

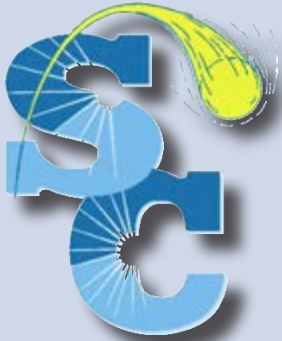
# Sandy Creek

Central School  
District  
Newsletter



June/Graduation 2016

## The Comet's Tale



*Pictured from the induction ceremony are Inductee Adam Pratt; Charlotte Reid Besaw, accepting on behalf of her brother, Richard Reid, and Gaylord and Paulette Lindsey, accepting on behalf of their son, Aaron Lindsey.*

## SCCS Wall of Distinction

Three exceptional individuals of distinction were inducted into the Sandy Creek Central School District "Wall of Distinction" in a ceremony held at the school recently.

The new inductees are those who have achieved a high level of prominence in their personal and professional lives and who represent a positive role model to youth.

The inductees included:

- **Aaron Lindsey**, a 1992 graduate of Sandy Creek High School;
- **Richard "Buck" Reid**, a 1979 graduate; and
- **Adam Pratt**, a graduate of the class of 1997.

Lindsey and Reid were unable to attend the induction ceremony, so members of their family were on hand to accept the honor on their behalf.

## Congratulations Sandy Creek Class of 2016



Sandy Creek Central School District







# 2016 Valedictorian and Salutatorian

Valedictorian Rosaleen Morgan, right, is the daughter of Elizabeth Lonergan, William Joyce and Elisha Morgan. She will attend Cornell University in the fall where she will study Human Development with plans to pursue a career in the human services field. In the future she hopes to make a positive difference in children's lives. One of the things she has enjoyed most while at Sandy Creek High School, is participating in sports.

Salutatorian Brigid McClusky, left, is the daughter of Timothy and Mary McClusky. She will attend the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. where she will major in chemistry. She hopes to pursue a career in Forensic Chemistry. The one thing she hopes to accomplish in her lifetime is to help people and make a positive difference. While in school she has enjoyed all of the clubs and teams she has participated in and offers this advice to her fellow graduates: "Don't give up on your dreams."

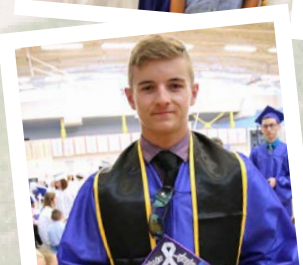


## Congratulations Class of 2016

- Dakota James Allen
- Jarred Emmitt Baird ◊◊
- Adaiah Lily Bauer ◊
- Chelsey McKayla Blodgett ◊◊
- Carrigan Elizabeth Brown
- Heidi Mae Brown
- Tyler Joe Brown ◊◊◊
- Dylan James Bryant ◊◊◊ ‡
- Emmalee Klare Bulluck ◊◊ ◊
- Ricardo Enrique Capetillo Camelo
- Michael James Carkey Jr.
- Sara Lynn Castor ◊
- Alexander D. Catania
- Emily Elizabeth Cheney ◊
- Dante Mason Clowes
- Brody Mackay Cooley ◊
- Jodi Ann Davis
- Lainee Diaz
- Joseph Allen Dillenbeck
- Kimberly Marie Distasio ◊◊◊
- Antonia Duehring
- Robert Ezekiel Timothy Durham ◊◊◊ ‡
- Isaac James Eisch
- Jacob Stephen Farman
- Hunter Elizabeth Gable ◊
- Jacob Charles Galloway
- Keith G. Gibbs
- Kate Leffingwell Hanni ◊◊ ±
- Abigail Rose Irwin
- Tessie Anne Jones
- Trisha Booke Ann Joy
- Paige Madison Kehoe
- Mason James LaRue
- Bailey Susan Laundre ◊
- Ashley M. Leighton
- Rianon MacDuffie-Dingman
- James Lee Manchester ◊
- Kali Ann McClemons
- Brigid Aine McClusky ◊◊◊ ‡
- Nicholas Jarrett Miller ◊
- Austin J. Miller
- Rosaleen Lonergan Morgan ◊◊◊ ‡
- Jacob Tyler Mulpagano

