

TRADITIONS

MONONA GROVE ALUMNI

Funding for this newsletter is made possible through a grant provided by the Monona Grove Education Foundation

FALL 2019

In This Issue

- Anonymous Donation Funds Band and Auditorium Improvements
- Executive Board Changes
- Contribute to MGEF!
- Reunions
- Greetings
- Staff/Alumni News
- Scholarships Awarded

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 We would love to have more alumni on the board. If you live in the Monona/Madison area and are interested in joining us, please email mononagrovetraditions@gmail.com

 To receive *Traditions* via email please contact us at mononagrovetraditions@gmail.com

6th Annual Celebration Honors 2018-19 Grant Recipients

The 6th Annual MGEF Celebration was held on Saturday, November 2 at the East Side Club in Monona.

This year's event honored the Foundation's 2018-19 grant recipients. The evening featured a wonderful program put on by the MG AV Club including live coverage of the event and video highlights of the grant recipients discussing their projects. Grant recipient and keynote speaker **Jennifer Goodnough**, spoke about the impact her grant for tech stations within the classroom has had on art students at Winnequah. Guests enjoyed a dinner buffet and the opportunity to bid on delicious



desserts contributed by volunteer bakers in a dessert auction. Attendees also had the opportunity to participate in an online auction filled with a variety of gift cards, gift baskets, special MG items, e-bike and more that were generously donated by local individuals and businesses. All proceeds went to benefit the next round of the Foundation's Teacher Innovation Grants.

2018-19 Grant Recipients: Row 1 L-R – Jennifer Goodnough, Sonia Boehm, Sharon Fritz; Row 2 – Charles Pyng, Carl Davick, Janet Heinemann, Ann Maeder

continued on next page

2019 Celebration Sponsors

MGEF would like to thank all of the sponsors of our 2019 Gala. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Presenting Sponsor – Monona Bank

Silver Eagle Sponsor - TDS

Platinum Sponsors - Crazy Lenny's E-Bikes, J.H. Findorff & Son, Inc., Judy & Richard Fritz, Eppstein Uhen Architects

Gold Sponsors - Attorney William S. Cole, Boardman & Clark LLP, Dunner's Lawn Service, MG & E Foundation, UW Credit Union

Silver Sponsors (\$250) included: A.J. Photo, Jane & David Beebe, Dean & Ann Bowles, Coon's Nest (Culver's, Cottage Grove), Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce, Susan & Michael Fox, Hoey Apothecary, Ken's Meats & Deli, Susan & Bradley Manning, Jason & Linda McCutchin, McKinstry, Metcalfe's Market, Monona Grove Business Men's Association, Monona Motors, Mary O'Connor & Robert Bocher



continued

The 2018-19 grant recipients who were honored and their projects include: **Charles Pyng**, MGHS – Drawing Tables; **Will Nimmow & Melissa Smith**, MGHS – Teleprompters; **Sonja Boehm & Dawn May**, Winnequah – funds to attend the New Teacher Center Symposium; **Janet Heinemann, Carl Davick & Peter Case**, Glacial Drumlin – Mariachi instruments; **Jennifer Goodnough & Peter Kuzma**, Winnequah – iPads for lighted photo stand; **Sharon Fritz & Amanda Klassman**, MGHS – Female student athlete summit; **Ann Maeder**, Glacial Drumlin – Library Club to promote student reading; **Karin Duren**, District-wide kindergarten – Author visit; **Emily Kelbe & Taylor Prairie Kindergarten Staff** – Ozobots for practicing coding skills; **Michelle Lammers**, Cottage Grove School – Lego wall for Makerspace/Brain Lab Area.



