



Lori Ehde photos/0107 radio group

Judy Stratmann interviews Terrie Gulden about Honor Flight on Wednesday, Dec. 30, in the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building. Pictured around the table are (from left) Warren Herreid, Leroy Luitjens, Casey Van Engelenhoven, Bill Veenhof, Helmer Haakenson, Earl Glaser and Buck Underwood.

Honor Flight closer to takeoff

By Lori Ehde

Honor Flight Southwest Minnesota will take to the airwaves this month when WNAX broadcasts interviews with Luverne veterans.

The show will be aired on “Judy’s Journal” at 10:50 a.m. Jan. 18-22, Jan. 25-29 and Feb. 1-5.

WNAX radio personality Judy Stratmann, Yankton, S.D., recorded interviews with local World War II veterans Wednesday, Dec. 30.

The recording included information about fundraising efforts to send local veterans to the World War II Veterans Memorial this spring.

“This is our time to say, ‘Thank you,’” said Terrie Gulden, a volunteer for Honor Flight Southwest Minnesota.

The goal is to raise \$136,000 to fund the flight, which amounts to roughly \$800 per veteran. The immediate goal is to raise \$70,000 so an airplane can be booked and a date set.

He said members of this “Greatest Generation” made untold sacrifices, but returned home quietly and resumed their lives without much ado.

Sending them on an all-expense-paid trip to the memorial built in

their honor is an overdue gesture of thanks, Gulden said in his interview with Stratmann.

Stratmann sat down with a handful of veterans that day in the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building.

But they were predictably modest.

“They call us the greatest generation, but our parents deserve credit, too,” said World War II veteran Helmer Haakenson. “Our parents had to stay home and wait for news — hopefully good news.”

He said 16 million soldiers were employed in the war, and 600,000 were killed. He said all those families were affected and made

Honor Roll of *Alumni News* Contributors

Compiled by Rhonna Jarchow

During this past quarter, September 9, 2009, through January 3, 2010, the *Alumni News* received money in the form of memorials, and gifts totaling **\$1,113.04**.

In the memorial section below, the individual being memorialized is printed in bold print, followed by the individual or individuals who made the gift. Contributions given by graduates and friends follow the list of memorials.

Thank you, for your support!

Memorials

Mildred Bucknam Coonratt, '41

Eileen Sunde Kopp, '41

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Betty Sanny Johnson, '45

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Gene Olson, '51

Harry G. Hoffman, '50

Mavis Winge Amundson, '50

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Bill Mohr, '62

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Jim Hatting, '66

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NOTE:

If you have recently made a contribution to the *Alumni News* and your name does not appear on this page, please let the staff know. The chances are your contribution was received after this page was compiled (Jan. 3, 2010). Please watch for the next issue, April, 2010 (Volume 20, Issue 3), for additional names of *Alumni News* contributors.

Memorials and contributions may be sent to:

Alumni News
c/o Rhonna Jarchow
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156

Alumni News Financial Summary

Previous Balance:

Sept. 9, 2009 \$5,027.07

Expenses for October, 2009, issue:

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Labels 266.31

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Website 120.00

Total Expense (\$3,982.45)

Income - Sept. 9, 2009, through

Jan. 3, 2010 **\$1,113.04**

Current Balance \$2,157.66*

*The cost of the January, 2010, issue is unknown, but the estimated cost is \$4,400.00.

What We've Heard . . .

By Carol McDonald

Good news from the Burns family:

- **Tim (LHS '68)** and wife Julie celebrated Tim's 60th birthday with friends and family on November 16th in Sioux Falls

- **Molly Burns Davidson (LHS '97)** is a Captain and member of the 101st Airborne in Clarksville, KY. Her husband is retired from the Army and works with Homeland Security Department

- **Tony (LHS '01)** completed his first year of work with the Principal Financial Group and has received recognition as one of the Top 10 Young Agents in the USA

- **Rob** is in his senior year at USD and plans to graduate mid-term 2010

The LHS Class of 1989 celebrated their 20th reunion on July 18th. Kris Baustian Denevan sent a great picture of classmates and a \$100 donation on behalf of the Class.

Christine Ronlund Marks (LHS '43) writes Alumni News about her move from Florida to Baxter, MN, to be closer to her brother John. The beautiful lakes and woodland make Minnesota a great place to live. She adds that she has enjoyed reading about the All School Reunion in summer 2009!


Crista Dukleth Jeske (LHS 96) sends an update from her home in Eagan, MN. Crista and her husband, Chad, celebrated their 8th wedding anniversary. The Jeskes have two children; Emma (2 yrs) and Carter (born 7-28-09.)

Rich and Cammy (Martin) Iverson (LHS '64) send greetings from Amery, WI. Rich retired in March 2008 when they moved back to the Minneapolis area. Both Cammy and Rich are involved in the development of their vineyard in western Wisconsin. Rich also enjoys playing in tennis leagues and Cammy is a facilitator for women's legacy writing groups. The Iversons enjoy spending time with their daughters' families and following

Let's Hear from YOU!

