



GREATER SASKATOON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2008

www.gscs.sk.ca/foundation

Upcoming Events!

- April 19, 2008
Annual General Meeting
Greater Saskatoon Catholic School
Board Office
- May 1, 2008
“Swing Into Spring” Fashion Show
and Dinner
TCU Place
- August 2008
2008/2009 School Year Calendar
- August 19, 2008
“Share The Spirit” Golf Classic
Willows Golf & Country Club
- October 24, 2008
“Share The Spirit” Gala Dinner &
Silent Auction
Sheraton Cavalier

Call: 659-7003 or e-mail:
catholicschoolsfoundation@scs.sk.ca
for more information

Office Hours:
Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm

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Continuity gives us roots...

“Continuity gives us roots; change gives us branches, letting us stretch and grow and reach new heights.”

Pauline R. Kezer

During 2007, the Foundation has experienced change. We have welcomed new directors on our board, a new office administrator, and have been able to begin relationships with the new schools in our system. The Foundation has also experienced growth with our fundraisers and our relationships with the community that support our aspirations. As a result, the Foundation has been able to increase our contributions to the projects and programs that enhance the Catholic dimension in our schools.

The continuity of the dedication of our supporters is what provides the strength and roots of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation. I thank our Board of Directors for their vision and dedication. Also thank you to Bev Hanson and the Board of Education for their leadership and support. I especially thank our volunteers and donors who, with their enthusiasm and commitment, make it possible for the Foundation to grow and flourish.

The Foundation is branching into new endeavors. We are in the process of establishing an endowment fund and new planned giving opportunities. The Foundation is continuing to grow. If we picture the children as leaves on our tree, each new branch helps more and more children.

The school children is why we are here. The supporters of the Foundation should take pride in the many ways that schools are helped. Students are attending masses, saying



Wendy Cooper, Chair

the rosary and using materials and funds provided to help them grow in their faith. Students are entering schools and observing our Christian identity on a daily basis. Students are participating in leadership activities that will guide them for the rest of their lives. Students are touched by teachers and staff who have participated in spiritual growth programs. The Foundation has become and will continue to be an integral building block of our children’s faith.

Our challenge for 2008 is to continue to stretch and grow and reach new heights. Your contributions and support will always be the root of the continuing success of the Foundation. Thank you.

*God Bless,
Wendy Cooper
Chair*

“Transformed at the Table of God’s Love”



Beverley Hanson,
Director of Education

Thank you to the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation for supporting the faith development of students and staff in Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. The long standing partnership between the school division and the Foundation is highly valued and appreciated. We would not be able to run a variety of excellent faith building programs without the financial support of the Foundation.

It is often said that the Catholic experience of God occurs within a Eucharistic community. We recognize the importance of being a Eucharistic community in that the theme for the entire year in our school division is “Transformed at the Table of God’s Love.” A Eucharistic community is a group of human believers who are collectively thankful, prayerful,

universal and inclusive in nature. Our schools are not just places for learning and transferring knowledge, but must be places where the real presence and experience of Jesus Christ is found, celebrated, and most importantly, lived in a Eucharistic faith community.

The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board of Education has developed four priorities to guide the division over the next few years. These priorities include celebrating Catholic identity, improving student learning and achievement, building relationships and partnerships, and promoting stewardship.

Catholic education in Saskatoon, Biggar, Humboldt, Viscount and area grew from a shared desire by home and parish to teach children in a faith-filled setting. To celebrate Catholic identity means to nurture an understanding of Gospel values and to focus on faith formation for staff and students.

Catholic education helps each child develop their God-given talents as they strive to reach their full potential spiritually, academically, physically, socially, and emotionally. Teachers are focusing on specific goals to improve student learning and achievement. Working towards each student completing high school and improving academic excellence with an emphasis on literacy and numeracy are two of these goals.

Our board’s third priority is building relationships and partnerships. Our school division recognizes the primary partnerships of home and parish in

educating children and youth. Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools strives to continue to develop and enrich our relationships with the broader community including all those who support the Foundation. We are working to establish formal partnerships with First Nations and Metis groups as well as New Canadians and post-secondary institutions.

