



Storytelling festival **back this year**

Buffalo Commons Storytelling and Music Festival is back this year June 11-13 with the same mission it has had since its inception 25 years ago: To build community with stories, which connect us all.

The festival, organized by alumni Linda Haller Clark ('67), Jody Backer Crocker ('73), Dale ('72) and Mary Anderson ('73) Dueland, Kay Cashen Flaska ('52), Sharon Mullanix Kircher ('83), and Matt Sehnert ('82), as well as

former MHS teachers Sharon Bohling and Linda Crandall, aims to address real-world challenges and promote positive change and inspiration through the stories of ordinary people living extraordinary lives.

The festival honors individual expression and provides the opportunity to reflect on and celebrate community, culture, and history through the oral tradition. Combining talented and pas-

sionate artists with an audience of participants provides inspiration for the development of personal stories that

*Only in
McCook*

will be preserved, savored and perpetuated for generations to come, Mary said.

"The festival helps us remember our rich heritage while building a vision for tomorrow," she said. "In a world where we sometimes find it difficult to stay grounded in our values and

'The festival helps us remember **our rich heritage** while building **a vision for tomorrow!**

-Mary Anderson Dueland ('73)

sense of purpose, storytelling helps us to appreciate one another and understand why we have differing views and expectations. The festival offers a weekend reconnect-

Please see **Buffalo Commons** on Page 6



Janice Moreau Howell ('83) created this Clint Eastwood portrait, first, one of three that were published in a book, as a gift for her younger brother.

Howell's artwork published

Janice Moreau Howell ('83) fell in love with art in kindergarten. She loved to draw, but her kindergarten teacher in Holdrege, where she lived until third grade when her family moved to McCook, told her parents she would never be an artist.

"I was pretty upset and started throwing my artwork away," she said. "My parents stopped that right away and sat down with me to talk to me about doing and being

what you want. They said if I worked hard, I could be whatever I wanted to be. From then on, I wanted to work at being an artist."

Along with desire, determination and support from her parents, Janice learned from the guidance of art teachers Mr. Clapp in junior high and Mr. Steinke in high school.

Please see **Howell** on Page 5



The Bison Alumni Newsletter exists to keep McCook High School alumni connected to one another and to McCook. It is published biannually in the spring and fall and mailed or e-mailed at class request and cost to entire class only. It also is posted to www.bisonalumni.com

Did you know you can donate to the Bison Alumni Newsletter online? It's easy. Go to: <https://www.nebcommfund.org/give/mccook-community-foundation-fund/> and click on the red button "Donate to this fund," then click on Bison Alumni Newsletter. Scroll to the bottom to select an amount provided, or type in a custom amount. Under notes, please give one of two options:

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2. Donation for general Bison Alumni Newsletter expenses.

Type in your contact information, then you can enter your credit or debit card numbers. Voila! Donation made! (And you saved yourself a stamp!)

Have you moved, changed phone numbers, or have a different e-mail address? Please let your class rep or the BAN know. Class reps, please send your database changes by Aug. 1 for the fall newsletter and Feb. 1 for the spring newsletter. E-mail kerrialong@gmail.com or write to Bison Alumni Newsletter, P.O. Box 665, McCook, NE 69001

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 2,100 alumni registered at this site.

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

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Let's leverage technology to continue to keep us connected

The Bison Alumni Newsletter needs your help as we move to more of a digital presence.

This is a top priority for the BAN Executive Committee, of which I am a new member, along with Bob Ihrig ('69) and Terra Ellerton Michaelis ('94).

We have used a platform called Class Creator for our website, www.bisonalumni.com. Class Creator has more features and options than we currently use, but we need your help in determining how to refresh the site with more of what you want.

What look, feel and features would you like to see? Go to www.classcreator.com and check out the "Featured Sites." If one catches your eye, click on the "View Site" button. You can click the red arrow button, "Load more" to see more sites.

Also, at the top of the page, you can click on "Features" to see features we can add to www.bisonalumni.com.

Please send the URL of the sites you like to the BAN editor, Kerri Long, at kerrialong@gmail.com.

What other ideas do you have to move the Bison Alumni Newsletter into the future and engage all alumni? Please get a hold of Kerri or one of us on the BAN Executive Committee. We're always looking for story ideas too!

We may be separated by thousands of miles, but our hearts will always remember

being Bison. Most of our alumni no longer live in our hometown but want to give back to our hometown that meant so much to us. Many of us have been involved in various organizations/communities throughout our lives and have the expertise to lend to McCook.

I think it's pretty cool how the BAN keeps us all connected around the country and the world. With technology, I can attend a BAN Executive Board meeting from my home in New York City or in the mountains of upstate New York. Maybe you want to lend a hand to McCook as well. I urge you to reach

out and see where your skills could be utilized.

It amazes me what a small world it is. You never know when a connection will just

pop up. This past summer, my family was on a hike in Acadia National Park and my wife's college sweatshirt caught the eye of a fellow alumnus that actually graduated in the same year.

This summer, maybe we'll bump into a fellow Nebraskan in Alaska! Think of the possibilities of us all sharing and connecting via BAN! Our past brought us together and technology and BAN allows us to continue to stay connected.

NEWSLETTER NOTES



Scott Bieker
('88)

"When it was built in the '30s, [East Side Ball Park] must have been the cat's meow of baseball parks," wrote Russell Rude ('68), in his letter to the Bison Alumni Newsletter (please see Page 15, Notes from Alumni, for the rest of his letter). His letter explains it had a large built-in stadium with bathrooms and a concession stand. It also had an overhead cover. It was all wood and painted dark green. It wasn't just a baseball field; it was a family park as well.

Russell recalls that west of the stadium were the tennis courts, and north of those was the playground with swings, a slide, sand boxes, teeter totters and a merry-go-round. There was a white vine-covered arbor with benches on both sides with a water fountain in the middle and a flower garden with a place for horse shoes and a croquet court.

Russell spent a lot of time at the playground when he stayed at his grandparents' house on East 7th Street.

Let's play ball!

felling field memories

The dream for Eastside Park began during the Great Depression. A roster from 1932 found at the High Plains Museum shows Skip Felling and Bing Milligan recruited more than 70 boys to play ball and to work to help create a playing field. Skip's dream was to have a field for Midget baseball.

In 1933, 75 boys reported for spring baseball and helped clean and cut weeds. There were four ball clubs in action. The Twilight League was organized in 1934.

The park continued to grow through the '30s and '40s, but by the mid-'40s, the once-pretty park fell in to disarray. In 1950, acting Mayor Art Johns and the city council officially renamed East Side Park Felling Field.

An Omaha World-Herald Magazine article from 1953

states: "McCook offers an example of how typical American initiative can function to provide something desirable for the community. McCook now has an enriched recreational program without a boost in city taxes."

