

Don Badowski

Don has been active in Illinois fencing for more than sixteen years as a competitor, referee, teacher, and as a leader. He is instrumental in the development and implementation of youth fencing programs through Illinois Fencers Club in Mt. Prospect, Illinois and the Illinois division of the United States Fencing Association (USFA). Don has been an Assistant Coach of the New Trier High School Fencing Team for the past eleven years. He has been coaching for thirteen years, and completed his Level II Foil certification from the USFA Coaches College. He is proficient and certified in teaching all three fencing weapons.

Gloria Baez

As a native of Ecuador, South America, Gloria has enjoyed teaching Spanish at all levels. Her teaching experience includes workshops on Marquez and other Latin American authors. She has traveled all over the world and applies these experiences to her classroom activities. Gloria participated in an international foreign language conference and received an Oral Proficiency Instructor Certification (O.P.I.) and is a member of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFEL). She is President of the Chicago Chapter of the United Nations Organization for the Development of Human Rights for Women (PPSEWA).

Timothy Barfield

Tim is a graduate of Evanston Township High School and attended Hutchinson Jr. College in Hutchinson, Kansas. He has been at New Trier since 1988 and has coached football, wrestling and track and field there. He was the head football coach for the Winnetka Park District's heavyweight team and served for six years as the head track and field coach at St. Scholastica Academy. He is currently the Transportation Manager at New Trier and head Track and Field Coach at Francis Parker School in Chicago.

Ellen Blum Barish

Ellen is a personal essayist whose work has appeared in national publications and aired on WBEZ's Chicago Public Radio. Ellen's award-winning, syndicated column on women and family issues was published for more than a decade. Her essay collection, *"Views from the Home Office Window: On Motherhood, Family and Life,"* was published in 2007. She has taught writing at several Chicago-area universities including Northwestern University where she earned her masters degree in journalism. Ellen teaches personal essay workshops at StoryStudio North Shore and has facilitated workshops at Ragdale and Off Campus Writer's Workshop. She is currently at work on a collection of spiritual essays. For more information please visit www.ellenblumbarish.com

Jonathan Bean

Originally from Boston, Jonathan has been cooking for over thirty years both in the States and overseas, where Asian cooking and fish dishes receive great critical acclaim. Not usually one to remain modest about his cooking, he did have enough sense not to mention it when he got drafted.

Alisha Betancourt-Mullen

Alisha was born in Havana, Cuba and came to this country in 1961 after the Bay of Pigs. She has taught French and Spanish since 1963, has been at NTX since 1998 and enjoys it immensely. She is widowed and lives in Highland Park. Alisha has four children.

Robert Buess

Bob has been a flight attendant at United Airlines since 1986 and has been doing the Chicago-Paris run several times a month. He has become an expert on how to get around Paris, on foot or by bicycle,

beginning at the airport and going to all the popular and secret places.

Grace Chen-McClone

Grace has a Masters of Divinity Equivalency from Fu Jen University in Taipei, Taiwan. She received graduate training in Philosophy, Theology and Psychology. In 1991, Grace completed a Masters in Pastoral Counseling at Loyola University in Chicago. Currently, Grace is part of the adjunct faculty at Catholic Theological Union where she has been teaching pastoral care skills such as training in empathy since 2001. She is a member of the faculty of the Chinese Cultural and Educational Association where she has taught Chinese culture and language since 1997. Grace has been part of the New Trier Extension faculty since 2000.

Chick Cichowski

Chick is a graduate of Indiana University. He is a former NFL and Canadian football player. He was a member of the New Trier High School physical education department for thirty-three years as head football coach for twenty years and also head wrestling coach for several years. Now retired, Chick is a member of the National Strength and Conditioning Association. He was elected to the Illinois High School Coaches Association Football Hall of Fame. He served as a scout for the New York Jets and Baltimore Ravens football teams. He served in the armed forces as second lieutenant. Chick's "Physical Conditioning" class in a NTX perennial favorite.