Let us know what you are doing and we'll pass it on to other alumni. Complete and then place this form in an envelope and mail to:

**Alumni News
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156**



Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: _____

E-Mail _____

Year of Graduation _____

Comments: _____

Check here if you wish to have your e-mail address included in the directory.

their five grandchildren.

E.I. Olson (LHS '38) of Golden Valley, MN, had a great time visiting Luverne. He took the opportunity to explore old haunts and meeting up with classmates Warren Herreid and Helmer Haakenson. Classmates met in what they called an impromptu mini-reunion at the "good ole" Magnolia Steak House for a night of reminiscing and tall tales. A good time was had by all!

Marilyn (Hatting) Hoiland (LHS '55) writes from Tempe,

AZ, where she has lived since 1961. Marilyn loves receiving each issue of the Alumni News and still thinks of Luverne as "home" ... but when the weather is a little nicer!

Greetings are sent to all LHS Alumni from Rochester, MN, and **Vivien (Atkinson) Wissink**. Vivien is looking forward to seeing her 1960 classmates at their 50th reunion on July 16-18, 2010. She challenges her classmates to make plans to attend the reunion and she is looking forward to hearing about all the reunion plans coming together.

sacrifices.

Haakenson's voice broke when he described a surprise homecoming and how his mother gave him the "biggest hug I ever had." He added, "You learn to love your folks."

Interviews with veterans

When Stratmann asked them about their most memorable military experiences, many of the men kept the conversation light. They spoke of romantic encounters during leave — many of which resulted in marriages that lasted 60 years or more.

Warren Herreid Sr. spoke of the day his oldest son, Warren Herreid Jr. was to be born. He was overseas and "liberated" some wine to celebrate with his comrades on his son's due date.

"Then we found out he hadn't been born yet," Herreid laughed, adding that they celebrated again when he got news of the official birth.

Bill Veenhof also joked about non-military escapades but said the horrors of war will always haunt him.

"I recently heard this Iranian president who said the holocaust didn't happen," Veenhof said.

"I happen to know there was a holocaust, because I helped to liberate a concentration camp. ... It was the worst site I've ever seen in my whole life."

He described a war-destroyed German city where a buzz bomb factory had stored piles of bodies of victims.

"They were carrying them across the street and dumping them in a ditch seven feet wide and about 150 feet long," Veenhof said, searching for words to describe it.

"That's the story that keeps coming back to me. ... There are times I don't like to think about."

Stratmann asked the veterans about their hopes to see the World War II Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., through Honor Flight.

The national Honor Flight organization was formed in 2004 for the express purpose of funding flights for veterans to see the memorial built in their name.



How to give:

Honor Flight buttons are available for \$5 at the Chamber office, Glen's Food Center, First Farmers and Merchants Bank and Exchange State Bank.

For additional information contact Jane Wildung Lanphere, (888) 283-4061, (507) 920-5197 or luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us.

Several of the men admitted they've seen the memorial already, but they dearly hoped their friends could go.

Others said they liked the Honor Flight concept of sending them with their friends and with caregivers.

"I'm looking forward to the trip," said Casey Van Englenhoven, who sounded grateful that there would be wheelchairs available. "I'm not very good on my feet. ... I'm just tickled to death that they'll do that for us."

A song in their honor

A highlight of the Dec. 30 radio interviews was a live performance of a song written exclusively for World War II veterans.

Lonny Carpenter, a Lake Benton pastor, wrote the song he said was inspired by World War II veterans.

"I just so appreciate all you gentlemen and what you've done," Carpenter said before he started strumming his guitar.

The song, "The Greatest Generation," is about World War II and how younger generations are thankful for the service of World War II veterans.

"... your sacrifice is not forgotten. It'll never fade away," Carpenter writes in Verse 4. "We will never forget your love and all you had to pay, for all your sacrifice those days for the U-S-of-A."

Carpenter announced Tuesday that he plans to sell the CD he recorded, and 30 percent of the proceeds will go to Honor Flight.

The Dec. 30 recording, including Carpenter's performance of the full song, will be aired on WNAX Yankton. The show will be aired on "Judy's Journal" at 10:50 a.m. Jan. 18-22, Jan. 25-29 and Feb. 1-5.

The station can be found on the A.M. dial at 570, and online at wnax.com.

How to give

Honor Flight Southwest Minnesota has been formed to fly 110 to 120 local World War II veterans (free of cost) and guardians to the national memorial in May.

The local chapter includes the southwest Minnesota communities of Rock, Nobles, Pipestone and Murray counties.

The goal is to raise \$136,000 to fund the flight, which amounts to roughly \$800 per veteran.

The local chapter received its first major sponsorship last month when Glen Gust of Glen's Food Center gave \$10,000 for the cause.

