

Alumni banquet draws many back to Oberlin

By MARY LOU OLSON

Boyd Roberts of Plattsmouth, Neb., a member of the 1934 class, was honored as the oldest graduate to attend the Decatur Community High School Alumni Banquet on Saturday evening at The Gateway.

President Pat Pomeroy welcomed alumni and guests and the invocation was given by Jim Plotts.

At the business meeting, Patti Richards, secretary, read the minutes of the 2004 meeting and Rose Riffle gave a treasurer's report showing a balance of \$6,560.15. A report on the Smick Memorial Fund was given by Mr. Pomeroy.

Monty Van Almen of England, Class of 1965, was recognized for coming the farthest and Alice Bobbitt, Class of 1938, for attending 66 years. Three-generation families recognized included: Don and Lois (Pierce) Fredrickson, Kristi (Fredrickson) Gallentine, and Kelsey Gallentine; Loyd and Fern (Diehl) Moore, Mirla (Moore) Coleman, and Matt and Molly Coleman; and Geneva Morford, Woody Morford, and Koi and Lonnie Morford.

Anthony Marshall introduced the Class of 2005, which was accepted after Dr. Mark Olson expressed objections and Mirla (Coleman) Moore gave a rebuttal to admit them.

The DCHS Singers, under the direction of Susan Nelson, provided several numbers, accompanied by Mary Lohofener. Ken Badsky gave a Sappa Park presentation, on behalf of Pheasants Forever, and told of plans for a fishing pond and other improvements there.

Dr. Mark Olson presented information on the newly-formed Decatur Community Educational Foundation and Marvin Matchett narrated a PowerPoint presentation (see story on page 10A).

Anna Seeber-Shaw gave a report from the Oberlin Pool Commission and sought assistance for a new pool. She also offered a free painting to the lucky winner drawn from those who make donations.

Monty Van Almen sang several songs and accompanied himself on the guitar.

New officers include: Ken Badsky, president; Gaylen Huntley, vice president; Karen Waterman Eskew, secretary, and Rose Pachner Riffle, treasurer.

Those making reservations for the banquet included:

1931: Ethel Cathcart Railsback.
1934: Boyd Deem Roberts and Debra.

1935: Irel Muller Lohofener, Fern Fisher Shafer, Edna Pavlicek Mott, Geneva Counter Morford.

1936: Byron McCartney, Mabel Wurm Zimmerman, Robert and Maxine McKinzie Ridgway, Esther Olson Carlson, Russell Rhodes.

1937: Amy Anderson Rehm, Gerald and Lee Ora Leist Sines.

1938: Evelyn Lorenson Olson, Wilma Wurm May, Barbara Van Vleet Castor, Col. Delbert Townsend.

1939: James Plotts, Dorothy Olson Jackson, Alice Hackney Bobbitt.

1940: Frances Harmon Bixby, Melvin and Avis Armstrong Beneda, Robert Fraker, Phyllis Armstrong McCartney, Lois Reznor Carlson, Patty Lou Mines Carswell, Fern Erikson Wenger, Dale and Eris Wenger Young, Mildred Miller Holmdahl, Gail and Kay Marcuson, Ivis Hanson.

1941: Darrell Landau, Phyll Cramer, Joyce Van Gundy Sumner, LeRoy Schmidt, Joe and Jean Ridgway, Walter and Betty May, Wayne and Lois Larson.

1942: Harold Miller, Faye Koehler Lombardi, Margie Smalberger Welsh, Vergil and Nadene Welsh Lafferty, Martin and Evelyn Reith May, Lee and Estella Waldo, Alyce Anderson Avery, Daughn Avery.

1943: Dennis Fraker, Harry Eiler, Elmer Zodrow, Bernice Montgomery Sevier, Doris Stephens Gilbert.

1945: Herschel Betts, Janice Robertson Winters, Marian Norton Fraker, Connie West Cramer, Joy Boyles and Peg Nickley, Francis and Iolene Hickert Levendofsky, Virgil and Marie Bickett, Jerry and Joan Hall Davidson, Eldred and Lorraine Wurm, Donna McChesney Ward and Fannie McChesney, Jim and Bonnie Area, Max and Marlene Miller, Martha O'Toole Munson, Eula Geisenhener Juenemann, Vivian Soderlund Goss, Daisy Wasson Schmidt, Forrest and Wanda Smith Schuhs, Leonard and Laurene Cullison, Nila Kelley Murrain, Howard Votapka, George and Cecilia Zoder Brown, Doris Scott Fringer, Don Fredrickson.