Ann Cusack

Ann has been a T'ai Chi practitioner since 1991. She has studied with Barry Schultz since 1995 and has participated in Shen Long retreats and workshops, including the International Conference in Taiwan. Ann is also a clinical psychologist, registered nurse and a member of the American Holistic Nurses Association. She has a private practice and teaches at Northwestern University's Family Institute.

Lucien Dall'Agata

Lucien Dall'agata has been a student of yoga since 1977 in France. While working as a philosophy teacher there and as an employee of the French Government abroad, he managed to deepen his studies of yoga. Coming to the US in the nineties, he took this opportunity to widen his experience by studying with a variety of teachers from different styles. He completed his studies in 2003 at Integrative Yoga Therapy, where he achieved a 200 hour level certification, as recognized by the Yoga Alliance and has been teaching on the North Shore area since 2004. He combines postures, breath work, body awareness and deep relaxation for a "whole person" approach, focusing on adapting the practice to the needs of the students.

de Giulio kitchen design

Since founding the company in 1984, Mick De Giulio has been creating extraordinary kitchens for distinctive residences throughout the United States and abroad. In 2002, his design was selected for the kitchen at Washington D.C.'s historic presidential guest home, Blair House. In addition to directing two successful showrooms (in Wilmette and at LuxeHome in the Merchandise Mart) specializing in residential kitchen design, Mick has completed several notable commercial projects, including the test and demonstration kitchens for the Chicago Tribune, Sub-Zero Freezer/Wolf Appliance in Madison, Wisconsin, and Better Homes and Gardens magazine in Des Moines, Iowa. He has been recognized as one of the 50 most influential people in the kitchen and bath industry over the last 50 years. Melding modern and classical vocabularies, de Giulio designers' distinctive compositions are inspired by cultural influences and technology, and combine an experienced sensibility to craft, fine detail, and classic

proportion.

Pamela Dell

Pamela is the author of more than sixty books for children, both fiction and nonfiction, and for all age levels. She has been creating entertainment and educational content for kids since 1990, including not only books but also computer games and other interactive multimedia, educational material, and fictional narrative-based websites geared to young people. In the 1990s she was a co-founder of Purple Moon, an acclaimed multimedia developer in San Francisco geared toward preteen girls, and she is the author of "Doodlebug & Dandelion," a fiction serial published monthly in *Spider Magazine*, from the Cricket Magazine Group. Pamela has also worked as an editor and content developer for Scholastic, Inc., Warner Bros., Knowledge Adventure, World Book, Inc., and many other publishers and entertainment companies. She has taught workshops for the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators as well as private classes and workshops for at-risk teen girls.

Frank DiMaria

Trained as a professional chef at The Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago, Frank has amassed a wealth of culinary experience over the last decade. He enjoys cooking all types of cuisines and has worked in settings including restaurants, his own catering company and classrooms, providing private instruction as well as teaching courses in local schools and upscale food shops. Frank participates in fundraisers featuring celebrity and professional chefs, serves as a restaurant critic and menu planner, and donates meals to the homeless for benefits. His extensive credentials include: participating chef in The American Culinary Classic; premier member of the U.S. Personal Chef Association; charter member of the American Pie Council; and state certification in Food Service Sanitation.

Barbara Dooley

Barbara has a B.A. degree in Managerial Psychology and spent years in the corporate world. She came to embrace the transformational properties of complementary healing and received her certification from the National Guild of Hypnotists, with training including Emotional Freedom Technique and Neuro-Linguistic Programming.

William Doughty Jr.

Bill's aim is to portray the essence of a subject. In landscapes that can be mood and atmosphere. In portraits it is seeking the inner spirit of the person. His abstract work uses free colors and shapes to tell of mystery. In all his work, design elements and composition are fundamental. Bill has been teaching at NTX since 1994. His work has been juried into many national shows.

