



Shamrock ALUMNI NEWS

www.scotuscc.org

St. Francis Academy 1884-1925.....St. Bonaventure 1925-1965.....Scotus Central Catholic 1965...

Vol. 49

Fall 2022

No.1

15th Annual Alumni/Alumnae Soccer Tournament

The 15th Annual Scotus Alumni Soccer tournament was held on August 5-6, 2022, at the Warren and Shirley McLaughlin Activity Field. There were 138 players in the men's and women's' tournament from graduating classes of 1992-2022. This year's winners were: Men's Green Division – 2003/04/06/13/14, Men's Gold Division – 2007/2011/2012, Women's Division – 1994-2006. The weekend concluded with an evening social at Sahara. A big thank you to our tournament sponsors, including Evan Trofholz '98 Grounds Care, Runza and Joe Niedbalski '97, Sahara, and Jeff Thiele '81, Alyssa (Foltz '13) Held, Carley Foltz '14 and Nicole Frauendorfer-Saalfeld '04 and LaVonne Kaup. Special thanks to Brooke (Rayman '99) Rogers and Jacqueline Rasby-Smith for taking the photographs. Next year's tournament will be held August 4 and 5, 2023. Thank you to all who attended and participated in the weekend!



Green Division Champions – Team 2003/04/06/13/14. L-R, Ian Ostdiek '14, Austin Zach '06, Craig Ackman '13, Wade Wemhoff '03, Eric Puckett '06, Chris Schumacher '06, Wes Zach '04, Ryan Ames '04, Jake Huss '13, Zach Zarek '13.



Gold Division Champions – Team 2007/2011/2012

L-R, Chris Hernandez '12, Scott Jarecke '07, Kyle Mroczek '07, Michael Lange, Danny Zach '07, Brent Albracht '07, Ryan Becker '11, Jake Staroscik '07, Danny Johnson '07, Ryan Rosenquist '07, Scott Ackman '07.

Women's Division Champions – Team 1994-2006

L-R, Laura (Kosch '94) Cocozzella, Brittany (Williams '05) Madden, Jen (Haney '06) Wemhoff, Grace Diederich, Heather (Van Ackeren '00) Diederich, Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski, Nicole Mielak '03.
Not pictured – Katie (Korth '02) Severa, Becky Johnson-Beller '05.



Alumnus of the Year Award

The 23rd annual Alumnus of the Year award was presented to Pat Novicki '78 at halftime of Scotus' first home football game. Pat's family have been long-term, visitor-side gate volunteers for home football games. Pat's dad, David, worked the gate in the 1960's and 1970's and Pat took over the duty from his father in 1982. Since then, Pat and his brothers have been loyal gate volunteers to the present day. Pat has also been involved in the Scotus Booster Club, serving as the club's president and he managed and worked at the club's kickoff steak dinner for thirty-seven years. In addition, he has been in the kitchen for the booster club's annual wild game feed for many years. Pat has also been an active Scotus fundraising volunteer for the SEF drives, he and his wife Anne were Gala co-chairs (2007), and he washed dishes for the Gala and Cattlemen's dinners for 38 years. In Scotus sports he coached Scotus junior high football for seventeen years and currently helps on the line crew for home games.



Shamrock Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions

The Shamrock Hall of Fame was established in 1999 to recognize student-athletes who made significant contributions to their sport at Scotus, for coaches and athletic directors who exhibited extraordinary leadership of Shamrock Athletics, and to recognize boosters for special support given to Shamrock Athletics. Congratulations to the two new members of the Hall of Fame who were announced at half-time of the September 2nd home football game.

Jordan Chohon '12. Jordan played volleyball on the 2009 and 2011 state championship teams, and she holds the school record for career serving points (681.) She was selected first team, all-state in 2010 and 2011; and she played in the 2012 Nebraska Coaches Association volleyball all-star game. In basketball, Jordan was selected on the second team, all-state in 2011 and 2012. Jordan also played on four state qualifier Shamrock soccer teams and was named first team, all-state in 2010, 2011, 2012. She was selected as the 2012 Scotus Female Athlete of the Year, KLIR 2011-2012 Athlete of the Year, and 2011-2012 Columbus Super Senior. After high school she played volleyball at Missouri Western State University. During her college career she was a two-time first team all MIAA conference 2014, 2015; and MIAA Academic Honor Roll 4 years, 2012-2016. Jordan is currently a physical therapist for Faith Regional Health Services.



Coach Jon Brezenski '98. Jon was the Scotus head soccer coach from 2006-2017 and his career record is 138-78. Under his direction Scotus won four state Class B titles in 2009, 2014, 2015, 2016, defeating Columbus High (1-0), Gretna (1-0), Omaha Skutt (3-0) and Elkhorn South (1-0) respectively. He coached the first boys' soccer team in Nebraska to win three state titles in a row. Jon was named the Nebraska Coaches Association Boys Soccer Coach of the Year in 2014 and 2016, and the Nebraska Shrine Soccer Classic Coach in 2011 and 2016. He also was an assistant football coach 2005-2012, 2015-2016 as the Shamrock defensive coordinator, LB coach and kicking coach, winning the 2015 state Class C-1 championship. He created in 2008 and continues to direct with his wife Kristie, the annual Shamrock Alumni/Alumnae Soccer Tourney. In 2016 he created and continues to organize the annual Chip Kaup Classic golf tourney. He is a Scotus Booster Club officer and current Scotus school board member. Jon is a physical therapist and athletic trainer for Columbus Community Hospital – Premier Physical Therapy.

Worth Noting

- The **42nd annual Gala** dinner/auction is set for Saturday, April 15, 2023. This year's theme is "An Evening in Black and White" and the co-chairs are Matt '00 & Shanna (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Chad & Michelle Oakley and Gerry & Christi Wiese. Vice-chairs are Clete & Lisa Borchers, Dr. Scott & Kelly Cameron, and Roger & Jill Krienke. If you would like to participate by donating an item for the silent or oral auctions, volunteer to help, or if you wish to receive an invitation to attend, please contact our co-chairs, vice-chairs, or Janice Rosenquist in the Scotus development office: 402-564-7165 ext. 154 or jrosenquist@scotuscc.org. Your involvement will be key to our event's success!
- The Scotus **2021-22 Annual Report** is available to read on the Scotus website, scotuscc.org and under the publications tab. Here is the direct link: <https://scotuscc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/21-22-Annual-Report.pdf> If you would like a pdf copy emailed to you, please send your request to jschueth@scotuscc.org or stop by school for a printed copy.
- Both the senior high band and the junior high band participated in the Lions Club Parade in Norfolk on Saturday, September 24. **Both bands received Superior rankings.** The senior band finished 1st in Class B and the junior high band finished 2nd.
- More than 80 students with their families participated in the **Life Chain** in Columbus on October 2nd.

Here and There...

-- Tell us What's Happening in Your Life!

E-mail to: jschueth@scotuscc.org Photos encouraged!

BILL BACKES '61 was recently inducted into the University of Nebraska-Kearney Athletic Hall of Fame. Bill was a standout four-year letter winner in football and track at then Kearney State College. In football he led the Lopers in rushing in two years while also being the second most successful receiver on the team those same years. Backes still ranks 4th in school history in yards per carry (6.5) and 8th in career rushing touchdowns (22) and was also the starting kick and punt returner. He helped football win three straight Nebraska College Conference titles and was part of the 1963 squad that made the NAIA playoffs, finishing with a 5th place national ranking. He was a one-time All-District and two-time All-Conference selection (1963, 1964). In track, Bill was a member of the many successful Loper relay teams and he earned All-American honors (1963) in the 400-hurdles at the NAIA championships. Bill was the 1961 St. Bonaventure HS Athlete of the Year and was later inducted into the Shamrock Hall of Fame in 1999.

ETHAN SCHAECHER '08 is a graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Aviation Institute earning a bachelor's degree in Air Transportation Administration. He received a

- The 2022 **Homecoming King and Queen** were Jack Faust, son of Cory & Tricia Faust and Ashley Hoffman, daughter of Chris '77 & Julie (Sokol '89) Hoffman.
- Work on the renovation of the Scotus Central Catholic's **Chapel of the Immaculate Conception** is nearly completed and we look forward to sharing photos and a story in the next issue of the *Shamrock Alumni News*.
- The Shamrock **girls golf team** placed 3rd at state in Class C with junior Cecilia Arndt earning the 4th place medal. Other team members were seniors Kaelyn Dierman and Ella Nahorny, sophomore Quinn VunCannon and freshman Kiya Taylor.
- In District C-2 **cross-country** action, junior Jude Maguire finished in 7th place. In the Class A state **tennis** tourney, CHS #1 doubles Blake Wemhoff and Alex Zoucha, both Shamrock seniors, lost in their first match. #2 Doubles senior Shamrock Bohden Jedlicka playing with Carter Goc won their first match and lost the second.
- Scotus inducted a large group into the **National Honor Society** including 32 sophomores, 3 juniors and 3 seniors.

master's degree in Geographic Information Systems from the University of Denver, and he works for Grand Valley Power Company in Grand Junction, CO. Ethan and his wife Halie live in Fruita, CO, where Hailey is a Registered Nurse.

FOUR SHAMROCK ALUMNAE met in Lincoln in July 2022 to run a 4x100 meter relay in the Cornhusker State Games track meet, bringing home the gold as the only team in the 49-and-under age category! Sisters Laura (Kosch '94) Cocozzella, Jill (Kosch '96) O'Donnell, Rebecca (Kosch '98) Voigtlander and sister-in-law Melissa (Schmidt '01) Kosch (Jeff Kosch '01) ran as their parents, Bill '68 and Linda (Voboril '68) Kosch, cheered them on. Bill instilled in all his children his love for the spirit of athletic competition and helped coach Scotus junior high track at 6:09 am for many years. He is still the greatest athlete and fan we all admire. Jill and Rebecca had been part of a record-setting 4x100 Shamrock relay team in 1995 (shout-out to teammates Debbie Zadina '96 Krambeck and Audrey Pfeifer '97 Forney) and were delighted to discover they can still execute a blind-exchange hand-off after more than a two-decade hiatus. Thanks to all our former Scotus coaches who helped shape us as athletes and as people – we are still having fun on the track! -- Jill O'Donnell



Pictured L-R, Melissa Kosch, Laura Cocozzella, Bill Kosch, Jill O'Donnell, Rebecca Voigtlander.

2023 Reunions

Class of 1968 The Class of 1968 will be holding its 55th Reunion on August 25-26, 2023. On the evening of the 25th, we will be joining our former classmates and friends from CHS at Izaak Walton. On the 26th, we plan to tour Scotus and have a reunion dinner at the Elks Country Club. More details are being finalized and will be shared. For more information, contact Mark McLaughlin, mwm1049@gmail.com.

Class of 1973. Planning is underway for our 50th reunion, and the tentative date is August 11-12, 2023. We hope to time the reunion to coincide with Columbus Days. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Susi (Heimann) Kobus, susikobus@gmail.com 402-910-6504 (cell), Ken Schrad, kjschrad@gmail.com or 804-334-6454 (cell); or Tom Zabawa, tomzabf73@gmail.com 402-276-1936 (cell), or Fritz Schwank, 402-270-4997 (cell).

Class of 1983. Planning is underway for the 40-year reunion in the summer or fall of 2023. For more information, to offer suggestions or volunteer to help plan the reunion, contact Jack Cheloha. JackCheloha@yahoo.com. Or call 402-306-9712.

Class of 1998 The Class of 1998 will celebrate their 25th reunion on August 25-26, 2023, in Columbus. Planning has just begun but clear your calendars and plan to attend! For more information, please contact Jon Brezenski, coachbrez@gmail.com.

Reunion Note: Thank you to the Class of 1992 for making a class reunion donation of \$1,275 to the Scotus scholarship fund!

Class Reunions



Front row; Joan (Buggi) Treadway. **Second row:** Mary Gail (Costello) Kellen, Helen (Staroscik) Neemeyer, Mary (Dvorak) Oltman, Peggy (Starostka) Pfeifer, Carole (Bogus) Willis, Barb (Wennekamp) Clark, David Scharff. **Third row:** Dan Casey, Tom Hagel, Leslie (Almanshofer) DeMattie, Jeanne Breitreutz, Chuck Siegel, Gregg Albracht, Jim Legenza, Gene Konwinski. **Back row:** Louie Cattau, Bernie Zelasney, John Buggi, Rich Wolpert, George Kretz and Jim Schank. Not pictured but present at Friday's get together: Patti (Peterson) Loeffler, Claudia (Hafferland) Burch, John Vaughn, Bill German, and Steve Shadle.

The Class of 1967 celebrated their 55th Class Reunion Labor Day weekend, September 2-3-4. On Friday evening they met at the American Legion for socializing & reminiscing. Saturday consisted of a tour of the addition to Saint Bonaventure Church and Scotus High School. Followed by the Husker football game and Maximus Lounge. Then they had Mass in the Scotus Chapel with Fr. Wayne officiating. From there they met at VFW for a social hour and meal. Once again more reminiscing and remember whens. Sunday concluded with a tour of Columbus and a picnic at Quail Run. We were blessed with many fun and treasured memories. God Bless Scotus Catholic High School. – Peggy Pfeifer

Make your Scotus Investment the Easy Way!

Go to: www.scotuscc.org • Click on the “Donate” button

Complete the simple form and you’ve made your gift to accomplish so much for our students!





Standing l-r: Milton Roddy, Dan Zoucha, Tom Feehan, Colleen (Wibbels) Botsios, Doug Beard, Darold Nosal, Larry Cannon, Norman Witt, Duane Heimann, Doug Gubbels, Ted Wieser, Mark Keller, Martin Ciecior, Dave Micek, Terry Hyland, Jerry Tworek, Kathy (Schaecher) Scholl, Gene Miksch. **Seated l-r:** Marcia Shadle-Cusic, Colleen (Dowd) Hall, Susan (Nosal) Steffel, Sharon (Gerber) Bahr, Kathi (Mimick) Hurner, Terri (Mrzlak) Barden, Sandi (Yosten) Abbott, Mary (Oppliger) Nason, Marlene Beiermann, Kris (Gloor) McLain, Pam (Michaelsen) Baumert, Maxine (Loeffler) Amen. **Seated on floor l-r:** Pat Sackett, Dave Korger, Bonnie (Bierman) Torczon, Dave Melliger, Mary (Czuba) Loveless, Steve Abbott, Marilyn (Sprunk) Stockdale, Susie (Shonka) May, LeeAnn (Oppliger) Zach, Pat (Pile) George.

Class of 1972 Doesn't Show Its Age in Marking Milestone Reunion

Forty members of the Scotus Class of 1972 gathered in Columbus Aug. 26-28 to celebrate their 50-year class reunion with a weekend of reconnecting, reminiscing, and creating new memories. The reunion kicked off on Friday night with a party hosted by class member Pat Sackett and his wife Cindy at their home on Christopher Cove. Class members, some accompanied by spouses, got reacquainted while enjoying cocktails and pontoon boat rides provided by a neighbor.

Saturday morning, thirteen golfers enjoyed a nine-hole scramble at Van Berg Golf Course while others met for lunch or to watch the Nebraska-Northwestern game in Ireland (the only lowlight of the weekend). Later, about twenty people gathered at the high school for an afternoon tour led by development director, John Schueth. Following the tour, Father Wayne Pavela said Mass in the school's Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. The Mass included petitions for our deceased class members: Dan Briggs, Bob Czaplak, Larry Fritz, Bob Golden, Dan Heinsohn, Bette Henggeler, Mary (Jarosz) Cerny, Patti (O'Hearn) Cieloha, Mary (Petermann) James, and Nancy (Skorupa) Morgan.

A reception Saturday night at the Ramada Inn capped the weekend's activities. A total of sixty guests enjoyed a cocktail hour, a buffet dinner, and live music. Class members passed around a microphone to share information about themselves and their lives since graduation, and those in attendance took full advantage of the bar and the dance floor. Sunday was a day of good-byes and making plans to stay in touch.

