

A graphic of a spotlight with a purple beam of light shining from the top left towards the center of the page.

SPOTLIGHT 2.0

SPRING - A NEW BEGINNING

**MARSHALL
COUNTY
CENTRAL
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**

**ISSUE 10
SPRING
2021**

MCC Education Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.

CONTACT US AT

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FIND US AT

www.mcceducation
foundation.org

Springtime is when we think of new growth or a time of starting new. For the senior class at MCC High School however, spring marks the ending of their high school experience. Fall will be their "new beginning". For those whose will start the next chapter of their lives at a college, the MCC Education Foundation is excited to be able to award scholarships. These scholarships exist because of YOU! The following scholarships are open to donations:

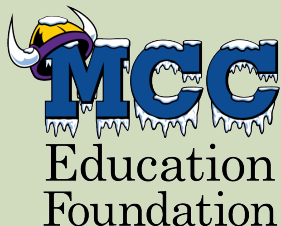
- MCC Education Foundation Scholarship (funded by gifts from alumni, staff, and Foundation members)
- Taylor Moen Memorial Scholarship
- Spencer Brein Scholarship
- Myles Westman Memorial Scholarship (funded by the class of 1968 and his battlefield buddies)
- MCC Education Foundation Scholarship Endowment
- Wall of Honor Endowment Scholarship

If you would like to donate to a specific scholarship to encourage a student continuing their education, please indicate which scholarship with your donation.

Wall of Honor Endowment Scholarship

Those who have been honored by receiving the Wall of Honor distinction are special to many alumni and friends of MCC/NHS. The MCC Education Foundation is establishing a Wall of Honor Endowment Scholarship. Donations are needed to build up the fund, but funds are coming in, some in memory of Miss Valborg Huglen. Once the goal is reached, this fund would provide a scholarship to a qualifying MCC senior. Specific details are being developed. If you would like to donate to this fund in honor or memory of the Wall of Honor Inductees, please indicate that your gift should go to the this fund.

Wall of Honor Inductees: 2017 - Mr Joseph Mork, Miss Ethel Torgerson, Miss Valborg Huglen, and Chief Judge John Tunheim. 2019 - Clarice (Halvorson) Floberg, Ardelle (Tangquist) Anderson and G. Edwin Mounger.



The vision of the MCC Education Foundation is to provide MCC students opportunity for creativity, growth and scholarship by building community partnerships.

MCC Education Foundation Board

Shelly Helm Guzek, President
 Mark Knutson, Vice President
 Patti Anderson, Secretary
 Kayla Leader, Treasurer
 Mary Anderson, Director
 Denise Laymon, Director
 Brian Rokke, Director
 Sue Knutson, Office Administrator



The Board meets quarterly and the annual meeting is the first Tuesday in May.

MCC Education Foundation uses DonorDock to assist us in our fundraising and outreach endeavors.

When you shop at smile.amazon.org, every purchase is an opportunity to donate to the Marshall County Central Education Foundation. All you do is select us as your charity of choice.

Thrivent Choice Dollars are another way you can donate to the MCC Education Foundation! Please think of us when you choose where your dollars go.

Visit us at www.mcceducationfoundation.org
 You will find:
 *past issues of the Spotlight 2.0
 *the Continuing Saga (current and past)
 *you can donate online through PayPal
 *you can update your address

We would like to thank
Newfolden Insurance Agency
Jason Hanson, Agent
for being a sponsor of this issue.
 Jason is a 1991 MCC graduate and his wife, Stacy, is a 1992 MCC graduate.

We would like to thank
Petro Pumper/Falls Play 'N Stay
for being a sponsor of this issue.
 Pat & Nancy Gerszewski are 1981 & 1983 MCC graduates. Paulette (Gerszewski) Holthusen is a 1976 MCC graduate.

Do You Know?



1. Do you know why this team is part of MCC history?
2. What year "Saga" is this picture from?
3. Can you name any of the players?

Answers are in this issue of the Spotlight 2.0.

Remember the MCC Education Foundation in your planned giving

- Life Insurance
- Real Estate
- Bequest
- Stocks

The mission of the MCC Education Foundation is to support and enhance innovative education for all MCC students.

