ban

www.bisonalumni.com

bison alumni newsletter

fall 2026 vol. 67

Heritage Days 2026



2026 Heritage Days Royalty Court - Audrey Wilson, Lilley Gans, Abby Sedlacek and Eli Graff



Bob Elder ('74) accepting the honer of Heritage Days Parade Marshall from McCook Chamber of Commerce director Sarah Schneider



Photos courtsey of Red Willow County Tourism

In this issue:

BAN Subscription- Pg. 3
Heritage Days - Pg. 4 -5
'61 & '66 Reunion - Pg. 6-7
'76 & '81 Reunion - Pg. 8-9
Throwback Reunion- Pg. 10
'96 Reunion - Pg. 11
'06 & '16 Reunion- Pg. 12-13
Hillcrest Foundation- Pg. 14-15
Class notes - Pg. 17-18
McCook Memories - Pg.19
In Memory and Thanks - Pg. 20

a note on the ban mission

Many years ago, a group of classmates sat around a table with a tall stack of newsletters and a long evening ahead of them.

That was the folding party.

For more than 30 years, the Bison Alumni Newsletter has done one simple thing: kept McCook High School graduates connected to each other and to home. It started with people who loved McCook enough to give up an evening to fold, stack, and send it on its way. Class representatives gathered, caught up on each other's lives, and laughed their way through every issue. Those who were there remember those nights with extreme fondness. The work was tedious, but the laughter and the reunions around the table made it something more than a task.

Today, the newsletter looks different. Paper has given way to pixels, but the purpose is the same. Twice a year, the newsletter still brings you class reunions, alumni achievements, and the happenings back home. It finds you wherever you've landed and reminds you where you started.

As technology keeps changing the way we stay connected, we want your help deciding what comes next. What would make the newsletter more valuable to you? Should it include video, a more interactive website, or something we haven't thought of yet? **Send your ideas to mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com.** The folding parties were built on many hands, and so is this.

We also need to be plain about something: keeping the newsletter going costs money. Publishing, design, and website costs continue to grow, and the future of the newsletter depends on alumni who believe it's worth preserving. If the newsletter has ever helped you find a classmate, remember a teacher, or feel a little closer to McCook, **please consider making a gift today** with the QR code below or by mailing a check to P.O. Box 665, McCook, NE 69001.

Thank you for being part of this story. Together, we can make sure it keeps going for 30 more years.

1. Scan the code
2. Designate your donation for Bison Alumni Newsletter
3. All done! Thank you so much for your support!

BAN Executive Committee:

Scott Bieker ('88)	sbieker@gmail.com
Bob Ihrig ('69)	rmihrig@aol.com
Diane Wilson Lyons ('76)	pdlyons@gpcom.net
Terra Ellerton Michaelis ('94)	brianterra@msn.com
Pat Weskamp ('88)	pweskamp@outlook.com
BAN editor: Tori Tietz Hegwood ('16)	mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com

Newsletter Subscriptions

A GIFT OF CONNECTION

Few things beat the smell of freshly printed paper for a writer such as myself. And you may have thought the same if you've ever stepped inside Acme Printing, the wonderful, home-grown business that has printed the Bison Alumni Newsletter for many years.

My boys would likely argue that the smell of Lucy's donuts downtown is much better than fresh ink and warm paper.

They may have a point. But for many of us, there's something about a printed page that no screen can match. We like the weight of it, the flipping through, the coffee-stained corner we'll find again next week. We like spotting a familiar name in a class photo and setting the whole issue on the kitchen table for the next person to pick up.

For years, everyone received BAN that way, and a few of our older classes still do. As times, technology, and costs have changed, most readers now get the newsletter by email. It's quick and efficient, and you can always print a copy yourself from the website or the email. But we know it isn't the same.

Three years ago, the McCook Community Foundation Fund, which holds the BAN sub-account, began paying for printed copies to be left around town. If you were here for Heritage Days, you may have seen one in the Keystone lobby. There's a copy on the table in the Community Hospital waiting room, and anyone in a McCook hotel lobby can pick one up while they wait.

Those copies started conversations, and we kept hearing the same thing: "I'd love one of my own." So now you can. A subscription to the Bison Alumni Newsletter will arrive in your mailbox twice a year for $20 per year.

Think of it as a gift, too. Every family has that person who has everything but still lights up at news from McCook: the aunt who moved away decades ago, the classmate who never misses a reunion, the grandparent who reads every page twice. A subscription is a gift that shows up in their mailbox twice a year and says, we were thinking of home, and of you.

