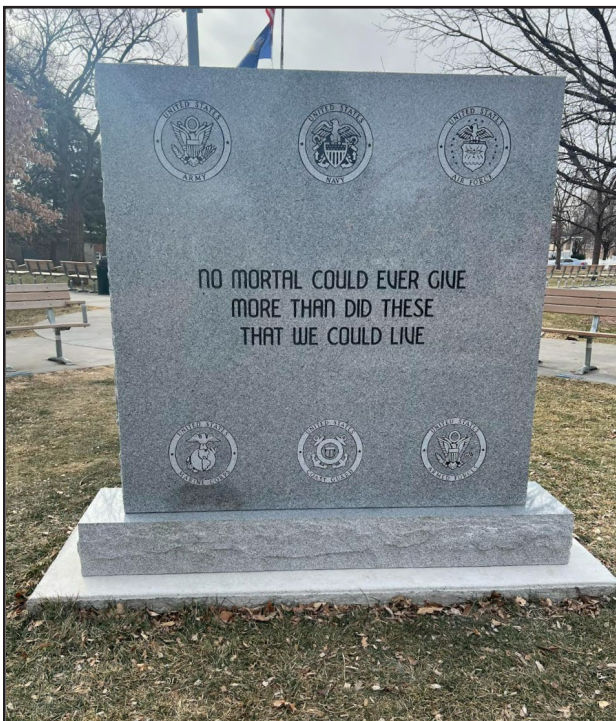


b a n

Honoring Our Fallen



A new memorial in Norris Park was purchased by the local Masonic group. It replaced an old memorial that had been there since the 60s-70s.



This beautiful memorial includes the names of all the men that were killed in action during various wars that had Red Willow County roots. The majority of them are McCook High School alumni.

Thank you to all former and current veterans for the sacrifice you have made to keep our country safe and free!

In this issue:

- Heritage Days Auction - Pg. 3
- Detective - Pg. 4
- Facebook Survey - Pg. 5-9
- 'Cole Peters - Pg. 10
- Elizabeth Aguirre - Pg. 11

- Mason Michaelis - Pg. 12-13
- BAN Subscription - Pg. 14
- Katie Stagemeyer - Pg. 15
- Class Notes - Pg. 17-19
- Facebook Memories - Pg. 19
- In Memory and Thanks - Pg. 20

b a n



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. It is emailed and posted to www.bisonalumni.com

Did you know you can donate to the Bison Alumni Newsletter online? It's easy.

1. Go to: <https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/mccook-community-foundation-fund/> and click on the red button "Donate to this fund," then click on Bison Alumni Newsletter.
2. Scroll to the bottom to select an amount provided, or type in a custom amount.
3. 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 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.

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Note from BAN Editor

Hello everyone!

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we step into the warmth of spring, with summer just around the corner.

This time of year always brings a sense of renewal and momentum—and it's a reminder of how far our alumni community reaches. Whether you're nearby or across the country, McCook continues to hold a meaningful place in so many lives.

There's something special about this season in McCook. From longer days to community events and gatherings, it's a time when connections feel even more present. No matter how many years have passed since graduation, that sense of belonging—and the desire to stay connected—remains strong.

You'll see that spirit reflected throughout this issue, with stories and spotlights that celebrate the many paths our alumni have taken, and the ways they continue to stay connected to home.

On a personal note, my three boys, Theo, Levi and Judah, keep Josiah and I plenty busy but my days are full of laughter, energy, and yes, quite a bit of dirt. They're growing up too fast!

As always, if you have any questions, concerns, or story ideas, I would love to hear from you! You can email me at mccookbisonalumni@gmail.com.

Until next time,

-Tori



FIND US AT HERITAGE DAYS

STOP BY FOR A CHAT AND ART AUCTION

This fall, the Bison Alumni Newsletter board and editor will be setting up a booth at Heritage Days! If you've had any questions that you've wanted to ask or would like to make a donation, come find us at Norris Park on Saturday.

We will also be auctioning off a unique and meaningful piece of art donated by one of our very own, Jeremy Daniels, a talented artist and proud McCook High School graduate of the class of 1959.

Jeremy grew up in McCook and has always held the community close to his heart. After graduating from high school, he continued his education at Hastings College. He was drafted into the Army and served until 1968, eventually leaving the military as a Captain. Upon returning to civilian life, Jeremy began a successful 45-year career

at Dutton-Lainson Company in Hastings.

Although Jeremy pursued art part-time during his business career, his creative spirit truly blossomed upon retirement. In 2015, he opened his own art gallery in Hastings, where he showcased his wide range of work, including sculpture, watercolor, acrylic, and printmaking.

The artwork Jeremy has generously donated is a giclée print of an original 4' x 6' painting of a bison, entitled "Prairie Sojourner". This is no ordinary print—Jeremy has enhanced it by hand, adding paint to specific areas, which significantly increases the value of the piece. As a numbered, limited-edition print, this artwork is a rare find. Jeremy describes the style as contemporary—stylized but still recognizable as a bison, making it a striking representation of the



proud and resilient spirit of McCook.

Jeremy's donation will be available for viewing at our booth at Norris Park and the winner will be able to take the painting home Saturday evening at the end of the day's festivities. You can place early bids by emailing mccookbisonalumni.com

All proceeds will benefit the Bison Alumni Newsletter, which continues to connect McCook alumni near and far. This generous contribution not only supports the ongoing suc-

cess of the newsletter but also allows alumni and supporters to own a piece of artwork from a talented Bison graduate.

Thank you, Jeremy for your donation! And we can't wait to see all of you during Heritage Days.

MOUSEL, BROOKS, SCHNEIDER, MUSTION & SHIFFLET, P.C., L.L.O.

John F. Hanson ('57) J. Bryant Brooks ('71) Nate Schneider ('93)

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Bison Alumni “Detective” Honors Classmates Through Tireless Research

By Diane Wilson Lyons
'76

Did you know the Bison Alumni Newsletter has its own version of Sherlock Holmes? An alumni member who uses his computer expertise, background in quality assurance and dogged determination - along with a deep love for McCook alumni - to ensure every classmate is accounted for and those who have passed away are properly honored.

That super sleuth is Terry Byrd, Class of '54, who lives in Livonia, Michigan.

About three years ago, Terry contacted our newsletter editor, Tori Hegwood, with a long list of alumni who had passed away but who weren't identified as deceased on our website. While Tori began the process of updating records, the scope of the project quickly became clear. She reached out to me to see if I could connect with Terry and get the deaths rightfully noted - sparking a collaboration that continues today.

Through ongoing communication with Terry, it became clear to me just how much the work meant to him. A proud MHS graduate and Army

veteran assigned to Korea for 16 months, he felt strongly that alumni should be memorialized properly. Terry is especially passionate about recognizing fellow veterans by marking their service with a flag on the profile on our website.

