

# MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# ALUMNI NEWS



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### INSIDE...

**GET YOUR ALUMNI AWARD NOMINATION IN -- EXTENDED DEADLINE JULY 3, PAGE 19**



### FLOODS CHANGE THE MV LANDSCAPE...

A 500 year flood that caused record-breaking river levels on the Cedar were not kind to many families and structures throughout Iowa and in the Mount Vernon area. The river crested in Cedar Rapids at 31.5 feet, the last highest record was 20 feet in 1929, and flood level is 12 feet. Above left, damage of Highway 1 looking south toward the Ivanhoe Bridge, and at right, Sutliff Bridge loses its first span.

## 2008 ALUMNI EVENTS...READY, SET, GO!

**July 3** - extended post-mark deadline to submit your nominations for first-ever Alumni Awards. See page 19. **DON'T DELAY - SUBMIT AN ALUM YOU THINK DESERVING OF EITHER A SERVICE, ACHIEVEMENT, FINE ARTS, OR ATHLETIC AWARD NOW!**

**July 11 and 12** - It's Heritage Days and a flurry of activities for alums. But be sure to attend the ever-popular All-Alumni and community breakfast at the High School on Saturday morning (8:00-11:30 am, serving from 8-10 am). The event is a popular meeting place, and a unique opportunity to see alums from 2008 to 1933 (and even future alums!), as well as familiar faces from the community. Then, visit the Alumni Reception area up town near the band stand on Friday and Saturday - on Friday from 4-8 and Saturday from noon-8. Who will you see there? See pages 4 and 5 for pictures from last year's activities.

**October 3** - Homecoming and fall in Mount Vernon along with our first ever alumni award activities and Alumni Association Annual Meeting. Join us Friday night for the homecoming football game and alumni reception, along with announcement of the first award recipients and Alumni Band! Then join us Saturday (details to come) for our Award Ceremony and Annual Meeting. See page 2 for information about the Alumni Band - even those of you who would like to participate, but not play.

**October 4** - If you are interested in running for an Alumni Association Board of Directors position, please contact a member of the Search Committee:

- Nargi Jo Rayman Steinbrech '55 nargijo@yahoo.com 319-624-2234
- Jenny Moore Hampton '94 jjdsphamp@mchsi.com 319-651-3439
- Susan Mounts Fisher '65 susanifisher@msn.com 319-389-3686 or 319-895-6339

The Peterson Family used the 2007 Alumni weekend to reconnect -- Payson '77 from Colorado, Mary Peterson Berry '69 from North Carolina, Scott '71 from Mount Vernon, Shelly Peterson Dies '67 from Kentucky and Victoria Peterson Ahrensdorf '72 from Massachusetts.



525 Palisades Road SW  
 Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314  
 alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us  
 319-895-8845 / fax 319-895-8875  
 www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us

# Mustang ALUMNI

## ALUMNI BAND SIGN UP NOW!

Start feeling the beat as we get ready for our FIRST Mustang Alumni Band recognition and performance this fall at Homecoming, Friday, October 3rd.

**Not wanting to play?** You can still be part of the group. Come be recognized with us! Try to let us know so that we can send you information.

**Wanting to play in the band?** Information letters and music for the Mustang Fight Song will be going out this summer to those who have responded so far – so if you don't get your music by August 1, let us know. Music will also be available on the Alumni web page at: [www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni](http://www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni)

High School Band Director Alan Kiser will be your contact.  
Alan Kiser 319-895-8843 ext 4009  
akiser@mountvernon.k12ia.us

**PICTURES of the Alumni Award Recipients and '08 Homecoming activities will appear in the Fall '08 Alumni Newsletter.**

### 2008 MV Community Events

[www.visitmvl.com](http://www.visitmvl.com)

- July 4 Antique Extravaganza
- July 10-12 Heritage Days
- July 12 Art In The Park
- July 25 Ragbrai
- Sept tba Lincoln Hwy Arts Festival
- May tba 2009 Chalk the Walk

525 Palisades Road SW  
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314  
319-895-8845  
alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us  
[www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us](http://www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us)

## 2008 Reunions Coming Up...

For more information, watch your class Alumni web page at:  
[www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni](http://www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni)

(all phone numbers are 319 area code unless noted)

**Miss one? Call 319-895-8845**

**Saturday, July 12th Building Tours**  
**New High School 9-10:30 am**  
**First Street Building 1-2 pm**  
**Tours of the 1971-2005 high school building (now the Middle School) will unfortunately not be available this year due to construction**  
**If you have a group of people wanting to tour either the new High School or the First Street Building at times other than listed above, please give the Alumni Office a call at 319-895-8845.**

**1998 - 10 year - July 12 weekend**  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
7-9 pm Don Mar Lanes  
Contact: Char Campagna McDermott  
Phone: 895-8234  
Email: charlotte.mcdermott@hotmail.com  
Missing: David Axell, Marissa Evers  
Brent Hammrich, Jason Tolmie,  
Nicole Wise

**1993 - 15 years - July 12 weekend**  
Fri:  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
7-9pm Fuel  
Contact: Braden Pospisil Rood  
Phone: 895-8476  
Email: roodgirl@gmail.com  
Missing: Matt Buls, Aaron Davidson,  
Margaret Gerber, Lance Jaster, Kelli Kuntz, Jodi Mauseth, Chad Sulzer

**1988 - 20 year - July 12 weekend**  
Fri: 9 pm Chameleon's Pub  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
6 pm Hillcrest Country Club,  
Contact: Lisa Squiers White  
Phone: 895-0122  
Email: whitetdlc@msn.com  
Missing Classmates: Matt Mehaffy

**1983 - 25 years - July 12 weekend**  
Fri: 5-9 Reunion at Walker Family Farm  
our parents and teachers invited  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
6 pm Reception at Envisage Studios  
Contact: Lisa Lewis Hazlett  
Phone: 895-0199  
Email: lisa@envisagephoto.com  
Missing: Betsy Lee (Kral) Bender, Kevin Campbell, Paul Debbins, David Grell,  
Marlin Hoffner, Greg Hughes,  
Eric Niswonger, Jayson Schoen, Janeen Simmonds, Sue White

**1978 - 30 year - July 12 weekend**  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
6 pm Koppenhaver home  
Contact: Ann Koppenhaver  
Phone: 895-6411  
Email: akoppenhaver@koppenhavercpas.com  
Missing: Paul Farfaras, Rosalee Gilbert, Eric Mar-  
kley, Dave Smith, Greg Solomon, Cheryl Velky

**1973 - 35 years - reunion will be in 2009**  
Contact: Ann Clark  
Phone: 540-1388

**1968 - 40 years - June 28 weekend**  
Fri: 7 pm Get-together at Barb Thomsen  
Neal's, other alums welcome  
Barb 319-895-8171  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
noon-3:30 Memory Walk - Main St  
3:30 Tour of our high school (First Street)  
5:00 Suchomel Yard Social Hour  
6:30 High School, Reunion Dinner  
Contact: Rita Suchomel Dudley  
Phone: 563-927-4093  
Email: dud916@iowatelecom.net  
Missing: Cathy Reiff Blank, Vicki Childs Hanson,  
Mary Jane Oakley Lewis

**1963 45 years - July 12 weekend**  
Fri: 6pm Sutliff  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
11 am-3pm Quilt Show, Methodist Church  
4 pm Warren Stoner Farm  
Contact: Linda Peterson Nost  
Phone: 455-2138  
Email: Inost@southslope.net  
Missing: Dan Cookes

**1958 - 50 years - July 12 weekend**  
Fri: 5:30pm Hartenberger Wold home  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
11 am Float in Parade  
1-2pm Tour of our high school (First Street)  
5:30pm Reunion at Sleep Inn  
Sun: 10am Brunch at Hillcrest Country Club  
Contact: Ron Nezerka  
Phone: 319-390-4777  
ronnezerka@imonmail.com  
Missing: Joan Clark Beatty

**1953 - 55 years - August 2 weekend**  
Sat: 6 pm Ronnenberg Restaurant, Amana  
Sun: 11:30 am Brunch at Moore home  
Contact: Betty Carney  
Phone: 362-5653  
Email: BDCarney@aol.com

**1948 - 60 years - July 12 weekend**  
Fri: 6 pm Gwen's Restaurant  
Sat: 8-11:30 Alumni Breakfast  
Contact: Frances Pitlik  
Phone: 362-8172

### 1943 - 65 years - July 12 weekend

Sat: at All-Alumni Breakfast  
Contact: Elizabeth 'Liz' Wolfe Kroul  
Phone: 455-2400  
Missing: Jean Smith Chapman, Darlene  
Kenny Bolton

### 1938 - 70 years - July 12 weekend

Sat: at All-Alumni Breakfast  
Contact: Mary AdaLaide Mulherin  
Phone: 895-8179

### 1933 - 75 years - July 12 weekend

Sat: at All-Alumni Breakfast  
Contact: Austin Armstrong  
Phone: 362-5159

Want to do something that would be really helpful to your reunion organizers? Their number one request is 'Please send in your response' when you get your mailing or emails or phone calls. They truly want your attendance, but your response helps them plan. Many times they have to place deposits and purchase items for the reunion and your responses help them. Their second request is to the local people -- please attend.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUPPORTERS and DONATIONS TO THE ASSOCIATION will appear in the spring issues of the Alumni News  
FOUNDATION DONATIONS will appear in Fall issue.

## 1988 STATE DUAL MEET WRESTLING CHAMPIONS REUNION

Members of the 1988 State Dual Meet Wrestling Championship Team will be reuniting on July 11 and 12 during Heritage Days to celebrate their state championship. Contact is Jeremy Elliott 319-895-0440 or by email mvelliott@netzero.net

Friday, July 11

evening - meet in front of Chameleon's

Saturday, July 12

8-10:30 All-Alumni Breakfast

10:30 am meet in Cornell's parking lot to participate in the parade at 11:00

1 pm Golfing at Hillcrest CC

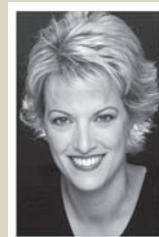
6 pm Cookout at Thomsen's/Elliott's

### Members of the 1988 Team are:

1988 Brent Durgin  
1988 Todd Lehr  
1988 Mark Wilkey  
1988 Keith Woods  
1989 Darren Brokel  
1989 Jeremy Elliott  
1989 Howard Fruehling  
1989 Brandon Kurtz  
1989 Royce Majors  
1989 Todd Neal  
1989 Jason Nosek  
1989 Eric Schneider  
1989 Jerry Snodgrass  
1989 Joseph Soukup

## Alumni Association Hosts National Honor Society Induction

For the 3rd year in a row, the Alumni Association has hosted the annual High School National Honor Society induction. Shown below, thank you to Bill Yeisley '52, Susan Mounts Fisher '65, Barb Thomsen Neal '68, and Nargi Jo Rayman Steinbrech '55 for representing Mount Vernon alums.



