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# Homecoming 2015

Friday, September 25  
Saturday, September 26

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Hall of Fame Inductees 2015  
Parade Grand Marshall — George Lang '42

## HONORING

Class of '65  
Class of '90  
Class of '05

&

5-Year Increment Classes



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

----- Friday, September 25, 2015 -----

8:00 a.m..... 19th 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..... Barbecue & Walk Thru Halls of VHS  
7:00 p.m..... Football Game - Knights vs. Ness City  
9:00 p.m..... Social – V.F.W. Hall, Victoria

----- Saturday, September 26, 2015 -----

4:00 p.m..... Memorial Mass – Basilica of St. Fidelis  
5:30 p.m..... Social/Banquet – V.F.W. Hall, Hays  
9:00 p.m..... Dance "Anthony And The Anamals"

### 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  
Ken Schoenrock '92  
Kaylene Jacobs Gabel '95

### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE:

John Schulte '96  
Kaylene Jacobs Gabel '95  
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  
Stacy Schmidtberger '94  
Kori Braun – Advisor

# HALL OF FAME 2015

WILLIAM "BILL" KUHN, RICH BILLINGER, FRANK DREILING

## WILLIAM "BILL" KUHN

'61 earned both a Bachelor and a Master degree from Fort Hays State University. He taught seventh and eighth grade and was basketball coach at Gorham Elementary School for one year. Bill accepted a teaching position in Victoria in 1966 and remained there until his retirement in



2001. In addition to teaching third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades, he coached basketball and track. He was also responsible for starting up the junior high football program. In 1986 Bill became certified and assisted Tony (Red) Pfeifer with Drivers Ed. After Coach Pfeifer's retirement in 1992, Bill continued to teach Drivers Ed. Currently, Bill works for Quest Diagnostics, where he travels around the region providing specimen pickup, supplies and test reports.

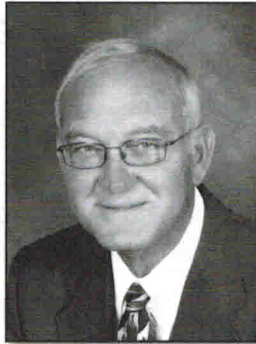
Bill was born to Leo '24 and Catherine Billinger Kuhn '24. He has three sisters, Norma Kuhn Berens '54, Doraleen Kuhn Laprade and Myra Kuhn Pinard '61. Bill and his wife, Sheila have three daughters, Janell Kuhn Beilman '85, Renee Kuhn Wasko '90 and Kara Kuhn Shorb '92 and seven grandchildren. Bill and Sheila are semi-retired and now live in Hays.

## RICH BILLINGER '68 AND FRANK DREILING '68

In honor of the 21st anniversary of the founding of the Victoria Alumni Association, we will be inducting two of the founding members into the VAA Hall of Fame: Frank Dreiling '68 and Rich Billinger '68.

## RICH BILLINGER '68

was born to Leo and Rita Billinger in 1950. He was raised in Victoria along with his four brothers, Vernon '59, Earl '62, Wayne '73, and Bill '77 as well as two sisters, Marlene Billinger Brown '61 and Mary Kay Billinger Pfeifauf '65. After graduating from VHS, Rich attended Fort Hays State and received a Bachelor degree in



Communication. After college, Rich spent six years at McCracken High School, teaching English and coaching baseball. Also during this time, he served in the Hays Army National Guard, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant E6. In 1980, Rich began teaching at Hays High for 25 years, with the last ten of those years being devoted to being the broadcasting director for the school's cable Channel 13. During those years, he also coached baseball, and for seven years he co-directed the musical.

Rich and his brother, Wayne, created a community variety show in the late 1970s entitled *Sweet and Sour Krauts*. They both wrote, directed and produced the show for 14 years, except for two years when Wayne took a break and Rich wrote the entire show by himself. *Sweet and Sour Krauts* ran for 14 years and resulted in donations of thousands of dollars to charity, as well as to Victoria High School.

Rich also has many other interests. He is a member of FOURSTAR, a vocal quartet, and sings in the St. Fidelis Adult Choir. Retirement didn't provide Rich with enough activity, so he is currently working at Tom's Music House as a representative at schools in Northwest Kansas.

Rich and his wife Jeani have two sons, Chris of Hays, and James with his wife Kim who live in Overland Park with Rich's four grandchildren.

## FRANK DREILING '68

was born on January 18, 1950 to Herb and Mary Louise VonFeldt '47 Dreiling. His siblings are: Susie Dreiling Windholz '69, Betty Dreiling Brungardt '73, Theresa Dreiling Brantley '74, Patty Dreiling Rohr '82, and a brother John, who passed away in 1965. Frank attended grade school in Victoria and graduated from Victoria High School in 1968. Fort Hays State University was his next stepping stone, where he graduated in 1972 with a Bachelor degree in Business Administration. Upon completion, Frank worked for Robben Insurance in Victoria and did independent



tax contracting. He later took a job with the State of Kansas, where he worked for SRS in child support enforcement until his death from cancer on November 20, 1998. Frank was

also an integral fixture in *Sweet and Sour Krauts*, mainly serving as Master of Ceremonies.

