

HOMECOMING 2014

September 19-20

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1954 Basketball Third Place Finish Celebrated



Members of the 1954 basketball team and cheerleading squad were center court at the February 21 Victoria High School game. Pictured (l-r) are: Betty Dreiling Schmidt '54, Cora Schulte '55, Allen Dreiling '55, Paul Schippers '55, Leroy Munk '55, LaVern Brungardt '55, Joe Leiker '54, and Ted Crawford '54.

After 60 years of waiting, the 1954 VHS boys basketball team has finally received the recognition they deserve. At the February 21 home game versus Ness City, a ceremony introduced six of the team's thirteen original members to the people of Victoria. The fans showed their appreciation to the now grown, and generally graying, members with a standing ovation. The coach of the team, **Norbert Schmidt**, was tracked down in the Kansas City area by **Cora Schulte '55**, who also was a cheerleader for the 1954 team. Cora visited Coach Schmidt, now 88 years old, to see if he could attend the festivities honoring his 1954 team. Unfortunately, his physical health prevented him from attending, but his mind was obviously still sharp. After looking at a team picture, he was able to name every member of the '54 team. Coach Schmidt

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Marge Rome '58 – President
John Schulte '96 – Vice-President
Det Roth Younger '58 – Secretary
LeeAnn Braun Schmidtberger '80 – Treasurer
Rich Billinger '68
Rick Rajewski '69
Rose Dreiling Rifford '70
Mary Beth Leiker Fisher '76
Kathy Dreiling-Amrein '76
Diana Braun Schmidtberger '78
Sandy Dreiling Goetz '82
Loren VonLintel '90
Kaylene Jacobs Gabel '95

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

John Schulte '96
Det Roth Younger '58
Marge Rome '58
Rita Rome Gross '47
LeeAnn Braun Schmidtberger '80
Verda Goetz Werner '55
Mary Rome '65
Connie Windholz '74

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Marge Rome '58
John Schulte '96
Det Roth Younger '58
Sandy Dreiling Goetz '82

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

Deb Leiker Dreiling '79
Mary Beth Leiker Fisher '76
Gerard Wellbrock '86
Loren VonLintel '90
Stacey Schmidtberger '94
Kori Braun – Advisor



Bob Pfeifer Parade Grand Marshal

Robert "Bob" A. Pfeifer, class of 1945, was honored by serving as Grand Marshal for the 2013 Homecoming Parade.

Bob has been a true and faithful supporter of the Alumni Association ever since it was organized, by participating in golf tournaments, riding on floats in the parade, attending the annual banquet, as well as many other events that the Alumni Association has offered in the past.

Bob is a CPA for Brungardt, Hower, Ward, Elliott and Pfeifer LC in Hays and is well known in Victoria, Hays, and the surrounding area.

Homecoming Wrap Up

The class of 1963 had great participation in all the events the alumni association provided during homecoming. On Friday afternoon, many of them showed up for the open house at the VFW hall before the parade to reminisce about growing up in and around Victoria. Several of them commented that it didn't seem like 50 years since they had graduated. When it was time for the parade, they all hopped onto their float, rode through the parade and shortly after that, they went back to the VFW to catch up on what everyone has been doing since their last reunion. A few of them even stayed until closing time at the VFW, which is midnight.

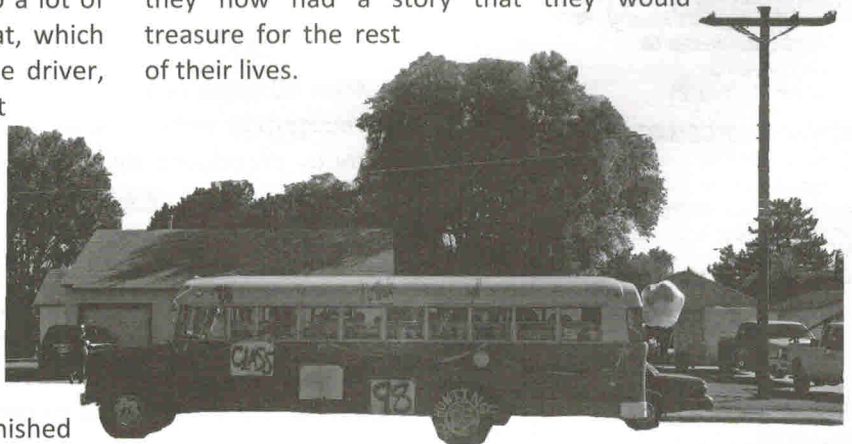
On Saturday, their day began at St. Fidelis Church for the Alumni Memorial Mass. Again, they had a good number attend Mass and a few of them were Mass participants. After Mass, they all headed out to the Alumni Banquet to watch their own classmate, Kathy Dortland Hoffman, get inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame, along with her fellow Hall of Fame inductees Arlene Wellbrock Pfeifer '50 and Randy Stanley.

Once again at the stroke of midnight, some members of the class of 1963 were seen sitting around visiting, enjoying each others company and looking forward to the next time they will all get together.

