

St. Matthew's School

497 Humboldt Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55107



NON-PROFIT
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
ST. PAUL, MN
PERMIT NO. 3673

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Vol.1, No.6 February 2004

St. Matthew's School Alumni Newsletter

Welcome to our new Director of Education and Formation.



In July 2003, St. Matthew's School welcomed our new Director of Education and Formation, Mrs. Beth Behnke. She graduated from St. Thomas University with an Educational Specialist Degree with K-12 administrative licensure last spring. She comes to St. Matthew's with 9 years of principal experience—2 years in Iowa near Dubuque, 6 years in Faribault and 1 year at St. Columba in St. Paul.

Mrs. Behnke and her husband Scott live with their 3 children in Burnsville. Chelsea grade 6 and Ariel grade 2 attend St. Matthew's School. Four year old Cole attends St. Matthew's Childcare Center. Her position at St. Matthew's oversees grades K-8 at the school, infant through pre-school age at the childcare center and grades 1-10 in religious education as well as coordinating with the YMCA the Extended Day program in the lower level of the Parish Center.

St. Matthew's Alumni Association Officers

The following officers were elected by the association:

Joan Valen Guertin '48, Chairperson, Bernie Mike '76, Secretary and Michele Ross Edwards '64, Treasurer. We are grateful to these alumni as well as others that attend association meetings for their continued commitment to St. Matthew's School.

St. Matthew's Alumni Association Creates Mission Statement

The officers and other members that attended the March 24, 2003 meeting adopted the following Mission Statement for St. Matthew's School Alumni Association:

"Establish and maintain a strong alumni association that will preserve the tradition and vitality of St. Matthew's School by financial and volunteer commitment.

Alumni Association Establishes Future Goals

Textbooks in the school are 8 years old or older. The current staff at the school do an outstanding job supplementing these textbooks with other learning aids, but one of Mrs. Behnke's primary goals is to have the highest standard of curriculum at St. Matthew's. Therefore, it was determined that updating textbooks would be one of our primary goals. At our March 24, 2003 meeting, the association immediately voted to donate \$2000.00 from unrestricted funds towards the purchase of new textbooks. As a result, new Social Studies textbooks will be purchased for grades 1-5.

TAKE THE CHALLENGE

The association would never like to see "outdated" books again in the school. Therefore, our goal is to raise enough money to help update ALL textbooks in the school as soon as possible, and keep them updated. This is a huge challenge, but with your help we know that it can happen. An average cost for a textbook, depending on the subject can cost between \$30-\$50.00. Would you be willing to donate money to purchase 1, 2 or more textbooks? How about alumni making a challenge to others in their class to make a donation towards this wonderful goal? Or, how about a class to class challenge? Unless specified differently, all those who donate will have a special donation sticker put in the books that are purchased. This will include the name and class year of the person making the donation. We want to make sure that all alumni are recognized for their contribution for this effort.

MANY THANKS!!

The Alumni Association has received over \$3500.00 in unrestricted, endowment and expense donations. We are extremely grateful to all those who have made these donations. As a result, alumni newsletters can continue to be printed, some students are receiving tuition assistance and new Social Studies textbooks have been purchased for grades 1-5.

Also, some Alumni made donations to the School Marathon held last October 2003. As a result, the students raised over \$28,000.00 through donations and pledges for the school.

Congratulations students and families!

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to the Class of '57 who donated over \$800.00 to the school for video equipment. This class meets once a quarter at a local restaurant. At their last meeting, they "passed the hat" and as a result were able to present this generous gift to the school. Wow!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Saturday April 24, 2004
St. Matthew's School Endowment Dinner and Silent Auction. (See Red & White page in this Newsletter for more details).
- Wednesday June 23, 2004
St. Matthew's School Alumni BBQ. Check your mailbox in April for more information on this event. This will be the 2nd BBQ put on by the Association for Alumni.

Missing Alumni & Newsletter Updates

We are still missing many, many alumni. If you know the whereabouts of any fellow classmates, family, friends and neighbors who attended St. Matthew's School, or if you would like to submit any news to share with other alumni, please mail your info in the enclosed envelope or send by e-mail to:

John or Michele Edwards
2270 Dodd Road
Mendota Heights, MN 55120
(651) 688-7635

Jedwards57@comcast.net

St. Matthew's School

Colored Print

This beautiful 16X20 watercolor painted by Marian Wolters '51 from a picture taken by Sister Regina Ecker SSND depicts the original building of St. Matthew's School built in 1902. If you are interested in purchasing one of these prints, please fill in the following and mail in the enclosed envelope. Each print is \$25.00 and an additional \$5.00 for mailing costs.
The frame is not included

Name _____ Grad Year _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

No. of Prints _____ + \$5.00 mailing fee Amount Enclosed _____

_____ Cut here _____



St. Matt's Sweatshirts

Place Your Order Now!

_____ Cut here _____

The Home and School Association of St. Matthew's School has St. Matthew's sweatshirts available. They are navy blue with St. Matthew's embroidered in red and white on the front left chest.

Sizes are Youth-S, M, L, XL-\$22.00
Adult-S, M, L, XL-\$26.00, XXL-\$27.00, XXXL-\$28.00, XXXXL-\$30.00
Shipping is included in the cost.

Name: _____ Grad Year _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone: _____ Size _____

Proceeds go to the Home and School Association. Please send your order form with money in the enclosed envelope. Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

Red & White School Endowment Dinner



The Purpose

St. Matthew's School greatly appreciates your past support of our school, students and staff. We ask that you consider joining us again for the Red and White Dinner. As always, the proceeds of the dinner will go to the St. Matthew's Educational Endowment fund.



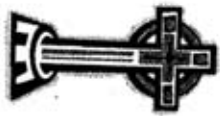
The St. Matthew's Educational Endowment benefits students who otherwise may not be able to afford a Catholic education. It also allows for continuing education for our teachers and staff. Only the endowment's interest is spent for these purposes. The principal remains intact. We are very pleased to announce the current fund is over \$250,000!



The Evening

The evening will begin with the celebration of the Liturgy at 5:00 p.m. The social hour follows at 6:00 p.m.

This year's dinner will feature a delicious chicken kiev and rice pilaf. A cash bar will be available.



"The Game"

The evening will once again be highlighted by "The Game!" This year's first prize is \$1,500; the second prize is \$750; and the third prize is \$300. Additional prizes will also be awarded, and a silent auction, with many valuable and interesting items, will also be offered.

Don't Delay

Remember, only a limited number of tickets are available for purchase! Buy your tickets early!! No ticket will be issued without payment in full. If you have a group of six or more, you may reserve a table.

It really is a fun night!

The Red and White Dinner offers not only a delicious dinner, but a lot of fun and laughter. Bring your friends and family to join in the fun.

Please, make plans to join us!

Reservations for St. Matthew's
School's 11th Annual
Red and White Dinner
"Building Our Future, One Child at a
Time."
Saturday, April 24, 2004

Please return this form with your \$50 payment by Monday, April 19, 2004, to:
St. Matthew's Red and White Dinner
490 Hall Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55107.
(651) 224-9793

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

Number of tickets @ \$50 _____

Total payment _____

(Please identify all those for whom you are purchasing tickets on the reverse side. Attach additional pages, if necessary.)

My party needs _____ table(s) for 6 or 8 people.

Group name _____