Lisa Squiers White '88  
Alumni Association  
President

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am just finishing up my second, and last, term as president of the Alumni Association. Serving as the Association's first president has

been a truly rewarding and enriching experience. I have a deeper appreciation for all there is to celebrate about our school and have taken great pride in watching the Association develop into a model alumni program.

The greatest benefit to serving on the board of directors though, has been forging new and lasting friendships with alumni from many different generations. I am continually awed by the passion our alumni have for this school district and have appreciated the opportunity to work with so many wonderful people.

The Alumni Association Board elections will take place at the fall Annual Meeting. In addition to my position, we have several other positions open and I would like to encourage you to consider stepping up and serving a term on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. I'm confident I speak for all board members when I say that we have all found our terms to be both fun and satisfying. The Association is still expanding and building, and I fully believe in replenishing the Board with fresh, new ideas and perspectives.

The time commitment for a board member is minimal - 3 meetings per year, email correspondence and opportunities to serve on occasional ad hoc committees. Would you like to be a part of the Board to help guide our future? If this is something that might interest you, please contact Nargi Rayman Steinbrech '55 at 319-624-2234 or by email at nargijo@yahoo.com.

I also encourage you to submit your nominations for the new Alumni Awards. Don't wait, the extended deadline is just days away on July 3rd - see page 19.

I hope to see many of you at the Heritage Days Breakfast on July 12 and also at the Annual Meeting and 1st Awards Ceremony October 4th.

Lisa Squiers White '88, President  
whitetdlc@msn.com or 319-895-8845



1989 Duane Yock  
1990 Jon Akers  
1990 Travis Allen  
1990 Joel Koffron  
1990 Randy Oakley, Jr.  
1990 Matthew Ostrom  
1990 Matthew Pfiffner  
1990 Chad Thurn  
1991 Ted Neal  
1991 Brandon Rutledge  
1991 Jason Stone  
Head Coach Bill Thomsen  
Coach Tracey Allen  
Coach Bob Majors  
Coach Colin Squires  
Coach Rick Elliott  
Manager Jen Gonzalez  
Manager Kim Denny  
Manager Jamie Meill  
Bus driver Meryl Hartung

# HERITAGE DAYS ALL-ALUMNI & COMMUNITY BREAKFAST AND ALUMNI RECEPTION PICS

**THANK YOU to the many alums who helped with these events!**

A big thank you to High School teacher Mary Young and students John Corcoran, Courtney Sheets, Melissa Ford, and Katie White who gave tours of the new high school at the 2007 breakfast.



Sis Pitlik'47, Ron Hess'59 and wife Judy



2003 Classmates Kelly Pisark at left with friends, at right Maggie Burke and Rachel Young



2005 Alum Beth Young visits with Jon Swanberg '59 . Faye Sparks Edwards'54 and Larry Edwards'54 in the background



An unidentified alum signs the guest book at the Alumni Reception area uptown



Alums are greeted by Kay Jilovec Lind'55 and husband Bob at right



1971 classmates Bonnie Pesarik and Julie Loomis help with coffee and juice at the breakfast -- and even offered to help again this year!



Alumni Association President Lisa White'88 visits with Betty Longerbeam Edwards'47 and Dick Edwards'47 and Paul Pospisil'47



Kelly Curtis Chapman'89 puts together display materials

Carlyle Bys'53 represents the Alumni Assocaition in the Parade



1960 Classmates Annamae Stoneking Baker and Dave Neal



Another family reunites at the breakfast -- the Reyhons sisters, Leona Reyhons Smith'56 from Mount Vernon, Marie Reyhons Beuter'53 from Solon, Ruth Reyhons Hinz'48 from Anamosa, and Dorothy Reyhons Poduska'45 from Solon

# 2007

Hope to see you all again  
July 12 and 13 of 2008!

# ALUMNI COMMENTS

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

"2007 was my first time at the Alumni breakfast. I really enjoyed it. My 16 year old son came with me and he was very impressed. Thanks to you and everyone helping to make it a great event! My one suggestion would be to have the Middle School (old high school) actually open the outside doors were unlocked but everything else was locked down. Having a representative in there to watch over things may have been good. It would have been a great walk down memory lane."  
Cheryl Covington MacDowell '82

"Here is a little Becicka trivia for you.... 4 generations of Becickas have graduated from school a year early  
My Grandmother ,Helen "Broulik" Becicka, from Mt. Vernon  
My father, Ron Becicka, from Solon  
My brother, Brian Becicka, from Mt Vernon  
My brother's daughter, Jenny Becicka, from Charles City (just started at the University of Iowa this fall)  
Daryl Becicka '84, West Des Moines, IA

Over the past few months I got together briefly with Ross Kempf (1980) and Rich Simon (1980) here in Minneapolis. It was fun to see them after about 30 years.  
Joe Hagedorn '80, Minneapolis, MN

Just wanted to say thanks for the effort you put into the association. We all have work and families and our own stressors, but your efforts facilitate the small town family feeling that makes Mount Vernon special!  
Robin Baker '85, Jacksonville Florida



Kathy Staskal from the Alumni Office visits with Raphael Pizarik '38



Dick Minor '61 DeAnn Dean LeVan '56, Betty More Stoneking '56, and Gretchen Beckholm '56



Class of 1933 members are being interviewed by editor Jake Krob from the Sun newspaper

**DRIVE THRU**  
**So Hot...Way Cool**

"We think we make the best coffee and specialty coffee drinks around - hot and cold. Plus pastries and children's drinks. You'll find our drive-through kiosk on Hwy 30 next to the Mount Vernon Motel!"

Beth Drongesen Hlire'86 and husband Dave, Corinne Wilcox Drongesen '56

Gift Certificates Available  
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319-895-6334

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Alan M. Shepley

## ONE-PITCH CO-ED SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

**Form a co-ed team with your family, friends, or old teammates and take on your neighbors and other community members for annual bragging rights in a one-pitch softball tournament.**

Contact Jeremy Elliott 895-0440 or mvelliott@netzero.net  
Sponsored by the Mount Vernon High School Baseball Team  
**When: July 25-27**

**Where: Davis Park in Mount Vernon**, Concessions available  
Entry Fee: \$50/team + 1 game ball (12" Red Dot)  
Registration deadline July 18th – brackets to team captains on the 20th

Games will be started on the hour - Pitch to your own team - 10 defensive players – can play with eight - Alternating female-male batting order – 8 or 9 will result in an out(s) - Only one pitch per player – foul balls are an out - Only one home run allowed per team/game – any after are an out - 10-run rule after five innings - 7 inning games - Winning team supplies two umpires for the next game - Can play with 5 or more females - Can bat more than 10 but needs to follow the alternating format - Doesn't matter which gender starts the order, but needs to follow alternating format

# REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES

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

## ▼ Class of 2002

Front row: Amy Hughes, Lacy Johnson, Teresa Britt Patterson, Afton Clark, Jessie Brown-Kwaiser  
Back row: Mickey Dietrich, Jenna Voss, Megan Wright Drysdale, Lisa Fettkether Schwiebert, Aaron Schwiebert, Nick Boren, Josh Pospisil, Mary Thompson-Shook, Ashley Clark, Ben Havill, Kira Scott, Aaron Murphy, Drew Virlee, Guthrie Burge, Brock Grenis. Peering in the back, Eric Schettler



The Class of 2002 held their first Reunion on Heritage Days Weekend 2007, catching up over the charcoal grill and potluck at JBT Cycles Shop in Lisbon. Thank you to organizer Teresa Britt Patterson for the pictures.



## ▲ Class of 1997

The Class of 1997 held their 10th Reunion by participating in the Heritage Days Parade with a class float, followed by a picnic at Davis Park, then an evening social gathering at Don Mar Lanes and enjoying the street dance uptown.



## ▲ Class of 1992

Group pictured above From L to R – Jenny Brown, Heather Fuchs Woods, Jenny Wilkinson Volesky, Heather Huffaker Ulch, Janet Fisher, Dale Merrill, Danielle Huber, Amy Reyhons Glick, Michele Meyer Grudzinski, Anne Halsey, April Kirkpartrick Charters, Vince Ellison, Elizabeth Cole Langemo, Nathan Bunting, Julia Swanson  
Other attendees from the afternoon but not pictured: Shannon Mitchell, Mike Jones, Dawn Platz Blackford

The class of 1992 met for their 15-year reunion at the alumni breakfast, followed by a family get together at Davis park and an evening reception at Liberty Iron Works.



## ▲ Class of 1933

Mary Wolrab, Austin Armstrong, and Blanche Long met at the Alumni Breakfast



## ▲ Class of 1945

The Class of 1945 met at the Alumni Breakfast.

# REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES



## ▲ Class of 1987

The Class of 1987 enjoyed their 20 year reunion starting with the Heritage Days Golf Tournament on Friday. They met Friday evening at an informal gathering uptown outside of Chameleon's Pub to enjoy the first night of Heritage Days. On Saturday after the All-Alumni Breakfast classmates enjoyed the parade followed by a Reunion Dinner that evening at Hillcrest Country Club and more Heritage Days activities.

## ▼ Class of 1976-1977-1978

The Classes of '76, '77 and '78 held a joint reunion during the 2008 Heritage Days, attending the street dance on Friday and Saturday nights, and a Reunion Dinner at Regal Crown in Lisbon. Watch for pictures of the classes of 1976 and 1978 to come in a future issue.



CLASS OF 1977 Front: Dona Baseman Wensel, Becky Thumm Whitman, Heather Johnson Funke, Ann Lehman Currie, Kathy Klinsky Mallie, Pam Becker Moine, Rochelle Sommerville, Barb Harms Tepper, and Liz Smith Burgess.  
Back: Chris Chadek, Dan Broulik, Mike Sheetz, Payson Peterson, Kurt Suchomel, Terry Boren, John Kroul, Warren Havill, Ron Theurauf, Brian Barthel, Barb Blinks Mazingo, Mike Woods, and Eric Winsor.



The Class of 1981 celebrated their 25th Reunion with a Friday night reception at the Three Fingers Saloon in Lisbon, followed by a Saturday Reunion Dinner at Hillcrest Country Club and a family Potluck picnic at Davis Park.

