

# The Celebrating Saint

Volume 7 | Summer 2012

## SPCH Class of 1962 Begins Tradition

Graduation 1959 saw the start of a tradition to invite back and honor the SPCH class of 50 years earlier at the time of graduation. Since that time each 50-year class has returned to the campus in the middle of May.

This year was no exception as members of the SPCH Class of 1962 came May 18-20 to be honored and recognized.



Standing in the chancel of St. Paul's Church following the baccalaureate service, from the SPCH Class of 1962, were: front, from left, Ken Fuchler, Bill Grese; middle, Timothy Wenger, Paul Wenger, Norbert Firnhaber, Stephen Meyer, Art Schauer; back, Tom Wolbrecht, Ray Mirly, Burk Hill, Don Fahrenbrink. Absent from photo: Howard Shane, Don Nierman.

In the baccalaureate service the 50-year graduates were presented with a medallion that features the school seal and an inscription of their reunion date.

This year something new was added. Each honoree wore a gold stole with the fleur-de-lis engraved at each end of the stole. This easily identified the honorees in the morning baccalaureate service and afternoon graduation exercises. *(full story about the stoles on page 8)*

Biltz Hall, the former home of the men, was used as the focal point for the weekend. Those who had not been back to campus in recent years were quick to remark about the transformation of the inside of the building, and were quick to pick up on the nickname, "Biltz Hilton."

At the baccalaureate service and graduation ceremony, the 50-year alumni processed with the 2012 graduates, faculty, and board of trustees.

*Continued on page 8.*

## What's inside:

Page 1

From the SPAA President

Page 2

From the Executive Director

Pages 3 - 6

Alumni Jottings

Page 7

In Memoriam

Page 8

Gold Stoles Initiated by 50-year Graduates

Page 9

Alumnus and Family Return to Indonesia

Page 10

Alums Experience Short-Term Mission Trip

Page 11

Alumna Recalls Being a Waitress at Topsy's

Page 12

Former Catcher Returned to SPLHS Diamond as Manager

Page 13

Alumnus Sees His Church Go Up in Smoke

Page 14

Building the Future on the Past

Page 15

Alumni Scholarships Awarded

Pages 17 - 18

SPLHS Notes and News

Page 19

Reunions Being Planned

Page 20

Gasau Home Fire

Page 21

Help Locate 'Lost' Alumni



# From the SPAA President

Dear Fellow Alumni,

The Alumni Association has worked on a number of things that I feel are important to share with you:

We worked diligently to update and rewrite our current constitution and bylaws. If you are interested in reading “the fine print” on how our (your) organization is run, please [click here](#) to view the constitution and bylaws.

A committee has been formed to work with the Advancement Office to help make planning class reunions even easier. If you have a reunion coming up, please contact the Alumni Office. We are here to help!



On June 24 we were present at the annual Benefit Auction and Hog Roast, hosting a Meet and Greet table in the dining hall. In our continued cooperation with SOS (Servants of the Saints) we participated in their Trivia Night. The Alumni Association sponsored a category and all alumni had

the opportunity to reserve a table and join in the fun.

As we continue to work on getting alumni involved on the home front, I ask that you work to create future alumni. Do you know someone who would benefit from attending Saint Paul Lutheran High? Take some time and share your story with them. It all begins with a simple conversation to help continue the legacy of our school.

In His Service,

Sara N. (Rotermund) Larsen (HS'94)

## Welcome, 2012 graduates, to the Saint Paul Alumni Association!



On May 18, the Saint Paul Alumni Association welcomed the graduating class of 2012 as alumni. Upon receiving their high school diplomas, they united with some 2,400 alumni of St. Paul's College High, St. Paul's College, and Saint Paul Lutheran High School.

Our newest alumni are:

1st Row — Yajing Yuan (Ellie), Macau, China; Jia Ying Lu (Shirley), Huzhu, Zhejiang Vietnam; Siyi Cao (Cherish), Wuxi, Jiangsu, China; Suzanne Allen, Sweet Springs; Katherine Lemmons, Emma; Lauren Hamilton, Higginsville

2nd row — Linh Nguyen, Hanoi, Vietnam; Li-Hsin Liu (Louis), New Taipei City, Taiwan; Chiu Chiu Lin (JoJo), Taipei, Taiwan; Chelsea Nebel, Red Bud, Ill.; Emma Blanke, Seward, Neb.

3rd row — Yee Wan Lee (Angela), Hong Kong, China; Mark Kinyanjui, Nairobi, Kenya; Regan Ohlman, Seward, Neb.; Adam Reddy, Columbia, Mo.; Siu Kei Kwong (Matthew), Hong Kong, China; Robert Fager, Metropolis, Ill.

4th row — John Traczewski, Dover, Mo.; Philip Sarpong, Clarinda, Iowa; Rebekah Grass, Emma; Takashi Sado, Aioi Hyogo, Japan; Emma Downey, Concordia.

5th row — Kevin Lee, Taipei, Taiwan; Meagan Nolte, Higginsville; Seth Dahlke, Concordia; Bryan Nierman, Concordia; Dylan Woodall, Concordia; Aaron Hemme, Sweet Springs



# From the Executive Director

When I have the opportunity to speak to groups about Saint Paul the questions often focus on our international program. Alumni groups especially want to know how the plethora of international students, along with their various backgrounds, fit into the MISSION and VISION for their alma mater.

It would probably be safe to say that 50 years ago the mission of SPCH was to train young men for LCMS professional church work vocations, and that most of them would matriculate to SPC and then on to our synod's terminal schools. We were part of the "synodical system" and as such the expectations were pretty well understood. There were no mission or vision statements back then, because these things were assumed.

Today, the only thing that people know for sure is that there has been a lot of change, and yet we still have a strong mission to perform. **"The mission of Saint Paul Lutheran High School is to provide curricular and co-curricular experiences in a Christian environment that equips students for joyful, faithful service to Christ and His world."** Our shorter version is **"Christ Centered Experiences in Learning, for Living."**

The question is: How do we do this when a large percentage of our student body comes from other countries and many of them have not even been exposed to Christianity? The answer might surprise some. The fact is that the mission field has come to Concordia. Our own dorms and classrooms are the laboratories in which the Christian faith must be lived.



A portion of the student body, domestic and international, who come to Saint Paul for a high school education. Some come specifically for a Christian education. Some who come for just the education leave with a Christian perspective on living, and with a faith in the Christ who is the center of the education and living on the campus.

Consider the thoughts of one of our recent Norwegian students in an "end of the year evaluation":

*"First, you need to know something; I do not believe in any God. I am an atheist. "And yet, he goes on to talk about our teachers:" They are respectful, intelligent and nice people. The faculty is amazing! The teachers are wise and they are caring. My Comparative Doctrine teacher proved to be a really nice guy. He knows a lot and loves to teach. He cares about the well-being of others. He is what I would call a true Christian, and his actions and words are both in unity. Many people at SP have the words, but lack the actions. Pastor D. has both. I learned a lot from him."*

*Where does one begin to analyze this? Here is an atheist who is paying attention! By the way, only two of our 25 Norwegians began the year with any acknowledgement of Jesus Christ as their Savior. (This is typical.) At the end of the year over half of them do (also typical).*

We are working on our vision statement at this time, but I'm thinking that it will include "making disciples of all nations" — especially the ones that our Lord sends to this campus.

*Rev. Paul M. Mehl (SPCH '78, SPC '80)*

## Vote for your favorite instructor

Your vote counts! Your vote is important! Instructors who gave so much in the training of students can now be acknowledged by receiving votes as a "favorite instructor." Such recognition is meaningful to an instructor.

With a financial gift to the Saint Paul Alumni Association, alumni are asked to identify their favorite Saint Paul teacher.

Cast your vote on the lower half of the yellow sheet you recently received from the alumni office.

Teachers eligible for consideration must have taught for at least five years and not be currently on staff at Saint Paul Lutheran High. A list of teachers is posted on the alumni Web site, [www.splhs.org](http://www.splhs.org). Click on ALUMNI, then Alumni Updates.

The teacher who receives the most votes will have his/her photo displayed in Biltz Hall for the coming year and be identified as so honored by the alumni. Currently, photos and bios of former Saint Paul teachers Harold Rast and Jerome Schwab are displayed in Biltz Hall.