- Andrew Donald Olin ◊◊◊ ‡
- Adrianna Rose Palmer ◊◊
- Shane Parsons
- Alesha Mae LeAnna Phelps ◊
- Leonard Thomas Phillips ◊
- Christopher M. Plain
- Milferd Zachary Potter ◊
- James Potts
- Nicholas R. Radford ◊◊◊
- Morgan Raniero
- Tessa Raymo
- Matthew A. Reese
- Mikayla Lea Russell
- Austyn Lorraine Shephard ◊
- Makayla Lynn Sherman
- Austin Lee Skinner
- Skylar M. Stone
- Chace Coy Storie
- Crystal Jane Tibbles
- Patricia May Tibbles
- Melissa Trumble
- Alex Sayles VanRy
- Victoria M. Vazquez
- Troi Stephen Wall
- Jessica Nichole Williams ◊
- Sean Thomas Williams
- Michael James Edward Yard ◊
- Kasey Jo Yerdon ◊◊◊ ‡
- Ryan Alexander Yerdon ◊

- ◊ Advanced Regents Diploma
- ◊◊ Honor Student
- ◊◊◊ National Honor Society
- ◊◊◊◊ National Technical Honor Society
- ◊◊◊◊◊ Career and Technical Endorsement
- ‡ Math Endorsement
- ◊◊◊◊◊ Science Endorsement
- ± Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Endorsement







Kaityn Perkins enjoyed the teamwork involved with the parachute station during Sandy Creek fun day on the final day of school in the district.

## Sandy Creek Elementary Fun Day

The final day of school also marked the annual Fun Day at the Elementary School in the Sandy Creek Central School District. Games involving teamwork and sportsmanship were played on the playground and fields surrounding the school and students also had an option to use the computer lab for game time as well. Classes were treated to some fun "tattoos" and cool treats during the beautiful, sunny day.

Right: Temporary tattoos, including moustache tattoos were available and quite popular among the students. Steven Webb checks out his recent "ink" in the mirror at Fun Day at the school.



## Sandy Creek Pre-K Students Enjoy 'Sail-a-bration'

Sandy Creek Central School's class of 2029 successfully navigated through the Pre-Kindergarten program and are ready to charge full steam ahead into kindergarten.

An end-of-year "Sail-a-bration" ceremony was recently held, which provided students with the opportunity to showcase all they learned throughout the school year.

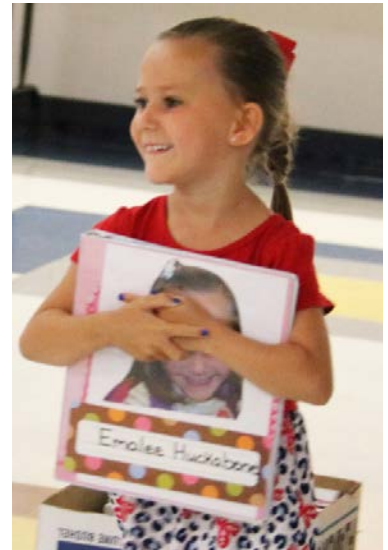
The students performed their favorite songs during the ceremony, including songs related to numbers, months of the year and the alphabet.

"I'm so incredibly proud of our youngest learners. I recall the very first day of school for them. They came to us excited, nervous and maybe even a little afraid," said Principal Bonnie Finnerty. "But now they walk the halls like pros."

Pre-Kindergarten teacher Julie McNitt presented each graduate with a portfolio of work they accomplished throughout the 2015-16 school year.



During Sandy Creek's Pre-K Sail-a-bration" ceremony, students danced to some of their favorite songs. Pictured left, student Alden Smith was all smiles during the event.



Right: student Emalee Huckabone proudly accepts her student portfolio, which showcases all she accomplished throughout the school year.

