



GREATER SASKATOON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2009

www.gscs.sk.ca/foundation

Upcoming Events!

- Thursday, April 23, 2009
Annual General Meeting
Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools
Board Office
- Thursday, April 30, 2009
"Swing Into Spring" Fashion
Show and Dinner
TCU Place
- Tuesday, August 18, 2009
"Share The Spirit" Golf Classic
Willows Golf & Country Club
- August 2009
2009/2010 School Year Calendar
- Friday, October 30, 2009
"Share The Spirit" Gala Dinner
- Tuesday, November 3, 2009
GSCS Memorial Mass
Our Lady of Lourdes

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Monday to Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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Foundation Message

Putting faith in education is the motto of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. Mother Teresa said; "Faith in action is love and love in action is service". As the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation Board we are privileged to see how our schools transform 'faith in education' into 'faith in action'. The efforts of parents, staff and students in our schools are a testament to the goal of Catholic education which is not merely to effect the transmission of skill sets in reading, writing, arithmetic, and the inculcation of prevailing social norms but the development of the whole human person - spiritually, academically, physically, socially and emotionally. This follows the vision of life as taught by the greatest of teachers, Jesus Christ. As a Board we respectfully and wholeheartedly provide encouragement and financial support to those efforts on behalf of you - our donors.

As Chair of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank our donors for their generous support over the past year. It is through that support that the Foundation is able to provide financial assistance for numerous events, initiatives and projects which contribute to the quality of education children receive in our Greater

Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

Through the efforts of the many dedicated volunteers and our staff the Foundation has disbursed over \$250,000.00 to initiatives in the schools in the past year. These funds were realized through our 'Swing into Spring' Fashion Show, 'Share the Spirit' Golf Tournament, 'Share the Spirit' Gala Dinner, 'Schools win Twice' Raffle and from many donors and benefactors including the hundreds of GSCS employees – members of our Founder's Circle – who contribute through payroll deduction. I extend special thanks to our Executive Director Ev Safronetz for her unbridled and seemingly inexhaustible enthusiasm for the work of the Foundation and the "kids" we serve. We are blessed to have Ev, and recently to add Janice Nepjuk to our staff as Administrative Assistant.

With your continued support we reaffirm our commitment to supporting education with a difference by putting "faith into action". ■

God Bless.

Michel Thibault, Chair



Michel Thibault

GSCSF Board of Directors

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Director's Message



Bev Hanson, Director of Education

“Rooted in Faith” was the theme for our school division’s Opening Celebration this past fall. The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation is a valued partner in supporting our students and staff to become more rooted in their faith. Thank you to the Foundation for its unwavering support of faith development activities in our schools.

Along with being the theme of our Opening Celebration, Rooted in Faith is also one of three themes that we use to describe our division and the work we do. We often say we are “Rooted in Faith, Growing in Knowledge and Reaching Out to Transform the World.”

Last year we introduced these themes to our staff in a booklet called “Understanding Catholic Education.” A second booklet was produced for

this school year to more fully explore the “Rooted in Faith” theme. The booklet contains reflections, scripture and a prayer within each of three belief statements connected to this theme: *We See God In All Things*, *A Catholic School Is A Community Of Faith, Hope And Love*, and *Our Faith Is Living And Growing*. Questions are posed in each section in order to encourage self-exploration and discussion. I trust the content of the booklet has encouraged lively discussion among staff members as well as moments of quiet introspection. The importance of exploring our faith and our vocation as Catholic educators cannot be overstated.

Our Board of Education also recognizes the integral role that faith must play in our division. In fact, Celebrating Catholic Identity is the first priority of our Board. This year, advancing that priority includes acknowledging the year of St. Paul. Although many of you know our school division by our commonly used name, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, our official, legal name is St.

Paul’s Roman Catholic Separate School Division. Since Pope Benedict XVI announced on June 28, 2008 that this was the beginning of a year-long celebration to mark the second millennium since the birth of St. Paul, this year is especially important to us as we have the opportunity to learn and understand more fully the life of St. Paul, our namesake. He was a passionate advocate for the Gospel and put Christ at the center of his life. St. Paul had a deep conviction that it is necessary to proclaim the light of the Gospel to the world.

