## MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# A I I NEWS

Celebrating 5 Years!

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# Association Celebrates Five Years

It was September of 2004 when the first calls went out to find representatives from every Mount Vernon graduating class. Then in April of 2005, these people met for the very first time. Thirty-eight class representatives discussed the future of the Alumni Association, posed for the historical 'first picture,' then headed off to the ground-breaking ceremony for the new high school.

In the fall of that same year, 2005, they met again at Homecoming for the first Association Annual Meeting, with the goal of naming the first officers and a committee to form the document that would guide the organization. Since that time the By-Laws were completed and a host of alumni activities introduced. 2010 will mark the fifth breakfast and Heritage Days events, the fifth homecoming gathering, the fifth Annual Meeting.

These five years also mark the maturity the Association has been able to achieve with its data-base development, continuing ideas about how alums can have a presence in the school district, the twice yearly alumni newsletter, its developing website presence, new Homecoming traditions and the Alumni Awards.

Treasurer Susan Fisher'65 says that "When we began, we weren't sure what our alums would want in terms of alumni activities, primarily social. We continually evaluate and continually try to improve. We are always open to suggestions. We have really appreciated both the volunteer and the financial support from our alumni, and the support from the School District and Foundation. On our end we love the notes, the attendance, and the support that shows us we are going in the right direction. Sometimes we feel the way is a crooked road, but we just keep at it. If you have never attended an alumni breakfast, reception, or award event, I encourage you to soon. We have so much fun, and our alums are just the best! '

1981 MV Alum and current School District Board Member and Foundation Director, Bob Penn, who was an original proponent of forming the Alumni Association says "I understood the deep value the Alumni Association would have from the beginning. As diverse as we all are

continued on next page

'the spirit lives on in you'

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# Mustang ALMNI

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# **★ Alumni Band ★**

Hey -- we'd like YOU to be in the Alumni Band. Help us get the band started on a good note this year by getting together at our SPRING ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING on JUNE 12TH, 9 AM in the Gazebo at Memorial Park on Main Street to enjoy some home-baked cinnamon rolls and kolaches, friendship, fun, and a little business. No instruments -- just organizing our alumni presence for Homecoming weekend. **Contact: Betsy McWilliams Brown** mrs.betsybrown@gmail.com or 319-462-4478 See page 5 for more info.

#### 2010 MV Community Events

www.visitmvl.com

May Chalk the Walk
July 4 Antique Extravaganza
July 8-10 Heritage Days
Sept tha Lincoln Hwy Arts Festival
Oct tha Chili Cook Off

we share a tremendous amount in common. Wherever our alumni live today we still like to connect with our roots and with each other.

What I didn't anticipate is how quickly the Alumni Association would gain steam and take on a life of its own. The Alumni Association boards have done an incredible job, along with many other unsung alumni volunteers, to create an association we are all proud to be part of.

Every issue of the Alumni Association Newsletter has been an absolute homerun! I read it cover to cover.

People from other school districts have asked me what we did as a school board to create such a great Alumni Association. The School Board can't take much credit. All we could do was share a vision and get out of the way. The reason we have such a quality Alumni Association is 100% correlated to the quality alumni who drive it.

I've been blessed to be a school board representative to share a few words of welcome at a number of class reunions. Two of the reunions I attended last summer were the Class of '59 at Dennis Draho's and the Class of '55 at the Collins Plaza Hotel. While we were from different eras, I felt an immediate affinity for those folks – so much so that I didn't want to leave the party. I wanted to be a part of their classes. I walked away from those reunions feeling extremely grateful that I could come from the same school that they did and that we are inextricably connected.

In 1988, school board member Dean Borg coined a phrase that helped to unite our community to pass a bond issue to build our auditorium. While the phrase is only four words long to me it says it all. 'We are Mount Vernon.'"

So, we'll be celebrating this year (see

President's message on next page) and looking forward to another five years of alumni comradery – don't be surprised to see a few birthday cakes show up at Heritage Days and Homecoming. White or chocolate?



#### MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE 2010 ALL-ALUMNI EVENTS

# HERITAGE DAYS WEEKEND

#### SATURDAY JULY 10 BREAKFAST

8–11am (serving from 8–10) at High School

Cost: donation at door Friends, family, community welcome Tour the High School 9 am

> FRI., JULY 9 AND SAT., JULY 10 ALUMNI RECEPTION

...west of the Bingo Tent Fri ~ 4 pm to 9 pm Sat ~ 11:30 am to 8 pm

Friends, family, community welcome

#### SATURDAY JULY 10 OPEN GYM at High School Gym 1 to 3 pm

For any alums or friends that would enjoy a pick up game or shooting some baskets.

#### Let's Play Ball! ALUMNI BASEBALL GAME

Saturday of Heritage Days, July 10, 4 pm at Cornell

# ONE-PITCH CO-ED SOFTBALL TOURNEY

Saturday, August 21

Contact Jeremy Elliott mvelliott@netzero.com

#### **HERITAGE DAYS 2010**

If you are planning a trip to Mount Vernon for Heritage Days July 8-10, don't forget about all the other activities going on. www.visitmvl.com

activities going on. www.visitmvl.com

Thursday - Hillcrest Country Club after 5pm

Activities and Family Night, Dark Fireworks Display

Friday - Úptown Mount Vernon Noon-Midnight Main Street Stage, Food Vendors,

Midway, Bingo **Saturday - High School** 8-11 am Alumni Breakfast (serving 8-10) 8 am 5K Run/Walk

Saturday, - Uptown Mount Vernon

A variety of activities all day (hours vary)
Main Street Stage, Food Vendors, Midway,
Car Show, Bingo and more, including...
11 am Heritage Days Parade, First Street West
Old Time Family Fun Zone in Memorial Park
on Saturday from 3 – 6.

#### **NEW DVD AVAILABLE**



Thank you to Tom Childs from the Class of 1963 who has donated a video to the Alumni Association he made from some home movies filmed during the 1962 Football season. Thirteen minutes, full color, and although there is no sound, it features the football players, Homecoming Parade with band, snake dance, and uptown buildings and people.

NOW for sale at \$5, or \$7 to include shipping. Pick one up at the upcoming Alumni Breakfast or Reception during Heritage Days, or contact alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us or 319-895-8845

If you have a group of people wanting to tour a school building, please give the Alumni Office a call at 319-895-8845.

**NOW AVAILABLE Show your Mustang** pride by proudly wearing a MV Alum LAPEL PIN



Lapel pins available at ALL alumni Heritage Days and Homecoming 2010 events \$2 each

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Kevin Rogers '81

Celebrating 5 Years!

IT'S OUR 5-YEAR ANNIVERSARY! Here's hoping that 2010 will shape up to be an exciting and event-filled year

for everyone - Mount Vernon Alumni Association and Mount Vernon alumni alike. This year marks the fifth year alumni association is very much going of Mount Vernon's alumni association's existence and we are planning on celebrating this milestone with a number of exciting events.

March 30 kind of – sort of, kicked off our anniversary celebration and marked the beginning to the end of the 2009-2010 school year, with our alumni association sponsoring and hosting a reception for the 2010 Mount Vernon High School Honor Society inductees. Cake, apple punch, and a lot of good times. I would like to especially thank our association's treasurer Susan Mounts-Fisher, class of 1965, for organizing this event for the fourth year; Barb Thomsen-Neal, class of 1968 and Sheryl Russell, class of 1982, for hosting.

May 30 will bring forth our next anniversary year event. 2010 will mark the first time where your association's board of directors will participate in the annual commencement exercises at Mount Vernon Community High School. We are all very excited about being able to participate in this event!

Mark your calendars for Friday and Saturday, July 9-10! This is Mount Vernon Heritage Days weekend and your alumni association will continue the tradition of being a part of this popular annual community event.

First and foremost it is a very popular weekend for MVHS class reunions and all reunions organizers should know that your alumni association is at the ready to assist and help where we can. Kathy Staskal at the MVCSD District Office will be happy to provide you with updated class lists from our association's ever-growing alumni database, nametags, etc.

Saturday, July 9 from 8:00-10:00 a.m. the Alumni-Community Breakfast will continue. This as well has become a very popular free-will donation event for alumni and their families, friends, students, teachers, and community members alike. As always it will be held at Mount Vernon High School.

Friday and Saturday, July 9-10 as a part of our 5-Year anniversary celebration, we will be moving the Alumni-Community Reception area from the confines of a building, back to a more prominent open-air, main street location. This move is allowing us to increase our exposure and second, expand and enhance the reception area for alumni, family, and community friends to gather. Look for the big tent and It is the mustang spirit and pride in our new eight foot mustang alumni signs!

Saturday, July 10 immediately following the Alumni-Community Breakfast we invite alumni - young and the young at heart - to join us as we return to participating in the Heritage Day's Parade.

Mark your calendars again for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, October 7-9! This is Mount Vernon Community Schools Homecoming Weekend, and your to be a part of the festivities.

Thursday (evening), October 7 we invite alumni of all ages to join us in participating in the Mount Vernon Homecoming Parade. This year the alumni association will be announcing the 2010 Alumni Award recipients early and we will have as many of them as possible partake in the Homecoming Parade.

Friday (evening), October 8 the Alumni Reception Tailgating Tent will be up again, providing a place for alumni of all ages to gather and reminisce before, during, and after the football game. At halftime, the alumni association will also be officially announcing the 2010 Alumni Award recipients. And don't forget about the Alumni Band!

Saturday, October 9 of course will be the 2010 Alumni Award Ceremony, and I am very excited about some changes to this event, the biggest of which is discontinuing the President's (sit down) luncheon, and replacing it with an upscale Alumni Awards Ceremony Social. I am in hopes that these changes will result in an annual event that will become a "pack the house" type of event for Mount Vernon alumni, family, and friends, for years to come.