Frank Morrison, a lawyer at the time, and a friend, John Harris, worked with a banker, Rolland Larmon, and borrowed \$7,000 to purchase 20 acres of land from the City of McCook. They hoped to raise funds to improve recreational facilities from the sale of lots. A Lexington contractor began building homes on Circle Drive.

The trio formed the McCook Park and Playground Improvement Association and sold \$50 shares of stock in the non-profit organization. The McCook School District bought some of the lots

for North Ward elementary school.

From the sale of lots, the group made more than \$30,000. They donated money to add a family interest park adjacent to the baseball diamond planned by Felling. The scene was as Russell described it earlier in this article.

In 1975, Felling Field was rejuvenated when city officials started talking about dismantling the facilities and consolidating everything at the Jaycee Ball Complex. Little League leaders raised \$5,000 for improvements.

In 1982, the facility received another facelift, aluminum seating and a new concession stand and restrooms.

Eighty-nine years later, Midget baseball players still play baseball at Felling Field. The young players enjoy opening ceremonies in early May, where their names are announced and they parade on the field.

Please see Pages 8-9 for more Felling Field memories.

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Leitner will be remembered for basketball, sculptures

Roger Leitner ('65) died Dec. 21, 2020 of complications from COVID-19 after a series of health setbacks in recent years.

It was the perfect day for him to make his earthly exit, said his wife, Cynthia Madden Leitner. The couple, who enjoyed stargazing and adventures in the natural world, liked to celebrate that date each year with a lavish party.

Roger was born Feb. 17, 1947, in McCook. He was a basketball star for the McCook Bison, shattering a host of state records in 1964 and still holding the scoring rank of 39 out of 850 on the Nebraska high school basketball roster of all-class 1,000-point scorers.

He was selected as one of the 37 players on the All-America High School squad along with Lew Alcindor (Kareem Abdul Jabar) in 1965 and was the only Associated Press Nebraska All-State Basketball Team player

chosen for the team two years in a row.

He also was a star basketball player at the University of Nebraska, where he earned his degree in construction management. Over the course of his career, he managed construction of more than a million square feet of commercial building space in Chicago, Omaha and Denver.

After 30 years in construction management, he worked in various roles for Museum of Outdoor Arts, founded in 1981 by Cynthia and her father, John W. Madden Jr., in Englewood, Colo.

Roger, who began sculpting in stone in 1997, primarily oversaw structural engineering for hundreds of art installations indoors and out for the museum.

In 2008, he finished his creation "Chartres Labyrinth" in the lobby of Palazzo Verdi in Greenwood Village, Colo., his tribute to contemplation and creativity, his invitation



Steve Batty

Roger Leitner, left, who died Dec. 21, 2020, attended a mini 55-year reunion with his class of '65 in September. He is pictured with classmates Linda Ambrose Harr, Linda Taylor, Susie Hutt Trupp, and Steve Batty.

to follow one's path to the center and out again.

Designed after the traditional meditative walkway in the French cathedral, it measures 42 feet in diameter. Roger laser cut from Colorado sandstone and granite.

In addition to art and his family, Roger loved being outdoors, stargazing, riding motorcycles, alpine skiing, watching baseball, swimming, and working in the

yard. He was fond of dogs, children, and a good laugh. He will be remembered for his beaming smile.

In addition to his wife, Roger is survived by the couple's children, Paul Leitner, John Schuyler Madden (Jessica Brack), Erin Leitner Tracy, and Blair Madden Bui, and grandchildren Schuyler Madden, Lily Brown, Walter Madden, Willow Bui, Elle Tracy and Tyler Tracy.

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Recently, she had three pieces chosen for a book called "Arts-Sports-Politics-Science: Portraits of Famous People" by Shan Peck. She became connected to Peck through the website Fine Art America, where artists can showcase their work with little to no cost. This is the first time her art has been published.

The book contained her portraits of Johnny Cash, Clint Eastwood, and John Wayne. She admires these men, from Cash and Wayne who have been heroes of hers since she was a child, to Eastwood, who plays his characters so convincingly.

Janice created these pieces in pencil. Each took 26 to 28 hours. With portraits, she draws the image first, then does all the shading at once, working from the top left to the lower right of the picture because she's right handed and she doesn't like finger prints smudging her paper. Many times, she says she goes back and reworks areas that don't feel quite right.

"With portraiture, it's all about those small details that make that person look like who they are," she said.

Art as a profession didn't happen right away for Janice after high school. She was steered into teaching by her high school guidance counselor because she said Janice could not be an artist.

"I didn't have the confidence to stand up for myself because that was all I had ever wanted to be," she said.

Janice earned a degree in elementary education with a minor in fine art at the University of Nebraska at



Janice Moreau Howell ('83)

Omaha, where she attended with a track scholarship. She and Pat Howell ('82) married after college.

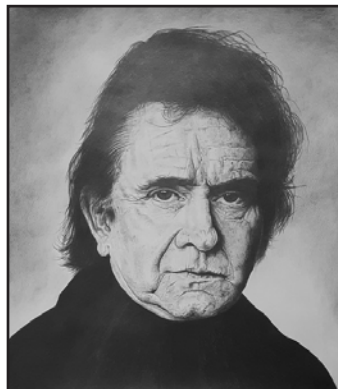
She substitute taught and worked as a preschool teacher in Lincoln before staying at home with their children, Amber and Kiel, when they were young. She received her K-12 art teaching endorsement from UNL, where her artistic skills really blossomed.

"I enjoyed my art classes thoroughly and learned a great deal about being patient and working carefully on all areas of the drawing," she said.

Janice started an elementary art program at Parkview Christian School and later built a junior high and high school art program as well. After nine years there, she taught in Pender, Nebraska, three years. She has been teaching at Cambridge the past 13 years.

"I love teaching art," she said. "It has never felt like a job to me because it is new every day. I get to create along with the kids, and I learn just as much from them as they do from me."

Janice has created many different types of drawings and paintings, from pets to wildlife to abstract. Her



Janice Howell's artwork of Johnny Cash, left, was inspired by a picture on the cover of TIME Magazine when he died. She completed this portrait as well as the one of John Wayne, both of whom have been heroes of hers, for art shows in the region.

life drawing classes at UNL helped her to see forms better and ultimately make better portraits. She's been working on portraits more since moving to Cambridge.

She draws inspiration from Renaissance artists, especially Leonardo daVinci. Over the years she has come to love and appreciate other art forms.

Janice values all of her experiences that have made her who she is today.



"I don't regret any of the things that have taken me off the track of becoming an artist. All of those things were perfectly timed by God to bring me to this place and time in my life," she said. "His way was the perfect way for me to become the artist I have wanted to become, and I'm very thankful I didn't take matters into my own hands and go my own way. I love my life and my career. It couldn't be better!"

Tyler Loop ('01)

Adam Siegfried ('03)

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Buffalo Commons

continued from Page 1

ing as a community. We're excited to bring our community back together to rekindle relationships and build new experiences through the arts."