The Class of 1972 has always prided itself on having a special closeness, and that quality certainly shined through during our reunion weekend. Class members also showed they still know how to party! Thanks to everyone who was able to attend; you made the reunion a big success. Thanks also to everyone who helped with planning and organizing. To all the class members who couldn't be with us, we missed you and hope to see you at a future reunion. GO (OLDER) SHAMROCKS!!! -- Terry Hyland

Annual Appeal

This fall, Scotus Central Catholic launched the first-ever annual appeal for the Columbus Catholic Schools. Instead of focusing just on the wish list needs of Scotus, this year's annual appeal goal is to raise \$200,000 to support improved salaries and benefits for the teachers of our four Columbus Catholic Schools, St. Anthony, St. Bonaventure, St. Isidore and Scotus Central Catholic.

We are fortunate to have a faculty in our schools who practice their faith and genuinely care about the academic achievement and faith development of every student. Your support will help us continue our outstanding tradition of retaining experienced teachers in our classrooms and to recruit new teachers when that time arises. Please send your checks to: Scotus Central Catholic HS, Development Office, 1554 18th Ave, Columbus NE 68601-5132. Or make a secure online donation by going to the Scotus website, www.scotuscc.org and click on the green "donate now" button. Donations will be distributed to all four schools, and we thank you for your investment in the Catholic education of our students!



Front row, l-r: Susie (Czapla) Reichmuth, Jacki (Melliger) Ryba, Julene (Woerth) Bailie, Linda (Savage) Becker, Tami (Bogus) Buntgen, Brian Oppliger. **Back row, l-r:** Greg Jochum, Connie (Bernt) Teece, Dennis Ryba, Pam (Styskal) Bolte, Mike Ciecior, Diane Duren, Bev (Ebner) Lesac, Ron Reilly, Mike Novicki, Tim Harrington.

The Class of 1977 held their 45th reunion on July 15-16 gathering first at the home of Dennis & Jacki Ryba Friday evening. Saturday's activities included brunch at Maximus Restaurant & Sports Bar, Mass together at St. Anthony Church and a dinner at Wunderlich's.

The Class also accepted donations and held a silent auction of the donated items for the benefit of Scotus Central Catholic. The Class collected \$1,600 that was given to Scotus to help buy new Stations of the Cross for the school's Chapel of the Immaculate Conception. Reunion organizers also wanted to share that Wunderlich's doesn't charge a rental fee for events. Thank you, Class of 1977!



The Class of 1982
Celebrated an exciting
destination 40th Class
Reunion in Las Vegas!

Back row, l-r: Curt White, Tony Schieffer, Bill Wunderlich, Dave Jarecke, Tammy (Miller) Zuerlein, Tim Zuerlein, Dave Engelbert, Sheila (Liebentritt) Vane, Don Gates. **Front row, l-r:** Bob Kuta, Jay Jarecke, Tim Murray, Chris (Hilger) Bartholomew. Attending but not pictured, Tim Korger.



The Class of 2012 gathered for their 10th reunion in August enjoying time together, a tour of Scotus and Columbus Days.

25-Year State Championship Celebrations

At this fall's first home football game, Scotus recognized the members of the state championship teams celebrating their 25th anniversary: 1997 Volleyball, 1998 Girls Basketball & 1998 Girls Soccer. The volleyball team finished 25-3 with a state championship win over Hershey; the basketball team finished 25-1 with a state championship win over North Bend, and the soccer team finished 17-2, winning the Shamrock's first state championship in girls' soccer by defeating Platteview.



Team members able to attend the half-time recognition included: l-r: volleyball & basketball head coach John Petersen, assistant volleyball coach Julie Blaser, soccer head coach Teri Schuller, soccer assistant coach Mary Beiermann, Amanda (Sackett '00) Sapcutt, Sara (Rief '99) Tracy, Jewelia (Grennan '99) Wagner, Stephanie (Kruse '99) Kros, Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski, Kim (Rickert '98) Dreesen, Shanna (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Michelle (Moser '00) MacNair, Melanie (Bonk '98) Wimer and Mandy (Beiermann '00) Konwinski.

1997 Volleyball State Champions: Head Coach John Petersen, Asst. Coach Janet Tooley, Asst. Coach Julie Blaser, Manager Jennifer Levos '00, Manager Mandy (Beiermann '00) Konwinski. Amy (Hash '99) Bates, Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski, Sara (Kunneman '98) Carlson, Heather (Van Ackeren '00) Diederich, Kim (Rickert '98) Dreesen, Andrea (Torczon '98) Foltz, Stephanie (Kruse '99) Kros, Michelle (Moser '00) MacNair, Shanna (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Holly (Van Ackeren '98) Sutter, Jewelia (Grennan '99) Wagner.

1998 Girls Basketball State Champions: Head Coach John Petersen, Asst. Coach Scott Miller, Manager Anne (Heiser '01) Bahr, Manager Amanda Fritz '01, Manager Casey Guenther. Amy (Hash '99) Bates, Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski, Sara (Kunneman '98) Carlson, Heather (Van Ackeren '00) Diederich, Kim (Rickert '98) Dreesen, Andrea (Torczon '98) Foltz, Sara (Edison '00) Hill, Stephanie (Kruse '99) Kros, Michelle (Moser '00) MacNair, Shanna (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Sarah (Pillen '99) - Trouba, Jewelia (Grennan '99) Wagner.

1998 Girls Soccer State Champions: Head Coach Teri Schuller, Asst. Coach Mary Beiermann, Manager Amanda Fritz '01, Manager Kayla (Dowd '01) Kula. Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski, Sara (Kunneman '98) Carlson, Heather (Van Ackeren '00) Diederich, Ceisha (Kudron '00) Deitering, Melinda (Henggeler '00) Donahoo, Betsy (Kunneman '99) Kahlandt, Tiffany Ketter '99, Sara (DeTurk '00) Kolala, Mandy (Beiermann '00) Konwinski, Stephanie (Kruse '99) Kros, + Kari Kunneman '99, Shanna (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Amanda (Sackett '00) Sapcutt, Jenny (Flint '99) Schnieders, Holly (Van Ackeren '98) Sutter, Sara (Rief '99) Tracy, Melissa (Nosal '98) Urbieta, Jewelia (Grennan '99) Wagner, Melanie (Bonk '98) Wimer.

What will be your Legacy?

One definition of the word "legacy" is to leave something behind after you are gone, or to be remembered for what you have contributed to the world. Legacies can be many things: your faith life and the values you lived by, the love you share with others, dedicated service to an employer, community or country, inspirational teaching in the classroom or coaching on the playing field, the home that you built, the trees that you planted or your stewardship of farmland, or business. It can be your children and grandchildren, a hobby, or a book or poem you wrote. A legacy can be all of these and more—it is a celebration of life, a celebration of you!

Leaving a legacy can also be created as a future gift from your will. By including Scotus Central Catholic in your final plans, you will impact the lives of students for generations to come. Your bequest can be directed to something specific at Scotus, such as creating a new scholarship, support for an athletic, fine or performing art or academic program or left unrestricted for the general support of the school. If you have a will already and you'd like to include Scotus in your plans, a simple and inexpensive form called a "codicil" can accomplish your goal. Think about it. Your legacy is multi-faceted—why not add to it today and be joyful!

Our legal name is Scotus Central Catholic Secondary School of Columbus, Nebr.



In Sympathy

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni, alumnae and friends of Scotus Central Catholic.

Celia Ann Baumgart – survived by daughter, Carole Ann '66 (Joe) Maltacea; son, Daniel (Bonnie); daughter-in-law, Patti Baumgart; six grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Kathe Beauvais – survived by her husband, John; daughters, Jaci '11 (Adam), Jaimee '15; sons, John Jr. '05 (Emily), Josef '06 (Cara); parents, Dr. Richard Bose Sr & Marilyn Bose; siblings, Rick (Deb), Teri, Lisa (Andrew), Michelle (Shawn); three grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, grandnieces, and grand-nephews.

Keith Bornemeier – survived by his wife, Martha Ann, daughters Debra (Dave) Whitehead, Janet (Tim '76) Tooley; sister, Jeannie Spaulding; sister-in-law, Sherry (Wayne) Stubbendeck; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two step-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Kinyon “Ken” Brooks '71 – survived by his wife, Jean; daughters, Jerri '91 (Jeff) Palik, Shelby; son, Taylor; sisters, Renee '70 (Ken '69) Henggeler, Lea '74 (Chuck) Brooks-Wytias, Michelle '83 (Bob) Soulliere; brothers, Bill (Lynne), Michael, Patrick; and four grandchildren.

Joan “Joni” (Minette '56) Eckman – survived by her daughter, Kelley; sons, Jeff, David (Lynne); sister, Mary Ellen (Minette '58) Laughlin and four grandchildren.

Carolyn (Fix '63) Fehringer – survived by her daughter Michelle (Rick) Hamm; sons, David (Jessie), Michael (Reim); eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Richard “Dick” Gdowski – survived by daughters, Susan '72 (Doug) Fleetwood, Karen '73 (Don) Mroczek, Nancy '74 (Dave) Huston, Sandra '79 (Chris '78) Podany; son, Mark '76 (Leigh Ann Merrill '76); twelve grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren.

Dorothy Gubbels – survived by her daughter, Patricia '71 Scow; sons, Douglas '72 (Joan Placzek '75), Gerard '75 (Beverly) and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gary Hiermeier – survived by his wife, Cynthia (Keil '66); daughters, Tracy (Rob) Gasper, Andrea (Mike) Creswell; sister, Shirley Phillips; brother, Fred Drummond; sister-in-law, Kathy Keil '70 (John) Klug; brother-in-law, Jay (Michelle) Keil; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Edward “Ed” Johnson '90 – survived by his daughter, Nieve '15 (John Hanson); son Logan '19; mother, Patricia Johnson; sister, Nicole (Hal) Crimm; brothers, Greg (Corrin), Derek (Tiffany); uncle, Bob (Suzanne) Spear; and ten nieces and nephews.

David Krause – survived by daughter, Cindy '85 (Roland) Busby; sisters, Diane (Ralph) Naber, Jodi Krohn; two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Adolph Kudron, Jr – survived by his wife, Janet (Zoucha '60); sons, Kyle '91 (Alisha), Kirby '94, Kurt; sisters, Alice '66 Kobza, Kathy '69, Bonnie '74, Jan '76 (Mark) Morris; brothers, Mark '62 (Diane Bartholomew '65), Paul '59 (Marge), Phil '63 (Alice); sister-in-law, Joyce Kudron; two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Larry Kuta (honorary '59) – survived by daughters, Karla (Rex) Porter, Brenda (Rod) Buckholtz, Denise Pinion; sons, Brian '81 (Lori Zabawa '82) Kuta, Gary, Ray (Ashley Selden); special friend Maxine Klement; brother, Richard '61; and twelve grandchildren.

Michael Lafferty – survived by his wife, Diane Kimble; sisters, Julia (Kevin) Lostroh, Joan (Merlin) Lahm, Jolene (Jerry) Brockman; seven nieces, four nephews, and many great-nieces and great-nephews.

Christine (Wilhelm '69) Mazour – survived by her children, Jason (Stacy Wallace), Cory, Molly (Brett Piper); sister, Mary Ellen '64 (Ted) Cremers; brothers, Mike '65, Chuck '70 (Cheryl), Jay '76; one granddaughter and several nieces and nephews.

Edward Siemek '61 – survived by his wife, Halina; daughter, Kristina Phillips; sons, Kenneth, Thomas, Timothy; sister, Elaine (Lucky) Sluder; sister-in-law, Ela Polinowska; nine grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

LeRoy Sprunk Sr – survived by daughters, Marilyn '72 Stockdale, Carolee '74 (Alan) Preister, Virginia '83 (Leroy) Semerad; sons, Dan '70 (Brenda), David '78 (Jenay), LeRoy Jr '80; sister-in-law, Alice Sprunk, twenty grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Shirley Szatko – survived by her husband, Joe; sons, David '74 (Barb) Jenson, Jerome “Jerry” '88 (Judi Liebig '87) Szatko; grandchildren, Corey (Lisa) Jenson, Kristina Jenson, Braden (Tiff) Jenson; Juliet, Jacqueline, Joseph, and Jacob Szatko; great-granddaughter, Trissa Jenson; sister-in-law, Betty (Wilch) Crosby; and many nieces and nephews. *(In the summer newsletter, we regret that David's graduation year was incorrectly listed as '76. — the editor.) Shirley passed on 6/7/22.*

Joe Szatko – survived by stepson, David '74 (Barb) Jenson; son, Jerome “Jerry” '88 (Judi Liebig '87); sister, Leona (Gary) Stone; brother, Tony (Pat); sister-in-law, Mary Szatko; seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. *Joe passed on 10/4/22.*

Donna Wiedenbach – survived by daughters, Kathy Mott, Connie Felger Gibson, Bonnie (Rick) Dahnke; and two grandchildren. Connie Gibson taught Spanish at Scotus for many years and continues to serve as a substitute teacher.

Thomas “TJ” Wrigley ’06 – survived by his parents, Thomas Sr & Betty; brother, Aaron ’09; aunts & uncles, Ruth Wrigley, Robert Wrigley, Stephen & Linda Wrigley, Jacque Wrigley, James & Becky Wrigley, Mary Ann & Larry King, Melinda O’Brien Wrigley, Christopher Wrigley, Louise (Starzec ’66) Bridges, Harry & Joni Starzec, Jo Starzec, Al & Joni Starzec, Ray & Joann Starzec, Dave ’72 & Cathy Micek; and numerous cousins and friends.

✠ Memorials ✠

(Received between 7/16/2022 and 10/17/2022)

Monica “Moni” Albracht
Joan V Sokol

Lloyd Bartholomew ’56
Leonard Nosal

Kathe Beauvais
MM Jim Beiermann
MM John Beller
Janet Brezinski
Rick Grubaugh
MM Mike Slegl
Joan V. Sokol
MM Dick Van Dyke
MM Vern Younger

Norma Jean Beiermann
Family & Friends

Janet Bollig
Family & Friends

Keith Bornemeier
MM Gene Trouba

Kinyon “Ken” Brooks ’71
Rick Grubaugh
MM Larry Sleddens

**Deceased Family Members of
the Class of 1992**
Class of 1992

Carol Duren
MM Butch Christiansen
MM John Kopetzky
MM Dave Melliger
Joan V. Sokol
MM Brett Swierczek & Family

Joan (Minette ’56) Eckmann
Mary Ellen Laughlin

Larry Fritz
Rick Grubaugh

Richard “Dick” Gdowski
Keith Albracht
MM Dana Bailey
MM Jim Bator
Joyce Bonk

Janet Brezinski
MM Gary Burns
MM Butch Christiansen
Larry Dohne
Jerry Duren
Judith Dworak
Robert Emerson
MM Tim Engel
MM Jim Ernst
MM Gary Eurek
Susan Gdowski Fleetwood
MM Chuck Gonka
MM Dennis Grennan
Rick Grubaugh
MM Rick Hanus
MM Travis Hedman
MM Don Heimes
Jennifer Hollman
Nancy Huston
MM Rich Jablonski
MM Jerry Jarecke
Susi Kobus
MM Harold Krings
MM Dan Kruse
Gary Kruse
MM Craig Kucera
Theresa Kumpf
MM Merlin Lahm
MM Terry Larsen
MM Mark Leif
Bev Mackie
DRM Larry Malicky
Keith Manak
MM Mark McBride
MM Gregg Melliger
MM Dennis Miller
MM Jim Morris
MM Mark Morris
MM Dave Mroczek
MM Al Niedbalski
Mary Norton
MM Bob Obst
MM Denny Ochner
MM John Peck
MM Jeff Pekarek
MM Mike Pile
Jane Podany
Paul Podany

MM Dan Puckett
MM Gary Puetz
MM Gregory Rerucha
MM Douglas Rieger
Sandra Riley
MM Marv Rinkol
Dorothy Ryeb
MM Rick Schmidt
MM John Schueth
MM Larry Selzer
Jacqueline Sojka
Joan V. Sokol
Colleen Soulliere
MM Gary Speicher
MM Robert Stachura
Alice Staroscik-Chleboun
MM Bob Steinke
MM Chris Stinson
MM Tim Tooley
MM Rick Torczon
MM Gene Trouba
MM Jeff Voden
MM Robert White
MM John Whitehead
Al Wunderlich
MM Vern Younger
MM Larry Zach
Friends & Family

Dorothy Gubbels
Wilma Arp
Deanna Augustin
MM Gregg Melliger

Lee Hroza
MM Rollie Davidson
Rick Grubaugh
Shirley Hroza
Joan V. Sokol

Mike Kaup
Martha Davidson

Dave Krause
Class of 1985

Adolph “Jr.” Kudron
MM Paul Kudron
Don Nosal
Alice Staroscik-Chleboun

Larry Kuta ’59 (honorary)
MM Dave Harrington
MM Paul Kudron
Darold Nosal
MM Joe Plance
Ray Staroscik
MM Dave Zabawa

Michael Lafferty
MM Tim Tooley
MM Vern Younger

**Christine (Wilhelm ’69)
Mazour**
Sue Gonka
Rick Grubaugh

Mary (Thompson ’64) Mitera
J.C. Mitera

Edomina Pinger
Daniel Duren
Joan V. Sokol

Kaleb Puntney ’16
MM Randy Johnson

Robert Speicher ’47
Marvin Boyle

LeRoy Sprunk, Sr.
Rick Grubaugh

Joe Szatko
Rick Grubaugh
Shirley Hroza

Shirley Szatko
Rick Grubaugh

Janet (Smith ’58) Vetic
Joan V. Sokol

Thomas “TJ” Wrigley ’06
Janet Brezinski
Louise Bridges
MM Randy Johnson
Joan V. Sokol
Lu Torczon

Addresses Needed!

