

# Connections

A Publication of the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School

Education Foundation

We Can't  
Succeed  
Without You

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## James Bergman—Rural Development and Innovation



by Katie Kleven

In rural Oslo sits a white farmhouse with a small shop across the driveway. This shop houses one of the best-kept secrets in the area: Bergman Engineering and Manufacturing Co. also known as, BEAMCO. It is an engineering and innovation company started by Alvarado High School '81 alumnus, James Bergman.

He was raised in rural Oslo in Higdem Township the youngest of three children to Henrietta (VanBaalen, WHS class of 1951) and the late Paulie Bergman. It was here where James would develop his very first love: farming. He is, in fact, a fourth generation farmer to farm the Bergman land. His love for farming would be initiated by his father and they would farm together for many years.

While in high school he participated in basketball, speech, choir, the school play, and was a class officer. He really enjoyed mathematics and the science courses and one of his favorite teachers was his math teacher, Dave Schroeder. Looking back on his years at AHS, he fondly remembered his class being like a family, "There weren't that many of us so we really got to know each other. We were so much more than just a class, we were a 'family'."

After graduation James attended the University of North Dakota pursuing a degree in mechanical engineering. He loved to farm but had a desire to someday start his own business. Throughout his years at UND James came to an unsettling realization—he had no idea what engineers actually did. As graduation approached, he

made a goal that he would give himself one year after college to find an engineering job and to figure out what an engineer actually did. After long hours of searching, with over 111 resumes sent out, he was finally offered an engineering position at a manufacturing company in Roseau, Polaris Industries and quickly figured out what he could do with his degree.

Polaris had hired James as a part-time engineer. He would spend his summers farming and his winters in Roseau at Polaris. When he first began at Polaris they had just started producing ATVs and were looking into other ways to increase revenue. His duties at Polaris included fixing

product problems, something he really enjoyed, "They'd bring us products that were malfunctioning and it was up to us to find a solution." He also worked at developing new products and ideas for Polaris, "Not only was I fixing product problems, but our team was also coming up with futuristic ideas for projects." He really enjoyed the problem solving and constantly coming up with ideas to test out new products. James would spend five winters at Polaris before moving on.

As his time at Polaris came to end, James would once again be faced with a difficult decision: should he head back to school to get his Master's in Business Administration or begin working on starting his own business? He decided on the latter. He approached a co-worker at Polaris for advice about starting a company. This co-worker had experience with running a business and had just recently acquired a company in Eveleth, MN. James jumped at the opportunity and would spend the next two years splitting his time between Oslo, Roseau, and Eveleth, "I lived in my pickup," he said with a laugh. While working in Eveleth he learned the basics about running a business.

After his work in Roseau and Eveleth, James decided to take a leap and started his business, BEAMCO, in 1991. BEAMCO's first project would be developing oil level sensors for ATVs and snowmobiles, and eventually watercraft, for Polaris, a product that was needed at the time. These

oil level sensors detect low oil levels and alert drivers and riders by flashing a warning on the dash. This product would put BEAMCO on the map and secure a business relationship between them and Polaris. BEAMCO has produced well over a million oil level sensors in the past 24 years, with them making over 100,000 of them a year, in peak years.

BEAMCO would continue chugging along, making oil level sensors, and developing new products when Polaris approached James again in 1994. Polaris wanted to develop a two-seated ATV, and with their past business relationship with James and BEAMCO, they figured his company would be a good fit. BEAMCO put together a team of individuals and started on this new venture. At the time, there was no such thing as an off-road, two-seated ATV. They would build the very first prototype of Polaris' Ranger right there in his shop in Oslo. The final product would take BEAMCO and Polaris three years and over 50,000 man-hours to complete before finally showing it off at a dealer show. "It was just so crazy to sit there and watch Polaris unveil this product that nobody had any idea that we were making. The looks on everyone's faces was just priceless," explained James. The final product would go on sale at Polaris in 1998. Throughout the years BEAMCO has created many different types of the Ranger, including the Fire Ranger (which is used by local fire departments) and the Limo (which seats twelve), and over 44 accessory kits, with over 10,000 kits sold.

The 9/11 attack would once again bring people knocking on BEAMCO's door looking for solutions. This time it would be Polaris and the United States Military. They were looking for someone to develop a militarized ATV. BEAMCO started on the project in April and had it done by June. With the success of that ATV, they would be approached about making a militarized Ranger. This Ranger would be completely different from what they had done in the past. It had to be light, easily transported, and had to fit inside aircraft. The Canadian Military would also approach James and BEAMCO around the same time to build them a militarized vehicle made specifically to their requirements.

BEAMCO's most recent (Continued on page 5) collaboration was with LM Wind

## Ed. Foundation Fundraiser Baked Potato Supper

Feb. 5, 2018

WAO Ponies  
vs. Stephen/Argyle Central  
Boys Basketball Game  
WAO High School Cafeteria  
Serving: 5-7 p.m.



## WAO Schools Quasquicentennial All School Reunion

An anniversary celebration of the 125th year of commencements will be held during the Marshall County Fair in the summer of 2019.

## Arizona-Warren Picnic

February 3, 2018 in Mesa, AZ  
See page 7 for more information.

## Golf Scramble

The 14th Annual Education Foundation Golf Scramble Fundraiser will be held on Friday, July 27, 2018, at Warren Riverside Golf Course.

## Class Reunions

Please contact the Education Foundation with your class reunion details for our next edition of "Connections." We would be glad to give you our most current addresses for your classmates. In return we ask that you give us any address updates that you become aware of.

## Marshall County Fair

July 25 – July 29, 2018

POSTAL CUSTOMER

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Warren, MN 56762  
ECRWSS



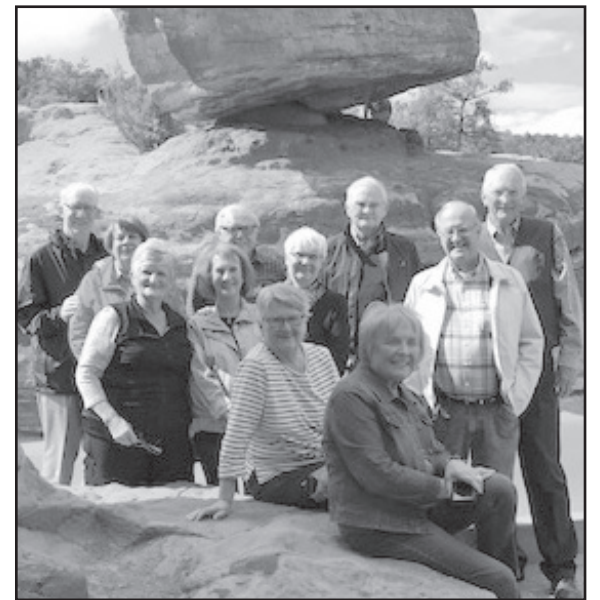
# 2017 Class Reunions



**AHS CLASS OF 1957** — The Alvarado High School Class of 1957 held their 60th Reunion at Ruby Tuesday in Grand Forks on August 8, 2017. Pictured from the left are, Emil Vanyo, Avis (Gulbranson) Iverson and Marlys (Hendrickson) Kleven. Not able to attend were Madonna (Boushee) Tack and Darrell Larson.



**OHS Class of 1987** — 1st row, Randy Slominski, Shaun Havis, Val (Hoff) Walker, Larry Czapiewski, Mike Stoltman, Scott Kosmatka, Jeff Clemetson. 2nd Row, Chad Korynta, Sandra (Michalski) Stengl, Jodi (Buchner) Telken, Ben Carpenter, Debbie (Nelson) Delisle, Julie (Paulson) Dvorak, Pete Buck. 3rd Row, Betty (Gerszewski) Borst, Erin (Bushaw) Light, Denise (Johnson) Byrd, Jenelle Stadstad, Christine (Kinney) Sivertson.



**WHS CLASS OF 1957 in Colorado**— Standing, left to right: Bill Grange '57, Sandy Grange, Carol Hurst Anfinson '57, Bob Ricker, Dee Elseth Ricker '57, Arnette Johnson Nelson '57, John Peterson '57, Buzz Omdahl '57, Ervin Rokke '57. Seated: Treasure Soltis Omdahl '57, Rachel Peterson.