Mary thanks the festival's supporters.

Since the 2020 Festival #24 was canceled to the public due to COVID-19, this year's theme is "24 1/2 Festivals." The 25th anniversary is being planned for next year.

Emceeding 24 1/2 Festivals are Chuck Peek ('60) and Cal Siegfried ('73).

Schedule of events:

Friday, June 11

Keystone Business Center
\$22

- 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.: History's Mystery Walking Tour – Grand Ole McCook. Put on your walking shoes and join us as we explore grand ole historic McCook. Take a stroll down the brick streets of yesteryear to times past as Heritage Square comes alive with storytellers at several locations, giving you a glimpse into the past, and, perhaps, a look at what the future holds. Pick up your material at the Keystone beginning at 9:20. Lunch will be provided. We will conclude the tour with root beer floats at the

Old Icehouse, now the Loop Brewing Co. (you may want to bring a vehicle to travel there). Preregistration required. Tour space is limited. Call to reserve your spot — 345-8122.

Historic Fox Theatre
\$15 for adults, \$5 for children 12 and under

- 7:30 p.m.: The Grand Finale — How the West Has Fun with Kim Weitkamp and the FY5 band, historic Fox Theatre. Tickets available at MNB Bank, Sehnert's Bakery (308-345-6500), McCook Chamber of Commerce (308-345-3200), and at the door.

Bieroc Cafe

Free event

- Following the Fox Theatre show: Afterglow. Free event.

Saturday, June 12

High Plains Museum

Free events

- 8:45 a.m.: Meet & Greet/ Coffee and Rolls
- 9 a.m.: Community Stories – Human Character Captured Through Art with Chuck Schroeder, Palisade native, Schroeder Fine Arts
- 10:20 a.m.: Building Bridges from Story to Song, Storyteller, Singer/Songwriter Kim Weitkamp
- 11:15 a.m.: Harmonies Crisp as a Mountain Stream, FY5 Band.



Mary Anderson Dueland

Many MHS alumni and teachers contribute to the Buffalo Commons Storytelling and Music Festival in McCook. Pictured are committee members, front row, from left: MHS retired teachers Linda Crandall and Sharon Bohling, Mary Anderson Dueland ('73), Linda Haller Clark ('67), Bruce and Cathy McDowell, and Craig Larson. Back row: Kay Cashen Alaska ('53), the late Cloyd Clark, Tor Olson, Holly Olson, Matt Sehnert ('82), Becca Sehnert ('14), Gabe Sehnert ('19), Jamie Mockry, Dale Dueland ('72), James Mockry, friend of the committee, and Shelly Sehnert, current MHS teacher.

Bieroc Cafe

Free events

- 12:30 p.m.: Stories, Poetry, Music and Fun – Open Mic. Host: Paul Clark. (Presentations need to be audience appropriate and limited to five minutes.)
- Poetry Outloud featuring Nebraska State Poet, Matt Mason

McCook City Library

Free event

- 1:30-2:30 p.m.: Kids Fest with Kim Weitkamp

Bieroc Cafe

\$45. Reservations required. Limited seating available.

- Music and Storytelling Dinner Cabaret. Nebraska

State Poet Matt Mason; Storyteller, Singer/Songwriter Kim Weitkamp; Featuring The FY5 Band. Call 308-345-6500 for reservations.

Sunday, June 13

Memorial Park Cemetery

Free event

Heritage Cemetery Tour – Angels and Aprons. Visit gravesides as re-enactors tell stories of inspirational individuals whose strong character helped nurture the development of Southwest Nebraska.

To read bios on the performers, please visit www.buffalocommons.org



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ALUMNI

IN THE NEWS

*Jake Curl ('09)
named MHS
assistant principal*

Jake Curl ('09), who has been the 7th-12th grade industrial arts teacher at McCook Public Schools since 2014, has been named MHS assistant principal.

Jake has a standard administrative certificate, Principal 7-12; skilled and technical sciences field, 6-12; and a Master of Science in Education with a major in school administration, 7-12.

The assistant principal position was left vacant when former assistant principal, Craig Dickes, was promoted to principal at the high school, after former principal, Jeff Gross, was hired as McCook Public Schools district business manager.

Military service held for Klinger ('63)

US Air Force 1st Lt. Michael Lee Klingner ('63) was shot down while flying a North American F-100 Super Sabre Fighter on a mission over Laos during the Vietnam War April 16, 1970. His body or remains were never found. One year later, Michael's status was changed from missing in action to killed in action.

Michael's wife of just one year when he left for the Vietnam War, Jane Adams, spent years to get answers about his death and to have him remembered at Arlington National Cemetery, a request Michael had made to

her shortly before he left.

He was among 1,602 cases from the Vietnam War that a small U.S. Defense Department agency worked to account for all these years later.

April 29, a military service was held in Arlington National Cemetery in his honor. A white marble headstone rests with his name on it.

"Mike was one of the most respected members of the class of '63," said classmate and friend Steve Batty.

Michael entered the Air Force after graduating from the University of Nebraska in 1967. He was assigned to the 306th Tactical Fighter Squad-



Marty Russell

ron, 31st Tactical Fighter Wing, U.S. Air Force at Tuy Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam. His tour began Sept. 8, 1969.

All-class reunion slated for 2025

The all-class reunion, originally planned for this past fall and postponed due to COVID-19, is being planned for the fall of 2025.

It takes a lot of planning to hold a reunion of this size, and to make it a quality event.

Thanks to everyone on the committee for their efforts to plan the 2020 reunion, and for their thoughtfulness and insight in postponing it.

The committee always is looking for alumni members, both here in the area and

elsewhere, to help with the planning. If you would like to help, please get a hold of Diane Wilson Lyons ('76) or Mary Anderson Dueland ('73). Their contact information is located under Class Notes on Page 10.



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Grateful for the past, preparing for the future



MCFF's vision is to make McCook an even better place to call home. We work to connect and impact our community through intentional investment of time and financial resources. We exist because of the generosity of current and former McCook residents.

Since its formation in 2001, MCFF has granted more than \$400,000 to community organizations, benefitting McCook and the surrounding areas.

Please remember your hometown through regular monthly donations or planned gifts. We also would love to hear new and innovative ideas for McCook. Visit www.mccookfoundation.org to learn more.

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What is your favorite

"One of my favorite memories is the parade to kick off each season. I felt like such a star walking and waving at family and friends as we made our way to Felling Field. I sure miss being young."

-Michael Judd ('98)

"The parade to start the season was always great. Getting to play ball from T-ball up on a field with a grass infield was the absolute best. The real stands for the fans. Then, the post-game snacks. Great memories!"

-Mike Clark ('91)

"My first job was as scorekeeper for the McCook Midget League and then reporting the results the next morning to the McCook Gazette, KICX and KBRL, in 1965."