Early in the project, it became clear that many alumni from earlier graduating classes were missing all together from the database. The Bison Alumni group had to purchase more database so that there was room to have all classmates listed. Today, the website includes every class from 1886 through 2024, which is a total of 8,835 alumni members. Of those, 4,682 are listed as deceased - nearly all with obituary details, cemetery information, or at least a confirmed date and place of death, much of it thanks to Terry and his vision.

Terry and I have a true partnership. I would use my Ancestry account to help identify date and locations of death, while Terry would use his computer and organizational skills to track burial information and maintain accurate records. Along the way, our collaboration grew into a meaningful friendship, built on

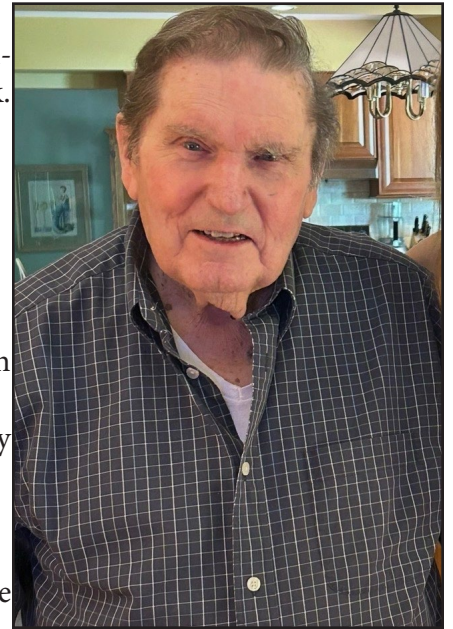
shared experiences and a common connection to McCook.

Terry tells me stories about growing up in McCook in the 40's and 50's and I share with him what is going on in his hometown now. I truly consider him one of my very best friends. The fact that he and I share the same sarcastic sense of humor helps to bond our friendship!

Alumni can see the results of this work by visiting www.bisonalumni.com. After logging in, users can view their class roster and find an “In Memory” count at the top of your class page.

Deceased classmates are marked with an asterisk, and a rose symbol indicates that additional information - such as an obituary - is available. Alumni are encouraged to review their class lists and report any missing information to us.

The Bison Alumni Newsletter cannot thank Terry enough for the time, dedication, and care he has invested in what has become known as the “memorial project”. Even now, he continues his research, locating infor-



mation on alumni and ensuring no classmate is forgotten.

BAN always welcomes volunteers to support its ongoing efforts. Opportunities include serving as class representatives, joining the board, donating to our fund through the McCook Community Foundation, or submitting ideas for future articles.

In the spirit of Terry Byrd's commitment, alumni are encouraged to get involved - and help preserve the legacy of McCook High School for generations to come.

FACEBOOK SURVEY QUESTION:

Who was a McCook teacher that changed your life—and why?

Mrs. Hauxwell. She prayed for me and my family for YEARS- well beyond highschool and into marriage and children. She is an amazing woman whose enthusiasm and zest for life is extraordinary. Mrs. H came to my college art exhibitions, wrote me letters while overseas and even now sends me Christmas cards with “love tokens” for my kids... 24 years after taking her class. -**Kayla Johnson**

Mr. Jim Steinke and many others including Mr Steve Clapp -**Alison Villalobos**

Mr Augustyn Geometry class. I never would have made it through without his help! -**Carol Fritz**

Mrs. Talkington. She was my homeroom teacher 5th grade and also tutored me after I had brain surgery mid year. Retired the next year but still was a substitute teacher for the next 10 or so years. I think I had her as a teacher for around a month out of the every school year 6-12th. Forever in debt to that woman. Love her to death. -**Logan Polly**

Mr. Datus! He always saw my efforts and recognized them and his passion for government and teaching was inspiring. -**Julie Mae**

In central it was Ms.

Wade. Jr high Mrs Hauxwell and high school was Mr Datus he didn't let anyone fail and he would take the time to explain it so you understood.

MCC was Janet Weber!! -**Lynette Markel**

Mr. Datus he made learning fun and I loved the criminal justice class. Mr. Clapp and Mr. Steinke. -**Heather Judd**

Donita Priebe! She has always been a second mom to all of her students. She made school enjoyable! -**Miranda Nicole Payton**

Mrs Langhoff- 9th grade speech. I always had my speeches done but was so shy that i always wanted to be the last to give mine out of fear everyone would laugh or stare at me. She told me one time if I gave mine first, I could sit back and relax while everyone gave theirs. I took her advice. I became more at ease and confident in myself and the shyness went away (anyone that knows me now would think that I was never shy) -**Penny Gonzales**

Mrs Langhoff inspired me to teach speech in theater. Been doing it for 32 years.-**Christine Marie Kier**

SanDee Watson. She truly loved teaching and she treated all her students

with love and kindness. We all called her “Mom Watson” for a reason. She gave us all the courage and strength to be our true selves!!! -**Randy Holloway-Wallace**

Pamela Wolford She was just so amazing and understanding. She helped me love books even more, which is an accomplishment in itself, because I had a huge love for reading before that! -**Christine Matheny**

Miss Teter! She was so intelligent, fun (yes!) and she brought history to life for me, especially American. As a result, I received a bachelor's degree from CSU (Colorado State) in American History. -**Mary Russell Myers**

Miss Teter truly cared and made learning history fun! She also introduced food from countries into the learning, which opened my eyes too. The world has changed a lot since I graduated (45 years ago). One thing for sure, she ran that classroom and you knew it. I respected that and appreciate it looking back. We really had a great group of teachers! -**Tom Leonard**

I enjoyed “Sarge’s” (Miss Teter) class, but it came as a shock when I learned her sister was married to a cousin who lived in Lin-

coln. I became an American History teacher, also! Among many other things. Attached is a picture of Ms Teter and her family. She's on the left and her sister who married my cousin is next to her. -**Chuck Real**

Coach Mike Harris. He talked me into staying in school in 9th grade when I was heading down the wrong path! I love that guy for doing that and we are still friends to this day! -**Brian Wallace**

Without a doubt, it was Mr. Randall Mills Datus. I took high Govt & Law class as a junior. It was one of only two classes I got an A in (untreated ADHD). From that moment on, I wanted to go to law school—but that opportunity didn't arise until many years later in 2010. I graduated law school at the top of my class and am now dual board certified. I am an attorney today because of his pedagogy and his belief in my abilities at a time when I couldn't see them. -**Kristin Brown**

Mike Harris and Mr Stasney, they taught skills that I use to this day -**Darrell Chancellor**

Mr Crutcher made me want to learn about other cultures and coun-

tries

-Susan McNulty Hayes

Mr. Crutcher challenged me in the kindest but most demanding ways. He mentally opened doors into learning that I have followed all my life. I loved living in McCook but he allowed me to see that it was very acceptable to imagine a life outside of our town. I cannot thank him enough for the time and patience that he bestowed on me and other students. A great teacher and individual.

