



Spalding Academy

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Alumni Weekend

Schedule of Events

Saturday, May 28, 2022

7:00 p.m. Mass, St. Michael's Church

Sunday, May 29, 2022

8 a.m. Breakfast, Parish Center

-10:30 a.m. Scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit, cinnamon rolls, coffee and orange juice will be served.

9 a.m. Mass for Deceased Alumni
St. Michael's Church

9:30 a.m. Open House at Spalding
-11 a.m. Academy

4 p.m. Social Hour

-4:45 p.m. City Auditorium

5 p.m. Alumni Banquet at

-7 p.m. Parish Center. \$25 per person,
Prime rib will be served.

7 p.m. After Dinner Social Hour
-9 p.m. at City Auditorium

9 p.m. Dance, City Auditorium

-1 a.m. Free admittance if you
arrive by 8:30 p.m.

Monday, May 30, 2022

9:00 a.m. All Veterans Assemble
at Veterans Hall

9:10 a.m. Military Honor Guard
Ceremony, North Cemeteries

10:30 a.m. Mass at South Cemetery,
Roll call of deceased/
honor guard ceremonies

11:30 a.m. Veterans march Main Street
to Veterans Memorial

12:30 p.m. Closing ceremony and
retirement of Colors at
Veterans Memorial

2022 Distinguished Alumnus: Kerri Murphy Alderman



Kerri with her family

Kerri Murphy Alderman (86) is Spalding Academy's Distinguished Alumnus for 2022. Kerri grew up on a farm where she learned many values, including working hard, helping others and the importance of family.

Her parents, Francis (52) and Annette Zwiener (58) Murphy, set the example for all of these values.

In addition to Kerri, the family includes Denise (81), Jacque (82), Kevin (84), Dana (85), and twins Tony and Tommy (94). Seven kids were plenty to keep the family busy, but Kerri recalls that her mom still made time to take care of others—Ruby Lomme, Eddie Gilroy, Louie and Tillie

Zwiener, and other relatives and friends. Francis worked hard on the farm and expected his kids too, as well.

"We'd come home from school and get our work clothes on but then sit and watch the Brady Bunch," Kerri said. "We'd watch out the window for dad—when you saw him, then you split," she said. It was best to be outside working by the time Francis made it into the yard. "You better be doing something," Kerri said. "You never sat around."

In addition to her family, Kerri learned from her teachers, friends and 11 classmates from Spalding Academy who have remained close over the years. "Mrs. Rule

was 4th grade and so fun," she said. "Mrs. Bloom (HA91) taught 3rd grade and would bring sugar cookies for Halloween and Easter—we had the BEST sugar cookies!" Kerri remembers. There was Rod Olson who taught history. "He was a good influence. Not excitable. I learned from him to be calm and steady." There was Paul Nordhues (74), "who always had a kind way of pushing us to do more." And Sr. Ruth (HA94), Sr. Mary Lawrence, Sr. Elizabeth Anne, Sr. Maurine, and Kitty Glesinger (52) Carlin who provided Kerri with a strong formation in the faith. "I did not want my kids to miss out on that," she said. "I wanted them to have a strong faithful foundation like I had." And that meant paying annual tuition of \$28,000 for her two children, Alex and Emma, to attend Catholic school in Atlanta, where Kerri and her husband, Rob, live.

Another person from Spalding had a big influence on Kerri. Ed, the UPS driver. Or, "Smiley Ed" as he was called by everyone because of his kind and happy personality. "I just thought he must work for a good company if he's this happy all the time," Kerri said.

After high school, before Kerri could pursue her career plans, she needed to make some money. So she joined the Army in 1986 after graduation. Older brother Kevin had already joined and seemed to like it, so Kerri thought she would too. The recruiter came to her house and because she was not old enough, her parents had to do the signing. Kerri was only wondering about one thing: "do I have to cut my hair?"

The recruiter said no, as long as she kept it off her collar. As with many things, Kerri then taught herself something new: how to French braid.

After basic training, she was sent to Fort Dix in New Jersey for job training as a

lightweight wheel vehicle mechanic, which involved working on everything from a Jeep to a 5-ton truck. "I had options, but I chose it," Kerri said. "I grew up on a farm, so I knew I could do that." She was transferred to Ft. Leonard Wood in the Missouri Ozarks and spent the rest of her time in the Army there, working as the only female mechanic. It was a rough start. Her sergeant took her on the first day to the motor pool, to introduce her to the rest of the mechanics all sitting on a picnic bench, on break. "The sergeant introduced me," Kerri said. "One of the guys, from Long Island, New York, said 'Come on searg, not a damn female!' I was 18 and I thought oh my gosh, what am I doing. But that guy ended up being one of my best friends."

While there, Kerri was the first female in the history of Ft. Leonard Wood to receive the mechanic of the quarter award.

After her active duty time was up, she moved to Denver, began looking for work and joined the National Guard. She took a part-time job loading trucks for UPS and started her college degree. She was working on a bachelor's degree in engineering at the Colorado School of the Mines when UPS offered her a full-time position in industrial engineering. Kerri took the job but had to leave the Mines as they did not have night school. She finished her degree at Regis University and began what is now a 33-year career at UPS. UPS has promoted her several times and in addition to Colorado, she and her family have lived in Pittsburg, Dallas and now Atlanta, where she is the Vice President of Industrial Engineering. Some like to refer to UPS as an engineering company which suits Kerri, calling engineering the company's backbone. "We are involved in everything from building facilities—deciding where

they should be built, how big they should be, and what kind of buildings they should be—to the whole driver network, and how many drivers are needed and where. We touch every part of UPS."

