



# ZEPHYR CONNECTION

A publication for alumni, parents and friends of St. Mary Central

SUMMER 2014

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### July 18, 2014 - Greater Zephyr Open

Royal St. Patrick's, Wrightstown

Contact: Craig Uhlenbrauck

craig.uhlenbrauck@miron-construction.com

### July 18, 2014 - 31st Class Reunion

Contact: Barb Braun Unruh

dbunruh@earthlink.net

(920)486-6565

### July 19, 2014 - SMC Athletic Hall of Fame

Induction Celebration

Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center

Contact: Sue Simonsen

ssimonsen@tcces.org

### August 9, 2014 - 50th Class Reunion

Contact: Randy Melzer

randallmelzer@gmail.com

### August 16, 2014 - 10th Class Reunion

Waverly Beach-Menasha 7:00 p.m.

Contact: John Fitzpatrick

john.fitzpatrick@lmco.com

### September 6, 2014 - 60th Class Reunion

Stone Toad - Menasha

Cocktails - 5:30 p.m./Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Contact: John & Mary Reinders

john.reinders@att.net

### September 10, 2014 - 65th Class Reunion

Waverly Beach-Menasha 11:30 a.m.

Contact: Gladys Reimer

(920) 841-5708

### September 13, 2014 - 70th Class Reunion

St. Mary Central High School 12:30 p.m.

Contact: Marion DeGroot

(920)733-6407

### September 20, 2014 - 30th Class Reunion

Waverly Beach 4:00pm

Contact: Ann Kramer

Kramer1015@gmail.com

## SAVE THE DATE

September 30, 2014

Alumni Volleyball Night

October 3, 2014

SMC Homecoming

## A UNIQUE AND LOVELY WAY TO GIVE BACK

St. Mary Central was recently honored with a beautiful gift to the fine arts and drama department in the form of a vintage satin wedding gown. **Madonna Kurkowski '52 Booher** presented her gown to SMC Teacher Trisha Hunter, director of the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center. The dress, which resembles the one worn by Julie Andrews in *The Sound of Music*, was hand sewn by the aunt of St. Mary alumna **Kathleen LeBouton '52 Sturm**, and features 35 hand-covered buttons, hand-stitched lace and a long train.

"It is like the dress is returning home," says Madonna. "Don and I were married at St. Mary's in 1956. At that time, Father Becker gave brides on their wedding day a mother-of-pearl rosary that he brought home from the Holy Land. I still use mine and it brings back fond memories."

As a member of the class of 1952, Madonna was active on the *The Renard* staff, serving as co-editor as a senior. Her favorite memories include being active in Sodality, May Crowning and the graduation Mass. She rates her Catholic education from St. Mary a "10+", saying that it has carried her well through life.

On the occasion of their fiftieth class reunion, Madonna's Class of 1952 was able to tour the St. Mary Central High School building. She hopes to one day visit the new fine arts education center and middle school as well. In addition to Madonna, other Kurkowski siblings that attended St. Mary include **Paul Kurkowski '49**, **Florence Kurkowski '50 Miller**, and **Ken Kurkowski '55**.



## SALUTE TO THE CLASS OF 2104...

St. Mary Central held its Commencement on Friday, May 30, 2014. Among the 73 graduates of the Class of 2014 are eleven children of alumni including Erin Butke, daughter of **Kris Lenz '83 Butke**; Haley Davidson, daughter of **Linda Birling '83 Davidson**; Sam Dionne, son of **Julie Derouin '88** and **Jason Dionne '89**; Patrick Griffith, son of **Jack Griffith '79**; Josh Nauber-Finch, son of **Debbie Finch '85**; Zachary Hoheisel, son of **Mark Hoheisel '78**; John Houlihan, son of **Suzanne Mitchell '85** and **Robert Houlihan '82**; Jordan Schmidt, son of **Terri Gleasner '94 Schmidt**; Tristen Tully, son of **Don Tully '86**; Thomas Verhagen, son of **Kathleen Maxymek '86** and **Dan Verhagen '86**; and Karly Weber, daughter of **Tony Weber '78**.