After a short courtship of 11 years, Frank married Kathy Schulte '76 in Victoria. Frank and Kathy brought into this world two beautiful daughters, Holly Dreiling Lang and Hannah Dreiling.

Frank was nominated for this award because of his love for Victoria High School and Victoria, Kansas. He had an impact on many people; if you were a friend of Frank's, he was a true and loyal friend.

The duo of Rich and Frank once again got together in 1993 and decided they needed to develop another organization which is still very active today: The Victoria High School Alumni Association. Frank was so proud of his town and school. If he could be here today, he would be extremely honored to see the success of this organization.

# Alumni Donation to Help “Jump Start” VHS Students

The Alumni Association Board of Directors has voted to donate \$1000 towards a newly created Jump Start Dual Credit Program at VHS. The idea behind Jump Start is to assist students to obtain college credit while attending VHS.

The curriculum at VHS is now structured so a student who is taking English 4 for high school credit can also receive college credit for English Comp I and II. The same is true for College Algebra, Speech, Psychology, Sociology

and Statistics. Any of these credits earned are transferable to any two or four year college in Kansas. If a student plans to attend North Central Kansas Technical College, they could also earn a credit for Business Math, but Business Math could not transfer to other schools.

The students who would benefit from this fund cannot be identified individually, due to privacy laws becoming more strict in the education sector. An easy way to think about this is to compare it to the

HIPPA laws now in effect at hospitals. Likewise, VHS staff also cannot inform the public about certain activities of students at the high school.

The process of selecting recipients for Jump Start will be done by the faculty at VHS. There are a set of stipulations in place that a student would need to fall within before they could benefit from Jump Start.

## Homecoming in Victoria: A Time for Remembering and Making New Memories

*By Kaylene Jacobs Gabel '95*

The average attendance for a high school reunion, regardless of whether it is 10 years, 20 years, or more, is 20 to 30 percent. Attendance by more than 30 percent of the graduating class typically is considered a great success.

There are so many reasons folks don't return to their hometowns and celebrate these milestones. Each reason is as unique as the former class clown, band geek, or even star athlete that makes either the excuse or effort to attend.

We all can appreciate the beauty of the little things only Victoria, Kansas, added to our lives. How long has it been since you saw the high standing towers of faith of the Basilica (aka Cathedral)? From dragging Main Street after a Friday night football game to grabbing a snoball at the Stop 2 Shop, alumni from VHS were fortunate to grow up in a town filled with tradition, community and school pride.

It does not matter where life takes a person after their high school days; there is something to be said for returning

home to our roots, the place which helped shape us as adults. There's a Victoria in Texas; one in Alabama, too. Both places have high schools. But there really is only one Victoria, Kansas. Only one Victoria High School in Kansas. If you are reading this now you were one of the lucky ones that graduated from that

place, be it 5, 10, or 40 years ago; isn't it about time for a trip home?

Return to your roots. Join your classmates, near and far, and make some new memories as you talk about the old ones. There's no better time than Homecoming to come home.



# Golf 101!! Get 'R Done!!

BY RANDY LEIKER '70

Do it now so you don't forget...if you're like me, that is not real far from the truth. "Do what now?" I heard someone ask, that was rhetorical...my hearing is getting as bad as my memory. It is time to get your teams ready for the most awesome, most coveted and most prestigious golf tournament of the year. Of course, I am referring to the 19th Annual VHS Alumni Golf Tournament! Mark your calendars for Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, to kick off the Homecoming weekend for 2015! There is no better way to get the weekend started than meeting early in the morning (8:00 AM) at Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course, drinking coffee, and enjoying some of **Jeanette Wagner Pfannenstiel's '70** famous cinnamon rolls (they are better than good...THEY'RE GREAT...sorry, couldn't help it; I haven't had breakfast yet.) I always enjoy the registration process because so many golfers are

seeing each other for the first time in years, and the memories and stories and the trash talk starts up and everyone is laughing and having a great time. For the regular golfers, you know what I am referring to; for those who haven't been part of the tournament you are really missing out on something special.

The best thing about being part of the Alumni Golf Tournament is getting together with old friends and classmates. The golf itself is secondary. I like to think about it as a bunch of friends showing up and a golf tournament happens. This year Fr. John Schmeidler, Jan Brungardt, **Bob Pfeifer '45**, and I are going to kick some serious butt!

Okay, you newbies are probably asking what makes this golf outing so special. I am so glad you rhetorically asked that question. (Did you pick up that I learned a new word?) Let me list

Continued on Page 5 ... **Golf Tournament**

## VHS Alumni Association Welcomes Victoria High School Class of 2015

**Ryan Bleske** is the son of Calvin and **Sharon Kuhn Bleske '83**. Ryan plans to attend Fort Hays State University and major in justice studies/juvenile corrections.