## Congratulations Retirees!

Congratulations and sincere thanks for the many years of service to the following retirees:

**Cheryl Cheney** - Elementary Teacher

**Roxanne Ferguson** - Elementary Teacher

**Stewart Amell** - Superintendent

**Maureen Shiel** - HS Principal (effective September)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aug. 17-18	Regents Testing
Sept. 1	Teacher Orientation Day - No School for Students
Sept. 5	Labor Day - School Closed
Sept. 6	First Day of School for Students
Oct. 10	Columbus Day - School Closed
Oct. 11-12	Staff Development Day - No School for Students
Nov. 11	Veterans' Day - School Closed
Nov. 23-25	Thanksgiving Recess



## Congratulations!

To the following Varsity Spring Sports Teams for winning the Frontier League Sportsmanship Award for the C Division:

• Boys Track & Field • Girls Track & Field

Also Congratulations to All Sandy Creek Sports Teams for winning the Frontier League Overall Sportsmanship Award for C Division for the 2015-2016 School Year

Great Job to All!





# Sandy Creek Middle and High School Awards Ceremony



Sandy Creek Middle School students posed for a photo following the awards ceremony where academic and athletic awards were presented.

In a recent awards ceremony, students at Sandy Creek Middle School were presented with several awards recognizing, academics, attendance, character, sportsmanship and outstanding achievement in special areas.

The following awards were presented during the ceremony:

Academic Initiative Award: Emma Halsey and Matt Trudell; Social Studies Initiative Award: Ryan Robbins, Aden Goodnough and Charles Shaw; Alice Babcock Memorial Homemaking Award: Zachary Paternoster; Cheri Bartholomew Memorial: Sydney Cook; Edith Ormasen Memorial: Cati-Ann Blodgett and Hunter James; Haer Memorial: Logan Strong; James Welch Memorial: Tyler Mason; Joey Eisch Memorial Award: Avery Cornell; Reading Awards: Jason Lance and Jazmyn Baker (7th); Austin King and Logan Hatch (8th); 8th Grade Motivation Award: Charles Shaw and Madison Brown; Art Award: Abigail Lantry (6th); Deanna Hathway (7th); Emily Ward (7th); and Madison Bauer (8th). Principal Award: Alayna Blount and Justin Thayer (6th); Cati-Ann Blodgett and James Green (7th); Riley Dowlearn and Gavin Babcock (8th). Albert Einstein Award - James Green; Coterie Club Award - Madison Bauer; English 7 Award - Zachary Paternoster and Deanna Hathway; Humanitarian Service Award: Faith White and Skylar Skellington; Irene Killam Award: Aldyn Landas and Ashleigh Rosenbaum; Jack Miller Industrial Arts - Logan Hatch; Math Magician Award - Emily Yousey, Michaela Kastler and Sarah Balcom; Outlook Club Citizenship Award: Aden Goodnough; Outlook Club English Award: Sydney Cook; Scholar Mathlete Award: Alexis Miley, Brittany Sherman, Brooke Rogers and Marshall Manchester; Social Studies Awards: Terry Eggleston, Annie Chen, Aldyn Landas and Jaden Minckler; VFW Auxiliary Award: McKenzie Kwak; Mabel Laird Memorial Award: Levi Darling; Student Council Initiative Award: Jessica Graham, Hailey Miller and Faith White; and Sandy Creek Support Staff Initiative Award: Charles Shaw and Faith White.



Sandy Creek High School students were presented with academic and athletic awards during the end of the year ceremony.

Pictured below: Joe Benedict was the recipient of the Larry Miller Memorial Wrestling Award. His name will be engraved on the plaque that is displayed at the school.



Pictured above: The Babe Ruth Foundation Sportsmanship Award was presented to Tyler Brown, left and Kate Hanni, center. Also pictured is Athletic Coordinator Michael Stevens.



At right: Physical Education Department Award for the most athletic participation points: Leo Phillips, left, and Emily Cheney, center.