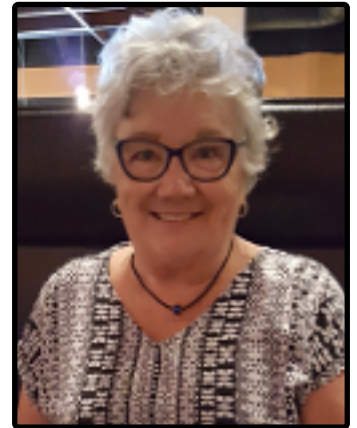
Meet the MCC Education Foundation Board

I would like to introduce you to Mary Anderson. Mary is a new Board Member and has been volunteering with the Foundation since the first issue of the Spotlight 2.0. One of the ways she contributes is by being our encouraging proofreader! Mary shares her thoughts below.

As I reflect on my life and career as a teacher at MCC, I am flooded with memories of all of the children I have taught over the years and my amazing colleagues, with whom I have shared so many wonderful moments. I started teaching in 1967 and shortly thereafter, I realized teaching was more than just a job, it was a gift to be able to go into school every day and inspire children to learn something new. I found great joy in seeing that spark come alive in their little faces and hoping I was helping them develop behaviors and skills they needed to become lifelong learners and productive adults.

As a teacher, I have seen how an education provides an opportunity for a student to grow as an individual and to help find what motivates them or to find what they are passionate about. I believe a Post-Secondary education has many benefits when it comes to income, career advancement, skill development, and employment opportunities. In addition, our society and community receive the benefits of education as well. Students will most likely be exposed to a diverse set of people and ideas which expand their mind, leaving them open to new ideas; new ideas lead to innovation that can change the world.

I joined the MCC Education Foundation to continue to help provide better opportunities for the students, but I found so much more. I found a group of dedicated people that believe, as I do, well-educated children grow up to feel a higher sense of unity and trust within their community. The MCC Education Foundation provides our community's children with a sense of empowerment; the idea that they have the choice to change their life and choose their own path. Please consider contributing to a scholarship or activity to help us all build a stronger community and happier society for everyone. It's not all about money either, you can also give your time, ideas and energy to our children, our grandchildren, their future and our future. Finally, I'd like to thank all of those who dedicate so much of your time to this foundation, your generosity is beyond measure.



"Do you know?" answers:

1. The last Volleyball team to wear the Nordic name.
 2. This picture is from the 2003-2004 Saga
 3. Front Row: Shantel M., Sadie L., Jordan H. 2nd Row: Kristen B., Chaslin M., Hannah F., Jaclyn B., 3rd Row: Kelsey W., Whitney H., Kristi R. Back Row: Coach Foslien, Coach Thompson, Coach Spindler, Coach Bjorgaard
-

New or Renewing MCC Education Foundation Members

(Since the last issue until Feb 1, 2021)

Becoming a member of the MCC Education Foundation for a year (May 1 to April 30) is just a donation of \$25! A lifetime membership is obtained by a \$500 donation, either as a one time gift or over time. * denotes a lifetime membership

Myron & Ila Anderson	Joy Knutson	Ione Rolstad
Ardelle Anderson	Katherine Knutson	Shirley Schonefeld
Susan Bevel	Mitchell Knutson*	Donna Seorum
Gordon Collin, Jr.*	Gail Larson	Kevin Sethre*
Arlene Delaney	Glen Larson*	Jeff Sorenson
Myrna Doran	Jon & Kayla Leader	Wanda Spading
Linda Dunn	Marlin or Joan Lee	Marlene Taggart
Nancy Fisher	Sarah Lefebvre	Faythe Thureen*
Jon or Donna Fosholm	Sharon McKee	Carol Tierney
Phyllis Gander	Vernon Olson	Julie Tunheim
Kristy Hanson	Brad or Mona Olson	Viking Diner & Antiques
Steven Harder	Natalie Price	



**Faythe
(Dyrud)Thureen
Class of 1959**



In the fall of 1947, I raced my 3 big brothers to the panel school bus that stopped at our farm 5 miles SE of Newfolden. When the bus parked in front of the building that was school, I knew where I was going, and I knew I was going to find a teacher lady who would give me a book to read. It was an exciting day. I loved books and would learn to read them myself.

That was the day I would meet the seven kids who would be my classmates for the next twelve years and would graduate from high school with me in 1959. Those students were Dennis Bakke, Gordon Everson, Shirley Garfve, Patricia Langlie, Renee Martin, and Gwen Moen. I'll add JoAnn Doran to that group, because she would be our classmate for 11 years then move to Detroit Lakes. After graduation, JoAnn and I would be classmates for four years at Moorhead State University, where we would be next door neighbors in Dahl Hall.