# Alumni Jottings

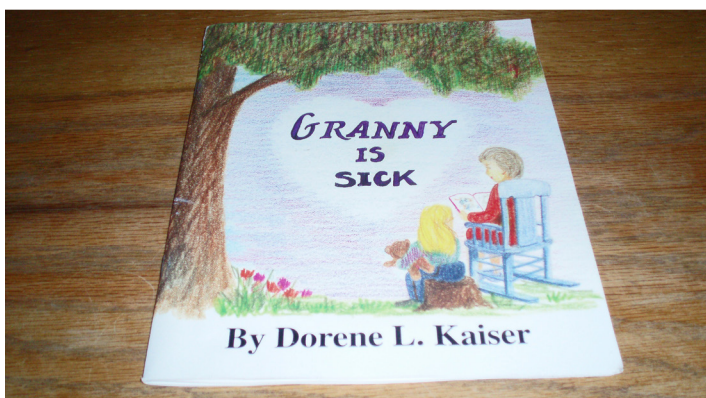
To share information about yourself in the next newsletter (mid-October), please use the lower half of the page recently sent to you announcing the newsletter posted on the Web. Mail to Alumni Coordinator, P.O. Box 719, Concordia MO 64020, along with your financial support.

**SPCH '52, SPC '54, James Brackmann, Mesa, Ariz.,** was the guest preacher for the 50th anniversary of Holy Cross in New Orleans on Nov. 6 of last year. He was the founding pastor of the congregation in Pontchartrain Park which survived ten feet of flood waters from Hurricane Katrina.

**SPCH '59, SPC '61, George Gude, Dorsey, Ill.,** was elected secretary of the Southern Illinois District at its convention in February.



**SPCH '62, SPC '64, Ray Mirly, St. Louis,** was re-elected president of the Missouri District at its convention in June.

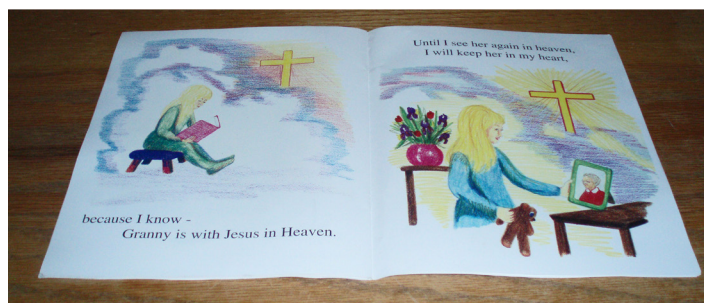


**SPC '62, Dorene Kaiser, Jamestown, Mo.,** has written a 22-page book, *GRANNY IS SICK*, especially for parents to speak to their children about loved ones who suffer from Alzheimer's Disease. Dorene wrote the booklet with simple words and colorful illustrations "for all the world's grandchildren who are watching their own grandparents deteriorate from the loving people they used to know." The booklet is available, single or in quantities, \$2 each, by writing to Dorene Kaiser, 110 S. Mill St. Apt 2B, Jamestown MO 65046-1221.

**SPC '62, Judy Mueller Kramer, Lake View, Iowa,** writes, "It was wonderful reconnecting with classmates at our 50th reunion in May. Everyone should attend! We now have 12 grands - six boys, six girls. Herm keeps busy with his vacancy at a little country church, and I fight battles with our city council over funding for our library. Our youngest daughter and family have moved to town. She's teaching at our local high school. We're enjoying having grandkids just five blocks away."

**SPC '63, Mary Ruth Adam Marschel, Marthasville, Mo.,** recently completed her 47th year in the classroom, and "I'm looking forward to returning to the classroom for the next school year."

**SPC '66, Donald Mohr, Tea, S.D.,** retired from the parish ministry January 1, 2012.

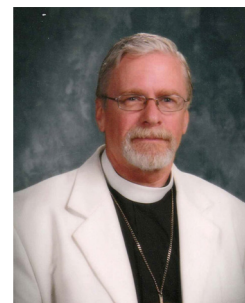


**SPC '66, Jennifer Kueck Huecker, Bunceton, Mo.,** provided the illustrations for the booklet, *GRANNY IS SICK* (See left, **SPC '62, Dorene Kaiser**). Jennifer has devoted much of life to providing illustrations for other books, as well as a drawing of the campus and its buildings. Much of her work has been pencil and ink drawings, but now she does mostly water colors. Many of her drawings of churches and schools are used as confirmation gifts. LWML has been close to her heart as she has served as a Missouri District LWML president, and has served as a delegate to a synodical convention.

**SPC '70, Robert Graff, Mt. Sterling, Ill.,** writes, "After one year of seminary in Springfield and one year in Milwaukee (Concordia) 1972-1973, I had a mental breakdown in 1974. I became a lumberyard truck driver (1975-1979) before being laid off. I am on my 31st year of mental disability by the U.S. Government (1981-2012)."

**SPCH '71, SPC '73, Paul Deterding, Winter Garden, Fla.,** has accepted the call to SPLHS to be Dean of Chapel, teach Apologetics, Bible History, Systematic Doctrine, and to coach track.

**SPCH '71, SPC '73, Alan Wollenburg, Sikeston,** was elected third vice president of the Missouri District at its convention in June.



*Continued on page 5.*

# Alumni Jottings

Continued from page 4.

**SPC '75, SPC '76, Anita Hill Wolfe, Fort Walton Beach, Fla.,** retired from the Air Force in Oct. 2011 after 27 years of service. She retired as a Colonel and served as the EMEDS Commander (Expeditionary Medical Squadron) while deployed to Kirkuk Air Base in Iraq, June 2010 to January 2011. **SPCH '78, SPC '79, Jerry Wolfe,** continues to officiate basketball, football, and softball. Jerry and Anita's daughter, Lia, completed her freshman year at Fort Walton Beach High School, and will enter SPLHS this fall for her sophomore year.

**SPCH '80, Judy Brack Ray, Winfield Kan.,** writes, "Just had second grandchild, baptized on the 29th of April, 2012, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Winfield. Looking forward to Servant Event at Camp Trinity, New Haven, Missouri, and Higher Things Conference in Irvine, Calif."



**SPC '83, Bruce Keseman, Freeburg, Ill.,** was elected second vice president of the Southern Illinois District at its convention in February.

**SPCH '83, Allen Schelp, Columbia,** has accepted the position of controller at Columbia College, in Columbia. He is responsible for the college's accounting, financial reporting, tax compliance, accounts payable and disbursements and policy compliance. He has a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg and earned his CPA license in 1994. Prior to his move to Columbia, he worked for Randall Fiene CPA in Concordia.



**SPCH '83, SPC '84, Sheryl Ziegeldorf Spiecker, Jackson,** was a delegate to the Missouri District LWML convention in St. Charles, June 8-10.

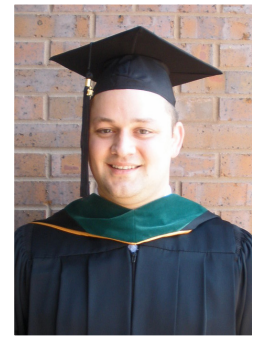
**SPCH '86, Aaron Brandt, Knob Noster,** has joined the SPLHS faculty to teach Art I, 3D Art, Ceramics, and Physical Science.



**SPLHS '95, Tim Oetting, St. Louis,** graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, in May and received his first call, to serve as pastor of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Sheldon, Iowa. Tim is a graduate of the University of Missouri in Rolla with a degree in mechanical engineering. Prior to entering the seminary, he was employed with Burns and McDonald in Kansas City. In 2004 Tim and Stacy Wesemann were married. Stacy is a physical therapist. They have two sons: Peter, age four, and Samuel, age two.

**SPLHS '02, AnnaLisa Gasau LaBaube, Holts Summit,** and her husband Nick welcomed their first child on Feb. 15, 2012. "We named him Devin Robert."

**SPLHS '04, Adam Petersen, Kansas City,** graduated from University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine with a Master of Science degree in anesthesia. He has taken a position with Ozark Anesthesia Association at Cox Medical Center in Springfield.



**SPLHS '06, Caleb Kruse, St. Louis,** received his vicarage assignment to serve at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Lakewood, Col.

**SPLHS '07, Lucas Jaster, Concordia,** earned a Bachelor of Science degree in metallurgical engineering from the Missouri of University of Science and Technology at Rolla.



**SPLHS '07, Bradley Meineke, Concordia,** is engaged to Sarah Kohne of Sullivan, Mo. They plan to be married on July 21 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia. Sarah received her bachelor's degree in animal science at the University of Missouri-Columbia in May 2011.

She is pursuing her doctorate in veterinary medicine as a member of the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine, class of 2014. Bradley graduated magna cum laude in 2011 from the University of Missouri with a bachelor's degree in agriculture systems management. He is now farming full time with his father, Larry, in Concordia, where they manage and farm corn and soybean row crops and raise Angus cattle.

Continued on page 6.

# Alumni Jottings

Continued from page 5.

