

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

## SHARING OUR EXCITEMENT!

MARSHALL  
COUNTY  
CENTRAL  
EDUCATION  
FOUNDATION

ISSUE 12  
FALL  
2021

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

### CONTACT US AT

mcceducationfund  
@mccfreeze.org

218-874-3832

### FIND US AT

www.mcceducation  
foundation.org

The MCC Education Foundation is excited to announce two new scholarships that will be offered to MCC graduating seniors this coming spring.

The Milton and Marion Davidson Family Scholarship is a new endowment fund that will be offering a \$500 scholarship for the first time the spring of 2022. This scholarship will be awarded to a senior who will be pursuing a degree in either teaching, the medical field, or will be attending a trade school.

The Aurora Diamond Lee Memorial Scholarship is being offered to a graduating senior who will be majoring in mental health or teaching in either Art, English or elementary. This scholarship will be a \$500 scholarship also awarded for the first time in the spring of 2022.

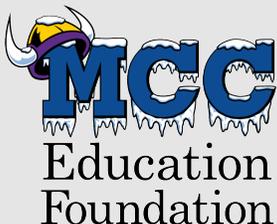
The previously mentioned scholarships join the following scholarships in the MCC Education Foundation family that accept gifts from anyone who would like to give.

- Lloyd Melvie Aviation Scholarship
- MCC Education Foundation Scholarship
- Myles Westman Memorial Scholarship
- Spencer Brein Scholarship
- Taylor Moen Memorial Scholarship

Other scholarships in our scholarship family

- Marshall County Driftskippers Snowmobile Club Scholarship
- Marshall County Driftskippers Snowmobile Club Scholarship in Honor/Memory of Paul Magner
- The David and Marge Bakke Scholarship

We are so thankful to those who have established these scholarships and to those who help fund them. We appreciate you!



***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

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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 need to 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.

*We would like to thank*  
**Northwest Electric, Inc.**  
*for being a sponsor of this issue.*

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Jason Anderson (Class of 1990) and Luke Johnson (Class of 2002 ) are owner/operators.

*We would like to thank*  
**Newfolden Co-op Elevator and Agronomy Center**  
*for being a sponsor of this issue.*

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***Do you enjoy the Spotlight 2.0?***

The goal of the Spotlight 2.0 is to reach out to alumni and friends of NHS/MCC to encourage, inform and possibly entertain. There are many alumni who do not receive the Spotlight 2.0 because we do not have their address or email. When you are in contact with classmates, relatives or friends, please mention that we would **LOVE** to send them a copy. They can sign up on our website or by contacting us at [mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org](mailto:mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org)

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

Remember the MCC Education Foundation in your planned giving

- Life Insurance
- Bequest
- Real Estate
- 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 Brian Rokke. Brian is one of the founding members of the MCC Education Foundation. We appreciate his insight, wisdom and knowledge that he brings to the Foundation. Brian shares a little about himself below.*

My name is Brian Rokke. I am a member of the Board of Directors of the MCC Education Foundation.

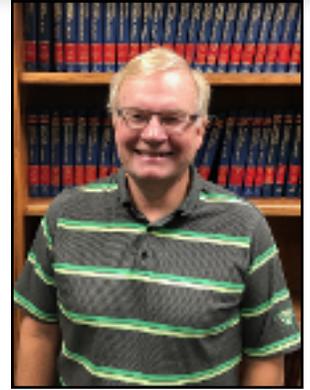
I was born in Minneapolis, MN and went to high school (Roosevelt High School) and college (Augsburg college) there. After college I attended law school at the University of North Dakota and graduated in 1977. I practiced law in NW Minnesota for 41 years until I retired in 2018.

My wife Diane and I live in Newfolden. I have lived here since 1979. We have three sons who graduated from MCC. Nathan in 2006, Christopher in 2009 and Peter in 2012.

My parents, Violet and Einar, both grew up in the Newfolden area. My mother, Violet Amundson, graduated from Newfolden High School in 1939. I have a Century farm in West Valley Township on my father's side.

I am a part of the MCC Education Foundation because I want to help provide as many opportunities for our children to get the best education as possible at MCC and to also assist those graduates who wish to pursue further education to achieve their goals.