**OHS Class of 1987** — Randy Slominski, Stacy (O'Neil) Palay, Rhonda (Jones) Heyd, Denise (Johnson) Byrd, Betty (Gerszewski) Borst, Jenelle Stadstad, Val (Hoff) Walker, Sandra (Michalski) Stengl.



**AHS CLASS OF 1977** — 1st row (seated): Kathy (Pribula) Carlson, Denise (Gornowicz) Sherlock, Rhonda (Anderson) Thompson, Bryan Martens. 2nd row (standing): Rodney Mathsen, Sharleen (Monk) Pape, Roberta (Knute) Votava, Harlan Boman, Mark Iverson, Dean Bergman



**WHS CLASS OF 1977** — Front Row: Jon Wittman, Julie (Ross) Welin, Ellen (Edgar) Johnson, Sharon (Porter) Whitmer, Cindy (Sabol) Melgard, Anne (Pawlowski) Anderson, Stacy (Toupin) Plencner, Debra (Hamrick) Benson, Nancy (Pederson) Useldinger, Nancy (LaCoursiere) Gerszewski Middle Row: Peter Erickson, Randy Engelstad, Larry Wittman, Wanda Rolandson, Dawn Danielski, Donna (Lamberson) Olson, Michelle (Aase) Kuzel. Back Row: Kent Gustafson, Dennis Horgen, James Ranstrom, Brad Johnson, Steve McGregor, Joel Miska, Larry Korynta, Steve Olson.



**OHS CLASS OF 1967** — Back Row: Art Wosick, Jim Osowski, Ole Elden, Ray Gerszewski, Barb Schmeck, Helen Johnson, Frank Gowan, Ron Nelson. Front Row: Delores Kovar, Joan Hennessy, Myrna Dahlstrom, Marilyn Mathsen.



**WHS CLASS OF 1957 IN WARREN** — Front row, left to right: Marlin Fillipi, Carol (Hurst) Anfinson, Marlene (Diedrich) Mandeville, Marlys (Aamodt) Kohlhasse (teacher), Beryl (Bossman) Palmer, Arnette (Johnson) Nelson, Delores (Elseth) Ricker. Back row, left to right: John Peterson, Lance Daby, Bill Grange, Kari Jo (Herbranson) Hanson, Don Omdahl, Cherry Ann (Swanson) Iverson, Shirley (Mykleby) Hamrick, Marlene (Wesolowski) Tureson, Alvina (Poolman) Henrickson, Janice (Parkin) Nordenstrom.



**WHS Class of 1953** — From the left, Ray Larson, JoAnne (Wilson) Clark, Jerry Jensen, Sig Silnes, Don Wysoscki, Marlene (Wittman) Silnes, June (Strandell) Myllar, Yvonne (Neilson) Haney, Shirley (Haugen) Olson, Rosemary (Wilkenson) Berget, Marge (Carr) Stolee, Marlys (Mattson) Nelson.



# 2017 Class Reunions



**WAO CLASS OF 1997** — Front Row, from the left, Jessica McGregor, Christina Erickson, Jami (Johnston) Aubol, Bill Bienek, Valerie (Lindemoen) Boris, Robert Novak, Ben Duckstad. Second row, Mark Thompson, Brandon Carlson, Eric Dvorak, Scott Nelson, Coley Schuler. Third Row, Ryan Novak.



**WAO CLASS OF 2007** — Front Row: Megan (Rivard) Larson, Nikki Axdahl, Jacob Edgar, Tami (Pawlowski) McFarland, Ben Bauer. Middle Row: Kelli (Hamrick) Knoll, Amber (Kennedy) Basting, Cole Goodwin, Scott Jorgenson, Tom Borowicz. Back Row: Matt McFarland, Michael Novak. Also in attendance but not pictured are, Jeremy Marti and Amber (Owens) Storey.

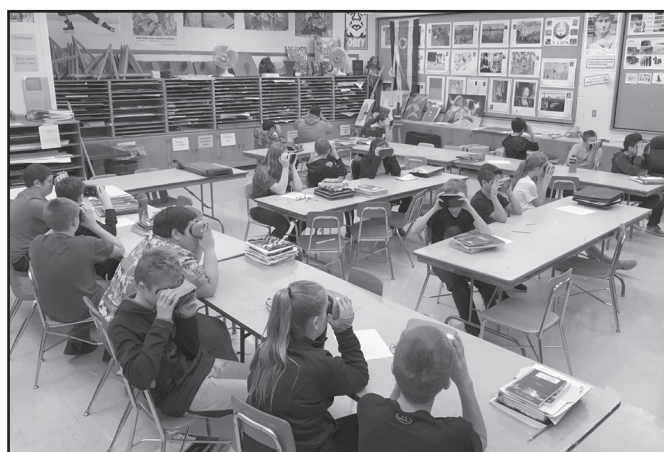


**WHS CLASS OF 1987** — Front Row-Left to Right: James Oberg, Jennifer (Jevning) Paumen, Jeff Hanson, Tammy (Dahlman) Schatz, Jana (Walker) Maruska, Cindy Black Lance. Back Row-Left to Right: Dean Morkassel, Shelly (Bodell) Lunos, Robin Swanson, Dan Taus.



◀**WHS CLASS OF 1940** — Donna Copp Ovsak Drows of Mesa, Arizona, left, and Loreen (Palmer) Engelstad of the Good Samaritan Center in Warren met recently to celebrate their 77th class reunion since graduating from Warren High School in the class of 1940. They believe they are the only surviving graduates of the 1940 class. Opal Dargus of Thief River Falls was also in the class but had to leave and did not graduate with the class.

►**VIRTUAL REALITY GOGGLES** — Jr. High art classes at WAO had the opportunity to use virtual reality goggles that were purchased by the Ed Foundation, and allowed them to take field trips around the world without leaving the classroom. Students were at an art gallery in Paris, France, to study painters from Impressionism. They learned about these artists from history and then were able to view the work in an actual, real life art gallery. Students also traveled to Glasgow, Scotland to learn about the metal sculptures made by Rob Mulholland. Art instructor Chris Kirchner says, "The virtual reality system purchased by the Ed Foundation is an invaluable teaching resource that we can use to globalize our students in ways not possible before."



# Chat with the Chairman

by Carol Anderson

Greetings from the Warren/ Alvarado/ Oslo Education Foundation!

The snow shovels and plows have been out in NW Minnesota. The white ground, heavier jackets, mittens and caps remind us that winter is back.

The summer of 2017 was an exciting time for the Education Foundation. It was so good to see many of you back in the area for the Marshall County Fair Events and your class reunions. It was interesting to hear your stories and "where things used to be" as you toured through the school buildings. Thank you for coming back to your "roots"! An added plus was when many of you participated in our 13th annual golf scramble. This is one of our major fund-raising events for the year. Over \$24,000 was raised this year! All of the money from this event goes back to WAO for our staff and students.

We have a problem, but it is a good problem! Again we are outgrowing our donor wall. We are looking into a computerized program that will have a touch screen. We hope to have something in place by summer.

We are constantly amazed by the generosity of our donors who have a dedicated, caring interest in the education of the WAO students.

We have funded many things for the district over the years. In October we funded \$19,260 for needs that were requested by the staff. Last spring we were the recipients of \$25,000 from the Estate of Shirley Godel Cockrell which enabled us to fund many extra things. Shirley had planned ahead to leave this very generous gift to the Foundation. This past week the band director ordered a new flute with designated donations that are earmarked for band. Wow! We are so blessed by so many who remember their "roots".

Thank you for keeping us informed about yourself. We appreciate the address updates. It costs us over \$2.00 for every returned "Connections" to get it out of the post office and to resend it to you if we're lucky enough to get a new address sticker on the label. If we don't get the new address, the search begins to locate "lost" alumni. In addition to addresses we appreciate the death notices/obituaries. Are you aware that we list the names of alumni, staff, and friends that have passed on our website? We update this at least every other week. You'll find the Education Foundation link under district at [www.wao.k12.mn.us](http://www.wao.k12.mn.us). Check it out under recently deceased family and friends.

