



AlumniNews

www.fargoalumni.net

**Spring
2012**

STAY IN TOUCH!

Please update your name, address and email at www.fargoalumni.net

CONTACT US!

office@fargoalumni.net

WEBSITE:

www.fargoalumni.net

415 N 4th St.,
Fargo, ND 58102

701-446-1041

Have you visited the new Alumni Network website, yet? In order to better serve Fargo Public Schools alumni, the Fargo Public Schools Alumni Network was launched in 2011—just for you!

This is the first official alumni organization established to assist you in organizing your class reunions by posting your reunion information on the website, providing an updated class list, keeping you informed through this **AlumniNews** newsletter, and helping you through the reunion process with our 62-page *Reunion in a Flash* tutorial.

Your classmates are looking for you! Go to www.fargoalumni.net and update your contact information! It's up to you to let us know where you are. So, start re-connecting, today!

Be sure to read our Alumni Spotlight on the next page. We would like to feature you, too, in an upcoming issue. Just fill in the Alumni Brief section on the website and we'll include you in our next newsletter.

Here's how you can reach us—

Fargo Public Schools Alumni Network

Mailing Address: 415 N. 4th Street, Fargo, ND 58102

Physical Address: Agassiz School, 1305 9th Avenue South, Fargo, ND 58103

Phone: 701-446-1041

Email: office@fargoalumni.net

Also, if you live in the Fargo area and would like to join the new FPS Alumni Network Advisory Committee to support this new effort, let us know. We need your energy and great ideas!

The Alumni Network is a program of the Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation. The Foundation is committed to providing resources and opportunities to teachers and students that are not possible through regular education funding. To learn more about the Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation visit www.fargoschoolsfoundation.org.

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Alumni Spotlight

The Fargo Public Schools Alumni Network asked 1966 Central High School graduate, Sally Platkin Koslow, to tell us what she has been doing since she received her education in Fargo. This is what she said!

“When I sold my first novel, *Little Pink Slips*, my editor said there was one aspect she wanted to change in the manuscript because, frankly, it was implausible: the editor-in-chief of the fictional magazine I wrote about couldn't be from *Fargo*. That detail, I told her, was not negotiable. It was based on my own life.

During the 30-something years I spent as an editor on mass market magazines, being raised in Fargo was my secret weapon. My roots allowed me to connect with authentic American women, making me a more intuitive editor than if I'd grown up in, say, Manhattan, where I have lived since 1970.

A Fargo childhood was fertile topsoil for growing a writer and editor. I was no different than any other 50's kid—I watched little television since our family didn't own a set until I was in grade school. This allowed for lazy summers where I read a lot of library books, daydreamed, and took long bike rides and walks to and from the Island Park swimming pool. I also benefited from an excellent publication. At Agassiz Junior High School, I had the good fortune to be taught English and speech by the incomparable Rhoda Hansen. Since then, I have had no more than a day or two of media training because Mrs. Hansen's superb instruction still echoes and has allowed me to be a chatty guest on TV programs such as “Today” and to lecture at universities like Yale and Columbia. At the end of ninth grade, Mrs. Hansen gave me a collection of Dorothy Parker's poetry. I cherish it still.

At Central High School, I went on to study English with Dell Schrock and Edward Raymond, fine teachers with a sense of how to nurture creative writers. Under Mr. Raymond's direction, I got the chance to co-edit *The Cynosure* and contribute to *Of Toad Stools and Russian Olive Trees*, a literary magazine whose name was chosen from one of my poems. During two summers following high school, I interned at *The Forum* and after junior year at the



*There
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inside
every
student.*

Marva Collins

University of Wisconsin, for North Dakota's Senator Quentin Burdick, (signing the good man's Christmas cards. Really.)

