

MINNETONKA

AlumniMagazine

2015

**LAST YEAR'S
ALL-CLASS REUNION**

BUILDING A POWERHOUSE

The History of Girls Sports in Minnetonka



**MEET OUR DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNI HONOREES**

ON THE COVER:

Minnetonka alumni who paved the way for girls high school athletics [From L-R]:
Lucy (West) McLerny '73
Cheryl (Hillis) Uran '75
Nancy (Palm) Countryman '59
Erin McGinnis '15
Meghan Janssen '15
Chi Chi Miller '66
Coach Eric Johnson
Coach Jane Reimer-Morgan
Cami (Walstad) Johnson '63

The Minnetonka Alumni Magazine is an annual publication of the Minnetonka Alumni Association (MAA) and the Minnetonka School District. The MAA includes graduates of Minnetonka High School, Excelsior High School, Deephaven High School, non-graduates who attended those high schools for at least one year, and all present and former members of the faculty, administration and school board. Membership is free.

Story suggestions, news, events and comments are always welcomed, but submission does not guarantee publication.



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Together Again! 2014 Skipper Hall of Fame Inductees

1965 State Basketball Champions Reunited



The original 1965 team members: Bob Abel, Dan Austin, Robert Carruth, Jon Hoffart, Art "Buckey" Ives, Paul Knight, Ray Koupal, Trey Labatt, Brian Mahin, Jerry Marquardt, Doug Menke, Jim Meyers, Steve Meyers, Tom Simon, Glen Theissen, managed by Bob Berkey and coached by Coach Earl Christ and Einer Anderson.

Alumni Awards Honorees

2014 Distinguished Alumni Award

- Deborah (Smith) Mayer '65
- Dr. Steven Miles '68

2014 Skippers Hall of Fame

- 1965 State Championship Boys Basketball Team

2014 Faculty Hall of Fame

- Brad Board '66 - Deephaven & Minnewashta Principal, MHS Athletic Director
- William Chisholm - MHS English Teacher

2015 Distinguished Alumni Award

- Donald Mark '65
- Gary Sundem '63
- Anna Nelson '91

2015 Skippers Hall of Fame

- Ryan Klocksien '98
- William Leer '03
- Marnie Mosiman '69

2015 Faculty Hall of Fame

- Steve Frazier, Counselor and Social Studies
- Jan Ann Golz, Special Education Teacher
- Randy Nelson, Work Experience Coord.
- Lloyd Law, Elementary Principal

2015 Distinguished Service Award

- Brian Kuhnly '78

Alumni Association Board of Directors

President

Bonnie (Board) Niles '67

Vice President

Gail (Thacker) Ofstehage '68

Past President

Susan (Ringstad) Krantz '79

Secretary

Kathy (Kramer) Richardson '69

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John Frees '68

Directors

Gail (Wartman) Bollis '67, Nancy (Palm) Countryman '59, Marietta Jacobsen '70, Joy (Davis) Fruen '71, Dan Heiland '74, Jeff Davenport '81 and Lynn Krafve (retired teacher and coach)

FROM THE MAA PRESIDENT

Dear Alumni,

We, the Minnetonka Alumni Association (MAA) Board of Directors, tip our “Skipper” hats to those who made this past year so successful by celebrating, sharing, reflecting, giving and volunteering. As a Board we couldn’t be doing what we do with YOU! The MAA each year seeks to serve you by being a voice for Minnetonka graduates so they stay connected with the school district. We strive to help and support you by organizing alumni activities/class reunions, encouraging volunteers to help make the Minnetonka School District one of true excellence, and providing additional support to staff and students by funding the Fine Arts Endowment Fund (FAEF).

As a Board we are inspired by the commitment of our alums and their willingness to stay connected and give back to Minnetonka schools and the community. Take a look:

- Thousands gathered to enjoy and reconnect with friends and teachers from the past during a very successful All-School All-Class Reunion held in the Excelsior Commons July 26, 2014.
- For the first time, many alumni-owned businesses contributed time and financial support to the Reunion to make it a smashing success.
- The Annual Homecoming Brunch recognized and honored outstanding alumni and former faculty members for their contributions, leadership and service to Minnetonka Schools and our community. This year’s Awards Brunch is Homecoming weekend, September 19, 2015, from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- The MAA and alums team-up to volunteer at a number of events throughout the year: Tour de Tonka, graduation, Art on the Lake, Apple Day, and the Cub Brat Stand.
- We are committed to and proud to financially support the Fine Arts Endowment Fund. This year and for the past 12 years we have funded nearly \$40,000 which enables students and teachers the opportunity to explore, enrich, and expand their talents in the arts. These opportunities are beyond, and separate from, the schools district’s operating budget.

The MAA feels that our presence and funding help in some small way to support excellence in Minnetonka Schools. Working together “We are Tonka Proud!”

As president, I am so grateful and feel it is my great privilege to work with a passionate Board of Directors and represent exceptional and amazing alumni.

Gratefully,

Bonnie Board Niles '67

Bonnie Board Niles '67



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BEYOND 140 WITH PRINCIPAL ERICKSON



Jeffrey Erickson
Principal
Minnetonka High School
@TonkaPrincipal

As we open a new school year, Homecoming is right around the corner. We look forward to welcoming many of you back September 18-19 for the Homecoming Parade, game and Alumni Awards Brunch. What great Tonka traditions!

I'm proud to report that your alma mater is as strong as ever. The Class of 2015 posted a new school-record average ACT of 26.9, 70 percent of them challenged themselves with Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses during their senior year, and 91% are starting college this fall.

At MHS, we live by two basic tenants: Do the Right Thing and Represent Us Well. Our students live up to those expectations every day. The Class of 2015 was the first class to adopt a four-year legacy service project. As freshmen they voted to fight hunger in our community, our nation and our world. Over four years, they attempted to set a world-record for a week-long food drive for ICA food Shelf, packed meals for Kids Against Hunger and Feed My Starving Children, packed sandwiches for the homeless, and learned about food scarcity. The Class of 2016 is focused on an adopt-a-community project and have worked with local homeless teens and a community in Haiti. The Class of 2017 is focused on poverty, and the Class of 2018 is focused on the environment.

Through both service and our academic programs, students are expanding their connections beyond Minnetonka. We are preparing leaders to contribute and compete in a global economy. This year we will welcome our first freshman language immersion students to high school. After learning Spanish or Chinese in district language immersion programs, they are prepared to jump right into AP Spanish or AP Chinese in ninth grade. We look forward to awarding our first IB Bilingual Diplomas in four years.

It's going to be an exciting year! I invite you to keep up with MHS happenings. Follow us on Twitter: @TonkaSkippers for athletics updates and @TonkaPrincipal for school updates.

Thank you teachers & staff!

The following Minnetonka teachers and staff members retired in 2015. Please join the MAA in thanking them for their service and dedication to children in Minnetonka Schools.

Mary Aune, Office Assistant (Deephaven)	23 years
Kathleen (West) Baltuff (MHS'69)	28 years
Julia Beaulieu, Office Assistant (MHS)	30 years
Pam Bromme, Paraprofessional (District Service Center)	27 years
Deb Buehler, Teacher (MMW)	15 years
Deb Drexler, Teacher (Clear Springs)	28 years
Paula Evanich, Paraprofessional (Clear Springs)	18 years
Sandy Gruenhagen, Paraprofessional (Groveland)	23 years
Frank Georg, HVAC Specialist (District)	15 years
Frances Guerre, Office Assistant (MHS)	27 years
Elizabeth Johnson, Paraprofessional (MMW)	20 years
Anne Kalscheuer, Office Assistant (District Service Center)	8 years
Jim Lees, Paraprofessional (MHS)	11 years
Meg Low, Youth Program Manager (Community Ed.)	21 years
Jerry McNeal, Paraprofessional (Scenic Heights)	18 years
Bonnie Munger, Teacher (MHS)	41 years
Polly Patrick, Teacher (MHS)	29 years
Fay Presley-Pritchett, Nutrition Services (MHS)	9 years



Jim Lees and Kathy Witschorik



Polly Patrick and Sandy Gruenhagen

Sue Rusk, Paraprofessional (MCEC)	27 years
Daryl Seifert, Teacher (Groveland)	26 years
Sue Sinkler, Teacher (MHS)	29 years
Carol Solheid, Explorer's Club Program Manager (Community Ed.)	30 years
Kathleen Terhaar, Teacher (MME)	16 years
Joan Truettner, Teacher (MME)	32 years
Rebecca Van't Hof, Paraprofessional (Scenic Heights)	21 years
Pat Williams, Teacher (MHS)	25 years
Susan Williams, Office Assistant (MHS)	18 years
Kathleen Witschorik, Paraprofessional (MHS)	30 years

A Family Tradition

These 2015 graduates join their parents, siblings and other family members as proud MHS Alumni.

