



Broncho

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Oktoberfest

The annual Alumni Oktoberfest Picnic will be held on Sunday, October 12, 2025 from noon until 5:00 p.m. at the Crestwood Elks, (lower level) 10261 Bauer Road, approximately four blocks south of I-270, passing Mercy Hospital South (formerly St. Anthony's Hospital) on the right. Alumni CANNOT bring LIQUOR of any kind on the premises as it will be sold there at very reasonable prices. No outside coolers or beverages of any kind will be allowed on the premises either. You may still bring in food and snacks. Show your BRONCHO spirit and wear green and gold with your green and gold beads and, as we always say..."JUST SHOW UP". Bring a new/old alumni friend or several to join us this year.

Approximately 100 alumni signed in at the 2024 picnic. This total does not include spouses or friends that also came. That total would be close to 125. Hopefully the numbers will increase again this year!

Here is the breakdown on the numbers from each class that came from out of state: Class of 1954 - 1 (Alabama), Class of 1964 - 1 (Florida), Class of 1967 - 1 (Utah), Class of 1968 - 1 (Arkansas), Class of 1975 - 1 (Illinois).

Here is the breakdown on the total alumni by class attended: 1952 - 1; 1954 - 3; 1955 - 1; 1956 - 2; 1957 - 2; 1958 - 3; 1959 - 4; 1960 - 1; 1961 - 2; 1962 - 3; 1963 - 4; 1964 - 8; 1965 - 6; 1966 - 1; 1967 - 1; 1968 - 12; 1969 - 5; 1970 - 4; 1971 - 10; 1972 - 2; 1973 - 3; 1974 - 2;

1975 - 6; 1978 - 2;
1979 - 1; 1980 - 1;
1982 - 2; 1983 - 1;
1997 - 1; 2002 - 1;
2003 - 2.

The Class of 1968 had the most in attendance with 12, followed by the Class of 1971 with 10. The Class of 1964 came in third with 8 attending.

The 50/50 first place winner was Dennis Nickell (1971), second place winner was Ruthann (Huning) Balzer (1954), third place winner was Taffy (Wiethop) Burr (1970) and fourth place winner of the Bayless chair went to Tina (Moushey) Darandari (2003).

Entertaining the alumni were current Bayless High School students singing under the direction of Choir Director, Tamara Simmons.

There were no Athletic Hall of Fame recipients this year.

Green and gold balloons were released in memory of those who had a Heavenly Promotion this past year.

Alumni President, Sally Wear, would like to thank all the Alumni Officers and Board Members for their help plus all the extra volunteers who helped with checking in, dues and souvenir table. Thanks to all who purchased souvenirs, donated to the scholarship fund, the 50/50 workers and all those who helped with set-up and clean-up. THANKS TO ALL AND ANYONE THAT I MISSED!

Mark Your Calendar For This Year's Alumni OKTOBERFEST PICNIC

**Sunday, October 12, 2025
from Noon to 5 p.m.*
at Crestwood Elks**

***Note the date is the 2nd Sunday in Oct., not the first**



1950s Alumni



1950s and 1960s Alumni



1960s Alumni



1960s Alumni

Youngest
& Oldest -
left to right
- Jonathan
Taggart - 2002
- a first timer
& youngest,
Fred Rottnek -
1952 - oldest, &
Tina (Moushey)
Darandari &
husband Sami
Darandari both
class of 2003



Oldest/Youngest



1970s Alumni



2000s Alumni

Oktoberfest Photos



50/50 Winners

50/50 Winners -left to
right
Sally with the ticket
bucket
Dennis Nickell - 1971 -
1st place winner
Ruthann (Huning) Bal-
zer - 1954 - 2nd place
winner
Taffy (Wiethop) Burr -
1970 - 3rd place winner
Tina (Moushey) Daran-
dari - 2003 - Bayless
Chair
& daughter



**Out of State
Attendees**

Out of State - left to
right
Carol (Nuspl) Orphan -
1964 - Florida
Bob Rawsom - 1968 -
Arkansas
Linda (Heiter) Russell -
1967 - Utah
Ruthann ((Huning)
Balzer - 1954 - Ala-
bama
Pat (Rushing) Hayes -
1975 - Illinois

A Message from the Alumni President

We need everyone's email address, if you have one. It is an easier way to reach certain groups. Also, just because we have your email address please keep us up-to-date on your home address/phone etc. Some of you have moved but never let us know thinking that just your email address was enough for us to get in touch with you. Some of the Constant Contact group emails that we have sent have landed in SPAM or TRASH so from time to time you might want to check these folders.