-Lee M Dinnel

Stan Spomer. He made the start to every day a lot of fun with band!

-Cindy Siebrandt

Miss Teter was an amazing history teacher

-Judy Sweney

Mr. Hyde drafting classes. Coached me well enough for full ride to tech. school and has been paying dividends every since.

-Mike Tietze

Mrs. Poore, she was always there with a smile on her face and a hug. I can still see her face like it was yesterday, and that was over 40 years ago

-Christal Vrbas

Patricia Kelly Hoehner. Math was my worst subject. She helped me understand it. Took her time. She is the reason I started believing in myself.

-Mary Maris

Mary Dueland taught me in 3rd grade and she was one of my favorites. Still one of the nicest

people you will ever meet.

-Mallory Nicole Haskin

Mr Gumb! Always kept the class engaged, explained Math in a way that was easy to understand & he did back flips off the door frame of the classroom in HS!

-Elizabeth Bell Ritchie

I had actually quit school and "Catfish" Augustyn along with Mr Bonar came to my house and talked me in to going back to school. Without them I would not have graduated !!

-Tammy Evans

Hate to sound goofy, but all of them had an effect on my life!

-William David Howell

We were blessed to have a great group of teachers. I too would struggle to narrow it down to one.

-Tom Leonard

Diane Mollring was my favorite teacher. She was simply the best.

-Anne McCarville

Mr. Ganseboom! Being a part of the musicals he directed was one of the best parts of MHS!

-Mary Ellen Glenn

Mr Dennis Kennelly, Spanish. I felt I learned the language and learned English language skills but the classes were engaging and never felt like a burden.

-Kimberly Wilson

CATFISH !!

-Rose Weskamp

RM Urban Datus and Mr Datus. Two of my favorite teachers in High School. I did not have many teach-

ers that I didn't like, but I would do anything not to miss their classes.

-Sally Stetzel-Davis

Colleen Schlager Olson was a fantastic math teacher and volleyball coach! And Steve Clapp was such a fun art teacher!

-Lindsey Nothnagel

Mr. Datus, hands down. He was the only one in school who could actually challenge me. Learned a lot from that guy. **-Aaron Kircher**

I attended McCook City Schools and it would be nearly impossible for me to narrow it down to one.

2nd Grade - Mrs Randall at West Ward (I attended West Ward 1 year because I was a bus rider and it was a little traumatic to leave East Ward. I remember learning cursive and singing "God Bless America" everyday, after the Pledge of Allegiance. Central - Nancy Buresh. She cared, pressed you to learn, she was the one that realized I needed glasses. Dale Lortz. What young boy doesn't like PE? I had the pleasure of coaching with Dale, along with Larry Molring & Mike Harris when I was in college. Getting to know all those later was a great experience. MJH - Larry Mollring (already talked about) Bob Backer (you probably didn't see that coming) Bob was like your Dad, listen & you were fine; don't, and you'll regret it. Val Pullen Anyone that could make

Geology interesting..

MHS - Ms. Teeter no need to explain. She made MHS her priority. She was at every sporting event (in that hat). She was firm, but fair. She made World History fun! Mr. Grenke. Science & Chemistry wasn't always my favorite, but he instilled confidence in me that I could learn it. I carried that on to college.

Dave Dunham left a lasting impression in my life and I feel blessed to have had him in my life. There is a core group of us that have stayed in touch over the years (in fact we bought a big block at last season's game in KC). We lost Dave a few years ago, but we stayed in touch over the years; right up to the end. I had some very challenging things going on in my life, and he was there. My buddies from '81 know the story. Once a person is there for you, you're there for them forever. Sorry to ramble....but THANK YOU for stretching my brain a little. I need to do more of it!

-Tom Leonard

Definitely would have to say Mrs. Hauxwell and Mr. Clapp **-Jayme Nally**

Pat Reinholz Sr High. My mom **-Eric Reinholz**

Coach Harris **-Don Hiatt**

Mrs. Wesch, Mr. Dahlstrom, Ma Teter, Mr. Augustyn, Mrs. Watson, Ms. Sitzman. I can't believe I've forgotten some of their names! I will have to check my yearbook. Like William David Howell said, they ALL had an effect on

my life! -**Wendy Weldon Brown**

There was many but none had a bigger impact on my life than Ron Coleman.

Coach RC -**Joe Townsley**

Sr Louis Bernard in second grade. She taught us current events as much as she could at our age. She introduced me to MLK, who was shot and killed the next year. Mrs Riggs, 7th grade math. She told Dad I spent too much time trying to perfect how my numbers looked rather than worked. Coach B (Bernard?) in 8th grade.

Can't recall his name. He made me chuckle and taught me to take what life dishes out. Ms Mooney, 9th grade English. It was her first year at MJH. Such a patient and kind person. There were so many more.

-**Jim Rossitto**

Dave Gordon, Mike Harris and Doug Martin. Good or bad they all taught me the definition of "Respect"

-**Todd Sitzman**

Dallas Talkington

-**Marc Webster**

Mr. Perez, he passed me in Algebra!!!!

-**Debbie Elmshaeuser Sitzman**

Mr. Rasmussen History teacher-

Kelly Hitt-Regier

Pamela Wolford, such a heart of gold

-**Kim Olson**

Mrs Klingner, 5th and 6th grade North Ward.

Ward Rounds, band director, McCook High School

-**Vicki Rae Russell**

Mr. Stasney. He was an X marine. Taught wood-working. Took the time to

explain things. Was always fun to go to woods and carpentry class. He made you feel welcome. Took the time to listen including personal issues. Great instructor. I miss him to this day. RIP. NORMAN STASNEY -**Roger Dame**

My favorite teacher, though I, too had many, was Mr. Alex Bieker. He taught me something far more important than algebra and trigonometry - he taught me how to learn. I tried to share that gift with the students in my classrooms over the past 40 years.

-**Laurie Curtis**

Mrs. Hauxwell always remember her cheers we did in class on game days and always brought a smile to your face. Taught me how not to take life for granted and to always try to be happy. Mr. Steinke he was always so nice and cared about you. Mr. Hilton cause he was always pushing me to do harder and it helped with my careers now, but in all everyone of my teachers in Jr. High and High School were amazing and they each taught me something different. Miss all of them and the high school days

-**Branigan Dame**

Catfish. Still remember the B-52 pic on his desk and inspired me to eventually join the Air Force and log some B-52 time myself.