Class of '98: A Story to Treasure

The homecoming parade for 2013 was a great success, but for the class of 1998, it was also a lot of work. Midway through the parade, their float, which happened to be a bus, stalled. Clint Herl, the driver, tried to get the engine running again, but it would not start. As the people at the back of the bus began waiving other floats to go around, a plan was hatched on the bus. "Let's get out and push start it" was suggested by someone. A group of guys got out of the bus, got behind it and started pushing. Once enough speed was gained, Clint popped the clutch and the engine sprang back to life. Everyone piled back into the bus, and they finished

the parade with their heads held high, knowing that they now had a story that they would treasure for the rest of their lives.



Jimmy Dee

Kansas Music Hall of Fame Induction



On March 1, Jimmy Dee and The Fabulous Destinations were inducted into the Kansas Music Hall of Fame. Founded in 1975, the band consists entirely of Victoria High School graduates: Jim Schmidtberger '70, Raphael "Red" Schmidtberger '70, Bill Gasper '74, Tony Pfeifer '74, Tim Pfeifer '76, and Joe Dreiling '76. The induction ceremony took place in Lawrence, with all members of the band in attendance. While this is a major accomplishment, the band has no intention of slowing down. Large crowds greet them wherever they perform, and they still enjoy entertaining their fans. Also, other alums that were recognized for their past association with the band were Terry Pfeifer '78, Wayne Billinger '73, and Brad Wagner '76.

1954 Basketball Team Celebrated

continued from page 1

only spent two years in Victoria, but according to Cora, it was obvious that our little town holds a special place in his heart.

After finishing the regular season 8-10, the Knights began district play by defeating Dorrance and then Ransom. Next was the district championship versus Quinter. Quinter was able to defeat the Knights 40-39 in the VHS gym, but the second place finish was good enough to advance to the regional championship at Sheridan Coliseum in Hays.

At Sheridan, the Knights first defeated Almena, then Natoma, and that led to a rematch with Quinter. This time the Knights were victorious by a final score of 58-56.

The State Tournament for Victoria was held in Hutchinson. Their first round opponent was a team from Howard with 23 wins and one loss. After getting acclimated to glass backboards, which none of the VHS team had ever seen before, the Knights were able to settle in for a 59 to 48 victory. In the semifinals, our team was defeated by eventual State champion Partridge 50-44. The boys from Victoria were able to right the ship for the consolation game, and they defeated Baldwin 71-56 to bring home what is believed to be Victoria's first State placement in any sport in school history.

Although an extensive search through VHS was conducted in an

Team Members

Managers:

Marvin Bellendir
Lawrence VonFeldt

Seniors:

Joe Leiker
Lester Knoll
Neon Leiker
Ted Crawford
Leroy Brungardt
Bernard Dreiling
Donald Ruder

Juniors:

Paul Schippers
Leroy Munk
Allen Dreiling
Eddie Brungardt
Lavern Brungardt
Leroy Stang

Coach:

Norbert Schmidt

attempt to locate the missing 3rd place trophy, it appears to have been lost. In its place, a banner was unveiled at the February 21st ceremony that will hang in the VHS gym to remind everyone that the boys basketball squad from 1954 did something extraordinary.

Class Notes



1940's

Class of 1944, we would like to congratulate you on your upcoming 70th class reunion from Victoria Rural High School. You have all been very faithful alumni members and just may surprise us with your attendance at Homecoming 2014. Homecoming is set for September 19th and 20th.

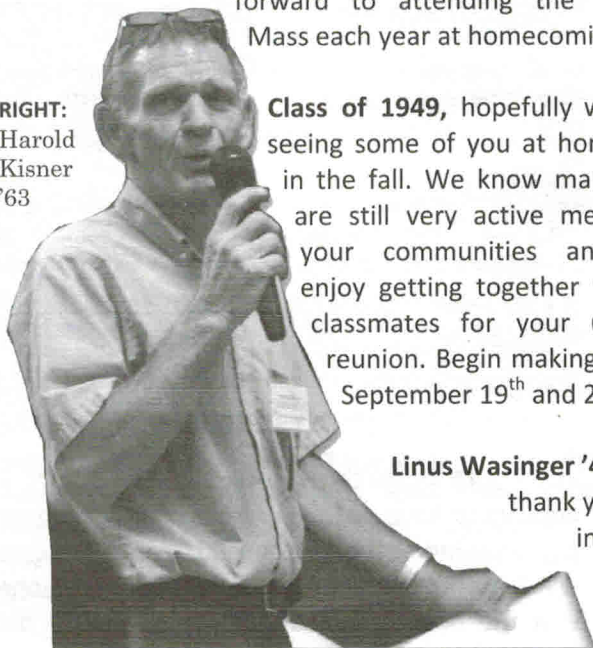
Marvin Dreiling '44 and his wife, Dorothy, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary March 1 with a Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Hays, followed by a reception at the Rose Garden Banquet Hall, Hays, hosted by their children. They have two sons, three daughters, eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Howard '46 and **Aquina Leiker Rajewski '46** celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary August 24 with a Mass at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Vincent. They have three sons, **Rick '69**, **Neal '71**, and **Roger '80**; four daughters, **Susan Rajewski Kisner '74**, **Rosann Rajewski Schippers '75**, **Joann Rajewski Wheeler '78**, and **Leann Rajewski Fortino '85**; 15 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Howard and Aquina were married August 25, 1948, at St. Fidelis Catholic Church, Victoria.