If you can't open the newsletter sent through email, please let me know so that I can send you one through the regular mail. If you are receiving more than one newsletter in the mail, please let me know.

We hope you like the Oktoberfest picnic at the Crestwood Elks. Plenty of room and handicapped accessible. Make plans now for the Oktoberfest picnic on Sunday, October 12, 2025, Noon to 5 p.m.

We are always looking for alumni to join the Alumni Board. We meet the second Monday of every other month at 7 p.m. in the high school library. Please email me at swear@bayless.k12.mo.us or call me at 314-256-8600, Ext. 8617 for more information.

Please let us know when an alumni passes away. If you call and leave a message be sure to pronounce the person's name clearly, spell it, give us the date he/she passed away, give us the year he/she graduated, and leave a phone number in case we need to call you for more information. Also, any changes in your personal information would be appreciated. It is very important to keep our database records up-to-date.

We are also always looking for any Bayless memorabilia.

Sally (Wohlschlaeger) Wear (1958)

Alumni President

swear@bayless.k12.mo.us

314-256-8600, Ext. 8617

(Thursdays or leave a message)



The *Broncho* is a Bayless High School alumni Association Publication. Published once annually, the *Broncho* provides information on the activities of Bayless High School alumni and current Bayless news.

The Bayless Alumni Association is a not-for-profit organization. Membership dues of \$25 annually and other contributions such as; memorial tributes, scholarship funds, news, photos and articles of interest may be sent to Sally Wear, Alumni Office at 4532 Weber Road, St. Louis, Missouri 63123.

Additional alumni information is available on the Bayless School District website baylessk12.org under the high school page.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:



Eric Lawrence for being selected by the St Louis Association of Secondary School Principals with the New Principal of the Year Award 2024-2025. He received the most nominations ever.

Allison (Honse) McManus (Class of 2008) BHS teacher for the fall of 2025.

Brandon Gaffney (Class of 2017) BES teacher for the fall of 2025.

Lyna Le (Class of 2020) BES teacher for the fall of 2025.

Brianna Bradford (Class of 2025) St Louis Post-Dispatch Scholar Athlete 2025.

Gracianelle Ladouceur (Class of 2025) signed with Jefferson College to play volleyball.

Mya Dodson (Class of 2025) signed with Webster University to participate in their track and field team.

Two artists, Eliza Urnes (Class of 2025) and Joanna Duong (Grade 10) had their work in the St Louis County Healthy Living Calendar. They were presented with enlarged versions of their winning entries by members of the St Louis County Health Department of Public Health.

Three sophomores who took part in the St. Louis High School Musical Theatre Awards at the Fox Theatre. **Maddie DesRoche and Dylan Vo** performed in the night's opening number and **Vivien Duka** received a Special Recognition for her role as Pinocchio in the Bayless Theatre Company's production of Shrek.

The Class of 2025 graduating seniors and to all of the scholarship recipients.

Tamara Simmons, music teacher, was given the Award of Merit by the St. Louis Suburban Missouri Music Educators Association. The award was given to a select group of educators in the region for their excellent work.

Jacob Darnell, 9th grader, 2024-2025, finished in the "medals" at four of our regular season Scholar Bowl tournaments this year. At Small School Nationals in Chicago he was the overall top scoring 9th grader out of over 100 freshmen, and won the national Rising Star Award at that tournament. He was also a starter as a freshman on the Bayless Class 4 Scholar Bowl State Champion team in Columbia. Finally he was a starter on our National Championship team that competed in Atlanta over Memorial Day Weekend.



Homecoming Weekend



The football game against Cuba High School was the opening of Homecoming Weekend. It was held on Friday, October 18, 2024 at 6 pm on the Junior High Terrace. A light dinner was served before the game which was attended by alumni.

The parade was the next day, Saturday, October 19, starting at 10 am. The theme was "Once Upon A Time" with alumni's float "Cinderella". Several alumni rode on the float driven by Scott Eirich, Class of 1978 and copilot Henry Eirich, Class of 1969. Cinderella girls were Charlotte Champion, Grade 5, and Faith Boesing, Grade 5, walking behind the float with Lauren (Mann) Champion, Class of 2007, as Fairy Godmother. Candy was given out by all on the float and Cinderella girls. Some of the alumni riders on the float said they were never in a parade before and had a wonderful time. Loretta Lange did a wonderful job with the theme for the float and putting it together.

