



RAILSPLITTER

review

Spring 2010

PRESIDENT'S CORNER: **BETH BAKER ALBRIGHT** '83



We've been buried in snow this winter but we've still managed to enjoy our Lincoln family and events. On January 30, many of us attended the BLH annual Pancake Breakfast in the Lincoln Student Commons. It's always great to see alumni and their families out and about during this time of the year. The music department kept us hopping with lots of great entertainment. It takes a lot of volunteers to make this happen and we always have a fun time. Please put us on your calendar for 2011!

On February 23, Juliana Kincheloe, Skip Timmons, Anna Williams, Gloria Gray, and I went to Lincoln to address the senior class during their Advisory time. We work with Dr. Patricia Tice, a Lincoln Counselor and Scholarship Chair, to encourage the seniors to pursue additional education after graduation. We discussed the Foundation's scholarship process and the many other scholarships available to Lincoln seniors through the Foundation. The seniors also received information on financial planning, including the "College Planning Guide" to better understand the scholarship process, and our thoughts on looking ahead to careers.

Students and parents may go to the ALHS Alumni Web site, www.alhsalumni.com, for the scholarship application form. They can also click on the ALHS logo to reach Lincoln's Web site for additional scholarship information. To view college tips and planning, the Iowa College Access Network Web site,

www.ICANSucceed.org, is an excellent resource.

In April, a committee of Alumni Board Members will review applications for the scholarships we award. We separately score each application, and then combine our individual scores to make a final score for each applicant. We then fit the top scoring applicants to the various scholarships we have available. I wish I had the time to impress upon every one of the seniors that the next phase is totally *continued >>>>>*

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Check out the **NEW** ALHS Web site!
www.alhsalumni.com

President’s Letter (cont)

up to them and the sky’s the limit – I’ve seen what our alumni can do!

I’m sure you’ve read about Everett Chandler ‘27 in our newsletters. If he’s not our oldest alum, he’s certainly the oldest ACTIVE alum. Well, Everett turned 100 on March 10th and we celebrated with him prior to our Alumni Association meeting on March 8. We had a cake and punch reception with a card shower in the Student Commons. Everett’s tireless support of Lincoln High School and the Alumni Foundation is an inspiration to all of us.

Watch our Web site for information regarding our upcoming Annual Meeting and Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. If you would like to nominate someone for the Alumni Hall of Fame, send your nomination to Principal Al Graziano at Lincoln High School.

I’d like to invite YOU to be a part of our Alumni Association meetings and activities. Everyone has something to offer whether you live in town or far away. Let us know how you can share your time or skills – the more the merrier! Contact me at ALHSAlumniDM@aol.com or call (515) 289-0957 to see what works for you. ■

Beth

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

NEWSLETTER PRINTER

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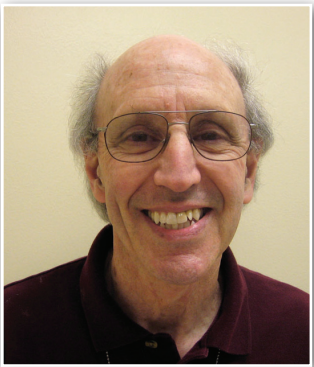
UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Senior Celebration After Prom Party:** April 24, 2010. Public walk-through is 7-9 PM
- **35th Annual Meeting of the ALHS Alumni Association, Alumni Hall of Fame Awards, and Alumni Scholarship Awards (at Lincoln Commons):** May 20, 2010 at 5:30 PM. This is a new format! Watch www.alhsalumni.com as more details become available.
- **Class Night (at the Bowen Round House):** June 3, 2010, at 7 PM
- **Commencement (at Veterans’ Memorial Auditorium):** June 5, 2010, at 9 AM
- **18th Annual Bob VanderLinden Golf Outing (at Blank Park Golf Course):** June 11, 2010
- **Chicken Bowl:** Watch www.alhsalumni.com as more details become available.
- **South Side Homecoming Parade:** October 7, 2010

The Alumni Association meets monthly on the second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Lincoln Commons. Check our Web site at www.alhsalumni.com for updated meeting dates, times or locations. Join us!

PRINCIPAL’S CORNER

Albert H. Graziano ‘60



Dear Lincoln Alumni,

School year 2009-2010 has been dominated by budget concerns. Currently, the Des Moines School District is planning on a worst-case scenario that estimates more than \$30 million may have to be cut from the budget for 2010-2011. Across-the-Board budget cuts of \$3.3 million in 2008-2009 and \$17.5 million in 2009-2010 were mandated by the governor. Every effort was made to ensure that services and educational programs for students were left intact during the last two across-the-board cuts. Staff

reductions are inevitable for 2010-2011. For Lincoln, the budget crisis will result in reductions of 14.5 regular classroom teaching positions, two clerical positions, and one associate position. Our administrative staff will be reduced by two Vice Principals and one Dean of Students. Special Education will be reduced by one teaching position. The last budget crisis in 2004-2005 resulted in ten full time positions being cut at Lincoln. Every program, service, department, and staff person in the Des Moines School District has been examined for possible areas to reduce and/or cut for 2010-2011. Work will continue on the District Budget right up to April 15, 2010 when the budget must be submitted to the state. The financial situation in the Des Moines Public Schools is shared by school districts across the state and the nation.