The Shamrock Newsletter was returned by the post office as undeliverable to the addresses on file for the following Shamrocks: Ryan Ames ’04, Dustin Becher ’03, Evelyn (Koziol ’57) Bosak, Margaret (Iwan ’47) Cerny, Gina (Sutko ’86) DeBord, Joe Determan ’87, Kim Dreifurst ’84, Virginia (Swolek ’61) Fischer, Christopher Goettsche ’93, David Gubbels ’00, Sue (Rathbun ’65) Huff, Bibiana Lopez ’13, Elizabeth (Coupens ’45) O’Leary, Rylie Olson ’19, Karen Pokorny ’83, Theresa (Horne ’93) Poulas, Jim Sobotka ’55, Eric Wemhoff ’90, and Tricia (Korger ’89) Wilson. If you have their correct mailing address, please contact the Scotus development office. For a full list of those for whom we need addresses go to the Scotus website, scotuscc.org, and then to the development/alumni drop down box.

Future Newsletters by Email?

Would you rather receive the color pdf of the alumni/nae newsletter by Email instead of having the printed version mailed to you through the post office?

Presently, we have 328 individuals who get their newsletters by Email. Let us know if you want your future copies to come by Email and send your request to: jschueth@scotuscc.org.

Scotus Mission Statement

Scotus Central Catholic High School assures all students the opportunity to receive a faith-based Catholic education through academic excellence and diverse extracurricular activities.

www.scotuscc.org

Shamrock Alumni News
is published at:



Scotus Central Catholic High School
1554 18th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601
Ph: (402) 564-7165 • Fax: (402) 564-6004



Email: jschueth@scotuscc.org • Facebook: Scotus Central Catholic HS
Scotus Central Catholic admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin.
Any portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without our permission.

SHAMROCK ALUMNI NEWS
a future worthy of our past
1554 18th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, NE
Permit No. 5

SEF 16 Legacy and Founder Supporters

Thank You!

Our 2 Legacy Supporters who pledged between \$40,000 - \$150,000 for the 3-year SEF 16 Drive:



**ANONYMOUS
SUPPORTER**

Our 8 Founder Level Supporters who pledged between \$25,000 - \$39,999 for the SEF 16 Drive:



- Judy Dworak
- Thomas Thalken '60
- Larry Dowd '63 & Deanna Dowd



2022 Gala Business Sponsors: Bank of the Valley • Behlen Mfg Co • Bierman Contracting, Inc. • Bull Moose • Choice Transport/Guy & Heidi Loop
Columbus Bank and Trust Company • Columbus Community Hospital • Columbus Family Practice • First National Bank • Foreman Lumber • Gearhart, Mark & Jenny
Gene Steffy Ford • Great Plains State Bank • Kosch Financial • NoSwett Fencing & Decks • Obrist Plumbing Utility Division • Optometric Center of Columbus
Pillen Family Farms/DNA Genetics • S & S Homes • Shelby Lumber Company, Inc • Zegar Investment Properties, LL

Chapel Renovation

In 1979, work began to convert the student commons area at Scotus into a chapel; and on January 13, 1980, the Scotus chapel dedication took place with the Most Reverend Daniel E. Sheehan, Archbishop of Omaha, blessing the space and altar. The Scotus Chapel became a place for daily celebration of Mass, prayer, and adoration for both Scotus students and occasional visitors to the school. A key feature of the Chapel are the four stained glass windows that were originally installed in St. Mary’s Hospital (now the site of Nebraska Public Power District’s headquarters.) The key figures of each window are the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Barbara, and St. Apollonia.

An equally distinct feature of the chapel is a round area of the original terrazzo floor that displays an artistic representation of the Franciscan Coat of Arms. The art consists of two arms crossing each other—with a cross in the background. One arm is that of Christ; the other is that of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis' arm is covered by a brown sleeve, representing the habit he and his followers wore. Each hand is marked with the stigmata representing God’s incredible love for us and the loving response of St. Francis. The Coat of Arms reminds all Shamrocks of the Franciscan heritage of our school and the three Franciscan names our school has owned: St. Francis Academy, St. Bonaventure HS, and Scotus Central Catholic HS. St. Francis was the founder of the Franciscan Order, St. Bonaventure, is often considered the second founder of the Order, and Blessed John Duns Scotus, a Franciscan priest and scholar is one of the most notable members of the Order’s history.

Since our school is named after Blessed John Duns Scotus and because Blessed Scotus was instrumental in the development of our Church doctrine that Mary, the Mother of God, was born without the stain of sin, the Chapel has been informally given the name of “Chapel of the Immaculate Conception.”

In 2013 a Shamrock couple funded the complete remodel of the chapel’s southern entrance. The work expanded the dressing area for priests, added a new exterior door and flooring, along with new exterior lighting by the entrance that better represented a place of worship. In July of 2019, the perpetual adoration program at St. Bonaventure parish permanently moved to the Scotus chapel, bringing adorers from throughout the community to our school, 24 hours a day throughout the year. An electronic lock was added to the south entrance door for the secure entrance of the adorers. In the summer of 2020, the chapel pews were refinished, and a bronze prayer box was added to the exterior entrance.

This past summer and fall, at the inspiration of several adorers, a major remodeling of the chapel took place, entirely funded by donations. Work included new flooring, tabernacle space, altar, confessional, area for votive candles, painting of the walls and window treatments, spot lighting for the stained-glass windows, artistic painting around the statue of Mary, framed devotional paintings and furniture for adorers. Yet to be installed are new Stations of the Cross. The remodel became a labor of love, especially for Gene Bierman, Karen (Bierman ’82) Merrill, Hanna Merrill ’14 and the artistic eye of Susi (Heimann ’73) Kobus. Many more individuals including Deacon Dan Keiter, Fr. Mike Swanton, Michelene “Mike” (Korgie ’65) Pilakowski, Jody Bargaen and Linda (Schrad ’75) Levos were instrumental in transforming the chapel into a more sacred place for worship and prayer. Even though Scotus no longer has a priest serving as campus minister, morning rosary is offered in the chapel on Mondays and Thursdays, and Mass on Tuesdays and Fridays before the start of classes.



Chapel before renovations



Chapel after renovations



Chapel after renovations



Chapel exterior entrance

Worth Noting

- The **Alumni Basketball Tourney** will be held on March 24-25 at Scotus. Captains will be contacted soon and watch for more details on social media!
- The **Shamrock Open** will be held on Saturday, June 3rd at Tiburon Golf Course in Omaha. Contact Nick Puetz '97 at shamrockopen@gmail.com, or Joe Puetz '01 at puetzfinancial@gmail.com or the Scotus development office, jschueth@scotuscc.org if you would like to sponsor a hole, donate a flag prize or play in the tourney!
- The Scotus journalism students brought home a **2022 Cornhusker Award** for newspaper from the Nebraska High School Press Association. This is the highest award for journalistic excellence in the high school newspaper category and it is the fifth year in a row Scotus has brought home a Cornhusker award: 2018 (Newspaper), 2019 (Newspaper), 2020 (Broadcasting), 2021 (Broadcasting), 2022 (Newspaper). Accepting the award for Scotus were (left to right), Kavan Splittgerber, Maysa Kuhl, Jasmine Jackson, Claire Rickert and Lily Dohmen.
- The **Shamrock One-Act cast and crew** won the Class B-4 district championship with their performance of "The Addams Family." At the state competition, the team finished in sixth place.



- The **2022 Scotus Craft Boutique** was another tremendous success with more than 1,600 guests. The event was led by committee members Carrie Maguire, Nicki Houfek, Nicole Wangler, and Mindy Hash. The kitchen committee members were Laura Gassen and Lisa Backman. The Junior Boutique Committee of Hayley Faltys, Rylie Tonniges, Olivia Nelsen, Alyssa Nelsen, and Ella Hash were also a valuable resource. The committees want to thank all the volunteers and vendors who made the event possible and special thanks to donors: Hy-Vee, Columbus Community

Hospital, and Jeron's Java Roasting. Altogether the event had net proceeds of \$17,573 which will be used to support academic and activity programs at Scotus.

- The Scotus Craft Boutique Committee is looking for **four new committee members** to join for a three-year term beginning in 2023. Please contact Nicole or Mindy for more information at scotuscrafboutique@gmail.com
- Named to the **Fall Academic All-State** were: (Boys' Cross-Country) Ian Karges, Jude Maguire; (Girls' Cross-Country) Emma Brezenski, Whitney Klug; (Football) Jackson Faust, Brennen Jelinek; (Girls Golf) Cecilia Arndt, Quinn VunCannon; (Play Production) Mark Buhman, Jasmine Jackson; (Boys Tennis) Bohden Jedlicka; (Volleyball) Joanna Rusher, Hailey Steffensmeier.

Children's Scholarship Fund



The 2022-23 school year marks the 21st year that the Children's Scholarship Fund of Omaha has provided tuition assistance to students in our Columbus Catholic schools. Since its inception in 1999, CSF has provided \$883,575.65 in scholarship support to students in the Columbus Catholic Schools!

The beauty of the program is that every dollar raised in Columbus and from our alumni and alumnae is matched and returned to qualifying Columbus Catholic school families in the form of tuition scholarships! In most years we raise close to \$21,000, submit that sum to CSF-Omaha and in return our schools receive on average a combined \$35,000 to \$65,000 in scholarships. These scholarships help, on average, sixty students attending one of our four Catholic schools, grades K-8. Not a bad investment!

If you would like to support the Columbus effort for CSF, send your checks, payable to *Children's Scholarship Fund* to the Scotus development office or make an online donation to Scotus designating your gift for CSF. We will forward your gift to CSF and make sure your gift is included in our local CSF fundraising goal!

Your donation may be tax deductible. CSF is a designated 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, and you will be helping our parish families afford the cost of attending our Catholic schools.

• During **National Vocations Awareness Week**, Scotus held an assembly for senior high students to learn more about vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Guest speakers from Omaha and Lincoln shared their life stories.

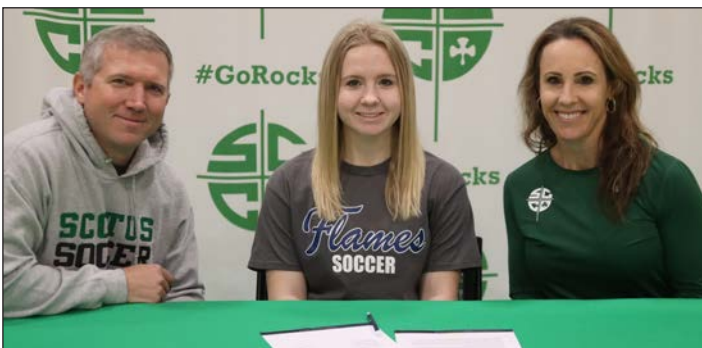


• Jude Maguire ran 35th at State Cross Country. Volleyball ended a 15-16 season with a loss in the subdistrict quarterfinals. Football ended its season at 6-4 with a loss to the #1 seed in the first round of the state play-offs. The senior mock trial team was undefeated until it lost in the district final to York.

• The 42nd annual Gala dinner/auction is set for Saturday, April 15, 2023, and this year's theme is "A Night in Black & White." Our co-chairs are Matt '00 & Shanna (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Chad & Michelle Oakley and Gerry & Christi Wiese. Vice-chairs are Clete & Lisa Borchers, Dr. Scott & Kelly Cameron, and Roger & Jill Krienke. If you would like to participate by donating an item for the silent or oral auctions, volunteer to help, or if you wish to receive an invitation to attend, please contact our co-chairs, vice-chairs, or Janice Rosenquist in the Scotus development office: or 402-564-7165 ext. 154 or jrosenquist@scotuscc.org.

• Tickets are now available for the **Gala Lottery** and **Gala Raffle**. Only 600-\$100.00 Lottery tickets will be sold with a grand prize of \$12,000.00 and four \$500.00 second place prizes. Gala Raffle tickets are \$25.00 each with the first-place price being \$1,000.00 in Scrip gift cards (you choose where they are from) and two second place prizes of \$500.00 in Scrip gift cards (you choose where they are from.) You do not have to be present to win. Drawing will be at the Scotus Gala on April 15, 2023. Contact Scotus for more details.

• Senior **Elizabeth "Libbie" Brezenski** signed her letter of intent to join the College of St. Mary's soccer team. Libbie plans to study nursing at CSM. Shown with Libbie are her parents, Jon '98 & Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski. Congratulations to Libbie and her family!



• Scotus Central Catholic is doing major **updates in the Dowd Activity Center** this spring and has run out of room for our current state championship banners. We are creating larger banners per sport to display all the state championships on an individual banner, for example, State Football Champions: 1967, 1984, 2015. Our old banners are currently available for purchase on a first come first serve basis. Banners measure four-by-six, with two grommets to hold the banner up and will be sold at \$75 apiece. If you are interested in purchasing a banner, please contact Taylor Dahl at tdahl@scotuscc.org or Merlin Lahm at mlahm@scotuscc.org



• Scotus parent, **Jim Pillen**, was inaugurated as Nebraska's 41st state governor on January 5, 2023. Jim and his wife, Suzanne, are parents of Sarah '99 (Jerod Trouba '99), Brock '01 (Sarah), Polly '04, and current Scotus senior, Izic. The Pillen family attended Mass together at their Columbus parish, St. Isidore, before traveling to Lincoln for the ceremony.



Addresses Needed

The Shamrock Newsletter was returned by the post office as undeliverable to the addresses on file for the following Shamrocks: Ryan Ames '04, Peg (Siemek '82) Asche, Dustin Becher '03, Cory Borer '88, Evelyn (Koziol '57) Bosak, Robin (Liebentritt '83) Busteed, Margaret (Iwan '47) Cerny, Gina (Sutko '86) DeBord, Kim Dreifurst '84, Virginia (Swolek '61) Fischer, Christopher Goettsche '93, Andrew Gutierrez '02, Sue (Rathbun '65) Huff, Bibiana Lopez '13, Carole (Thraen '55) Michael, Elizabeth (Coupens '45) O'Leary, Rylie Olson '19, Karen Pokorny '83, Theresa (Horne '93) Poulas, Jim Sobotka '55, Eric Wemhoff '90, John "Jay" Wilhelm '76, and Tricia (Korger '89) Wilson. If you have their correct mailing address, please contact the Scotus development office. For a full list of those for whom we need addresses go to the Scotus website, scotuscc.org, and then to the development/alumni drop down box.

Here and There...

-- Tell us What's Happening in Your Life!

E-mail to: jschueth@scotuscc.org Photos encouraged!