The Festival and Dedication was after the parade behind the elementary building with games and bouncy houses from 11 – 3 pm.

Around 11 am alumni, students, faculty and guests were arriving for the dedication of the Bayless Ballpark Dugout. It was dedicated to Wilfred "Sonny" Siebert, Class of 1955, for his accomplishments as a MLB Pitcher. Ronald Paul,



Homecoming Alumni Reception



Alumni president Sally Wear rides in the parade.

Class of 1954, gave the introductory speech on Sonny. Amy Ruzicka, Superintendent, presented him with the plaque that will be placed in the dugout. The Bayless baseball team was invited to meet Sonny. For the record, in 1964, after spending five years in the minors learning the art of pitching, Sonny was called up to the major-league Cleveland Indians, where in 1966 he threw a no-hitter against the Washington Senators. He was selected to the American League All-Star team twice, 1966 and 1971. In 1966, Sonny pitched a perfect inning in the All-Star game held right here in St. Louis. He compiled an impressive major league career, winning 140 games and losing 114. He was noted for throwing a blazing fast ball. He was among the first ten recipients to be selected into the Athletic Hall of Fame "Golden Horseshoe Award" on October 5, 2014 at the Alumni Oktoberfest Picnic.



Ronald Paul (right) introduces Sonny (left).



Siebert and his family.



Siebert and members of the Bayless Baseball Team.

A Blast from the Past

BY: Stan Mayer (Class of 1968)

I want to share with you a story and photo from my high school experience way back in the year 1968. Many will remember our history/social science teacher at the time was Raymond

Keller. He was certainly one of my favorite teachers. Many will no doubt remember, too,

that Mr. Keller lectured from his position behind his beloved podium. He might have been lecturing to an auditorium full of students, not just a small class of 25. For three years, I attended his classes

and listened raptly as he "lectured" and taught us World History, American History, Sociology and Political Science.

Throughout those three years (when my mind wandered from the lecture) I marveled at how his podium resembled very similarly to a very historical American structure, the privy or "outhouse". So, as a senior prank, two of

my classmates (Stephen Kratzer and Herb Smith) and I decided we should do something about that. So in our last month before graduation (June, 1968), we spent several weekends at Steve's house building an outhouse replica of his podium. We procured the materials and Steve had all the woodworking tools we needed for the project. It was diminutive, but a very realistic looking outhouse, complete with chimney, door with crescent moon shape cutout, seat (with a hole!) and roll of TP (we might have even added a corn cob!).



Mr. Keller posing in the outhouse made by Stan, Steve and Herb.

2025 Senior Awards

The 2025 Senior Awards Night was held Wednesday, May 14, 2025 in the Raymond M. Keller Auditorium. A total of 33 scholarships were given out totaling \$36,600.00 .

34th Annual Alumni Scholarships recipients were: Amila Ahmetovic, Muhamed Bektic, Brianna Bradford, Tracy Ngugen and Samuel Reece

The Patricia (Stech) Blassie Scholarship recipient was Selma Jugovic

Classes of 1960-69 recipients were: Amaal Ali, Anesa Kugic, Selma Kugic, Anima Le, Tuong Le, Maranda Limbaugh, Minh Nguyen, Piyawit Sriphrakhun, Jason Wiinkeler and Ephraim Yangongo

Champion Family Scholarship recipient was Deja Pierre-Foster

Eirich Brothers Scholarship recipient was Selma Hadzic

Alma Goggin Medical Scholarship recipient was Ajla Hadzalic

Kerley Scholarship recipient was Edward DesRoche

The Lisa Mayor Memorial Scholarship recipients were Amila Ahmetovic, Selma Jugovic, Irma Sistic and Amber Tran

Lillian/James Newsom Memorial Scholarship recipient was Parker Hearn

Schmitt Scholarship recipient was Kevin Pho

Uthoff Scholarship recipient was Amina Murgic

Markus Family Scholarship recipient was Alannah Henson

Anna Wear Scholarship recipient was Brayden Driskell

Frieda Wohlschlaeger Scholarship recipient was Lubna Amin

Sally Wear Award/Scholarship recipient was Irma Sistic

1964 Alumni Scholarshp recipient was Damira Mahmutovic



The Classes of 1960-69 Senior Scholarship Recipients.

