

# Delphos St. John's Alumni Newsletter

February, 2007

www.dsjalumni.org

## 50 Years in The Vatican

### Robert A. Arnzen Gymnasium

Beginning with the first basketball team in 1919 until 1952, St. John's basketball was played in the old auditorium on the second floor of the current grade school. When that gym proved too small to hold the growing crowds the Blue Jays moved their homes to the newly built Jefferson Middle School in 1952.

Ground was broken on April 1, 1956, for St. John's new gymnasium. The new gym was not completed until the spring of 1957. One of the first events held in the gym was the senior class play Showboat on May 3, 5 and 6.

The first basketball game in the new gymnasium was held on December 10, 1957 as the Blue Jays hosted Sydney. The 'Jays were victorious 53-45 and Arnie Fischer scored on a lay-up for the first varsity points in the new gym. Tickets for that game sold for 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for students. For an extra 25 cents adults could upgrade their tickets to reserved seats. Season tickets for nine home games were \$6 for adults and \$5 for students. Season tickets did not include two special home games against Cincinnati Elder and Newport Catholic, KY.

#### Basketball Records at the Vatican since the 1958 Season

##### Most points scored by DSJ team

Boys: 115 vs. Mendon, 115-32, 1990  
vs. Toledo Start, 115-71, 1988  
Girls: 113 vs. Wapakoneta, 113-24, 1984

##### Most points scored by opposing team

Boys: 101, 1969, Bath 101 DSJ 77  
Girls: 88, 1989, Kalida 88 DSJ 42

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## Class Reunions 2007

The Alumni Committee had a blast visiting the various reunions in 2006. Thanks to everyone for making us feel very welcome. Our goal is to introduce the Alumni Committee to our alumni and let you know that we are committed to keeping you connected to your classmates and St. John's. Please contact us with any suggestions or comments. The Alumni Committee says Thanks... and see you in 2007.

Make sure to submit your class reunion info so we can put it in the newsletter and on the Alumni website, [www.dsjalumni.org](http://www.dsjalumni.org)

Also check out your reunion pictures on the alumni web site.

★ ★ ★ Thanks!! ★ ★ ★

The Alumni Committee would like to thank the classes who presented St. John's Alumni Association with generous donations at their class reunions in 2006. The class of 1966 donated \$1,326 and the class of 1981 donated \$1,175. Thanks to all for their generous donations.

**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.  
Annie Metzner 1981 Sec.  
Bob Ebbeskotte 1981 Stats

### Executive Board Members

Mary Jeanette Menke 1943  
George Berelsman 1973  
Dick Clark 1978

### Committee Members:

Darren Looser 2000  
Lisa Bergfeld 1976  
Diana Wurst 1985  
Barb Mesker 1980  
Tina Wannemacher 1982

## The Class Ring Project

Several years ago Linda Rabe '80 was home for a girls basketball alumni reunion. While back home she received a gift from fellow alumni Todd Laudick '80 and Sue (Youngpeter) Laudick '81. Linda had lost her class ring while in high school and the Laudicks had found it. When they heard Linda would be home they made the connections and presented her with her long, lost ring. Linda was overwhelmed that someone would keep her ring safe and give it back to her after all these years. Linda gave the ring to Alumni President Chuck Wannemacher '77 and asked if the Alumni Association could use it to tell the ring's story and what Blue Jay's do for one another.

Chuck came up with the idea of starting a class ring collection to be displayed in the upcoming Alumni display case at school. The class ring collection would include a boys and girls ring from each graduating class at St. John's. The word's gotten around and so far the Alumni Association has received a number of class rings. Here are the rings we have so far.

Carolyn Mueller Class of 1929  
Helen (Hickey) Pothast Class of 1943  
Malinda Suever Class of 1946  
Dorothy (Suever) Youngpeter Class of 1948  
Pat (Mueller) Vorst Class of 1956  
Lisa (Suever) Bergfeld Class of 1976  
Chuck Bergfeld Class of 1976  
Mary Kay (Pohlman) Klausung Class of 1979  
Don Klausung Class of 1980  
Bob Ebbeskotte Class of 1981

\*\*\*If you would like to donate a class ring, please contact the Alumni Association. Kurt Brandehoff '80 has offered to appraise and clean the rings.