1946: Delores Moeder Zoder, Loyd Waldo.
1947: Joan Bremer Betts, Mary Taylor Waldo, Dorothy Marvin Avery, Mary Hamilton Landau, Beverly Van Vleet Eiler, Royce and Delores Muller Patton, Francis Moore.

1948: Luetta Schweitzberger Pollnow, Duane Berry, Ralph Shaw, Duane and Carol Wenger Witt, Lois Pierce Fredrickson.
1949: Donald and Marie Tally

Aschwege, Milton Anderson, Loyd and Fern Diehl Moore, Luella Hayes Krizek, Harold Richardson.

1950: Bill and Delores Deines, Raleigh and Elizabeth Johnson Dean, Nola Jaderborg Carlson and Shirley Toman, Alan Adleman, Phyllis Peterson Berry, Owen Wilson, Alva Castor, Phyllis Eiler Metcalf, Estella Carper Harold, Jack Hines, Keith Olson, Eldon and Gayle Laidig, Marilou Berndt Long, Cleon and Carol Musgrave, Lelia Krizek Benton.

1951: Donna McClure Huff, Eugene Witt, Martin and Melba Harris Johnson, Mary Lou Bendon Olson.

1952: Earnest Huff, Dale Votapka, Phyllis Zwickle Nicholson, Donna Witt Goss, Elden Long, Everett and Dorene Pollnow Shuler.

1953: Bill Goss.
1954: Beverly Wurm Witt, Phillip and Marjorie Jording Law.

1955: Arden and Lajean Flaska, Larry and Colene Chance, Gary Torluemke and Rita, Francis Gallentine, Dan Miller, Dick and Donna Bryan Kelley, Jerry and Sue Jones, Keith Anthony, Jerry and Adonna Brand, Delbert and Norma Witt Lewis, Richard and Marcia Petracek Wilffong, Bill and Maxine Olson Peebles, Don Lawson, Carolyn Bosler Wallace, Carol Wennihan Bell, Helen Minnick Gaines, Jim and Phyllis Anderson Klich, Roberta Simonsson Harris, Tom and Glenva Beneda Burrell, Betty Simonsson Sargent, Claudine Macfee Bennett, Samme Steinmetz, Dennis and Leona Barratt, Margaret Morton Erickson-Steadman, Stan and Deanie Euhus Moore.

1956: Allen Jeffus, Robert Gaines, Rusty Adleman.

1957: Neta Wurm Jeffus, Jerry and Lisa Baker, Richard Carman, Delmar Richardson.

1959: Hank Benton, Woody and Karla Morford, Sharon Pollnow Adleman.

1960: Patricia Nelson Whetzel, Mary Reeves Leber, Roxie Pachner Pomeroy, Iris Graves Benton, Larry and Fran Bremer, Murry and Audrey Lemman Pavlicek, Rex and Maribeth Kathka Minear, Doyle and Karol Cameron Styles, Jim and Pam Wesch, Steve Reist, Curtis Higgins, John and Henrietta Goscha Juenemann, Jeanette Cook Miller, Karen Anderson Metcalf, Myrna Fisher Wilson, Joy Long Richardson, Dale and Frances Miller.

1961: Dennis Euhus, Jim Plotts.
1962: Ralph Unger.
1963: Gerald Olson.
1964: Gene Plotts, Gene Morford.

1965: Tom and Beverly Hunter, Eric and Gwen Smith Graham, Tom Railsback, Ron Morford, Ronald Scott, Mike Goscha, Jude Jeffus Benton, Peggy Miller North, Robert and Sharon Bearley, Georgia Richards, Rick and Barbara Benton Kiser, Mary Robison Hupka, Mary Helm, John Stanley, Carolyn Cathcart Hackney, Larry and Barbara Robertson, Monte and Teri Van Almen, Rose Pachner Riffle.

1969: Connie May Olson.

1970: Rich and Janie Brown Beall, Chuck and Margaret Guy Cunningham, Vicky Berry Gillett, Mike Pollnow, Esther Ready, Harold and Billie Jo Van Pelt Rubinfeld, Dan and Carol Wasson, Steve and Connie Noren, Kathy Helm Brashers.