Honoring Staff & Volunteers

The 17th Annual Bayless School Recognition awards were held on April 21, 2025 in Bayless' Keller Auditorium. The honorees were as follows:

The 2024-2025 District Teacher of the Year was Tamara Simmons, Junior High/High School Vocal Music Teacher

The Rising Star was Katie Eskildson, Elementary 2nd Grade Teacher

The Broncho Award recognizes members of the staff or community for outstanding achievement and/or service to the Bayless School District. The winner was Crisi Ly, (Class of 1999) Early Childhood Principal.

Staff Person of the Year was Gona Al-Sewari, Elementary Cafeteria Aide

The Volunteer Award was Laura Merello, High School Math Teacher

Service Awards for years at Bayless were given to: Three with 25 years, eight with 20 years, one with 15 years, nine with 10 years and ten with 5 years of service.

On Fire For Good Award – Bob Cornell, Fifth Grade Teacher. This award was in collaboration with John O'Leary, a St. Louisan and speaker who was nearly burned to death as a child. He has a major motion picture distributed by Sony about his life and friendship with Cardinals' announcer Jack Buck coming out this fall.

Retirees were recognized for their years of service:

Tim McAvin, Junior High Art Teacher

Karrie Bopp, High School Special School District Teacher

Kim Grempler, Elementary Reading Specialist

Darby Hoggatt, High School English Language Arts Teacher



Tamara Simmons, Choir Director and Bayless Teacher of the Year.



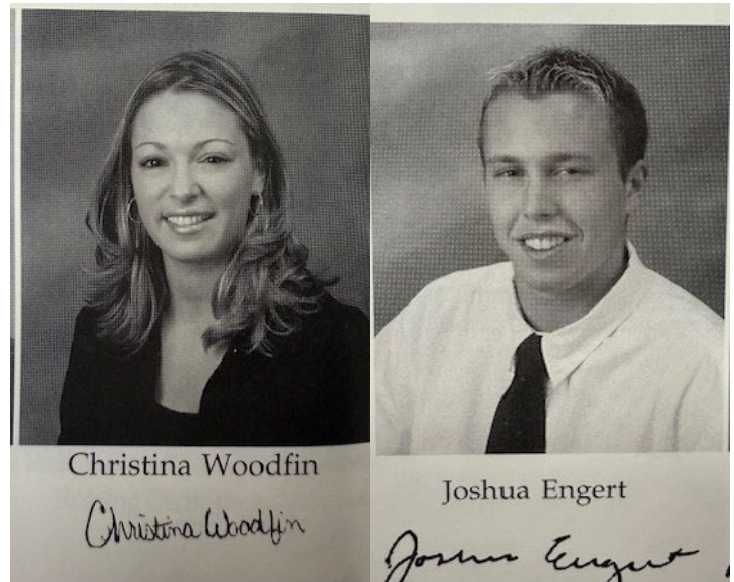
Love and Marriage Bayless Style

Part XIX - By Josh & Christina Engert - Class of 2002

Christina (Woodfin) Engert attended Bayless from 2nd grade until graduation in the spring of 2002. She has one brother, Tim, who graduated in 2005. Christina was a cheerleader for 2 years and danced for Dance Explosion for 2 years. She was in the marching band with the flag team and played the flute. Involvement with Student Council, NCYL, DECA, SADD and Drama Club were her other interests. Christina liked math and science classes learning from her favorite teachers, Mr. Gammon and Mr. Sebastian. After graduating she attended St. Louis Community College, completed a bachelor's degree at Webster University, a BS in nursing at Goldfarb School of Nursing as well as an MS in nursing at Maryville University. All that education earned her way to Cardinal Glennon as an RN in the NICU and RN/NP and at Mercy in the GI Department. Currently Christina works as a nurse practitioner doing home health visits.

Josh Engert has three siblings who all graduated from Bayless: Jake (2004), Julia (2005) and Johanna (2008). Julia and Johanna also married Bayless alumni. Josh played soccer all four years, but was not much at participating in clubs. He enjoyed history and science class with his favorite teachers, Mr. Hawkins and Ms. Reinerman. Josh lived on Forman so he usually walked to school. After graduating, he attended classes at St. Louis Community College and then entered the St. Louis Carpenter's Union at the age of 19. Currently, the Overhead Door of St. Louis employs him working in Commercial Service.

