

TRADITIONS

MONONA GROVE ALUMNI

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

FALL 2021

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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

Second Annual Golf Ball Drop A Success

All eyes were on the sky at Winnequah Park in Monona on Saturday morning, October 2, as 484 golf balls were released from 75 feet in the air at the top of the City of Monona Fire Department's ladder truck. The balls were vying to be one of the 19 balls closest – or one ball furthest — to the hole below in hopes of winning one of 20 different cash prizes as part of the Second Annual Great Golf Ball drop.

After taking prize payouts into account, the MGEF was able to successfully raise more than \$20,000 to support the Pay It Forward fund, an MGEF program designed to provide extra support to Monona Grove students. Funds were raised through golf ball sales, as well as the support of 43 community sponsors.

The Education Foundation supports the Monona Grove School District in pushing the boundaries of curricular and extracurricular activities throughout the district. The Foundation works with teachers and staff to promote an innovative, well-rounded education inside and outside of the classroom.

The MGEF would like to extend a special thanks to the event sponsors, the City of Monona Fire Department, and the Monona Parks and Rec Department for making this event a success. To learn more information about the Monona Grove Education Foundation, or to donate to the Pay It Forward fund, visit www.supportmgef.org.



2021 Great Golf Ball Drop Sponsors

MGEF would like to thank all of the sponsors of the 2021 MGEF Great Golf Ball Drop. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Silver Eagle Sponsor – Monona Bank

Gold Sponsors – Axley Brynerson LLP, Boardman & Clark, LLP, Building Wisconsin Together, Crazy Lenny's E-Bikes, Door Creek Golf Course, J. H.

Findorff & Son, Inc., Homburg Companies, Oakstone Recreational, Slinde Realty Company, LLC, Summit Credit Union, Your Heart's Content

Silver Sponsors – Bank of Sun Prairie, Culver's of Cottage Grove, Dane County Youth Apprenticeship, Michael & Susan Fox, Doug Gehrke, Gunderson Funeral Home, Hoey Apothecary, Ken's Meats & Deli, Bradley & Susan Manning, Monona Grove Business Men's Association, Monona Motors, Mary O'Connor & Robert Bocher, Patti & Doug Parrott, Ultimate Construction, Kellie Unke – Stark Realtors, Ed Young

Bronze Sponsors – Craig Culver, Culver's on Cottage Grove, Daniel Olson, Flanders Electric, Jody Hallock, Kula Wellness & Fitness, Metcalfe Markets, David & Sandra Zweifel

Eaglet Sponsors – Jim Ahearn, Papa Jimmy's, Mary Possin, Melissa Ratcliffe, Tom Vetter Agency

Thank you to our business sponsors!



Pay It Forward

The Pay It Forward Fund is a program designed to provide extra support to Monona Grove students struggling with food stability or clothing, those needing additional tutoring or educational assistance and other mental health assistance. Families in need should reach out to their student's school Student Services Team for information on how to request this additional support.

Through the last two Great Golf Ball Drop fundraisers and other donations, Pay It Forward has established a fund of over \$40,000. Out of those funds MGEF has supported Monona Grove students by providing funding for noise canceling headphones, driver's education workbooks, water bottles, clothing needs and the expansion of the Weekend Snack Pack Program. With all of these initiatives as well as funding designated for this year's Snack Pack Program, the MGEF has allocated over \$15,000 from Pay It forward in the past 8 months. With colder weather approaching, the MGEF is anticipating additional requests for basic household needs and warm clothing. Thank you to all who donated to this fund either via the Golf Ball Drops, individually or via company sponsorships. If you would like to donate to the Pay It Forward Fund please visit <https://www.supportmgef.org/givenow>

Monona Grove Softball Boosters Lead Effort to Improve Local Softball Fields For Youth and High School Teams



In 2021, the Monona Grove Softball Team won the Badger Conference title for the first time in team history. Now, parent volunteers with the Softball Booster Club are leading a fundraising effort for improvements to the softball diamonds at Northlawn Park in Cottage Grove, home field to the Monona Grove JV and Varsity softball teams along with all Cottage Grove youth softball teams.