1973: Monte Moore.
1974: Susan Waldo Wright, Kristi Fredrickson Gallentine.

1975: Michael Wright, Roger and Shirley Kump Werholtz, Eric and Janet Bastin Carson, Mike and Mirla Moore Coleman, Terry Steinmetz, Tina McMillin, Gary Anderson.

1978: Ken Badsky, Bob Dempe-wolf.

1980: Roger and Jennifer LaSalle, Sherri Johnson Ramsey, Melissa Depperschmidt Roell, Curtis and Christine Rippe May, Vicky Shirley Waldron, Kevin and Jeanie Unger, Troy and Kim Lindemann, Ron and Kristine Erickson Reneberg, Evelyn Humes Johnson, Barry and Patti Bryant Richards.

1982: Patrick Pomeroy.

1985: Becky Shirley Barlow, Chris and Beth Votapka Sluder, Scott and Debbie Goltl, Marshall and Bonnie Sater Berens, Max and Renell Erickson Bell, Trevor and Stephanie Urban, Larry and Tracy Whetzel Hoeckelberg, Eric and Joanna Hokanson Smith, Kendal and Angela Bader Fisher, Butch and Colleen Unger Rittmann, Lori Plotts.

1990: Jody Gaskill Metcalf, Jeni Shirley Henningson, Rachel Unger Gorrell, Tracey Frickey Hudson, Mike and Angie Lintner Barta, Dawn McEvoy Beckman.

1995: Chris and Angie Clausen, Paula Hrnchir Gnad, Lonnie and Kendra Morford, Mark and Jessica Long Luck, Tanner Woolsey, J. Lynn Lohofener, Jason and Summer Bryan Creed, Kendal and Amy Fortin Carman, Koi and Stacy Morford, Matthew Ostmeyer.

1998: Kristi Olson Ostmeyer.

2000: Kristen Bremer, Hillary Shike and Jake Zemer, Danielle Bailey, Natalie Brown, Loni Mar-jetta.

2001: Lacey Badsky.

2005: Guests of the alumni association.

Club News

Antique club plans shows

The Mini-Sappa Antique Club made plans for upcoming shows when 15 members met on May 8 for a Mother's Day barbecue and potluck.

President Bob Martin reported on car shows in Oberlin on June 4 and at Selden on June 5. Lian Martin reported on the goody-bag exchange for the vendors. A tractor that will be given in a drawing is being completed. A toy tractor, which was purchased and donated by Elden and Charissa Huff, and a doll quilt by Reva Marshall,

will be given in the kids' drawings.

Quilt blocks are being completed by members for a 25th anniversary quilt to be given away at the Antique Tractor and Engine Show in October. Charissa Huff won an in-club drawing, with the prize provided by Bus and Carolyn Wurm.

The next meeting will be June 12 at Sappa Manor, and the date for binding the quilt will be set at that time.

Learning center to open

Becky Ayers, who has taught school for over 20 years, plans to open "Kids First" Learning Center this fall in Oberlin.

She has purchased the property at 505 East Ash and will open the school on Tuesday after Labor Day. Although she plans to offer classes on Tuesday and Thursday for three-year-olds, and sessions Monday, Wednesday and Friday for four- and five-year-olds, she will also offer a before- and after-school program for school-age children, basically kindergarten through sixth grade.

In addition, she plans to offer tutoring and other needs for upper level students and hours will be flexible to serve the needs of the students, she said.

Mrs. Ayers has taught at varying levels over the years and the past four years has been language arts teacher for the middle school at Golden Plains School at Rexford.

Activities planned include creative learning experiences, activities to develop large and fine motor

skills, pre-reading and pre-writing skills, appropriate play experiences, learning centers and group interactions, healthy snacks, and music, dance and art expressions.

Although she will not open the school until fall, she said she will be available this summer for tutoring by appointment. She is interested in obtaining games, puzzles, etc., and would accept donations if someone is cleaning out a garage or would be willing to purchase good, used items.

She said, "I couldn't have done this without the support of my husband, Larry. My goal is to be a support system for the kids, school and the community to help kids."

"The mission of 'Kids First' Learning Center is to provide a nurturing environment that fosters the development of children socially, emotionally, physically and academically."

For details, call her at (785) 475-3311.

Nurse graduates from KU

Krista Gutchewsky, daughter of Brian and Pam Simonsson of Oberlin, was recognized Saturday, May 21, in a ceremony at Memorial Hall in Kansas City, and graduated Sunday, May 22, from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree.



