



THE ALUMNI MENTOR

Volume 2 Winter 2007 Numer 2

MHSAA 2007 Wall of Fame



President's Message

It has been 3 years since the official incorporation of our Manhattan High School Alumni Association on November 30th, 2004 and I am honored and happy to accept the elected position of President for 2 additional years. I would like to give special thanks and recognition to outgoing Board Members Cam (Smith) Feltner '71, Vice President, Terri (Brown) Olson '87, Secretary, and Charles Hostetler '56, Director for their past 3 years of service.

Our membership total currently stands at 495 paid members as we continue to grow the organization. The MHS Alumni Association Wall of Fame located on the east end of the main foyer, across from the Principal's office, was officially dedicated with a ceremony September 18, 2007 and we are looking forward to inducting 4 more outstanding MHS Alums to the Wall of Fame on the evening of January 4th, 2008, acknowledging their accomplishments.

As we approach the year 2008, we welcome newly elected Vice President, Carita (Clark) Otts '55, Secretary, Sally (Baril) Lansdowne '65, Events Officer, Keith Eyestone '80, and Directors Tom Addair '94, Marlene (Moyer) Glasscock '65 to our MHSAA Board of Directors for 2-year terms.

Our Officers and Directors appreciate your input and ideas for the continued success of our Alumni Association. Please feel free to e-mail me at dfiser1@cox.net or call me at 785-537-9123 anytime you wish to share an idea or have a question regarding MHSAA.

In closing, I personally, along with our MHS Alumni Association Officers and Directors, would like to wish you a Happy Holiday Season filled with warmth and joy. We look forward to another great year for MHSAA in 2008.

Go Indians!!

Dave Fiser

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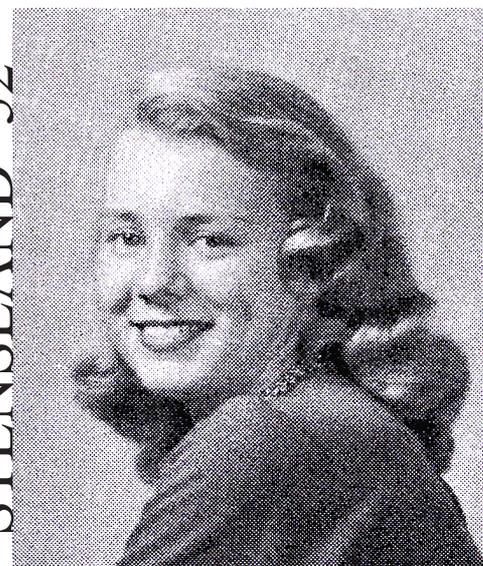
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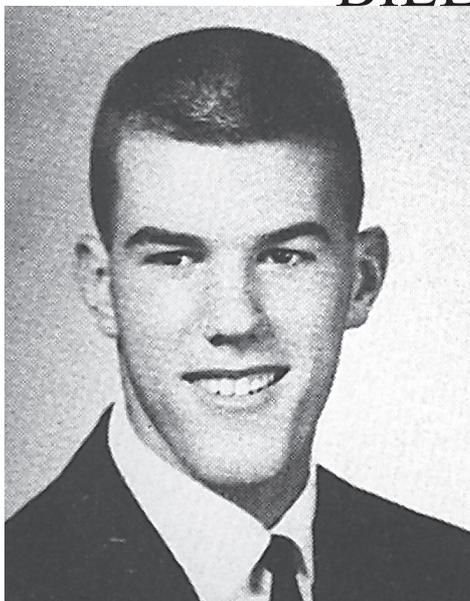
CLOSE '52

STENSLAND '52



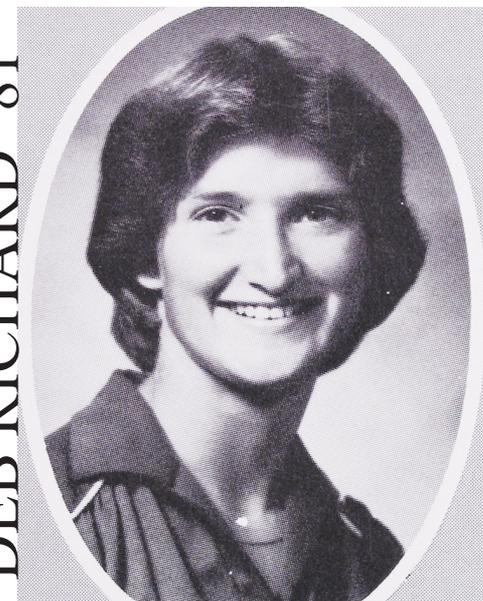
INGER

BILL



BUZENBERG '64

DEB RICHARD '82



Induction Ceremony Set for January 4th, 2008

The 2007 Class for the MHSAA Wall of Fame will be inducted at the MHS West campus on Friday, Jan 4, following a public reception. The reception, where you can meet and greet the MHS grads or their representatives, will be held in the Cafeteria at 6:15pm. The formal presentation will be in the North Gym between the MHS Girls and Boys varsity basketball games at approximately 7:15 that evening. The public is invited to attend both events. Please turn to pages 10 and 11 for biographies of these honored MHS graduates.

Manhattan High School Alumni Association

*"Enhancing Manhattan High School and its
graduates through life-long involvement."*

Board of Directors 2008-2010

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Kathleen (Bryson) Pizar '58
Webmaster: Stuart Parsons '70
MHSAA Web site:
www.mhsalumniassociation.org

Postal Mailing address:
MHSAA
P.O. Box 1102
Manhattan, KS 66505 -1102

Change Of Information?

EASY!
*Use Membership Renewal
Form inserted with this
newsletter!*

If you've had a change of:

- Name
- Mailing address
- Phone number
- Email address

OR if you would like to send a
DONATION for the MHSAA
Museum - monetary or memento
- please send this information to:
MHSAA , mailing address above,
or contact PatDuncan@aol.com or
any MHSAA Officer or Director.

From the Editor



Our first installment of the History of MHS started in 1856 and ended in 1891, but in continuing the research, I've found additional facts that belong in that early period. In the early 1860s, some children living in what is now part of the city of Manhattan were schooled at Bluemont College until the District could build their own school. From the beginning, the College seems a large influence in the local system.

In 1871, the KSAC campus moved from their Claflin and College Avenue corner to their present location. About this time we see the number of students at Manhattan High School decline. The competition between the College's Prep School and their early entrance for College by exam undoubtedly affected Manhattan High School even more now that they were closer to town.

In the last Issue, we did not know if copies existed of the first Manhattan High School student newspaper, The Manhattan High School Monitor. There are five issues, from November through March, 1873/74 on microfilm at the Manhattan Public Library. The Monitor was edited by MHS Senior Clair Patee. He also worked in the print shop of the Nationalist newspaper. These may be the only issues that were printed. Paper copies will soon be available to see at the MHSAA Alumni Center & Museum. This early student newspaper - stated to be the first school paper of its kind in Kansas - would have been useful before our first History, because the November Monitor contains an article entitled: 'OUR SCHOOLS AND BULDINGS: 1856 -1873'. Many details of the upstairs room of this first Avenue School, which housed Manhattan High School in 1873, are preserved here.

When we left our History in 1891,

Manhattan's school district faced a decision about whether to continue to operate Manhattan High School. We know the High School did not close, but there was another factor in this story which I did not realize before. I found a reference to 'visiting the Colored School' in The Monitor. I'd read references such as "little is known of the education of black children in Manhattan before 1879" and "it is likely all were together." They were and they weren't. Our "History of Manhattan High School Part 2", which starts on page 8, will start back in 1873, with this brief note: In 1867, the Kansas Legislature made individual school districts responsible for the "education of whites and colored children, separately or otherwise, securing to them equal educational advantage." And by 1870, state law required that all children attend school.

Janet (Krider) Duncan '58

Help Wanted

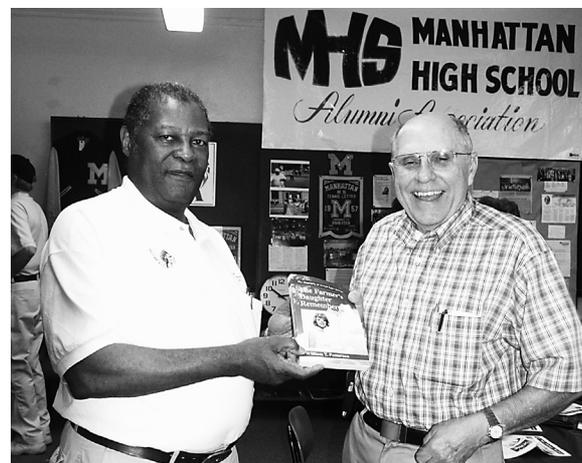
A family is searching for information about 1935 MHS Graduate **DIXSON WANDS**. If anyone has any information, or any memories concerning Dixson, please contact Karen Capellman at kcapellman@hotmail.com or call Janet Duncan at 785-776-8101

Time to Renew Annual Memberships

If you are an Annual Member of MHSAA, now is the time to renew your membership for 2008. The MHS Alumni Association is open to all Manhattan High School graduates. Associate Memberships are available for friends of MHS, however only MHS graduates have voting privileges. Annual dues are \$10.00, Life Memberships are \$10.00 for our Golden Alums of age 90 or older; \$50.00 for age 55 or older; and \$100.00 for those under the age of 55. Annual memberships are valid from January 1st to December 31st, 2008. You will find a membership renewal form in this issue or a printable form on our website: www.mhsalumnissociation.org.

Museum: Book Donations

MHSA member Bill Johnson '52 (photo right) donates the biography of MHS Wall of Fame honoree Inger Stevens to Museum Chairman Don Slater '57. The book, *The Farmer's Daughter Remembered* by William T. Patterson is full of detailed research, including Inger Stensland's life as a teenager and MHS student in Manhattan. It is a welcome addition to our archives. Janet '58 and Pat Duncan '59 have donated the Charna Halpern and Del Close classic book *Truth in Comedy*, where Del explains his improv genius. We would love to have the biography of Del Close (another Wall of Famer) *Guru*, by Jeff Griggs if anyone has read it and is willing to pass a copy along to MHSAA.



Left, Don Slater; Museum Chair; receives donation from Bill Johnson '52, at right.

Ethel (Graham) Chapman, born in 1913, went to country school through the 8th grade before journeying to the County Graduation Exam test center to take the 'graduation exam'. Helen (Whitney) Toburen, also a 1913 baby and country girl, spent her early years in rural schools, too. "In those days," Helen and Ethel explained, "all the 8th graders from the different county schools had to go to the same place" for their test to go on to high school.

Ethel came to Manhattan Jr. High for the 9th grade and immediately remembered what impressed her most: "The cafeteria!" After packing a lunchbox for eight years, the hot food was a treat. "I think it cost 25 cents," Ethel said. Helen agreed that the food was good. "The cafeteria was run by Mrs Caughran, who was wonderful to us."

Helen Whitney's family's farm was too rural for any high school, so she lived with an aunt and uncle in Asherville, KS, exchanging housecleaning and baby-sitting for room and board. By her sophomore year, Helen's parents had found a place near Manhattan, where the College Hill Methodist Church is now. Helen walked to MHS at 10th and Poyntz every day. Ethel, living as far out in the country as she did, drove to school every day. She'd been driving since the age of 12 – that's the way it was on the farm. Ethel drove home right after school every day, so she didn't participate in extracurricular activities.

Helen, under her own foot-power, was able to stay for school fun and what she most enjoyed was Intramurals. She admitted, however, that while she loved the sports, she only liked half of the gym class year: the semester of games and not the semester with dancing. Helen explained Intramurals at MHS in her days as she turned the pages of her well-used 1931 Blue M to help explain the system, which had been introduced at the school in 1925. In the Fall, the sports played were soccer, volleyball, tennis and horseshoes. Winter brought basketball, basketball free throw, and in spring, baseball, tennis, horseshoes, and track and field. Helen still has the ribbons she won in her Intramural competitions.