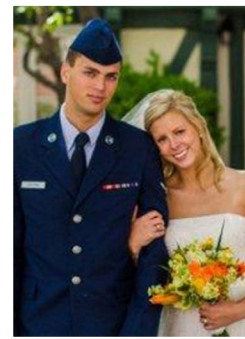
**SPLHS '07, Elizabeth Inman Pettit, St. Louis**, and her husband Josh will spend his year of vicarage at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Elberta, Ala.

**SPLHS '10, Taylor Vogelsmeier, Concordia**, will enter her junior year this fall at Northwest Missouri State in Maryville. Her major is family and child studies. "For my junior year I have the opportunity to participate in an internship with the Northwest Athletic Department dealing with the marketing aspect of sports. I will be given a woman's sport and market the sport. I'm home for the summer, working at Patricia's Foods in Concordia, and spending time with my family."



**SPLHS '11, Ashley Cox, Warrensburg**, was a Young Woman Representative at the Missouri District LWML convention in St. Charles, June 8-10. She represented the Jefferson City LWML Zone. She is attending the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, majoring in nursing.

**SPLHS '11, Daniel Safarik, Hyannis, Neb.**, and **SPLHS '12, Emma Downey, Concordia**, were married May 26 at Bethany Lutheran Church in Lompoc, Calif. Daniel is in the Space Systems Operation at Buckley AFB in Aurora, Colo. Emma will major in nursing at the University of Colorado.

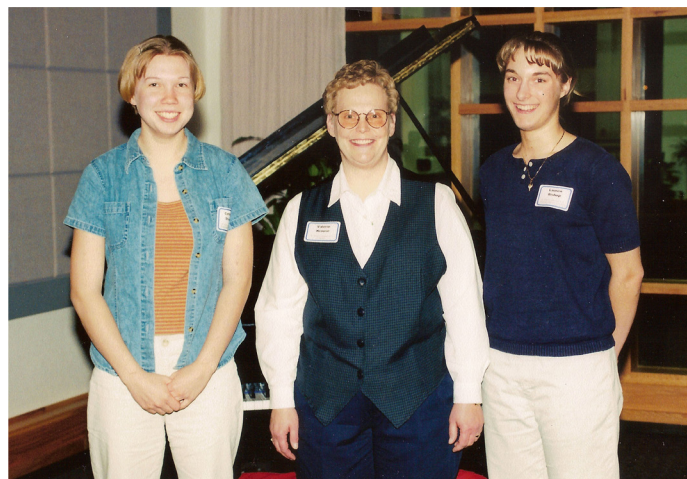


**SPLHS '12, Rebecca Grass, Emma**, class valedictorian, will attend Concordia University Nebraska this fall and will major in early childhood education and business. "I would really like to work with toddlers or preschool-age children."

## Can You Identify?

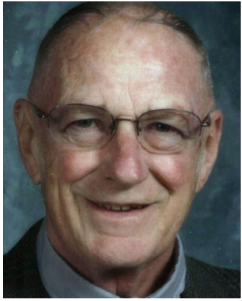


Can you identify the individuals in the photo above, the year it was taken, and the name of the group? The first alum to provide the answers by emailing the alumni office at [splhsalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:splhsalumni@yahoo.com) will receive an afghan which pictures the campus with the buildings around the quad.



The first person to correctly identify the photo in the Spring 2012 issue was Lauren Bishop (SPLHS '99) who named Cassie Stuerke, Mrs. Val Krause, and Lauren Bishop, at the 1999 math banquet at Central Missouri State. Cassie and Lauren were recognized as outstanding math students.

# In Memoriam



Those who attended SPLHS from 1989 to 2002 and worshiped at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia, remember **Pastor Gary Clayton**. He died March 11, 2012. Before accepting the call to St. Paul's in 1989, he served congregations in Cole Camp, Mo.; Cold Spring, Minn.; and Fulda, Minn. In 2002 he became

the assistant pastor of Trinity in Cole Camp. Pastor Clayton also served three terms as vice president of the Missouri District of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod from 2000 until 2009. In addition to his wife Marilyn, he is survived by four children, **Kirk (SPLHS 1991)**, **Becky Hipple (SPLHS 1992)**, **Richard (SPLHS 1995)**, and **Rachel Martens (SPLHS 1997)**.

**Kaye Christiansen, Pierce, Neb., wife of Keith Christiansen, SPC Class of '75**, died June 2 after a battle with cancer. Kaye was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She loved to sew clothing for her children and grandchildren as well as countless articles for others. She also found great joy in quilting and cooking. Kay's gift of service was evidenced by a life of volunteerism at the various congregations and schools where Keith served throughout the years. In addition to her husband, she is survived by two sons, **Aaron (SPLHS 1996)** and **Hunter (SPLHS 2002)**; and three daughters, **Rebekah Sanders (SPLHS 1997)**, **Marykae Broberg (SPLHS 2002)**, and **Sarah Sullivan (SPLHS 2004)**.

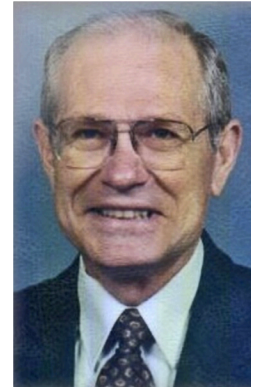


**SPCH '39, SPC '41, Martin Bauer, St. Louis**, died Oct. 31, 2011. He served congregations in Grand Rapids, Mich.; Webster Groves, Mo.; and Memphis, Tenn.

**SPCH '42, SPC '44, Philip Lochhaas, Ballwin, Mo.**, died June 15, 2012. He served as Missionary-at-Large in the Oklahoma District from 1948 to 1952. He then served pastorates at Kingfisher and Blackwell, Okla. In 1965 he accepted the synodical position of Executive Secretary for the Commission on Organizations and served in that capacity until his retirement in 1989.

**SPCH '47, SPC '49, Robert T. Kunz, Park Ridge, Ill.**, died January 28, 2011. He served congregations in Palestine, Texas; Knoxville, Tenn.; Kent, Wash.; LaJunta, Colo.; and St Paul's Lutheran church in St. Joseph, Mo.

**SPCH '47, SPC '49, Luther Vogel, Lee's Summit**, died April 1, 2012. He served congregations in Hardin and Xavier, Mont.; Newton, Kan.; Immanuel and Grace, Kansas City; and Beautiful Savior, Lee's Summit. After retiring from the parish ministry in 1990, he served as a hospital chaplain at the Medical Center of Independence, Mo., until 1997.



**SPCH '53, SPC '55, Marvin Clausen, Lakeview, Ark.**, died Sept. 8, 2011. He served congregations in Garrison, Iowa; Cecil and Bonduel, Wis.; and Dundee, Ill.

**The brother of Judy Pope Cole, SPC '61, Walter Frederick Pope III**, died April 8, 2012. He was the owner/founder of Pope's House of Frames, Carolina Framing Supplies, Carolina Framing School and later owned Pope's Gallery in Charlotte, N.C.

**The husband of Kristen Gasau (SPLHS '91) Anderson, Mark Anderson**, died Feb. 16, 2012 in Blue Springs, Mo. They were married March 27, 2004 at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Emma. He was a truck driver by profession and a story teller by passion. In addition to Kristen, he is survived by their three children, Brendan, Malinda, and Morgan.

**SPCH '85, Christine Rodgers, McChord AFB, Wash.**, died June 28, 2012. She was a member of the Christian Motorcycle Association, the Destiny Riders out of Tacoma, Wash. Christine was on her motorcycle when she lost control, crashed, and died on the scene.

# Gold Stoles Initiated by 50-Year Graduates

Three pieces of mail in maroon ink.  
Nothing unusual.

The first envelope had a \$20 contribution for the Alumni Association. The second, a \$50 contribution.

The third envelope...wait a minute. We need to read this check again. Yes, \$2,000 is the amount.

On the green half sheet are the words, "Use for our 50th class reunion."

Nothing like has ever happened before. A phone call acknowledging the gift and emails went back and forth from the alumni office to the donor, Stephen Meyer, a member of the SPCH Class of 1962.

After emails with possibilities of how to use this money, a decision was reached:

Gold stoles for the honorees  
An above and beyond banquet  
Saturday breakfast at Topsy's  
A tree to beautify the campus

---

## A tradition was born

---

Thus was born the tradition to have the 50-year honorees wear gold stoles at the baccalaureate service and graduation exercises. With Steve's approval and the school administration in agreement, Carol Inman of Concordia was selected to make the stoles.



Steve Meyer wearing a gold stole.

The stoles are now the property of the school and will be used each year for the 50-year honorees.

Steve said, "I wanted to do something special for our reunion. I have been blessed by the Lord and wanted to use part of the blessing for my classmates at this important event."

Steve also covered the cost of the Friday prime rib banquet as well as the breakfast buffet at Topsy's.