Even as budget concerns are addressed, day-to-day school life goes on at Lincoln Main and Lincoln South. I have described to you in previous newsletters how the entire ninth grade was relocated to Lincoln South (the former Kurtz Junior High Building) in 2006-2007 to make way for the renovation and remodeling work at Lincoln. The first class that started at Lincoln South will graduate this year and we are very proud of their academic and activity record. We created a College Bound Rails Wall (“College Wall”) along the main floor south hallway. Students whose names are listed have been accepted at the university below which their name is listed. The College Wall is a joint project of the Art Department, the Industrial Arts Department, and the Counseling Department aimed at encouraging students to continue their education after high school. Dr. Patricia Tice, Counselor and Scholarship Chairperson, spearheaded the project.

Beginning April 5, the school day will be lengthened by 20 minutes in order to make up four of the six snow days experienced this school year. The remaining two snow days will be made up at the end of the school year on June 9 and 10. Our smaller Learning Community Houses of 125-150 students at Lincoln South and our Career Interest Academics at Lincoln Main along with daily Advisory activities continue our efforts

to keep all students in school and on track to graduate at the end of four years. Our fall and winter athletic teams represented Lincoln in a fine manner, instrumental and vocal music students performed well, and mock trial, drama, speech/debate, dance, art, and clubs continue to define what best represents the complete educational experience at Lincoln High School.

Phase I of the Lincoln Vision Campaign at Hutchens Stadium has been completed at a cost of \$696,019.84. Grant awards from Polk County and Prairie Meadows along with Alumni contributions and in-kind donations were used to successfully complete Phase I. The dedication of the Phase I project was held September 11, 2009. The local, state, and national economic conditions continue to be a major challenge for the Vision Campaign. In light of current economic conditions, the Vision Campaign organization is looking at cost effective measures to achieve the goals of the Phase II Community Center in existing areas of the main building. For example, a modest expenditure of \$881.50 in December, 2009 converted a locker room in existing space to a functioning weight room for our athletes and P.E. students. We are also looking at converting our current small gym to a dedicated wrestling facility. The focus of the Vision Campaign continues to be on facility improvements for all present and future students and the continuation of Abraham Lincoln High School as a focal point of pride for our school community.

Class Night will be Thursday, June 3, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in Bowen Round House Arena. The program features the presentation of academic awards and honors earned by the Class of 2010. The Lincoln Class night traditions involving the Class Key, Plaque, Ribbon Cutting, and Presentation of Roses will all be continued by the class of 2010. Commencement will be held at Veterans Memorial Auditorium on Saturday, June 5 at 9:00 a.m. Graduation from Lincoln continues to be a very special, memorable event in the lives of our students. You, as alumni, are welcome to attend these events and share this once in a lifetime event that binds all the graduates of Lincoln High School.

Thank you for your support and continued interest in Abraham Lincoln High School. ■

Sincerely,

Albert
Albert H. Graziano
Principal

18TH ANNUAL LINCOLN HIGH Bob VanderLinden Memorial Golf Outing

DATE: Friday, June 11, 2010

PLACE: Blank Park Golf Course

TIME: Check-In at Noon
Shotgun Start at 1:00 PM
Cocktail Hour at 5:30 PM
Banquet at 6:00 PM

FORMAT: 4-person best shot. Put together a team or we can place you on one.

COST: \$75.00 per person – includes complimentary gift pack, banquet, and a chance at many door prizes

Great Prizes!
All proceeds support Lincoln activities

*** If you are interested in sponsoring a hole, call Phil Chia at 242-7525***

Please complete the registration form below and mail it along with your check (\$300 if registering a foursome; \$75 if a single) by May 28, 2010 to:

Phil Chia, A.D., 242-7525
Lincoln High School
2600 S.W. 9th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50315



Please Print:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Please Check:

_____ I will be a single, please add me to a foursome (\$75 enclosed)

_____ I am registering my foursome (\$300 enclosed) – List the other 3 golfers below:

1.

2.

3.

Banquet Only (\$15.00 Enclosed)



Alumni Association Annual Meeting

DATE: May 20, 2010

TIME: 5:30 PM (social hour)
6:00 PM (dinner)
7:00 PM (program)

LOCATION: Lincoln Commons

Join us for the annual Alumni Association Meeting on May 20, 2010. This year’s meeting features a new format. The following will be awarded at the meeting:

- ALHS Alumni Hall of Fame awards
- ALHS Foundation Scholarships.

Entertainment at this year’s meeting will showcase student performers from the instrumental and vocal music departments, and the drama department.

Come and renew friendships, enjoy a light dinner, and congratulate your fellow alumni and students on their achievements. Simply complete the form below and send it along with your check by **Friday, May 14** to:

Becky Dewey
608 Leach Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50315

ALHS Alumni Association Annual Meeting Reservation Form

Please Print:

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____



_____ Tickets @ \$15 each = TOTAL: _____

Make your check payable to ALHS Alumni Association



BUILD LINCOLN HIGHER CLUB MESSAGE

President: **Jim Edwards**

The membership of the Build Lincoln Higher Booster Club (BLH) has worked hard this year to raise funds for the sole benefit of the students and their school sponsored activities. This winter we provided the concessions for the Round House events including basketball, wrestling and swimming. The Rail Shop sold merchandise before Christmas and during the parent-teacher conferences.