During Ethel and Helen's years, MHS organized their first pep club, the Blue Dragon Pep Club. (Manhattan High School did not become the "Indians" until 1940.) "It gave the girls something to do during the games!" Helen said. The Pep Club members, both boys and girls, tried to attend all out of town games. The Pep Club also adopted a Pep Song. Ethel asked if it was still sung. Using the tune of "Anchors Aweigh," the words were written by Vinton Johnson of the Class of '31 (read them in the '31 Blue M in the MHSAA Museum.)

Helen, Ethel and the school was set to cheer the most outstanding football team "in MHS history" when gloom descended: the entire football season was cancelled because of fear of a polio epidemic. Helen remembers that Intramural teams still played and MHS football games within Riley County were allowed.



Ethel Graham '31



Helen Whitney '31

Football season ended with an inter-squad "Army" vs "Navy" game, played in the City Park, and Football letters were awarded that year on the basis of practice.

All through MHS, Ethel and Helen said, everyone was assigned a 'home room'. Among other things, home rooms were each responsible for presenting a program during what was known then as 'chapel' – not a religious event, but a gathering of the entire student body. (Helen remembers that Superintendent of Schools Sheffer had a favorite word he always used when he talked, so the kids would each count how many times they heard this word during his speeches. Often, she admitted, she had no idea what he'd said when he was finished – just that he'd used the word maybe 20 times!) Ethel said her home room presentations were not memorable, but Helen had one that was. The subject was Nutrition. She and several of her classmates had to wear the names of foods. "The teacher pinned a card with MILK right across my chest," Helen said – laughing now but still indignant over the idea of it. She had quickly assessed the situation from the audience's point of view. "No way!" she told the home room teacher. "Give it to a boy!"

By December, athletic matches were allowed. The College boys were so excited the day KSAC beat Nebraska in football, they raided MHS – "whooping and hollering in the halls." Helen said, "The College football team was good in those days and everyone celebrated whenever K-State won. Groups of kids would storm the theaters – our feet would hardly touch the ground on the way in!"

Ethel showed one of the new grade cards that MHS issued their senior year. It had excellent grades, "It's the best one I ever got, so it's the only one I kept," she smiled. Parents signed the report cards before they were returned. Helen remembered these signatures as being about the extent of her parents' participation in school. "Parents didn't go down to the school to meet

the teachers in our day." Ethel remembered no parent-teacher conferences, either. As Helen explained, she considered it her job to work things out.

The '31 basketball team was the "Junior Wildcats" and they were undefeated through the Regional tournament. Spring brought the Track season, where Helen's Blue M labeled the MHS team the "Blues." Intramurals for girls was not as extensive as that for boys, but Helen always played Spring softball, either at school or for the town team. When she stayed after school for any activities or into the evenings, she had to walk home after dark – safe in those days, she assured.

Spring for seniors also turned thoughts to their Senior Sneak. The Sneak day was kept a secret until the last minute. Helen was playing softball behind the school when another senior – the big athlete and "everybody's dreamboat" – came over to her and whispered in her ear. Everyone immediately wanted to know: what did he say? "Tomorrow. Meet at the Colorado St. Bridge. Pass it on." It was the date and start of their Senior Sneak. They went to Pillsbury Crossing. Ethel was a driver. Whoever had a car drove, and the rest just piled in. Ethel doesn't know how they all made it – people were hanging off the sides of her car and out the doors and windows! They had a great time. They swam, played tug of war and soft ball, and ate a good picnic. Helen thinks the food was prepared by the school. "I got so sunburned!" she added. Ethel wondered what Senior Sneaks were like at MHS today – a good article for another issue.

According the notebook Helen's kept on her classmates over the years, she and Ethel are two out of a 1931 class of 169 graduates. In the fall after graduation, Ethel Graham continued her education at the Business School of the Sacred Heart Academy. She got a job the day after she graduated, working in the office of the law firm Evans and Clammers. Ethel married Alton Chapman in 1938. After moving around Western Kansas for several years, the couple came home to Keats in 1944 to raise their new little daughter, Marcella. Alton owned the filling station in Keats until his death. Ethel Graham Chapman continues to live in Keats.

Helen Whitney worked cleaning houses for a year after MHS to earn the \$100 tuition for the same Sacred Heart Business course. When she graduated, she went to work in the office of the Golden Belt Lumber Company. Staying there for five years during which she dated Vernon Toburen, they then married in 1937. Helen and Vernon Toburen raised their three children, Karen, Lynn, and Kathy in Manhattan, and all graduated from MHS. The couple celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary recently. Helen and Vernon Toburen live in Manhattan.



Helen Whitney Toburen, Ethel Graham Chapman, 2007

MHSAA Events

Fall activities

The Events Committee hosted a social in the Commons Area at Manhattan High School before the September 18 ceremony dedicating the Wall of Fame and the recently refurbished Indian Mosaic. The Wall of Fame at MHS West Campus now sports new wooden letters made by a class at the school and our MHSAA banner. The four plaques from last the 2006 honorees are now mounted. The Annual Meeting and election of officers for 2008-2010 followed.

The MHS Homecoming parade on Friday, October 5 was a chance to enjoy a pleasant fall day and see all the floats. Several of our alumni members rode in vintage cars or walked in the parade, see third photo from top at left .

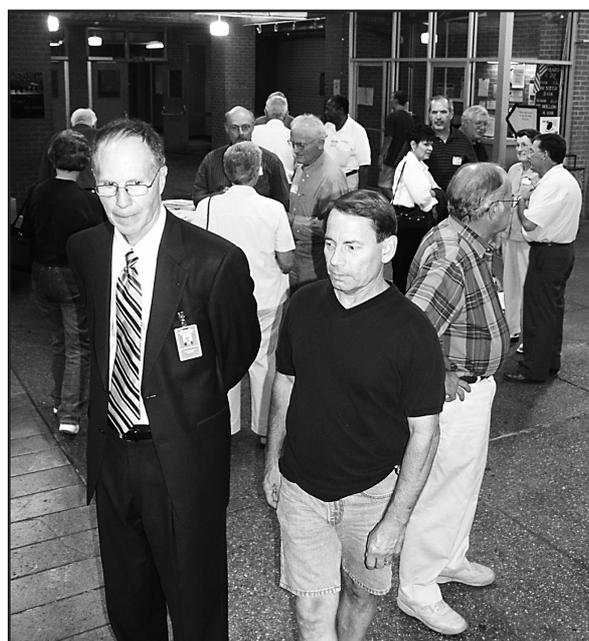
On Friday, September 21 we provided hot dogs, watermelon, cookies, lemonade & cider for alumni members attending the MHS game against Hayden. Some of the MHS band members, as well as a few of the opposing team's fans, stopped by to chat & enjoy a cool drink. A good time was had by all. The photos at the bottom of the page are from this MHSAA event. Our MHSAA members received free admission to the game - another reason for MHSAA membership!

As Chair of the Events Committee, I have enjoyed working with a great group of committee members. I thank them all for their enthusiasm and ideas these past 3½ years. Keith Eyestone will sign on as the new Events Chair on January 1. I know he will bring lots of new ideas and energy to this committee. Welcome, Keith!

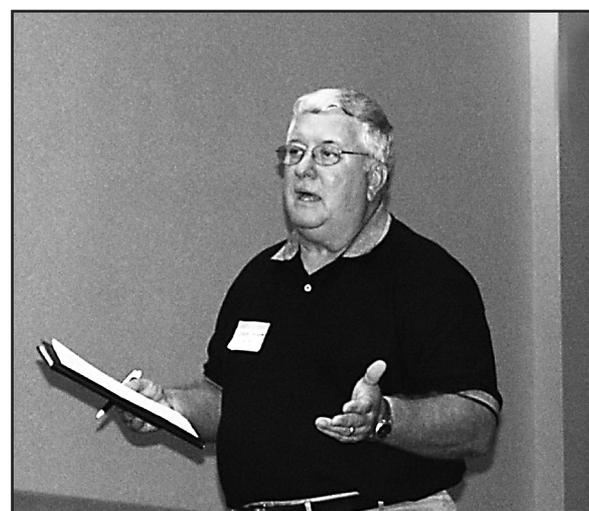
Carita (Clark) Ottis '55, Committee Chair

Coming Sat. April 26!

MHHS West Campus Birthday Party! Guided tours of 50 years of history of MHS are planned, along with refreshments and entertainment. Join us, together with the Class of '58 (the first graduating class from the first building of MHS at Sunset and Poyntz) and MHS of 2008.



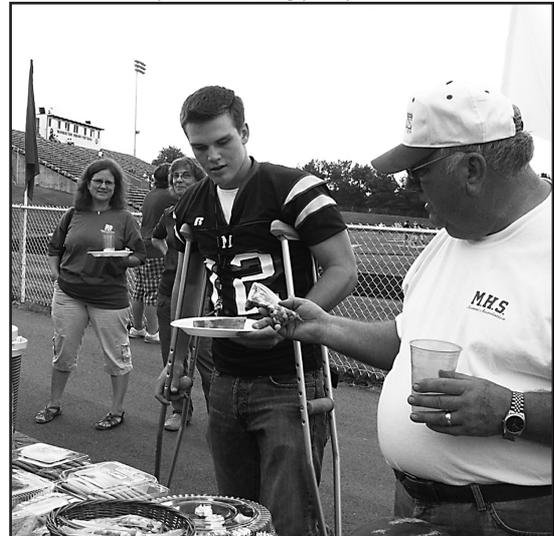
Above, gathering for Wall of Fame dedication, Below, MHSAA Pres. Dave Fiser conducts business during MHSAA Annual meeting.



Next MHSAA Event Jan. 4

The Wall of Fame Induction will be held Friday, January 4, 2008. This ceremony will be held at the West Campus of Manhattan High School. Friday, The first MHSAA event will be a public reception for the Wall of Fame Honorees in the cafeteria at 6:15 pm. The MHS Girls and Boys varsity basketball game will begin at 6:00, and our formal presentation will take place at center court in the North Gym between the games, at approximately 7:15. Please join the Honorees or their representatives at the reception and stay for the games to cheer on our MHS Indians.

Below and left : Feeding the future MHSAA



Socializing before Wall of Fame dedication ceremony

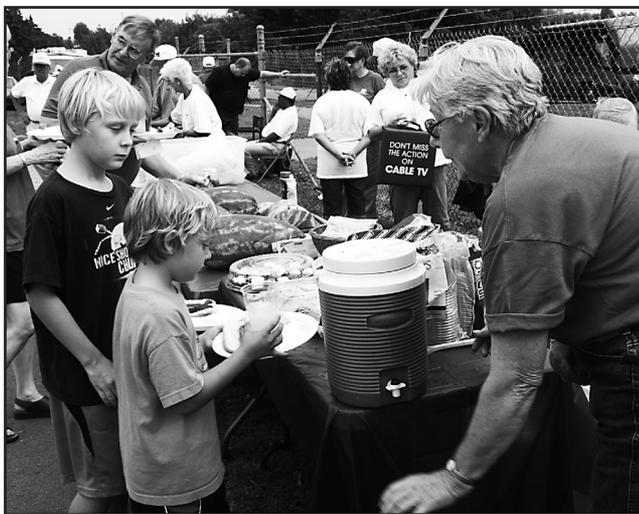


Wall of Fame with restored Indian and 2006 plaques.