JOSHUA MELLIGER '03 – Was selected in 2021 as the Hydrology Lead for a multiyear Panama Canal Integrated Water Resources Feasibility Study. Josh is a water resources engineer and has been working for the US Army Corps of Engineers Omaha District since receiving his Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in civil engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Colorado State University, respectively. The Panama Canal team is comprised of Corps engineers and scientists from across the nation and has partnered with the Panama Canal Authority to increase the operational reliability and resiliency of the Panama Canal System. Josh and his wife, Lindsay, live in Omaha, NE with their two daughters, Ellie, and Emilyn.



JEFFREY WHEELOCK '17 – For the last 8 years Jeffrey has been chasing and living a life-long dream as a professional bull-fighter/rodeo clown. He has traveled across the United States participating in Doxa extreme rodeo, reaching six world finals in two different associations with a third-place average; and recently he was asked to do a Wrangler National Appreciation bull fight for the Hall of Fame of bull fighters. Jeffrey currently resides in Oklahoma where he also works as a professional hunting guide.



Make your Scotus Investment the Easy Way!

Go to: www.scotuscc.org •
Click on the "Donate" button

Donate



Complete the simple form and you've made your gift to accomplish so much for our students!

2023 Reunions

Class of 1963. The Class of 1963 will be holding its 60th Reunion on September 15-16 in Columbus. For more information or to help with preparations, contact Jane Toohey, deputytoohey@hotmail.com or (402) 367-2319.

Class of 1968. The Class of 1968 will be holding its 55th Reunion on August 25-26, 2023. On the evening of the 25th, we will be joining our former classmates and friends from CHS at Izaak Walton. On the 26th, we plan to tour Scotus and have a reunion dinner at the Elks Country Club. More details are being finalized and will be shared. For more info, contact Mark McLaughlin, mwm1049@gmail.com.

Class of 1973. Planning is underway for our 50th reunion, and the tentative date is August 11-12, 2023. We hope to time the reunion to coincide with Columbus Days. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Susi (Heimann) Kobus, susikobus@gmail.com 402-910-6504 (cell), Ken Schrad, kjschrad@gmail.com or 804-334-6454 (cell); or Tom Zabawa, tomzabf73@gmail.com 402-276-1936 (cell), or Fritz Schwank, 402-270-4997 (cell).

Class of 1982. The class had such an enjoyable time together last summer that we decided to get together with the CHS Class of 1982 on July 8, 2023. We will be meeting at the Husker Bar on July 8th. Starting at 6 to 8 pm, there will be sloppy joes and snacks, but the most important thing is socializing. Then around 8 pm we will be having a live band to rock the night away till midnight. Please try to come, invite any classmates you are in touch with. We would really like to have some teachers there so they can tell the stories how '82 was the greatest class ever. If you are planning to come, please let me know by texting me at 402-910-7593. Always remember YOLO. God Bless You and Your Families. – Bob Kuta

Class of 1983. Planning is underway for the 40-year reunion, August 25-26. Plans include attending the Friday evening home football game vs. Aquinas, golf on Saturday and/or Horse races/Harrah Casino if open. Mass and tour at SCC and dinner and drinks to follow. For more information, to offer suggestions or volunteer to help plan the reunion, contact Jack Cheloha. JackCheloha@yahoo.com. Or call 402-306-9712.

Class of 1998. The Class of 1998 will celebrate their 25th reunion on August 25-26, 2023, in Columbus. Planning has just begun but clear your calendars and plan to attend! For more information, please contact Jon Brezenski at coachbrez@gmail.com.

Class of 2003. Planning is underway for the 20-year class reunion to be held this summer or fall. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact: Josh Melliger at joshua.melliger@gmail.com or Adam Wick at adamjwick@gmail.com.

Annual Appeal Update

Last fall, Scotus launched the first-ever annual appeal for the four Columbus Catholic Schools. The goal of the campaign was to support the improvement of faculty salaries and benefits and to make this a sustainable process for the next three years and to begin a framework for the future. We are incredibly grateful to report that our original fundraising goal of \$200,000.00 has been exceeded and at the time of this newsletter's printing, Scotus has received \$241,936.58 from 593 supporters. Thank you, Shamrock Nation for your wonderful support and for your investment in the Catholic education of our students!



In Sympathy

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni, alumnae and friends of Scotus Central Catholic.

Mary Catherine (Bothe '55) Beller – survived by sons, Terry (Karla), Marc (Bonnie), Mike (Julie); sisters, Donna Bothe '61 (Ray) Barton, Sue Bothe '68 (Bob) Placke; sisters-in-law, Bonnie Hegemann, Pat Heimann, Bonnie (Brooks '62) Bothe; brothers-in-law, Jerry (Joanie) Beller, Harry (Mary Byers '67) Beller, Bob (Lorrie) Beller; fourteen grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren.

James Bothe '59 – survived by his wife, Bonnie (Brooks '62); sons, Gregory, Troy; sisters, Mary Catherine '55 Beller, Donna '61 (Ray) Barton, Susan '68 (Bob) Placke; seven grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Marie Brakenhoff – survived by daughters, Diane Heft, Joyce (Keith) Wiese, Deb (Ron) Ita, Linda Brakenhoff, Connie (Jim) Speicher; sons, Dan, Eugene (Barbara Tognetti '69), Larry (Mary), Ron (Shelley), John (Jamie), Don '85 (Kris), Doug '85; sister, Rosie Wieland; sister-in-law, Dorothy Babel; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Eileen Breitreutz – survived by daughter, Jeanne '67 (Don Vance); sons, Bruce '66, Craig (Janet); sister, Joan Goodman; brothers, LeRoy Pieke, Ralph (Virginia) Pieke; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren and one on the way; and many nieces and nephews.

Mary Elizabeth Capadano – survived by her husband, Harry; daughters, Elizabeth (Alan) Pierce, Katherine (Dr. Jacob) Nordhues; son, Rev. Fr. Matthew Capadano; mother, Joan Dunlap; siblings, Thomas (Janice) Dunlap, Sr., Patrick Dunlap, Margaret (Ophill) D'-Costa, James (Margie) Dunlap, Jr., Suzanne (Douglas) Carl, Monica (Joe) Thiel, Amy (Steve) Dickas; and four grandchildren. Fr. Capadano served several years as the Scotus campus minister.

Mike Cielocha '79 – survived by his wife, Kelli (Lippstreu '79); daughter, Amanda '02 (Kent) Malone; son, Christopher '97 (Kayla); sister, Lisa '85 (Todd '85) Duren; brothers, Tim '81 (Caree), Darin '88 (Sheila); and two grandchildren.

Norma Cremers – survived by her sisters, Mary Kay Johnson, JoAnn Cremers; brothers, Ted (Mary Ellen Wilhelm '64), Jim (Marlene Bonk '81); sister-in-law, Virginia Cremers; and many nieces and nephews. Norma was a long-time teacher and principal at St. Anthony School, Columbus.

Gary Ebel '66 – survived by his wife, Linda; daughters Stephanie, Tina; sons-in-law, Trey Horton and Chris Fagan; sister, Connie '61 Hauk; brother, Rick '80 (Geri); sisters-in-law, Hollie (Mike) Olk, Mary Ellen Freilino; brother-in-law, Dick (Dee) Farnham; four grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Annette Hellbusch – survived by her husband, Dan; daughters, Maggie '10 (Spencer) Trapp, Luran '13 (Lee) Schroeder; son, Cody '07 (Macey Fuhr '09); sisters, Jane (Albert) Sims, Christine (Eric) Belgium, Karen (Tom) Engel, Nancy (John) Reischl, Cindy Wurdeman, Gail (Tom) Knopik; brother, Ken (Arlene) Shotkoski; brothers and sisters-in-law, Doug (Carol) Hellbusch, Diane (Harold) Harris, David (Marty) Hellbusch; Darla (Doug) Russell, Dick (Lisa) Hellbusch, Debbie Sonderup, Marilyn Hellbusch; one grandchild and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Larry Holys '70 – survived by his wife, children, and friends.

Charles Jasper – survived by his wife, Karen; sons, Eric, Brandon (Kristin); stepdaughter, Jennifer (Crystal); sisters, Joyce '68 Heins, Jennifer '73 Hollman; brothers, Jim '63 (Terri), Patrick (Jinny), Randy (Geri); four grandchildren and many nieces, and brother and sister-in-laws.

Lisa (Wessel '88) Jessen – survived by her husband, Charley; daughters, Patricia (Sean) Gravem, Shayla (Ryan) Corder, Elisa Jessen; sons, Zachary Flash, Seth Jessen, Aaron Jessen; mother, Shirley Wessel; sisters, Lori '81 (Todd) Pytlik, Tracy '92 (Chad) Kucera; brothers, Jeff (Paula), Ron '89 (Kim); five grandchildren, many nieces and nephews and one great niece.

Br. Pauli Johnson O.F.M '51 – survived by his Franciscan brothers; sister, Ruth Norre; one niece and one nephew.

Louis "Bud" Kuta – survived by his wife, Rose; daughters, Barb '78 (Tim) Cave, Chris '80 Knake; sons, Bob '82 (Becky), Pat '85 (Rhonda); sisters, Alice (Dan) Tschantre, Betty Zywiec; brother, Chuck; five grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Amelia (Valasek '34) Larsen – survived by daughter, Rose Anderson; sons Gilbert (Laurie), Gordon (Judith), Jim (Anita); and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

.....continued

Edward Liss – survived by his wife, Patricia; sister, Helena (Rod) Chinn; brothers, Adam, Robert '60 (Peggy), brothers and sisters-in-law, Jan Liss, Jim Kosek, Delores (Emil) Rosno, Kathy (Ron) Newquist; and many nieces and nephews.

Mildred Mares – survived by daughters, Connie '75 (Tom) Jackson, Janet '76 (Terry) Zeller; son, David '68 (Dee); nine grandchildren and thirteen great-grandchildren with one more arriving soon.

Harrison Miller – survived by his parents, Murray & Shannon (McGuire '87); siblings, Elizabeth (Tyler) Grashorn, McGuire, Merrigan; nephew Carter Grashorn; grandmother, Elaine McGuire.

Anthony “TR” Raimondo – survived by daughters, Linda (Tom) Bock, Diana Raimondo '89; son, Anthony Jr. (Sharon); daughter-in-law, Mary Raimondo; twelve grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Maynard Shemek – survived by his sister, Jolene '59 (Gordon) Glock and many nieces and nephews.

Jim Tubbs – survived by his wife, Brenda; daughter, Amy '93 (Matt) Eigenberg; sons, Robert '91 (Michelle), Eric '10 (Amy Reisdorff '10); and six grandchildren.

Dennis Welsh – survived by his wife, Torrie; daughters, Paula '92 (Bob) Banks, Rhonda (Chris) Woosley; son, Rodger '99 (Brandy); many brothers and sister-in-laws, seven grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

William “Will” Williams – survived by his parents, Tim '82 & Kathy; brother Lucas; and many aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Donald Zornes – survived by his wife, Clarisse; daughter, Diane '86 Semrad; son, Ronald '88; and two grandchildren.

✠ Memorials ✠

(Received between 10/18/2022 and 1/16/2023)

Celia Ann Baumgart
Family of Celia Ann
Baumgart

Keith Bornemeier
MM Lawrence Soukup

Marie Brakenhoff
MM Vern Younger

Kinyon “Ken” Brooks '71
MM Bob Soulliere

Carolyn (Backes '59) Cielocha
MM Jerald Barkmeier

Mike Cielocha '79
Kevin Abbott
MM Jeff Abegglen
Barbara Jean Adamy
Greg Adamy
American Family Insurance
MM Lonnie Anderson
Anne Arnst
MM AJ Ahern
Keith Albracht
Anonymous
Anonymous
MM Bill Backes
MM Earl Backes
MM Jerald Barkmeier
MM Tim Beaver
MM Jim Beiermann
Mark Bell
Gail Benesch
MM Paul Beran
MM Tom Bertsch
MM Gary Bock
MM Travis Bock
REV MM Mark Boeding
MM Bill Bogus

MM Craig Boroff
MM Ed Brezenski
MM Leonard Brezenski
Janet Brezinski
Robert Brock
MM Pat Brockhaus
MM Larry Bruns
MM Jeffrey Carlson
MM Dean Cerny
MM Rick Chochon
MM Joe Chohon
Deb Christ & Paul Walz
MM John Cimpl
MM John Codling
Cornerstone Bank
Darin's Omaha Networking
Group
MM Anthony DeLancey
Dental Works of Columbus
Staff
Christina Pearl Dillard
MM Mike Dreesen
MM David Duren
MM Dennis Duren
Diane Duren & Drew Collier
MM Doug Duren
Jerry Duren
MM Mark Duren
Julie Eastridge
MM Bruce Ebner
MM Terry Ebner
John Eckholt
MM Jay Edwards
MM Mike Evans
MM Cory Faust
MM Pat Feehan
DRM Ed Fehringier
MM James Fehringier
& Family

MM Thomas Fehringier
MM Derek Ferguson
Rick Ferguson
Rebecca Fickenworth
MM Shane Fleming
MM Scott Foutch
MM William Fox
MM Jim Frey
MM James Frieze
Ann Gannon
MM Kelly Gassen
MM Steve Graus
MM Dennis Grennan
Rick Grubaugh
Connie Hajek
Phil Hajek
MM Ray Hajek
MM Alan Haney
MM Bob Haney
MM James Harrington
MM Tim Harrington
MM Scott Harsh
Darlene Hatcher
MM Ed Heimann
MM Hank Heimann
MM John Heimann
Ken Heimann
MM Steve Heimann
Carleen Sue Henggeler
MM Joe Hendrickson
Henry Motors
MM Scott Hessel
MM John Hoebing
MM Dan Hoesly
Deanna Hoffman
Steve Hoffman
MM Jim Hoge
MM Sam Hogeland
MM Jim Hoppenstedt

MM James Hotovy
Shirley Hroza Family
MM Keith Huffman
Bill Hunter
MM Greg Hunter
MM Chris Hutchinson
Mike Inselman
MM Roger Iwansky
MM Tom Jackson
MM Jerry Jarecke
MM Tom Jarecke
MM Paul Jazwick
MM Jeff Johnson
Julie Johnson
MM Kourtney Kaminski
MM Jim Kamrath
MM Bruce Karges
MM Ray Kastanek
MM Robert King
Kelly Klaassen
Sandra Knox
MM Larry Kobus
Brian Kochanowicz
Gene Konwinski
MM Bill Kosch
MM David Kottich
MM Harold Krings
MM Craig Kucera
MM Glen Kucera
MM Dave Kudron
MM Bret Kumpf
Theresa Kumpf
Vanessa Kumpf
MM Dale Kurtenbach
MM Gary Kurtenbach
MM Mark Kurtenbach
MM Merlin Lahm
MM Joel Long
MM Kelly Loschen

MM Larry Luther
 MM Todd Lyon
 MM Dan Lyons
 MMC Mechanical Contractors
 DRM Larry Malicky
 MM Dan Martin
 MM Mike Mazankowski
 Kim McBride
 MM Pat McGuire
 MM Bob McKenzie
 MM Rich McPhillips
 MM Gregg Melliger
 MM Mark Mercer
 Kim Meyer
 MM Brian Micek
 MM Joe Micek
 MM Denny Miller
 MM Ron Mimick
 MM Galen Moes
 MM Jeff Morton
 MM Don Mroczek
 MM Chris Nahorny
 MM Bill Nickeson
 Carter Nickeson
 MM Bob Niedbalski
 MM Jeff Niedbalski
 MM Pat Novicki
 MM Nathan Oehlrich
 MM Skip Oehlrich
 MM Jeff Ohnoutka
 Maralee O'Neill
 MM Duane Ostdiek
 REV Wayne Pavela
 MM Michael Peck
 MM Jeff Pekarek
 Mable Pekarek
 MM Joe Pensick
 MM Brian Perrigo
 MM William Persch
 MM John Petersen
 MM Mike Pile
 MM Joe Plance
 Platte County Agricultural Society
 MM Chris Podany
 MM Alan Preister
 MM John Price
 DRM John Prososki
 MM Sam Proski
 MM Gary Puetz
 Judy A Puetz
 MM Tim Ramaekers
 MM Leo Rinkol
 MM Patrick Ryan
 MM Dennis Ryba
 MM Pat Sackett
 Todd Sander
 Michael Savage
 Joe Schuele
 MM John Schueth
 Schumacher, Smejkl & Elm PC
 MM Rick Schumacher
 Cindy Schuster

