### Victoria High School Alumni Association Newsletter

August 2019 Victoria, Kansas Volume 26, Issue 2 Circulation—1,938





www.victoriaalumni.com

### IN THIS ISSUE

| VHS Homecoming 2019         |    |
|-----------------------------|----|
| VHS Class of 2019           | :  |
| Hall of Fame 2019           |    |
| Membership: Info and Stats  |    |
| Victoria Knights Gym Floor  | (  |
| 23rd Annual Golf Tournament |    |
| Class Notes                 | 8  |
| In Loving Memory            | 1: |
| FCCLA                       | 1: |

# Homecoming 2019

Friday, September 27 Saturday, September 28

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Hall of Fame Inductees 2019

Parade Grand Marshall:

Ruth Shook Hoard '46

### HONORING

Class of 1969 Class of 1994 Class of 2009

5-Year Increment Classes



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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Marge Rome '58 – Vice-President
Kathy Schulte Dreiling-Amrein '76 – Secretary
LeeAnn Braun Schmidtberger '80 – Treasurer
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Sandy Dreiling Goetz '82
Deb Leiker Dreiling '79

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Kathy Schulte Dreiling-Amrein '76
Gerard Wellbrock '86
Loren VonLintel '90
DeAnn Leiker Meyers '84
Peggy VonFeldt Klaus '89
Kori Braun – Advisor

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

----- Friday, September 27, 2019 -----

8:00 a.m. 23rd Annual VHS Golf Classic
Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course
2:00 - 3:30 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. Lincoln
9:00 - 11:30 p.m. Social – V.F.W. Hall, Victoria

### ----- Saturday, September 28, 2019 -----



## VH\$ Homecoming 2019

The annual tradition of the Victoria Homecoming is rapidly approaching. On Friday, September 27, the 23<sup>rd</sup> annual VHS Golf Classic begins the festivities with registration at 8:00 and a shotgun start at 9:00. It is a great way to begin the weekend, but this year will be the last year that **Randy Leiker '70** spearheads the golf tournament. Randy said that with next year being his 50<sup>th</sup> reunion, now felt like the right time to turn the reigns over to someone else.

While the golf tournament will be winding down, the Victoria V.F.W. will be available from 2:00 until 3:30 for an open house. Refreshments will be available at this time for anyone who needs them. Around 4:00, the parade will head out down the streets of Victoria—starting out at the High School, taking the trek south down Main, around the corner on 7<sup>th</sup>, past the old rest home, back north on Cathedral, passing the Basilica, and then ending up back at the high school. This year the parade will be led by grand marshal **Ruth Shook Hoard '46**.

A barbecue follows at the High School, at which time you can tour the school and check out the brand new gym floor that was installed during the summer break. The crowning of Homecoming royalty takes place at 6:30, followed by the football game at 7:00 when the Knights will take on the Lincoln Leopards. After the game, everyone should head back down to the Victoria V.F.W. for a social that will conclude at 11:30. The Friday social only costs \$5.00, plus your \$5.00 annual dues.

Saturday the 28<sup>th</sup> begins with a memorial mass in the Basilica of St. Fidelis at 4:00. This is always a beautiful service, with a choir made up of alums really enhancing the experience. Every year, many people comment to the alumni board that this is their favorite part of Homecoming.

After mass, it is time to head out to the Rose Garden Banquet Hall (formerly The Fanchon) in Hays for the alumni banquet. This will be the third time in the last four years that the banquet is at the Rose Garden. Anyone who attended the previous two times can attest to one thing: there wasn't much room to move around either of those years. Both years the only side we could reserve was the "small" side of the Rose Garden. The room held our close-knit group, but a little breathing space would have been appreciated. Luckily, this year our banquet will be held on the "big" side, so space will not be an issue.

However, having that extra space does come with a cost, and it is something the alumni board tried very hard to keep as low as possible. This year the banquet will cost \$40 per person. This is an increase from last year's price, but there is nothing the alumni board can do about it. The cost of the meal has gone up to \$25 per plate, and there are many other things that need to be paid for above and beyond that. Please bear with us as we all have to pay for this increase.