It is going to be an exciting 5-Year Anniversary year for your alumni association and Mount Vernon Community School District alumni. Watch our newsletters, the local newspapers, and for e-mails with further details about these 2010 alumni events!

all of you that makes your alumni association what it is today! Please feel free to drop me a line anytime at mvcsd\_alumnipres\_81@hotmail.com



# 2010 REUNIONS

Friday, July 9 and Saturday, July 10 Reception Tent, Uptown MV on Main Street (west of Bingo Tent) Saturday, July 10 Breakfast (by donation) at new High School

#### 2005 5 years - tba

Contact: Chrystal Covington
Phone: 319-540-1879
Email: Crystal 2005@yahoo or

Email: Crystaal2005@yahoo.com

#### 2000 10 years - July 10 weekend Fri-Gwen's 4 pm Reunion Dinner, Sat-tba, Sun-Brunch & Parent-Teacher-Family Invite

Find us on Facebook Contact: Lauren Sauter

Email: lauren.r.sauter@gmail.com

Contact: Jenny Mick

Email: jmick1230@gmail.com Contact: Paul Easker Phone: 515-203-9764 Email: peasker@gmail.com Contact: Katey Forest Sanders

Phone: 319-365-2425 Email: shoktart11@aol.com

#### 1995 - 15 years - July 10 weekend Fri-Scorz at 7, Sat-Family Picnic @ Davis Park 1:30

Contact: Allyson Clark Thurn Phone: 319-310-2809 Email: aclark2919@msn.com

#### 1990 - 20 years - July 10 weekend Fri-tba, Sat-Hillcrest CC, Sun ES Playground

Find us on Facebook

Contact: Brittany Kaalberg Booth

Phone: 319-895-6530 Email: boothjb@q.com Contact: Paul Morf Phone: 319-841-3472

Email: pmorf@simmonsperrine.com Contact: Angie Vittetoe Reed

#### 1985 - 25 years - July 10 weekend

Contact: Jennifer Spencer Toriggino

Phone: 303-792-3484 Email: jentoriggino@gmail.com

#### 1980 - 30 years - held in 2009 Contact: Chris Kinley Osborn

#### 1975 - 35 years - July 10 weekend

Contact: Carol Woods Boren Phone: 319-895-8845

Email: cwoods@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

#### 1970 - 40 years - July 10 weekend Sat-Gwen's 5 pm Reunion Dinner

Contact: Gwen Stewart Drahos Phone: 319-455-2873

Contact: Marsha Siggins McWhinney

Phone: 319-895-8671,

Email: marsha\_siggins@juno.com Contact: Nancy Vislisel Norlin Phone: 319-462-4674

Phone: 319-462-4674 Email: glnknorlin@msn.com

#### 1965 - 45 years - July 10 weekend Fri-Stuliff-5:30, Sat-Shelly's in Springville 5:30

Contact: Susan Mounts Fisher
Phone: 319-389-3686
Email: SusanJFisher@msn.com
Contact: Suzanne Roberts Stoner

Phone: 319-895-6071 Email: wwstoner@aol.com

#### 1960 - 50 years - July 10 weekend Fri-Sutliff 5 pm, Sat-Kirkwood Center 6 pm, Sun-Chamelon's 9 am

Contact: Judy Caldwell Penn Phone: 319-396-2435

Email: luckylady793@msn.com Contact: Annamae Stoneking Baker

Phone: 319-895-8979 Email: abmrlk@juno.com Contact: John Rife Phone: 319-895-6357 Email: jrife1@msn.com

#### 1955 - 55 years - July 10 Alumni Breakfast

Contact: Kay Jilovec Lind Phone: 319–455-2079 Email: rklind@iowatelecom.net

#### 1950 - 60 years - July 10 weekend

Contact: Dick McKeen'51 Phone: 319-248-0502 Email: rmckeen933@aol.com

#### 1945 - 65 years - July 10 weekend

Contact: Betty Pospisil Wolfe Phone: 319-895-8125

Email: betty@wolfe-works.com Contact: Marilyn Woods Overman

Phone: 319-895-8507 Contact: Renee Travis Reilly Phone: 319-396-0275

Email: cyandrenee@inter-networks.net

#### 1940 - 70 years - July 10 Alumni Breakfast

Contact: Merrill Pitlik Phone: 319-366-7074 Email: MHPitlik@aol.com

#### 1935 - 75 years - July 10 Alumni Breakfast

Contact: Marie Zinkula Kuntz Phone: 319-895-6705

#### 1940 - 80 years - July 10 Alumni Breakfast

Your class may not be having a reunion, but come enjoy seeing classmates and other alums at the All-Alumni Breakfast.

You are a student once, but an alum for a lifetime.

#### **NOTE TO CLASS OF 1985**

Class of 1985 25th High School Reunion will take place the weekend of Heritage Days (July 9th and 10th). The plans have not been finalized but save the date. More details to follow in a letter. Contact Jennifer Spencer Toriggino for more information at

#### **NOTE TO CLASS OF 1971**

jentoriggino@gmail.com or 303-792-3484. Hope to see you!

We are looking at doing a reunion (40th) in 2011...on the week-end of Heritage Days 2011..July 8 and 9.

#### **SWANBERG MEMORIAL SERVICE**

A memorial service will be held for Jon Weld Swanberg"59 at the Presbyterian Church in Mount Vernon on Sunday July 11 at 2:00 PM.

#### **ALUMS GET OUT THE NEWSLETTER!**



Thank you! Labeling the Fall November 2009 newsletter are from clockwise: Marie Reyhons Beuter'53, Dick Moore'52, Kay Woods, Suzanne Roberts Stoner'65, and Marilyn Woods Overman'45. Not pictured: Annamae Stoneking Baker'60

#### HALLWAY MURAL 'STARS'



so that they can transcend into every generation. However, there is no mistaking who the picture is modeled after if you know the people. At the very top is a football picture with the title 'teamwork.' The picture was originally shot of a group of 1954 classmates, and they are thrilled to see their picture up there as inspiration for students. At the last Heritage Days gathering, four of those guys got together for another picture: L to R, John Studt, Bentonville, AR; Larry Edwards, Cedar Rapids, IA; Bill Macauley, Henderson, NV; and David Lyford, Madison, WI. John Pence, Fairfax City, VA., was not available for the picture. Keith Jilovec and Roger Freeman are deceased.



# E WANT YOU!!!



# Come be part of the band at Homecoming, Friday, October 8 2010 FORMER BAND AND COLOR GUARD (FLAG) MEMBERS:

Remember all that fun you had in band and color guard (flags)? Well, join the alumni band to play the Mount Vernon school song (and a few others, too!) at half-time of the Homecoming Game and we'll have one-heck-of-a-good-time! Don't worry that you might be a little rusty, we'll be playing along with the High School Band.

Music is available by mail and on the alumni pages of the website. Let us know and we'll mail you more info - call 319-895-8845 or email to alumni@ mountvernon.k12.ia.us. We need your shirt size to have a complimentary Alumni Band shirt ready for you (please respond as soon as possible). Color Guard - we would also like you to attend the practice, and we will have a roll for you to play too. Bring a flag if you have one.

Want to be part of the fun, but NOT play or hold a flag? Take a look at Option 2 just ahead in this article.

Be sure to pass this on to other Mount Vernon Band Alums --**BRING A FRIEND!** 

**Participation Options:** 

- Option 1: Stand in place and perform with the MVHS Marching Band during the half-time game show "On Mount Vernon", and two other pieces. The MVHS marching band will march its half-time show and then Alumni Band/Color Guard members will walk onto the field and perform the school song with the band. Alumni band members will NOT be marching
- □ **Option 2:** Stand with the band at halftime and be recognized as a Band/ Color Guard alumnus, but choose not to perform. You may choose not to play or perform, but we still want to include you.

#### **Rehearsal and Game Night Plans:**

At this time, our plans are...

• Music will be mailed out to alumni in advance so you have a chance to practice on your own. Or you may get it on the web from the alumni

www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us then click to the alumni page

- If available, you are invited to attend the Friday, 1st period high school band rehearsal 8:20 9:10 AM, at the High School band room.
- All participants should meet at the First Street Building at 5:30 pm for a PI77A PARTY!
- At 6:15 we will then move to the front

# **★ Alumni Band ★**

Hey -- we'd like YOU to be in the Alumni Band. Help us get the band started on a good note this year by getting together at our

#### SPRING ORGANIZATIONAL **MEETING**

on JUNE 12TH, 9 AM in the Gazebo at Memorial Park

on Main Street in Mount Vernon

to enjoy some home-baked cinnamon rolls and kolaches, friendship, fun, and a little business. No instruments -- just organizing our alumni presence for

Homecoming weekend. **Contact: Betsy McWilliams Brown** mrs.betsybrown@gmail.com or 319-462-4478

of the First Street building (players, bring your instrument). Shirts will be handed out to participating band and color guard alums. GROUP PICTURE at 6:30. Betsy McWil-liams'99 will give you instructions, and HS Band Instructor Alan Kiser will then join you at approx 6:45 for a music rehearsal with the High School band. (You may then watch the game or visit until our meeting time just prior to half-time. You may leave instruments inside in the gym area. A parent does supervise the area. Betsy will also have a key to the area.)

#### **Instruments:**

- Please provide your own instrument, lyre, and flip folder.
- We have a limited supply of school instruments such as marching percussion, sousaphones, etc., but a few are available on a first come, first served basis.

#### For More Information or TO GET YOUR NAME ON THE LIST:

Betsy McWilliams'99-Alumni Band Coordinator 319-551-1444 mrs.betsybrown@gmail.com.com Alan Kiser-MVHS Band Dir. 319-895-8843 x4009 akiser@mountvernon.k12.ia.us Alumni Association, Kathy Staskal 319-895-8845 alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

#### A NOTE TO EVERYONE: DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Your email address is as valuable as your mailing address these days. Having your email address in the alumni data base is a great way for other alums, your class representatives, and the alumni office to contact you. If you are not receiving occasional emails from the alumni office, then we probably don't have a personal email address for you. Please send your email address (as well as any updates like addresses, phone, name changes) to alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

# REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES



#### Class of 1999 - 10 Year Reunion

Thirty eight members of the class of 1999 from Mt. Vernon High School met during Heritage Days weekend for a ten year reunion. Participants came from all over the U.S., including New York, Washington D.C., Florida, Texas, Oregon, California and Washington state. Mike and Karen Stewart hosted an open house for classmates, their parents and their teachers on Friday evening at their home. On Saturday evening they had dinner at Davis Park. Music was provided by Chris and Laura Swiser and they also enjoyed watching their performance of the kindergarten circus and other plays from elementary and middle school.

Group Photo: Front Row: Allison Happel, Megan Stine, Ellie Brandt McNicol, Heidi Washburn Thornton, Shayna Thomson Brent, Sara McNeal Lutheran, Sarah Allard Covington, Erin Driscoll Whitehead, Kristy Minor Dvorak, Betsy McWilliams, Christy Dendurant Bock, Kristin Stewart, Mariah Vonk Hess, Mark Whitley and Alex Morf. Second Row: Mike Wieseler, Joe Yarborough, Jeremy Lutheran, Jeremy Hotz, Shaun Swiser, Kyle Kwaiser, Mina Rotschafer Ferden, Evan Peterson, Jared Nicol, Jeremy Stoll, Glen Kneeland, Troy Rahe, Casey DeVries, Bryan Johnson, Jesse Caruthers, Kira Johanson, Tara Reiter-Marolf, Erin Schulte, Joe Corkin, Shelly Moore Wells. Not Pictured: Ellis Burge, Shelly Farley Chandler and Shelby Sproston Graham.