MM Carl Seckel
 MM Paul Shotkoski
 Scotus Booster Club
 Jeff Sock
 Frank Spenceri
 MM John Shotkoski
 MM Pat Sokol
 MM Tim Sommers
 MM Fred Spies
 Alice Staroscik-Chleboun
 MM Ron Starzec
 MM Dan Steiner
 Steve Lloyd's Auto Quality, LLC
 MM Jerome Stolinski
 MM Travis Stollendorf
 MM Neal Suess
 MM John Sunderman
 & Jael Sunderman
 MM Jeff Thiele
 MM John Thomazin
 Lu Torczon
 Casey & Dr Katie Trambly
 MM Eugene Trouba
 MM Dick Van Dyke
 MM Doug Van Dyke
 MM Bill Van Lent
 Jim Van Lent
 MM Joel Young
 MM Paul Watson
 Wednesday Afternoon Club
 MM Jeff Weihs
 MM Sam Welch
 Makayla Wentzell
 Robert Wick
 Joyce Wieser
 MM Pat Wieser
 Norman Witt
 MM Terry Wulf
 MM Vern Younger
 MM Dave Zabawa
 MM Tom Zabawa
 Phyllis Zelasney
 MM Dan Zoucha
 MM Rick Zoucha
 MM Gary Zywiec
 Class of 1981 Alumni Basketball Team

Carol Duren
 MM Jerald Barkmeier

Gary Ebel '66
 Maureen Konwinski

Joan (Minette '56) Eckman
 Dorothy Gola
 Mary Ellen Laughlin
 DR Larry Minette

Carolyn (Fix '63) Fehringer
 Genevieve Ebel Smejkal

Frederick "Fred" Fehringer
 MM John Schueth

Bob & Marilyn Gangel
 MM Kevin Collins

Dick Gdowski
 Ann Gannon

Gregg Grubaugh '75
 Rick Grubaugh

Dorothy Gubbels
 Jennifer Hollmann

Annette Hellbusch
 Rick Grubaugh
 MM Gregg Melliger
 MM Bob Rickert
 MM Tim Tooley

Larry Holys '70
 Anthony Crebbin

Lisa (Wessel '88) Jessen
 Rick Grubaugh

Mike Kaup
 Ann Gannon

Louis "Bud" Kuta
 MM Cletus Arasmith
 MM Jim Bator
 Tim Beller
 MM Joe Chohon
 MM Jim Euteneuer
 Rick Grubaugh
 MM Dave Harrington
 Sue Henggeler Family
 Louis "Bud" Kuta Family
 MM Merlin Lahm
 MM Joe McPhillips
 MM Rick Schumacher
 MM Vern Younger
 MM Rick Zoucha
 MM Gary Zywiec
 Class of 1985

Michael Lafferty
 MM Randy Johnson
 Jeremiah Salyard
 Laura Salyard
 MM Tom Salyard

Mildred Mares
 MM Kurt Kline
 MM Gregg Melliger

Christine (Wilhelm '69) Mazon
 DR Leon Wennekamp

Harrison Miller
 MM Gary Puetz

Mary Jane (Thompson '64) Mitera
 J.C. Mitera

Anthony "TR" Raimondo
 Rick Grubaugh
 MM Dave Kudron
 MM John Schueth
 MM Larry Sladdens
 MM John Whitehead

LeRoy Sprunk, Sr
 DR Leon Wennekamp

Chad Swierczek '89
 MM Jason Mielak

Joe Szatko
 MM Travis Bock
 Janet Brezinski
 Jane Buresh
 MM Darin Cielocha
 MM Pat Engelbert
 Ann Gannon
 MM Gary Heinemann
 MM Tom Jackson
 Kourtney Kaminski
 MM Gary Puetz
 MM Paul Shotkoski
 MM Doug Van Dyke
 MM Vern Younger

Joe & Shirley Szatko
 MM Doug Van Dyke

Mary Ann (Kudron) Thompson
 Lynelle Nore

Jim Tubbs
 Jerry Duren
 Rick Grubaugh
 MM Jeff Pekarek
 MM Ron Wondercheck
 MM Vern Younger

Delores Weisbecker
 MM John Schueth

Thomas "TJ" Wrigley '06
 Tyler Badura
 MM Ben Bannon
 MM Roger Bettenhausen
 CCC- Columbus
 Kitty Heimann
 MM Mike Krzycki
 Craig Pekarek
 MM Jeff Pekarek
 MM Mike Schneider
 MM Vern Younger
 Scotus Class of 2006
 Scotus Class of 2009
 Aaron Wrigley
 MM Tom Wrigley

Deceased Members of the Class of 1975
 MM Jerald Barkmeier

Future Newsletters by Email?

Would you rather receive the color pdf of the alumni/nae newsletter by Email instead of having the printed version mailed to you through the post office? Presently, we have 351 individuals who get their newsletters by Email. Let us know if you want your future copies to come by Email and send your request to: jschueth@scotuscc.org.

Scotus Mission Statement

Scotus Central Catholic High School assures all students the opportunity to receive a faith-based Catholic education through academic excellence and diverse extracurricular activities.



www.scotuscc.org

Shamrock Alumni News
is published at:

Scotus Central Catholic High School
1554 18th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601
Ph: (402) 564-7165 • Fax: (402) 564-6004

Email: jschueth@scotuscc.org • Facebook: Scotus Central Catholic HS
Scotus Central Catholic admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin.
Any portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without our permission.

SHAMROCK ALUMNI NEWS
a future worthy of our past
1554 18th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, NE
Permit No. 5

SEF 16 Legacy and Founder Supporters

Thank You!

Our 2 Legacy Supporters who pledged between \$40,000 - \$150,000 for the 3-year SEF 16 Drive:



**ANONYMOUS
SUPPORTER**

Our 8 Founder Level Supporters who pledged between \$25,000 - \$39,999 for the SEF 16 Drive:



- Judy Dworak
- Thomas Thalken '60
- Larry Dowd '63 & Deanna Dowd



2022 Gala Business Sponsors: Bank of the Valley • Behlen Mfg Co • Bierman Contracting, Inc. • Bull Moose • Choice Transport/Guy & Heidi Loop Columbus Bank and Trust Company • Columbus Community Hospital • Columbus Family Practice • First National Bank • Foreman Lumber • Gearhart, Mark & Jenny Gene Steffy Ford • Great Plains State Bank • Kosch Financial • NoSwett Fencing & Decks • Obrist Plumbing Utility Division • Optometric Center of Columbus Pillen Family Farms/DNA Genetics • S & S Homes • Shelby Lumber Company, Inc • Zegar Investment Properties, LL



Shamrock ALUMNI NEWS

www.scotuscc.org

St. Francis Academy 1884-1925.....St. Bonaventure 1925-1965.....Scotus Central Catholic 1965...

Vol. 49

Spring 2023

No. 3

Alumni/nae Basketball Tourney

168 players fielding eighteen teams returned to Scotus for the 40th annual Shamrock alumni/nae basketball tourney. The first tourney took place in 1994 and was created by former Scotus basketball coach and teacher Frank Spenceri, Al Niedbalski '71, Duane Gonka '73 and Dave "Tweet" Placek '70. This year's tourney was hosted in honor of the late Mike Cielocha '79. Mike was a long-time member of the alumni basketball tourney committee who passed away suddenly, last fall. At the tourney awards dinner, Bill Kosch '68, Frank Spenceri (*right*), and Scott Spenceri '83 all spoke about Mike Cielocha and his contributions to Scotus athletics and to the Columbus community.



C Division (left). Team 1968/1993/1994 defeated 1990/1991/1995 with a score of 41-29. C Division Champions were: *Front row, l-r:* Keith Morris '93, Matt Gonka '93, Jim Springer '93, Gary Rief '94, Chad McKown '93. *Back row, l-r:* Jesse Kosch '93, Jamie Lisko '93, Chad Dohmen '93, Bill Kosch '68 and Steve Beiermann '93.

B Division (right). In a hard-fought contest, team 2003/2005/2007 defeated 2004/2006 with a score of 42-39 to capture the B Division championship. B Division champions were: *Front row, l-r:* Kyle Fritz '03, Josh Melliger '03, Nick Hall '03, Nate Staroscik '05, Ben Beller '05. *Back row, l-r:* Scott Jarecke '07, Josh Romberg '03, Brett Fry '05, Brad Bowns '03. Not shown: Wade Wemhoff '03.



A Division (Left). In the A Division, team 2009/2010 defeated team 2021/2022 with a score of 50-33. A Division champions: *Front row, l-r:* Cameron Wiehn '10, Austin Wallick '10, Bill Kurtenbach '09, Derrick Dierman '10. *Back row, l-r:* Matt Alexander '10, Trace Murray '10, Taylor Suess '09, Kirby Reardon '09, Tony Duren '09.

Ladies Division (right). The White team defeated the Green team in an exciting game, 48-47. This year's participants were, *front row, l-r:* Ava Kuhl '21, Camille Pelan '21, Kamryn Chohon '21, Kate Maguire '22, McKenna Spenceri '18. *Back row, l-r:* Morgan Duren '11, Tina Pelan, Grace Wickham '18, Sami (Spenner '09) Richardson, Jordan (Chohon '12) Brester. Not Shown: Kristie (Korth '98) Brezenski.



Gala 2023

Thank you to everyone who played a part in making the 42nd annual Gala dinner/auction another success! Organizers estimate that the 2023 Gala was the best to date, with a net of more than \$305,000 including \$27,306 raised that night for the renovation of the school's science wing restrooms. The grand auction had amazing items this year including a private plane flight for six individuals from Columbus to Kansas City for a Chiefs football game selling for \$18,000. This is Scotus' largest annual fundraiser, and the general proceeds are used to balance the school's budget.

Special thanks go to the Gala committee co-chairs: Matt '00 & Shana (Melliger '00) Niedbalski, Chad & Michelle Oakley and Gerry & Christi Wiese. And kudos to the vice-chairs who will chair next year's event Dr. Scott & Kelly Cameron, Roger & Jill Krienke and Clete & Lisa Borchers.



The Gala Lottery first prize winner of \$12,000 was Joe Swirczek. Winning \$500 each were Ed Beller '66, Kim Kluever, Kathleen Nosal, and Rudy Studnicka. **Gala Raffle winners** were Paul Olsufka (\$1,000 in Scrip gift cards), Craig Forbes (\$500 in Scrip gift cards) and Sheri Wieser (\$500 in Scrip gift cards.). **Coozie Winners** (splitting \$500) were Ray Hajek, John Hogue, and Annie Sokol. **Winning the two shotguns** was Jack Pekny and the **winners of the luxury handbags** were Jeff Ohnoutka and John Bailey.

Teacher of the Year



Jeff Ohnoutka presented the 25th annual William & Barbara Gerhold Family Teacher of the Year award to Scotus teacher, Carmen Johnson after a school Mass celebrated during this year's Catholic Schools Week. The award, which includes a \$1,500 stipend, is made available to any Columbus Catholic School teacher.

Carmen has taught Family & Consumer Science and Religion at Scotus for 34 years. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, College of Home Economics, and she provides an outstanding example of Catholic stewardship for Scotus, her parish and her community of Osceola, NE. At Scotus, Carmen is a co-chair for the Gala children's silent auction table, junior class sponsor and member of the Scotus Teachers Organization. She is active in St. Vincent Parish, Osceola, as a PRE instructor and coordinator and she is a past president of the altar society. She also volunteers as a 4-H leader, helping facilitate 4-H workshops, volunteering in the state 4-H building, superintendent for 4-H clothing day, and as a judge at many county and state level competitions.



Shown with Carmen are Nancy and Mike Munson, friends of the Gerhold family, and (far right) Jeff Ohnoutka, Executive Director of the Columbus Catholic Schools.

The Teacher of the Year award is made possible through the William and Barbara Gerhold Family endowed fund. Besides supporting the annual teacher of the year award, this fund also provides an annual distribution to one of the four Columbus Catholic schools on a rotating basis (\$3,500 to St. Isidore School this year.) Scotus Central Catholic receives the residual of the fund's annual earnings, \$11,872.25 this year, to support the academic departments of Mathematics, Science and English. The endowed fund was established in 1998 with a gift of \$196,387, and to date, the fund has distributed \$254,367.

Reunions

Class of 1963. The Class of 1963 will be holding its 60th Reunion on September 15-16 in Columbus. For more information or to help with preparations, contact Jane Tooley, deputytooley@hotmail.com or (402) 367-2319.

Class of 1968. The Class of 1968 will be holding its 55th Reunion on August 25-26, 2023. On the evening of the 25th, we will be joining our former classmates and friends from CHS at Izaak Walton. On the 26th, we plan to tour Scotus and have a reunion dinner at the Elks Country Club. More details are being finalized and will be shared. For more information, contact Mark McLaughlin, mwm1049@gmail.com.

Class of 1973. Planning is underway for our 50th reunion, and the tentative date is August 11-12, 2023. We hope to time the reunion to coincide with Columbus Days. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Susi (Heimann) Kobus, susikobus@gmail.com 402-910-6504 (cell), Ken Schrad, kjschrad@gmail.com or 804-334-6454 (cell); or Tom Zabawa, tomzabf73@gmail.com 402-276-1936 (cell), or Fritz Schwank, 402-270-4997 (cell).

Class of 1978. The Class of 1978 will gather for their 45th Reunion on September 23, 2023, in Columbus, a local establishment yet to be selected. Very informal. For details and to keep up with changes, see our Facebook page, "Scotus Class of '78" or contact Barb (Kuta) Cave or Rex Kumpf at: rexpumpf@gmail.com.

Class of 1982. The class had such an enjoyable time together last summer that we decided to get together with the CHS Class of 1982 on July 8, 2023. We will be meeting at the Husker Bar on July 8th. Starting at 6 to 8 pm, there will be sloppy joes and snacks, but the most important thing is socializing. Then around 8 pm we will be having a live band to rock the night away till midnight. Please try to come, invite any classmates you are in touch with. We would really like to have teachers there so they can tell the stories of how '82 was the greatest class ever. If you are planning to come, please let me know by texting me at 402-910-7593. Always remember YOLO. God Bless You and Your Families. – Bob Kuta P.S. The reunion might include a school tour and Mass in the school chapel.

Class of 1983. Planning is underway for the 40-year reunion, August 25-26. Plans include attending the Friday evening home football game vs. Aquinas, golf on Saturday and/or Horse races/Harrah Casino if open. Mass and tour at SCC and dinner and drinks to follow. For more information, to offer suggestions or volunteer to help plan the reunion, contact Jack Cheloha. JackCheloha@yahoo.com. Or call 402-306-9712.

Class of 1988. Planning is underway for the 35th Reunion on July 8th. More details will be sent to classmates. For more information, contact Joe Korgie at jkorgie@cox.net.

Class of 1998. The Class of 1998 will celebrate their 25th reunion on August 25-26, 2023, in Columbus. Planning has just begun but clear your calendars and plan to attend! For more information, please contact Jon Brezenski coachbrez@gmail.com.

Class of 2003 . The Class of 2003 will celebrate their 20-year class reunion on August 4-5, 2023. Friday night and Saturday activities are being planned including family-friendly options. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Josh Melliger at joshua.melliger@gmail.com, Adam Wick at adamjwick@gmail.com, Jake Tooley at jtooley81@gmail.com, or Kelli Armstrong at kellyarmstrong55@gmail.com.

Here and There...

-- Tell us What's Happening in Your Life!

E-mail to: jschueth@scotuscc.org Photos encouraged!