**Ariel Bowman** is the daughter of Heather Bowman. Ariel will attend Colby Community College and will study vet-tech.

**Logan Braun** is the son of **Jeff '85** and Darla **Braun**. He will enroll at Fort Hays State University and major in finance. Logan is the grandson of **Pete '62** and **Tina Braun Geist-Braun '58**.

**Austin Crawford** is the son of Jerry Crawford and Karen Crawford. He will major in film and media studies at the University of Kansas. Austin is the grandson of **Ted '54** and **Cecelia Crawford**.

**MaKayla Crawford** is the daughter of Jeff Crawford and Dianne Crawford. MaKayla plans to attend Benedictine College and major in nursing. She is the granddaughter of **Ted '54** and **Cecelia Crawford**.

**Bryan Dome** is the son of **Stuart '82** and **Tammy Dinkel Dome '85**. He plans to enroll at North Central Kansas Technical College to train in welding. Bryan is the grandson of **Leland Dinkel '58**.

**Noah Dreiling** is the son of **Jerry '79** and **Brenda Dreiling**. Noah will enroll at North Central Kansas Technical College to study carpentry/cabinet making.

**Maegan Karlin** is the daughter of **Tom '83** and **Sandra Meder Karlin '84**. She plans to attend Fort Hays State University and will study nursing. Maegan is the granddaughter of **Lena Scheck Meder '56**.

**Jasmine Pasek** is the daughter of Roy Walker and Aundria Pasek. Jasmine will major in psychology at Fort Hays State University.

**Brooke Pfanenstiel** is the daughter of **Curt '83** and **Kim Pfanenstiel**. Brooke will enroll at Fort Hays State University and study graphic design.

**Haley Robben** is the daughter of **Jason Robben '96** and **Rosa Leiker Rome '97**. She will enroll at the University of Kansas and will study political science/pre-law. Haley is the granddaughter of **Norman '72** and **Linda Robben** and **Marilyn Suppes Leiker-Pfannenstiel '78**.

**Taylor Rome** is the son of **Mike '86** and **Desiree Rome**. He would like to pursue a career as an outfitter or a guide. Taylor is the grandson of **Gary '58** and **Janice Bell Rome '65**.

**Anna Schmidtberger** is the daughter of **Wayne '76** and **Marie Schmidtberger**. She plans to study agribusiness at Pratt Community College. Anna is the granddaughter of **Bob** and **Marie Bollig Schmidtberger '47**.

## Golf Tournament *continued from Page 4*

the ways. First: All money raised goes to the VHS scholarship fund; Second: Everyone leaves with some prize or souvenir; Third: Rich Guffy provides a great lunch; and Fourth: The beverage cart is legendary in its service to the alums participating in the tournament. This year I hope to have some surprise beverage cart drivers providing even more entertainment than usual. I know I'm going out on a limb here but I think we can pull it off. And NO! You can NOT pull anything off the beverage cart drivers. I know most of you, so I have to make that clear!

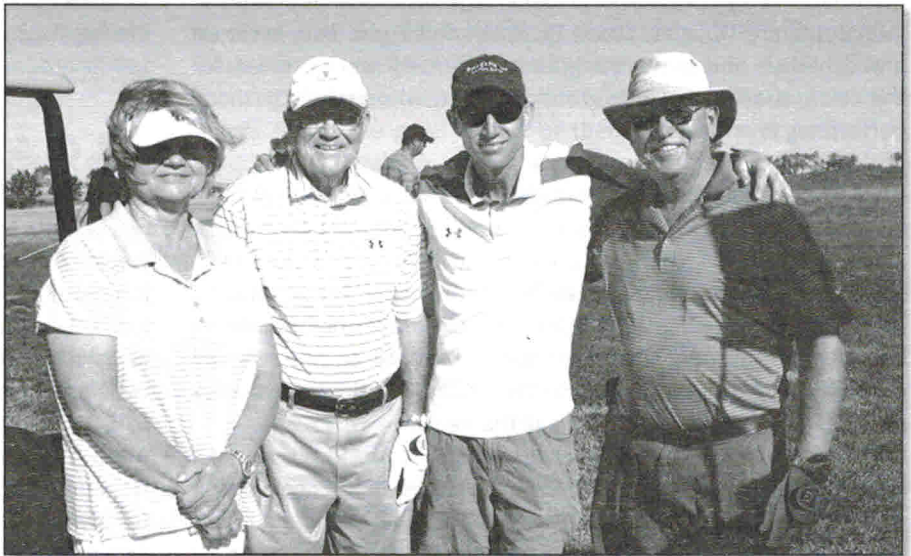
Last year was our best year ever for participants in the tournament with 18 teams. The honor classes really stepped it up to make the tournament a huge success. The 50-year and the 25-year classes were well represented. There are some golfers that have played in every alumni tournament. Of course, these guys are very old...but dedicated. I thank each one of you who participated last year.