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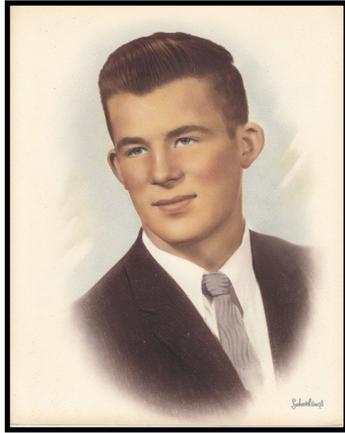
## From the desk of Superintendent Jeffrey Lund

The school year is well underway and we are excited to share that we are up students this past year when compared to last spring. Last spring our K-12 student count was 425. We currently have 433 K-12 students along with 16 head start students and 15 preschool students.

It is hard to believe, but we have entered our third year of school during the pandemic. The COVID-19 pandemic has been very difficult on students, staff, and families but we have managed through it. I am proud of how everyone has done their best work to make the most of the situation. We were able to maintain in-person schooling all year in a time when many metro and suburban districts did not have in-person schooling until April. This year school feels much more normal but we are still working through illness and quarantines. I have appreciated our families' understanding and willingness to keep students home when ill to follow guidelines. As vaccinations increase and become available to children we are hopeful we can transition to more normal and less guidelines.

We added a few new staff members this year to our team. New teachers include: Lexi Homme, Grade 5; Abigail Audette, Title Teacher; Dusty Dahl, Family and Consumer Science; Emma Viken, High School Social Studies; and Kati Olson, High School Science. New support staff members include: Tabby LeClaire, paraprofessional; Becky Gust, Newfolden Kitchen; and Gordy Barrett, Custodian.

This past August, our referendum vote for building improvements failed. It was a very close vote with only 28 more no votes than yes votes. The school board is hosting a Special Meeting on November 1 at 6:30 p.m. to start a community level group to work on a new plan to address needs. If you are interested in participating we encourage you to come to the board meeting or contact me or a school board member.



**Les Bakke**  
**Class of 1963**



I consider it an honor to write this Continuing Saga memory of my experience at Newfolden High School (NHS). I hope to convey some humor, some wisdom and some memories of how much NHS helped me prepare for life. First, I want to give credit to teachers that made a difference in my life. Ms. Ethel Torgerson, math teacher, gave all of us who took her classes the opportunity to learn. Her teaching was so good that when I arrived at Moorhead State College (MSC), I was placed in sophomore Calculus as a History major. Two quarters later, I became a Math major and was almost done when I took a class called Computer Programming. I stopped taking Math classes, and did obtain the first Computer Science degree from MSC. While in one of Ms. Torgerson's Math classes, we had a test, I'd already finished when I saw that the student in front of me doing a problem incorrectly, so I leaned forward to help. Ms. Torgerson sternly reminded me it was a test. The second significant teacher was Ms. Mae Larson, speech teacher and drama coach. She helped me get rid of my strong Norwegian accent although I can still fall back on my Norwegian accent when I tell Ole and Lena jokes. Ms. Larson convinced me to enter speech contests and recruited me for class plays and one-act plays. I don't know if I was type cast, but I played a counterfeiter in one play and in another I stole the only life boat when our yacht struck a rock and started sinking. Mr. Jack Junker came to Newfolden as a basketball coach and told us that anyone smoking or caught with anyone smoking would not play for him. That was a serious threat but it worked and I am grateful. I never did start smoking, even while in the military.

Athletics was very important to me while at NHS, I played football, basketball and baseball. My coaches were all very good and helped us become better athletes and better people, they cared about us. Wayne Ulferts, coach, teacher and guidance counselor was particularly influential, he encouraged me to go to college. Later at MSC, I was able to work with his daughter, Lori Ulferts, Hall of Fame basketball coach. There were embarrassing moments in athletics also. For instance in a baseball game while playing center field, a ball was hit to me and I ran so hard to catch the ball I lost my hat. Thinking it was the third out, I went back and picked up my hat. Meanwhile the runner on second scored, it had been only the second out. Luck was sometimes with me too. In a football game in Argyle, our quarterback threw a pass that hit the ground before getting to me, but I caught the ball and I kept running before being tackled. The officials didn't see it but the Argyle players did. We did gain a first down.