Janet Evans

Janet taught French at Barrington High School for over thirty years. She has also taught Spanish, EFL, ESL and French to students whose age ranged from 5 to 75 years old. In addition to living, studying and teaching in France for many years, her travels to Quebec, Belgium, Switzerland, Morocco and French-speaking Louisiana have given her an appreciation and understanding of other francophone cultures. She has a B.S. in education and a M.A. in French from Eastern Illinois University. The Chicago-Northern Illinois Chapter of the American Association of the Teachers of French awarded her its "Prix du Chapitre" in 1995. Her former students named her to "Who's Who Among American Teachers" in 1992 and 2002. She has had leadership roles in the American Association of the Teachers of French and the Illinois Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.

Elaine Feinblatt

Elaine is an enthusiastic yoga instructor certified through the Himalayan Institute. She has studied and practiced yoga since 1985 and has taught for sixteen years. She draws from several yoga masters to bring you interesting classes as your journey toward a healthier, happier and longer life.

Kevin W. Fitzsimons

Kevin is an attorney and certified public accountant specializing in the areas of estate planning, probate, income taxation, and business law. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree from Indiana University, where he was a Chick Evans Scholar, and his Doctor of Juris Prudence with honors from John Marshall Law School. Mr. Fitzsimons conducts numerous seminars in the areas of estate planning and income taxation.

Monica Fonda

Monica Fonda is a native of Venice, Italy who moved to the United of States in December, 2000. She is a full-time teacher's assistant at North Shore School District 112 in Highland Park. She has conducted Italian language adult education classes at all levels in Highland Park, Deerfield and New Trier High schools since 2006 and also provides private tutoring for children and adults.

Vicki Foreman

Vicki has been practicing meditation since 1978 when she first learned Transcendental Meditation while earning her undergraduate degree in Health Science and Psychology. Finding that it not only relieved the stress of college life but also improved overall attitude, mood, creativity, memory and ability to focus, she was hooked. Vicki has studied various forms of meditation, received training in Kundalini Raja Yoga, is a certified Deepak Chopra Primordial Sound Meditation instructor and is also a Reiki Master. She has been teaching adults and teens to meditate since 2000.

Jim Foster

Jim, a New Trier alum, has a B.A. degree in Economics from Ripon College, an M.B.A. from the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management, and graduate work providing teaching certification and certification as a Microsoft Office Specialist. He had extensive experience training and supporting information systems and office automation in Fortune 100 corporations and in schools. He is presently a Software Specialist at New Trier.

Jim and Dolly Francione

Jim and Dolly began dancing in Chicago around 1977. As their lessons advanced, they entered several competitions and also did exhibitions. That led to teaching in some high schools and colleges in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. They also give private lessons and teach or give exhibitions at private affairs. Jim and Dolly enjoy travelling, dancing and doing things with their children and grandchildren. They enjoy giving dance lessons at New Trier Extension and sharing their love of dance with others.

Kristyn Friske

Kristyn has an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University, and a B.A. from Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA. She started her marketing career at World Book Encyclopedias and held a variety of management positions at Quaker Oats before founding a consulting company that specialized in new business development. Clients included venture capital groups, Heinz and Kraft Foods. She feels she has come full circle returning to the publishing industry, having joined Windy City Publishers as a partner in May, 2009 with a strong background in marketing for consumer packaged

goods companies. Kristyn leads the firm's strategic marketing and business development activities, including developing and positioning the company's product offerings, creating customized marketing plans for clients and managing all marketing communications.

Nancy Gandelman and Debbie Siegel

Nancy and Debbie are experienced bakers and cake decorators. Nancy has worked at several bakeries on the North Shore and they both trained in the Wilton technique of cake decorating. Debbie and Nancy regularly host cake decorating parties and events throughout the Chicago area, at which they teach cake decorating to groups of all ages.

Linda Georgoulis

Linda started fencing in 1989, and continues to fence locally and nationally. She has been coaching and officiating for more than 20 years. She has been involved in independent fencing programs as well as those at both Maine West and Stevenson high schools. Along with New Trier, these schools make up the three oldest operating high school programs in Illinois. Linda has been with the Extension program since 2006.