Anthony Adamek and father Carl Adamek '82

Elizabeth Adams; mother Holly (Roberts) Adams '75; sisters Alyson Hatchett '03 and Marcy Adams '12

Griffin Anderson and mother Tami Anderson '89

Jacqueline Anderson; parents Bradley '85 and Katherine Anderson '88

Ethan Ashley; father Peter Ashley '86; and grandmother Mary Ashley '66

Patrick Berlin; mother Tammy (Larson) Berlin '84; and aunt Heidi Larson-David '90

Helena Beutel and grandmother Nancy (Amundson) Goetzman '56

Eliana Blumenthal and mother Peggy (Sikorski) Blumenthal '84

Paul T. Boyer; father Paul F. Boyer '78; brothers Matt '10 and David '08; aunt Joleen '67; and uncles Pete '65, Bob '71, John '73 and Joe '75

Corbin Burdick; father Brian H. Burdick '77; and sister Brooke Burdick '11

Annika Clinton and father Steve Clinton '84

Morgan Conzemius and mother Jeanene (Seeger) Conzemius '83

Margaret W. Crist; father David A. Crist '75; and sisters Katherine '11 and Elizabeth Crist '13

Janelle and Valerie Cross; mother Roberta (Holthe) Buckman '79

Rayna DeJongh and mother Vicki DeJongh '73

Ellie Determan and father Brian Determan '83

Jenna Fester and mother Diane (Rust) Fester '82

Heidi French and father Dennis French '70

Hannah Froehling; father Rick Froehling '81; and grandmother Bonnie (Christopherson) Thurk '61

Anna Ginther; parents Jim '84 and Beth (Stevenson) Ginther '86

Hannah Gosen; parents Tim and Sandy Gosen '74; aunt Glenda Gosen; and uncles Rick and David Gosen and Ken, Curt and Peter Bjorlin

Jack Harris and mother Kristi (Peterson) Harris '86

Sara Hauge and father David Hauge '80

Maxwell Herron; mother Sharon (Tillmann) Herron '87; and brother Jacob Herron '12

Evan Highland; parents Kevin '78 and Ingrid (Bekeris) Highland '80; and aunt Anita (Bekeris) Pederstuen '76

Emma Hillis and father John Hillis '87

Bennett Holmgren and father Samuel Holmgren '86

Ashley Huynh; stepmother Celeste Scott '82; and uncles Troy '80 and Kyl Scott '87

Luke Johnson and father Tom Johnson '81

Lucinda Walker Kearney; mother Pamela Hensel '78; aunts Heidi (Hensel) Heiland '79 and Ede (Hensel) Rice '71

Hunter Kelly and mother Donna (Deisher) Kelly '83

Benjamin Kosvic and father Chris Kosvic '86

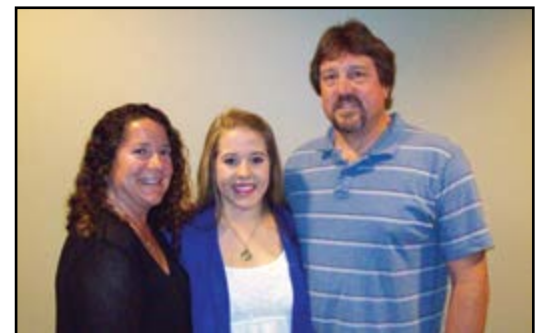
Abby Livingston and mother Rachel (Oppegaard) Livingston '86



Jack Harris and mother Kristi (Peterson) Harris '86



Gosen Family



Katherine and Bradley with daughter Jacqueline

Georginia (Georgie) Lowden; mother Shari (Mueller) Lowden '86 and grandmother Ethlyn (Peterson) Mueller '63

Peter Maple; father Tom Maple '81; brothers Phillip '10 and Matthew '13; aunts Kate Maple, Nancy (Maple) Ellsworth and Miggs (Maple) Hill; uncles Scott Carpenter and Tom Ellsworth; and cousins Katie Ellsworth, Anne (Ellsworth) Levine and Jannette Peterson

Gregory Hogan Moore and mother Melissa (Hogan) Moore '86

Courtney Olson and father Thomas Olson '84

Jack C. Schwarz; father Kurt C. Schwarz '81; and sister Ella K. Schwarz '11

Hailey R. Scott and father Timothy W. Scott '81

Harrison Smith and father Benjamin Smith '80

Stone Swanson; father Kirk Swanson '87; aunt Beth (Swanson) Pursley '79; and uncle Eric Swanson '85

Hailey Walker and mother Heather (McGovern) Walker '87

Patrick W. West; parents Tom and Patti (Wood) West '76

If you are an alum with a 2016 MHS grad in the family, send us an email at alumni@minnetonka.k12.mn.us so we can include you in next year's magazine.

SO FUN TO RECONNECT!

2014 All-School All-Class Reunion



Class of 1982 alumni with the Skipper



Alumni touring Excelsior



Class of 1991 enjoying the festivities



Mark Huber '66, Kent Norman '68, Ed Hewitt '65



Kara Bayse '96, Caitlin Bernett (spouse), Tina Bernett '96



Dan Austin '65, Bob Abel '65, Don Mark '65, Jerry Marquardt '65



Amy Dawson '04, Gail Ofstehage '68, Dr. Albert, Joy Fruen '71, Lynn Kravfe, Bonnie Niles '67
at the Excelsior High School Tour



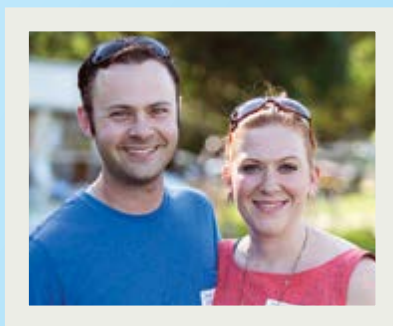
Representatives from the class of 1963



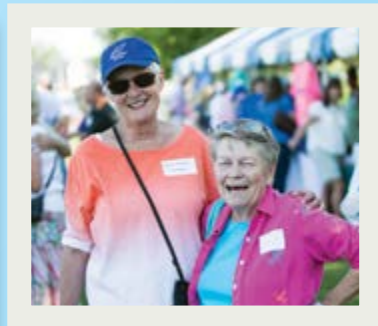
Reconnecting with friends



Bob Williams '68, Guy Katopodis '72



Jake and Cari Sturgis '98



Susan Tedholm Anderson, Dale Bollis Kroc '57

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Anna Nelson

CLASS OF 1991

BY SARA SKALLE

Journalist and humanitarian Anna Nelson travels the world bringing important stories to light. Within three months of graduation from Minnetonka High School (MHS), Anna was off to France to study at the American University of Paris. Since then, the world has been her home. Working for CBS News Paris and as United Nations correspondent for Swiss Radio International, Anna has covered the 1996 crash of TWA flight 800, the death of Princess Diana, the impact of technology on the lives of impoverished women and children in Mali, the challenges of people facing ongoing violence in Israel and the Occupied Territories, the legacy of landmines in Bosnia, the 2005 earthquake in northern Pakistan, a little-known war in the Southern Philippines and prisoners suffering with a drug-resistant form of tuberculosis in Azerbaijan.