Student government activity was an important part of NHS education. I was class president and on student council. I had the opportunity attend Boy's State between my Junior and Senior year and had an eye opening experience, meeting other boys from all over Minnesota, towns big and small. Back in 1963, we did not have a school prom, we had a banquet. Juniors always planned the banquet for the Seniors and while planning for the 1962 banquet, some of my classmates found a nearby town that had a dance the same night, we made plans to go there. Principal Fisher found out and called me as class

continued from page 4

president to his office and told me if we didn't cancel the dance plans, he would cancel the banquet. We canceled the dancing. Remember back then, it was said that "sex led to dancing". Or was it the other way around?

After a year of college, I enlisted in the Air Force where again my NHS education was a great benefit. I 'aced' the Air Force's language aptitude test and spent a year at the University of Indiana learning Russian from Russian immigrant teachers. The next year, I enrolled in advanced military Russian and Intelligence Analysis. I then spent two years in Japan working as an intelligence analyst and backup linguist. Remembering that some of my NHS teachers were volunteers, I volunteered to help teach English in a Japanese Junior High School. At our noon break, I had a several students wanting to beat the American in ping pong. Volunteering has been important to me ever since. I still volunteer with Veterans groups and non-profits who need some computer help.

My working career has been mostly as the Computer Center director at MSC, now MSUM. Working in the education field has to be one of the most rewarding careers. Every fall, we had over 1,000 students show up with the desire to learn. I had about 25 students working for me, in computer labs, helping set up new equipment, doing some programming and some office work. They were some of the greatest workers one could have. Sometimes I think I learned as much from them as they did from me. All have gone on to become successful and productive members of our society. My other role was VA counselor for all GI Bill students and was able to help over 20,000 student Veterans succeed in college. I taught many Computer classes, but the most memorable and also the most difficult was with students from the Moorhead Alternative School. The students had problems adapting to high school, even though most were very bright. I told them I was going to treat them as college students and adults. It worked, all they needed was a chance and for someone to believe in them as students and not as problems.

Now retired, I have a few words of wisdom. Always encourage and support education at every level. Challenge yourself to do better, coaches are really good at teaching that concept. Volunteer your talents to organizations needing help; service groups, non-profits, faith based and others. They need your help. When in a discussion, try supporting the other side when in a debate, it is surprising how much you can learn. Embrace change, And most important, continue learning and support learning for all. The MCC Foundation can use your help and donations. You can make a difference.

## Do You Know?



1. These seniors made history. Do you what that history was?
2. What year Saga is this photo from?
3. Two of these young men made All Conference. Do you know which two?
4. Can you name these seniors? (answers can be found in this Spotlight 2.0 issue)

## The NHS Class of 1961 celebrates 60 years!

September 11th, ten members of the Class of '61 met west of Newfolden to participate in the Newfest parade. In the 1974 Chevrolet Caprice Classic Convertible driven by Howard Rokke, was Yvonne Leigh Moe, and Janice Olson Ramsey. The 1995 Toyota Celica Convertible driven by James Elseth with Lois Thompson Elseth and Harriet Rokke Roberts. Following in a 2012 Camaro SSS Convertible driven by JoAnne Rokke were Norma Albaugh Riedeman and LuAnn Strandberg Chaplinski. In the Black Mazada were Ernie Melvie and Ronald Ueland. The first 3 cars were awarded 3rd place.