MHSAA Group at the MHS Homecoming Parade

MHSAA Tailgate at Bishop Stadium





The MHS Class of 1938

by Joye Jean Teeple Staton

Manhattan High School graduated 171 seniors in 1938. Our 1938 class roster, however, lists 203 class members due to including 8 classmates who moved from Manhattan during their junior or senior year, 2 who graduated in 1939, 3 who left after first semester of their senior year to enter college and the rest who lacked credits due to working part-time to help support the family during the depression. From our class, 79 attended or graduated from Kansas State, 10 attended/completed other colleges, and 15 completed other trade schools, including nursing, mortician, diesel mechanic, chiropractic, secretarial, and beauty.

The first class reunion, organized by Ruth Neimoeller Kesner, was held on the 20th anniversary in 1958. At that time the class had lost seven members – 3 were killed in WWII, 2 in plane crashes, and 2 died from natural causes, and 4 have never been located. We have had 114 attend at least one reunion, giving a 62% attendance rate, which the class believes is extremely good.

At the first reunion, it was voted to hold a reunion every 5 years in Manhattan, and in 1978, we began having mini-reunions in another part of the country at a date in-between the Manhattan reunions. We have met in California, New Jersey, Albuquerque, Austin, and twice in Las Vegas.

Since 2003, we have met every 2 years in Manhattan. The 2007 reunion celebrated our 69th anniversary. We voted to meet this year rather than wait for our 70th as it was the desire of the class to get together more often. After these first two reunions, it was decided to extend the length of each reunion to give people more time together; so we now congregate on Wednesday and say our farewells on Sunday. The activities include dinner together each evening, a bus tour of Manhattan, various planned activities and tours, a class picture, and the traditional Saturday evening banquet and auction. Free time is given to visit relatives of friends in Manhattan, shopping, sight-seeing or conversing with other classmates. We have 71 of our classmates listed as living, but 15 of these we have lost contact with during the past few years. This reunion had our smallest attendance as many who wished to attend had to cancel due to health issues. Among those who attended are our only surviving teacher, Mr. Donald Parrish, and two

surviving widows of a classmate: one now lives in Manhattan and the other resides in California. Classmates were from New York, Texas, Oklahoma, California (3), Kansas, and Manhattan. Also attending were spouses and sons and daughters of classmates.

Our class was raised during the depression period and it was a struggle to find the money to purchase books, pencils, and other necessary items. Families at this time often found it difficult or nearly impossible to provide shelter and food for their families, and many were forced to ask their children to work to provide the much needed income. Walking was the usual mode of transportation to school, home for lunch, back to school, and home again after school was dismissed. Very few had bicycles and practically no one had a car to drive to school. The only bus transportation was the IOOF bus which brought 9th to 12th grade students—including 4 from our class—in from the IOOF Home. Perhaps it is because we grew up in this period that we all value our schooling so much. We feel that after all, we were raised in the best of times and the best of places. For this reason, and to show our appreciation to Manhattan High School we established a scholarship trust fund. Each year, MHS selects two students to receive a scholarship to attend college. This idea was presented at our 45th reunion, in 1983, by Bob Van Scoyoc, (who later assumed the name of Bob Foote) and was unanimously accepted by the class, with Bob establishing the trust fund. Proceeds have been added to the fund by contributions of class members, memorials, and by the traditional auction held at each reunion. The auctioned items are brought by classmates and sold at the Saturday night banquet.

Our class feels that we are unique in four ways:

- the frequency of our reunions,
- the length of our reunions,
- our high percentage of attendance,
- our scholarship fund.

At the business meeting during our 69th reunion, it was voted to celebrate the 70th anniversary of our graduation, with a reunion again next year in June 2008.

*Photo bottom right: one table of the Class of '38 at Friday night dinner;
Photo second up right, Classes '38 and '57 make a full house at the MHSAA museum*



Class of '82 Reunion Dec 28-29, 2007

Friday December 28, 2007

4:00 – 9:00+ the Purple Pig

Saturday December 29

11:00–2:00 brunch

The American Legion

2:00–3:00 Tour of MHS

3:00–5:00 Time Out rec center

6:00–11:00 The Clarion.

formal dinner and dancing.



Superintendent's Advisory Council

Janet Duncan, MHSAA representative

September's discussion was the adjustment USD 383 made in the starting and ending times for secondary and elementary schools after bus routes were adjusted for redistricting. The MHS schedule was adjusted to start earlier, with elementary schools starting at different later times. Some difficulties arose on both sides. Some high school students now have lunch scheduled as early as 10:20am, which is not popular. Some elementary children with working parents and a later school morning now have a difficult gap (and some get dropped at school before their teacher arrives). After a thorough discussion of many issues and studies involving the teenage brain and sleep, the group felt the younger children were better prepared for the earlier school starting times.

Communication between District teachers and their students and the students' families was also discussed, occasioned by the recent *Staph* outbreak at MHS (see MHS Today on page 13 for details from The Mentor.) The staph infections and ensuing rumors and publicity threw school/home communication difficulties to the fire. With students' cellphone texting racing through the halls and classrooms, 'kids were telling overwhelmed teachers', according to Dr. Shannon, 'who were waiting on the system to catch up.' Staph is not considered a contagious disease in Kansas, thus was not reported to the health authorities until the MRSA outbreak was registered (a time lapse of several days.) Two MHS football players were not allowed to play until healed and the weight room, lockers and other areas were disinfected. Cleanliness is the most important factor in preventing the spread of the Staph organism. There are no showers in Secondary schools anymore, Dr. Shannon reported.

In October, bullying was the topic. USD383 uses the Olweus Bully Prevention System which focuses on school-wide rules and training, involves everyone, intervene with students who bully and are bullied, and includes the children's parents. Middle School Principal Vicky Kline, who uses the program, pointed out that interventions can be regarded as teachable moments for the rest of the students. MHS is currently in the second year of Rachel's Challenge, a three-year program which arose from the diaries of the first student killed in the Columbine shootings. A program MHS intends to repeat, it's designed to create an environment to prevent violence. The group discussion centered on the topics of coaches and other teachers who use abusive language with students, the need to be watchful for the 'sneaky' kind of bullying of middle school girls who can cover it with a 'nice girl' face, and the menace of cyber bullying.

November's meeting brought Dr Shannon to the overhead projector to give the presentation the Administration and Board of Education prepared to present the Facilities Master Planning Study to the District's site councils. This study was commissioned over a year ago to assess the 'needs and the wants' of the District for the next 15 years. Completed by architect Mike Mayo, the detailed and comprehensive plan covers Security and Safety, Maintenance and Repair, Enrollment Capacity, and Program Enhancement for all District schools. The full plan includes 16 additional classrooms for 300 students for MHS. (The Board of Education specifically instructed that the study plan for additions and renovations to all existing schools rather than consider building new schools.) The list for all 'needs and wants' totaled \$128 million.

The Board (after blanching) asked their consultant to repair to his drawing board to prepare some additional reference points. Mayo subsequently presented two more plans with a different set of options removed from each. Plan A cuts the total cost to \$99 million, but cuts the classrooms for MHS to 11, among other things. (The original study finds MHS West was over-crowded by at least 100 students at the beginning of the study.) Plan B, at \$75 million, adds no new classrooms to MHS. Both include most essential repair and maintenance.

Two issues of interest to the group were security and the

Cont at right

2008 Reunions Scheduled

Dean Taylor '52
Cam (Smith) Feltner '71,
Reunion Committee Co-chairs

70th: Class of 38 will hold their 70th reunion (is this a record?!) at the Hampton Inn June 4-8. They plan to tour the MHSAA Museum Friday afternoon. Saturday will feature a bus tour of Manhattan and their auction and banquet in the evening. They are hoping for a large turnout! (And they love visits from other MHS grads.) Contact class representative Joye Jean (Teepie) Staton) 785-267-5512 (jstat@sbcglobal.net.)

65th: Class of 1943 will have their reunion on June 3-5. Contact class representative for details, Jim Rhine 785-539-3032

60th: Class of 1948 Reunion May 6-9.
Mary Lu (Van Blarcum) Weigel 913-631-6880

55th: Class of 1953 reunion, October 10-12,
J. C. Currie or Barb Hartley

50th: MHS West Birthday Party! Saturday April 25th 1:00-3:00pm. PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE. Guided Tour of the school, refreshments, entertainment. The '58 reunion includes a Friday Nite Mixer at the Clarion (formerly Holiday Inn) and Saturday night banquet and dance. Contact Janet (Kridler) Duncan 785-776-8101 (bullbox@aol.com,) or Norma (Cornelius) Larson, 785-539-6688 (normajlarson@hotmail.com)

45th: Class of 1963 may be planning a reunion in Colorado. Contact Jackie (Downie) Lundberg 785-537-1654 (lundberg@ksu.edu)

40th: Class of 1968 July 25-26. Barbara (Fiser) Ruliffson (mruliffson@fhrd.net) or Shirley (Lesline) Kleiner (skleiner@jccc.edu)

30th: The Class of 1978 August 2-3. The headquarters will be the Holiday Inn 17th and Anderson (former Ramada.) For further information, please contact: Vickie (Stamper) Riniker (785) 537-9467 (rhino@kansas.net)

25th: Class of 1983 is planning a reunion for the Fall of 2008. The Class representative is Greg Hoyt (gregh@manhattan.k12.KS.us)

20th: Class of 1988 Sept 12-13. Visit <http://www.mhsclassof1988.com/> for information. Or contact Jason Smith jason@lcyard.kscoxmail.com or Gretchen Ekart Dall gretchenevieve@hotmail.com. The schedule is as follows:

9/12/2008 Friday Night
7:00 MHS Football Game
10:30 after Game Party.
9/13/2008 Saturday Lake Picnic.
10:00 – 12:00 Tour of MHS, MHSAA museum open
1:00 – 4:00 Picnic at the lake
7:00 – 12:00 Class of 1988 Reunion Party
9/14/2008 Sunday :Schedule your own brunch

15th: Members of the Class of 1993 are discussing a possible 15 year reunion in the summer 2008. Contact Aaron Otto, ottomatic@hotmail.com or check your class website

Superintendent's Advisory Council, cont

question of whether to build onto school buildings already in need of major repair (such as MHS West.) One security item mentioned by several was the continued use of the 18 mobile classrooms in the District (enough to for a medium-sized elementary school) all of which are security risks. The mobile units would be eliminated under the Full Plan and Plan A, but not Plan B. The Board of Education is looking at a program of public information, input, and review as they move toward a Bond Issue Campaign with a possible vote in November of 2008.

Contributor's Corner

An Occurrence at Tomahawk Creek Bridge

With apologies to Ambrose Bierce (wherever he may be)

By Pat Dougherty

Larry Chartier did come to our 50th class reunion. At the banquet and dance Saturday night David Long, with obvious concern, told me that he and some others had met with Larry for lunch that day. Larry had driven over from Kansas City intending to attend, but was in obvious pain. He had lost tremendous weight in a very short time and looked worried and worn. His condition precluded his attendance at the reunion and he had to return home after lunch. D'Anne and I left Manhattan Sunday morning planning to spend Sunday night in Kansas City visiting our daughter Heather, son-in-law, Ryan, and the grand kids, and then on to St. Louis Monday. As I was going to be near where Larry and Evany live, I thought I'd stop by and see how Larry was doing. The result of my visit can probably best be described by rendering for your information a copy of the Leawood, Kansas, Police Department Incident Report of June 10, 2007, which read substantially as follows.

“Two old men stood upon a small hiking trail bridge in Leawood, Kansas, looking down into the swift water, twenty feet below. Old hands rested on the iron bridge superstructure. Their wrinkled ill-fitting polo shirts hung loose around their now-scrawny necks. They might have once been gentleman, but now they appeared, well, unkept. Their clothing was at least one or two sizes too large, and they both could have used a shave and a haircut. Their vacant, expressionless faces gave no clue to their close inspection of a couple of fish spawning in the clear water of a deep pool beneath the bridge and could easily have been mistaken for the bewildered look of absentminded inmates from an old folks home having just escaped - by mistake.