Kerri also noted two other Spalding natives who work for UPS: Mark Diessner (83), a driver, and Ed Swiatek, a mechanic.

As a kid in Spalding, Kerri once ordered a computer to be shipped through UPS. The label only said "Kerri in Spalding, Nebraska." Smiley Ed found her. He made sure she got the computer, but he did more than that. He inspired her career choice. Kerri is soon eligible for retirement with UPS, after a long career that all started with Smiley Ed, in Spalding, Nebraska. "He was truly the one," she said, "and I don't even know his last name!"

Kerri donates to Catholic organizations such as Spalding Academy or her kids' Catholic schools through UPS's United Way drive. Also through UPS, she is involved in volunteer projects for the community, including working in Atlanta's soup kitchens, doing river cleanup, or building parks and planting trees. She has taught Junior Achievement at her kids' schools and she is the teacher's favorite when it comes to building play sets for school performances.

What is her advice for this year's graduates of Spalding Academy? Kerri said:

"Have a plan. Don't let life just happen. But don't be so specific that the first time the plan doesn't work you give up. Second, be happy, and be happy with you first. Don't expect someone else to make you happy. You determine who you are. Finally, have faith in yourself, and never stray from your faith. If you falter, and we all do because we are all human, get yourself back on track."

Honorary Alumnus: Aprill Murphy



Aprill (Seier) Murphy (HA22)

Aprill (Seier) Murphy has been selected as Spalding Academy’s Honorary Alumnus for 2022.

Aprill was selected by Spalding Academy’s 15-year class for a myriad of reasons. She has served as the president of SAVE (Spalding Academy Volunteer Effort), led the parish’s annual development dinner, organized and helped lead efforts to start the school’s Children of Christ Daycare, and coached high school volleyball. Aprill manages the school’s apparel sales and is a member of Spalding Academy’s Development Committee. She helps to organize many fundraising efforts for Spalding Academy and has advocated for

expanding sports opportunities for SA students through cooperative efforts with Riverside Public Schools. Her volunteer efforts for Spalding Academy are in addition to her full time job as the Public Relations and Marketing Director for Boone County Health Center in Albion, Nebraska, and being a mother to four children, Dawson, 18, Addie, 15, Autumn, 14, and Deacon, 7. Aprill graduated from Wheeler Central High School in 1997 and received her bachelor’s degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska-Kearney. She is married to Tony Murphy (94). The family lives on a farm near Spalding.

Principal’s Column



Spalding Academy staff is amazing. Each year they continue to graduate students who are ready for college with a sense of work ethic and a base of their Catholic

faith. Spalding Academy is grateful to our alumni in the donations that ensure that we incorporate technology into our daily lessons. As a Catholic School, we know that students need more than technology and academics. Service and prayer are still at the root of being a student at Spalding Academy. The idea of service is combined with building prayer life throughout the year and the school days to help make Spalding Academy truly a Catholic school with a definite Catholic identity.

Thank you, alumni for your continued support of prayers, well wishes, and monetary donations. The students and

staff of Spalding Academy realize that we have outstanding and generous alumni. Your generosity and love of both Spalding Academy and St. Michael’s has enabled the community of Spalding to continue the great traditions that were started over a hundred years ago here in Spalding by the Dominican Sisters as a way to assist parents in the education of their children in the Catholic Christian Faith. Spalding is truly blessed to have a local PK-12 Catholic school in our community, and one with so much support and Dominican tradition.

Amy Leslie (93) McKay
Principal



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Spalding Academy



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2021–2022 School Year Highlights

- The Catholic Schools Week raffle raised over \$18,000 for the school. Items auctioned were donated by parents and alumni members.
- Students adopted a youth from Haiti through the Families in Faith Twinning ministry.
- The students raised money—Pennies for Patients—in memory of Jordan Baxter. The funds help those fighting leukemia, lymphoma, and Hodgkin’s disease in Nebraska.
- The Ronald McDonald House was supported by the Kindergarten class who collected popcan tabs to raise money for this wonderful program.
- Preschoolers collected undergarments for Hope Harbor and small children in need.
- Homecoming King was Dawson Murphy, son of Tony (94) and Aprill (22 HA) Murphy, and the Memorial Queen was Jordan Baxter, daughter of Stephanie Baxter, who passed away in first grade.
- Students had a lock-in/sleep over for students in grades 9-12 at the school and the annual Fun Night activities, with the senior class once again declared volleyball champions while Dawson Murphy was crowned Mr. Shamrock.
- Veterans were honored on Veteran’s day with a presentation by the Government class.
- Junior High and High School competed in various academic contests. Junior High Quiz Bowl was Goldenrod Conference Champions and 8th grader Matthias Seamann was Greeley County Spelling Bee Champion.
- School-wide prayer, adoration, and class confessions were held throughout the school year.
- Retreats for all-school was held in groups on All-Saints day, along with spring retreats for junior high held at Sacred Heart in Greeley and the high schoolers retreat held with the Brothers at the St. Benedict Center near Schuyler.
- Prom was held in March with the theme “Hollywood.”
- Seniors attended a Pro-Life day in Lincoln along with a Eucharistic Procession for the safety of all unborn babies and their expectant mothers.
- Football ended its season in semi-finals, one step away from the Championship game.
- Boys Basketball team finished District Runner-Up.
- Music students received all Superior ratings at Goldenrod Conference competition.

Sports Update:

- Spalding Academy has entered a sports cooperative with Riverside Public School. This impacts the following junior high and high school sports: volleyball, football, cross country, wrestling, basketball, golf and track.

