



# Blue Hawk Alumni CONNECTION



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Fall 2011

1971

## Reunion 2011

1961

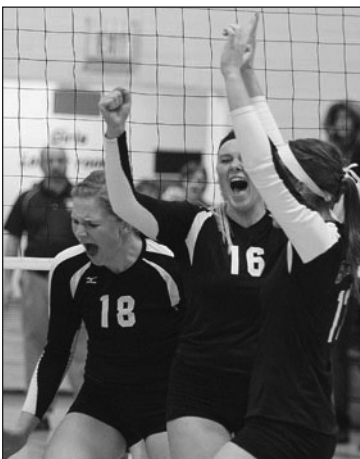


When board members of the HCS Alumni Association bumped into a considerable number of graduates from the Class of 1961 on Thursday evening, they knew they were in for a long weekend. The Class of 1961 was the 99th class to pass through the doors of St. Cecilia. The states of South Carolina, Texas, California & Nebraska were among those represented.

When on the Downtown Walking Tour, only two of the elders went MIA. They were later discovered wandering around Murphy's Wagon Wheel pub. All of the classes present were well-represented at the Brass Ring (Quality Inn) to watch the Huskers do battle with Washington in a thriller; the game ending just in time to begin the banquet and short program. Thank you Ryan Sullivan '93 for a great job at the microphone! Fr. Tom Brouillette, Superintendent of the Hastings Catholic Schools led the opening prayer and gave a very brief overview of the Catholic schools today.

Msgr. Ivan Vap, Class of 1946, gave closing remarks and a final blessing for safe travel.

### GIRLS Celebrate



St. Cecilia's Olivia Thomas (18) Kaitlyn Ernst (16) and Morgan Nikkila display their excitement upon their win over Wood River in the Class C-2 District Tournament. The win gave them a spot in the State Volleyball Tournament, which was held in Hastings and Grand Island.



## Welcome STC Class of 2011

Chase Bassett son of Patty & **Brian Bassett '74**, Tony Batenhorst son of Russ & Mary Batenhorst, Jenna Blazer, daughter of Jerry & Julie Blazer, Blake Brouillette son of Carol & **John Brouillette '84**, grandson of Ethel & **Larry Brouillette '57**, Brook Busboom daughter of Ken & Marilyn Busboom, Tessa Chalupa daughter of Terry & Pam Chalupa, Kai Chang, exchange student, Jordan Consbruck, son of Jeff & Candy Consbruck, Cody Coutts son of Sandy Coutts & Gary Coutts, Colin Elley son of Sally & **Steve Elley '76**, Devin Elley son of Sally & **Steve Elley '76**, Brice Faber son of Todd & Denise Faber, Katie Faber daughter of Andrea & **Russ Faber '77**, Charise Farmer daughter of **Tim '85** & **Lori Jarosik '86 Farmer**, Abby Jackson daughter of **Jon '82** & **Lori Michalek '83 Jackson**, Cody Jackson son of **Jim '77** & **Laurie Jacobi '77 Jackson**, Chelsi Johnson daughter of Rex & Tammy Johnson, Joseph Kindig son of Becky & **Steve Kindig '72**, grandson to **Bonita Beiriger '48** Kindig, Carmen Lara daughter of Carmen & Romona Lara, Brook McWhirter daughter of Steve & **Nancy Schutte '83** McWhirter, Adam O'Grady son of Dan & Kari O'Grady, Emily O'Keefe daughter of **Tim '80** & **Carol Quinn '80 O'Keefe**, Justin Phillips son of Tim & **Joan Kumke '92** Phillips, Clayton Rundle son of **Pat '82** & **Judy Jaranek '82 Rundle**, Alex Schendt son of Dale & Colleen Schendt, Alexis Schmidt daughter of **Scott '84** & **Jamie Goedert '85 Schmidt**, Sydnee Schmidt daughter of Janine & **Greg Schmidt '82**, Ryan Sheehy son of Kristi & **Dan Sheehy '80**, grandson of **Mary Helen Kealy '44** Sheehy, Maggie Skoch daughter of Mike & Ginny Skoch, Justin Smith, son of Jeff & **Susan Hahne '81** Smith, Nathan Soucie son of Greg & **Patricia Mooney '70** Soucie, Brad Spencer son of Larry & Joan Spencer, Zachary Sterup, son of Doug & Mary Sterup, Emily Streff, daughter of Glenda & the late **Terry Streff '66**, Jacob Swanson son of John & Deanna Swanson, Joseph Tickle son of Rod & Catherine Tickle, Ben Tomcak son of Larry & Mary Tomcak, Khoi Tran son of Khanh & Van Hai Do Tran, Lindsay Trausch daughter of Lauren & Cindy Trausch, Joshua Tremmel son of Charles & Brenda Tremmel, Trea Wilhelms son of Terry & **Tammy Maul '81** Wilhelms, Austin Wilson son of Craig & Donna Wilson.