## Sandy Creek Elementary Student Council Awards Ceremony

The Sandy Creek Elementary School Student Council Awards Ceremony was held where several awards were presented to students in grades 3-5 at the school. Recognized for outstanding achievement in core curriculum and special areas awards were given for accelerated reading, art, citizenship, good kid, library, math, music, reading, science, social studies, student council, technology and writing.

Pictured with their certificates for their excellence in writing are the following students: Cody Walke, Lily Liszewski, Riley Phillips, Manarah Brown, Perle Convey, Sophia Brown, Cyprus Liszewski, Destiny Urquhart and Harley Petrie.

Student Council Members were also recognized as well as Climate Committee Members in attendance.







# Red, White and Blue Kindergarten Graduation

The Sandy Creek Elementary School Kindergarten graduation ceremony featured a patriotic theme as students from Mrs. Darous, Mrs. Norton's, Ms. Olin's, and Mrs. Vaadi's classes performed several songs and speeches reflecting the spirit of America. The students were individually presented with a symbolic diploma celebrating their successful completion of the Kindergarten year and moving up to first grade. Following the performances, receptions for students, parents and guests were held in the Kindergarten classrooms.



Mercedes Sousa, a student in Mrs. Gail Vaadi's class, signs 'I love you' to family in the audience during a break between songs at the Kindergarten Graduation ceremony held in the high school gymnasium.



Lylie Wall clutches her "diploma" during the recent Kindergarten Graduation at Sandy Creek Elementary School as others are called up to received their recognition.

## Sandy Creek District Serves as Summer Feeding Site

During the school year, the Sandy Creek Central School District food service program serves nutritious meals. To ensure that children in the area will not go hungry this summer, the district is once again participating as a summer feeding site for children 18 years and younger. The free breakfast and lunch program will run from July 11 to August 11. The program is available to anyone 18 years and under. No proof of income or residency requirements are necessary.

For more information contact the Sandy Creek Central School District Food Service Department at 387-3445.



The top sixteen students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, based on their entire overall average for all of their middle school career are pictured left to right: McKenzie Kwak, Levi Darling, Sadie Lurcock, Riley Dowlearn, Gavin Babcock, Charles-Samuel Shaw, Marley Yerdon, Jesse Dreibelbis, Aden Goodnough, Madison Brown, Logan Strong, Sydney Cook, Madison Bauer and Alaina Hathway. Missing from the photo was Alexis McNitt and Travis Benjamin.

## Sandy Creek Middle School Top Sixteen Students Honored

The top 16 students from Sandy Creek Middle Schools 8<sup>th</sup> grade class were honored recently for their outstanding academic achievements during their entire middle school career. The top grade point averages were calculated using the students' 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years and while typically, the top 15 are honored, due to a tie, sixteen students were recognized. To celebrate, Sandy Creek Middle School Principal Carolyn Shirley, held a Top Fifteen Luncheon. Shirley commended the students for their outstanding achievement and called the luncheon, "a celebration of their hard work in academics during their middle school career."

## Flag Day Celebration

Second grade students at Sandy Creek Elementary School held their annual Flag Day celebration at the school and patriotism and love of country was at an all-time high. Songs and enactments focused on the origin, symbolism and proper display and treatment of a flag during the ceremony. The students were decked out in red, white and blue and they performed several patriotic songs under the direction of music teacher, Jackie Hobbs.



Above right: Simon Preston carries the flag as 2<sup>nd</sup> graders enter the auditorium for the annual Flag Day Celebration. Below, students spell America during their patriotic program.







## English 12's 20% Projects Continue to Impress



Twenty percent projects are displayed left to right by: Morgan Ranieri, Mikayla Russell and Tori Vazquez. The projects were part of their English 12 class at the high school.

The idea of allowing students, or Google employees for that matter, to spend 20% of their time on projects that aren't necessarily related to their classroom curriculum, (or job description), may seem off track, but after viewing projects from the students enrolled in the English 12 class at Sandy Creek High School, it might change your mind.

Students were allowed to select a topic of interest that they wanted to explore or promote and then developed a project that they "pitched" to teachers and fellow students.

