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Homecoming 2014

Friday, September 19
Saturday, September 20

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Hall of Fame Inductees 2014
Parade Grand Marshall — Arthur VonFeldt '42

HONORING

Class of '64
Class of '89
Class of '04

&

5-Year Increment Classes



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

----- Friday, September 19, 2014 -----

8:00 a.m.....18th Annual VHS Golf Classic
Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course
2:00 p.m.....Open House – V.F.W. Hall, Victoria
4:00 p.m.....Homecoming Parade & Pep Rally – VHS
5:00 p.m.....VIP Barbecue & Walk Thru Halls of VHS
7:00 p.m.....Football Game - Knights vs. St. John
9:00 p.m.....Social – V.F.W. Hall, Victoria

----- Saturday, September 20, 2014 -----

3:00 p.m.....Memorial Mass – Basilica of St. Fidelis
4:30 p.m.....Social/Banquet – V.F.W. Hall, Hays
8:30 p.m.....Dance “FlatSpin”

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

HALL OF FAME 2014

HUBERT "WILLIE" WILSON, TEACHER/COACH
CONNIE BRAUN, TEACHER
LINDA KENNE, RETIRING PRINCIPAL/SUPERINTENDENT

HUBERT "WILLIE" WILSON joined the faculty of Victoria High School in 1961 as a science, physical education and driver's education teacher and head basketball and baseball coach. He had a tremendous impact on the students



in his seven year teaching career in Victoria. He is probably remembered most for his outstanding baseball achievements. During his tenure, he led the Knights to the state tournament six times and they won four state championships. But, as one of his former students wrote, "Coach was so much more than just a teacher of the mind of his students. He poured himself out in both the classroom and athletic field teaching not just school knowledge and athletic performance, but life principles that are enduring, universal, and timeless. He mentored the whole student not only in mental and physical spheres but also in the emotional and spiritual realms. He was unique in that he made it acceptable to question authority as long as done with respect. He had an innate ability to know and bring out the best qualities in his students and athletes."

Coach Wilson graduated from Kansas State University in 1957 with a degree in physical education. He attained a master's degree in education from Fort Hays State University in 1967. He first taught in St. Mary's, Kansas from 1957 to 1961, Victoria from 1961 to 1968, Channelview, Texas from 1968 to 1975, and Malakoff,

Texas from 1975 until his retirement in 1994. He was always head basketball coach in Texas but continued as assistant football and baseball coach as well.

Coach Wilson and his wife, Janet, are retired in Malakoff. Janet spent 35 years as a school superintendent's secretary. Their children and grandchildren are all within 50 miles and they will be great-grandparents for the first time in February. Daughter Cynthia Anderson is a retired special education teacher, son Dana is retired from the Navy and working on a degree in teaching and coaching, and daughter Melissa Julian is a registered nurse.

CONNIE BRAUN is a graduate of Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in vocational home economics education.



She began her teaching career in Hesperia, California, teaching 7th and 8th grades. In 1992, she and her husband, **John Braun '84**, returned to Kansas and the family farm where they raised two daughters who are both recent graduates of Victoria High School. **Cara** is from the class of **2010** and **Amanda** is a member of the class of **2012**. Mrs. Braun was a substitute teacher at USD #432 for two years before joining the faculty at Victoria High School. She will begin her 18th year teaching 6-12 grade Family and Consumer Science courses. These include subjects such as parenting, budgeting, career research, nutrition, personal wellness, quilting, and food

preparation. Many of you alumni remember this as Home Economics Class geared toward the female students, where they would learn to sew and to cook. Today Mrs. Braun's classes are of mixed gender. Mrs. Braun has been involved in many extracurricular tasks from cheerleading and prom sponsor, helping to work concession stands, and serving as a class sponsor for 14 of the 17 years. In 1999, Future Homemakers of America (FHA) changed its name to Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Over the years, under her leadership, FCCLA makes up 75% of the student body with many leadership accomplishments. Presently, Victoria students hold 14 district offices and four state offices. Mrs. Braun has served as District Advisor twice and has six state Peer Education Teams. She received the Master FCCLA Advisor Award last year at the national convention. In addition, she has taken students to national STAR Event competitions for 10 years. STAR Event requires the students to compete nationally with other FCCLA organizations, giving talks and demonstrations. During four of those years the Interior Design Team was awarded the top Gold in the nation. They have done countless community service projects over the years and received a 1st place and 3rd place community service award at the national level. For the past 10 years the chapter has received the gold award at the state level for their activities and accomplishments. Her students have traveled to Boston, Philadelphia, New York, Nashville, San Diego, Anaheim, Chicago, Orlando, and San Antonio for their national competitions. Baking and selling tens of thousands of cinnamon rolls and making tens of thousands of dollars enables the students to make the trips. Mrs. Braun says the best part is all the many wonderful memories she treasures with her students and their parents.