Phon-A-Thon: 25 Years of Sharing and Caring

Spalding Academy has been so very blessed by the Spirit of Generosity walking hand in hand with the Spirit of Caring shown by S.A. Alumni and Friends.

In the 25 years since Phon-A-Thon began, 169 kindergartners have begun their first day of school at S.A. and 198 seniors have walked the halls for the last time as students. All who support Spalding Academy, be it financially or in prayer, have had a role in the education and guidance of these young people, while setting an example of stewardship for them to follow in the future.

The 2021 Phon-A-Thon total, \$17,150 to date, brings the 25-year grand total to \$504,214. Gifts have come from 457 individual donors, the eldest from the Class of 1928. Thank You! Your generosity has helped make many things possible. 2021 funds have been used to install interior and exterior safety doors.

There is such truth in the saying, “Giving is not just about a donation. It is about making a difference.” You are making a difference!

Thank You and God Bless,
Gina Bernt (70) Scheef



2022 Teacher's Classroom Wish List

Can donate toward these items online: visit SpaldingAcademy.org and click on online giving.

Math

- 4 Chess Boards—\$32
- Real Life Math Data Analysis—\$14
- Real-Life Math Probability—\$19
- Nasco quad-factor game—\$20

Science

- 6 iPads—\$389
- 6 Digital Newton Meters—\$49

English

- Baylor ACT prep—\$398
- Art set markers for speech—\$49
- 2 reading chairs—\$69 each

P.E.

- Flag football flags and belts—\$39 set
- 4 sets weight clips—\$48
- 2 side basketball hoops—\$299 each

Religion

- 2 Wall crucifixes—\$70
- Craft items—\$150
- 10 Catholic Youth bibles—\$320

Elementary School

- Art easel—\$248
- 48 pack student desk set white boards—\$43
- Stamps—\$100
- 4 children's Bibles—\$25 each
- Accelerate Reader—\$1500
- Playground spinner—\$2300
- Tempera paint set—\$28
- Student set of scissors—\$27
- Cubbies—\$1150

Facilities

- Basement Door—\$589
- Replace fire escape door—\$589
- Replace hot water heater—\$450
- Elementary girls bathroom light and mirror—\$121
- High School bathroom mirror—\$63
- High School boys and girls bathroom vinyl flooring—\$850



Fr. Antony is on Sabbatical. His column will resume next year.



Sweepstakes

Don't forget to bring or mail your Sweepstakes Entries for this year's drawing. Need not be present to win. Winners will be announced on Spalding Academy's Facebook page and Website.

2021 Alumni Sweepstakes winners:

- 1st Place:** Bernie Schmeits
2nd Place: Bernie Schmeits
3rd Place: Bella Pfeifer

Grants Awarded to SA

- \$2510** State of Nebraska—Emergency cost grant for lunch room needs
- \$300** Cornhusker Public Power District Grant—Jr. and Sr. High art supplies
- \$300** Cornhusker Public Power District Grant—Non-fiction library books

Meet Your Hosts for the 2022 Banquet:

The Class of 2007

Michelle Bauer graduated from the University of Nebraska at Omaha with a computer science degree. She works as a software engineer and lives in Omaha with her husband, Jonathan.

Gastyn Carraher graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University with a master of business administration degree. He is a senior consultant with Premier Healthcare Inc. He lives in Spalding with his wife Tabitha, and their three sons, Camryn, 8, Oaklyn, 4, and Cove, 6 months.

Kody Connelly joined the Armed Forces upon graduation.

Kassy (Diessner) Grant graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney with a bachelor's degree in family studies. She is the victim assistance coordinator for Platte County. Kassy and her husband, Justin, live in Columbus with their son Austin, 4.

Diane (Glaser) Dobson graduated from Doane College with a bachelor's degree in human relations. She owns and manages a daycare. Diane and her husband Curt live in Cedar Rapids with their daughter Maysen, 1.

Kelli (Heimbuch) Breed graduated from Bryan LGH College of Health Sciences with a bachelor's degree in nursing. She works as a nurse case manager for GEHA Insurance. She and her husband, Tyler, live in Kansas City with their two daughters, Haydn, 7, and Harper, 4.

Seth Herian graduated from Northeast Community College with an associate of applied science degree in animal science. He is a manager at TD Feeders. He and his wife, Jessica, live in Ord.

Katie (Hitchler) Hassenkamp graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University with a bachelor's degree in elementary education and from Concordia University with a master's of education reading specialist degree. She works for Omaha Public Schools as an early literacy lead coach. Katie and her husband, Paul, live in Omaha.

Joseph Pritchard graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan with a bachelor's degree in accounting. He is a partner at Berger, Elliott and Pritchard CPAs and farms with his father south of Spalding. He and his wife, Ally, live in Spalding with their son, Lincoln, 6 months.

Tommy Pritchard graduated from Central Community College in Columbus in welding. He is a farmer with Triple T Farms and lives in Scotia.

Paul Tenski lives in Charleston, West Virginia where he is the operations supervisor at U.S. Methanol. He and his wife, Kaitlyn have two daughters, Isabelle, 2, and Alana, 1.

Lisa (Thome) Schalk graduated from Central Community College in Columbus with an associate's degree in business. She lives in Cedar Rapids with her husband, Jesse and their twins, Scout and Major, and they are expecting their third child this July. She is an operations manager and dispatcher with Zentner Transportation, Inc.