Pictured kneeling, left to right: Kim Klinsky Broulik, Terry Telecky Smith, Jim Koehn, Julie Lee Koehn, Ellen Soukup Townsen

First standing row (looks like all women): Karren Loomis, Quynh Nguyen Picciotti, Jude Smith, Vicki Schneider Ladd, Penny Randall Light, Debbie Wright, Melany Venditti Reinboldt, Rhondi Staley Ewing, Patti Cappacioli Streicher, Sharren Loomis, Kim Mortenson Raim, Teresa "Tessie" Stolte Conley, Cheryl Stepanek Al-Muhawish

Back row including all the men: Kevin Rogers, Tom Keith, Marc Reyhons, Barb Durfey Rogers, Brenda Harms Lynch, David Koffron, Dee Dee ChittendenMusgrove, Sharon Zinkula, Scott Johnson, Steve Pisarik, Larry Spellerberg, and Bob Penn

## ▲ Class of 1981

## ▶ Class of 2008

CONGRATULATIONS  
& WELCOME TO THE  
CLASS OF 2008!

87 seniors graduated May 24th. Congratulations, and we welcome all of you to Alumni activities.



# REUNION PICTURES REUNION PICTURES

## Mustangs...what are

### ■ MARSHA SWANEY WAGNER '68 TRACY BAIR GARVIN '89 CHIP SWANEY '72

Ten years ago Marcia Swaney Wagner '68 and her husband Dan opened The Grill House Restaurant in Allegan, Michigan. Their daughter Tracy Bair Garvin '89 joined them as the executive manager. Then, in 2006 Marcia's brother Chip Swaney '72 joined their growing operation as Facility Manager.

Marcia says they got started because her husband Dan really enjoyed the 'grill your own steak' restaurants in Iowa when he visited. Having a cottage in southwest Michigan, Marcia and Dan made the decision to look for a business there and then plan to retire in the area. They purchased a farm house built as a stage coach stop in 1836 and they set out to create "The Grill House." It didn't take long to discover that they had a ghost also staying with them. In 1847 a lumberjack was killed in the house and buried on the property without a tombstone. Marcia has actually seen him twice. He lets them all know he is there in many ways, including showing up in pictures. They opened the doors with 10 employees and currently have 75. Plans are underway for another restaurant 2 miles away in downtown Allegan on the riverfront with a hopeful completion date of May 2009.

After college Tracy worked in the banking industry. She lived in Indianapolis prior to her move to Michigan. When Marcia called her to see if she wanted to operate a restaurant she didn't even hesitate with her answer. Tracy oversees all areas of the business, meets regularly with all the managers and handles all staffing issues. Tracy met her husband, Dan, at The Grill House. They built a house close to the restaurant and have two sons, McClain (3) and Sullivan (1 month). Tracy loves to visit Mount Vernon. She always feels like she's home there. Her favorite teacher in high school was Mrs. Michaud and her favorite coach was Shirley Ryan.



Marcia, Tracey (soph year) and Chip



### ▲ Class of 1967

Celebrating a 40th Reunion, the class of 1967 met Friday, July 13th for an evening picnic reunion at Roger Pitlik's, then attended the All-Alumni breakfast on Saturday, and held a Saturday evening "Dance Party" at Roger Pitlik's home that was also open to other alums.

Pictured above, Front row: Conrad Leighton, Mick Snodgrass, Peg Neal Howard, Roger Pitlik, Diane Pospisil Henry, Shelly Peterson Dies, Candice Goodrich Kling, Sharon Meyer Crain, Larry Pisarik, Dave Stasny Middle row: Mark Burgess, Jeff Siggins, Mary Krejci Burr, Nancy Smykil Berns, Jane Baker Hardin, Kathy Brawner Worcester, Sandra Erenberger Hanna, Pam Pitlik Byersdorfer, Jackie Jennings Oxley, Kenny Neal Back row: Steve Clark, Roger Rife, Phil Hetland, Karen Tesar Rios, Mark Benson, Ron Swanson, Bill Lange, Dave Moses, Dennis Allard, Larry Marshek, Linda Davis Cornwall, Joe Conner, Nancy Brogan Williams, Dave Clark, Robert Davis



### ▲ Class of 1957

The Class of 1957 celebrated their 50th Reunion during Heritage Days 2007 with a Saturday evening Reunion Dinner catered by Gwen's at the Sleep Inn in Mount Vernon. They started on Friday with a party hosted by Bob and Jan Majors at their home. On Saturday attended the All-Alumni Breakfast and other Heritage Days activities, and on Sunday enjoyed a breakfast at the home of Bill and Myrt Bowers.

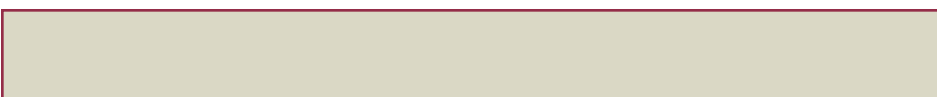
Pictured above: Front (sitting) L to R Joyce Olmstead Lucas, Karen Clark Fiala, Norman Rayman, Bill Bowers, Jan Hess Smith and Tom Kleineck. Back Row L to R Elaine Mulherin, Barb Neal Hutchins, Doug Tharp, Rita Becicka Krall, Barbara Bridges Hladek, Dick Washburn, Karen Jilovec Martin, Pat Caldwell Kamath, Paul Kent, Sandy Cunningham, Bob Myers, Myrt Clark Bowers, Steve Ludley, Bonnie Humes Boodon, and Jan Lowe Majors

### ▶ Class of 1942

Front seated: Clara Mareshek Pospisil, Mary Carol Plattenberger Lambertsen and Laurie Foster Henderson

Standing: Don Walton, Ruth Sievers Popelka, Caroline Neal Palmer, Harriet Moffett Sander and Pearl Whitlach Martin

The Class of 1942 enjoyed a 65-year reunion dinner at Gwen's Restaurant in Lisbon on July 14th of Heritage Days.





they doing now?



Top left: Marcia & Dan Top right: Chip  
Bottom: Tracy, Deede, Dan & Mark with OCC at one of their catering jobs last summer.

In the summer of 2006 and after the completion of a 400 seat banquet facility located behind the restaurant it was apparent they needed someone to manage, set up, and maintain "The Silo." That night Marcia went to bed and prayed for help. The next day Chip called. His wife and he had just left their stressful jobs in Kansas and needed time to regroup. He asked if they could visit. Her immediate response was "bring lots of clothes." At the time the apartment above the Grill House was vacant, so they moved right in and have decided to make Michigan their home. Chip and his wife Chris are jack of all trades at both The Grill House and The Silo. Their son Eric Fabor '88 and daughter Jennifer Juett Fabor '90 live in Belle Plaine, IA, and son Jeff Fabor '90 is a warrant officer in the Army and is currently stationed in Germany. Chip still loves and misses Mount Vernon. He reads the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* and *The Sun* online to keep in touch.

Marcia sees no sign of retirement in her future. She enjoys running the business and gives a lot of credit for her success to her two bosses she had when living in Mount Vernon, Dewey Humphries at The Holiday House, and Ed Fordyce at The Mount Vernon Bank. Her daughter & son-in law, Deede (Bair '88) & Mark Stastny '86 and family live in Mount Vernon with their children Tayler '2010, Nikki '2012 and Steven '2014, so she gets back to visit as often as possible. She loves walking down Main Street and visiting with everyone that remembers her.

Marcia says "Please check out the web site, and if you live in or visit Michigan, please stop in! It's only a six hour drive from Mount Vernon. While you are visiting be sure to check out the old mirrored disco ball hanging over the dance floor in the ballroom. It's from Highway Gardens in Stanwood, IA. Many of you probably remember dancing under it on several occasions."

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

Their website is [www.grillhouse.net](http://www.grillhouse.net) and you can reach Marcia at [marcia@grillhouse.net](mailto:marcia@grillhouse.net)

## VIKTOR DONATES TREE TO SCHOOL DISTRICT

The school grounds of the Mount Vernon Schools campus are park-like and well-tended, but when the new high school was built two years ago, the building sat in the midst of only a few plantings. Allan Viktor '69 who owns a local tree nursery, contacted Superintendent Schwiebert asking if he could help by donating a tree. He didn't mean just any tree, as now a 14-year old, 28 foot tall Northern Pin Oak is gracing the front of the high school. It was planted on May 1st this spring and is 12" in diameter.

Allan says "The High School looked bare with out any large trees around it. Being two stories tall, the building needed a huge tree immediately to balance out the looks of the school. Adrian Ringold (former principal and superintendent) suggested that I donate the tree in memory of my father Paul."

Allan explains "My father served on the school board when the 1971 High school was built. He was very proud of the fact that the 1971 High School was nice looking and built at a cost of \$11 per square foot, when the schools being built in Cedar Rapids cost over \$17 per square foot. Originally Paul was asked to serve on the board by three board members when another member resigned because they were moving. My father was farming full time, working full time as a draftsman at Square D Co. in Cedar Rapids, and a farm manager for a small group of farms near Swisherm Iowa. He told them he was too busy to serve. One of the board members said: "We want someone who is too busy; they are the ones who get things done!" Feeling honored, my father couldn't refuse. In fact my father helped plant this tree when it was a seedling in 1994.

Editor's Note: Thank you to Allan for this wonderful gift! He can be reached at [allanpaul02@yahoo.com](mailto:allanpaul02@yahoo.com)

**PHOTOS from top to bottom:**

- Top right: Allan in 1968 as a junior in High School
- 2nd from top: Allan lifts branches over the top of the tree spade so the branches won't get broken as the huge machine pulls away.
- Background photo: Allan beside the pin oak
- 3rd from bottom: Allan at left, visits with District Maintenance Supervisor Roger Pitlik '67 about the watering and caring the tree will need.
- 2nd from bottom Allan unties the tree from the truck.
- Below: tree in front of new High School





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

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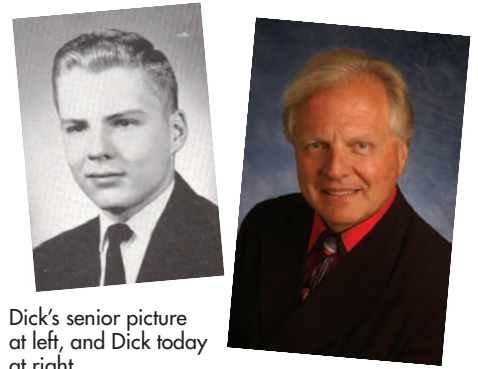
## Mustangs...what are they doing now?

### ■ RICHARD 'DICK' BOWMAN '58

A successful attorney and managing partner of his own firm, Dick is owner of honors from 'The Best Lawyers in America' and the Minnesota Law & Politics Magazine 'Super Lawyer.' He has first chaired cases in more than 30 states and was most recently recognized by Honda for outstanding service and 20 years of success in defending their company. He has authored several articles on product liability and is a frequent speaker. He has appeared on the McNeil-Lehr News Hour and has testified before Congress and the Consumer Product Safety Commission regarding products liability. Following is an excerpt from information he wrote for his class's reunion Memory Book.