The board’s final priority is promoting stewardship, which involves taking care of God’s abundant gifts: people, finances, facilities, and the environment. We each seek to receive these gifts gratefully and tend to them responsibly so that together our work contributes to the greater good of the school division, our community and the world.

These priorities give us the direction we need to continue to serve the families who entrust their children to us.

On behalf of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools I wish to thank the Foundation for their generous financial support. Through the additional dollars given to our schools we are better able to focus on the priorities and goals outlined by our Board of Education. May God bless and strengthen us all as we continue to work together to provide a truly distinctive faith filled education to our children and youth.

Bev Hanson
Director of Education

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SPECIAL EVENTS

Fun, Food, and Fashions Galore...

The 2007 "Swing Into Spring" Fashion Show & Dinner brought laughter, smiles and excitement to over 800 guests at TCU Place on Thursday, April 26. Fashions from **Klassique Designs, Nancy Durham Jewellery & Clothing, Sandbox in the City** and **Tip Top Tailors** and footwear from **Burtons For Shoes** graced the runway and came to life through the lively commentary of MC's Al Mitchell and Robin Mitchell. **Visions Salon & Spa** and **Marvel School of Skin Care & Esthetics** provided the special touch for the models' presentation. The 21 models

representing a cross section of all employees from various Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools were joined by escorts Rev. Ron Beechinor and Rev. David Tumback.

The evening was extra special for the table of Brigitte Sand, Carol Hinz, Jan Early, Karen Bosker, Cecelia Vadnais, Irene Arthurs, Pat Elliott and Brenda Jabusch. As winners of the EARLY BIRD Draw they enjoyed limousine service to and from the Fashion Show courtesy of **DeVile Limousine Service** as well as having the winning ticket for the V.I.P. table. Other features of this 7th annual event were

Window Shopping on Main Street, a Silent Auction table, 19 Door Prizes and over 120 other prize giveaways through purchased tickets.

Thank you to all of our models, escorts and the many volunteers who contributed so greatly to the evening's success. The generosity of our donors allows us to provide our young people with enhanced learning opportunities. Please support our Title Sponsors **AlSCO Canada Uniform & Linen, Dundee Developments, Russ Powell Goldsmith Ltd.** and **Saskatoon Fastprint Ltd.** as well as these prize donors:



Taking a close look at the numerous prizes.



Window Shopping on Main Street.



Saskatoon Police Service volunteers are presenting the gift baskets to the winners of the V.I.P. Table.

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The 2008 "Swing Into Spring"

Fashion Show & Dinner is on

Thursday, May 1.

Early Bird Deadline:

February 29, 2008.

Rains Cease for Golf Classic

A full field of 144 golfers took advantage of a break in the August rains for the friendly competition of the 12th Annual 'Share The Spirit' Golf Classic at The Willows. Golfers enjoyed the special features including the Putting Contest, the Painted Ball Contest, Par 3 Poker and the Beat The Celebrity Contest as well as individual gifts, prizes for specialty events, team prizes and a delicious banquet.

Thank you to E.D. Feehan graduate Paul Buczkowski, former Saskatoon Blade and international hockey star for being our Celebrity Golfer.

Specialty prize winners were:
Rick Elson – **Beat The Celebrity** sponsored by Brian McManus, Success Office Systems
Darren Fradette – **Putting Contest**
Doug Duncan Team – **Painted Ball Contest** sponsored by Terry Busa
Ron Muench Team - **Par 3 Poker**
McKercher McKercher & Whitmore – **Early Bird Draw** courtesy Saskatoon Blades
Lowest team score went to the Dennis Nieth, McLaren Taylor, Jason Fenrich and Cheryl Fenrich foursome who each earned a **Free Round of Golf with cart** courtesy of the Willows.

Runners up was the team of Kurt Breker, Al Boutin, Mark Bodnarchuk and Darin Boire who earned a **Walking Round of Golf** courtesy of The Willows.

OUR SINCERE THANKS TO...

– all the volunteers for showing up early, staying late and working diligently in between.
– MC - Vic Dubois for keeping the program running smoothly.

