

THANK YOU ALUMNI

By Linda Soukup

The Wagner Alumni Committee would like to thank everyone who helped in any way with our 2011 All School Reunion. We are especially grateful to the Wagner Community School for the use of the school facilities. We received many positive comments and feel that the atmosphere of the Commons was a huge contributing factor to the success of the event. We are grateful to all the WCS staff that helped us prepare from the office to the kitchen to the maintenance and those who assisted with the tours and the memorabilia in the library.

The response to our email for volunteer help was overwhelming. Within three days all the work slots were filled without having to send letters or make



L:R: Laverne Hrdlicka, Janice Holzbauer Bobier, Barb Frei Hrdlicka
phone calls. Thank you for making YOUR reunion a success. We had 532 alumni pre-registered; we prepared food for 600, and estimated that we served 622 meals. We were completely unprepared for the huge turnout for the breakfast on Saturday morning. We apologize for those who had to wait for their coffee and donuts! We used a total of 860 bracelets for the meal and party at the ball field. We thank all the alumni who attended, but want to remind everyone that it was the Alumni who came that made the reunion the success and good time that it was! It was heartwarming to see so many people return to visit with the people who were their family and friends during their school years. Memories and friendships last forever.

Wagner Alumni Committee—Linda Soukup, Jeff Doom, Matt Cerny, Sharon Haar, Sharon Blaha, Becky Brunsing, Denise Soukup, Karol Kniffen, Trina Fousek, Sandy Seiner, Dorothy Holzbauer, Barb Johannsen

MASCOT DEDICATION

By Linda Soukup

The Wagner Alumni Committee presented the Wagner Community School with official Mascot Uniforms in the form of our official Tiger symbol that has been used for many years during the doubleheader basketball game Thursday, January 12. The uniforms were



Photo by Barb Pechous, Wagner Announcer

purchased from a company that specializes in the construction of mascot uniforms. The professional quality of these mascots should serve the students for many years to come.

The uniforms are a gift from the Wagner Alumni and were made possible by the recent All School Reunion which was held over Labor Day Weekend last fall. The Wagner High School Alumni have been very generous in their attendance and contributions at the All School Reunions. The Committee felt this was one way to show our appreciation to the school administration, the staff, and the students both past and present. We hope the mascots will be accepted, appreciated and above all used for the enjoyment of the players and spectators in the future.

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Class of '84

Back Row: Chad Soulek, Greg Youngbluth, Chris Eitemiller, Randy Rysavy, Robert Peters, Daryl Deurmier, Kip Gunnare, Terry Novak, Tim Slama
Front Row: Sandy Doty Van Bockern, Bernie Kocer Koupal, Dawn Stimpson Andersh, Paulette Eggers, Bud Koupal, Pat Breen, Todd Dressler, Brad Novak



Class of '80

Back Row: L:R: Tim Hollmann, Cherie Ramsdell, Doug Nedved, Paul Westendorf, Brian Kuca, Gregg Stedronsky, Scott Anderson, Cletus Wiechmann, Mark Soukup **Front Row:** L:R: Jackie Andersh Beltran, JoLynn Soukup Weber, Nan Crisman VanOsdel, Bev Kisely Will, Marilyn Novak Early, Julie Johannsen LeVan, Mel Novak, Marla Mazourek Hewitt, Kim Deurmier Soukup



Class of '61

Back Row starting at the center: Don Blaha, Tom Wagner, Jack Kaney, Sharon (Van Asperen) Haar, Bill Youngbluth, Carolyn (Medricky) Kranig, Joyce (Rados) Schmacher. **Second Row:** Tony Krcil, Wayne Ramsdell, Jay Hennies, Mary Ann (Robertson)... Mitchell, Janet (uherka) Horner, Retta (Kranig) Blaha, Carolyn (Jenison) Murphy, Dee (Braithwaite) Kulhavy, Janice (Pietz) Lipper, Nyla (Ells) Wilson, Carolyn (Kelly) Castle. **Sitting:** Richard Kelso, Bernia (Smith) Tjaden, Connie (Rokusek) Schander, Robert Podzimek, Heidi (Nielsen) Thompson, Joyce (Krcil) Carda, Faye (Cihak) Johnson, Mary Ann (Kocer) Loxtercamp, Patricia (Musilek) Vogt. **Front on the floor:** Curtis Kaberna, Janet (Chernotik) Lassen, Lynne (Honner) Hatle, Mary Lea (Honke) Hennies, Carlene (Crisman) Hennies, Rodney Sykora, Don Lhotak