LINDA KENNE came to Victoria 19 years ago from Easton, Kansas where she was an elementary teacher. However, before taking the teaching position in Easton, she had taught all over the country. She graduated from Yokohama American High School in Yokohama, Japan, and attended Idaho State University majoring in elementary education. She taught first grade on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in South Dakota. From there she went to the Navajo Reservation in Arizona and taught



second grade to students who did not speak English. Because of this experience she enrolled in a master's program at Northern Arizona University designed to teach English as a Second Language. She then worked as an ESL Specialist in Chinle, Arizona—again on the Navajo Reservation. It was during this time she met and married her husband, John, and they decided to leave the reservation and move to Kansas with a year detour in Idaho where she taught at a Catholic school for a year. Her teaching experience thus far included teaching first, second, and fourth grade. She had also been an ESL specialist and a Title I teacher. She spent 16 years at Easton and during this time she enrolled at Benedictine College in Education Administration with the goal of becoming a principal. Because of her previous master's in English as a Second Language and her new degree in Education Administration, getting the course work

completed to become a superintendent was quite simple. In 1994 her principal at Salt Creek Valley nominated her for Teacher of the Year and she became a semi-finalist. Mrs. Kenne's accomplishments as principal and superintendent here in Victoria are numerous. She initiated the after-school CARE program. She introduced the middle school concept and secured the training for her staff to carry it out. She re-organized the pre-school program. She led the initiative for the first bond issue and all that it entailed as far as facilities go. She promoted many facility improvements including landscaping, air conditioning in the grade school gym and kitchen, an addition to the high school with a state-of-the-art science lab, a cafeteria lunch room and concession stand, and rest room

Continued on Page 6 ... **Hall of Fame**

Homecoming 2014

Homecoming for 2014 is set for September 19 and 20 this year. Everyone is encouraged to come back to Victoria to enjoy the weekend with your fellow alumni. The weekend begins with the traditional Victoria Alumni Scholarship Golf Classic at the Fort Hays Golf Course. This golf tournament is one of the main fundraisers for the alumni association, and is a great way to start your homecoming experience. After the golf tournament, the VFW Hall in Victoria will be available to gather with your classmates. The traditional homecoming parade takes place around 4:00 pm. All classes in a reunion year are encouraged to organize a float to enter in the parade. After the football game vs. St. John, the VFW in Victoria will again be available for your entertainment. Beer, pop, water, snacks, and popcorn will be available Friday night. In exchange for providing the refreshments for Friday, please check in with one of your Alumni Board members, so that your current address can be verified. There is a \$5 entry fee on Friday night if you are not attending the banquet on Saturday, plus your current membership fee of \$5, if due.

On Saturday, the day begins with Mass at The Basilica of St. Fidelis that will fulfill your Sunday obligation. After that, everyone will be moving to the VFW Hall in Hays (22nd and Vine) for the banquet and dance. This is a change in location from previous years, so please take notice that the banquet location has changed. At the banquet, all reunion classes will be recognized and a little extra attention will be paid to the classes of 1964 (50 years), 1989 (25 years) and 2004 (10 years). Also at the banquet, we will be inducting three new members to the Victoria Alumni Hall of Fame. This year's inductees are Connie Braun, Willie Wilson, and Linda

Kenne. You can find more information on each of them elsewhere in this newsletter. For the dance, FlatSpin will play a variety of music including polkas.

Your cost for all of this entertainment at both VFW Halls remains quite reasonable. You can find that information on the last page of this newsletter.



Alumni and friends enjoy the get-together held at the V.F.W. Hall in Victoria after the 2013 Homecoming game.

VHS Alumni Association Welcomes Victoria High School Class of 2014

Chandra Augustine is the daughter of Rod and Rebecca Augustine. She plans to enroll at the Hays Academy of Hair Design.

Rylee Broyles is the daughter of Shane and Stephanie Broyles. Rylee was awarded a Victoria Alumni Scholarship. She plans to attend Kansas State and major in Pre-Law.

Ryan Dreiling is the son of **Mike Dreiling '76** and **Tracy Dreiling-Reed '93**. He plans to attend North Central Kansas Technical College.

Connor Gagnon is the son of Dave and Lisa Gagnon. He intends to enroll at Fort Hays State, majoring in Business.