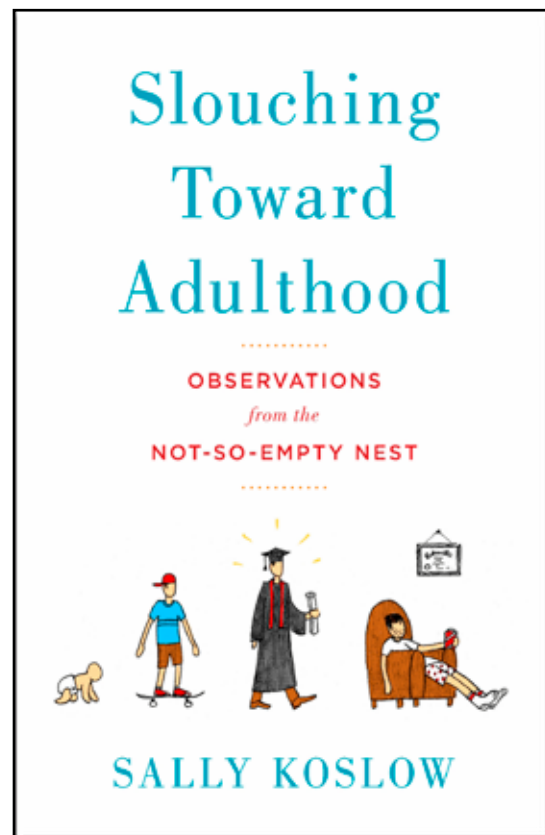
After graduation I moved to New York City. I looked for a job in magazines because, as I eventually wrote, "When she was growing up in Fargo, magazines had given Magnolia a window into a world where people watched indie movies, wore clothes paraded on red carpets, and referred to Donatella Versace as if she were their college roommate." I landed at *Mademoiselle*, got increasingly responsible magazine jobs and did a considerable amount of freelance writing. None of these steps, however, happened fast. I didn't become the editor-in-chief of *McCall's* until I was past 40. It was worth the wait. "Editor-in-chief was the ultimate job for the editor of the high school paper, especially one with questionable grammar." I loved everything about this position. (Did I mention visiting the White House?) Later I got to actually create a magazine: *Lifetime*, which was published for several years. Better yet.

Because of the Internet and other bountiful distractions, magazine readership began to falter about ten years ago. My *Lifetime* job ended. I had time on my hands and on a whim, tried to write fiction. My efforts turned into *Little Pink Slips* and since then two more novels. *The Late, Lamented Molly Marx* was selected by Target as a Book Pick and became a best-seller in Germany. (My novels have been sold to a dozen other countries.) My third novel is *With Friends like These*. For that book, Target called me "an Emerging Writer." *Emerge* past the age of 60? Why not?

In June my fourth book will appear. *Slouching Toward Adulthood: Observations from the Not-So-Empty Nest* returns me to journalism and shines a light on the lives of people in their 20's and 30's as well as their freaked-out parents. *The Wall Street Journal* will excerpt a chapter in June, shortly before Viking publishes the book. I hope some of you will pre-order it through Amazon or Barnes & Noble for your e-readers or as a hardcover book. You can read an excerpt at www.sallykoslow.com, along with chapters of my novels and many of my essays and articles.

My fourth novel is due next month. Some friends talk about retirement. I don't see that for me. Not with so many books left to write, maybe one about Fargo.

We would like to highlight you in our next AlumniNews. Please let us know what you have been doing since graduation. Send us an email at office@fargoalumni.net!



Where are they now?

Remembering...

Craig Edward Brown
North 1971

Brian R. Nelson
South 1974

Dan Jahner
South 1974

Deborah Bitterman
Westbrook
South 1978

Steven Light
North 1988

Central Graduates

Beatrice Bolkan
Peters

Theresa Civilla White

Avis Byers Berg

Richard H. Rufer

Russell Hanson

Joyce Nystul Stigen

Virginia Wiseman
Hanson

Doris Winne Eastman

Former Educators

Helen Foss
Substitute Teacher



Karen Wilk Klein, Central Class of 1954, retired from Brandeis University in 2001 and since then has developed a second career as a dancer with Prometheus Dance Elders Ensemble.

A prolific writer of haiku and lyric poetry, she also makes wood sculpture and is the exhibition chair for New England Sculptors, a six-state organization.

Julie Thomas Smith, South Class of 1984, is currently President of smithgroupIT, an executive search firm specializing in healthcare IT consulting placements nationwide. She just celebrated six years in business and they have expanded during this past year.

Jan Skelton Tufte, North Class of 1977, says "I'm a grandmother of two incredible kids. Jax is 3 and his sister, Janae (she is named after me), is 7. I thought my daughter Amber was great UNTIL the grandkids came along! After a career as a Legal Specialist, I decided to have some fun, and get paid too, so I started working in the film industry. After 8 years, I recently moved to Las Vegas where I have just worked on America's Got Talent and American Idol."