To subscribe for yourself or someone else, email mcffund@gmail.com or mail a check to MCFF, Box 525, McCook, NE 69001. For more information or questions, visit mccookfoundation.org.

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Payment Enclosed ☐

Paid Online ☐

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Payment Enclosed ☐

Paid Online ☐

Name:

Mailing Address:

Email:

Payment Enclosed ☐

Paid Online ☐







Parade entry honoring John Hubert ('45)



Above: Roger Nelms ('66)

Left: Past and Present Heritage Days Royalty



Grand Marshal Jerda Thompson (Garey Vickers) ('57)



Below: Mayor Linda Taylor ('65)



Parade Marshal Bob Elder ('74)







Kicking off Heritage Days with the annual McCook National Bank Mixer on Wednesday













Coyote Country Music Showdown in Norris Alley





Photos provided by Red Willow County Tourism

Class of 1961 Reunion



MHS Class of 1961 had their final class reunion during Heritage Days in McCook.

Classmates attending were left to right: Jerry Dorram, John Clesson, Jo Ann McMullen Brand, Delbert Kunkee, Bev Hamler Wilcox, Bob Logan, Ken Foster, Chuck Real, Dian Keene Trail, Bill Noll, Kay Hoyt Wasia, Vincent Wasia and Judy Gross Hall.

Ken Foster was their teacher and football coach and is holding the signed football they used when they won the Big 10 Championship in 1960. The class decided to use their remaining class funds to purchase a bench for Norris Park and for the McCook Humane Society.



Class of 1966 Reunion

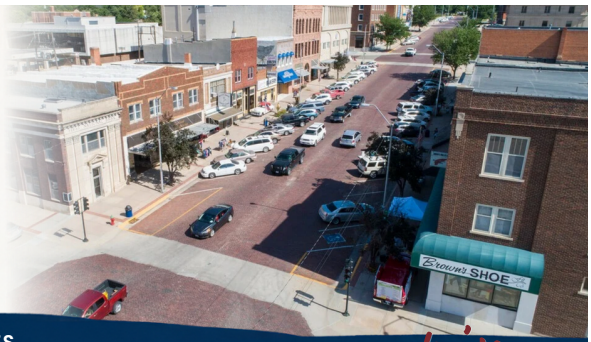


32 members of the MHS Class of 1966 met to celebrate their 60-year reunion during Heritage Days

Left to right, Front row: Anita Baker Graff, Jim Steinke, Dotti Park
2nd Row: Carolyn Henton Masi, Linda Heskett Witte
3rd Row: Cathy Bunstock Cox, Ursula Wozniak Leeds, Kathie Trupp Cappel,
Carol Lyons Dolan, Jodie Kitchen Bamesberger
4 th: Cathy Carter Wasia, Kathie Trupp Cappel
5th: Jack Trail, Tom Murphy, Rich Mustion, Bob Brenning, Charlie Coleman, Ed
Pilcher, Garry Rogers
6th: Harry Rich, Roger Nelms, Cliff Davis, Murray Dugger, Janice Poore Grassmeyer,
Mark Winters, Larry Larson
7th: Marty Sevier, Bruce Sweney, Gene Wasia, Eric Allen, Scott Boehm in the black hat, Jerry Sigwing, Dale Gibbs

McCook Has an
OPPORTUNITY ZONE

A strategic investment today. A stronger McCook tomorrow.



McCook is excited to have an **Opportunity Zone** — a federally recognized area that offers significant financial incentives for investors, including potential tax advantages and long-term growth opportunities.

TAX INCENTIVES
Potential for capital gains tax benefits and deferral opportunities.

COMMUNITY IMPACT
Supports local jobs, businesses and economic growth.

REAL OPPORTUNITY
Invest in revitalization, innovation and a stronger local economy.

Invest in McCook's Future

MCCOOK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Contact MEDC to learn more about investment opportunities: info@mccookne.org or *Speak with your financial advisor to learn how the tax incentives may work for you.*

Class of 1976 Reunion



The class of 1976 enjoyed our 50 year reunion in McCook Labor Day weekend. We had 55 classmates here for two days to enjoy McCook and each other and to share memories of growing up here. Everyone commented on what a great childhood we had in McCook and a phenomenal educational experience at MHS.