Our annual Pancake Breakfast was held in January with the band and vocal music departments providing the entertainment. With the help of members of the Alumni Association and the BLH parent volunteers we were able to raise over \$6,000 this year. The Senior Celebration Committee auctioned donated items to help with the Senior Celebration After Prom event and the Rail Shop had a big day selling LHS merchandise. We even had a few dignitaries show up including the Honorable Senator Charles Grassley.

The BLH Scholarship Committee is currently in the process of evaluating the applications from this year's seniors. We typically award \$5,000 in scholarships each year to the students of BLH members.

Of course all of our efforts would not be possible without the generous help of all our volunteers. Special thanks to those who serve as BLH parent representatives, the BLH Executive Committee; Concession Manager Jeff Fazio (and family), and Lincoln Activities Director Phil Chia. ■

2010 SENIOR CELEBRATION AFTER PROM PARTY APRIL 24, 2010

The Senior Celebration After Prom Party, is an annual event that takes place immediately following the Senior Prom each spring. It is an all-night, alcohol and drug free party for all Lincoln High seniors and their guests, complete with food, entertainment and door prizes. Thanks to the volunteer efforts of parents, community members and school staff, Lincoln is transformed into a magical venue, based on a special theme selected by the Senior Celebration Committee.

This year's public walk through tour of the Senior Celebration After Prom event is **April 24, 2010 from 7:00-9:00 PM** at the school.

The Senior Celebration takes a great deal of planning and preparation, and is an extremely rewarding volunteer experience. Here are just a few ways you can help:

- **JOIN** the Senior Celebration Committee and help plan the event. The Committee meets the first Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Southside Senior Center (South Union and Payton).

- **FUNDRAISE** for the event.
- **DONATE** decorations, construction materials, food & beverages, or door prizes. Prize drawings take place all night, with approximately \$8,000 in prizes given away each year.
- **ADOPT-A-ROOM** by working with a group to decorate a section of the building to correspond with this year's secret theme.
- **ADOPT-A-SENIOR** by making a cash donation in the name of your child or the senior of your choice.
- **VOLUNTEER** on the day of the event constructing rooms, serving food, valet parking, etc.

This year, we are in need of bottled water and pop for the party. If you are able to donate bottled water, pop, or help with this year's Senior Celebration, please contact one of the following committee members: **James Hamm** (515) 554-2121, **Larry Hoffman** (515) 240-3287, **Steve Lewellen** (515) 240-6807, **Mary Lafferty** (515) 480-0265 or **Jess Danowski** (515) 779-3504. ■

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: BILL BACKSTROM, CLASS OF 1948

BY SUZANNE GUESS, '81



If you've been to a Lincoln girls softball game in the past 30 years, then you've likely seen, talked to, or handed your money over to **Bill Backstrom '48**. In fact, if you've been to any Lincoln sporting event or alumni event in the last 30 years, you've noticed Bill front and center. He is "Mr. Lincoln," after all.

Bill's history with Lincoln goes back to the time when grades seven through twelve were housed in Lincoln Main. In high school, Bill was the team manager for all sports at Lincoln except for tennis and golf. Not just any student could have a key to the school, but Bill did. His dedication to the school extends beyond athletics to Alumni Association and Foundation activities. In 1991, the Alumni Association barely had enough money to cover expenses and little left over to award student scholarships. But Bill and his friends **Marge White '39** and **Melio Tonini '32** resurrected the organization, grew its membership, worked hard at fundraising, and established the Alumni Foundation which now awards an average of 17 scholarships per year. To recognize his contributions and dedication to the school, Bill was inducted into the first Lincoln High School Hall of Fame class in 1992. He gets regular calls to represent Lincoln at college athletic signings and to meet with state and federal officials.

Bill's dedication to all things Lincoln is unwavering. Friend **Everett Chandler '27** commented, "I never saw anybody who was more dedicated to Lincoln High School than Bill." Ask Bill's wife **Mary (Moore) '50** about Bill's enthusiasm for the school and she'll tell you that they spent their first night as a married couple at Bill's class reunion. "We got married during the day and went to his reunion that night," she says. His classmates gave the newlyweds a rolling pin as a wedding gift, and Mary commented, "To this day I still have that rolling pin!" Mary likely hid the rolling pin from daughter **Cheryl (Backstrom) Moureau '79**, who had to threaten her dad to make sure he would show up to walk her down the aisle on her wedding day instead of attending the Senior Banquet to award scholarships. Pals **Jack Copic '65** and **Skip Timmons '53** stepped in to help avoid disaster by awarding the scholarships in Bill's absence.

Bill and Mary will celebrate their 52nd anniversary in May 2010. They are lifelong south side residents and extended their legacy with a new generation of Lincoln students: **Cheryl (Backstrom) Moureau '79**, **Karen (Backstrom) Steward '80**, **Steve '82**, and **Linda '82**. Bill and Mary also enjoy traveling. If they won the lottery, "Well, we've already been on 11 cruises so we'd go on another," Bill says. Hopefully that cruise wouldn't conflict with any scheduled Lincoln events because Bill might just have to pass.