Christina and Josh's friendship blossomed in



Mr. Hayes and Ms. Moore's classes, often passing notes back and forth through the day. Although they joked about getting married some day at the old age of 25, they never dated in high school but stayed in touch the years following. In the spring of 2010 Christina and Josh ran into each other at Social House in Soulard. In a joking, but also serious way, she asked him when he was going to take her out on a "for-real-date". They met up with friends the weekend of Memorial Day that led to a float trip at Huzzah Valley and were inseparable after. Josh asked Christina to marry him 10 months later in December on a cold dock at his family's hunting club. The wedding took place at Trinity Lutheran Church in October 2011. They had their first son, Jack, in 2013 and their second son, Jameson, in 2017. The same year they moved to Imperial embracing the "busy boy life". The family spends most of the evenings at practices, games and traveling. Josh coaches his youngest at Kopling Kicker soccer club and oldest at CYC St. Joe's. Other sports involve baseball, roller hockey, wrestling and motocross. Glamping in their camper on free weekends and spending any other free time with their friends and family is fun, as well as keeping in touch with many alumni from Bayless.



Josh, Christina and their children.

1963 Reunion

The Class of 1963 held their 60th reunion on October 7, 2023 at Helen Fitzgeralds. The reunion committee tries to schedule it around the Alumni

Oktoberfest Picnic. There were 23 from the class along with their spouses. It was amazing how conversations changed over the years from colleges, jobs, marriages, children to retirement plans. The

best part of the reunion was passing around a microphone for people to tell stories about school and remembering the great times we had. Sandy (Leopold) Dostal is already working on their next reunion.

1974 Reunion

Bayless High School, Class of 1974 had a wonderful 50 year reunion on October 12, 2024.

Classmates came from near and far to reminisce and renew friendships. A tour of the new Junior High and High School was taken that morning. Everyone enjoyed seeing the new facilities and the improvements that have been made.

A fun evening was had by everyone. We enjoyed Imos Pizza and bags of pretzels in honor of the pretzel man.



A BIG THANK YOU TO...

- **Steve Abling**, Class of 1967, for donating a new lighting control board for the auditorium.
- **The family of Lavonne (Poppitz) Lehner**, Class of 1965, for donating her yearbooks.
- **The family of Michael Hickey**, Class of 1983, for donating yearbooks.
- **The family of Lucille (Cordes) Kornfeld**, Class of 1942, for donating her yearbooks.
- **Ron Dellbringge** for donating memorabilia of his sister, Joan Dellbringge, Class of 1953, yearbooks & Prom Magazines.
- **Jerry Scheske**, Class of 1958 for donating yearbooks.
- **Jennifer (Guinn) Oliver**, Class of 1986, her Senior 1986 T-Shirt.
- **Deborah (Steinkiste) Champion**, Class of 1972, for donating her Pom-Pom '71-'72 uniform.
- **Shirley (Mudge) DeLahanty**, Class of 1979, for donating many of The Broncho Newspapers.
- The following that gave scholarships at the Senior Awards Night on May 14, 2025: Classes 1960-1969 (10 scholarships @ \$1000 each), Patricia (Stech) Blassie Family (Class of 1960 & deceased 11/11/2023), Champion Family, Eirich Brothers (Henry Class of 1969 & Scott Class of 1978), Goggin Family, John Kerley (Class of 1982), The Lisa Mayor Memorial Scholarship (Lisa (Mayor) O'Bryan Class of 1984 and deceased 5/6/2000), James Newsom (Class of 1960), David Schmitt (Class of 1976), Wm & Anne (Kaiser) Uthoff (Class of 1972 & 1976), Markus Family, Sally (Wohlschlaeger) Wear (Class of 1958), Michael Yakimo (Class of 1964), and the Alumni Association (5 scholarships @ \$2000 Each).

1984 Reunion

The Bayless Class of 1984 marked its 40th reunion on a picturesque autumn day, September 28, 2024 at Wild Sun Winery and Brewery. A fantastic group of 28 alums gathered to share stories, rekindle friendships and pay tribute to their departed classmates. The celebration also brought a familiar face, as middle school science and high school math teacher, Mr. Richard Hellwege stopped by to say hello. This wasn't the only recent get together for the class; earlier in the spring a smaller group caught up at Hacienda's Mexican Restaurant when classmate Rob Futo visited from his home in Hungary.





Building a Better Bayless

It was another busy summer on the Bayless campus with numerous improvements and renovations. The most visible work was done on the cupola atop Bayless Junior High. This architectural feature had become home to a large family of pigeons and the wood was in need of care. The work done on it has fenced off entrance for birds, and will have the tower looking great for many decades to come.