Benjamin Goldman

Ben has his B.A. degree in History from Indiana University and an M.S. in Financial Markets from IIT. He has been an entrepreneur (starting two businesses), is an instructor at Truman College, and was recently named an instructor in Goldman Sachs' Small Businesses Initiative.

Linda Goldman

Linda is a Certified Professional Organizer specializing in transforming environments from chaos and clutter into peace and serenity and helping people let go of things and paper they no longer need. Her company was launched 10 years ago and has been featured on radio and in various Chicago area publications. She holds a business degree from the University of Illinois, is a member of the National Association of Professional Organizers (NAPO) and the Institute for Challenging Disorganization. She is also on the Board of NAPO's Chicago Chapter. Prior to launching her business, Linda worked for almost twenty years in corporate training, human resources and management. For more about Linda, please visit her website at www.AltogetherOrganized.org.

Diana Gourguechon

Diana has been teaching yoga since the early 1990's and practicing it since the 1970's. She received her certification from the Himalayan Institute. Diana has an eclectic approach to yoga. Borrowing from different perspectives, she attempts to creatively incorporate them into her practice and share them with her students. She feels that the many benefits of yoga are available to everyone, regardless of physical condition, age, or previous experience. Each student is encouraged to work at their own capacity while practicing gentle movement, the postures, breath awareness and relaxation techniques. The body/mind connection and its influence on physical, emotional and mental health has become common knowledge. Yoga creates the conditions where the union of the body, mind and spirit re-unite and can be a powerful tool to enhance wellness and promote personal growth.

Sue Hershinow

Sue is an independent contractor in the field of Human Relations. She learned to play Mah Jongg as a teen and as a young mother played in a regular game. She began playing again with the resurgence in

the game's popularity and taught a number of her friends how to play maj. A trainer by profession, Sue is a natural at helping students make sense of elements of the game. Her sense of humor and ability to cheer on her students endears her to them.

Stuart Hertzberg

Stuart, a twenty-five year resident of Wilmette, has been an attorney, a small businessman (although he is a rather tall person) and an essay writer. He currently works at Truman College in Chicago, where he specializes in helping adults navigate the often tricky currents of English grammar and punctuation. He has worked with college age and above students from well over fifty countries from around the world as well as native English speaking students.

Marsha Gibson-Heuberger

A Kendall College Culinary School graduate, Marsha was the director of the Recreational Cooking School and Adult Education at Kendall and also served as the U.S. Culinary Services Director for Academia Barilla. She specializes in classes the home cook and has been teaching for several years. Her teaching method mimics the way professionals learn how to cook but is easy to follow if you are a beginner or an have been cooking for years. Marsha believes that anyone can cook and everyone should - you just need the to learn the basics first.

Roger Heuberger

Roger is passionate about art. He supplemented his Northwestern University master's degree with post-baccalaureate and graduate art history credits at the School of the Art Institute, Northwestern and Sotheby's Institute-London. He is a docent and lecturer at the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Pam Hultgren

Pam has been studying T'ai Chi Ch'uan since 1995 and has been teaching since 2000. She has participated in the Shen Long (Spirit Dragon) T'ai Chi weekend retreats, Shen Long Day celebrations, area-wide events, and international conferences held in Taiwan. She began studying T'ai Chi on a whim but quickly grew to appreciate the whole body health benefits of T'ai Chi. Pam works for a non-profit corporation in Glenview.

Tom James

Tom is a professional illustrator, painter and teacher. He has been teaching art to students of all ages for over 25 years. His paintings are included in the collections of Searle, Abbott Laboratories, Edens Bank, the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, the law offices of McDermott Will & Emery, and many private collections. His illustrations have appeared in college and grade school textbooks, book covers, magazines and greeting cards. Tom works in oils, acrylics, colored pencils, pen and ink, and collage. His styles range from representational to abstract and include cartooning and illustration. For more information and to see examples of his artwork, please visit www.TomJamesArt.com

Liliane Kachel

Liliane has been teaching all levels of English as a Second Language (ESL) since 1994. She holds a B.A. from the University of Illinois with a concentration in secondary education and a M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from National-Louis University with a specialized approval/endorsement in English as a Second Language. Liliane enjoys meeting people from various cultural backgrounds and is fluent in Polish. Liliane feels all cultures can learn from one another and challenges her students' critical thinking skills as well as fine-tuning their English.