Tanner Hobbs is the son of Terry and **Sue VonLintel Hobbs '88** and the grandson of **Dennis VonLintel '56**. He plans to attend Fort Hays State and will major in Agriculture Business.

Gwendolyn Housley is the daughter of James and Shandra Housley. She will attend Kansas State and major in Pre-Nursing.

Kristin Huser is the daughter of **Galen '86** and Shelly Huser and the granddaughter of **Leon Huser '61**. She plans to attend Fort Hays State and will major in Agriculture Business.

Trenton Klaus is the son of **Terry '86** and **Peggy VonFeldt Klaus '89** and the grandson of **Theresa Weigel Klaus '61**, **Charlene Braun Unrein '63** and **Jim VonFeldt '61**. Trenton will attend Colby Community College and major in Beef Management.

Nathan Kuhn is the son of **Leon '74** and **Colleen Dinkel Kuhn '84** and the grandson of **LeLand Dinkel '58**. He will attend North Central Kansas Technical College and major in Welding.

Audra Nowak is the daughter of PJ and Kim Nowak. Audra was awarded a Victoria Alumni Scholarship. She will attend Colby Community College and major in Pre-Pharmacy.

Samuel Ottley is the son of David and Andrea Ottley. Sam was awarded a Victoria Alumni Scholarship. He will attend Fort Hays State and major in Business.

Megan Rogers is the daughter of **Melinda Weber Rogers '80**. She will attend Colby Community College, enrolling in Veterinary Technology.

Clayton Roth is the son of **Greg '81** and **Karla VonLintel Roth '84**. and the grandson of **Bob VonLintel '53**. He will attend Fort Hays State and major in Pre-Dentistry.

Brooke Schmidt is the daughter of **Robert '83** and **Melissa Weber Schmidt '86**. Brooke was awarded a Victoria Alumni Scholarship. She will enroll at Wichita State and major in Nursing.

Raymond (Taylor) Schmidtberger is the son of **Mike '90** and Marcey **Schmidtberger** and the grandson of **Larry Schmidtberger '73**. He will attend North Central Kansas Technical College and enroll in the carpentry program.

Jacob Stoffel is the son of Jerry and **Marilyn Braun Stoffel '72**. He plans to attend North Central Kansas Technical College and will enroll in Electrical Technology.

Adrienne Thomas is the daughter of John and **Tina Riedel Thomas '80**. She plans to attend North Central Kansas Technical College and will enroll in General Studies.

Michael Wellbrock is the son of **John '90** and **Melissa Moore Wellbrock '94** and the grandson of **Wayne Wellbrock '67**. He has enlisted into the U.S. Army and is currently in basic training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma.

RAFFLE SUPPORTS SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the generosity of members, your Alumni Association has been able to award 76 scholarships since 1993. In 2014, four scholarships were given, in the amount of \$1,000 each. The recipients of this year's scholarships are: Rylee Broyles, Audra Nowak, Samuel Ottley, and Brooke Schmidt.

In order to continue granting these scholarships, the Alumni Association will once again hold a cash raffle at the Homecoming Banquet. You do not have to be present at the banquet to win. Five prizes will be handed out this year: \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200 and \$100. You can find tickets inserted into this newsletter, or you can print your own by going to www.victoriaalumni.com and following the links.



Linda Kenne has retired from USD #432 after 19 years of service. Linda began her term at Victoria in 1995 by serving as grade school principal for four years. In 1999, she became district superintendent, where she remained until June 30 of this year. Longtime teacher and principal, David Ottley, has replaced her as superintendent, and he will remain as the Grade School principal. David is a 2009 inductee to the Victoria Alumni Hall of Fame, and Linda will be inducted at Homecoming this year.

Ken Schoenrock '92 has been hired to teach Science. Ken is married to **Amy Scheck Schoenrock '93** and they have two children.

Jordan Ottley '09 has been hired to teach at the Grade School. Jordan is married to **Jordan Karlin Ottley '08**.

Kim Taylor has been hired to teach first grade.

HEY! You want to play around?

BY RANDY LEIKER '70

Well, if you do, I know the best place and time to have a little fun. There's this place out in the county that's just a short drive from Victoria ... no not that place ... I'm talking about **THE 18th ANNUAL VHS ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT**. What did you think I was referring to anyway?