Now, let's talk about this year's tournament. Honor classes, there is no better way to kick off the weekend than getting your teams together and playing golf before riding on a float in the homecoming parade. I can always tell who played golf before the parade. They are smiling and laughing a little bit more than those who did not play golf first, plus their attitudes have already been adjusted...so to speak! Remember, you don't have to be a golfer to play and have fun in our (your) tournament. If it was serious golf, they would probably want to televise it on The Golf Channel. Our golf is geared more to Comedy Central, if you know what I mean.

Details: Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, at Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course. Registration starts at 8:00 AM and shot gun starts at 9:00 AM. Entry fee is \$45.00 a person. Entry fee includes lunch, prizes, souvenirs, and, of course, the famous beverage cart. Carts are available at the club house for \$20.00. Individual mulligans will be available for \$5.00 a side.

VERY IMPORTANT! I really do need for all teams to contact me ASAP so that we can make plans regarding the number of carts needed and how much food we will need and things like that.

Never played golf but still want to be a part of the action? Just get out your checkbook and become a sponsor. You have choices as to what kind of sponsor you can be. For \$100 or more you are a corporate sponsor which puts your name or business on a huge banner that is displayed at the golf course during the tournament, at the VFW Friday evening, and at the banquet Saturday evening. You are also recognized on the VHS Alumni web site as a corporate sponsor. For \$50.00 you can be a hole sponsor. Signs with your name or business printed on it are placed on various tee boxes at the golf course. You can also do hole sponsor signs remembering deceased classmates. I am planning on having one made for the deceased classmates from the class of '70 to include them in our 45<sup>th</sup> class reunion. Remember all the money raised goes to our scholarship fund. So please be generous and sign your team up to play in this year's VHS Alumni Golf Classic. If you have any questions or comments please call me at 785-259-1392 or email me at [randyl@eaglecom.net](mailto:randyl@eaglecom.net). I hope to hear from you soon. Hit 'em straight! Hit 'em long and not very often! Did I mention that I had a hole in one this year?



Playing as a team in last year's tournament were (from left) Jan Brungardt, **Bob Pfeifer '45**, Fr. John Schmeidler, and **Randy Leiker '70**.

## Raffle Supports Scholarships

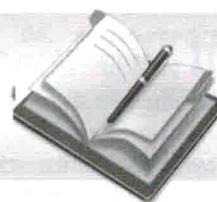
Winners of the 2015 alumni scholarships are Ryan Bleske, Maegan Karlin, Brooke Pfanenstiel, and Ann Schmidtberger.

A cash raffle will be held at this year's homecoming to help fund the scholarships that the Alumni Association hands out to

graduating Seniors each spring. There will be 5 winners drawn at the Banquet on Homecoming Saturday. The prizes will be \$500, \$400, \$300, \$200, and \$100. In order to get your name into the hopper, simply fill out your raffle tickets that are included in this newsletter, and send in

the appropriate donation for the number of tickets you fill out. If your newsletter didn't have any raffle tickets, simply go to [www.victoriaalumni.com](http://www.victoriaalumni.com) and look for the "Raffle Tickets" link so you can print out another set. You do not need to be present to win!

# Class Notes



## 1940's

**Class of 1945**, hopefully you have made plans to take part in the homecoming festivities for September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. This homecoming marks your **70<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 1950's

**Class of 1950**, 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 2015.

**Charlene Sander Rohr '51** and her husband, Edward, celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary June 28, 2015, with an anniversary Mass at St. Bernard Catholic Church, Ellsworth. They were married June 20, 1955, at St. Fidelis Catholic Church. Children of the couple are Douglas, Mark, EJ, Tony, and Todd. They have six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. All were present for the celebration except one granddaughter, who was in Germany performing in an opera.

**Alice Sander Rohr '52** and her husband, Al, were married 60 years on January 22, 2015. They had an informal get-together with their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren in Colorado in June. Alice and Al have been residents of Mission, Texas, for over six years. They have both had their 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays and are looking forward to their 90<sup>th</sup>. Alice continues, "Bless all of you for your dedication to our newsletter, 'The Next Page'. Always look forward to getting it and reading all the news."

**Albert Braun '53** and his wife, Stella Huser Braun, celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary May 10, 2015, with an open house reception for family and friends at Victoria VFW Hall hosted by their children. Children of the couple are **Brenda Braun Meder '74, Linda Braun Beilman '75, Doreen Braun Koerner '79, and Doug '80**. Albert and Stella have 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. They were married May 14, 1955, at St. Boniface Catholic Church, Vincent.

**Virgil Windholz '54** and his wife, **Louise Denning Windholz '53**, celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary May 2, 2015, with a Mass at St. Fidelis Basilica, Victoria, followed by a dinner and dance for family and friends at the Rose Garden Banquet Hall. They have eight children, 23 grandchildren, and 31 great-grandchildren. Virgil and Louise were married April 30, 1955, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Emmeram, Kansas.