Please keep in mind that if you give a memorial, donation, or gift to the Foundation you have the opportunity to designate it for a certain grade, department, or activity if you wish. All you have to do is to make a notation in the memo part of the check or attach a note. All undesignated donations and memorials go to the general fund. Whether the gift is big or small, it does make a big difference in the lives of our students and staff.

Our Spanish teacher, Kim Wirries, inspired one of her Spanish students to apply to attend Spanish Camp during the past summer. We provided some funding for this wonderful opportunity where only Spanish was spoken!

Katie Kleven, WAO 2014, contacted us this summer about volunteering with the Foundation as a payback for the Robert L. Strandberg Memorial Scholarship she received as well as the education she received at WAO. Katie has written the feature story for this issue. Thanks Katie for remembering your roots!

Where would we be without our volunteers? Our golf scramble wouldn't happen! Many of our game volunteers have worked the scramble for years. It was great this year to have calls from people that were willing to give a day to help us. Volunteers are underpaid, but they are worth gold! Thank you for helping us!

In August an initial meeting was held for the All School Reunion that will be held on fair weekend 2019. This will be the 125th anniversary of the first graduation class. Sue (Miscik) Shirek, 1976, is the chair of the committee. Watch for more details and the specific dates in the fall of 2018.

Over the years we've had many scholarships added. Scholarship support for WAO students often has made a difference in their ability to continue their education. Contact us at any time if you have a desire to establish a scholarship.

We have many new staff this year. Each full time instructor received \$200 from the Foundation to purchase items for their classroom. Part time instructors received \$100. Each instructor also received a \$50 gift certificate from the WAO Wearhouse to purchase "Pony" items.

In February of this year many locals, snowbirds, and residents of other states gathered in Mesa, AZ for the first Warren or surrounding area gathering. It was a huge success. This gathering will become a tradition! February 3, 2018 is the date! Thanks to the many alumni that have taken on this great project.

American Education Week was in November. Again our board served a light lunch to all WAO district personnel as a thank you for all that they do for our district.

One of our current projects is a cookbook. Please see the information about this project in this newsletter. Recipes may be submitted online. These books will be ready before the All School Reunion in 2019.

As we look ahead to 2018 one of our first events will be our annual baked potato supper on February 5th, the night of the Stephen/ Argyle Storm Pony BBB Game. Come join us for our salad bar, delicious baked potatoes with various toppings and bars.

Thank you for all of your support over the years. As our motto states, "WE CAN'T SUCCEED WITHOUT YOU!" If any of our board members can be of any assistance to you, please contact us.

May your holidays be bright and filled with peace and joy!



# Tribute and Memorial Gifts

May 1, 2017 - October 31, 2017

## In Memory of Adeline (Lenhart)

### Wachter

Carl & LaVerne Anderson

## In Memory of Anna (Tallum) Vixie

Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer  
Marlene (Wesolowski) Tureson  
Timothy & Crystal (Vixie) Juven

## In Memory of Anne Kasprick

Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman  
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

## In Honor of Arnette Nelson

Don & Corrine (Goplin) Slaughter

## In Memory of Betty Grembowski

Greg & Sandy (Jagol) Johnson  
Carl & LaVerne Anderson

## In Honor of Carol Anderson

Gary & Shawna Schuler  
Sharon Nelson

## In Honor of Chase R. Novacek

Jeanie Ulferts

## In Memory of Chris Bossman (Class of 1990)

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman

## In Honor of Class of 1944

Neil & Peggy Kruger

## In Honor of Classmates &

**Friends of WHS Class of 1969**  
David Saetre

## In Memory of Cynthia (Palm)

### Broekemeier

Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

## In Memory of Darlene Beck

Allyn & Susan Roley  
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning  
Steve & Marie Goodwin  
Hazel Hendrickson  
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler  
Mick, Jan, Lacey & Zach Riopelle

## In Memory of Dean Johnson

Jamie & Becky (Bossman) Boe

## In Memory of Dellene Anderson

Don Vetteson

## In Memory of DeLone Riopelle

Randy & Bette Swanson  
Jim & Jan Johnston  
Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Chuck & Lovie (Johnson) Graham  
Helen (Johnston) Plencner  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin  
Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Henry & Phyllis (Kuznia) Hammerback  
L. Peder & Karen Larson  
Richard & Mary Jane (Hendrickson)  
Emerson  
Deanna Swanson

Dr. W.L. & Janice Lamb  
Carl & LaVerne Anderson  
Russell & Beth Hickman  
Marion Hickman  
Kay Anderson

Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer  
Curt & Deb (Wages) Myrfield  
Duane & Shari Swanson

Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

Ken & Robin Hanson

John & Carol Bowman

Carol J. Anderson

Steve & Marie Goodwin

## In Memory of Dennis “Denny”

### Sailor

Don & Glorianne Loeslie  
Elaine (Stinar) Salentiny  
Donald & Connie (Arnold) Omdahl  
Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

## In Honor of Duane & Jerrilyn

### Potucek's 50th Wedding

### Anniversary

Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Duane Bienek

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Bremer Bank

Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom

## In Memory of Eileen Hillman

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin  
Ralph & Cindy (Sabol) Melgard  
Kurt & Emily Peterson  
Carol J. Anderson  
Betty Melgard & Family  
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman

## In Memory of Elaine Myrfield

Deanna Swanson  
Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Kay Anderson  
Curt & Deb (Wages) Myrfield  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Elaine Stanghelle

Don Vetteson

## In Memory of Elina (Pumala) Sharp

Steve & Mary (Ovsak) Gazda  
Robert & Julie (Pumala) Ovsak  
Donna (Copp) Drews

## In Honor of Elva Bustrack's 90th Birthday

Hazel Hendrickson  
Kay Anderson

## In Memory of Ernie Slusar

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek  
Richard & Mary Jane (Hendrickson)  
Emerson  
Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Bill & Carol Sedgeman  
Murray & Betty (VanBaalen) Goodwin  
Rovella (Franks) Weiland  
Leona Neegard  
Carol J. Anderson  
Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer  
Duane & Shari Swanson  
Curt & Deb (Wages) Myrfield  
Cindy (Riopelle) Filipi

## In Honor of Everly Grace Johnson

Carol J. Anderson

## In Honor of Gary & Joan Peterson's 40th Wedding Anniversary

Carol J. Anderson

## In Honor of Gary & Shawna Schuler's 50th Wedding Anniversary

Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland

## In Memory of Gary Engstrom

John K. & Alvina (Pederson) Olson  
Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Ronald & Sharon (Edgar) Abrahamson  
Jr. & Carol (Stengrim) Buzalsky  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Dick & Phyllis Rominski  
Richard & Barbara Olson  
John & Gay (Wages) Oehlke  
Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral  
Elizabeth Yeado  
Pat (Gilbert) Carlson  
Kay Anderson  
Paul & Janet (Carlson) Aakre  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Honor of Gary Schuler

Neil & Kison (Schuler) Miller  
Coley & Katie Schuler

## In Memory of Greg Haugen

Tim & Linda (Haugen) Conely  
Erman & Betty Ueland

## In Memory of Greg Magoris

Nancy (Kotts) Swenson  
Duane & Jerrilyn (Olson) Potucek

## In Memory of Gwen

### (Charboneau) McIntyre

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman

Richard & Mary Jane (Hendrickson)

Emerson

John K. & Alvina (Pederson) Olson

Ronald & Sharon (Edgar) Abrahamson

John & Gay (Wages) Oehlke

Richard & Barbara Olson

Dick & Phyllis Rominski

Patrick & Ann (Berget) Zavoral

George & Susan (Hill) Lee

Pat (Gilbert) Carlson

Stephanie Kotts

Don & Anita (Swenson) Owen

## In Memory of Hank & Mary Johnson

Robert & Sharon (Nordin) Hegland

## In Honor of Hazel Hendrickson 90th Birthday

Chuck & Lovie (Johnson) Graham  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of IlaMae (Shane) Kozel

DelRoy & Marlene (Olson) Shane

## In Memory of Jan Ferarro

Michael & Betty (Bjorgaard) DuBore  
WAO Elementary Staff  
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman  
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom

## In Memory of Jean Johnson

Patty (Bossman) Hines  
Robert & Deanna Bossman  
Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer  
Jamie & Becky (Bossman) Boe

