

Sidney Central School Alumni Association

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## 2020 WALL OF FAME INDUCTEES ANNOUNCED

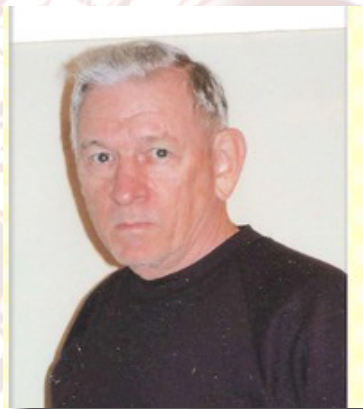
The SCSAA's Wall of Fame Committee is proud to announce six outstanding leaders who demonstrate exemplary service to school and community. These individuals will be inducted during the 2020 Wall of Fame Induction Reception & Awards Ceremony held during All-Alumni Weekend, Sunday, July 19, from noon to 2 p.m. at Club 55, 55 Union St., Sidney. This year's inductees are:



*Visit the SCSAA Facebook & website  
for more details about the weekend!*



Marlene Wilklow



William Laraway, '50



Dr. Jeffrey Hathaway, '80



Lloyd Jerauld, '65



David Drotar, '70



Mary Jane Plummer, '58

*Find inductee biographies inside*

## WALL OF FAME INDUCTEE BIOGRAPHIES

### David Drotar, '70

David Lee Drotar was born in Sidney and graduated from Sidney High School in 1970 at the top of his class. He went to SUNY Oswego, majoring in biology and chemistry, and graduated magna cum laude in 1974. It was at Oswego that a class on children's literature sparked his interest in writing. He also worked in the Penfield library while in college, fostering his love of books and journals.

David's earliest article on travel was published in the 1980s, when his sister lived in Switzerland and he used that as his home base. Later he realized that he could get paid to write and have his expenses subsidized and has since traveled to every continent except Antarctica and Australia.

David has written seven non-fiction books, including *Hiking Pure & Simple*, *Hiking the U.S.A.* and *Steep Passages: A World-wide Eco-Adventurer Unlocks Nature's Spiritual Truths*, included on the recommended reading list for recipients of the Beagle II Award, a scientific discovery and exploration program at Stanford University. He has also written hundreds of articles in newspapers, magazines and online. His biology and chemistry major led him to write about nature and environmental issues.

David founded Brookview Press in 2001 in Castleton-on-Hudson. Through Brookview, he published *Chasing Dreamtime: A Sea-going Hitchhiker's Journey through Memory and Myth* by Neva Sullaway, winner of six book awards, including Best Travel Book of 2005.

Neva praised David's style.

"David's approach to editing was quite remarkable," she said. "He sup-

ported the author, rather than trying to bend the author to his editorial will. It was a wonderfully enriching process." David also joined Neva in presenting a writing seminar for authors at one of the largest Southern California Writer's Conference at San Diego State University. In 2016, David won the Excellence in Journalism Award from the International Food, Wine & Travel Writers Association for his book "Nomadic Voices in the Kingdom of Jordan." The award-winning story "weaves his travel experience in Jordan with threads of that country's rich and tumultuous history and its challenging present," according to the Travel Writer's website. "He brings the perspective of his Bedouin hosts to the forefront and overlays it with his own insightful and thoughtful observations about the country." David said he felt very honored winning this award, since it is the only award given by that association.

David particularly enjoys the more leisurely paced trips where one can fully explore the destination and relate to its people. His favorite trip was to the Galapagos Islands in the 90s.

"It is a magical place where animals have evolved without contact from humans," he said.

David's trips have taken him to a tent in the desert, Greek Islands, snowy mountain passes and many other places, all at a moment's notice. He hopes to still conquer Antarctica and Australia.

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### Dr. Jeffrey W. Hathaway, PT., DPT, '80

Dr. Jeffrey (Jeff) Hathaway, member of the Sidney Central School Class of 1980, is a physical therapist and CEO and founder of Breakthrough

Physical Therapy, a North Carolina company that is a division of Confluent Health.