"I enjoyed my time at Lincoln High School," Bill says. It shows in his continued support of the school and all of its activities. ■



ASSOCIATION &
FOUNDATION NEWS

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President – Beth (Baker) Albright (1983)
President Elect – Gloria Gray (1966)
Vice President – Ralph Wilson (1948)
Secretary – Pam (Phillips) Brennan (1966) & Amy (Whisler) Hutchens (1983)
Treasurer – Ray “Skip” Phillips (1968)
Past President – Gloria Gray (1966)
Foundation Chairperson – Nicole Graziano (1986)

ASSOCIATION DIRECTORS

Bill Backstrom (1948), Mary (Moore) Backstrom (1950), Everett Chandler (1927/1995), Coralie (Hull) Cherry (1947), Faye (Stirling) Cleary (1935), Peggy (Murray) Copic (1967), Mary Ellen (Ahlberg) Cutler (1943), Becky (Clinton) Dewey (1983), Dee (Baker) Duff (1950), Suzanne Guess (1981), Pete Hale (1966), Bob Lumsden (1961), Mamie (Corcoran) Morlan (1951), Jan Shafer, Dolores “Mic” (Mickesh) Smith (1948), George “Skip” Timmons (1953), Anna (Ruperto) Williams (1963)

FOUNDATION DIRECTORS

Principal Al Graziano (1960), Chairperson Nicole Graziano (1986), Bill Backstrom (1948), Bruce Bett (1948), Everett Chandler (1927/1995), Becky (Clinton) Dewey (1983), Anna (Ruperto) Williams (1963)

JOIN THE ALHS ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION!

Our annual membership dues are \$10. Lifetime membership dues are available to those alumni who are age 65 or older for \$75. As a member of the Alumni Association, you will receive both the Fall and Spring editions of the *Railsplitter Review*.

Join us online at www.alhsalumni.com, or send us your name, class year, and a check, made payable to ALHS Alumni Association, to the following address:

ALHS Alumni Association, c/o Lincoln High School
2600 SW 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50315.

The Vision Campaign would like to thank the following people for donating since the fall issue of the *Railsplitter Review*:

President’s Circle (\$10,000 +)

Everett Chandler ‘27
Prairie Meadows

Maroon & Gold (\$1000 - \$2499)

Marvin and Laurie ‘83 Delmott

Lincoln Pride (\$500 - \$749)

Class of 1954

Ambassador (\$100 - \$499)

Betty Culp ‘47
Jerry ‘68 and Sandy ‘68 Weldon

Friends of Lincoln (\$1 - \$99)

Janet ‘83 and Eric Anderson
Kirk Phillips ‘71

Commemorative Bricks and
Driveway Emblems

In 1999 Abraham Lincoln High School celebrated its 75th anniversary and the ALHS Alumni Association began selling commemorative bricks to mark the occasion. We continue to offer these bricks at a cost of \$85. The bricks are installed in front of the school, and are a wonderful way to remember a loved one, or honor a recent graduate or family of graduates.

Also available for \$20 is an “ALHS” emblem painted in maroon or gold on your driveway. This is a great way to show your Lincoln spirit! All proceeds go to the ALHS Alumni Association.

If you are interested in purchasing a brick or having the ALHS emblem painted on your driveway, order forms are available on our Web site: www.alhsalumni.com. ■

FINANCIAL REPORTS

(As of January 31, 2010)

ALHS Alumni Association

Ready Cash Account	\$775.72
Operating Checking	23,012.34

Total \$23,788.06

Your annual dues go to the Association.

ALHS Alumni Foundation

Total Assets* \$474,516.54

* Only the interest earned from the Foundation investments is used for scholarships. The endowment of the Foundation is not used.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Thanks to the generosity of many ALHS alumni and friends, the ALHS Alumni Foundation awards scholarships to deserving Lincoln seniors each year. A summary of available scholarships follows:

ALHS Alumni Association Scholarship

The Alumni Association offers annual scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each. The number of scholarships awarded varies yearly based on the interest earned on the Foundation Endowment. We hope to award at least 15 scholarships in 2010.

Named Scholarships

Elizabeth C. Vencil Chandler Memorial
Scholarship

Four (4) four-year scholarships (\$1,500 per year) are awarded every four years, beginning in 2007, based on the applicants’ GPA and financial need. The next scholarships will be awarded in 2011.

Neff Family Scholarship

Two (2) four-year scholarships (\$1,250 per year) are awarded annually to graduating seniors who intend to declare a major course of study in science or mathematics.

Ray Townsend Scholarship

Five (5) \$1,000 scholarships are awarded to graduating seniors based on the applicants’ GPA and financial need. The scholarship has been renewed for 2010.

Jim and Ralph Wilson Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually beginning in 2009, based on the applicant’s GPA and financial need.

Studebaker Elementary School

One scholarship of at least \$500 is awarded annually to a student who attended Studebaker Elementary School for at least three years. The financial need of the applicants is also considered.

Veridian Credit Union Scholarship

One \$500 scholarship is awarded based on the applicant’s financial need and community service. Veridian has renewed the scholarship for 2010.

Students may obtain an ALHS Alumni Scholarship Application form from their counselor, or on our Web site at www.alhsalumni.com.