## In Memory of Jeff Evin

Jill M. (Johnston) Anderson  
Nancy (Evin) Christman

## In Memory of Jenny Marie Neumann

Helen (Johnston) Plencner  
Sharon (Plencner) Brown  
Mark & Stacy (Toupin) Plencner

## In Memory of Jerry Potucek

Steve & Marie Goodwin

## In Memory of JoAnn Steer

Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Carol J. Anderson  
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

## In Memory of Joyce Bossart

Steve & Marie Goodwin

## In Memory of Joyce Holter

Steve & Marie Goodwin  
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

## In Memory of Joyce Schantzen

Carl & LaVerne Anderson

## In Memory of June (Golden) Dosen

John Short

## In Memory of Justin “Huggie”

### Haugtvedt

Brian & Diane (Narlock) Rokke

## In Memory of Katherine (Lundgren) Peterson

Carl & LaVerne Anderson

## In Memory of Kay Anderson

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Randy & Wanda Gubrud  
Curtis & Lillian Anderson  
Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
L. Peder & Karen Larson  
Doris (Wimpfheimer) Erickson  
Dennis & Kyle (Anvinson) Erickson  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Mike & Deb Schmidt

Carol J. Anderson

Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer

## In Memory of Kenny Poolman

Verona Poolman

## In Memory of Leonard & DeLone

### Riopelle

Cindy (Riopelle) Filipi

## In Memory of Levina Brosdahl

Hazel Hendrickson  
Faye Wallsten

## In Memory of Lois & Fritz Foerster

Mark & Stacy (Toupin) Plencner

## In Memory of Lois Foerster

James & Carolyn Bodell  
Betty Melgard  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Steve & Marie Goodwin  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Lou Berne “Bun” (Winberg) Nuss

David & Mary (Lundgren) Hauck  
Dennis & Sally (Nystrom) Awes  
Mary Ann (Mattson) Hanson  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Lyle Anderson

Lana Reynolds

## In Memory of Lynn Brosseau

Mike & Deb Schmidt

## In Memory of Marcy Bubb

Greg & Maureen Potucek

## In Memory of Marilyn Nelsen

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Kay Anderson  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Marilyn Weedman

Glenn & Jane (Miska) Sirek

## In Memory of Marlene Sommers

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Betty Melgard  
Elaine (Stinar) Salentiny  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Kay Anderson  
Ed & Beryl (Bossman) Palmer  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Marvin Johnson

Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland

## In Honor of Mary Beth Edman

Mike & Deb Schmidt  
Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Matthew Bubb Jr.

Milton & Jan (Skavlem) Kleven

## In Honor of Mike & Deb Schmidt's 35th Wedding Anniversary

Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom

## In Memory of Newell Aas

Helen Aas

## In Memory of Orpha Tverstol

Carol J. Anderson

## In Memory of Orville Haugen

John Short

## In Memory of Passed Away

### Classmates

Charles & Dolores (Weiland) Zammert

## In Memory of Paul St. Germain

Bill & Carol Sedgeman  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Jeanie Ulferts  
Terry & Ilene Estabrook  
Don & Ellen (Fillipi) Strickler

## In Memory of Paul Westman

Kay Anderson  
Sigvart & Marlene (Wittman) Silnes  
Jim & Janice (Hanson) Pulkrabek

## In Memory of Richard Bergeron

Kay Anderson

## In Memory of Richard P Nelson

David Sorensen

## In Memory of Rick Erickson

Bremer Bank  
Doris (Wimpfheimer) Erickson  
Mark & Kathy (Peterson) Swanson  
Gladwin & Mary Lynne  
Carol J. Anderson  
Duane & Shari Swanson

## In Memory of Robert L. Strandberg

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson

## In Memory of Robert, Edward &

### George Sommers

Dr. Chet & Chesley Sommers

## In Memory of Ronald Svard

James E. Anderson

## In Memory of Ruth (Lundgren)

### Hutchins

David & Mary (Lundgren) Hauck  
Gerald & Suzie (Omdahl) Jevning  
James & Shirley (Stark) Johnson  
Jim & Janice (Hanson) Pulkrabek  
Sigvart & Marlene (Wittman) Silnes  
Don & Corrine (Goplin) Slaughter

## In Memory of Scott E Forbes

Robert & Heather (Forbes) Bruce

## In Memory of Steve Kotts

Bill & Yvonne (Engelstad) Bossman  
Dick & Phyllis Rominski

## In Memory of Thomas Anderson

Tony & Michelle Gullikson  
Donna Peterson  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Mike & Deb Schmidt  
WAO Staff

Carol J. Anderson

Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg

## In Memory of Trevis Knutson

Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg  
Sandra (Stone) Forslund  
Chuck & Lovie (Johnson) Graham  
Jarod & Jessica (Rivard) Peterson  
Wayne & Shawn Spidahl  
Michael & Judy (Gulden) Weiland  
Gladwin & Mary Lynne  
Mike & Deb Schmidt  
Carol J. Anderson  
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom  
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman

## In Memory of Viola Larson

Bremer Bank

## In Memory of Wallace Anderson

Virginia (Anderson) Berg  
Frances (Anderson) Johnson

## In Memory of Warren & Margaret Saetre

Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

## In Memory of Warren Saetre

L. Peder & Karen Larson  
Dr. W.L. & Janice Lamb  
Arlyn & Marilyn (Kuznia) Stroble  
Anne (Saetre) Josephson Family  
Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
G.L. & Deb Tucker  
Dwight & Kathy Peterson  
Family & Friends  
Phil & Rita Striegel  
Michael & Pamela Daly  
Thomas & Beth McCauley  
Beth Johnson  
Connie Sherwood  
Ken & Quayne Sherwood,  
Sandra & Don Steinhauer  
Russell & Laurie Steer  
Carol J. Anderson  
Duane & Shari Swanson  
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman  
Alan, Lana (Walker) & Sophia Maruska  
Rita Walker

## In Honor of WHS Class of 1961

Robert & Inez (Nelson) Schwegler

## In Memory of Wilbur Peterson

Carl & LaVerne Anderson

## In Honor of William Mischel's Graduation

Jeanie Ulferts

## In Memory of William Ranstrom

Marvin L. & Hansena Swanson

## In Memory of Willis Jadeke

Glenn & Ruth Ann (Lundberg) Johnson  
Dallas & Joyce (Andresen) Way  
Steve & Marie Goodwin  
Carol J. Anderson  
Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl

The WAO Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization and every contribution is greatly appreciated. Even though we have carefully compiled this list of Memorials and Donations, please notify the Foundation if you believe any error has occurred.



# Bergman

(Continued from page 1)

Power. BEAMCO developed a unique hydraulics system that LM Wind Power uses to safely build wind blades. They also built the special brackets used on semi trucks to transport wind blades. James and other BEAMCO employees also had the opportunity to install the same hydraulics system in manufacturing plants in Little Rock, AR and Gaspé, Canada.

In 1996 James would marry his wife Donilyn on the very farm where it all began. They would start their family and eventually fill their farmhouse with five children: Louisa, Lily, John, Nickolas, and Adrianna. The inventing and farming bug has bit a couple of his children too. Both John and Lily have farmed side-by-side with their dad for the past few years. When Lily graduated high school she was in a similar situation as her father, should she go to school for farming or engineering? Luckily, she found a program at NDSU that allows her to do both: Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering. His other children include daughter Louisa (WAO '16), who is currently attending UND for nursing, John, who has entered his junior year at Sacred Heart, and his two youngest, Nickolas and Adrianna, who are in 1st grade and preschool at WAO Elementary School.

Throughout the years BEAMCO has certainly gained



a reputation for greatness and it has thrived in the rural community. When James began thinking about starting his business he knew he wanted to keep it local, "There is just something about the rural lifestyle that has always appealed to me." It's no secret that the people in this area are hardworking and dedicated not only to their families, but to others, too. James was shown this again when his father passed away during beet harvest last year. Friends and other locals showed up at his fields and harvested his crops without even being asked. He stated, "It just goes to show you that there are good, honest people here."

All those years ago BEAMCO was just a thought that James had dreamed up while sitting in the tractor one summer. His dedication to the rural community has helped make his company great. However, it isn't just James' dedication to be noted but the entire BEAMCO team. Just like his high school class, BEAMCO has become family.