-**Toby Corey**

Mr. Crutcher, French class. He made learning fun and I learned so much

more than French in his class.

-**Barb Knapper**

Warren Everett's, history and consumer math. Gary Schaffer, drafting. Mr. Krutcher, English. Kitty Troxell, English. Ms. Tetter, Am. History. Mrs. Kruger, Library. Coach Meeker, PE. Dorothy Baker, Office. All had faith in me and taught me to learn for learnings sake.

-**Dick Rogers**

Amanda Davidson brought be out of my shell and ignited a fire of passion in me for speech, performance, and leadership. This has extended beyond high school years where I now am a head speech coach! Robin Henrichs did the same for my passion in chemistry and the sciences. Before I wasn't too sure what path to take in life but because of her chemistry and physics courses I have four degrees in the sciences and am actively pursuing a PharmD.

-**Baylor Winters**

These guys had a sense of humor. Joe Augustyn, Larry Blackman, Roger Eschlman, Dallas Talkington, Paul Forch, and Mr. Vice.

-**David Riley**

Mrs. Watson she gave me a passion for music!!

-**Becki Keenportz**

I have so so many. Mrs. Sitzman, Mr. Ridenhour, Mrs. Hepp, and Mrs. Sides.

-**Olivia Johnson**

MS WADE -**Tammy Nichelson**

Mrs. Langhoff. She was so kind and understanding

when my mom was sick in Lincoln in the hospital with a brain tumor. I will never forget her support.

-**Bob R. Sautter**

Nancy Buresh, Ms. Wade, Janet Hepp, Pamela Wolford, Mr. Steinke, Mr. Datus, all pushed me in a way that I will always cherish. Some of the most genuine folks I know.

-**Jennifer Mues**

Ms. Teter.

-**Dan Lynch**

Mrs Judy Price Spomer, she was my 2nd grade teacher and she gave me a love of spelling. Her game of category capers made spelling fun and challenging. She also used SRA reading and we filed our card when we finished the book and had so many different levels to move up through.

-**Brenda Moreau Buechter**

Mr. Datus! He taught me to stand up for what I believe, especially when my thoughts differed from the pack.

-**Nicole Vap**

I was lucky to have many, many wonderful teachers at all levels of schooling. But RM Urban Datus and Mr. Datus are very special to me because they were both such supportive and caring mentors. It felt like a lifeline at that point in my life. I would not be who I am today without them.

-**Elynnor Trail**

Not a McCook public School teacher but she taught at district 41. Pat Shepherd was a wonderful teacher and helped me gain confidence when I was feeling very low. Also Lois Tiller although she wasn't a teacher but an Aid. They

7

were angels. -**Amy Strauch**
Mike Harris -**Gina Evans**
Mrs. Wolford!! -**Christy Davis**

There are so many!!!
Janet Hepp, Linda Baum-
baugh, Tom Lentz, Tom
Sughrone, Colleen Olsen,
and Mr. Briggs. All these
teachers had a HUGE
impact on my life. They
believed in me when others
didn't! I met my husband
in Mrs. Baumbaugh's class
7th grade year. And I
wouldn't have graduated
without Coach Briggs!!

-**Deidre Shafer**

Coach Dave Gordon,
Mrs Dolan, Sister Rose
Angela. Mrs Parry, Mrs.
Battershell, Mr Lyons, Mr
Briggs. I'm sure I've forgot-
ten a few. -**Dave Janssen**

Mrs. Ashton!! She was
not only a great teacher
but a great example. She
furthered her education
during summers at U of
N while teaching all year.

-**Jyoti Ishaya**

My favorite was Coach
Paul B Forch! Yes I mar-
ried his nephew and held
all these other teachers
in even greater regard as
friends!

-**Patricia Hoyt Forch**

Mrs Glaze in elemen-
tary and Dorothy Baker,
secretary to Principal Reed
in high school

-**Sue Harrison Jewell**

Mr. Datus, absolutely
brought high energy and
excitement to his class-
room making me want to
learn more about govern-
ment. It never felt like
class, more like an adven-

ture that made you want
to learn more and show up
to class. While Mrs Datus
fostered a safe classroom
where you felt like you
could be yourself. She even
allowed me to teach the
lyric poem "She walks in
Beauty" by Lord Byron.

Such amazing teachers to
make you feel passionate
about your life and giving
you the courage to step
beyond what you believed
you could accomplish. Defi-
nitely unforgettable teach-
ers! -**Larissa Leibrandt**

Mrs. Broeker helped me
believe in myself; Mrs.
Fries and Mrs. Wolford
encouraged my writing
abilities; and Mr. Briggs
nurtured my love of his-
tory. -**Steph Gaboury**

I've got to give a hand to
my coaches: Coach Mari-
anne Colling, Coach Lortz,
Coach Steinke, and Coach
Clapp. Lot of time spent
mentoring me Can't forget
Coach Dunham in weight-
lifting -**Bev Schlager**

Mrs. Pamela Wolford,
Mr. Brent May & Mrs.
Talkington was the best
sub ever. Soo many great
educators in McCook.

-**Brady A. Hess**

Ol Norman changed the
way Hastings and I sit for
a week for sure! -**Lance
Messinger**

Mr Steinke...I still love
to paint in my spare time
-**Sheila Bales**

Clapp and Steinke they
both pushed me to keep
doing my art -**Kim Arnold**

Blessed with many won-
derful teachers, starting

with Ruth Callen for kin-
dergarten at East Ward.

-**Rita Bunstock Atkins**

Larry Koenig

-**Donald Maris**

I have to mention Er-
nie Perez our 9th grade
algebra teacher. He made
math easy to learn!

-**Tom Prohaska**

Mrs RM Urban Datus ,
Mr. Datus and Mr Ray-
burn. (spelling) I don't
think there was a teacher I
didn't like though.

-**Shelly Smith Tietze**

Mrs. Drake, 3rd grade
Catholic School, taught me
how to hold my pen with
my left hand, so I didn't
smudge my paper

-**Sheila Bivens**

My high school home
economics teacher but
for the life of me I can't
remember her name I
graduated in 1970 and she
taught the first 2 years of
my high school years.