"After high school, I graduated from Cornell College, was offered free rides to either Duke or Chicago University of Law School or University of Minnesota Law School. I didn't know where Duke was, I did know where Chicago was and I had just fell in love with a Minnesota girl, so I chose Minnesota (logical? not)...I have tried cases in over 30 states and our office has gone to jury verdict in all of the 50 states except Delaware. So I have lived my life on the road going from trial to trial....After being clumsy all my life, I was talked into ballroom dancing lessons and for about ten years my wife Terri and I competed in contests around the country...We didn't make any money so I couldn't quit my day job, but we had lots of fun....I have flown my hot air balloon in several states and have also flown several times over the alps in Austria at a competition held the second week in January. Among the 44 European teams they allow two American teams. One of the five years we participated we WON. Also got to take the balloon to Leningrad, USSR in 1990 and flew from a different tsar's palace twice each day with the 50 teams worldwide. The Russians had never seen hot air balloons, so the crowds were electrified and fantastic to behold."

Dick put together a conglomeration of memories from Mount Vernon, enjoy... "I have lots of great memories of good old MVHS, and some before: of the one room country school house where my sis and brother and I attended for 2 years before it was closed and we were bused to town, no indoor plumbing, no electricity either, two holer outside.



Dick's senior picture at left, and Dick today at right.

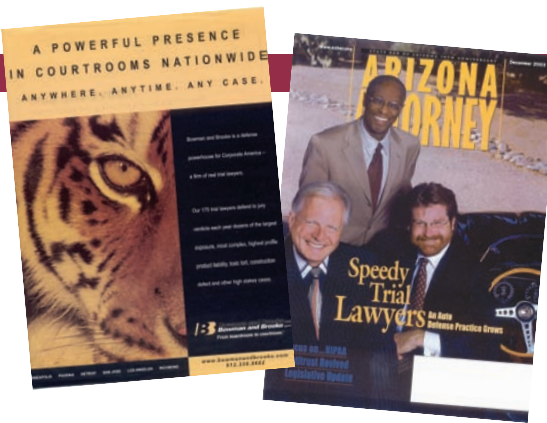
To get permission to go "outside", you raised your hand with one finger if your mission would be short, and two fingers if prolonged (the dozen kids in school always laughed if two fingers were raised.) My class was the largest; there was my brother and me and one other kid. We attended 3rd grade in "town school" where everyone wore jeans, we didn't. We wore the high front bib overalls and work shoes. Our parents soon allowed us to have jeans and low cut shoes and then "town" school felt a lot better.

Our fifth grade teacher was named Mr. Reyburn. I recall him being very upset at the class when he was shot in the eye with a squirt gun. Charlie Sloan was our band instructor when I was in 7th grade. I recall him directing us all, that if we couldn't hit the right note, to at least hit it LOUD. As I recall we all complied with this instruction.

For those of us who were active in dramatic arts, declamation and speech competitions, we were fortunate to have Charlie Kraus as not only our english teacher for most of high school, but our speech, debate and declam coach too. We almost always wiped up the floor with our competition at state speech contests, and Mr. Kraus gets a lion's share of the credit for that. Because of him I grew up thinking it was normal to be on my feet speaking in front of an audience, and he taught all the aspects of effective speech which I still use in court and teach our younger lawyers to employ.

Our football coach Don Hipple was famous for always admonishing us before each game to "LEAVE IT ALL ON THE FIELD BOYS. DONT SAVE ANYTHING FOR THE BIG POST GAME DANCE." And apparently we followed his advice because I think we won the conference





■ SARAH BLY'91

EDITOR'S NOTE: Following is an excerpt about Sarah from her website at [www.graceofthemoon.com](http://www.graceofthemoon.com)

"I began studying women's health at a very young age as life and its experiences offered me the opportunities to do so. I did hours and hours of self-study in nutrition and alternative medicine before choosing to follow the path of midwifery. I started going to births in 1998 and have progressed through an apprenticeship, a long-term correspondence course, multiple conferences, tons of self-study, midwifery programs in 3 foreign countries and about 100 births. I am now working as an assistant midwife as I await the birth of my first child (consciously conceived using FAM !) and complete the final paperwork for licensure... honoring the organic process of entering the role of primary midwife. I also do nutrition counseling, help lead cleansing programs and work with hospice patients. The emphasis of fertility awareness in my midwifery practice has come naturally to me. ... I am certified as a Fertility Awareness Method (FAM) instructor. I love to teach this information and am passionate about sharing it with as many women and couples as I can. I live just outside of Ashland, Oregon with my sweetheart Paul and enjoy dancing, hiking, camping, cooking and loving. All things wild and free are my teachers."

Thank you to Sarah who also wrote in to tell us about some memories from Mount Vernon High School. "I felt well inspired in my creative work at MVHS. Between Mrs. Michaud's creative writing, Mrs. Ellison's theatre productions, Ms. Nelson's fantastic choir



practices and Mrs. Swenson's photography there was room for a lot of fun and exploration. Really though, it was Mr. Swenson's 'Self Awareness' class that built a foundation for me whose value surpassed any of the academic or creative aspects of my education. Many years later, I began to see what a huge blessing it was to have this man gently opening our minds to such practices as meditation and yoga ... at a small high school in the midwest. It sparked in me an ever-changing internal relationship that now offers me an on-going sense of peace that I value greatly. Thank you Mr. Swenson!"

I love being in contact with the Alumni Association, even if I'm far from Iowa and can't make it to many events."

EDITOR'S NOTE: you can reach Sarah Naomi Bly at [tahinigeenie@hotmail.com](mailto:tahinigeenie@hotmail.com)

continued on next page

championship my senior year, a tribute to Mr. Hipple, Mr. Bergman and to our newest coach Jim "red dog" Miller, who "treated" those of us who dogged it in practice to a one-on-one blocking and tackling exercise after practice. Even though he had NO PADS and NO HELMET, we who were fully protected always got the worst of it.:

My memories of Ken Smykil are most fond, playing in the polka band with him on tuba, trying to get out of marching with the band at half time even though I didn't make the football team my freshman year, concerts, festivals, trumpet trio, trumpet quartet, brass sextet, music contests, solos, and he hung in there for all of them. He must have been pretty darn good too, because we usually kicked '####' and took awards at state music contests too.

No trip down memory lane would be complete without Lois Nichols. All the guys were in love with her; she was beautiful, bright and effervescent, and fun to learn vocal music from. Even guys who didn't like to sing signed up for chorus, men's glee club and small choral groups such as quartets, madrigals etc. and Lois always walked off with all the bacon when she sent us to music contest too. These are a few of my teacher memories."

Dick can be reached at [rbowman@bowman-brooke.com](mailto:rbowman@bowman-brooke.com)



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# Mustangs...what are they doing now?

## ■ REID HANLEY '64



Congratulations to Reid Hanley who was inducted into the Hall of Fame at the 2007 Illinois High School State Wrestling Tournament. Reid is shown above being presented his award by Jack Leese of the Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association. Reid earned this award for his outstanding coverage of sports, and in particular wrestling as a writer at the Chicago Tribune. Reid is author/co-author of several publications including *Beginning Wrestling* and *Who's Who in Track and Field*. He was also winner of the 1978 Illinois Press Association award for sports writers and the 1980 Illinois Wrestling Coaches and Officials Association Newsmen of the Year.



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## and more...

**Editor's Note:** Before publication, we sent out an email to all alums we have an email for asking for news, and we appreciate the great response we received back! Below are several mini-bits of news from alums you will all enjoy...

### ■ RICK SHERMAN '79

"I graduated from Mt. Vernon High School in 1979. I was active in band and chorus all 4 years. I want to say thank you to Don Stine and Lois Nichols for the outstanding jobs they did as band and chorus directors. They both were excellent teachers who helped many students and I enjoyed my musical experiences that they provided.

After graduating I marched in the Iowa Hawkeye Marching Band for 4 years, including the 1982 Rose Bowl Game and Parade. I then attended Kirkwood Community College and graduated with a A.A.S. in computer programming. I am living in North English, Iowa with my wife of 7 years and 4 year old daughter. I am playing drums in a local 60s oldies Rock band, The Escorts / Do's & Don'ts. I have been playing with them since 1976. They were inducted into the Iowa Music Association's Rock N Roll Hall of Fame in 1997. For more information as well as our current schedule visit our website at [www.EscortsDosDonts.com](http://www.EscortsDosDonts.com)."

### ■ KAREN MILLER THORNTON '74

Congratulations to Karen Thornton who earned the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce's 2008 Business of the Year Award and is also celebrating ten years in business, Big Creek Market. Read all about her in an April 23, 2008 Sun article that you can find on their website at [www.mtvernonlisbonsun.com](http://www.mtvernonlisbonsun.com)

### ■ BRYAN JOHNSON '99

"I am currently working towards an M.A. degree in Industrial Technology (concentration in Appropriate Technology) at Appalachian State University in Boone, North Carolina, graduating in Spring 2009. My studies are concentrated in renewable energy technologies, with courses in Photovoltaics, Solar Thermal, Wind, Microhydro, and Biofuels. I know that Iowa is a demonstrated leader in Wind and Biofuels technologies and these are very hot subjects now in Iowa's political and energy discussions as well as many other states.

In part, I would like to promote the program to alumni and current MV students, but would also like to support the efforts being made in Iowa and hope to lend my expertise to Iowans in the future.