“A piece of driftwood caught their attention and their eyes followed it down the current. A forest of trees and luxuriant foliage on both sides of the creek hid from view the busy residential street and modern condo located a few feet away, where Chartier lived. They had met there to renew old times, discuss the latest rumors concerning old classmates, and disclaim the slanders contained in their reunion yearbook. Chartier had recently been treated with copious and potent pain medicines for severe arthritic pain in all his joints. Though neither had been drinking they may have been somewhat addled by age and the effect of the medicine. They decided a nice quiet walk down to the creek would be an enjoyable diversion. There was a little paved hiking trail down there that ambled along and crossed the creek at the bridge, and that would serve their purpose nicely, they thought.

“A young boy joined them briefly on the bridge to throw rocks at the fish. Standing there, eyes searching the creek they heard a soft swishing noise. Something unseen had passed

nearby, behind their backs. A little later the sound came again. Then when it happened again it was accompanied by the voice of a young girl. ‘Excuse me,’ she softly plead. The swishing noise was bicycles passing harmlessly by. They stepped aside slightly and the girl passed slowly without having to stop. ‘Thanks,’ she said with a wave after passing safely. The two old gents, finishing their examination of the creek, continued walking across the bridge.

“Before they reached the end of the bridge another bike approached from behind accompanied by an impatient demand. ‘Pleeease!’ the young modern in her late thirties or early forties hissed as she streaked by wearing the fresh costume of a tennis player, all in white, straight dark hair pulled back too tight in a knot on the back of her head. Her husband, following thirty feet behind, struggled in labored pursuit, trying to keep up with his on rushing wife. The first they knew of the husband’s imminent approach was the harsh grinding noise of brakes being applied directly behind them, and the quick demand, ‘out of the way.’ Before they could turn around to see what was coming he swerved by them. A robust Nordic with close cut blond hair, he was similarly attired, except for a white knit sweater tied nonchalantly around his neck in a loose bow hanging halfway to his waist. Their matching bikes were flimsy, chrome and white, with delicate tiny narrow tires, all no doubt expensive, certainly effete, and probably of Italian manufacture.

“Having successfully passed, he apparently felt obliged to berate the old gents for their slowness. While still in the swerve he turned around facing them, oblivious to his own progress across the bridge. He would give them a proper dressing down. ‘This is a bike path,’ he snarled.

“Unfortunately the swerve had become an extremely shaky side-to-side wobble while he was addressing his concerns, looking backwards to give the old pair the full benefit of his red-faced outrage. Too late he returned his attention to his driving. Sticking out his legs he tried to regain control of his now out-of-control bike. But, with balance completely lost, the bike abruptly headed off the path and the front wheel banged solidly into the side of the bridge superstructure. The bike crumpled to a full stop on the ground between his out stretched legs. Now standing over the bike he squared off against the two of them, blocking the path.

“Walking is not allowed on this here path! This is for bike riding not walking. Look what you idiots have done.’

“The two men continued on their slow walk gradually narrowing the distance between them and the blocking menace, not so much out of obstinacy, but most probably

slow-wittedness. Then, Dougherty volunteered, ‘If you’d learn to ride your damn bike right, there wouldn’t be a problem.’ Stepping closer still, he had a very clear mental picture of several thousand dollars worth of bloody dental bridge-work laying on the paved path, his own. ‘What the hell,’ he thought, and picked up the pace. ‘You’d better get out of here,’ he warned the husband, while Chartier advanced to get behind the still blockading bike rider. ‘Due to my weakened condition, I’ll just hold him from behind while Pat gut punches him,’ he planned. The bike rider’s attitude visibly softened as the two approaching men appearing riled-up and more than slightly demented, drew very much closer. Their initial surprise had flown and was now replaced by determined anger. Something bad was By-God, going to happen, right now. Muttering, as he dismounted he turned to join his wife, waiting partly hidden behind some trees. ‘I could kick both their asses,’ he was with difficulty heard to say.

“‘GET!’ was the final firm command from the old gents. It could have been more of a plea than a command; it was hard to tell, but it was loud and it worked. The husband and wife tennis team, without further comment, disappeared down the trail, she on her bike, he on foot. The two old men continued down the path in the direction in which the couple had vanished. After a short while, it was clear enough that the couple had actually gone. As the couple had disappeared, and the continued stroll seemed pointless and slightly dangerous, the two walkers soon abandoned the trail.

“The Italian Bianchi Vittoria racing bicycle was found broken, swaying gently in the current, beneath the structure of the Tomahawk Creek Bridge.

“Note to the file: Whether the bike fell or was thrown is unknown. The owner doesn’t know and the old gentlemen aren’t talking. ‘All is fair in love and war,’ is all they would have to say on the matter, which thankfully is hereby, closed.”

Back at Larry’s condo teeth totally intact both of us were overjoyed with relief, and apparent total victory. Larry was literally skipping. His grin was bright and young. His eyes sparkled just as they did more than 50 years ago, when we swiped the softball from right under the noses of two college teams while the ball was in play, and both teams came piling out of their dugouts to run us down. He laughed out loud, “That was the best medicine I’ve had all day,” he said. “I bet that totally ruined that guy’s day,” Larry added. I said there was a chance it just might have ruined his whole damn life. I really hope it does too.

I must admit it was the highlight of my reunion experience. It was much more than a remembrance of our past. It was an actual, return to those days. It was a brand, spanking new adventure.

Part 2:

The History

From Poyntz to Leavenworth to Poyntz

By Janet (Krider) Duncan '58

Manhattan experienced large growth and change after the civil war. Many people suffered from the hard times of what was known as the Panic of 1873. An average of only two out of three children attended school on any given day for an average of five months a year. In 1870-1871, 69 students were reported in the District's high school while the newspaper gave 100 students at the high school picnic in 1871. Even the lower number was too many students for the upper room of the 1857 Avenue School. All the schools in town were crowded: in the two primaries, Amanda Arnold had 56 students and Mrs. McBride had 65; Miss Robinson's secondary class had 62; and Miss White's Grammar school grades had 60 children on the first floor of The Avenue School. In 1873, the School Board asked for new buildings. But the voters of Manhattan said No.

Until this time, all children, black and white, were educated in "the same apartments," in the same school building if not in the same classes. To make more room, the Board then voted to: "sustain a school for the colored population in a separate building." The children and their teacher, Mr Stewart, were given a room in the "colored church." The students from the high school visited them in November of '73. As they reported in their newspaper, they found "22 scholars and as many classes."

In December, the new school was referred to as the "Manhattan Colored Institute" and reported 25 scholars. The Institute formed a 'Base Ball Club' and extended a "cordial invitation to the young people of the city and vicinity" to play. They hoped to "effect a better state of feeling between the Institute and our sister schools." Perhaps this tells us something about the ages of the colored students at the Institute. Manhattan High School formed their baseball team in 1873 also – did they play each other? These and other questions will require more research.

Manhattan's population, both white and black, continued to grow rapidly, creating more construction than the town had seen in years. By 1875, Manhattan's black population had reached 100, a now visible number and a doubling in percentage (to 6%.) An editorial in The Nationalist newspaper condemned the growing segregationist policies. "Color Prejudice," they wrote, is "warping ... to the mind of the possessor.... In spite of the building boom, the hard economic situation continued for many people and an Aid Society was formed to help the destitute. The high school helped by putting on a variety show which featured 'the grave and comic' in several acts and skits. All the ticket proceeds went to the relief effort.

In 1878, the School Board was finally successful and voters passed the bond for building the Central School on Leavenworth at Juliette. Manhattan High School now moved into modern quarters in the new building.

Then, during 1879-1880, 104 poor freed black men, women and families arrived by train in Manhattan from the south. Helped by several in Manhattan, but not welcomed by many others, these Exodusters were left here (and in other towns across Kansas) with next to nothing. The Manhattan Citizen's Committee formed to deal with the situation did not remember the editorial of 1875. They reported it "would be untrue to our former history... if we did not extend a cordial welcome to the colored refugees," but at the same time they felt somehow the whole thing was a Democrat vs Republican scheme and that the "colored people would be more happy and prosperous in the south than in the north." Many stayed, wanting only freedom and a job. By 1880, the city's black population reached 15%. Before this there had been no defined housing area in town. After 1880, neighborhoods began to be segregated.

In 1882, the School District was successful with another Bond and the new Avenue School was built. And with the new space available, the Board moved the black classes into Central School. Reports show black children in classes there in 1884, in their own rooms with their own Principal (who has been referred to with respect to high school in other references, but as was said before, more research is needed here) and teacher. A third teacher, Eli Freeman, was added in 1886 for grades 1-3.

The population of the city by 1885 was estimated to be 2,100, and Dr J. W. Evans reported that "most of town west of Juliette was prairie." Dr Evans went to Central School, then moved to the Avenue School for grammar school, graduating from 8th grade there. Dr. Evans then went directly from 8th grade

to Kansas State Agricultural College by passing the College entrance examination, graduating from KSAC in 1894 at the age of 19.

The "The School Bulletin," printed in the District in 1889 reported on current health issues affecting Manhattan school children. The national economic situation was never far from Manhattan's main street, and the Bulletin printed articles with opinions ranging from Wall Street "trusts" as "an evil of our time" to the problematic use of having only one out-house in a school yard. ("Parents think of your daughters being obliged to go to such places in common with rude and vulgar boys!")

Manhattan's population in 1890 reached 3,014. The July 4th, 1891 celebrations in Sarber Grove (roughly Staple's-Hasting's area, which would then have been on the other side of the Blue River) were attended by over 1000 people. Patriotism, idealism and the fun of the Fourth of July were all present in abundance. While times were still difficult in many ways, a newspaper reported that most of the people from the rural areas arrived in buggies and carriages their grandparents would have considered "extravagant a mere 50 years ago." On the other hand, they noted that the patriotic speeches quickly turned to themes of foreclosure and poverty even as they spoke to the well-fed and well dressed crowd.

So it was between "well-fed" and "foreclosure" that the School Board faced the looming "High School Question" we left at the end of our History Part I. The School Board presented their position in their Annual Report. District Superintendent W. I. Whaley stated that he found very few records before 1887 – not even the names of High School graduates. (While we read in a later history that there *were* no high school graduates until 1892, maybe there were graduates but this lack of records has left them unrecorded.)

Their goal was to have the best schools in the state by: increasing attendance, decreasing tardiness, and showing rapid progress in pupil learning. These words avoided several big problems, however, and they all revolved around money. Not least was an embezzlement of funds by the ex-Riley county treasurer, which had caused them a "serious and embarrassing financial blow." They still had the Central School bonds of \$15,000 (at 10% interest) and the Avenue School bonds for \$10,000 (at 6%) to repay. There was also a legal question of the Board's right to collect taxes



Central School after 1905 wings added, clock tower removed, photo courtesy Riley County Historical Museum

from the landowners in Pottawatomie County whose children attended the District Schools. And there was a problem of lack of heat at Central School (which included MHS) where it got so cold in winter that "students and teachers alike wore coats and hats" and they sometimes even dismissed school.

But worst of all, in spite of the general population increase in the district, there was a loss of students. The census count in 1890 showed 139 fewer children for ages 5-21 than had been counted in 1888. And attendance was at an average of 52% in 1885, an all-time low. The Board made the decision "to reduce teachers by at least one and return the basement room of the High School to the Grange store room." To do this, they had "either to discontinue the High School or the Colored Room."