A Slice of Life from 1st Grade almost 75 years ago

I did learn to read. My favorite part of the day was sitting on small wooden chairs arranged in a semi-circle in front of the classroom with my reading group. Miss Jacobson sat facing us, introducing Dick, Jane, Baby Sally, Spot, and Puff, teaching us active words that made Spot run and Sally Jump.

When we got into the advanced readers, we discovered there were parents. "Father said, 'Come, Dick. Come, Jane. Come and see something.'"

Instead of sitting quietly when the other group was with Teacher learning to read, I sometimes turned around and talked to one of my new friends. One day that must have bothered Teacher. She said, "Go and stand outside the door." I wanted to say I would be quiet, but hurried out of the classroom. It was interesting to watch what was going on in the hallway. I saw Keith line up with second graders for a drink from the fountain. Philip was with the third grade class. I didn't think my brothers saw me. But when we got home, Philip told Mama, "I'm so embarrassed that Faythe is my sister."

Highlights from 4th, 5th, and 6th Grades

Miss Huglen was our 4th grade teacher. I remember well the Geography unit in which we studied the 5 F's of Norway: Farming, Fishing, Forests, Fjords, and Fjell (mountains). Since my mother's parents emigrated from a Norwegian island, Miss Huglen appointed me to play the part of a girl from Norway. I wore a white, embroidered apron, a gift from a cousin from Fitjar and brought cheese made by my mom to share with the class. I felt very special. Little did I know, I would grow up to teach Norwegian, both at the University of North Dakota and in summer school sessions in Norway.

An additional 4th Grade memory; Del Lofstrom moved to Newfolden and joined our class. He gave me permission to include here in our highlights from that year this flashback. During noon hour recreation time, Del and I were quite evenly matched wrestling opponents. He doesn't recall it the way I do, however. His comment, "When you won, you cheated!"

Several students from country schools that closed down joined our class in 5th grade. There were too many in one classroom for more, so 6 of us were sent across the hall to join Mrs. Gray's 6th graders. That year I had my first teaching experience. While Mrs. Gray taught her 6th graders, she sent me, an excellent reader since 1st grade, with my 5 male classmates to the cloak hall, where a table was set up for me to read to the boys. It was an interesting, enjoyable time. I wonder if the boys remember and if I helped them become lifetime learners as enthusiastic about books and reading and writing as I've always been!

After lunch in our combined 5th-6th grade classroom, Mrs. Gray read aloud from The Black Stallion series, the first book of which was written by Walter Farley in 1941, the year most of my classmates were born. This is the story of Alec Ramsey, shipwrecked on a deserted island with an Arabian stallion. "The Black Stallion" was followed by "The Black Stallion Returns" and many more. I doubt that Mrs. Gray had a problem maintaining discipline while she read. She had selected a captivating story that kept us all on that island with the wild stallion and Alec who risked his life doing the taming.

Miss Strandquist, our 6th grade teacher who would later become Mrs. Jorgenson, also made reading aloud to the class a high priority, something appreciated by the students. She read "The Harvester," "Girl of the Limberlost" and

continued from page 4

"Freckles" by Gene (Geneva) Stratton Porter. Long after Miss Strandquist read Porter's books aloud, the characters stayed alive in my mind.

In 7th we went into junior high and enjoyed several different teachers. It was that year John Ronald Johnson came to the village of Newfolden to teach English and Language Arts. He had black curly hair and wore a tweed jacket that had the fragrance of pipe tobacco. He read literature in his deep bass voice, as though the poem or story was written for him. The Sundays he came to church and marched in with the choir, he sang bass along with Alton Carlson. Mr. Johnson's wife with reddish hair and three little girls sat near the back of the church, on the edge of a pew. Everyday, I was eager to go to school and listen to him read poetry and introduce us to Early American writers. Gwenny Moen and I would discuss him instead of the literature. Then one day at the end of the first semester, when I came home from school, my dad, who was on the school board informed us that Mr. Johnson had resigned and would be leaving. He would get a sales job that would pay him more than a teacher's salary.

Mr. Johnson's last day of school was a very sad one. Gwenny and I wiped tears. She ripped a page out of her autograph book for me to have him sign. In his beautiful, distinctive handwriting, he wrote something like this. "There dwelt in those days in the village of Newfolden an unworthy wight by the name of (signature) John R Johnson, With apologies to Washington Irving." I wonder what became of that gifted teacher, but John R. Johnson is an impossible name for Google to trace.

A Scattering of Memories

—We spent the last day of elementary school each year at the Old Mill. With picnic lunch we each got 2 bottles of pop. Since I never got pop elsewhere, this was a very special treat. I always chose a bottle of orange pop and 1 of grape. Yummy!