Grant recipient **Sonia Boehm**, MG parent **Teresa Radermacher** and guest **Rich Dahman** enjoy the program



MGEF Board Member **Nancy Kugle & husband Dennis**



MG AV Club: Row 1 L-R - **Kylie Hollenstein, Olivia Vesperat, Teagan Tolley**; Row 2 - **Sylvia Reinebach, David Guenther, Evan Johnson, Corey Holl**, Row 3 – Community Media Director **Will Nimmow, Ethan Broughton-Wholers**, Media Coordinator **Justin Janness**

Anonymous Donation Funds Band and Auditorium Improvements

This spring MGEF received an anonymous \$10,000 donation intended to be used for the purchase of instruments and equipment for the MGHS Band and upgrades and equipment for the Ed Schwan Auditorium at the high school. Each designee received \$5,000. Tight school building budgets have hampered the ability to keep up with the necessary replacements of equipment and improvements needed to maintain high quality programs and experiences for our students. **Cara Collins**, High School Band Director and **Matthew Bittorf**, Auditorium Director quickly put the funds to use. Collins identified the need to replace a vibraphone that was in poor playing condition and a bass clarinet in need of constant repair. She says “Our previous vibraphone was purchased a very long time ago and was falling apart. The band students are so excited to use this new piece of percussion equipment and have been treating it like a new sibling!” Other bass clarinets owned by the school district were purchased in the 1950’s and 1970’s and she reports that it is being played by a sophomore band student “who is ecstatic to have a working instrument”.

Bittorf, who became Auditorium Director last year, found need for many replacements or improvements. He noted that there were many small but important pieces of equipment that needed upgrades. The funds were used to replace and upgrade audio equipment including wireless microphones and improved speakers, accessories for the LED stage lighting and tools for the auditorium shop. He tells us, “I can’t say this enough, I am very grateful for this contribution. There are still plenty of items still left on my spending list and I would let anyone know that any monetary donations to the auditorium would immediately go towards “shovel ready” projects that would benefit our students and community.” The Monona Grove Education Foundation thanks the anonymous donor for their thoughtful and caring contribution to the School District and encourages others to follow their generous example.

Executive Board Changes

Longtime MGEF President **John Weinberger** and Treasurer **Ed Young** stepped down from their positions on the Executive Board in October, 2019. Both had served in their positions since 2008. In addition, Young was a founding board member of MGEF in 1992. We thank them both for their dedicated service to the Education Foundation.



Retiring Executive board members **John Weinberger & Ed Young**
(Herald-Independent photo)

Contribute to MGEF!

As the end of 2019 rapidly approaches, please consider a donation to the Monona Grove Education Foundation. The generosity of our alumni and supporters enables us to continue our mission of funding new and innovative programs for the benefit of all Monona Grove students. Also, if you qualify, make a gift directly from your IRA to support the Monona Grove Education Foundation! If you are 70½ or older, and required to take a Required Minimum Distribution from a traditional IRA, you are eligible to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) directly from your IRA to the Monona Grove Education Foundation. The benefits of a RMD from your traditional IRA allow you to:

- Support the Monona Grove Education Foundation (MGEF)
- Avoid the 50% deduction limit on charitable gifts
- Satisfy your required minimum distribution
- Reduce your taxable income and avoid taxes on charitable gifts up to \$100,000/year
- Make a contribution any time during the year

To make an IRA rollover gift

- 1) Instruct your IRA plan administrator to make an RMD gift from your IRA to Monona Grove Education Foundation
- 2) Provide our name, address and Federal Tax ID#: **Monona Grove Education Foundation, 5301 Monona Drive, Monona, WI 53716 (FEIN # 39-1808215)**
- 3) Contact MGEF to identify how you want the gift to be used or with questions
- 4) Your IRA funds will be transferred directly to MGEF

Reunions

Class of 1970 50th Reunion

Barb (Zamzow) Franzen barbfranzen@hotmail.com reports that “members of the MG Class of 1970 should mark their calendars for August 7-8, 2020, when we’ll celebrate our 50 year reunion. More details will be sent out as we get closer to the date, so please make sure you have given us your current contact information. Most communications will come from mononagrove-1970@hotmail.com, so check that this address is in your email contact list. Hope to see you all next year.”