Jeff attended Herkimer Community College, majoring in sports medicine. He earned his bachelor's degree in physical therapy from Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Ithaca College and attained a doctorate in physical therapy from the Evidence in Motion Health Institute. Jeff began his career as a physical therapist in an outpatient clinic in Watertown, New York before progressing to owning/partnering in a statewide collection of more than 20 clinics in North Carolina, as well as 220 clinics nationwide.

Colleague Dr. Laurence Benz stated, "Dr. Hathaway is among the most well-known private practice physical therapists in the United States. He has accomplished this the old-fashioned way, (with) sacrificial service, hard work, mentoring and astute business leadership. His practices have always been respected by his peers for innovation, culture, patient-first priority and marketing." Words such as honest, ethical, innovative and passionate have been used by his colleagues to describe Jeff. His areas of expertise included the development of the medical management of injured workers, becoming a certified business coach and teaching negotiation and conflict management. He has gone from employee, industrial consultant, business owner, certified business coach and president of a national physical therapy business organization to founding and owning several businesses.

Jeff is a highly regarded speaker and teacher in the areas of business and physical therapy. He has been selected annually to present at the conference held by the American Physical Therapy Association. He is



renowned for his unique approaches to physical therapy, including his virtual reality program designed to address chronic pain, the opioid crisis and costs and outcomes of low back pain.

Jeff, through his many organizations, is well known for sponsoring numerous community events and supporting local charities in the various communities in which his clinics are located. Through his businesses, he provides partial funding for free rehabilitation services to citizens of Haiti, through a clinic in Jacmel, Haiti. He and his partners have also formed and funded a foundation to provide grants to employees encountering unexpected qualifying circumstances.

Speaking on Jeff's behalf, his associate Dr. Laurence Benz said, "Jeff's grace, humility, impeccable credentials and purpose-driven leadership in his chosen field of physical therapy would further (Sidney Central School's) legendary fame."

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### **Marlene Wilklow**

Marlene Wilklow grew up in Voorheesville, New York and always thought that she would be a teacher. After she married Ted Wilklow, her first career became that of a wife and mother. When her three sons were in school, Marlene entered the State University of New York at Oneonta, where she earned her teaching certification.

From 1971 to 1983, she was a junior high/high school English teacher in the Sidney Central School District. Marlene has fond memories of helping students create a local folklore magazine and showing teens that Shakespeare was to be enjoyed, not feared. Her

expertise in teaching was recognized by the Sidney Central School District when she was named Teacher of the Year for 1977-'78.

Marlene received her administrative degree from Pace University, subsequently becoming a teaching principal at Sidney Center and Masonville Elementary schools. She held these positions from 1983-1990, before serving as principal of the Sidney Elementary School until her retirement in 1994.

Upon retiring, Marlene decided to involve herself in special projects connected to education. Therefore, it was no surprise when she became an adjunct instructor for SUNY Oneonta, and also supervised student teachers throughout central New York. Marlene stated that it was very rewarding working with young people who were excited about becoming teachers.

Her experience as an educator made Marlene the ideal choice to help as the Sidney-area volunteer coordinator for the Delaware County Youth Court from 1994-2002. She received a Vision 21 Community Pride Award partly due to her work in this area. Marlene's involvement in community organizations has been extensive. She was involved in Tri-Town Theatre productions for more than 40 years. She volunteered at Camp Brace to help young men improve their reading skills and set goals for their futures. Marlene served in leadership roles on many boards, including the Sidney chapter of the League of Women Voters, the Sidney Town Planning Board, the Roxbury Arts Council and the Board of Delaware County Cooperative Extension. In recognition of her many contributions to the Sidney community, the Preceptor Beta Kappa Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi named her First Lady of the Year in 2006.

Marlene continues to enjoy an active retirement at Good Shepherd Village with her husband, Ted. She has been a therapy dog handler and a member of the Resident Council Environmental Committee since its inception.

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### **Lloyd Jerauld '65**

Lloyd Jerauld graduated from Sidney Central School in 1965, along with his twin sister, Linda (Linn). As a varsity wrestler, he earned second place at States during his senior year. He was a senior class officer, football player, track athlete and an area All-State member in his junior and senior year.

