

397 Clearview Avenue

Torrington, CT 06790

OWTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Spring 2026 — Y'all Come Back

Graduates Make Outstanding Educators

Alumni Return as Educators at Oliver Wolcott Technical School

During the planning phase for this article, it became evident that Oliver Wolcott Technical School takes pride in welcoming back its former students as instructors in various disciplines. Initially, it appeared that only three or four shop instructors were alumni; however, the actual number is closer to a dozen. This significant return demonstrates the commitment of our graduates to support the institution that served as the foundation for their careers.

Distinguished Alumni Educators

Several notable alumni have returned to contribute their expertise and experience to the school. Among them is Sean Sarta, a member of the class of 2006, who now serves as the Department Head of Automotive. Pleshette Markel, recognized as our 2013 Alumna of the Year, has devoted twenty-five years to teaching Health Technology. Brian Thomas, a 2010 graduate, after spending a decade as an electrician in Florida, returned to Connecticut for a position as Department Head in Electrical. David Garcia, class of 1999, has been instructing Graphics for thirteen years. Our Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling Department benefits from the expertise of Barry VanDeusen, who graduated in 2007. Another graduate, Jacob Aldrich has been teaching Health and Physical Education at OWTS for eight years. A standout baseball player from the class of 2008, Jacob also coaches the baseball and soccer teams at Tech. Sarah Fasciano, a 1998 graduate worked with her mother Betsy Conklin ('73) for 22 years at The Hair Salon in Winsted. Ms. Fasciano returned to OWTS in 2020, teaching Hairdressing and Cosmetology.

Leadership and Inspiration in Technical Education

Julie Connors, the Robotics and Automation Department Head, is another distinguished alumna. After graduating in 2013 and participating in the school's Work-Based Learning initiative, Julie secured a full-time position at Wittmann Robotics. Over 13 years with the company, she earned several promotions before returning in 2025 to teach Robotics. Previously, Mrs. Connors was featured in the 2015 Newsletter as a Work-Based Learning success story. When a Robotics teaching position became available her former Department Head, Royal Allard, encouraged her to apply.

Alumni Leadership Beyond the Classroom

The tradition of alumni returning to serve extends beyond teaching. Ryan Ferrari, a 1995 Carpentry graduate, became the Building Maintenance Supervisor after thirty years of working in the field. He returned to Tech last year to take on this role. Ryan is proud to have two children currently seniors in the PH&C program at OWTS.

Celebrating the Legacy of OWTS Alumni

This year's newsletter theme, "Y'all Come Back," honors our returning faculty, alumni and future graduates. We encourage involvement with the Alumni Association and invite professionals to consider the full-time and substitute teaching opportunities available at our school. Oliver Wolcott Tech is a great school, it's even better when you come back and join us.



Wittmann Robotics Work Based Learning Success Story
Julie Connors (2013) with Manager Dave Canti (1973)



2026 Mrs. Julie Connors
Robotics & Automation Department Head



**Gregor M. Teti Scholarship
Recipient Ethan Trapp
with Jenifer & Peter Teti**

“Actions speak louder than words. Let your words teach and your actions speak”
— St. Anthony of Padua