Sari Kadison-Shapiro

Sari has a B.A. in fine art from Northwestern University and learned computer graphics at the School of the Art Institute. She is a graphic designer and educator with more than twenty years experience. Sari worked in the graphics department of WLS-TV (Channel 7) for five years and has taught for Mac University, Columbia College, International Academy of Design and Technology and the adult program of Evanston Township High School.

George LeClaire

George is a photojournalist with The Daily Herald. He holds a B.A. degree in photojournalism from Columbia College. George has worked for the Associated Press, Lerner Newspaper Publications and Des Plaines Newspaper Publishing Company. He has won several Illinois and National Press Photography Association awards for photography and multimedia, along with yearly awards from Inland News Paper Assn., AP National News Contest and the Chicago Headline Club's annual Lisagor award. George has begun producing videos and multi-media projects for the Daily Herald. George is also a corporate and wedding photographer in the north suburbs. For more information, please visit www.dailyherald.com/newsroom/GeorgeLeClaire/.

Arnold Levy

During his thirty-seven years as a resident of Winnetka, Arnie actively participated in many community organizations, including Chairman of the Winnetka United Way, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Winnetka Community House and two terms as Village Trustee. Arnie obtained both his B.A. and M.B.A. in finance from the University of Michigan. An avid duplicate bridge player for more than forty-five years and a former President of the Chicago Contract Bridge Association, Arnie is a Gold Life Master and has won several regional and national bridge events. He is accredited as a bridge teacher and certified as a Duplicate Bridge Director by the American Contract Bridge League. He was the featured bridge teacher in a Tribune article. He has taught bridge classes at NTX since 1994 and was a regular bridge lecturer with his wife, Joan, on cruise ships for fourteen years.

Joan Levy

During her thirty-seven years as a resident of Winnetka, Joan served six years on the Winnetka Board of Education and fourteen years on the New Trier High School Board of Education. She served as President of both Boards, as well as two years as President of the Illinois Association of School Boards. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan, Joan received her M.A. in history from Columbia University. An avid duplicate bridge player for more than forty-five years, Joan is a Silver Life Master and has won several regional and national bridge events. She is accredited as a bridge teacher and certified as a Duplicate Bridge Director by the American Contract Bridge League. She has taught bridge classes at NTX since 1991 and was a regular bridge lecturer with Arnie on cruise ships for fourteen years.

Phyllis Horn-Liparini

Phyllis has B.A. degrees in English and Theater from the University of Illinois and an M.A. in Italian from Northwestern. She has done post-masters studies in Italian and Comparative Literature, lived in Italy for ten years, and taught at Northwestern, DePaul and Roosevelt Universities. She is a Senior Lecturer in Italian at Northwestern, having taught there for twenty years. Phyllis created and directed NU's study abroad program in Italy for ten years. She is a longtime instructor for NTX and Evanston Township High School adult education. Marriage to an Italian and her many years in Italy have allowed Phyllis to develop one of her hobbies, Italian cooking. She leads trips to Italy and conducts cooking classes.

Lise Marinelli

Lise received her B.S. in Accounting from the Eli Broad College of Business at Michigan State University and honed her business management and client service skills as owner of a successful catering company that she eventually sold. She has also served in a variety of financial management roles in the manufacturing and hotel industries. Lise founded Windy City Publishers in January, 2009 after realizing the publishing industry was not meeting the needs of many authors, especially those wanting a credible publisher the first time around. Being an author, she recognized that few opportunities existed for new authors to collaboratively work with a team of publishing and design experts who shared their passion.