Class of '57

Top Left to Right: Vernon Peterka, Melvin Horner, Merle Bartunek, Gary McFarland **Bottom left to Right:** Maureen (Denoma) Brink, Marjorie (Miller) McFarland, Elaine (Rokusek) Bartunek, Marlis (Duncanson) Davies



Class of '69

Standing Ron Payer, Tom Terpening, Lavern Hrdlicka, Bob Schuurmans, Pat (Metteer) Kolda, Duane Kolda, Janice (Holzbauer) Bobier, Terry Krsnak, Rod McFarland, Larry Smejkal. **Seated:** Charlene (Bouska) Sterner, Doris (Slaba) Hosek, Sandy (Bastemeyer) Fechner, Barb (Frei) Hrdicka, Ann (Nedved) Morgen, Rhonda (Wiblemo) Schneringer, Patty (Mach) Buus

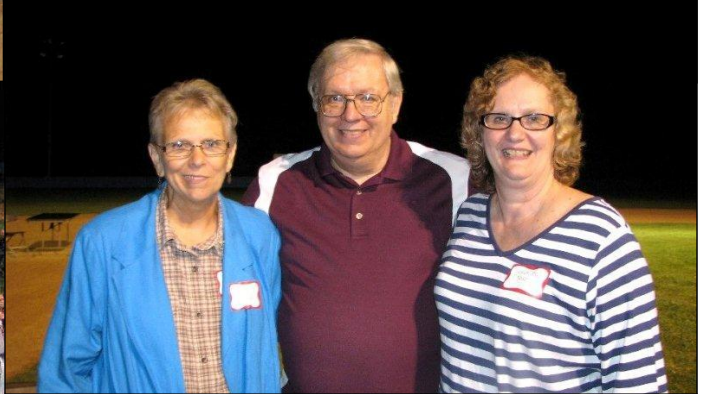
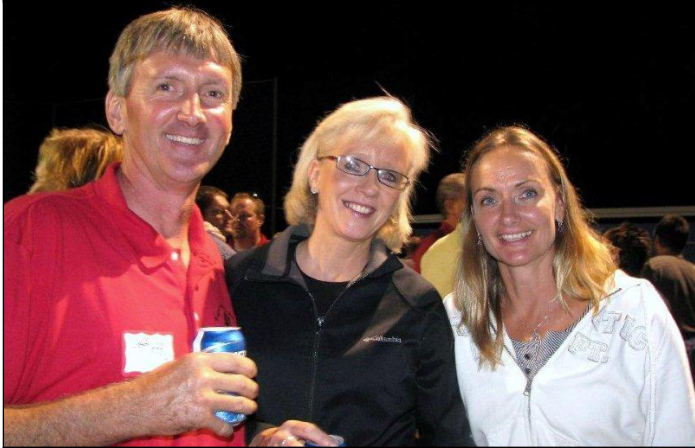
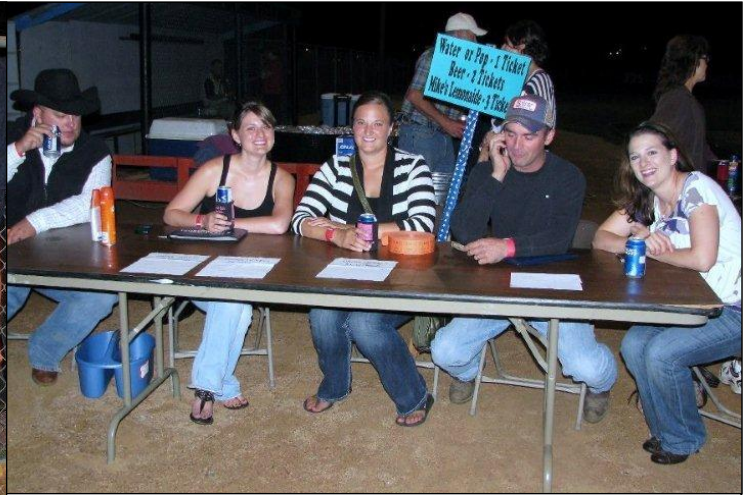