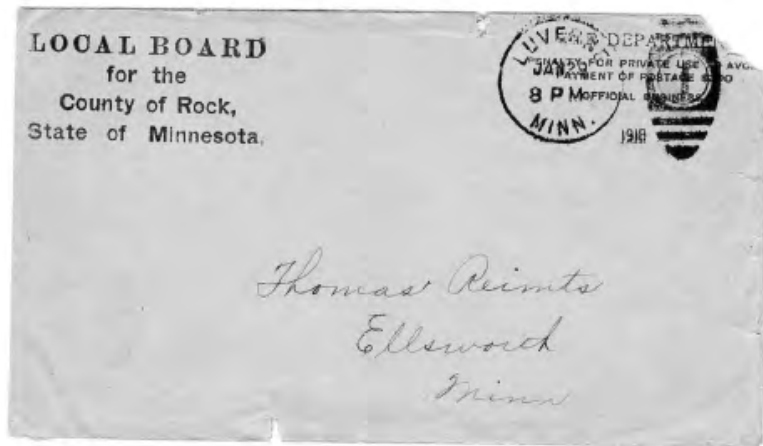
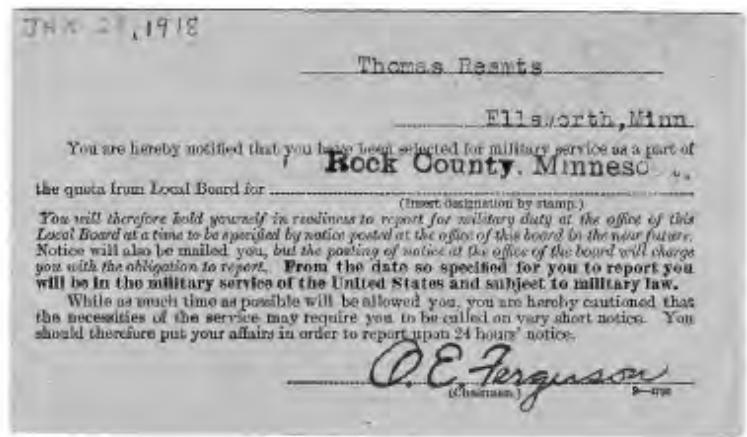
The immediate goal is to raise \$70,000 so an airplane can be booked and a date set for Honor Flight Southwest Minnesota.

But the volunteer committee reminds the public that every small donation matters.

For example, the committee is selling Honor Flight buttons for \$5 each with proceeds going toward the spring flight.

The buttons are available at the Chamber office, Glen's Food Center, First Farmers and Merchants Bank and Exchange State Bank.

For additional information contact Jane Wildung Lanphere, (888) 283-4061, (507) 920-5197 or luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us.



Joyce Wessels will be among Rock County residents lending family memoirs to the Herreid Military Museum for the WWI display. She has a detailed and elaborate scrapbook of her father's service during WWI. His name was Thomas Reemts and he was 28 years old when he received notice in January 1918 that he should report for duty. Wessels' scrapbook notes, "He realized his carefree days on the (rural Ellsworth) farm would soon be a thing of the past."

WWI display seeks items from community

Ninety years ago, on November 11, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson declared the observance of Veteran's Day. That date was chosen because a mere year earlier, *on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month*, the Treaty of Versailles was signed for the most part ending World War I.

For decades the world called that horrific conflict ... **the war to end all wars!** If that were only the case! Less than thirty years later America would be fighting a war in two separate theatres.

The Herreid Military Museum, which opened July 18, 2009, in the completely renovated Sheriff's Home and Jail at the Rock County Courthouse Square, pays homage to the service of the brave men and women from Rock County who served in World War II.

In honor of the anniversary of Veterans Day, the Herreid Military Museum Committee begins the second phase of exhibit development.

The west portion of the museum will be dedicated to the story of Rock County citizen's service in World War I.

Display items on the west side of the museum will be integrated into the current displays and a new exhibit will emerge on the west wall portion of the museum floor.

The Herreid Military Museum Committee is searching for pictures, letters, artifacts, stories and other memorabilia focusing on WWI.

The Committee invites Alumni to share the story of their families as the exhibit is developed.

If you have items (originals or copies) that you are willing to donate or loan, please contact Staff at the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building.

Contact: Jane Wildung Lanphere or Lorna Bryan of the Luverne Area Chamber

Staffing the Rock County Veterans Memorial Building

213 East Luverne Street

Luverne, MN 56156

888 283-4061

luvernechamber@co.rock.mn.us

Alumni News staff seeks addresses

Listed below you will find alumni that we do not have a current address for. They are not receiving Alumni Newsletter. If you know of their whereabouts I would like your help in updating our files by furnishing their information. That also includes name changes and/or deceased. Please contact me at pierosnpp@frontiernet.net or 507-669-2371 and leave a message. Thank you.