Other improvements included bathroom renovations at Bayless High School, parking lot resealing, work on the rear playground of Bayless Elementary and other small things that keep the buildings in tip-top shape.



(Top) Workers finish up painting the Cupola atop a small lift. (Right) The rear of Bayless Elementary, off of Hildesheim. The new space will include an outdoor classroom area, new entrances to the building and improvements to prevent flooding.

Dues are Due!

Dues of \$25.00 per year can be sent in anytime. You may select what date you want to pay. Some pay in January and others pay at the Alumni Oktoberfest Picnic. Dues go towards the following items in order to keep the Alumni Association active:

- Alumni Scholarships
- 1 Newspaper printing & postage approximately \$3,500
- Project Graduation (Drug/Alcohol Free Party after Graduation) - \$100
- Office supplies & postage
- Plaques & Engraving
- Constant Contact (emails)
- Oktoberfest Picnic (Crestwood Elks Hall & supplies)
- Annual Registration with State of Missouri



ALUMNI MEETING DATES 2025-2026

Monday - Nov. 10, 2025
Monday - Jan. 12, 2026
Monday - March 19, 2026
Monday - May 11, 2026

All meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the high school library. If you would like to attend you are more than welcome. Always check with the high school office to confirm dates in case school is closed for whatever reason.

BHS Alumni Milestones/Heavenly Promotions

Aschinger, Dennis G.
(1965) – 9/3/2024

*Avery, Norma (Meissbach)
(1965 Attendee) – 3/23/2018
DeSoto, MO

*Belpulsi, Carol (Anslinger)
(1951 Attendee) – 6/7/2021

*Bergauer, (Weber) Edna-
mae "Viv" - 95 years old
(1945) – 11/20/2023

Berscheid, Theresa A.
(Dickneite)
(1961) – 2/24/2025 – Bus
driver

Bockenholt, Roy J. Jr.
(1973) – 5/29/2025

*Busch, Walter H.
(1944) – 11/14/2020

Calamia, James V.
(1967) – 7/26/2025

Caldwell, Michael
(SC Teach Grad) -
10/21/2024

Carlisle, Avonell (Farmer) -
96 years old
Retired JH & Middle School
Librarian – 9/13/2024