Alumni Officers

PRESIDENT

Joseph Pritchard (07)

VICE PRESIDENT

Corey Thome (08)

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Lisa (Thome) Schalk (07)

Graduating Class of 2022

The three graduates of 2022 are all fourth generation graduates

Nick Carlin is the son of Ed (83) Carlin and Wendy; grandson of Kathleen Glesinger (53) Carlin and the late Peter (47); and great grandson of Vera Lee (15) Carlin.

Daniel Diessner is the son of Lee Diessner (81) and Tammy Haggerty (87) Diessner; granddaughter of Paul Diessner (59) and Joan Labenz (61) Diessner; and great grandson of Florence Gorny (31) Diessner.

Dawson Murphy is the son of Tony Murphy (94) and Aprill. Grandson of Francis (52) and Annette Zwiener (58) Murphy; great grandson of Frances Berberich (25) Ziwener, and Mary O'Gorman (25) "Sid" Murphy.

FOR THE RECORD

Births

04

Theresa Tenski Ourada and Dustin, a girl, Kaylee, May 16, 2021. Grandmother is Suzanne Glaser (69) Tenski and Dan.

Jennifer Pritchard Leiting and Nic, twin boy and girl, Oscar Blake and Penelope LaVonne, Oct. 22, 2021. Grandparents are Don (74) and Deb (HA18) Pritchard. Great grandmother is JoAnn Schmidt (52) Pritchard and the late Mark (47).

05

Paul Bauer and Nicole, a girl, Luciana Rita, April 18, 2022. Grandparents are Ray (HA09) and Sharon Valasek (74) Bauer.

Jacob Esch and Kali, a girl, Emery Rose, July 1, 2021. Grandparents are Tim (79) and Yvonne Esch.

Chad Kasperbauer and Kylie, a girl, Liv Marie Kasperbauer, Dec. 28, 2021. Grandparents are Gene (80) and Janet Kasperbauer.

07

Joseph Pritchard and Allyson, a boy, Lincoln James, November 19, 2021. Grandparents are Don (74) and Deb (HA18) Pritchard. Great grandmother is JoAnn Schmidt (52) Pritchard and the late Mark (47).

Gastyn Carraher and Tabitha, a boy, Cove, Dec. 8, 2021. Grandparents are Jeff (86) and Julie Nordhues (86) Carraher. Great grandparents are Mark (67) and Sharon Seaman (65) Carraher.

10

Kassandra Hartley Krupicka and Collin, a girl, Wilhelmina Lee, March 25, 2022. Grandmother is Polla Renken (HA12).

12

Colin Wagner and Sara, a boy, Michael Bernard, Nov. 30, 2020. Grandmother is Deb (80) Hendrickson.

Heidi Seamann Reardon and Andrew, a boy, Talon Michael, Feb. 1, 2021. Grandparents are Duane "Boots" (72) and Maureen Walsh (73) Seamann.

13

Frank Hartley and Chelsea, a boy, Thaddeus James, Sept. 17, 2021. Grandmother is Polla Renken (HA12).

Wyatt Pfeifer and Lacy, a boy, Nash Wyatt, Aug. 23, 2021. Grandparents are Tim (79) and Deb Pfeifer. Great grandmother is Mary Ellen O'Brien (48) Pfeifer.

14

Justine Leslie Knopik and Lane, a girl, Camry Rose, Oct. 26, 2021. Grandparents are Joe (85) and Kandy Leslie. Great grandparents are Bob (62) and Marilyn Rudloff (61) Leslie.

Kelsie Leslie Vandenberg and Nolan, a boy, Baker Bowie, Aug. 30, 2021. Grandfather is Paul (88) Leslie. Great grandparents are Bob (62) and Marilyn Rudloff (61) Leslie.