Class of '55

Top Left to Right: Francis Menor, Douglas Hennies, Merle Stone, Robert Fitzgerald, Virginia (Stone) Dice, Cheryl (Duncanson) Lindholm, Norma (Buus) Halbur, Patricia (Gilland) Wollman **Bottom left to Right:** Don Rokusek, Norman Deal, Derald Fitch, Garet Wollman, Jack Knight







Alumni News

FROM THE DESK OF SUPERINTENDENT SUSAN L. SMIT



I bring you greetings from the Wagner Community School Board and staff. I want to begin with a huge thank you to the Alumni Association for the gift of two tiger mascot uniforms. You saw a need and stepped up to the plate. These uniforms will add that extra spark of

enthusiasm at school events. I hope you will have an opportunity to visit us and observe your gift in action!

It was a pleasure to meet so many of you at the school reunion. It is an affair that seems to grow and grow. We were very pleased to be part of the festivities and welcome

the opportunity to participate in future celebrations. The past and future are connected through your educational experience and we are all part the goal to provide each and every student who walks through our doors with a quality education that prepares them for life. Our motto is "every child, every chance, every day."

Many of you had the opportunity to visit the north end business office addition. It is now completed. I had read efficiency studies in which the need for space is critical to work production, but I don't think I really believed the research. I can now say that I am a true believer based upon my personal experience. We were five people in a 700 square foot space. We operated a 14 million dollar budget that included services to nearly 900 students and 150 full and part-time employees. We believed we needed another person to assist with the work load. Since moving into the new space we have realized that we do not require additional staff. The added space has made it possible for us to improve efficiency and customer service. I invite you to stop in and visit us and see what you think!

Our classroom renovation to meet the needs of children who experience autism has been highly successful. Children who have previously not spoken a word are now doing so. It is truly amazing how environment can and does provide the stimulus for improved quality of life. It takes the right people in the right place to make things happen. The special education director and the classroom teacher are to be commended for their leadership in the

development of this classroom. School board members are to be commended for their decision to fund such a project.

I could go on and on about the school and what is happening, but there is not space to do so. Check out our website at www.wagner.k12.sd.us and keep abreast of what is going on at your alma mater or better yet, plan a visit! We look forward to seeing you not only on the hallway graduation composites, but perhaps in person on your next visit.



Business office addition

1924 CLASS COMPOSITE

By Linda Soukup

Rosie Koupal of Wagner Community School is holding the picture of the Class of 1924 which was recently given to the school and the Alumni Committee had it framed for viewing. It will be hung in the first hallway to your right as you come in the East Entrance of the school. Marna Wolf of Bonesteel, SD, came forward with the picture after reading about the Class of 1938 Composite in The Wagner Post recently. Marna's mother was a graduate of the 1924 class, Mae Morgan who became Mae Stillion and a life long citizen of Wagner. The Alumni Committee is



Rosie Koupal

grateful to Marna for coming forward with this picture to add to the collection at the school. The members of the Class of 1924 were: Estle Sparks, Emma Hanson, Lovell D. Hiner, Madeline Markenstadt, Roy Chapman, Fay Heligas, John Joseph, Lora Wilcox, Weir Strayer, Hazel Corey, Raymond Frink, Grace Schuster, Alton Hasket, Charlotte Christie, LaVerne Heligas, Mae Morgan, Paul Little, Blanche Alton, Charles E. Lewis, Ena Talberg, Walt Eggers, Nina Monlux, Janet Carter, Jerome Larkin.

MISSING 1938 CLASS COMPOSITE FOUND

By Linda Soukup

A missing class composite from 1938 has been found, framed, and presented to Wagner Community School for display among the early graduating classes. The early classes from 1923 thru the 1950's are found in the first hallway to your right when you enter the school from the east entrance.