Fred Weigel Jr. '47 appreciates his alumni association. He says, "Keep up the good work!"

Lily Dinkel Meier '47 enjoys reading the current events in the newsletter and the alumni class notes. She looks forward to attending the Memorial Mass each year at homecoming.

RIGHT:
Harold
Kisner
'63



Class of 1949, hopefully we will be seeing some of you at homecoming in the fall. We know many of you are still very active members of your communities and would enjoy getting together with your classmates for your 65th class reunion. Begin making plans for September 19th and 20th.

Linus Wasinger '49 sends a thank you for the informative

newsletter he always receives. He says it keeps him updated.

Gilbert F. Sander '49 and his wife, **Kathleen Mae Rajewski Sander '49**, completed 64 years of marriage in June of 2013. Kathleen says they both need canes and walkers but are planning to attend the Memorial Mass this year. We did notice you at Mass. We are pleased that you were able to attend this beautiful tribute to our deceased alumni.

1950's

Marvin Schmidtberger '52 and his wife, Nancy, send best wishes to all alumnae and "God Bless to all." Winters still find them in Rancho Mirage, California.

Joan Wagner Pfeifer '53 and her husband, **Ken '54**, announce the birth of their second great-grandson born in April and their first great-granddaughter born in July.

Class of 1954, we want you to begin planning for your 60th class reunion. In checking our files we see a great group of alumni who we think would certainly enjoy a weekend renewing old friendships. The homecoming date has been set for September 19th and 20th. Your classmate, **Ted Crawford '54**, and his wife, Cecelia, haven't missed many alumni banquets. We would love to see more of you join them for the weekend.

Rosemary Sanders McMahon '58 was not able to attend her 55th reunion for homecoming 2013 but said how good it was to see her classmates at the 50th reunion. She sends a "Big Hug" and wishes their lives receive abundant blessings.

Darlene VonFeldt Schlesinger '58 informed the newsletter committee of recent happenings in her life. Her husband, Herman, died of a heart attack December 5, 2010. She became a great-grandmother for the first time in February of 2012, and her only grandson got married in Ellis, Kansas, in August of 2012. She is planning to move back to the Hays or Victoria area as soon as her house gets sold. She has been away from family for 35 years and is anxious to get back to the area. We are happy to inform you that Darlene is now living in Victoria. Welcome home, Darlene.

Class of 1959, it is your turn to be honored on the occasion of your 55th class reunion. Homecoming 2014 will take place on the weekend of September 19th and 20th. It is time to come home for another great weekend. Your classmates are already planning a repeat of your 50th class reunion. Ethel and John Younger are planning to host a dinner at their home after the parade as they did five years ago.

1960's

Mary A. Kuhn Ruder '62 reports that she is enjoying retirement and she is hoping Allen will be doing the same sometime soon!

Judith Braun Evans '63 announces the wedding of her son, Corey, and wife, Amy, and also the wedding of her daughter, Lisa, and husband, Trevor. She has three grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. She enjoys traveling and being with her family and extended family.

Class of 1964!! You are front and center as the **50-year honor class** for Homecoming 2014. The dates have been set for September 19th and 20th. You were 53 members strong on graduation day. Eleven of your classmates have gone to their eternal home. Please consider honoring us with your presence for this historic occasion and relive those wonderful days gone by. You might be waiting on your class officers to get plans rolling. In case you have forgotten, Rich Dreiling was your president, Arlene Stramel Urban won your vote as vice-president, Darrell Dinkel was secretary, and Patty Dinkel Cook was the treasurer. Your class motto: Today We Follow, Tomorrow We Lead.

Patty Legleiter '65 says, "Thanks to all for keeping the alumni association alive. Great job!"

Brenda Schmidtberger Yoder '67 and her husband, Rocky, celebrated their 2nd wedding anniversary on October 1, 2013.

Class of 1969, it's time for a class reunion and its number 45. Can you believe that? We would love to have you join in the fun on September 19th and 20th.

1970's

Jim Schmidtberger '70 retired from the United States Postal Service February 1, 2013. Congratulations on your retirement Jim and congratulations go out to you and your fellow band members for being inducted into the Kansas Music Hall of Fame.

Class of 1974, hopefully, you will want to be part of Homecoming 2014 to celebrate your 40th class reunion. Wow! Your class roster goes on and on. We are expecting to see you out in record numbers. Homecoming 2014 is scheduled for September 19th and 20th.

Class of 1979, it is class reunion time; number 35 to be exact. You never fail to disappoint us. You always have a wonderful representation and usually the last to leave the party. Wonder if things have changed? We doubt it.

Kay Werth '79 writes, "Thank you, VHS Board, for your time in keeping us connected! Much appreciated!"