We will announce the 2010 scholarship recipients in the Fall issue of the *Railsplitter Review*.

Go to www.alhsalumni.com for photos of our scholarship winners. ■

Named Scholarships

The Foundation can help you establish a scholarship in your name or in memory of a family member or friend. For more information, please contact **Nicole Graziano** at nicolemgraziano@gmail.com or **Skip Timmons** at 515-287-6510.

ALUMNI NOTES
Coralie Cherry '47 & Anna Williams '63



Coralie



Anna

Debra Cross Pratt '78 was recently recognized for her work with the students at Park Avenue Elementary School. Debra has taught at Park Avenue for the past 24 years. She is the sponsor for the Drama Club which presents a play each spring. This spring the play is “Bullies Anonymous.” “It helps the students with their self esteem,” said Debra, “and I am especially pleased that some of the club members have used their experience to go on further in drama.” **Bill Kirby** is now teaching in Des Moines. **Tiffany Flory** attends Simpson and **Kt Marie Scarcello** was recently in the musical, “Beyond the Rainbow,” at the Des Moines Playhouse. Debra was in Swing Choir at Lincoln under the direction of **Carol Stewart**, and remembers the drama involved when the Choir went to Venezuela to perform. Debra and husband, **Bill**, have a daughter, **Jules Pratt '08**.

Susie Christensen Bridell '66 contacted us in search of a Lincoln Alumni Directory.

She and husband, **Larry**, live in Ore City, Texas. They have traveled internationally and she is interested in Biblical history. Susie writes and has two children's books published. NASCAR is a big part of their lives and they try to get to as many tracks as possible. They plan to move to the Ozarks soon. Susie's parents, **Chris** and **Charlotte Christensen**, live in a care center in Mount Ayr, Iowa, so they get back to Iowa often. Susie's brother, **Daniel '67** is a high school principal in Illinois; and her sister, **Judy**, is a homemaker in Creston, Iowa.

In the last *Railsplitter Review*, we reported that **Gerald Miller '38** was chosen to go on the Honor Flight to Washington, DC. Gerald was unable to make it. He became ill before the flight and passed away November 18, 2009. In the summer of 2009, Gerald was invited to the Gold Museum at Camp Dodge to be interviewed about his experience as a Prisoner of War in WWII. This interview should be on tape and will be in the Prisoner of War exhibit. When he returned from the service, Gerald

and his brother, **Kenneth**, owned Miller's Super Value at 1300 Army Post Road. After his retirement he spent time visiting his children, **Jan DeFrancisco** and **David Miller '67** who live in Maui. His son, **Danny**, lives in the Des Moines area. Gerald was a long time member of the Lincoln Alumni Association and served on the Board for many years. He was president of the January Class of 1938. Gerald will be missed by Alumni and the community!

Members of the January Class of 1946 are grateful to **Richard Dickey** who has written a class newsletter for the past twenty years. The letter is sent out quarterly and it informs on all the happenings of Lincoln High, other classmates and Des Moines. This class meets monthly at the Old Country Buffet on S. E. 14th Street. Richard and his wife, **Darlene Wallace**, were classmates at Lincoln and continue to live on the South side of Des Moines. Richard retired from Meredith Publishing Company, and Darlene retired from US West.

Carl Loffredo '57 came up with a great idea for his class. He planned a mini reunion, suggesting that alumni meet at the Annual BLH Club Pancake Breakfast each year. They also meet the second Thursday of the month at Okoboji Grill. Seven members attended the Breakfast: **Jim** and **Sharon Mitchell**, **Mary Ann Nessen**, **Bill's** widow, **George (Bob) Bates**, **Joe Claman** and **Carl**. They enjoyed the pancakes and the camaraderie.

Tom Utterback '72 entered the field of nursing 25 years ago. At that time there were few male nurses. He was a flight nurse at Mercy Hospital and is now the night supervisor for the Mercy Medical Center. He is also a medical examiner for Warren County. Tom went to Des Moines Area Community College for two years and then to St. Francis Hospital in Illinois to get his nursing degree. At a meeting where Tom ran into **Mr. Wilson**, former Vice Principal at Lincoln, Tom good-naturedly shares that Mr. Wilson told him he could not believe he had been successful. Tom admits that he was not fond of school and didn't apply himself. He does enjoy his work. He and his wife and four children live in Norwalk.

Marilyn Hoegh Brown '42 just celebrated her 86th birthday. Marilyn loved her days at Lincoln and there she met her husband, **Bob**. After graduation, she worked at the Des Moines Ordinance Plant, Younkers Record Shop, Brenton Bank and as a Des Moines Realtor for 27 years. Marilyn enjoys theatre and politics and is a cancer survivor. She has two children, **Janet** and **Bob**, and they, too, are Lincoln alumni.

Many of you watched **Rebecca Meyer '02** on the NBC show, “Biggest Loser,” but probably did not realize she is a Lincoln grad. Becky didn't win on the show; however, she was awarded \$100,000 for losing the most weight at home after leaving the show. She lost a total of 130 pounds. Now that she is back in Des Moines, she is doing some motivational speaking and in the future hopes to open a fitness center. When Becky was at Lincoln, she was a member of ROTC at Hoover and there learned strict discipline that helped her with the weight loss.