-**Tess McCarville Brown**

Mrs. Hein, Mrs McCoy,
Mrs Dueland... just to
name a few. I realize they
are all elementary school
teachers but they were so
very kind & good to me in
school. -**Renae Berry**

Storming Norman Stas-
ney! -**Mike Cuellar**

Miss Teter. I still love his-
tory! -**Karl Buchta**

Dale Crutcher -**Alan Kiel**

Mr. Bieber, Great teacher,
respected him -**Greg Hayes**

Mike Harris -**Todd C
Hueftle**

Ken Rumery....gave me
confidence in myself and
was an amazing music
teacher -**Cherril Serdy**

Mr and Mrs Datus. They
inspired me to see and reach
for the Stars -**Robert Owen**
Norm Stasney

-**Skeet Layne Brawdy**

Mr. Gumb hands down the
best! -**Danette Atherley**

Mr. Datus - for going into
public service, which I still
do and with great pride! But
also Ms. Jensen, and English
class where I wrote my 1st
long research paper—topic
Watergate! -**Alicia Vap**

Mr. Datus -**Tessa Foreman**

Mr Barger he taught me
a lot not just about working
on cars but life in general

-**Brent Carfield**

Mrs. Donna Clapp. Taught
at district 8 McCook, NE.
Had her for 5 years and
she was a great teacher
and taught me how to read
outloud with emotion and
feelings. Not so much with
math but i love to read.

Great teacher. -**Natasha
Beaverhousen**

Ms Wade, Mrs. Friehe/
wonderful and patient
women! Mr. Gumb-excellent
motivator, Mr. Cuellar,
Mr. Bonow, Mr. Datus-his
philosophy of education
was forever instilled in my
brain! I get to see him on the
regular as he and Mrs. Da-
tus retired in Hastings! Still
sharp as ever too! Mrs. Jans-
sen, Mrs. Biedeck-my typing
skills are bomb because of
her. Gym- Mr. Coleman, Mr.
Lortz- I still enjoy being in
the gym -**Jody Propp**

Norm Stasney. Shop coach.
He taught me all the tools
uses and their names.

-**Pepper Morris**

Mr. Gumb. I had a terrible

time with Geometry and he was ALWAYS patient and kind. He helped me tremendously. Mr. Datus' class was awesome. I remember signing up for my schedule and government was suggested and I said "No way!" But I was convinced and loved it.

-Mel Melannie Burken

Al Schneider influenced me to become a builder/developer!

-Tom Prohaska
Mrs Friehe in Central, Mr. Cuellar in Junior High, Mr. Datus, Mrs. Janssen and Mrs. Biedeck in high-school. I looked forward to Mr. Datus's class everyday, economics and government and law were the best! I still say Zut Alors to my French students and they giggle. Mrs. Biedeck was a caring teacher and the best FBLA advisor ever! I am still a great typist thanks to her.

-Terra Ellerton Michaelis
I would have to say Mrs. Hepp and Mr. Sughroue both made a huge impact on me in my childhood & will always cherish them both. Made me into the person I am today.

-Kory Janousek
Mr. Harris was a fantastic teacher! I remember him saying "Quality over quantity" Mr. Datus was my all time favorite teacher! He had so many famous one-liners! One of my favorite one-liners of his was "either you're pregnant or you're not!"

Love Mr. Harris and Mr. Datus

-Chach Monzon Gross

Mrs Traphagan She taught second grade at West Ward Elementary in the 1950's. I'm pretty sure that my three siblings were in her classes also.

She was an amazing teacher as well being caring a loving to her students. She also went to the same church where we worshipped.

-Mary Lehman Todd
Ms. Teter she wasn't easy but she loved history and passed it on to her students. The reason I went on to teach American History.

-Lynda Baum-bach
Mrs Talkington & Miss Lichti 5th grade.

-Randall Lipson
Coach Harris, Don Hyde and Al Schneider. Mr Augustine (Catfish), Mr Steinke, Mr Evert and Mr Banow

-Laura Smith-Parde
Sr Bernard in 2nd grade helped bring this Hays Center country boy up to speed

-Jim Schneider
What a wonderful walk down memory lane reading through these comments! I LOVED so many of these teachers growing up. They were instrumental in various aspects of my life. Many thanks to them all!

-Darcie Kuhlmann Nightingale

Mr Philo-chorus and show choir. Took

us to greater heights and pushed us!

-Judi Unger
Mrs. Beideck. Having her as my teacher & learning clerical skills & stressing their importance motivated me to be the best as a legal secretary / paralegal and go on to complete my bachelor's degree in management. This all led me to a long & meaningful ca-

reer in Human Resources.

-Barb Kelley Czarnick
Coach Dave Dunham! Great man!

-Shane Judd Umshied, he made history fun for me, including the sign he hung up in his classroom

-Jullian Stiver

Thank you to everyone who shared their memories!

CELEBRATION WEEKEND



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

**MEET & GREET
ALUMNI & COMMUNITY**
5:30-7:30pm | East Campus

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

10am • • • • • Heritage Days Parade
11:30am-2pm • • • Open House & Campus Tours
Noon-5pm • • Campus Events & Alumni Reunion
5-7:30pm • Cocktails & Banquet | East Campus

**McCook College
FOUNDATION**

Coming Home with Purpose: Why Cole Peters Chose McCook Again

For McCook Senior High School graduate Cole Peters, Class of 2016, the decision to return home wasn't sparked by a single moment—it was built over time, shaped by experience, perspective, and a clear sense of what matters most.

After graduation, Cole headed to University of Nebraska—Lincoln, where he spent three and a half years earning his degree in agronomy. But his education extended far beyond the classroom. During breaks, Cole traveled across states like South Dakota, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Texas—often in pursuit of hunting opportunities. Those experiences gave him a broader view of the country and introduced him to a wide range of communities and lifestyles.

“I realized there are so many great places out there,” Cole reflects. “Places I never would have known about if I hadn't gone and seen them.”

Yet, those same experiences brought something else into focus: a deeper appreciation for the place he had always called home.



Cole walking with his antelope on his back after an archery antelope hunt in Nebraska.

While larger cities offered more people and more activity, they also highlighted what Cole values most—space, quiet, and connection. In McCook, life moves at a different pace. It's a place where you can get across town in minutes, where traffic is never a concern, and where familiar faces are part of everyday life. For Cole, that balance is exactly what he was looking for.

More importantly, McCook checked all the boxes for the life he envisions ahead. From access to the outdoors he loves to the kind of environment he hopes to raise a family in, the decision to return became increasingly clear over time.

“McCook has everything I personally need,” he says. “It may not have everything a bigger city does—but for how I live and what I enjoy, it's exactly right.”

Coming back also gave Cole a new perspective on what makes the community special. Growing up, McCook was simply home. But after time away, he now sees it as something more—a place uniquely equipped to offer both opportunity and quality of life, especially for the next generation.

“I didn't realize it before, but McCook really can provide an ideal childhood,” he shares. “It gives you what you need, without the stress and pace of a larger city.”

As he looks ahead, Cole is intentional about the role he wants to play in the community's future. Whether it's contributing to the local economy or sharing his appreciation for McCook with others, he's proud to invest in the place that shaped him. He also hopes to one day raise a family here, passing on the values and experi-

ences that influenced his own path.