# Neil Anderson Receives HS Diploma at Age 85



Neil Anderson with his family on graduation day. His wife, Emily is on the far right standing next to his daughter, Betty Anderson with her two children and their spouses, his daughter Sue Sanders (far left) and niece, Janet Polucha and her friend, Jim in the front.

by Betty Anderson

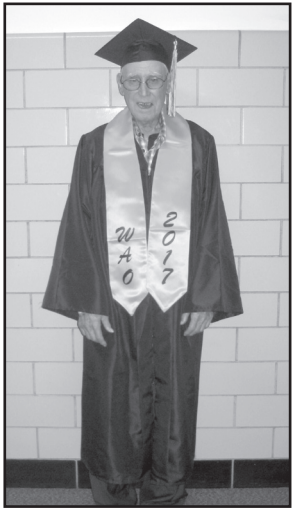
May 26th, 2017, was a special day for many families in northwestern Minnesota as students across the region participated in commencement activities. It was also a remarkable night for 85 year old, Neil Anderson, receiving his high school diploma from the Warren-Alvarado-Oslo School District. Neil's hopes of graduating from high school were deferred by the outbreak of the Korean War and his decision to enlist in the US Army. After serving, he moved to the Iron Range and went on to work for US Steel, becoming a foreman after he received his GED.

Neil's story illustrates his best characteristics; his devotion to his family, his patriotism, his tenacity, and his belief in

the transformative power of education. Although he did not pursue his academic goals in a traditional manner, he nevertheless continued to seek out and embrace every opportunity to learn, as well as to encourage others to do the same. Throughout his life, Neil has been active in PTA's, school boards, and state and local politics, striving to promote excellence and accountability in education. He was adamant that his children and grandchildren fulfill their own scholastic ambitions.

It was an honor for all attending to witness and celebrate this milestone. Neil demonstrated that earning a diploma does indeed still have value and meaning. He remarked on the high percentage of WAO students who continue their education and the impressive level of financial support provided to them from local sources.

The family of Neil wishes to thank the WAO school district not only for their assistance in facilitating Neil's wish to formally graduate from high school, but also for their dedication and devotion to all the students they serve.



# WHS Class of 1969 Scholarship Now Fully Endowed

The WHS Class of 1969 scholarship fund is now fully endowed at \$10,190.00.

# WAO Spring 2017 State Attendees



**STATE BOUND** — TJ Bowman, left, of Warren-Alvarado-Oslo High School and the West Marshall Fusion Golf team, advanced to the state tournament held in Becker June 13-14. Faith Porter, center, and Matthew Korynta, right, both of Warren-Alvarado-Oslo High School and the West Marshall Track team, advanced to the state competition held June 9-10 at Hamline University. Porter advanced in discus and Korynta advanced in triple jump and long jump.



◀ **AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK LUNCH** — Board members of the WAO Education Foundation served a soup lunch to WAO staff members during American Education Week. From the left are, Amy Trudell, Carol Bowman, Ellen Strickler and Carol Sedgeman.

# Recipes Wanted!

Dear Friends and Family,

Sharing recipes is a wonderful tradition and we need yours! The Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Education Foundation is publishing a cookbook featuring the best recipes from family and friends. We would love to include some of your favorites. Please share some of your best recipes so you can be represented in our treasured cookbook. Your name will be printed with each of your recipes.

Each cookbook will be professionally designed and produced with a unique cover and special pages of interest to our group. Profits from this cookbook will help fund current and future projects sponsored by the Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Education Foundation.

To share recipes, please visit G&R's website [www.gandrpublishing.com](http://www.gandrpublishing.com). In the upper corner, log in using the username: **WAO Ed Foundation Recipes** and password: **recipes**. Once logged in, please follow the provided instructions to enter your recipes. Recipes can also be submitted by mail to: 503 Prairie Rose Ave, Warren, MN 56762.

## RECIPE SUBMISSION FORM

(ONE RECIPE PER PAGE)

For Committee use  
Recipe # \_\_\_\_\_

RECIPE CATEGORIES

<input type="checkbox"/> Appetizers, Beverages, & Dips	<input type="checkbox"/> Breads & Rolls	<input type="checkbox"/> Desserts
<input type="checkbox"/> Soups & Salads	<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetables & Side Dishes	<input type="checkbox"/> Cookies & Candy
	<input type="checkbox"/> Main Dishes & Meats	<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous

RECIPE TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

SUBMITTED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT EXACTLY AS YOU WANT IT TO APPEAR IN THE BOOK)

INGREDIENTS (List of abbreviations: C. = cup; tsp. = teaspoon; T. = tablespoon; lb. = pound; oz. = ounces; pkg. = package; pt. = pint; qt. = quart)

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DIRECTIONS (PLEASE BE VERY CLEAR AND THOROUGH IN YOUR INSTRUCTIONS)

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# Donations

May 1, 2017 - October 31, 2017

175 Corner Store  
Ag Country Farm Credit Services  
Ali Hasbargen  
American Federal Bank  
Anne (Saetre) Josephson  
Argyle Building Center  
Art Blacklance  
Arthur & Charlotte Drenckhahn  
Ash Grove Ag, Inc.  
Ashley Anderson  
Ashley Vongroven  
Audrey (Nice) Barta  
Auto Value  
Autumn Russell  
Barb Hess  
Ben & Kari (Stinar) Miska  
Bernatello's Foods  
Beverly Torgerson  
Beverly Sillerud  
Bill & Carol Sedgeman  
Billy Potucek  
Brady Martz & Assoc, PC  
Brandon & Kelsey (Sorenson) Deschene  
Bremer Bank  
Brian & Barb (Kasprick) Ljunggren  
Brian & Jami (Copp) Verkuehlen  
Brian & Sheryl Schanil  
C&R Cleaners & Laundry  
Calvin & Amber Schoepp  
Carol J. Anderson  
Cathy (Anfinson) Dahlman  
Cenex of Warren  
Charles & Kathryn Blacklance  
Chris Kirchner  
CHS Ag Service  
Cindy Blacklance  
City of Warren  
Cole Papers  
Craig Peterson  
Czeh, Pederson & Wilson CPA  
D&D Commodities  
Dahlstrom Motors  
Dallas & Joyce (Andresen) Way  
Damon & Ashley Stroble  
Dan & Koko Nowacki  
Darrel & Melanie (Fulks) Nelson  
Darren Carlson  
David & Donna Gehrls  
David & Ericka (Swanson) Erickson  
David Erlenmeyer  
DelRoy & Marlene (Olson) Shane  
Deron Pederson  
Denise Ortiz  
Digi-Key  
Donald & Carolyn Matz  
Donald Diedrich  
Doris (Wimpfheimer) Erickson  
Dougherty & Company LLC  
Dr. Sarah Roley & Greg Yeager  
Dr. Tim & Kate Erickson  
Duane & Shari Swanson  
DuBore Funeral Home  
Dvorak Brothers Farms  
Dwight W. Peterson Farms  
Earl & Marlys Swanson

Ed & Renee (Rehder) Rosendahl  
Eldor & Bonnie (Franks) Ornquist  
Elizabeth Murray  
Embroidery ART & Design % Amy Trudell  
Ericco Tool & Mfg.  
Evergreen Implement  
Family Chiropractic  
Faye Wallsten  
Fern Anderson  
Fert-L-Lawn  
Finseth's Hardware Hank  
Florence (Steer) Rood  
Frances (Anderson) Johnson  
Frandsen Bank & Trust  
Fraye & Jean Ranstrom  
Freddie Martinez  
Garden Corner  
George & Susan (Hill) Lee  
George Erickson  
Gerrell's Sport Center  
Gerry & Patti (Olson) Evin  
Gertrude Gerszewski  
GFWC Warren Women's Club  
Gilmen & Bonnie Tinnes  
Golf Center  
Goodwin Farms  
Grace (Sherry) Griffin  
H & J Farms  
Hannah Palkie  
Happy Joe's Pizza  
HLJ Farms, Inc.  
Hugos  
Invisimax  
Irmy Haugen  
Irv & Kay Bergsagel  
Jacquelyn Streiff  
Jaime Woinarowicz  
James & Sally (Hill) Swanson  
James & Pamela Jubie  
James Duckstad  
James Kuznia  
Janet (Sorenson) Foley  
Jason & Stacy Hanson  
Jeanie Ulferts  
Jeanne Johnson  
Jenny Langevin Insurance Agency, Inc  
Jerry & Rita Dalzell  
Jessica Myrfield  
Jet Stop  
Jill M. (Johnston) Anderson  
Jim & Janice (Hanson) Pulkabek  
Jim & JoAnne (Edgar) Ranstrom  
Jim Dagg Insurance Agency Inc.  
Jim's Flooring  
John & Carol Bowman  
John & Deb (Zutz) Copp  
Johnson Family Farms/  
Robin Johnson  
Jon & Brenda Ackerson  
Hapka  
Josh & Rachel (Olson) Johnston  
Judith (Tillett) Stromberg  
Justin & Lindsey Buegler  
Kari Wagner  
Karlstad Country Golf Club  
KB Stump Removal  
Kelly & Ben Pahlen  
Kelly Mattson/Elm Crest Motel  
Kevin Kroepelin