## February/March Alumni Phone-a-thon



To date we have received \$20,715 for this event. We have until the end of 2011 to fulfill our goal of \$25,000. Thank you for your support. Those who would like to send a check for this endeavor, please make your tax deductible contribution soon. As in the past, 25% of your donation goes to the STC Alumni/Development Offices for daily and monthly expenses. 75% is going toward the Hastings Catholic Schools Matching Gift Program.

## Poinsettia and Wreath Sales

We will be selling poinsettias and wreaths starting October 18th through November 10th. If you do not live in Hastings or the surrounding area and would like to send one to someone living in Hastings, (parent, grandparent, relative or friend) call the Alumni Office, 402-462-6566. We will deliver your order (for a small fee) to your loved one in Hastings.



## BIRTHS



Samuel Si-wu, baby boy born April 11, 2010 adopted April 27, 2011 to Clint & **Heather Choquette '94** Axford.

Frank Edmund Pogorzelski, baby boy born November 19, 2010 to George & **Angela Hasley '93** Pogorzelski.

Oliver Charles Repp, baby boy born January 13, 2011 to Christopher & **Danielle Hasley '99** Repp.

Eli Matthew Reiber, baby boy born March 21, 2011 to Thomas & **Theresa Kober '01** Reiber, grandson to Cindy & the late **Tom Kober '74** and great-grandson to Gertrude & **Richard Kober '48**.

Gabe Mathew Mangers, baby boy born April 7, 2011 to **Matt '01** & **Chelsey Opbroek '02 Mangers**, grandson to Judith & **Steve Mangers '74**.

Lillian Grace McChesney, baby girl born April 27, 2011 to Jennifer & **Jeff McChesney '94**.

Ty Challen Kindig, baby boy born May 25, 2011 to Brittany & **Brett Kindig '94**, grandson to Erin & **Tom Kindig '75**, great-grandson to **Bonita Beiriger '48** Kindig.

Margaret Mary Stroot, baby girl born May 31, 2011 to Anne & **Nathan Stroot '98**.

Weston Nicholas Kumke, baby boy born June 21, 2011 to **Paul '96** & **Tosha Zubrod '97 Kumke**.

Jasper Jay DeMars, baby boy born August 10, 2011 to Gina & **Adam DeMars '92**, and grandson to Gay and **Roy DeMars '62**.

Grady Allen Patterson, baby boy born August 17, 2011 to **Travis '01** & **Amber Travis '02 Patterson**, and grandson to Mike & **Kim Goedert '83** Anderson and **Kathy Gestring '72** Patterson.

Carter James Konen, baby boy born August 18th, 2011 to Kayla & **Nathan Konen '01**, grandson to Gene & **Joan Schmidt '79** Konen.

Gianna Marie Parks, baby girl born September 6, 2011 to **Landon '02** & **Jessica Boesch '02 Parks**.

Eli Thomas Axford, baby boy born September 19, 2011 to Clint & **Heather Choquette '94** Axford.

Langston Everett Dean Schreiner, baby boy born October 6, 2011 to Colleen & **Scott Schreiner '93**, and grandson to Roger and **Kay Tonkin '93** Peters.

Kinley Jo Young, baby boy born October 17, 2011 to Karissa & **Joe Young '04**.

## WEDDINGS

**Megan Choquette '01** to Patrick Davidson, May 7, 2011.

**Sheila Brown '84** to John Piepho, June 4, 2011.

**Adam Perry '06** to Kayla Erickson, June 11, 2011.

**Aaron Bialas '03** to Tara Hofstetter, June 18, 2011.

**Ted Atchity '97** to Mandie Haggerty, July 9, 2011.

**Nick Soucie '01** to Jessica Kennedy, July 16, 2011.


**Tony Schik '95** to Julie Jaspersen, July 23, 2011.



## ALUMNI DEATHS

**Josephine 'Jody' DeWitt '38 O'Meara** of Toms Brook, VA passed to eternal life October 12, 2010. Services were at St. Jon Bosco Catholic Church in Woodstock, VA. Born in Hastings, NE, Jody was the daughter of Floyd and Doris DeWitt. She was married to **Pat (Warren) O'Meara '37** for 64 years at the time of his death in 2005. Jody was active for Down Syndrome and special needs children and in the 1960's helped to secure state legislation to create the N. VA Training Center for the retarded. She volunteered for the Stroke Association and enjoyed supporting the local American Legion and firefighters activities. Jody is survived by her sister **Christine DeWitt '49** Sheridan of Derry, NH; six sons, four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Memorials may be sent to KOVAR, Knights of Columbus, P.O. Box 244, Woodstock, VA 22664. KOVAR is Knights of Virginia Assisting the Retarded.