---

## Inventor and company founder

---

Steve was the founder of Deflecto Corporation in Indianapolis, a plastic company that manufactured items he

invented. "I grew a company from the basement of a home to doing over \$50 million in 35 years. In the end I employed over 300 people and had over 250,000 square feet of buildings in Indianapolis."

His inventions include two new categories of products in the hardware industry, air deflectors for heating vents in the home, also dryer vent hoses and hoods of plastic.

His inventions also include the category in the office product industry called "Wall Pockets and Literature Displays."

"I have patented most of these products and owned this section of the business." At his retirement, Steve sold the company to Jordan Industries of Chicago.

---

## Time to pass it on

---

In retirement, Steve is still busy. "I am now looking to give back to young people as a mentor focusing on colleges and universities that have business and entrepreneurship classes. I possess a wealth of knowledge that the Lord gave to me, and now it is time to pass it on."

Though the enhancements for this reunion were due to Steve Meyer, it was getting together with classmates that meant the most. "It was a blessed event for the men who came to celebrate their 50th reunion. All will remember this time together."

## SPCH Class of 1962 Begins Tradition

*Continued from page 1.*



A reunion banquet was held in their honor Friday evening in Biltz Hall. Dr. Kenneth Wesemann, SPLHS Director of Development, was the emcee. A Power Point presentation brought back memories of 50 years ago.

Seldom was there a pause in the conversation. The men relived their lives in Biltz Hall, the classroom, Concordia, and Topsy's restaurant. Their wives heard many of these stories for the first time.

The Saturday buffet breakfast was at Topsy's in downtown Concordia. This took the men back to memories at Topsy's pool hall.

The three-hour tour of the campus Saturday morning was filled with one memory after another. It was evident the men were happy to be back at their alma mater and to see each other, which for some had been fifty years ago.

A similar experience awaits the SPCH Class of 1963 on May 17-19, 2013.

# Alumnus and Family Return to Indonesia

Jim Friedrich, SPCH 1976, Knoxville, Tenn., his wife Nancy, and son Jacob head back to Indonesia this summer to deepen the friendships and relationships they formed last year with their new extended family in Pematangsiantar (Siantar for short). You can share the Friedrich experience this year by reading their blog [friedrichfamilyinindonesia@blogspot.com](http://friedrichfamilyinindonesia@blogspot.com). Their trip of last year is chronicled at [friedrich family travels@blogspot.com](http://friedrichfamilytravels@blogspot.com).



The Friedrichs were eager this summer to return to Indonesia and to see the young people as well as revisit families and further encourage teachers in their ministry.

The island of Sumatra, on the northwestern edge of Indonesia in which Siantar is located, lies directly west of Malaysia. Siantar, a large village with about 250,000 residents, is located north of Lake Toba and south of Medan, the closest city with an airport.



Last year the Friedrichs researched various short-term missionary opportunities presented by the ELCA Board of Global

Missions and decided on Siantar. This opportunity allowed Jacob, their 15-year-old, to be part of the team.

Jim describes their life and experience on this mission trip, and why they were anxious to return again this summer.

Except for a few photographs of the living quarters and a website for Nommensen University, our primary mission site, we knew very little about what we were getting into. We Skyped with Phillip Baker, the Regional Director of Missions in southeast Asia, and he assured us that our “job” was simply to be there and walk alongside the students, teachers and residents, offering a tangible Christian witness and pragmatic information and advice as requested.



Lake Toba is in the center of the map that shows different tribes of the Batak people. Though the Friedrichs spent most of their time in the region of the Simalungun, many of the people at the Nommensen University come from Toba Batak villages.

We are public school teachers, and much of our effort in Indonesia revolved around education. At Nommensen we led countless workshops for teachers and students preparing to be teachers of English to Indonesian classes. The educational model in Indonesia is based on the teacher lectures/students listen style. Our presentations on the more interactive American model were very well received. In addition we led several workshops on computer basics and

also tried to explain life in America (as we know it).

We had the opportunity to participate in interactive workshops with Lutheran Sunday school teachers and church leaders, and to learn more about their situations within the churches and in their villages. We traveled often into the community and rural surrounding areas to visit students in classrooms, and meet with teachers at regional workshops.



Nancy teaching a class of teachers

The part of our experience we treasure most is the deep friendships formed with the students, teachers and staff at Nommensen University. They introduced us to how life works in Siantar, patiently helped us at the markets and in situations where what was obvious to them was mysterious to us.



The Friedrich family enjoying a meal with “a mound of rice.”

Some of the basics of our life in Siantar: the temperature is always between 75 and 90 degrees, the humidity around 99%, air conditioning is the exception, water is one temperature (usually lukewarm), showers are enjoyed with a bucket, food is spicy and includes great mounds of rice, eaten with your fingers. Indonesian fried chicken is just as good as the Colonel's. *Continued on page 16.*

# Alums Experience Short-Term Mission Trip

For two weeks in May of 2012, **Audrey Mehl (SPLHS '11), Concordia; Louisa Mehl (SPLHS '10), Hong Kong;** and **Sarah Heins (SPLHS '10), Higginsville,** traveled to Hong Kong with six of their classmates at Concordia University Nebraska.



Sarah, Louisa, and Audrey at the Kansas City airport, ready for their trip to Hong Kong.

Sponsored by the LCMS, this mission trip focused on teaching English through leading VBS in two primary schools, Siu Leun and Lui Cheung Kwong. Although these two schools are Lutheran schools, only 10% of the students are Christian, making the mission team's purpose that much clearer.



Audrey asking questions at a school assembly.

Every morning the group stood outside the school and waved good morning to the students. In Hong Kong, parents choose which school to send their children to, usually based on the school's English program. Because of this, it was important that the community saw native English speakers teaching at the school.



Louisa with a student and his craft during Sunday school.

In fact, when the LCMS first started sending mission teams like this, enrollment at Siu Leun went up by 70%. Not only did the team spread the Gospel through VBS, but also helped boost enrollments and encouraged the Christian students and teachers.



Sarah with Bonnie, whose home the team visited.

The team led songs, taught Bible stories, and talked with the students daily. They also had the opportunity to experience a home visit and spend an evening with a family. The experience may have lasted only two weeks, but the effects on these young women are sure to continue much longer.

## SPC Class Holds 50-year Reunion



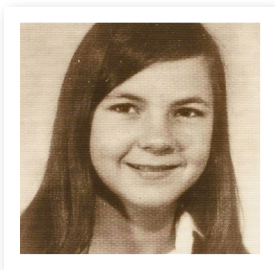
Members of the SPC Class of 1962 met on campus for their 50-year reunion May 25-27. From left, front row, Lois Schliepsiek, Mary Kay Anderson (class of 1961), Pearl Rhiver, Marilyn Helmer, Carol Werth; middle, Ruth Rowley, Joan Jacobsen, Carolyn Ryan, John Anderson, Carol Kramer, Elizabeth Yates, Ellen Hageman; back, Carol Bittner, John Jacobsen, Jane Petri, Dennis Karsten, Richard Schliepsiek, Lucille Huselage, and Pat Hoover. The Saturday breakfast was at Topsy's. They toured the Baltimore Bend Winery west of Waverly, and, following their Saturday banquet released balloons in memory of deceased classmates.

# Alumna Recalls Being a Waitress at Topsy's

Topsy's restaurant and pool hall are familiar to Saint Paul students from the 40s, 50s, 60s and 70s. The original owner, Topsy Oetting, opened the business 100 years ago, in 1912. Walter Boeschon worked for Topsy before he and his wife Melba bought the business in 1953. They sold the restaurant in 1977, but Walter continued to run the adjoining pool hall until 1993.

Today many class reunions often ask for a breakfast buffet at Topsy's to bring back memories of their days in Concordia.

Alumna, Tammy Kesemann Boeschon (SPCH '77) worked at Topsy's as a waitress. She takes us back in time with the following account.



I was 14 years old in 1973, and ready to get my first job. That year I also started my high school education at St. Paul's College High.

My dad, Fred Kesemann, told me to go see Walter Boeschon over at Topsy's, that he was hiring waitresses. I went to see Mr. Boeschon, along with another friend, Kelly Kammeyer, and we were both hired.

We found Mr. Boeschon to be pretty strict — you were there to work, and if you couldn't find something to do, he would find something for you. He was rather stern, and we would breathe a sigh of relief when he went home for the afternoon!

One summer I had asked if I could take off to attend a church camp, and his response was, "Everyone wants off — who's supposed to work?" So I changed my plans, and showed up for my regular shift. When I walked in the door, Mr. Boeschon said, "What are you doing here? You are supposed to be headed to church camp!" So I high-tailed it home, threw



Walter at the soda fountain and Melba behind the counter waiting for SPCH and SPC students and other customers.

together my suitcase, and caught the bus to camp just in time!

