed State of Ohio employees at the Ohio Air National Guard Base, Toledo Express Airport and the Civil Engineers.

One of Doug’s most exciting career moves was in 2012 when he became the director of facilities and fleet operations for the Lucas County Commissioners. He has multiple responsibilities which include: the management of all Lucas County owned facilities; budget management; training; and employment policies.

Throughout his career, Doug has been an advocate for additional education. He has completed the Ohio Police Officer Training Academy, law enforcement courses at Owens Community College and earned a bachelor’s degree in business management from Millwood University in 2004.

In his free time, Doug has a private pilot’s license and likes flying planes. Most importantly, he enjoys spending time with his children, Samantha, age 14 and Jesse, age 17, a current student at Penta.
Daniel Soviar

Dan Soviar is proud of the training he received at Penta Career Center. He believes Penta helped him focus on his career and become successful in life.

“My education at Penta prepared me for my career as an electrician,” says Dan.

After completing the Electronics program at Penta and graduating from Rossford High School in 1973, Dan pursued a career in his field of study. He worked for a few years for an electric-motor rewind and welding repair shop in Toledo and at the same time attended electrical engineering classes at Owens Community College.

Dan’s ultimate goal was to join the electrical apprenticeship program through the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 8. After applying to the program for five years, he was accepted in 1978. The apprenticeship program was the beginning of a successful career as an electrician. He was an apprentice for four years and the experience provided him with classroom work as well as training with many area contractors.

After his apprenticeship training, Dan began working for Colgan, an electrical contractor. Although the company name changed over the years to Colgan-Davis, he has been employed with them for nearly 30 years.

Throughout his career, Dan has worked on all phases of installation of electrical service. He has worked on projects at the Toledo Zoo, Fifth Third Field, nuclear power plants, hospitals, and schools. On many projects, Dan has been a foreman and general foreman with many responsibilities including ordering materials, planning work for the electricians and coordination with other trades and contractors.

As an electrician, Dan has continued his education through journeyman education courses. He has taken many classes to keep up with technology and wiring systems in areas such as wind turbines, computer systems and solar power.

Dan has enjoyed being active in the community. He has been a coach for youth baseball, basketball and football teams. Dan has also served on the building and grounds committee for the Rossford Schools. He is also proud to have served on the Board of Zoning Appeals for the City of Rossford for the past 20 years.

Dan is married to Chris and they have two adult sons, Mark and Jason, who are both engineers. In his spare time he enjoys fishing, woodworking and sports.

Class of 1973
Career Program Electronics
Member School Rossford
Current Occupation Journeyman Electrician
Company Colgan-Davis
1682 Lance Point Rd.
Maumee, OH 43537
419.392.2515
John Wenzlick has been working in law enforcement for nearly 20 years and he credits Penta Career Center for giving him a jump-start to his successful career.

“Penta helped me prepare for my future in law enforcement by providing real world skills along with private security certification,” says John.

At Penta, John was very focused on his career. Prior to leaving high school, he became a police explorer at the Ottawa Hills Police Department. After completing Penta’s Security and Law Enforcement program and graduating from Otsego in 1995, John attended The University of Toledo to study law enforcement technology. During this time he volunteered as an auxiliary police officer for the Grand Rapids Police Department.

Since 1998, John has enjoyed a successful career with the Ottawa Hills Police Department. His first paid job was as a police and fire dispatcher. After completing the police academy through the Criminal Justice Training Center, John became a patrol officer. He first worked part time until the year 2000 when the job eventually became a full-time position. In 2006 he was promoted to police sergeant.

John has always been an advocate for continuing his education. While working as a police sergeant, John studied business at the University of Findlay. With a busy job as sergeant which involved overseeing officers on shifts and recommending policies, he still found time to earn two degrees. John earned both a bachelor’s degree in business management in 2006 and a master’s degree in business administration in 2008.

As John continued to work for Ottawa Hills, he became interested in studying law. John started law school at The University of Toledo in 2010. He hopes to earn his juris doctor degree in 2015. John was honored in 2011 with the Highest Ranking Student (in Criminal Law) award.

John’s career took another leap forward in 2012 when he was named chief of police for Ottawa Hills. John oversees 16 police officers and six dispatchers. He enjoys the administrative role, but also still takes time to interact with the public by attending functions in the community and by participating in school activities. In his role as chief of police, he enjoys the flexibility to make changes so the department is always moving forward.