The next event was a "Meet and Greet" at Chuck and LuAnn Chaplinski's in Middle River. Joining us were classmates Sally Hanson, Richard Moen, Shep Wilimek, Kathleen Peterson Wagner. From there we moved on to the Middle River Community Center for our catered dinner and program. There were various picture boards and memorabilia on display to highlight our classmates and events. Howard Rokke and Lois Elseth were the emcees for the evening. We welcomed Mark Knutson, Vice President of the MCC Education Foundation Board, who spoke to us about the Foundation and its goals. It was Richard Moen's birthday and the class sang Happy Birthday to him and wished him well. Class officers were recognized: Ronald Ueland-president, Lloyd Hjelle-vice president, Sally Hanson-Secretary, and Howard Davis-treasurer. Sally read the class history. Harriet Roberts remembered those who have passed: John Carlson, Howard Davis, Gordon Garfve, Sharon Hanson, DeEtta Hoberg, Noral Langlie, Lois Lokstad, LuAnn Lubitz, James Olson, Vernon Peterson, Harold Steinhauer and Wallace Taylor. Ronald recapped the Sport Highlights, followed by the class standing and singing the Nordic Fight Song. We had 38 in our graduating class, 13 class mates attended plus Shep Wilimek who moved after our junior year. Norma Albaugh Riedeman traveled the furthest, 759 miles from Chillicothe, MO. We concluded the program with Harriet and Janice leading us in "FRIENDS." (submitted by the Class of 1961)



Front row: LuAnn Strandberg Chaplinski, Richard Moen, Sally Hanson, Harriet Rokke Roberts, Kathleen Peterson Wagner, Yvonne Leigh Moe, Janice Olson Ramsey. Back Row: Lois Thompson Elseth, James Elseth, Norma Albaugh Riedeman, Ronald Ueland, Shep Wilimek, Howard Rokke, Ernest Melvie

by Gail Larson

### From the November 1976 Spotlight

The 1976 carnival will be held Friday, November 19, starting at 7:30 in the Newfolden elementary school.

The all-school play "Harvey" will be presented in the elementary school gym Friday, November 12 and Saturday, November 13. Characters are:

Veta Simmons - Sarina Johnson	Elwood P. Dowd - Bob Tunheim
Myrtle Simmons - Diane Floberg	Miss Johnson - Ellen Larson
Mrs. Chauvenet - Gail Moose	Miss Kelly, R.N. - Janet Bjornrud
Duane Wilson - Russ Holmaas	Lyman Sanderson, M.D. - Vance Peters
William R. Chumley, M.D. - Mark Halvorson	Betty Chumley - Debbie Bjorgaard
Judge Omar Gaffnew - Bruce Von Wold	E.J. Lofgren - Bryan Larson

By a vote of MCC students, Homecoming Queen picked for 1976-77 was Pam Odberg with senior attendants being Colleen Stokke and Sue Larson.

SOPHOMORES REMEMBER WHEN: cleaning the pencil sharpener and chalkboard at the end of the day was an important job. ...how clean your desk was went on your report card.

FOOTBALL: MCC beat Argyle 14 to 8 to wreck the Eagles' homecoming, Saturday, October 9. Pat Yutrzenka scored both touchdowns. Darwin Nelson and Keith Hodne were cited for their strong defensive play.

VOLLEYBALL: The A volleyball team had a great victory over Warroad October 14 at MCC. High scorers for the varsity were Cheryl Larson with 12 points, Tami Bjorgaard with 7 points and Debby (Chucky) Windahl with 6 of our points.

## Did you know...

... if you are 70 1/2 and older, you could donate up to \$100,000 in IRA assets to the Marshall County Central Education Foundation without taking the distribution as taxable income?

The Charitable IRA Rollover provides **taxpayers with a mechanism for transferring their annual required minimum distributions directly to charitable organizations**, in order to exclude the distributions from their taxable income while simultaneously supporting the Foundation.

The process of donating an IRA gift is easy. Contact your IRA provider, the gift must be made directly from the donor's provider to the MCC Education Foundation's brokerage account. Please call to get the Foundation's account number. The transfer must be made by December 31 to count for the year's RMD requirement.

**Did you know** that some important CARES Act provisions are scheduled to expire at year's end? They included:

- An expanded charitable giving incentive that allows taxpayers who take the standard deduction to **make up to \$300 in charitable cash contributions for single filers (\$600 for married couples) to qualified charities like ours** (but not to supporting organizations or donor advised funds) this year.
- For those who do itemize their deductions, the law **allows for cash contributions to qualified charities such as ours to be deducted up to 100%** of your adjusted gross income for the 2021 calendar year.

**Did you know** that if you create a bequest with the MCC Education Foundation as a benefactor, your future wishes will be honored and you can leave a lasting legacy that supports education for generations?