Inset photos: at Left Bryan Johnson and Megan Stine. At Right (left to right) Allison Happel, Megan Stine, Shayna Thompsen Brent, Sarah Allard Covington, Kristy Minor Dvorak, Betsy McWilliams Brown, Kristin Stewart

Jeff Kuehl









The Class of 1964 held their 45th Reunion Heritage Days Weekend, starting out by catching up on Friday, July 10, at Sutliff Store. On Saturday they met at the Alumni Breakfast, then celebrated their Reunion at the Skillet in Mount Vernon on Saturday evening. On Sunday they met again for brunch and recreation at Palisades Park.



Class of 1964



#### Classes of 1978, 1979, 1980

The classes of 1978, 1979, and 1980 met uptown on Friday night and many of them went to the Alumni breakfast. They then had a barbeque at the home of Bill Bowers on Sat. night. Some class members where also in attendance either Friday night or Sat. night but where not present at picture time are Linda Sargent Joerger, Kelly Jeager McCalley, Joe Giannini, Ron Johnson, Sandy Earie Gollobit. Mike Hufford, Carol Merwin, Dave Merwin, Steve Reyhons, Karen Campbell Hurt, Pam Moses Tichy, Rick Schwiebert, Rob Hanson, Andy Wolfe, Terri Overman, Lorie Melchert Boyer, Mary Wolfe Morningstar, Bonnie Bartosh Pugh, Julie Munier Gerber, Gregg Pospisil, Loran Williams, and Mark Cullen.



Class of 78: Front Row. Sara Kendall, Holly Lions Parks, Kim Fergason

Second Row, Ann Koppenhaver, Lynn Watson Brokel, Charlotte Marrow Kirby,

Back Row, Greg Soloman, Al Vislisil, Kelly Rodarmel, Robin Ipson, Not Pictured Leonard Blazek



Class Of 79: Front Row. Dan Williams, Tammy Ladman Bull, Kim Moser Zimmerman, Deb Colburn, Margaret Ault Peterson, Mark Pisarik, Helen Parks Jamison. Jane Heath Morgan, Jim Barthel Second Row. Bob Smith, Pracilla Barthel, Cheryl Randall Beauter, Ann Stewart Zachwieja, Steve Jilovec, Jody Murphy Stewart, Denise Clark Havill, Sally Jenson Buelow, Van Sterner Back Row. Mike Wattleworth, Derrick Steichen. Ted Brokel, Randy Ackerman, Kevin Havill, Shannon Murphy McKinney, Jim Woods, Ray Doctorman



Class of 80: Front Row, Rob Schneider, Judy Gaines Walton, Lori Emanuel/LeMaster, Lorie Jones Thomsen, Ann Whitley Whattleworth, Cheryl Murphy Studt, Cindy Bragg Steichen, Carolyn Hughs. Second Row, Brad Kruse, Jerry Zinkula, Craig Stepanek, Chris Kinley Osborn, Richard Simon, Cheri Butterbaugh Prickard, Bill Bowers, Kurt Encke Back Row, Lyle Pearson, Dan Vargason, David Nichols, Pat Swain, Alan, Essex, Dan Soloman,

# REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES



#### Class of 1989

The Class of 1989 held their 20th reunion over Heritage Days 2009, starting right in on thursday evening with MV's Family Fun Night and Fireworks, then Friday participated in a 3-person Best Shot Golf Tourney and met that evening at SCORZ Bar and Grill, up the next morning for the Saturday Alumni Breakfast and 5K Run/Walk, rode on their Class Float in the parde, had a Family Get Together at Davis Park Pavilion, then met that evening for a Reunion Buffet Dinner with 80's music at Regal Crown in Lisbon.

Picture front right left to right: Marcy Russell, Rachel Bly Hamilton, Lisa Weddle Siebert, Jenifer Carmer, Kathy Erie Bartmess, Mary Spellerberg Montgomery, Jessican Lane Robinson

2nd row left to right: Chad Reckling, Lisa Lynott, Todd Neal, Jeremy Elliott, Mike Russell, Kelli Curtis Chapman, Tiffany Stolz Adams, Holly Armstrong, Fred Skretta 3rd row left to right: Jason Nosek, Steve Salazar, Michael Svotosch, Jeff Meeker, Jeff Gardner, Saffin Parrish-Sams, Diana Diers McLaughlin, Tracy Bair Garvin, Greg Murphy, David Spellerberg, Sara Warner Hasselroth, Eric Schmidt, and Kirk Bailey





#### Class of 1969

The Class of 1969 met informally at Scorz on Friday night, had breakfast at the alumni breakfast and dinner at the country club on Saturday. We all had a great time renewing old friendships and sharing memories of the class of 1969.

Back row: Lynda Goodlove Blesi, Darlene Hartl Allard, Paula Sautter Hedlund, Sherleen Clausen (not much is showing), Stuart Seiler, Don Kaplan, Mary Petersen Berry, Jim Erenberger, Sally Dye Trout, Wendy Ellison Stryker.

Front Row: Jan Randall Pauley, Cathy Humphries Stoner, Sandy Neal Williams, Brian Harman, Katie Shackford, Tom Travis



#### Class of 1974

The Class of 19749 held their 35th Reunion celebration September 25 and 26, 2009 On Friday night classmates wore their maroon and attended the Homecoming Game and Alumni Reception, then met at the Bowling Alley. Saturday evening they held their Reunion Dinner at Gwen's in Lisbon

From Left to right front row - Judy Fossel Novotny, Ann Dvorak Ash, Deb Peshek Thorman, Carol Tesar Brannaman, Cindy Feaker Johnson, Diane Viktor Raymond, Pat Moses, Carolyn Henderson Stephenson, Donna Rosendahl Zimmerman, Linda Voetberg Paschka, Mark Walden, Roxanne Post Conley, Vickie Hill Reynolds, Craig Hoffman, Tim Reynolds, Miles Meyer, Dave Pitlik, and Joel Wallace.







#### Class of 1954

The Class of 1954 held their 55th Reunion July 11th, 2009, meeting first at the All-Alumni Breakfast and later that evening at the Marriott Hotel in Cedar Rapids for their Class Reunion Dinner.

Front: L-R Shirley Hartenberger Allison, Rachel Yiesley Miller, Marlene Mallie Ford, Fae Sparks Edwards, Jean Henik Quinlan, Marie Russell Hruby, Anabelle Sturtz Bridges, Joanne Nikodim Neff.

Back: L-R Bill Macauley, Richard Blue, John Studt, Larry Edwards, David Lyford, John Neff.



#### Class of 1959

The Class of 1959 held their 50th Reunion celebration the weekend of July 11th, starting with a social gathering at Dennis Drahos' home on Friday evening, met the next morning for the Alumni Breakfast, had a class float in the Heritage Days Parade, and then celebrated with a reunion dinner that evening at The Lighthouse Inn in Cedar Rapids.



The Gals: Front Row: Nancy Pisarik Mulder, Marie Sippola, Connie Meyer Kahl and Kay Carnahan Keeley Back Row: Shirley Andrews Sparks (second from left side), Ann McCutcheon Niehaus, Jane Costello Fink, Sharon Neal Urich, Jean Hammond Blessing, Linda Schick Drahos and Ilene (Susie) Emerson Tutken



The Guys: Front Row: Jon Swanberg, Edward Fordyce and Richard Hoidahl Back Row: George Pospisil, Jerry Kroeger, Ronald Hess, John Maxson, Richard Glattly and Dennis Drahos.

Other classmates who were able to attend the social event but were not at the dinner were: Bill Jilovec, Karen Williams Huerter, Meryl Hartung, and Linda Armstrong Janko

Some great pictures from recent class reunions... many thanks for their submission by reunion organizers!



"We've always wanted to own our own business, and now we have the motel in our home town. We especially love to have MV alums as guests -- we hope we can make their visit

extra special."

Beth Drongesen Mhire '86 and husband Dave
Corinne Wilcox Drongesen '56

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# **PICTURES FROM HERITAGE DAYS 2009**

The place to be on Saturday mornning of Heritage Days weekend is at the All-Alumni breakfast. At the last breakfast in 2009 we served almost 500 breakfasts (not counting those that just took toast, coffee, etc.) to alums and folks from the community. The best part about the breakfast though is the fun everyone has seeing everyone else!

NEXT BREAKFÄST IS SATURDAÝ, JULY 10, 2010



Liz Wolfe Kroul '43 and Mary Baldwin Brannaman '49 at left, with members of the Russell family -- Back row: Derek Allen and Joshua Lynch(class of 2016), Middle row: Liz, Mary, Julie Russell Lynch'86, Trina Russell Allen'84, Marcy Russell'89, Mike Russell'89 Front row: Barbara Lynch (class of 2018) and Holly Allen



Members of the High School Electric Car Club showed off their car



Raphael Pisarik'38 and Dennis Walrab'64



Doug Tharp'57 and Bruce Mullen'58 visit with Karen Jilovec Martin'57



Mary Bauman Kolbe'64, Reid Hanley'64 and Bill Horton'62



A group of alums and community members come through the refreshment line



Helen Park Jameson'79, Lynn Watson Brokel'78, Charlotte Morrow Kirby'78



Several 1945 classmates met at the Alumni Breakfast, Janice West Johnson, Dorothy Reyhons Poduska, Betty Pospisil Wolfe, Rita Travis Reilly, Robert Ruble, Dorthy Longerbeam Steinocher, and Marilyn Woods Overman. They will hold their 65th Reunion this year.

#### Class of 2010

Welcome to the Alumni Association! The Class of 2010 will graduate approximately 96 seniors May



Photo byJoAnn Gage

## THE DATE FOR HERITAGE DAYS IS JULY8, 9 AND 10 THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING IS OCTOBER 8



Way to go Kitchen Crew! Thanks for a great job! From left to right: Maggie Burke Slaymaker'03, Mollie Burke'05, Matt Burke (dad and District Secretary-Treasurer), Marcia Purington (District Nutrition Director), Chiara Niederhauser Burke'78, and Maggie's husband Brock.



Alum and Mount Vernon School Board Member Bob Penn'81 welcomes Myrtle Wstcott Licht'29, our oldest known living alum. Myrtle unfortunately passed away earlier this year.



Another thank you to Carlyle Bys'53 and his wife Allene Merritt Bys' 52 who represent the Alumni Association in the Heritage Days Parade every year along with their Jeepster.



Kathy Staskal from the Alumni Association looks over the 1890 Alumni Association Record book donated by Randy Hoidal'61 at right and his brother Rich'59.