There is no better way to kick off Homecoming Weekend than to get up early and meet your friends and classmates at the golf course Friday morning. There's a slight early morning chill in the air, the smell of fresh cut grass, and the aroma of fresh brewed coffee along with the famous cinnamon rolls made by **Jeanette Wagner Pfannenstiel '70**. The pre-round registration, the trash talk, the anticipation of hitting that first tee shot, catching up with some old friends and classmates ... life just doesn't get any better than that. For those who have played in past VHS Alumni Tournaments, you know what I'm talking about and for those who are playing for the first time, you are in for a real treat.

This year's tournament will be held at **Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course on Friday, September 19, 2014**. Registration begins at 8:00 AM with a shotgun start at 9:00 AM. The entry fee this year is \$45.00 a person. Due to rising costs of reserving the golf course, we had to raise the fee \$5.00. The entry fee is payable when you register the day of the tournament. The format is a 4-person scramble, so start getting your teams together ASAP. Last year we had our best turn out ever—we had 15 teams. We had older golfers and younger golfers and lots of "tweener" golfers. The older golfers are usually better dressed, are more reserved, usually have some schnapps in their bags, and swear in German. The tweeners try to wear matching outfits with a belt, are a little less reserved, drink more bourbon and scotch, and swear in English. The younger golfers wear what ever is almost clean, have flat bellies, drink cheap beer, and are still developing their golf vocabulary. Whatever the age group, every one always has a great time.

Honor classes, I can't think of a better way to start your special weekend than getting together with your classmates at the golf course, having a great time, collecting prizes and souvenirs, enjoying lunch and free beverages, and making

new memories. I know of several alums who only play once a year and wouldn't think of missing this tournament. It really is that much fun.

Okay, so you really suck at golf but you still want to be part of the tournament. Great! Get out your check book and become a sponsor. We have two types of sponsors:

- 1) Corporate Sponsors donate \$100.00 or more in cash/ services and/or prizes. Corporate Sponsors get their name or business' name printed on a professionally made banner that is displayed at the golf course during the tournament, at the VFW during the social before and after the football game, and at the banquet Saturday evening. Corporate sponsors are also recognized on the alumni web site.
- 2) Hole sponsors. You can donate \$50.00 and we will have a professional sign made with your name and/or your business printed on the sign. These signs will be placed on the tee boxes through out the golf course. You can also have a sign made as a memorial to a deceased classmate or family member. Hole sponsors are also recognized on the alumni web site.

Most of the money raised for the scholarship fund comes from these sponsorships. The fee we charge to play in the tournament pretty much covers the cost of reserving the golf

Continued on Page 6 ... **Golf Tournament**



Some of the golfers participating in the 2013 Annual VHS Alumni Golf Tournament gather around club house, their golf carts nearby and ready to take them on another fun adventure.

Golf Tournament

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course, the meal, the beverages, and some of the prizes. You can also volunteer to take pictures at the tournament, help with putting out hole sponsor signs, or drive the beverage cart. This has become the most coveted assignment of the tournament. And not everyone qualifies to drive the beverage cart—we do have some pretty high standards.

Last year's tournament featured at least one all female team and several mixed teams. Just ask **Sandy Goetz '82** how much fun her team had. Hopefully this year's tournament will have 18 teams. I checked the forecast; it's supposed to be really nice September 19th for the golf tournament and the football game, so there are no excuses not to get a team together. If you are like some people I know and don't have three friends (who play golf), we can fit singles into a team. Like I said, "No Excuses!!"

One more time for the details:

- VHS Alumni Golf Tournament at Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course
- Friday, Sept. 19th. Registration at 8:00 AM and Shotgun start at 9:00 AM.
- Four-person scramble.
- \$45.00 individual entry fee to be paid during registration.

Golf carts are available to rent for \$20.00 payable to the Proshop.

And most important of all is to call me with your teams and whether or not you will need to reserve a golf cart. The sooner I can get this information the easier it will be to plan the meal and whether or not the course will need to order more golf carts. Call me, Randy Leiker, at 785-259-1392 (you can text me at this number also) or email me at randyl@eaglecom.net. Please contact me as soon as you can. Make your plans now to join us at the Fort on September 19th.



Leon Brungardt '59, Jim Krob, **LaVerne Brungardt '55**, and **James Dinkel '63** take a break to pose for a picture during the 2013 golf tournament.



Another team participating in the 2013 golf tournament included members of the **Class of 1989**: **Darrell Dortland**, **James Dreiling**, **John Weber**, and **Kevin Klein**.