 **Patricia Lynch '41** DeBacker of Coeur d'Alene, ID passed to eternal life March 10, 2011. Services were held at St. Mary's Cathedral with Rev. Harold R. Kurtenbach officiating. Burial was in the Grand Island City Cemetery, Grand Island, NE. Pat was born in 1924 to Chester and Cecelia Lynch in Heartwell, NE. She married Richard DeBacker in 1946 and started their life together in Omaha, NE. They later moved to Grand Island, NE where they lived until the death of Richard in 2000. Pat was a World War II Navy bookkeeper in California and after raising 11 children, she taught life skills to developmentally disabled adults at Mid-Nebraska Mental Retardation Services. She was an active member of St. Mary's Cathedral parish and Altar Society, Christian Mothers, bible study and volunteering at Stuhr Museum's Prairie Town Mercantile. She continued her church involvement at St. Pius X parish in Coeur D'Alene, ID. She was preceded in death by her husband; daughter, Mary Miner and son John. Survivors are children, Susie Crump, Patrice Downey, Jerry, Jan Faciano, Ann DeBacker, Dianne Sullivan, Laura McAloon, Julie Wolfe, Joyce Schmolli; one brother; 32 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

**Mari Ann Weiler '62** Emmett of Scotia, NE, passed to eternal life March 27, 2011. Memorial services were held at Scotia United Methodist Church in Scotia. Graveside services were at Arapahoe Cemetery, Arapahoe, NE with Rev. Bruce Phillips officiating. Mari Ann was born in 1944 to Joe and Mary Weiler. After graduation, she moved to Grand Island, NE where she was able to pursue her career in retail sales. Mari Ann was employed at Maurices clothing store for 25 years before retiring as store manager in 1997. She was active with the PTA and was a fund-raiser for the American Diabetes Association. She married Scott Emmett and made their home in Scotia. Mari Ann was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, **Barbara '69 Weiler** Sommers. Survivors include sons, Michael Schneider, Richard Schneider and Christopher Schneider; one stepson; sister, **Nancy 'Nan' Weiler '64** Grawe of Quincy, IL, and brother, **Joe Weiler '74** of Berryton, KS; a grandson and five step-grandchildren.

**Ruth Ann Vreeland '38** Barry, of Stuart, VA passed to eternal life April 8, 2011. Mass of Christian burial was at the Risen Lord Catholic Church and burial was at Meadows of Dan Baptist

Church Cemetery in Stuart, VA. Ruth was born in 1921 to Philip and Aimee Kealy Vreeland in Hastings, NE. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Ralph and sons, Philip Barry and Dixon Barry; survivors include daughter Martha Niedjela of Stuart, VA. and son Brian Barry of Zephyrhills, FL; eight grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and brother, Philip Vreeland of Kearney, NE.



**Leonard C. Hupf '45** of Grand Island, NE passed to eternal life April 10, 2011. Services were at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Grand Island, NE with Rev. Mark Maresh officiating. He is the son of Henry and Elizabeth (Miller) Hupf. After graduation, Leonard served in the U.S. Army until peace was declared. Leonard returned to Hastings working for the Cushing Company which later became the Thompson Company. He married Pauline Malone September 20, 1949. He later was Sales Manager for the Thompson Company until 1992, then working for Cashwa Distribution of Kearney in sales until he retired. Survivors are his wife, Pauline "Polly" of Grand Island; son, Thomas of Hammonton, NJ; daughters, Debra Sweley of Grand Island, Barbara McGowan of Schuyler, NE and Mary Hupf of Omaha, NE; eight grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren; and brother, **Herb Hupf '52** of Hastings, NE.


**Helen Buckley '50** Schmidt passed to eternal life May 16, 2011 in Columbia, SC. Services were held at Our Lady of the Hills Catholic Church in Columbia and burial was at Fort Jackson National Cemetery. Helen was born in 1931 in Hastings, NE and a long time resident until moving to South Carolina. She was a member of St. Cecilia Catholic Church in Hastings, volunteering with the Altar Society and the March of Dimes. She was a member of Our Lady of the Hills in Columbia. Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, and brother, **John Buckley '60**. Survivors include son, Robert H Schmidt; three grandsons; brothers, **Leo '47, James '51, Jerome '57** and **William '62**; sisters, **Mary Lou Buckley '53** Sweeten, **Betty Buckley '57** Homouz and **Peg Buckley '61** Braunsdorf.