Mary Mulherin'38 and President Kevin Rogers'81



Kim Ferguson'78 and Cheryl Murphy Studt'80 enjoy the class composites



Jane Costello Fink'60 and her husband Varlin are greeted by Marilyn Dean Schnittjer'58. In the background is Roland Henik'51



Superintendent Pam Ewell enjoys the Alumni events, shown here at the Class of '59 reception with host Dennis Drahos



Steve Brown'70 catches up on the news with classmate Gwen Stewart Drahos'70



Marsha Siggins McWhinney'70 visits with Dave Brown'65. The Brown brothers arrived via motorcycle all the way from Colorado.



Megan Stine'99 and Kira Johanson'99 enjoy seeing former district superintendent Adrian Ringold.



From left to right, Rory Weibel'96 and his wife Patricia, Matt Meyer'96, Brad Neal'96 and Scott Pospisil'95



Sharon Kuntz-Glenn'84 and Alumni President Kevin Rogers'81



Barb Blinks Mozingo'77 visits with Shelley Peterson Dies' 67 and Payson Peterson' 77



Jean Stoner'37



Jon Stoner'04 and grandmother Keith Burge'67, John Goodlove'68, Leah Goodlove'02, and Lynda Goodlove Blesi'69



Diana Kafer Lavoi'64 and Chris Hudson Brown'64 enjoy the yearbooks

# Mustangs...what are they doing now?

#### **■ ELIZABETH STONER'97**





Although I could go on at length about every faculty member with whom I was fortunate enough to study during my four years at MVHS, I would like to acknowledge my mighty handful: Mrs. Ault, Mrs. Ellison, Mr. Halsey, Mrs. Jacob, and Mrs. Michaud. These five wonderful teachers and selfless individuals groomed me for the life I live today.

Since graduating MVHS in June of 1997 I have remained a student for nearly the past thirteen years. On December 1, 2009 I completed my fourth and final degree: Doctor of Musical Arts. During this sometimes arduous journey, I have had the good fortune to continue to have several mentors in my life who have always - without exception - supported and encouraged me whether it be my memory of them, an email, a phone call, or in some cases their presence. I have studied in Germany and Italy, taught music in the Bronx, been on voice faculty at music schools in New York and New Jersey, and I have even been a personal assistant as well as a nanny (talk about an education) to various families in Manhattan.

For the past two years I have been teaching college, and I am currently on the voice faculty at Western Michigan University and Grand Valley State University in Kalamazoo, MI and Allendale, MI respectively. I am also a freelance musician performing in Michigan, Indiana, Wisconsin, New York, and Iowa in operas, oratorio, recitals, and concerts.

This past year I was given the opportunity to twice perform at home with the Cedar Rapids Opera Theater performing Despina in Cosi fan tutte at Cornell College's Kimmell Theatre, and sklave in the January 2010 production of Salome to be aired on IPT.

My most recent project is an exciting re-

cording with the Spectrum Brass Quintet. Our debut CD, Rhapsody: The Music of George Gershwin, was released in the fall of 2009. We made our first tour this past summer in Northern Michigan and are planning a tour of Iowa in the near future with our show: Who Could Ask for Anything More? - An All-Gershwin

I think back to second grade when Sarah Loebsack and I wished that we had pink and orange hair, completely idolizing Cyndi Lauper...how did I ever get where I am today? I give credit to my roots. The faculty I encountered in the Mt. Vernon School system are excellent gardeners. To paraphrase a parable my grandfather wrote, these teachers, along with my parents, planted me, nurtured me, fed me food, watered me, and gave me light. Finally, they always knew when to give me the freedom to be my own person. I begin by thanking Mrs. Ault for her endless dedication to creating the Mt. Vernon Strings Program, developing group lessons, and both providing and outsourcing quality private instruction for children in the community and schools. It was through this program and her guidance that I first developed as a musician. I thank Mr. Halsey for opening my eyes to life beyond the text book, and for teaching me how to accept my limitations, but to never give up on the stars. I thank Mrs. Michaud for her ability to read through my horribly convoluted papers and cultivate the creative mind trapped within. I thank Mrs. Ellison and Mrs. Jacob for allowing me to harness that creativity by introducing me to acting and speech, and putting up with a bus full of eccentric kids for a weekend in Ottumwa once every year. Mrs. Ellison taught me to trust my instincts on stage. I thank Mrs. Jacob for not only teaching me how to analyze a script, even at 6:30 a.m., but also for giving MVHS 'Advanced Grammar', the most valuable course for preparing for the ACT, SAT, college, and real-world communication.

I am so lucky to have attended a school and to have been raised in a community where many of its teachers and citizens are completely selfless. They teach out of a love for teaching: to open eyes and broaden horizons. It is because of these teachers (and the late H. James Jackson) that I too have become a teacher. These wonderful, selfless people have



given me the skill-set necessary to carve a life for myself that blends teaching, performing, and business management. Some years are easier than others, but thankfully, I have strong roots that keep me growing.

Editor's Note: Elizabeth Stoner '97 is the vocal soloist with the Spectrum Brass Quintet. Committed to creative collaboration, the Spectrum Brass Quintet works with innovative performers to enrich and enliven the chamber music experience. In their debut CD, Rhapsody: The Music of George Gershwin, they join forces with soprano Elizabeth Stoner, pianist Aviram Reichert, and percussionist Alex Trajano to explore the music of kindred spirit George Gershwin. The Quintet was founded in the Fall of 2008 by tubist Jacob Cameron. The members are all friends and/or colleague's of Cameron from Michigan, Ohio, New York, and South Korea. CDs are available in Mt. Vernon at The Perfect Blend and Gary's Foods. You can also purchase CDs from the group's website at spectrumbrassquintet.com or download it at itunes.com. The group is planning an lowa tour for the near future. For booking information and to learn more about this versatile ensemble go to their website at spectrumbrassquintet.com and become a fan of 'Spectrum Brass Quintet' on facebook.com and myspace.com.

When asked how she became involved with Spectrum Brass Quintet, Stoner replied, "I spent several summers in Bay View, MI, and there I fell in love with brass. The rest is history." Elizabeth Stoner and tubist Jacob Cameron are planning a late summer wedding.



# Get your nomination in today for the next Award Winners to the Hall of Fame! Deadline is June 15! See page 23

#### ■ MICHAEL OHLFEST'72

enjoy...



After high school, I took only four short years to earn a two-year degree from Kirkwood Community College in Pre-Engineering and beer drinking. I joined the US Army and was the old guy at twenty two. I was a Chinook Helicopter méchanic and crew chief. While in Korea, I met my future wife, Ok with whom I have been betrothed now for 30 years. Our daughter, Megan who is just turning sweet 16 is the apple of my eye. I got out of the Army after three years, got married, and attended Coe College while working part time. Then started work for the Army as a civilian ammunition manager. I bounced around various ammunition plants and back to Korea for a couple of two-year tours, the second tour taking our young daughter along.

Somewhere along the line I earned an MBA from St. Ambrose University in Davenport, IA. Since 2001, I have been hold up at the US Army Security Assistance Command at Ft Belvoir, VA – just outside of D.C. There I am a Country Program Manager and assist friends and allies of the US (yes, we have quite a few) to purchase military items from the US Army. Right now I manage Bahrain and a portion of Iraq (ammo and weapons). Both of the major Army commands that I deal with daily are right there in Iowa's back yard. At Rock Island Arsenal, the Joint Munitions Command manages common-use ammo for all US services and the Tank Automotive Command – Rock Island handles most Army weapons. It's a great job and, unlike most people I know, I love the D.C. area. Whenever someone complains about the traffic, I say, hey - go drive in Korea! That's my life, such as it is. God bless all my 'ol

classmates. Take care!

My memories of Mount Vernon High School are filled with great times with, now that I look back, a wonderful bunch of kids that I was fortunate enough to go through 12 years of school with. It was kind of like growing up in Mayberry – everybody had a good heart.

I appreciate all of the teachers we had – even Mrs Rife who took pleasure in embarrassing me by having someone "pass Mike a dictionary". I had a special time as a senior in Terry Ferdin's auto class when I rebuilt my first V-8 engine. I'll never forget the look on Jon Strother's face when it actually started. To tell the truth I was kinda surprised myself.

Then there were the crisp autumn nights when we all gathered around the gridiron to watch the Mustang football team and marching band give some outstanding performances. Yeh, those were the days! Hope all my classmates are doing well! Can't believe the years have slipped away – but God willing, we have a few good one's left. I still work for the Army but got smarter – now as a civilian. Will probably work for a while as our daughter, now 15, tells me she wants to be a veterinarian. Not sure where she got her smarts. Well, all for now. Take care!

Editor's note: you can reach Mike at mike.ohlfest@gmail.com

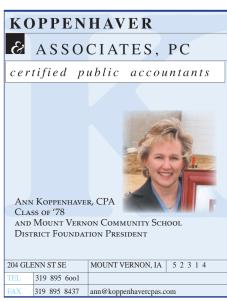


#### ■ DAVID VAN METRE'55



Editor's Note: In town for Heritage Days, we were finally able to get a picture of Dave Van Metre' 55 with the Mustang themed fitness equipment he donated to the new High School. Thank you, Dave! This room is busy all the time. Dave lives in Omaha, NE. He can be reached at dayevanmetre@cox.net







# Mustangs...what are they doing now?

#### ■ MELISSA PRAY MULDOON'78





My name is Melissa Pray Muldoon and I graduated from MVH in 1978. I graduated in 1982 from Knox College in Galesburg Illinois, with a bachelors degree and a triple major in European History, Art History and Studio Art. In 1984 I received a Masters Degree from the University of Illinois in Champaign in Art History.