“Her advice to current MHS students is to embrace the unexpected and surrender to wonder”

If you’ve ever wondered where working on the *Breezes* newspaper will take you, Anna is a fine example. The MHS newspaper sparked her interest in journalism, which helped her become the editor of her college newspaper and led to an internship with CBS 60 Minutes in Paris, launching her career in television, radio and online journalism. Her advice to current MHS students is to embrace the unexpected and surrender to wonder.

“Life hasn’t always gone as I thought it would but each new experience has enabled me to forge a unique path for myself that, in turn, has allowed me to bear witness to some incredible things in this world – some that would break your heart, and others that would make your heart soar,” says Anna. “It hasn’t always been easy but boy, has it been worth it. I wouldn’t trade my memories and experiences for anything.”

In November 2011, Anna organized a TEDx event called



TEDxRC2 in Geneva, which has become one of the highlights of her career. The theme Multiplying the Power of Humanity unfolded in a series of talks, including her favorite by Alberto Cairo, a colleague based in Kabul who has helped more than 100,000 landmine and accident victims learn to walk again. His message, says Anna, spotlighted the importance of learning from those the Red Cross strives to help and how enabling a landmine victim to regain their sense of dignity can make them stand taller than any pair of prosthetic legs. “That talk has been watched hundreds of thousands of times online and people tell me it’s changed the way they view the disabled and Afghanistan,” says Anna. “I’m really proud of that.” (Search TEDxRC2 Alberto Cairo.)

Anna said to her parents once, “The way I see it, there are no ‘good people’ or ‘bad people,’ just people in need.” Growing up Minnesotan and of Scandinavian descent, Anna already had a deep sense of civic duty and responsibility. Through her career she finds inspiration getting out in the field and meeting people. There she discovers graciousness and generosity in the most atrocious conditions, witnesses human endurance and resilience, and learns a lot about compassion and giving back, too. These tempering experiences have made her highly effective in her work.

Home is now Washington, D.C., where Anna works as Head of Communications and Public Affairs in her eighth year with the International Committee of the Red Cross and as a foster mom, which she finds deeply rewarding. Today, a phone call might mean another trip overseas or a request to care for three-month-old twins for a month. If there’s one thing Anna has embraced since MHS, it’s that life is wonderfully unpredictable.

Donald Chance Mark

CLASS OF 1965

BY SARA SKALLE

Inspired by the 1950s television show Perry Mason – especially knowing that it was derived from a series of books based on Earl Rogers, a remarkable trial lawyer – Don aspired to a similar career. Forty years later, it's safe to say he's attained that goal.

After studying at St. Olaf and then Vanderbilt Law School in Nashville, Don joined downtown law firm Meagher & Geer, known for its trial work. "I was exposed to great mentors and had the opportunity to learn how to do it the right way and how to be an effective advocate in the courtroom," says Don who started in 1973 as trial lawyer number 17. He never imagined leaving, so his biggest career surprise was establishing the Eden Prairie-based firm of Fafinski Mark & Johnson in 1999. "It was literally the three of us and an assistant," says Don, remembering the start of what's now a firm of 28 lawyers and more than 20 staff members. "To build something from nothing and enjoy the kind of success we have is nothing short of miraculous. I didn't foresee it."

In his career to date, he's tried more than 130 cases; 99 were jury trials in nine different states. In one case of note, Don was lead counsel for Air Wisconsin Airlines Corp. which sought immunity under the Aviation and Transportation Security Act for reporting suspicious actions to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The case moved through trial court, the Colorado Court of Appeals and the Colorado Supreme Court before making its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. In a unanimous decision, the High Court confirmed the intent of the federal law that grants immunity for air carriers and their employees who report suspicious behavior to the TSA.

In addition to corporate law, Don finds significant gratification representing individuals who have been victims of discrimination. A timely example is his representation of Katie Brenny, a state golf champion who was hired as the University of Minnesota women's golf coach, but soon was discriminated against on a number of levels for her sexual orientation. "When I met Katie, she was distraught, lacking confidence and didn't understand the way she was being treated," says Don. "It was a very good feeling when we



received the verdict. I was so happy for this young woman who has so much potential and was vindicated."

Today, with no retirement in the foreseeable future, Don continues his trial work but has also spearheaded his firm's aviation subgroup focused on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), better known as drones. "It's exciting not only to be on the cutting edge of this technology, but on the cutting edge of the law," says Don, who has done quite a bit of speaking on the subject and recently testified before a joint subcommittee of the Minnesota State Legislature. This new subgroup is focused on protecting free speech and privacy issues, representing people who operate drones, and working to establish the laws that manage drone usage.

Threads of his success trace back to MHS, especially his term as senior class president and the public speaking it required. His comfort with public speaking opened doors and established a foundation for skills that have served him well. For this, Don thanks his speech teacher John Raymond who taught him to be disciplined and organized. Claiming to be "coordinated but undersized," Don never repressed his enthusiasm for athletics. He participated in high school sports, coached youth soccer teams for nearly 20 years, and has legally represented numerous athletes. Don hopes that he's passing along the positive lifestyle example set by coaches he knew growing up in Minnetonka.

"We had a terrific class, a lot of terrific people," says Don. "We had a lot of success, both academically and athletically, our senior year. Thinking of my classmates and all they've accomplished and all we went through together, I'm kind of overwhelmed by this recognition."

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

Gary Sundem

CLASS OF 1963

BY SARA SKALLE

For Gary Sundem, accounting is much more than numbers. And he should know, he wrote the textbook.

"I'm probably better known for my textbooks than for any research I did," says Gary, co-author of two best-selling accounting books, now in their 11th and 16th editions. Throughout his career, Gary spent a great deal of energy changing the way that accounting was taught. "I view accounting as a broad communication tool rather than a set of rules and regulations that you need to memorize in order to prepare financial statements. My style is much more oriented toward using accounting information because that's what the majority of people really need out of an accounting course."

Before retiring in 2008, Gary enjoyed a 37-year career with the University of Washington as Professor of Accounting, Associate Dean for Masters and Executive Programs and chair of the Department of Accounting. He was named Outstanding Accounting Educator twice: by the American Accounting Association in 1998 and by the Washington Society of

He's spent nearly four decades deriving great enjoyment from destroying students' preconceptions that accounting will be boring.

CPAs in 1987. Being the first person elected president to both the American Accounting Association (1992) and the International Association of Accounting Education and Research (2012) is an accomplishment in which he takes great pride.

As Gary looks back, there are many influential factors from his time as a Minnetonka student. Sixth-grade teacher Gerald Neuman made him think about excelling and doing things right. Don Adamek, math teacher at Deephaven Junior High, helped him imagine the exciting possibilities of a math career. And high school English teacher, William Chisholm taught him how to write – a skill he credits as an advantage throughout his career.



Gary and a friend spent the summer after high school graduation traveling through Europe. This interest turned into the most exciting and surprising aspect of his career — the international dimension. He has lived and taught in Norway, France and Singapore and has traveled extensively, giving lectures or representing a business school accreditation team. "The travel has certainly been rewarding and not something I anticipated during graduate school," says Gary. "It broadened my perspective not just on accounting but on life in general."

As a math major at Carleton College, Gary was more interested in application than in theory, and combined his math classes with the study of economics, which opened a potential path into business. "I was lucky," he says, "to go straight from Carleton to a very special program at Stanford, where I earned my Ph.D." After two years at Stanford, he debated whether to go into business or stay in academe. Observing his professors' lifestyles and daily work, academe won out. He's spent nearly four decades deriving great enjoyment from destroying students' preconceptions that accounting will be boring. "Being a professor, the kids keep getting younger, but you stay with them and that keeps you young also. It keeps one going."

Another motivator in Gary's life has been competitive sports. Playing football, basketball and baseball through high school and college, he appreciates the example and role that his coaches played in his life. As an adult, Gary has run the Boston Marathon, coached youth athletic teams and climbed mountains with his sons.

"I moved to Minnetonka when I was going into sixth grade. My parents picked a house in what they thought was the best school district," says Gary. "I'm grateful to them for picking Minnetonka and to Minnetonka High School for providing a great base of education."