Throughout his life, Lloyd contributed to the communities in which he lived and worked, taking his activity to a high level of achievement. He sang with a competitive barbershop chorus and in church choirs, performed in community theater, raced motorcycles and sailboats and played backgammon, even publishing a book of backgammon strategy. Lloyd also participated in the General Clinton Canoe Regatta for many years, twice winning the 70-mile aluminum class.

Lloyd graduated from SUNY Oswego with a degree in Secondary Math Education and earned his master's degree in Math from Syracuse University. He taught in Marcellus and Cazenovia, New York, then spent 33 years at Jamesville DeWitt High School, where he coordinated the introduction of computers into grades K-12 and implemented one of the early Computer Science Curriculums in New York State. He developed courses for Syracuse University to train teachers on how to create similar programs, and developed a curriculum of high school computer science courses to prepare students

for the AP computer science exam. Lloyd consulted at schools throughout the state, developing questions for New York State Regents exams to validate the use of computers in the curriculum. He also developed a software program to help remedial students learn math and presented a paper at a national conference explaining the program's benefits. In Texas, Lloyd began teaching at IDEA, the highest-performing, fastest-growing charter school in the U.S. with open enrollment and no tuition. He implemented a strategy of full school-year teaching for math, resulting in significant changes to the school's state mathematics exam results and increasing the pass rate from 33% to 90% during his first year as leader of the math department. His Quest College Prep math program was ranked nationally in the "U.S. News & World Report."

Tom Torkelson, founder of IDEA Public Schools, extolled Lloyd's impact on the program.

"In 2000, I started a small school in Donna, Texas," he explained. "Nearly all of our students are Latino, and over 90% were considered low-income. I had a simple but ambitious goal: make certain that each student applied to and matriculated to college. Lloyd was not only a brilliant teacher, he was a great leader, mentoring novice teachers, providing advice and insight to the administrators who ran the school, developing our curriculum and training our teachers.

"When Lloyd was teaching for us, every single student applied to college, was accepted and matriculated," he continued. "Lloyd ignited this flame within students who didn't look like him and had little in common culturally, but they connected over their love of math,

their common humanity and their conviction that he was their biggest advocate."

As a result of his performance in the classroom and the performance of teachers under his direction, Lloyd was awarded Master Teacher status.

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### **Mary Jane Gelder Plummer, '58**

Mary Jane Gelder Plummer, described as a Renaissance woman, due to her passion for the arts and her devotion to community service, graduated from Sidney High in 1958 with academic honors.

She was also winner of the Senior Achievement Award for participation and excellence in extra-curricular organizations and activities.

Mary Jane furthered her education at Syracuse University, where she majored in music education. After working briefly in a school in South Plainfield, New Jersey, she returned to Sidney in 1967 to raise her children. Her career path then took her to Amphenol, where she served as a production analyst and expeditor for 20 years. Her supervisor, Leonard Parren, described her as "an outstanding employee during a time of transition at the plant."

Talent and a love of music led to Mary Jane's participation in Tri-Town Theatre, serving as president, treasurer, performer and behind-the-scenes worker. Her first major role was that of Marian the librarian in "Music Man." She has been active in the area musically, serving for many years as organist and choir director at the First Congregational Church, and participating in vocal opportunities throughout the Southern Tier.

Since retiring, Mary Jane has continued to exemplify her ideal that "folks owe something to the place where they live" for more than 20

years. As president of the Friends of the Library and now president of the Sidney Memorial Public Library Board of Trustees, Mary Jane has contributed continuously to the library's mission and success. She proved instrumental in initiating many of the library's community programs, including the monthly film series, a book club discussion group, maintenance of Molly's garden, book sales and children's cultural programs.

Her continuing service as president, program chair and current treasurer of the Hill and Valley Garden Club aided acquisition of the "Welcome to Sidney" sign.

In her position as chairman of the council at the First Congregational Church, recently closed after 211 years, she leads the church into a challenging future while striving to preserve its history and guide it toward becoming a focal point of community culture and activity.