## Not many tips in those days.

We had our "tip cups" on a shelf above the fountain counter, which were little Coke glasses. You were lucky to get a tip of a quarter, and many patrons, being local people, didn't tip. If you took home \$4 for the day, you did really well!

I remember one family in particular, who had several kids. They would come on a Sunday, and other waitresses didn't want to wait on them because they were known not to tip. They were a nice family, and I didn't mind waiting on them. One Sunday, they actually left me a quarter, and I was so proud!

## What's on the menu?

"I'll take a brain sandwich and a cup of coffee, and a piece of that raisin cream pie." That was a common request from many of the older men who were routine patrons at the front counter. Mr. Boeschon made all his pies from scratch, and we sold out nearly every day. On days when fried chicken was served, the restaurant was especially busy. We always had a Sunday rush after church, and we automatically opened up the dining room side. Sometimes you just dreaded working Sundays, because you knew you'd be on your feet the whole time, with hardly a break to grab a bite yourself.

We didn't have a specified meal time. When you got the chance, you grabbed a few minutes with a plate of something and sat at the end of the front counter. Tea and coffee were free to the employees, but you had to pay for any other drink. I tried my hardest to like iced tea, but I still can't drink it!

## The good ole days.

Mr. Boeschon kept his prices very low, and in this case, it probably was cheaper to eat out than to eat at home! You could get a homemade dinner, with meat, a vegetable, potatoes and a roll, for about \$1.25. We also sold cigarettes and tobacco — a pack of cigarettes cost 35 cents. And yes, we had Prince Albert in a can, and would get prank phone calls to "let him out!"

After sports games and school events, you knew you'd be busy. Topsy's would stay open later than posted hours if there was a special event in town. During Street Fair, we would stay open until midnight or so to give the "carny people" a chance to eat.

My experience at Topsy's created many friendships, and fostered a good work ethic and customer service skills. And it even led me to marriage — to **Dave Boeschon (SPCH '74)**, one of the boss' sons!



Today Tammy and Dave live in Jefferson City. Dave managed a turkey hatchery in Minnesota for many years, and now manages a manufacturing plant in Jefferson City. Tammy has worked in the interior design field and medical field. They have two children, Mark (and Amy) and three stepsons, who live in Willmar, Minn., and Jessica (and Mike) Trombley, who were recently married and live in Fond du Lac, Wis.

# Former Catcher Returned to SPLHS Diamond as Manager

Baseball catchers are known to return to the game as a manager. Mike Matheny has done it for the St. Louis Cardinals. **Kendall Holsten (SPLHS 2006)** has done it for the SPLHS Saints.

During his baseball days at SPLHS, Kendall was the Saints catcher and third baseman. He had and still has a passion for the game.

“Kendall was one of the most passionate baseball players I was fortunate to coach,” said John Beerman former Saints head baseball coach. “He had a love for the game that I knew would one day lead him into coaching the sport. Little did I envision him coaching at Saint Paul, but it was great to see him coaching at his alma mater.”

With the Saints at bat, Kendall positioned himself as the third base coach, calling the plays and encouraging his players.

For the past two seasons Kendall has been directing the Saints on the diamond. “SPLHS Athletic Director Monte Pitsch asked me to coach the baseball Saints. I chose to do so because of my deep passion



for baseball and my desire to motivate the youth to strive to play college athletics.

---

## A short but winning career

---

“Throughout my short coaching career at SPLHS my motto has been, ‘If we are the SMARTER team, we are the BETTER team.’ I don’t teach the flashy power side of the game, but how to use what you are given to become the smartest player/team possible, to make the smartest decision possible.”

His two seasons at the Saints baseball helm were winning seasons, 12-8 and 11-8.

Reflecting on his SPLHS coaching experience Kendall stated, “It was a wonderful experience. The students were amazing. I don’t think I could have had a better group of guys to teach and coach.”

When not on the diamond, Kendall works for American Tire Distributor in North Kansas City as a retail merchandiser and training specialist.

In August 2012 Kendall will take Alyssa Pate of Lee’s Summit as his wife and they will live in Harrisonville, Mo., where she will teach elementary music. Kendall hopes to land a baseball coaching job in the Harrisonville area.

While at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg, Kendall minored in music. “Music is also a strong passion of mine,” Kendall stated. “I enjoy performing a cappella music with my barbershop quartet as well as with a chorus in Lenexa, Kan. I plan eventually to conduct an ensemble of my own to fulfill my passion for educating.”

## SPCH Class Holds 60-year Reunion



Members of the SPCH 1952 class met on campus for their 60-year reunion May 11-13. Attending were, from left,

front: James Brackmann, John Weinhold, Carl Hepting, Roy Bingenheimer; back, Donald Miesner, Roy Biberdorf, Donald

Nordmeyer, and Robert Eckart. The Saturday breakfast was at Topsy’s. At the Saturday evening banquet, Rev. Paul Mehl, SPLHS executive director, and Walter Loeber, alumni coordinator, addressed the group. The featured speaker was SPLHS sophomore Diariosa Randrianantenaina from Madagascar, who spoke about her life and studies at Saint Paul. During their reunion, the group toured the Hasselbring Alpaca Farm north of Concordia, the Stoll Art Gallery in Alma, and the Baltimore Bend Winery west of Waverly. Before leaving campus, the class agreed to immediately support the Alumni Association with \$1,250 and they voted for their favorite instructor.

# Alumnus Sees His Church Go up in Smoke

It was 3:35 a.m., and not a creature was stirring, not even a...

Except for an arsonist, who, according to Buffalo Fire Chief, Erich Higgins, set fire to Our Savior Lutheran Church in Buffalo, Mo.

Gone for Easter 2012 was the traditional decorated cross, and the church building itself. Standing in the midst of the ashes, Our Savior's pastor, Jim Meyer (SPCH 1978), stated, "The arsonist thinks he burned down a church today, but the church is where God's people are gathered around word and sacrament."



In the hours after the fire, there was more bad news. According to Jim, "At that time we thought our insurance policy went up in smoke, but soon we learned that we had let our policy lapse. So we have no insurance."

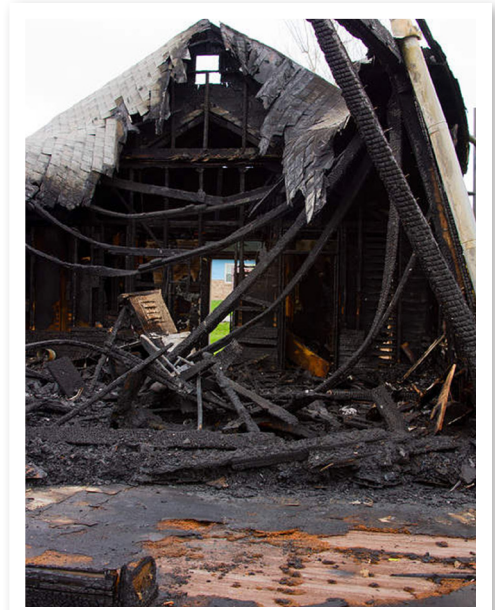
"Right now the loss seems overwhelming. But we rely on our God. We will come back."



The congregation is praying for the person who caused this suffering. "His sins have been paid for by Christ on the cross," Jim stated. "Hopefully he will come to that realization, once he repents. There is forgiveness for him and we are ready to announce to him that forgiveness."

The day after the fire, Missouri District President Ray Mirly along with Sedalia Circuit Counselor Rev. Morris Meseke met with Jim and his church council to propose a plan of action. A PayPal account was set up for the congregation. The church's website, [oursaviorlutheranl-cms.weebly.com](http://oursaviorlutheranl-cms.weebly.com), provides information on how individuals can offer prayers, inquiries, and donations.

First Baptist Church of Buffalo is allowing Our Savior to use their church on Sundays for 8:30 a.m. services. The church is on Main Street, next to the YMCA.



"The 40 members of Our Savior," according to Jim, "are considering the purchase of a church on Highway 65, rather than rebuilding."

## Remember When?

Our older alumni will remember the dining hall of days gone by. Bring back memories?



Opening of 2012-2013  
Academic School Year

Sunday, August 12 – 2:00 p.m.  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Preacher: Rev. Bart Mueller (SPCH '78, SPC '79),  
Lakefield, Minnesota

# Building the Future on the Past

**Beth Royuk Pester (SPLHS '92) was first a student, then a teacher. She now supervises student teachers for Concordia University Nebraska. Beth shares her story as a student at SPLHS and the excitement of her present position.**

Teachers invest in their students. They invest time, energy, knowledge, love and patience. They invest, not because they expect returns to come to themselves, but because the returns will make the futures of their students brighter and better, and because building the kingdom of God here on earth matters.