The topics and project results were astounding. One student, Jodi Davis developed a blog related to Type 1 diabetes. Davis was diagnosed with the disease when she was in 7th grade and hoped the blog would help explain the disease to others, but an added benefit from the project was the introspective side of the blog. "I learned a lot about myself through this project," she said. Davis, who describes herself as "not a technology person" built the website hosting the blog from scratch; selecting colors, backgrounds, photos, fonts and more. She even learned a little about coding. She plans to continue with the project even after she enters college at Cayuga Community College in the fall.

Other projects were based on personal interests and issues as well including Tori Vazquez' "walk for poverty" project. She planned a walk using the school's track where students and participants were able to get sponsors to support them during the charity walk. She raised more than \$350 for the local Friendship Shop as well as food and clothing donations during the event. She was inspired to this type of project on an even larger scale in the future.

Morgan Ranieri used her love of reading to inspire her project to collect books to donate to elementary school students and Mikayla Russell's interest in cheer and tumbling led her to offer a camp for young people in grades four through seven.

The 20% project in the English classes is only in its second year, and students and teachers alike believe the project is beneficial to those involved.

Jodi Davis, right, shows off her website from which she blogged about Type 1 Diabetes. Davis was diagnosed with the disease in 7th grade and decided to open up about the issue for her 20% project in English 12.



## Pesticide Notice

Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff:

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

The following pesticide applications took place in the Sandy Creek Central School from March 31, 2016 to July 6, 2016:

❖ *There have been no pesticide applications during the above stated period.*

As a reminder, the Sandy Creek Central School District is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- A school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- Anti-microbial products;
- Nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- Silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- Boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- The application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- The application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- The use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you have not yet registered to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the form below and return it to Shelley H. Fitzpatrick, Sandy Creek Central School District Business Administrator at:

**PO Box 248  
Sandy Creek, NY 13145  
Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510  
Fax: 315-387-2196**

**Sandy Creek Central School District**

**Request for Pesticide Application Notification** (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ School Building

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please feel free to contact Andy Ridgeway, the Sandy Creek Central School District pesticide representative at: PO Box 248, Sandy Creek, NY 13145, Phone: 315-387-3445 x1510, Fax: 315-387-2196 for further information on these requirements, including information on the products that have been applied in this school.

Sincerely,

Shelley H. Fitzpatrick  
Business Administrator





## Jesse Cornell to Attend Boys' State

Sandy Creek senior Jesse Cornell will attend Boys' State at SUNY Morrisville for one week during the summer where he looks forward to the camaraderie with fellow participants, developing leadership skills through the program, and also learning more about himself through his participation.

Boys' State, considered to be one of the most respected leadership action programs for high school students, is run by the American Legion. It was developed to give young men (and women through Girls' State) a better understanding of the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizens in today's society. Run like a "state," activities include assemblies, political and law presentations, legislative sessions and court proceedings. Jesse applied through the local chapter of the Legion.

For Jesse, participation is like a family affair. His brother Jacob attended and his father continues to be an instructor in the organization. Jesse hopes the experience will help him in his future



Jesse Cornell, who will be a senior at Sandy Creek High School in the fall will attend Boys' State over the summer at SUNY Morrisville.

endeavors. He hopes to become a Marine Corps officer and is looking to attend a college through the NROTC program where he will study International Relations.

## Science Fair Showcases Student and Classroom Projects

Which came first the chicken or the egg? Well, at the Sandy Creek Science Fair, it is the chick. Always a yearly favorite, the chick hatching experiment in Patricia King's classroom is typically one of the first project displays guests want to visit during their time touring the many set up by students in the district. As far as the egg is concerned, students also perform an egg drop experiment that tests who can create a system to enable the egg to be dropped from a high point and still remain intact.



According to teacher Patricia King, Deb Worden, pictured above, is the "chick" who inspired the yearly classroom chick project at the school.



Brandon Fox created his own version of a lava lamp for his science fair exhibit. A chemical reaction between the agents used in the bottle created the "lava effect."