JOHN MAUSBACH '77 – was inducted into the Durango High School "Trailblazers Hall of Fame" at a program held on February 9, 2023. At the time of his induction, Coach Mausbach had been coaching football, track and field, and boys and girls golf for forty-two years, and twenty-five of those years at Durango HS. He began coaching football in 1981 at Kearney Catholic HS in Nebraska, then went on to be a graduate assistant coach for Northern Arizona U. from 1982-84 before moving to

Las Vegas. He was an assistant coach at Las Vegas HS and Valley HS from 1985-91 and became the head coach at Valley in 1992. He moved to Durango HS in 1994 and was the head football coach from 1996 until 2007. After stepping down as the head coach he continued to serve as an assistant coach with Durango until 2019 and has been an assistant coach at Liberty HS since. In addition to football at Durango, Coach Mausbach was an assistant track & field coach (1996-2007), head boys and girls golf coach (2009-2019) and athletic director (2009-2016.) He was the 1999 Southern Nevada HS Football Coach of the Year, inducted into the Southern Nevada HS Football Hall of Fame in 2007, named the JROTC Teacher of the Year in 2005 and was named NIAA Athletic Director of the Year in 2011. Established in 1993, Durango High School is a public school in the Clark County School District, Las Vegas, NV and serves approximately 2,300 students.

Worth Noting

- **On May 26th, Fr. James Kramper** will celebrate his 50th anniversary as an ordained priest for the Archdiocese of Omaha. There will be an open house on June 11, 2023, at the Beaumont in Wayne, NE from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. At the end of each hour, he will give a 5-minute welcome message. Father Jim taught at Scotus from 1981-82 through 1984-85 and is a retired priest of the archdiocese. Cards may be sent to Fr. Kramper at 58664 885th Road, Newcastle, NE 68757.
- **On June 6th, Fr. Carl Zoucha '80** will celebrate his 25th anniversary as an ordained priest for the Archdiocese of Omaha. There will be an open house on June 18, 2023, at the Pro Sanctity Center north of Elkhorn, NE. Cards may be sent to Fr. Carl at Holy Name Parish, 3014 N. 45th St. Omaha, NE 68104.
- **Freshman wrestler Hunter Brunkhorst** earned a bronze medal at districts and advanced to compete at the NSAA Class B state wrestling championships in Omaha. He fell in the opening round at state, won in the first consolation round and fell in the second consolation round finishing the season with a record of 36-21.
- At **State Cheer** the Scotus cheer squad finished ninth in Jazz (C1/C2) and 17th in Hip Hop (C1).
- The **boys' basketball** team was defeated by Pierce in the district final. The Shamrocks finished the year at 17-8.
- The **girls' basketball team** was defeated by Gothenburg in the district final. The Shamrocks finished the year at 19-6.
- Scotus sent twenty-two students involved in 27 total entries for the **Nebraska School Activities Association Class B State Journalism** competition. The competition was held on Monday, April 24th at Northeast Community College in Norfolk.
- Named to **academic all-state for winter sports** were Boys Basketball: Jackson Faust and Mason Roberts, Girls Basketball: Maysa Kuhl and Hailey Steffensmeier, Speech: Daniel Cline and Jasmine Jackson, Wrestling: Michael Krienke and Paul Littlefield.
- **The Scotus Band** held their 28th annual Dinner Concert, "Totally Rad" on Monday, February 6th with more than 750 guests attending.
- A cast and crew of twenty-four students presented "**Annie The Musical**" on February 10-12.
- **Cyril Zoucha, (1931-2018)** grew up in rural Platte County. At a youthful age, he left school to help work on the family farm. He then enlisted in the U.S. Army, eventually serving in the Korean War from 1952-54. Cyril married Phyllis Nienaber and had five children. They continued to farm for many years. While simultaneously putting their children through Scotus, Cyril pursued his GED followed by both his real estate and auctioneer licenses, cementing the importance of education in the family. Cyril faithfully supported both his parish, St. Anthony's, and Scotus over six decades as all five of his children (**bold**) and all twelve of his grandchildren graduated from Scotus:
 - Ron '76 (Joanne) Zoucha** - Sheena '02 (Zoucha) Werts, Sara '08 (Zoucha) Shalon
 - Deb '78 (Jim) Bogus** - Kyle '04 (Ngan) Bogus, Kara '08 (Bogus) Florian
 - Chris '80 (Gene) Schumacher** - Lauren '07 (Schumacher) Bassinger, Kelli '09 (Schumacher) Lierley, Thomas Schumacher '12, Megan '17 (Schumacher) Scott
 - Rick '86 (Cheryl) Zoucha** - Tony Zoucha '14, Alison Zoucha '17, Abbie Zoucha '19, Alex Zoucha '23
 - Randy '86 Zoucha**

- The **Shamrock speech team** finished third in the Class B-3 District competition and the following students qualified to compete at state with their district finishes: district champion Humorous Prose - Daniel Cline, district champion Persuasive - Jasmine Jackson, district runner-up Program Oral Interpretation - Jessica Jackson, district runner-up Entertainment - Jessica Jackson, district runner-up Humorous Prose - Madden Saenz, district runner-up Serious Prose - Madden Saenz, district 3rd place Informative - Caroline Klitz and district 3rd place Program Oral Interpretation - Jasmine Jackson. Other district medalists: Ava Bettenhausen - 5th Entertainment, Rebecca Policky - 5th Informative, and Neve Pavlik, Tori Dush, Ava Bettenhausen, Giselle Chillapa-Bello, Elizabeth Stoner - 6th place Oral Interpretation of Drama.



- At the **state Class B speech meet**, sophomore Jessica Jackson was the state champion in Program of Oral Interpretation (our first state champion for Scotus in 12 years.) Jessica also captured a fifth-place medal in Entertainment. Scotus senior Jasmine Jackson earned state runner-up in Persuasive Speaking and finished in fifth place in Program of Oral Interpretation. Scotus senior Daniel Cline finished in sixth place in Humorous Prose. As a team, Scotus finished in fifth place. *Shown (at right) l-r:* Daniel Cline, Jessica Jackson, and Jasmine Jackson.



- Senior, Lindsay Ohnoutka** signed to play softball at the College of St. Mary. Lindsay played on the CHS Discoverers team her senior year and will study kinesiology as an undergraduate and then occupational therapy at CSM. Seated with Lindsay are her parents, Jeff and Deb Ohnoutka and standing is CSM softball coach Carolyn Todd Bray.



- Scotus senior Maysa Kuhl** signed her letter of intent to join the Hastings College soccer team. Maysa will be studying exercise science and biology. Shown with Maysa are her parents Rusty and Andrea Kuhl.



16th Annual Shamrock Open

The 16th Annual Shamrock Open is set for Saturday, June 3, 2023, with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. The tournament will be held at Tiburon GC in Omaha, and is open to everyone! Players can count on a tourney known for its excellent flight and flag prizes, good food and exceptional camaraderie!

Both registration and sponsor forms are available on the Scotus website, scotuscc.org. Early Bird: \$85/participant (checks must be mailed by May 5th.) Entry Fee: \$100/participant (entry deadline is May 26th.) Checks should be made out to Scotus Central Catholic and mailed to SCC Development Office, 1554 18th Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601. Payment may also be made at the clubhouse registration table.

For more information about registration or becoming a tourney sponsor, contact Nick Puetz '97 at: shamrockopen@gmail.com or Joe Puetz '01 at puetzfinancial@gmail.com or John Schueth in the Scotus Development office at jschueth@scotuscc.org, 402-564-7165 ext 109.

Our Friends, the IRA, 401(k) & 403(b)

Most IRAs, except for the Roth IRA, are funded with pre-tax dollars and allowed to grow tax-free. Along with your home, insurance, and investments such as stocks and bonds, they are an excellent way to plan for your retirement security. Once you take distributions from your IRA's the income then becomes taxable. That is what makes IRA's a wonderful estate planning gift for your favorite charities, including Scotus Central Catholic High School.

Many individuals will never use all their IRA assets during their lifetime. As a result, the IRAs will become part of their estate and passed on to family heirs. However, if passed on to children or relatives, the inheritance of most IRAs comes with a big price—your relatives will have to pay income taxes on the distribution they receive, and at their highest tax rate. Depending upon the size of your IRA, the tax bill can become tens of thousands of dollars in size.

On the other hand, if Scotus Central Catholic is the beneficiary of one or all your IRAs, there are no taxes paid on the distribution because of our school's tax-exempt status. To leave IRA retirement assets to Scotus Central Catholic, you will need to complete a simple beneficiary designation form provided by your retirement plan custodian. With Scotus Central Catholic listed as the beneficiary of the IRA, it avoids probate, and the full distribution will become your investment in the Catholic education of our students!

Make your Scotus Investment the Easy Way!

Go to: www.scotuscc.org and Click on the "Donate" button. Complete the simple form and you've made your gift to accomplish so much for our students!

Donate





In Sympathy

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni, alumnae and friends of Scotus Central Catholic.

Wilfred “Bill” Albracht – survived by daughters, Khristane ’70 (Jim) Brand, Rebecca, Grace (Allen) Randolph; son, Gregg ’67 (Christine); stepsons, Anthony Cowherd, Steve Cowherd; son-in-law, Rod Cowherd; and six grandchildren.

Joyce (Bures ’54) Albright – survived by her husband, Roland “Ron”; daughters, Gail Nelson, Janet (Fred) Wood; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

David James Bennett – survived by his parents, Jamie & Julie; sister, Logan ’19; brother, Nicholas; grandparents, Pete (Carol) Bennett, Marie Korth; aunts and uncles, Sue (John) Johnson, Fred (Sally) Korth, Laurie (Dean) Krings, Dan (Sarah) Korth, Lisa (Todd) Schaecher, Lela (Randy) Schaecher, Ben Korth, Barbie (Lyle) Herchenbach, Kimberly Bean, Greg Bean, Kylee Bean.

Mary (Kurtenbach ’70) Campbell – survived by her husband, Tom; son, Jefferson (Jenny); sister, Shirley ’68 (Eugene); step-daughter, Tina Behrends; brothers, Randy ’75 (Joan), Dale ’80 (Hyon); and two grandchildren.

Betty Jo Davidson – survived by her husband, Rollie; daughters, Debbie ’76 Wissler, Shelly ’78 (Jerome) Stolinski, Christy ’80 (Dave) Insinger, Suzanne ’84 (James) Davis; son, Brian ’81 (Della); sisters, Joan Kallhoff, Laverna (Dave) Edmister, Phyllis Hyde; brother, Rick Penne; sister-in-law, JoAnn Penne; eleven grandchildren and nineteen great-grandchildren.

Helen Euteneuer – survived by daughters, Cheryl (John) Castle, Jane ’86 (Mike) Zimmerman; sons, Steve (Karen Martin ’78), Kevin ’79 (Jen); sisters, Alice Uhlig, Lou Ann (Roger) Noonan; sisters-in-law, Bea ’56 (Bob) Carey, Mary Ann ’52 Ciecior, Mary Euteneuer, Elaine Euteneuer; brother-in-law, Ray ’64 (Lois) Euteneuer; fifteen grandchildren; sixteen great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Bruce Foreman – survived by his wife, Mary; daughter, Crystal (Chad) Hamling; sons, Craig ’92 (Michele), Benjamin ’00 (Melissa); brother, Brad (Janet); sisters-in-law, Diane Mimick ’67 (Randy) Shada, Patty (Steve) Hopwood, Connie Mimick (Rick Tank), Bonnie Mimick, Tammy (Scott) Millard, Sharon (Randy) Heibel; brothers-in-law, Bill Mimick ’66, Ron ’75 (Cathie) Mimick; eleven grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Debra Ann (Melliger ’71) Getchell – survived by daughter, Natalie (Naroda) Knox; son, Russell (Celia); brother, Curt Melliger ’74; and four grandchildren.

Mary Eileen (Smyth ’39) Johns – survived by daughters, Carol (Terry) Tvrđik, Linda (Larry) Orsi, Kathy (Don) Tracy; daughter-in-law, Kathryn Neubaure-Johns; sister, Leone Billesbach, sister-in-law, Eileen Smyth; seven grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

Betty Korth – survived by daughter, Nancy; sons, Bob, Russ (Patty), Charles ’85 (Tara), Doug ’86 (Maria), Matt ’94 (Jenny); sister, Lola Goldberg; brother, Jerry (Peggy) Cramer; sister-in-law, Marie Korth; fourteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Carolyn Lippert – survived by her husband, John; daughter, Rachel (Jim ’93) Sokol; sister, Linda (Steve) Moore; and two grandchildren. Carolyn taught for more than twenty-five years at St. Anthony Elementary School in Columbus.

Clarine Loseke – survived by daughters, Lynette (Dr. William) Singer, Becki (Darren) Zanardi; son, Kurt (Kari); sister, Vicki Preister; sister-in-law, Delores Rist; seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Becki Zanardi was a long-time teacher at Scotus and occasionally returns as a substitute teacher.

Charles Pfaff ’61 – survived by his wife, Patricia; daughters, Allison (Ashley) Harlow, Megan (Phillip) Durham; sisters, Frances ’59 (Larry ’56) Sleddens, Phyllis ’68 Watters, Sharon ’70 (Joe) Davis; in-laws, Bill (Iris) Lofquest, Terry (Anita) Lofquest and Mitch (Gene) Shemek; six grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Shirley (Slade ’57) Robak – survived by daughters, Karen (Mike) Smith, Paula (Mark) Fluckiger, Erin (Mike) Marushak; sons, Richard, Jr., Jeff, Brad; sisters, Jeannie (Bob) Eden, Susan (Charlie) Brown; brother James (Gail) Slade, Jr.; sister-in-law, Kathleen Schacher; fourteen grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

JoAnn (Heimann ’69) Spurgin – survived by her husband, James; daughter, Sara (Brad) Park; sons, Matthew (Jeanette), Christopher (Kelsey); five siblings and their spouses; seven grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews; and grand-nieces and grand-nephews.

Gerald “Jerry” Swirczek ’80 – survived by sister, Mary Ann (Dean) Kosch, Virginia ’61 Kolas; brother, Joe (Patty) Swirczek; and many nieces and nephews. Jerry passed five days after his brother.

Thaddeus “Shoes” Swirczek ’74 – survived by sisters, Mary Ann (Dean) Kosch, Virginia ’61 Kolas; brothers, Joe (Patty), Jerry ’80; and many nieces and nephews.

Barbara Torczon – survived by daughters, Doreen ’79 (Augie) Runge, Stacey ’86 (Jon) Schefus; sons, Tim (Stephanie), Rick (Carol); sisters, Mary Ann Nowak, Catherine Bega, Marie (Valasek ’55) Nelson; sisters-in-law, Joan Duesman, Bonnie (Bierman ’72) Torczon, Lu Torczon, Lugene Torczon; eleven grandchildren and twenty-four great-grandchildren.

Mary Jo Van Ackeren – survived by daughters, Peg ’67 (Roger ’66) Soukup, Patricia ’71 (Bill) Bogus, Julie ’79 (Mark) Maercklein; son, Larry (Deb); thirteen grandchildren and twenty-eight great-grandchildren.