L. to R: John Houlihan, Erin Butke, TJ Verhagen, Haley Davidson and Josh Nauber-Finch



# SMC Campus Happenings

## ZEPHYR WINTER SPORTS UPDATE

The varsity boys basketball team upset Reedsville 64-60 in double overtime in the first round of the playoffs, but then lost to Amherst in the regional championship. Senior Andrew Griffin was named 2nd Team All-Conference.

The varsity girls basketball team was 13-12 overall, 10-8 in conference. They also lost to Amherst in the regional championship. Senior Jenna Thelen was named 1st team All-Conference.



Andrew Griffin



Jenna Thelen

## NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

The SMC VEX Robotics Club sent several teams to the U.S. Open VEX Robotics Championship in Omaha, Nebraska. St. Mary Central's Team 1200-Syntax Error took first place, besting 85 other teams from around the nation, and three SMC teams finished in the top ten. A few weeks later, two SMC groups also competed in the world championship in Anaheim, California where one team finished in sixth place in their division, and the other was one of two teams at the world championship to finish their qualifying rounds undefeated! They eventually lost in the division finals.

## NEW MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECT

With 80% of the targeted financing raised, construction of the new middle school is slated to begin in mid-August on the grounds of St. Mary Central High School. A groundbreaking ceremony on

May 27, 2014, attended by the Most Reverend David L. Ricken and TCCES students in grades K-12 was a memorable celebration. The festivities included five large earth movers, representing the support of the five Catholic parishes of Neenah and Menasha, symbolically breaking ground. A strong middle school supports a strong high school! For more information or to support the project, please click on the picture of the new school under "What's Happening" on the TCCES website at [www.tcces.org](http://www.tcces.org).

## ONLINE ZEPHYR DEPOT

Can't get to the Zephyr Depot for your Zephyr wear? We are excited to announce the new online Zephyr Depot! Working with SMC Alumna **Chris Clark Lewandowski '67** at Sports Graphics, we are now offering logo apparel online. Click on the "apparel" button on the SMC home page. All orders will be shipped within 7-10 business days.

## SPRING MUSICAL

The Zephyr Players proudly presented the musical *Grease* March, 2014. Alumni **Ron Steffen '83** and **Cliff Uitenbroek '83** provided the famous convertible for the play.



Grease convertible

## TCCES COMMUNITY THEATER

Auditions for the TCCES Community Theater's production of the classic *The Sound of Music*, directed by **Hayden Krause '11**, will be held on Saturday, June 14 from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center. Auditions are open to all ages and no experience is needed. Performances will take place on August 8, 9 and 10, 2014.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to English Teacher Jean Zuleger on her retirement. After 29 years at St. Mary Central High School, Mrs. Zuleger is retiring from teaching. See last fall's edition of the *Zephyr Connection* to read all about it! To honor her years of dedication to education and to our school, a tuition assistance scholarship for students to attend SMC is being created in her honor. If you would like to contribute, please send your donation to: St. Mary Central High School, Attn: Sue Simonsen, 1050 Zephyr Drive, Neenah, WI 54956.

*"As each has received a gift, use it to teach one another, as good stewards of God's abundant grace."*

1 Peter 4:10





# Alumni In Action

**Alan Kellermann '97** has published his first solo poetry collection titled "You, Me and the Birds", published by Parthian Publishing. After graduating from SMC, Alan earned his BA from St. Norbert College in 2005 and his MA in 2007. He earned his Ph.D. from Swansea University in Wales, United Kingdom, in 2012.

Alan is currently the poetry editor for Parthian Publishing, and is also on the staff at the Dylan Thomas Center (full time) in Swansea, where he teaches an adult education course called "The Art of the Essay." He credits many of the educators he had in the TCCES schools with inspiring and encouraging him along the way.