Carroll, Kathleen (Scheu)
(1971) – 12/8/2023
East Bend, NC

Lt. Col. Catron, Robert – 92
years old
(1950) – 8/7/2024
New Smyrna, FL

*Clarke, Donald G.
(1968) – 11/22/2009
Silver City, NE

Cook, Charlene Ann (Du-
vernell)
(1960) – 6/20/2025

Cova, James L.
(1988) – 7/9/2024

*Davidson, Barbara Jean
(Hill)
(1965 Attendee) – 1/31/2023

De Lassus, Marie (Theurer)
– 105 years old
(1937) – 8/24/2024

Dellbringge, Joan M.
(1953) – 9/18/2024

Dykstra, Mary Landolt
12/17/2024
Grade 2 Teacher 1969-1976

Eichholz, Nancy L. (Wolf)
(1953) – 8/11/2024

Ellis, Allan E.
Superintendent Bayless
District – 10/21/2024

Fava, Mary Ellen (Perry)
(1965) – 1/16/2025

Flood, Kimberly L. (Doggett)
(1982) – 7/24/2025

Frank, Henry
(1970) – 10/25/2024

Gagnepain, Joan (Theis)
(1959) – 11/23/2024

Goette, Roger
(1962) – 2/23/2025

Hanneken, Donna Sue
(Brannan)
(1958 Attendee) – 6/20/2025

Hargrave, Gail (Stuben-
rouch)
(1965) – 2/14/2025

Henry, Bobby
(1981) – 9/1/2024
Elmendorf, TX

Hickey, Michael J.
(1983) – 6/21/2024

Jercick, Vitina "Tina" (Bom-
marito)
(1970) – 3/2/2025

*Jorgovan, Michael S.
(1975) – 5/22/2017

*Jostes, Ronald D.
(1955) – 11/4/2023

Joyner, Barbara Ann
(1975) – 2/2/2024

*Keller, Charlotte (Kimmich,
Wells)
(1958) – 12/31/2022
Olathe, KS

Kelly, Judith (Waelke)
(1959) – 1/3/2025

Kirchhoff, Jane M. (Masek)
(1960) – 4/23/2025
Ann Arbor, MI

Koerner, Michael E.
(1969) – 1/3/2024

*Krieger, Hazel C. (Boese)
(1932) – 11/21/2002

Lang, Judith Joyce
(1964) – 6/14/2025

Lasky, Ann (Harbaugh)
(1973) – 2/24/2025

Leonard, Edna L. (Wilborn)
(1962) – 7/15/2024

Lindhorst, Alan
(1959) – 1/17/2024
Richmond, TX

Mallett, Nancy L. (Grills)
(1972) – 7/16/2025
DeSoto, IL

Maniaci, Jenny V. – 96 years old
11/3/2024
Cook 1973-1981

*Mathies, Kurt R.
(2002) – 7/14/2005

*Mathies, Richard Lee
(Attendee/1975 SC Tech
Grad) – 12/26/2023
Desolge, MO

Meier, Mary Anne
Bayless Elementary/Interme-
diate Librarian – 10/3/2024

Menhard, Raymond "Chris"
(1969) – 9/22/2024
Brandon, MS

Muelken, Curt D.
(1969) – 7/3/2025

*Mueller, Charles J.
(1962) – 7/16/2022

Mullersman, Patricia (Vinita)
(1962 attendee) –
10/11/2024

Neiger, Kathy (Turek)
(1974 SC Tech) - 2024 no
date available

*Pantano, Joseph L.
(1979 SC Tech) – 8/23/2023

Paul, Ronald R.
(1954) – 7/8/2025

Pazdernik, Steven G.
(1980) - 8/24/2025

Petty, Chris D.
(1968) – 7/15/2024

Petty, Kurt W.
(1963 Attendee) - 5/3/2025
Spring Hill, FL

*Remming, Michael C.
(1975) – 9/1/2018
Kimberly, ID

Renaud, David A.
(1973) – 6/6/2025

Riemann, Roger A.
(1964) – 1/20/2025

*Rudd-Strain, Irene (Runde)
– 91 years old
(1948) – 12/29/2021

Ryther, Charles "Tom"
(1955) – 10/5/2024
Arden Hills, MN

Schimmer, Mark
(1976) – 7/28/2024
Cabot, AR

Schirmer, Dean R.
(1972) – 3/13/2025
Orange, TX

Schmitt, Carolyn J. (Uhlen-
dorf)
(1959) 7/31/2025
84 years old

*Schmitt, Thomas H.
(1967) – 4/1/2020

Schroeck, Argyle "Jill" M.
(Strentzsch)
(1953) - 12/9/2024
89 years old

Schuttenhelm, Diane (Koch)
(1961) – 7/7/2024
Alumni Board Member

Selvaggio, Sean
(Attendee) – 5/27/2024

Slyman, Geraldine "Jerry" F.
(Huppert)
(1951) – 7/5/2025

Soetebier, Robert J.
(1999 Attendee) – 4/25/2025

Stefanus, James
(1970 SC Tech) – 8/6/2024

Streib, Larry A.
(1965) – 6/5/2024

Taylor, Dr. William Carl
(1964) – 3/3/2025
Ocala, FL

Van Asch, Neil "John"
(1974) – 5/8/2024
Belleville, IL

Van Patten, Nicholas, Sr.
(1968) – 9/1/2024

Vogelsang, Richard "Rick"
(1970 SC Tech) – 4/28/2024

Wagner, Diane (Fear)
(1967) – 7/24/2024

Warren, Heidi (Lengenfelder)
(1983) – 9/16/2024

Waugh, Lawrence "Larry" Jr.
H.S. Teacher Language
Arts & Social Studies –
10/17/2024

Wentzel, Gerald "Jerry" – 91
years old
(1950) – 2/9/2024

Wettig, Thomas
(1967) – 5/14/2024

Wheeler, Robert "Bob" D.
(1962) – 2/23/2025

*Wiedemann, Lorraine E.
(Mayer)
(1952) – 5/10/2023

Winemiller, Karen (Koun-
ovsky)
(1968) – 9/5/2024
Lexington, MO

Wiseman, Herbert Jr.
(1975) – 10/30/2024

Zilliken, Nicholas "Nick" J.
(2009) – 11/15/2024

*Just Notified

Marriages

Jackie (Stricker-Jones)
Comotto and Bob Comot-
to, both from the Class
of 1962, were married on
June 20, 2025

Anniversaries

Robert Efken and Susan
(Alexander) Efken both of
the Class of 1996 cele-
brated their 25th wedding
anniversary in August
2025.