Mary Jane's personal interests include travel, reading, perennial gardening, quilting and golf. Close friend Susan Sklenarik said that "she could be counted upon to help whenever needed, and to follow through."

Mary Jane was named First Lady of the Year in 2013 by the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority.

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### **William (Bill) D. Laraway, '50**

William (Bill) Laraway was born and raised in Sidney, graduating from Sidney High School in 1950. While a student, Bill was a member of Student Council, the National Honor Society and the Model Airplane Club. He was a starting member of the league JV championship basketball team during Coach De Bloom's final year coaching. Bill lettered in varsity basketball,

baseball and football, and earned an All-Star invitation in basketball. Upon graduation, Bill was awarded the Bendix (Scintilla) Engineer's Club Award. Bill attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for two years, then transferred to Tri-State College in Indiana to complete his bachelor's degree in Aero Engineering in 1954. While at Tri-State, he became a member of Sigma Phi Delta, an international fraternity for engineering students.

After a short period of employment with Bendix Scintilla, and in a civilian capacity at the Arnold Air Force Base's Arnold Engineering Development Complex, Bill enlisted in the Air Force. He was stationed in Japan, and later Hawaii, as a statistical specialist. After his discharge, Bill joined the Von Kaman Gas Dynamics Facility at the Arnold Engineering Development Complex in Tullahoma, Tennessee as a tunnel engineer in the hypersonic branch.

At the end of 1967, Bill moved to the Northrup Corp, starting as a supervisor in the Space Chamber Facility at the Johnson Space Center in Houston. His start there coincided with preparations for certification testing of the Apollo fuel cells for missions to the moon. Bill was promoted to test facility manager and facility design engineer. He was awarded the Apollo Achievement Award by NASA, recognizing his service as a member of the team credited with advancing the nation's capabilities in aeronautics and space and culminating in Apollo 11's successful mission and man's first lunar landing.

Bill went on to receive many awards from NASA, including medallions made of metal collected on space voyages and an appreciation award from the President's commission for service on the team that investigated and identified the cause of the Challenger space shuttle's malfunction. The federal government also acknowledged Bill's redesign of a vacuum chamber in the RHTF, which

saved the government thousands of dollars.

Bill's wife, Jean, passed away 23 years ago. He has three children, five grandchildren, seven great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. Bill was involved in many community activities, including managing Little League teams, coaching Babe Ruth leagues and holding several offices in his church. He was also president of the Northrup Management Club.

## Alumni Weekend Schedule of Events:

Friday, July 17:

7:30AM: AM Shotgun Alumni Golf Tournament – Sidney Golf and Country Club - \$75/PP

1:00PM: PM Shotgun Alumni Golf Tournament – Sidney Golf and Country Club - \$75/pp

6:00PM: Golf Tournament Banquet – Sidney Gold and Country Club (Catered by Club 55) – If not playing in tournament, it's \$25/pp

8:00PM-12:00AM: Ice-breaker Social – Sidney Elks Lodge – Band "Splash" to perform - \$5 cover charge

Saturday, July 18:

8:00AM-11:00AM: Pancake Breakfast – TBD – Sidney High School - \$10/pp

9:30AM-10:30AM: Field hockey match – Alumni Field

10:45AM: March of Classes lineup

11:00AM: March of Classes

12:00PM-5:00PM: Meet at float pickup location at noon to be taken to Wells Bridge for put-in; see sign-up sheet for details

1:00PM-5:00PM: Cornhole Tournament – Awestruck Ciders – Limit 32 teams - \$20/per team

8:00PM-12:00AM: Saturday Night Social – American Legion – DJ to spin - \$2 cover charge

Sunday, July 19:

10:00AM-10:45AM: Memorial Service – Veterans Memorial Park

11:00AM-12:00PM: Alumni Reception/Social Hour – Club 55 - \$10/pp (light snacks/hors d'oeuvres)

12:00PM-2:00PM: Wall of Fame Awards Ceremony – Club 55 – Included in cost of reception