Congratulations to **Lewis '40** and **Mary Ellen Facciola DeMarco** who just celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary. After graduation, Lewis went to AIB, went into the Army Air Force for three years, and then returned home to marry Mary Ellen. Lewis retired from the State of Iowa after 27 years as Director of Housing and Urban Development. One of Lewis' achievements at Lincoln that he listed in the Directory was that he was President of the Student Council in 1939. He showed his leadership abilities even then! Lewis is a great supporter of the Alumni Scholarship Program.

Chelsey Swehka '03 and husband, **Ian**, are now in South Korea teaching English in a middle school. Chelsey graduated from the University of Iowa. They are enjoying the experience.

Nick Klinefeldt '92 was nominated for the position of United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa, and was confirmed by the U. S. Senate on November 21. **President Obama** signed the commission appointing Nick as U. S. Attorney on November 24 and his investiture was February 5 at the United States Courthouse.

Chuck Mettler '61 is feeling pretty happy and proud. He nominated his friend, **Phil Barber '68** for South Des Moines Chamber's Citizen of the Year Award, citing Phil's establishment of the South Des Moines Sculpture Park and First Annual Art Festival. (Of course, we know Chuck also had a lot to do with these.) Phil won the award. **Carl Loffredo** was named the Volunteer of the Year. Carl's an avid photographer who volunteers his time documenting events on the south side, including Chamber events. Phil and Chuck tell us that the Second Annual South Des Moines Art Festival will be September 18, 2010.

Kirk Blunck, former Lincoln student, is the architect working to renovate the All Saints Church in Stuart, Iowa, through his firm, HLKB Architecture of Des Moines. The 100- year-old church was nearly destroyed in a 1995 arson fire. The landmark church will reopen in 2010 as a community center and learning museum.

Artist **James Ellwanger's** 30-foot sculpture, “Shattering Silence,” symbolizes Iowa's civil-rights history. The sculpture was dedicated on the west lawn of the Iowa Judicial Branch Building in Des Moines, in October 2009. **James '85** has been sculpting full time for about ten years. His looping steel sculpture, “The Seam,” stands on the south side of Principal Park, and his angular “Protecting Balance” adorns a front yard on Grand Avenue. Another piece, “Groundbreaking,” is in West Des Moines. ■

Report your Alumni notes to Coralie at 515-285-3098 or Anna at 515-287-1306, or email Anna at annafl01@netzero.net.

ASSOCIATION & FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTORS

The **Boards** of the **ALHS Alumni Association** and **Foundation** thank the following individuals for your kind donations, received since our fall newsletter went to print.

Richard Adamson	James Driscoll	Robert Huffman	Ryan Roy
Miriam Agcaoili	Dee Duff	Lester Jenkin	Jackie Rugg
Barbara Aller	Kenneth Elliott	Nedra Jones	Marilyn Sarasio
Nickie Anderson	G. Kent Folsom	Kevin Ketzler	David Silletto
Tim Askland	Mary Frederick	Sue Kingsbury	Jacqueline Soloman
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Jack & Peggy Copic	Ernest Gruwell	Janice Burgess Mulcahy	Craig Warfield
Todd Copic	Suzanne Guess	Dan Norem	Robert Warren
Robert Cox	Mike Halfhill	Nancy Nowak	Jacqueline Wilde
Doris Custer	Mark R. Hall	Julie Ohl	Roger & Anna Williams
Darlene Davis	James Harlan	Richard Ortega	Doug Winslow
Mary (Betty) Dawson	Clair Harper	Robert Patten	Donna Jean Wolf
Jim Deets	Frank Hatch	Sharon Peyser	Alice Palmer Woods
Dorris DeFino	Norma Heglin	Nancy Turner Porter	
Dennis Delmott	Virginia Howard	Carol Putney	

Memorial Contributions

Gary Jenning in memory of **Richard Camp ’39**
Coralie Cherry and Joy Ann Benoit in memory of **Robert Keefer, Sr. ’35**

In Memory of **James Parker ’43:**

Robert & Sheree Barnes	Debra & Michael Marasco	Jean Stuit	Sharon Parker Lenihan
Daniel & Kimberly Malloy	Kimberly & Bret Seebeck	Stephen & Rosemary Eden	Judi Pete
Lizabeth Rice	Steve & Janet Davis	Marian Nelson	Gail & Vincent Valdez
Bruce & Vickie Clark	John & Marcia Mason	Scott & Pamela Tursi	

Rail Club Contributors *(Gifts of \$500 or more)*

Ray Townsend, Class of 1966, \$5,000 for the Ray Townsend Scholarship
Rose Mary Neff Schwent, Class of 1942, \$10,000 for the Neff Family Scholarship and \$10,000 for the Foundaton Endowment
Lewis DeMarco, Class of 1940, \$1,000 to fund an Alumni Association Scholarship

TRIBUTES

The following is list of deceased ALHS Alumni by graduating class, reported to us after the Fall 2009 newsletter went to print. If you would like to report the death of a classmate or loved one to the Alumni Association, please contact **Amy Hutchens** at **hutch1963@msn.com**.

