



Sacred Heart School
School Advancement
1095 Gage Street
Winnetka, IL 60093-1704

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Heart to Heart

March 2006



EVERYDAY FUNDRAISING

Earn Cash for Our School

By collecting
The Grand Food Center Receipts

Shopping from the
Land's End Catalog
recycling cell phones
and
ink jet cartridges

The Other Side of Academics

This fall, wonderful things went on in our building after school in the "After School Enrichment" program for Kindergarten through grade four. There was Mad Science, where experiments of all sorts took place. Can they split an atom? Could be! Young Rembrandts, for future artists, created their own masterpieces. And with our new kiln, young potters crafted fabulous family heirlooms as they "threw" clay and spun their "wheels."

We had 38 students enrolled spending hours creating, inventing and molding...delighting us with their new-found skills.



Get out your Scissor and start clipping!

The PTO is sponsoring a contest starting ASAP and will conclude on April 28th. The room that collects the most box tops will receive a PIZZA PARTY in May.

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"Heart of my Heart"

*I love that melody.
Heart of my heart, brings back a memory,
when we were kids on the corner of the street.*

Author Ben Ryan

I had invited myself. I had heard there were four generations of McNulty-Hayes who had attended Sacred Heart School. I could barely contain the excitement I felt on that Friday morning as I sat with family members at their dining room table. As I began listening to their stories, I became the "Time Traveller". I was traveling back 98 years to 1908! The dining room table had become a time machine!

THE FIRST GENERATION

1908: the Model T had just been introduced, William Howard Taft was president, but more to the point. **Great-grandfather Bill Hayes** had just entered Sacred Heart School. It was a yellow brick schoolhouse built where today you park your car for Sunday Mass. The Hayes family worked hard pioneering Winnetka, but the story that won the hearts of and tickled the imagination of every generation of this family is how Grandpa Bill's favorite horse would arrive unannounced at the school to be sure that Grandpa had a way of getting home. "Cool!" they would cry!

THE SECOND GENERATION

It was Great-Grandpa and Great-Grandma Hayes who begot **Kathy Hayes**. World War II had begun just before her graduation from Sacred Heart in 1941. It was there she lost her heart to **Tom McNulty (class of '37)**. They later wed and together raised eight children, enrolling them in Sacred Heart so their children could experience the love and joy of being a part of the community that had meant so much to them. **Jim Hayes**, Kathy's brother, **class of '44**, seated at the table declared: "What a school! Dad received a monthly tuition bill of \$1.00. The nuns graded us on academics, along with posture and respect. Those nuns kept us in line! I remember Sister Kathy (no relation to our current principal) could outrun any of the boys while she was on crutches! She was tough and we didn't mess around! We played our sports at the Winnetka Community House gymnasium with other schools, and ice-skating was really big. My sister Kathy was a terrific skater. Our entire family spent hours skating at Hubbard

Woods Park. We were always together, belonging to one another, belonging to Sacred Heart."

THE THIRD GENERATION

Mr. Jim McNulty '65, named after the above Uncle Jim Hayes, matriculated in 1957 at Sacred Heart. The Russians had just launched Sputnik and Mr. Buddy Holly was a new star on the musical horizon. Another McNulty felt a tug on his heartstrings. This time it turned out to be a boy and his love for music. He gives all the credit to David Njaa, Sacred Heart School's music teacher. How well he recalls the extra music lessons at school three mornings a week at 7:15 a.m. He and his friends learned to sing Gregorian Chant, read music and play guitar. Mr. Njaa taught Jim about how life should be lived and music should be played. It was he that instilled the great love of music that Jim has never lost. Jim proudly shared a CD he recently produced in collaboration with family and friends. The cover picture includes his friend **Carol Lacy (class of '65)** with whom he sang after meeting at Sacred Heart. Music, both singing and playing, completely envelops the McNulty - Hayes family...something that began so many years ago.

THE FOURTH GENERATION

Jim and Jamie's sons, **Lucas (class of '03)** and **Kyle McNulty (class of '06)** bring us to the present. With a family whose roots are so deeply embedded in this parish, in this school; with a family whose tradition and stories go back almost a century, could there be any doubt that we will see a fifth generation entering through the doors of our Sacred Heart?