A Celebration of Innovation!

by Liz (Holcomb) Norton, '82

Teacher Grant Reception

Representatives from the School District, Minnetonka Public Schools Foundation (MPSF) and Minnetonka Alumni Association celebrated the 2015–16 Teacher Grants on April 16. Since its inception in 1999, the Teacher Grant Program has awarded nearly \$850,000 in grants, and the \$95,632 awarded for 2015-16 is the largest annual award in Foundation history. Of that amount, \$7,570 in MAA Fine Arts Endowment Grants were presented through five grants.



Andy Smith received a grant for a video crane at Minnetonka High School



Melanie Melvor received a grant for "African Drumming in the Elementary Music Classroom" (accepted by Curt Carpenter)



Lauren Bartelt received a grant for a "Minnetonka Elementary Musical"

How Teacher Grants Fuel Innovation

The Teacher Grant Program provides Minnetonka teachers additional resources to engage students in new and meaningful ways. A few of the creative grants funded for the 2015-16 school year include:

- *Robotic Engineers at Groveland (\$2,748)*: second-graders will work with college buddies to assemble and program 12 robots, and then demonstrate their functioning robots in a classroom showcase.
- *Video Crane at MHS (\$1,640)*: this MAA grant will provide a new video crane to increase the visual flexibility and creativity of school video presentations.
- *A Long Walk to Water at MMW (\$3,000)*: students will read the globally focused novel, participate in live classroom Skype sessions with the book's author and put their new knowledge into action by creating a service project that supports the building of wells in Sudan.

How You Can Help

The Teacher Grant Program, which funds projects in every school in the District, is completely dependent on community support. General donations can be made online anytime, and special teacher or staff tribute gifts are available in December and May. Go to www.minnetonkafoundation.com to learn about all the 2015-16 Teacher Grant awards and to support next year's Teacher Grant Program.

MINNETONKA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

BUILDING A POWERHOUSE

BY RYAN EVANS ('09)

MINNETONKA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS						
BOYS' BASKETBALL 1965	ONE ACT PLAY 1969	BOYS' WRESTLING 1974	BOYS' TENNIS 1974	GIRLS' TENNIS 1974	GIRLS' SWIM & DIVE 1975	GIRLS' TENNIS 1975
GIRLS' SWIM & DIVE 1976	BOYS' TRACK & FIELD 1976	GIRLS' VOLLEYBALL 1976	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1978	GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY 1981	GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY 1982	GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD 1983
GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD 1985	GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD 1986	GIRLS' ALPINE SKI 1987	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1988	GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD 1988	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1990	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1991
GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY 1991	GIRLS' TRACK & FIELD 1992	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1992	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1993	GIRLS' ALPINE SKI 1993	BOYS' ALPINE SKI 1996	BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1996
BOYS' SWIM & DIVE 1997	BOYS' BASKETBALL 1998	BOYS' ALPINE SKI 1998	GIRLS' SOFTBALL 1999	GIRLS' SOFTBALL 2000	BOYS' ALPINE SKI 2000	GIRLS' SOCCER 2001
BLUE CREW						

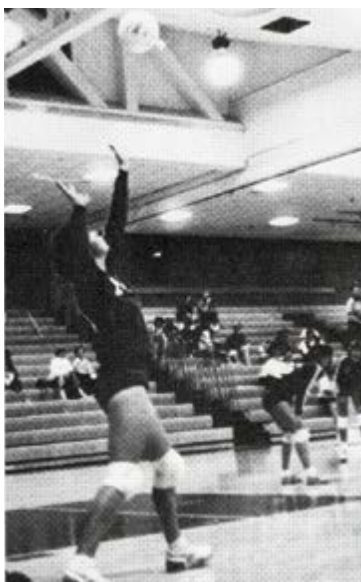
As a three-sport athlete at Minnetonka, Sue Stuebener '89 has an abundance of memories from her Skippers career. But, it's a moment away from the field of play that still resonates the most.

Stuebener was the first MHS basketball player — girls or boys — to score 1,000 career points, finishing with 1,296 in her four years. After her final game, she received a note from a girls youth basketball player who was a fixture in the stands at varsity games.

"She wrote me a note saying how I had been a good role model," Stuebener recalled, "and that she was going to break my school points record one day."

"And sure enough, she did."

That youth player was Jenny Burns '99, who was four-year starter and two-time All-Conference and All-State player for the Skippers in the late 1990s. She finished her high school career with a program record 1,321 points, keeping a promise



Sue Stuebener

she made to her hero ten years prior.

Such has been the legacy for many of the female athletes who played at Minnetonka: leaving the girls sports program better than they found it. The many girls who came before Stuebener paved the way for her and the success she had — be it on the basketball or volleyball court or track field — while Stuebener opened doors for Burns and other athletes who followed.

Thanks to the contributions of countless girls over the decades, Skippers girls sports have grown from humble beginnings into one of Minnesota's power programs.

Today, MHS supports 16 varsity girls sports. Those teams have won 29 of the 56 team state championships in Minnetonka history and, just last summer, the Skippers

were voted the third-best girls sports program in the country in a nationwide vote conducted by *USA Today*.



'50s HUMBLE BEGINNINGS '60s

Luverne Solee, a physical education teacher at Deephaven in the 1950s and 1960s, was one of Minnetonka's first champions for girls athletics. When she began teaching, the Minnetonka Schools' P.E. curriculum for girls offered the bare minimum in terms of physical activity.

"All you were supposed to do in P.E. was exercise and play dodge ball or something," Solee said. "They didn't offer a lot of sports for girls."

"Nobody ever thought about girls athletics," she added. "Nobody ever pushed it or initiated anything. They were just left on their own."

So Solee decided to try and change that. Although basketball already existed for girls in the classroom (albeit not full court), she introduced sports like soccer and tennis into her curriculum which, in her words, were "almost unheard of" for girls to that point.

One beneficiary of the opportunities Solee created was Nancy (Palm) Countryman '59, a student of Solee's at Deephaven. Countryman said Solee recognized her ability early-on and encouraged her to continue pursuing athletics.

"She recognized natural ability," Countryman said of Solee. "She taught me how to play basketball and worked with me to swing better in softball."

When Countryman reached high school, MHS offered no organized varsity girls sports. The only thing available was the

Girls Athletics Association (GAA), which was akin to intramurals. She was as involved as a girl could be back in those days, participating in baseball and softball.

But tennis was Countryman's first love. Her only chance to play at MHS came when the boys tennis coach would pull her out of class while the team was practicing because she could hit the ball well enough to "give them a lot of practice."

"I was competition for them," Countryman said. "Girls were not allowed back then to be on the boys team."

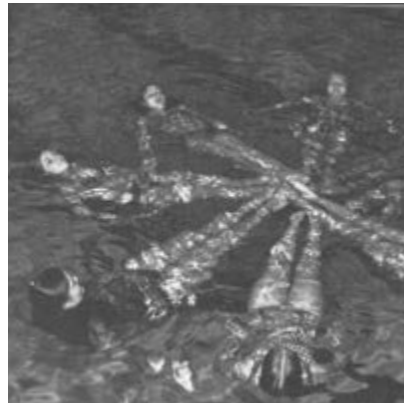
To compete, Countryman went outside the high school. Her parents drove her to tournaments across Minnesota and in North and South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin. By the late 1950s, she was the No. 1-ranked girls tennis player in Minnesota and good enough to warrant traveling out east for tournaments and playing in Canadian juniors.

"Competing is so valuable," Countryman said. "Younger girls now have scheduled competitions. They have to produce, they have to learn and they have to work at it."



Nancy (Palm)
Countryman

MINNETONKA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS



'60s

TITLE IX YEARS

'70s

By the late 1960s and early 1970s, opportunities were still scarce. As Lucy (West) McIlerny '73 recalled, the only physical activities offered when she was in high school were cheerleading and the Skipperettes, which only existed "to cheer on the boys sports."

"There weren't interscholastic sports for girls in the early 1970s," McIlerny said. "Extramural sports only started my sophomore or junior year. I remember participating in anything I could."

In addition to track, tennis, volleyball, and cheerleading, that included creating and coordinating teams of her own. McIlerny was one of a group of girls that organized softball and hockey teams for female classmates. They tie-dyed their own softball shirts to play in and got late ice time for a couple hockey games they scheduled themselves.