On the positive side, Anthony and The Anamals will be playing the dance, starting around 8:30, and ending at 11:30. Hopefully, it will be a weekend full of fun, laughter, and most importantly, a Knights victory!

# VHS Alumni Association Welcomes Victoria High School Class of 2019

Katherine Braun is the daughter of **Doug '80** and Machell **Braun**. Katherine will major in English at Fort Hays State University.

Morgan Braun is the son of Chris '86 and Shauna Braun and the grandson of Pete '62 and Tina Braun Geist Braun '58. Morgan plans to study HVAC repair at North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit.

Walker Braun is the son of **Terry** '86 and Krista Braun. Walker will attend Fort Hays State University and major in agricultural business.

Ally Dinkel is the daughter of Kurt '86 and Shanna Robben Dinkel '89 and the granddaughter of Otto '57 and Carol Rome Dinkel '59 and Steve '67 and Fran Miller Robben '67. Ally plans to attend Kansas State and major in psychology.

Wyatt Dreiling is the son of Jerry '79 and Brenda Dreiling. Wyatt will study heavy equipment operations at North Central Kansas Technical College in Beloit.

Tyler Engel is the son of Darin and Jackie Lang Engel '86 and the grandson of Don '64 and Donetta Lang. He plans to attend Fort Hays State University and major in informatics sports media.

Tyler Knoles is the son of Kevin and Jennifer Brungardt. Tyler plans to attend North Central Kansas Technical College and study to become an electrician. Thomas Leiker is the son of Amy Leiker and the late Farron Leiker. He will attend North Central Kansas Technical College and study heavy equipment operations.

Amy Leroux is the daughter of Brandy Alexander and Joe Leroux. Amy plans to study radiology technology.

Caden Oberle is the son of Doug and Gina Oberle. He plans to major in construction science at Fort Hays State University.

Alexia Oxenford is the daughter of Jason Oxenford and Amanda Brungardt '96. Alexia will attend Fort Hays State University and will major in history.

**'86** and Gina **Riedel**. Layton will study carpentry at North Central Kansas Technical College in Hays.

Jacob Schroeder is the son of Mark and Danita Schroeder. He will attend Fort Hays State University and major in environmental biology. Jacob will also be playing on the FHSU football team.

Keoni Sweat is the son of John Sweat and Valerie Cappellucci. Keoni will attend Fort Hays State University and will major in graphic design.

Lorraina VonFeldt is the daughter of Dave VonFeldt '84 and Judy Robbins and the granddaughter of Jim '61 and Connie VonFeldt and Charlene Braun Unrein '63. She plans to attend Fort Hays State University.

Kali Weber is the daughter of John '89 and Kami Wellbrock Weber '94 and the granddaughter of Charlotte Braun Weber '65 and Neal and Pam Brown Wellbrock '72. Kali plans to major in radiology at Fort Hays State University.

Jacob Wellbrock is the son of John '90 and Melissa Moore Wellbrock '94 and the grandson of Wayne '67 and Diane Wellbrock. He will attend Fort Hays State University and major in health and human performance.

Chantel Whisman is the daughter of Pamela Fitzpatrick and Danny Whisman. Chantel plans to study business management at North Central Kansas Technical College.

Ashlyn Windholz is the daughter of Jared '93 and Andrea Dinges Windholz '96 and the granddaughter of Mary Catherine Miller Windholz '65 and Tony and Debra Braun Geschwentner '76. She plans to attend the University of Kansas and major in nursing.

Cooper Windholz is the son of Chris '90 and Kristy Dreiling Windholz '92 and the grandson of Julius '70 and Susie Dreiling Windholz '69 and Norman '55 and JoAnn Dreiling. Cooper will major in business at Kansas State University.

Michael Wohler is the son of Peggy Wohler and the late Fritz Wohler. He will study automotive technology at North Central Kansas Technical College.

## HALL OF FAME 2019

## FERRILL STANDAGE JERRY BRUNGARDT '62 STEPHEN SANDER '68

**FERRILL STANDAGE** grew up in the oil fields of Northwest Kansas. He was a 1953 graduate of



Palco High
School and
earned his
Bachelor
degree
from Fort
Hays State
University
and his
Master's
degree
from the
University

of Northern Colorado.