John is married to Jessica and they have two daughters, Melanie, age 5 and Brooke, age 9.
Becky (Dooley) Ziviski

In 1989 when Becky Ziviski completed the Executive Secretary program at Penta Career Center, she had already landed a job in her field of study. As a result of her Penta training and the job placement opportunity, Becky began a journey that provided a strong foundation for her successful career.

“The opportunities I received as a result of my training at Penta advanced my career to a position of passion,” says Becky. “I love working with people and each level of training I received through the years has given me the ability to lead an organization.”

Becky’s first job in her career field was with Louise A. Jackson, a local tax attorney. She worked for Jackson for five years where she gained experience in accounting, taxes, probate, and estate planning.

In 1993, Becky relocated to Chicago and worked for a large law firm and then a bank. While working at the bank, she advanced from loan administrator, to personal banker to the assistant to the CEO.

Becky’s experience working with Jackson, and in banking helped her make a decision to attend college and study accounting. She relocated back to Ohio and graduated from The University of Toledo with a bachelor’s degree in business administration in 2000. She also received her CPA license in 2002.

In 2000, Becky was hired as an auditor at PricewaterhouseCoopers and then as the CFO of Swanton Health Care & Retirement Center where she worked for 10 years. During her last two years at Swanton Health Care, she advanced to the position of nursing home administrator.

Becky moved to another nursing home facility in 2012 when she became the administrator of Heartland of Waterville. Becky is responsible for the day-to-day operations of this 126 bed skilled nursing facility along with the management of nearly 200 employees.

Becky and her husband are co-owners of D&Z Partnership, LLC where they purchase and renovate homes. She is active at her church where she serves on the finance ministry team. Becky is also a member of the Swanton Township Zoning Commission.

Becky lives in Swanton with her husband Zale, and nephew Isiah, age 9. They have two adult children, Courtney and Jaired and two grandchildren, Aubrey and Zaden.
PREVIOUS PENTA OUTSTANDING ALUMNI

1993 Recipients
Dianne (Steindam) Bochi - Oak Harbor
Major Constance Gaiser-Phillips - Anthony Wayne
Joseph Murray, Jr. - Lake
Gary J. Muswick - Springfield
Wanda (Gentry) Snyder - Woodmore
Randy Wax - Woodmore

1994 Recipients
Nicholas Espinoza, D.O. - Springfield
Jim Kasch - Eastwood
Peter Kolan - Bowling Green
Thomas Kretz - North Baltimore
Suzanne (Boyer) Myers - Anthony Wayne
James Lennox - Lake
Major Daniel Tack - Oak Harbor

1995 Recipients
Brent Bomer - Bowling Green
Brenda (Carrol) Hoot - Perrysburg
Michael K. Ott - Otsego
Susan (Vidra) Reamsnyder - Rossford

1996 Recipients
Joe W. Gargac - Genoa
Nicholas B. Getzinger - Otsego
David Sawicki - Anthony Wayne
Robert Torres - Swanton

1997 Recipients
James L. Barnes - Bowling Green
Craig A. Bauer - Anthony Wayne
Claudette R. Davis - Perrysburg
Cindy Goodman-Eckel - Eastwood
Paul R. Grimm - Otsego
Christopher S. McIntire - Woodmore
Ben Richmond - Lake

1998 Recipients
Tony E. Castillo, Sr. - Perrysburg
John R. Colley - Maumee
Cheryl L. (Hirzel) Fitzpatrick - Rossford
Sharon Roman - Rossford
Nicholas K. Shultz - Lake

1999 Recipients
Tina (Etchison) Dowling - Anthony Wayne
Jonathan Hart - Clay
Martin Sniadecki - Maumee
Robert Steinline - Perrysburg

2000 Recipients
Rhonda (Delphous) Bliss - Genoa
Pamela (Recker) Buck - Eastwood
James R. Dahms - Adult & Continuing Education
Cynthia (Hart) Millinger - Maumee
John F. Spilker - Anthony Wayne
Richard Young - Lake

2001 Recipients
Marty Almester - Rossford
Barbara Cuculski - Genoa
Mike Chiarelli - Perrysburg
William E. Harris - Bowling Green
Teri Lynn (Gearig) Murphy - Swanton
Wayne R. Nault - Northwood
Duane Roach - Bowling Green

2002 Recipients
Jennifer E. Glassford - Woodmore
Deborah S. (Tober) James - Rossford
Bonny (Peske) LaPoint - Anthony Wayne
Synthia L. (Cox) Mahler - Elwood
Kathy (Woodruff) Powers - Maumee
Scott Sevenish - Rossford