**Class of 1955**, we are expecting a nice representation from your class for your **60th Class Reunion** happening on September 25<sup>th</sup>

and 26<sup>th</sup>. We hope you are making plans to join us for a great weekend.

**Verda Goetz Werner '55** and her husband, Ivan, celebrated their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in July with a family gathering at Palm Harbor, Florida. Their children are **Rhonda Werner Fionda '79, Patti Werner Woschitz '80, and Mike '91**. They have five grandchildren. Verda and Ivan were married June 18, 1960, at St. Fidelis Church in Victoria.

**Ethel Stegman Younger '59** and her husband, John, celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on May 23, 2015, with a home Mass for their immediate family celebrated by Fr. Gilmary Tallman, OFM Cap. They were joined later by relatives and friends for a dessert social at their home in Victoria. Their children are JoAnn Younger Seaman, **Maria Younger Munro '86, Annette Younger Zeigler '88, and Mike '92**. They have eight grandchildren. John and Ethel were married May 1, 1965, at Holy Cross Church, Pfeifer.

## 1960's

**Class of 1960**, 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 **55<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Allen '62 and Mary Ruder '62** will be married 50 years on November 27, 2015. They will be celebrating with their children; **Geralyn Ruder Graver '85, Jenny Ruder VonLintel '86, John '89, Annie Ruder Dinkel '90, Sue Ruder Murnane '95, and Jeff '96**; 16 grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

**Class of 1965**, we have heard that some of you have been busy organizing your **50<sup>th</sup> 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 1965. 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.

**Dennis Hammerschmidt '65** and his wife Vicky and their family have been awarded the 2014-15 Knights of Columbus State Family of the Year. The Hammerschmidts, as well as their married daughters and sons-in-law, are involved in many aspects of the St. Thomas More Parish, Manhattan. Their son, Fr. Gale Hammerschmidt, was ordained in 2012 and started the Prayer

and Action Mission, which is a summer mission drawing high school and college-aged youth, focusing on their faith and helping the less fortunate.

## 1970's

**Class of 1970**, 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 25 and 26. Get those raffle tickets mailed back. You could be a big winner and help support your alumni association.

**Carolyn Dreiling Berens '71** and her husband, Bernie Berens, have had the honor of witnessing the ordination of their son, Kyle, into the priesthood of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Salina. Fr. Kyle was ordained May 30, 2015, by Bishop Edward Weisenburger of the Salina Diocese. He said his first Mass on Sunday, May 31, 2015, in his home parish, St. Mary, Queen of the Universe, Salina, Kansas. His first assignment as a priest will be parochial vicar under Father Norbert Diabal at four western Kansas parishes: Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Goodland, St. Francis of Assisi in St. Francis, Holy Ghost in Sharon Springs, and St. Joseph in Bird City. Father Kyle Berens is the grandson of **Pat '49** and **Theresa Lang Dreiling '48**.

**Eileen Dreiling '71** was sworn in as a Butler Community College Trustee earlier this month. Eileen has served 22 years as an educator and 15 years as an administrator, most of that within the Augusta school district. She spent 18 years coaching high school volleyball which included a 1982 state championship for Augusta High School. In 2009, Eileen was recognized for her leadership skills when she was named the recipient of The National Association of Secondary School Principal as State Principal of the Year for the state of Kansas. She is the mother of three grown children: Hana, Heidi, and Harrison.

**Class of 1975**, we are looking forward to seeing many of you at homecoming 2015. The exact dates are Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. You can find your reservation form for the weekend in this newsletter or on the website at [www.victoriaalumni.com](http://www.victoriaalumni.com).

**Cheri Pfanestiel Wickham '79** has been named the Kansas School Social Work Association 2015 School Social Worker of the Year. Cheri has worked in the Manhattan/Ogden school districts since 1992. She is committed to student academic success by providing support to students, teachers, and community. Cheri has provided many vital programs in her school such as Camp Leadership, Girls on the Run, Military Student Group, anti-bullying programs, and character education. She will be traveling to Omaha, Nebraska, in October to receive the Midwest Council Award representing the School Social Worker of the Year 2015 for Kansas.

## 1980's

**Class of 1980**, it is reunion time for your class. Homecoming is scheduled for September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> this year. Hopefully you will mark your calendar and join us for the weekend.

**Class of 1985**, how about joining us for Homecoming 2015? Hopefully, you are making plans to join us for homecoming weekend on September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> to celebrate your 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Dale Brungardt '86** has been named Superintendent of Schools in the Ellsworth school district. He has been the principal at Ellsworth High School the past 13 years. Dale's wife is **Beth Billinger Brungardt '86**. Their children are a son, Ryan, a law student at Kansas University; a daughter, Kaylie, a student at Kansas State University; a daughter, Jeanae, a sophomore at Ellsworth High School; and a son, Jaret, attending Ellsworth Middle School. Dale is the son of **Jerry '62** and **Mary Brungardt**.