HALL OF FAME 2014

continued from Page 3

facilities on the main floor, and adjacent to the football field and gymnasium, a well-equipped weight room, and an elevator that made a dated gymnasium handicap accessible. She saw the need and hired the first elementary school counselor. She led the area in technology from the palm pilot program to the laptop initiative to the iPads. She managed to be proactive in selling the middle school building when it was no longer feasible to keep it. She was instrumental in deeding over to the City of Victoria school-owned

property which had been maintained as a sand green golf course. The property was rezoned for the "Knights Addition", a housing development with the potential of 41 single family lots. She has kept Victoria schools alive and well when many school districts are dying on the vine. Mrs. Kenne and her husband, John, continue to live in Victoria along with her mother. They have four children; a son, Paul; three daughters, Stephanie, **Jennifer '99**, and **Jacquelyn '99**; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Class Notes



1940's

Class of 1944, hopefully you have made plans to take part in the homecoming festivities for September 19th and 20th. This homecoming marks your **70th Class Reunion**. What a feat it is. You can find your reservation form at the back of this newsletter. We would love to see you.

Class of 1949, you have accomplished quite a milestone. You graduated from Victoria Rural High School just **65 short years ago**. We are looking forward to celebrating with you at homecoming 2014.

1950's

Class of 1954, we are expecting a nice representation from your class for your **60th class reunion** happening on September 19th and 20th. We hope you are making plans to join us for a great weekend.

Class of 1959, can you believe five years have already passed since you last gathered for a VHS Homecoming weekend? Now the time has come to celebrate your **55th Class Reunion**. Hopefully you can rally your classmates and join us for a special celebration. Reservation forms can be found in this newsletter. You will probably be hearing from your local classmates soon.

1960's

Marlene Billinger Brown '61 and her husband, Ken, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 3, 2014. Ken and Marlene are both retired teachers and live in Attica, Michigan. They have four children: Ed, who lives in Kokomo, Indiana; Mike, from Flower Mound, Texas; Kenda, from Commerce Township, Michigan; and Bob, in Boulder, Colorado.

Class of 1964, we have heard that some of you have been busy organizing your **50th Class Reunion** from Victoria Rural High School. It is always a treat to see so many of you. We are anxious to hear your comments about your accomplishments as the Class of 1964. We know there are many. You can find your reservation and membership form in this newsletter. Don't forget to get in on the alumni fund raiser.

Class of 1969, it is **reunion year number 45** for your class. Give some thought to coming home and getting reacquainted with classmates from those treasured years of high school. Your alumni association looks forward to seeing you and hosting a

wonderful weekend for you. We are sure you will not regret it. Spread the word and mark the calendar for September 19 and 20. Get those raffle tickets mailed back. You could be a big winner and help support your alumni association.

1970's

Class of 1974, we are looking forward to seeing many of you at homecoming 2014 for your **40th class reunion**. The exact dates are Friday, September 19, and Saturday, September 20. You can find your reservation form for the weekend in this newsletter or on the website at www.victoriaalumni.com.

Kathy Schulte Dreiling-Amrein '76 and her Concert Band from Thomas More Prep-Marian Junior-Senior High School competed in the Winter Park Ski Music Festival in Granby, Colorado. The concert band brought home three trophies; Superior, Best in Class, and Grand Champion. Kathy is the daughter of **Cora Braun Schulte '55** and a member of our alumni board of directors.

Class of 1979, this is your **35th reunion** from good ol' VHS. The years pass by so quickly. Take this opportunity to join in the homecoming festivities and get reacquainted with your classmates. While you are filling out your membership form, take advantage of the alumni raffle. You can get ten tickets for just \$40 or \$5 for one ticket. Winners will be announced at the banquet. You do not need to be present to win.

1980's

Class of 1984, how about joining us for homecoming 2014? Hopefully, you are making plans to join us for homecoming weekend on September 19th and 20th to celebrate your **30th class reunion**. We know you have some wonderful memories you need to be sharing. Your homecoming reservation is in this newsletter. Don't forget to get your membership updated.

Class of 1989, Important Notice!! Your **25th Class Reunion** will be celebrated September 19th and 20th of 2014. That is just a few short weeks away. You are our honored guests and have a special place on the program. Get your spokesperson ready to clue us in on the interesting facts about the Class of '89. Hopefully we can get some of you to participate in the golf tournament Friday morning. Preliminary plans are to meet at Shanna and Kurt Dinkel's house about an hour before the parade. After cheering the Knights on at the football game we will be gathering at Terry and Peggy Klaus's house. Of course, we will all attend the

Memorial Mass at The Basilica of St. Fidelis and then on to the alumni banquet at the VFW Hall in Hays. It's always a great time when the Class of '89 gets together. "We were probably the best class ever to pass through the halls of VHS," says Dave Younger.