Kenneth “Ken” Wieser – survived by his wife, Judith; daughters, Carla ’79 (Ellen Suedkamp) Wieser, Michelle ’81 (Doug) Moore, Ann ’94 (Andy) Suyker; son, Matthew ’93; brother, Jerome (Helen); sister-in-law, Dolores Wieser; six grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

✠ Memorials ✠

(Received between 1/17/2023 and 4/17/2023)

Eileen Breitreutz

Agnes Placzek
MM John Shotkoski

Mary Catherine (Bothe '55) Beller

MM Bill Haney
JoAnn Johnson, Andrea & Danny
Theresa Kumpf
Bill Micek
MM Leo Moschenross
Marie Nelson
Con Nosal
Margaret Papa
MM John Peck
Schumacher, Smejkal & Elm PC
MM David Vanek
MM John Woerth

Bruce Foreman

MM Ed Brezenski
MM Ben Foreman
MM Craig Foreman
Mary Foreman
MM Chad Hamling
MM John Obrist
MM Vern Younger

Mike Cielocha '79

MM Lonnie Ciecior
MM Robert Duren
Paula Kelly
MM John Kopetzky
Rey Liss
MM Dan Mahoney
Bill Micek
DRM John Prososki
Tim Siegel
MM Tim Tooley

Joseph Citta Jr

Gary Kruse
MM Gary Puetz

Betty Davidson

MM Vern Younger
Janet Brezinski

Gary Ebel '66

Bill Micek

Annette Hellbusch

MM Tom Fehringer
MM Pat Novicki
MM Marv Rinkol

Larry Holys '70

Marie Brakenhoff
MM Mark McLaughlin
DR Leon Wennekamp

Mary Eileen (Smyth '39) Johns

MM Donald Tracy

Charles Jasper

Bill Micek

Betty Korth

MM Mark Love
MM David Rhode

Louis "Bud" Kuta

Bill Micek
MM Rick Zoucha

Carolyn Lippert

MM Anthony DeLancey

Jerry Liss '73

Rey Liss

Robert "Bob" Mark

MM Richard Keller

Mary (Thompson '64) Mitera

JC Mitera

Charles Pfaff '61

MM Joe Davis

Dennis Podany

MM Tom Malmstrom

Sharon Reichmuth

MM Rick Frauendorfer

Delores Sempek

MM Leo Rinkol

Donna Shreve

MM Paul Jazwick
MM Bill Kosch
MM Jeff Ohnoutka
MM John Schueth

JoAnn (Heimann '69) Spurgin

Sue Gonka
MM Bob Rickert

Barbara Torczon

Janet Brezinski
MM John Cimpl
MM Mike Dreesen
MM Paul Jazwick
Gary Kruse
MM Bob Rickert
MM Vern Younger

Mary Jo VanAckeren

MM Vern Younger

Ken Wieser

MM John Obrist

Gordon Buchholz

MM Marv Rinkol

Addresses Needed!

The Shamrock Newsletter was returned by the post office as undeliverable to the addresses on file for the following Shamrocks: Ryan Ames '04, Peg (Siemek '82) Asche, Dustin Becher '03, Cory Borer '88, Evelyn (Kozioł '57) Bosak, Robin (Liebentritt '83) Busteded, Margaret (Iwan '47) Cerny, Ivan Chilapa '14, Brock Clarke '20, Gina (Sutko '86) DeBord, Kim Dreifurst '84, Michaela Engler '05, Virginia (Swolek '61) Fischer, Halle Fuchs '14, Christopher Goettsche '93, Andrew Gutierrez '02, Sue (Rathbun '65) Huff, Alex Kuta '10, Bibiana Lopez '13, Carole (Thraen '55) Michael, Elizabeth (Coupens '45) O'Leary, Rylie Olson '19, Karen Pokorny '83, Theresa (Horne '93) Poulas, Jim Sobotka '55, Eric Wemhoff '90, John "Jay" Wilhelm '76, and Tricia (Korger '89) Wilson. If you have their correct mailing address, please contact the Scotus development office. For a full list of those for whom we need addresses go to the Scotus website, scotuscc.org, and then to the development/alumni drop down box.

Future Newsletters by Email?

Would you rather receive the color pdf of the alumni/nae newsletter by Email instead of having the printed version mailed to you through the post office?

Presently, we have 351 individuals who get their newsletters by Email. Let us know if you want your future copies to come by Email and send your request to: jschueth@scotuscc.org.

Scotus Mission Statement

Scotus Central Catholic High School assures all students the opportunity to receive a faith-based Catholic education through academic excellence and diverse extracurricular activities.



www.scotuscc.org

Shamrock Alumni News
is published at:

Scotus Central Catholic High School
1554 18th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601
Ph: (402) 564-7165 • Fax: (402) 564-6004



Email: jschueth@scotuscc.org • Facebook: Scotus Central Catholic HS
Scotus Central Catholic admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin.
Any portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without our permission.

SHAMROCK ALUMNI NEWS
a future worthy of our past
1554 18th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, NE
Permit No. 5

SEF 16 Legacy and Founder Supporters

Thank You!

Our 2 Legacy Supporters who pledged between \$40,000 - \$150,000 for the 3-year SEF 16 Drive:



**ANONYMOUS
SUPPORTER**

Our 8 Founder Level Supporters who pledged between \$25,000 - \$39,999 for the SEF 16 Drive:



Judy Dworak • Thomas Thalken '60 • Larry Dowd '63 • Anonymous



Shamrock ALUMNI NEWS

www.scotuscc.org

St. Francis Academy 1884-1925.....St. Bonaventure 1925-1965.....Scotus Central Catholic 1965...

Vol. 49

Summer 2023

No.4

State Champions Again!

For the third year in a row, Scotus Journalism captured the Class B State Journalism Championship. The Shamrocks won with a school record score of 438 points with 2nd place Elkhorn North HS finishing with 282 points. Competing as one of the smallest schools in Class B, Scotus has captured five state titles in Journalism, 2023, 2022, 2021, 2018, and 2017. The Rocks also finished in 3rd place in 2019 and 2016. Here are the individual results:

Advertising: Jessica Jackson - 1st, Lily Dohmen - 5th, Lindsay Ohnoutka - 8th

Newspaper Column Writing: Jasmine Jackson – 2nd

Editorial Cartooning: Claire Rickert - 2nd, Jessica Jackson - 3rd

Editorial Writing: Joanna Rusher - 3rd

Entertainment Review Writing: Daniel Cline - 6th

Headline Writing: Jasmine Jackson - 1st

Newspaper News Writing: Libbie Brezenski - 1st, Claire Rickert - 3rd

Newspaper Feature Writing: Brennen Jelinek - 7th

Yearbook Feature Writing: Allison Wemhoff - 6th

Yearbook Theme Copy Writing: Faith Weber - 5th, Nick Zoucha - 6th, Zach Schultz - 7th

In-Depth Newspaper Coverage: Joanna Rusher, Kavan Splittgerber, Maysa Kuhl, Ted Fehringer, Lily Dohmen, Brennen Jelinek - 2nd, Mary Faltys, Mark Buhman, Lily Dohmen, Kavan Splittgerber, Brennen Jelinek, Libbie Brezenski - 3rd, Kavan Splittgerber, Joanna Rusher, Ted Fehringer, Daniel Cline, Jasmine Jackson, Lily Dohmen - 7th

Action Photography: Emma Lindhorst - 3rd, Ava Cremers - 8th

Broadcast News Story: Jack Faust and Nick Zoucha - 1st, Kavan Splittgerber - 2nd, Ava Cremers and Neleigh Sliva - 3rd

Broadcast Feature Story: Ava Cremers and Neleigh Sliva - 1st, Jack Faust and Nick Zoucha - 3rd, Hailey Steffensmeier and Allison Wemhoff - 4th

Broadcast Sports Story: Libbie Brezenski and Sierra Kravig - 2nd, Hailey Steffensmeier and Allison Wemhoff - 3rd, Ava Cremers and Neleigh Sliva - 7th

Broadcast Public Service Announcement: Libbie Brezenski and Sierra Kravig - 7th



Welcome Class of 2023!

Joining the ranks of Scotus alumni and alumnae this spring were 65 graduates. Class president, Claire Rickert, gave the senior address. Fr. James Heithoff gave the homily. Named as the Spirit of Scotus Award winner was Jackson Faust, son of Cory & Tricia Faust

Brianna Belzer	Jamison Kush
Shelby Brandenburg	Brooke Lehr
Brooklyn Brandt	Haley Leise
Elizabeth Brezenski	Isaak Liebig
Mark Buhman	Emma Lindhorst
Jase Christensen	Paul Littlefield
Trenton Cielocha	Alex Long
Patrick Cieloha-Carreto	Thomas Melliger
Daniel Cline	Samuel Meyer
Ava Cremers	Cesar Montenegro
Kaelyn Dierman	Ella Nahorny
Erick Dimas	Katie Nelsen
Lily Dohmen	Jace Nelson
Isaac Dreher	Taylor Neville
Jackson Faust	Lindsay Ohnoutka
Ted Fehring	Evan Ostdiek
Alex Ferguson	Izic Pillen
Carter Filipi	Claire Rickert
Bryce Follette	Mason Roberts
Francesca Gallino	Owen Rother Zachary
Jackson Hanson	Schultz Alexander
Alyssa Hiemer	Settje Neleigh Sliva
Ashley Hoffman	Shayleen Smith
Cameron Houfek	Kavanaugh Splittgerber
Lauren Houfek	Hailey Steffensmeier
Jasmine Jackson	Faith Weber
Eli Jarecke	Allison Wemhoff Blake
Bohden Jedlicka	Wemhoff Gabrielle
Brennen Jelinek	Young Alex Zoucha
Samantha Johnston	Nicholas Zoucha
Whitney Klug	
Sierra Kravig	
Maysa Kuhl	



Claire Rickert gives Senior Address.

SEF 17 SCHOOL EXCELLENCE FUND



You are invited to become a part of a transformational fund drive for our Columbus Catholic Schools. This fall the Columbus Catholic Schools development office will launch SEF 17, providing our stakeholders an opportunity to invest in the Catholic education of students in all four of our schools: Scotus Central Catholic, St. Anthony, St. Bonaventure, and St. Isidore. Guided by the Columbus Catholic Schools Strategic Plan and the new Columbus Catholic Schools board of directors, SEF 17 will first address the tuition assistance needs of our school families, fund needed safety and accessibility upgrades to our schools including an elevator at Scotus, recruit and retain excellent teachers, and fund the addition of High Ability Learning (HAL) programs and Academic Intervention/Special Education programming. You can help us achieve these goals and more through your philanthropy and prayers. More information will be coming soon, but if you have immediate questions about the campaign, contact John Schueth, 402-564-7165 x109 or Erin Schmidt 402-564-7165 x114.

Addresses Needed!

The most recent Shamrock Newsletter was returned by the post office as undeliverable to the addresses on file for the following Shamrocks: Luke Bettenhausen '19, Jenna '12 (Dubas) Blankers, Tisa Kasik '18, Eric Fuchs '81, Hannah Merrill '14, Bill Messing '52, and Don Tinius '70. If you have their correct mailing address, please contact the Scotus development office. For a full list of those for whom we need addresses go to the Scotus website, columbus-catholic.org, and then to the development/alumni drop down box.

16th Annual Alumni/Alumnae Soccer Tournament

This year's tourney will be held on August 4-5, 2023, at the Warren & Shirley McLaughlin Activity Field. For more information contact Jon Brezenski '98 at coachbrez@gmail.com.

Here and There...

-- Tell us What's Happening in Your Life!
E-mail to: jschueth@colcath.org Photos encouraged!

Guys from the class of 1980 went on a fishing trip in South Dakota recently and limited-out on walleye. Tim Novicki took home the prize for the largest walleye. From left: Dale Kurtenbach, Mark Kurtenbach, Chris Dreifurst, Bob Bosak, Bob Heimann, Rick Ebel, Jim Van Lent, Tim Novicki.



A few classmates gathered at Chris (Davidson) Insinger's house on June 23rd to help Fr. Carl Zoucha '80 celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. There was a lot of reminiscing, good food, and fun. Fr. Carl even brought his old notes from religion class with Fr. Joe Miksch! Keep Father Carl in your prayers as he begins his new assignment as senior associate pastor, St. Michael Parish, South Sioux City.



(Standing – front l-r): Mel Miksch, John Kopetzky, Chris (Davidson) Insinger, Fr. Carl, Peg (McGillivray) Niedbalski, Tim Novicki, Bob Weiler.
(Standing – rear l-r): Dale Kurtenbach, Bob Heimann, Mark Kurtenbach, Rick Ebel, John Ebner.

Bid-a-Bag is Back!

The Scotus Booster Club is sponsoring the return of this fun, social, evening out for ladies, featuring a fabulous silent auction of purses, bags, accessories, and jewelry. The event will be held on Thursday, November 2 from 6-9 pm in the Scotus cafeteria. Admission is \$15 presale, \$20 at the door. Guests will enjoy signature mock-tail drinks, appetizers, and desserts, and possibly a few surprises! BYOB. Guests must be twenty-one or older. All proceeds will be used to support student activities at Scotus Central Catholic. To make a donation for the auction, or to ask about reservations, contact Erin Schmidt, Director of Development and Family Engagement for the Columbus Catholic Schools at eschmidt@colcath.org or phone 402-564-7165 x114.



New Website

We have now moved to one website for all four Columbus Catholic Schools. This will help streamline communications to our school families and make it easier for the public to get the information they need and want. In addition, you will notice that the email addresses of all Columbus Catholic Schools faculty, staff and administration will change. This change was necessary, as the elementary schools were Google based and Scotus was Microsoft based. This also maintains consistency throughout our staff and student emails. All staff emails will be the first letter of their first name, followed by last name, @colcath.org. (example: tdahl@colcath.org) Also, before this change, students would have to change their email when they arrived at Scotus in 7th grade. Now their email is set earlier in elementary school, and they keep that email throughout their time as a CCS student. You can visit and bookmark the new website by using this link: <https://columbus-catholic.org/> If you have any questions or input about the website, please reach out to Taylor Dahl, Scotus marketing director at tdahl@colcath.org.

Make your Scotus Investment the Easy Way!

Donate



Go to: www.columbus-catholic.org and Click on the "Donate" button. Complete the simple form and you've made your gift to accomplish so much for our students!

Worth Noting

• **In District Music**, Scotus students earned 19 Superior (I) and 7 Excellent (II) scores: **Superior (I) ratings:** Drumline; Vocal Solo: Mark Buhman; Vocal Solo: Henry Chard; Vocal Duet: Lily Humphrey & Caroline Klitz (also received Outstanding Performance Honorable Mention Award); Girls Trio: Cecilia Arndt, Sophia Mowrey, Neve Pavlik; Vocal Solo: Giselle Chilapa-Bello; Vocal Solo: Alejandra Lopez-Martinez; Vocal Solo: Caroline Klitz; Saxophone Solo: Jasmine Jackson; Baritone Solo: Neve Pavlik; Trumpet Solo: Hailey Steffensmeier; Flute Solo: Kaitlyn Fleming; Flute Solo: Jessica Jackson; Flute Duet: Jessica Jackson & Karol Torres; Saxophone Quartet: Jake Demuth, Henry Chard, Ian Karges, Jasmine Jackson; Clarinet Solo: Abigail Schumacher; Baritone Trio: Helene Chard, Caroline Klitz, Neve Pavlik; Saxophone Flute Duet: Jessica & Jasmine Jackson; Shamrock Singers. **Excellent (II) ratings:** Band; Girls Trio: Isabella Chasteen, Lola Doerneman, Giselle Chilapa-Bello; Men's Trio: Logan Erickson, Cesar Montenegro, Mark Buhman; Flute Ensemble; Vocal Solo: Nicole Peterson; Trombone Solo: Rebecca Policky; Flute Duet: Lily Humphrey & Shay Smith.

• At district **track**, the boys team finished 4th and the girls finished in 8th place. At state track, the boys' and girls' teams each scored two points. Kyra Bowen placed 7th in the long jump and the boys 4x400 relay set a new school record time of 3:25.51 and placed 7th.

• At district **golf**, the boys team finished 4th with a score of 358. Qualifying for state were: Nick Fleming (7th), and Patrick Arndt (tied for 10th). At the state Class B championship, Nick earned the 6th place medal with a 36-hole score of 149 and Patrick missed getting a medal finishing tied for 16th place with a 155.

• Both boys' and girls' **soccer** teams had successful seasons. Girls' soccer finished 13-5 with a state quarter-final loss Mercy HS and a final state ranking of 6th place. The boys finished 14-3 with a state quarterfinal loss to Lexington and a final state ranking of 5th place.

• Named **Scotus Athletes of the Year**, Maysa Kuhl and Jack Faust. (Photo)

• Named to the **Spring NSAA Academic All-State** were: (Baseball) Jack Faust; (Boys Golf) Nicklaus Fleming, Mason Gonka; (Journalism) Ava Cremers, Jasmine Jackson; (Music) Jasmine Jackson, Sierra Kravig; (Boys Soccer) Ted Fehringer, Carter Filipi; (Girls Soccer) Elizabeth Brezenski, Maysa Kuhl; (Boys Track & Field) Evan Kiene, Jude Maguire; (Girls Track & Field) Kyra Bowen, Hailey Steffensmeier.



• Jack Faust played in the 65th annual **Shrine Bowl**.

• The 2023 **Outstanding Service Award, Alumnus/na of the Year Award** and the new **Shamrock Athletic Hall of Fame inductees** will be announced at half-time of the August 25th home football game with Aquinas Catholic High School.