Both the high school and the "Colored Room" had low student numbers. The "Colored Room" was now under one teacher, Mr. Freeman. But in the high school, it was proving impossible to keep a Principal (the teacher.) The 1889 high school Principal had had a "very good second year, with 38 students," (down considerably from twenty years earlier.) Then he quit. A difficulty, the Board reported, of "hiring for one year and not paying well." High school enrollment dropped from there. A new

Of Manhattan High

principal, Miss Mary Swaney, was hired but after only three months she was “called to South America.” Still in dire financial straits, the Board persuaded Professor James Lee (former KSAC Professor and District Superintendent) to return to finish the remaining six weeks of the term.

The College policies would have influenced the School Board, too, with its Preparatory Department and its early-admission policy. Figures for the Prep Department at KSAC for the years 1896-1901 show a steady growth from 67 to 318 students. (A breakdown by class is not given.)

The Board felt it was time to discontinue Manhattan High School.

Public outcry was the result. The colored class of Mr. Freeman was dropped instead. This time the 30 or so students were apparently dispersed among the other classes. For the high school, after much effort, Miss Amy Gerrans was hired as the principal. (This frequent change of teachers was deemed an ‘evil’ and ‘detrimental thing.’)

Amid this upheaval in the high school, the Board proposed other changes that are with us today: that schools should be named, and that the school year be organized into terms of nine months instead of the previous eight. For the high school, two courses of study were adopted: a two-year English course which, upon completion, admitted the graduate to the second year at KSAC, and a three year course where half was taught in Latin. And the report mentioned that the standards at the College had been raised, which they hoped might help Manhattan High School attendance.

One black student who attended Manhattan schools from 1886 and probably graduated from Manhattan High in 1896 was Minnie Howell. She entered KSAC in September 1896 and was the first black woman to graduate from the College in 1901. She was mentioned in articles in the Manhattan newspapers for her participation in musical recitals, College organizations, and literary societies.

Although the black population in Manhattan had declined slightly from the 1885 high by the end of the century, pressure began for a separate black school. Petitions were circulated among the constituent neighborhoods. In 1903, Eli Freeman wrote a letter to the newspaper stating the case for a “colored school with colored teachers.” Not everyone in their community was supportive of this segregated idea, however, with some believing “it was but to give Mr. Freeman a job and somebody got a pile of money!”

The School Board approved the presentation of the proposal for a two-room school house on the second call of the motion. The Douglas School (original spelling) was opened Jan. 4, 1904. Mr. Freeman was hired as the teacher with 60 students enrolled for the first term. A second teacher was hired in June of 1904. This original Douglas School house, reportedly not finely finished on the inside, was replaced in 1936 by the building standing today. It was built by the WPA with four classrooms, a stage, a principal’s office, toilet and kitchen facilities and a basement. All have wood floors and heat. The school opened in 1937.

By 1900, even without the black students, Manhattan’s population had grown to 4,684 and more school room was needed. East and west wings were

added to Central School in 1906 and photos of that era show it without its original big clock tower. City water was brought in and the School Board was proud of the school’s large library. Manhattan High School would now have had quite modern facilities. The 1908 MHS Girls Basketball team shown in a previous Alumni Mentor would have represented MHS from this Central School.

For football, MHS played their games on what was then the empty city-owned Public Square at Bluemont and Juliette, now filled with Bluemont Elementary School. When Bluemont was built in 1911-12, football, both MHS and KSAC, moved to the KSAC field, which would become Memorial Stadium after WWI. Stay tuned while we hit the records to find out when MHS first started playing football and basketball. (We have a photo of the 1908 MHS Girls’ Basketball team.)

In 1909 the College finally made the decision to close its Prep courses. This change, and Manhattan’s continuing growth, was reflected in MHS as Manhattan was a one high school town again. But not for long: Sacred Heart Academy began its high school curriculum in 1911, graduating its first student in 1912.

In 1913, Manhattan high school, with a total enrollment of 340 students, graduated its first students to complete a four year course. And in 1913, the School Board took the next big step. They authorized a new four year Senior High to be built on the site of the Avenue School on Poyntz. At the same time, they authorized a two year Jr. High School. Each building was to accommodate 450 students. Manhattan Senior High School moved into beautiful new quarters in 1914.

The Junior High was ready in 1918. Both of these large school buildings



1913 drawing of MHS, photo courtesy Riley County Historical Museum

were built on time and within budget – and all of this was during wartime. Construction began on Camp Funston at Ft Riley in July of 1917, which would have a capacity to train over 50,000 troops for WWI. The 1918 Flu epidemic started there in March of 1918. As many as 675,000 people are estimated to have died in the U.S. and Manhattan’s Jessie Lee Foveaux gives a vivid description of the local scene in her book, Any Given Day.

Manhattan’s school-building continued into the 1920s with a flurry of construction activity. Theodore Roosevelt Elementary School was built in ‘24. Also in 1924, an Annex was authorized for the Jr. and Sr. High School, which resulted in their Auditorium, seating 1,070, with its gym behind the stage. Additional classrooms for shops, vocational agriculture rooms and storage were included. This addition was ready in 1926. Central School was demolished in 1926 and Woodrow Wilson was built in its place.

Also in 1926, the Grand Army of the Republic, a Civil War veterans’ organization, requested that the School Board name the high school in honor of Abraham Lincoln. The group had suggested naming Bluemont Elementary for the Civil War President when it was built in 1911, but this had failed. This time the motion was unanimously passed. In 1927, “Lincoln High School” was carved above the north Entrance to the school auditorium. When you visit The MHSAA Alumni Center, please have a look - you can see it from the glass walkway that now connects the two MHS East Campus buildings.

Does this mean that everyone who was graduated from that building after 1927 was really graduated from “Lincoln High School” rather than MHS? This sounds like another area ripe for research. These buildings on Poyntz between 9th and 10th served together as Manhattan Jr. and Sr. High Schools until 1957.

Fifty great years of MHS history to go!



First 1904 Douglas School, photo courtesy Riley County Historical Museum



Wall of Fame 2007 Biographies



Inger Stensland, born in Sweden in 1934, decided to be an actress when she was six and was selected as her town's "Santa Lucia Girl." She would become Inger Stevens, the Hollywood actress, but she

had a distance to go from six, which was also when her mother left the family and her father left Sweden for the United States. Inger and her brother didn't join him until 1944, where they found a new step-mother. The family lived in New York City for four years - difficult ones for the children - and then moved to the Manhattan in Kansas.

While her home life remained strict and contentious (Inger made herself clothes by hand, forbidden by her stepmother to use her sewing machine,) Inger enjoyed Manhattan High School, although she didn't participate in activities which involved evenings: her parents didn't allow her to be out at night. This eliminated roles in plays she wanted, and most parties. Active in school music, as a sophomore, Inger sang a Swedish folk song at the District Music festival but placed poorly. Music teacher Mr. Norvell was surprised and questioned her score only to be told by a judge that she should have sung in her 'native language' instead of a 'foreign one'. A Blue M 'Will and Testament' section her sophomore year reports that 'Inger Stensland has become a dressmaker for actresses and actors of Hollywood.'

As a junior, Inger and two classmates, Del Close and Tal Streeter, won first place at the State Drama Festival. She was offered a role in the Victor Herbert operetta, *The Red Mill*, but had to be content with the chorus: no evening rehearsals. It may come as no surprise that both Inger and her bother Carl would sneak out of the house when they could, and both ran away from home. Inger danced in a burlesque theater in Kansas City until her father brought her home for her senior year.

It was a good year. Inger was an attendant to the Blue M Queen. She sang a solo for the Baccalaureate service. She went to the prom with a date, but she was Cinderella without a gown. "I know everyone gets humiliated at one time or another, but my parents made a career of making sure I was in this predicament," she said later about her inappropriate dress.

She won first place at the State Drama festival again and she had a small part in the next Victor Herbert Operetta, *Sweethearts*. From this musical drama experience, she said in a later interview, "I knew that this was going to be my future life."

After graduation, her parents moved to Texas but Inger stayed and worked in Manhattan, studying dancing at night. By 1953, she'd saved enough money to enroll in a modeling course in Kansas City, which then took her to that other Manhattan, and there she visited casting agents to check her chances in television. She worked, continued some modeling to make money, and studied drama at the Actors Studio. Her first paying jobs as an actress were in TV commercials

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Bill Buzenberg credits 'Career Day' at MHS for leading him to study journalism at K-State, but perhaps his future in radio was laid out for him much earlier. An article in the Manhattan Tribune-News in 1950 explained the hobby of Bill's family: the Wire Recorder, which furnished a large part of the entertainment for the family. Bill still has the recorder and the wires which held the sounds - maybe even those of the Christmas morning it was left on to record the excited reactions of Bill and his brother and sister which are described in the paper. Bill, at three years of age, might not have realized he was hooked - but perhaps he was.

"I didn't work on *The Mentor*," Buzenberg confessed recently. "I was thinking about architecture." But Career Day at MHS changed his mind. The K-State Journalism professor who came answered the important question the MHS senior asked, and touched a spark which sent him places he wanted to go. The question? "What should I study to be able to write books?" Prof Roy Langford's answer: Journalism! "Just look at the great writers who've started this way," he said, such as Hemmingway and Mark Twain.

Buzenberg went to K-State, where he was on the staff of the *Collegian*. Following graduation, he was a Peace Corps volunteer from 1968 to 1970 in Bolivia, working in rural development. He began his journalism career in newspapers, working briefly for the Manhattan Mercury and Topeka Daily Capitol before becoming city editor of the Colorado Springs Sun for five years. Joining National Public Radio in 1978 as a foreign affairs correspondent for NPR News, Buzenberg reported on Latin America while based in Washington DC. He continued as foreign affairs correspondent for 11 years. He was named NPR London bureau chief in 1986, reporting from Europe and the former Soviet Union. In 1989, he became NPR's first managing editor. Buzenberg was Vice President of News and Information at National Public Radio from 1990 to 1997, where he was responsible for launching *Talk of the Nation*, the expansion of *All Things Considered*, and the extension of NPR newscasts services to 24 hours a day. During his tenure, the NPR News audience grew from 7.8 million to 12.7 million weekly listeners, and the news division was honored with 9 DuPont-Columbia Batons and 10 Peabody Awards.

The accolades from his co-workers at NPR are many. In Buzenberg's time, NPR News became "a very different place," said Ray Suarez, now newscaster on the Jim

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Deb Richard didn't love golf at first shot. She began playing at age 11 with her family and she reportedly "hated it." As she tells it, "I played every sport - football, basketball, softball - but I thought golf was slow." When she got to Manhattan Jr High, she'd already been playing with the men at the Manhattan Country Club, so it was a natural that Deb would anchor the first MJHS girls golf team. Larry Becraft, then at the Jr High, coached Deb in basketball as well as golf. "There is no harder worker than Deb Richard," he said. She told him then, "I'm going to be a professional golfer when I grow up." She didn't know then she would also become a professional philanthropist.

Girls golf at MHS was started at the same time, and Coach Les Depew took the reins of Deb's MHS career. And what a career it was! In 1979, she won the Kansas Junior Girls Championship. She won the 1979, 1980, and 1981 Kansas State 6A Girls High School Championships - a Championship for every year she was a student at Manhattan High School. After graduation from MHS, she won the 1982-83 Kansas Women's Amateurs tournaments.

As a high school senior Deb Richard was invited to visit both Florida State and the University of Florida. Everyone knew why they had invited her. But the Florida State Seminoles asked her to prove she could play, explaining they didn't offer many scholarships to out-of-staters. The Florida Gators looked at her record and gave her a scholarship. And Deb did Florida proud.