Weddings

07

Kelli Heimbuch and Tyler Breed, April 23, 2022

13

Mark Glaser and Cassidy Pribnow, June 5, 2021

16

Kaitlyn Carraher and Garrett Saum, August 7, 2021

17

Katharyn Hartley and Cody Proskocil, June 5, 2021

Deaths

43

Mary Murphy Bopp, April 15, 2021

44

Leona (Langer) Schmidt, March 3, 2022

45

Sr. Collette Bauer, Jan. 5, 2022

47

Marjorie Pfeifer Hogg

48

Helen McMaster Brandt, Dec. 24, 2021

Joe "Bud" Keber, Jan. 7, 2022

50

Rosemary (Stromp) Shirley, March 20, 2022

52

Eileen McManaman Caldwell, Nov. 1, 2021

53

Wayne Canning, Sept. 14, 2021

55

Harry Pritchard, Nov. 13, 2021

69

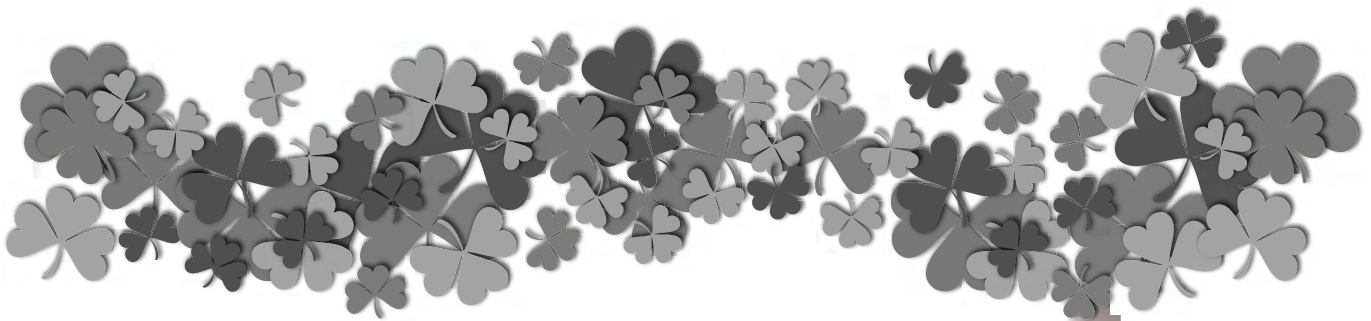
Jerry Socha, Dec. 13, 2021

81

Mark Esch, Jan. 27, 2022

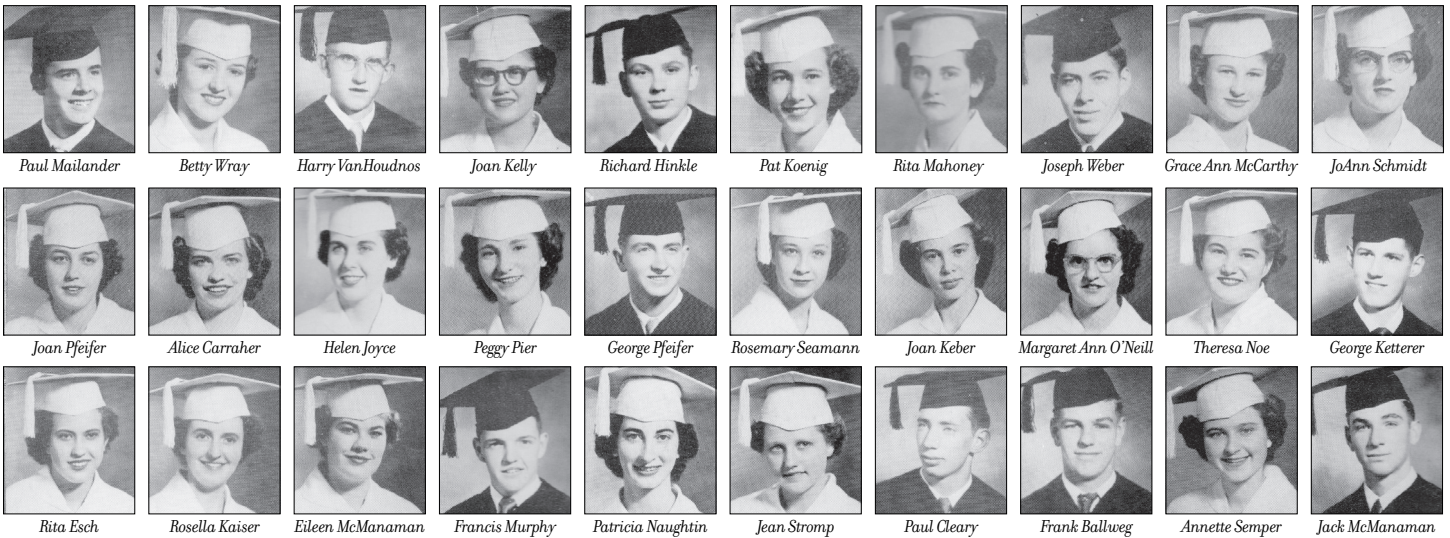
91

Jim Reilly, Oct. 8, 2021



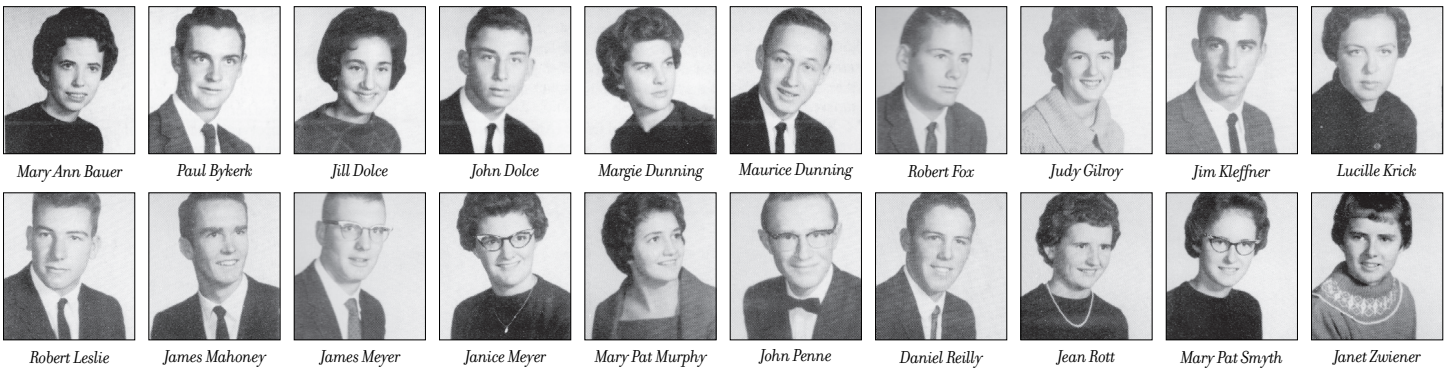
THE 70-YEAR CLASS: 1952

"Character is the only true diploma."