**Jesse's mother Dawn Sanderson
with Joshua Chivinski
one of the recipients of the
Jesse Christiano Award**

Last Years Scholarship and Award Recipients

Scholarships and Awards — May 2025

Alumni Association Scholarship
 Alumni Association Scholarship
 Alumni Association Scholarship
 Alumni Association Tradesman Award
 Alumni Association Tradesman Award
 Anthony Arnista Memorial Scholarship
 Ashlee Jacquier Memorial Scholarship
 Ashlee Jacquier Memorial Scholarship
 Alumni Athletic Trophy — Female Sports
 Alumni Athletic Trophy — Male Sports
 Dominic Gallo Memorial Scholarship
 Edward C. Amejko Memorial Scholarship
 Edward Hughes Memorial Scholarship
 Edward Cochran Memorial Scholarship
 Eric Robbins Memorial Scholarship
 Ethan Walker Jr. Memorial
 Fossati Family Memorial
 Gemma DiMauro Tradesman Award
 George Molitor Memorial Award
 Gregory M. Teti Memorial Scholarship
 Howard Hughes Memorial Scholarship
 Jeff Arigoni Memorial Scholarship
 Jesse Christiano Memorial Award
 Jesse Christiano Memorial Award
 John Christensen Alumni Tradesman Award
 John W. Ramsay Memorial Scholarship
 Joseph L. & James I. Morro Memorial
 Jules Mazini Memorial Scholarship
 Larry Boyle Educational Excellence
 M. Vincent Giorda Tradesman Award
 Martigneni Family Memorial
 Mary C. Richardone Memorial Award
 Mary C. Richardone Memorial Award
 Michael Bakunis Memorial Scholarship
 Michael Butler Memorial Award
 Nicholas Marracino, Sr. Memorial Award
 Nicholas/Nejaime Memorial Scholarship
 Paul S. Durstin Memorial Scholarship
 Piemontese Society Scholarship
 Torrington Small Contractors Award
 Torrington Little League Baseball
 Torrington Little League Softball
 Valley Park Athletic Club Award
 William E. Kelvie Valedictorian Trophy
 William R Breen Memorial Award
 William F. Schultz Memorial Award

Recipient

Sophia Grocki
 Paige Quartiero
 Sasha St. Germain
 Adam Alexander
 Jacob White
 Lucas Schilling
 Janos Kobylarz
 Kammyrn D'Angelo
 Melissa Muscaro
 Devon Schmitt
 Christopher Pedersen
 Zoey Chapulis
 Jack O'Charek
 Alivea Jackson
 Ross Badger
 Jeremy Plaster
 Isabella Franek
 Joseph Allen
 Asher Shipley
 Ethan Trapp
 Levi Nechitilo
 Elijah Moskowitz
 Eric Cotto
 Joshua Chivinski
 Anthony Nealon
 Evan Cowette
 Cerena Fechteler
 Gavin Flaherty
 Jacob Green
 Lucas Schilling
 Jack O'Charek
 Nathan Rahming
 Nicole Haxo
 Tariana Medina
 Tyler Richardson
 Joceline Romero-Pomavilla
 Joceline Romero-Pomavilla
 Ayden Veilleux
 Kammyrn D'Angelo
 Ethan Moore
 Devon Schmitt
 Zoey Chapulis
 Ryan Spencer
 Paige Quartiero
 Joseph Wilson
 John Hatcher

Attending

Univ. of Connecticut
 Univ. of Connecticut.
 Univ. of St. Joseph's
 Plumbing H&C Award
 Tradesman Award
 NY Inst. Of Technology
 Western CT State Univ.
 Univ. of Hartford
 Sportsman Trophy
 Sportsman Trophy
 Naugatuck Valley CC
 Naugatuck Valley CC.
 Rensselaer Polytechnic
 Western CT State Univ.
 Tradesman Award
 Tradesman Award
 Northwestern CT CC
 Plumbing H&C Award
 Northwestern CT CC
 Central CT State Univ.
 Western NE Tech.
 SUNY Cobleskill
 Electrical Award
 Electrical Award
 Machine Tool Award
 Univ. of Connecticut
 Trinity College
 Northwestern CT CC
 Northwestern CT CC
 NY Institute of Tech.
 Rensselaer Polytechnic
 Nichols College
 Northwestern CT CC
 Univ. of Hartford
 Tradesman Award
 Joceline Romero-Pomavilla Personality Award
 Joceline Romero-Pomavilla Northwestern CT CC
 Univ. of Connecticut
 Univ. of Hartford
 Carpentry Award
 Sportsman Award
 Sportsman Award
 Sportsmanship Award
 Univ. of Connecticut
 Carpentry Award
 Machine Tool Award

We extend our sincere gratitude to the local businesses, community organizations, families, and faculty members for their generous support of these scholarships.

New 2026 Tradesman Awards – May 13 at Bad Dog Brewery

This year, the Alumni Association will present monetary awards to students from our 12 areas of study. These awards aim to support tradespeople starting their careers right after graduation by helping them purchase essential tools and supplies for their chosen profession.

Each award is designed to address the specific needs of different trades. For instance, beauticians need professional shears, while electricians and carpenters require a range of specialized tools as they begin their career.

These awards ensures each recipient can acquire the equipment most important to succeed in their field.