Upcoming Reunions

The deadline for inclusion of notices of upcoming reunions in the Spring, 2020 issue of MG Traditions is April 1. Notices may be sent to mononagrovetraditions@gmail.com

We've Recently Received *Greetings!* From:

Deanna (Mahoney) Gervasi, Class of 1959, McFarland, WI
Mary (Schulze) Haukereid, Class of 1959, Monona, WI
Donna (Hilgers) Wagner, Class of 1960, Madison, WI
Earl Kielley, Class of 1961, Middleton, WI
Kirk Elliott, Class of 1962, Madison, WI
Clay Russell, Class of 1962, Summerfield, FL
Janet (Myhre) Ogden, Class of 1963, Madison, WI
Kathy (Nelson) Skaife, Class of 1964, McFarland, WI
Gary Johnson, Class of 1965, Woodbury, MN
Pamela (Johnson) Crow, Class of 1965, Prairie du Sac, WI
Gary Morris, Class of 1966, Janesville, WI
Steve Parks, Class of 1966, Middleton, WI
Alan Bush, Class of 1968, San Antonio, TX
Sue Vogel, Class of 1968, Oakdale, MN
Linda Zivney, Class of 1970 &
Barb Zivney, Class of 1976, Cape Coral, FL
Linda (Wakefield) Kelley, Class of 1971, Cincinnati, OH
Kris (Lund) Kesselhon, Class of 1971, DeForest, WI
Jeff Krajco, Class of 1972 &
Lori Lunder Krajco, Class of 1979, Verona, WI
Nancy (Latz) Adams, Class of 1974, Sedro Woolley, WA
Kristine Coppens, Class of 1974, Dane, WI
Jeff Simley, Class of 1974, Lakewood, CO
Dennis Davidson, Class of 1976, Madison, WI
Mike Williams, Class of 2000, Sun Prairie, WI
Craig Hatfield, Class of 2003, Cottage Grove, WI
Chelsea Mairet, Class of 2007, Madison, WI
Lauren (Bocher) Meyer, Class of 2009, Minneapolis, MN

