

## 2012 Cornerstone Award Inductee

### Joanne Mann

Joanne Mann, is a retired 35-year Gahanna-Jefferson science educator who served at High Point, Chapelfield and Lincoln elementary schools, as well as a science instructor at Gahanna Middle School West (GMSW). She retired as a fifth-grade High Point teacher in 2006. Mann was nominated by Tony Piehowicz, a former High Point Elementary principal.

During her tenure at GMSW, Mann authored the book *Science Day Guide*<sup>1</sup>, a how-to-guide for teachers on managing school science fairs. The book features useful outlines, forms and checklists. Mann also served on the board of the Ohio Science Academy and frequently serves as a judge for Ohio Academy of Science's *Science Day* event in collaboration with The Ohio State University.

In response to the question of her most vivid memories, Joanne shared the creation of the district science fairs and her love of incorporating music into her classroom lessons. Both made a great impression on her former students who wrote thank you notes to Joanne upon her retirement. They thanked her for making learning fun while challenging them to be independent thinkers. She was their hero!

“As a teacher, she pushed students to do their best and then be accountable,” Piehowicz said. “Students responded to this and learned responsibility in the classroom. She related well to parents and always had the student’s best interests at heart.” He also shared how Mann would emphasize that girls can and do excel in science. As a parent she did the same – for her daughters – Dr. Sherri J. Mann, a pathologist living in Wisconsin and Joette Asher, a high school mathematics teacher in Maryland.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ohiosci.org/ScienceDayGuide.pdf> | Copyright © 2002 by The Ohio Academy of Science.