1980's

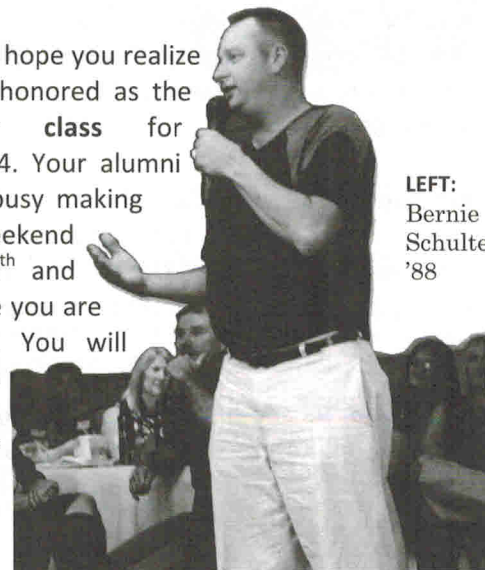
Debbie Bellendir Zachman '81 sends a thank you out to the alumni board and all that they do for the alumni association.

Class of 1984, it is reunion time. Hope to see you back in the area to celebrate your 30th class reunion. September 19th and 20th are the dates scheduled for this event.

Gerard Wellbrock '86 was recently honored with the first place award for medium market radio play-by-play by the Kansas Association of Broadcasters in their Excellence in Broadcasting awards for member radio and television stations. Gerard is the son of **Gene Wellbrock '56** and his wife, Joan.

Dan Brungardt '88 and his wife, Janet, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary on February 22, 2013. They are the proud parents of five children: Catherine, 9; Dominic and Anne, 7; Joseph, 5; and Anthony, 3. Dan and Janet live in Benton, Kansas.

Class of 1989, we hope you realize that you will be honored as the **25-year honor class** for homecoming 2014. Your alumni board has been busy making plans for the weekend of September 19th and 20th, and we hope you are doing the same. You will have a spot on the program to boast about your years at VHS.



LEFT:
Bernie
Schulte
'88

1990's

John Wellbrock '90 and his wife, Melissa, announce the birth of a daughter, Josselyn Renee, born January 16, 2014. She was welcomed home by three brothers, Michael, 18; Jacob, 13; Jordan, 12, and a sister, MaKenna, 9. Her grandparents are **Wayne Wellbrock '67** and his wife, Diane.

Marthann Schulte '91 and her husband, Todd Zwolensky, are proud to announce the birth of a son, Andrew Todd Zwoldensky, born February 18, 2014, at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth in Portsmouth, Virginia. Andrew has a sister, Elizabeth, 2.

Class of 1994, it is time to be thinking about coming home for your 20th class reunion. We always have a great turnout for the 20 year class. Don't let your fellow classmates and alumni board down. Let us know if we can get you a class list. Be sure to check www.victoriaalumni.com for the names and addresses of many of your classmates.

Kent Schmeidler '95 and his wife, Carla, announce the birth of a son, Brady Lane, born October 15, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. He has a brother Eli, 8, and two sisters, Shelby, 10, and Sienna, 6.

Terry Dinkel '97 and his wife, Naomi, announce the birth of a daughter, Rebekah Lynn, born July 7, 2013. She has a brother, Zachariah and a sister, Leah. Grandparents are **Robert '74** and **Connie Berens Dinkel '74**.

Melissa Wasinger Mayers '97 and her husband, John, announce the birth of a daughter, Jaycie Rae, born August 8, 2013. Jaycie has a big sister, Madison. Her grandmother is **Janice Braun Wasinger '69**.

Brett Dreiling '98 and his wife, Heidi, announce the birth of a son, Ty Otto, born September 6, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. He has two brothers, Connor, 9, and Wes, 6. His grandparents are **Ken Dreiling '65** and wife, **Patty Dreiling Dreiling '66**.

Chris Kreller '98 and his wife, Kim, of Waxhaw, North Carolina, announce the birth of a daughter, Evelyn Kay, born December 14, 2013. She has a brother, Carson Michael, 2 years old. Her grandparents are Mike and Ruth Kreller.

Kevin Truan '98 and his wife, Amanda, announce the birth of a son, Kasen Grant, born February 7, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. He is welcomed home by two sisters, Lexi, 11, and Harper, 1.

Class of 1999, be sure to mark the calendar for September 19th and 20th. It was 15 years ago that you graduated from VHS. Come and join in the fun-filled weekend scheduled for September 19th and 20th.

2000's

Tyson Dinges '03 and his wife, Heather, announce the birth of a son, Layton Lee born August 4, 2013, in Wichita. Layton's grandmother is **Jane Brungardt Dinges '64**.

Matt Sander '03 and Erika Gilbertson were married, October 26, 2013, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Matt is the son of **Steve '68** and **Bonnie Schmidtberger Sander '71**.

Kristen Robben Heffel '03 and her husband, Ryan, announce the birth of a daughter, Aspen Sophia, born January 15, 2014. She has a brother, Holden, 2 years old. Grandparents are **Jim Robben '70** and his wife, Crystal.