The teachers at St. Paul's (I just can't help but include the 's!) are investors. They always have been and continue to be. They invested in me. They invested in my schoolmates and classmates. They knew then that the returns would grow the kingdom of God, even if they wouldn't witness it themselves. And they were right. I graduated from St. Paul's in 1992. Even then I knew I wanted to be a teacher and already had plans to go to Concordia in Seward to gain the skills and knowledge to do just that. What I couldn't have known is how my time at St. Paul's would come back to me professionally, in a full-circle sort of way.

After teaching for 10 years in Lutheran and public schools, God landed me at

Concordia in Seward as a teacher in the education department, and eventually as the Director of Middle Level Education and Student Teaching I.

---

## Student teaching at Concordia

---

Concordia University Seward, does student teaching in a unique way. We break our student teaching experience up into two eight-week experiences (as opposed to a semester-long 16-week experience). The first 8 weeks is done locally, around Seward, while student teachers also attend end methods classes in the mornings or afternoons.

The second eight weeks is done in a school somewhere across the nation (or even internationally). We see this as a fantastic way to bridge our students from the college life into professional ministry, by doing it progressively to help ease what can be a shocking transition!

The first eight weeks student teachers are in their professional roles all day, but in classrooms with peers and mentor professors for methods classes — still connected to college life while connecting to professional ministry. Each student teacher has a university supervisor who serves as a liaison between the student teacher, the cooperating teacher and the university: a mentor to help navigate the professional and personal transition to “the other side of the desk.”

The second eight weeks student teachers have the opportunity to be fully immersed in their ministries by teaching in schools away from college life (though still with a student teaching partner, because having student teachers in pairs for moral support helps everyone!), still working with a university supervisor.



Beth with student teachers Alex Deeter and Keaton Sturm, 2012 graduates of Concordia University, discussing their teaching and classroom performances.

---

## So how does this come full circle?

---

Both Saint Paul High School and St. Paul's Elementary School in Concordia regularly host student teachers. The teachers there recognize that growing the kingdom of God extends not only to their classroom students, but also to future teachers they help mentor by serving as a cooperating teacher for student teachers.

And me? I serve as a university supervisor for student teachers. I get the awesome opportunity to come back to St. Paul's, to the school I love, the school whose investment in me nurtured my faith and my professional ministry, and see how they continue to invest in their students, and now in my student teachers.

I get teary eyed thinking of the teachers who have invested and continue to invest in students, and now student teachers, and what returns that investment garners — an investment that grows the kingdom of God, an investment in building the future.

**Alumni Office E-mail: [splhsalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:splhsalumni@yahoo.com)**

**Alumni Office Phone Number: 660.463.2238, Extension 517**

**Alumni Mailing Address: P.O. Box 719, Concordia, MO 64020**

# Alumni Scholarships Awarded

Alicia Royuk and Logan Burrow were the recipients of the alumni scholarships presented at the awards banquet May 18. Alicia is the daughter of **Brent (SPCH 1984)** and **Sandra Muehler Royuk (SPCH 1984) of Seward, Neb.** Logan is the daughter of **Gloria Bohling Burrow (SPCH 1982, SPC 1983)** and the late Steve Burrow.

The scholarships, applied to fees and tuition for the senior year, were \$700 for Alicia for top-ranking academic excellence, and \$500 for Logan for second-ranking academic excellence. These scholarships are possible through the financial support of the alumni and are awarded to the two top academic juniors whose parents are alums of SPCH and/or SPC.

Alicia and Logan express their thanks to the alumni for the scholarships at the conclusion of their remarks.



## We asked Alicia...

### What were your activities in your junior year?

One of the best advantages of attending Saint Paul is the opportunity each student has to become involved in extra curricular activities. Every year, I enjoy trying new activities. This last year I participated in drama, academic team, student government, Saint Paul touring choir, football cheerleading, and track. I was also a basketball manager, and got to work with Hannah Denk, the Moeller dorm counselor, as a student assistant.

## What are your plans for your senior year?

I plan to continue with these activities next year, and am looking forward to additionally participating in our cross-country team. As a senior, I also will be helping my classmates initiate the freshman students. That should be fun.



## What do you like most about Saint Paul?

My favorite part of Saint Paul is its people, and the outstanding Christian environment that they create. I am so grateful that God gave me the courage I needed to choose Saint Paul, because this school has changed my life. The teachers sincerely care about the students, and help us to learn the important lessons of life. It's amazing how the students at Saint Paul are so welcoming every year to all of the new kids. We students may be very different from each other, but that doesn't stop us from forming friendships that will endure in spite of the miles, years, or even oceans that separate us.

## What are your plans after SPLHS?

It's startling to think that I only have one year left before I will graduate and move on to other pursuits. What those pursuits may be remains to be seen. I don't have a definite goal for which college I wish to attend, much less my future career. But I know that if I keep praying and deliberating,

eventually, with God's help, I will know what to do.

I am very grateful for this scholarship, and really appreciate the Alumni Association's generosity and support.



## We asked Logan...

### What were your activities in your junior year?

During my early years of high school, I stayed active, and participated in math team, Students Teaching Adolescents and Youth (STAY), student government, choir (secretary), drama, National Honor Society (NHS), Spanish Club, Super Saint Program, and a writer for the Concordia Star. Due to a knee injury, I served as a manager to my volleyball, basketball, and soccer teams this past year. I participated in the International trip program, and through this program at Saint Paul I was able to travel to Norway, Germany and Costa Rica, and as a day student, live a semester in the dorm. In addition, I represented Saint Paul at Missouri Girls State this summer. In my youth group at Saint Paul Lutheran Church, Concordia, I annually serve others in our week-long servant events across the nation.

## What are your plans for your senior year?

I plan to return to sports and play volleyball, basketball, and soccer. In addition to competing in sports, I also plan to participate in math team, student government, NHS,

*Continued on page 19.*

# Alumnus and Family Return to Indonesia

Continued from page 9.

For 20 cents you can hop on a microbus and travel all over town. The nearby mosque has prayer call at 4 o'clock each morning, every day. In churches they collect an offering three or four times per service and the Gospel is proclaimed from a pulpit perched at least 20 feet above the congregation.



One of the churches visited by the Friedrichs.

The most difficult challenge of our experience was yielding control of our lives. Though we had an influence in some situations, generally we had to accept things that in America you would work very hard to control or change.

## Be on time! In Indonesia, maybe not!

One example is time management. In America, punctuality is expected. When a meeting is scheduled for 9, you start at 9.

Not in Indonesia. When one of our workshops at Nommensen started at 9, the room would be empty. Over the next 45 minutes, the room would fill to overflowing with interested and beautiful Indonesian students. Then everyone would hang out for an hour or more afterwards, asking questions, getting to know us personally, and taking many, many pictures. We learned that you cannot say "no" to a picture, even if it is the thousandth one to be taken. We learned to be flexible and spontaneous and treasure every moment, whatever that moment may bring. We learned not to be disappointed or shocked when what we thought should happen didn't.

## Who needs a ladder?

We learned to accept that sometimes our meager communications skills simply couldn't carry us across the cultural divide. It was okay to simply not understand what was going on, such as when we asked our neighbor if he could help change a light bulb in the ceiling that was well out of our reach. We expected him to bring a ladder but instead he started removing books from our bookshelf. We stepped back and watched as he stacked several items of furniture on top of each other, then climbed on top to change our light bulb.

He could not understand why we were standing there with our mouths open. But he knew we were thankful for the gift of more light.



Churches are everywhere in the region surrounding Siantar, filled with many beautiful children of God.

We ask for your support in many ways. Pray for the Christians of Indonesia as they live out the Gospel and coexist in a predominantly Muslim nation. Pray for our safe travel, good health and patient spirit. And help multiply our presence through emails, Facebook messages, and letters expressing the simple fact that you are thinking about and praying for these friends who live on the other side of the world yet read the same Bible and know the love of the same Christ.

## Homecoming/ Parents Weekend

### October 11-14

Thursday

Soccer at Barstow

Cross Country at Warrensburg

Volleyball vs Crest Ridge /Bonfire and rally

Friday

Football vs Santa Fe /World party in annex

Saturday

Homecoming banquet/Talent show

Sunday

Worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church

8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Rev. John Mehl (SPCH '77, SPC '79) preaching

# SPLHS Notes and News

To give our alumni a touch of campus life today, this column will share some of the news from SPLHS.

Of the **211 students** this past academic year, 120 were from the United States. In addition to Missouri, students came from Alabama, Indiana, Montana, Michigan, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Florida, Alaska, California, Colorado, Arkansas, and Wyoming.