"One of those games, the boys hockey coach, Mike Larson, gave us the boys' breezers and uniforms to play in," McIlerny said. "Many of us played in figure skates because we didn't have hockey skates."

McIlerny's father, Walt West, was the Athletic Director at MHS at the time and, as a father of three boys and two girls, saw for himself the inequality between male and female athletic opportunities — making him a staunch supporter of Title IX, which was signed into law the summer of 1972.

"He was really happy that it was happening," McIlerny said. "Title IX found strong support in Minnetonka."

Title IX brought huge changes over a short period of time and its implementation created scheduling issues due insufficient facilities. After Title IX, the MHS girls locker room was also the visiting boys basketball locker room. McIlerny recalled a story of a protest of sorts staged by a couple Skippers gymnasts when, after practice, they refused to leave until ready when a basketball team showed up for a game scheduled at the same time.

During this time, female athletes found a sympathetic ear in West. According to Cheryl (Hillis) Uran '75, a three-sport athlete in the early and mid-1970s, West was one of girls athletics' biggest allies at Minnetonka.

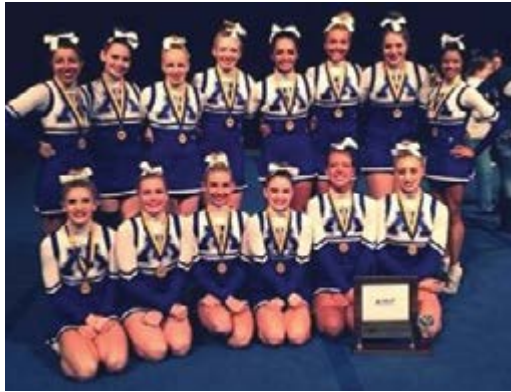
"He was an unbelievable person," Uran said of West. "His office was always open to us at all times. If something wasn't right in our sports world, we had someone who would listen and address it in one way or another."

While Uran experienced the imbalance in opportunities as a track, gymnastics, tennis, and cheerleading athlete, she saw another side of it when she came back to coach gymnastics at MHS in the early 1980s.

"I saw more of the underbelly of boys versus girls sports," she said. "I was paid less than the boys coaches and we lost gym time to boys teams."

"But it was going in a positive direction and moving forward."

MINNETONKA GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS



'70s

BIRTH OF A POWERHOUSE

NOW

After Title IX was passed in 1972, changes came swiftly. Minnetonka girls won state championships in tennis, volleyball, swim and dive before the decade closed. Success continued in the 1980s, with titles in cross-country, alpine skiing, track and field, and another swim and dive trophy.

Today, the Skippers' girls are a well-established perennial power in the state of Minnesota. Tennis has won eight straight section titles, cheerleading has won 18 straight Minnesota state titles and took second at Nationals this year, alpine ski has won three of the last five state titles, hockey has played in four of the last five state title games (winning three), and track and field won back-to-back state championships in 2013 and 2014.

That success has come in part because girls today have opportunities available to them at a younger age — a stark contrast to the athletes of yesteryear. Minnetonka has the resources to boast strong youth program numbers, which girls hockey coach Eric Johnson said is one reason his program is envied across the state and why the sport as a whole has evolved so quickly.



"More of the girls today have been playing since they were young," he said. "They've had the necessary ice time to develop their skills to their true potential."

Skippers girls track and field and girls cross country head coach Jane Reimer-Morgan knows well, too, the quality of athletes that Minnetonka's program produces. As an assistant and head coach during the last 31 seasons, Reimer-Morgan's teams have won a combined seven state titles.

Both programs have come a long way since Reimer-Morgan arrived at MHS. When she started as an assistant for Bob Rogness in 1985, the girls track and field team had 40 members. This past year it had 130. Reimer-Morgan couldn't even become an assistant on the cross-country team until it had 20 kids, which didn't happen until 1990. Now the team is 105 members strong.

"Girls sports have come a really long way," she said. "I can't say enough about the quality of girls athletics here (in Minnetonka)."

"If you go into the gymnasium and look at the state championship banners, there are a lot of girls programs represented on the wall."

TEN 2015 MHS GRADUATES TO WATCH



Rachael Price

Star sailor Rachael Price didn't take to the water right away. It wasn't until she started sailing competitively with her peers that she fell in love with the sport. Price has now served as Captain of the MHS Sailing Team for the last two years, a team which is currently ranked #1 in the Midwest and has recently placed in the top three at national regattas. Her coach, Jessica Haverstock, describes her as having "a fierce dedication and passion for the sport."

Price exemplifies leadership off the water as well. "I realized at a young age," she says, "that I could make a big difference with small actions." Her actions no longer seem so small: Price is a leader for Backpack Tutoring, an Ambassador for VolunTeen Nation, a former secretary for HandsOn Twin Cities, and a winner of countless awards for community service. Citing a desire to counteract local poverty, she co-founded Teens Taking Action, a club that won a grant to grow produce for the Minnetonka ICA Food Shelf. As her English teacher and Teens Taking Action advisor Sonia Labs says, "Rachael constantly seeks opportunities to improve the lives of others."

Price loves to take on any challenge in her community, such as earning an International Baccalaureate Diploma at MHS. "Everyone strives; everyone is driven," she says of her IB peers, "We all push each other." Her favorite courses range from IB Biology to Painting (she's also a member of National Art Honor Society). She's hoping to find a similar sense of community at Georgia Tech. Her next challenge: a major in biomedical engineering.



Josh McGrath

"I get things done." For Josh McGrath, this reflection on his time at MHS is an understatement. This Eagle Scout serves as Captain of the Robotics Club, Computer Programming Club, and Debate Team. Outside of his work at MHS, McGrath interns at Clockwork Active Media in Minneapolis, where he designs interactive technology for notable clients nationwide. He also founded Tonka CoderDojo, a local chapter of an international nonprofit coding club that teaches students as young as five the art of computer coding.

If he could give any advice to teachers or parents of young children, McGrath would say, "Let them mess up." He discovered early-on that this was one of the best ways to learn. His formula seems to have worked, as McGrath is now so well-respected in the local coding world that many of his peers don't even realize he is a high school student when they first start working with him.

His IB Literature and Performance teacher, Barb Van Pilsum, says that despite his reputation as a renaissance man, McGrath is truly humble: "There's nothing pretentious about him. Josh cares about people." Nathan Van Dyke, McGrath's advisor for both Debate and Computer Programming club, agrees, "Josh is generous in sharing his experience and wisdom, and has served dutifully as a mentor" to younger students.

McGrath will take his knowledge and leadership to the University of Wisconsin this fall, where he plans to help revive their debate team, learn more advanced coding skills, and start a new chapter of CoderDojo.

Max Melin



Max Melin says that as soccer goalkeeper, "You don't get called on very often, but when you do, you have to be ready." As an All-State goalie, Melin knows what he is talking about. This past season, he helped lead the Skippers to their best record ever (16-1-2) and became a Mr. Soccer finalist for Minnesota, a rarity for goalies. His proudest moment came when the Skippers beat Jefferson 3-2 in overtime at the Section finals after being down 0-1.

Melin applies the same focus to his school work, which helped him score 34 out of 36 on the ACT and find success in numerous AP courses. Melin said, "As my classes have gotten more difficult, my grades have gone up. I've had to learn how to balance my time." This means passing on additional opportunities to play soccer so that he can focus on school. His Envirothon Team advisor and AP Biology teacher, Dawn Norton, says that Max "always demonstrates a genuine interest in knowing things."

A top-tier musician, Melin has played percussion with almost every music group available: wind ensemble, percussion ensemble, jazz ensemble, and the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphony. Classical MPR judges chose Melin to be one of five high school students featured at the Minnesota Varsity Showcase, where he performed "Concerto for Marimba and Orchestra," by Ney Rosauro on marimba.

Melin will attend Stanford University, which he chose for its "similarly driven students." His math teacher and soccer coach, Alex Johnson, says that whether being recognized for his success in soccer, school, or music, "Max receives his honors and accomplishments with a maturity and humbleness beyond his years."