Scheduled improvements to the upper softball diamond include a complete rebuild of the dugouts, new concrete, and updated fencing, along with infield work and improved seating and sightlines for spectators. Demolition of the existing fields started in September and construction is on schedule to be completed in time for the coming softball season.

Interested alumni and other contributors have three convenient ways to donate:

- GoFundMe page (gofund.me/f12330aa)
- Venmo (MGBoostersoftball_8482): last four digits of the phone number: 8482
- Checks can be made out to MG Softball Booster Club and mailed to 233 Yarrow Hill Drive, Cottage Grove WI 53527

Please follow the MG softball program on Facebook (facebook.com/mononagrovegirlssoftball) and see the field improvement progress along with the upcoming MG softball season as Varsity looks to defend the Badger Conference Championship!

We've Recently Received *Greetings!* From:

Paul Trimberger, Class of 1960, Green Bay, WI
Margaret (McCoy) Dean, Class of 1962, McLean, VA
Mike Larson, Class of 1962, McFarland
David Seiberlich, Class of 1962
John Kuehn, Class of 1964, Lucernemines, PA
Maxine (Hill) Meixner, Class of 1965, DeForest, WI
Nadene (Bohnsack) Lawrence, Class of 1968, Springfield, IL
Susan (Bohnsack) Iannuccilli, Class of 1970, Eddy, TX
Steve Polzer, Class of 1970, Grapevine, TX
Bob Bade, Class of 1971, Sun Prairie, WI
Candace "Candy" (Felland) Cattell, Class of 1971, Monona, WI
Kristin (von Meeteren) Newman, Class of 1974, Fort Pierce, FL
Dwight Clough, Class of 1975, Pardeeville, WI
Cheryl (Smith) Johnsen, Class of 1975, McFarland, WI
Jeff Ball, Class of 1980, Deerfield, WI
Greg Schalow, Class of 1980, So Low, AZ
Bob Hujik, Class of 1982, Eau Claire, WI
Bruce Peterson, Class of 1982, Waukesha, WI
Doug Presny, Class of 1982, Mazomanie, WI
Paul Wiemer, Class of 1983, New York, NY
Craig Swenson, Class of 1986, Madison, WI
Michelle (Schulze) Scheffler, Class of 1987, Cottage Grove, WI
Sarah Weber-Hurley, Class of 1995, Cottage Grove, WI
Adam Schoenemann, Class of 2005, Madison, WI
Demitri (Price) Gockel, Class of 2012, Minneapolis, MN

Stay Connected

Visit us at our new and improved website – www.supportmgef.org and "Like" us on Facebook.

Staff/Alumni News

- **Mary L. (Kuester) Ruckdeschel**, Class of 1962, Webster Groves, MO reports that “We continue to live in the St. Louis area. I retired from Barnes-Jewish Hospital in 2012. We look forward to spending time with our six grandchildren, all of whom live in Chicago.”
- **Dolor (Dodie) Meyer Nendza**, Class of 1971, Douglas, WY, reports that “Last year was a hard year for many reasons. . . for me it was especially difficult because my husband, Andy passed on November 2nd.”
- **Gabriel “Gabe” Carimi**, Class of 2006, was inducted into the University of Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame on September 10. Carimi attended MGHS from 2002 to 2006, playing football for the Silver Eagles on both the offensive and defensive lines. During his time at Monona Grove, he was named First-Team, All-State and Wisconsin State Journal Player of the Year. After graduation, he played left tackle at UW-Madison and was named to the Freshman All-Big-Ten Team. An integral part of the offensive line for the remainder of his time at UW, he was selected as the Big-Ten Offensive Lineman of the Year his senior year and was awarded the Outland Trophy in 2010 which is given to the nation’s best offensive or defensive lineman in college football. He is one of only two Badgers to win the award. Following graduation, Carimi played for the Chicago Bears, Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Atlanta Falcons before retiring in 2014. He now lives in Texas and is a co-founder of Stryve Biltong, which produces Stryve, a healthy snack similar to jerky which is made from biltong, a South African dried, cured beef.
- **Justin Janness**, Class of 2009, Brooklyn, NY, moved to New York City in January 2020 after working for many years with Monona Community Media. He is now working as a webcast producer for Spark Street Digital, producing video for several high profile clients including the UN, City of New York, and Hunter College.
- **Cally Schumal OD**, Class of 2013, Cottage Grove, received her Doctor of Optometry from Nova Southeast University in Davie, Florida this spring and is working in the Madison area.
- **Madeline (Maddie) Masters**, Class of 2017, Orange City, IA, graduated in May 2021 from UW-Madison with a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies with Certificates in Health and the Humanities and Leadership. In June, she started graduate school in the Physician Assistant Masters Program at Northwestern College in Orange City, IA.