EVENT SPONSORS

Terry Busa, CIBC Wood Gundy
CJWW/Hot 93/Magic 98

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Doug McCosh, Guy Werbicki, and Ryan Busa are taking a lesson from Team Captain Wendy Busa.



Rick Elson, Dick Batten and Collin Hirschfield watch as Michel Thibault prepares to put the ball on the green.



The All Sask Financial team of Merv McKee, Al Macza, Joe Lapointe, and Ernest Boyko are all smiles.

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Wes Lang, Blair Duquette, Morris Smysniuk and Jill Norris from TCU Financial Group put aside their financial portfolios for an afternoon on the links.

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Star Produce
Sundog Arts Society
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The Major Prize Draw sponsors were Al Boutin, Collision Plus Autobody, Flaman Fitness, Duane Panko and TCU Financial Group.

Mark your calendars for the 2008 'Share The Spirit' Golf Classic on Tuesday, August 19, 2008. All teams fully paid by June 27, 2008 will be entered in the Early Bird Draw.

Foundation Candles Now Available



Our new Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation Candles are now available for only \$10.00. The six inch candle will burn for hours and is enclosed in its own case. Once the candle has been burned, the beautiful 8 inch glass vase can be reused. A wonderful addition to your prayer corner or table.

Schools Win Twice Raffle

The November 22nd 'Schools Win Twice' Raffle Draw hosted by St. George School closed a very successful 2007 campaign. Organizers capitalized on an expanded time line in which to conduct their campaigns which garnered over \$120,000 in total sales.

Students and programs receive two-fold benefits from the raffle through the sharing of proceeds with the organizers and through grants that fund many school based initiatives.

The 2007 Raffle winners are:

Disneyland Vacation - Scott Downey, Saskatoon

San Francisco or Phoenix Vacation - Shayne Honoroski, Saskatoon

HP Desktop Computer - Darren Frank, Humboldt

Houseboat Holiday Eagle Point - Anita Fengstad, Saskatoon

Samsung 32" LCD TV - Trevor Monks, Saskatoon

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Canon 7.1 mp Digital Camera - Heidi Yathon, Saskatoon; Rebecca & Braydon Page, Saskatoon

Pizza Hut Pizza for 1 year - Adam Kidd, Tisdale; Max Wheaton, Saskatoon

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Saskatoon; Kathy Peterson, Saskatoon; Ken Moleski, Saskatoon

Panasonic Blaster with Remote -

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MP3 Player - Dennis Reichert, Livelong; Zachary Skolos, Saskatoon; Jayden McGregor, Saskatoon; Mervin Suski, Creighton

The Foundation gratefully acknowledges and thanks all organizers, sellers, buyers and St. George School. Thanks to Bruce's Cycle Works, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, Krazy Kiley's Audiotronic, Parker Quine, Pizza Hut, Saskatoon Fastprint Ltd. and Western Business Machines for their continued support of the raffle.



School and parent representatives share stories and enjoy a delicious lunch prior to the draw at St. George School.



Neil Clarke from Bruce's Cycle Works presents the Gary Fisher Advance Bike to winner, Brent Miller. The bike's owner is Brent's daughter, Mikaela.



Winner of the Disneyland Family Vacation is Scott Downey, who will be accompanied by his son Jayden and parents Brian and Nancy Downey. Mary Crookes of Carlson Wagonlit Travel prepared the vacation package.

Legacy of Leadership

The following story which appeared in the St. John School newsletter is reprinted with the permission of the author. It is shared with you, our reader, as an example of what the "Legacy of Leadership" aspires to recognize and celebrate. It is followed by a description of the "Legacy of Leadership" initiative through which the Foundation can acknowledge the many and varied contributions of former employees.

"Miss Koob's Last Lesson"

My family lived on Avenue U for 45 years, and all of my siblings and I attended St. Edward School. A teacher who taught much of her career there was Verla Koob, or "Miss Koob." She died of a heart attack

about a month ago, just shortly after attending the 50th Anniversary celebrations of St. Edward School.

Miss Koob was my Grade Four teacher. There were 44 students in our class that year. Needless to say, Miss Koob ran a strict classroom (with 44

students she had no choice).