The Kleists



Jon

Brett

Justin

While triplets Jon, Brett, and Justin Kleist have excelled individually, it's the time they've spent together that they look back on most fondly. Whether earning their respective Eagle Scout badges, playing baseball, or just hanging out with friends, Jon says, "Being able to be with your brothers is a lot of fun."

Jon Kleist

Jon Kleist's AP Statistics teacher, Matt Breen, describes him as "a strong leader in every facet of his student life." As President of MHS Student Government, Jon enjoys "finding fun opportunities for students," but the most significant legacy he will leave behind is his creation of the new Budget Committee, a group that raises and distributes funds for students clubs at the high school. "He is extremely well-liked and respected. He leads by example, and students follow," says Student Government advisor, Terri Ellis. Jon will attend St. John's University in the fall, where his mom, Janean, is an Assistant Professor of Accounting and Finance.

Brett Kleist

"I love learning," says Brett Kleist. This thirst for knowledge is evident: Brett is a National Merit Semifinalist who scored a 2350 out of 2400 on his SAT. Chet Masteller, Brett's AP U.S. History teacher, describes him as "one of the most dedicated and insightful students" he has ever had. Outside of the classroom, Brett has also been a sports columnist for *Breezes* (the school newspaper), a Backpack Tutoring volunteer (along with Justin), and an active Eagle Scout. His proudest moment as a scout was in 2013, when he lead a volunteer project with

the city of Minnetonka's Natural Resources Department to protect native plants from invasive species. Brett is excited to study business and finance at the University of Minnesota this fall.

Justin Kleist

For Justin, fun is also about challenging himself. He has taken a total of 14 AP and three IB exams during his junior and senior year. "Justin is a thoughtful and ambitious young man," says AP Biology teacher, Dawn Norton. His IB HL math teacher, Nathan Van Dyke, says that one of Justin's most notable characteristics is his "willingness to accept a challenge." This drive contributes to his success as a competitive chess player. Justin has been playing chess since elementary school, but his career highlight came last year: After placing in the top 10 at the 2014 Minnesota Open, he earned a spot playing at the premier level in the championship tournament. Justin will attend the University of Southern California in the fall.

All three boys credit their parents for their success: "Our parents inspire us to work hard and stay true to our values," says Justin. Jon agrees, "They are always challenging us to do our best and supporting us in whatever it is we want to do."

Brynne Erb

The daughter of an English and Latin teacher, Brynne Erb was born loving to read and write. Now a third year coach with the high school's Writing Center, Erb is able to use this passion to help her younger peers think through and polish their academic work. Maggie Shea, Writing Center Director, says that Erb "has outstanding communication skills and a heart for service."

She has numerous fond memories of her time with the Writing Center, such as speaking at the International Writing Centers Association conference in Orlando last October and interviewing a noted photographer for Off the Page. Erb's lasting impact will likely be the Writing Center's blog, "Writing it Out," which she and a friend co-founded last fall. This website allows the Writing Center to communicate with students in a new way, providing



writing tips and inviting guest bloggers to share their wisdom with the masses.

This theme continues at Breezes, the school newspaper, where Erb is the Editor-in-Chief. She loves creating content that is reflective of the student body and honed this skill while attending a summer journalism workshop last year at the University of Iowa. Breezes advisor and IB English teacher Kelley Mosiman describes Erb as simply "one of the best."

Erb will attend Carleton College, which interested her due to its similar learning philosophy as the International Baccalaureate program at Minnetonka. An IB Diploma Candidate, Erb loves the depth to which her classes explore each topic and describes her class discussions as "simply invaluable." A future English major, Erb imagines a career in book editing, publishing, or journalism.

Caroline Shelquist

"Caroline Shelquist is a rarity in today's world," says Minnetonka Girls' Basketball Coach Leah Dasovich, "She's a two-sport athlete in sports with very different skill sets and is an elite athlete in both." A shooting guard on the varsity basketball team since freshman year and outside hitter for varsity volleyball since she was sophomore, Shelquist has always enjoyed any sport where she works alongside a team of her peers.

Shelquist's basketball highlights both involve defeating rival schools: the always-intimidating Hopkins for the first time her junior year and Eden Prairie at this year's section semifinal. A basketball player since she can remember, it wasn't until Shelquist's father suggested she try volleyball in sixth grade that she found her second passion. After excelling at both sports for years, schools all over the country offered her scholarships, but Shelquist ultimately committed to Cornell University, where she will play Division I basketball. Coach Dasovich says that attending an Ivy league school "shows



Caroline's drive and determination to exceed expectations."

A dedicated student (she won the Minnetonka Scholar Athlete of the Year award this year), Shelquist plans to major in business, a decision that was solidified after her experience in the VANTAGE program this year. In her Business in a Global Economy course, she was able to work on projects that were relevant to her future career and found it most inspiring to listen to guest instructors share their experience in the real world. Two of her projects involved market research for

General Mills and the new Excelsior restaurant, The Suburban.

When reflecting on her time at Minnetonka, Shelquist cites her volunteer work as some of her favorite memories: coaching youth sports, mentoring in First Mates, and participating in National Honor Society. Based on her experience in all of these roles, Shelquist urges younger students to "get involved right away."

Nastaran Nassiri

Nastaran Nassiri has always had a passion for learning, and her academic success is thanks in part to the YMCA program at Minnetonka Heights, the apartment community where her family lives. A child of recent Afghan immigrants, Nassiri sometimes found it difficult to navigate the American school system, but her mentors there helped her access every resource available. As a teen, she decided to give back. She has spent the last five years, three days a week, helping tutor children in this same community. Program Director JoAnne Robinson says that “volunteering is just a given for Nastaran. She is respected by students young and old.”

Nassiri has won several awards for her local volunteer work, but her sights are now set on helping other parts of the world. After seeing educational inequities in her own family, Nassiri made it a goal to help create more academic opportunities for



girls in Afghanistan. Last summer, Nassiri and her sister held a fundraiser, and with the money raised, they brought school supplies and food to children in Kabul.

A Post-Secondary Enrollment Option student, Nassiri has attended the University of Minnesota full-time the last two years. She has decided to become a Physician Assistant because she “loves to help people” in any capacity and will pursue this career as a biology major at Augsburg College, where she won their President’s Scholarship. A highlight of receiving this award came in February when she met Bill Nye the Science Guy at a celebratory event.

Nassiri will continue to fight for women’s education in Afghanistan. Since leaving Kabul last summer, she has been helping fund a new school with the small amount of money she is able to earn working part-time. She says, “It doesn’t matter how much. It’s about giving them materials to learn.”

Marshall Heitkamp

At the DECA International competition this April in Orlando, Marshall Heitkamp and his partner, Sam Gilk (‘15), were given 30 minutes to prepare a 15-minute presentation on an international expansion of the NBA franchise. Their pitch (which included social media promotions, celebrity appearances, and NBA tours through Europe) earned them a place among the top 20 teams in the world in Sports and Entertainment Team Decision Making Role Play. Heitkamp joined DECA only this year, but found that his business background and ability to “think on [his] feet” helped him find success.

Heitkamp’s DECA advisor and IB Business teacher, Erik Sill, describes him as “one of the most respectful and professional young adults [he has] had the pleasure of working with. His commitment to professional growth deems him as a true leader.” Heitkamp’s academic success reflects this commitment to growth, as well. A National AP Scholar and



member of NHS, he enjoys classes in which he can see real-world applications and uses this knowledge to compete in Quiz Bowl and Science Olympiad.

However, as Chris Pears, Heitkamp’s AP Economics teacher points out, “Academic excellence is only a small part of what Marshall is all about. What makes him a truly outstanding young man is the supportive mindset he brings to his group work.” He brings this collaborative spirit to the baseball field. A catcher for the Varsity baseball team, Heitkamp’s coach, Paul Twenge, describes him as an “outstanding leader and teammate.”

Heitkamp will take his business acumen to the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management this fall. A diehard Gopher fan, the U of M was the only school to which Heitkamp applied, and he can’t wait to get started: “I’ve bled maroon and gold since before I could walk.”