Alumni News

- **Milo Strand**, Class of 1957, Westminster, SC, passed away on May 21, 2019 at home.
- **Jerold R. "Jerry" Neupert**, Class of 1959, Madison, passed away unexpectedly on August 19, 2019.
- **Julie (Brown) Schroeder**, Class of 1959, New Port Richey, FL, passed away on May 28, 2019.
- **John E. Streber, Jr.**, Class of 1959, Cottage Grove, passed away on August 14, 2019 at St. Mary's Hospital.
- **Tom Halverson**, Class of 1960, passed away on October 15, 2019.
- **Brenda (Brooks) Terry**, Class of 1960, Sebastian, FL, reports that she taught for 40 years and is now working with her brother **Dr. Harold "Bud" Brooks**, Class of 1962, Vero Beach, FL. Dr. Brooks started practicing dentistry in 1968 and is still going strong.
- **Myron A. Vedvik**, Class of 1960, Green Bay, passed away on June 28, 2015.
- **Clyde Eugene Keller**, Class of 1961, Vero Beach, FL/Fayetteville, NC, passed away on July 19, 2018.
- **Gary Deane Bostad**, Class of 1962, McFarland, passed away unexpectedly on June 18, 2019 at his home.
- **Charles W. "Chuck", "Charlie" Roberts**, Class of 1962, Cottage Grove, passed away on July 16, 2019 at St. Mary's Care Center.
- **Elizabeth Carol Rota**, Class of 1962, Madison, passed away on June 7, 2019 at Meriter Hospital.
- **David Michael Lavold**, Class of 1964, DeForest, passed away on October 26, 2019 at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio from complications following a lung transplant he received in June of this year after a five-year battle with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis.
- **Irma Jean Parks-Iheukumere**, Class of 1965, Madison, passed away on October 16, 2019. She spent her first two years at Monona Grove. She and her twin brother Eugene were the first two African Americans to graduate from La Follette High School.
- **Keith Richard Bush**, Class of 1966, Madison, passed away at home on October 19, 2019 after suffering a heart attack.
- **Larry Michael Bryan**, Class of 1968, Nampa, ID passed away on May 4, 2019.
- **Melissa (Hammond) Praksti**, Class of 1968, Cottage Grove, passed away on July 26, 2019.
- **Richard A. "Rick" Spach**, Class of 1968, Madison, passed away at home on May 20, 2019.
- **Richard "Rick" Aikins**, Class of 1969, Belgium, WI passed away on August 20, 2019 at Sheboygan Progressive Health, following a medical procedure.
- **Joyce (Way) Bowman**, Class of 1969, Apache Junction, AZ passed away on November 4, 2019, after fighting a courageous battle against cancer.
- **Randall "Randy" Schram**, Class of 1969, Madison, passed away on June 12, 2019.
- **Ronald E. Dalton**, Class of 1970, Cambridge, passed away on October 12, 2019 at St. Mary's Hospital.
- **Philip Doll**, Class of 1972, McFarland, reports that he has moved and is enjoying being closer to his grandchildren.
- **Kenneth S. Jacobson**, Class of 1972, Kewaunee, IL, passed away on May 25, 2019.
- **Gary Goldberg**, Class of 1973, Riverside, California, reports that "he keeps in contact with former MGHS teacher **George "Dutch" Durnford**, who is thriving at age 95. Dutch has given me his permission to release his mailing address since he would love to hear from any of his thousands of former students who may wish to reach out to him. That address is 5555 Tancho Drive, Apt. 110, Madison, 53718. If you have fond memories of this man, who dedicated his life to educating our hearts and minds, please send a card or letter to Dutch. The gesture would be much appreciated and well received. Meanwhile, "be kind to one another".
- **Beth (Anderson) Suddeth**, Class of 1974, Stoughton, passed away on October 30, 2019 at her home.
- **Kathy (Banfi) Carew**, Class of 1975, Monona, recently retired from the Monona Grove School District after 21 years as a Paraprofessional at Winnequah School.
- **Sherri Lynn (Hatton) Schoenemann**, Class of 1976, Verona, passed away on October 15, 2019 at Badger Prairie Health Care Center.
- **Michael David Miyagawa**, Class of 1976, Monona, passed away on August 18, 2019.
- **Michael "Mike", "Cully" McCulloch**, Class of 1976, Cottage Grove, passed away unexpectedly while competing in the Ironman 70.3 Triathlon on June 9, 2019.
- **Gregory "Greg" Latz**, Class of 1977, Carthage, IN, died at home surrounded by his wife, children, and sisters on May 17, 2019, after a lengthy battle with non-Hodgkins lymphoma. He will be greatly missed by all.
- **Kelly (Mistele) Rear**, Class of 1977, Poynette, passed away surrounded by her children and husband on October 15, 2019.
- **Richard "Rick" Crosby**, Class of 1978, Cottage Grove, peacefully left this life on November 1, 2019, surrounded by those who loved him.
- **William R. "Will" Platt**, Class of 1979, Pewaukee, WI, passed away on June 17, 2019.
- **Kelly (Wohlens, Archibald) Gausmann**, Class of 1980, Waterloo, WI, passed away peacefully on April 30, 2019 at Agrace HospiceCare.
- **Charles "Chip" Wimpler**, Class of 1981, Cottage Grove, passed away unexpectedly on June 27, 2019 due to heart disease. He had recently been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis.
- **Frederick P. "Rick" Storm**, Class of 1982, Monona, passed away on May 12 at Agrace HospiceCare after a long and difficult battle with esophageal cancer.
- **Scott Kluever**, Class of 1984, reports that "After retiring from 27 years of teaching in Alaska, my wife and I recently moved to Florence, Montana. Motorcycle trips on the Harley await!"
- **Joseph "Joe" Skibba**, Class of 1994, Pittsburgh, Pa is an architectural illustrator whose work has been a part of numerous projects worldwide. His work provides an illustration of what a building project will look like when completed. Skibba was recently credited with the illustrations of a science lab featured in the movie "Where'd You Go Bernadette?"
- **Jessica (Nelson) Ring**, Class of 1995, reports that she is divorced and has moved to Fernandina Beach, FL. She became a grandma in January, 2018.
- **Justin P. Fox**, Class of 2004, Marshall, WI died in a car accident on December 15, 2018. He spent part of his high school years at Monona Grove.