And for current students considering what comes next, Cole offers thoughtful, practical advice: go explore.

“Live somewhere else for a while,” he encourages. “Give yourself enough time to really experience a different place. That's how you figure out what you truly want—and what matters most to you.”

Because sometimes, it's only after you leave that you fully understand the value of coming home.

Cole and his sister with her first deer, on our family's farm SW of McCook.



Rooted By Choice: Staying In McCook and Thriving

Elizabeth Aguirre ('24) knew that the journey after graduation didn't involve packing bags or heading far from home. In fact, it was quite the opposite. While many graduates plan their next chapter elsewhere, Elizabeth made a decision that surprised even herself—she stayed.

A graduate of McCook Senior High School, Elizabeth had originally intended to leave McCook after graduation. But as plans shifted, so did her perspective. Choosing to remain in her hometown and continue her education at McCook Community College became, in her words, "one of the best decisions" she could have made.

In the past few months, Elizabeth was hired as the new Red Willow County Tourism Director.

Rather than seeing staying as standing still, Eliza-

beth discovered it was an opportunity to move forward in unexpected ways. While she had considered universities in larger cities, she realized that growth doesn't depend on distance—it depends on what you do with where you are.

"Staying here gave me opportunities I didn't expect," she shares. "It allowed me to grow in ways I wouldn't have if I had left."

That growth is deeply connected to the community around her. For Elizabeth, McCook is more than just a hometown—it's a place that has supported her family, opened doors, and created space to flourish. Now, she finds purpose in giving back to the same community that has given her so much.

"I love being able to now work for the community that helped us grow," she

says.

Even without ever leaving, Elizabeth's perspective on McCook has evolved. Where she once may have seen familiarity, she now sees strength—a community built on support, connection, and people who genuinely show up for one another.

"I see a place where people help each other succeed," she reflects. "That's something really special."

Looking ahead, Elizabeth is passionate about sharing that message with others. She hopes to challenge the notion that McCook is simply a place you pass through. Instead, she sees it as a destination—one worth experiencing, appreciating, and investing in.

"There's so much here that goes unappreciated," she says. "I want people to stop, stay, and feel what this community has to offer."

Her advice to current students carries that same balance of exploration and appreciation. She encourages them to go out into the world, experience new places, and meet new people—but to never lose sight of where they came from.



"Go far away. Learn new things," she says. "But don't forget to come home."

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

Bison Dental

General Family Dentistry

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bison.dental@hotmail.com www.bisondental.com

Where Opportunity Meets Community: Mason Michaelis' Journey Home

The path to moving back home isn't always defined by a single turning point—sometimes it's shaped by a steady realization of what truly matters. This was the case for Mason Michaelis ('21).

After graduating from McCook Senior High School, Mason spent the following years exploring different career paths, building skills, and gaining real-world experience. Along the way, he discovered strengths in leadership, communication, and business operations—skills that would ultimately guide him back

earned recognition as MVP in his office. He also stepped into management roles, overseeing store operations and learning firsthand what it takes to lead teams and run a successful business. Later, in Omaha, Mason found himself at a tennis and golf club, coordinating tournaments, clinics, and lessons—work that combined organization, community engagement, and a passion for helping others succeed.

Each step added a new layer of perspective. And over time, one idea kept resurfacing: the value of community.

"McCook offers something that's hard to replicate elsewhere," Mason shares. "It's a welcoming, family-focused place where you feel connected and can make a meaningful impact."

Now recently married, Mason saw returning home not just as a career move, but

as a long-term investment in both his personal and professional future. When an opportunity arose at the local golf course, everything aligned.



Kids that attended a tennis clinic Mason set up in Omaha

Back in McCook, what stands out most to Mason is the genuine sense of connection woven into everyday life. It's a place where relationships come easily—where even a quick trip to the store can turn into a series of conversations with familiar faces.

"People truly support each other here," he says. "That makes both living and working here incredibly rewarding."

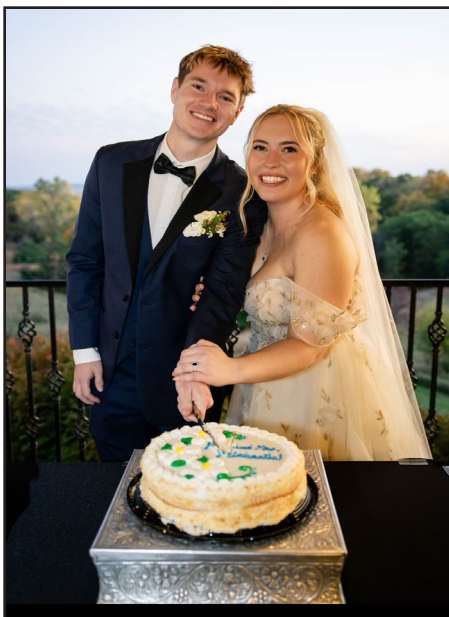
Returning has also given him a deeper appreciation for things he may have overlooked growing up. What once felt familiar now feels exceptional—the strong community ties, the willingness of people to show up for one another, and the opportunities available for those willing to step forward and take initiative.

"There's a lot of potential here," Mason explains. "If you're willing to take some chances and lean into opportunities, you can build something really meaningful."

That mindset is exactly what he hopes to bring to his role in the community. Mason is passionate about continuing to grow the local golf course into more than just a place to play. He envisions it as a true gathering space—a hub where people of all ages and experience levels feel welcome, whether they're competing, learning, or simply connecting.

"If we can keep building that environment, it becomes something bigger," he says. "A place people are proud of."

Mason believes that being part of McCook's future means contributing



Mason and his wife, Olivia Koetter Michaelis ('21), at their wedding in October

home.

His journey took him into the world of finance, where he worked for Charles Schwab and

to that sense of pride and belonging—helping create spaces where community continues to thrive.

His advice to current students reflects the journey he’s taken: keep an open mind.

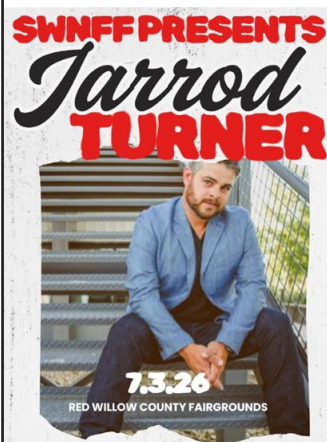
“It’s easy to think you have to go somewhere bigger to find opportunity,” he says. “But communities like McCook have so much to offer. You just have to be willing to seek it out.”

For Mason, coming home isn’t about stepping back—it’s about stepping forward with intention. The experiences he gained away from McCook didn’t pull him in a different direction; they helped him better understand what he was looking for all along. Now, he’s channeling that perspective into building something lasting in the

community that helped shape him.