ZINN FAMILY

SAILING IS A FAMILY AFFAIR FOR THE ZINNS



After the snow melts each spring, well-known Lake Minnetonka area real estate agent Carl Zinn '59 can often be found in his yard, prepping one of his sailboats for the coming season. It's during one of those tinkering sessions when Carl's wife, Ali, might ask: "Could you be any happier?"

The answer is actually "yes," as Carl is indeed happier when the ice finally melts and his beloved Minnetonka Yacht Club (MYC) opens for the summer-long racing season, in which he and his crew compete in three classes: A-class boats, which are 38-feet long; E-class (28 feet); and C-class (20 feet).

TO UNDERSTAND WHAT CARL ZINN IS ALL ABOUT – in addition to his love of family, friends and real estate – one must understand the passion he feels for his main hobby.

"There's nothing like the feeling of being out sailing, especially in a race," Zinn says. "When you're out on that boat with your crew, in my case with my sons and in other cases with my wife, there is so much to be aware of and stay on top of."

In an A-scow race, he says, the boat is moving so fast that any mistake can result in the crew being flipped in an instant.

"For me, it's medicinal and almost therapeutic in that

there is absolutely no chance to think about real estate or anything else going on in your life during your time on the boat," he adds. "You have to be completely focused."

As far as Zinn is concerned, sailing bombards one's senses like nothing else. "It's the sound and feel and sight of the water and the wind in your face, and the touch with which you can move that boat and make it do what you need it to do – I know I can't sail forever, but I will do it as long as I can."

Zinn has been able to interweave his love and passion for his local, longstanding real estate business and sailing with family. His wife, Ali, is a sailor as well as a real estate agent with Zinn Family Realtors, as are their sons Hans '97 and Max '94. Carl and Ali's other son, Gus, lives in Kansas City with his wife, and sails with his four children when he can.

For the Zinn family, real estate and sailing are as much a part of life as their ongoing, extended-family Sunday dinners at Carl and Ali's home.

AND WHILE PLEASURE-SAILING IS PART OF THE FAMILY ROUTINE, racing is what fuels their passion. Carl races on crews with Hans and Max at quite a high level, as their crew has taken numerous top 10 finishes both in the summer-long series of races at MYC, which includes some of the top sailors in the country, as well as at numerous



Three generations of Zinns have learned to sail on Lake Minnetonka

national regattas. At the 2011 national Inland Lake Yachting Association Championship Regatta on Lake Minnetonka, Carl took part in three of the classes, A, E and C, making him undoubtedly the oldest – 68 at the time – to do so.

Carl's nephews, Hans Larson and Jens Kottke, are also part of the Zinn family crew, making many races a true, extended family outing.

PERHAPS MOST GRATIFYING FOR ZINN is that his young grandchildren are also involved in sailing. Max and his wife Jenny's three children, Lucy, Addy and Augie, are all sailors at MYC, where Max is the director of the sailing school. Hans, who founded the sailing team at the University of Minnesota and is on the board of directors at MYC, and his wife, Amy, have a one-year-old daughter, Heidi, who is sure to be a sailor one day.

"She'll be sailing before we know it," says Hans, noting that Heidi already spends plenty of time at family gatherings at MYC before, during and after races.

It looks as if a Zinn family sailing tradition that goes back to Carl's younger days is going to continue for generations to come. Interestingly, Carl's father, Donald, was a sailor and the commodore of the Minnetonka Yacht Club in 1972-73. Carl was commodore, or the face of the organization, in 2007-08. Should Hans become commodore, which is a

possibility, the Zinns would be the first family with three generations of commodores at the sailing club that started in 1882.

On the lake, it's easy to spot the Zinn family's sailboats by their fun names: Amazinn (the A-boat), Crewzinn (E-boat), and Buzzinn (C-boat). The family's pontoon, which is often situated in a good position to watch the regattas, is aptly named Snoozinn.

After many races, the Zinn family – spouses and grandchildren and others – often gathers for a barbecue at the yacht club.

"Sailing is a sport that really lends itself to family, both participating together, as I've raced with my mom in many races, and just being together," says Hans Zinn. "And ever since we were young, Carl and Ali have had us involved, and it's been great. And now their grandchildren are involved as well."

"It's indescribable what it means to me to have everyone involved," says Carl Zinn while sitting in an office filled with large photographs of he and his family sailing. "It actually doesn't get any better than that."

ALUMNI NOTES

1950

Charles Lobb lost his wife of 51 years in June 2013.

Donald Schuetz had a major stroke in 1987 and is in assisted living, Commons on Marice in Eagan, MN. He cannot communicate, but his family provides updates at www.caringbridge.org/visit/donschuetz

1952

Margaret (Peggy Jane/Peg) Lee Robertson Margaret wanted to be an artist but nobody enjoyed her creations as much as they enjoyed her cooking. In 2000 she was awarded Culinarian of the Year for Houston and had a day named in her honor. This fall she will be honored by Recipe for Success. She has also served as officer on nonprofit boards and is employed part-time. She spends most of her time traveling and being a grandmother.

1956

Barb (Ladwig) Wright is a proud great grandmother!

Darleen (Taylor) Ellingson is still working as the Administrative Associate at Hope Lutheran Church in Bozeman.

1959

Joseph De Guise is cancer survivor as of 2015

1961

Carl Zinn: Three grandchildren make it three Zinn generations of Skippers!

1962

Steve Henrikson retired last June after 47 years as a history/philosophy teacher and sometimes dean or headmaster in independent schools. His mentor and inspiration was Nic Duff in junior year European History.

David Anderson was named Pueblo Association of Realtors 2014 Realtor of the Year

1962

Kathleen (Kempf) Martin married classmate Jerry Martin five years ago; they dated in 1960.

Stephen C. Foster passed away on March 31, 2012; he was a veteran.

1964

John Hansen retired.

Sherry Cox enjoyed her daughter's summer wedding in 2014. So much fun to see all the friends and relatives. Best of all, **Judy Kim** flew out for the weekend to officiate!

1965

Dianne (Foster) Damiani is looking forward to Homecoming and the Class of 1965's 50th reunion this September!

1966

David Workman worked at Eaton Corporation in Eden Prairie for 41 years, except for a four-year stint in the Navy from 1972 to 1976 on the Aircraft Carrier USS Kittyhawk in Vietnam.

Craig Rahn retired in 2013 as vice president of an engineering company. He now enjoys traveling the summers in the eastern U.S. and Canada on a power boat and spending the winters at home in Southern California.

Ellen Lowery retired from a career as a psychologist/psychotherapist in June 2014. She is happily developing her painting skills.

1967

Laurel (Jorgenson) Palmer became a first-time grandmother on October 30, 2014, when Blake Stephen Palmer, son of Eric and Krystal Palmer, was born. Her daughter, Hilary, was married on April 18, 2015, in St. Louis and will reside in Charleston, SC.

Wayne Robertson retired in January 2014 after 42 years of government service with the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps.

Claudia (Strand) Sundberg retired in June 2014 from Clear Springs Elementary, the elementary school she attended as a child.

1968

Coralee Willcox retired in 2008 from the corporate world serving in the office administration field and has been happily employed in childcare, teaching and development ever since.

Catherine Owen retired from Medtronic after 14 years as legal counsel. She is now living in the mountains in Montana — too beautiful for words.

Kenneth Nelson retired April 2014.

Jerry Moore will be retiring in August after 37 years with Owens Corning.

Georgia Reay and her husband Jim retired to Texas in January 2015.

Thomas Lohstreter, MD, left Emergency Medicine at Fairview Southdale and relocated to Hallock, MN, where he is the only full-time physician in the county, located 20 miles from Canada and 10 miles from North Dakota. He is married to Jan Wright, a Visual Arts teacher at Bemidji High School. They have six grandchildren.

1970

Steven Youngstrom retired.

David Paulson started second water treatment consultancy to advance water treatment technology in the U.S. and the developing world, publishing educational information to help use and interpret new information. Son Nick moved back to Minneapolis and married Kristin in 2014.