—This hyper-active Dyrud kid who was sent out to the hall for disrupting class, changed dramatically. Throughout high school I suffered from painful stage fright. Fortunately, Mrs. Carlson was my 8th grade music teacher. Instead of having her students sing solos in front of the class for grade assessment, she leaned over and listened. Gwen Moen sat next to me, and we sang together. That took away the stress. We actually had fun singing from the new songbooks. "Tell me why the stars do shine, Tell me why the ivy twine, Tell me why the sky's so blue, And I will tell you why I love you."

—In the fall of '55, students from Holt and Viking joined us for high school. The first day of English, Mr. Collin, the new English teacher captivated the class by reciting "Birches," by Robert Frost. "When I see Birches bend to left and right ... One could do worse than be a swinger of birches."

—History class from Mrs. Tunheim was a favorite. Weekly Readers were assigned for Fridays. Then Mrs. Tunheim had students assigned to play \$64,000 Question. The Friday it was my turn to play, I got to the \$32,000 Question, which was "Who was 'The King on a Shaky Throne?'" I didn't know the answer, which was "The King of Jordan." So I didn't earn \$32,000, But I've remembered the answer for the rest of my life!

—Mrs. Borman was my favorite H.S. teacher. She assigned us news pictures to choose for writing a story. I loved imagining that story, and it was obviously a good one. When Mrs. Borman exclaimed enthusiastically after reading it, I knew I would be an author someday. My admiration for her went a bit too far when I ordered from Penney's an outfit very similar to the one she wore when she played piano at church. The skirt was brown & black plaid with a black, 3/4 length sleeve button-down top. One day I wore my outfit to school the same day Mrs. Borman did. I still feel embarrassed when I think about it and wonder if she noticed.

—Special thanks to Marilyn Rokke Gray and her husband Dennis for regularly scheduling and arranging 1959 class reunions. In addition, Marilyn has sent out packets of biographical information from each class member.

In conclusion, I would like to present to you one of the most outstanding graduates of Newfolden High School, Connie Olson. Class of 1959 Valedictorian, Connie was selected by her classmates as the woman student in the categories of Most Cooperative, Best Personality, Best Dressed, Most Courteous, Best-All-Around, and significantly, Most Likely to Succeed.

No one from the class of '59 graduated with a PhD; however, Connie completed the classwork and did the trailblazing research that would provide the foundation for others.

Connie's friends, families, and professors knew that her greatest wish was to complete her Doctoral dissertation. Her tenacity in continuing the writing, as cancer brought increasing pain, fatigue, and impaired concentration. So three professors took on the project of organizing and publishing her research in what would be as close as possible to Connie's own words.

In December 2013, I flew out to Rochester NY to attend Connie's funeral and meet her two gifted daughters and three delightful grandchildren. Judy and Andrea's tributes to their mother and those of Connie's friends and colleagues made me realize I was hearing profiles in greatness. In my mind, I've replayed that farewell service and wish I had made time to get to know better Connie, this farm girl from Viking during the 50 years beyond High School graduation.

In memory of Connie and other classmates, our family is establishing a Class of '59 scholarship fund to encourage MCC youth to further their education.

Bits From The Past

by Gail Larson

From the January 1978 Spotlight

MCC Junior, Sheila Erickson, has returned from a week in Washington, D.C. where she attended a Holiday Workshop in the Humanities sponsored by the National 4-H Council.

What is your favorite place?

Tutter (12).....Mars
Russ Holmaas (12).....Colorado
Tootsie Swenson (12).....North Star
JoAnn Gerszewski (12).....Florida
Stacy Larson (11).....A rocking chair in my house.
Chuck Sorenson (10).....Luchenbach
Paula Peters (10).....Mountain
Patti Bjorgaard (9).....Bedroom or bus seat
Rose Strandberg (9).....Sweden

Classified Ad:

Wanted - two wide
awake civics classes.
See Mr. Ueland

Boys Basketball: January 3, the Nordics defeated the Middle River Skippers 55-41. Vance Peters - 18 points;
Bob Tunheim and Dan Engen - 10 points each.

Girls Basketball: The A squad defeated the Rams 42-27. Arlene Knutson - 16 points.

Wrestling: Winning for MCC were Bernard Blawat and Don Waterworth on pins and Myles Hogberg and Rodney Knutson on decisions.

5 years ago: Patty Green and Craig Swenson were chosen Carnival Queen and King.