**Sr. Mary Elizabeth CP (Beth Brungardt) '86** celebrated her 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of consecrated life with the Passionist Nuns of the Immaculate Conception Monastery in Ellisville, Missouri. She received her degree from Fort Hays State University and a master's degree from Webster University in St. Louis before entering the monastery. Their convents are cloistered, and the sisters spend the greater part of their day in prayer and work. Sister Mary Elizabeth serves as novice mistress and cook and assists with other duties, such as writing articles for publication and compiling archives.

**Victoria High School State Football Champions 1986** will be gathering for a reunion on Friday evening at the Knights' first home game of the season. The team will be recognized at the game and gather for a social at the K of C Hall after the game.

**Kari Austin Bruffett '87** was sworn in as the Secretary of the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services, the state's second largest agency in both budget and number of employees.

## 1990's

**Class of 1990, Important Notice!!** Your 25<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion will be celebrated September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of 2015. 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 '90**. Hopefully, we can get some of you to participate in the golf tournament Friday morning.

**Ken Windholz '90** has been named Principal at Ellsworth High School. Ken is married to **Jill Dreiling Windholz '92**. He was a teacher and coach for his first 15 years in the Ellsworth School District and then served the next three years as assistant principal. For the past eight years, he was the athletic director. They have two children. Ken is the son of **Julius '70** and **Susie**

**Dreiling Windholz '69.** Ken and Jill have a son, Jaxson, and a daughter, Maggie.

**Adam Austin '93** is a Government Compliance Officer for Rockwell Collins, a major aerospace manufacturer for NASA and the military.

**Class of 1995,** it is time to be thinking about coming home for your **20<sup>th</sup> 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.

**Christine Wellbrock Weber '95** and her husband, Michael, announce the birth of their son, Samuel Edwin, born May 6, 2015, at Hays Medical Center. Samuel has a sister, Allison, 9, and two brothers, Patrick, 6, and Grant, 4. His grandparents are **Gene Wellbrock '56** and his wife, Joan.

**Sara Wasinger Shubert '99** and her husband, Dustin, announce the birth of a son, Linus John, born May 2, 2015. He has a sister, Felicity, 2-1/2 years old. His grandparents are John and **Theresa Schuckman Wasinger '74.**

**Megan Austin Kyanka '99** is a para-professional in her daughter's school and is working on a Masters in Art Education and Missouri certification.

## 2000's

**Class of 2000,** be sure to mark the calendar for September 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. 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. 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.

**Beth Younger Ricke '00** and her husband, Jon, announce the birth of a son, Harrison Benedict, born June 12, 2015, at Shawnee Mission Birthing Center. He has a brother, Henry, 4. Harrison's grandparents are Tom and **Det Roth Younger '58.**

**Jason '01** and **Jeanie Lapka Rome '03** announce the birth of a daughter, Adelyn Grace, born April 10, 2015, at Hays Medical Center. Her grandparents are **Mark '71** and **Mary Jo Schulte Rome '71.**

**Tyson Dinges '03** and his wife, Heather, announce the birth of twin sons, Callen Wade and Ames Michael, born July 23, 2015, at Via Christi/St. Joseph Hospital, Wichita. They have a big brother, Layton Lee, 2 years old. Their grandmother is **Jane Brungardt Dinges '64.**

**Jasmin Blum '04,** an exchange student from Shulzendorf, Germany, was married in May to Johannes Wusthofs. They are now living in a suburb of Berlin after several years in Muenster. Jasmin has completed dental school and has been a practicing dentist in a public clinic. Johannes is completing his final year of law school. They are expecting their first baby in August. Jasmin's host family was Bob and Nancy Piatt.

**Class of 2005,** 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 2005. Check the website for photos from last year's activities. Your alumni association provides a weekend filled with good food and drink.

**James Brungardt '05** and his wife, Erin, announce the birth of a son, Trey, born November 25, 2014. He has a sister, Kendall, 3. His grandparents are **Chris '81** and **Bertha Brungardt** and **Jeff '78** and **Myrna Kisner Hoffman '80.** Great-grandparents are **Jim '55** and **Gladys Kippes Brungardt '58** and **Ernest Hoffman '47.**

**David Tholen '05** and Samantha Keener were married May 9, 2015, at the Basilica of St. Fidelis. David is a 2007 graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College, where he earned a technical certificate in Diesel Technology. He is a self-employed mechanic and is engaged in farming. Samantha is a 2009 graduate of La Crosse High School and a 2010 graduate of Heritage College, Kansas City, Missouri, where she earned an associate's degree in therapeutic massage. She is employed as a massage therapist at Rock Haven Spa. David is the son of **Tom '74** and **Janice Schmidtberger Tholen '77.**

**Anita Ervinsdottir '05** finished her design degree from ESMOD International in Oslo and began working as a brand manager for the Dutch lingerie brand Marlies Dekkers and DKNY. She is responsible for selling these brands to stores all over Norway and soon in Iceland as well. She writes that she will get to travel a lot and every day is different from the next. Last February she moved with her boyfriend to his hometown, about an hour outside of Oslo. They are currently looking for land to build a house. Her host family was Bob and Nancy Piatt.