I am currently a member of a student led, student funded Renewable Energy Initiative on Appalachian's campus that is bringing renewable energy technologies onto the campus. Some of the accomplishments that have been made in the last 4 years include: The purchase of a tank to store B20 Biodiesel to operate the City of Boone's Bus Transportation System, A large solar thermal project that will be installed on the University's Student Union in the Summer of 2008, a 6 kW photovoltaic array that will be installed on campus during the summer of 2008, as well as a proposed 100kW wind project that would be installed near the Universities Broyhill Conference Center and Inn. If anyone is interested in learning more, they are more than welcome to contact me. [johnsonbd@appstate.edu](mailto:johnsonbd@appstate.edu)"

### ■ MARY BAUMAN KOLBE '64

"I was 2008 Chairman of "Evening In The Park" Dinner and Auction held at a resort in Phoenix, raising money for the Arizona Cancer Center in Tucson. We raised \$400,000 in one evening! Every dollar goes directly to the doctors and researchers at the renowned Arizona Cancer Center to be used for cancer treatment and research. One of our "hottest" auction items this year was "Gourmet Dinner for 8 with Coach Lute Olson" (formerly of the Univ. of Iowa, of course!) to be prepared by me and my co-chairman.....it sold for \$7,000! (Yikes! The pressure is on! We'll be doing the dinner sometime this month.)" Mary can be reached at [MaryKolbe@aol.com](mailto:MaryKolbe@aol.com)



Mary at 'Evening In The Park' with Lute Olson

**Nominate your deserving classmate for an Alumni Award today! See page 19**

### ■ DAN COLEHOUR'83

(submitted by mom Barb Colehour) "Dan Colehour '83, is my son and his record, *Straight to the Highway*, was released Sept. 18, 2007 by MCAUniversal and Carnival Music. It is available locally at Barnes & Noble. Two singles, *Quarry Town* and *The Likes of Us*, are being played on the new country radio station, KYSS, 95.7fm. Dan continues to live in Nashville but often appears, with his band, in the (MV) area." Dan can be reached at DanColehour@msn.com

### ■ RITCH BLEW'61

"...and now, I want you to further visualize Ritch Blew & his wife Sue at 8,000 feet elevation on the front range of the Rocky Mountains just SW of Estes Park, CO. Temperature about 70-75 degrees, drier, and in the shadow of Long's Peak, the highest mountain peak in the neighboring Rocky Mt. National Park at 14,259 ft....We're going to be doing something that we've been planning for two months, anticipating for six months, and thinking about since one of our Estes vacations several years ago. We're going to be "Summer Birds" (instead of "Snow Birds")."

We applied and were accepted as Seasonal Staff employees at the 100-yr-old YMCA of the Rockies, just outside Estes. This "camp" has about 7 lodges, and 200 cabins, which are filled to capacity (about 3,500 guests at any one time) pretty much for 3-plus months straight. Sue and I are calling this our "working vacation". We'll be working for just under minimum wage, BUT room-and-board is provided. Sue is going to work at the Guest Registration Desk, and I'm going to be a "floater" for the House-keeping dept, delivering supplies, helping out where needed basically. The "Y" operates the camp as a year-round conference and family center, serving conferences, family reunions, retreats, etc. They hire about 700 seasonal staff workers in the summer alone at the Estes Park location (it's one of 3 separate "Y" locations in that area)." Ritch can be reached at rkblew@comcast.net

## FINE ARTS ASSOCIATION

Are you interested in joining or supporting the Mount Vernon Schools Fine Arts Association?

For more information contact the Alumni Office 319-895-8845 or alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us

### ■ CANDICE (KANDY) GOODRICH ELLIOTT KLING'67

"I am attaching a press release & photos of a recent award I received from K+BB, (Kitchen and Bath Business). I graduated from MV in 1967...and subsequently graduated from the U of I in 1971.

Following is an excerpt from the press release: Candice Elliott Kling, ASID, owner of the interior design firm Candice-Outer Banks Design, of Kitty Hawk, was recently awarded Honorable Mention for her submission to K+BB's 2008 Kitchen and Bath Design Competition.

K+BB, a national, and well-respected trade publication to the kitchen and bath industry, selected Kling's Outer Banks' submission from a field of nation-wide entries. "While its composition and configuration may seem uncomplicated at first glance, this kitchen impressed the judges with its extensive functionality and universal appeal. Warm, attractive and user-friendly to all..."

While in business in Kitty Hawk for over eight years, Candice has a BA degree with emphasis on interior design, over 35 years of experience in the field and is a Professional Member of the American Society of Interior Designers. Candice can be reached at docanddesign@charter.net

### ■ MIKE SEILER'67

"I retired from Federal government service as of May 1st, after 40 years (six years active Navy and 34 years US Civil Service for the Naval Air Force). My last job was to serve as Deputy Director for Aviation Maintenance Policy. And I did, indeed, see (and work) the world - most of the US contiguous states plus Alaska and Hawaii; New Zealand, Bahrain, Japan/Okinawa, Guam, Korea, Philippines, Great Britain, Germany, etc.

On some days I would video teleconference, teleconference or exchange e-mails with people on both coasts of the US, Japan and sometimes our troops in Iraq and Bahrain. From engineering issues, to aviation support logistics, to local personnel matters (I had about 90 people reporting directly or indirectly to me)."

Mike can be reached at m.seiler@cox.net

### ■ SARAH ANN LOAN'02

"I graduated in the class of 2002 and then from Central College in 2006 after studying abroad a few different times. After graduation I moved to Japan where I have been teaching English in a Lutheran school in the south of Japan for the last 2 years. I love it and am busy living life. My contract will finish next March and I will return to the States - possibly to attend grad school? Who knows?"

Sarah can be reached at sarah.loan@gmail.com

### ■ AMBER MARTIN MERCIL'98

"I am married and have two kids. I work for as a Program Coordinator for the FaDSS Program in Linn County. We do in home visitation for families in receiving FIP benefits and work toward self sufficiency. My husband works for Fed Ex." Amber can be reached at amartin5550@hotmail.com

### ■ ROBIN BAKER'85

"I had to quit an executive assistant position at Johnson & Johnson after 7 years to stay at home with my daughter after an accident last June. I started an eBay retail business called Frugal Family and offer a wide variety of items at around 60% of retail cost. The business grew so fast in the first three months that I had to move it to a larger warehouse, hire a shipping manager and a listing agent. We make most of our revenue from baby items, but have also sold everything from patio furniture to generators. I'm really excited about it and think it would be cool to share the link with the MV alumni: <http://stores.ebay.com/Frugal-Family-Outlet> Robin can be reached at rbnbkr@aol.com

### ■ DAN CAMPAGNA'00

"The only news that I have to report is that I just got back from a trip to Spain. I went to Madrid, Sevilla, Torremolinos, and Granada accompanying a group of Middle School students from Pasadena as part of my job with The Brighton Foundation ([www.brightonedge.org](http://www.brightonedge.org)). I was responsible for facilitating the trip and running all the operations (getting the kids into museums, checked into hotels, bus tours, etc) so big thanks to Sra. Deibner for teaching me Spanish so many years ago. I have some plans to do a similar program in Costa Rica in July. I will be accompanying High School students while they study abroad at Academia Tica in Coronado." Dan can be reached at daniel.campagna@gmail.com

### ■ GREG MORRISSEY'76

In January of 2008 Greg had surgery to fight cancer by removing a tumor that had been growing around a nerve in his neck. In the process they had to remove a collarbone and his left arm. Surgery in 2006 removed several tumors, and radiation was used unsuccessfully to remove this one. Class Alumni Representative Glori Roman'76 wrote in "He is VERY upbeat. The Dr's are amazed by his progress and attitude."

Also in January of '08 a web site was developed to help Greg and family post information about his progress and also for friends to leave messages or information about fund raising and to sign up for times to help the family. The Friends of Greg Morrissey website has grown to 278 members over the past few months.

Following is a May email his wife Karen... "He stopped in to see his students and fellow teachers last Friday... that was wonderful. He said when the word spread that he was in the building and kids were leaving the classes they were in to come see him! The news about Greg's CAT scan is wonderful and a positive answer to so many prayers. We went today for his first consultation for his "bionic" arm...WOW! " Visit their community web site: <http://livestrong.live.lotsahelpinghands.com/c/602089/> Greg can also be reached at [ralph\\_tex@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ralph_tex@sbcglobal.net)

### ■ ANN LEHMAN CURRIE'77

"Please, forgive the proud alumnus. I'd like to share one of the best years of my life with you.

My husband Jay was sworn in as President of the Iowa Pharmacist Association in June. This is quite an honor. The officers of IPA meets many times throughout the year. They discuss laws, and policies, and make recommendations as to how to make Pharmacists more valuable to their patients. He's always been very passionate about this. The President has always been a community pharmacist. This is the first time in their history that they've chosen a faculty person for the position. I'm very proud of him. (Picture with the two of us)

Kit'03 is graduating from Simpson this May with Bachelors degrees in Vocal Performance and Music Education. The picture included is from her Senior Recital. This was another very proud moment for this alumnus. Kit is plan-

ning to work for a year, and beginning making applications and auditioning for grad school in the fall to get her Masters in Vocal Performance.

Clint'05 is a junior at Iowa State University with majors of Marketing and Spanish. He is a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, and has experienced great friendship and support there. The picture included is from "The Fruits of Their Labors". A performance done during "Varieties" competition, where the students create and perform stories, and include acting, singing, dancing. Clint and some of his "brothers" joined members from other fraternities and sororities. They won the competition, and Clint was named best supporting actor! TOO much fun! It was a blast!!! And yes.... he is the big banana. Another very proud moment!!

I have had a great year! Still working at a job I love (at St. Luke's Hospital). Sidelined from Jan 10th to April 28th due to a broken ankle that took its time healing. Its heck getting old!!! LOL But I'm finally back at it! NO pictures of that! Kit and Clint are alumni of MVHS as well. I live in Mount Vernon, and continue to enjoy the community as much as ever."

Ann can be reached at [mustangmama77@msn.com](mailto:mustangmama77@msn.com)

## Alumni News...

### Send us your information...

Alumni Association  
525 Palisades Road  
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314  
or [alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us](mailto:alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us)  
or call 319-895-8845

**Aaron Schwiebert'02** started in February 2008 with Monsanto in Williamsburg, IA as a Production Research Assistant.

**Jeremy Stoll'99** teaches English and Theater at Omaha's Westside Middle School. He was recently elected Vice President of the Westside Education Association.

**Braden Rood'93** has started a new business in Mount Vernon called The Rood Runner. She provides errand, chauffeur, computer, event, office, gift services and more. Her website is [www.theroodrunner.com](http://www.theroodrunner.com).

**Mary Diers'86** is now the eMedia Sales Director for Stamats Business Media in Cedar Rapids, IA as of Dec 2007. She manages all of the online sales and advertising for three commercial buildings magazines.

**Lindsey Borg'83** was featured on the Harvard University website for his research paper "Communicating With Intent: The Department of Defense and Strategic Communication."

**Ann Stewart Zachwieja'79** moved with her family from Seattle, Washington, to Boulder, Colorado, in November of 2007, and are enjoying the sunshine!

**Randy Borg'76** retired from the Air Force after serving for 26 years as a hospital administrator. His last assignment was as the Administrator of Wilford Hall Medical Center, the Air Force's largest hospital. He is now the Executive Director at Air Force Villages, a retirement community in San Antonio.