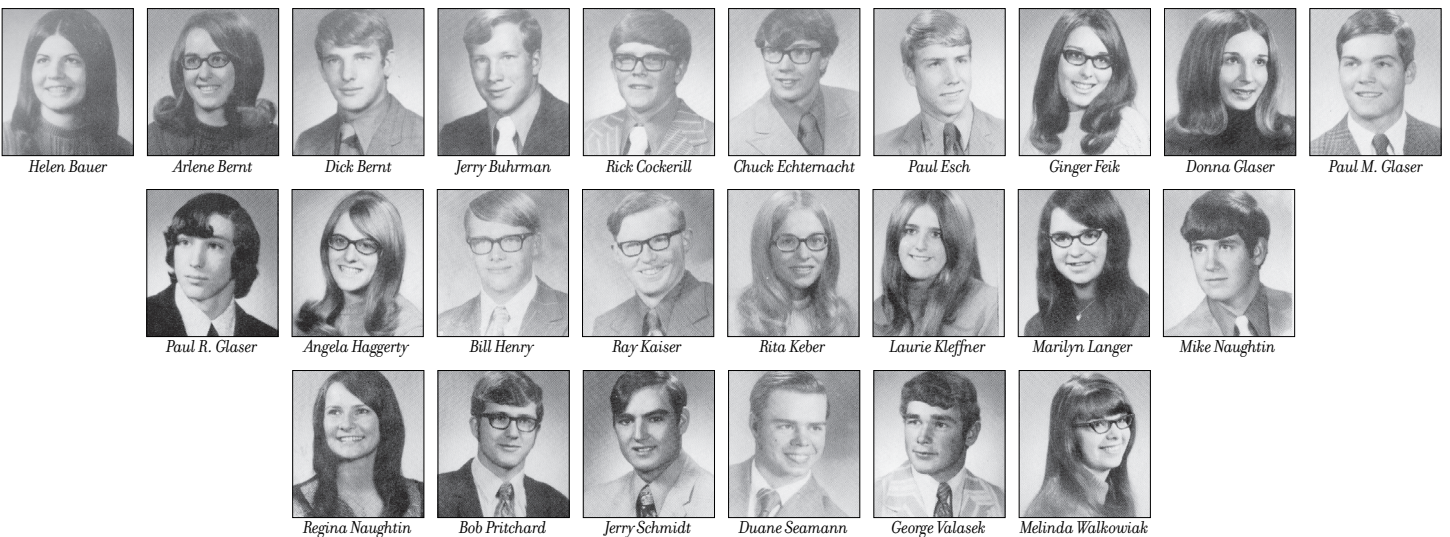


THE 60-YEAR CLASS: 1962

"With these words, we conquer god first."



THE 50-YEAR CLASS: 1972



THE 40-YEAR CLASS: 1982

"What appears to be the end, may really be a new beginning."



Christine Berger



Mary Lou Berger



Donald Esch



Lynn German



Paul Glaser



Shawn Glaser



Matthew Glesinger



Denise Hendrickson



Paul Kaiser



Troy Kleffner



Shannon Leslie



Jacqueline Murphy



Emily Nordhues



Jacqueline Rankin



Starla Roach



Paul Slevin



Loretta Valasek

THE 25-YEAR CLASS: 1997

"Follow your dreams, for only you can make them a reality."



Dustin Murphy



Tracy Diessner



Adam Scheef



Tara Leslie



Mark Goodrich



Julie Berger



Randy Carraher



Hilary Esch

THE 10-YEAR CLASS: 2012

"If not now, when? If not here, where? If not us, who?"



Jackie Glaser



Dylan Leslie



Heidi Seamann



Kara Thome



Colin Wagner

Teacher Profile

MEET SAVANNAH SEAMANN (03) SHORT

Spalding Academy 3rd, 4th grade teacher, 2nd grade religion teacher (the “Sacrament Year”)
savannah.short@spaldingacademy.org



Tell us about yourself.

I grew up in Akron which is between Spalding and Albion. I lived on a dairy farm and attended District #60 school from K-8. I was the only one in my grade until 7th grade, when my class size doubled to two. I came to Spalding for CCD and I am a lifelong member of St. Michael's Church. I came to Spalding Academy for high school and my class size, the class of 2003, doubled again to four. I am proud to be a 3rd generation graduate as my Grandma Elizabeth Glaser (47) Seamann, both of my parents Joseph (81) and Sharon Walsh (83) Seamann, and all of my siblings, Sarah (10), Megan (13), Alyssa (15) and Jeremiah (17), and several other family members have all graduated from this school as well. I met my husband, Aaron, at the D.C. Lynch Carnival where he has worked most of his life, and we have three children: Aariannah just finished preschool at Spalding Academy and will start kindergarten in the fall, Josiah will start preschool this fall, and Isaiah is a year and a half old. We also own the Short Stay Inn motel in Spalding.

Tell us about your education and path to Spalding Academy.

I got my associates of arts degree from Central Community College in Columbus and then my bachelor's degree in elementary education from Wayne State College. I spent several years hoping and praying to one day teach at Spalding Academy, but in the meantime I worked at St. John the Baptist School in Petersburg, St. Mary's in Ord, Loup City Public, St. Joseph in Atkinson, and Riverside Public School before I finally took my dream job at Spalding Academy. Fun fact: I took the place of my kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Mary Jane Noble.

When did you decide to become a teacher?

I decided before I graduated high school, as I always loved to be with the younger students and was a teacher's aide through high school. My grandma was a teacher, and being the oldest sibling, I knew I wanted to do something to help the future generation grow in mind. Being able to teach the faith is a bonus. I have been teaching since 2008, and I just finished my 3rd year at S.A.

What do you enjoy most about what you are teaching?

I enjoy this 3rd and 4th grade level because of their eagerness to learn. They have wonderful questions and sometimes it's even things I don't know so we learn together.

Do you have one favorite teaching moment?