K. Gutchewsky

She is a 2001 graduate of Decatur Community High School. She has accepted a nursing position with Good Samaritan Health Systems in Kearney, Neb. She and her husband, Brian, live in Lawrence and plan to move to Kearney this summer.

Her grandparents are Bob and Sharon Ream, Walt and Joanne Castle, Sharon and Marvin Slabaugh, and Johnnie and Connie Simonsson, all of Oberlin.

Those attending her graduation on Saturday at the KU School of Nursing in Kansas City were her husband, Brian Gutchewsky, and her brother, Travis Castle, Lawrence; Brian and Pam Simonsson, Breck and Nathan, Bob and Sharon Ream, all of Oberlin; Jack and Mary Gutchewsky, Herndon; and Brad and Michelle Simonsson, Colton and Taylor, Wamego.

Selden Tractor Show

will honor early organizer

The Selden American Legion plans to dedicate the 12th annual Tractor Show in Selden on Sunday to the memory of Rex Shaw, one of the major organizers of the show.

The event will include antique and classic tractors, cars, and a small engine display by all who would like to enter. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the north end of Main Street. There is no registration or attendance fee and plaques will be awarded for top exhibits.

Activities for young and old will

center around the city park, beginning with a horseshoe pitching contest. A kiddie tractor pull is planned, along with other kid's games and a variety of crafts, vendors and booths. A pedal tractor will be given away by the American Legion.

The Legion will be serving lunch in the park, which includes hamburgers, barbecued pork and beverages. A parade starts at 3:30 p.m.

For details, call (785) 386-4331 or (785) 386-4481.

Retired newspaper woman to be honored by family

Doris Miller will be honored by her family for her 75th birthday, which will be June 9, with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 11, at the Golden Age Center in Oberlin.



Doris Miller

Mrs. Miller retired last month after 30 years at *The Oberlin Herald*. She learned the printing trade as a teenager, in an era when women were seldom found in the back shop of a newspaper. In recent years she handled typing, ad makeup and of-

rice duties.

Among relatives planning to attend are her children, Connie and Jack Hunter, Lyons; Roger and Tammy Miller, Clarksville, Tenn.; and Richard and Wendy Miller, Loveland, Colo.; her grandchildren; her brother, Ralph and Kay Tittel, Salina; and sister, Verdine and Clyde Peddy-cord, Greeley, Colo.

Mail will reach her at 108 E. Ash, Oberlin, Kan., 67749.



The children and grandchildren of Darrel and Elda (Wagoner) Youngs are hosting an Open House in honor of their parents 50th Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, June 12, 2005, from 1 - 4 p.m. The event will be held at the Red Willow County Fairgrounds Community Building, West 5th and "O" Street in McCook, Nebraska. There will be a 2:30 p.m. video presentation. Your presence would be a treasured gift and they request no other.

The couple were married June 12, 1955 in Lenora, Kansas. Cards can be received at: 38602 Ravenswood Rd., McCook, NE 69001

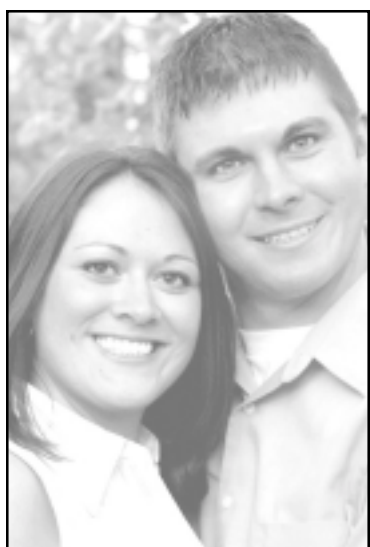
Couple plans June wedding

Julie Elizabeth Morris and Christopher Lee Laflan of Lee's Summit, Mo., plan to be married at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, June 25, at the United Methodist Church in Lee's Summit.

Parents of the couple are Ken and Christie Morris, Oberlin, and Terry and Teresa Laflan, Ogallala, Neb.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Decatur Community High School. She earned a degree in elementary education at Hastings College and is a second-grade teacher for the Lee's Summit Schools.

Her fiance graduated from Ogallala High School in Nebraska and



J. Morris and C. Laflan

Hastings College with a degree in business education, business administration, accounting and economics. He works at the Bank of Lee's Summit.