1990's

Darren Windholz '93 and Jill Honas were married June 21, 2014, in Wichita. Darren attended Fort Hays State University and is a manager at Lowes in Wichita. His wife, Jill, teaches first grade in Maize, Kansas. Darren is the son of **Alfred '65** and Judy Windholz.

Class of 1994, it is time to be thinking about coming home for your **20th Class Reunion**. We are sure all of you have some news to share with your classmates. Some of you have never been back for a reunion. We encourage you to get your class back for a fun weekend. It's not too early to be planning that float entry and various other activities for the weekend. Your alumni association is planning another great weekend and your participation is a must!! We are anxious to see all of you.

James Seitz '98 and his wife, Elizabeth, announce the birth of a daughter, Madelyn Victoria, born March 18, 2014. Madelyn is welcomed home by two brothers, Jack, 6, and Max, 4; a sister, Kathryn, 3. Her grandparents are Steve and **Deb Braun Seitz '72**.

Class of 1999, be sure to mark the calendar for September 19th and 20th. It was 15 years ago that you graduated from VHS. This would be a perfect time for you to gather and share those great memories of life at Victoria High School. We would be more than happy to reserve about three or four or more tables for you at the banquet Saturday night. Give it some thought. Support your alma mater. Take advantage of the raffle tickets enclosed in your newsletter. You need not be present to win.

2000's

Preston Dreiling '00 and his wife, Tianna, announce the birth of a daughter, Emalyann Joan, born April 11, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. She shares her birthday with her daddy. She has a sister, Preslyn, 4 ½, and a brother, Verlin, 2 ½. She is the granddaughter of **Frank '80** and **Brenda Kuhn Dreiling '78** and the great-granddaughter of **Estelle Schippers Kuhn '56**.

Jeremy '01 and **Kristi Hoffman Geishler '01** announce the birth of a son, Brooks Lincoln, born June 19, 2014. He has a brother, Peyton, 11, and a sister, Elle, 6.

Michael Kelley '02 and his wife, **Alicia Denning Kelley '03**, announce the birth of their daughter, Ava Elizabeth, born March 26, 2014, in Manhattan, Kansas. Grandparents are Denis and **Betty Weigel Denning '65** and **Darrell '74** and **Alice Rohr**.

Seth Schulte '02 and his wife, Abby, announce the birth of a daughter, Alice Kathrine, born April 9, 2014. She has a brother, Ethan, five years old. Her grandfather is **Tom Schulte '70**.

Jesse '02 and **Audrey Unrein Lewis '01** announce the birth of a son, Jaxon, born April 28, 2014. He has a brother Braden, 8, and a brother Keaton, 5. Jaxon's grandparents are **Norman '78** and **Pam Braun Scheck '80** and Glen and **Michelle Schumacher Unrein '81**. His great-grandparents are **Alfred "Fritz" '56** and **Anita Braun** and Arlyn and **Clarita Dreiling Schumacher '58**.

Class of 2004, you are the **10 year honor class** this year and the youngest of our honored classes. Rumor has it that many of you will be coming back for homecoming. Please honor us with your presence at the banquet Saturday evening. You have bragging rights that night and we are anxious to hear about that special class of 2004. Check the website for photos from last year's activities. Your alumni association provides a weekend filled with good food and drink.

Nathan Geist '04 and Ashley Hinnergardt were married May 31, 2014, at the First Christian Church in Manhattan. Nathan graduated from Kansas State University with a degree in finance and is working for First Investors Corporation as a financial planner in Overland Park. Ashley graduated from Liberal High School in 2007 and Kansas State University with a degree in sociology. She is working at U.S. Bank of Kansas City. Nathan is the son of **Bill '77** and **Michelle Geist**. He is the grandson of **Tina Braun Geist Braun '58** and **Pete Braun '62**.

Greg Sander '06 and his wife, Kylie, announce the birth of a son, Everett Paul, born February 21, 2014. His grandparents are **Steve '68** and **Bonnie Schmidtberger Sander '71**.

Trevor Dinkel '07 and Laurie Grahs were married May 10, 2014, at The Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria. Trevor attended Barton County Community College studying criminal justice. He is presently employed with the Russell County Law Enforcement Department as a deputy sheriff. Laurie is a 2002 graduate of Hays High School. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree with a major in interior design. She is assistant manager at Salon Ten O Seven in Hays. Trevor is the son of **Wilmer '73** and **Darlinea Dinkel**.

