

Rams 'n Ewes

St. Xavier Alumni Newsletter

Volume 28

April 2014



Another year has gone by, and it is time to get together with old and new friends at the Alumni Banquet. We are looking for younger help or any help with getting news together and putting this letter out to all our alumni and supporters.... email us at stxalumni@cox.net. We would like to thank all of our supporters - without you we would not have a newsletter.

It is 2014 and time to plan on attending the Banquet at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 126 West 7th Street, on Saturday, May 25, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. Happy hour begins at 6:00 p.m. The Knights do not have a liquor license, so the event will be BYOB although we will have sodas and beer available. Mass will be celebrated at St. Xavier's church at 5:15 p.m.

The Class of '64 will be celebrating their 50th reunion. Thirty-seven students were in that class: Karen (Stapleton) Bergethon, Brent Cain, Diane Cassidy, James Cynova, Larry Devane, Alice (Bascomb) Devane, Richard Evans, Jack Field, Pamela (Schellman) Fleming, Mary Ellen (Lutz) Fritter, Catherine Grant, Joe Greenwood, Barbara (Veltman) Harper, Dan Harris, Colleen (McCormick) Johnson, James Jones, Jerry Kellerman, Larry Kohn, Portia (Higgins) Kohn, JoAnne (Schafer) LaBarge, Michael Larkin, David Levett, Douglas Mollohon, Gloria (Vega) O'Blanc, James Patterson, Michael Pierson, Michael Rombeck, Raul Saavedra, Tom Sharp, Mary Frances Snyder, Marilyn (Polach) Stein, Joe Timmons, Patricia (Dixon) Weber, Larry Whaley, William Wildman, James Wood, Delores (Zschach) Zeller.

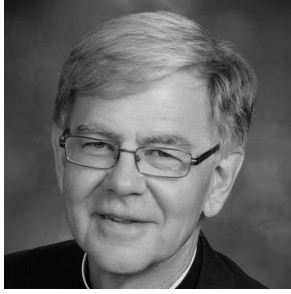
Contacts for the class of '64 are Alice (Bascomb) Devane - 405-706-3887 - al_dev_fiat@hotmail.com and Patty (Dixon) Weber - 785-238-2660. The past few classes celebrating their 50-year reunions have had a great time. If you haven't been back in a while, you'll be amazed how the town has changed.

The class of '79 is celebrating their 35th reunion. Contact person for the class of '79 is Terry Cordova - cordovatterry@rocketmail.com

St. Xavier's Catholic School will have 12 new alumni members this year with the graduating class of 2014.



New Priests Welcome Alumni



I have been at St. Xavier Parish and School for nine months. I am honored to be here and to be part of a school with a glorious tradition. I was very pleased with the physical condition of the school when I arrived. I know this could not have happened without the work of many here on campus and the support of so many, especially alumni.

I come from many years of working with Catholic schools. I have previously served parishes with Catholic schools in Salina and Manhattan. I know they can bring a deeper sense of community to a local parish and are a good witness of Catholic presence in our community. In addition, and most importantly, they are just an outstanding way to teach and pass on our Catholic values to the next generation.

The school continues to improve and adjust to the modern world, e.g., in the area of technology. This is possible because so many local people are working hard to keep the school one in which our alumni can be proud to say, "I graduated from St. Xavier High School in Junction City."

When you are in Junction City, I want you to always feel free to stop by. If you are at Mass, please identify yourself to me as a St. Xavier graduate.

I wish each and every one of you many blessings.

Fr. Kerry Ninemire



I have been at St. Xavier Parish and School since December. It is a great privilege to be here and serve the people of Junction City. I continue to do what I can to be part of the community and to see what I can do to make a difference in the lives of others, including the students at St. Xavier's. So far that has included Masses, classroom visits, lunches, and other activities.

I was a chaplain and teacher at Sacred Heart Junior/Senior High School in Salina for two years. I was the junior high chaplain at TMP in Hays for one year. And I have a commitment to promote the vision of gospel values and the goals of our school community. I specifically attempt to do that through my love for Scripture, the Sacraments, and various opportunities to build faith and to build community.

Fr. Kerry and I have worked together in Salina. Now we are working together again. I look forward to the teamwork and the cooperation that we can accomplish here in Junction City. I sense a lot of openness and desire to know God in a deeper way – and I hope that things can unfold for all of us in a favorable way. A focus on the spiritual life is essential to living a healthy life – and that's true on a larger scale when it comes to characteristics of a parish vision and a school vision.

Keep up all your good work. Your dedication inspires me and I know that I will continue to learn from your example. I look forward to meeting you all and working with you to glorify God.

Fr. Peter O'Donnell

If you have anything you would like to share with your fellow alumni, send it to us by email at stxalumni@cox.net or mail to PO Box 399, and we will put it in.