**Jared VonFeldt '06** and his wife, Danielle, announce the birth of their daughter, Natalee Lynn, born February 19, 2015, at Hays Medical Center. His grandparents are **John '69** and **Lita Dome Vonfeldt '71.**

**Greta Kaufeld '06** is living in Sevilla, Spain and working as a software engineer. She graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 2014 with a Masters Degree in Cognitive Science. Her host family was Bob and Nancy Piatt.

**Kelsey Robben '07** and Lance Morrow were married on April 16, 2015. The wedding and reception took place at the RIU Palace in Jamaica with additional receptions in Norfolk, Nebraska and Hays. Kelsey is the daughter of **Joe '81** and Gail Robben.



**Cole Younger '08** and Heather Dechant were married May 16, 2015 at the Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria. Cole is the son of George and **Myra Younger Younger '78**.

**Janae Brungardt '08** and Alex Tidwell were married May 23, 2015. Janae is the daughter of **Chris '81** and Bertha Brungardt and the granddaughter of **Jim '55** and **Gladys Kippes Brungardt '58**.

**Kasandra Huser '09** and Taylor Bliss were married May 30, 2015 at the Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria. Kasandra is a 2013 graduate of Fort Hays State University with a Bachelor Degree in Finance. She is employed at Gorham State Bank, Gorham. Taylor is a 2009 graduate of Trego Community High School and a 2011 graduate of Northwest Kansas Technical College, Goodland, with an Associate Degree in Diesel Technology and Applied Science. He is employed at Carrico Implement, Hays. Kasandra is the daughter of **Kevin '84** and **Kathy Huser** and the granddaughter of **Leon Huser '61**.

**Brenton Hoffman '09** and his wife, **Andrea Dome Hoffman '11**, announce the birth of a son, Rhett Conrad, born June 4, 2015. Grandparents are **David '82** and **Brenda Braun Hoffman '83** and **Stuart '82** and **Tammy Dinkel Dome '85**. Great-grandparents are **Ernie Hoffman '47** and **Leland Dinkel '58**.

**Jordan Ottley '09** and his wife, **Jordan Karlin '08**, announce the birth of a daughter, Josephine Sue, born July 30, 2015, at Hays Medical Center. Her grandparents are John and **Sue Robben Karlin '82** and David and Andrea Ottley.

**Class of 2010**, you have made it to the first milestone as members of the Victoria Alumni Association. It is time to celebrate your five year reunion. Get your calendars marked for September 25th and 26th. 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](http://www.victoriaalumni.com)

**Cody Scheck '11**, received a Bachelor Degree of Business Administration with summa cum laude honors at the College of Business and Entrepreneurship Commencement. Cody was named the recipient of the Torch Award as the outstanding graduating senior from the class of 2015 at Fort Hays State University. The criteria for the Torch Award: leadership, high personal standards and scholarship. Cody is the son of **Rick '79** and **Sandy VonFeldt Scheck '82** and the grandson of Frank and **Charlene Braun Unrein '63** and **Jim '61** and Constance **VonFeldt**.

**Colin Schmidtberger '11**, received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Interior Design with cum laude honors from Fort Hays State University in May, 2015. Colin is the son of **Leroy '74** and **LeeAnn Braun Schmidtberger '80** and the grandson of **Leroy '52** and JoAnn Braun and Robert and **Marie Bollig Schmidtberger '47**.

**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@ivictoriaalumni.com](mailto:info@ivictoriaalumni.com)

## Homecoming 2015

Once again, the year has quickly passed by, and now it is time to begin making plans for Homecoming 2015. This year's festivities begin at 8:00 a.m. on September 25 with the annual alumni golf tournament at the Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course. At 2:00, the VFW in Victoria will be available to meet with your classmates, before heading to the Homecoming parade which begins at 4:00. There will be a barbecue at 5:00, during which time, you can tour your alma mater of VHS. At 7:00, the football team will be taking on Ness City and after the game, you can come back to the Victoria VFW for a social.

On Saturday the 26th, our day begins a little bit later than last year with our Memorial Mass that will be held at 4:00 in the Basilica of St. Fidelis. At 5:30, the venue switches to the Hays VFW, 22nd and Vine, for the banquet and dance. This year we are having Anthony and the Anamals for the dance, so be ready to enjoy the entire weekend with your fellow alums.



At the 2014 Homecoming Banquet, the class of 1964 gives out a mighty roar.

# In Loving Memory

**Clarita Brungardt Koerner '52** died January 10, 2015. She is survived by her husband, Pete; two sons, and one daughter; one brother Dennis; and a sister, **Lilly Brungardt Kanzlemer '57**.