## Dune Fest Teaches Students About Invasive Species and More



Invasive aquatic species and their impact on native species in Lake Ontario was one of the stations students learned about during Dune Fest. Here, students examine a lamprey, an eel-like invasive species, that attaches to the sides of fish and sucks body fluids from the host fish until it dies and the lamprey moves on to another fish.

Sandy Creek seventh graders attended Dune Fest at Southwick Beach State Park where they learned details about invasive species including plant, animal and insect varieties.

At one station they learned about the emerald ash borer and what measures are used to combat their destruction of ash trees in the United States. At another station, students learned about the interdependency of aquatic species in Lake Ontario by participating in a food web exercise. They learned how several invasive species have had a negative impact on native species and how those invasive species probably arrived in the area.

Other stations included information about native birds and fishes and what is being done to protect them. A presentation on water safety and what to do if someone in the water is drowning was also demonstrated.



# Sandy Creek Central School District

P.O. Box 248  
124 Salisbury St.  
Sandy Creek, NY 13145

Non-Profit  
US Postage Paid  
Permit No. 7  
Zip Code 13145

Phone: 315-387-3445  
Fax: 315-387-2196  
District Office: Ext. 1510  
Business Office: Ext. 1510  
Elementary: Ext. 1110  
Middle School/High School: Ext. 1910  
Nurses' Offices:  
Elementary - Ext. 1503; HS - Ext. 1505  
Transportation: Ext. 3330

## Postal Patron



Sandy Creek Central School District

### Sandy Creek Central School District 2015-16 Board of Education

*Brian MacVean,*

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*Vice President*

*James Dowlearn*

*Amy Guarasce*

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*Brenda Yerdon*

**Superintendent:**

**Mr. Stewart R. Amell**

**Business Administrator/  
District Clerk:**

**Shelley H. Fitzpatrick**

**Principals:**

**Elementary:**

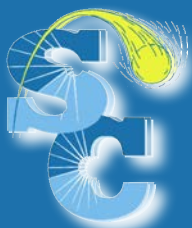
**Bonnie Finnerty**

**Middle School:**

**Carolyn Shirley**

**High School:**

**Maureen Shiel**



## Successful Season in Sandy Creek Sports

With several individual and team accomplishments this spring sports season, it can easily be summed up as a highly successful season.

A selection of some of the many outstanding achievements include:

- Varsity Girls Track and Field team qualified as a New York State Scholar Athlete team with a combined average of 90% or higher.
- Varsity Softball won the Frontier League C Division regular season championship and won the Frontier League C Division Playoff Championship
- Carley Stoker named Section III Class C First Team and All Star for softball
- Allison Burrows named Section III Class C 4th team for softball
- Troi Wall was named Section III Class C Track & Field Champion in the 400 meter. He also finished 2nd in the New York State Qualifier meet.



Standout athletes, Troi Wall, left, and Zeke Durham, right, were recognized by the Board of Education for their outstanding athletic efforts this year. Pictured with the athletes is Michael Stevens, Athletic Coordinator for the district.

- Zeke Durham was named a scholar athlete by the National Football Foundation and was recognized at a special scholarship and honor banquet held at the Turning Stone Resort earlier this spring.

All in all it was an exceptional year for athletics in the Sandy Creek District with several other athletes earning recognition for their outstanding achievements in their sport.

## Reading Tea Celebrates First Graders' Accomplishments



Sandy Creek Elementary School first-graders recently celebrated their reading accomplishments during the annual Reading Tea event. First Grader Micah Burns, left, displays a memory book he created and then shared with his Mimi, Lori Hewell, right, during the recent first-grade Reading Tea event.

## Looking for a Yearbook from a previous year?

Did you want to order a yearbook from a previous year? The SCCS Yearbook has a supply of prior years' Spade Yearbooks for sale for \$5 and \$15 ea. Yearbooks from 2002-2010 are \$5 each and yearbooks from 2011-2015 are \$15 ea. Contact Teresa Crast (tcrast@sccs.cnyric.org or 387-3445 ext. 1105) for ordering information.