In Memoriam

Shirley Ann (Paxton) Clennan, '52, Topeka, passed away Jan. 20, 2013. She was born Nov. 18, 1934, in St. Marys, KS, the daughter of Glenn and Katherine Zeller Paxton. Shirley married her husband John on April 8, 1953. She is survived by John; sons, Michael, Martin (Molly) of Topeka; daughters, Marla Kentch (Keith), Melea Huston (Pete), Michele Mainey (Ed), all of Topeka and Mark (Jennifer) of Phoenix AZ; and brother **Richard Paxton** '54 and wife **Mary Kay** '56; 26 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Shirley was preceded in death by her daughter, Melanie Ann Clennan-Warren.

Mark L. Allen passed away September 15, 2013. Mark was born Dec. 28, 1957, in LaCrosse, the son of Lester M. and Millie (Kreutzer) Allen. He lived in the Junction City area since 1977 and in Wakefield since 2005. Mark was the Body Shop Manager at Dick Edwards Ford in Manhattan. He was a member of St. Xavier Catholic Church. He married Judy (**Keating**) '79 on Feb. 13, 1982 in Junction City. She survives. Other survivors include one son, Bill Allen and wife Elyse of Ness City, two daughters, Taylor Allen of Topeka and Heather Patterson and husband Thomas of Orlando, Florida.

Katherine Marie Robinett '57 passed away May 19, 2012. Katherine was born Oct. 12, 1939. Her parents were Gerald & Anna Keating Parrick. She married Gail Duane Robinett on August 29, 1959, at St. Xavier's. She was employed at the Junction City Daily Union and worked at Montgomery Wards as well. She was a member of St. Xavier's Catholic Church and St. Xavier's Alumni Association. Katherine is survived by her husband Gail of the home, one daughter **Pam Robinett** '78 of Wellington, one son **Greg Robinett** '80 and his wife Tammy of Edwardsville, one brother **Jerry Parrick** '60 and his wife Gail of Junction City, one sister **Shirley (Parrick) Carroll** '63 of Junction City, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Gerald and Anna, a stepfather James (Swede) Hartman and one nephew Gary Parrick.

Inge A. Royse passed away at on September 16, 2013. She was born Aug. 1, 1934, in Mainaschaff, Germany, the daughter of Otto and Elisabetha (Roth) Fecher. Inge was a homemaker, a member of St. Xavier Church and the Junction City German-American Club. She married Fred J. Royse on February 19, 1955, in Germany. He preceded her in death. Survivors include two sons, **Fred Royse** '73 and wife Jane of Wichita and **Frank Royse** '76 and wife **Dorine (Lincoln) Royse** '81.

Col. (Ret.) Frederick "Fred" T. Dolan passed away May 13, 2013, at Geary Community Hospital. Fred was born June 12, 1931 in Bangor, Maine, to Henry T. and Cecelia (Ferguson) Dolan. He married **Patricia Colbert** '54 on April 12, 1956 at St. Xavier Catholic Church. He served as Vice President, Senior Vice President and Manager of the Consumer Loan Department at First National Bank and Trust Company in Junction City. He is survived by his wife Pat, his daughter **Shawn Cecelia (Dolan) Crank** '76, both of Junction City and a grandson Brant Marcus Crank of Hays.

Anna Maria (Nardella) Schwein passed away in July of 2013. She was born September 18, 1922, in Italy, the daughter of Gennaro & Luiginia (Radatti) Nardella. Anna left Italy because of the approaching war and she, her mother and sister Carmela arrived in New York at Ellis Island in 1937. They lived in Chicago until 1961 and then moved to Junction City. Anna Maria was a homemaker and a member of St. Xavier's Catholic Church. She married Marvin R. Schwein who preceded her in death. Survivors include one son, B. David Ruberry and his wife Christina of Olathe, and one daughter, Robbie Kramer and her husband Dick of Herington. She is also survived by one brother, Tony Nardella and his wife **Carol (Courville)** '67, and one sister Lucia Coffman of Manhattan, five grandchildren, six great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, one daughter Patricia **Ruberry Woodford** '65, two sisters Gracella and Carmela and a brother-in-law Larry Coffman.

John Hern '61 husband of **Terri Corvile** '60 passed in November of 2013 but we do not have any other info. We just received a note that **Charlie Hern** '65, his brother, passed in March 2014.

We have copies of St. Xavier Catholic School yearbooks on two CDs, that we have shown at past reunions. These CDs start from the beginning of St. Xavier's school up through 1984.



They bring back lots of memories and many pictures of family and friends from the past—for some all generations! You can order the two disc set for \$15 plus shipping of \$5.

Let us know if you would like to pick up a set at the banquet so we have enough on hand.

Make checks payable to St. Xavier's Alumni Association.

St. X Alumni Basketball Tourney to be held December 20

St. Xavier will host an alumni basketball game on Saturday, December 20, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in St. Xavier Catholic School's Gym.

