



November 2008

## Holy Redeemer Alumni Association

# In the end it's the beginning that counts.

### Online Alum

Catch up with Holy Redeemer Alum by joining [www.FaceBook.com](http://www.FaceBook.com). Free!

Send your e-mail address to: [saraetom@hotmail.com](mailto:saraetom@hotmail.com) to help us save time, money and trees to communicate.

### Save the Dates:

**The Empty Nest Holiday Shopping**  
**Thursday, November 20th**  
5:30-8:30 p.m.

### Alumni Reunion

**Saturday, June 6, 2009**

5:00 mass, School tour and Alum tent



The PTO's Ice Cream Social to usher in the start of school at the new main entrance built as part of the Building for Tomorrow campaign.

### Executive Board

**Chair**—Susan Gerard

**Vice President**

Lynn (Murphy) Robichaux, 1969

**Membership Liaisons**

Peggy (Mcauliffe) Hannick, 1976

Kevin Berns, 1982

Sara Tom

**Treasurer**

Tricia (Berns) Martinez, 1985

**Marketing Managers**

Elizabeth Fox & Libby Weinke

**Alumni Relations**

Maureen (Whelan) Werner, 1950

**Event Manager**

Cara Taylor (Michael Taylor, 1992)

**List Committee** now forming!

To volunteer contact Maureen Werner at 962-5079 or [mwwerner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mwwerner@sbcglobal.net).

**Contact the Alum Assoc.**

[fourxx2000@yahoo.com](mailto:fourxx2000@yahoo.com)

Peggy (Mcauliffe) Hannick

314-961-7866.

## HR School Alumni Association Formed!

An Alumni Association for Holy Redeemer Alumni and their parents is now in place! As a Holy Redeemer Alum or an Alumni parent, you are automatically a member of the Alumni Association—no dues, no obligations. The mission of the Association is to celebrate Holy Redeemer School's past by engaging Alumni in the support and promotion of Holy Redeemer School today and keep Catholic education affordable to all.

Our first Alumni event will be Holiday Shopping at Lynn (Murphy) Robichaux's shop, The Empty Nest, 21 N Gore, in Webster Groves on **Thursday evening, November 20th**, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Enjoy wine and cheese while you do your holiday shopping and catch up with fellow Alum. Friends and family are welcome. Thanks to Lynn, a portion of all sales will benefit the Alumni Association to help us get started.

Secondly, save the date for the first all-school Alumni Reunion that will coincide with this year's Parish Picnic, **Saturday, June 6th**. Festivities will start with 5:00 mass, a tour of the school and then food and drink under the Alumni tent. More details to come in your Spring newsletter.

Now you can network with your fellow Alum at [www.FaceBook.com](http://www.FaceBook.com) under the Holy Redeemer School Alumni "group" listing thanks to Kevin Berns in setting it up. The list of members is growing daily!

Later this year look for a new Alumni interactive Web site, allowing you to be connected more easily. We'll post regular school updates and Alumni news allowing you to better keep in touch.. Please send your e-mail address to [saraetom@hotmail.com](mailto:saraetom@hotmail.com) to be notified when it's live.

## Alum Flashback



A 1960 graduate who went to Nerinx Hall for high school and then attended Webster College (now Webster University), studying French one year at Laval University in Quebec, Canada. She later received a Master of Education degree in Elementary Education from UMSL.

After living in Toronto, Canada and staying home to raise six children, this Alum moved back to Webster Groves and began teaching in 1988 at Holy Redeemer and is today known and loved by the Kindergarten Class as Mrs. Evie Dagenais.

"Holy Redeemer has been my parish for most of my life and it is home to me. My favorite things about teaching at Holy are the wonderful children, parents, and fellow teachers and how we all work together so well. I love watching the children's faces when they learn something new, or when I tell them how well they are doing. Their smiles say it all. I am happy to go to school each day," says Mrs. Dagenais.

On how things have changed, Evie says, "There were 64 of us in my graduating class, all in one room, wall to wall desks. I don't know how the nuns handled us. I remember classmates having their mouths washed out with soap! Classrooms were a lot quieter."

What has not changed is the good feeling of being a part of such a loving and caring environment and carrying on the traditions of Holy Redeemer School.

## Building for Tomorrow Today Results



The new Parish Life Center and gym used for many school and Parish functions.