-Dotti Park ('66)

"Making plays ... the crack of a bat, the adrenaline rush to get into position, the snagging of a tricky grounder (with luck), a good throw to make the out, yells from teammates and the coach, applause from the stands. I am back there now, just thinking about it."

-Jay Harris ('78)

"Being an umpire and keeping score was always a great time! I also had the privilege of coaching a couple years. I'm still keeping an eye on my "boys."

-Brian Wallace ('80)

"The beautiful original wooden grandstand. Also first time playing at night under the lights and all those friends I played with and against. Billy Cotton hitting a home run over the fence with my bat. It's the only one over the fence I'd ever seen. Getting team shirt and caps at Joe's Sporting Goods."

-Michael Gilbert ('65)

"The feeling of the sun beating down on you and the smells of the leather gloves and fresh cut grass."

-Bruce Cappel ('81)

"Felling Field conjurs up the best memories of my early childhood. What a great facility for the city



A clipping from the McCook Gazette, July 27, 1963, shows a Midget League baseball team. Front row, from left: Jim Hamilton, Richard Jensen, Micheal Rowe, Mark Wacker, Mark Baird, Robert Schmidt, Vance Ortiz, and Gary Cuellar. Back: Steve Carmichael, Douglas Frank, Kip Lytle, David Winder, Rande Lennemann, Donnie Cuellar, and Larry Heckenlively, manager. U.C.T. was a branch of insurance of the Elks Club.

of McCook. I lived two blocks from the field and spent endless days playing ball with neighborhood kids during the summer. You felt like you were somebody special when you stepped onto the diamond. It was meticulously maintained and professional looking. You signed up at the YMCA and it was always great anticipation to find out what team drafted you, who your coach was, and who your teammates would be. The facility was a treasure for the community and businesses who sponsored the teams. Besides working at the Elk's Club, these were the happiest times of my youth."

-Kevin Ziemann ('76)

"Playing on many teams. Few wanted to play catcher. I broke my right middle finger doing that! I think the best pitcher was Jim Flaherty."

-Bill Lyons ('64)

"I spent many evenings at Felling Field as both my brothers played and my dad coached. I have to admit that baseball came second to the socializing I did while there as a kid. I always had some of my allowance or babysitting money to spend at the concessions, usually a Chico Stick and a pop, which was devoured at the

top of the bleachers giggling with friends. The atmosphere of Felling field stuck with both Randy ('74) and I along with the love of baseball. Randy and both of our sons played on Felling Field. That field has given me so many memories as a child, a mother and as an adult. I still drive by Felling Field whenever I am back in McCook and it always brings back a flood of memories, sounds, smells and a smile. It is a quiet treasure that keeps giving to McCook."

-Dee Doyle ('76)

"Where to begin? I played so many ball games there. If I wasn't playing, I was there almost every evening chasing foul balls to get the nickel that would be paid for retrieving it. That transferred to a treat from the concession. I would sit in the grandstand at the top. I remember the playground. We used the wax wrappers from taffy to slick the slide. We would play tag on the monkey bars. There used to be an entrance way to a picnic area, I believe. It had a covered archway with a drinking fountain, also a large sandbox. Living only a block away, I spent lots of summer nights there. Thinking back, I would never let my kids stay out like we did. Bet-

ter times, then."

-Phil Hays ('70)

"We lived a block away from Felling Field and spent most of my summer over there because my brothers, Richard, Ronnie and Roger, played lots of baseball as well as my son, Brian. My dad, Lloyd Myers, was a coach too! The baseball park had this great groundskeeper named Charlie. He was such a nice guy! When they tore down the old grandstand and removed the gates and fences and lots of greenery, it was a sad day, but it needed updated for sure! Great memories I'll always have of great times over there!"

-Sue Myers Wells ('67)

"Felling was the social spot! Players, family, and friends gathered for evenings of ball and visiting! It didn't matter who was playing; we cheered for every player!"

We rode our bikes and had to be home before the lights went off! East Ward kids had end-of-school-year picnics at Felling and played on the playground."

-Joyce McBrien Conroy ('72)

"When I was young, I remember the lilac bushes that surrounded the back side of the concessions and playing hide and seek in them. All of my boys played ball at Felling field so we spent almost every night watching ball games. What a great experience for the kids and parents."

-Marleen Parde Garcia Bales ('67)

"Having three older brothers, we spent many nights at Felling Field. We chased many foul balls to buy candy. BB bats were the best!"

-Shari Pinkal Goodenberger ('80)

"I remember the care and kindness one coach, Mickey Stubblefield, showed to his players every practice and every game regardless of their abilities. Mickey was one of several men that went out of his way to watch over me. He coached and played me just the same as the more talented kids. Another was Milt Tenopir during

memory of **Felling Field?**

my high school years. They were life boats to my life as a child.”

-Tom Grafton ('73)

“So many memories, I wouldn't know where to start! I grew up in that neighborhood and met a lot of great people who are still friends today.”

-Kat Biggins Bradley ('79)

“Meeting Billy Martin, a professional baseball player who came to give those of us who were little leaguers some tips on how to catch fly balls more efficiently. I think he was with the New York Yankees. It was a long time ago. I think the best pitcher I ever saw was Roger Olson, class of '62.”

-Bob Lundberg ('63)

“I have many memories, but the funniest was watching Don Hileman ('89) umpiring when Chad Pfeifer ('93, but he moved prior to graduating) was pitching. Don didn't have his cup that evening and paid dearly for it. The catcher missed a pitch and Don got hit squarely where that cup should have been. He took two hunched over steps forward and down he went. It wasn't funny at the time, but we sure laugh about it now.”

-Dan Janssen ('89)

“My favorite thing was the parade going to Felling Field and then all the teams there for pictures.”

-William David Howell ('81)

“My best times at Felling Field were the baseball games I played while there and also my parents ran the concession stand for 14 years I think, and when I had a game my parents would have someone work the concession stand so they could watch me play.”

-JP Wallace ('82)

“The candy shack.”

-Sherry McMains Steinke ('80)

“Playing Laffy Taffy and prepping the field for the opening T-ball games, playing Kick the Can and sneaking up to watch the juniors play.”

-Scott Ackermann ('82)

“Going to the concession stand to get the ever-dangerous graveyard — a mixture of all the pops on tap.”

-Mike Tietze ('79)

“I watched my brother, Brian Wallace, play, as well as some of my cousins. I also helped my Uncle John and Aunt Pauline in the concession stand.”

-Lori Wallace Knutson ('79)

“Mrs. Felling (the wife of the gentleman that Felling Field was named for) was our neighbor down on the corner at 511 East 2nd. Locally she was known for her daily talks on the radio (she was known in the neighborhood as the Cat Lady for taking in all the feral cats for blocks round). It seems her hubby was a supporter of kids and baseball, and she was a supporter of the local animal population. A goodly balance of fairness to living creatures!”