Class of 2004, begin making plans for your 10-year reunion from Victoria High School. You are our youngest honor class and the future of Victoria Alumni Association. You need to be thinking of a spokesperson to tell us about the mighty class of '04. You have bragging rights as the 10-year reunion class. We hope to see many of you for homecoming festivities on September 19th and 20th.

Garett Windholz '04 and Meredith Keller were married September 7, 2013, at St. Fidelis Catholic Church, Victoria. Garett is a 2005 graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College. He is a finish foreman for Paul-Wertenberger Construction Inc. Meredith is a 2013 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in fine arts. She is a sales associate for Riedel's Garden Center. Garett is the son of **Leland '67** and **Mary Ann Dinkel Windholz '74**.

Taylor Lang '08 and Danielle Robben were married November 23, 2012, at St. Fidelis Catholic Church,



LEFT:
Randi
Bosch
Dumler
'03

Victoria. Taylor is a 2013 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is employed at the Kansas State University Agricultural Research Center in Hays and is co-owner and operator of Daren and Taylor Lang Farms. Danielle is a 2006 graduate of Hays High School and a 2011 graduate of Fort Hays State University. She is employed by Glassman Corp. as the human resource specialist and is a USD 489 school board member. Taylor is the son of **Daren '83** and **Dana Dreiling Lang '84**. Danielle is the daughter of **Danny '78** and **Cindy Meder Robben '77**. Grandparents are **Marlene Kisner Lang Sarver '60**, **Tom Dreiling '59**, **Jeanette Kippes Dreiling '60**, and **Lena Scheck Meder '56**.

Class of 2009, you have made it to the first milestone as members of the Victoria Alumni Association, that being the 5-year reunion class. We have been hearing that the Class of '09 will be back for homecoming in full force. Get your calendars marked for September 19th and 20th.

Brenton Hoffman '09 and **Andrea Dome '11** were married October 26, 2013, at St. Fidelis Catholic Church, Victoria. Andrea is a student at Fort Hays State University, majoring in radiation. She is employed at FHSU and Hays Recreation Fitness Center. Brenton attended Dodge City Community College and Fort Hays State University. He is employed by Chem-Tek. Brenton is the son of **David '82** and **Brenda Braun Hoffman '83**. Andrea is the daughter of **Stuart '82** and **Tammy Dinkel Dome '85**. Grandparents are

Alfred "Fritz" Braun '56 and wife, Anita, **Ernest Hoffman '47**, **Leland Dinkel '58**, and Floris and Bernie Dome.

Gus Pfanenstiel '09 and his wife **Ciera Kohl Pfanenstiel '11** announce the birth of a son, Riggins Wade, born October 31, 2013. Grandparents are **Curt Pfanenstiel '83** and wife, Kim.

Andrew "Andy" Schmidtberger '11 and **Ashley Wellbrock '13** were married March 14, 2014, at an out-door wedding in Victoria. Andy is attending Fort Hays State University, majoring in construction management. He is employed at Paul-Wertenberger Construction, Hays. Ashley is attending Hays Academy of Hair Design to pursue a career in cosmetology. Andy is the son of **Tim Schmidtberger '79** and wife, Pam, and Ashley is the daughter of **Leon Wellbrock '83** and wife, Joan. Grandparents are **Regis '62** and **Wilma Pfeifer Wellbrock-VonLintel '51**.



From the Record

The graduates from the Victoria school system have spread out through the years.

As of January 1, 2014, there were alumni in 40 of the 50 U.S. states.

Four continents—North America, South America, Europe and Australia—have residents with ties to the little town of Victoria, Kansas.

The ten states that are deprived of having an alum from Victoria are Alabama, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia. Those poor states!

Board News

Due to many other obligations, **Regis VonLintel '62** has resigned from the VAA Board of Directors. Regis began by serving on the Scholarship Committee when it was formed in 1994. When the Board of Directors expanded to 13 members in 2006, he agreed to commit more of his time to the Alumni Association by serving on both the Scholarship Committee and the Board of Directors. In 2011, Regis resigned his position on the Scholarship Committee, and the 2013 Homecoming Banquet was unfortunately his last function as a Board member. We thank Regis (and his wife **Wilma '51**) for all that they have done for the Victoria Alumni Association.

Four \$1000 Scholarships Available

The VAA Board of Directors is once again authorizing four \$1000 scholarships to graduating seniors. The scholarship recipients will be selected by the Scholarship Committee in late April. To date, total scholarships awarded by the VAA have surpassed \$37,000. This is only possible through the generosity of our alumni and our sponsors.

Next Page Archive

Have you ever wondered how your alumni association has changed through the years? One way to look back is to read old issues of The Next Page.

Past issues can now be found on the alumni website: www.victoriaalumni.com. Click on the Newsletter link, then scroll towards the bottom of the Newsletter page to find the archive. The first issue was published in August 1994, and two issues per year have been produced ever since.