The \$5.2 million construction of a new parish life center/gym, library and newly renovated classrooms was completed in 2006. The Building for Tomorrow Today campaign was managed and funded by a dedicated committee of parents, parishioners and Alum working hand-in-hand with our pastor and principal. Thank you for all your support in this great effort! Join us for a **special Alumni tour June 6th** as part of the Alum Association's reunion! A photographic tour will be available later this year on our developing Alumni Web site. Please send your e-mail address to [saraetom@hotmail.com](mailto:saraetom@hotmail.com) to be notified as soon as it's available.



The vibrant Emily Lemcke Memorial Library houses over 6,300 quality children's books all obtained from donations and library fund raisers.

## Newest Technology at Work in the Classrooms

By Wayne Schiefelbein

One of our goals is to prepare our students for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Technology is one of the tools that we use to achieve that goal. As of this year the school's computer lab boasts 32 new computers and a SMART Board. Soon, each classroom, first through eighth grade, will be equally equipped with four Internet accessible computers and a SMART Board.

SMART Boards, or interactive white boards, allow teachers to use multi-media to bring their messages to life. The large screens can interactively display computer images or video broadcasts with many teaching applications. Below, Second Graders learn about the Leaning Tower of Piasa in Mrs. Minch's class. Images from the Web are uploaded and projected onto the screen for a dramatic presentation to students.



Later, we also have plans to develop school wide broadcasts on the SMART Boards. If any Alum have expertise in this area and would like to help, please contact the school office at 314-962-8989.

A group of dedicated parents led the charge to bring this technology to the school. Greg Mueller formed a technology committee to guide Holy Redeemer in acquiring and implementing the technology into the classrooms. Rachael (Hahn) Krussel, an alum from the Class of 1986, led the charge in attaining two large grants to secure a majority of the equipment. Additional equipment was generously donated by school organizations and some parents. Another parent, Steve Caton donated his time to install the SMART Boards in each classroom.

With all of this coming together in a relatively short period of time this year our staff and students are engaging in on-going training. Holy Redeemer School is quickly becoming a technology rich environment and we are excited about where it will take our students in their future.



## Wayne Schiefelbein Named New Principal in 2008

Mr. Schiefelbein is said to be a principal that focuses on creating a great learning environment. He is very resourceful and responsive. He takes initiative and gets things done in a common sense kind of way. He has high standards for both his students and teachers. He creates a culture of caring in which students thrive.

Mr. Schiefelbein is a man of great integrity and faith. He believes excellence is attained in a positive atmosphere, where children are respected and celebrated. Wayne's mantra as principal is "Be it known to all who enter here, that Christ is the reason for this school, the unseen but ever present teacher in its classes, the model of its faculty and the inspiration of its students."

Wayne currently lives in South County with his wife of 37 years, Mary. They have four children and six grandchildren.

For more details visit  
[www.HolyR.org](http://www.HolyR.org).

Holy Redeemer Alumni Association  
Membership  
620 Cornelia Ave.  
Webster Groves, MO 63119

Bulk Mail  
Stamp to come



**Welcome to the  
Holy Redeemer  
Alumni Association!**

Address Correction Requested.

## **Addresses Needed:**

Send us yours, your parents and your fellow  
**Alum** to saraetom@yahoo.com or call Peggy (Mcauliffe)  
Hannick at 314-961-7866.

## **Online Alum Group Formed:**

Log onto [www.FaceBook.com](http://www.FaceBook.com) and become a member  
of the **Holy Redeemer Alumni Group**.  
Get in touch with classmates, share photos, even video.  
Watch the group site for news and event postings. It's free  
and only takes a few minutes to sign up.

## **Shop for a Cause this Holiday:**

### **Benefiting the Alumni Association:**

#### **The Empty Nest Holiday Shopping**

**Thursday, November 20th, 5:30-8:30 p.m.**

21 North Gore, Webster Groves, 314-961-3900

### **Benefiting the Emily Lemcke Memorial Library:**

#### **Scholastic Book Fair**

**Nov. 12-14, 3:15-5 p.m. and Nov. 15, 9 a.m.-noon**

Emily Lemcke Memorial Library, HR School

#### **Barnes & Noble Book Fair**

**Dec. 4-10** Crestwood Barnes & Noble, Watson Rd.

## **Thank you to our sponsors:**

If you would like to place an ad in our Spring  
newsletter and reach over 2,300 Holy Redeemer  
School Alums, contact Susan Gerard at  
314-963-9376 or [TheGerardFamily@att.net](mailto:TheGerardFamily@att.net).