Dan Cochran retired.

1972

Charlie Fitts is retiring from full-time teaching at the University of Southern Maine and focusing more on groundwater consulting and software business, Fitts Geosolutions. He has five sons and three granddaughters.

Steve Burnett retired after 34 years teaching third grade for Waseca Public Schools. He and wife, Jan, are enjoying spending time with his son, daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

Cheryl (Nord) Hook has been married to Jan Paul Hook since 1976. They have one son, Joshua. Cheryl works as a counselor at Trinity International University.

1973

Dennis Loving is thrilled to be a grandfather and loves his growing family! Daughter Nicole and her husband Mark Jorgensen have a two-year-old boy. Daughter Jessica and her husband Brian Maturi have a baby boy. Son Kyle is married to his wonderful wife, Heidi.

Rebecca (Becky Plowman) Hahn is an Award Winning Photographer, www.rebeccahahnphotography.com

1974

Stephen Hamrick won the 2015 MN Pheasant stamp, the 2015 MN trout stamp, and the 2015 MN Walleye stamp contests and became only the second artist to win all five MN stamp contests.

1975

Tim Gleeson is now senior director of franchise business development for California Pizza Kitchen.

1976

Mary Davison Harrison has two sons, two grandsons and one granddaughter who keep her busy. She works a lot at Revere home in Revere, Minnesota.

1977

Roger Ruther retired from the military in 2009 after 23 years.

1980

Debbi Barr Deisher is now selling Del Webb homes at Sun City Peachtree in Georgia. Come on down!

1981

Look for **Sandra Flemming Lambrecht** and her family music band, The Flemming Fold, at the Minnesota State Fair. www.flemmingfold.com

1982

Douglas Childs married Robin Gibson in June 2014.

1985

Sheridan Soileau Owens is assistant to the Director of Public Works, Athens-Clarke County in Georgia. She is a personal stylist and owner of Gigworn, an online vintage clothing business. She lives with her musician husband and 16-year-old daughter.

1986

Kristi Harris Peterson
Class of 2015 grad

1987

Heather Freeman Burrows has been teaching first and second grade for 25 years. She celebrated her 20th wedding anniversary last summer by hiking at Yellowstone.

1988

Kelli Trinoskey Christiansen was nominated for an Emmy as a writer on a documentary for a local PBS affiliate: Columbus Neighborhoods: The University District.

David Hornick is now a real estate agent with Shorewest Realtors.

April Anderson will graduate with a Ph.D. in Higher Education from Iowa State University in August 2015.

1990

Heather Wigfield Skaja has three children: Nolan, b. 2008; Jack, b. 2009; Ella, b. 2013

1992

Betsy Leatherman Bazzarre was made president of a leadership development company, The Leadership Circle, in 2013.

1996

Melinda Marra just enjoyed a vacation in Thailand and started working a second nursing job at the county jail (Sheriff Joe Arpaio).

Angela Ivey Bogen is expecting her first baby in May :)

Jeremy Latterner became a licensed journeyman electrician in North Dakota as of June 2014.

Karin Shippar Swanson was nominated for an Emmy Award for "Outstanding Achievement for News Specialty Report/ Series for Weather." This was for work completed as a meteorologist at WISC-TV3 and WMSN in Madison, WI.

1997

Hans Carl Zinn is married and has one daughter, Heidi. He is living and working with his family in Deephaven as a local realtor.

1998

Erin (Kommerstad) Plachko had her first child, a girl named Reese Alexandra Plachko, on September 25, 2013.

Signe (Opheim) Blum announces that baby Blum #2 was due May 2015.

Kelly (Coumbe) Spiess married Jay Spiess September 2014 at A' Bulae in St. Paul, MN.

Rachel Anderson Wilhelm launched a new company called Markouture in 2014, providing custom-tailored marketing and promotional solutions to companies and organizations throughout the U.S. www.markouture.com

1999

Amber Miller Ludemann is a Mental Health Therapist with three children ages 5, 4 and 1.

2000

Brittney (Light) Johnson married **Dan Johnson** in 2005; they have three children: Finn, Harper and Sullivan.

Bethany Esse Stevens

Moved to West Palm Beach, FL, and got a new job with Allegiance Marketing Group.

Brittany (Wittmers) Stuhr gave birth to a son, Ronin Robert Stuhr, on July 15, 2014.

2001

Oscar DeNarvaez married **Tana Frederick**

Allison Tenney Cowan has two daughters, Quinn and Cameron, and is currently coaching soccer at Seattle University.

2002

Caroline (Nibbe) McCoy gave birth to a son, Landon Hamilton McCoy, on December 18, 2014.

2004

Amanda (Love) Holland announces the birth of her second daughter, Afton Elliot Holland.

Robert Wold graduated with honors from American Military University with a B.A. in Intelligence Studies and is pursuing graduate studies at George Washington University in Security & Safety Leadership.

2005

Jacob Bandy was married in 2012 and has a daughter, Palmer Marie, born in 2014.

IN MEMORIAM

Please remember in your prayers these and all Minnetonka, Excelsior and Deephaven graduates who passed away.

Carol Ray (teacher)

Sam Ritchey '11

Gretchen Ortenzio (teacher)

Harold Melby (principal)

Bob Miller '55



Bud Leak, MHS Faculty Hall of Fame member and legendary teacher and coach, passed away on Aug. 1, 2015, at the age of 88.

Bud moved to Minnetonka School District in 1953. He taught and coached for almost 50 years. He and his wife Donna raised four children, who all went through Minnetonka Schools. He touched the lives of thousands of MHS grads and families. His legacy will live on in everyone who knew him.

Allison Feldman, class of 2001, died on Feb. 18, 2015. She was the victim of a violent crime in her home in Scottsdale, AZ.



Her family has worked with the Scottsdale Police Department and local community groups to create "Allison's Watch," an annual event promoting women's safety.



Minnetonka Public Schools
Dennis Peterson, Superintendent
5621 County Road 101
Minnetonka, MN 55345

www.minnetonka.k12.mn.us

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Honoring our veterans from the class of 1965

In recognition of the 50th reunion for the Minnetonka class of 1965, we pay special tribute to the men and women from their graduating class who served in the Armed Forces.

*The Minnetonka Alumni Association is proud of all of our alumni who are Veterans and those currently serving in the Armed Forces.
Thank you for your service!*

James Adsem (Navy)
William "Bill" Armstrong (Navy)
David Berscheit (Navy)
Chris Bollis (Army)
Steven Canfield (Air Force) *
Robert Carruth (Army)
Michael Edmondson (Marine Corps) *
Dale Granger (Army) *
Charles "Chuck" Ham (Marine Corps, Navy)
Patrick Hanily (Army)
Peter Holmgren (Army)
Harley Kester (Marine Corps)
Roger Kittleson (Marine Corps) *
Terry Knutson (Army)
David Konerza (Air Force)
Allen "Trey" Labatt (Army)
Terry LeDell (Army)
Dave Leitzman (Air Force)
Don Lundman (Army)
James "Jim" Mackie (Air Force)
Brian Mahin (Navy)
Thomas McKinney (Navy)
Ronald "Ron" Mielke (Air Force)
Eugene J. Miller (Marine Corps)
Raymond Olsen (Army)

Mike Olund (Army)
Win "Gilbert" Peirsol (Army)
Karl Petersen (Navy)
Tom Peterson (Air Force)
John Reynolds (Army)
John Ryan (Army)
Charles Rye (Army)
Steve Sapp (Navy)
John Sather (Air Force)
Robert Schneider (Air Force)
David Scott (Marine Corps)
Tom Selseth (Army)
Thomas "Tom" Shelton (Army)
John Simcox (Navy)
Sandra Strom-Gieseke (Air Force)
David Swan (Navy)
Gary Thompson (Army)
Ray Thuftedal (Army)
Steve Troxell (Navy)
Judy Vander Ham (Navy)
Dave Walker (Army)
Bob Weber (Army)

* = Deceased

**For a complete list of alumni who are active service members and Veterans,
please visit: minnetonka.k12.mn.us/alumni/pages/alumniveterans**