

Delphos St. John's Alumni Newsletter

August, 2006

www.dsjalumni.org

Letter from High School Principal

Dear Alumni,

It is hard to believe another class has graduated. This class was the 90th anniversary class to graduate from St. John's. It was the 91st graduating class overall. I am very pleased that all members of the class passed all parts of the state proficiency test and every member of the class met all requirements for graduation. I am also very pleased that 97% of the Class of 2006 is going on to some type of higher education. We had two students that maintained a perfect four point grade average and were the Valedictorians of the class. These outstanding students are Sarah Holdgreve who will be attending The Ohio State University, and Andrew Katbi who will be attending The University of Notre Dame.

I am also pleased to announce that St. John's High School has been fully accredited this year by the Ohio Catholic Schools Accrediting Association. I just received word that we are also fully accredited by the North Central Accrediting Association. This is made possible by the work of a very dedicated faculty, staff, students, parents and supporters of St. John's.

This summer we are completely remodeling the old Physics Room. All three of are science rooms will have been modernized within the last three years. If you would like to stop and see these rooms, please do so.

Congratulations to Mr. Gunder on being named one of the nine outstanding teachers in the Toledo Diocese. He received the Golden Apple Award and a check.

Our spring athletes had a great season. In track, the girls were Regional Champions. The boys track team and the baseball team were Regional Runners-Up. Alisha Anthony won her second State Championship in the Long Jump. The Boys 4x100 relay also won the State Championship and the Girls 4x100 relay were State Runners-Up.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer. I would like to extend an invitation to all alumni to visit anytime. You are always welcome!

Don Huysman "66"
Principal

Tom Herrman, St. John's Band Director 1957-1961

Earlier this year we received an e-mail from Bill Herrman of Colorado. Bill's dad was Tom Herrman, band director at St. John's from 1957-1961. The family moved to Colorado in 1963 and tragically, Tom was killed in a traffic accident in 1966.

Bill is seeking information on his father's time as band director at St. John's. If you have any memories or, better yet, photos of Tom Herrman or the band at that time please send them to the Alumni Association and we'll forward them to Bill Herrman and add them to our website!

DUES: Just a reminder that dues are strictly voluntary. We don't require them and don't keep track of who does or doesn't send them in. Dues are used to continue the Alumni newsletter, maintain and improve our Alumni website and provide free mailing labels and directories for all class reunions. Thank you to all who support your Alumni Association.

Alumni Officers:

Chuck Wannemacher	1977	Pres.
Mary Kay Klausung	1979	Pres.-Elect
Missy Pohlman	1977	Treas.
Ruth Grothouse	1977	Sec.
Bob Ebbeskotte	1981	Stats

Executive Board Members

Mary Jeanette Menke	1943
George Berelsman	1973
Dick Clark	1978

Committee Members:

Darren Looser	2000
Annie Metzner	1981
Rene Hoehn	1970
Barb Mesker	1980
Tina Wannemacher	1982



St. John's Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2006

The 2005 Class of the St. John's Alumni Hall of Fame has been selected. This year's inductees are:

Professional Achievement:

Karen (Klausung) Austin, Class of 1979

Service to Mankind:

Fr. Tom Weinandy, Class of 1964

Service to St. John's:

Gilbert "Gip" Pohlman, Class of 1956

Athletic Achievement:

Gene Klaus, Class of 1963

For complete biographies of our inductees please visit our website at www.dsjalumni.org.

The 2006 Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held Sunday, November 26 in the All Saint Building at St. John's. The day will begin with Mass in St. John's church at 11:30am. Following Mass, a free brunch will be held in the All Saints Building from 12:30-1:30. The Parish Foundation will give a short presentation at 1:30 immediately followed by the induction ceremony.

We have received a generous donation to cover the cost of this event so there is NO CHARGE for the brunch and induction ceremony. However we will need your RSVP's to plan the size of the brunch buffet. Simply indicate on your Alumni Reply Form that you plan to attend the brunch and ceremony and how many will attend. Come and join us!! All are welcome!