*Alan Kellermann '97*

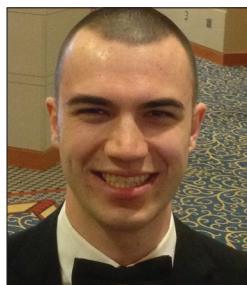


*Private Levi Bayer '13*

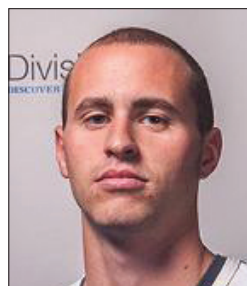
**Private Levi Bayer '13** graduated from United States Marine Corps boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego on February 14, 2014. Private Bayer successfully completed 13 weeks of basic training at MCRD, San Diego as one of 56 recruits in Training Platoon 3253. After ten days of leave and 14 days of recruiter's assistance, he reported to infantry training battalion at the School of Infantry, Camp Pendleton in California.

**Lucas Unruh '13** participated in a St. Baldrick's Event at Notre Dame University, where he shaved his head in support of childhood cancer research. In this photo, Lucas is dressed for a chorale and band performance held on campus.

**Sam Koslowski '10** became Marian University's 17th basketball player to join the 1,000-point club! In addition, Marian's basketball team captured the conference title and the opportunity to represent their league in the NCAA III national tournament. In a recent email Sam commented, "I just wanted to send a huge THANK YOU to everyone within the TCCES/Zephyr community who has supported me through high school and college! I hope to come back to the Neenah area upon graduation in December 2014 in search for a job and would love to begin assisting with the



*Lucas Unruh '13*



*Sam Koslowski '10*

basketball programs. I would love to be able to give the knowledge that I have gained while attending Marian University and playing collegiate basketball back to the schools that have given me so much!"

The Boys' and Girls' Brigade of the Fox Valley, located in Neenah, has hired **David Weiss '02** as development director. A graduate of Marquette University, David is also active in the community as the president of the board of directors at Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services in Oshkosh, and has been a volunteer firefighter for the Town of Neenah since 2010.

**Mary Beth Nienhaus '61** is the recent recipient of the Appleton School District's Tom Scullen Leadership Award for her recent donation of the Winagamie Golf Course to the Appleton Educational Foundation. Mary Beth is president and director of instruction for the Winagamie Golf Foundation, which supports the Winagamie Junior Golf Academy.

**Roger Roth '96** has declared his candidacy for the Wisconsin State Senate, District 19 to fill the vacancy of Michael Ellis. Roger served in the Assembly from 2007 to 2011. He is a homebuilder, served in the Wisconsin National Air Guard and is an Iraq War veteran.

**Max Ogden '97** proudly received the 2013 "Town of Menasha Business of the Year" award for Valley Athletics.

"I've learned a lot over the past year or two about the community we live in, and about life, business and people, and I am so grateful for all of it." Pictured with Max is his dad, Jeff.



*Max Ogden '97*

**Father Bill Swichtenberg, '73** was recently named the new pastor at St. Mary Parish in Appleton. Fr. Bill is coming from St. Mary Parish in Algoma, where he also served as pastor.



*Father Bill Swichtenberg '73*

**Richard DeKleyn '76**, has been named among Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group's International President Elite. Only the top three percent of all sales associates and representatives world-wide qualified for this honor.

SMC Honorary Alumnus **Howard Healy**, senior partner at DiRenzo and Bomier Law Firm, recently received the Faith That Works Award from the Diocese of Green Bay. Healy offers his legal assistance to the Fox Valley Legal Clinic and pro-life organizations, and has been instrumental to the success of our Catholic school system. He is currently is a member of the committee raising funds to build the new TCCES middle school.

## New Arrivals

**Bill '99 and Liz Schulze** welcomed their new baby girl, Katerina Marie on January 11, 2014. She joins big brother Liam Victor, born in August 2011. Bill continues to serve as the Technology Systems and Network Administrator for TCCES.