Front row: Greg Hayes, Pat Putz Unger, Candy Brooks, Dee Dunworth Doyle, Pam Johnson Ross, Anita McNutt Lytle, Linda Ayer's Anderson, Michelle Carr Hassler, Diane Wilson Lyons, Doug Ohlson, Peg Harr Brooks, Beth Corrick Loop, Jennifer Beideck Kugler, Karen Berndt Anderson, Diane Calvin, Susan Morosic Nelms, Charlie Bacon

Second row: John Clapp, Mark Brim, Pete Brown, Kevin Ziemann, Eric Reinholz, Mike Siverly Larson, Dan Winder, Don Ruppert, Terry Pinkal, Ken Meyers, Loretta Roberts Condor, Susan Olsson Abbey, Mary Jo Tompkins Radil, Cindy Cain, Bill Buxton, Diane Snyder, Chris Drake, Barb Hein Emory, Rebecca Thomas, Keri Clark Hammond, Terry Bennett

Back row: Jim Carlson, Doug Dueland, Greg Donahue, Kevin Zander, Pat Farrell, Kevin Pothoff, Craig Johnson, Dean Lynch, Duane Patterson, Kent Abbey, Keith Bradley and Larry Welborn.

Attending Friday but not in the picture where Sean Suiter, Todd Raridon, Peg Chitwood Dueland, and Mary Meyer Hegert.



Above: Reunion planning group

Right: The band geeks





Enjoying McCook's Pickleball courts

Class of 1981 Reunion



Back Row Left to Right: Mark Kunkee, Roger Dame Bobby Hunt., Ken Henton., Stan Murphy, John Palic, Todd Loescher, Chris Hewitt., David Carfield., Rick Corder., Todd Corey., Tom Leonard., Donald (Dusty) Trail., Clay Shepherd., Bill Howell., Martin Sis., Ross Halsey., Jeff Cushing.,
Row 3 Virginia (Gina) Gonzalez Donnoe., Teresa Reiners Diederich., Dee McCorkle Premer., Joyce Baumann Hubbart., Patty Kennedy Eisenach., Brenda Monie Houston., Kim Miller Schilling., Valerie Sutton Weigel, Mary Shields Hazlitt., Kellie Warren Soden., Teresa Ellinger Wells.,
Chairs: Vicky Hancock Mullen., Kathy Brewster Vanboening., Lynda Carlson Unger., Karen Maguire Bortner., Chris Liess Carfield., Cathy Unger Thompson., Amy McCormick Anderson., Debra Henn Hofman., Michelle Monzon Clapp.,
Kneeling on the Floor Kelly Ziemann., Leila Hoyt Koetter., Julie Knepper Patterson

The Class of 1981 had a great 45th class reunion during Heritage Days. Several participated in the parade and toured the High School. We then met and had a great time visiting at the Community Building for Jiffy Burgers and Rocket Pizza.











Throwback Reunion: Class of 1949 in 1979













Photos provided by Marta Dempsey daughter of Margaret Trail Nielsen









Dr. Warren L. Jones, D.D.S. ('65)
Dr. Melanie Jones-Wier, D.D.S.

Bison Dental
General Family Dentistry

912 W. 12th Street, McCook 308.345-1470
bison.dental@hotmail.com www.bisondental.com





Class of 1996 Reunion



Front Row L-R Julie Herron-Ellis, Todd Felber, Jamie (Alberts) Fredrickson, Anne (Colling) McCarville,
Back Row L-R Mandi (Thomsen) White, Josette (Clapp) McConville, Jody Esteraich Lieske, Heather Hamilton-Hawke, Mandy Leitner Ballinger, Laci (Eiler) Mueller, Adam L Parsons, Courtney (Korell) Meysenburg, Sam Ord, Ben Siegfried, Travis McCarville





Class of 2006 Reunion



Front row left to right: Brianna Ward, Amanda Pollnow, Chris Larson.
Second row: Nicole Felker Olsen, Michael Paz, Ryan Ankersen, Julia Lyons Krebs, Mitch Hazlitt, Joel Putz, and Kyle Novak.
Back row: Kayla Wilson McDonald, Tony Purvis, Whitney Fagot Purvis, Matt Fritz, Logan Polly, Tyler Thieszen, Garrett Rippen, Brian Friehe, and Brandon Crick.









We're excited to share some incredible news! Congratulations to our Superintendent, Dr. Aaron Plas ('02), on being named the Nebraska Superintendent of the Year! Please join us in congratulating Dr. Plas!
- Bennington Public School Facebook Page

Class of 2016 Reunion



HOME
Where Your Story Begins
Your homegrown real estate experts:
Melanie Goodenberger '85, Beth O'Dea '79,
Christi Evans '79, Shannon Woitaszewski '82,
Shalynn Reichert '09, Lyle Brown, Leeann McCarty

GPR
Golden Plains Realty
907 West B Street, McCook, NE
308-345-4108, GPRHomes.com

The Garrett House



The Garrett House, located at 1001 Norris Ave., McCook, NE is available to rent on a short term basis for weekend getaways, reunions, showers, small parties, etc. The home features 7 bedrooms with 1 King bed, 2 Queen beds, 6 Twin beds, 3 futons, and 3 bathrooms. To book your stay at The Garrett House call Golden Plains Realty 308-345-4108 or Melanie Goodenberger at 308-345-7709.