**Dan Bern'77** On December 29, 2007, ABC News did a video feature called '2007 in 3 words'. Music used in the video was written and sang by Dan, 'Baby Bye Bye' off his album *Fleeting Days*. Catch it at this link <http://abcnews.go.com/Video/playerIndex?id=4064348>

**Betty Smith Brunton'55** and her husband Jack celebrated 100 years of marriage. Jack was married to Margaret Brunting for 50 years and Betty was married to husband Marshall Douthett for 44 years, and now Jack and Betty have been married for 6 years. That totals to 100 years of marriage. The Bruntons reside in Ashland, VA

**Dan Spellerberg'91, Brandon Pitlik'91 and Tammy Berner Pitlik'93, and Kendra Kepler Kamerling'97** and her husband Rob opened up Scorz, a Main Street Mount Vernon sports bar in December of 2007, only to have it heavily damaged by fire on Feb 13th. The blaze took 15 fire departments four hours to extinguish. Dan said the precise cause of the fire remains unknown, but it had something to do with the furnace that had been new eight months prior to the fire. The partners had purchased the 1894 building in September 2007, extensively remodeled it and opened Scorz two months before the fire. They plan to reopen Scorz to up-town Mount Vernon, possibly as early as this coming fall. (from *The Sun*)

## MARRIAGES

**Eric Dye'04** to Sara Noll, Dec. 29, 2007, reside in Owatonna, MN

**Megan Wright'02** to Andrew Drysdale, Sept. 8, 2007, reside in Omaha, NE

**Nick Boren'02** to Teressia Siver, March 8, 2008, reside in Mount Vernon, IA

**Lisa Fekkether'02** and **Aaron Schwiebert'02**, June 23, 2007, reside in Iowa City

**Amy Friedl'01** and **Matt Stoner'03**, June 6, 2007, reside in Mount Vernon

**Jodi Hoke'00** to Roy Paden, March 10, 2007, reside in La Vista, NE  
**Jeremy Stoll '99** to Erin Joekel, October 12th, 2007, reside in Omaha, NE  
**Talia Nelson'97** to Chad Breidinger, July 21, 2007, reside in Cedar Rapids, IA  
**Sarah Bly'91** to Paul Garber, March 2008, reside in Phoenix, OR  
**Barbara 'Bunny' Williams Copeland'61** to Jack Mulligan May 22, 2008, reside in Marion  
**Grant Rasmussen'01** to Whitney Tveit, reside in Cedar Rapids, IA

**BABY NEWS**

**Kristen Hotz Robinson'02** and husband Jason, a daughter, April 28th, 2008  
**Kyle Stoner'97** and wife Jennie, a daughter, March 24, 2008  
**Melanie Marolf Ostmo'96** and husband Kevin, a daughter, April 6, 2008  
**Kelly Nelson Franck'95** and husband Gary, twin daughters, November 20, 2007  
**Kristin Duppong Hurley'91** and husband Keith, a son, March 31, 2008  
**Ted Neal'91** and wife Jessica, a son, January 11, 2008. Grandparents are **Barb Thomsen Neal'64** and **Jeri Neal 1966**  
**Jayson Wilkinson'90** and wife Elizabeth, a daughter, April 18, 2008  
**Tracy Bair Garvin'89** and husband Dan, a son, March 25, 2008  
**Dan Thuerauf'88** and wife Lisa, a daughter, February 16, 2007  
**Kara Levsen'87** and husband Zach Roberts, twin daughters, August 17, 2007  
**April Zehms-Pons'86** and husband Joe a daughter, December 12, 2007  
**Bev Phillips**, long time teacher in Mount Vernon writes in to say she is a first-time great grandmother! **Russell Phillips'74** and wife **Carol Hearn Phillips'72** are the grandparents.

**EDUCATION NEWS**

**Derrick Alger'04**, graduated from Coe College with a Bachelor of Science in nursing  
**Kadera Havill'04**, graduated from Coe College with a Bachelor of Arts  
**Anna Ternes'04** graduated from Coe College with a Bachelor of Science in nursing  
**Caitin Wieseler'04** graduated from Coe College with a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics  
**Matt Stoner'03** graduated from Coe College with a BA, Suma Cum Laude from Coe College in May 2007. He is an auditor at McGladrey & Pullen in Cedar Rapids.  
**Marc Trachy'01** earned a doctorate in physics from Kansas State University. He is employed by Lockheed-Martin in Phoenix where he is involved in developing algorithms for synthetic aperture radar.  
**Jenny Mick'00** graduated from San Francisco State University with an MA in Education. She currently teaches in Oakland and is working with Ameri-corps.  
**Zach Washburn'98** is a first year radiology resident at the University of Michigan  
**Ebe Boettcher'94** graduated from Kirkwood Community College in May with an AAS in Respiratory Care. He is a Respiratory Therapist at the University of Iowa Hospitals.  
**LaVonne Meyer'94** graduated from Chicago-Kent College of Law in Chicago, Illinois on May 18 with a Certificate in Public Interest Law. While at Chicago-Kent, she received the Dean's Distinguished Public Service Award in recognition of her volunteer work with various legal organizations throughout Chicago. In August, LaVonne will begin working as the National Domestic Violence Law Fellow at the American Bar Association's Commission on Domestic Violence in Washington, DC.  
**John Skretta'87** graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a Doctorate of Education (Ed.D.)  
**Steve Husak'03** graduated from Saint Louis University with a Master's degree in business administration

**DO YOU KNOW?**

Does anyone know where the bell that was originally on the old high school is at? It was on the building that was torn down to make way for the First Street Building. It disappeared when the move was made from the Old Ward School up to the new 1927 Building (now the First Street Building). Any chance we can get that back?

**In Memory**

Letitia "Tish" Beranek Simmons '39  
 JoAnn Cejka Tresnak '55  
 Arnold "Arnie" Onstott '66  
 Aann Bunting-Mock '68  
 Connie Kalous Koecke '68  
 John Broulik '76  
 Ivan Kuntz '76  
 Kathryn 'Kay' Clark, former Middle School teacher  
 John Wilch, Foundation Treasurer

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

ALSO THANK YOU to the following people who were not listed in the last spring issue for their 2006-2007 support.  
 Millicent Hoggard Zenishek - 1947 Mechanicsville IA  
 Carolyn Neal Palmer - 1942 Mount Vernon IA  
 Linda Peterson Nost - 1963 Lisbon IA



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ANN KOPPENHAVER, CPA  
 CLASS OF '78  
 AND MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
 DISTRICT FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

204 GLENN ST SE	MOUNT VERNON, IA	5 2 3 1 4
TEL	319 895 6001	
FAX	319 895 8437	<a href="mailto:akoppenhaver@koppenhaverpcpas.com">akoppenhaver@koppenhaverpcpas.com</a>

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# THANK YOU

## for your Support of the Association

One way YOU can help the Alumni Association is to be a 'Supporter'. We are asking each alumnus for a voluntary contribution of \$10 or more annually (July 1 to July 1) to help offset the costs of printing, mailings, data base update and management, services to alumni reunion organizers, etc. Please see the back cover of this publication for the 2008-2009 Support Form.

### 2007-2008 SUPPORTERS

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Dorothy Beach Fisher\* - 1938  
Aiken SC  
Mary Mulherin - 1938  
Mount Vernon IA  
Donald Krumm - 1939  
Marshalltown IA  
Roy Martin - 1939  
Mount Vernon IA  
John Lane - 1940  
Mount Vernon IA  
Leland Martin - 1940  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Merrill Pitlik - 1940  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Louise Dvorak Clark\* - 1941  
Lisbon IA  
Marian Fisher Tillett\* - 1941  
Laramie WY  
Mary Plattenberger Lambertson - 1942  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Mary Plattenberger Lambertson - 1942  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Pearl Whitlach Martin - 1942  
Mount Vernon IA  
Clara Meroshek Pospisil - 1942  
Mount Vernon IA  
Elizabeth Wolfe Kroul - 1943  
Mount Vernon IA  
William Litts - 1943  
Louisville KY  
Richard Dvorak\* - 1944  
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Gwen Smyth Turnbull\* - 1944  
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Pauline Doubenmier Wagaman - 1944  
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Rita Travis Reilly - 1945  
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Phyllis Connell Schump - 1945  
Iowa City IA  
Dorothy Longerbeam Steinocher\* - 1945  
Rogers AR  
Thomas Wolfe - 1945  
Solon IA  
Diana Pringle Croft\* - 1946  
Tallahassee FL  
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Cedar Rapids IA  
James Gunn\* - 1946  
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Cedar Rapids IA

Jean Trego Smith - 1946  
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Helen Dvorak Stoner - 1946  
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Tallahassee FL  
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Hot Springs Village AR  
Harold Klinsky - 1947  
Marion IA  
Kathleen Woods Pitlik\* - 1947  
Mount Vernon IA  
Norman Shestak - 1947  
Pickerel WI  
Wilma Levy Whittemore\* - 1947  
Callahan FL  
Millicent Hoggard Zenishek - 1947  
Mechanicsville IA  
Robert Zinkula\* - 1947  
Mount Vernon IA  
Alice Gray Althoff - 1948  
Hot Springs Village AR  
Howard Davis - 1948  
Bella Vista AR  
Audrey Burnett Davis - 1948  
Bella Vista AR  
Ruth Reyhons Hinz - 1948  
Anamosa IA  
Francis Pitlik\* - 1948  
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Richard Sanderson - 1948  
Mililani HI  
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Dr. Stanley Grant\* - 1949  
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IA  
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Ely IA  
Dorothy Biderman Shestak - 1950  
Pickerel WI  
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Los Angeles CA  
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Asland MO  
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Santa Rosa CA  
Richard Nelson - 1951  
Newport RI  
Pat Young Schloss\* - 1951  
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Cedar Rapids IA  
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Mount Vernon IA  
Ann Vislisl Pavik - 1952  
Granite Bay CA  
John (Bill) Yeisley - 1952  
Cedar Rapids IA  
John Young - 1952  
Cedar Rapids IA  
George Brown\* - 1953  
Kearney NE  
Marie Reyhons Beuter\* - 1953  
Solon IA  
Carlyle Bys - 1953  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Betty Dostal Carney - 1953

Cedar Rapids IA  
Rosemary Brecht Erenberger - 1953  
Solon IA  
Jean Pavelka Litts - 1953  
Mount Vernon IA  
Barbara Beckhelm Moore\* - 1953  
Mount Vernon IA  
Noel Neuenswander\* - 1953  
Moline IL  
Lawrence Edwards - 1954  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Fae Sparks Edwards - 1954  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Marlene Mallie Ford\* - 1954  
Fairfax IA  
Marie Russell Hruby - 1954  
Oxford IA  
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Roseville CA  
John Pence\* - 1954  
Fairfax City VA  
Richard Steiner\* - 1954  
Kingwood TX  
John Studd - 1954  
Bentonville AR  
Jim Washburn - 1954  
Solon IA  
Leroy Berry\* - 1955  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Robert Johnson - 1955  
Cedar Rapids IA  
Janet Johnston McCannon\* - 1955  
Burlington IA  
Kay Mullen Morrissey - 1955  
Palmer MA  
Jane Johnston Perry - 1955  
Mattoon IL  
Jerry Ringer\* - 1955  
Bloomington IL  
Nargi Jo Rayman Steinbrech\* - 1955  
Solon IA  
David Thomson\* - 1955  
Canon City CO  
David Van Metre\* - 1955  
Omaha NE  
Phyllis Brecht White - 1955  
Solon IA  
Betty Coon Ammeter - 1956  
Cedar Rapids IA  
J Ennis, USN Ret - 1956  
Jamesville VA  
Kenneth Kaliban - 1956  
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Patricia Conner Strickland - 1956  
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Shirley Ties Vozenilek - 1956  
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Paul Kent\* - 1957  
North Liberty IA  
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Cedar Rapids IA  
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Northwood IA  
David Kroeger\* - 1958  
Marion IA  
Harriet Roberts Meye - 1958  
Bettendorf IA  
Ronald Nezerka\* - 1958  
Cedar Rapids IA