Kristi (Rosendahl) Flyen KROX  
KTRF  
Laura (Anfinson) Jevning  
Lee & Kareen Daby  
Lee Hestnas  
Liberty Business Systems  
Linda Hamre/Mane Studio  
Lon & Michelle Jorgensen  
Lucille (Judovsky) Bruce  
Marc & Beth Kurz  
Margaret (Streich) Dufault  
Margaret Melgard  
Marilyn Chruszch  
Mark & Amy (Nowacki) Jones  
Mark & Judy (Evin) Flaten  
Mark & Julie (Hess) Nowacki  
Mark & Leanne (Loeslie) Poolman  
Mark & Stacy (Toupin) Plencner  
Mark Nelson  
Marlys (Mattson) Nelson  
Marshall County Coop  
Mary (Martin) Keller  
Mary Stanislawski  
Mawami Club  
Michael Carlson  
Micks  
Mike & Renee Borowicz  
Miller Electric  
Milton Sommers  
Minnesota Vikings  
Minnesota Wild  
WHS Class of 1967  
Napa Supply of Warren  
Nathan Wozniak  
NCTC Foundation  
Neil & Peggy Kruger  
Nordic Fiberglass, Inc.  
North Central Bus & Equipment  
North Star Ag Services, Inc / Scott Edgar  
North Valley Health Center  
Northern Plains Track  
Northwest Beverage  
Northwest Grain  
Oberg Farms  
Old Dutch  
One-N-Only Bar  
Pat (Gilbert) Carlson  
Patricia (Neegard) Anderson  
Patrick & Kathleen (Vansickle) Carr  
Paul & Anita Hess  
Paul & Mary Jo (Gowan) Richard  
Paula Laudal  
Phil Thompson & Associates  
PKM Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
R & R Farms, Inc  
Ralph & Cindy (Sabol) Melgard  
Raymond Larson  
Richard & Beth (Solmonson) DeZwarte  
Richard & Mary Beth (Maruska) Edman  
Rick & Marie Schmiedeberg  
Rick Jackson  
River 15 Cinema  
Riverside Golf Club of Stephen  
Robert & Cheri Mattson  
Robert & Terri Quanrud

Rodney & Dorothy Soderstrom  
Roger & Evie Iverson  
Roger & Treasure (Soltis) Omdahl  
Roley Electric/Dairy Queen  
Ryan & Dana (Adolphson) Larson  
Rydell Auto Center, Inc.  
Sand Hill River Golf Club  
Scott & Stephanie Jorgenson  
Scott Turn  
Seven Clans Casino  
Shane & Megan (Maruska) Dagoberg  
Sharon (Plencner) Brown  
Shirley (Haugen) Kollin  
Simply  
Sjoberg Cable TV  
Sky-Vu Drive In  
Solid Ground Construction  
Southline Farms c/o Derek Peterson  
Stanley Maynard  
Steer Farms  
Steve & Marie Goodwin  
Stinar Farms  
Strickler Farms, Inc./ Brent Strickler  
Strickler Seed  
Stroble Farms  
Super Market Foods  
Terry W. Paulson  
The Brick House  
The Dell Steakhouse & Lounge  
The W  
Thomas Anderson  
Thomas & Rita D. (Czapiewski) Welch  
Thune Insurance Network  
Todd & Julie (Stengrim) Dahlman  
Todd Mortimer  
Tom & Jan Aafedt  
Tom & Michele (Pesch) Aubol  
Town & Country Plumbing & Heating  
Trane/Eric & Kristi Flyen  
UND Foundation/ Steve Brekke & DeAnna (Carlson) Zink  
University of MN Crookston  
Vaaler Insurance  
Valic Insurance/Charles Sobocinski  
Virginia (Anderson) Berg  
Wade Johnson  
Walmart TRF  
Wanda Evin  
WAO Wearhouse/Beth Murray  
Warren Eye Care  
Warren Jaycees  
Warren Lions Club  
Warren Pharmacy  
Warren Riverside Golf Course  
Warren Sheaf  
Wayne & Sharon (Ranstrom) Larson  
Wayne Jordheim  
Wayne T. Torgerson Farm  
Westberg Body Shop  
Wiktel  
William (Billy) Saetre  
WJB Insurance Agency/ Bill Bienek, Agent  
Zachary Duckstad

# Where are they now . . .

**Jenna Pulkabek, WAO 2003**, graduated from Bemidji State University in 2007 with her degree in Social Work and received her Master's in 2013. She is a School Social Worker/Mental Health Professional in a Setting IV Special Education Program in Cambridge, MN. She is involved with the Senior High Youth Leadership Team at Cambridge Lutheran Church and participates in a variety of book clubs. Jenna is actively involved with Play Inc. Community Theater as a performer and board member. She also performs improv comedy with Smartmouth Comedy in Minneapolis at the Phoenix Theater. She loves cooking, traveling, baseball and lake time with family and friends. Jenna loves her active life, as she states, "There is SO much life to live in such a VERY short amount of time." Jenna lives in Princeton, MN.

**Katy (Kroll) Dale, WHS 1967**, graduated from St Catherine's University and Argosy University. She is proud to have experienced success in 3 different careers, retail, healthcare administrator and radiology technology. She and husband Jeff live in Minnetonka, MN, where they are retired. They have 3 grown children and 2 grandchildren. Many of us remember Katy's parents, Mildred and Ken, and the wonderful soda fountain we enjoyed in Kroll Drugstore.

**Judy (Miska) Schmitt, WAO 2001**, graduated from University of North Dakota with a B.S. in Chemistry. She received her M.S. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She worked as a Project Coordinator at a laboratory in Florida where she also enjoyed being an annual pass holder to Disney World. She and husband Charlie moved

to Austin, Texas, 4 years ago where she is employed at Luminex Corporation, a biotech company specializing in molecular diagnostics. Judy and Charlie live in Austin, have a dog named Sioux and enjoy the adventures of traveling, mountain hiking and biking. They are expecting their first baby in January.

**Bill Grange, WHS 1957**, lives in Baxter, MN. He is a retired school teacher of 38 years. He keeps busy making pottery, creating paintings and inventing new Muskie fishing lures. He and wife Sandy have five grandchildren.

**Tim Anvinson, OHS 1961**, and **Chuck Dahlstrom, OHS 1969**, were recently featured in the Northland Outdoors section of the Grand Forks Herald with the byline, "Every Hunting Camp has a Practical Joker." They have hunted together for almost 50 years, from Missouri to Alaska. The article told of the pranks played, some elaborate and some silly, regaling a strong friendship between 2 hunting buddies. Chuck lives in Warrensburg, MO and you'll find Tim closer to home in Erskine, MN.

**Jill (Johnston) Anderson, WHS 1982**, has been a teacher at Hillsboro Elementary School, Hillsboro, ND for 25 years. In 2013, she started working as the elementary school counselor and Response to Intervention coordinator. Jill received her Masters of Arts Degree in School Counseling in 2017. She has 2 children and lives in Hillsboro, ND.

**Abbie Mercil, WAO 2013**, was recently hired at Styles by Amy Beauty Salon in Thief River Falls, MN. She graduated from Salon Academy in 2014 and worked for Hair Success in Fargo for 3 years. Abbie lives in Thief River Falls.