She won 7 tournaments while at the University of Florida, including 3 SEC Championships and was the runner-up at the 1985 NCAA Championship. In 1984, she won the U.S. Amateur Championship and Low Individual Honors in the World Cup Championship. A few months later she won the World Amateur Championship while representing the US team. Deb Richard was named a three-time NCAA All American (1983-1985.) She helped University of Florida win its first women's golf national championship in 1985, by 16 shots. She received the Broderick Award as the nation's outstanding female collegiate golfer in 1985.

After her collegiate career, her seventh grade wish came true. In 1985, at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament, she earned exempt status for the 1986 season: Deb Richard was a Professional Golfer. In her rookie season, 1986, Deb finished second at the Boston Five Classic, where she recorded the first hole-in-one of her LPGA

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Del Close was born in Manhattan, Kansas. Showing promise of things to come, he, Inger Stensland and Tal Streeter as juniors at MHS, joined together to win first prize at the State Drama Contest. He graduated from MHS in December before the rest of his Class, and attended Kansas State.



One of his earliest and perhaps his most famous artistic renditions as far as the locals are concerned, occurred in Manhattan one hot night in 1951. The audience was confined to a few old folks cooling off in the soft summer breezes created by the slow motion of their creaking porch swings. Del and a cast of high school chums dressed in overcoats with fedoras (hats) pulled low on their foreheads cruised the streets of the sleepy town searching a proper venue for their production, a dark street with a plentiful audience. Their selection was perfect (near the intersection of Pierre and 2nd Street) and the plan to enliven the night commenced.

The somnolent attention of the porch dwellers was drawn to the dark street and Del, who had entered from stage left, walking east on Pierre. His compelling presence was that of the nervous man looking repeatedly over his shoulder in dread of footsteps stalking unseen in the shadows behind him. Suddenly the screeching of automobile tires sliding on pavement drew their attention to the piercing headlights of an on-rushing sedan careening around the corner. The sound of a gunning engine widened their eyes in wonder as the car jerked to an abrupt and noisy stop right next to where the paralyzed walker had frozen in place in front of the fully attentive audience. A fiery flash brilliantly spotlighted the scene. The stunning boom of a .32 pistol echoed from porch to porch and swept the neighborhood. The walker clutched his chest and slumped lifelessly to the sidewalk. The car doors all opened. The whole gang jumped out and stuffed the limp body into the trunk. The car, the gang, the murder victim, everything then disappeared into the darkness down the street, stage right.

Now, this was Manhattan, Kansas, not Manhattan, New York. A deathly silence was the first response. It took a while for the shock to subside. But when the full extent of what had just been seen and heard finally sank in, a paroxysm of screams, screeches, shouts and groans announced the production a smash hit.

The small town police force, consisting of six beat officers, one motorcycle cop and the police chief turned out to a man, and as luck would have it they caught the gang washing their car in an all night filling station, not far from the scene. In their mad dash to make a getaway they'd gotten the car muddy, and as it was the family car of one of the gang, they thought it the better part of wisdom to wash it before his Dad saw the sorry condition of the car.

Everybody said that the production

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WALL OF FAME

Ready for round two!

As a group of mature accomplished individuals, what can we do to help motivate and inspire the future members of our organization? The MHSAA Wall of Fame! Not only will the Wall of Fame honor and publicly recognize MHS Alumni who have "made a name" for themselves, this permanent display at the MHS West Campus will hopefully provide some direction for our current and future Manhattan High School students. Something that they can aspire to.

Our first annual Wall of Fame ceremony was held at Manhattan High School on Friday, February 2, 2007, and now we are ready to honor our second class of Honorees. This will take place starting with a public reception for the Wall of Fame Honorees in the cafeteria at 6:15 pm on Friday, January 4, 2008. The formal presentation will be in the North Gym between the MHS Girls and Boys varsity basketball games at approximately 7:15 that evening, where we will recognize the following individuals:

Del Close, 1952; Inger Stensland, 1952; Bill Buzenberg, 1964; and Deb Richard, 1981.

Know of someone worthy of this honor? Please complete a Wall of Fame Nomination Form (blank copy in this newsletter), and forward it to the MHSAA on or before August 1st!

Don't know all the requested information? Complete what you know, and together we can fill in the blanks. Obviously the individuals "distinguished service" is the key element that must be provided with the initial nomination form. There were a lot of deserving individuals nominated again this year, and of course it was a hard choice reducing the number to four.

Your nomination not chosen this year? **Repeat nominations are encouraged for consideration the next year, but resubmittal of the Wall of Fame Nomination Form and pertinent information is required.**

No individual nominations will be automatically carried forward to the next year.

Remember, all significant accomplishments and contributions in all areas of life are eligible for recognition.

The MHSAA Wall of Fame Committee appreciates and values your contributions to this process - there would be no Wall of Fame without your nominations.

Dan Hall, chairman, Wall of Fame, Committee

Membership

Annual memberships due for 2008 renewal

Vice President Carita (Clark) Otts ('55), the officer responsible for MHSAA memberships, reminds all annual members it is time to renew their membership for 2008. The 2008 Annual Membership Renewal Form is an insert in this issue of the Alumni Mentor. If you have any questions regarding your membership status, please contact Carita Otts, 785-539-1311 (carita@ksu.edu) or Pat Duncan, 785-776-8101 (patduncan@aol.com).

If you are already a life member, we encourage you to pass the form along to fellow MHS alumni who are not already members of MHSAA. Please tell them what they are missing (this newsletter to keep them abreast of their alma mater, for one thing!) MHSAA was formed to

support alumni and Manhattan High School by providing and maintaining information about alumni and events while serving as a link between the High School and alumni, friends, and the MHS Foundation. The MHSAA mission is to enhance Manhattan High School and its graduates through life-long involvement. Joining MHSAA is a good way to get involved.

The membership committee will be reviewing our membership program early in 2008 for possible changes in 2009. We solicit your ideas in getting our word out. We plan to make a concerted effort to increase membership totals during the next year.



Recent meeting of the membership committee: from left: Ray Navarro, Carita Otts, Dave Fiser, Elizabeth Gaume, Mike Finnegan (not all members were present)

Buzenberg Cont from page 10

Lehrer News Hour on PBS Television . “In the old days, NPR would do some stories by calling a talking head in Washington. Now, we cover worldwide stories with our own ... NPR people, and we cover them thoroughly.”

“What Bill Buzenberg has done for NPR news, it can’t really be measured,” says another staff member. Any way you look at it—quantity and quality—news went up on his watch”.

Buzenberg was recorded as saying he was most proud of the fact that NPR grew and expanded but did not lose their integrity and core editorial values as a news organization. “In fact,” he said, “those have been strengthened.”

He is the recipient of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service Edward Weintal Prize for Diplomatic Reporting, the World Hunger Media Award, the Latin American Studies Association Award and the Robert F. Kennedy Award and the prestigious Edward R Murrow award in 1997, public radio’s highest honor. He was a journalism fellow at the University of Michigan’s Knight-Wallace Journalism Fellows program, in the MA program at Johns Hopkins Advanced International Studies in Bologna, Italy, and as a Fellow at the Institute of Politics at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government. He was co-editor, together with his wife Susan, of the memoirs of the late CBS News President Richard Salant: Salant, CBS, and the Battle for the Soul of Broadcast Journalism.

From 1998-2006, Buzenberg served as Senior Vice President of News for Minnesota Public Radio and American Public Media. While there he launched and was executive producer of American Radio Works, public radio’s major documentary and investigative journalism unit, and Speaking of Faith, public radio’s program on religion, meaning, and ethics.

In January 2007, Buzenberg was named Executive Director of the Center for Public Integrity, a nonpartisan independent research and investigative journalism organization, based in Washington DC. Some of the current projects at the center include the Center’s investigation of foreign lobbying on post-9/11 U.S. military aid; reconstruction in Iraq and Afghanistan; an ongoing investigation into the more than 900 committees, boards, commissions, councils and panels which give advice to federal agencies and the White House; an ongoing investigation of the pharmaceutical industry, one of Washington’s largest lobbying operations and the ways in which drug manufacturers try to influence lawmakers and regulators. The Center investigates privately funded trips taken by members of Congress and their aides where, in many instances, trip sponsors appear to be buying access to lawmakers. As Buzenberg said recently in a speech to journalism students at Kansas State University, ‘rake that muck!’

Bill Buzenberg brought information to the entire country through National Public Radio News, and now he’s directing the massive oversight effort of the Center for Public Integrity, with its findings published through websites and newspapers to you. Bill Buzenberg currently lives in Washington, DC.

Richard Cont from page 10

career. In just her second year on Tour, she won her first tournament at the Rochester International.

Deb Richard, Professional Golfer, played on the LPGA Tour for 20 years, until an accumulation of injuries forced her retirement. She underwent surgery in July of 2002 and missed the remainder of the season. In 2003, her final season before retirement, she tied her career-low round of 64. She won six Tour events, including the World Match Play Championship in Hawaii.

From her first years as a Professional Golfer, Deb Richard has also been a professional at charitable works. Deb started a pro-am LPGA Charity tournament to raise money for the American Juvenile Arthritis Foundation. She was inspired by Jessica Williams, a young girl with juvenile arthritis who gave her a bouquet of roses after her first LPGA. “Meeting that girl changed my perspective on what being a professional golfer was all about.” In 1987 she started her own Deb Richard Foundation. “I decided to encompass all kids with physical challenges, no matter what those were. I wanted to give them an opportunity to get their college educations. It’s really about an opportunity to change their lives.” The proceeds from her well-attended Pro-Am charity tournament go to the Deb Richard Foundation.

The Deb Richard Foundation Scholarship was created in 1995 and began awarding two to three scholarships annually worth \$5,000 per year for up to five years. The award, for new freshman with physical disabilities, may be used for equipment purchases, personal assistants and other special needs (among other things) and is renewable for up to five years. “The scholarships have nothing to do with golf. I didn’t want that,” said Richard. “It’s about giving a physically challenged young person the opportunity to live a dream.” The first scholarship went to Jessica Williams, the young girl who gave Deb the bouquet of roses after her first Tour win.

For her charity work, she won the Founders Cup Award from *Golf Digest* In 1994 Deb was inducted into the University of Florida Hall of Fame in 1995, and was selected one of Florida’s top 40 Athletes of the Century that same year. In 1996, she joined a Who’s Who of women’s golf when she received the Samaritan Award in recognition of her work with Juvenile Arthritis. In 1996, Richard received the Kids Good Sports Award from *Sports Illustrated* in acknowledgement of her selfless work and outstanding commitment to the Deb Richard Foundation.

In 2004, she was named a Distinguished Alumnus by the University of Florida. In 2006 she entered the Kansas Golf Hall of Fame.

Stensland Cont from page 10

for products such as Vel, Niagra spray starch, Tide, Hellmann’s mayonnaise, and Karo Syrup.

After marrying her agent, then divorcing him, she moved to California in 1957 where she made *Man on Fire* with Bing Crosby. Under contract for the major movie studios as Inger Stevens, she starred in 13 major motion pictures during her film career. She worked with leading actors such as Harry Belafonte, Burt Reynolds, Clint Eastwood, Henry Fonda, Orson Welles, Dean Martin, Walther Matthau, Robert Mitchum, Yul Brynner, Charlton Heston, Anthony Quinn, James Stewart and many others. Her other movies are: *Cry Terror* (1958), *The Buccaneer* (1958), *The World, the Flesh and the Devil* (1959), *The New Interns* (1964), *The Borgia Stick* (1961 TV), *A Guide for the Married Man* (1967), *A Time for Killing* (1967) *Firecreek* (1968), *Madigan* (1968), *5 Card Stud* (1968), *Hang ‘Em High* (1968), and *House of Cards* (1968.)

In 1959 she moved back to New York and on New Year’s Day, 1960, she tried to kill herself by taking sleeping pills. Found three days later, she remained blinded for two weeks and then made a remarkable recovery. Two months later she was a guest star on several television series. She had roles in television dramas such as ‘Bonanza’, ‘The Alfred Hitchcock Hour’, ‘The Twilight Zone’ and made many guest appearances on variety shows.