**Jeanette Barenberg '64** Moorhead passed to eternal life August 26, 2011 in Hastings, NE. Jeanette was born in 1946 to Vincent and Nelda Barenberg in Benkelman, NE. She married Gilbert Moorhead in 1967. Jeanette was employed by Queen City Laundry, Herberger's, Mary Lanning Memorial HealthCare and Good Samaritan Children's Ark, where she also worked as a volunteer grandmother after retiring. Survivors are her husband Gilbert; son, **Brian '88** of Kansas City, MO; one grandson; her mother, Nelda of Kearney, NE and sister, JoAnn Hoffman of Kearney, NE. Memorials may be given to the infant room at Good Samaritan Children's Ark in Hastings, NE.


**Sheila Donahue '50** Ciciulla of Omaha, NE passed to eternal life October 23, 2011. Mass of Christian Burial was at St. Vincent Paul Catholic Church. Burial was at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. She is survived by husband Sal; children, Peg Austin, Mary Beth Durkan, Mark Ciciulla, Colleen Ciciulla, Ellen Powell and Cathy Neppel; 12 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren; sisters, **Patricia Donahue '47, Mary Ann Donahue '48** Erlbacher of Omaha, NE and her brother, **Bob Donahue '56** of Bennington, NE.

## OTHER DEATHS

**Janel Foote** passed to eternal life March 27, 2011 in Hastings, NE. Survivors include her husband, **Terry Foote '66**; children, Donovan, Meghan, and Marcy Sorgenfrei; parents John & Jean Toon; five grandchildren and her siblings, Marcy, Jim, Brian and Jocie.


 **James V. Murphy** passed to eternal life April 24, 2011 in Hastings, NE. Survivors include his wife, Shirley; children, **Michele '63** Markos, **Patrick, Robert '68** and **Siobhan '75** Ebers; 11 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

 **LaVerne Horton** of Hastings, NE passed to eternal life April 27, 2011. Survivors include his wife, Evelyn; sons, **Robert '74**, **Daniel '75**, and **Creighton '77** all of Hastings; daughters, **Barbara '72** of Lincoln, NE, **Cynthia '79** Dudley of Clovis, CA, **Beverly '81** Sommer of Grand Island, NE, **Lisa '86** Marten of Halsey, NE, **Peggy '90** Zabludil of Omaha, NE, **Sarah '91** Jurgensmeier of Wahoo, NE; 27 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; twin sister Madeline Parr; brothers, Glen and Richard.

 **Ernest Gauthier** of Hastings, NE passed to eternal life May, 9th, 2011. Survivors include sons, **John '72** of Kearney, NE, and **Dan '67** of McCool Junction, NE; daughter **Suzanne '74** of Grand Island, NE; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; brothers, **Francis '53** of Grand Island, NE, **Leo '46** of Lincoln, NE and **Armand '52** of Grand Island, NE, and a sister **Theresa '48** Olson of Rochester, MN. He was preceded in death by his wife, **Mary Helen Crowley '41** Gauthier; sisters **Rosemary '53** and Dorothy; and brothers Gerald and **Martin '48**.

**Beatrice Elaine Zach** of Hastings, NE, passed to eternal life May 19, 2011. She is survived by her husband, Edward; children, Deanna, Michael, Renee, Mark, Mary, Nola, **Nancy '75**, **David**

**'77**, **Rodney '80**, **Charles '81** and **Sonya '85**; 40 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.

**Betty Mooney** of Hastings, NE passed to eternal life May 24, 2011. She is preceded in death by her husband, **Thomas Mooney '41**; daughters, **Patricia '70** Soucie of Hastings, NE, **Barbara '71** Fern, of Grand Island, NE, **Cindy '74** Luna, of Lincoln, NE, and **Beth '83** Maul of Littleton, CO; sons, **Jim '79** of Hastings NE and **Bill '69** of Juniata, NE; 13 grandchildren and one step-grandson;  six great-grandchildren and four step great-grandchildren. Memorials may be sent to the Hastings Catholic Schools.

**Jimmy Borino Jr.** of Hastings, NE passed to eternal life June 3, 2011. Survivors are his wife, **Marie Murphy '48** Borino; son Robert of Hyannis, MA; daughter, **Sher Borino '75** of Houston, TX; and one brother.