## FALL 2017 NEEDS

Funded by the Ed. Foundation

Kindergarten	4 iPads, Smart Covers, Books
First Grade	Book Buckets, Wobble Seat Cushions, Amp System
2nd Grade	Listening Centers
Elem. Library	Junie B. Jones Books, Back Jack Chairs
Reading Recovery	Wobble Stools
Special Education	Locker Magnet Projects, Makerspace Robot
Special Education	Crystal Growing Experiment
HS Library	Junior Library Guild Renewal
Art	Operation Mural Art
Technology	OSMO for All
Spanish	Spanish Language Village Weekend Camps
MN Honor Society	HS Christmas Tree Decorations
Elementary & High School	Outdoor Classroom, Laminator

\$19,260 was funded by the Foundation in October



# News and Notes . . .

**Warren Strandell, WHS 1959**, former East Grand Forks, Exponent, newspaper owner and longtime Polk County Commissioner is very involved in the history of East Grand Forks. He helped organized and write, *The Wild East*, a history book on the city for the 1987 centennial. The recent Minnesota Sunday Liquor law has brought the heydays of East Grand Forks back to light with Warren providing information to the Grand Forks Herald on prohibition and the somewhat shady events in East Grand Forks in the late 1800’s and early 1900s. Warren has served as county commissioner for 23 years. He is retired from newspaper work and lives in EGF with wife **Annette (Parkin), WHS 1961**, who worked as business manager of the Exponent. They have 3 sons and 4 grandsons.

**Scott Brekke, WHS 1983**, was recently hired as interim principal for the 2017-18 school year at Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls, MN. Scott received his BS Degree in education, from University of North Dakota, in 1988. That fall, he began his career in Education at Strandquist, MN, where he taught 1st and 2nd grade. When the school closed in 1991, he moved to Thief River Falls, where he taught Elementary Phy Ed and was head boys basketball coach. He received his Masters and Sixth-year certificate in 2001. Scott moved to Lincoln High School in 2000, where he served as Associate Principal for 17 years. He also coached football and golf. He says, “I am very proud to call Warren my home. I have nothing but great memories of growing up in Warren and going to school there.” Scott and wife Joyce live in TRF with their 2 daughters, Brooke and Madison.

**Eric Wittman, WHS 1992**, one of 4 scout leaders and 9 members of Warren Boy Scout Troop 50, left on August 3rd, for a hiking trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of the Rocky Mountains in northern New Mexico. The hiking lasted over a week, covering over 50 miles. They conquered heights, met the force of Mother Nature, adapted to change and met the challenges of a trip they will never forget. Eric lives in Warren where he works at Wilbur-Ellis Company in Grand Forks, ND. He has 2 sons, Spencer and Austin. Spencer, a freshman at WAO, is a member of Troop 50.

What a year the **Class of 1957** had celebrating their 60th Reunion! On July 21st, members of the class celebrated in Warren and later, on September 16th, a reunion was held in Colorado Springs, CO, hosted by class member **Irv Rokke** and wife Pam. The group toured the Garden of the Gods and the Air Force Academy, where Irv served several years of his career.

**Mary Jane (Hendrickson) Emerson, WHS 1965**, recently published a book entitled, Invisible Heart. In this book, she shares a collection of enduring, true, short stories and her most personal moments with God. Mary

Jane has been married to Dick Emerson, former **coach Howard Emerson’s** brother. They live in Fargo, ND and have 2 children and 2 grandchildren.

**Henry Duray, OHS 1971**, recently retired from the North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department, where he has worked for 42 years. Over the years he was manager in several state parks planting thousands of trees, expanding swimming areas, adding and grooming campgrounds and paving roads. He is most proud of his efforts in developing the Heritage Center at Icelandic State Park. His most challenging job as manager of Grahams Island State Park on Devils Lake was raising the road into the park by 6 feet to accommodate rising lake levels that have plagued the area for years. Duray estimates he’s served more than 4 million park visitors and been on the job for 350,000 nights of camping. He states his job is to help people have an enjoyable experience and pride in their park. “We’re just a steward of the land,” says Duray. He and wife Karen are moving to Grand Forks.

Celebrating their 50th Class Reunion this summer, was the **Class of 1967**. They reported an excellent turnout with many friendships renewed. One key player in the celebration was David Sholy. He not only compiled the biographies of the class members, but created a wonderful booklet that told of the history of the class. He printed interviews and messages from former teachers, headlines and stories from the Chronicle and cited incredible happenings of what went on in Warren during their high school years. David did not graduate with this class because of a move his dad, **Superintendent GI Sholy** and family, made to Wahpeton, ND. In 1972, after graduating from MSU, David dabbled in politics, the movie business in Hollywood, and eventually, after moving back to Fargo, he owns and operates S & S Landscaping with his brother George. He also has a part-time job on the Events Staff at the Fargo Dome, meeting many celebrities. David is married to wife, Olga, a dentist from Russia, and has one son.

Promoting “big hearts” in the tiny towns around Warren, **Gary Pulkrabek, WHS 1961**, and **Jim Novak, WHS 1970**, were featured in the Grand Forks Herald. Their hometown of Tabor, MN remains vital because of the 2 churches and community hall that serves as gathering places for the rural residents. “The churches are what keep Tabor alive,” says Novak. Each fall, his family’s annual Haunted Hayride is their way of giving back to the community. Down the road a few miles away, Pulkrabek talks about Sherack, MN. Nothing is left of the town, but it remains home to several elevators and grain bins. “We can produce a lot of food out here and we help each other. We don’t hesitate. It’s just a really wholesome life,” says Pulkrabek.

**Susan (Miscik) Shirek, WHS 1976**, was recently hired as director of the Northland Rescue Mission Homeless Shelter in Grand forks, ND. Susan served on the GF Police Department for 25 years and most recently was the Executive Director of the Care and Share Shelter in Crookston. Susan says, “Everybody’s story is different. I find great joy when people feel like they’ve changed their lives. Just to see people get their humanity back, that’s the biggest and best thing ever.”

**Brent Glass, WHS 1989**, has been appointed to the position of associate vice chancellor for Student Affairs for Minnesota State. He is responsible for providing system-level leadership and advocacy for students from 30 colleges and seven universities serving nearly 400,000 students. He and wife Jennifer have 2 children and live in Prescott, WI.

WAO community wishes Tucker Poolman, son of **Mark, WHS 1985**, and **Leeanne (Loeslie) Poolman, WHS 1987**, best of luck as he was drafted into the National Hockey League. He recently made his debut with the Winnipeg Jets. Tucker is a graduate of East Grand Forks High School. Proud grandparents are; **Ina (Ranstrom) Loeslie, WHS 1959**, the late **Harvey Loeslie, WHS 1959**, Verona and the late **Kenny Poolman, WHS 1955**.

❖  
*Thank you!*

“We are so crazy excited about the Google Expedition Set! Thanks for funding such a huge project. We think it will be awesome for the whole district.”  
**Ashley Vongroven and Stacy Hanson, teachers**

“The purchase of the two Hokki Stools has been a great addition to my classroom. The children can sit and wiggle but still pay attention. Thank you for your continued support.”  
**Michelle Gullikson, teacher**

“What a wonderful job you do to display the pride and honor in this school district and community. The beautiful framed 2017 scholarship photos are fantastic! Our students succeed because of you.”  
**Jeanne Johnson, teacher**

“Thank you so much for the generous gift to allow me to attend Spanish Camp and explore the Spanish culture more in depth. I am beyond excited to experience this amazing opportunity.”  
**Sierra Branch, student**

Thank you for your support of the After Prom Party!  
**2017 Committee**

Thank you for the scholarships. Your support of the teachers and students at WAO is amazing.  
**Callie Tescher, Olivia Strickler, Josie Chapman, TJ Bowman, Ranae Pagler, Sydney Olson, 2017 Graduates**

# Recently Deceased Alumni, Staff & Friends

These are death notices of alumni and staff that we have received. If you have additions or corrections, please contact the Education Foundation.