**Patrick Stilp '04 and Ashley De Wall Stilp '03** welcomed their first child, Savannah Kay, on November 8, 2013.

**Dave and Rebekah Berger Weiss '02** welcomed Fredrick Ambrose (Fritz) on January 2, 2014 to their family.



*Frederick Ambrose Weiss*



**Alumni! We would love to include information about you in future editions of the *Zephyr Connection*.**

Please send information about and photos of Class reunions

- Weddings • New arrivals • Professional accomplishments
- Graduations • Athletic accomplishments
- Community involvement • Volunteer activities
- Lottery winnings—big donation expected

Please email Sue Simonsen at [ssimonsen@tcces.org](mailto:ssimonsen@tcces.org) with your news.

## ALL ARE INVITED...GREATER ZEPHYR OPEN AND HALL OF FAME INDUCTION DINNER

Friday, July 18, 2014 is the date to save for the Greater Zephyr Open (GZO). See details in the box to the right.

The 2014 Hall of Fame induction will take place on Saturday, July 19, 2014 at the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center at SMC. Inductees include **Kelanie Simonsen '01 Davis, Paul Hermus '78, Robert Michalkiewicz '03, and Jim Rohde '82**. Also being honored will be the "back-to-back" **1981 and 1982 State Volleyball Champions**. Watch for photos and details of this celebration after the event online and in the *Fall/Winter Zephyr Connection*. Registration details can be found by visiting the alumni link at [www.tcces.org/smc](http://www.tcces.org/smc).

## Wedding Bells

February 1, 2014 was the date chosen for the marriage of **Jennifer Horn '01** and Caleb Zart. The celebration took place at Liberty Hall in Kimberly. Members of the Class of 2001 pictured with the bride are **Sarah Kane Michalski**; back row: **Kristen Fink, Kelanie Simonsen Davis, Erin Verbrick Roth, Erin Healy Rath and Danielle Spielbauer Stafford**.



*Horn-Zart Wedding*

**Jared Miller '07** and his bride Rachel were married on May 9, 2014 in Poynette, Wisconsin. The following members of the **Class of 2007** were groomsmen: **Zach Sonnentag, Erik Becker, Robert Frozena, Jon Zolkoske, John Healy and Andy Waite**. SMC graduate **Ramsey Miller '02 Nowak** was also an attendant.



*Miller Wedding*

## GREATER ZEPHYR OPEN

**Friday, July 18, 2014**

**Royal St. Patrick's Golf Links**

### SCHEDULE:

8:00 a.m. Registration  
10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start  
3:30 p.m. Dinner (heavy hors d'oeuvres)

### ENTRANCE FEE OF \$105 PER PERSON INCLUDES:

- 18-hole scramble-format golf (rain or shine), cart and range balls
- Lunch "at the turn"
- Hole prize challenges and hole-in-one prize opportunities
- Dinner (dinner-only tickets are \$15)

Golf registration deadline is Friday, July 11. Register by June 13 to be entered into a drawing to win (2) 18-hole rounds with a cart at Royal St. Patrick's! For more information, contact Craig Uhlenbrauck at [craig.uhlenbrauck@miron-construction.com](mailto:craig.uhlenbrauck@miron-construction.com).

**PROCEEDS FROM THE GZO BENEFIT THE ST. MARY CENTRAL BOOSTER CLUB.**

### ALUMNI SURVEY SUMMER 2014

1. What types of articles would you enjoy reading in the alumni newsletter? (Check all that apply)

☐ Updates on alumni ☐ Upcoming events for alumni  
☐ Reunion news ☐ Current high school news/events  
☐ Historical background ☐ Faculty/staff news

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what types of alumni activities would you be interested in participating? (Check all that apply)