And like many who return, Mason’s story is a reminder that sometimes the best opportunities aren’t found by going farther—they’re found by coming back with a clearer sense of purpose. In McCook, he’s not just continuing his career—he’s helping create the kind of place others will one day be proud to come home to.

Mason with his family, including parents Brian Michealis ('94) and Terra Ellerton Michaelis ('94), celebrating his sister going to state dance at The Scoop in McCook



When you celebrate freedom, you don’t just celebrate an idea! You celebrate people. Because freedom comes at a price, paid by real people who are willing to sacrifice their own safety to keep the rest of us free and safe!

Join us Friday, July 3rd at the **Red Willow County Fairgrounds** to honor those who have and continue to protect and serve!

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



Option For BAN Subscription

By **Ronda Graff** for the McCook Community Foundation Fund

The Bison Alumni Newsletter is full of information about the City of McCook, McCook Public Schools, McCook alumni and more. It is an asset for the community, former residents, and former students that keeps everyone connected.

For years, everyone received a printed copy of BAN and a few older classes still do.

But as times, technology and costs have changed, most people now receive a digital copy of the news-

letter in their email to read online - a quick and efficient way to get BAN into your hands. (For those who don't know, you can print off a copy yourself from the website or the email.)

Yet for many, we like the feel of paper in our hands; we enjoy flipping through the pages; and we simply value having a paper copy to read.

Three years ago, the McCook Community Foundation Fund, which has the sub-account for BAN, began paying to have printed copies available around the community. If

you were in McCook for Heritage Days, perhaps you saw a copy of BAN in the Keystone lobby. If you visit the Community Hospital, a BAN issue is on the waiting room table. And anyone sitting in a McCook hotel lobby can pick up a copy to peruse while waiting.

With those copies around the community, we have heard from others that they would like a printed version for themselves. So we established a different option: a subscription to Bison Alumni Newsletter, arriving in your mailbox twice a year

at \$20/year.

Interest in a printed option was sufficient to meet the 200 copies threshold to keep costs affordable. This edition marks the first one available on a subscription basis.

If you would like to receive a physical newsletter in your mailbox, send an email to mcffund@gmail.com or you can mail a check to MCFF, Box 525, McCook NE 69001

For more information or with questions, please visit the MCFF website at mccookfoundation.org.

Only in McCook

YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND YOUR WAY BACK HOME

MCCOOK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 308.345.3200 WWW.MCCOOKCHAMBER.ORG

Heritage Days - September 16 - 19th, 2026

Katie's Full Circle Journey to McCook

As Katie approached the final stretch of her professional schooling, one thing had already come into focus: she didn't have to look far to find the life she wanted. Western Nebraska had always felt like home, but now it also felt like the right place to build a future. So when an opportunity opened up in the pharmacy at the local hospital, it wasn't just good timing—it felt like everything was falling into place.

Choosing to return to McCook meant more than starting her career. It meant being close to family, building a life with her husband, and investing in a community that had always been part of her story.

Katie's path took her first to Nebraska Wesleyan University, where she immersed herself in campus life—competing on the women's tennis team, serving as president of Delta Zeta, and pursuing a double major in Religion & Philosophy

Katie received the Caring Kind award from the hospital in July of 2025



and Biology.

From there, she continued on to Creighton University School of Pharmacy and Health Professions, where she spent four years refining her skills, giving back through volunteer work, and experiencing life in a larger city.

But it was in those busy days—especially during long commutes and the pace of city life—that something became increasingly clear: her future belonged somewhere quieter, more connected, and more personal.

Back in McCook, it's the small, meaningful moments that stand out most.

It's seeing familiar faces at the store. It's knowing exactly who to call when you need help—and trusting the job will be done right. It's the shared pride people take in their work and their community.

For Katie, these aren't just conveniences—they're the foundation of a lifestyle rooted in connection and trust.

Returning home brought a new perspective. What once felt like a constant is now something she sees actively growing and improving.

From community investments like the city pool to new developments on the horizon, Katie recognizes the effort and care people are putting into shaping

McCook's future. It's a reminder that even in a smaller town, progress is always happening—often driven by the very people who call it home.

Now, Katie is focused on contributing to that momentum. One of the most meaningful experiences has been her involvement in the Kelley Park Project—a place filled with childhood memories, now renewed for a new generation.

Seeing families gather, children play, and the park come back to life has been especially rewarding. It's a full-circle moment—watching today's kids create the same kind of memories she once did.

Katie's advice to current students is simple, but shaped by experience:

Keep an open mind.

Like many, she once believed she needed to go far away to find the right opportunities. And while leaving gave her valuable perspective, it also helped her realize something even more important—

she could build the life she wanted right here in McCook, surrounded by support she wouldn't find anywhere else.

Looking back, Katie sees her journey not as leaving home, but as gaining the perspective she needed to fully appreciate it. The experiences, challenges, and opportunities she found elsewhere didn't pull her away—they ultimately led her back with a clearer sense of purpose.

Today, she's not just building a career in McCook—she's helping shape its future. And her story serves as a reminder that sometimes the path forward doesn't lead somewhere new, but back to a place that's been right all along—waiting for you to return and see it in a whole new way.



Inclusive Playground at Kelly Park ribbon cutting in December 2025



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



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.



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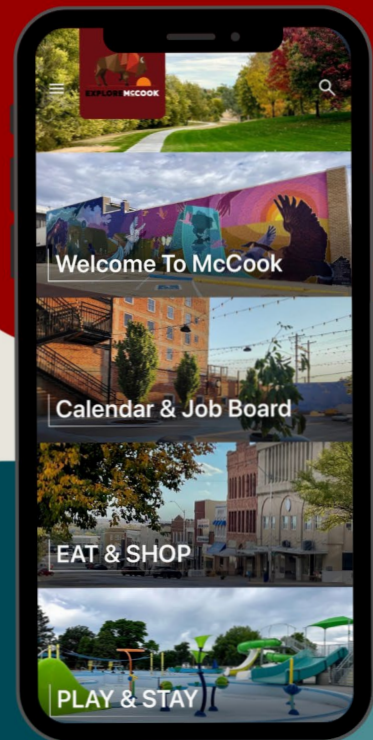
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class notes

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.