**International students** came from South Korea (13 students), Vietnam (7), Taiwan (10), Hong Kong (12), China (18), Thailand (2), Japan (1), Africa (3), Slovakia (3), Norway (26), Madagascar (1), and Germany (1).

Projection for the **2012-2013 academic year is a student body of 206 students** with half of them international. "It appears we will have 76 new students," according to Bill Lemmons, Admissions Director. One of the incoming freshmen is Hannah Gerdts of Concordia, daughter of **Chris Gerdts (SPLHS '91)** and **Amy**



**Beerman Gerdts (SPLHS '91).**

Hannah has a passion for acting on stage, and this summer appeared in *The Music Man* production at The

Lyceum Theatre in Arrow Rock, Mo. She was previously in the Lyceum's 2009 production of *Annie*. "We have students coming with their God-given talents and abilities ready to be put to work. And we have some who come and while here discover the talents and abilities God has given them. SPLHS is a place where a student has the opportunity to learn, develop, and mature."

The **SPLHS academic team** was named District Scholar Bowl champions following competition against Archie High School. Their season came to an end with a loss to Barstow in the sectional contest. Larry Laubenstein is the faculty sponsor.



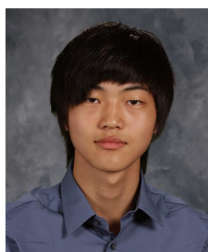
Chiu Chiu Lin



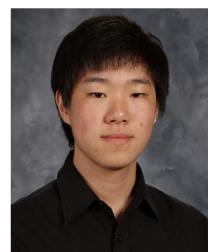
Angela Lee



Zheyu Shen



Hyun Jung Hahm



Young Jae Lee



Cindy Chen

The **SPLHS math team** took first place in the I-70 Conference competition. All conference honors were awarded to seniors Chiu Chiu Lin, Angela Lee and Zheyu Shen, and to juniors Hyun Jung Hahm, Young Jae Lee, and Cindy Chen. Seniors Chiu Chiu Lin and Zheyu Shen, were presented **Distinguished High School Mathematics awards**. Valerie Krause is the team sponsor.

The **third quarter honor roll** showed 29 students named to the Executive Director's Honor Roll (4.0-3.93), 48 named to the Principal's Honor Roll, and 41 named to the Honor Roll.

The **spring sports records**: baseball, 11-8; girls softball 8-5; girls soccer 11-11.



Hadley Rolf



Marissa Brackman



Devon Heins



Meagan Nolte



Suzanne Allen



Molly Rolan



Nicole Mueller

Seven Lady Saints from the Final Four volleyball team were named to the **Missouri High School Volleyball Coaches Association All-Academic team**: Hadley Rolf, Marissa Brackman, Devon Heins, Meagan Nolte, Suzanne Allen, Molly Rolan, and Nicole Mueller.

# SPLHS Notes and News

Continued from page 5.

The **2012 SPLHS Saints basketball cheerleading squad** was awarded the Missouri State High School Athletic Association scholastic achievement award. Their collective semester grade point average was 3.43.

The **SPLHS basketball teams** received scholastic awards from the Missouri State High School Activities Association. The Saints average grade point was 3.43; the Lady Saints 3.73. A distinguished Scholastic Achievement award was presented to the boys junior varsity with an average grade point of 3.15.

The **SPLHS band** gave its spring performance in front of the Fine Arts building (in the sun) while the audience was across the quad sitting in the shade. The week prior to the concert the band gave performances at area Lutheran schools in Alma, Higginsville, and Concordia.

SPLHS, for the eighth consecutive year, has won the challenge to gather the most coats and blankets for **Project Warmth**, sponsored by *The Kansas City Star*. This year just over 500 coats and more than 70 blankets were collected. For their efforts SPLHS was awarded a Hewlett Packard 1103 Netbook and a Hewlett Packard Office-jet 4500 printer.



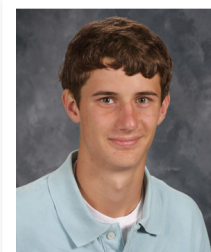
John Traczewski

**Saint Paul's John Traczewski** earned the Most Valuable Player award in leading the I-70 Conference senior all-star baseball team to a 11-4 victory over the Kaysinger Conference senior all-star team. He hit two triples and a double, drove in four runs, and scored one.

Two SPLHS students were winners in the local **VFW Post Voice of Democracy** audio-essay competition. Junior Devon Heins placed second, and junior Sam Schmidt placed third.



Devons Heins



Sam Schmidt



Nolan Peters



Isaiah Roepe



Samuel Schmidt



Marissa Brackman



Devon Heins



Logan Burrow

SPLHS students Nolan Peters, Isaiah Roepe, and Samuel Schmidt, attended the **2012 session of Missouri Boys State**. Lady Saints Marissa Brackman, Devon Heins, and Logan Burrow attended **Missouri Girls State**.



Isaiah Roepe

Dream Factory Inc. made a dream come true for **Isaiah Roepe, SPLHS senior**, with a trip to Seattle, Wash. His parents, Brad and Judy Roepe, had wanted to visit the Seattle area to show him and his three siblings where they lived when Brad was stationed at Naval Base Kitsap. Isaiah was born in Bremerton, directly across Puget Sound from Seattle. In the seventh grade Isaiah was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes. For several years Isaiah received insulin injections. Now he wears an insulin pump that, after he enters the amount of carbohydrates he will consume, automatically injects insulin into his body. Isaiah plays football, basketball, baseball, sings in the Singing Saints, and is involved in a number of other extracurricular activities.

The **SPLHS Benefit Hog Roast and Auction** on June 24 added \$30,000 to the operations fund of the school. The Hog Roast brought in \$3,000, the Silent Auction, \$6,300, and the Live Auction \$20,400.

# Reunions Being Planned

The alumni office is aware of the following classes planning a reunion. If you know of a class planning a reunion that is not mentioned below, please email the alumni office at [splhsalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:splhsalumni@yahoo.com).

**SPCH Class of 1963** — The 50th anniversary class reunion will be celebrated in conjunction with the graduation exercises May 17-19, 2013. Questions can be directed to the SPLHS Advancement Office, 660-463-2238, ext. 232.

**SPC Class of 1963** — The golden anniversary reunion will be the last weekend in June 2013 on campus. Bill Ewald, class president, is initiating the plans. He can be contacted at [wm.ewald@cuchicago.edu](mailto:wm.ewald@cuchicago.edu).

**SPC Class of 1965** — Inquiry has been made about a 50th anniversary class reunion in 2015. To express your thoughts, contact Cecil Roth at 314 N. College Ave., Geneseo IL 61254; 309-944-3791; [ceejames1@yahoo.com](mailto:ceejames1@yahoo.com).

**SPCH Class of 1972** — Edwin Doepel is heading plans for a 40th anniversary class reunion September 6-9, 2012, in Concordia. He can be reached at 630-484-7777; [pastored@crossroadsconnect.net](mailto:pastored@crossroadsconnect.net); 34 Winding Creek Road, Yorkville IL 60560.

**SPCH Class of 1983** — Plans for a 30th anniversary class reunion in 2013 are being made. Classmates can contact Teresa Maletich, 2504 Clifton Park Terrace, St. Louis MO 63139; [MrsMthrTeresa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:MrsMthrTeresa@sbcglobal.net).

**SPLHS Class of 1992** — The date of Sept. 7-9, 2012, has been set for the reunion in Concordia. Rooms have been set aside in Biltz Hall for members of the class. For more information contact Beth Pester, [bpester@yahoo.com](mailto:bpester@yahoo.com), 402-643-9460, or 722 N. 5th St., Seward NE 68434

**For updates to these reunions, and a listing of additional reunions, go to [www.splhs.org](http://www.splhs.org), click on ALUMNI, click the tab ALUMNI UPDATES, scroll to REUNIONS BEING PLANNED.**

## Alumni Scholarships Awarded

*Continued from page 15.*

choir, Spanish Club, STAY, Super Saint Program and the drama department. In student government, I will serve the student body as the Spiritual Life Co-Chair for the second year, and I will serve as the secretary of my class for the fourth year. In addition, I plan to continue to take several college classes, and to graduate with a College Preparatory diploma.



### **What do you like most about Saint Paul?**

Saint Paul is such a unique school, and it is a little challenging for me to distinguish my favorite part about it. However, if I had to choose, I would say my favorite part about Saint Paul is the vast variety of people I have met. At Saint Paul, there are about thirteen countries and fifteen states represented. This unique quality of Saint Paul has allowed me to meet people I could not have dreamed of meeting, and as a result, it has exposed me to a variety of different cultures. I can honestly say if it were not for this school, I would not have met a majority of the people I now call my friends.