I am currently a graphic designer and I own my own graphic design company called Melissa Design.



www.melissadesign.com. You can also view the Facebook Fan page for Melissa Design at: http://www.facebook.com/pages/Melissa-Design/10150131998745203?ref=nf

over the U.S., i.e., Chicago, Baltimore and Kansas City, for the past ten years we have been settled in California in the San Francisco Bay area. I am currently planning a trip to Italy in the fall and will be staying with friends in Rome, Val d'Orcia, Umbria and Garda. Melissa can be reached at melissa@ melissadesign.com, her website is www.melissadesign.com





Following is a portion of a letter written to President Kevin Rogers from 1931 Alum Leo Beranek: "I was so very pleased to have received two issues of the Alumni News. The Fall 2009 issue has an article by you. You speak 'of the rich ties many MV Alumni have to Mount Vernon and its exceptional school district.' I am not the High School's oldest alumnus - I graduated in 1931 and I am 95 years old. My health is excellent and I travel and still do professional work. My life has been very diverse and satisfying. My excellent education at MVHS and my following years at Cornell, where I graduated in 1936, were a solid basis for my graduate work at Harvard. Next year will be the 80th anniversary of my graduation. When is reunion day – if well I might get to Mount Vernon? I am enclosing two copies of my autobiography. I would like you to have one and give the other to the superintendent." Watch for a future article about Leo's life and book. Leo's email is beranekleo@ieee.org

#### ■ PAYSON PETERSON'77

Submitted by his famiy: Congratulations to Payson Peterson and his great shooting horse, Percy, who was inducted into the CMSA Hall of Fame. Below is the excerpt written for the ceremony in Amarillo in October 2009 as well as some pictures. This is a big honor and we are all so pleased for Payson and Ann. Please take a moment to enjoy this:

# Plaudit's Joker II CMSA Champion Shooting Horse

Plaudit's Joker II, CMSA Champion Shooting Horse aka Percy was foaled in Iowa in 1983. He is a registered Appaloosa. His first mounted shooting competition was in April 1998, and the first shoot he won was the 1998 World Championship in Scottsdale, AZ!

He was a great shooting platform and could switch between running stages and performing multiple Wild West Show acts with ease. He is perhaps the only horse ever to perform a firewhip act.

Percy won the first stage at 1998 Colt Celebrity Invitational in Las Vegas the week before the World, a shoot that had all the best shooters and their horses and a darned old App outran 'em!

He had a very successful National Championship shoot at the Festival of the West in 2001; National Championship Overall Cowboy horse, won preliminary jackpot and took first and second in the Celebrity Shoot with Bruce Boxleitner and Buck Taylor winner and reserve respectively. All that and he performed in Wild West Shows each evening at Rawhide. What a weekend! Percy is one of only a few

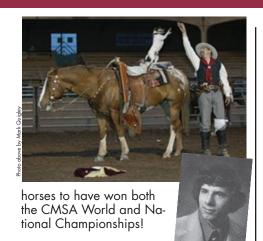
facebook.com/pages/Melissa-Design/
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I am mother to three boys and a beagle and have been married to my husband for 25 years. I am also a confirmed Italofile and have been passionately studying the Italian language for the past ten years and travel to Italy on a frequent basis. I write a blog in Italian about Italy. It is called "Diario di una Studentessa Matta" (Diary of a crazy Student) http://melissamuldoon.wordpress.com
Although I have lived with my family all

Thank you to alum Judy Penn'60 for many of the pictures in this newsletter.







He was one of the first horses to compete in CMSA mounted rifle shooting and was very good at it! He was always game for anything.

Several new shooters got their start on Percy. Ann Peterson was Champion Lady at the Colorado State Championships in 2002 on Percy as a Ladies 1.

Along with his little buddy Emmitt and their human Payson they traveled the West for years performing and shooting. Emmitt passed away in June 2009 and was a fixture at many competitions and shows through the years and a great friend to many shooters. The Peterson's are so thankful that God put these two amazing animals in their lives! What a blessing that they were able to delight and entertain at many CMSA events.

Percy is happily retired in Avondale, CO and looks great for being 26 years old! He would still run at the balloons; but he has earned his retirement.

Editor's Note: Payson can be reached at payson@procomtesting.com or Treepony@aol.com



#### ■ LINDSEY BORG'83



I recently completed a very interesting and challenging yearlong deployment to Baghdad, Iraq. Álthough I wouldn't ask to repeat the year, I am thankful for the experience I gained in Baghdad. From my location at the U.S. Embassy - Baghdad, I had the opportunity to interact with senior U.S. and Iraqi officials to help shape significant, positive changes in Iraq and its relationship with the U.S.

My time in Iraq also gave me tremendous appreciation for the United States, my friends and family. The support my family and I received during the past year was incredible. The thoughts, prayers and contacts were important to our successful completion of the deployment.

It's wonderful to be reunited as a family and we are now preparing for a move to Washington, DC, in late May. The Air Force has assigned me to its legislative liaison team where I will lead the programs and legislation division. The position will have me dividing my time between the Pentagon and Capitol Hill. I look forward to the experiences and challenges of my new role as a representative to Congress for the Air Force and its programs.

Lindsey can be reached at liborg.4@mac.com





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-Susan Mounts Fisher'65 susanifisher@msn.com 319-389-3686

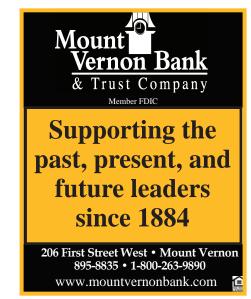


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# Alumni News...

#### Send us your information...

Alumni Association 525 Palisades Road Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314 or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us or call 319-895-8845

#### **MARRIAGES**

**Nicholas Dietrich '04** to Kendra Kurth o Oct. 17, 2009, reside in West Des Moines, IA

**Kadera Havill'04** to **Joshua Scanlon'05**, November 21,2009.

**Rachel Young'03**, to Brodie Scott Overton of Traer. la., December 2009

Micki Dietrich'02 to Jon Seagrass on April 24, 2010, reside in Omaha, NE

Catherine Hileman'01 to Bill Schierbrock on June 13, 2009, reside in Mount Vernon. (Catherine is the daughter of alum Sara Gaarde'70 and granddaughter of Joy Gaarde-Morton'48) Carrie McMahon'01 to Brad Pumphrey

Carrie McMahon'01 to Brad Pumphrey May 1, 2010, reside in Mount Vernon, IA

**Kacey Kuntz'00** to Andrew Schmit on June 12 of 2009, reside in Lisbon, IA

**Elizabeth 'Betsy' McWilliams Brown'99** to Chris Brown on September 6th, 2009, reside in Des Moines

**Kyle Kuntz** was married in Nov of 2008 but I think you had covered that. ????

Meredith Ash'99 to Chadwick Crawford on Oct. 24, 2009, reside in San Francisco, CA. Meredith is the daughter of alum Ann Dvorak Ash'74)

**Bruce Carl Johanson'99** to Krista Marie Vlasak on June 13, 2009, reside in Cedar Rapids, IA.

Katie Schonhorst'97 to Joe Farber on Oct. 10, 2009, reside in Minneapolis, MN

**Benjamin Aalbers'92** to Heather Liles on Oct. 31, 2009, reside in North Carolina.

**Phoebe Ball'91** to Justin Woodall, May 23rd of this month. They reside in Tallahassee, FL

Holly Armstrong'89 to Jason Story'93 on May 8, 2010, reside in Denver, CO

Stephanie Parish Heck'86 and Greg West'82 married October 11, 2009, reside in Cedar Rapids, IA

Robin Baker'85 and Stephen Mantz '85 on December 24, 2009, reside in Jacksonville, FL. (Robin writes "We met in the 10th grade (1983) and reconnected in 2009! We were married on Christmas Eve 2009 in Cedar Rapids, IA")

#### **ENGAGEMENTS**

**Kristen Reihle'06** engaged to marry Derek Kimball on May 23, 2010

**Crystal Covington'05** engaged to marry Ryan Wherry on August 27, 2011

David Conroy'04 engaged to marry Kate Albrecht on May 28th 2011

**Kira Renee Johanson'99** engaged to marry Jarred Barone. A late 2010 summer wedding is planned.

**Kasey Marie Crabtree'99** engaged to marry Ryan Jones on July 3, 2010

#### **BABY NEWS**

**Crystal Covington'05** and fiance Ryan, a baby boy Kayden David, February 6th, 2009

Maggie Burke Slaymaker'03 and husband Brock, a daughter, Reagan Jane, on August 19, 2009. (Grandparent Chiara Niederhauser Burke'78)

**Teresa Britt Patterson'02** and husband Tyler, a daughter Brynnley Ann, Feb. 18, 2010

lan Dye'01 and Shauna Applebee Dye '01, a son Daniel lan, January 21, 2010

**Lisa Lnenicka Steven'87** and husband Russ, a son Connor James, May 20, 2009 (Grandparent is Albert Lnenicka '56)

#### **EDUCATION**

Sarah Kleinsmith Dannals'01 earned a Master of Social Work from from Western Carolina University on May 7, 2010. Sarah and her husband will be returning to the Midwest to live in Madison, Wisconsin where he will attend school at the University of Wisconsin - Madison

Sarah Allard Covington'99 earned a Masters in Music with an emphasis in education from the University of Northern Iowa

**Jayson Wilkinson'90** earned a BS in Information Technology from University of Phoenix on May 8th, 2010

#### **ANNIVERSARIES**

**Marjorie Svatosh McAtee'60** and husband Larry celebrated their 50th anniversary.

**Richard 'Dick''54** and **Judith Kohl'57 Steiner** will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on June 19, 2010

Janet Hess Smith'57 and her husband, Tom will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in June.

wedding anniversary in June. **Audrey Barrett Yarbrough'56** and husband Vernon celebrated their 50th anniversary November 24, 2009.

Nargi Rayman Steinbrech'55 and husband Ed celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary, June 30th, 2009



The 2009 Alumni Association's Fine Arts Hall of Fame award Winner, Kristin Stewart'99, visited Mount Vernon High School in April. Kristin, who is currently a performer in the national touring production of the 'Wizard of Oz', spent a morning period, along with a friend from the tour's orchestra, visiting with high school band and drama students. Thank you, Kristin!

#### AND MORE...

Karen Jilovec Martin'57 was named to the Women's Eastern lowa Golf Association Hall of Fame in August of 2009 in Mount Vernon. Karen has been on 28 consecutive Eastern lowa teams, starting in 1981. She played in the first position for 16 of those years and near the top in all of the others. She has served in leadership positions on both the Hillcrest Board and the Hillcrest Women's Board. She was the tournament director for this year.

Marilyn<sup>°</sup>R. Asplund Buchanan<sup>°</sup>61 celebrated 25 years of Ordination Elder in the United Methodist Church

Greg West'82 and Stephanie Parish Heck'86 are both enjoying being more involved in Mount Vernon again.
Stephanie just re-opened Sage House bed & breakfast in Mount Vernon as well as a new consignment shop called DejaNew!. Their son Matthew will start 1st grade at Mount Vernon in the fall.

lan Dye'01 will begin a new job as principal grades 6-12 at Lisbon Schools next fall.