Mary Ann McGinley

Mary Ann holds a Masters degree in computer education and has been teaching computer classes to all age groups for more than twenty years. In her courses, Mary Ann combines her skillful teaching ability with her love of Macintosh computers. She does not speak "computerese" and uses a hands-on approach to make lessons easy to follow.

Tom Moore

After twenty-eight years in the legal profession in the Public Defender's office, Tom went back to his real passion—biology. He was able to pass that on to others, having taught Biology at Niles West and Niles North High Schools as well as programs at the Chicago Botanic Garden. He is now concentrating his efforts on reintroducing attractive native plants to home gardens.

Domitille Renaud Nicolescou

Originally from France and now an American citizen, Domitille started teaching at NTX in 1989. She writes, "I find myself growing with the students. I love to discover new 'things' with them. I love to share ideas and feelings about new readings. I like to find new, attractive ways in teaching conversational French. I enjoy the variety of students and am overjoyed when my students reappear after a semester or year of absence."

Jeanne Pinsof Nolan

Jeanne, "The Organic Gardener," has been growing food for over twenty years. She began an apprenticeship in organic vegetable gardening/farming in the high desert of California and lived, worked and taught on organic farms. In 2004, she began working for Chicago's Green City Market and designed and implemented The Edible Gardens at Lincoln Park Zoo. For more information, please visit www.theorganicgardener.net.

Peggy Oddo

Peggy has a bachelor's degree in nutrition and a license as a certified pharmacy technician. She has been in the health and fitness industry since 1991 and is certified as both a group exercise instructor and personal trainer. Her specialties include easy, non-impact, cardio dance. Her other passion is proper strength training. Peggy considers herself an architect of form and fitness for everyone and her teaching style is fun, energetic, and entertaining.

Steven Oster

Steve has been buying and selling on eBay for over seven years and has sold over \$400,000 of merchandise in that time. He developed and taught the first eBay selling class on the North Shore. Steve, a CPA, believes in the hands-on approach to teaching people how to use eBay.

Janine Pefley

Janine holds a B.S. from Loyola and a M.A. from Northwestern. Born in Paris, Janine loves her family, teaching, reading, and traveling. She taught French at the college level for 20 years and since 1980 has taught all levels of French at NTX, from French for travelers to conversation and literature. She was a developer and narrator of the National French Contest administered to over 80,000 students grades 7-12 for twenty-three years. She is also "chevalier et officier" of the French Palmes Academiques as well as the author of two textbooks.

Kathleen Picken

Kathleen holds a graduate degree in British History from University of Chicago. She has taught at NTX for 15 years. Kathleen has demonstrated a commitment to the humanities through her extensive involvement with organizations such as the Oriental Institute and the Field Museum of Natural History. In the past 15 years, she has planned and led more than 20 tours to locations such as the British Isles and France. She is the Vice President of Prologue Theater and a member of the board for University of Chicago's Court Theater.

Jacqui Pritchard

Jacqui has a B.A. from Barat College, a M.A. in Teaching from National College of Education/National-Louis University and has studied at the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies in Oxford and completed coursework at Columbia College in web design. As Instructional Technology Manager at New Trier, Jacqui provides guidance and support for technology-rich projects.

Marilyn Richards

Marilyn is a (nearly) lifelong resident of Wilmette. She learned to play and love bridge while a high school student at New Trier. A graduate of the University of Colorado, she took time out from bridge to raise her family. After rediscovering the game and its many challenges, Marilyn threw herself into Duplicate Bridge and became a Life Master and an ACBL certified teacher. Her teaching style is a combination of instruction, patience and fun.

Joe Romano

Joe is President of Romano Brothers & Co., which has been located in Evanston since 1962 and oversees assets of nearly \$1 billion dollars. At the firm Joe serves as a portfolio manager where he routinely employs the fundamentals taught in his class to help clients meet their investment, retirement, tax and estate planning objectives. He is also actively involved in the securities industry affairs, serving as President of the Illinois Securities Industry Association (ISIA) and a member of the Small Firm Advisory Board and District 8 Committee of the Financial Regulatory Authority (FINRA), which regulates investment firms in the United States.