He began his career in education as a middle school math and science teacher in Holyrood. Kansas. While there he also coached football and girls basketball. After nine years in Holyrood, the Standage family moved to Fort Collins, Colorado. Ferrill took a position as a 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher for five years before he was appointed as an elementary principal in the same school district. He lived and worked in Fort Collins for a total of fourteen

Family circumstances dictated a return to Kansas in 1982. He was offered a position as an elementary and middle school principal in Victoria. This was an appointment he was excited to fill. The Victoria school system was highly regarded by the educational community.

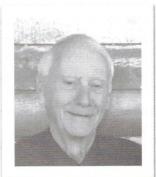
Thirteen years later Ferrill retired from USD 432.

Following retirement from education, Ferrill was appointed Associate Pastor at Westview Church in Hays. He remained in that position for 10 years.

Although he and his wife, Shirley, moved to Texas where they have lived for about 10 years, Victoria is still "home." They return as often as possible to visit friends and colleagues. The Victoria community provided many positive memories and is much loved. They say they were blessed to live there for 18 years.

GERALD (JERRY)
BRUNGARDT '62 was born July
16, 1944, in Walker, Kansas, to

Herman J Brungardt and Fidelia (Karlin) Brungardt. Jerry has spent his entire life in the Victoria area and is a 1962



graduate of Victoria High. Additionally, he received a B.S. in Political Science in 1973 and an M.S. in Guidance and Counseling in 1977, all from Fort Hays State University. Jerry served as teacher, counselor, and coach for a period

of 35 years-all in the Victoria school district.

Jerry married Mary J. Rohleder in October 1965 and they have 4 children, all graduates of Victoria High School: Dale '86, married to Beth Billinger '86: Michele '87: Shannon '90, married to Mark Karst: and Jessica '94, married to Troy Dale. Dale resides in Ellsworth and is Superintendent of Schools, Michele and Jessica reside in Hays where they teach at Hays Middle School, and Shannon resides in Victoria and is employed at Hays Medical Center in the IT department. Jerry and Mary have eight grandchildren-Ryan, Kaley, Jeanae, and Jaret Brungardt, Megan and Jason Karst, and Jaycee and Jordan Dale. Mary and Jerry are extremely proud of their children and grandchildren.

Jerry's hobbies would include, but are not limited to: refinishing wood projects, reading historical articles pertaining to World War 2 and the Korean War, as well as the Vietnam era, and watching college basketball.

Jerry also loves to hunt, although now he gets greater satisfaction target shooting with family and friends. He is also proud, as are all Veterans, of his service in the armed forces having been a member of the Kansas Army National Guard and the U.S. Army from 1964 to 1970. At the local level, his service to the City of

### HALL OF FAME

Victoria as mayor and city council member for 24 years is of great importance to him also.

His basic philosophy of life is to do what is right, even though it might not always be popular; help other people as much as possible; treat every day as a gift, by unwrapping it and appreciating it; and never take life too seriously. He likes to remind people that life is too serious to always take it serious. Finally, most importantly to Jerry — is his family and friends.

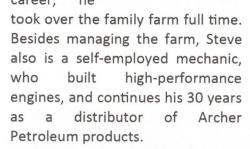
STEPHAN SANDER '68 was born to Robert and Lydia Sander in 1950. He was raised on a farm north of Victoria with his sister Patricia Sander Legleiter '65.

Steve attended Walker Grade School until its closure after his 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. He graduated from Victoria High School in 1968 and attended Fort Hays Kansas State College, majoring in Industrial Arts.

After college, he was hired on at Pierce-Schippers Construction Company with one of the projects being the construction of Gross Memorial Coliseum. He built houses with

Norman
Dinkel
Construction
and later
with his
brother-inlaw, Harry
Legleiter.

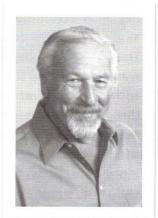
At the end of his construction career, he



His favorite past time since high school has been drag racing.