**Margaret Phillips** passed to eternal life June 17, 2011 in Lincoln, NE. Survivors are children, **Carol '53** Svoboda of Lincoln, NE, **Ronald '56** of Omaha, NE, **Beverly '57** Dunn of Rio Vista, CA, **Sister Margaret (Janice) '60** Phillips of Waverly, NE, Linda Iwen of Omaha, NE; 13 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; one sister and one brother.

**Geraldine 'Gerry' Claussen** of Hastings, NE passed to eternal life July 4, 2011. Survivors are her daughters, **Connie '66** Boyce of West Des Moines, IA, and **Donna '69** Murphy of Hastings, NE; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and one brother.

**Irvin Beiriger** passed to eternal life October 11, 2011 in Omaha, NE. Survivors are his wife, Wauneta of Omaha, NE; sons, **Steven '66** of Scottsdale, AZ, and **Thomas '70** of Omaha, NE; four grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

## First STC High School Graduation Class – May 21, 1935



**FRONT ROW:** Robert Keller, James Crowley, Loretta Kealy, Margaret Heurtz, George Reynolds, Mary Frey, Kathlyn Harr, Frederick Choquette, Richard Keller. **BACK ROW:** John Daugherty, John Biglin, Eugene Smith, George Schropp, Robert Davey, Bernard Swanson

the latest...

# DEVELOPMENTS

by  
Roy DeMars



## Thank You!!!

It arrived in the morning mail, wedged between my *Rotary* and *Columbia* magazines. This manila envelope contained something heavy and thick, so I delayed opening it fearing the possible work involved or other reading which we AARP members receive. Though it looked slightly different, I envisioned another piece of Medicare legislation which had been focusing on me of late. I laid it to the side, reading instead three applications for new credit cards, an appeal from the Red Cloud Indian School and the Sunday bulletin from St. Cecilia's Parish.

Following the second cup of coffee and knowing what was staring at me was not going to get any easier, I picked up the package, stalled even more by using a letter-opener, and proceeded to open the envelope. There was no cover letter to the 38-page document. Rather, the heading read in BOLD letters, "Notification by Successor Trustee pursuant to Probate Court Code 160617."

A number of things went through my mind in a very short period of time; the very first being, "What is this?" When I see words like "instrument," "pursuant," "entitlement," "terms" and "irrevocable" being used on the first of 38 pages, a spot behind my left eye begins to hurt, causing a degree of discomfort. But there was something about this particular pile of paper that was different. It was sent to the Hastings Catholic Schools. It could not possibly be a court order for my arrest upon my acceptance. THIS time it was different. Though knowing absolutely nothing about the two names mentioned on the opening page, my interest had piqued as I turned to page #2.

Page #2 began again in bold lettering, "**YOU MAY NOT BRING AN ACTION TO CONTEST. . . .**" I thought to myself, 'I guess that makes it official, whatever that means.' Then the document began in earnest, "Declaration of Trust;" "Article I." By now I realized I was looking at a Will and it must have something to do with the Hastings Catholic Schools. (I'm rather sharp in this regard!) I continued reading, focusing on each word, attempting to make the correct interpretation. It did not take long for me to understand that this individual knew exactly what he was doing. And possibly even more so, his attorney had a rapport with his client and kept his best interest at heart.

Eugene F. Smith was born in Hastings, NE to Mildred Mary Havens, sister to Clara Rynearson; Clara, being the mother of Jean Rynearson of Hastings. The facts were somewhat 'sketchy' at best but Mr. Smith graduated with the very first STC graduating class in 1935. He was the last surviving member. The last time he was known to visit Hastings was in 1978 on the occasion of his mother's funeral.

Eugene V. Rinehart was named as Trustee for Mr. Smith's estate. He indicated he and his wife, Dorothy, were bowling partners for many years with Eugene and Eugene's wife, Dottie. He also indicated that Mr. Smith had a tendency to keep to himself for the most part, leading a somewhat simple life though his duties may have been complex. Following high school, he joined the Navy, where he became an accomplished engineer, working on planes and engine design. He remained in the Navy for over 20 years.

Gene's wife, Dottie (Dorothy), worked for General Dynamics Electronics for 24 years.

Gene too did likewise for a time but eventually worked as an engineer for the County of San Diego until his retirement. They had no children.