COLFER, WOOD, LYONS & WOOD
LAWYERS

Tom Colfer ('28) (1910-1999)
Dal Wood ('48) (1930-2005)
Phil Lyons ('74)

Paul M. Wood ('80)
Emily M. Wood '(11)

P.O. Box 100 I 124 West C, McCook I 308.345.5063
FAX 308.345.2426 I cwlwlaw@gmail.com

Built Here, Cared for Here:
Hillcrest and the Bison Who Call It Home

Every community has a way of taking care of its own. In McCook, one of the quiet ways is the Hillcrest Nursing Home Foundation, established in 1989 with a simple mission: to inspire investment in the quality of life for the residents of Hillcrest.

The Foundation was created because providing a high quality of life for the people entrusted to Hillcrest's care is an ongoing challenge, and Hillcrest needed a partner to come alongside it. Its endowment supplements the facility with enhancements, staff education, and the extras that make a difference in a resident's day. And it exists thanks to the generosity of the communities Hillcrest serves, a service area that continues to grow.

Behind that mission are real people, and many of them are Bison. Of the residents at Hillcrest, 15, or about 25%, are MHS graduates. A poll by HR director Amanda Randolph found that about half of the staff caring for them are MHS alumni, too. It's a reminder that Hillcrest isn't just in McCook. It's made of McCook.

One of those residents is Morris Miller ('56), and if you've walked the halls of McCook's junior or senior high school, you've walked through his work.



Staff members in front of Hillcrest

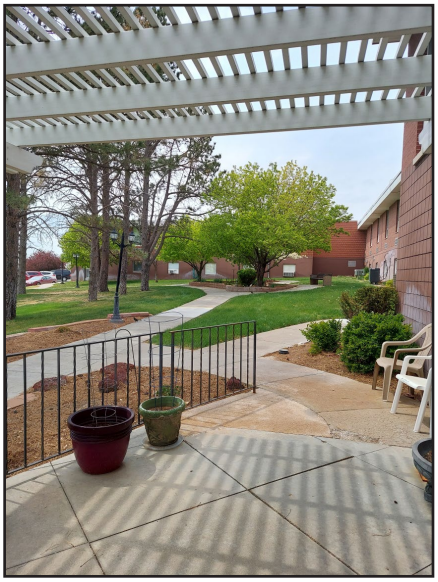
Morris is an Army veteran who spent his working life as a carpenter, and he helped build the current Junior and Senior High schools. When he thinks back on that job, he doesn't dress it up. "It was a big job, a big job," he says. There were no houses around the building site then, and "it's much different now." Once the schools were finished, he moved on to the armory. "Just kept working south," he remembers. Over the years, he also helped build many of the homes in the area, which means his handiwork stretches well beyond the school grounds.

He was, and still is, proud of those buildings. Morris remembers that the community had plenty to say about them at the time, grumbling a lot "like they do now."

Morris stayed in McCook for a practical reason: the work was here, and there was a family to provide for. "You just took what work you could find," he says. His daughters grew up here, too, and both graduated from MHS. Multiple generations of McCook's story run through one man's career.

Both the courtyard and front entrance are enhancements the Foundation helped with.





It's a good reminder that the people who built this town are still part of it. And the Foundation exists so that people like Morris receive the same care and dignity they gave to the community.

Over the years, the endowment has made a visible difference. It has funded repairs and upgrades ranging from roofing to landscaping to flooring to smart TVs for residents. It has paid for equipment for staff and residents, and it has hosted appreciation events for the people who care for them. Right now, the Foundation is partnering with Hillcrest on the purchase of a new van. Just as important, the endowment provides financial security for Hillcrest's future.

The Foundation also looks ahead by investing in the next generation of caregivers. It offers a tuition assistance loan, with a primary focus on nursing, that is forgiven if the recipient works at Hillcrest for two years after finishing their studies.

The Foundation knows it's getting harder to make ends meet and still find the money for more training, and that's exactly why it's there to help. It also administers the Diane Towery scholarship, takes part in job fairs, and works with other agencies in the region that support people training for careers in medicine.

Foundation board president Mike Skolout explains why this matters to Bison in particular: "Many Bison alumni have made careers in healthcare in other communities. While those alumni leave, their parents may not. They want to stay closer to home. The Foundation is here to support Hillcrest so they can provide exceptional care for families and friends who stay here."