Teacher Innovation Grants

The MGEF has approved the following Teacher Innovation Grants. Grants approved for the 2020-21 school year have been extended to 2021-22.

2020-21 Grants

Paula Gray (Winnequah School) - \$500 to cover the entrance fee for a teacher visit to Quest Elementary, a project based learning charter school in Ripon, WI.

Shelby Steel (District-wide) - \$4500 for a Teaching Tolerance trainer to conduct a two day workshop for approximately 30 staff members.

Cara Collins (MGHS) - \$1500 for a pilot program to bring in professional musicians for solo and ensemble work.

Jessica Schiltz (Glacial Drumlin School) – 3688.80 for two Students of Color (SOC) group projects - \$3200 for Percy Brown and Rainey Brigg to work with the student body and staff to create an ongoing curriculum to use with daily student advisory (homeroom) sessions and \$488.80 to fund buses and lunch money for two field trips to Second Harvest Food Pantry.

Brandt Grants. Two MGEF grants funded field trips in the 2020-21 school year that took place prior to the pandemic. Those grants are as follows:

- a. \$920 to fund a trip for MGHS students to MATC for a presentation on their Baking, Pastry & Culinary II program.
- b. \$335 to cover transportation costs for three trips to childcare centers for students interested in going into childcare teacher or assistant work.

2021-22 Grants

Michelle Schaub (MGHS) - \$1289.37 to purchase materials to teach students and staff yoga and wellness.

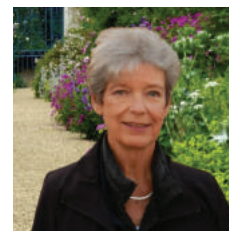
Peg Zizmann (District-Wide) - \$1250 to purchase 50 pairs of higher-quality noise-canceling headphones for elementary and middle school students experiencing financial hardships. (Pay it Forward funding)

Rebecca Fox Blair (MG21) - \$2760 to purchase tools and safety gear for students to use while doing their service work with the Ice Age Trail Alliance.

Melissa Vervoort-Land (Glacial Drumlin) - \$1200 to purchase Foldscoptes for 7th grade science students to use during outdoor science classes.

Lori Herkert (District-Wide) - \$728 to purchase equipment for therapy services and adaptive PE classes

Patti McGinnis Memorial Scholarship



As plans are being made for celebrating Patti McGinnis’s life, a memorial scholarship fund has been established with the Monona Grove Education Foundation. This fund will be used to offer financial support for MGSD students entering the profession of education. Since Patti’s entire professional career was with the MGSD as a teacher, assistant principal and principal, her family felt this would be a wonderful way to honor her.

For anyone wishing to contribute, checks can be made out to the Monona Grove Education Foundation and donations to her scholarship fund sent to:

Monona Grove Education Foundation

Monona Grove School District

5301 Monona Drive

Monona, WI 53716

Staff/Alumni Passages

- **Juanita Marie Engelberger**, Marshall, WI, passed away on Friday, August 27, 2021. She had worked as a teacher's aide at Maywood School.
- **Norman David "Norm" Flynn**, Monona, died unexpectedly at home on June 4, 2021. He was a speech teacher and award-winning debate coach at MGHS from 1967-70 at which time he left teaching to enter the real estate profession.
- **Susan (Romanski) Flynn**, Monona, passed away unexpectedly on September 24, 2021. She taught English at Winnequah Middle School for several years before moving on to becoming a school counselor in the Madison schools.
- **Betty Ann (Engnath) Heckendorn**, Mount Horeb, passed away on October 13, 2021. She worked in the Monona Grove Schools while raising her family in Monona.
- **Gary Steven Matthiesen**, Fort Atkinson, passed away peacefully on Sept. 20, 2021, at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison. He taught English for 17 years in the Madison and Monona Grove school districts until retiring in 2016.
- **Patti McGinnis**, Madison, passed away at UW Hospital on August 7, 2021. Ms. McGinnis spent her entire 35 year career in the Monona Grove School District beginning as a 6th grade teacher at Nichols School in 1972-73 and then at Winnequah Middle School after 6th grade was moved there. She remained at Winnequah, retiring in 2008 after serving as vice-principal and principal there for her final 9 years.
- **Mary Elizabeth Smith**, Madison, passed away on August 3, 2021. She spent her career teaching English at Winnequah Middle School.
- **Marie A. Wartolec**, Madison, passed away on November 4, 2021. She taught biology and science at MGHS in the late 70's and early 80's.
- **Gale (Baker) Gehin**, Class of 1957, Poynette, passed away at St. Mary's SSM Health in Madison on June 4, 2021.
- **Thomas E. "Frank" Vick**, Class of 1957, McFarland, passed away on August 1, 2021, at his home.
- **Ronald David Larson**, Class of 1958, Hancock, passed away peacefully at home on November 17, 2021.
- **Larry J. Deurloo**, Class of 1959, Tomah, passed away on May 24, 2021, at his home.
- **Joan E. Steimel**, Class of 1960, Madison/Baltimore, Ohio, passed away on June 19, 2021, at Tuscany Gardens in Pataskala, Ohio.
- **Barbara (Brandt, Moe) McDermott**, Class of 1961, Oshkosh, passed away peacefully at her home on April 24, 2021.
- **George Malec Bulovsky**, Class of 1962, Lodi, passed away on November 1, 2021, in the presence of his family after a three-year battle with glioblastoma.
- **Susan Lucille (Onsager) Rood**, Class of 1962, Waunakee, passed peacefully, surrounded by family, after a brief but courageous battle with cancer on May 19, 2021.
- **Gerald Charles Weikert**, Class of 1962, Marshall, passed away following a lengthy illness on September 8, 2021 at KindredHearts of Cottage Grove.
- **Frank Nickolson Bagley**, Class of 1963, Mariposa, CA, passed away Sat. Nov. 20, 2021.
- **William T. "Bill" Hughes**, Class of 1963, Monona, passed away on May 14, 2021, after a motorcycle accident.
- **Kathleen Lynette "Kathy" (Lottes) Ash**, Class of 1964, Madison, passed away on May 13, 2021.
- **Susan M. Wiggen**, Class of 1964, Madison, passed away on July 9, 2021, at SSM Health – St. Mary's Hospital in Madison.
- **Terry Lee Mather**, Class of 1965, Lehigh Acres, Florida, passed away unexpectedly on January 13, 2021, due to complications from a stroke.
- **David Keith Meyer**, Class of 1965, DeForest, passed away on November 19, 2021 at his home.
- **James D. "Jim" Hoemke**, Class of 1966, Madison, passed away on May 5, 2021.
- **Dennis D. St. John**, Class of 1967, Madison, passed away on June 27, 2021, at St. Mary's hospital in Madison after a prolonged illness.
- **Lois L. Ubbelohde**, Class of 1967, Sun Prairie, passed away on September 5, 2021.
- **Jane Margery (Jacobson) Shaub**, Class of 1968, Middleton, passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family on July 6, 2021.
- **Richard L. "Rick" Owens**, Class of 1969, Sun Prairie, passed away on June 25, 2021, at UW Hospital, surrounded by his loving family.
- **Lynn Jean Southern**, Class of 1970, Madison, passed away on August 13, 2021, at Agrace HospiceCare following a long illness.
- **Brett Berg**, Class of 1972, Samford, FL, passed away on June 20, 2013.
- **James Owen "Jim" Odland**, Class of 1972, Waunakee, passed away on November 3, 2021.
- **Stephan "Steve" Schalow**, Class of 1975, Leola, PA, a 40-year Monona Grove record holder in the 1600 meter run, passed away during a medical emergency in Leola, Pennsylvania on October 14, 2021. Steve was a 1981 graduate of the UW-Madison with a degree in microbiology. For nearly forty years he was a quality control/research and development specialist for some of the most prominent cheese makers throughout the world. Since 1994 he worked with the Bongrain SA/Savencia Cheese USA group in France, Japan, and the US, most recently in Leola. Steve also held five patents related to the cheese industry. Steve leaves behind to cherish his memory son Michael, daughter Stephanie, wife Akiko, and her children Shota, Ami and Amane. Steve is further loved and survived by parents Dick and Jeanette Schalow in Arizona, as well as his MG-alumni brothers Tom in Japan, Larry in Texas, and Greg in Arizona.
- **Jeffrey Douglas "Ben" Kinson**, Class of 1977, Monona, passed away suddenly on July 12, 2021, at his home.
- **Carrie Lynn Lumina**, Class of 1977, Madison passed away on June 30, 2021 in the loving presence of family and friends. She had been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia in September 2020.
- **Dante Francesco Fraboni**, Class of 1978, died of cancer on August 6, 2021, in Tucson, AZ.
- **Roger L. Marten**, Class of 1978, Jasper, Indiana passed away on August 29, 2021, at home.
- **Marybeth (Scallon) Little**, Class of 1980, Monona, passed away on September 3, 2021.
- **Peggy Lyn (Francis) Berger**, Class of 1981, Mazomanie, passed away on June 30, 2021, at UW Hospital and Clinics.
- **Susan Marie (Helsel) Lynch**, Class of 1981, Monona, passed away surrounded by family and close friends on September 17, 2021, after a three-year battle with leukemia.
- **Forrest D. Fessenden**, Class of 1982, Madison, passed away on August 7, 2021.
- **Michael James Cardy**, Class of 1986, Green Bay/Monona, passed away due to cancer on June 19, 2021.
- **Rebecca Lynne Voss**, Class of 1990, Kenosha, passed away on September 7, 2021, in a tragic car accident.
- **Zachary A. "Zach" Blevins**, Class of 1997, Madison, passed way surrounded by his family on August 28, 2021.