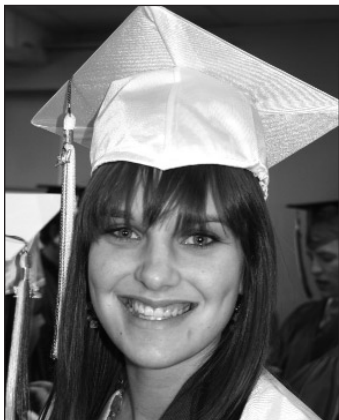
I asked Mr. Rinehart what it was that prompted Eugene to consider the Hastings Catholic Schools in his estate. His answer was simple and to the point. "I have no idea because I'm not really sure what prompted him to name me as Trustee! From what I know, he simply had some fond memories of his high school, his friends and the community of Hastings."

Reading further on in the document, there were 17 additional individuals named in the will, each being remembered with a sizable gift for doing some small thing in the quiet lives of Dottie and Eugene. It's safe to say that Eugene had his ducks in a row, carefully planning the end of his life and his life's resources. Gene named the St. Cecilia High School Endowment as a beneficiary of \$450,000 plus an estimated \$100,000 in residuals following additional sales of personal property and expense distributions.

It's hard to say 'thank you' to someone you did not know, to someone far removed from our parish/public community. But I have a feeling; it was Eugene V. Smith who was saying 'Thank You'

## The Future Looks Bright

What exactly is it that makes their eyes shine and their smiles broaden? Is it a good night's sleep, a healthy breakfast, a particular piece of clothing? Is it something which can be purchased over-the-counter or is it a 'special order' item limited to only a select few? What is it?



For 100 years now the community of Hastings, NE, the parishioners of St. Cecilia and St. Michael's churches, former students and graduates of St. Cecilia High School has supported our Catholic schools. Sacrifices, both physical and financial, have ensured the maintenance and extension of this style of education.

Education in a Catholic school is more than simple repetition and memorization of required subjects and tests.

Certainly, those necessities receive focus and direction as they should. However, those topics are taught within a special environment, an environment which calls for personal spirituality and social justice for all of mankind. It's this 'environment' that completes the student, a finishing touch that keeps the eyes gleaming and the smiles wide.

Once completed, our students continue to learn and educate themselves. Over 90% of our graduates continue their educations elsewhere, carrying with them this Catholic school attitude, an attitude which allows them to apply principles to additional subjects to which they are exposed. This completes the person.



For 100 years it has been the policy of the Hastings Catholic Schools to provide for an education of this nature to those who seek it. This commitment requires a determination and sacrifice by all those connected to the institution. There is no *easier* way to assist financially than through one's will. Simple language within your will allows for substantial assistance to our schools without altering lifestyles, eliminating heirs or denying other charitable organizations. However, these are the gifts which mean the most to our schools. These are the gifts which will ensure Catholic school education for the next 100 years. These gifts will keep the smiles coming, the eyes focused and the future bright for our students. Thank you for your consideration.

## How to Keep the Legacy Going

Include the following language: "To the St. Cecilia's High School Endowment in Hastings, NE, I give \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate" or "I give \_\_\_\_\_(amount)" or "I give \_\_\_\_\_% of residual portion."

Direct inquiries to:

HCS Office of Advancement

Attn: Office of Estate Planning

420 West 5th Street • Suite #203 • Hastings, NE 68901

(402) 463-6566 • Email: roy@stcbluehawks.com

# REWARD



**CECIL**  
**20?? - 2011**

How old is CECIL? What year was he born? Who hatched him? When did he first appear?

Your alumni committee, in conjunction with other alumni contacts, has been feverishly working to solve these questions for the coming Centennial celebration beginning in 2012.

A \$25 reward, leading to the answers to these questions, is being offered by your Alumni office. This is a 'Cash' reward, not to be mistaken with a 'credit' of any other nature. Please send your submissions to: [stcalumni@gtmc.net](mailto:stcalumni@gtmc.net) or submit your suggestion in writing to:

STC Alumni Office – 420 West 5th #203

Hastings, NE 68901

All entries will be submitted to the board. The decision of the judges is final. Remember to include your personal contact information!!

## Golf 2011

On June 24th, the annual *Saint's Scramble* was held at Southern Hills Country Club with 72 golfers participating. The venue adjustment for this year made for the exceptional turnout and successful fundraiser for the Alumni office. A portion of this year's proceeds went to the Hastings Catholic Schools through the Teachers Matching Gift. Over \$150,000 was raised this year through efforts such as these.