Rhodes reunion held Sunday

A dinner and reunion of the Rhodes family was held Sunday at the Bohemian Hall.

Those present included: Gene and Joan Gerver, Sandy Wesch, Ed and Gloria McKenna, Bill McKenna, and Shirley, Amy and Samantha Wheelbarger, Marie Wesch and Danial Savage, Nick Gerver, Donna, Jerry and Frani Chambers, McCook; Gary and Judy Vaughn, Henderson, Colo.; Todd Vaughn, Brighton, Colo.; Tonie, John and Mark Owens, Suwanee, Ga.; Nelda Vaughn, Steve and Joyce Carlton, Tom and Patti Skubal, Scott Carlton, Karl and Donna Hazen, Merla Rhodes, Oberlin; Robert and Josiane Coleman, Lynn Haven, Fla.;

John and Virginia Vasey, Leesburg, Fla.; Tim and Beverly Morris, Allison Nuss, Jennifer and Taylor Morris, Council Bluffs, Iowa; Jerry and Betty Coleman, Georgia Johnson, Tim, Kristi, Tyler and Makenna Scheele, Chris and Dabney Butler, Creighton and Brenden, Marysville; Louise Keith, Courtney and Bailey Minge, Hill City; Rick and Linda Deibert, Lawrence; Tamie Owen, Kansas City, Mo.; Russell Rhodes, Dresden; Kathy Gerver, Rawlins, Wyo.; Lori and Jeff Leiker, Hays; Nadine Chandler, Denver; Vicki Gillett, Wichita, and Lonnie and Kindra Morford and Lynn, Lawrence.

Couple honored on 40th

Dale and Cheryl Votapka were honored with a picnic barbecue Sunday evening at their home for an early celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary, which will be Aug. 8.

It was planned by their children, Beth and Chris Sluder, Matthew and Kelly, Hinton, Okla.; Drs. Pam and Eric Hueter, Finnegan, Maxwell and Jack, Lawrence; and Luanne Rupe, Joshua, Jonathan and Jonah, Hays.

Additional guests were Odene

Koehler, Elaine and Elwood Mines, Howard and Janette Votapka, Donna and Lynn Groneweg, Kristen Groneweg and friend Doug, Enid, Okla.; Eric Groneweg, Holdrege, Neb.; Drs. Lynda and Glen Mueller, Enid, Okla.; Ward and Jodi Votapka, Faye and Sylvester Meitl, Norma and Gordon Anderson, Gayle Anderson and Kendra, Clay Anderson and Jennie Swart, Joy Votapka, Charlie and Gina Votapka and Sara, Ogallala, Neb.; and Nancy Ellis, Topeka.

Bridal shower was Sunday

Stephanie Reed of Olathe, fiancée of Nicholas Anderson, was honored with a bridal shower Sunday afternoon at the LandMark Inn, hosted by Gayle Anderson and Kendra.

The couple will be married on June 11 in Olathe.

Guests were Edla Olson, Arian Arnold, Mary Ann Erickson, Eva Bryan, Norma Anderson, Delta Anderson, Jennie Swart, Beth Holle, and Maureen and Samantha Anderson.



Happy 50th

The public is invited to celebrate the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Charles Richard and Clara Bell (Vernon) Russ on June 4th from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the United Church of Oberlin, 109 N. Griffith.

Richard and Clara were married August 3, 1955 at 10 a.m. in the United Church of Oberlin with the Rev. Daetwiler officiating. The witnesses were Alva Guy Vernon, the Bride's father and the Groom's parents, James Bruce and Dorothy (Eggers) Russ. Seven children were born in this union and will be hosting this celebration. Everyone is welcome.



Audra B. Duncan of Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly of Oberlin, Kansas, will be celebrating her 90th birthday on June 13th. Audra is the proud Mother of four children, Bill (Carol) of Oberlin, KS, Shirley Jean Duncan (deceased), Myrna (John) Hutchison of Racine, WI and Reba Duncan of Cincinnati, OH, as well as the proud Grandmother of nine grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren. She amazes all who meet her with her energy, wisdom and wit. She most certainly is 90 years young.

Her family and friends will be helping her celebrate this milestone on Saturday, June 11, 2005 at the Lockland Recreation Hall in Cincinnati, Ohio from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Those wishing to send her a birthday greeting may mail it to 600 Westview Avenue, Lockland, OH 45215.