2003 Recipients
Nancy J. Gerwin - Woodmore
Richard Gross - Perrysburg
John K. Hughes - Lake
Robert E. Landolt - Rossford
Lee Powell - Perrysburg
Mary J. (Paff) Schroeder - Swanton
Frank I. Zygelia - Anthony Wayne

2004 Recipients
Lyne (Mullen) Burch - Maumee
Carole A. (Hughes) Brennan - Lake
Chris Cufr - Northwood
Edward J. Gonzales - Adult & Continuing Education
Jeffery W. Hamons - Woodmore
Gerald O. Herman - Northwood
Thomas G. Overmyer - Grand Rapids (Otsego)
Mike Smith - Otsego

2005 Recipients
Bryan A. Christy - Bowling Green
Yvonne M. (Kieswether) Fey - Maumee
Frederick L. Kubitz - Maumee
Rose Mock Scott - Springfield
Wayne A. Strayer - Anthony Wayne
Rebecca L. (Cooper) Stutz - Anthony Wayne

2006 Recipients
Thomas Berkebile - Perrysburg
Patrick O. Curtin - Maumee
Steven W. Curtis - Otsego
Jarrad C. Egert - Woodmore
Patricia K. Hyland - Perrysburg
Lisa (Ackley) Mattin - Maumee
Danilynn M. Miller - Anthony Wayne

2007 Recipients
Deric C. Frisch - Perrysburg
Matthew E. Herrig - Elwood
Frederick C. Lange - Perrysburg
Edward J. Stribrny - Lake
David W. Terry - Rossford
Kewyn Louis Williams - Springfield

2008 Recipients
Tony J. Anteau - Rossford
George C. Byington Jr. - Oak Harbor
Benjamin L. Crole - Northwood
David Gillette - Springfield
Diane S. (Asmus) Hemminger - Otsego
Robert J. Osstiffin - Anthony Wayne
Jennifer L. (Byington) Wilkins - Oak Harbor

2009 Recipients
Stephen G. Hunter - Bowling Green
Kenneth Metzger - Northwood
Becky Pegorsch - Maumee
Ronald J. Porter - Lake
Cara Ricci-Challen - Oak Harbor
William Slane - Woodmore
Mark A. Travis - Genoa

2010 Recipients
Douglas Felt - Maumee
Henry “Hank” Fowler – Anthony Wayne
Mathew Gilbert - Perrysburg
Kimberly Morelock - Rossford
Jeffery Pettit - Lake
Brent Thielen - Lake

2011 Recipients
Janea Makowski - Lake
Tamaraw (Shiffert) Rost - Eastwood
Matthew Simpson - Anthony Wayne

2012 Recipients
Chad Bolander – Northwood
Brian L. Bonnough – Swanton
Cindi (Peters) Britt – Eastwood
Christina McCain – Maumee
Anne (Woyame) Noel – Lake
Terri (Phillips) Rudd – Springfield

2013 Recipients
Leslie Kay (Radabaugh) - Hertzfeld – Anthony Wayne
Scott A. Jaegly – Northwood
David Miller – Woodmore
Leonard L. Vidra II – Rossford
Patrick Young - Woodmore
Penta Career Center Board of Education 2014

William Green, President
Northwest Ohio Educational Service Center

Paul Walker, Vice President
Bowling Green City Schools

Kathy Limes
Wood County Educational Service Center

Judith Paredes
Wood County Educational Service Center

Robert Righi
Maumee City Schools

Joseph Rutherford
Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West

Judith A. Sander
North Point Educational Service Center

Mark Schoenlein
Perrysburg Schools

Ken Sutter
Rossford Schools

Administration

Ronald W. Matter, Superintendent

Carrie Herringshaw, Treasurer

Jeffrey Kurtz, Career-Technical Director

Member Schools

Anthony Wayne Local
Benton-Carroll-Salem Local
Bowling Green City
Eastwood Local
Elmwood Local
Genoa Area Local
Lake Local
Maumee City
North Baltimore Local
Northwood Local
Otsego Local
Perrysburg Exempted Village
Rossford Exempted Village
Springfield Local
Swanton Local
Woodmore Local
OUR MISSION

Penta Career Center is a high-performing school that provides:

• Options and opportunities
• Real-world learning
• Partnerships with business and industry
• Productive citizens

OUR COMMITMENT

The staff at Penta Career Center is committed to:

• Achieving excellence
• Delivering results
• Responding to our communities
• Creating an environment for success

Touching Lives – Building Futures

9301 Buck Road
Perrysburg, OH 43551
419.666.1120
www.pentacareercenter.org