Class	Lincoln Alumni
1927	Ida Palandri Felice
1930	Louise Lucas Hall
1932	Mary Millar Lassaux, Mildred Christian Noren
1934	Alvin Ford , Donald Woodard
1936	Betty Tam Bash, Dorothy Steven Berry, Frank Ivers, Loran Smith, Regina Bennum Sneed
1937	Charles Celsi
1938	Arthur Falkowski, Gerald Miller, Gerald “Pete” Ogren
1939	Richard Camp, Nella Cassettari
1940	Frankie Blake, Haney Bruner
1941	Clyde “Skip” Folsom, Joseph “Joe” Tursi,
1942	Robert Fillman, Betty Fuger Robbins
1943	Gertrude Newton Hartzler, Phyllis Cavender McConnell, Margaret Pauline Rittel Meiers, Jim Parker, Delores Pascuzzi
1945	Donald Brown, Sr., Kenneth Klauenburch, Robert Wimer
1947	Helen “Jeri” Searl Giannoble
1949	Lenore Zita Ritter Pearey, Joann Malloy Renda
1950	Evelyn Fazio Caligiuri
1951	Bill Rowland, Evelyn “Evy” Rogers, Mary Jo Ford Quijano
1953	Delmar Hoffman
1954	Kenneth Carter, Ardys Cornell Carter, Mary Alice Cox Edwards,
1958	Tom Mackey
1959	Julie Scaglione Gross Pierce
1962	Dale Reeser
1963	Keith Lukenbill
1965	Gary Ullrich
1967	Don Houk, Karen Garbo Page
1968	Dave Jobe
1969	Kevin King
1970	Barbara Jean Driscoll Fiscus
1973	Don Martin
1975	David Randall
1976	Deborah Kirshbaum Daniels, Tim Mason, Ray Schlicher
1979	Linda Witmer VanPelt
1982	Tom Guessford
2004	Jessica Schlotterbeck

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL?

BY NICOLE GRAZIANO, '86

Now more than ever, Lincoln High School needs your help. The Des Moines Public Schools are facing unprecedented budget cuts that will impact positions, programs and services in the 2010 – 2011 school year. Lincoln will lose administrators, teachers and clerical staff; and face reductions in programs and services like World Languages, Industrial Tech, English, Math and student counseling.

So what can you do to help Lincoln students? You can volunteer your time, support Lincoln activities, donate supplies, or make a financial contribution. Remember, your donations to the school are tax deductible.

DONATE BOOKS, OFFICE SUPPLIES, CLASSROOM SUPPLIES, COMPUTERS, ETC.

The main office staff at Lincoln is in need of equipment and supplies, such as those listed below.

- A light-duty paper folding machine
- A color printer and printer cartridges
- A rechargeable label making machine
- A heavy duty paper shredding machine

If you are interested in purchasing new supplies for the main office, contact Jane Horhmann at 515-242-7500.

The Lincoln library is in need of books and paper. You may donate books with copyright dates of 1995 and newer to the library. You may make a cash donation to the library to fund the purchase of new books. The library will accept new or recycled paper (such as outdated business letterhead stationary). If you are interested in making a donation to the library, call Lincoln Librarian Sandy Weldon at 515-272-7520.

MAKE A DONATION TO THE ALUMNI FOUNDATION

Last spring the Foundation gave out nineteen scholarships to 2009 Lincoln graduates. Imagine the additional scholarship possibilities if we meet our goal of

increasing our endowment to \$1 million. The Alumni Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your gifts are tax deductible. No gift is too small.

The Foundation can help you establish a scholarship in your name or in memory of a family member or friend. For more information, please contact Nicole Graziano at nicolemgraziano@gmail.com, or Skip Timmons at 515-287-6510.

ATTEND THE CHICKEN BOWL AND THE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Chicken Bowl and the Pancake Breakfast are both annual events sponsored by the Build Lincoln Higher Club (BLH). They are great opportunities to reconnect with Lincoln alumni and friends. The Chicken Bowl, held at Hutchens Stadium in August, includes a Lincoln football team scrimmage and chicken dinner. The Pancake Breakfast, held in the Student Commons area in January, includes a silent auction and performances by the Lincoln students, including the Jazz Band.

Visit our Web site www.alhsalumni.com [bold face] to see photos from this year's Pancake Breakfast and get the date for this year's Chicken Bowl.

PLAY GOLF AT THE ANNUAL BOB VANDERLINDEN MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Bob VanderLinden Memorial Golf Outing is another great opportunity to reconnect with Lincoln alumni and friends. It is scheduled for Friday, June 11, 2010 this year at Blank Park Golf Course. All proceeds from the tournament support Lincoln Activities.

See page 4 for a registration form. For more information about the tournament, contact Phil Chia, Lincoln Athletic Director, at 515-242-7525.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE SENIOR CELEBRATION AFTER-PROM PARTY

Help Lincoln Seniors and their guests have a fun and safe after-Prom celebration at Lincoln High School. This event would not be possible without the volunteer efforts of parents, community members and school staff. See our article on page 6 for more information.

LEVERAGE THE STATE OF IOWA ONE GIFT PROGRAM

Attention all State of Iowa employees! The Alumni Foundation (Des Moines Lincoln Alumni Dollars for Scholars Chapter) has been approved for the State of Iowa One Gift Program (One Gift).