Carol Achenbach Powell - 1958  
Cascade IA  
Gail Yeisley Rhodes\* - 1958  
Clive IA  
Helen Sproston Schneider\* - 1958  
Mt. Vernon IA  
Jane Costello Fink\* - 1959  
Anamosa IA  
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Mount Vernon IA  
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Sharon Neal Ulrich - 1959  
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David Neal\* - 1960  
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Fred Niehaus - 1960  
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John Rife\* - 1960  
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Lisbon IA  
Dennis Akers\* - 1964  
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Ruth Bensmiller\* - 1964  
Shellsburg IA  
Jean Kuntz Bowman\* - 1964  
DeWitt IA  
JoAnn Kroul Clark - 1964  
Mount Vernon IA  
Mary Bauman Kolbe\* - 1964



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 Diana Kafer LaVoi\* - 1964  
 Apple Valley MN  
 Joyce Miller Maxwell\* - 1964  
 Central City IA  
 Joseph Studt\* - 1964  
 Hiawatha IA  
 David Brown - 1965  
 Centennial CO  
 Susan Mounts Fisher\* - 1965  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Suzanne Roberts Stoner\* - 1965  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 John Woods\* - 1965  
 Lisbon IA  
 Kathy Studt King\* - 1966  
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 Donna Krumm - 1966  
 Marshalltown IA  
 Stephen Neal\* - 1966  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 John Pospisil - 1966  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Nancy Smykil Berns\* - 1967  
 Sierra Vista AZ  
 Marianne Hansen Garrigan\* - 1967  
 Fayetteville TN  
 Jane Baker Hardin\* - 1967  
 Horn Lake MS  
 Jule Thompson Kerhulas\* - 1967  
 Santa Maria CA  
 Terry Meeks - 1967  
 Advance NC  
 Jane Strother Beck\* - 1968  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Trudy Clay Pearson - 1978  
 Tipton IA  
 Laura Werkman\* - 1968  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Mary Peterson Berry\* - 1969  
 Pinehurst NC  
 Diane Kirkpatrick Jones\* - 1969  
 Anaheim Hills CA  
 Rita Pospisil McGinnis\* - 1970  
 Des Moines IA  
 Richard Busenbark\* - 1971  
 Peterborough NH  
 Jane Suchomel Carlson\* - 1971  
 Indianola IA  
 Christopher Ipsan\* - 1971  
 St. Paul MN  
 Kathleen Kaliban - 1971  
 Indianapolis IN  
 Scott Peterson - 1971  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Victoria Peterson Ahrens Dorf\* - 1972  
 Williamsburg MA  
 Dan Dye - 1972  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Diane Zinkula - 1972  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Mark Hylbak\* - 1973  
 Marietta GA  
 Christine Hanson Starkweather - 1973  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Douglas Thumm\* - 1973  
 Darien IL  
 Linda Voetberg Paschka - 1974  
 Rosemount MN  
 Sandy Rice Schloss\* - 1974  
 Tabor SD  
 Patricia Cribbs Sindt\* - 1974  
 Story City IA  
 Joni Loomis Tackenberg - 1974  
 Tampa FL  
 Dianne Vislissel Graham - 1976  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Terry Pisarik\* - 1976  
 Lisbon IA  
 Terry Pisarik\* - 1976  
 Lisbon IA  
 Connie Erie Sterling - 1976  
 Hulett WY  
 Kevin Whitman - 1976  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Mary Rice Emge\* - 1977  
 Omaha NE  
 Kathy Klinsky Mallie - 1977  
 Lisbon IA  
 Denise Jilovec McAfee\* - 1977  
 Des Moines IA  
 Payson Peterson\* - 1977  
 Avondale CO

Becky Thumm Whitman - 1977  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Steve Cody - 1978  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Kathryn Petrick Crowley\* - 1978  
 Cherry Valley IL  
 Sara Kendall\* - 1978  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Michael Hufford\* - 1979  
 Solon IA  
 Terri Overman - 1979  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Kevin Rogers\* - 1981  
 West Branch IA  
 Ellen Soukup Townsen\* - 1981  
 Vancouver WA  
 Sharon Zinkula\* - 1981  
 Oak Park IL  
 Leanne Zinkula\* - 1981  
 Tampa FL  
 Susan Studt Barrett\* - 1982  
 Council Bluffs IA  
 Carol Hufford Deely\* - 1982  
 Chicago IL  
 Daniel Dumbaugh\* - 1982  
 Story City IA  
 Jennifer Jordan - 1982  
 Elmhurst IL  
 Lisa Addis Proehl - 1982  
 Bellevue WA  
 Sonia Essex Redmond\* - 1982  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Lindsey Borg\* - 1983  
 O'Fallon IL  
 Lisa Lewis Hazlett\* - 1983  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Catherine Hufford\* - 1983  
 Clarendon Hills IL  
 Paige Peterson\* - 1983  
 West Des Moines IA  
 Lance Schoff\* - 1983  
 Lake Villa IL  
 Beth Walden Smith - 1983  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Dan Drahos\* - 1984  
 Muscatine IA  
 Beth Hufford\* - 1984  
 Laguna Niguel CA  
 Dan Brown\* - 1985  
 Lafayette IN  
 Ruth Corcoran Munger\* - 1985  
 Council Bluffs IA  
 Dave Ryan\* - 1985  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Jennifer Spencer Toriggino\* - 1985  
 Denver CO  
 Rod Sherman\* - 1986  
 Ely IA  
 Debra Schmidt Judge\* - 1986  
 Maquon WI  
 Don Cosgrove\* - 1987  
 Anchorage AK  
 Stephanie Fisher\* - 1987  
 Akron OH  
 Heidi Heck Hiebner\* - 1987  
 Arvada CO  
 Sarah Miller Johnson\* - 1987  
 St. Paul MN  
 Jennifer Clark Gonzalez - 1988  
 North Liberty IA  
 Dave Lynott\* - 1988  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Mark Wilkey\* - 1988  
 Bristol VA  
 Jeremy Elliott - 1989  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Brittany Kaalberg Booth\* - 1990  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Jason Booth\* - 1990  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Shauna Arenas Graybill\* - 1990  
 Hiawatha IA  
 Scott Oakley\* - 1990  
 Davenport IA  
 Angela Viittetoe Reed\* - 1990  
 Iowa City IA  
 Beth Wasserstrom - 1990  
 St. Louis MO  
 Sarah Franks Kline - 1991  
 Des Moines IA  
 Brandon Pitlik - 1991  
 Marion IA  
 Brooke Levson Helzer\* - 1992

Parker CO  
 Dana Vig - 1992  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Emily Adams Vig - 1992  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Tammy Berner Pitlik - 1993  
 Marion IA  
 Sarah Rife Patten\* - 1993  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Scott Rose\* - 1993  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Crystal Kauder\* - 1994  
 Minneapolis MN  
 Teresa Berner McDermott\* - 1994  
 Melbourne FL  
 Lucas McDermott\* - 1995  
 Melbourne FL  
 Carmen Stoner Sealock\* - 1996  
 Exeter NE  
 Teresa Duppong Stewart - 1996  
 Middletown CT  
 Matthew Stewart - 1996  
 Middletown CT  
 Ryan Wieseler - 1996  
 Marion IA  
 Zachary Washburn, MD - 1998  
 Ann Arbor MI

Michael Wieseler - 1999  
 West Des Moines IA  
 Edward Carlson - 2002  
 Japan  
 Caitlin Wieseler - 2004  
 Mount Vernon IA

#### FRIENDS

Barron Bremner, Sr.  
 Iowa City IA  
 Robert Campagna  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Don and Margaret Koppenhaver  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Joyce Capellen Loomis  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Sherlee Peterson\*  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Thomas and Vicky Wieseler  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Kathy Staskal  
 Mount Vernon, IA

\*Names with an asterick show they have also contributed for the 2008-2009 year.  
 Did we miss your name for some reason? Please let us know.

## Donations to the Association

Thank you to the following classes and individuals

#### Class of 1967

Dorothy Fisher Tennant - 1936  
 Coupeville WA  
 Lloyd Ellison - 1937  
 Springfield MO  
 Roy Martin - 1939  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Pearl Whitlach Martin - 1942  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Gwen Smyth Turnbull - 1944  
 Greenbelt MD  
 Pauline Doubenmier Wagan - 1944  
 Lisbon IA  
 Diana Pringle Croft - 1946  
 Tallahassee FL  
 John Koch - 1944  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Jean Trego Smith - 1946  
 Woodstock IL  
 James Croft - 1947  
 Tallahassee FL  
 Francis Hoodmaker - 1947  
 Fort Collins CO  
 Robert Zinkula - 1947  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Alice Gray Althoff - 1948  
 Hot Springs Village AR  
 Ruth Reyhons Hinz - 1948  
 Anamosa IA  
 Francis Pitlik - 1948  
 Cedar Rapids, IA  
 George Brown - 1953  
 Kearney NE  
 John Pence - 1954  
 Fairfax City VA  
 Richard Steiner\* - 1954  
 Kingwood TX  
 Phyllis Brecht White - 1955  
 Solon IA  
 Janet Hess Smith - 1957  
 Des Moines IA  
 Judith Kohl Steiner\* - 1957  
 Kingwood TX  
 Francis Bolton - 1958  
 Daytona Beach FL  
 Richard Clark - 1958  
 Las Vegas NV  
 Bruce Mullen - 1958  
 Browns Valley CA  
 Ronald Nezerka - 1958  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Gail Yeisley Rhodes - 1958  
 Clive IA  
 Richard Glattly - 1959  
 Willow River MN  
 Karen Williams Huerter - 1959  
 Cedar Rapids IA

Bill Jilovec - 1959  
 Mechanicsville IA  
 Kay Kamberling Jamison - 1960  
 Monticello IA  
 John Rife - 1960  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Patricia Bolten Erlenbaugh - 1961  
 Simpsonville SC  
 Renee Sterenberg Branson - 1963  
 Hesperia CA  
 Gloria Herboldsheimer Krob - 1963  
 Lisbon IA  
 Dennis Akers - 1964  
 Cedar Rapids IA  
 Joseph Studt - 1964  
 Hiawatha IA  
 Stephen Neal - 1966  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Nancy Smykil Berns - 1967  
 Sierra Vista AZ  
 Terry Meeks - 1967  
 Advance NC  
 Scott Peterson - 1971  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Dan Dye - 1972  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Lance Schoff - 1983  
 Lake Villa IL  
 Debra Schmidt Judge\* - 1986  
 Maquon WI  
 Rod Sherman - 1986  
 Ely IA  
 Don Cosgrove\* - 1987  
 Anchorage AK  
 Jeremy Elliott - 1989  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Brandon Pitlik - 1991  
 Marion IA  
 Tammy Berner Pitlik - 1993  
 Marion IA  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 In memory of Merritt Staley '47  
 Donald Killen - 1947  
 Hot Springs Village AR  
 In memory of Ruth Mallie  
 Erenberger '47  
 Kathleen Woods Pitlik - 1947  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 In memory of Darrell Stoner '46  
 James Gunn - 1946  
 Mount Vernon IA  
 Kathleen Woods Pitlik - 1947  
 Mount Vernon IA

FROM OUR FRIENDS  
 Raymond Leeper Mount Vernon IA

## THE SCHOOL DISTRICT IN 2007-2008

Some of the good things that happened in the Mount Vernon School District this year...