Alvin "Al" Klouda'48, Moline, IL, celebrated his 80th birthday on April 24, 2010. AL was born in Solon, IA. He served in the Air Force and graduated from Iowa State University in 1958 with a degree in Agricultural Engineering. He married Ruth Amdor December 28th, 1957. They have 4 children and 5 grandchildren. AL retired from John Deere Plow-Planter Works, Moline, IL, in 1984, Department of the Army, Rock Island Arsenal in April 1993 and currently works at Mel Foster Co, Moline, IL. He can be reached at kloudaae@aol.com

Jim Marshek'71 writes in "Hunting has always been the love of my life. Falls just below my wife Sue and two daughters Justine & Joelle. So just recently I started a new company Black Diamond Hunters Accessories. This helps feed my hunting and fishing expaditions. And I have a web site at www.blackdiamondhunteraccessories.com. It's cool, I'm talking about elk hunting, this coming season will make 17 seasons in a row, I'm Definitely hooked. Jim can be contacted at Jmarshek@hotmail.com

Phoebe Ball'91 is working as a staff attorney at the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc. In Tallahassee. Phoebe can be reached at Phoebeball@hotmail.com

Sarah Franks Kline'91 writes "In February I started a new job as a faculty member at Mercy College in Des Moines. I am an instructor for the Physical Therapy Assistant Program and ACCE (Academic Coordinator of Clinical Education. Prior to this I was a physical therapist for Mercy Home Care and Hospice so this has been a big change going from patient care to teaching.

Al Williams'68 writes in... "Although I have not kept up on things in Mt Vernon since graduation in 68. I would not mind getting in contact with anyone that may remember me. I do have some recent events that were major milestones in my life that happened last September. First I became 60 and am now in full retirement from the Air Force. 10 years active duty and 17 years various reserve and National Guard units. I also retired as a Application Engineer from IBM after 31 years. Although I only spent a couple years in Mt Vernon, I still remember the good times I had there. I do plan to make a trip out to Mount Vernon to see the old home and school. Al can be reached at awilliam@stny.rr.com

Adriana Hartelt Boettcher'91 In the last issue of the Alumni News, we featured Adriana and her exemplary work as a Gazette carrier, her 'other' job. In 2009, after being nominated by Gazette Communications, Adriana was named National Newspaper Carrier of the Year. A year earlier she received a Governor's Lifesaving Award from Gov. Chet Culver. She was cited for actions – about two weeks apart - that saved the lives of two Mount Vernon residents whom she found in life-threatening situations during her early morning treks through town. Mayor Paul Tuerler and the Mount

Vernon City Council declared August 9, 2008, Adriana Boettcher Day in Mount Vernon, recognizing her unselfish achievement. She made her final newspaper deliveries on April 12 of this year. Complete article can be read in the Sun at http://www. mtvernonlisbonsun.com/article. php?viewID=6394

Brian Barthel'77 In the last issue of the Alumni News we featured Brian and his travels. Brian is a professor at Utah Valley University. Thanks to Brian who writes in "I just returned from a teaching and humanitarian adventure to Cusco, Peru. March 20 to 28. This was part of a continuing education and humanitarian effort cosponsored by Utah Valley University and The University of Utah. UVU's Department of Public and Community Health sponsored 4 faculty and 6 students to participate. We presented to 90+ rural healthcare workers from around Cusco, which is a mountain city at 12,000 feet in elevation. This area of Peru had been hit by a devastating flood the end of January. In the community we served in we painted a school, provided playground and soccer balls, vegetable seeds and blankets. I've been quite fortunate to travel, and serve and teach in distant lands.

Brian can be reached at barthebr@uvu.edu



In August of 2008, a group of 1946 graduates met at Sutliff for lunch. Left to right are Margaret Clark Reilly, Helen Dvorak Stoner, Martha Moses Divishek, Helen Peterson Meeks, and Ruth Uthoff Kocher. Not pictured are Jim and Mary Gunn and Miriam and Melody Lodge.

Editor's Note: Thanks to Helen for submitting this. Sorry we didn't get it in the newsletter before now!

In Memory of classmates we have lost

Myrtle Irene Westcott Sedlacek Licht 1929 Arthur Hull 1933 Mary Ford Clark 1937 Peggy Pfeil Magee 1942 Douglas Copley Van Metre 1946 Jon Weld Swanberg 1959 William 'Bill' Moffit 1964 Fred H. McLaughlin 1965 Dennis Reilly 1969

(Please excuse us if your classmate or loved one is not listed here for their recent death, but let us know for inclusion in the next newsletter.)

> FRIENDS... Arlo Sikkink Iris G. Hipple

# Thank you

...to the John Rife'60 family for donation of five yearbooks

...to Craig Hipple'61 for 1962 Chalkmark donation

...to llene 'Susie' Emerson Tuetken'59 for donation of photos

...to Merrill Pitlik'40 for donation of 1940 Basketball Team photo

...to John Rife'60 for being the Master of Ceremonies for the second year in a row at the Alumni Awards

#### **Are the Alumni Association and the Foundation the SAME** thing? NO

The Alumni Association was formed to coordinate all-alumni activities. Donations to the Alumni Association are used to support the alumni newsletter, data base, awards and Association activities.

The **Foundation** is a charitable non-profit organization that partners with alumni, businesses, parents, and friends to help support a higher level of educational excellence for students of Mount Vernon Schools. Donations to the Foundation are used to support the school district in ways such as student scholarships and teacher education grants. The Foundation financially supported the Alumni Association in its first years, and continues with financial support of one alumni newsletter annually.

**DONATIONS TO BOTH ASSOCIATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE** 

# THANK YOU for your 2009-2010 Support of the Alumni Association

One way YOU can help the Alumni Association is to be a 'Supporter'. We are asking each alumnus for a voluntary contribution of \$10 or more annually (July 1 to July 1) to help offset a variety of publishing, event, and Association expenses. Your financial support is greatly appreciated. Please see the back cover of this issue for the 2010-2011 Support Form.

Does your name have an asterik\* behind it? This means you have already contributed for the 2010-2011 year. Is your name missing? Be sure to let us know 319-895-8845 or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us.

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Mildred Fisher Knight 1943

Sun City West AZ

Aiken SC

William Litts 1943

Louisville KY

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Richard Dvorak\* 1944

Cedar Rapids IA

June Longerbeam Kessler 1944

John Koch, MD\* 1944 Cedar Rapids IA Norma Bartosh Kubichek 1944 Lisbon IA Gwen Smyth Turnbull\* 1944 Greenbelt MD Pauline Doubenmier Wagaman 1944 Lisbon IA John Wolfe\* 1944 Mt Vernon IA Dorothy Reyhons Poduska 1945 Dorothy Longerbeam Steinocher\*1945 Rogers AR Vernelle Hoggard Willming 1945 Keizer OR Elizabeth Pospisil Wolfe\* 1945 Mount Vernon IA Thomas Wolfe 1945 Solon IA Raymond Zinkula 1945 Cedar Rapids IA Diana Pringle Croft\* 1946 Tallahassee FL Martha Moses Divishek 1946 Cedar Rapids IA James Gunn\* 1946 Mount Vernon IA William Lodge 1946 Cedar Rapids IA Helen Dvorak Stoner\* 1946 Amana IA Robert Thompson\* 1946 Calabasas CA Douglas Van Metre\* 1946 Cedar Rapids IA James Croft\* 1947 Tallahassee FL Richard Edwards\* 1947 **Fulton IL** Ft. Collins CO Donald Killen 1947 Hot Springs Village AR Kathleen Woods Pitlik\* 1947 **Mount Vernon IA** Wilma Levy Whittemore\* 1947 Callahan FL Millicent Hoggard Zenishek\* 1947 Mechanicsviille IA Joy Litts Gaarde-Morton 1948 Paradise Valley AZ Alvin Klouda\* 1948 Moline IL Francis Pitlik\* 1948 Cedar Rapids IA Richard Sanderson 1948

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Joni Loomis Tackenberg 1974 Debra Clark Bridgewater\* 1976 Deborah Capaccioli Paul\* 1976 Denise Jilovec McAfee\* 1977 **Becky Thumm Whitman 1977** Kathryn Petrick Crowley\* 1978 Cynthia Deskin Halbmaier\* 1978

Mark Hylbak\* 1973

Marietta GA

Darien IL

Anamosa IA

Miles Meyer\* 1974

Madison WI

Tabor SD

Story City IA Ed Slach\* 1974

Iowa City IA

Tampa FL

Randy Borg 1976

San Antonio TX

Blairstown IA

La Porte City IA

The Woodlands TX

Terry Pisarik\* 1976

Kevin Whitman 1976

**Brian Barthel 1977** 

Orem UT

**Grinnell IA** 

Lisbon IA

Des Moines IA

Avondale CO

Noblesville IN

Mount Vernon IA

Cherry Valley IL

Albia IA Sara Kendall\* 1978

Cedar Rapids IA

Jeffery Spencer\* 1978

San Antonio TX

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Helen Park Jameson 1979

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Mount Vernon IA

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Shauna Arenas Gravbill\* 1990

page 17 Randy Oakley, Jr.\* 1990 Davenport IA Angela Vittetoe Reed\* 1990 lowa City IA Beth Carlson Wasserstrom 1990 St. Louis MO JennyKaye Moore Hampton\* 1991 Mount Vernon IA Jamie Hampton\* 1991 Mount Vernon IA Jenna Wiebel Wischmeyer\* 1991 Mount Vernon IA Nathan Bunting 1992 Mount Vernon IA Alexis Stine Gallegos\* 1992 Seattle WA Michele Meyer Grudzinski 1992 Anamosa IA Brooke Levson Helzer\* 1992 Shawnee KS Sarah Rife Patten\* 1993 Mount Vernon IA Scott Rose\* 1993 Mount Vernon IA Crystal Kauder\* 1994 Minneapolis MN Teresa Berner McDermott\* 1994 Melbourne FL Lucas McDermott\* 1995 Melbourne FL Carmen Stoner Sealock\* 1996 **Exeter NE** Morgan Stine 1996 Los Angeles CA Brandon Durgin 1997 Lisbon IA Bryan Leeper 1997 Olathe KS Jeremy Hotz 1999 Mechanicsville IA Megan Stine 1999 Seattle WA Luke Staskal 2000 Mount Vernon IA Lindsey Kerr Hotz 2001 Mechanicsville IA Cassidy Sill Reinken 2001 Lisbon IA Dawn Washburn\* 2002 San Bernrdno CA Tyler Leeper 2003 St. Paul MN Kevin Sill 2005 Madison WI Courtney Sheets\* 2008 Cedar Rapids IA Karissa Whitman 2008 Mount Vernon IA **FRIENDS Dorothea Glattly** Batavia IL Raymond and Janet Leeper Mount Vernon IA
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# Donations to the Association

Thank you to the following classes and individuals who have given donations to the Association, either in addition to their support/dues, in memory of someone, or as a gift to to help the Association.