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Celina Chelkowska
Ashley Heitkamp
Robin Madtson

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Adam Kinsinger
Muzayan Kubsa
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Anthony Nath
Shane Peterson
Fernanda Ribeiro
Andrean Stonge
Joshua Volden
Bradly Walgrave

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Nathan Karstens
Lasami Keosay
Cristiane Kimizuka
Allison Lupkes
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Jeremiah Nath
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Chanvilay Songkhamdet
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Bryan Thorson
Troy Tofteland
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Mandel Zwann

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Dung Ta
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Darlene Koens Domeyer
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Arlis Slagel
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Kathy Thorson
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Michael Harms
Abigail Himmelein
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Keith Tentler
Dellcene Nelson Truty
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Lori Lowe
Machelle Oltmans
Bruce Tofteland

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Julie Emery
Kevin Engen
Julie Scheerhorn Fodness
Kathryn Korthank Hering
Steven Hoffman
Gracia Shelton Ladd
Jay Lindmeyer
Antonio Malva
Gloria Meyer
Sharon Frahm Nieuwboer
Shirley Plasterer Olson
DeAnna Rawls
William Ripley
Cindy Adamson Smedsrud
Cheryl VanDyke
Amaia Vicario
Donna Vos

(Missing addresses cont. on p. 8)

Missing address list/continued from page 7

Class of 1972(cont)

Dennis Davis
Becky DeBates
JoAnn Jensen Emery
Lynn Walmsley Evans
Steve Loger
Dennis McNeil Jr
Virginia Swenson Moore
Joel Alan Nath
Vicki Nelson
Dean Olson
Sheri Karimi Sahlavi
Mike Sullivan
Charles Thompson
Jeanne Murphy Watson
Scott Wendt

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Jim Geving
Randall Goemmel
Gayle Petersen Henderson
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Class of 1947

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Class 1940

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Gertrude Williams Beneluck
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Patcharee Lawongsa Saenjan
John Schmidt
Myron Sneller
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Nicolette Howard Darlow
Gary Frakes
Rodney McClure
Mary Maras Moorshead
Bill Murphy
Francis Rademacher
Linda Wyatt

Class of 1962

Linda Anderson
Umiyati Parariboe Santoso

Class of 1958

Dennis Dubbe

Class of 1956

None

Class of 1953

None

Class of 1950

Gary Breiland
Clara Woltjer Honermann
Clarice Torgerson Smith

Class of 1946

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Arlen Dicks
Edwin Mitchell
Charles Schneekloth

Class of 1939

Anna Nelson Byhre
Jack Rolffing

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Esther Hoime Micheel
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Barbara Kor
Michael Larson
Eugene Siebenahler
Mari Hysom Tarara
Vickie Anderson Throop

Class of 1964

Donna Goehle
Carol Norgard Harris
Cheryl Larsen Herrmann
Herbert Swanson
Sarathathevy Thambiah
Brian Wells

Class of 1960

Virginia Hora
Jeannette Shanks
Neshia Henely Skarbic
Jean Mitchell VanZanten

Class of 1955

Camille Paulson Hartmann
Margaret Larsen
Virginia Bryan VonHolt

Class of 1949

Jim King

Class of 1945

Wanda Thomas Kling
Doris Jensen Korthank
Dorothy Thomas

Class of 1942

Phyllis Wendt Ritacco
Mildred Rogness Sheehan

Class of 1938

Beverly Marr

Class of 1935

Marion Berg
Maynard Davis
John Hawkinson
Elwood Hetland
Alice Larsen
Harvey Swenson
Ernest Tofteland
Margaret Vining

Class of 1930

Norma Helling Docken
Jessie Johnson Linn
Gladys Streeter Mennenga

Class of 1971

Sharon Hendrickson Hermanson
Steven Luginbill
Kyoko Kogura Mitsufujio
JoAnn Blount Neuhauser
Sandra Schuttz
Chris Mohr Tororilla

Class of 1969

Jennifer Hendricks Breckenridge
Nancy Winter Browne
Barb Korthals Fletcher

Class of 1967

Loree Iveland Brown
Dominique Cheutin Otero
Patrick Creswell
Dennis Lemke
Mark Roberts
Jillene Smith
Terry Springer
Rochelle Thomas
JoAnne Visker Turner

Class of 1963

Susan Iveland Blankartz
Jeff Hagen
Allan Henely
Chuck Kienast
Jerry Serie

Class of 1957

Donna Tomlinson
Judy Urry

Class of 1952

Loren Hansen

Class of 1948

Alfred Anderson
Betti Moestard Schmidt

Class of 1944

Marvin Hill
Patricia Schriever

Class of 1941

Phyllis Steuven Brower
Mildred Bucknam Coonradt
Delores Blum Rhinesmith
Arlene Phillips Stewart
Marjorie Strouth

Class of 1934

Delphia Steine Haug
Leola Pack Lampy
James Merrill
Myrna Earl Tage

Class of 1932

James Hagedorn
Hazel Nelson Kruse
Helen Linville Shaw

Luverne Education Association names Teacher of the Year, Friend of Education



Lori Ehde photo/1119 vanderbrink ahrendt friend teacher

Greta Van Der Brink (left) accepts the Friend of Education Award on behalf of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. Angela Ahrendt is the 2010 Teacher of the Year in Luverne.