Simply...YOU can make a difference. Contact Sue Knutson, MCC Education Foundation Office Administrator at [mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org](mailto:mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org) or 218-874-3832. (submitted)

# MCC Education Foundation Members

People making a difference

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

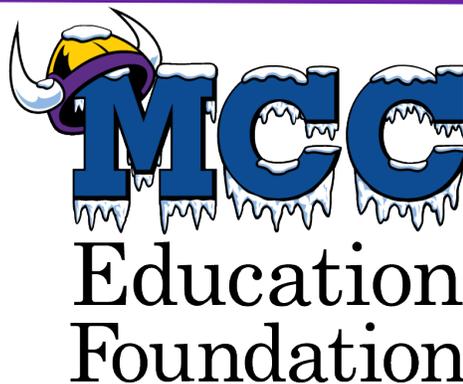
Jason Anderson	Dean Johnson	Faythe Thureen	Sharon Holmstrom
Sharon Anderson	David Kragness, Sr.	Ron Ueland	Steve Holmstrom
Mandy Beech	Denise Laymon	Linda Ueland	Raynard Huglen
Wayne or Carol Bjornrud	Carol Lee	Virginia Vogt	Ernie or Linda Johnson
Carol Culkins	Delmar Lofstrom	Bruce Waterworth	Mark Knutson
Twile Ellingson	Hjalmer Lofstrom	Gail Waterworth	Sue Knutson
Jim Elseth	Karen Lorinser		Mitchell Knutson
Nancy Fisher	Sandy Lubitz	<u>*Lifetime Members*</u>	Glen Larson
Winton Forsberg	Jeffrey Lund	Mary Anderson	Lloyd Melvie
Claudette Forsberg	Valerie Maki	Patti Anderson	Clifford or Lynette Nelson
Phyllis Gander	Audrey Nelson	Craig Bakke	Ronald Paggen
Lois Gorne	Shandy Nelson	Emily Bakke	Karen Ranum
Marlyce Grabanski	Glen Odberg	David Bakke	Brian Rokke
Larry Gustafson	Karen Odberg	Marge Bakke	Kevin Sethre
Paula Gustafson	Mona Olson	Lester Bakke	Ronald Shern
Kelli Hanninen	Natalie Price	Daniel or Tricia Brein	Faythe Thureen
Jason Hanson	Mary Radatz	Darren Brein	John Tunheim
Kathryn Harstad	Howard or JoAnne Rokke	Jenny Brein	Dale or Verna Westman
Sharon Hook	Nancy Samuelson	Betty Carlson	
Janell Hudson	David Sethre	Gordon Collin	
Annie Johnson	Barbara Skadsem	Shelly Helm Guzek	

*Thank you Members!*

## Join the MCC Education Foundation Team!

The MCC Education Foundation Board is looking for person who is willing to volunteer their time and talents to be editor of the Spotlight 2.0.

If you would be interested to learn more, please contact Shelly at [mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org](mailto:mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org).



Answers to "Do you know?"

1. This was the first year the Football team was named the "Rebels". No other explanation was given.
2. 1991
3. All Conference: Mike R. and Keith B.
4. MCC Senior Team members are: Front: Deland B., Nathan N., Mike R., "Narly" N.,  
Back: Seth C., Ron I., Wade R., Keith B

## Logbooks and Ice Caps



### **Milestones**

The Class of 1955 had its  
66th year Reunion  
on Sept 11, 2021!

### **Honors, Achievements, Accomplishments**

### **Passings**

Lenore (Hall) Wold  
1948

Helaine (Wikstrom) Hanson  
1956

Sandra Larson  
1961

Bruce Benitt



Allen Steinhauer

Donald Steinhauer

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 Education Foundation, PO Box 189, Newfolden, MN 56738 or [mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org](mailto:mcceducationfund@mccfreeze.org)

## Gifts Given



### **In Memory of**

Caryl Bugge  
Milton & Marion  
Davidson

Aurora Lee  
Vernette Stokke



The MCC Class of 1981 met  
July 17, 2021 at Summer  
Sands Lake Club in Erskine,  
MN. The event was hosted  
by Pat and Nancy  
Gerszewski, owners.

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Fall 2021

Issue 12

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