Hall of Fame Nominations Revamped

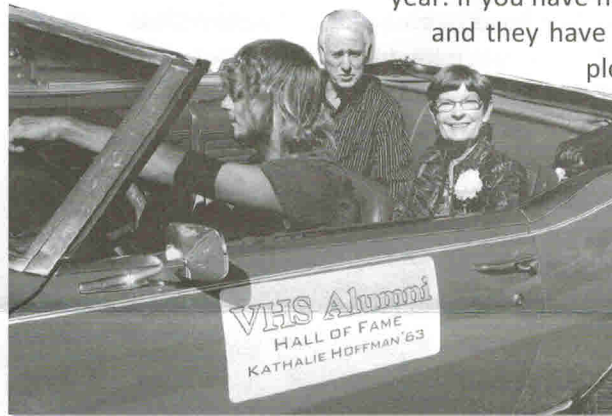
Due to some confusion among the membership of the VAA, the Board of Directors has once again tweaked the nominating process for the Hall of Fame. In this edition of the Next Page, a nomination form can be found that should streamline the process for all involved. Simply fill out the form, including your reasons why your nominee should be considered for this honor, and mail it to:

Victoria Alumni Association
PO Box 382
Victoria, KS 67671

The nomination form can also be found on www.victoriaalumni.com by clicking on Hall of Fame. All nominations are kept on file and are reconsidered by the Board of Directors each year. If you have nominated someone

and they have not been selected,

please be aware that there are many people who are worthy of this award.



2013 Hall of Fame members

ABOVE: Kathalie Hoffman '63 and husband Tom.

LEFT: Randy Stanley

BELOW: Arlene Pfeifer '50 (2nd from left) and family.



Annual Alumni Classic Golf 2013

by Randy Leiker '70

The 17th Annual VHS Alumni Golf Classic Tournament of 2013 was our most successful tournament ever (so far). There were a total of 60 golfers who made up 15 teams. I guess word has spread near and far that this is THE COOLEST tournament of the year.

The weather was perfect, the Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course was in great shape, **Jeanette Wagner Pfannenstiel's '70** cinnamon rolls were to die for, Rich Guffy's burgers were awesome and the beverage cart drivers were simply the best. We had a blast!

There were classmates who have teamed up in almost every alumni tournament since the beginning of time (LOL). We had young alums and older alums, male teams, female teams, and several mixed teams. For the second year in a row, our parish priest played. Fr. John Schmeidler was a hoot to play with! Now, we need to find a minister and a Rabbi to join us.

There were a few guys who really, really wished they had gone to school at Victoria, so we let them play too.

With all these friends and classmates getting together, a golf tournament broke out.

The 3rd place team was **Shane Dreiling '90, John Dreiling '83, Chris Windholz '90, and Joe Dreiling '84** (pictured above right). The 2nd place team had **LaVern Brungardt '55, Leon Brungardt '59, Jim Dinkel '66,** and Jim Korb. All old guys, but they play a mean round of golf! And the luckiest, I mean the first place team was **Mark Robben '82, Daren Dinkel '89, Glenn Dinkel '82, and Jake Robben '90.** Closest to the pin winners were **James Seitz '98** and **Tom Dreiling '59,** and the longest putt winners were **LaVern Brungardt '55** and **Kristy Windholz '92.**

The biggest winners of the day were the scholarship recipients that benefit from the money raised by this tournament.



Pictured below: Pip Windholz, **Jeff Goetz '79,** **Sandy Goetz '82,** and **Kristy Windholz '92.**



Raffle Update

- 1st Prize \$500: Lauren Schulte, daughter of **Doug Schulte '84**
 2nd Prize \$400: **LeeAnn Braun Schmidtberger '80**
 3rd Prize \$300: **Florian Dome '73**
 4th Prize \$200: **Cora Braun Schulte '55**
 5th Prize \$100: **Gladys Wellbrock Pfeifer '53**

Through the continued support of the annual raffle, your alumni association has been able to increase the value of scholarships to graduating seniors of VHS. In 1994, the first scholarship was awarded in the amount of \$200. Incrementally through the years, the scholarships have increased both in number as well as in value. For the graduating seniors of 2014, your alumni association will be awarding 4 scholarships in the amount of \$1000 each. This could not be accomplished without the generous support of the raffle each year. Thank you to all who donate to this worthy cause.

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all the corporate sponsors who donated at least \$100.00 in cash or services, and to the hole sponsors who donated \$50.00 to have a sign placed on the tee boxes on the golf course. We had several business's that donated prizes, so no one went home empty handed. You can see a complete list of all the sponsors on the VHS Alumni web site.

I would also like to thank all the board members who worked so hard in the background to make last year's tournament the best ever (so far).

The best part of the day for me, is hearing all the cheering, jeering, and laughter from all over the golf course and to see life-long friends adding another great memory to their already overflowing list of memories from past tournaments and reunions.

Now is the time to start thinking and planning for the 18th Annual VHS Alumni Golf Classic Tournament to be held Friday, September 19th, at the Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course. Let's make this year's tournament the best ever!

In Loving Memory



Richard Wallace died August 31, 2012, in Wichita. He is survived by his wife, **Lydia Leiker Kuhn-Wallace '48**; one son; and one daughter.