In 1973, Steve married Bonnie Schmidtberger '71. Their union was blessed with four boys, Chris '95, Bob '99, Matt '03, and Greg '06, all graduates of VHS, and seven grandchildren all residing in the Victoria area.

Steve was nominated for this award for his dedication to USD 432 as a board president and board member for 21 years. Steve wasn't even intending to run for school board the first time he was elected. He won his first term after someone wrote in his name on the ballot without Steve declaring himself a candidate. In fact, Steve and another person tied for the final board position, and a coin was flipped to declare a winner. Luckily for Victoria, the coin landed in Steve's favor, and he became our longest serving board member.



### **MEMBERSHIP:** Info and Stats

There have been a few questions raised recently about how membership with the Alumni Association works. Once a person reaches their 50<sup>th</sup> high school reunion, they are considered an "Honorary" member, and their membership from that point on is complimentary.

Everyone who hasn't reached their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion is eligible to be a "paid" member. This only costs \$5 per year, and you can pay to become a "lifetime" member at a reduced rate. Check out the alumni website

www.victoriaalumni.com for an easy to use calculator to help you see how much you can save by purchasing a lifetime membership. Anyone who hasn't paid for the current year is considered an "unpaid" member. Unpaid members will not receive the spring newsletter.

To check your status, look at the mailing label of your newsletter. Above your name is your current standing with the Alumni Association. The labels have been changed slightly, to help clear up any confusion as to a person's current

status.

In recent years, the number of people paying for their membership has begun to decline. The only way the annual dues can remain at \$5 will be if there is an increase in paid memberships.

### Membership stats for the Alumni Association

| Unpaid members           | 1,267 |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Honorary Members         | 593   |
| Lifetime Members         | 56    |
| Members paid up to 2019  | 199   |
| Members paid up to 2020  | 37    |
| Members paid beyond 2020 | 23    |
|                          |       |



The gym floor at Victoria Junior/Senior High School has been replaced. It was a total community effort that led to this project being completed. It has a brand new paint schematic, with a more modern look. The black and white picture with this article doesn't really do it justice. For a better look, there are several pictures on the alumni website at www.victoriaalumni.com.

In the fall of 2015, then Superintendent David Ottley approached the Alumni Association about conducting a

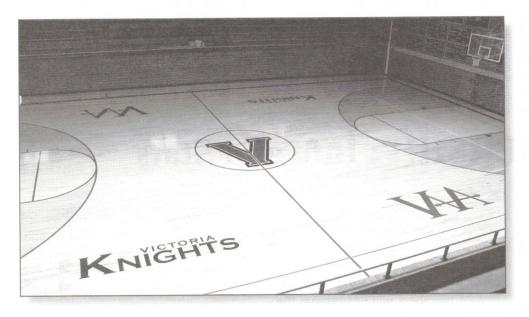
The old floor was refinished during the summer of 2016, just as it had been done previously. The company doing the refinishing wasn't sure if the floor could withstand another treatment, and the Alumni Association again reached out to its members via the Next Page Newsletter. A few more donations trickled in, but still not enough. Similar pleas in subsequent made were newsletters, and each time, a little more money slowly poured in.

Then, in the early days of 2019, a group of Victoria residents

over 1,000 tickets, totaling over \$5,530. There were also some cash donations made by individuals that would prefer to remain anonymous. However, some of the cash donations, totaling \$7,500, had a stipulation that they be used for new equipment for the gym.

Now that the campaign is over, a tally has been made. Donations were sent in from every corner of Kansas, and our alums from 20 different states also sent in contributions. The money from the meal was turned over to the Victoria USD 432 Foundation, and the Foundation then authorized a check to be written to the school in the amount of \$36,228.44. Adding those funds to the Alumni Association's \$26,389.50 brings the total donated towards the gym floor, and equipment, to \$62,617.94. The total cost of the floor was \$56,250 meaning that this only cost the school district \$1,132.06.