FOR THE ALUMNI BAND Mark Hylbak 1973

IN HONOR OF Thomas Preston Moore Treva Moore Heiser 1950

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Kathleen Woods Pitlik 1947

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Wagaman 1944
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Dennis Akers 1964
Connie Benishek Stick 1965
Stephen Neal 1966
Pamela Ellison Owen 1966
Nancy Smykil Berns 1967
Peggy Neal Howard 1967
Karen Edwards Packer 1968
Scott Peterson 1971
Julia Loomis Stephenson 1971
Joni Loomis Tackenberg 1974
Gerald Niederhauser 1975
Helen Park Jameson 1979
Lance Schoff 1983
Jane Hill Primoli 1986
Brandon Durgin 1997

FROM OUR FRIENDS Judy and Don Stine

# **2010 MOVING ON...**

Congratulations to the following district staff members who will be retiring this year.



#### **ROB COOK**

What you taught: Special Ed and Transition Center

One or two memories: There were two mentors: One was Bob

Meeker, who taught U.S. History. He could teach any student ... and had a way of thinking out of the box that allowed students to learn. Another was LeeAnn Pisarik, who served as my partner at the Transition Center.



#### **GARY NELSON**

Your Position: Elementary Principal
Year started at MV:
1992

One or two memories:
I enjoy getting letters

from students. I have kept many over the years. This is one that sums it all up:

Dear Mr. Nelson,

I was just wondering what do you do all day? How boring is it to be a princible? When I grow up I want to be a princible. Your Student.

Kristen Reihle (from the class of '06)



DAVID OLIPHANT
What you taught:
Middle School social
studies

Year started at MV:

#### **Favorite memory:**

When I first started teaching, I had had no experience with middle school students. By the end of the first year I was sure middle school was the age for me. I was also very impressed by the support and encouragement of the community. (I still am!)



#### **JERRY ORTMANN**

Your position: Buildings and Grounds
Year started at MV: 2003

One or two memories:

enjoyed the whole job. I really liked being around the school atmosphere and have thought it was too bad I wasn't here forty years ago as I like that every day is interesting and different all the time. Working with Roger (Pitlik'67) really made my job enjoyable and he always helped me when I needed it.



#### **JEANNE SNODGRESS**

What you taught: 2nd and 3rd Grades

Year started at MV: 1974 What has changed in education? There have been

many changes in education. The infusion of technology into all areas has beenone big change. More importantly, the role of the teacher has changed from teaching the whole class in the same manner and expecting everyone to complete the same work to individualizing and differentiating all instruction.



#### **KAREN STEWART**

What you taught: Middle School Resource classes; Learning Strategist and Co-teacher for 6th and 7th English and Math; 6th, 7th, 8th Reading;

Year started at MV: 1977

One or two memories: Because I was the only teacher in my position in the school for many years, I worked with many staff members and used their wonderful ideas and suggestions regarding curriculum topics they were presenting. I then applied learning strategies to this information. In particular, Bill Meyer, Adrienne Coffeen, Dennis Gondek and Glen Helble were valuable role models and co-teaching partners.



# CATHY STONER (1969 MV ALUM)

What you taught: 4th grade and Reading
Year started at MV: 1975

One or two memories:

The students that I have taught all have a very special place in my heart. They have all been amazing, each in their own unique way. The story I like to tell about the school is that I was in the first kindergarten class to attend Washington Elementary! On the first day each class planted a tree south of the school along what is now the track fence. I have many memories in this building as a student, and as a teacher. I'm sure I will have many more as my grandaughter, Brooke, will be in kindergarten in the fall.



JOHN THATCHER What you taught: Elementary PE, MS PE, Drivers Education

Year started at MV: 1967 One or two memories: I coached 8th grade football my first year. They never won a game in 7th grade. It cost me a steak dinner because they won ALL their games in 8th grade. Another story is how one day in Drivers Education when Jenny Pasold told me the brake didn't work when on 1st Ave by Coe College – I looked in the rear view mirror and Ben Pospisil's eyes were as large as an owl's. I told Ben to throw out the anchor and Jenny to pull the emergency brake! Successful!



**DENNIS WALSH**Your position: HS principal
Year started at MV: 2003
One or two memories: Jeff Schweibert, superintendent....Jeff took a risk on hiring a principal who lived out-of-town. His confi-

dence and trust was greatly appreciated!



#### JUDITH BERENDS WORKMAN (1965 MV ALUM)

What you taught: In Mount Vernon...Fifth Grade, Extended Learning Program, Elementary Teacher Librarian, Middle School Teacher Librarian

Year started at MV: 1975

First year favorite memory: I began my teaching at Washington Elementary in 1975 in the very same classroom where I was a fourth grader. Several of my 5th grade students were children of high school classmates. Now I am teaching classmates' grandchildren how to use the library and do research.

One or two memories: Gladys Rife was the biggest influence on my career choice-her treatment of students and love of knowledge reinforced my desire to teach. She was teaching high school English when I returned to Mount Vernon and warmly welcomed me at a district meeting, saying that I was "one of the shining stars" of my class (a real overstatement of fact, in my opinion, but it made me feel valued!). As president of the teacher's association, I gave the speech honoring Mrs. Rife when she retired-it was an emotional moment for both of us!

Many teachers and administrators throughout the years helped me become a better teacher and individual. From the first year, when Merline Hansen and Carol Thatcher made suggestions about fifth grade curriculum that enhanced what was done in fourth grade; to the present day, when teachers share the latest ideas learned in a class or a workshop, my teaching was improved. Carolyn Palmer (also an alum 1942 and former district employee) encouraged me to participate in the lowa State Education Association and that led to more than twenty years on the Executive Board for East Central Uniserv Unit, the ISEA division that supports teachers in small districts in our area.

#### THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN 2009-2010

#### JULY

- Superintendent Pamela Ewell begins, taking over for Superintendent Jeff Schwiebert
- -HS Softball takes 6th at State
- -HS and District Staff migrate to Google emails and applications

#### **AUGUST**

-1,243 students K-12 start classes

#### **SEPTEMBER**

- -Jon Jewell was named King, and Molly Giegerich Queen
- -H1N1 Influenza scares

#### **OCTOBER**

- -The Iowa Track and Field/Cross Country Coaches Association recognizes Coach Bill Thomsen'X as the Girls 3A Track and Field Coach of the Year.
- Coach Shirley Ryan named the 2009
   2A Volleyball Coach of the Year by the lowa Girls Coaches Association.
- HS Girls Volleyball win state 2A championship
- -Head Volleyball Coach Shirley Ryan nominated for National Coach of the Year
- three High School students named National Merit semi-finalists Adam Rife,
   Tom Mlynarczyk, and James Taylor.

#### **NOVEMBEŔ**

-Fall play is The Miracle Worker **DECEMBER** 

- -High School Winter Dessert Theater 'Proof'
- -New Middle Schools clubs Guitar Club, Jazz Lab, Film Club, and TADA = Teens Against Drugs and Alcohol.

#### **JANUARY 2010**

- -Elementary art teacher Sarah Fitzgerald awarded National Board Certification -District facing huge state and federal
- budget cuts

#### **FEBRUĂRY**

- -HS Wrestlers David Zacharakis-Jutz and Josh Haug qualify for State
- -Six of eight groups in High School Speech received 1 rating at State Competition
- -School district voters approve Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) for

- school facilities repair and construction funding
- -Middle School LEGO robotics team, the RobosStangs, earn two State trophies MARCH
- -5th grade musical production is "A Kid's Life"
- -3rd Grader Reese Panos art selected as the graphic image for the state's new Goldfinch Book Award.
- -High School Girls Basketball Coach Bob Kintzel named by the Iowa Girls Coaches Association as Class 2A Girls Basketball Coach of the Year
- -Academic Decathlon Team places 4th at State
- High School Girls Basketball Team wins the 2A State Championship
- Mount Vernon High School girls are the reigning state champion in three of four major sports, track, volleyball and basketball.
- -Senior? Forest Scott who was voted as 2010 Mr. MVHS.
- -MVHS art students participated in the regional Scholastic Art Awards competition. Nine artists earned special recognition.....5 Honorable Mention and 4 Silver Key awards.
- -School day is extended by 30 minutes to make up 2009-10 snow days.
- -High School Archery Team heads to the lowa State NASP Tournament

#### **APRIL**

- -Terry Eisenbarth from Douds, IA named new Elementary Principal to replace retiring principal Gary Nelson
- -Steve Brand from Harlan, IA named new High School Principal to replace retiring principal Dennis Walsh
- Spring musical is the "Pajama Game"
   Middle School Science Olympiad
   Teams place at State Competition
- -vocal duet of Grace Moran and Janelle Knight, and the Boys Quartet consisting of Micah Russell, Beau Rolland, Seamus Taylor and Zak Moran earn outstanding performance awards at HS State Solo/Ensemble Contest

#### SUTLIFF BRIDGE UPDATE

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors voted in April to rebuild the Sutliff Bridge. The bridge is the longest and oldest Parker steel-truss wood plank bridge in the United States. The Federal Emergency Management Agency will appropriate a \$1.7 million grant to Johnson County in order to fully restore the bridge, which was built in 1898 and heavily damaged in the 2008 flood. Supervisors also requested \$440,000 from FEMA, which is still pending, to bring the bridge up to current safety codes. If FEMA doesn't approve that funding, the supervisors could decide not to restore the bridge. For now, FEMA is set to pay the full cost of rebuilding. The Sutliff Bridge Authority plans to donate an initial \$10,000 to start a community foundation for these expenses. It will continue to raise money, donating 50 to 75 percent of its annual income to the bridge's maintenance.



#### GIFTS TO THE FOUNDATION

Thank you to alumni and community members who have contributed to the Foundation. 4-1-2009 to 3-31-2010

The Mount Vernon Community School District Foundation is a charitable non-profit organization that partners with alumni, businesses, parents, and friends of the Mount Vernon community to support a higher level of educational excellence and opportunities to prepare Mount Vernon School students for the challenges of global opportunities. The Foundation receives tax-deductible contributions to support the programs of the Mount Vernon Community School District.