As I prepared to bid farewell, Jim shared a final thought about their school: "Sacred Heart is where our family met and grew. When we think of Sacred Heart many fond memories of community, friends and family continue. And we know, now more than ever, one can be really well educated and attend all the right schools yet, if your education does not include educating the heart, nothing will serve you quite as well."



The McNulty-Hayes family includes 13 graduates from Sacred Heart.

Sacred Heart's PTO

Stewardship is a fine word for our PTO. They are devoted to us, and their gifts of time and talent are truly extraordinary!

They began in August by hosting an Ice Cream Social for our school family and a welcome luncheon for the faculty. New families were celebrated at a morning coffee and evening cocktail party in October. The cold of December was warmed by the annual Christmas Tea to honor faculty and staff.

In the meantime, PTO volunteers organized our two biggest fall fundraisers—the gift wrap and magazine sale where monies earned support our Scholarship Fund. Students also enjoyed After School Enrichment, special lunches, holiday decorations and lunchroom supervision thanks to the energetic volunteer power of the parents.

Teacher Appreciation Week also takes place in March, honoring faculty and staff. In June, a luncheon will be held to thank our dedicated faculty for a wonderful year. PTO will also host a breakfast to honor and thank our substitute teachers.

Plans are always in works for new and creative ways to help our school. We have a cookbook in the oven ready to be done and on sale by Mother's Day and our fabulous PTO Plant Sale with beautiful annuals provided by Shady Hill Gardens finishes off the year. These are mighty volunteers!

We would like to extend our deepest thanks to our PTO family for their support throughout the year. God bless each of you who work so hard.

A warm welcome to you with the return of our Sacred Heart School Newsletter!

Like the profession of teaching, Sacred Heart continues to evolve to keep up and ahead of the needs of our students. With the addition of six classrooms the school is humming with activities everyday. The faculty and staff are key to our success. They bring an impressive level of professionalism to each grade level.

While learning the elements of reading and math, primary students have been traveling to cities around the world with *Flat Stanley*. While students "in the middle grades" are discovering what life was like in Colonial days. In the junior high, they are busy using their new mobile laptop computers fine-tuning the art of writing research papers. They are also plowing their way through Algebra and delving into the Spanish language, both written and oral.

Our challenge continues as we find ways to support our programs, of tuition assistance to those who need it, professional growth for the teachers and the technology program. My immediate goal is to have a laptop computer for each student in grades 6 through 8 and for each teacher. They have become tools for every facet of student lives: learning, productivity, creativity, research, communication and collaboration. We now have the infrastructure for this to happen and the internet is accessible throughout the building. After many discussions, talking to other schools and exploring other options we would lease new laptops for three years along with a service plan.

We are grateful to Father Bob Ferrigan, pastor for the past 15 years, for his leadership and friendship. He has been a great supporter of our school. Today, as we wish him God's blessing in his retirement, we are excited about the announcement of the fifth pastor of Sacred Heart Parish, Father Robert Heindenreich. We look forward to the years ahead having him lead us in prayer and worship.

In closing, please know how grateful I am to all of you who help sustain our programs at Sacred Heart!

Sister Kathleen Donnelly, Principal



Nite Lites Returns to Sacred Heart Campus!

After two years at Highland Park Country Club due to construction at Burr & Gage, NITE LITES will return to Sacred Heart's campus on **April 29, 2006**.

Accordingly, our theme this year is **HOME COMING!** Get out your letter sweaters and homecoming attire for the 28th annual party!

NITE LITES is Sacred Heart parish's primary fundraiser for the school budget, which includes the operating expenses for a building where close to 1,000 school and religious ed students are educated. Our goal this year is to raise \$225,000!

So mark your calendars now for a great evening where traditional favorites are returning: live, silent and super silent auctions, dining on great steaks at a "Tailgate" in the tent, the "Big Game" Casino, entertainment and dancing, a cash raffle, "Alumni Bar" and more. We know this will be an extraordinary "Pep Rally" and we hope you will be there to cheer us on! Look for your invitation in the mail this month.