- 1938 Oslo Helen (Cizl) Wang
- 1939 WHS Ernie Slusar
- 1942 ALV Blanche (Myerchin) Banerian
- 1945 ALV Bernice (Pribula) Sims
- 1945 ALV Anne (Bujnovsky) Kasprick
- 1946 ALV Lyla (Fering) Flagg
- 1946 WHS DeLone (Sorenson) Riopelle
- 1949 WHS Wilbur Peterson
- 1950 WHS Lou Berne "Bun"(Winberg)Nuss
- 1951 ALV William "Bill" Ranstrom
- 1952 WHS Marlene (Knoll) Sommers
- 1953 ALV Marjorie "Marge" (Pape) Gowan
- 1953 WHS Ruth (Lundgren) Hutchins
- 1953 WHS Stanley Turnlund
- 1953 WHS Paul Westman
- 1955 Oslo June (Hoff) Swanson
- 1956 ALV Matthew Bubbs, Jr.
- 1957 WHS Anna (Tallum) Vixie
- 1957 WHS Dennis Sailor
- 1958 Oslo Bonita "Bonnie" (Quern) Parr
- 1958 WHS Alan Gehrls
- 1964 WHS Gary Engstrom
- 1964 WHS Gwen (Charboneau) McIntyre
- 1966 WHS Greg Magoris
- 1968 ALV Ronald Svard
- 1968 Oslo Douglas Farder
- 1973 Oslo Ardell Slominski
- 1975 WHS Richard "Rick" Erickson
- 1993 WHS Trevis Allen Knutson
- Elementary Para Orpha Tverstol
- Friend Warren Saetre
- Friend Elaine Myrfield
- Friend JoAnn Steer
- Friend Kay Anderson
- Teacher Norma (Lillo) Hansen
- Teacher Troy Bazey
- Teacher Viola Larson
- Teacher Thomas J. Anderson

## Concordia Language Camp

by Sierra Branch

¡Hola!

This past summer I had the chance to attend a Concordia Language Village Camp in the Spanish language. For two entire weeks I lived in a mainly authentic Spanish culture, aside from still being in Minnesota. At camp we learned different history and geography of different Spanish speaking countries from Venezuela to Mexico. We learned a few songs in Spanish, and even got to learn choreographed dances to many popular Spanish songs. Each and every day we had an hour to take a nap (siesta). At first many campers, including myself, refused to take this time to rest. But, as many of us soon learned, being immersed in a brand new culture and constantly hearing and learning new words is quite tiring. A slogan that became popular throughout the two weeks is ‘siesta is no fiesta’ meaning during our time to rest is not a time to gather with our new friends and visit. Speaking of friends, at camp I met some of the coolest people in my life! There were campers from Uganda and India, as well as California and Minnesota. At camp your entire mindset is changed, and you become a more worldly person. Some of the other girls that I shared a cabin with are actually some of my best friends now, with social media allowing us to stay connected. I was able to go to Spanish camp with the help of our local WAO Education Foundation and Spanish Teacher Kim Wirries, of which I am very thankful for. If you have the chance to attend any event at a language village camp, you should honestly go. It’s such a great experience and I highly recommend it!

The WAO Education Foundation appreciates any information sent in to be shared by past graduates from the Warren, Alvarado, and Oslo area. Keep them coming!

## Arizona-Warren Picnic Will Be Held February 3, 2018

Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 3rd, 2018. All those that are Warren Area Minnesota visitors, Warren graduates, residents of Arizona formerly of Warren or those from the surrounding area are invited to a fun day in Mesa, Arizona. A potluck picnic is planned at Red Mountain Park, 7800 E. Brown Rd., Mesa, Az. It will be held in the "Hawk Ramada". Potluck will be served - please bring a dish for the table. All tableware will be provided. Alcohol is allowed, but no glass containers.

A free-will offering will be located at the registration table to cover any expenses incurred for the Ramada rental, beer

license, tableware, etc. Any funds left over will be again donated to WAO Education Foundation.

Come and enjoy the day! Your response to coming may be sent to: Marion Hickman at 480 213-6145 or email: m-hickman@hotmail.com or Kay Root 651-2717425 or kayroot@gmail.com.

Hostesses and Committee members include: Kay Root, Marion Hickman, Jane Sirek, Jackie Gustafson, Jennie Slusar, Suzie Jevning, Treasure Omdahl, Jackie Lee Arnold, and Bobbi Mischel.





Paula Laudal 1989, Jessica Myrfield 1999, Mark Nelson 1988, Stacy Laudal 1986



Ryan Oas 2009, Scott Jorgenson 2007, Tom Borowicz 2007, Steven Kuzel 2007

# 2017 Ed. Foundation Golf Scramble



Mark Plencner 1976, Emilie Nelson 2013, Jim Kuznia 1976, Rhonda Rolandson 1976, Bob Quanrud 1976



Matt Loeslie, Zach Olson 2002, Craig Vasek 2002, Josh Gornowicz 2001



Tyler Evin, Nick Evin, Gerry Evin 1969, Mitchell Flaten 1999



Jordan Aakre 2003, Ross Howard 1999, Tom Stinar 2006, Ben Miska 2001



Pat DuBore 1989, Mike DuBore 1984, Jeff Westberg 1980, Tony Gullikson, teacher



Mitch Franks 1991, Chris Regimbal, Scott Turn 1991, Aaron Molacek 1992

## Amazon Smile

The Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School Education Foundation is a huge supporter of shopping locally. We do know that some items cannot be purchased in our communities and many people prefer to shop online rather than drive to another location to shop. If you should be shopping online at Amazon.com go to the Amazon Smile link and you can find over 1 million eligible charities to support. A quick link to reach the WAO Ed Foundation is: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/41-1728608>.

The Foundation will receive 0.5% of the price of all their eligible smile.amazon.com purchases. If you are a regular online shopper at Amazon we suggest that you bookmark this link so you don't accidentally shop at amazon.com as only purchases made at smile.amazon.com are eligible for donations. To date, we have received \$281.94 from people using the Amazon Smile Link for the WAO Education Foundation.

**Become a Member**  
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**Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Public School Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable nonprofit organization to benefit education.**

**Gifts of \$100 or more to the Foundation are recognized on an attractive donor board located in the east entrance of the high school.**

**Please Contribute** The Ed Foundation would appreciate your financial support, so we can continue to send you this newsletter. Online credit card donations can be made to the Ed Foundation on the WAO website.  
**Give Us Your Ideas** Let us know what is interesting to you or what other information you'd like to see in this newsletter.



## GIFT RECOGNITION

*Your annual supportive membership is established with a gift of \$25 or more. For accumulated gift totals of \$100 or more, an engraved recognition plate bearing your name will be added to the Recognition Wall in the Warren/Alvarado/Oslo School.*

www.wao.k12.mn.us email: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us (218) 745-4646

Enclosed is my contribution to support the work of the WAO Education Foundation

☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Membership ☐ Tutor (\$1-99) ☐ Educator (\$100-499)  
☐ Mentor (\$500-999) ☐ Scholar (\$1,000-4,999) ☐ Benefactor (\$5,000 or more)

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Other: (specific) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like information on the benefits of planning a gift to the WAO Education Foundation through ☐ my will ☐ an insurance policy

Make checks payable to: WAO Education Foundation  
(All gifts to WAO Public Education Foundation are tax deductible.)  
Send to: PO Box 125, Warren, MN 56762

## Thank You

We, the board of directors of the Warren-Alvarado-Oslo Education Foundation, would like to sincerely thank all that supported the Foundation in the past months and years.

We have heard from many of you. Many of you have paid memberships above and beyond what you needed to send or have given memorials or donations. We sincerely appreciate all your support. Without it, we would be very limited with our efforts.

Through your generosity, we are able to honor many requests made by the teaching staff at WAO and award scholarships for secondary education.

## Warren/Alvarado/Oslo Public School Education Foundation

Office: 745-4646, Ext. 1317  
P.O. Box 125, Warren, MN 56762  
e-mail: edfoundation@wao.k12.mn.us  
Visit us on Facebook!

Does your business/company have a matching gift program? This often enables your gift/donation to double in size. If so, contact us for our tax ID number when you fill out the forms for the match.

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*Life for our children, our grandchildren, and the neighborhood children will be better because of your efforts and contributions. Be a part of this campaign to ensure that our children are equipped to succeed.*