Retirements

Paulette (Gaynor)
Foerster, Class of 1968,
retired from the St. Louis
County Children's Service
Fund on July 3, 2025,
where she was the Chief
Program Officer for eight
years. She has decided
to continue to support
CFS by assisting on
special projects during her
retirement

The life and ministry of David Meyer, Class of '93

Written by Mary (Adkins) Halbrook, Retired Bayless Teacher

It gives me great pleasure to write an article about one of the many Bayless High School students who have turned out so well. I feel that I was called to be a teacher and blessed to get to teach at Bayless for the last twenty-six years of my teaching career.

David Meyer was one of my students, and I want to focus on him today.

While David was attending Bayless, he attended Brentwood Bible Church with his family.

David graduated from Bayless in 1993. He worked as a crew chief at Sears in the auto center to pay for his Bachelor's and Master's degrees. He attended Brookes Institute, graduating with an Associate degree in Biblical Studies. Then, he went to Calvary Bible College and received his Bachelor's degree in Christian Education and Missions. Calvary Bible College is now known as Calvary University in Kansas City, Missouri. Later, he attended Calvary Theological Seminary in Kansas City, Missouri, where he earned a Master's of Science in Biblical Studies.

He became acquainted with the Crossword organization, because that was the mission agency that worked with Brentwood Bible Church, where David and his family attended, while he was attending the Bayless schools. The Crossword organization also was the agency that worked in Ecuador.

Crossword is a non-profit organization, which raises their own funds from individuals and churches. Their headquarters are located at 10000 N. Oak Trafficway in Kansas City, Missouri 64155. Their phone number is 816-479-7300. You may contact them if you have further questions or would like to make a tax-exempt donation to missionaries. Yes, I make an affordable donation to David and other missionaries that I know who go to spread the gospel.

Some people ask if Crossword is a mission agency. In a word, yes. They say they are a global mission agency that sends Jesus-followers to the world's least reached marketplaces. Their technical status is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization in the U.S. and a registered charity in Canada. That just means they run on donated funds. Crossword is an evangelical, inter denominational Christian mission organization. David agrees that there is no difference between a missionary and a disciple maker. At one point, he was

required to sign the doctrinal statement, indicating he believed what the disciple makers believe.

David met Brenda, who was to become his wife, when he was on a mission trip to Ecuador in his freshman year of college. Brenda was a senior in high school, and she was living with her parents, who were new missionaries at the time. During his two-week



trip to Ecuador, he chose to do church work as his life's vocation. He and Brenda were married in 1998. They have two sons, Luke and Daniel. Luke is a high school senior. He studies at home and takes online classes. Daniel is a sophomore at Cedarville University in Ohio, where he is studying criminal justice.

David would tell you that there is much more to being a missionary than just preaching. He sums up what he does by saying, "I am an international worker with Crossword who follows Christ and helps others to do the same." I follow him on Facebook, and I see many of the activities that he does. Only once did I hear him give a sermon that was translated from Spanish to English. I have never been able to hear this again. The Meyer family has been in Ecuador since 2006. They live in Cayambe in the Andean Mountains. May God continue to bless them, and I hope to see them on their next leave to come back to St. Louis.

It is a small world. When David was Youth Pastor at Hope Bible Church in O'Fallon, Missouri, Lisa Schaffler Singer, a family member of ours, attended the church. I learned this in recent communication with her. She thought of the Meyer's family as "a beautiful family." I asked her if I could quote her. She replied, "Absolutely."

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News and information for Bayless High School Alumni

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OFFICERS

Sally (Wohlschlaeger) Wear (1958) - President

Steve Walker (1986) - Vice President

Joani (Nabe) Madden (1968) - Secretary

Jim Pruehsner (1971) - Treasurer

BOARD MEMBERS

Micheal Bandy - 1977

Jack Bender - 1957

Carol (Egendoerfer) Blasberg - 1961

Lauren (Mann) Champion - 2007

Carolyn (Runge) Decker - 1960

Henry Eirich - 1969

David Haag - 1965

Pat (Rushing) Hayes - 1975

Lisa (Puettmann) Hunt - 1982

Jackie (Stricker) Comotto - 1962

Kathryn (Schramm) LaBarge - 1982

Loretta Lange - 1975

Dianne (Casanover) Nichols - 1971

Dennis Nickell - 1971

Mary (Lynch) Roskowske - 1975

Deborah (Gregory) Schaefer - 1971