Local volunteers, LHS graduate honored

By Lori Ehde

First-grade teacher Angela Ahrendt is the 2010 Teacher of the Year in Luverne, and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program is the new Friend of Education.

The two were honored during an ice cream social celebration after school on Nov. 16 in the Luverne Elementary commons.

The annual event is the kickoff to American Education Week Nov. 15-21.

Rock County Administrator Kyle Oldre spoke at the event.

Oldre is a 1983 Luverne High School graduate, and he spoke about the influence teachers have in

people's lives long after high school.

He said he surveyed county employees who are LHS graduates about their teachers. He asked them who their most influential teachers were and why.

He shared some of those responses during the ice cream social, and then reflected on the conclusions he reached from the responses.

"You as educators have a lifelong impact on everyone you touch," Oldre said to the crowd of teachers in the room.

"You are the ones who prepare the workforce

Teacher of the Year, Friend of Education /continued from page 9

that I and everyone else depend on to do what we do in our vocations. Your impact is much deeper than teaching a single skill; you teach about life.”

To put this in perspective, Oldre listed county government leaders who graduated from LHS.

“For county government, you have prepared the following,” he said, “three county commissioners, an auditor/treasurer, highway engineer, human services director, criminal investigator, deputy sheriff, accountant, geographical information specialist, information technology specialist, fiscal supervisor, veterans services officer, district court judge, a county administrator and many others.”

He said these employees and other LHS graduates are grateful for their teachers.

“We thank you for the great job you did in preparing us, and now we challenge you to keep developing the future and our replacements,” Oldre said.

“For now you have second and third generations with you, and we trust they will do great things because of the foundation you are giving them.”

Friend of Education

Luverne Child Guide Coordinator Lisa Dinger presented the Friend of Education Award to the Retired Senior Volunteer Program.

Dinger coordinates the RSVP volunteers who spend time with Luverne students.

She said more than 50 RSVP volunteers donate their time in the following ways: Big Buddies Program, Bookin’ Buddies, Homework Club, office help, Community Education help, Early Childhood help, morning greeters, classroom readers, Kids in the Commons activities, Foster Grandparents and the BackPack Program.

More than a dozen RSVP volunteers were on hand for the celebration Monday, and RSVP coordinator Greta Van Der Brink accept the award.

“We want to thank them for all of their contributions,” Dinger said, “Because these programs wouldn’t work without the many volunteers and without Greta to coordinate

“You as educators have a lifelong impact on everyone you touch. You are the ones who prepare the workforce that I and everyone else depend on to do what we do in our vocations. Your impact is much deeper than teaching a single skill; you teach about life. ... We thank you for the great job you did in preparing us, and now we challenge you to keep developing the future and our replacements. For now you have second and third generations with you, and we trust they will do great things because of the foundation you are giving them.”

— Kyle Oldre, County Administrator
1983 Luverne High School graduate,
speaker at LEA luncheon Nov. 16

them.”

Van Der Brink said, “I’m not the one who earned this. It’s the volunteers themselves. They’re always so eager to help. They’re a very faithful bunch.”

She recognized the teachers and school staff, too.

“You have a big load,” she said. “It’s very important the work that you do with these students. You influence them and their families now, and their future families.”

Most recent Friends of Education named by the LEA are Bruce Thalhuber for 2009, Jim Vink for 2008, Gregg Gropel for 2007, Betty Mann for 2006, Renee Sawtelle in 2005, Dianne Ossenfort in 2004, John Serie in 2003 and Lila Bauer in 2002.

Teacher of the Year

Jeanne Bowron, 2008 Teacher of the Year, introduced Angela Ahrendt as the new Teacher of the Year for 2010.

Without immediately revealing her name, Bowron said the new Teacher of the Year has her master’s degree, married her high school sweetheart (Brad), is a graduate of Luverne High School, is a “huge asset” to the RTI and Title I programs, has had additional training in Reading Recovery and is a first-grade teacher.

Bowron quoted some of Ahrendt’s co-workers who

nominated her.

They described her as “organized and efficient,” “a team player,” “always asking questions and searching for answers,” “truly caring about the well-being of students,” “having a wonderful rapport with students and fellow educators,” being “innovative with teaching ideas.”

Ahrendt accepted the award with smiles and tears. She thanked her colleagues for the award and spoke about her own education in the Luverne district.

“I graduated from Luverne in 1989 and I felt I was very prepared for college,” Ahrendt said.

“I’m very surprised,” she said about the award. “Thank you all. It’s a joy to work here every day.”

Luverne Education Association has named a Teacher of the Year since 1972.

All members of the Luverne Education Association are eligible to nominate one or more of their peers for the honor of Teacher of the Year.

The recipient is chosen by an LEA committee of former Teachers of the Year, based on nominations.

The most recent Teachers of the Year were Mike Wenninger for 2009, Jeanne Bowron for 2008, Mary Goheen for 2007, Kim Schmidt for 2006, Steve Kollman for 2005, Sandy Klosterbuer for 2004, Elaine Harms for 2003 and Lisa Lundgren for 2002.