Ashley Sik, an elementary Special Education teacher in the Wagner School system had noticed that the Class of 1938 was not on the wall with the rest of the composites. She mentioned this to her boyfriend, Ryan Cihak, who happened to be the grandson of Vi Nedved Cihak. He was pretty sure that could be his Grandma's class and they were able to locate his grandmothers school scrapbook which Ashley is holding in the picture. The scrapbook was a treasure of information with pictures, newspaper clippings, Vi's Prom booklet, and her class composite picture. Rosie Koupal, WCS secretary, contacted the Wagner Alumni Committee and they had the picture copied, enlarged, and framed.

Recently a Wagner Alumni, Gail (Duncanson) Johannsen-Bridge donated her father's class composite from 1927 to the school. The first year of composites is 1923. There presently are no pictures before 1923 and 1924 and 1937 are also missing. We know that pictures exist of the first graduating Class of 1910 because we have seen them at the Charles Mix Historical Society Museum. There were three of the first graduates: Irma Grabill, A. Ray Morse, and Nellie Kaney. There is a picture of the 1914 Graduating Class of Mae Chambers, Laura Patton, and Joseph Peshek, and one of the 1915 Graduating Class which consisted of Joseph Peshek, Ernest Patton, Floyd Morgan, Abe Boynton, Agnes Monlux, Mae Chambers, Belle Phillipa, and Esther London also at the museum, but the dates and Joseph Peshek do not match in the "Epic of the Realm of Ree" history book where these photographs are published.

We are hoping that more people will read this and start looking for their parents and grandparents school pictures. One of the goals of the Wagner Alumni Committee is to further the discovery and preservation of information and photographs from the Wagner School system since its beginning in 1902. Please, if you find pictures, artifacts, memorabilia, contact us. We live in a very technological era. It is possible for us to copy items instantly without waiting for negatives to be made. Your items will become part of the schools treasured history that generations in the future can enjoy. Doris Hosek and Vicki Koupal at the Town and Country Beauty Salon recently donated an old Raider Annual they found from 1949. We will be able to copy all of the pictures and have them on display for everyone to enjoy in the future. It is believed the

annual belonged to Clara Wiechmann who used to work as a beauty operator in the Mokrejs Beauty Shop on the second floor of what is now Blaha Boutique and Napa. We realize that children do not always recognize annuals and photographs from childhood and high school days as having no value. They do have value because enough time has passed to make them windows into the past.

There were some interesting items in Vi Nedved Cihak's scrapbook that gave us a glimpse of how classes experienced their school events. There were program booklets from Vi's Junior and Senior Prom. The banquet supper was held at the Masonic Temple, which is now a vacant building on Main Streets east side. There were pictures of their play that were held in the Cozy Theatre which used to be where the United States Post Office is located now. On top of the stage of the theatre there is a banner that says Commercial State Bank Since 1902-Service and Appreciation and another banner for Corner Grocery Phone 16.

Please contact Sandy Seiner, 605-384-5555; Linda Soukup 605-384-5575; or Rosie Koupal 605-384-5111 if you have things to share.



L:R:Linda Soukup, Susan Smit, Ashley Sik, Rosie Koupal, Sandy Seiner

Wagner Alumni Association

City Hall

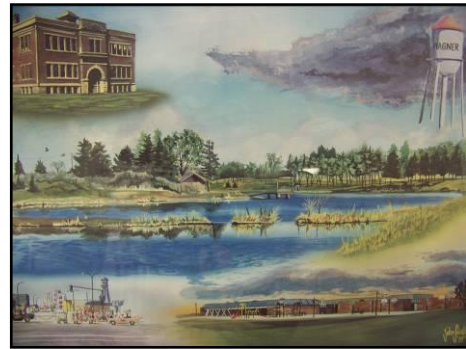
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Mission Statement...

To enhance and strengthen the ties between alumni and their hometown of Wagner, South Dakota.

The Wagner Alumni Association Welcomes...

- High School Graduates
- Teachers & Staff
- Past & present residents of the community who did not graduate here but feel a connection to Wagner

We encourage you to join the Alumni Association to stay connected to your hometown, former classmates, and friends. Membership is completely FREE! You can obtain access to an Alumni Email Directory and receive email alerts on important events.

If you would prefer to receive this newsletter via email, please contact us today.

Wagner Alumni Association

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