In 1961 she secretly married Isaac “Ike” Jones, who worked for Nat King Cole. The marriage lasted eight years according to her biography, *The Farmer’s Daughter Remembered*, but was kept secret out of concern for her career because of the prejudice of the times toward interracial marriages.

From 1963 to 1966, Inger Stevens starred in her own show: the successful ABC-TV series, ‘The Farmer’s Daughter’. For this show, she won the Golden Globe Award for the Best Female Television Star of 1963. With a serious demeanor, she accepted the award with these words, “I give special thanks to my elephant,” and walked back to her seat. She’d invented the elephant as a ‘pet’ in earlier years when asked by a persistent reporter if there was anything ‘kooky’ about her. Other awards included: 1962, an Emmy Nomination for outstanding performance by an actress in a leading role; ‘TV Guide’ Favorite Female Performer; and the Golden Apple Award given by the Hollywood’s Women’s Press Club, 1965.

In January 1966, Inger Stevens was appointed to the board of the Neuro-Psychiatric Institute at the UCLA Medical Center by the California governor. She had spent long hours working with mentally disturbed children over the previous years. She was proud of this honor, which was completely separate from show business.

Inger Stevens appeared to be excited about a new weekly television series in 1970; however, when she was found unconscious in her home April 30th, her death from an overdose of barbiturates was ruled a suicide. Her ashes

Close Cont from page 11

was so good it was a wonder they weren't all gunned down at the car wash. Though Del directed and wrote the show, his police record remains unblemished. Those were the days of 'no harm, no foul', plus the '51 flood soon captured everybody's attention and a great deal of paperwork.

Besides high school and K-State dramatics, Del also had one summer of experience with a carnival sideshow act. At age 23, he became a member of the Compass Players in St. Louis, the direct precursor of The Second City that opened in Chicago in 1959. Most of the St. Louis cast moved on to Chicago, but Del chose New York, to try as a stand-up comic. That same year he also appeared in the Off-Broadway musical, *The Nervous Set*.

Del reconnected with Chicago's Second City in 1960, where he directed and performed until 1965. He spent the next 5 years in San Francisco eating acid and touring with the Merry Pranksters, creating light images for the Grateful Dead, and working with The Committee, a North Beach equivalent of Second City which Del helped organize. It was there that he first began seriously to develop his techniques of long-form improvisation. (When he introduced the new method, one of his students said, "Del, you've invented something, so you get to name it." Someone said, "The Beatles called their haircut 'Arthur,' so Del's method got christened 'Harold'.")

Returning to Chicago in 1970, he set up a free workshop at the Kingston Mines Theater Company. Breaking with the standard improvisation focused on single scenes, Del taught "The Harold" which involved several themes and players who played off of each other in comedic counterpoint. The weekly public performances at Kingston Mines moved down the block to the Body Politic for twice-weekly workshops and Sunday night performances and then became the Chicago Extension Improv Company.

After a brief sojourn in 1972 to Los Angeles, he returned to Chicago the next year as resident director of Second City, a position he kept until 1982. It was during this period that he directed a long list of TV and film comedy greats including John Belushi, Bill Murray, John Candy, Chris Farley, Don DePollo, George Wendt, Audrey Neenan, Eugenie Ross-Lemming, David Rasche, Shelly Long, and Anne Ryerson. Upon leaving the troupe, he pursued legitimate acting and won the Joseph Jefferson award in 1985 for his performance in *Hamlet*. His TV and film work included appearances in 'The Untouchables' and *Ferris Beuler's Day Off*.

Shocked by John Belushi's death he managed to quit his heroin addiction. But, March 4, 1999, while enjoying new theatrical vistas, he died at age 64 of emphysema. He left no survivors; he did however, will his skull to the Goodman Theater for a final performance as Yorick, in *Hamlet*.

PURPLE POWER PLAY ON POYNTZ

The Purple Power Play on Poyntz is a K-State-themed block party that kicks off the new football season. It was held on Sept. 6-7. Not only did many MHS students attend, several participated as well. Thespians featured a mime troupe, Pops Choir took the stage, and Bates Pride dancers performed. The Thespians mime troupe has become a fixture at the Power Play the past six years. About 20 mimes performed Thursday and Friday.

TEACHERS TAKE GROUPS TO EUROPE AND SPAIN

Spanish teacher, Bonnie Manuel took a group of students and parents on a trip to Spain, Portugal, and Morocco. English teacher, Joyce Allen took 38 students, graduates, college students and other adults to major cities all over Europe. They went to London, Paris, Florence and Rome, visiting just about every landmark on the map. Manuel's group visited Madrid, the capitol of Spain, Toledo, Lisbon in Portugal and Morocco in Northern Africa.

HOMECOMING – OCTOBER 5

The varsity football team won its Homecoming game by defeating Topeka West with a final score of 48-0. The football team finished 4-5 this season

STAPH INFECTION AT MHS

Principal Terry McCarty said the school officials are taking precautions to help provide the safest and cleanest learning environment for students. All students and staff were advised on cleanliness procedures and treatments. after the *Staph* outbreak and subsequent disinfecting of several areas of the school.

MHS IN DISREPAIR

Sadly, after 50 years, we find that our school building hasn't been properly maintained over the years. Some of these problems include constant (computer) server maintenance, asbestos in the air conditioning, substandard bathroom conditions, leaks in the roof, dusty and moldy carpets, and countless other problems throughout the school. It is time for both East and West campuses to receive serious improvements. Students, staff, teachers, and administrators all deserve a safer, cleaner learning and working environment.

FALL MUSICAL

A classic Disney story that students grew up with came to MHS. "Beauty and the Beast" was selected as the fall musical. It was performed Nov. 6, 7, 8, and 10.

ONE ACT PLAYS Every winter the MHS theatre department puts on a play festival known as the One Acts. Students write, direct, and act in plays. This year, the One Acts are scheduled to be performed on Dec. 6 and 7.

TENNIS FINISHES SEASON AT REGIONALS

Girls tennis has come to a close after a challenging but rewarding year. "I feel the

ladies surpassed my goals and it was a great season," Coach Joyce Allen said.

CHEERLEADERS TO FESTIVAL

The football cheerleaders showed off their skills Nov. 10 when they competed for the first time in MHS history at the Kansas Cheer Festival.

COACHES COMMENTS:

VOLLEYBALL "It was an extremely successful season. We came in with a lot of inexperience but we came out with a strong record."

SOCCER "The highlight of the season was our first round game (regional) with Topeka High. We played unbelievable for about 60 minutes." The team lost in the second round. League record was 9-6-2.

CROSS COUNTRY "We moved up in the State rankings, got a few more wins and brought home some hardware!" Individuals brought home state trophies and the team moved up in the state rankings.

GOLF "We exceeded the expectations that a lot had for us at the beginning of the year. We went to State tournament and placed Fourth."

ROWING The Manhattan Junior Crew competed Nov. 10-11 in a marathon in Louisiana for its final regatta of the fall season. The girls didn't win medals but beat out two collegiate teams at the Frostbite Regatta in Wichita.

BASKETBALL

The varsity boys' and girls' teams competed in the Hays Shootout Nov. 29 and 30

50 Years ago from THE MANHATTAN MENTOR

GREETINGS FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION TO STUDENTS AT NEW MHS

"If that Indian that stands guard in the lobby of the gymnasium could say "welcome", he'd be speaking to the students of MHS for the Board of Education. We hope that your first year in the new building will be a memorable one for all of you. The people of this community have tried to provide a school building where you can have the best facilities to learn, have fun through your dances and social activities, the best equipment for your athletic activities, plays, and music programs and an adequate and pleasant library.

To make this building mean something to you, you must use it and take care of it. The building itself doesn't mean a thing unless the spirit of MHS is expressed by the students who use it.

Be sure to listen when that Indian says...

"Welcome."

The Selling of the “New” High School

MEMORIES OF 1957

By Pat Dougherty

Back in the winter of 1954, when the only high school was the one located at 10th and Poyntz, someone on the School Board got the idea that pictures of students crowded together in various parts of the old school building could be used to sell the public on the necessity of a new high school. The pictures were easy to get. All the administration had to do was promise the students that they might be in the paper if they posed as directed.

One of the areas selected was the Boys Gym Locker Room. It so happened that the lockers, showers, lavatories and coach's offices that made up the totality of the locker room constituted the biggest room in the entire school. It was huge. There were 7 rows of gym lockers on either side of 4 rows of benches. The rows were about 50 feet long underneath a 12-foot ceiling. The metal lockers were about the same size as the regular hall lockers except there were separate lower and upper compartments in each locker. Each of over 400, had a separate door and lock that was assigned separately to each boy for the year. There was plenty of room in each locker for a boy's towel, gym clothes and tennis shoes. In fact, despite the repeated pleas and commands of the coaches, as they were seldom if ever washed, there was ample room to just stand them up in there by the end of the year. The shower room was also spacious with seven or eight showerheads spaced around its circumference.

The coaches had offices just off a large lavatory space as far as they could get from the locker area. They had a window of sorts in there, probably for relief from the potent aroma leaking from the lockers. All of this was located just beneath the auditorium and gym. The boys gym and the auditorium stage were one as the stage opened up to contain a full basketball court. A single small dark hallway and narrow stairs constricted the airflow and connected the gym and auditorium stage with the locker room.

There were always stragglers in the locker room looking

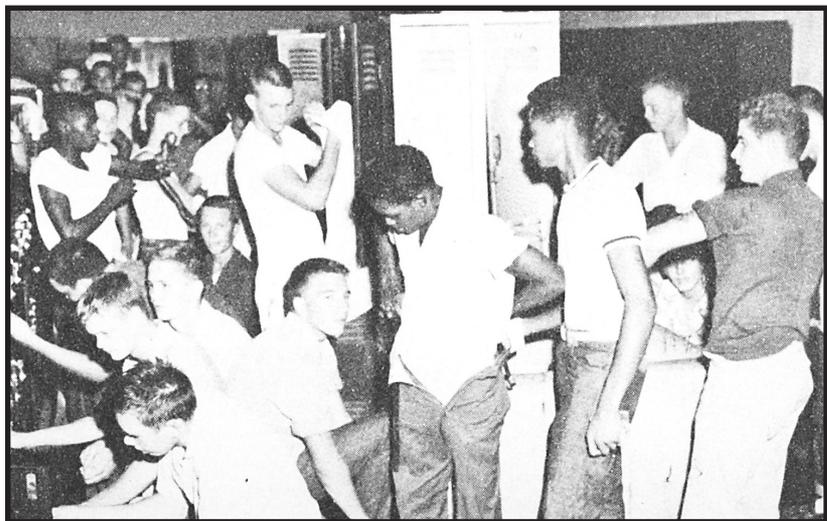


Photo of the boys locker room from the 1957 Blue M

to shorten their gym hour. One day a photographer and his assistant showed up unannounced in the locker room to capture the crowded conditions on film. Unfortunately there were only about a dozen such stragglers to be found in that cavernous room, and besides, it was never very crowded in there. As facts seldom get in the way of a good propagandist, they didn't get in the way of this photographer either. He simply rounded up the delinquents by promising their appearance in the Mercury, stuffed them all in a tiny corner of the room, and took their picture. How he got all 12 faces in the frame of the photograph is a mystery, but he did. An accompanying article decrying the overcrowded locker room soon appeared in the paper. It was quite impressive.