As always, I must express my gratitude to the Foundation for its generous support in helping our students and staff continue the work of St. Paul in our schools. To date the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation has disbursed more than \$2,000,000 directly to our schools. The initiatives supported by the Foundation help ensure we are offering a distinctive faith-filled education in Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, one that helps our students truly become Rooted in Faith. ■

SPECIAL EVENTS

Swing Into Spring

Spring arrived at TCU Place on May 1st, 2008 for this eighth annual fashion extravaganza. A striking array of purple, yellow and white pansies courtesy of **Mother Earth Greenhouses** set off by matching napkins courtesy of **Alsco Linens** adorned each table. The pansies started the spring gardening season for the 800+ guests. Twenty-four ‘model’ employees of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools showcased the latest spring fashions from **Klassique Designs**, **Nancy Durham Jewellery & Clothing**, **Sandbox in the City**, **Tip Top Tailors** and **Burton’s For Shoes**. **Visions**

Salon & Spa provided styling services and **Marvel School of Skin Care & Esthetics** provided makeup applications.

The models were joined by priest escorts Rev. Ron Beechinor, Rev. Andre Lalach and Rev. David Tumback. Emcees Robin Mitchell and Laurie Karwacki were lively and entertaining.



Early Bird winners, Diane Boyko, Lesia Horbay, Janine Johnston, Haley Johnston, Marlene Bodnar, Karen Oleksyn, Zenia Gabrush and Tatiana Gabrush enjoyed **DeVill Limousine**

continued on page 3



Black and white are vibrant as seen in these outfits modeled by Rosanne Thiel (left) and Zofia Gehl. Rev. Ron Beechinor, in a Matteo Maas tuxedo from Tip Top Tailors, complemented the models.

Service to and from TCU Place. Tammy Jensen was the winner of two tickets to Phantom of the Opera.

This evening, valued for its camaraderie, provided guests with the opportunity to do some window shopping, an opportunity to win one of 23 door prizes, including diamond jewellery, and the opportunity to win any of the 110 other draw prizes. The Foundation is sincerely grateful to all the models, escorts, and the many volunteers

whose enthusiasm and dedicated work ethic contributed to such an extraordinary evening. With the support of all of our valued donors, the Foundation is able to provide growth in leadership opportunities to hundreds of our students. ■



The gals from St. Dominic School always have fun.

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Behind every great production is the expertise of our audio-visual technicians Jack Haysom, Dean Hazelwanter and Virgil Nyborg.

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Thank you to the organizing committee for their energy and dedication: Chair - Karen Omelan-Davis, Kathy Boechler, Laurianne Gabruch, Laurie Karwacki, Lisa Lambert, Sherry McLean, Robin Mitchell, Alice Risling and Lisa Sebestyen-McLean.

**9th Annual
"Swing Into Spring"
Fashion Show & Dinner
Thursday, April 30, 2009**

**Early Bird Deadline:
February 27, 2009**

It Was So Hot...

The 13th Annual 'Share The Spirit' Golf Classic tested the stamina of the 144 golfers and the tournament volunteers on Tuesday, August 19th, 2008 when our Saskatchewan summer treated us to its hottest day. Despite the heat, the afternoon at The Willows was better than any day at the office or at school. **Bishop Bryan Bayda**, newly ordained Bishop of the



Enjoying a bit of shade – Ken and Elaine Stakiw and Sharon and Bernie White.

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, made his debut in our tournament as the capable and entertaining **Celebrity Golfer**. Putting Contest participants were able to ride to the green on the **BB Buggy** – a motorized picnic table designed and crafted by **Glenn Maxwell** and the **Industrial Mechanics Program** at **S.I.A.S.T. Kelsey**.



This unique BB Buggy ferried golfers to the putting green.