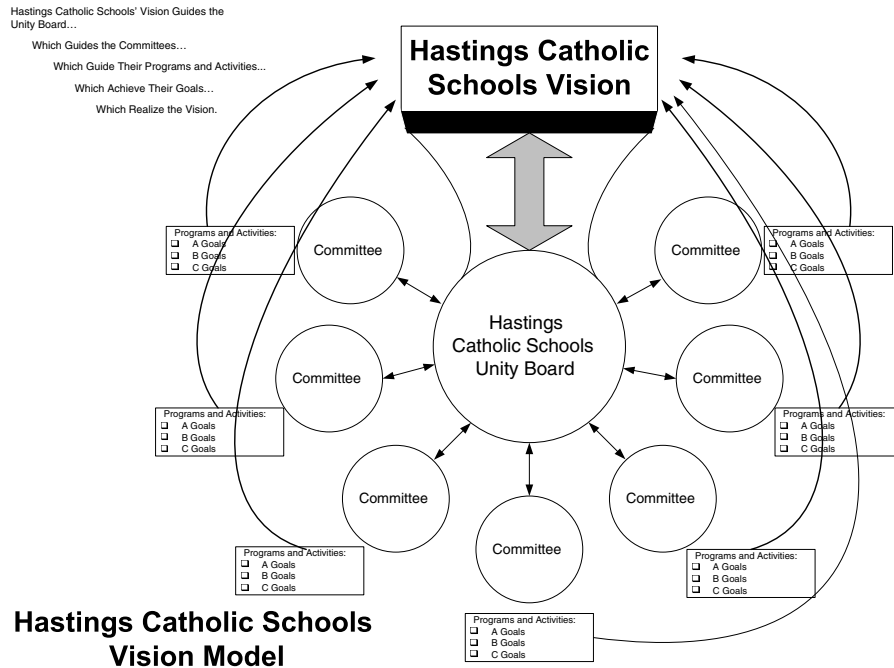
Certainly, the role our sponsors play in this event is huge. And, in a very big way, they are the ones who make this event as successful as it is and has been in the past. Thank you to those supporting our tournament.

Looking forward to next year, our Centennial year, your alumni board has elected to establish three (3) scholarships, designed to benefit students of all three of our local high schools. Details will be provided by January 1, 2012. This effort and efforts like them are in communion with our new school structure and policy, 'A Call to Unity.' 100 years of Catholic education in the city of Hastings, NE has been made possible through the combined efforts of parents, parishioners and the community in which we live. Thank you!

Ryan Sullivan STC '95

Chris Uridil STC '95

# A Call To Unity



Under normal circumstances, managing and operating an educational system is a challenge to say the least. Doing the same when 85% of your funding arrives annually through contributions and donations makes the task more difficult still. Today, were one to attempt such a feat, he/she would be ridiculed to no end. However, this is exactly what your Catholic schools do each and every year. Amazing, isn't it?

There are a number of keys to be turned in order to function successfully.

- The system must be Christ-centered. This does not mean we need to operate a bible camp where subjects revolve around our Catholic faith. Rather, it simply means that all things are done for His greater honor and glory. His presence is pervasive as subjects are demonstrated and taught.
- The system must be superior, possessing and maintaining an excellence not found elsewhere. Catholic school graduates must possess a 'love of learning' for years to come. 'Education' does not cease upon graduation. Rather, a diploma is simply written proof of ownership; the owner possesses the tools necessary to continue a lifetime of education.
- The system must be community-oriented. Love of our fellow-man, love of others as ourselves, is exemplified through our administration, our teachers and our staff. Catholic school education rebuffs the trend toward self-indulgence; true happiness being achieved by assisting others.

Time and changing attitudes sometimes clouds our vision and purpose. This is 'normal'. An old friend, Fr. Jim Meysenburg, called it "Original Sin." Simply put, it's our tendency, as human beings, to take a road easier to travel. We lose sight of our destination. Rather, we focus on the next step, regardless of where it might lead us.

For the last 8 months a goodly number of individuals, religious and secular alike, have been taking a long, hard look at our

Hastings Catholic Schools. We have been asking ourselves and each other some very difficult questions. We have been turning over rocks previously thought to be permanently laid. Emotional blood was shed and personal injuries resulted, some leaving possible lifetime scarring. It has been quite a process. But, it has been a good experience. Much has been learned; about ourselves, about each other, about our Catholic school system in Hastings.

'*A Call To Unity*' is the structural outcome of these many hours of discussions. Those of us participating have healed. Those of us participating have learned. Those who have invested in time and talent have developed a 'form' to follow for future years to come. However, even with a new structure in place, the key element remains to be seen. That element is you; our parents, grandparents, parishioners, alumni, teachers and community members. This new system will only work with **you** being involved. This new system needs you to participate. It needs you to ask questions, supply answers, offer input, giving of yourself in time/talent and personal financial resources. This system **will work** if we are unified, if we work together, if we are honest with each other, if we do our share.