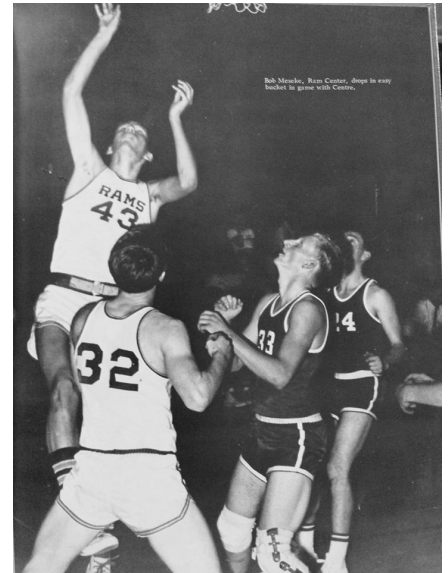
Some of our all time great coaches and players will be coming back to participate in this game. Ben Meseke, who went on to have a very successful career at Hayden High School in Topeka, winning six State titles and Jim Westerhaus, coach in the 60's and early 70's will be the honorary coaches at this alumni game.

Former coaches planning to return include Roger Diekmann, Jim Bortnick, Mark Hartung, Kelly McDiffett, David Hernandez, Lyn Jones, and John Keating thus far.

Former priests who intend to return are Rev. Frank Coady, Father Al Brungardt, Father Joe Popelka, and Father Keith Weber.

Former players planning to participate include Sonny '61 Ehm, Bob '71 Cervera, Justin '72 Hoover, Steve '75 Robinson, Mark '76 Hartung, Kevin '76 Willmott, William '83 Gates, John '84 Keating, Steve '84 Martinez, Matt '85 Jackson, Jim '86 Todd, Mark '87 Manns, Nathan '92 Roberts, Melissa '96 Lundeen Semanko, Jackie '96 Keating Diederich, Jaime '98 Wahle Richling, Bill '01 Schrant, and more.

Alumni are required to purchase a t-shirt to participate in the scrimmage. The t-shirts will have the alumni's last name and number. Plans are still formulating for this evening, so please watch our school website and Facebook page. Contact



St. Xavier Catholic School | St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Kudos to Students

The St. Xavier Scholars Bowl team made it to State competition for the second year in a row .

Music and band students advancing to State competition include **Joseph '14 Balderrama, Keon '14 Jackson,** and Adam Carpenter.

National Honor Society recently inducted two new members, Tyler Tanguay and Adam Carpenter, both sophomores. NHS Honorary Members inducted included Stuart Workman, Band/Music Instructor, Christina Tanguay, preschool teacher, and Robert Jackson, parent of **Keonya '12** and **Keon '14 Jackson.**

Sophomore Adam Carpenter earned a spot on the All American Cheer Squad and was invited to travel to London in December of 2013.

The St. Xavier School Band participated in the K-State Band Day parade in fall of 2013.

We encourage you to visit our school website at www.saintxrams.org and find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/saintxrams.



St. Xavier Catholic School's 28th Annual Auction

Thanks to all of our alumni, friends and parishioners for your help that allows us to continue to provide a quality Catholic education by supporting the annual St. Xavier Parish Catholic School Auction.

The past three years we have been blessed to have members of the classes of '62-'64 celebrating their 50th reunion in attendance as honorary chairs. Members of the **class of '64** in attendance this year included Tom Sharp, Larry and Alice Devane, Pat Weber, Danny Harris and Michael Pierson.

This year's auction, "Picnic after Dark," included a buffet, drinks, and silent and live auctions. In addition, raffles were held for cash drawings. The live auction began with class baskets donated by current teachers and their students. **Kent '77 Griffin**, current 5th grade teacher is pictured with his class's auction basket at right.

Many alumni have supported this event with their time, talent and treasure. We had alumni from the 50's through students in the class of 2014 helping this year.

We encourage and invite all alumni to consider supporting this event in the future.



St. Xavier Parish Foundation

The St Xavier Parish Foundation again contributed to the replacement windows for the school at the auction, replaced the school internet server system, provided two renewable scholarships for graduating seniors and several smaller projects around the campus. If there is something you would like to be done, the Foundation will set up a special account to provide that gift to the Parish or the school as you direct. A letter is also being sent to provide more information about the Foundation to all friends of St Xavier Parish and School.

Pancreatic Awareness Day

St. Xavier Catholic School has been celebrating Pancreatic Awareness Day for the past few years in honor of former alumni and teacher, **Chris '66 Lauri Davis**, mother of **Jeff '91**, **Laura**, **Michelle '99**, and Erin and sister of **Rosie '76 Lauri Kane**, school business administrator.

Chris is fondly remembered by former staff, students and alumni after passing away on Christmas in 2008. Students and staff participate annually by donating \$1 to wear blue jeans and purple shirts. Money collected is donated to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.

Picture at right are students and staff who gathered at a memorial bench in Mrs. Davis' honor outside of the school.



St. Xavier Alumni Association

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Junction City, KS 66441

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St. Xavier Alumni Banquet

May 24 , 2014

Knights of Columbus Hall, 126 W. 7th Street, Junction City, KS 66441



Name _____ Class _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone () _____ Cell () _____

Email _____

# of persons		Cost per person	Enclosed
_____	Banquet Reservation	\$25 by May 15 (\$30 after 5/15)	_____
_____	Reservation (no meal)	\$10 by May 15	_____

Make checks payable to St .Xavier Alumni and mail to P.O. Box 399, Junction City, KS 66441

I will not be able to attend, but am enclosing a donation of \$ _____ .