-Sharon Kuhlman Huegel ('64)

“My first and only homerun.”

-Brad Hershberger ('74)

“I went there a lot with Rich Myers. I remember the Curtis family had the concession stand and Pasquans managed the sound system. They also had dancing on the tennis court. It was fun growing up back then.”

-Sue Harrison Jewell ('63)

“I didn't go there as a kid, but when my son started playing baseball we practically lived there every summer. His dad was a team coach and I was head score keeper. Lots of great memories.”

-Penny Clapp Gonzales ('75)

“All of it — either playing or hanging out on the nights you didn't play to watch your friends play. The JCPenney teams. The Premier House of Decor teams were always loaded. Watching Tom Bales ('83) hit and Mike Premier ('85) pitch. If you were catching and Mark Chitwood was umpiring, he would hum some tune. I loved that place!”

-Kerry Crowe ('85)

“I watched my brother, Christopher Brown ('94) play there for many many years and also played softball there. Chris has a major passion for baseball and that's where his passion started! I also remember going to the concession stands! Lots of childhood memories at that field.”

-Melissa Brown Tiedje ('01)

“I remember many games there. We lived across from Cibola Ball Park. I mostly hung out there. But I do remember playing games and getting a base hit at Felling Field and my dad was in the stands.”

-Chad Hartwell ('72)

“I grew up about two blocks away from the ball field and lived there in the summer. My older brothers played ball and I was one of the few girls that played ball with the boys. My little sister even played. Good memories. The end-of-season watermelon feed was also the best!”

-Tami Matson Johnson ('90)

“Playing at Felling Field fetches many happy memories — my one and only over the fence homerun,

my fake throw back to the pitcher as I hid the ball in my glove when I was playing second base and the runner led off and I tagged him out (it goes without out saying the coach on the other team was furious, and looking back, it was a rather underhanded play). And let's not forget the concession stand and the after-game treat. Good memories coaching my own boys there especially the night the tornado sirens went off mid-game. My favorite coach had to be Mr. Slack.”

-Les Yeager ('75)

“Rich Myers running a fastball past my ear.”

-William Griffin ('64)

“I played there a couple of years. My favorite year was when my dad was my coach.”

-Donald Maris ('75)

“It will always be my favorite baseball park! So many memories of my boys playing there ... a treasure for sure!”

-Janelle Stewart Carter ('89)

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class notes



Harold Kay ('45) and Patricia Larson Kay ('46) pose at McCook Community College in approximately 1946. Harold's father, Leonard, served as superintendent of McCook Public Schools in 1945-46. He preceded Ralph Brooks. Their son, Steve Kay, sent us this picture.

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 April 15 for the spring newsletter. Phone numbers are in area code 308 and addresses in McCook (69001) unless otherwise specified. Deaths are on Page 13.

1944: Needs donations to continue to mail the newsletter.

1945: -John Hubert, 901 Sunset, 345-4534 or jehubert@swnebr.net

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

1949: Our condolences to the families of our classmates who passed away. Please see Page 13. Any news you would like to share please call, write or email me. -Clara Lebsack Adams, 308-345-1953., 302 West P Street, dcriverview@yahoo.com

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

1951: -Janice Eisenbarth Waddell, janicewaddell@outlook.com and djmoskal34@gmail.com

1952: Thanks to everyone who donated to cover the expense of mailing the BAN. Our sympathy to the families of classmates who have passed away. Please see Page 13. -Peggy Appleyard, 1006 E. 4th St., 345-6486

1953: Hi classmates! If you have changed your address or know of any deaths, etc., please let me know. Hope you are all healthy and haven't gotten COVID-19. Hope you had a happy Easter and will have a happy 4th of July! -Pat Rogers Schmid, 1214 West 5th, 345-3081, pschmid1953@gmail.com

1954: -Ethyl Logan Siegfried, 506 E. 6th St., 345-7789

1955: All is quiet on the home front. It was sad to lose Don Schaaf to cancer this past November and Larry McNutt to other problems in February. It was tough during COVID as no one could go visit Larry in his assisted living suite and he had

lost the ability to communicate electronically. Lonely! Nothing planned at the moment in the way of reunions or other get-togethers. Remember, though, if you foreigners from out of town just happen to drop through, let me know and we can meet with other interested local '55ers for a cup of coffee or a meal. My cell number is 340-7689. -Dick Trail, 201 W M St., 345-5181, dict@swnebr.net

1956: Dear Classmates, it is sad that we lost Albert Cuellar, who kept this class together for years. So I have stepped up and will try to do my best to continue Albert's legacy of letting you all know the current good news celebrated by former classmates and the not-so-good news of their passing. We locals have decided to skip our 65th reunion due to pandemic restrictions. Still if any who live out of this area have plans to be in McCook for Heritage Days the first weekend in September, or any other occasion, please feel free to contact me, and I'll arrange coffee or dining out with our local classmates in this area. We would love to keep in contact with you!

-Ann Tondreau Trail, anntrail@swnebr.net, 340-3578, 201 West M Street. Cell: 340-3578

1957: Bison ladies lunch on the fourth Thursday each month at 11:30 a.m. at Pizza Hut in McCook for all 1957 Bison class ladies who can attend. -Beverly Dinnel Rhea, 418 West 10th, 345-5543, bprhea1@hotmail.com

1958: -Judy Chinn Wortley, 810 West 12th, 344-9122, judy_wortley@yahoo.com

1959: Thank you to Janet Lusk Mahon for her donation to our class in memory of her husband, Gene, and thanks too to Dan Nielsen for his donation to our class. It is greatly appreciated! -Janet Eckhardt Rich, 1301 West First St., McCook, NE 69001; e-mail, jrlr@centurylink.net; phone, 308-345-2703.

1960: -Pat Wakefield Fredde, 1109 West 4th St., 345-1222,

p.free1960@gmail.com; Connie Carlson Bennett, connieb1942@netscape.net

1961: -Jo Ann McMullen Brand, 308-777-2094, cell 737-8326, jobrand961@gmail.com; Jean Reynolds Parry, #2 Georgia Ct., 308-340-2977, parryj@gpcom.net

1962: -Tom Buresh, 1212 Norris Ave., 345-5441, tnburesh@msn.com

1963: -Lorraine Rose Goldstein, 719-339-2803, Lorrainegolds@me.com; Peg Decker Bell, 970-522-3008, bellpeg44@gmail.com; and Dick Cappel, 308-350-0363, dick@cappelsales.com

1964: Please send your donations for the newsletter to: Class of 1964, c/o Gloria Shepherd Meford, 202 Seminole Dr, McCook, gloriamefford@icloud.com, 308-737-7787; or Cheri Beckenhauer, 204 Longwood Dr, Papillion, NE 68133, cheri.beckenhauer@gmail.com, 308-340-0421.