My high school experience has been amazing and life changing and I am excited to enter my fourth year at Saint Paul. Here, I have not only learned to be a better student and athlete, but I have also experienced tremendous growth spiritually. This school, with the dedicated and learned faculty, has given me the right environment to flourish as an individual.

Here, I am nurtured, challenged, embraced and continually encouraged to stretch beyond the foreseeable limits. It has equipped me not only correctly academically for college, but it has also prepared me for the real world as my faith is rooted firmly in the Word. I feel truly blessed to have been able to attend Saint Paul Lutheran High School, and now, as I enter my senior year, I am ready to make the most of it, and enjoy my final year.

### **What are your plans after SPLHS?**

After high school, I plan to pursue a career in the medical field. Presently, I am shadowing surgeons and exploring many medical disciplines. I am excited about exploring a career in medicine and the opportunity to give back and serve, just as Christ has served me.

I am truly honored to have received the Alumni Association scholarship. Thank you very much.

# Gasau Home Fire



Photo courtesy *The Concordian*;  
Nathan St. Clair, photographer

**Bill Gasau, SPC '66, choir and band director and history instructor at SPLHS, and his wife Linda, saw their home go up in fire of July 4. He recounts the fire that destroyed their “dream home.”**

About 7:45 AM on July 4th our house started to burn from a grease fire. I was outside fence building and Linda and two granddaughters were in the house preparing to make homemade donuts. No one was seriously hurt. The fire quickly spread to the kitchen and garage and by the time the fire department from Sweet Springs arrived it was into the second floor.

This was our dream home. In December of 2009 we moved from school-owned housing (after 42 years — 36 in the same house) to our own home on 13 acres, two miles south of Sweet Springs. Even though the house was 119 years old, everything had been rebuilt within the last 12 years.

Since Linda and I both had been raised on a farm we were extremely happy. As one of our children said, “Dad, you are living your dream.”

We know that all things work to the best for those that love God and that this tragedy will simply open new doors for us to grow in faith. Thank you for your prayers.

## SPLHS Class Holds 10-year Reunion



Members of the SPLHS Class of 2002 met in Concordia and on campus for their 10-year reunion June 15 and 16. From left, front row, **Stella Ankney Coffman** who lives in Moline, Ill., with her husband Travis who is serving in the U.S. Army. Stella is working as a medical technician... **Annalisa Gassau LaBoube** lives with her husband Nick and son Devin in Jefferson City where she works as a paralegal for the office of the Attorney General... **Sarah Schnakenberg Newman** lives in Blue Springs with her husband Bryan. She has worked for the North Kansas City schools since graduating for University of Central Missouri... **Rose Carlton Sortore**

is an RN in Kansas City where she lives with her husband Cody and son Connor... back, **Will Alexander** finished law school last year and is an attorney in Little Rock, Ark. He will soon be moving to Nashville, Tenn., to start a new job with Thomas Reuters... **Josh Lange** is currently living in China where he is working for the LCMS. He recently went on a trip with the LCMS East Asia to Ranson, North Korea... **Brent Guier** is the owner of a small business, Advanced Fence and Rail, building fences throughout the region. He lives in Sedalia with his wife Desirae and two children, Faithlynn and Wyatt...

**Aaron Sommerer** lives in Ashland, Mo., where he has worked for Target Corporation the past seven years... **Tony Cubbage** is serving in the USAF at Whiteman Air Force Base with his wife Amanda who is also serving in the USAF... **Jon Hemme** lives in Sweet Springs with his wife Brittany and son Eli where he is continuing the family business and has been farming since graduating from the College of the Ozarks. The class was able to enjoy a catered dinner in the North Dining Room of Krueger Hall with three of their former teachers, Bill Gasau, Larry Laubenstein and John Beerman. The attendees enjoyed breakfast at Topsy's Saturday morning and “confirm that they do indeed still serve the world's finest coffee.” A round of golf was played at the Emma Golf Course with Josh Lange proving “he is the best golfer this side of the Mississippi River.” Will Alexander put the weekend in perspective, “The memories that we were able to share over the weekend served as a reminder that SPLHS is absolutely a place that cultivates friendships that last for a lifetime. There is little doubt that Saint Paul played a major role in shaping all of our lives and in developing faith in the Lord. Thank you SPLHS!”

# Help Locate 'Lost' Alumni

Below are alumni whose current address we do not have. Any assistance (address, phone, email) will be appreciated. Email your information to the alumni coordinator at [splhsalumni@yahoo.com](mailto:splhsalumni@yahoo.com).

## Most recent from the February 2012 mailing

Lynn Bremer, Decatur, Ill.	SPC 1965
Dawn Day, Bloomington, Ind.	SPLHS 2007
Wayne Heminger, Gardner, Kan	SPCH 1976
Pat Bradshaw Johnson, Sedalia, Mo.	SPC 1962
Timothy Naumann, Tacoma, Wash.	SPC 1981
Joyce Joredan Peek, Nashville, Ind.	SPC 1967
James Shears, Memphis, Tenn.	SPCH 1964, SPC 1966

## From October 2011 mailing

Catherine Audas, Kansas City, Mo.	
Linda Beise, Phoenix, Ariz.	SPC '66
Regina Griffin Conner, Independence	SPC '79
Cindy Lauppe Cruse, Maple Hill, Kan.	SPCH '81
Teresa Horak Guenther, Iowa City, Iowa	SPC '79
Jennifer Hardee	
Roger Harting, Vandalia, Ill.	SPC '67
Catherine Poe, Palatka, Fla.	SPCH '81, SPC '83
Laura Ankney Pool, Richland Hills, Texas	SPLHS '00
Diane Rice, Des Moines, Iowa	SPC '79
Larry Rogers, Minneapolis, Minn.	SPCH '61
Susannah Thamert, Texarkana, Texas	SPLHS '92
Larry Warner, San Marcos, Calif.	SPCH '47
Jeanine Weinrich	SPC '71

## Other "lost" alumni

Derek Abel	SPLHS '00
Keith Alabach, St. Louis	SPC '77
Brian Alyea, Harrisonville, Mo.	SPC '81
Mark Bredehoeft	SPCH '73
Cara M. Boyer, Maryville, Mo.	SPLHS '98
Bradley Brew	SPLHS '93
Michael Buhler	SPCH '73
Arthur Dauer	SPCH '81
Luke Eckrich, Martinsville, Ind.	SPC '80
Jason Eisman	SPLHS '95
Sara Gale, Noss Beach, Calif.	SPLHS '92
Daniel Gernenz, Granite, Okla.	SPCH '81
Wayne Heminger, Independence, Mo.	SPCH '76
Edward Huning	SPC 1959
Beth Johnson	SPCH '83
Michael Lessana, Kansas City, Mo.	SPCH '83
David Moeller	SPCH '57, SPC '59
Lisa Parks	SPCH '81
Curtis Peter	SPC '59
Charles Pool, Jr.	SPCH '76
Ictoria Rueter	SPCH '79
Samantha Schwab Sampson	SPLHS '98
Terri Terrell Simons, Abilene Texas	SPCH '83
Frank Tucker, Kansas City, Mo.	SPC '82
Deborah Elder Vargas, Gardner, Kan.	SPCH '74
Emma Wittstruck, Jefferson City, Mo.	SPLHS '05
Lorence Ziebarth, Isanti, Minn.	SPC '73

## Alumni Board of Directors

Sara Rotermund Larsen (SPLHS '94), President  
Russell Kruse (SPCH '80, SPC '81), Vice President  
Mark Nebel (SPCH '82, SPC '83), Secretary  
Markus Reinke (SPCH '60), Treasurer  
Leonard Goldammer (SPCH '56)  
Judy Schreiman Marshall (SPC '72)  
Curt Nierman (SPLHS '91)  
Ed Nierman (SPCH '59)  
Lambert Runge (SPCH '49)  
Sam Ziegelbein (SPLHS '03)

The next alumni board meeting is Saturday, October 13,  
1:00 p.m., Conference Room B in Biltz Hall.  
The meeting is open to all alumni.

## Newsletter Staff

Editor — Walter Loeber, Alumni Coordinator  
Layout design — Amber Petersen (SPLHS '97)  
Photographer — Rosalie Pennington  
Proofreaders — Ruth Rodewald, Judy Loeber  
Kathy Rodewald Oetting (SPC '74)  
Technical advisor and website administrator —  
Orlyn Heimsoth (SPCH '65, SPC '67)  
Faculty advisor — Dr. Kenneth Wesemann (SPC '80)

Some photos for this newsletter were provided by Rita  
Fiene and Gloria Burrow.

Some information for this newsletter was supplied  
by SPLHS Historical Society, Concordia; Concordia  
University Nebraska, Seward, and The Concordian,  
Concordia.