Alumni News Obituaries

1920-1929-

1930-1939-

Ethel Carstens Grant '33 passed away September 26, 2009. Her son Douglas and her daughter Leanne, two granddaughters and one great grandson survive her.

Dorothy Babcock Goodbread'35 passed away June 14, 2009

1940-1949-

Olga Nergaard Wieme '40 passed away on March 1, 2009 in Sioux Falls South Dakota.

Leroy Anda '44 passed away on July 21, 2009 In Plymouth, MN.

Patricia Snyder Hagemeyer '46 died September 20, 2009 in Casper, WY. Pat's father, Roy Snyder, was the L.H.S band director in the 40's.

1950-1959-

Harry Hoffman '50 passed away December 4, 2009 after a lengthy illness.

Harriet Olson-Hall'51 passed away on October 9, 2009.

1960-1969-

1970-1979

William Mann '72 passed away December 27, 2009 in Luverne, MN. After graduation William attended Winona State University where he received a Bachelors degree in nursing. He married Dawn Kindt on June 9, 1979. In 1983 the couple moved to Lacrosse, WI where Bill attended St. Francis School of Anesthesia graduating in 1983. Bill worked as a nurse anesthetist in different parts of the country most recently in Lenexa, KS. Bill will be remembered for the care he gave to others. He loved gardening and learning about plants. He enjoyed traveling, politics, motorcycling, fishing, bow hunting and photography. Bill is survived by his wife, **Dawn'76**, and daughter, Elise, sisters, **Jan' 64** (Dale) Good, **Linda Berghorst '65**, **Karen '68** (Mike) Menson, **Nancy '70** (Tony) Konz, and **Cheryl Michals '78**, parents-in-law Harold and Lois Kindt, brother in-law, **Daniel '78** (Joan) Kindt, David (Christie) Kindt and **Darin '89** (Diane) Kindt.

1980-1989-

1990-2000

About the money ...

There has been a drastic slow down on the dollars given to both Dollars for Scholars and the Alumni News.

Perhaps these program are just now beginning to feel the effects of the economy.

This issue of the Alumni News may be first that doesn't have information to share about a perpetual scholarship that's been recently established.

Without Harvey (Allie) Ordnung's gift, that would be six months without a perpetual scholarship being established.

According to the budget, we will be short two grand to pay for this January issue of Alumni News (see page 2).

The team of Alumni News volunteers is working on a way to deliver the publication electronically,

either by posting it on our Web site or by e-mailing it to alumni or both.

Meanwhile, we'll continue to incur publishing costs and we need your support.

To contribute to the April issue of the Alumni News, please consider sending a check to:

Alumni News
709 N. Kniss Avenue
Luverne, Minnesota 56156

Make sure your life history becomes part of Rock County's history

By Lori Ehde

The Rock County Historical Society is looking for more members, and it may have found a new way to attract them.

About 500 letters were mailed last fall asking not only for members, but for their life stories.

With their paid dues, members are invited to share a page of their own history.

"Become a piece of the Rock!" is the theme of the drive that aims to record history in the lives of as many Rock County residents as possible.

By joining the Historical Society, potential members will be able to archive their personal views and accomplishments of the past year.

By maintaining an annual membership, residents will eventually have entire books on file of their lives, as told by themselves.

It will happen one page at a time, one member at a time, according to Historical Society volunteer Bryce Stoltenberg.

"The Rock County Historical Society already keeps data on everyone who dies here," he said, referring to the obituary clippings at the museum.

"The idea is to take that to a whole new level. You get to record what people remember about their lives, a year at time."

He said those recollections and reflections can be enjoyed by future generations researching their ancestors, and it won't be just obituaries.

The "reflection sheets" mailed with the 2010 membership information ask residents to answer specific questions about 2009.

For example, one of the questions is, "In 2009 I had a wonderful time doing ..."

It asks about favorite movies of the past year, where they liked to go out to eat, what

Rock County Historical Society will record chapters in your life history in exchange for your annual Historical Society membership dues.

To sign up, call the Historical Society at 283-2122.

"The Rock County Historical Society already keeps data on everyone who dies here. The idea is to take that to a whole new level. You get to record what people remember about their lives, a year at time."

their best season of the year was and why. One question probes, "In 2009 I wish I could have ..."

The sheet also asks for basic information such as job information and a current photograph.

But the "reflection sheets" are really only a guideline.

"With this program, you're in control of what people will be able to look back and find out about you and what was important to you during your lifetime," the letter says.

"You get to make the decision about how personal or impersonal your history is recorded."

For those who want to expand on their life histories immediately, the Historical Society is ready to help with "area of interest" reflection sheets.

To get caught up on personal history, residents can focus on six categories based on stages of life (childhood, young adult, etc). Thoughts can be included on military service, gardening, religion, etc.

"We want you to have fun thinking about the enjoyment you can bring to future generations as they learn about your past," the letter says.