We hope to see you at Homecoming 2006! If you have any questions please contact **co-chairs, Mary Ann Hocter, 847/835-4341 or Lisa Byrne, 847/835-3959.**



School Board

The School Board is an advisory board consisting of seven parents, our principal, and our pastor. This year's Board members are: **Sister Kathleen Donnelly, Father Ferrigan, Joe Dillon '75, Ann Galanis, Sally Harrington, Glen Clarke, Bill Hague, Mary Flocco '73 and John Murphy.**

This has been an exciting and productive year for the School Board. In addition to addressing the myriad of issues that regularly come before the Board, the Board has been focusing much of its attention on the development of a marketing program. The Board is trying to increase the awareness in our parish and community that Sacred Heart offers our children a superior and Catholic education with an excellent faculty. The Board's focus on marketing is beginning to payoff, as evidenced by the fact that pre-K class for 2006 was filled within the first week of registration.

The Board is also focusing its attention on this year's PASS (Parent Assisted Salary Supplement) campaign. The PASS program is an important element of Sacred Heart's ability to retain talented faculty by recognizing the financial sacrifices our teachers make to teach at Sacred Heart. This year's campaign to raise funds for PASS is well underway, and promises to be a success. The Board is grateful for the generosity of Sacred Heart parents, parishioners and friends.

Finally, under the Board's guidance, Sister Kathleen is undertaking several initiatives in faculty training and development. These initiatives are aimed at improving the already supportive and caring environment the School provides our children.

As the end of the School year is in sight, the Board is already planning for the fall. Two new School Board members will be elected this spring as Mary Flocco and John Murphy complete their terms. If you are interested in joining the Board, please contact Sister Kathleen or John Murphy at John.M.Murphy@BakerNet.com

The Three C's of Pre-K thru 8

My husband and I both graduated from Catholic schools. I attended Sacred Heart and both my parents are Catholic school graduates. We decided our children would follow in our footsteps and attend Catholic School. This is our "tradition." Our choice is Sacred Heart.

When we walk in the front door, people who genuinely care for and about us always greet us. Our eyes are immediately drawn to a wonderful statue of our Lord Jesus Christ; a gift from one of our eighth grade graduating classes. You can see Him, hear Him, and feel Him in every nook and cranny of this school. Prayers are said every morning, Mass is attended nearly every Friday where the liturgy is led by an assigned grade. The devotion and care given to each Mass is truly beautiful.

Academics are a major role in our children's lives yet, there is so much more! They are taught to be kind to one

another, to listen, to forgive, to respect, and to love one another. Junior High students "buddy" with younger children and together they share talents and laughter. It is amazing to see the bonding that takes place over the years. (The glorious 100 Year Old Birthday party three year's ago was testimony!)

There is also what I call the three C's: **Convenience, Continuity & Consistency**, for our three children attending Sacred Heart. Uniforms are a god-send to parents, lunches at school give our children continuity to their day. There is also just one communication letter, one school calendar, one Principal, one faculty, one educational philosophy, the same schedules and yes, we are all on the same page! All of our children under one roof at one school! I say, "Amen" to this in our busy lives. Parents also know one another, we all volunteer at lunch, in the library, at Mass, on Boards, in the office, out of the office and we do have great fun! We feel confident our children are educated, nurtured, loved, and protected. We could not ask for more. We are most grateful. This is home, this is where we belong!





Focusing on Science

Sacred Heart's Science Lab is a marvelous educational resource recently updated by the generosity of supportive school parents, alumni and parishioners to whom everyone is so grateful.



In 2001, the lab had an entire face lift after alumnus **Peter Morse '65** raised the bar at Nite Lites, inviting all in attendance to join his effort to improve our then-aging science facility. By the following Monday morning, Sister Kathleen had taken her newly acquired funding and set out to find a qualified architect to re-design the entire science room. By summer's end, our science lab had a face-lift...boasting: lab tables, four sinks, 22 desks, new cabinets including one to house Sacred Heart's museum collection of artifacts displayed in glass door cabinets! The storage capacity of the room is extensive with an array of

scientific glassware, chemicals, supplies and microscopes. SHS graduates now in high school, come back to tell us how well prepared they are for their challenging science courses. Many say they have already experienced concepts in junior high placing them in advanced science courses in 9th and 10th grade. We love this news and are grateful to have such strong emphasis in our junior high science program.

As science experiments and printed materials keep changing, it is with concerted effort we work to keep this 'jewel' well stocked. As we know, for a Pre-K - 8 school, this fine facility is a real asset! Again, we thank everyone who continues to make this possible for our students.



Batter Up!