So the next time you make it back to Victoria, be sure to check out the new floor and new equipment in the gym. Only with the support of the entire Victoria community, both those who reside in Victoria and those who sent in financial support from afar, were we all able to complete this project.



fund raiser for the gym floor. The Alumni Board agreed and a mailing was sent to all the members of the association. The response was outstanding, but not enough to cover the cost of the new floor.

got together and began talks of holding a German meal fundraiser. Plans quickly came together. A prize raffle was also incorporated into the meal. Around 50 items were donated for the raffle. The meal itself also sold

This year's 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Alumni Golf Tournament will be held Friday, September 27, at the Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course. Hmmm...September 27<sup>th</sup>...could be a brisk fall morning...be sure to bring your wind breaker! Of course, we will have coffee and cinnamon rolls ready at 8:00 AM to start off the registration process. I always enjoy watching everyone coming in the club house to sign up and start trash talking golfers they haven't seen since last year's tournament. And sometimes it gets pretty trashy... you know who you are!

It is not too early to get your teams together and get them sent to me either by email, text, or the old-fashioned phone call. I will need names and whether or not you will need carts. This year, I would also like to have email addresses of as many golfers as possible. I think that will make it easier to confirm registration information if need be. By now everyone knows the drill — please contact me so that we have an idea as to how many for golf, how many golf carts we need to have on hand, and how many meals to prepare. Speaking of meals, this year Jeff Goetz '79 will be preparing our post round meal! I don't know what is on the menu, but I know it will be prepared on a Traeger Grill.

As in years past, this is a benefit golf tournament for the Alumni Scholarship Fund. There will be prizes for the three top teams and there will be hole prizes for longest putt and closest to the pin. We are trying speed things up this year so the golfers who are in the parade will

be able to play golf, eat, and still make it back to Victoria in time. Any ideas?

My name is Randy Leiker, my email is randyl@eaglecom.net, and my phone number is 785-259-1392. I look forward to seeing you at the Fort Hays Municipal Golf Course on Friday, September 27.

For those who don't know, this will be my last year coordinating the golf tournament. Next year is my 50<sup>th</sup> high school anniversary, and I'd like to spend more time with my classmates. I intend to be back next year, only as just a golfer, not having any of the responsibilities that I've taken on for the past 10 or so years.

James Brungardt '05 has volunteered to take over for me starting next year. James is the son of Chris '81 and Bertha Brungardt and the

grandson of **H. James** '55 and **Gladys Kippes Brungardt** '58. James will be great as your new golf tournament coordinator, and

## 23rd Annual Alumni Golf Tournament

by Randy Leiker '70

he'll be by my side during this year's tournament. After observing how I attempt to manage all this craziness, he'll be better suited to avoid all the mistakes I've made.

The financial details for the tournament are the same as last year: \$50 per person/\$200 per team and golf carts will be available to rent at \$20 per cart. If you know you will be needing a cart, it is doubly important that you pre-register by September 19 to ensure there are enough carts on hand. The pre-registration info is on the alumni website at <a href="https://www.victoriaalumni.com">www.victoriaalumni.com</a>. Click on the golf flyer link to see the pertinent info.





### **CLASS NOTES**



1940'S Class of 1949 – This is a reminder to all of you from the Class of '49 to join your fellow classmates for Homecoming 2019 at Victoria High School. The dates to remember are September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Keep us up to date about what is happening in your world? The 70-year class usually has a nice representation for homecoming and we are pretty sure we will be seeing many of you.

John Braun '49 and his wife Josie remain very active in their church and community. They are the parents of seven Victoria High School graduates: James '75, Janet Braun Giersch '77, Joe '79, Joan Braun Rourk '82, John '84, Judy Braun Brummer '70, and Jerry '91. They have twelve grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

1950'S class of 1954 — You need to give some serious thought about returning for your 65<sup>th</sup> class reunion on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28th. Everyone would love to see you, especially your classmates. Be sure to get your raffle tickets in.

Class of 1959, this is a reminder of your 60<sup>th</sup> class reunion. Come on home for the festivities September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28th. We are sure that our local class leaders have been making plans which we are sure you are aware of. We are anxious to see you!