1945: -Greetings to classmates Class of 1945, still hanging in there. Please email me or write about your condition and doings. My email is jehubert@swnebr.net --- Home address is still 901 Sunset Rd. McCook NE 69001. We may have several thousand dollars to divide. (just kidding). Best regards , John Hubert

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

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

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

1951: - Dennis Moskal djmoskal34@gmail.com

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

1953: - Pat Rogers Schmid, Kinship Pointe, 1500 East 11th St. Apt. 204, 345-3081, pschmid1953@gmail.com

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 Street McCook, NE 69001, jrlr@centurylink.net, 308-345-2703

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

1961: Greetings Classmates of 1961, Our 65th Class Reunion is coming up Sept 18th/19th 2026 during Heritage Days. Nancy Thompson Wetherholt 510-714-8766 and Vince & Kay Hoyt Wasia 210-862-3206 volunteered to contact everyone. They are looking for any update on information that has been changed over the past few years on addresses, phone numbers or emails so we can update our roster.

SAVE THE DATE and we hope you can come.

Theda Beth Jones Stanley passed away in February and she had been our keeper of records of all our classmates still living or now deceased. I will keep the records of our deceased classmates and so far we have lost 65 that are gone from us.

Contacts: Jo Ann McMullen Brand, cell 737-8326, jo-brand961@gmail.com or Dian Keene Trail, 345-5116, or cell 340-3484, cdtrail@mccooknet.com

1962: -Needs a class rep

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, Lorrainegold@me.com; Dick Cappel, 308-350-0363, dick@cappelsales.com

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: Linda Taylor, ltaylorvk@gmail.com 308-345-3682 Steve Batty, sbatty@mccooknet.com 308-345-4021

1966: 60th reunion will be held Sept. 18-20 during Heritage Days. Contact Ed Pilcher or Tom Murphy if you can attend. -Linda Sines Clark, linda-clark0606@gmail.com, 707-695-9170

1967: Regarding the class account, we really need another person on the account. -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

Continued on the next page

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class notes cont.

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

1974: -Please send current email addresses to pegan-drews18@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: - Getting excited about plans for our 50th class reunion! It will be during Labor Day weekend, September 4 and 5 in McCook. Registration information will be emailed out this summer. 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: -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, craft-whiz@swnebr.net

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

1981: -We have rented the Community Building for September 19th, 2026, during Heritage Days for our 45th class reunion. 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, 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: - Check out our facebook page '1990-McCook High School Class of 1990-BAN.'

Rich Broderson Class of '90 was court side announcer for high school girls and boys state basketball in Lincoln in March.

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: We will be having our 30th class reunion over Heritage Days weekend. Sept 18-20. We will be participating in the parade on Saturday. We will be posting in the Facebook class of 96 page with details. If you're not on facebook please feel free to reach out to Anne McCarville at amac513@hotmail.com or Heather Hamilton- 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, bepuz-zled2@yahoo.com

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

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

2000: -Anna Dueland Hunicutt, mccoock2000@gmail.com

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

2002: - Laura Lyons Plas, Implas@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: -We are excited to kick off planning our 20-year reunion. Be sure to check out our Facebook page - McCook High School 2006 Graduates - for the latest updates, details, and ways to get involved. If you're interested in helping us plan an unforgettable celebration, we'd love to have you on board! - 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: -Jaci Saalfeld Weissert, saalfeldjn@gmail.com, 340-6254.

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

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 @McCookBison-Alumni.

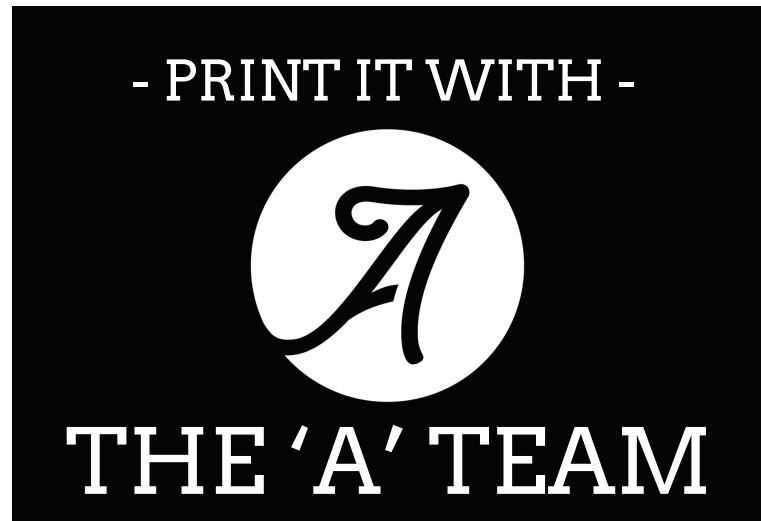


“Look who I ran into at the McCook Public Library this morning. Dennis Shepherd and Gary Benton from MHS class of 1963. They are back in McCook to enjoy their old hometown for the weekend. They were at the library this morning to visit their classmate, Michael Klingner’s, memorial in the basement of the library. It was so much fun getting to meet them and visiting about McCook. Hope you guys come back soon!” - Diane Wilson Lyons



Pat Kelly Hoehner, MHS Class of 1954, is retiring after a 67-year career in education, including 26 years with UNK Educational Administration.

She and her late husband LeRoy attended UNK together as students and their family has earned an impressive 30 degrees from the university.



- ALL BISON ALUMNI -

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



Thanks!

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

All of our advertisers

Class reps

Peter Graff

MHS Class of 1948 Donation in Memory of:
Harlow Wilhelm

MHS Class of 1958 Donation in Memory of:
Nancy Jewell Tarnutzer

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

Staff – Fred Gleason (Guidance Counselor), Lynne Kinne (Faculty), Peggy Poore (Faculty)

'43 - Marian Steele Elliott

'45 - Elaine Parmenter Burgess

'48 - Harlow Wilhelm

'49 - Margaret Trail Nielsen

'50 - Bob Desmond

'51 - Nadine Mackey Guriere

'52 - Donna Merrell Jones, Don Roberts

'54 - Susan Ball Hall, Marilyn Brust Hawkins

'56 - Barbara Stinnette Koetter

'57 - Keith Hackney, Marilyn Trail Newcomb, Stan Wells

'58 - Nancy Jewell Tarnutzer, Darwin Thompson, Joanne Thompson Winter Chaser

'59 - Bernita Moffitt Reiners, Joan Shepherd Calvin

'60 - Karole Strayer Hutcheson

'61 - Theda Beth Jones Stanley, Carol Roedel Ruland

'62 - Tom Buresh

'64 - Gloria Jones Warren, Betty Wilson Leibrandt

'67 - Mark Heskett

'69 - David Buckley, Doug Gilliland, Kenneth Hulstein

'70 - Cyndi Frick Johnson, Diana Underwood

'71 - Rusty Park

'73 - Theresa Grim Dicke, Cal Siegfried

'75 - Roy Remington

'76 - Jay Buckley

'78 - Steve Brim

'86 - James Moreau

'88 - Russell Carpenter

'92 - Lynn Kinne

'97 - Craig Carner, Jr.

'98 - Meghan Gull