1965: -Steve Batty, sbatty@mccooknet.com, 345-4021, Linda Taylor, ltaylorrvk@gmail.com, 345-3682.

1966: Donations to: MHS Class '66, 5 Brassie, McCook, NE 69001. -Tom Murphy, 303-421-5539, tomurphy6671@gmail.com

1967: Regarding the class account, we really need another person on the account. -Jean Harmon Hollowell, 903 W 7th St., 345-7663, terhall5@hotmail.com

1968: Class donations are to be sent to: Mike Roth, 1617 W. 2nd St. -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

1970: Hope to see all of you at our 51st reunion Sept. 24-26. Contact Diana Newton Butler with any questions. 402-699-4029, dianabutler52@yahoo.com

1971: Looking at Sept 24-26, 2021, Heritage Days, for our 50th reunion. A letter will be mailed out to classmates. This newsletter (spring 2021) will be the last mailing. Please send current e-mail address so that you do not miss out on future newsletters. -Steve Clapp 911 15th Ave. Kearney, NE 68845 or sclapp@gpcom.net.

1972: Please send any address changes to: Anne Unger Confer, 1111 Norris Ave., 340-5924, Anne_confer@yahoo.com. Looking forward to our 50th reunion next summer (2022)!

1973: I am still hoping to hear from classmates with updated e-mail addresses as well as any changes in snail mail addresses. Please contact me with your updates! -Mary Anderson Dueland, 112 E N St., 737-6111, dmdue@outlook.com

1974: We still need more of you to send updated information so you can receive the BAN and stay in the loop of our class happenings. Please e-mail me at pegandrews18@gmail.com. Our 50th reunion is coming up fast in 2024! Please dig up your memories and email them to me! Share what you've been doing for the past 50 years. I'll try to print them in a booklet — but no promises, LOL! Or, if you have any interesting news, please contact me. A big thank you goes out to Tracey Marr Ruiz, Janet Underwood Fritsche, and Cindy Novak Dame for all the help! -Peg Augustyn Andrews, 5512 Barrington Court, Lincoln NE 68516. 308-737-8843

1975: Please send donations to help pay for the newsletter and send your e-mail address additions or changes to Kerri at kerrialong@gmail.com. -Dari Tucker Olson, 705 W. 5th St., 340-3595, dariolson@gmail.com

1976: -Diane Wilson Lyons, 1007 E. 1st St., 345-2189, pdlyons@gpcom.net

1977: -Charlotte Hays Dunsworth, P.O. Box 83, Culbertson,

NE 69024, 737-6558; -Scott Schneider, scotttps@charter.net

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: -Peggy Ruppert Messinger, 308-737-7767, peggymessinger@swnebr.net

1981: -Clifva Luther Budke, P.O. Box 59, cbudkembe@aol.com

1982: Sending our sympathy out to the family of Peg Knepper Harders! She will be missed. No plans for a 40th reunion in 2022. Contact me if you would like to plan it. 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. We are out of funds and need donations to continue to mail the newsletter. Or switch to e-mail and the newsletters are e-mailed at no charge to our class. Donations can be sent to Dawn Hess Foster, 305 Apache Dr., 340-0135, dawnfostr1965@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: 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: -Jeanette Cappel Wonderly, 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, 904 W 4th St., 345-6518, tmtaylor98@gmail.com

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: -Anne McCarville, 40110 Prairie View Dr., Cambridge, NE 69022, amac513@hotmail.com

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, mccoock2000@gmail.com

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

2002: -Laura Lyons Plas, lplas@esu7.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: -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@slbw-cpa.com, P.O. Box 36, McCook, NE 69001

2010: -Shane Wallen, shane_wallen@hotmail.com

2011: We will be having a reunion this year on Sept. 25 during Heritage Days at the Coppermill in the back room from 7 p.m.-11 p.m. Please let me know if you are coming by Sept. 12 either on our Facebook page or by contacting me. -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_20@hotmail.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: Needs a class rep. kerrialong@gmail.com

2018: Needs a class rep. kerrialong@gmail.com

2019: Needs a class rep. kerrialong@gmail.com

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

Renowned cancer surgeon Dr. Bill Karrer ('49)

Dr. Bill Karrer ('49), cancer surgeon, husband and father of two children, passed away at the age of 89 Nov. 28, 2020.

Bill was born March 9, 1931, in Palisade to Merrill and Elinor Karrer. The family moved to McCook where he met his lifelong sweetheart, Beverley Ann Bush ('50).

He attended the University of Nebraska where he was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. He received his medical degree and general surgery residency at the University of Nebraska College of Medicine. Unusual for that era, Dr. Karrer sought specialty training in surgical oncology at M.D. Anderson Hospital at the University of Texas in Houston.

For the next 35 years, Dr. Karrer practiced in Omaha largely at the Nebraska Methodist Hospital. Over

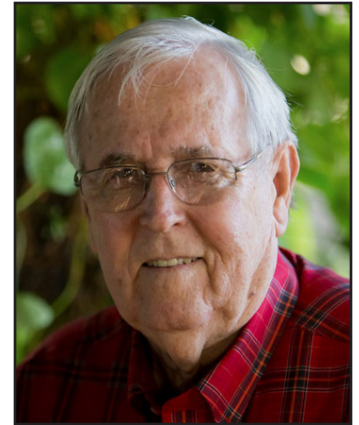
the years, he and his partners developed a large general surgery practice with a focus on the surgical treatment of cancer. They became recognized for their expertise in head and neck cancer surgery. He was a UNMC clinical professor of surgery and contributed to the training of generations of young surgeons from the UNMC program. He was a fellow of the American College of Surgeons (and served on the ACS Cancer Commission 1980-1990, President of the ACS Nebraska Division 1990-1991, and ACS Board of Directors 1992-1999).

Dr. Karrer retired from the active practice of surgery in 1997 but continued to serve as the medical director of the Estabrook Cancer Center at Methodist Hospital and consultant to the Methodist Foundation. He initiated weekly treatment

planning conferences for cancer patients to discuss all possible treatment options. His work ethic served as an inspiration to colleagues and trainees who described him as a mentor and the kind of doctor they aspired to be.

In 2010, Nebraska Methodist hospital named the Karrer Conference Room in the Cancer Center in his honor.

In his lifetime, Dr. Karrer created a fascinating trail of accomplishments, acquaintances and adventures. He was not only a distinguished physician, but also a civic leader, philanthropist, humanitarian, horseman, artist, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, mentor and friend. Sometimes described as ornery, the label never stuck for long; he was just too much fun. Few people earn so many labels in the conduct of their endeavor.



Dr. Bill Karrer ('49)

ors. Then again, few people pursue their eclectic interests with the vigor of Bill, a trait consistent with both the ancestors and offspring of the Karrer clan.