Jessie Robison Roden, South Class of 1992, has been married to Tom for 11 years. They have one son, Keeton, who just turned 10, 2 pugs and a huge Maine Coon cat. Jess is a stay at home mom and Tom works for the Burlington Northern. They live in Otsego, MN where their son is their star hockey player!

Thomas Radcliffe, Central Class of 1951, graduated from NDSC in 1956; army 1956-8; teaching career started in Hallock, MN, 1958-61; married Clara Schleef in 1961, graduate school at SUNY Buffalo, 1961-63; migrated to OR in 1963; taught at Pacific H.S., Port Orford, Oregon until retirement in 1992. Currently married to Lynn and lives in Milwaukie, Oregon.

Elizabeth "Betty" J. Fabritius, Central Class of 1960, Undergraduate MS Minnesota; graduate Maryland. Visual Arts Instructor (secondary level) in Maryland, retired 1997. Married for 46 years, three daughters, three grandchildren. Hospice volunteer, Bridge, P.E.O., gardening.



Nancy Branick Goodridge, Central Class of 1954, is a real estate agent in Houston and very active in her community. One daughter and her family live in Houston and the other lives in Santa Monica, Ca.

James R. Olson, Central Class of 1959, lives in a high rise condo across the Mississippi River from downtown Minneapolis.

Summer 2012 Reunions



Fargo North

Class of 1972

July 20 and 21, 2012

Contact Cydney at crunsvoldrph@aol.com

Class of 1977

35 Year Reunion

August 10 and 11, 2012

El Zagal Shrine

Facebook page "Fargo North High School Class of 77"

Email address is fargonorth1977@aol.com

Class of 1992

July 6 and 7, 2012

Class email address is fargonorth1992@gmail.com

Facebook page is Fargo North Class of 1992

Class of 2002

Saturday, August 11, 2012

Contact Matt Charpentier, info@north02.com

<http://www.north02.com>



Fargo South

Class of 1972

Friday, July 6, 2012

Fargo Country Club

More details to come. Check www.fargoalumni.net for more info.

Class of 1982

Saturday, August 11, 2012

Howard Johnson Inn

7 PM until close.

Cost \$20 per person.

Contact Cory Lehman, 1840 15th Avenue S., Fargo, ND 58103

Class of 1987

July 13 and 14, 2012

Contact Jeff Benson, jeffbenson13@aol.com

Class of 1992

July 6, 7, and 8, 2012

Contact Mike Hennebry, m.f.hennebry@gmail.com

Class of 2002

July 20 and 21, 2012

Contact www.fsh2002.com

Facebook page is FSH Class of 2002

Central High School

Class of 1952

July 17 and 18, 2012

Contact rad1934@comcast.net



Class of 1962

August 2 and 3, 2012

More details at www.62midgets.com

Foundation Highlights

*Thank
Your Favorite
Teacher*

Say thank you by donating to the Fargo Public Schools Foundation in their honor.

Go to www.fargoschools-foundation.org and make an online donation, today.

When you make an online donation, your favorite teacher will receive a card informing them of your generosity on their behalf.



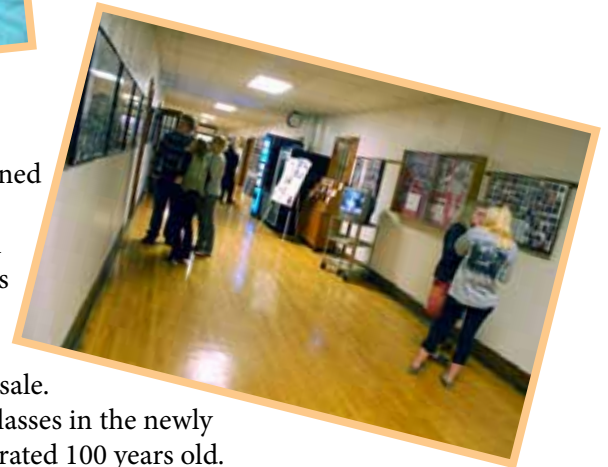
701-446-1041

Twice each school year, the Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation awards small grants to teachers for innovative learning and literacy projects. These grants are funded by alumni, individual contributions, and through investment income from named endowed funds.



During this past year, one of the teacher grants supported middle school visits from author Ben Mikaelson. Mikaelson's youth adventure novels have won many Reader's Choice awards.

