

Distinguished Alumni of Worthington Schools 2008 Honorees

Kaye W. Kessler, Class of 1941, went to work at the *Citizen* after graduating from high school. After serving in World War II, he returned to the newspaper in 1946 and was a sportswriter for 40 years at two Columbus newspapers. Kessler was on the scene for most of Jack Nicklaus' record 18 victories in the major championships. He also covered the career of Ohio State football coach Woody Hayes and the OSU basketball team that won the NCAA championship in 1960. He received the Memorial Golf Journalism Award for 2002, the PGA of America's Lifetime Achievement Award in Journalism and was inducted into the Ohio Golf Hall of Fame. Kaye resides in Littleton, Colorado, and continues to work for the International golf tournament and still covers the Memorial Tournament in Dublin.

Kay (Atkinson) Ball, RN, PhD(c), CNOR, FAAN, Class of 1967, is a perioperative nurse educator and consultant working with perioperative nurses, professional organizations, healthcare facilities, industry, and legislative groups. She has served as the Laser Program Director for Mount Carmel Heath and Grant Medical Center in Columbus. In 1997, Kay was inducted as a Fellow in the prestigious American Academy of Nursing. Kay has served on many nursing boards and in 2003 was the recipient of the AORN Award for Excellence and the Ohio Nurses Association's Excellence in Political Action Award. She has authored the book, *Lasers: The Perioperative Challenge* and planned and assisted with the first laser surgery on a dolphin at Sea World. Kay lives in Lewis Center, Ohio, and lectures in the United States and throughout the world on laser, surgical, healthcare, and nursing issues.

Jim Kammerud, Class of 1978, is a director, writer, producer and animator. He began his career by co-founding the Character Builders animation studio in Columbus in 1986 with Jeff Smith, where he worked as an animator and storyboard artist for *Bebe's Kids* as well as *Space Jam*. In the late 1990's, Jim began working for Disney and directed and designed the new characters in *The Little Mermaid II: Return to the Sea*. He co-wrote and co-directed *101 Dalmatians II: Patch's London Adventure* and served as co-writer and co-producer of *Tarzan II* (2005). Recently he directed *The Fox and the Hound 2*, an all-new sequel. He won a DVD Exclusive Award for Best Director of a DVD Premier Movie for *101 Dalmatians II: Patch's London Adventure*, and was nominated for Best Screenplay as well. He also was nominated for an Annie Award for Outstanding Writing in an Animated Feature Production for the same film. Jim resides in Worthington, Ohio.

Jeff Smith, Class of 1978, is a cartoonist best known as the creator of the self-published comic book series *Bone*. He co-founded Character Builders with classmate Jim Kammerud. During his years there, from 1986-1992, Jeff was consumed by the idea of creating a comic based on telling a long story. *Bone* is a comic fantasy that has been translated into 23 languages and has sold more than three million copies. Jeff has won numerous awards for *Bone* and 7 Harvey Awards as Best Cartoonist. While attending The Ohio State University, Smith created a daily four-panel strip for the student newspaper, *The Lantern*. Recently his artistry was displayed in an exhibition at the Wexner Center for the Arts, at The OSU, featuring 75 of his drawings. His newest works are *Shazam!* series for DC Comics and *Rasl*. Warner Bros. recently purchased the film rights to *Bone*. Jeff currently resides in Columbus, Ohio.