Dr. Karrer was a proud member of a four-generation UNMC legacy family. In addition to himself, his grandfather, his father and his son all graduated from the

Please see **Dr. Karrer** on Page 15

Friend and classmate remembers **Carole Ann Roth ('59)**

Editor's note: Ardis Holst Von Seggern ('59) wrote this in remembrance of her friend and classmate, Carole Ann Roth, who died in 1979.

I was reminded recently of my classmate and friend, Carole Ann Roth, who would have turned 80 in March.

In the fall of our first year in junior high that I vividly remember a military ceremony during the noon hour in front of the junior high honoring the life of Carole's brother, who died in battle. I did not know Carole then.

My friendship with Carole began in eighth grade home ec class. Our adventures in

cooking and sewing for Mrs. Hofferber cemented what would become a lifelong friendship. That same year, Carole's mother passed away. Some of you girls may remember that frequently on Fridays after school, a group of girls would gather at Carole's house to make pizza from Chef-Boy-R-Dee pizza mix, and stir up Kool-Aid. After cleaning up the kitchen, we often walked to the Fox Theater and enjoyed a movie together.

One Friday, while we girls did our pizza thing, Donnie Morgan hosted a boys get-together at his house, across

the alley from Carole's. Some of the girls had boyfriends there, so we had the daring idea to crash the party! I was one of the last to walk inside Donnie's house, but when I saw the expression on his face (obviously displeased!), I started tugging on the girls' shirts, telling them to get back to Carole's house now!

Years passed and suddenly we were seniors. Carole and I worked part-time but easily found time to get together.

During my first year at McCook College, Carole would drive her flashy new Corvette over to my house. In nice weather we often just sat

on the curb and talked. One evening in spring, Donnie Ray and Harold Tincher rode their bikes past and stopped to talk. They were seniors at MHS, and very nice to chat with. Their visits became a regular occurrence. The MHS senior prom was approaching that spring, so Donnie asked Carole to be his prom date, and Harold invited me to go with him. Of course, we accepted the invitation: what girl wouldn't? The prom was fun and the boys were gentlemen. We had a nice time!

Please see **Remembering Carole Ann Roth** on Page 14

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

'35: Cloyd Hoyt

'42: Mary Swanson Poore

'44: June Brumgard Donnelly
Larry Huet
John Sines

'45: Gene Balius
Millie Clapp Housley

'46: Catherine Boehm O'Neil

'47: Lyle Moskal
Yvonne Wright Fish

'48: Harvey Ackerman
Alan Peterson
Willard Messinger
Virginia Gillen Hein
Jerry McIlmoyle

'49: Dr. Bill Karrer
Merlin Messinger

'50: Mary Wasia Howerter
Gleni Bell Kessel
Phyllis Dinnel Wilcox

'51: Joseph Colling

'52: Richard Belknap
Yvonne Brunswick Hager

'53: Al Rothmeyer

'54: Opal Cross Huntley

Bill O'Brien

'55: Larry McNutt

'56: Frederick Hummer

'57: Barbra Jones Hixson
Marian Schuler Lieske
Douglas Vap

'60: Vernon Thornbrugh

'61: Carolyn Sitzman Harper

'62: Milt Houghtelling
Robert Stuver

'65: Roger Leitner
Laura Thomas Walden

'66: Kathy Hesterwerth, Roger
Wilmot, Mike Zwickle

'67: Betty Krieger Brush

'68: Donna Collins Bush

'70: Mike Nothnagel
Marcy Shadley

'71: Karen Harmon
Verraneault

'72: Nancy Felker
David Paschall

'76: Karen Schenck Hiatt
Judy Shull Rohr

'79: Richard Fisher

'81: Reba Seybold Solko

'82: James Fisher
Peg Knepper Harders

'94: Garrett Nokes

Thanks!

Thanks to everyone who contributed their time, money, pictures or articles to the BAN: All of our advertisers

Class reps

Bruce Crosby

Connie Jo Discoe ('73)

Scott Bieker ('88)

Wally Hampton ('81)

Steve Carmichael ('73)

Richard Wilson ('63)

Janice Howell ('83)

Connie Jo Discoe ('73)

Beverly Karrer ('50) in memory of Dr. Bill Karrer ('49)

Dan Nielsen ('59) in memory of classmates Robert Salisbury and Jack Wright

John Wagner ('62) in memory of classmate Bill Schultz
Jack ('53) and Sheron Lytle
John ('61) and Beverly Hamler
Wilcox ('61)

Betty Swan Weston ('57)
Kristopher Flammang ('92) in honor and memory of Albert
Cuellar ('56)

Barbara Bender O'Dea ('52)
Margaret Bible Moore ('52)
Donna Carter Nichols ('52)

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Roger Ely ('52)

Janice Fritz France ('52)
Dr. Tom and Pat Hassler ('52)

Helen Herrmann Schreiber ('52)

Alice Hiatt Harpst ('52)

Henry Koch ('52)

Janice Koetter O'Grady ('52)

Venee Kramer Heimerl ('52)
Dan McCormick ('52)
Don McMains ('52)
Don Roberts ('52)
Lois Roedel Lepper ('52)
Marla Sutton Kutz ('52)
Wilbur Wagner ('52)
Kay Cashen Flaska ('52)
Mary Maris ('84)
Sue Byrne Dutcher ('84)
Karen Crust Heist ('84)
Lori McNutt Adkins ('84)
Rod Stewart ('84)
Barb Hampton Helberg ('84)
Nancy McDowell Brune ('74)
Cheryl Housley Collins ('74)
Randy Doyle ('74)
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Bob Elder ('74)
Nancy Lewis Frecks ('74)
Janet Underwood Fritsche ('74)

Gene Goodenberger ('74)
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Pennie Peck Lyle ('74)
Barney Magrath ('74)
Mike Morgan ('74)
Rob Putz ('74)
Tracey Marr Ruiz ('74)
Mike Shields ('74)
Ed Townsley ('74)
Peg Augustyn Andrews ('74)
Jean Anderson Warner ('74)
Jeff Blank ('82) in memory of
Peg Knepper Harders ('82)
Mary Anderson Dueland ('73)
Steve Batty ('65)
Marty Russell ('63)
Suzan Karrer Rohrig
Jean Grant in honor of her
children Doug Grant ('72) and
Kathy Grant Karuzas ('77)
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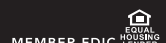
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The last week of May, I hosted an end-of-the-year slumber party at my house: Nancy Ball, Carole and two other friends from McCook College enjoyed talking long into the night. The next morning, my dad heard the news of an auto accident in which Donnie Ray was killed. When I broke the news to Carole that Donnie had died, we all cried together. Carole was devastated, and I spent the summer helping her through her grief.

When fall came, I transferred to the University of

Nebraska to finish my degree in education. Carole was offered a job in Omaha, so we kept in touch with letters and phone calls.