Philip Veatch II died July 17, 2013, in Munjor. Survivors include his wife; one son; one daughter; and his mother, **Charlotte Schumacher Veatch '64**.

Kenneth L. "Kenny" Werth died July 20, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. Survivors include his wife, **Doris Hammerschmidt Werth '58**; two daughters, **Vicky Werth Gonzales '81** and **Judy Werth VonFeldt '85**; his mother, Mary Werth; two brothers; three sisters; six grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Emanuel J. Wasinger '40 died July 23, 2013, at the Missouri Veterans Home. Survivors include two sisters, Lucille Wasinger Grelle and Bernita Wasinger.

Catherine V. "Katie" Dreiling died August 2, 2013, at Via Christi Village, Hays. She is survived by two sons, **Larry '71** and **Leroy '74**; one daughter, **Geraldine Dreiling Riedel '67**; two granddaughters; and one great-grandson.

Linus H. Schmeidler died August 4, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. Survivors include his wife, **LuVerna Stroemel Schmeidler '48**; two brothers; and one sister.

Lenora Kuhn Lang '43 died August 19, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. Survivors include her husband, **George Lang '42**; one son; two daughters; one sister, **Cora Lou Kuhn Ryan '55**; and seven grandchildren.

George Schippers '46 died September 4, 2013, at Via Christi Village, Hays. Survivors include four sons; six daughters; three brothers, **Lawrence '49**, **Paul '55**, and **Norman '61**; four sisters, Sister Mary Ann Schippers C.S.A., **Lucy Schippers Baier '54**, **Estella Schippers Kuhn '56**; and **Lillian Schippers Leiker '58**; 38 grandchildren; and 59 great-grandchildren.

Sister Francis Rose Dinkel C.S.A. '43 died September 4, 2013, at St. Francis Home, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. Survivors include two brothers, George Dinkel and Father Harvey Dinkel O.F.M. Cap.; four sisters, **Irene Dinkel Scruggs '45**, **Mary Dinkel Younker '48**, **Viola Dinkel Richmeier '51**, and **Sister Paul Ann Dinkel C.S.A. '51**.

Wilfred A. "Willie" Pfeifer died September 28, 2013, at his home. Survivors include two sons, **Ken '70** and **Steve '75**; two daughters, **Janice Pfeifer Pfannenstiel '65** and **Shirley Pfeifer '68**; a brother, **Robert Pfeifer '45**; four sisters, Rosie Pfeifer Benton, **Esther Pfeifer Maher '43**, **Albertine Pfeifer Rajewski '49**, and **Wilma Pfeifer VonLintel '51**; 10 grandchildren; and 8 great-grandchildren.

Ernest J. Hammerschmidt died October 4, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. Survivors include his wife, Nora; two sons; two daughters; three brothers, Leon, **Bill '62**, and **Tom '71**; five sisters, **Alice Hammerschmidt Arnold '56**, Elaine Hammerschmidt Sunley, **Mary Hammerschmidt Hammersmith '62**, **JoAnn Hammerschmidt Jacobs '70**, and **Theresa Hammerschmidt Conboy '72**; 4 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Denis M. Schulte '45 died October 6, 2013. Survivors include his wife, **Rosemary Brungardt Schulte '45**; two daughters, **Lee Ann Schulte Hartwick '83** and **Rosanne Schulte Kreller '84**; three step-sons, **John Gross '68**, **Paul Gross '70**, and **Tom Gross '72**; two sisters, Caroline Schulte Pfeifer and **Edna Schulte Dreiling '42**; and six grandchildren.

Alfred J. "Fritz" Dreiling '49 died October 14, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by two sons, **Mike '79** and **Bart '90**; four daughters, **Carrie Dreiling Mitchell '77**, **Theresa Dreiling '80**, **Anne Dreiling '81**, and **Julie Dreiling Dzierawski '83**; four brothers, **Marvin '44**, **Charles '51**, **Tom '59**, and **Jim '63**; two sisters, **Lucy Dreiling Roth '46**, and **Theresa Dreiling Ellis '57**; and eight grandchildren.

James "Fritz" Wohler died October 15, 2013, at Western Plains Medical Center, Dodge City. He is survived by his wife, Peggy; four sons, Barnabus, **Jublain '13**, Michael, and Thaddeus; six daughters, Anastasia Wohler, **Brenda Hoffman Gaston '99**, **Kristi Hoffman Geishler '01**, **Jolene Hoffman Haas '02**, **Marie Hoffman '10**, and **Stephanie Hoffman '10**; his mother; three brothers; a sister; and two grandchildren.

Sister Valeria Brungardt CSA '45 died October 22, 2013, at Manorcare Health Services, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She is survived by one brother, **Paul Brungardt '49**; two sisters, **Yvonne Brungardt Braun '56** and **Ruth Brungardt Polifka '58**; and the Sisters of St. Agnes.