The point, Stoltenberg said, is to start having the history recorded now so that it's protected and made a permanent part of

Rock County History.

And that important historical information is tied to memberships with the Rock County Historical Society.

"Memberships are vital to the ongoing work of the Historical Society," Stoltenberg said.

"We would really like to in the future be open more hours (at the museum) and increase our visibility in the community."

Historical Society President Betty Mann said membership dues are a major source of revenue for the group, and she hopes the new membership drive will help.

"We've got to have an influx of money here, or we can't keep going," she said. "We need some financial support."

Those who did not receive a membership letter and who would like to join can call the Historical Society at 283-2122. Mann can be e-mailed at mannmade@iw.net.

Membership is open to Rock County natives currently living somewhere else, and historical information can be recorded for members' loved ones who have passed away.

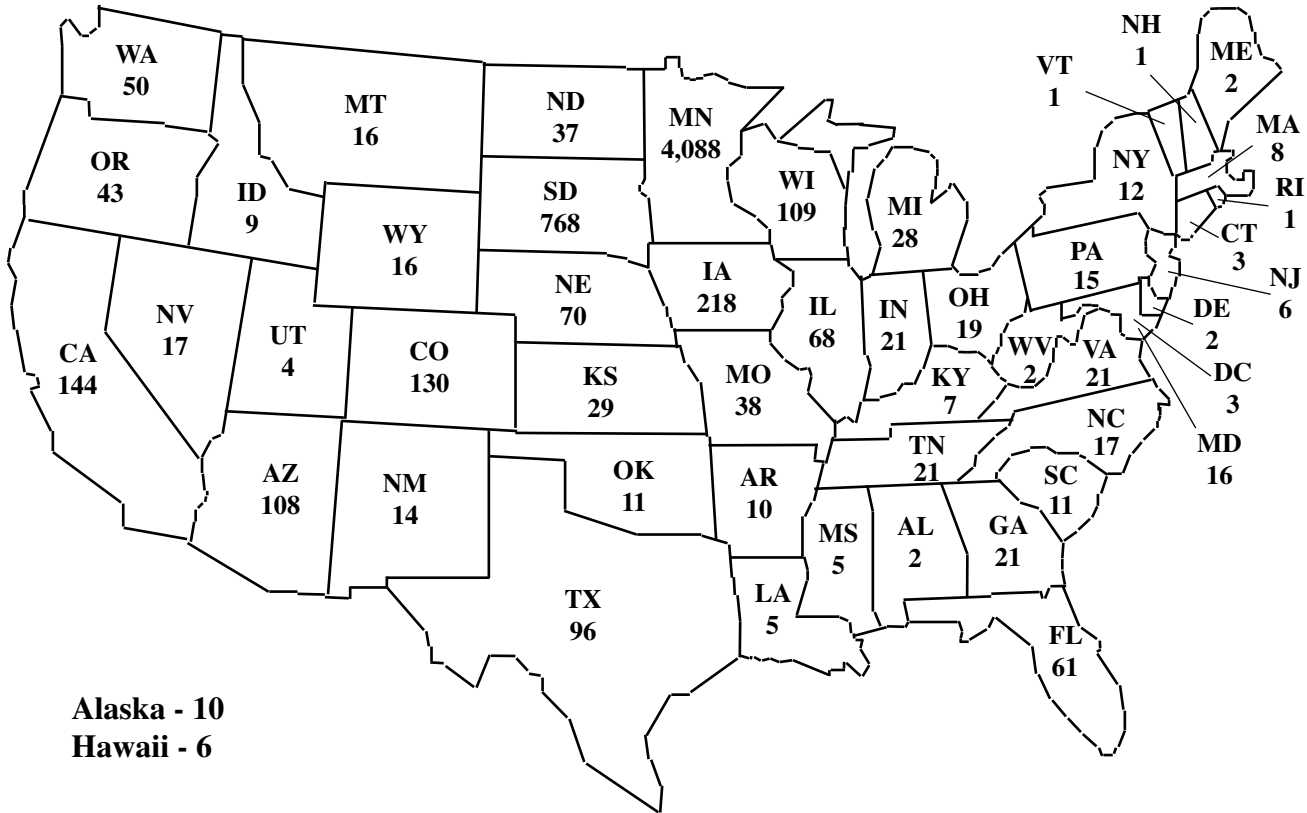
"This will hopefully bring us more awareness and build more of a presence in Rock County," Stoltenberg said.

"This lets us preserve history right down to every individual who wants that to happen."