The Hall of Fame Committee continues to accept nominations for the St. John's Hall of Fame. If you have a friend, classmate or family member who you think should be included in the Hall of Fame, please let us know. Nominations can be sent to St. John's Alumni Association, PO Box 112, Delphos, OH 45833, e-mailed to ebby@wcoil.com or a nomination form can be filled out on the St. John's Alumni website at www.dsjalumni.org.

St. John's graduate has first book published

Nioma (Kortokrax) Stephan a 1958 graduate of St. John's recently published her first book. This book *Low Bridge*, an Historical-Fiction, tells the history of the Miami-Erie Canal during the years 1838-1850.

This is the same canal that went through Delphos and is part of our local history. It stretched from the Ohio River north to Lake Erie opening up Ohio to commerce.

Nioma attended 12 years at St. John's. Her parents were Kenneth and Edna Kortokrax. She is the mother of five children and grandmother of seven. She now resides in Piqua with her husband Bob. She can be reached by email nioma@bright.net. She is currently working on a sequel to *Low Bridge*.

I remember when... For the next newsletter, tell us about your favorite "attic" story. If the "attic" walls could talk, what would they say? If you're of the generation where the "attic" was the old gym/stage, tell us your favorite stories too.

Stop by the Alumni website for some GREAT pictures of the "attic". Maybe you'll see your name there!! And if you have pictures of the "attic" or old gym or stage, we'd love to see them too. Send them to us and we'll put them on the website.

My favorite memory of a teacher...

All gave me a great education. I am currently having some health problems and can't get around much. As much as I would like to get up to Delphos once more. I have some great memories and I would like to hear from old friends.

Robert T. Greiner, 1936

5201 Eaglesnest Dr 5, Cincinnati OH 45248

I would make our teacher Miss Corbin, mad by writing at the top of the chalkboard. She was short and could not reach the top to clean it off. Then she would make me clean the board.

Arthur Grothouse, 1939

830 E Suthoff, Delphos

I am enjoying hearing about St. John's through the Alumni News, and all fun memories. I remember a group of us piling into Charlie Niedecken's truck (his Dad's) to collect newspapers for "the drive". I don't recall the name of the charity the money benefited but it was a fun evening.

Laura Wulfhorst, 1942

10255 Oasis Ct, Capertino CA 95014

Sister Gregory and Sister Rosella, but I was on a first name basis and just called them Sister.

Bob Schmit, 1943

808 Ft Jennings Rd, Delphos - rschmit@wcoil.com

Sister Gregory was the greatest! She was our home room teacher in our junior year and was friendly, fair and kind to us.

Pauline (Kill) Geise, 1944

4433 Kill Rd, Delphos

Sister Mary De Paul taught me all I know about bookkeeping. I liked her way of teaching.

Rose (Schmelzer) Kaverman, 1945

515 S Clay St, Delphos

Sister Mary Rosella taught us creative writing in our senior English class. She told us that each week she would read several of the stories that we wrote. After our assignment, we were all waiting to see whose story she would read. When she started to read the stories she had selected, they were so good no one wanted their story to be held up in comparison. We all went home and tried much harder, week after week. Finally we recognized some of the stories from our class. Later we asked Sister Rosella who it was in our class that had written those wonderful stories she read in the first session. She laughed and said, "None of you; those were some of the best stories I had saved over the years. I used them to get you to work harder. It worked, didn't it?"

Amelia (Niedecken) Herlihy, 1947

5629 Harpers Farm Rd, Columbia MD 21044 - ameliاهر@aol.com

Sister Mary Henry telling stories about growing up in North Dakota and Father Nett rapping our hands with a ruler in religion class. Were you there, Betty?

Robert Wilson, 1947

1948 Ramona Dr, Manistee MI 49660 romawil@voyager.net

Sister Rosella, she had a habit of magnetizing her watch so it was always slow.