Amber Unrein '07 and Joel Younger were married June 21, 2014, at The Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria. Amber is a graduate of Fort Hays State University with a degree in elementary education and a minor in special education. In May of 2014, Amber graduated with her master of science in adaptive special education. She works from home as Joel's secretary for his growing business. Joel is a 2005 graduate of Hays High School and a 2006 graduate of Colorado Institute of Taxidermy Training. He is the owner and operator of Flatlander Dirtworks, LLC in Hays. Amber is the daughter of Glen and **Michelle Schumacher Unrein '81** and the granddaughter of Arlyn and **Clarita Dreiling Schumacher '58** and Frank and **Charlene Braun Unrein '63**.

Jenna Braun Dempewolf '07 and her husband, Andrew, announce the birth of a son, Gentry Richard, born June 20, 2014, in Pierre, South Dakota. His grandparents are **Rick '82** and Janice Braun.

Class of 2009, you have made it to the first milestone as members of the Victoria Alumni Association. It is time to celebrate your **5-year reunion**. Get your calendars marked for September 19th and 20th. There are lots of activities planned and we don't want you to miss out. It is time to touch base with one another. Get your \$5 membership paid and update your current address on the membership/homecoming reservation form found at the back of this newsletter or on the website at www.victoriaalumni.com.

Gus Pfanenstiel '09 and **Ciera Kohl '11** were married May 3, 2014, at St. Fidelis Church, Victoria. Gus is the son of **Curt '83** and Kim Pfanenstiel.



Clarita Schumacher, Harriet VonFeldt, and Verma Rome Sommer from the **Class of 1958** rode on the bed of a pickup truck during the 2013 Homecoming Parade.



The large group from the **Class of 2003** were able to participate in the 2013 Homecoming Parade.

Joslyn Lang '10 graduated from Kansas State University in May 2014 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Education with a concentration in English. She is a 9th grade English teacher at Junction City High School at the Freshman Success Academy for the 2014-2015 school year. Joslyn is the daughter of **Daren '83** and **Dana Dreiling Lang '84**. Her grandparents are **Thomas Dreiling '59**, **Jeanette Kippes Dreiling '60**, and **Marlene Kisner Lang Sarver '60**.

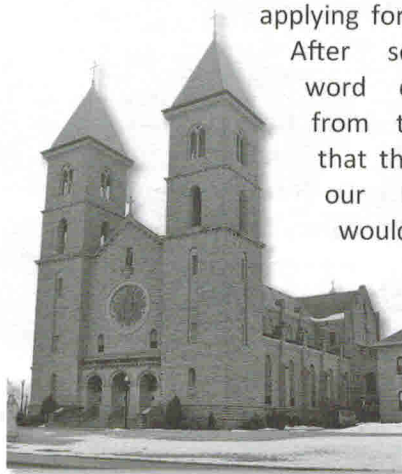
Editor's Note: Please help your newsletter committee. If you wish to see your family information, a death, birth, marriage, anniversary, or other news, appear in the newsletter, please submit it to VHS Alumni Association, PO Box 382, Victoria, Kansas 67671 or email to info@victoriaalumni.com

The Basilica of St. Fidelis

On June 7, St. Fidelis Church received a new distinction: Minor Basilica. The special Mass was led by the bishop of the Salina Diocese, Most Rev. Edward Weisenburger, as well as two other bishops of the Wichita and Dodge City Dioceses. Along with the Bishops there were many priests in attendance and an estimated crowd of 900. Our newly designated Basilica is the first in Kansas, and one of only 78 in the United States.

Fr. Jeff Ernst was instrumental in getting our Church recognized as a Minor Basilica. He claims that it occurred to him one day that St. Fidelis could be a Basilica. He then began the lengthy process of applying for this honor.

After some time, word came back from the Vatican that the Church in our little town would forever be known as The Basilica of St. Fidelis.



In Loving Memory



Brenda Unrein Haynes '80 died March 5, 2014, in Wichita. Survivors include her husband, Mickey; two sons; one daughter, and one grandchild.

Leona Schulte died March 23, 2014. Survivors include three sons, **Douglas '84, Alan '85, and John '96**; one daughter, **Marthann Schulte '91**; two sisters; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. Mrs. Schulte taught music at Victoria Elementary, retiring in 1994. She was the church organist in Walker and Victoria from 1976 to the time of her death. She taught private piano for 60 years, having many of you as her students.

Kurt Dinkel died March 24, 2014, in Andover. Survivors include his mother, **Virginia Hammerschmidt Dinkel '61**.