The goal for the years ahead is to keep building the endowment, creating a steady stream of support for the needs of today and the ones we can't yet see. That kind of future is built the same way Morris built the schools: one job at a time, by people who showed up.

To learn more or get involved, contact the Hillcrest Nursing Home Foundation at PO Box 1087, McCook, NE 69001, call 308-345-4600, or visit hillcrest-foundationmccook.org.



Hillcrest
Nursing Home Foundation
A CARING PLACE

Established in 1989, the Hillcrest Foundation is committed to helping enrich the quality of life for those who need supportive care, throughout all generations served by Hillcrest Nursing Home.

Check Us Out
HillcrestFoundationMcCook.org
or email us at
foundation@hillcrestnh.org

5 TO THRIVE

Support your hometown of McCook with "Five to Thrive" and make McCook an even better place to call home.

MCFF and the McCook Philanthropy Council encourage current and former residents to consider a planned gift to their hometown. Support the community that supported you and your family by leaving five percent so your hometown can thrive.

McCook Community
FOUNDATION FUND
www.mccookfoundation.org

Do you have an article idea?

We want to hear it!

Do you know an alumni doing something incredible or have a story that you want featured?

Or do you have information about an upcoming reunion or photos from a recent class reunion to share?

Send us an email at mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com

- PRINT IT WITH -

THE 'A' TEAM

- ALL BISON ALUMNI -

'88 Janie Woodruff Bredvick
'94 Rich Dack
'05 Jared Muehlenkamp
Constance Ferneau Stone
'18 Elise Stevens Larington

acmeprint.co • local since 1932



class notes

Please send your news and contact info changes to your class rep. Class news items are due to the BAN Oct. 15 for the fall newsletter and March 31 for the spring newsletter. Phone numbers are in area code 308 and addresses in McCook (69001) unless otherwise specified. In Memory entries are on Page 20.

1948: Mary Lou Drake, 1515 West 2nd, mloudrake@gmail.com

1949: Needs a class rep. E-mail mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com

1950: Needs a class rep. E-mail mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com

1951: - Dennis Moskal djmoskal34@gmail.com

1952: -Peggy Appleyard, 1006 E. 4th St., 340-0641

1953: - Needs a class rep

1954: -LaVonne Sayer Hanchera, 308-895-2323, hanchera@bwtelcom.net

1955: -We gather as a class at the McCook Senior Center on the last Friday of each month. Please join us and the Class of '56
Dick Trail
dickt@swnebr.net
308 340 7689

1956: - See above and gather with us
Ann Tondreau
anntrail@swnebr.net
308 340 3578

1957: Class luncheons continue on the fourth Thursday each month at 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Hut in McCook for all 1957 Bison class members who can attend. -Jerda Thompson Vickers - jvickers@mccooknet.com

1958: Greetings Classmates of 1958: We have had several emails returned as errors plus letters returned as no such address. Please ask your spouse or friend to let us know of any changes even telephone numbers. We are planning on our 70th reunion in the fall of 2028. If you are interested in receiving a printed BAN newsletter, please let us know. Wishing you a healthful and blessed 2025.

kent.kotschwar@gmail.com or phone 308-345-7579; or

Leanna Leibrant - leibrandt213@gmail.com, or phone 970-689-7497.

1959: Hello friends! Happy spring/summer!

I know several of you have moved and if you haven't yet, please let me know your new address. May you have many happy years ahead in your new home!

Thank you, Honey Lou Bonar, for the donation to our class in memory of Joan Calvin.

-Janet Eckhardt Rich, 1301 West 1st StreetMcCook, NE 69001, jrlr@centurylink.net, 308-345-2703

1960: - Pat Freddep.free1960@gmail.com; Connie Carlson Bennett connieb1942@netscape.net

1961: Contacts: Jo Ann McMullen Brand, cell 737-8326, jobrand961@gmail.com or Dian Keene Trail, 345-5116, or cell 340-3484, cdtrail@mccooknet.com

1962: -Greetings classmates of 1962! We, Cheryl Donaldson Delcour and Linda Bald Clark, are volunteering to fill in as Class Reps following the loss of Tom Buresh. We all appreciate the many years that Tom served as the rep and we will miss him greatly as our friend and representative.