Carole returned to McCook to be a part of Neal's and my wedding in August, 1966. That was the last time I remember seeing her. However, our correspondence never stopped.

About 1975, a letter arrived at our home in Beatrice, inviting us to attend her upcoming wedding to a man in the military stationed at Offut Air Force Base in Omaha.

I was delighted to hear that she met the love of her life! I knew I would not be able to attend since I had two tots to care for and no car at my disposal. So I sent a gift and my good wishes.

Two weeks later, a letter arrived informing us that the wedding would not take place due to the untimely death of the groom-to-be. Again I felt Carole's pain.

For a number of years, I lost track of Carole until 1979 when a letter from my sorority sister in California informed me that Carole, who was a mutual friend, was in the hospital and would like to hear from me. So I penned a long letter bringing her up to date, and expressed my happiness that she had made friends with my sorority sister (also named Carol!) I inquired as to how they happened to meet in California? As it happened, four of my

sorority sisters took elementary teaching jobs in California after graduation from UNL. But how did Carole and Carol meet?

To make a long story short, my sorority sister wrote about a month later to inform me that our friend Carole had passed away.

Thinking about Carole's life, I realized how much sadness she endured: First, her brother died while serving his country; then her mother, and later her father; her boyfriend, Donnie Ray; her husband-to-be; and finally, the end of her own life. It seems that everyone she loved eventually died. Knowing how she suffered from losing those who were nearest and dearest to her heart, I can't help but think that Carole endured too much sadness in her lifetime. She was a dear friend.

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Tom Colfer ('28)
(1910-1999)

Dal Wood ('48)
(1930-2005)

Phil Lyons ('74)

Paul M. Wood ('80)

Emily M. Wood ('11)

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Remembering MEF founder
Al Cuellar ('56)

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University of Nebraska College of Medicine. The entire Karrer family was recognized in 2008 with an Alumni Family Award from the University of Nebraska, where 33 members had attended.

In 2010, he received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the College of Medicine.

Much more than a skilled surgeon, Bill was interested in people from all walks of

life, all socioeconomic strata, and a variety of vocations. He had broad interests in-cluded breeding and racing horses, farming and garden- ing, playing golf, hunting and fishing, skiing and bird- ing. He was a collector of everything; old maps (mostly of his home state), stamps, coins, Custer books, antique tools, western art (specifi- cally Nebraska artists). He was also concerned with

civic duty and volunteered with many organizations; Museum of Nebraska Art, Nebraska Historical Society, Rotary Club, Omaha Sym-phony, Brownville Fine Arts Association/Brownville His- torical Society. Bev and Bill's civic contributions were hon-ored by their appointment in 2007 to the Aksarben Court of Honor.

Dr. Karrer's life was cel- ebrated March 9 in Omaha.

Bill is survived by his wife of 68 years, Beverley; his two children, Fritz (Debbie), a Denver pediatric surgeon, and Suzan (Brad) Rohrig, an Omaha architect; four grand- children: Courtney (Matt) Molettiere, Ashley (Ryan) Snowdon, Michael and Thomas; six great-grandchil- dren: Kenley, Parker, Grant, Bennett, Amelia and Fred- die; and his brother, Stewart (Jan).

NOTES FROM ALUMNI

"A most informative and interesting update of the Bison newsletter. Good job - Keep up the good work! Thank you." -Shirley Reinek Schafer ('56)

"My mother, Dorothy Sloggett, would be proud to know that the Jiffy Burger she developed in 1952 when my parents owned the Dairy Creme would BE remem-bered by several alumni in the latest newsletter. My wife, Jane Stitt ('57) and I enjoy reading about our old high school friends. We both also graduated from MJC." -Gordon Sloggett ('54)

"Thank you very much for the current BAN. You and your team have done a won-derful job putting this one together. Most everything in there brought back a ton of memories for me. Keep up the good work. I, for one, re-ally appreciate all you do." -Mike Hug ('57)

"I just wanted to let you know, that I follow your Bison Alumni Newsletter for quite some time now with great interest and nostalgia. I had the chance of being an exchange student in McCook in the year 1987/88, where I stayed with host family of Sherwood and Kiley Korf and three (!) sisters.

"I have so many fond memories of my stay, which has also adjusted my per- spective on life in a reward- ing way. Since then I have roamed the world and even- tually settled with my wife and the kids back in Berlin, where I work to digitalize the energy industry.

"Two years ago I revis- ited McCook in order to participate in the 30th class reunion. It was marvellous to see my old friends again and relive some great and fun moments.

"I do follow the Facebook page and wanted to thank you for the great newsletter, which keeps the memory alive!

"Kind regards and greet- ings from Germany." -Ben Conrad ('88)

"I love your article on favorite place in McCook (fall '20). It brought back great memories of McCook. I don't see how any small town the size of McCook could offer what McCook has. For whatever it's worth one of my most precious memories is when my parents would take me down to the train station area at night standing by our old '37 Chevy coupe watch- ing the trains go by.

"I want to thank you for

the great job you're doing.

"In regards to Rich Bar- nett ('87), who I don't know, his comment 'Baseball at Felling Field,' as Paul Harvey would have said, 'This is the rest of the story.' Information attached. I believe this adds to McCook's great history that should be known!"

Note: Please see the article on Felling Field on Page 3 and other alumni's memories on Felling Field on Pages 8-9. -Russell Rude ('68)



Walter ('81) and Rachel ('80)
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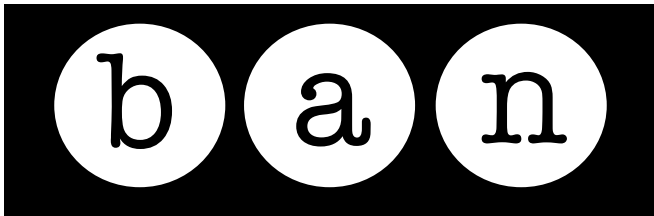
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McCook Cowork Space

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Kristin Davis Brown ('86)

"I was back in McCook recently to see family, but still needed to keep up with my law practice, clients, and court hearings. The McCook Cowork space offered everything I needed for private virtual meetings, phone calls, and Zoom video hearings, as well as routine office work. Connections were fast and I noticed no lag-time on my video calls. Because McCook has the Cowork space, I will be much less hesitant to leave Dallas for a week to come back and visit."

-Kristin Brown, president/managing attorney, The Law Office of Kristin R. Brown, PLLC



Lisa Hinz ('90)

"Having a private work space available for when I come to visit family is so great! It allows me to spend more time in McCook versus coming for just a short weekend. The space offers cubicles, private offices and a work area with a printer. Being downtown, several restaurants are within walking distance, which is nice for lunchtime. It's everything a person needs for a productive day of work. I'll definitely use it again in the future!"

-Lisa Hinz, Kiewit Talent Development lead



Contact MEDC Director Andy Long to learn more about the McCook Cowork Space!

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