Reunions

Class of 1971, 50th Reunion

The MG Class of 1971 will celebrate their held-over 50th reunion on Saturday, June 25, 2022, at the Breakwater in Monona. More details will be shared in March/April of next year. If classmates have questions or updates to their contact information, send a note to the Class Dedicated email address: mgclassof71@gmail.com. Contacting classmates via email is the preferred method of communication.

Class of 1982, 40th Reunion

The Monona Grove Class of 1982 will hold their 40th reunion at Buck & Honey's in Monona from 4:00pm to 11:00pm on Saturday July 30, 2022. Please send updated contact information to Bruce Peterson at bruce@brumarproductions.com so that we may communicate additional details to all classmates. More information to follow.

Stay Connected

Visit us at our new and improved website – www.supportmgef.org and “Like” us on Facebook.

Granite Ridge School Open House

Granite Ridge School, the Monona Grove School District's new elementary school in Cottage Grove, held a successful Open House in mid-November to welcome in GRS families and community members. Students were excited to show their families where they've been learning the past few months and guests were able to see the school at their own pace with a self-guided video tour.



Granite Ridge School serves over 400 students in 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. The school has been built to reflect the natural habitats found in our area of Wisconsin and has been built with a forward focus on energy efficiency.

Virtual tour videos can be found at <https://www.mononagrove.org/grs/open-house.cfm>

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.



mononagovetraditions@gmail.com



Traditions, MGEF
5301 Monona Drive
Monona, WI 53716

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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 www.supportmgef.org/givenow

Monona Grove Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Corporation. Your donation is tax exempt to the extent allowed by law.