We would like to plan a 65th reunion for the Fall of 2027, perhaps coinciding with Heritage Days. If you are interested in helping to plan a celebration, you would be very welcome! Please let Cheryl or Linda know. Thank you.
-Linda (Bald) Clark, Linda.clark@du.edu, 303-524-4468
-Cheryl (Donaldson) Delcour, Cheryldelcour@yahoo.com, 785-246-3432

1963: -We are running out of money for funeral flowers and memorials, so any donations are greatly appreciated. This is the last thing we can do for our classmates and want to do it for every one. Lorraine Rose, 719-339-2803, Lorrainegolds@me.com; Dick Cappel, 308-350-0363, dick@cappelsales.com

1964: Congratulations classmates. You have arrived at the age of 80 (or will very soon). Who would have ever imagined that we would reach this age! Be grateful for each day and all the blessings we have received through the years! So thankful to the Lord for each and every day. We are very grateful for such a positive and delightful group of classmates! Go BISON 1964! Class Reps: Gloria Shepherd Mefford, gloriamefford@Icloudcom or 308-373-7787 and Cheryl Myers Beckenhauer, cheri.beckenhauer@gmail.com or 308-340-0421.

1965: We are putting park benches around the Championship Fields at the PFC Gerald L. Walters Sports Complex. Please let us know if you would like to contribute to a bench from the Class of 1965. -Linda Taylor, ltaylorvk@gmail.com 308-345-3682
Steve Batty, sbatty@mccooknet.com 308-345-4021

1966: -Ed Pilcher, edpilcher2004@aol.com, 970.768.6746, 20187 County Rd 17 Ft Morgan CO 80701

1967: The class of 1967 is coming up on 60th year reunion. Please let me know if there is any interest! It will be held during Heritage Days next September 17-18!
Reply to terhall5@hotmail.com.
-Jean Harmon Hallowell, 903 W 7th St., 345-7663, terhall5@hotmail.com

1968: -Sue Coady Doak, sdoak@swnebr.net; -Susan Andrews Thomsen, salt6768@charter.net

1969: -Debbie Krieger Jenkins, 1411 West 5th St., 340-7526, debbie_ann_s@hotmail.com

Please join our Facebook - 1969-McCook High School Class of 1969

1970: -Diana Newton Butler for any questions or changes in your email address. Email at dianabutler52@yahoo.com or text at 402-699-4029

1971: We are still in need of email addresses for about a third of our classmates so that you may continue to receive the alumni newsletter. Please forward your email addresses to sclapp@gpcom.net or to Kathy Wallen at dankatw@gmail.

1972: -Anne Unger Confer, 1111 Norris Ave., 340-5924, Anne_confer@yahoo.com.

1973: -Mary Anderson Dueland, 112 E N St., 737-6111, dmdue@outlook.com

Continued on next page

class notes cont.

1974: -Please send current email addresses to pegandrews18@gmail.com. You all were so generous to help pay for our last reunion. We can start rebuilding our class fund for the next one, please send to Federal Lincoln Savings and Loan 221 Norris Avenue McCook make checks out to Class of 1974. Thanks again for the great weekend!

1975: -Dari Tucker Olson, 705 W. 5th St., 340-3595, dariolson@gmail.com

1976: - What a reunion! Over 50 of us came together to celebrate 50 years of life after high school. Lots of laughter and shared memories. Can't wait to do it again! Make sure you're a member of our Facebook page - 1976-McCook High School Class of 1976-BAN, for more information. - Diane Wilson Lyons, 1007 E. 1st St.,308 340-8439, pdlyons@gpcom.net

1977: We have started the planning for our 50th Class reunion next year. The reunion will coincide with Heritage Days 2027 on Saturday, September 18th. We will plan meetings on Friday (September 17th) and Saturday evenings, with more details to follow. Please make your necessary room reservations early, as this is a busy weekend. -Scott Schneider, scott.schneider.np@gmail.com; -Class Treasurer Charlotte Hays Dunsworth, P.O. Box 83, Culbertson, NE 69024, 737-6558

1978: -Jerry Calvin, 807 W. 13th St., 737-9778, pepsidude2004@gmail.com; -Mara Lee Weskamp-Ebert, 707-363-2432

1979: -Robin Frick Calvin, 807 W. 13th St., 340-2401, craftwhiz@swnebr.net

1980: Join our Facebook; 1980 McCook High School Class of 80-BAN. - Peggy Messinger peggymessinger@swnebr.net

1981: -Kellie Soden, 303-589-3459, RKASODEN@msn.com.