Nathan Silvers

Nathan Silvers has his B.S. degree in Industrial Education and an M.A. in Educational Leadership. He has been a teacher for more than seven years, the past three at New Trier. Nate began working on cars at age sixteen and found his passion working in the garage with his father. He has taken many classes in automotives, restored a 1970 Chevelle and is in the process of restoring a Jeep Wrangler with his Automotives II class at New Trier.

Beth Shadur

Beth is an artist who has exhibited widely in the U.S. and abroad, including at the Art Institute of

Chicago, the Drawing Center in New York City, the Hudson River Museum and more. Her work appears in many publications, books and catalogues, and she has curated numerous national exhibitions. She is an Artist-in-Education for the Illinois Arts Council and has taught at Northwestern University and Carthage College. To learn more and see Beth's work, please visit www.bethshadur.com.

Jason Slezak

Jason is a Registered Investment Advisor, registered in the State of Illinois and registered with the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD), working in various capacities in the Securities Industry for over 21 years. Jason is a member of Omicron Epsilon Delta, International Economics Honorary Society as well as a member in good standing with the Bond Club of Chicago, an organization founded in 1894. Jason has specialized in the area of Financial Planning for his primary clientele. Areas of expertise range from portfolio management and retirement planning to Trust planning and administration. Jason also works with business professionals in the crafting of different types of company-sponsored retirement plans, most notably in the area of 401(k) plans. Working with individuals to help them prepare for retirement with the use of financial planning techniques is especially key to forming the bond of a solid business advisory relationship that Jason enjoys with much of his clientele.

Shawn Smith

Shawn is a New Trier alumni ('92) with over 25 years fencing experience. He graduated from Michigan State University in '97 with a B.A. in Political Science, has a Masters degree in Education from National-Louis University, and is certified in Secondary Education. At Michigan State he was a four-year varsity letter winner in fencing and the Asst. Coach in '96/97. Shawn is has been the Asst. Coach of the Varsity and Junior Varsity Fencing team at New Trier since '97/98 and Head Coach of the NTX Fencing program since then as well. Other sports that Shawn enjoys include volleyball, gymnastics, swimming and diving.

Boris Spektor

Boris has been working at New Trier High School since 1994. He has been the district's web developer for the past five years. He holds an M.S.Ed. in Instructional Technology from Northern Illinois University and an M.A. degree in Education and Linguistics from the Kiev State Linguistic University. In addition to technology and languages, Boris enjoys history, jogging and literature. He loves meeting new people, and sharing his passions with them. Boris provides instruction in various levels of web design and in Microsoft applications at NTX, and has designed this website for NTX.

Alex Valvassori

Alex is a seasoned information technology professional with over 15 years experience. Having worked at a Fortune 75 company for over 10 years, Alex brings a wealth of valuable business experience and knowledge to the classroom. Alex has a M.B.A. from Loyola University of Chicago and a B.A. from Northwestern University and is a Microsoft certified professional.

Frank Velez

Frank is a native speaker raised in Puerto Rico and New York. He has a B.S. from the University of Wisconsin, an M.S. from Northwestern University in Spanish and Spanish American literature, and an M.S. from Roosevelt University in Educational Administration. Frank taught all levels of Spanish at New Trier for thirty-two years.

Dieter Von Oppen

Dieter began fencing while in high school in his native Germany in 1950 , just a few miles from Trier.

While going to business school, he fenced for a team in Bremen and qualified for international competitions. Sent to the U.S. in 1960, he fenced for clubs in New York, Chicago and the Illinois Fencers Club in Mt. Prospect. He has assisted in bringing up youngsters in foil and epee and has been an assistant coach at New Trier since 2002.

Abby Young

Abby Young is a Social Media Enthusiast who has experience managing the social media presence for organizations, and consulting with small businesses on social media best practices. She has a Master's degree in Information Technology from Northwestern University.