Jerald Larson, Bruce Rokke, Craig Larson, David Hogberg and Eldon Augustine went to the National FFA convention in Kansas City, MO.

From the desk of Superintendent Jeffrey Lund

In the October Education Foundation article, I wrote about many of the adjustments we had to face this school year in regards to COVID 19. Shortly after the article was published, a rise in cases in Northwestern Minnesota required us to make some schedule adjustments in our schools and with busing to help keep everyone healthy and safe. From November to mid January our K-4 students shifted to attending school four days a week. Our grades 5-12 students shifted to attending school in person 2 days a week and spent three days a week learning from home.

The toughest moments for us were around Thanksgiving time. We had nearly 50 students and staff on quarantine due to someone in their household being ill with COVID. We still managed to be staffed enough to maintain our schooling but it put pressure on our systems. Luckily approaching the Christmas holiday, the situation in Northwest Minnesota began improving and now as I write this, things are much better.

Resilience is a defining word on what it takes to get through the situation we are facing with COVID 19 and trying to operate school. Resilience is defined as "the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness; elasticity." Our students, staff members, parents, and the community have certainly faced these challenges. Everyone's flexibility and determination have helped us get through it thus far.

We are grateful that things have improved and now we have all our students K-12 back in school four days a week. We still have Wednesdays as a distance learning day to help teachers with preparation and planning, to provide remedial support to some students that have fallen behind, and to support our students who chose distance learning as an option.

After a shortened fall season for athletics and a shutdown for a time, we were allowed to resume activities on January 4. Our basketball season is now underway. Robotics, our spelling bee, youth basketball, and our musical have also resumed. There are safety rules and strict limits on spectators but students are grateful to have the opportunities to be involved in the activities they enjoy.

Our school board has resumed work on planning for a building project. They are meeting to go through details of the project and will soon be sharing information with our community. Efforts in planning had been in the works but were delayed due to COVID 19. The project's main goal will be to expand our learning spaces to account for growth and increase learning opportunities to help our students now and into the future. Even though it is challenging to do this work during the pandemic, the board feels the needs are immediate and this is the right time to address needs as we press forward.

We are still taking things one day at a time but as the situation improves, hopes are high that things will continue to get better.



Milestones

Honors, Achievements, Accomplishments

Passings

Valborg Huglen
1942
Irvin Schmitke
1954
Esther (Haglund) McFarland
1955
Wendell Wegge
1959
LuAnn (Lubitz) Giles
1961
Jane (Anderson) Hauser
1962



Lowell Smeby
1972
DelRay Ruud
1973
Vance Peters
1978
Tom & Judy Yutrzenka
Former School Board
Member
Clarence Dau
Rodney Halvorson

We publish those we know about,
we apologize if we have missed a loved one.

If you would like to submit a name for Logbooks and Ice Caps, please send it to MCC Ed Foundation, PO Box 189, Newfolden, MN 56738 or mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org

Miss Valborg Huglen

Miss Valborg Huglen passed away peacefully on January 15, 2021. Miss Huglen was born in North Dakota and attended schools in Saskatchewan, Westby, MT, and Newfolden, where she graduated in 1942. She started teaching in Newfolden in 1947 and taught for 45 consecutive years, almost all those years were for Third Grade. She retired from teaching in 1992.

Miss Huglen was a favorite teacher for many, instilling a love of reading in her students. Many students had their own children and grandchildren taught by her. As she continued to live in Newfolden, she was often seen at events, visiting with former students.

We will miss Valborg. It was always fun to see her smile and her face light up when she saw a former student. Miss Huglen is survived by her brother, Raynard, and many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews.

As the years go by, we know we miss many favorite people that could be remembered with a paragraph or more. We felt that to not mention Miss Huglen would have been a mistake.

Gifts Given

In Memory of

George Alefouzios
Dennis Bakke
Dolores Bakke
Lois Bengtson
John Carlson
Mark Carlson
Connie Olson Donaldson
JoAnn Doran



Rodney Doran
Dennis Hanson
Valborg Huglen
Randy Knutson
James W. Sorenson
Maynard Samuelson
Vernette Stokke

Lucille & Raymond
Tunheim
Wendell Wegge
Tom & Judy Yutrzenka

In Honor of

The Class of 1959
The Class of 1961

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Spring 2021

Issue 10

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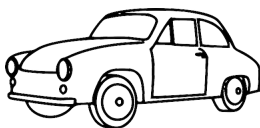
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