1960's class of 1964, the time has come to celebrate your 55<sup>th</sup> class reunion. Remember what a nice time you had getting together with your classmates for your 50<sup>th</sup> reunion? Well, five years have passed and we hope you will consider revisiting your alma mater. A big weekend is planned!

Class of 1969 we are hoping that many of you have been busy organizing your 50<sup>th</sup> class reunion of graduation from Victoria Rural High School. We are certain you will rally your class for a fun weekend. You will be introduced as a class by your class spokesperson. Your class picture will be featured in the Hays Daily News the Sunday before homecoming. Yes, it is a Big Deal!

1970'S Message from the Class of 1974 reunion organizers: "Class of 1974, it is your 45-year reunion. Join in the planned festivities! On Friday, September 27, sit with your classmates on a float in the parade and later at the football game. After the game, come to a party at the Dan and Mary Kay Schippers farm. On Saturday, September 28, join everyone at mass and at the all-school reunion. Hope to see everyone there!!"

Class of 1979 – This year marks your 40<sup>th</sup> reunion from high school. It seems that in years past there is not much interest in the

40<sup>th</sup> reunion, but looking over your class list, this could be a record year for the 40<sup>th</sup> reunion class. You are one of our strongest classes and hope we will be seeing many of you at Homecoming 2019 to help us celebrate. The dates to mark on your calendar are September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

1980'S Class of 1984, it is reunion number 35

for your class. It is another tight-knit class, and we are just sure you will be joining us in record numbers. Your Alumni Association does all the planning. Just come and enjoy. Dates are September 27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>.

Class of 1989, this is reunion year number 30 for your class. We hope to see you at Homecoming 2019 on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>.

1990'S Randy Huser '90 and Dave Schoendaller

'91 took the Dale Carnegie Course: Skills for Success in the summer of 2019 in Hays. Seventeen participants completed the eightweek course. Randy received the "Highest Award Achievement" which was given to the person that best exemplifies the standards, qualities, and principles on which the Dale Carnegie program is based. Dave among the final four candidates for the award.

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## **CLASS NOTES**



Shana Dreiling Gatschet '91 was the recipient of the Award for Clinical Excellence in 2018 by the Kansas Occupational Therapy Association. This award recognized by her peers for providing exemplary quality care in her services with those with Parkinson's Disease. Shana works in home health in Wichita, Kansas, and is also the owner of Parkinson Connect, a service provided locally and online for Kansas residents. She is married to Michael Gatschet '90 and has two sons, Cade, 16. and Braden, 13. Shana is the daughter of Jeanette (Kippes) Dreiling '60.

Class of 1994, Important Notice!! It's your 25<sup>th</sup> class reunion. This is a really big deal. You will be featured on the program to declare the mark you made on Victoria High School. It is going to be quite a party. We hope to see you at the parade and the rest of the weekend activities. For starters, maybe you want to gather for the golf tournament on Friday.

Class of 1999, it is time to be thinking about coming home for your 20<sup>th</sup> class reunion. Your Alumni Association hasn't heard from you in a while. This would be a great time to make plans to get back in touch with your fellow classmates. The dates are September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Start your weekend off by participating in the golf tournament Friday morning.

Corey Schmidtberger '99 and his wife, Kim, announce the birth of a daughter, Josie Lynn, born May 3, 2019, in Olathe, Kansas. She has an 8-year-old brother, Jacob.

2000'S Preston Dreiling '00

and his wife, Tiana, announce the birth of a son, Harold Lee, born April 11, 2019. He is welcomed home by a brother, Verlin, 7; and three sisters, Preslyn, 9, Emalyann, 5, and Susie, 2. His grandparents are Frank '80 and Brenda Kuhn Dreiling '78 and his great-grandmother is Estella Schippers Kuhn '56.

Michael Brungardt '00 and his wife, Jeanette, announce the birth of a son, Oliver William, born March 28, 2019. He is welcomed home by a brother, Luke, 3, and a sister Maggie, 2. His grandparents are Bob '68 and Shirley Riedel Brungardt '68.