The One Gift campaign takes place during the month of October. If you are a State of Iowa employee, you may elect to pledge to the Des Moines Lincoln Alumni Dollars for Scholars Chapter for your payroll deduct contributions to charitable organizations. State of Iowa employees pledged \$573.00 to the Foundation for 2010.

100% of the One Gift voluntary payroll deduct contributions go to the designated charitable agencies. Des Moines Lincoln Alumni Dollars for Scholars is Agency Number 7665. To learn more, go to <http://das.hre.iowa.gov/onegift.html>.

These are just a few ways you can help support Lincoln High School. Remember, no donation is too small! ■

SOUTH SIDE HOMECOMING PARADE 2010

Plans are in the works for this year's South Side Homecoming Parade. The parade takes place every four years on the Thursday preceding Homecoming, giving each student in grades 9-12 an opportunity to take part in a parade during their time at Lincoln. The parade route begins at SW 12th and Watrous and ends at Hutchens Stadium.

The parade is open to the public, and all South Side middle and elementary schools are invited to participate. We want the entire South Side to participate, and we need volunteers! If you would like to volunteer for the parade or have questions, call **Pete Hale** at (515) 282-6168. ■

INVITE THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TO YOUR CLASS REUNION!

The Lincoln High School Alumni Association can assist you at your next class reunion. We can provide people at your event to handle registration, allowing you and your classmates to join in the festivities instead of working at the registration table. In addition, we can provide a photo display of the school remodeling, and offer opportunities to show school spirit such as purchasing a commemorative brick or driveway emblem, and joining the LHS Alumni Association.

If you are interested in knowing more about how we can assist you at your next reunion, email **John Thielke, Class of 1980**, at jboythere@aol.com. ■



Abraham Lincoln High School
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
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Des Moines, Iowa 50315-1998

www.alhsalumni.com

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REUNION NEWS

*Visit the Alumni Web site at www.alhsalumni.com
for the latest information on Alumni activities.*

- **Class of 1940** meets on the second Friday of every other month at the Cubs Club. Next meeting is in May, 11:00 AM. For information, contact **Howard Porter** at (515) 285-8326.
- **Class of 1941** meets on the second Friday of every other month at Old Country Buffet (S. E. 14th and Army Post Road). Next meeting is in May. For information, call **Leo Bridal** at (515) 285-3332.
- **Classes of January and June 1945** meet for lunch at 11:30 AM on the first Friday of every month at Old Country Buffet. For information, contact **Thelma Horton Penland** at (515) 285-3371. These classes will also hold a 65th Reunion on June 11, 2010, at the Urbandale Golf and Country Club. Classmates will receive more information.
- **Class of January 1946** meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 1:15 PM at Old Country Buffet (S. E. 14th and Army Post Road). For more information contact **Dick Dickey** at (515) 283-0080. Dick also sends a newsletter to classmates.
- **Class of June 1946:** A class luncheon is planned for June. For information, contact **Denise St. John** at (515) 246-0711.
- **Class of January 1950:** For information regarding a 60th Class Reunion, contact **Shirley Comegys** at (515) 285-5480.
- **Class of June 1950:** If interested in a 60th Class Reunion, **Dee Duff** says she's waiting to hear from you! Contact Dee at (515) 288-2283.
- **Class of 1955:** If interested in a 55th Class Reunion, contact **David Guessford** at (515) 285-5076.
- **Classes of January and June 1957** meet for lunch on the second Thursday of every month at 11:30 AM at the Okoboji Grill on S. E. 14th Street. For information, contact **Jackie Thompson Tinker** at TINK967@aol.com.
- **Class of 1960:** A 50th Class Reunion is planned for September 18th at the Airport Holiday Inn. For information, contact **Penny Flatt** at (515) 285-3779.
- **Class of 1963:** Annual Breakfast, Golf Outing and Potluck at MacRae Park, June 26, 2010. Classmates will receive sign-up letter.
- **Class of 1970–40th Class Reunion,** June 25, 2010, 6:00 PM, at Willow Creek. \$35 per person, \$60 per couple. Payment is due June 1st. For information, contact **Vicki Fogue** at (515) 238-8044 or **Vonnie Forman Jobe** at (515) 285-5458.
- **Class of 1975:** For information regarding a 35th Class Reunion, contact **Bruce Koepl** at bkoepl@aarp.org.
- **Class of 1980–30th Class Reunion,** August 14, 2010, 6:30 PM at Blank Park Golf Course. Watch the Alumni Web site, Classmates.com or Facebook for developments. If your contact information has not changed since the 25th Class Reunion, the reunion committee has it. Please forward address changes, questions or suggestions to **John Thielke** at jboythere@aol.com or **Rachelle Brown Sonntag** at Sonntag7@mchsi.com.
- **Class of 1985:** For information regarding a 25th Class Reunion, contact **Tracy Fisher Klisares** at (515) 287-8697 or Tklisares@mchsi.com.
- **Class of 1990–20th Class Reunion,** July 30 – August 1, 2010. On Friday, July 30th, the class will hold an informal gathering at the Italian Festival. Preliminary plans for Saturday include a formal dinner for classmates and their guests, and the Sunday activity will be a family potluck. Places and times TBA. For information, contact **Andrea Jordan** at acj2xs@gmail.com or see class web site, <http://alhs90.tripod.com>.

www.alhsalumni.com