We have also received a St. John's charm bracelet from Janice (Stahl) Shoemaker '56.

## St. John's Alumni Hall of Fame Class of 2007

Nominations continue to be accepted for the St. John's Hall of Fame. To be eligible for the 2007 class, nominations must be received by May 1, 2007. Nomination forms can be found on the Alumni website, [www.dsjalumni.org](http://www.dsjalumni.org), or by calling Bob Ebbeskotte at 419-692-0752.

## Deceased Alumni

Eugene Friemoth	1936	6-1-04
Agnes Buecker	1934	2004
David Griffis	1957	11-24-05
Tom Freund	1963	7-28-06
Lisa (Kroeger) Kleman	1981	8-23-06
Lori A. Klinger Stevens	1979	8-28-06
Jim Minnig	1976	9-6-06
Margaret (Margie Trentman) Baldauf	1959	9-23-06
Barbara (Pohlman) Ball	1960	10-06-06
Jane (Marsh) Leathem	1965	10-20-06
Eugene "Spike" Schmersal	1935	2-10-06
Eugene Klausung	1945	2-10-06
Eugene Grothause	1945	2-06
Melvin Bonifas	1951	11-15-06
Patsy (Buschor) Moore	1947	11-24-06
Vernon Rode	1953	12-06
Fr. Bruce Farmer		1-2-07
Lowell Wagner, Sr.	1937	1-11
Dorothy (Brendle) Heisterman	1942	1-12-07
Ronald Noonan	1960	1-24-07
Judy (Suever) Trentman	1962	2-13-07
Helen (Schneider) Rode	1944	2-10-07
Geraldine (Bohnlein) Brandehoff	1948	2-12-07
Don Baumgarte	1945	2-14-07
Carlene (Fetzer) Schulte	1952	2-17-07



# I Remember When...my favorite memory of the "the attic" in grade school...

I can remember when we would get a snowfall at recess. The whole front sidewalk area would be full of sliding in five minutes. We'd have a good slide but when recess was over Monsignor Rupert would come with a bucket of ashes. Goodbye sliding!

**Walter Foster '36**

I remember helping lay the new floor in the old gym. The whole basketball team had to help. Took up our summer vacation.

**Arthur Grothouse '39**  
**830 E Suthoff, Delphos**

We had church fairs in the old gym and we had a fish pond with bamboo poles that had a real fish hook on the end. Behind the curtain ladies had brown paper bags with a toy in it, tied with a cord. They hooked the hook into the string on it. Wonder no one had an eye poked out. Ollie Sever came up with the "Automat", like in New York eatery.

**Mary Jeannette (Nolte) Menke '43**  
**927 Metbliss, Delphos - jerrymenke@hotmail.com**

I feel I missed part of my education. Never got to go to the attic. Poor me.

**Ruth (Miller) Michael '44**  
**516 W Fourth St, Delphos**

We graduated from there and I remember standing on risers and singing the Ave Maria and crying like a baby. I also remember Father Herr having the cheerleaders kneel to be sure their skirts touched the floor.

**Carol (Wiley) Hellman '52**  
**565 N Water St., Fort Jennings OH 45844**

Before our class play "Annie Get Your Gun" (the last one in the old gym) Annie's costume, a burlap dress, was taken behind school to a waterhole (before blackout) and muddied to make it authentic.

**Patricia (Mueller) Vorst '56**  
**19184 Lincoln Hwy, Middle Point OH 45863-9783**

I remember our third grade class room was across the hall from the old gym and I can remember Fr. Herr yelling at the high school students in that gym. Man could he yell!

**Patricia (Kaverman) Eggeman '61**  
**1679 Tanglewood, Lima OH 45805**

Not the Attic, but I remember sitting on the stage during basketball games and someone would write the score on a blackboard because we could not see the normal scoreboard.