1982: I would appreciate it if you would please e-mail me updated mailing and e-mail addresses. Thanks! -Sara Wiemers Rippen 103 Courtney Ln, sara.rippen@gmail.com

1983: -Janice Howell, pcshowell@gmail.com

1984: Needs a new class rep. Donations can be sent to Dawn Hess Foster, 305 Apache Dr., 340-0135, dawnfostrr1965@gmail.com

1985: -Annette Kool Wagner, 345-3852, acwagner2@gmail.com

1986: -Michelle Hubert Doorn, 28328 463rd Ave., Davis, SD 57021-6127, michelle.doorn@k12.sd.us

1987: Our 40th is next year and we are just getting started planning for next year. Please send ideas to andy_hofman@yahoo.com so we can make this one a good time. Donations to Class of 1987 c/o Andy Hofman, 903 Missouri Ave., 340-9602, andy_hofman@yahoo.com. -Rich Barnett, 340-0815, rich@highplainsradio.net

1988: -Pat Weskamp, pweskamp@outlook.com

1989: -Chanin Monestero, cd_monestero@hotmail.com

1990: - Check out our facebook page '1990-McCook High School Class of 1990-BAN.' -Jeanette Cappel Wonderly, wonderlytj@gmail.com, 519 Buffalo Street, Benkelman, NE 69021, 883-1960

1991: -Michelle Henrickson, s-mhenrickson@hotmail.com

1992: -Jason Loop, 18 Wedgewood Dr., 345-1977, jloop@ocsmccook.com, -Trevor Taylor, 308-340-0131

1993: -Joann Pick Barenberg, 901 W R St., 345-8703, jbarenberg@mnb.bank

1994: -Stephanie Hays Stevens, 1606 W 2nd St., 345-5688, voiceonhold2@gmail.com

1995: -Carmen Irwin Lervold, 15788 W. Acapulco Lane, Surprise, AZ 85379, 623-322-9281, bisonclass95@cox.net

1996: - Hawke at hhmcboss@yahoo.com with questions.-Anne McCarville, 511 West 2nd Street McCook NE 69001, amac513@hotmail.com

1997: Connect with us on Facebook: "McCook High School Class of 1997." -Lisa Beckenhauer Pomajzl, 1650 Karol Kay Blvd., Seward, NE 68434, 402-826-7050, bepuzzled2@yahoo.com

1998: -Brian Symington, Brian.Symington@gmail.com

1999: -Vanessa Lytle, 909 East G St., 340-3863, vlytle9969@gmail.com

2000: -Anna Dueland Hunnicutt, mccook2000@gmail.com

2001: -Shaelin Monzon Stiver, 706 East 3rd St. Apt. B, 340-5408, shaelinstiver@gmail.com

2002:-Next year marks 25th years since our high school graduation. How can that be possible?? No plans yet for a reunion, but if you're interested in planning something, please let me know. Laura Lyons Plas, lmplas@mpsomaha.org

2003: -Jill Hansen Purvis, aj_purvis@hotmail.com

2004: -Nicole Hedke Sutton, nicole_sutton@live.com

2005: -Kate Wolford Wawrzynkiewicz, 12129 S. Hansen Rd., North Platte, NE 69101, 340-9156, katewaz05@gmail.com

2006: A big THANK YOU to everyone who made the trip back to McCook to reminisce, reconnect, and prove that 20 years feels like both a lifetime and the blink of an eye! Word is, the boys are in charge of planning our next reunion, and an old-school barn party is in the works! Hope to see you all there for more laughs, memories, and questionable dance moves.- Julia Lyons Krebs, julia.krebs25@gmail.com

2007: -John Swanhorst, 9 Mashie Dr., 340-1648, jswanhorst@gmail.com

2008: -Cory Gaston, 712-204-3052, cmg_4@hotmail.com

2009: Needs a class rep. Parent rep, -Doug Skiles, dskiles@slbwcpa.com, P.O. Box 36, McCook, NE 69001

2010: -Shane Wallen, shane_wallen@hotmail.com

2011: -Jaci Saalfeld Weissert, saalfeldjn@gmail.com, 340-6254.

2012: Needs a class rep. Parent rep, -Sherri Stang, 345-4240, sherri@mnb1.com

2013: -Tricia Mitnik Wagner, 340-3209, pwagner@chmccook.org, Gavin Harsh, 340-7178, gharsh.3513@gmail.com

2014: Miranda Payton, Text 340-5380, 1507 West 5th

St., McCook, mirandapayton14@gmail.com

2015: -Marlys Brenning, 340-8496, 424 N Church St, Elm Creek NE 68836, mebrenning@gmail.com

2016: Needs a class rep. Parent rep, -Tom Bredvick, 345-4240, Bison2016@bredvick.com

2017: Lexi Gross, lgross69001@icloud.com

2018: Adelina Wilcox, adelinawilcox@gmail.com

2019: Rose Bishop (Stoney) 308-737-6006, rosestoney47@gmail.com

2020: Lydia Risenhoover, lydiarisenhoover75@gmail.com, 340-7433

2021: Needs a class rep.