In February, Woodrow Wilson High School opened its doors to the former students, staff and the public for one last look around during a farewell open house. The event drew several dozen guests together for tours, refreshments, and memories. Opened in 1917, Woodrow is the third oldest building in the District. The building is now for sale. Beginning in March 2012, students will attend classes in the newly renovated Agassiz building which recently celebrated 100 years old.



Have You Ever Wondered How Food and Mail is Delivered to Fargo Public Schools?

Milk is delivered at the rate of approximately 14,000 eight-ounce cartons per day. A refrigerated milk truck stops at the milk supplier daily and transfers this product to the 23 schools in the District.

Fargo Schools also has four cube delivery vans with lift gates that supply the daily needs of each school. Approximately 8,000 breakfast and lunch meals are delivered daily. Each delivery truck has assigned elementary schools to which it makes deliveries. The hot food is transferred in "hot boxes," heated sealed containers on wheels. After the meals are consumed by the students, each truck returns in the afternoon to pick up the hot boxes and dirty dishes, trays, etc., to be taken to the central warehouse to be washed and sanitized in the large commercial dishwashing machine.

Other supplies are processed in the warehouse, picked from the shelves, labeled and sent to each school in the mail truck. Mail and supplies are delivered to each school daily. Larger supplies such as wrestling mats, science kits, etc. not able to fit into the mail truck are sent on a special route, thus making coordination an important daily task.

Sheldon-Dehne Fund

Fargo North 1966 graduate, **John Sandager**, is issuing a challenge to Fargo North and Fargo Central graduates, to former teachers and administrators, and to all the folks currently connected to Fargo North High School. John will match up to \$10,000 for all donations received to establish the **Sheldon-Dehne Fund** in honor of esteemed coaches and educators, Jerry Sheldon and Donald E. "Diz" Dehne! The Sheldon-Dehne Fund will be a permanent endowment that will provide for student scholarships and current equipment needs at Fargo North High School. Show your support for Jerry Sheldon and the late Donald "Diz" Dehne by making your donation online at www.fargoalumni.net or use the donation form below. Thank you, John, for making this challenge!



Jerry Sheldon's teaching and coaching career started in Karlstad, MN and Ellendale, ND before joining the Fargo Central Staff in the fall of 1962.

In the fall of 1965, Jerry became a charter member of the teaching and coaching staff at North High School, a role that he continued until becoming an assistant. His service to Fargo Public Schools continued with appointments as

Principal of Agassiz Junior High and Director of Athletics before his retirement in 1991.

His dedicated service to the youth of Fargo through his many assignments has been enhanced by his additional work with community, state and national organizations that have supported student learning and activities opportunities.



The late Donald "Diz" Dehne began his career in Cogswell, ND followed by nine years of teaching and coaching in Valley City, ND.

His 1960 basketball team won a state Championship. In the fall of 1965, Don became a charter member of the teaching and coaching staff at the new North High School in Fargo.

He was a social studies teacher, head basketball coach, and an assistant football coach.

In 1967, Don became the schools's assistant principal, a post he held until retiring in 1990.

This gift is designated for the Sheldon-Dehne Fund

The Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization that was established to engage and foster new learning opportunities for Fargo students that cannot be made possible through ordinary education funding.

Your donation will provide support for
Fargo North scholarships and equipment needs.

An acknowledgement of your gift (amount not noted)
will be sent to Jerry Sheldon and family of Donald Dehne.



415 N. 4th Street
Fargo, ND 58102
701-446-1041
fpsfound@fargo.k12.nd.us
www.fargoalumni.net (for online donations)

Name _____

Address _____

City, St, Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Gift Amount \$ _____

Check enclosed payable to FPS Foundation

Credit Card

Expiration: Month/Year ____/____

A Lasting Gift

Eleanor Laing Law wanted to make sure literacy was supported in Fargo Public Schools. So she created a permanent endowment fund to provide continued support for teachers wishing to try new and innovative ideas.

We hope you will also consider making a bequest that can provide ongoing support to the teachers and students through grants or scholarships.

To learn more about creating a permanent fund, contact Fargo Public Schools Development Foundation and Alumni Network, 415 N. 4th Street, Fargo, ND, 58102, 701-446-1041, office@fargoalumni.net.

Working together, we can forever change how students learn!



Classmates are eager for you to share your alumni update! Email your information and photo to office@fargoalumni.net