Betty (Bowman) Maurer, 1948

112 N Pressview Ave

Longwood FL 32750

I enjoyed all my teachers! I don't know if they enjoyed me, I was a holy terror in grade school. At home I was called Jack, another name for John. In the first grade our sister said we had too many Johns so she told John "Gary" Staup and me that we will use our middle names. I've been confused ever since.

Dave Schmelzer, 1949

1713 Sumner Ave, Las Cruces NM 88001

Has to be Sister Theophane, junior home room, 1949

Harold Ricker, 1950

2928 Parrish Dr, Tallahassee FL 32309 - harick@comcast.net

Bishop Ottenweller, he worked so hard with our Vocation Club. Gloria "Sadie" (Kill) Bourk, 1952

1209 Melrose, Lima OH 45801 - hbourk@wcoil.com

Sister Marciana. We were in the "chicken coop" as it was called. It housed the seventh grade. If it was raining or bad outside we could stay inside and we could have a real good conversation with her. I remember once when the police came out and shot a groundhog that was under the building. We also had a pot belly heating stove in the building. Elmer and I just returned from a two and a half week trip to Alaska and also toured Washington and Oregon. Beautiful.

Rosemary (Hesseling) Fortener, 1952

11565 Bockey Rd, Delphos - refrm@nicweb.com

When Sister Alexis was writing on the board, she would whirl around and bean the talker with an eraser. She never missed.

Carol (Wiley) Hellman, 1952

565 N Water St, Ft Jennings OH 45844

Too long ago to remember, but I had a great time in high school with a great bunch of classmates.

Eugene Wilson, 1953

2076 Granada Dr, Beavercreek OH 45431

Anything pertaining to Sister LaDonna is special to me. Last I hard she was in Toledo. Is she still? After being "homeless" for a year, courtesy of Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne last year, we should be in our new home in October or November.

Vera (Falter) Stokes, 1953

581 Dolphin Cr, Barefoot Bay FL 32976

Class of '55 had their 50th reunion on September 16, 2005 and it was a wonderful evening. The turnout of returning classmates was tremendous. After Mass we had a tour of the school and visited old classrooms that held many memories. A delicious dinner was held at the K of C Hall. We visited with some classmates we had not seen in 50 years. Many thanks go to Marilyn (Pitsenbarger) Wagner and her great committee. What would we out of town alumni do without the "hometown" alumni committees? Thank you.

Therese (Humpert) Ricker, 1955 & Dennis Ricker, 1950

6600 Alter Rd, Dayton OH 45424 - dentherese@sbcglobal.net

I was taking a group of nuns out to Jack Meyers home for an end of school picnic that the Myers family always hosted for them before the nuns returned to Toledo for the summer. Shortly after I left town I had a flat tire. Sr. Mary Delphine was ready to change the tire for me. However, a very nice gentleman going the other direction stopped and changed the tire.

Beverly (Bonifas) Schlagbaum, 1956

4940 New Haven Dr, Lima OH 45806

Although not a teacher, the older I get the more respect I have for Father Herr.

LaDonna (Schwinnen) Trentman, 1956

181 Shadowood Dr, Vandalia OH 45377 - doneaerly@aol.com

Sister Mary Alma. Although she was dry I learned well from her in Latin and Algebra.

Velma (Hempfling) Kill, 1956

5108 S Dixie Hwy, Cridersville OH 45806

I played football on St. John's first football team and coach Bob Arnzen told me that there was no such word as "can't", just do it! I've used that my entire life.

Jack Reinemeyer, 1956 - 2250 26th St W, Bradenton FL 34205

jack@sarasotasilentflyers.com

Bob Arnzen, driver's training teacher. Just being able to talk with him about our lives and things going on in school. He never talked down to use, always listened. All of the nuns were a great influence on me. I wish we still had more of them in our school today.

Valeta (Wiechart) Ditto, 1958

232 W Clime St, Delphos

My third grade teacher, Sister Mary Magdalena. She was smart and kind. It was a pleasure to be in her classroom. To this day we are in touch with each other. God bless the Sisters of Notre Dame.

Carolyn (Wilson) Masten, 1959

8016 Edward Baher Ave, Las Vegas NV 89149