- High School MV-Lisbon Track Team earns 2nd Place State Finish
- Electric Vehicle Team earns 'Rookie of the Year' at the SMARTT 13th Annual Electric Vehicle Challenge in North Carolina.
- HS Girls Soccer earns Eastern Iowa Hawkeye Conference, EIHC, Championship
- HS Boys Golf wins EIHC Championship by one stroke over Solon
- Jenny Baxa receives John Philip Sousa Award as outstanding senior in band
- HS Cyber-Defense Team finishes 2nd at State IT-Olympics
- High School Speech Team competed at the State competition with 41 entries, the highest number of any team in our quadrant of the state. 32 of the 41 entries received a "I" rating, the highest available. 9 entries received "II" ratings.
- Middle School Science Olympiad Team placed 2nd in State
- High School makes U.S. News and World Report magazine's list of 'Top High Schools in America'
- High School Dance Team Earns a 1 at State Competition
- A big year for High School girls volleyball as Coach Shirley Ryan was named Volleyball 3A Coach of the Year, the team placed 2nd in the EIHC was the State Tournament 3A Runner Up Champion
- High School yearbook *The Centaur* won the IHSPA Fall Conference Class A Sweepstakes for the third year in a row
- OPN Architects won an Award of Merit With Distinction from the Masonry Institute of Iowa 2007 Architectural Design Awards For Excellence in Masonry - recognized for their brick design in and outside of the new high school building.
- Mount Vernon Community High School was named as one of 287 schools in the United States as a 2007 No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon School - one of the most prestigious education awards in the country
- Homecoming King, Bruce Forbes, and Queen, Karissa Whitman
- Dean Borg with 27 years of service and Janet Griffith with 9 years of service retire from the School Board
- The School Board is the 2007 recipient of the IASB T.E. Davidson Award of Excellence for outstanding board leadership
- Deb Herrmann and Jeff Walberg join the School Board
- 5th Grade Musical is "On the Radio".
- High School Musical is 'Bye Bye Birdie'
- Josh Haug earns state berth in wrestling
- Fall Play is "Midsummer Nights Dream"
- Governor Chet Culver selects MV High School as *Capital for a Day* October 25th
- 5th grade is moved to the Middle School with 6-8th grade students.



'Super Sleuth' and alum Judy Caldwell Penn '60 deserves a huge thank you for her help with finding alumni contact information. Don't be surprised if you get a call or email from Judy some day!

## Thank you

- Joyce Loomis - Newspaper Clippings
- Dennis Pisarik '62 for donation of chalk marks, including 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, and 1963 graduation chalkmarks and country school pictures
- Judy Caldwell Penn '60, homecoming pin, news clippings and pictures, and many pictures of Heritage Days seen on pages 6 and 7.
- Marilyn Woods Overman '45, pictures
- Ruth Reyhons Hinz '48 for pictures

THANK YOU  
to all the Homecoming and Heritage Days volunteers - thank you!

## 2008 MOVING ON...

The following teachers will be retiring this year.



### CAROL STONE

- **What you taught:** High School Industrial Technology
- **Year started at MV:** 1972
- **Total years at MV:** 34 years



### MAGGIE ELLISON

- **What you taught:** Speech and a variety of English classes
- **Year started at MV:** 1983
- **Total years at MV:** most of my life, 25 years
- **Another teacher or staff member who was a mentor or helped you in your career?** It was the late Gladys Rife who inspired me to pursue a career in speech and drama. Both Donna Jacob and Ruth Michaud helped me during those first years of teaching. The knowledge and wisdom that surrounded me was a wonderful gift.

It was the late Gladys Rife who inspired me to pursue a career in speech and drama. Both Donna Jacob and Ruth Michaud helped me during those first years of teaching. The knowledge and wisdom that surrounded me was a wonderful gift.

• **Favorite memory:** After years of producing our musicals at Armstrong Theatre, it was amazing to have our own theatre. It has been exciting to see former speech students return to help the current speech team perform at a higher level. No doubt this connection helped our improvisation group bring home the state banner.

• **Do you remember the first student you taught that you had also taught their parent(s)?** Jacob Ryan. His father, Dave, was involved in my first musicals, and Jacob participated in all of the musical productions.



### GAYLA NEUWEISTER

- **What you taught:** PE, K-12
- **Year started at MV:** 1984
- **Total years at MV:** 24 years
- **Another teacher or staff member who was a mentor or helped you in your career?** Shirley Ryan

was instrumental in encouraging me to attend coaching workshops and to continue my involvement in IAHPERD conventions. At the High School she helped me with curriculum and coached me how to effectively work with students, faculty, and staff.

• **Favorite memory:** In 1998, Marion Independent School District initiated a program entitled 'Tribute to an Educator'. I was honored by a previous student of mine as an educator who truly had made an impression on her life. Her testimonial to me was very moving. It was nice to know that dedication, enthusiasm, and hard work to my occupation was recognized. One highlight of my career in Mount Vernon was having my Elementary PE Program recognized as a Gold Level recipient of the IAHPERD Exemplary PE Program Award.

• **Do you remember the first student you taught that you had also taught their parent(s)?** I have had so many since I started teaching at the High School... Mark Zinkula, Peter Wilch, Dave Ryan, Dave and Angela Randall.



### STEVE BENSON

- **What you taught:** Art
- **Year started at MV:** 1988
- **Total years at MV:** 20
- **First year favorite** • **Another teacher or staff member who was a mentor or helped you in your career?** Every teacher and principal I worked with helped me out and taught me something useful. Custodians were especially helpful. I've learned a lot from students too! For example one kindergartener, drawing a picture of the Tooth Fairy in a lovely blue dress with a blue purse, put an engagement ring on the Tooth Fairy's finger. When I asked the student who the Tooth Fairy was going to marry, the student laughed and said "The Sand Man."

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• **Favorite memory:** Several of my students became art teachers - lord have mercy on them!

MAIL BY JULY 3!

How will we ever choose just four people out of the many deserving alums of Mount Vernon Schools? We'll let the Awards Committee sweat about that -- just get in your nominations! We are pleased to announce the addition of this new alumni program, our Alumni Awards.

The very first awards will be announced and presented at Homecoming on October 3 and 4, but please don't wait! We encourage you to fill out your nominations and mail them (or submit online at [www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni](http://www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni)).

NEW!! THE EXTENDED DEADLINE IS NOW A JULY 3RD POSTMARK -- GET YOURS IN THE MAIL OR NOMINATE ONLINE NOW!

'The Spirit Lives On In You'

# ALUMNI AWARDS

### MVCS D Alumni Achievement Award

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

Criteria:

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

### MVCS D Alumni Service Award

Given to alumni for specific and meritorious service to the MVCS D Alumni Association or any other not-for-profit organization.

Criteria:

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

### MVCS D Fine Arts Hall of Fame

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

Criteria:

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

Other considerations:

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

### MVCS D Sports Hall of Fame

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

Criteria:

- Alumni of Mount Vernon High School at least 28 years of age.
- Statistical records and/or awards received.
- All-conference all-state and/or state championships earned.

Other considerations:

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

## 2008 MOUNT VERNON ALUMNI AWARDS NOMINATION FORM



Name of person I would like considered for an award: \_\_\_\_\_

His/Her address (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

His/Her phone (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

### Select Desired MVCS D Alumni Award:

Alumni Achievement Award     Alumni Service Award     Fine Arts Hall of Fame     Sports Hall of Fame

### Description of Qualifications (Attach additional pages, as necessary)

Name of Person Submitting the Nomination \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

(City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

All awards will be granted based on nominations, which can be submitted by mail using this form or online at [www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni](http://www.mountvernon.k12.ia.us/alumni). Nominations will be reviewed and selected by the Awards Committee and approved by the Alumni Association Board. Questions - call 319-895-8845 or email to [alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us](mailto:alumni@mountvernon.k12.ia.us)

**Send this form post marked by extended deadline** (due to publication delay) **July 3, 2008 to:** Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Rd SW, Mount Vernon, IA 52314

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

MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# ALUMNI Association

Thank you to everyone listed on pages 16 and 17 of this publication who last year gave to support Alumni Association activities, which includes this newsletter. Your support is very much appreciated and goes to fund alumni organization publications and activities.

**New or Renew? FOR JULY 1 2008 TO JULY 1 2009**

## Yes, I'll be a 'SUPPORTER' of the Mount Vernon Schools Alumni Association

Alumni first and last name, including maiden name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse name (and class year if also an alumnus) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Country if outside USA \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work telephone \_\_\_\_\_

- One Year Supporting Contribution.....\$10 per alum
- or Five Year Supporting Contribution .....\$45 per alum
- additional donation .....

Amount Enclosed .\$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Thank you!

Renew online at [www.k12.ia.us/alumni](http://www.k12.ia.us/alumni) or cut and return with your check to: MV Alumni Association, 525 Palisades Road, Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314



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## Mustang ALUMNI

# Hello Alumni!

Non Profit Organization  
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 Mount Vernon, Iowa  
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MOUNT VERNON COMMUNITY  
 SCHOOL DISTRICT  
 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

525 Palisades Road SW  
 Mount Vernon, IA 52314

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