☐ Alumni basketball tourney ☐ Alumni night at home basketball game  
☐ Alumni night at spring musical ☐ Reunions  
☐ Homecoming festivities ☐ Zephyrfest  
☐ Regional alumni gatherings ☐ Service  
☐ Greater Zephyr Open Golf Outing

OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Would you be willing to help with an alumni event? (Check all that apply)

☐ Yes – Day of the event ☐ Yes – Committee to plan and organize  
☐ Yes – Chairperson of the event ☐ No

4. Would you be willing to be a class rep? (Attend meeting, help promote events/activities to your class, assist with updating your class list and fund-raising as needed)

☐ Yes ☐ No

5. When is the last time you visited St. Mary Central?

☐ Within the last 2 years ☐ Within the last 6-10 years  
☐ Within the 3-5 years ☐ More than 10 years ago

6. Have you attended a class reunion within the last 25 years?

☐ Yes (which ones?) \_\_\_\_\_

If no, why and what would bring you back? \_\_\_\_\_

7. In what year did you graduate? \_\_\_\_\_

8. At what time of year would you be most likely to visit the Neenah/Menasha area?

☐ Winter ☐ Spring ☐ Summer ☐ Fall

9. Would you be interested in receiving online communications from SMC?

☐ Yes ☐ No, I prefer the printed issue

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grad Yr. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please return complete survey to: St. Mary Central Alumni Office

1050 Zephyr Drive  
Neenah, WI 54956

or complete the survey online at  
[www.surveymonkey.com/s/smcalumnisurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/smcalumnisurvey)



## SMC AWARD NOMINATION FORM



Please help us honor individuals who have distinguished themselves in the finest tradition of St. Mary Central High School.

### I would like to nominate:

### Nominated by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State & Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Year: \_\_\_\_\_

### SMC ALUMNI AWARDS

Awards are presented at the Annual SMC Alumni Recognition Dinner typically held in July

- ☐ **SMC Outstanding Catholic Christian Service Award:** The SMC Outstanding Catholic Christian Service Award honors an alumnus who has demonstrated faithful service to the Lord in vocational ministry, Christian service or a church leadership position, and through his or her continued support of St. Mary Central High School. The nominee exhibits a self-sacrificing way of life by going beyond expectations in service to others.
- ☐ **SMC Alumni Distinguished Service Award:** The SMC Alumni Distinguished Service Award recognizes an alumnus who has given his or her time, energy and resources to enhance St. Mary Central High School and the community. He or she exhibits a high degree of leadership, character and integrity. This person's loyalty and service support SMC and the community in moving forward.
- ☐ **SMC Alumni Achievement Award:** The Alumni Achievement Award is presented to an alumnus who displayed strong leadership while a student at SMC, who has achieved distinction in his/her community and/or field of expertise, who continues to support SMC and/or Catholic education, and who lives out Christian values. The nominee must have graduated from SMC at least 10 years ago.
- ☐ **SMC Athletic Hall of Fame:** The nomination for induction into the SMC Athletic Hall of Fame requires that the individual brought recognition to SMC through athletic accomplishments, is currently respected in his/her community and models Christian values. The nominee must have graduated from SMC at least 10 years ago.

### SMC EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Awards are presented at the SMC High School Commencement Ceremony

- ☐ **SMC SPIRIT --Volunteer Service Award:** The SMC SPIRIT—Volunteer Service Award is presented to a school parent or volunteer to honor their extraordinary commitment and service to St. Mary Central High School. This person continually goes above and beyond without the expectation of recognition.
- ☐ **SMC Honorary Alumnus Designation:** The Honorary Alumnus Award is presented to non-graduates of St. Mary Central High School who have had a significant impact through their volunteer commitment to our school. This individual selflessly shares his or her time and talents with the school and consistently represents SMC in a positive manner throughout all his/her volunteer efforts.

*Please tell us about the nominee and the characteristics that you feel make him/her an outstanding nominee:*

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## Reunions Revisited



The 60th reunion for the Class of 1953 was held on September 13-14, 2013.