'OPERATION OUTREACH' is our way of explaining this new 'system of governance' to as many of you as possible. Over the next year and possibly beyond, it is the intent of the Unity board to explain this structure to as many as possible. In addition, we expect questions from you; some easy, some not so easy. Most likely, these are the same questions we have been asking ourselves and each other. Most likely, we have 'some' answers. We do not have all of them. But we do have a system to ask and committees appointed to seek the answers. Our next 100 years might very well depend upon how well we maintain open & honest communications in conjunction with the personal commitments we receive from those appreciating Catholic education.

## U.S. CELLULAR CUP



NSAA representative, Mr. Jim Angele, is shown presenting Fr. Lee Jirovsky, Principal of St. Cecilia Middle/High School, and Fr. Thomas Brouillette, Superintendent of the Hastings Catholic Schools, the 2010 U.S. Cellular Cup, honoring the top high school activities program. St. Cecilia led the Class C-2 division by their State championship season in football, track, girls basketball and boys golf teams. The presentation was made at halftime of the football game on September 9, 2011.

## THE GRAND BAG

### Ladies Night Out

Lochland Country Club was the scene of The Grand Bag this year. This affair takes place under the ruse of a fundraising event for the Alumni office. This year, 130 ladies gathered to bid on a variety of purses, bags and satchels with several pieces of jewelry thrown in for good measure. Special raffles also included a Kate Spade handbag and a Coach Ring. It appears from the picture at the right that 'wherever two or more women are gathered in the name of the Hastings Catholic Schools,' a good time is had by all. Showing off their new purchases are:



## 2011 STC HOMECOMING CANDIDATES



Early this fall, St. Cecilia once again celebrated 'homecoming'.

**King Candidates:** Jase Jackson, Tim Skoch, Joe Wahlmeier, Mike Hannon and Phillip Hamburger.

**Queen Candidates:** Taylor Hubbard, Christie Ryan, Taryn Willhelms, Libby Kissinger and Sarah Goedert.

Jase Jackson was voted 'King' and Libby Kissinger, 'Queen'.

Congratulations to each candidate for representing St. Cecilia High School in such fine fashion.



Holly Portwood, Jenny Hartman, Kerri Biede, Nicki Butler, Kayla Konen, Tenille Hannah, March Kort and Heidi Prevette.

## BLUEtini

Each year the chairpersons of the annual BLUE fundraiser put their heads together and attempt to develop something different and unique for the largest fundraising event for the Hastings Catholic Schools. This year was no different.

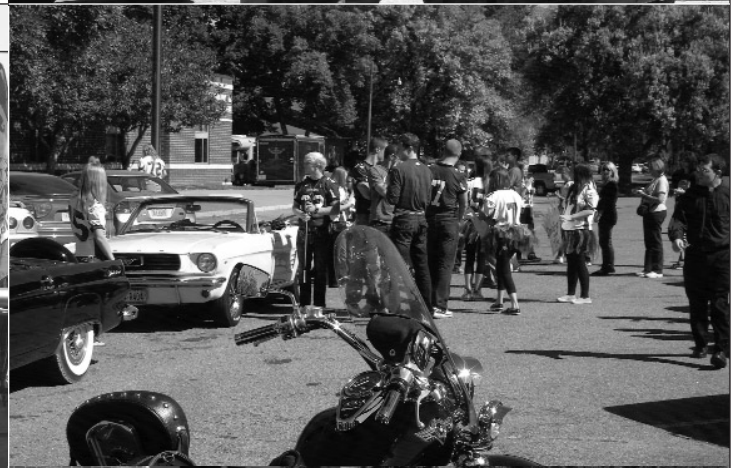
Host and Co-Host, Rob & Patricia Hrnchir and Dan & Kristi Sheehy turned their attention to the hills of Tennessee to create a concoction termed a BLUE tini. Those choosing to do so, purchased the special potion with questionable blue ingredients. They were able to keep the glassware as a remembrance of their trip to what was understood to be 'The Fountain of Youth'. The display and promise of immortality appeared to be particularly popular with those 65 years of age and older.

This year's event raised \$286,760 for our Hastings Catholic Schools. Thank you Rob & Patricia, Dan & Kristi.

# REMEMBER WHEN?

Some things never change! At least that's the way it appeared at the most recent Homecoming Rally & Parade. One thing is for certain, the grain trucks, holding all of the student-cargo, have been in storage for the past 50 years. Don't you sort of wonder, "Where in the world do they get these things?"

The giant bonfire in the 'sticker patch' may be missing but the smiles and enthusiasm is still there. Parents and the public still stop to wave along the path as the spectacle passes through downtown. And, in a blink of an eye, it's over!



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