Annual LHS Alumni Scattergram

Compiled by Gregg Gropel

The map printed below indicates the number of Luverne graduates residing in each state, plus Washington, D.C. (January 3, 2010)



State	Jan. 2010 Count	Jan. 2009 Count	Dif	State	Jan. 2010 Count	Jan. 2009 Count	Dif	State	Jan. 2010 Count	Jan. 2009 Count	Dif	
MN	4,088	4,016	72	VA	21	22	-1	ID	9	8	1	
SD	768	752	16	GA	21	20	1	MA	8	8	0	
IA	218	212	6	TN	21	17	4	KY	7	6	1	
CA	144	147	-3	IN	21	21	0	NJ	6	7	-1	
CO	130	130	0	OH	19	20	-1	HI	6	8	-2	
WI	109	108	1	NC	17	17	0	MS	5	4	1	
AZ	108	114	-6	NV	17	17	0	LA	5	6	-1	
TX	96	99	-3	MD	16	18	-2	UT	4	4	0	
NE	70	71	-1	WY	16	19	-3	CT	3	2	1	
IL	68	63	5	MT	16	16	0	DC	3	3	0	
FL	61	59	2	PA	15	15	0	ME	2	2	0	
WA	50	49	1	NM	14	16	-2	DE	2	3	-1	
OR	43	43	0	NY	12	13	-1	WV	2	2	0	
MO	38	39	-1	SC	11	9	2	AL	2	1	1	
ND	37	37	0	OK	11	12	-1	RI	1	1	0	
KS	29	28	1	AR	10	9	1	NH	1	1	0	
MI	28	27	1	AK	10	9	1	VT	1	1	0	
									TOTALS	6,420	6,331	89

The above chart compares the current number of LHS graduates living in each state to the number of graduates who were residing in these states in January, 2009. The "Dif" column indicates the change since March, 2009. Minnesota is the most populous, followed by South Dakota, Iowa, Calif., etc.



Submitted photos

Luverne grads walk for cure

Pictured below left, three cancer survivors, Sheila Siebenahler-Holland, Kim (Reisch) Vander-Poel and Staci (Israelson) Zwaan and participated in the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Walk Sunday, Sept, 27, in the Dakota Dome in Vermillion, S.D. They are all Luverne graduates. Sheila and Staci graduated with the class of 1984 and Kim in 1986. Sheila was diagnosed in August of 2008, Kim in December of 2008 and Staci in August of 2009. Each of their survival stories varies from lumpectomy to mastectomy, from 15 months of chemo treatment to no treatment and from 28 radiation treatments to no treatment. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and Sheila said she hopes publicity for Sunday's event creates more awareness of the disease and the need for early detection. "Cancer doesn't care about age, so it is so important to catch it early," she said. Pictured above, are (front, from left) Savannah Siebenahler, Carly Holland, Courtney Siebenahler, (back) Chazni Zwaan, MacKenzi Zwaan, Colleen Thomas, Monte Zwaan, Sheila Siebenahler-Holland, Staci Zwaan, Kim VanderPoel, Kelsey Vander-Poel, and Awanda Siebenahler. The team members wore shirts that said, "Fight Like A Girl." There was a 1-mile walk or a 5K run. Next year's walk is on Oct 10, 2010, (10-10-10) in Vermillion, S.D.



Reunions in the Making

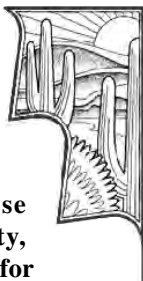
Compiled by Gregg Gropel

Just Weeks Away Arizona Reunion in Mesa

February 2010

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

The Arizona Winter Reunion is scheduled for February 17, 2010. The reunion will be held at Superstition Springs Golf Course in Mesa, Arizona. Because of the event's popularity, it has become necessary for attendees to pre-register. The pre-registration deadline is February 10, one week prior to the actual reunion. To pre-register contact Jim or Judy Herman. The Hermans can be reached via phone at their winter residence, (480) 380-6631.



Planning a reunion? Let us know. The staff is eager to announce each and every class reunion.



Class of '60

When: July 16, 17, 18, 2010

Location: Various Sites -
Class Headquarters at Sharkees

Contact: David Smith
405 S. Fairview Dr.
Luverne, Minnesota 56156
Phone: (507) 283-2877

E-mail: Truffles@iw.net

Class of '95

When: Saturday, July 31, 2010

Location: City Park and Sharkee's

Time: 3:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Contact: Amber Mollberg Walgrave
212 N. Freeman
Luverne, Minnesota 56156
Phone: (507) 449-4135

E-mail: ambergmollberg@yahoo.com

For More Info: Go to Facebook, the group is called "Luverne High School Class of 1995"

Class of 1950 ...

... will have its 60th reunion in Luverne on July 23 and 24 at the Luverne Country Club. A flyer has been sent, but in case classmates didn't get the flyer they are asked to let Norm Torrison know.

He can be reached at ntorrison@aol.com or at 8870 N Sea Oaks Way #305 Vero Beach, Fl. 32963.

Also, classmates can contact Mavis Amundson 3001 Holly Ave. Sioux Falls, SD 57105, phone 605-338-3571 or e-mail lor-mav@sio.midco.net.

Please let these two know if you are planning to attend.

Alumni News Staff: Cindy Arends, Lori Ehde, Rhonna Jarchow, Carol McDonald, Patti Kirby
Pierson, Gregg Gropel, Jane Wildung Lanphere and the Rock County Opportunities.

(Volume 20, Issue 2)

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