### The 45th Reunion of the Class of 1968

Judi Adrian Stadler attended the 45th reunion of the Class of 1968. The rest of the attendees were featured in the fall edition of this newsletter.

## Reunion Planning



### Class of 1944 Planning Committee

#### The 70th Reunion of the Class of 1944

Members of the Class of 1944 gather several times a year for lunch and to stay in touch with each other. The group met recently at BJ Clancy's Restaurant to plan their 70th class reunion now set for Saturday, September 13 at St. Mary Central. Pictured are **Dolores Rippl Peterson, Diane Pottner Kaye, Marion Wolter DeGroot** and **Kathleen Binder Robl**.

## Alumni Awards

On May 7, 2014, two SMC alumni received awards at the annual Leadership Day held at the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Center. Honored were **Mary Van Lieshout, '77**, the 2014 Alumni Achievement Award recipient and **Michael Mauthe '92** Outstanding Catholic Christian Service Award honoree. Mary Van Lieshout attended St. Catherine's University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and later Trinity College and Dublin City University in Dublin, Ireland. In addition to memberships and chairmanships on various global committees and boards, Mary has spent her life committed to social justice, community health and international economic development. Her accomplishments include being Director of Health Promotion in Dublin and serving as the chief policy advisor to the President of Ireland. Mary is married with 3 children and resides in Dublin, Ireland.



Mary Van Lieshout '77

Graduating from SMC in 1992, Mike Mauthe attended St. Norbert College where he received an economics degree. He later earned three Master's degrees: first in theology from St. Norbert, then servant leadership at Viterbo University, and finally educational administration from Notre Dame University. It was from Notre Dame that he received a top leadership award for developing a student honor code that is now being used in thirty Catholic school systems across the country. Over the years, Mike has led retreats for youth and adult groups, supervised counselors at the Neenah-Menasha YMCA and served for a time as Youth Minister at St. Patrick's Parish, Menasha. After 16 years as a teacher at Xavier, where he also earned recognition as tennis coach, Mike turned his passion for teaching and the church to administration. Mike will be leaving his position as principal of Lourdes Academy in Oshkosh to begin as principal at Xavier High School in Appleton.



Michael Mauthe '92



## *Faith. Academics. Service.*

**You are needed! Please help today.**

So much can be said in three little words! This has been the theme of our 2013-14 TCCES/SMC Annual Fund Drive. As the end of the fiscal year rapidly approaches, a final boost is needed to meet our annual fund goal.

Hopefully you have enjoyed reading this alumni newsletter, and feel inspired to help make an outstanding Catholic education a reality for today's students. Did you know that every dollar donated to the TCCES/SMC Annual Fund goes directly to the operational costs associated with our commitment to educational excellence and to helping families afford tuition? There is no better way to have a direct and lasting impact on students.

Please send your tax-deductible donation by June 30, 2014! Your check, made payable to TCCES/SMC Annual Fund, can be mailed to:

TCCES/SMC Annual Fund  
1050 Zephyr Drive  
Neenah, WI 54956



1050 Zephyr Drive  
Neenah, WI 54956



# *Zephyrfest 2014*



*Mike Froelich '02 and Chris Englebert '02*



*Chris Steffen '83 Uitenbroek and  
Cliff Uitenbroek '83*



*Justin Mahlik '99, Liesl Bergstrom '99 Britzke,  
and Andy Bergstrom '99*

A capacity crowd of nearly 800 supporters of St. Mary Central High School boarded the Zephyr train on May 10, 2014 for the 29th annual Zephyrfest, held at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton. Immersing themselves in the mysterious and enchanting wonders and hidden treasures of the Lost Continent of Atlantis, guests enjoyed a delicious dinner, entertainment and the chance to bid on or win more than 400 valuable vacations, vehicles, artwork, themed packages and more. Preliminary estimates are that the event netted approximately than \$370,000 in support of Catholic education in our TCCES schools!