Four things stand out in my mind about that year.

Firstly, we had a one hour P.E. class weekly – outdoors, of course, as we had no gym. That was great, because

continued on next page

in an hour we could really get into whatever game we were playing. Secondly, she was a baseball fan and let us listen to the World Series games on the radio while we worked. Thirdly, she was really shaken the day John F. Kennedy was assassinated – we were all sent home from school early that day.

The fourth thing I remember about Miss Koob was her respectful generosity. Every kid in our class had socks, toques, mitts and scarves. Not all of these items came from home. Every kid had something to eat at lunch, or got their lunch “boosted” a bit by a piece of fruit. Not all of that came from home. Miss Koob took care of us quietly and respectfully.

Here’s how, a week ago, 44 years after being in her class, Miss Koob taught me her last lesson.

We received a call from Wylma Orosz, a St. John Bosco parishioner and friend of Verla’s, asking if we would like to go to her apartment and take items that we thought we could pass on to people who could use them. As we have been working closely with the parish this year on their “Tenth Apple” project, we of course agreed. This year many household items and lots of furniture have come to us from the parish, and Kathy Woytowich, our Home Liaison Worker, has been distributing it to families who can use it.

We made arrangements to meet Miss

Koob’s brother at her apartment. Two boys accompanied me, and we took a truck. It was an extremely cold day. There were many items we could use, and many good pieces of furniture there. We made several trips down the elevator, and stopped only because we had a truckful. We took the items directly to a family who had, literally, nothing.

Even at her passing, Miss Koob was teaching. She taught again that it is our duty to help others, and that we should do it without flash or fanfare. She again taught that we need to be respectful in our generosity.

Saint Vincent DePaul is quoted as saying, “If we love the poor they will forgive us for giving them bread.” I think Miss Koob would agree with that statement.

We have had many generous donations and gifts from a variety of sources this Christmas season. As Miss Koob taught, we distributed these gifts without fuss. We try to be respectful of those receiving these gifts.

That was Miss Koob’s last lesson. May her teaching touch the lives of your family as it touched the lives of mine. May this blessed woman rest in peace. Her last lesson has now been taught.

Merry Christmas to you and all those you love.

*Dave Knowles
Principal, St. John School*

Students of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools have the privilege of being served by many caring, loving and dedicated individuals. Whether it be through the guidance and interactions with a teacher, service employee, support employee or administrator, each child benefits from our faith centered approach to education. These contributions in shaping the youth of today, educating the whole person to create a better world for tomorrow, deserve acknowledgement and recognition now and always. Thus, the servant leadership of those who have passed on to Eternal Life should always be a source of inspiration and guide us as we continue our journeys.

The Foundation receives donations in memory of loved ones. Henceforth, In Memoriam donations honoring deceased employees or students whose death occurs while attending Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools will be directed to the Legacy of Leadership. This initiative will honor the deceased in two ways: a scholarship supporting Catholic leadership development will be established. Secondly, the deceased will be tangibly remembered on a plaque that will be displayed at the School Board Office building. Families, individuals and groups are invited to make memorial donations to the Legacy of Leadership. Donations will be receipted and donors will be acknowledged in our newsletter and on our website. For more information call the Foundation office at 659-7003.

Catholic Education – Opening Doors for Children



Sharon Tkachuk prepares the display for the major prize draws.

The proceeds from the 14th annual “Share The Spirit” Gala Dinner & Silent Auction on Friday, November 2, 2007 will indeed open many doors for many students. Guests at this gala evening were treated to fine dining, spirited camaraderie, the opportunity to win fabulous prizes by purchasing a key and bidding on valuable silent auction items. Outstanding entertainment provided by “The Doors” paid tribute to a variety of easy listening musical hits that had many guests singing along.

We thank the following for their contributions to a wonderful event:

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Aniello’s Pasta Supreme

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*"Share the Spirit" Gala Dinner
 and Silent Auction
 Friday, October 24, 2008*



Entertainment by "The Doors" delighted our crowd as they were taken back down memory lane.



An appreciative audience . . . of the entertainment, the food and the decor.

Many Thanks To Our Supporters

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