LaVern Braun '58 died October 31, 2013, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident in rural Ellis County. He is survived by his wife, Darlene; two sons, **Rick '82** and **Terry '86**; three sisters, **Doris Braun Robben '55**, **Louise Braun Robben '57**, and **Rosie Braun Dinkel '60**; and four grandchildren.

Wayne Knoll '51 died November 10, 2013, at his home in Springfield, Virginia. He is survived by his wife, B. Anne Gehman; four brothers, **Omer '52**, **Lester '54**, **Carroll '55**, and **Larry '65**; and a sister, **Jane Knoll Tenney '63**.

Robert Leiker died November 13, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, **Velma Robben Leiker '44**; one son, **Steve '79**; three sisters, **Aquina Leiker Rajewski '46**, **Theresa**

Leiker Haselhorst '47, and **Mary Ellen Leiker Schmidtberger '52**; three grandchildren; two step-grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Stephen "Steve" Brungardt '70 died November 25, 2013. He is survived by his parents **Paul '49** and **Mildred Basgall Brungardt '49**; one brother, **Leon '72**; four sisters, **Carol Brungardt Couger '71**, **Lois Brungardt Yunker '72**, **Wanda Brungardt '74**, and **Paula Brungardt Zwenger '78**.

Rita Bellendir Scheck '46 died December 6, 2013, at Russell Regional Hospital. She is survived by her husband, Edwin; two sons; a daughter; two sisters, **Miriam Bellendir Wasinger** and **Bernadette Bellendir Baier '51**; and three grandchildren.

Gilbert Schippers '45 died December 11, 2013, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, **Rosalyn Pfeifer Schippers '48**; two sons; a daughter; a sister, **Eleanor Schippers '44**; 11 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

Patricia J. "Patty" Dreiling died January 10, 2014, at Minneola District Hospital. She is survived by four sons, **Randy '79**, **Frank '80**, **Tony '89**, and **Mike '91**; three daughters, **Sandy Dreiling Goetz '82**, **Sadie Dreiling Wideman '85**, and **Terri Dreiling Maring '92**; four brothers; five sisters; 16 grandchildren; and 5 great-grandchildren.

Gilbert J. Riedel Sr. died January 19, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by two sons, Gilbert J. Riedel Jr. and Robert Riedel; two daughters, **Tina Riedel Thomas '80** and **Robin Riedel Becker '80**; a step-daughter, Darlinea Dinkel; 11 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Rubina Braun-Leiker Ziegler died January 22, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. She is survived by three sons; a daughter; two brothers, **Alfred "Fritz" Braun '56** and **Robert "Bob" Braun '67**; three sisters, **Juliana Braun Urban**, **Tina Braun Geist-Braun '58**

and **Charlene Braun Unrein '63**; 12 grandchildren; and 17 great-grandchildren.

Norma J. Weigel '62 died February 1, 2014, at Wheatland Nursing Center, Russell. She is survived by five sisters, **Theresa Weigel Klaus '61**, **Betty Weigel Denning '65**, Twila Weigel, **Agnes Weigel '73** and **Estella Weigel '74**.

John W. "Jack" Rheem died February 3, 2014, in Wichita. Mr. Rheem became a distinguished member of the Victoria Alumni Hall of Fame in 2005. He was a teacher and coach at Victoria High School from 1950–1953. In that period of time he was instrumental in starting the V-Club and initiating the publishing of the VHS Year Book. He is survived by three sons, three daughters, 14 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Brenda Sue Gabel died February 11, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. She is survived by her husband, Curtis; a son; two daughters; her father, Virgil Weigel, and stepmother, Pat; her mother, **Darlene VonFeldt Schlesinger '58**; a sister; one granddaughter; two stepbrothers; and three stepsisters.

Gilbert Lietz died February 22, 2014. He is survived by his wife, Patricia; a son; a daughter; a sister; eight grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren. Mr. Lietz taught at Victoria High School in 1954 and 1955.

Tom Hammerschmidt '71 died February 24, 2014, at Morton County Care Center, Elkhart. He is survived by his wife, Rhonda; two sons; two stepchildren; two brothers, **Leon** and **Bill '62**; five sisters, **Alice Hammerschmidt Arnold '56**, **Mary Hammerschmidt Hammersmith '62**, Elaine Hammerschmidt Sunley, **JoAnn Hammerschmidt Jacobs '70**, and **Theresa Hammerschmidt Conboy '72**; and six grandchildren.



The Basilica of St. Fidelis

It is with overwhelming pride that we can report to you that our beloved "Cathedral of the Plains", St. Fidelis Catholic Church, has received the title of minor basilica by the Holy See. Fr. Jeff Ernst, O.F.M. Cap., initiated and completed the lengthy application process while pastor here at St. Fidelis. The petition was submitted to the Holy See late last summer. Preliminary plans have already begun with Bishop



Edward J. Weisenburger designating the date of June 7, 2014, for the dedication of St. Fidelis Church as a minor basilica. The Mass of celebration is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. followed by a gathering at Victoria Elementary School. Bishop Weisenburger hopes, "that there will be a very strong attendance of clergy and laity." More details can be found at www.stfidelischurch.com and www.salinadiocese.org.

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