Wesclean Equipment and Cleaning Supplies was represented by Don Johannson, Rick Strouts, Jason Kempainen and Brent Andrew.

Specialty prize winners were:
Early Bird Draw: Gift Certificate courtesy **Sheraton Cavalier** – Shane Shircliff Team.
Lowest Team Score: Round of Golf with Cart courtesy **The Willows** – Mark Bodnarchuk, Al Boutin, Kurt Breker, Darin Boire.
Runner-Up Score: Walking Round of Golf courtesy **The Willows** - Rick Rowley, Robin Mitchell, Darryl Bazylak, Doug Michasiw.
Beat The Celebrity: TaylorMade Rescue Club courtesy **Dave Kossick**, **Success Office Systems** – Barry Sawchuk.



Lyle Markowski, Dave Babey, Ken Ramler and Ralph Dauk use this tournament to reconnect.



Tracy Smith, Karen Hryciuk, Vanessa Robillard and Elaine Sparks were not engaging in any "shop talk."

Closest To The Pin: Ladies – Aldyne Adam; Men – Rick Peterson. Prizes courtesy **Royal Bank of Canada**, **Cameco Corp. & Eecol Electric**.
Longest Drive: Ladies – Tracy Smith; Men – Jaret Gebert. Prizes courtesy **Cameco Corp. & Nichols Interiors Ltd**.
Par 3 Poker: Prizes courtesy **Saskatoon Blades, Saigon II and Park Town Hotel** – Don Gorsalitz Team.
Pedal to The Metal: Formula 1 Spin Bike courtesy **Eclipse Fitness** – Yves Belanger.
Putting Contest: Use of BB Buggy, Gift Certificate courtesy **Emco Finer Foods**, Gift Certificate courtesy **Great Western Brewing** - Rhonda Guilmette.

The Foundation is sincerely grateful to all of the above, our **MC Vic Dubois**, all the volunteers and the loyal sponsors listed on the following page. ■



The STM team of Rev. Andre Lalach, Claude Lang, Carl Still and Richard Medernach spend a leisurely afternoon on the links.

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The generosity of our sponsors allows the Foundation to provide growth in leadership opportunities for the students in our schools. Please support our sponsors and circle **Tuesday, August 18, 2009** for the next **"Share The Spirit" Golf Classic.**



Catholic Education – Where Stars Shine

Board Chair, Michel Thibault, in his welcome to the guests at the annual 'Share The Spirit' Gala,

highlighted many examples of exemplary accomplishments of students and staff over the past year. From the caring, knowledgeable staff who provide a nurturing, safe and challenging environment that fosters

excellence in education for each individual who enters our schools to those who have earned national and international accolades, we need to acknowledge and celebrate all of our successes. The evening unfolded as a special time to reminisce, to reacquaint and to meet new friends and supporters of Catholic education. Guests enjoyed the talents of Don Griffith on piano during the Hors d'Oeuvres reception and the vocal talents of "No Hurry"

later in the evening. Several specialty items offered to the guests throughout the evening by live auction had the crowd bidding with much interest and excitement. Throughout the four course dinner, the silent auction items received a lot of attention as well.

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation thanks all of the title sponsors, auction donors and guests who made this evening special, successful and enjoyable. ■

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Western Business Machines
Wine Kit



These live auction items had many guests raising their hands in support of student programs.

Thank you to the organizing committee for their tremendous efforts: Chair - Rita Smysnuik, Lorraine Blazieko, Wilma Gauthier, Joan Olauson, Sharon Tkachuk, Tim Trainor and Sharon Zakreski-Werbicki.

Schools Win Twice

Thank you to the hundreds of students and parents who supported the 2008 Schools Win Twice Raffle campaign. Thirty-six school communities were involved in this fundraising initiative which garnered just over \$117,000.00 to be applied to programs for the students of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. Thank you to St. John School and principal, Katrina Sawchuk, for hosting the draw on Thursday, November 20, 2008.



Bernice Kinniwess' daughter, Candace Desjarlais, is eager to focus on her interest in photography.