The Levels Of Contribution recognized here are:

Major Gifts \$15,000+

Founding Donors \$10,000+ Leading Donors \$5,000+ Maroon and White Donors up to \$1,000

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#### **MAJOR GIFTS**

Simmons Perrine PLC

#### MUSTANG DONORS

Hills Bank & Trust Company - Classroom Cash Program

Beth Hufford '84 in honor of the 2010 State Champion Girls Basketball Team to be used at the discretion of the Girls Head Basketball Coach

Maurice Foundation for 7th grade Science supplies & microscopes

Dave '55 & Carol Van Metre

Dave '55 & Carol Van Metre in memory of Douglas Van Metre '46, funds to benefit the school's football program

#### MAROON AND WHITE DONORS

Jason '90 & Brittany Kaalberg '90 Booth Deb Herrmann Simmons Perrine PLC on behalf of Paul Morf '90 Jo Wilch

#### IN HONOR OF

In Honor of Ron Frantz from: Michael Frantz '82

Clifford & Susan Albright '53 Kehrli in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

#### IN MEMORY OF

In Memory of fellow classmates of the Class of 1969 from: Walter & Debra Pray '69 Billings

In Memory of Lyle Coder from:

Bill & Marilyn Meyer In Memory of Kathryn W. Crew from: John Pence '54

In Memory of John Edwards from: Ray 64 & Ann Stoner

In Memory of Thomas G. Humes '62 from: Janet Hess Smith '57

In Memory of Ruth Minish Meeker '41 from: Ray '64 & Ann Stoner

In Memory of Matthew Rekemeyer '09 from: Ray '64 & Ann Stoner for special education purposes

In Memory of John Schwiebert from: Ray '64 & Ann Stoner

In Memory of John Schwiebert from: Ruth Schwiebert & Family, for purchase of trees for the High School campus

In Memory of Joan Rhoads Siggins '45 from: Marsha Siggins McWhinney '70

In Memory of Douglas Van Metre '46 from: Don & Margaret Koppenhaver

In Memory of Chet Wallace, coach & teacher, from: Randy Hoidahl '61

#### COMPANY MATCHES

#### MAROON AND WHITE DONORS

Coca-Cola Foundation Matching Gift Program on behalf of Beth Hufford '84 Rockwell Collins Matching Gift Program on behalf of Deb Herrmann

#### DONORS THROUGH THE GREATER CEDAR **RAPIDS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION** MAROON AND WHITE DONORS

In Memory of Agnes Schnittjer from: Roger '56 & Marilyn Dean '58 Schnittjer

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Holly Armstrong '89 & Jason Story '93 Jenifer Carmer Back '89 Kirk Bailey '89 Rachel Bly '89 Bryce '97 & Kelli Curtis '89 Chapman

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Mike '89 & Jodi Russell Lisa Weddle Siebert '89 Janet Spellerberg & Family

Ray '64 & Ann Stoner V.G. Stoner & Family Michael '89 & Carol Svatosch

Peter Wilch '90

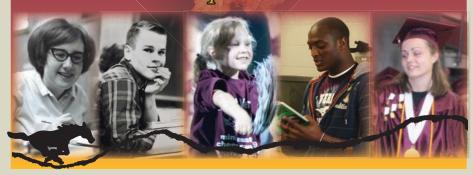
Hills Bank & Trust Company

MVL Community Development

The Rittmer Memorial Scholarship in memory of Daniel, Michael & Ryan Rittmer

# Your Foundation S your legacy to Mount Vernor

Thank you for your financial assistance to support the Tradition of the Mount Vernon Schools Experience.



#### FALL CAMPAIGN GIFTS TO THE FOUNDATION

Thank you to alumni and community members who have contributed to the Foundation during the Fall 2009 Campaign.

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#### **FALL 2008 CAMPAIGN**

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#### YOUR DONATIONS WORK THROUGH FOUNDATION **GRANTS**

One of the ways your donations to the Foundation work is through Foundation Grants. These grants are given to school district teachers for innovative projects aimed at helping them take education to an even higher level. The Foundation provided approximately \$4,000 in grants in the 2009-2010 school year. Recipients of the funds are: Kim Steele-1 netbook computer Kimberlee Stoner--Second Step Violence Prevention Curriculum, Suzette Kragenbrink--8 Projection Screens Cathy Steines--voice recognition technology to enable students to edit peer work Rob Hanson--LEGO Mindstorm robotics kit Nannette Gunn--6 flash drives Leigh Ann Jordan--sets of Keep Books for Title 1 reading students Terri Zinkula--small dry erase boards, erasers & markers for student use Scott White--new projects: mouse trap car w/gears

and hot air balloon

Sarah Richardson--Spring Musical Services









## **ALUMNI COMMENTS**

Following are *some*, *or portions* of, comments the Association has received over the past year. Thank you to everyone who took time to write a note to the Association.

Thank God for the military. Never once had a teacher set me down and give me advice or talk about the future. I retired at 55 with 35 years federal service. Had many bumps along the way, but I always strived to do my best. Best of luck to all Alumni, and the class of 64.

Gary Kaplan'64, Iowa City, IA iowabrco@aol.com

Who knows? What year did they stop the big big fire (that we spent all day collecting what ever would burn from all over town) in the SW corner of the area – then the snake dance up through town, on highway 30 at the time. All the traffic would have to stop, trucks and all. Fun, fun fun.

Larry and Fae Edwards'54 Cedar Rapids, IA, fleloe2@msn.com

I really enjoyed the latest newsletter. What a nice job! Except gosh, it sure made me totally homesick! Thanks a lot! Ha.

Rhondi Ewing'81, Thousand Oaks, CA Rhondi@EwingDesign.com

Thanks for all you do to keep us communicating. Did you notice that our class of '59 was listed as "survivors" in Jon Swanberg's obituary(Gazette, 1/24/10)? Your work keeps us in contact, and it's not just casual contacts. The opportunities that the alumni office provided brought Jon back to Mt. Vernon several times where our old ties were strengthened. I imagine that there are many stories like this due to the alumni office's work.

Jane Costello Fink'59, Anamosa, IA vfink9@msn.com I'm 90 years old and graduated in 1937—I have fond memories of Mount Vernon High-there aren't many of us left, but I remember everyone who was in my class-27 of us!!The Alumni Newsletter is a great idea—I look forward to each issue.

Betty Rowley'37, Boulder, Colorado iowabrco@aol.com

TO THE CLASS OF 2009: Thank you for the living memorial to Matthew. It is a beautiful tree and greatly appreciated as was the presence of so many at his memorials.

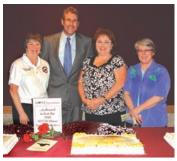
The Matthew Rekemeyer'09 Family Cedar Rapids, IA

**CORRECTION:** Lloyd Ellison's name was accidentally omitted from the 1937 article in the last issue. His name should have been included in the list of classmates who are alive.

ADDITION In the fall Alumni News we announced that the original 1890 Alumni Association's Record Book had been donated by the Hoidahl brothers Randy'61 and Rich'59, from his mother Florence. Randy wrote to tell us that his mom's name was Florence (many called her "Floss" or "Flossie") and maiden name Chambers Hoidahl. Born in 1909 she graduated from MVHS in 1925 and Cornell in 1929.

Husband and Wife -- are you each reciving a newsletter? If so, let us know so that can create a label so your household will just receive one. Thanks!

#### **ASSOCIATION IS HONOR SOCIETY SPONSOR**







Each year the Alumni Association helps High School students by sponsoring the April Honor Society Induction Ceremony. Alums meet and greet guests, hand out programs, and sponsor the cake reception. Shown above in picture on the left are Association Treasurer Susan Mounts Fisher'65, Association President Kevin Rogers'81, and alums Sheri Russell'82 and Barb Thomsen Neal'68. Kevin also greeted the Honor Society Induction audience, and introduced speaker Dave Ryan'85 (in picture at right).

# MAIL BY JUNE 15!

How will we ever choose just four people out of the many deserving alums of Mount Vernon Schools? We'll let the Awards Committee sweat about that -- just get in your nominations!

Award winners will be announced and presented at Homecoming this fall 2010, but please don't wait! We encourage you to fill out your nominations and mail them (or submit online at www. mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni).

THE DEADLINE IS A TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2010 POSTMARK -- GET YOURS IN THE MAIL OR NOMINATE ONLINE NOW!

'The Spirit Lives On In You'

#### **MVCSD Alumni Achievement Award**

Given to alumni who have earned recognition for their achievements and contributions in their professional life.

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Demonstrates a high level of achievement in his/her field and makes significant contributions to that field. Exhibits high moral character.

#### **MVCSD Alumni Service Award**

Given to alumni for specific and meritorious service to the MVCSD Alumni Association, or any other not-for-profit organization. Criteria:

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years
- Service must be for a not-for-profit organization in a non-compensated capacity.
- Exhibits high moral character.

#### **MVCSD Fine Arts Hall of Fame**

Awarded to alumni with exceptional accomplishment in the fine arts while attending Mount Vernon

- High School. Criteria:
   Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Significant contributions in his/her fine arts area.
- Conference honors and/or all-state recognition, or equivalent.
- Superior ratings earned in competition.
- Major roles in theater productions, solos, etc.

#### Other considerations:

- Outstanding character and leadership.
- Successful participation in college and/or post-college.
- Major roles in theater productions, solos, etc. after high school.
- College scholarships in the fine arts disciplines.

#### **MVCSD Sports Hall of Fame**

Awarded to alumni with exceptional accomplishment in athletics while attending Mount Vernon High School. Criteria:

Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least

- 28 years of age.
- Statistical records and/or awards received.
- All-conference all-state and/or state championships earned.

#### Other considerations:

- Outstanding character and leadership.
- Successful participation in college and/or professional athletics.

NOTE: If you submitted a nomination last year, you do not need to resubmit, and your nominee will be considered for an award this year. Nominations are held and considered for three years.

2010 MOUNT VERNON ALUM	NI AWARDS NOMII	NATION FORM	- And the second
Name of person I would like considere	d for an award(s):		
His/Her address (if known)			
His/Her phone (if known)			
Select Desired MVCSD Alumni Award(s) Alumni Achievement Award		Fine Arts Hall of Fame	Sports Hall of Fame
Description of Qualifications (Attach ac	ditional pages as neces	ssary): (Note: a questionaire v	will be sent to your nominee)
Name of Person Submitting the Nomin	ation:		
Address			
City, State, Zip			
Daytime Telephone ()	Home	Telephone ()	
Email			
All awards will be granted based on nominate www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni. Nomin Alumni Association Board. Nominations are	ations will be reviewed and	selected by the Awards Comm	nittee, and approved by the

Send this form post marked by June 15, 2010 to: Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

\*\*Elected or appointed members of the Alumni Association Board are not eligible during their term of service.



MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 525 Palisades Road SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

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MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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# ssociation 2010-2011

Celebrating 5 Years!

Your support is very much appreciated and also goes to fund alumni organization publications and activities.

<b>New or Renew</b>	POR JULY	1 2010 TO	<b>JULY 1 201</b>
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return with your check to: MV Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Road, Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314

I'll be a 'SLIPPORTER' of the Mount Vernon Schools Alumni Association

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Alumni first and last name, including maiden nam	ne		
Class Year Spouse name (and class year if also an alumnus)			
Address			
City, State, Zip	Country if outside USA		
Email address			
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