Jennifer Leiker died January 23, 2015, in Conroe, Texas, while in Hospice Care. She is survived by her husband, **Jerome "Jerry" '62**; a daughter; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**Dave Kuhn '72** died March 16, 2015, at his home in Russell. Survivors include his wife, Gail; one son; one daughter; two brothers, Neil and **Jim '63**; two sisters, **Helene Kuhn Staton '74** and **Carol Kuhn Weber '77**; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

**Clarence Lang '37** died March 23, 2015. He is survived by his wife, Melinda; three sons; one daughter; a brother, **George '42**; one sister; 13 grandchildren; and 21 great-grandchildren.

**Thomas Stang '66** died March 26, 2015, at his home. Survivors include his wife, Ruann; one son; a daughter; his mother, Anita Stang; a brother, Patrick; two sisters, **Marilyn Stang Pflughoeft '70** and **Ruth Stang Brunts '72**; and two grandsons.

Carey Schulte died March 27, 2015, at Via Christi Hospital/St. Francis Campus, Wichita. Survivors include two brothers, **Damian '59** and **Regis '66**; and one sister, **Claudia Schulte Hertel '63**.

**James W. Rajewski '42** died April 9, 2015, at Rice County Hospital, Lyons. Survivors include his wife, Miriam; four sons, John, Michael, Bob, and Bill; four daughters, Diane Rajewski Martinez, Jane Rajewski Frenzl, Carolyn Rajewski Zimmerman, and Marie Rajewski Schmidt; two sisters, **Doris Marie Rajewski Wellbrock '46** and **Rita Rajewski Gibson '56**; 23 grandchildren; and 12 great-grandchildren.

Irene Linenberger died April 13, 2015, at Via Christi Village Care Center, Hays. Survivors include one son, **Keith '74**; one daughter; **Paula Linenberger Rohr '61**; two brothers, **Nathan Younger '52** and **Francis Younger '59**; two sisters, Geraldine Younger Ruder and Marilyn Younger Prewo; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

**Arthur F. "Art" VonFeldt '42** died May 9, 2015, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife, **Joan Mermis VonFeldt '47**; a son, **Steve '69**; a daughter, **Linda VonFeldt Reardon '68**; two brothers, **Leo '53** and **Karlos '55**; two sisters, **Winifreda VonFeldt Beckwith '42** and **Charlotte VonFeldt Sanders '49**; four grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

**Jim Robben '70** died June 3, 2015. He is survived by two daughters; his mother, Viola Robben; three brothers, **Leroy '66**, **Melvin '88**, and **Norman '72**.

Gilbert F. Rohr died April 22, 2015, at his home in Walker. He is survived by his wife, Jeneice; one son, **Leland '78**; three daughters, **Cathy Rohr Tidball '77**, **Cindy Rohr Weigel '80**, and **Pam Rohr Bieker '85**; a brother; one sister; eight grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

**Elmer "Buddy" Rome '43** died June 25, 2015, at Twin Oaks Health and Rehabilitation Center, Lansing. He is survived by three sons; two daughters; a brother, Emery; one sister, **Edna Rome Stecklein '50**; 11 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Joseph Wiegel died June 16, 2015, at Hays Medical Center. He is survived by his wife **Bernice Stegman Wiegel '59**.

Kenneth Brown died July 7, 2015 at his home in Attica, Michigan. He is survived by his wife, **Marlene Billinger Brown '61**; three sons; one daughter; one exchange student daughter; two brothers; two sisters; 12 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Alexia Brungardt died July 9, 2015, at Good Samaritan Society, Ellis. She is survived by one son, Sam; two daughters, Margaret Schmidt-Carlson and **Jackie Brungardt Prickett '71**; 12 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

**Hubertina Weigel Herbel '46** died July 16, 2015, at Good Samaritan Society, Hays. Survivors include two sons; one daughter; one brother, **Fred Weigel '47**; one sister, **Vera Weigel Degenhardt '51**; and four grandchildren.

**Marcellus "Celly" Riedel '50** died July 19, 2015, in Mission, Kansas. Survivors include his wife, Zita; two sons; one brother, **Frank Riedel '49**; three sisters; and five grandchildren.

## Friday Knights' Lights

Do you remember spending your Friday nights every fall sitting in the stands at the VHS football field, watching our Knights take on their latest challengers? It seemed like every time a great play was made, your view was blocked by one of

the light poles, or by one of the cables that ran between them.

Thankfully, a brand new lighting system has been installed to illuminate the field. The old light poles have been removed and are now a distant memory.

The poles for the new lights are now anchored on the outside of the track, providing an unobstructed view of the entire football field. The new lights were paid for by USD 432 and by private donors.

# VHS Alumni

VICTORIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 382

VICTORIA, KS 67671

## 2015-2016 MEMBERSHIP / HOMECOMING RESERVATION FORM

**Due: Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

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.**

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VHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
P O BOX 382  
VICTORIA, KS 67671

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1922—1940

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VICTORIA RURAL HIGH SCHOOL  
1941—1966

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VICTORIA HIGH  
SCHOOL

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