Shared by Nancy (Ehmann '75) Poggioli



It was my husband's mother, Mrs. Willie Poggioli, that roused us to extend our bidding paddle for auction item # 372 during last April's Nite Lite's auction. My mother-in-law, a former catcher for the Bittner Baker Girls' baseball team once a feeder team to the

Rockford Peaches, continues to live and breathe baseball, and is positively mad for the Cubs! We could not believe here was an opportunity to bid on **Cubs Dream Day at Wrigley Field**, a chance to throw out the first pitch of the game. We wanted it for her. We threw caution to the wind, knowing this would be her Mother's Day gift...a gift of a lifetime. So we bid and bid and bid some more when finally we heard the auctioneer cry out, "**Sold**", pointing directly at us. We had won!

Willie had three months to get her pitching arm in shape. It was worth every minute, as our day at Wrigley Field, was a day to remember for a lifetime. Not only was our Willie to throw out the first pitch, but on this very Sunday, August 28th, the Cubs were retiring Ryne Sandberg's number and in the dugout, within arm's reach sat: Ernie Banks, Billy Williams, Gary Matthews and Ron Santo! Would she need CPR? Not on a bet! This fabulous woman, this wonderful mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great aunt, neighbor and friend to all, took her place on the pitcher's mound (with her grandson Peter by her side). She checked out first and third bases, and with her name on the scoreboard and announced over the loud speaker, she threw the perfect pitch! It was her *field of dreams* and she was wide-awake through it all!

Marc and I would like to express our deepest thanks to the generous donors who provided this priceless gift to Nite Lites. The happiness and joy that we all experienced that day will last forever. Bless you all.

Sacred Heart Athletics Are In Great Shape!

With Athletic Committee support, Athletic Director Pat Faul has expanded the program to develop players in younger grades, so they will compete more effectively at the junior high level. In addition, we have added many non-league games and extra tournaments for junior high teams.



During the 2005 fall season, we combined with St. Norbert's to put a varsity and two JV teams on the football field. Coach Collins and his crew have placed players on many area high school teams in the past and we expect this year's 8th graders to be no exception.

Our volleyball teams fared well: the 8th grade team garnered 4th place in tough League play, losing a hotly-contested match to OLPH in the playoffs. The 6th grade team was undefeated, and should continue to enjoy success in future play. Seventeen 4th/5th graders turned out for volleyball, necessitating formation of two teams. Not only did they enjoy success, they gained solid fundamental skills.



In winter basketball play, the 7th/8th grade boys' team has enjoyed considerable success, and the 8th grade girls are also competing effectively in a very physical Catholic League. We also are proud of our two much-improved 6th grade teams. The Athletic Committee has expanded the program to include skill development/teams for 4th and 5th graders, and Mr. Faul has also begun an intramural program for primary students!

Boys' volleyball, a hot high school sport, will be offered if there is sufficient interest. We are currently setting up the framework for a spring track team, and expect to enter area meets.

Participation in grade school sports not only prepares our students for football, basketball, and volleyball, but helps them learn the value of teamwork and fitness. Nearly 100 percent of last year's 8th grade plays one or more high school sports, and almost every sport is represented. Because we expect this trend to continue, we strive to improve and expand opportunities for our students!



The Sacraments & Sacred Heart

One of the many strengths of Sacred Heart Parish is its sacramental life when the school and the parish school of religion focus on Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation.

The fall semester was devoted to the preparation of second graders for the celebration of Reconciliation on November 19th, and for the 8th graders to begin their year-long journey toward Confirmation. Parents and children met together several times to prepare. In January, the second graders and parents again gathered and began preparation for First Eucharist. For First Eucharist, students in both schools spent time learning and practicing the various parts of the Mass, how this sacrament is a celebration of God's love for us and our love for God. There was a tour of the church, the making of a mini retreat, and a special banner prepared by the children. The First Eucharistic celebration for 105 children takes place on May 13th during two different Masses scheduled for 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on April 25th at 7 p.m. with the Most Rev. Raymond E. Goedert. This will culminate the 8th graders' year of study about church history and the saints of the church. Parental involvement has been paramount this year beginning with the Rite of Enrollment where each confirmandi declared his/her willingness to engage in prayer, study and service. They also took part in an all-day retreat in February facilitated by Jeff Laird. Everything is being done to make our children aware of the many gifts of the Holy Spirit and the grace that accompanies the sacrament of Confirmation. Thanks to the efforts of many, the sacramental life of many will celebrate the love of God at Sacred Heart.