Bernadette Bellendir Baier '51 died April 2, 2014, at Holmes Lake Manor in Lincoln, Nebraska. Survivors include three sons, a sister, and seven grandchildren.

Frank L. Edsall died April 7, 2014, at Via Christi Village Care Center, Hays. Survivors include a step-daughter; one brother, **Ivan Edsal '64**; and six step-grandchildren.

Ryan Richard Schrant died April 13, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his parents, **Rick '77 and Janene Dreiling Schrant '79**, and three sisters.

Rita Billinger died April 19, 2014, at Hays Good Samaritan Center. She is survived by four sons, **Vernon '59, Earl '62, Rich '68, and Bill '77**; two daughters, **Marlene Billinger Brown '61 and Mary Kay Billinger Pfeifauf '65**; five brothers; 24 grandchildren; 49 great-grandchildren; and four great-great-grandchildren.

Judith "Judy" Scheck Brooks died April 21, 2014, in Fairfield, California. She is survived by her husband, Eric Brooks; one son; one daughter; her mother, Arnita Scheck; six brothers, **Joe '70, Dennis '71, Jim '73, Danny '75, Norman '78, and Tim '80**; two sisters, **Margie Scheck Dinkel '65 and Jeanie Scheck Goetz '68**; and two grandchildren.



Alvin J. Dortland died April 23, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, Irene; one daughter, **Kathalie Dortland Hoffman '63**; one sister; two grandsons; and two great-grandsons.

Elaine Sunley died April 23, 2014, at her home. She is survived by her former husband, Earl; five sons; a daughter; two brothers, Leon and **Bill Hammerschmidt '62**; four sisters, **Alice Hammerschmidt Arnold '56, Mary Hammerschmidt Hammersmith '62, JoAnn Hammerschmidt Jacobs '70, and Theresa Hammerschmidt Convoy '72**; and seven grandchildren.

Lilyota Leiker Brungardt '56 died April 26, 2014. She is survived by two sons; two daughters; three brothers, **Dennis '58, Jerry '62, and Wilbert '64**; one sister, **Nancy Leiker McCoy '60**; and 10 grandchildren.

Thomas M. Keenan died June 3, 2014, at Kansas Heart Hospital, Wichita. He is survived by his wife, Betty; one son, **Greg '78**; three daughters, **Tammy Keenan Thorson '76, Carolyn Keenan Boxberger '80, and Beverly Nobraga**; one stepson, Steve Clark; one stepdaughter, Suzanne Kelley; six grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and five step-grandchildren.

Charles Guercio died June 5, 2014, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, **Rose Pfeifer Guercio**; two step-daughters, **Rhoda Windholz Urban '76 and Jane Windholz Wood '82**; one step-son, **Carl Windholz '81**.

Austin Brookhouser, son of **Mark Sander '97** and his wife, Corinna, died July 5, 2014. He is survived by his parents; three brothers, Cage, Carson, and Aiden; and his father, Chad Nuss, and stepmother, Stephanie.

Olivia Windholz died July 8, 2014, at the Good Samaritan Center, Ellis. Survivors include one son, **Leland Windholz '67**, and his wife, **Mary Ann Dinkel Windholz '74**; one son-in-law, **Leon Huser '61**; two brothers, Alfred Kuhn and Ollie Kuhn; two sisters, Lorinda Schmeidler and Henrietta Kuhn; seven grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

VHS Alumni

VICTORIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 382

VICTORIA, KS 67671

2014-2015 MEMBERSHIP / HOMECOMING RESERVATION FORM

Due: Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Graduating Class

Name _____

Year _____

Maiden Name _____

Spouse / Guest _____

Year _____

Non-graduate _____
Year

Associate Member

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ E-mail Address _____

IMPORTANT: Permission to enter personal information on web site:
(Please disregard if you have already addressed this issue.)

Address: _____ Yes _____ No

Phone: _____ Yes _____ No

E-mail: _____ Yes _____ No

Annual Membership Fee per Alum \$5.00.....	\$	_____
Number attending the banquet and dance _____ (\$25.00 per person).....	\$	_____
Donation to Scholarship Fund	\$	_____
Donation to Association General Fund	\$	_____
Raffle Tickets.....	\$	_____
Amount Enclosed	\$	_____

Please note any news concerning marriages, births, promotions, accomplishments, retirements, anniversaries, or change of address.

VHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
P O Box 382
VICTORIA, KS 67671

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PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR ASSOCIATION OF ANY ADDRESS CHANGES THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

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VICTORIA RURAL HIGH SCHOOL
1941—1966

**VICTORIA HIGH
SCHOOL**