I can't think of any one specific teaching moment, but some favorite activities we do is learning about the counties of Nebraska or the 50 states through a Flat Stanley project, so we mail out letters and hope to get a response about these different areas. I also like our Spiritual Adoption journey which teaches you are a creation of God from the moment of conception through birth and beyond to natural death. It teaches in real time, from the first day of school to last is right at the 9 months needed to fully grow in the womb and how we develop. I also do daily Saint stories that teach the Saint of the Day and connect our own lives to lives of the saints, how we can have very ordinary lives and still strive to be a saint.

What is one thing you want alumni to know about Spalding Academy?

Spalding Academy has a diverse set of students that come from a wide variety of backgrounds now, but we still strive to educate to high expectations, teach responsibility and respect, and come to understand the Catholic faith, hopefully preparing our souls for eternal life.

Spalding Academy Endowment

New Named Funds and Gifts after March 30, 2021

McManaman Memorial Fund: \$50 IMO Marie Jacobi-Janet Walker

Rose Rudloff Fund: \$5,000 Anonymous, \$1,000 Dennis & Tara Smydra, \$400 David & Shannon Thome

Henry & Vera Carlin Family Fund: \$50,000 Elizabeth Schultz Revocable Trust

Francis & Marcella Smyth Fund: \$5,000 Jerry & Barbara Smyth

Fr. Jacob Bauer Sr. Collette Bauer & Sr. Dolores Vincent Bauer Fund: IMO Sr. Collette Bauer \$100 George & Brenda Mignon, \$10 Gary & Cathy Nash, \$50 David & Marilyn Nielsen, \$100 Michael & Eileen Pechulia, \$40 Alan & Elizabeth Pfeifer, \$100 Francis & Anna Sherlock

Larry Diessner Fund: \$1,000 Michael Diessner, \$1,000 Paul & Joan Diessner

General Endowment Fund: \$1,000 IMO Clem Ballweg – Robert J Ballweg, \$413 Anonymous, \$200 Network for Good, \$300 Charlie, Cheryl, John & Sheena Krohn, \$500 Maxine Thome, IMO Charles Scott - \$50 Mary Berberich, \$100 Mark & Sharon Carraher, \$100 Fred Semper IMO Maxine Thome, \$25 Gail Seaton, \$25 Marc Rosso

Shane Thome Fund: \$5,000 Anonymous, \$900 David & Shannon Thome, \$500 Maxine Thome, \$200 Robert & Charlene Thome, \$100 Dennis & Julie Thome, \$500 Dennis & Tara Smydra

Ralph & Claire Brown Fund: \$100 Susan Brown

THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to the Endowment!

SPALDING ACADEMY ENDOWMENT TRUST FUND

PO Box 310, Spalding, NE 68665
March 31, 2022

Principal: From Capital Campaigns, Donations, Memorial and Bequests		\$480,320
Sr. Mary Faith Fund	\$82,621	
Dominican Sisters Fund	\$41,809	
William & Laverne Saville	\$19,010	
McManaman Memorial Fund	\$67,898	
L.J. & Cora Esch Fund	\$300,000	
Fr. Frank Hoelck Fund	\$9,300	
Rose Rudloff Fund	\$146,652	
Emmett & Mary Lee Fund	\$82,000	
Bernard & Jean Meyer Fund	\$23,425	
Ita Family Fund	\$6,500	
Julianna (Davlin) Bodyfield Fund	\$5,000	
Henry & Vera Carlin Family Fund	\$57,100	
Francis & Marcella Smyth Fund	\$17,611	
Fr. Jake Bauer, Sr. Collette Bauer, & Sr. Dolores Vincent Bauer Fund	\$48,400	
Larry Diessner Fund	\$34,554	
Margaret & John Kaiser Fund	\$76,088	
General Endowment Fund	\$89,467	
Michael Fritz Fund	\$15,000	
Fr. Carl Ferris Fund	\$50,000	
Shane Thome Fund	\$64,735	
Joseph & Luella Keber Fund	\$23,000	
Ralph E. (Bud) & Mary Claire Brown Fund	\$5,620	
Victor & Leila Bauer Fund	\$5,045	
Charles & Diane Mahony Family Fund	\$160,701	
Anonymous Life Insurance Fund	\$309,813	
Fr. James Murphy General Endowment Fund	\$270,819	
TOTAL ENDOWMENT PRINCIPAL	\$2,012,168	\$2,492,488

2021 Spalding Academy Alumni Banquet



Service Award recipient Joan McManaman with Nicole Bauer Woznick



Susan Bauer and Kassi (Hartley) Krupicka



Distinguished Alumni recipient Maureen Thome and Nicole Bauer Woznick



The 40 year class



The 50 year class



Bob Thome



Ron Pfeifer

Farmer Clarence Davenport Leaves Estate Gift to Support Catholic Schools and Churches



It is unlikely that most alumni of Spalding Academy have ever heard of Clarence Davenport. Davenport was a farmer near Callaway, Nebraska who died in 2015. When he died he left behind quite a legacy, giving nearly all he had to benefit the Lincoln Diocese and the Grand Island Diocese. Specifically, he wished to support the construction and renovation of Catholic churches and support the Catholic schools in those two dioceses. Spalding Academy and all Catholic schools in the Grand Island Diocese have now received some disbursements from Davenport's estate. So who was Clarence Davenport?