The MHS Foundation

By Jodi (Morrison) Kaus '87

The Manhattan-Ogden Public Schools Foundation is very thankful for a new \$20,000 endowed fund established in honor of Mary Lindquist. Jim Lindquist, former school board member, and his children Molly and Matt established the fund in memory of their mother and wife, Mary Lindquist. The endowment will provide an annual MHS Spirit Award to an extracurricular activity group that shows school spirit at Manhattan High School. Jim and Mary Lindquist were both very active members of the MHS Booster Club. The Foundation will administer the fund on an ongoing basis and the MHS Booster Club will disburse the annual award.

Total endowed assets of the Foundation now exceed \$180,000. Endowed funds are donated to the Foundation with the intent of the funds being invested for long-term growth. This allows the donation to have a much greater impact over a long period of time than if it were spent all at once. Non-endowed assets of the Foundation total approximately \$142,000.

If you are interested in helping to support the Manhattan-Ogden Public Schools Foundation by volunteering your time and talents, or in giving opportunities please contact:

Jim Morrison at morrison@mfoilaw.com or

Bob Pulford at repulford@cox.net.

Manhattan High School Earns Recognition from ACT

Manhattan High School has been cited by ACT as one of 382 high schools across the country that have proven that core courses can be made rigorous. ACT's new research report Rigor at Risk: Reaffirming Quality in the High School Core Curriculum highlights the academic performance of a select group of high schools whose students took the ACT during the 2003-2004 academic year and whose performance on the ACT Mathematics Test after taking particular math course exceeded the performance of students in ACT high school nationwide.

The report confirms that, while taking the right number of high school core courses is important, it is no longer enough to guarantee that students will graduate ready for life after high school.

"It is a distinct honor to be nationally recognized by an organization such as ACT. This is a testimony to the dedicated faculty, our rich curriculum, and the academic drive of our students," states Terry McCarty, Manhattan High School principal.



Next MHSAA Event

Jan 4, 2008

Wall of Fame

Reception 6:15pm

MHS West Cafeteria

Induction of new Class in
North gym between girls
& boys basketball games,
approximately 7:15pm

Minutes MHSAA 2007 Annual Meeting

Date: Monday, September 18, 2007, 7:12 p.m.

The General Meeting followed the dedication of the Indian Mosaic and Wall of Fame. Those present: Officers and Members of the MHSAA Alumni Association.

Welcome & Opening Remarks – President: Dave Fiser reported that we filed and changed our name from MHAA (Manhattan High Alumni Association) to MHSAA (Manhattan High School Alumni Association) to match our by-laws and logos, etc. He reminded everyone of the MHSAA tailgate party at the MHS football game on Friday, Sept. 21st from 5 to 7 pm at Bishop Stadium. He also welcomed all to participate in the MHS Homecoming Parade on Friday, Oct. 5th.

Report of Officers: The minutes from the last General Meeting on September 11, 2006 were approved. Pat Duncan, Treasurer, reported that we currently have \$11,822 in our checking and money market accounts. He reported that our major expenditures incurred since our last meeting were for the Restore the Indian project (\$1,247), publishing and mailing the Alumni Mentor (\$814), Wall of Fame expenses (\$711), and the spring dance (\$495). Donations received in 2007 that exceeded \$100 were from the Manhattan-Ogden Public Schools Foundation, Donald R. Seaton, MHS Class of 1950, MHS Class of 1986, and the Bob Fritzen Memorial. Pat stressed that we need everyone's help in soliciting new members to ensure that our association continues to grow.

Report from School Administrator: Superintendent Dr. Bob Shannon took the floor to discuss what is happening within the school district:

1. Re-opening of Bluemont Elementary School – has 230 students with two classes of each grade level. He felt the redistricting transition went pretty smoothly. It took about 1.3 million to get the school back in shape since they basically had to start from scratch.
2. All Day Kindergarten – the district hired eight additional teachers for kindergarten. Only three families chose to not send their child to all day kindergarten.
3. IQ Academy (KS) – online educating. There are around 200 students enrolled (20 some from MHS). Some of the courses are taught by our teachers and some by out of town teachers. Their office is located at our East Campus.
4. Fiber-optic – faster. They are replacing & updating the system the district has had since the late 80's.
5. Early Childhood Education – this is a state issue that we will be hearing more about.
6. Facilities Study – this is a first look at detailed analysis of all our buildings capacity. They are looking into what we can provide, safety/security and modernization. This is a way of broadening participation on ideas and changes and what the district can afford.

Election of Officers & Directors: This was led by Cam Feltner. Charlie Hostetler thanked his election committee & officers. Cam (Vice-President) and Terri Olson (Secretary) are resigning. The nominees are Dave Fiser – President, Carita Otts – Vice President, Sally Lansdowne – Secretary, Pat Duncan – Treasurer, Janet Duncan – Communications Director, Keith Eystone – Events Officer. These nominees were unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Public Relations – Deanna Hall not in attendance. She has been doing a great job.

Events & Meetings – Carita Otts reported that we had a nice spring dance. Dave already mentioned the details about the tailgate and parade.

Website & Information Systems – Janet Duncan reported we have a new system of printing the Alumni Mentor. It is bigger and less expensive to print & mail. She wants ideas and submissions for the next Alumni Mentor. Stuart Parsons has taken over as website coordinator. He redesigned the system and is looking for new ideas. He thanked Pat & Janet Duncan for being his consultants. Please let him know if you notice any bad links or problems.

Membership – We are still looking for a chairman for this committee. Membership is about static. We currently have 488 members and a good portion of them (65%) are lifetime members. This committee sends out annual dues and stays in contact with class representatives regarding reunions.

MHS Museum & Archives – Don Slater reported that the Alumni Center is open from 1-3 p.m. on Fridays but he is willing to open it whenever needed. Room 110 at the East Campus is getting crowded so we are trying to get a bigger room in the west campus.

Reunions Liaison & Recruitment – Dean Taylor reported there were three classes that couldn't get a reunion together this year ('77, '92, '02). The Class of '82 is having a reunion at the end of December. The Class of '42 is done with having reunions. The Class of '38 gets together every two years. Cam and Dean are now working on contacting classes that end in '3's and '8's to help them get organized for their reunion next year.

Wall of Fame – This committee has received 14 nominations for this year's Wall of Fame. They will forward four to the board. They will put an article in The Alumni Mentor and The Mercury. They are looking at doing the award ceremony on a home MHS basketball game night in January or February. They are always open to new ideas from other members.

Comments & Suggestions – General Membership:

1. Jean Bigby ('64) – suggested advertisements in The Alumni Mentor to help defray cost. Good idea – but Janet would need someone to sell the ads.
2. Jim Morrison ('64) – The Foundation wants to support MHSAA because it will ultimately help the high school if we all work together.
3. If you want to be more involved – get on a committee.
4. Is The Alumni Mentor printed on the website? NO
5. Jean Bigby – to get different generations to join, MHSAA may need to offer a variety of activities.

Closing:

Dave asked that all members present turn in their completed surveys. We will consider everyone's ideas and bring them to the board.

Respectively submitted,
Terri Olson
MHSAA Secretary

USD 383 Receives Blue Rating

For the fourth straight year, Manhattan-Ogden USD 383 has received a BLUE rating or a GOLD rating from Expansion Management Magazine's Education Quotient (EQ). This year's EQ looked at all secondary school districts in the United States with an enrollment of at least 3,300 students. The magazine rates school districts as a way of providing its readers with a basis for comparing the type of work force they are likely to encounter in various communities around the country.

The EQ is calculated on a weighted scale that measures "Graduate Outcome" (how well students learn and how many stay to graduation), "Resource Index" (a community's financial commitment to education), and the "Community Index" (the community's adult education and income levels). Gold Medal schools rank in the top 16 percent of those districts evaluated, while Blue Ribbon districts rank in the top 33%. Unlike many other educational ratings, which equate excellence to the level of public funding received, the EQ focuses primarily on results. Although it includes data on spending, teacher salaries and the socioeconomic background of the surrounding communities, by far the most important factors are the test scores and the graduation rates.

Kansas school districts receiving GOLD ratings: Lawrence, Blue Valley, Olathe and Shawnee Mission. Kansas school districts receiving BLUE ratings: Manhattan-Ogden and Topeka. For more information on the 16th annual Education Quotient, see their website at <http://www.expansionmanagement.com/> and then click on Research Studies (source: USD383 website.)

Thank you! from MHSAA

To: Pat Berry, MHSAA Associate Life Member who donated \$100. Pat helped MHS grad and member Rick Weisbender restore our Indian Mosaic.

To: MHS Class of 1950 for donating the remains of their last reunion treasury to MHSAA.

To: Individual donors Jim Morrison, Stuart Parsons, and David Long.

To: Kathleen (Bryson) Pizar '58, Karen Williamson and Pat Duncan for proofreading this issue of The Alumni Mentor.

*Happy
Holidays!*

*from MHSAA
and
The Alumni Mentor*

MHS Athletic Program Receives Award

CNN SI.com has named Manhattan High School the top Kansas High School Athletic Program. CNN SI.com looked at state tournament results for the 2006-2007 school year, contacted athletic directors from top programs, examined all-around success rates as well as weighed the importance of producing star athletes and teams that excelled on the national level.

"I want to commend Manhattan High School Athletic Director Mike Marsh, our MHS coaching staff, and our amazing student athletes," states Terry McCarty, MHS principal. "This acknowledges that Manhattan High School competes and challenges for state championships in every sport. We are proud of the continued accomplishments of Manhattan High School – academically and athletically."

MHS had two state titles last school year in wrestling and girls golf. They also had eight teams finish in the top 10 of their respective tournaments. Volleyball qualified for the state tourney and football advanced to the state semifinals. The girls cross country team and the baseball team finished second in the state, boys golf was third in the state, boys cross country finished sixth in the state and boys tennis finished seventh in the state. Girls track and field finished eighth at the state meet and the girls swim team finished 12th at the state swim meet.

CNN SI.com has assembled a list of the top high school athletic program in each of the 50 states, plus the District of Columbia. Kansas/Manhattan High School is bolded in the list. (source: USD383 website.)

Apparel for sale at MHSAA Museum

\$10.00 - MHSAA Logo T-shirts,
Royal Blue or White, in many sizes.

\$10.00 - MHSAA Logo ball-style caps.

\$20.00 - Manhattan Alumni Association,
white polo shirts, with logo.

Tips Jar available for those who
don't see an item they want to
buy but still would like to
contribute something.

Don't forget the MHSAA Web Site!

We will post your
reunion information.
If your class doesn't have a
class page, contact
our MHSAA webmaster,
Stuart Parsons '70,
MHSAAweb@AOL.com

New MHSAA Board Members for 2008-2010



From left, Events Officer Keith Eyestone, '80; Director Tom Addair, '96; Secretary Sally (Baril) Lansdown '65; Director Marlene (Moyer) Glasscock '65

RCHS Needs Blue Ms

The Riley County Historical Society has nearly all of the Blue Ms, but they are missing a few years. MHSAA is trying to help them complete their collection. They need the following years: 1940, 1964, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1976 and 1999 through 2006. If you can help, please contact Cheryl Collins 785-565-6490 or CCollins@rileycountyks.gov

or you may call any of your MHSAA Board members and we will see that the RCHS gets your donation..

Don't forget MHSAA!

When you clean out your closets, we are still wanting many years of Blue Ms and all memorabilia MHS for the MHSAA Museum. Jean (Wisecup) Haas sent a photo of the 50th reunion of the Class of 1922. We are gathering photos now, old ones from MHS past and our own from MHSAA events, and we need someone to put these in some Scrapbooks. Which means scrapbookers are needed, and other organizers to help organize and work in the museum.

Like to take **photosgraphs**? We'd welcome your pictures taken at any MHSAA events. If you haven't brought your camera before - bring it next time and we'll use your photos in The Alumni Mentor and/or on the MHSAA Website.

There are a lot of ways to get involved!