Michael '01 and Alicia Denning Kelley '02, announce the birth of a daughter, Everly Ann, born May 15, 2019. She was welcomed home by two siblings, Ava and Owen. Grandparents are Betty Weigel Denning '65 and Darrell '74 and Alice Rohr.

Class of 2004, how about coming home for your 15<sup>th</sup> class reunion? A lot has happened in the past five years for you to share with your classmates. We hope you are making plans to attend Homecoming 2019.

Angie Garner Howard '05 and her husband, Nick, announce the birth of a daughter, Macy Estelle, born June 11, 2019. She has a sister, Calla, 2 years old.

Cory Dreiling '07 and Sydney Fellhoelter were married April 27, 2019, in the Basilica of St. Fidelis. Cory is the son of Jim '78 and Deb Leiker Dreiling '79. His grandmother is Patsy Crawford Dreiling '56.

Janae Brungardt Tidwell '08 and her husband, Alexander, announce the birth of a son, Shae Jackson, born April 9, 2019. He has a big brother, Maks, to welcome him home. Grandparents are Chris '81 and Bertha Brungardt. His greatgrandparents are Jim '55 and Gladys Kippes Brungardt '58.

Cole Dreiling '08 and his wife Corinna Gagnon Dreiling '10 announce the birth of a son, Vince Joseph, born April 17, 2019 at Hays Medical Center. He has a sister, Lennox 2. His grandparents are Joe '84 and Brenda Dreiling. Greatgrandparents are Norman '55 and JoAnn Dreiling.

Class of 2009, you are the 10-year honor class this year and the youngest of our honored classes. Each year three classes have the special honor of being given bragging rights at the banquet. This year that will be the 50-year class, the 25-year class and your class the Class of 2009.



## **CLASS NOTES**





LEFT: Alumni from a number of Victoria High School classes gathered at the V.F.W. Hall after the Homecoming football victory over the Macksville Mustangs on Friday, September 14, 2018.

Brenton '09 and his wife, Andrea Dome Hoffman '11, announce the birth of a son, Forrest John, born February 18, 2019 at Hays Medical Center. Forrest is welcomed home by a brother, Rhett, and a sister, Hunter. His grandparents are David '82 and Brenda Braun Hoffman '83 and Stuart '82 and Tammy Dinkel Dome '85. His great-grandparents are Fritz '56 and Anita Braun.

2010'S Tayla Geist '12 and Ellis Broc were married June 22, 2019, at the Basilica of St. Fidelis. Tayla is a kindergarten teacher at Northview Elementary in Haviland, Kansas. She is the daughter of Tom '78 and Brenda Leiker Geist '82. Shelia Roth Leiker-Page '60 and Tina Geist Braun **'58** are Tayla's grandmothers.

Amanda Braun '12 and Jay Disberger were married July 13, 2019, in Manhattan. Amanda is the daughter of John '84 and Connie Braun and the granddaughter of John '49 and Josie Braun.

Ashley Dome '13 and Kole Urban were married May 18, 2019, at the Basilica of St. Fidelis, Victoria. Ashley's parents are Stuart '82 and Tammy Dinkel Dome '85. Kole's parents are Ken and Melanie Urban and his grandmother is Virginia Engel Urban '60. Ashley and Kole live in Hutchinson, Kansas. Ashley is employed by the Buhler School District as a first grade teacher at Plum Creek Elementary.

Class of 2014, 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 reservations in early and plan to join the party. It will be a great time.

Kristin Huser Werth '14 and her husband, Braden, announce the birth of a daughter, Emma, born April 22, 2019, in Hays. Grandparents are Galen Huser '86 and Shelly Huser. Leon Huser '61 is the great-grandfather.

MaKayla Crawford '15 graduated cum laude from Benedictine College, Atchison, on May 10, 2019, with a Registered Nurse and Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree. She received her nursing pin in an earlier ceremony on May 9. MaKayla is working in the labor and delivery department at a Great Bend hospital. She is engaged to be married to Kelby Parton on December 21 in Victoria. She is the daughter of Jeff Crawford and Crawford Dianne and the granddaughter of Ted '54 and Cecilia Crawford.