Clarence Davenport's parents, Harvey and Lena, moved to the Callaway area from Wyoming in the 1920s and founded a family farm. Clarence had two sisters and two brothers. He was the youngest, and the only one who stayed on the farm. After graduating from high school in Callaway, he joined the Air Force and served in World War II, though he was never sent overseas. Flying was a hobby he enjoyed the rest of his life and those that knew him said flying his single engine plane remained one of his lifelong joys. He

reached the rank of sergeant in the Air Force and after his honorable discharge, he returned to Callaway and farmed with his dad. He raised nearly 3,000 acres of irrigated corn, most of it around Callaway, south of Arnold and near Holdrege. Clarence was a devout Catholic, never married and had no children. He had made up his mind about one thing: when he passed, most of his estate would benefit Catholic schools and churches in the Grand Island and Lincoln Dioceses. It was no small gesture. Public inheritance tax records filed in Custer County indicate his estate was valued at little over \$33 million.

What was Clarence Davenport like as a person?

His obituary described him as "a quiet, gentle man... kind, intelligent and dedicated, and possessing extraordinary wit." The obituary also noted he had a dear and faithful friend and farm manager, Edwin Johnson.

"He was one of the best people you could have ever worked for," Johnson said.

"Honest. Understanding and kind. He was concerned about my family and the family of the other person that worked for him."

Johnson, 78, worked for Davenport for 50 years. He said Davenport was the type of person who would invest money in the farm and in its facilities. Johnson admired Davenport's ability to adapt with the times.

"When I moved there it was all gravity irrigated," Johnson said. "But (Davenport) was a man that when the time came to make a change, he'd make the change. So we made the change to pivots. He would not look back. As things change and

adapted, he'd change."

Davenport recognized as he got older, and was not physically able to take care of the farm, he needed to change and adapt too. He gave more responsibility for the farm to Johnson and then moved to a care facility.

"That did not change his outlook," Johnson said. "That was the change that needed to be made. So he did it."

Johnson added another thing about his former boss.

"His faith in Christ was exceptional," he said. "He looked at the person. I'm not Catholic. That had no bearing on me working for him at all."

Johnson is retired now from managing Clarence Davenport's farm, but the farm is still operating and has been placed in a trust, with proceeds being shared over the next 30 years to the charities Davenport selected. Davenport purposely elected to have his gifts to charities span many years, as liquidating his estate immediately would mean a loss of livelihood to his long-time farm renters.

Davenport died around the time Joseph Hanefeldt became the bishop of the Grand Island Diocese. Bishop Hanefeldt said that while the gift amounts from Davenport's trust vary and the Diocese does not receive them in any scheduled way, he has been able to make some disbursements to each school in the Grand Island Diocese. Bishop Hanefeldt said he never got to know Davenport personally but that his gift is inspirational to all.

“Clarence Davenport lived his Catholic faith and loved the Church,” Bishop Hanefeldt said. “His estate plans to remember the Diocese of Grand Island is bearing fruit in the financial gifts that we are now receiving from his trust. For years to come, his trust will generate valuable financial resources to benefit the parishes of our diocese and our Catholic schools. His foresight and generosity are a source of inspiration and hope. My heart is filled with deep gratitude for this man and the investment he has made in our parishes and schools. Let us remember Clarence and all benefactors of the Church in our prayers.”



Clarence D. Davenport

August 19, 1920 - January 31, 2015

Schools in the Grand Island Diocese benefitting from Clarence Davenport's Estate Gift

- St. Agnes Academy, Alliance
- Grand Island Central Catholic, Grand Island
- Kearney Catholic, Kearney
- St. Patrick, North Platte
- St. Luke's, Ogallala
- St. Mary's, Ord
- St. Agnes, Scottsbluff
- Spalding Academy, Spalding



Thank you to Gerard Pritchard (45), Regina Scheef (70), Amy McKay (93), Ann Bernt (HA14), Joe Pritchard (07), Lisa Thome (07) Schalk, Grace Glesinger (52), Mary Glesinger (HA21) and Denise Spelic (80). Without their help we would be unable to produce this annual newsletter. For feedback, ideas or suggestions for next year's newsletter, please contact editor, Dorothy Pritchard (83) Endacott at dorothyendacott@gmail.com

Letters

“Just a small donation for Spalding Academy. I hope it helps just a little. I know from experience the value of a Catholic education. It was a struggle in all ways to send my children to a Catholic school, but its value is unmeasurable...thank you for keeping the Academy open.” **Mary Naughtin**

“Thank you for remembering me during Catholic Schools Week. Your cards were wonderful and your words are encouraging...”
Fr. Joe Hannappel

“Great job for the finals of the Goldenrod Tournament in Volleyball this year! Great Help. It made our job easier...” **Referees Dave Irwin and Joanne Wells**

“We want to thank the students that made the beautiful get well cards for Jim. He enjoyed them. We are sure they helped him get to Heaven.” **Family of Jim Reilly (91)**

“Thank you for the hospitality when we played you... We felt we were treated with class from the time we got off the bus until we left town...” **Mustangs football team**



Spalding Academy

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS/ALUMNA NOMINATION FORM

The Spalding Academy Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award was established in 1998 to honor and recognize annually a member of Spalding Academy's alumni who 1) has achieved outstanding success in his/her career 2) contributed significantly to his/her community and 3) whose life's work has been in keeping with the principles and values embodied in the Catholic education received at S.A.

Nominees must have graduated from SA and must be living.

All nominations must be in writing; oral nominations will not be accepted.

Deadline for nominations is January 31. Mail nominations to: Spalding Academy Distinguished Alumni Award Committee, PO Box 310, Spalding, Nebraska 68665 or email: amy.mckay@spaldingacademy.org.

I nominate: _____ Class of _____

1) Outstanding success in his/her career:

2) Contributed significantly to his/her community:

3) Life's work has been in keeping with the principles and values embodied in the Catholic education received at S.A.:

Your name _____

Email _____ Phone _____