Recipients of the Tradesman Awards, recommended by the Department Heads, will be recognized at the Scholarship Dinner, scheduled for May 13th at Bad Dog Brewery in Torrington. The Alumni Association takes pride in supporting these skilled individuals as they launch their careers, assisting them with the resources necessary for success.

Alumni Association Members

Lucille Kelsey	President	309-8080
Tim Riccucci	VP	309-9211
Vacant	2nd VP	
Dawn Dell’Agnese	Treasurer	485-4018
Vacant	Rec. Secretary	
Gary Kittredge	Exe. Sec.	307-2004
John Dell’Agnese	Member	806-0210

John Christensen	Member
Mark Jacquemin	Member
Jill Petrillo	Member
Jay Reynolds	Member
Amy Russell	Faculty Advisor
Ray Tanguay	Faculty Advisor
Audrey Paczkowski	Honorary Member



Glen Royals presenting the Bohdan “Ben” Bereza Award to recipient James Brown

2026 Alumni of the Year – Jay Reynolds

The Alumni Association is honored to recognize Jay Reynolds as the 2026 Alumni of the Year. Over the past five years, Mr. Reynolds has exhibited an outstanding commitment to the association through his contributions and positive engagement at meetings. He continues to be a dedicated supporter, actively participating in our fundraising efforts.

Mr. Reynolds was first accepted to Oliver Wolcott in 1968; however, due to his father’s professional relocation, the family moved to South Carolina. He returned to Torrington in 1972 and began a twenty-year career in the field of Information Technology. In 1996, Mr. Reynolds transitioned into the electrical field, joining Vision Electric under the leadership of Jim Jones ('79). While at Vision Electric, he attended four years of night school at OWTS and subsequently earned his electrician’s license. Mr. Reynolds concluded his career as the Owner of Joseph C. Reynolds Electric. His connection to Tech extends to his brother, Tom a 1977 graduate, and his grandson Xavier, currently a junior in the Electrical Department at OWTS.

We extend our sincere congratulations to Mr. Reynolds. We appreciate his dedication and contributions to our Association.

Past Recipients for Alumni of the Year

1998	Anthony Arnista	Machine	42
1999	Erman Cavagnero	Drafting	41
2000	Raymond Turri	Electrical	60
2001	Dave Reynolds	Drafting	57
2002	Jim Morro	Electrical	62
2003	David Bodley	Auto	57
2005	John Christensen	Machine	62
2006	Raymond Royals	Auto	76
2008	Lynn Seiser	Hairdressing	74
2009	Mike Durstin	Machine	62
2010	Greg Mele	Electrical	76
2012	Barry Cone	HVAC	71
2013	Pleshette Markel	Health Tech	82
2014	Brian Ohler	Machine	02
2015	David Canty	Tool & Die	73
2016	Glenn Royals	Auto	73
2017	Gary Kittredge	Drafting	74
2018	John Dell’Agnese	Electronics	84
2019	Elaine Murphy	Hairdressing	78
2020	Dawn Dell’Agnese	Hairdressing	84
2021	Jim Morro	Honorary	62
2022	Larry Boyle	Auto	61
2023	Tim Riccucci	Carpentry	02
2024	Lucille Kelsey	Health Tech	75
2025	Mark Jacquemin	Machine	85
2026	Jay Reynolds	Electrical	NS

“The smallest deed is better than the greatest intention”
—Anonymous



2026 Alumni of the Year Jay Reynolds with his Grandson Xavier—Class of 2027

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Oliver Wolcott Alumni Association
397 Clearview Avenue
Torrington, CT 06790

Keep in Touch via Email or Facebook

Soon we are going all digital!
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Email: owtsalumni@yahoo.com

WE'RE ON FACEBOOK
OLIVER WOLCOTT TECH (R.V.T.S.) ALUMNI

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OWTS Scholarship Fund Raiser

This year our Scholarship Dinner will be at Bad Dog Brewing on Water Street in Torrington. Catering provided by Jimmy's Store. Beer and Wine will be available for purchase.

**Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Doors open at 5:30, Dinner at 6:30
Bad Dog Brewing
117 Water Street, Torrington, CT**

**Tickets \$30.00—Deadline May 4th
OWTS Alumni Association
397 Clearview Avenue
Torrington, CT 06790**

@Dawn-DellAgnese



venmo

**For Tickets Contact:
Dawn Dell"Agnese: 860-485-4018**

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