Congratulations to these lucky winners:

- Disneyland Vacation:** Liana Gabruch, Saskatoon
- San Francisco or Palm Springs Vacation:** Christine Esler, Saskatoon
- Whistler Vacation:** Bonnie Rossman, Saskatoon
- Computer Package:** Charles Volk, Saskatoon
- Eagle Point Resort:** Eugenia Maia, Humboldt



Rosamond Fritz and Mathias Graupe are lucky winners of the intergenerational and interactive Nintendo DS Lite.

- Samsung 32" LCD TV:** Donna Breker, Saskatoon
- Fisher Advance Bike:** Maureen Herzog, Saskatoon
- Fisher Tarpon Bike:** Brandis Warne, Airdrie, AB
- Tom Tom Portable GPS:** Connor Dembrowski, Saskatoon; Angela Sipko, Saskatoon
- Pizza Hut Pizza for One Year:** Darren Haugen, Saskatoon; Jacob Waskowic, Saskatoon
- Sony Digital Camera:** Mike Lawton, Saskatoon; Bernice Kinniwess, Saskatoon
- Optex 7: Digital Photo Frame:** Chelsea Moisan, Saskatoon; Kirby Anderson, Saskatoon; Elaine Deshaies, Saskatoon; Spencer House, Saskatoon
- Portable DVD Player:** Clayton Kotyk and Sharon Prazma, Yarbo, SK; Emily and Thomas Conway, Saskatoon
- Panasonic Blaster:** Glen Morrison, Saskatoon; Tiffany Brown, Saskatoon
- Interpretive Canoe Tour:** Bev Reilly, Saskatoon; B.J. Carey, Saskatoon
- Nintendo DS Lite:** Mathias Graupe, Saskatoon; Rosamond Fritz, Saskatoon



A nutritious lunch preceded the draws for the 26 prizes.



The Gabruch family - Liane, Drew and Rob, arranged their Disneyland vacation with Mary Crookes (right) of Carlson Wagonlit Travel.



Jacob Waskowic was looking forward to his turn to prepare dinner.

The Foundation is grateful to the many organizers, sellers and buyers. Thank you to Bruce's Cycle Works, Carlson Wagonlit Travel, Krazy Kiley's Audiotronic, Meewasin, ParkerQuine, Pizza Hut, Saskatoon Fastprint Ltd and Western Business Machines for their support of the Raffle. ■

Time to Remember

November is considered the memorial month within the liturgical year. Since November 2002, the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools community has been remembering and celebrating the servant leadership of deceased employees through its Memorial Mass. This special liturgy, where the names of all deceased are read, has been celebrated as closely as possible to All Souls Day,

November 2. This year, Rev. Ron Beechinor and Bishop Bryan Bayda concelebrated the liturgy at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish on November 4. In consultation with the Religion Coordinators and the Alumni Association, the decision has been made to celebrate this liturgy, **yearly, on the first Tuesday of November at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.**

The permanent recognition of our

deceased - the IN MEMORIAM plaques - are displayed at the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board office. Donations made in memory of our deceased employees and/or students whose death occurs while attending one of our schools will be used to fund the Legacy of Leadership Scholarship. Please call the Foundation office for more information about this initiative. ■

PHOTO GALLERY *School Happenings, Sept. - Dec. 2008*



Visitors to the grade 6/7 Folkfest at Georges Vanier Catholic School learned all about life in Guatemala.



The St. Angela group are doing their homework at the Student Leadership Conference held on October 8/9, 2008.



Students from St. Mark School and Oskāyak High School are learning food preparation skills through the Kids Kitchen Program.



E.D. Feehan High School students display the flag of their country of origin at a recent press conference which announced a major financial initiative for the school.



The Ya Ya Sisterhood at St. Luke School raised \$16,000.00 for the C95 Radiothon for Breast Cancer Research through the sales of their book "Celebrate Changes - Girls' Voices Matter."

Many Thanks to Our Supporters

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