Faculty/Staff News

- **Anne (Dupuis) Doran**, Monona, who worked for several years as a Paraprofessional at Maywood Elementary School, passed away on September 16, 2019.
- **Arlys R. Kravik**, Deerfield/Stoughton, who taught in the Monona Grove School District many years ago, passed away on October 23, 2019.
- **Marjorie “Marge” Rundle**, Monona, wife of longtime MG Football Coach Dick Rundle passed away on August 15, 2019.
- **Jeffrey “Jeff” Simpson**, Cottage Grove, passed away peacefully at home on August 3, 2019 after a long and courageous battle with cancer. Jeff had served as a member of the Monona Grove School Board since 2012.
- **John E. Verhelst**, Madison, died peacefully on June 6, 2019 after battling cancer for 19 months. A Physical Education and History Teacher at MGHS for 30 years, John also coached football, boys basketball and track & field at MG for many years.
- **Henrietta Volker**, Monona, passed away on May 15, 2019 at Agrace HospiceCare. She was a former food service employee of the Monona Grove Schools.

Scholarships Awarded

On May 15, 2019 several members of the MG Class of 2019 received scholarships managed by MGEF. Scholarships and their recipients included:

- McCullough Family Technology Scholarship (\$500) –
Kyle L. Nett
- Neuhauser Family Scholarship (\$500) –
Averie C. Groleau Cmelo
- Klement Track & Field Award (Boy) (\$500) –
Michael J. Williams-Davis
- Klement Track & Field Award (Girl) (\$500) –
Rachel F. Yundt
- Erik Berg Memorial Scholarship (\$700) –
Ryan M. Hinaus
- Keith Sorenson Memorial Scholarship (Girl) (\$500) –
Rachel F. Yundt
- Keith Sorenson Memorial Scholarship (Boy) (\$500) –
Ross L. Harford
- Gordon & Janet McChesney Scholarship (\$750) –
Emma K. Auby
- Wilma (Johnson) Bernards Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000) –
Payton D. Jenks-Recker

Be a TRADITIONS Reporter!

Help us gather information and news for the next *TRADITIONS* newsletter! Send us the scoop about engagements, weddings, births, deaths, promotions, new jobs, awards, or honors, even your change of address ... or just tell us what you are doing now.

Take a minute to complete this form or email us! We'd love to hear what you are doing now, and we will share that information in our next newsletter. Please include class year and city/state with correspondence.



mononagrovetraditions@gmail.com



Traditions, MGEF
5301 Monona Drive
Monona, WI 53716

Reporters' Name (first, maiden, last) _____

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City, State, Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail address: _____

Information is about (name: first, maiden, last) _____

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Monona Grove Education Foundation

Monona Grove Public Schools
5301 Monona Dr., Monona, WI 53716

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



Remember to "like" us and stay connected on Facebook!

Please take a moment to check your mailing label. If there are any errors, please email us at mononagrovetraditions@gmail.com or send us the label with your corrections.

Planning a move? Don't forget to let us know. Your class doesn't want to lose you!

Join Us

The Monona Grove Education Foundation publishes this alumni newsletter as a service to all residents of the Monona Grove School District, past and present. Your donation to the Monona Grove Foundation Fund will support grants for innovations in education and will guarantee the future of MG Alumni Traditions. Consider a gift to the Monona Grove Education Foundation in your year-end tax planning. Just fill out this form and send it in with your contribution in one of the suggested categories or donate online (see details below).



Choose a category

"Professor" – \$500 + "Fellow" – \$250 to \$499 "Scholar" – \$100 to 249 "Other" - under \$100

Class Year _____ E-mail _____

Name (first, maiden, last) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone (Evening) _____

Phone (Daytime) _____

Credit card #: _____ Expiration date: _____

Name as it appears on card: _____ 3-digit security code: _____

Make checks payable to: **Monona Grove Education Foundation** or provide credit card information as indicated.

Mail to: Monona Grove Education Foundation, 5301 Monona Drive Monona, WI 53716

You may also donate online – Select "MGEF Online Donations" at <http://www.mononagrove.org/welcome/education-foundation.cfm>

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