2022: Needs a class rep.

2023: Needs a class rep.

2024: Needs a class rep.

2025: Needs a class rep.

2026: Needs a class rep

Just in time for Heritage Days, our new temporary exhibit celebrates the theme of "Homecoming." We've been busy behind the scenes bringing this exhibit—and several other museum updates—to life.



Be sure to stop in, take a look around, and see what's new! We're excited to share these changes with you and hope you'll enjoy a little "Homecoming" at the museum. -High Plains Museum

To see more memories like these, join our Facebook group: Bison Alumni Newsletter-McCook NE High School Alumni. Or follow us on Facebook and Instagram @McCookBisonAlumni.

North Ward, Kindergarten, Class of 1963.



Have you registered on www.bisonalumni.com yet? If not, please do so today! It's like an online reunion. We currently have more than 2,000 alumni registered at this site.

Have you moved, changed phone numbers, or changed your last name? Please update your information on the website so your classmates can find the most current information.

Do you have a new email address or can't get into your account? E-mail Tori at mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com or write to Bison Alumni Newsletter, P.O. Box 665, McCook, NE 69001

Connect with us on Facebook! Search Bison Alumni Newsletter-McCook NE High School Alumni.

Lee-Ellen Creasman Matzke, 94, McCook Junior College Class of 1951 returned for MCC's-100 celebration because the college had been such a force in the lives of her family. Her mother Virena Welborn Creasman was part of the first class at MCC and nine of Virena's siblings also attended. Lee-Ellen, of Sidney, was the part of the oldest class represented at the Alumni Banquet held at MCC's East Campus. She created a MCC scholarship for education majors to recognize her mother and their joint passion for teaching. Lee-Ellen was the first female mayor of Sidney and will be featured in an upcoming MCC video and NTV News. She is a 1949 McCook High School graduate. Legends are among us and Lee-Ellen continues to influence the future through her scholarship and generosity. Celebrate 100 years by investing in the next 100.



McCook College FOUNDATION

Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who contributed their time, money, pictures or articles to the BAN:

All of our advertisers

Red Willow County Tourism

Class reps

In memory

Each class expresses sincere condolences to the families. Many of their obituaries are posted on the Bison Alumni Facebook page and on bisonalumni.com

'39 – Albertina "Tina" Bollerup (McCaffrey)
'41 – Vernelle Austin
'45 – Fern Jean Frank (Reed), John Hubert
'46 – Gladys Loose (Knaus)
'48 – Phyllis Wagner (Wilcox)
'49 – Valeria Schuetz (Rhoades), Norma Steele (Acton)
'51 – Darlene Bender (Weed), Frank Cuellar
'52 – Janice "Janett" Fritz (France)
'53 – Nancy Hubert (Miller), Barbara Neumann (Dowell), Patricia "Pat" Rogers (Schmid)
'54 – Phillip Goodenberger, LaVonne Sayer (Hanchera)
'55 – Esther Baldwin (Marr), Bonna Howell (Walker), Lois Wakefield (Hudson)
'57 – Lillian Corey (Kehler), Wayne Derr, Beverly Dinnel (Rhea), Patricia Olberding (Benjamin)
'58 – Gary Huffman
'59 – Mary Lee Mohr (Corey)
'60 – Vicki Merrell (Evans)
'61 – Ted Moffitt
'62 – Korrine Clark (Rowland), Robert "Rube" Ruby
'64 – Larry Rogers
'65 – Michael Gilbert
'66 – Wayne Awtry, Pollyanne Frease, Patricia Gilbert (Holt)
'67 – Viola Austin (Heskett), Kathryn Campbell (Hock), Roger Kunkee, Nancy Powell
'68 – Carol Carlson (Koerperich), Chester "Chet" DeVaughn, Lloyd Helberg, Charlotte Mason (Hall)
'69 – Gregory Hock
'70 – Michael Augustyn
'71 – Della Golden (Matson)
'73 – Philip Davis, Gary Hinz, Vickie Province (Cook)
'74 – Douglas Unger
'75 – Gary Maris, Patricia Siverly (Axtell)
'76 – Lynn Melchert
'77 – Donna Lynn Riddle (Weaver)
'79 – Lynda Arterburn (Kreutzer)
'94 – Carrie Boyd (Johnson)
'98 – Lacey Wilson-Kluender
'03 – Trace Clapp
'07 – Angela Viglielmo (Marietta)
'12 – Shaun Cox
'21 – Tazmin Noe

Faculty - Jean Wilcox