• The **Scotus Booster Club** opening dinner will be on August 15 beginning at 6:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus Columbian Club Hall. Everyone is invited to join the booster club which supports all Scotus activities and many faculty wish list needs. The club takes gate at all athletic contests, provides volunteer support for many Scotus events, and raises funds through burger bashes, the Shonka Golf Tourney, Scotus Gala and the Scotus Craft Boutique to name a few.

• Because Scotus ran out of space for new banners, all the **state championship banners** were taken down in the Dowd Activity Center. The space that was behind the banners was covered in new white panels and new state championship banners for each activity were installed on the south wall of the gym. Each new banner displays the state championship years for the activity. There are sixteen banners representing the sixteen NSAA activities. In addition, the large, framed state championship photos were switched out with downsized framed pictures to provide more space and uniformity in the hallway outside of the Dowd Activity Center. The original framed photos are currently being sold.



• **Mrs. Erin Schmidt** has joined the Columbus Catholic Schools (CCS) as the Director of Development and Family Engagement. Erin's position was created as part of the CCS strategic plan, and she joins John Schueth, Scotus Development Director, and Taylor Dahl, Scotus Marketing Director, on the CCS advancement team. She brings with her an enterprising spirit and a history of success in her positions in education and in the creation of her own business. One of Erin's first tasks will be to coordinate and enhance the fundraising of all four Columbus Catholic Schools with emphasis at the elementary schools. She will also work to increase involvement of school families and supporters in all four schools and assist in major fundraising efforts such as the SEF drive, Scotus Gala, and annual appeals. Erin and her husband, Jason, are members of St. Isidore Parish and have five children, one attending St. Isidore Pre-School/Daycare, three who attend St. Isidore Elementary and one entering Scotus this fall.

Shamrock Open

Eighty-five golfers participated in the 16th annual Shamrock Open on June 3rd at Tiburon Golf Course in Omaha. The event is primarily held as an opportunity for Shamrocks to gather and have a fun time, and the event also raised \$12,850.00 for the Scotus bus lease fund. This year's winners of the first flight and wearing the tourney's coveted champion jackets, L-R: Seth VunCannon '22, Nolan Fleming '23, Mike VunCannon, and Shane Fleming.



Thank you to our Tourney sponsors:

Platinum Level: BD Construction (Chris Langan '96) • Bull Moose (Neal Suess) • Children's Dentistry of Council Bluffs (Joe Quattrocchi '91) • First National Bank Omaha (Chad Gonka '96, Craig Jones '97, Todd Seawall) • GroupSync (Dan Beller '97) • Northwest Electric (Kyle Fritz '03) • Northwestern Mutual (Nate Karges '96) • Puetz Family (Gary & Judy) • LUTZ (Justin & Nicole Sand '93 Vossen) • Nebraska Scooter Mart (Brent White '78, Curt White '82)

Green Level: Aurora Cooperative (Chris Cielocha '97) • Mahan Family (Bill Mayhan) • Obrist & Company (John Obrist '96) • Zeal (Kelly Kruse '96 Spurgeon)

Gold Level: Gerry & Kathy Engelbert • Malibu Homes (Mike '94 & Renee Fuhr '94 Shotkoski) • Scotus Soccer (John Brezenski '98) • ExitBig (Jeff Herdzina '94)

2023 Reunions

Class of 1963. The Class of 1963 will be holding its 60th Reunion on September 15-16 in Columbus. For more information or to help with preparations, contact Jane Tooley, deputytooley@hotmail.com or (402) 367-2319.

Class of 1968. The Class of 1968 will be holding its 55th Reunion on August 25-26, 2023. On the evening of the 25th, we will be joining our former classmates and friends from CHS at Izaak Walton. On Saturday, the 26th, we plan to tour Scotus at 3:00 pm and have a reunion dinner at the Elks Country Club. More details are being finalized and will be shared. For more information, contact Mark McLaughlin, mwm1049@gmail.com.

Class of 1973. Planning is underway for our 50th reunion, set for August 11-12, 2023. We have planned the reunion to coincide with Columbus Days. On Saturday there will be a school tour at 3:00 pm and a Mass at 4:00 pm in the school chapel with celebrant and class member Fr. Damian Zuerlein. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Susi (Heimann) Kobus, susikobus@gmail.com 402-910-6504 (cell), Ken Schrad, kjschrad@gmail.com or 804-334-6454 (cell); or Tom Zabawa, tomzabf73@gmail.com 402-276-1936 (cell), or Fritz Schwank, 402-270-4997 (cell).

Class of 1978. The Class of 1978 will gather for their 45th Reunion on September 23, 2023. The event will be held in Columbus at the new Barrel House, located at 2311 14th St, starting at 6:00 p.m. The Barrel House does not serve food, but a hat will be passed for those wanting pizza. There is a home Scotus football game on Friday for those interested. Follow us on Facebook at "Scotus Class of 1978". Pass the word! -- Barb (Kuta) Cave and Rex Kumpf (rexkumpf@gmail.com).

Class of 1983. Planning is underway for the 40-year reunion, August 25-26. Plans include attending the Friday evening home football game vs. Aquinas, golf on Saturday and/or Horse Races/Harrah Casino. Also on Saturday, Mass at 5:00 pm in the Scotus chapel with celebrant Fr. Wayne Pavela, a school tour after Mass and then dinner and drinks. For more information, to offer suggestions or volunteer to help plan the reunion, contact Jack Cheloha. JackCheloha@yahoo.com. Or call 402-306-9712.

Class of 1998. The Class of 1998 will celebrate their 25th reunion on August 25-26, 2023, in Columbus. Planning has just begun but clear your calendars and plan to attend! A tour of Scotus will start 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. For more information, please contact Jon Brezenski coachbrez@gmail.com.

Class of 2003. The Class of 2003 will celebrate their 20-year class reunion on August 4-5, 2023. Friday night and Saturday activities are being planned, including family-friendly options and a school tour is set for Saturday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. For more information or to offer suggestions, contact Josh Melliger at joshua.melliger@gmail.com, Adam Wick at adamjwick@gmail.com, Jake Tooley at jtooley81@gmail.com, or Kelli Armstrong at kellyarmstrong55@gmail.com.



In Sympathy

We extend our sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni, alumnae and friends of Scotus Central Catholic.

James Czuba – survived by sister, Janelle '83 (John) Ryan; brother, Jay '77; and many nieces and nephews.

Dave Duren – survived by his wife, Norma; daughters, Lynne '75 (Jerry) Barkmeier, Diane '77 (Drew Collier), Andrea '90 (Jeff) Carlson; sons Dan '78 (Tiffany), Mark '81 (Johna Konwinski '81); sisters, Mary Gean Neujahr, Judy Weisbarth Mentor; brother, Jerome Duren; sisters-in-law, Barbara Duren, Marie Krings, Grace Torczon; fifteen grandchildren; six great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. Dave was a past Scotus school board president and long-time trustee of the Scotus endowment board.

Mike Honke '66 – survived by his wife, Martha “Marti”; daughters, Heather (John) Schroder, Beth (Derek) Babel; son, Matthew '95 (Kathleen); sister, Vicki (Duane) Hodge; brother, Terry '73 (Connie); brother and sister-in-law, Russell and Kathy Hill; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Mildred Mausbach – survived by daughters, Lynn '67 McNabb, Donna '74 (David) Romer; sons, Terry '71, John '77 (Sally Walker); five grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Joseph “Joe” Noonan – survived by his wife, Alice; daughter, Yona (Bud) Wenick; son, Daniel; brother, Don '56 (Delores); two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Alice Rhode – survived by daughters, Sandra '70, Jolene '83 (Tim) Wojcik; sons, Steven '88, David '86 (Joan); sisters-in-law, Rosalyn Ritzdorf, Leola Rhode, Alda Grosserhode; four grandchildren; one great-grandchild, and many nieces and nephews.

Ron Stempel – survived by his wife, Connie; sons, Troy '85, Trent (Shelley), Travis (Staci), Tyler; sister, Karen Terry; and seven grandchildren.

Marvin Styskal – survived by daughters, Pamela '77 Bolte, Rebecca '78 (Remi Sojka) Matthew, Jennifer '92 (Mike) VanCannon; sons, Chris (Leslie), Jon Paul (Julie); twenty-seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Jay Torczon – survived by his wife, Bonnie (Bierman '72); daughter, Megan (Craig) Sindelar; sisters, Kathy Wetjen, Jean (Gary) Sharman; brothers, Dave (Mel), John '63; brothers-in-law, Bob '64 (Bonnie) Bierman, Tom Bierman; and eight grandchildren.

Terry Wieser – survived by daughter, Mandy Wieser; son Brian (Robin); sister Cheryl '75 (Betsy) Wieser; brother, John (Kae Lynn); four grandchildren and two nephews.

Clarisse Zornes – survived by daughter, Diane '86 Semrad; sons, Ronald '88; sister, Sandra (Caron) Bartlett; and two grandchildren.

Phyllis Zoucha – survived by daughters, Deb '78 (Jim) Bogus, Chris '80 (Gene) Schumacher; sons, Ron '76 (Joanne), Rick '86 (Cheryl), Randy; sisters, Norma Korth, Clareen Prothman, Sr. Jane Nienaber, Mary Anne (Franz) Haas; brothers, Msgr. Bob Nienaber, Jack (Joan) Nienaber; sister-in-law, Mary Lou Nienaber; twelve grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Columbus Catholic Schools

Effective July 1, 2023, our four Columbus Catholic Schools joined together as a Columbus Catholic Schools system (CCS.) The schools included are St. Anthony Elementary, St. Bonaventure Elementary, St. Isidore Elementary and Scotus Central Catholic Jr./Sr. High School. Together, our four schools provide Catholic education for nearly 1,000 students in the Columbus area. Our schools feature small classes, a veteran and caring staff, high academic standards, and many opportunities for involvement in activities and faith expression.

Coming together in a unified approach has been in the works for many years; and it is exciting to be a part of this effort that will provide efficiencies in purchasing, the sharing of resources including faculty, staff and services, and the development of a seamless experience for students and their families from Kindergarten through the senior year at Scotus. Even more importantly, our schools will become stronger in the Catholic ministry they do for our local parishes and community. The Columbus Catholic Schools mission statement reads, “We are a unified school community that equips students to know, love and serve God through intentional faith formation and academic excellence.”

The new school system will be overseen by a board of directors with equal representation from the three Columbus parishes; and the executive director of the Columbus Catholic Schools, Jeff Ohnoutka, will report directly to this board. If you have any questions about our new school system, visit the new website, www.columbus-catholic.org or contact the Scotus development office!



✠ Memorials ✠

(Received between 4/18/2023 and 7/17/2023)

*correction from spring newsletter

James Bothe '59
MM Larry Sleddens

Eileen Breitzkreutz
MM Dennis Dowd

Gordon Buchholz *
MM Marv Rinkol

Mike Cielocha '79
MM Bob Kuta

Dave Duren
James Barkmeier
Dennis Dowd
Bierman Contracting Inc
Margaret Matejka
Springfield Clinic, Ray Williams
Physicians & Staff

Bruce Foreman *
MM Ed Brezenski
MM Ben Foreman
MM Craig Foreman
Mary Foreman
MM Chad Hamling
MM John Obrist
MM Vern Younger

Mildred Mausbach
MM Tim Harrington
MM Mark Morris
MM Dennis Ryba
MM Vern Younger

Mary (Thompson '64) Mitera
JC Mitera

Barb Pensick
Janet Brezinski

Chuck Pfaff '61
Anonymous

MM James Feldhaus
MM Richard Keller
MM Larry Sleddens
MM Clem Sliva
MM Bob Stachura

Diane (Gray '84) Posthumus
Timothy Gray

Alice Rhode
MM Vern Younger

Rita Schumacher
MM Vern Younger

Pat Spenceri
Timothy Gray

JoAnn (Heimann '69) Spurgin
MM Doug Fleetwood

Marvin Styskal
Karen Beck
MM Mike Becker
Bonnie Bogus
MM Pat Brockhaus
MM Larry Buntgen
MM Chris Delaney
MM Larry Dohmen
MM Mike Dreesen
Mike Ebner
MM Tim Harrington
MM John Hoebing
Gary Kruse
MM Merlin Lahm
MM Mike Lesac
MM Phil McGuinness
Randy McGuinness
Meridian Gardens Asst. Living LLC
MM Don Mroczek

MM Chris Nahorny
MM Jeff Pekarek
MM John Petersen
Agnew Placzek
MM Gary Puetz
MM Dennis Ryba
MM John Schueth
MM Dale Smith
MM Lawrence Svoboda
MM Gene Trouba
MM Mike VunCannon
MM Vern Younger

**Thaddeus "Shoes" Swirczek '74
& Jerry Swirczek '80**

MM Tom Jarecke
MM Mark Kurtenbach
MM Gregg Melliger
MM Pat Novicki
MM Vern Younger
Friends & Family

Mary Jo VanAckeren
MM Michael McCoy

Phyllis Zoucha
Keith Albracht
MM Scott Harsh
MM Mark Ingram
Deb Janky
MM Dwayne Johnson
Bonnie Kudron
MM Bob Kuta
MM Pat Novicki
MM Sam Proski
MM Gary Puetz
MM Vern Younger
MM Gary Zywiec

Matching Gifts

An often-forgotten resource of charitable giving is the matching gift. A matching gift program is a corporate philanthropy program designed to support the nonprofits that a company's employees are passionate about. In effect, companies match donations made by employees to a wide range of nonprofits. **Eligible nonprofits include K-12 schools such as Scotus Central Catholic and the Columbus Catholic elementary schools.**

A 1:1 match is most common (you donate \$100, and the company donates an additional \$100); but some companies match up to 5:1 (you donate \$100, and the company donates \$500!) 65% of Fortune 500 companies match employee donations to nonprofits, and many smaller companies also provide matching gifts as an employee benefit. Check with your company HR department to access either a paper or online matching gift form and double your donation to our schools!

25-Year State Championship Celebration

1998 Volleyball Team

Scotus Central Catholic will recognize the players on this team for the 25-year anniversary of their state championship season at halftime of the Friday, August 25th home football game with Aquinas Catholic High School. Players, spouses & immediate family members will be our guests for the pre-game burger bash and football game. Players are asked to RSVP by August 18th – and if you can attend, let us know how many family guests you will be bringing. Phone: John Schueth, Scotus development director at 402-564-7165 ext. 109 or Email: jschueth@colcath.org. Go Shamrocks!

Summer 2023

Future Newsletters by Email?

Would you rather receive the color pdf of the alumni/nae newsletter by Email instead of having the printed version mailed to you through the post office?

Presently, we have 351 individuals who get their newsletters by Email. Let us know if you want your future copies to come by Email and send your request to: jschueth@colcath.org.

Scotus Mission Statement

Scotus Central Catholic High School assures all students the opportunity to receive a faith-based Catholic education through academic excellence and diverse extracurricular activities.



www.columbus-catholic.org

Shamrock Alumni News
is published at:

Scotus Central Catholic High School
1554 18th Ave. Columbus, NE 68601
Ph: (402) 564-7165 • Fax: (402) 564-6004

Email: jschueth@colcath.org • Facebook: Scotus Central Catholic HS
Scotus Central Catholic admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin.
Any portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without our permission.

SHAMROCK ALUMNI NEWS
a future worthy of our past
1554 18th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, NE
Permit No. 5

SEF 16 Legacy and Founder Supporters

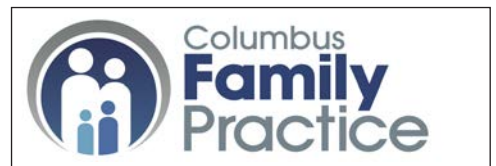
Thank You!

Our 2 Legacy Supporters who pledged between \$40,000 - \$150,000 for the 3-year SEF 16 Drive:



**ANONYMOUS
SUPPORTER**

Our 8 Founder Level Supporters who pledged between \$25,000 - \$39,999 for the SEF 16 Drive:



Judy Dworak • Thomas Thalken '60 • Larry Dowd '63 • Anonymous