Online with Computers

Thanks to the coordinated efforts of Tom Hermes '65, nearly \$55,000 was raised during Nite Lites live auction last spring for our technology program. Since then Susan Sullivan, our computer lab genius, has been busy enhancing lesson plans, where students pre-kindergarten through 8th grade, enjoy weekly learning sessions in the Sonia Zamir Computer Lab.



SH students continue to blossom with confidence at all grade levels while mastering early technology skills and meeting necessary educational goals. Already in grades four and five, Science and Social Studies are researched and projects are developed in PowerPoint. In the junior high students are using research skills to create mini-documentaries in iMovie while honing organizational and editing skills for larger reports on our newly purchased mobile lab. Our new lab now allows each student within a classroom to use his or her own laptop computer.



Our school is blessed to be able to count off many significant and ever-changing improvements! In the last six months, we have rewired our entire school building with high-speed lines, added more wireless AirPorts, and distributed laser printers, both color and b&w,



throughout our school. We have also increased stability and security with a new Sonicwall firewall and conversion to a private network. We are also busy implementing a new file server to centralize student work. Our newly implemented jr. high mobile lab is also equipped with a projector to allow students and teachers to share their work. For faculty and parents, we are moving to the use of PowerSchool, a student information system that will help confidentially share everything from attendance to tracking assignments and students' grades.



Our constant challenge, as new technology reaches our campus, is an eternal need to update the old and bring in the new! We have ambitious goals and continuously trained faculty and staff to keep up. Yet, there are still a significant number of computers to update and programs to install. Our goal is to have a laptop for every student in the junior high. We are halfway there as we also look to the needs of intermediate and primary grades. We are optimistic as this is an exciting time for all of us at Sacred Heart School. We are grateful to have a high level of commitment to our students and with generous supporters like Tom Hermes and fellow parents and alums, our future remains bright!

Catholic Schools Week! January 29 - February 3

Here at Sacred Heart it was a week to end all weeks. The theme highlighted the students, teachers, family, alumni, and parish community that make Catholic schools vibrant and beautiful!

We celebrated our week with a special Sunday Mass and wonderful pancake breakfast, a "Buddy Day", a Book Fair, an Academic Night, an Alumni Day, an Honorary Neighborhood Day, and finally, a Disability Awareness Day. Every event was news worthy, every event was spectacular. We never missed a beat! The Men's Club, the PTO, the alumni, the neighbors, the Canine Companions, the signers for the deaf made wonderful contributions to a week that none of us will forget. Many thanks to all!

Sacred Heart Alums join us during Catholic Schools Week.



Front Row: Left to Right
Mary (Fritz) Flocco '73, Ted Hocter '78, Joe Dillon '75, John Wysocky '76, Deacon McNulty '45
Back Row: Left to Right
Therese (Conley) Romano '78, Maria (Schmid) Anderson '78, Ann (Schmid) Satter '79,
Sister Kathleen Donnelly '59, Julie (Howlett) Feeney '75, Nancy (Ehmann) Poggioli '75,
Jim McNulty '65, Rich Wehman '71

♥ Pastor's Farewell

The parish school is one of the many parts of our parish of which I am most proud.

At Sacred Heart School, we address both the mind and the heart. The heart is what will take these wonderful young people safely through life. For us, the mind resides in the heart!. We are blessed to have such a great school, which addresses the whole person and puts the emphasis where it should be.

As I bid farewell, I depart knowing the school is in great hands filled with a terrific administration, faculty, staff, students and parents.

God Bless.

Fr. Robert Ferrigan



Letter from the Editor

I can honestly say gathering articles for this newsletter, with help from several contributing writers, was both heartwarming and inspiring. I hope you too will enjoy reading about the accomplishments of many who keep our parish school in action.

In addition to our news, I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you again to the 50 alumni, together in loving memory of SHS father Dan Kerrane, who made it possible last year to reconstruct new outdoor playground equipment. This effort completed our recent eight-room building addition. Thanks to parish members, school parents and alumni, students now also enjoy a wonderful outdoor playground structure. We could not have accomplished all of this without your generosity. WE thank you again!



Alumni and school news will be of great interest to me. I hope you share your news with me using our website or by contacting me at dguy@sacredheart-winnetka.org.

Enjoy!

Deb Guy