Austin Crawford '15 graduated from the University of Kansas in May 2019. He is the son of Karen Crawford and the grandson of Ted '54 and Cecilia Crawford.

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.



## In Loving Memory



Bruce Ward passed away March 22, 2019. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and 15 grandchildren. Mr. Ward was superintendent of schools at Victoria beginning in 1994 through 1999.

**Leroy Hoffman '53** passed away April 9, 2019, at his home. He is survived by a son, a daughter, and a step-daughter; a sister, **Henrietta Hoffman Windholz '44**; 6 grandchildren; 1 great-grandchild; seven step-grandchildren; and several great-grandchildren.

Tom Schulte '70 passed away April 10, 2019, at Via Christi Village Care Center, Hays. He is survived by two sons, Seth '02 and Kyle '04; two step-daughters, Gabby Petzold Lenger '93 and Megan Gramly; his former wife, Vickie Schulte; one brother, Gary Schulte '60; and three grandchildren.

Paul Schmidtberger, husband of **Vera Romme Schmidtberger '50**, passed away April 20, 2019. He is survived by his wife, one son, one sister, five grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren.

Joan Kisner Dechant '70 passed away May 6, 2019, at her home in Hays. She is survived by her husband, Lawrence; two sons; two sisters, Caroline Perrer and Kay Kisner '71; and one granddaughter.

Angeline Denning passed away May 21, 2019, in Salina. She is survived by a son, **Wilbur Denning '64**; a daughter, Mary Denning; a brother; two sisters; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Gerald "Gerry" Ruder '51 passed away May 28, 2019, at Valley Eldercare Center in Grand Forks, North Dakota. He is survived by his wife, Margaret; two sons; two daughters; a brother, Allen Ruder '62; two sisters, Patricia Ruder Lang '56 and Darlene Ruder Werth '58; eight grandchildren; and three greatgrandchildren.

Sister Paul Ann Dinkel '51 passed away June 1, 2019, at Nazareth Center, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. She is survived by two brothers, George Dinkel and Fr Harvey Dinkel, OFM Cap., and two sisters, Viola Dinkel Richmeier '51 and Mary Dinkel Younker '48.

Lamanda Lodovici Bennegfield '63 passed away June 4, 2019, in Wichita. She is survived by one son; three daughters; a brother, Dennis Lodovici '66; four sisters, Sharon Lodovici '65, Anita Lodovici Englert '68, Vicki Lodovici Martin '71 and Gail Lodovici Flax '74; nine grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

James Kuhn '63 passed away July 23, 2019, in Wichita. He is survived by two sons; one daughter; two sisters, Helene Kuhn Staton '74 and Carol Kuhn '77; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

LEFT: Jeff Brungardt '98 lights a candle in memory of deceased alumni from the Class of 1938 during the 2018 Victoria High School Alumni Memorial Mass in the Basilica of St. Fidelis. Candles are lit in memory of deceased members of each class.

### ST. FIDELIS HIGH SCHOOL 1922-1940



Victoria Rural High School 1941—1966

VICTORIA HIGH SCHOOL 1967—2010

VICTORIA JUNIOR/SENIOR
HIGH SCHOOL
AUGUST 2010—PRESENT

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

## FCCLA



The Victoria chapter of Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) had another successful year in 2019. Thirteen members qualified for the national conference in southern California. Five golds were earned along with a silver medal. Among those winners, three teams ranked in the top 10 in the nation, with 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup> rankings. While in California, the group spent time at Disneyland, Hollywood, and, of course, the beach.

The national FCCLA will be celebrating 75 years this coming school year. Our local club, which began as the Future Homemakers of America (FHA) in 1956, would like to invite all past FHA/FCCLA members to stop by the FCS classroom after the Homecoming Parade for cookies and punch. There will be a banner to sign and a chance to reconnect.

Please stop by and visit with FCCLA sponsor, Mrs. Connie Braun. She would love to see you again. If you can't make it, please feel free to email her at <a href="mailto:cmbraun@ruraltel.net">cmbraun@ruraltel.net</a> and tell her where life has taken you.