**Dan '61 and Jane (Elwer) '65 Rupert**  
**2825 Chapel Hill Dr., Lima OH 45805 - djlrupert@woh.rr.com**

Father Herr kicked me out of a basketball game in the old gym for shooting spit wads when I was in eighth grade.

**John Grone '61**  
**5140 Dutch Hollow, Elida OH - jfgdc@bright.net**

The Church Fair was held in the old gym. Also we could roller skate in that gym. I never became good at it. Was the last person on the "Crack the Whip" and flew off into a wall knees first... UGH!!! Was okay but never skated after the big scare. Fun days!!

**Kathy (Schmersal) Hittle '62**  
**520 E Fifth St., Spencerville OH 45887**

FYI: Bob has had cancer of the throat surgery beginning of 2006. He is doing fine now. He had his surgery at UW in Seattle. Bob says Hi to all his classmates of 1962.

**Bob Gordon '62**  
183 Russel Rd Apt 213  
Bremerton WA 98312

Our favorite time was Kids Day at the Church Fair.

**Barbara (Young) Miller '68**  
**75 Falmouth Ct., Granville OH 43023 - nursebarb@adelphia.net**

I never got the chance to visit the attic in high school. It wasn't until our 25th year class reunion weekend. Some of us decided it was time! How exciting. KC Clement, Joan White, Cork Ulm, Diane Webb, Lynn Miller, Larry Calvelage, & Greta Nettleton, took our can of spray paint and carefully put our names on the wall in the attic. Our names actually made the pictures on the alumni web site. It really did feel like a sense of accomplishment and tradition.

**Mary Kay Klausung**  
**Delphos, OH - mkklausung@watchtv.net**

None... yet! The pictures of the attic on the website are awesome. I bet they bring back memories to a lot of the people who have their names up there. What a great tradition!

**Annie Metzner '81**  
**2521 Strathmore, Lima OH 45805 - geminii@aol.com**

## Queries

In response to Joe Scherger's question from a previous newsletter about St. John's golf. Joe was on St. John's first golf team and wanted to know the status of DSJ golf.

St. John's dropped boys golf from 198?-1998. In the fall of 1999 golf was reinstated as a varsity sport after spending three seasons as a club sport. The golf team has racked up one MAC title and two runner-up finishes. In 2001 Beth (Wannemacher) Wallenhorst '79 started girls golf as a club team with 9 girls. In 2004 girl's golf became a varsity sport and Andy Miller (junior high teacher) took over as Varsity Coach.

## 'Jays and Friends Rock in 2007

For the second consecutive year the DSJ Alumni Association sponsored a New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Delphos. The revelers enjoyed an excellent dinner after which they proceeded to rock the night away to the jammin' tunes of the local band Slo 5.

Read the Summer Alumni Newsletter for details on the 2007 New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance. ALL are welcome!!

## The Vatican Records (Continued from page 1)

### Fewest points scored by a DSJ team

Boys: 32, 1966 loss to Toledo St. Francis, 32-40

Girls: 19, 1978 DSJ 85 Wapakoneta 11

\*\*In 1970 the Blue Jays boys' team scored 100 six times, including five of their nine regular season home games. Their overall offensive average was 84.9 and at home it was an incredible 94 points per game.

### Highest Scoring game, both teams

Boys: 1964 DSJ 109, Dayton Dunbar

1963 DSJ 105, Dayton Dunbar 91

Girls: 1985 DSJ 89, Lima Bath 79

### Most points scored by a DSJ player

Boys: 52, Steve Jettinghoff, 1989-DSJ 100, Dayton Jefferson 87

Girls: 36, Julie Metzner, 1985-DSJ 89, Lima Bath 79

### Most consecutive home wins

Boys: 29 - 1975-77

Girls: 42 - 1980-84

For a copy of the complete program 50 Years in The Vatican, contact DSJ Alumni Association at P.O. Box 112, Delphos, or at rebbeskotte@woh.rr.com. The complete program is also available on the DSJ Alumni website at [www.dsjalumni.org](http://www.dsjalumni.org).