

JUNE 2018 CLASS LETTER CONCORDIA CLASS of 1968

GREETINGS CLASS of '68

Inside our Class Letter

1. Message from Class Agent
2. 50th Reunion Information
3. Concordia's Mission and Our Class Gift
4. Classmate News
5. Classmates Who Have Passed Away
6. Campus News
7. Reunion Hotels



Message from Sharon Muir Buhr

Our 50th Reunion Year has arrived! The phrase 'how time flies' has new meaning as I look back upon the past 50 years, and think of graduation day...listening to the King of Norway give the address and then my walk across the stage to accept my diploma from President Knutson. I am hopeful that all of you will be able to attend our 50th Reunion during **Homecoming Week: September 27-30, 2018**, and that we can all take a walk down memory lane together.

This summer you will receive a 50th Reunion 'Memory Book'...at no cost to you. A committee of fellow classmates graciously contacted our classmates to encourage submissions and generously funded the book. Over 200 classmates have submitted biographies and pictures.

The Reunion Committee has booked several hotels in the Fargo-Moorhead area at special rates. A list with prices are at the end of this letter. I encourage you to book reservations as soon as possible. **Be sure to request the rate for Concordia College Homecoming when booking the reservation.**

You'll want to arrive for the **50th Reunion Opening Celebration Reception on Thursday, September 27 from 5-9 pm at the Hjemkomst Heritage Center, 202 First Avenue North, Moorhead.** If you haven't already registered, you can do so then, but pre-registration is strongly encouraged. You can register by going to concordiacollege.edu/1968reunion

50th REUNION INFORMATION

Thursday, September 27

5 - 9 p.m. 50th Reunion Kickoff Reception and Registration, pick up nametags, t- Shirts etc.
Hjemkomst Center, 202 1st Ave. N. Moorhead MN 56560
Appetizers/cash bar, casual

Friday, September 28

9:50 a.m. - Homecoming Chapel

10 a.m. – 7 p.m. Registration, Knutson Center; pick up your nametags, t-shirts and take a campus tours

12:30 - 2 p.m. Centrum, Knutson Center Luncheon with Dr. Craft and a time to find out what's happening on CC Campus. 50th Reunion Chair persons, Sharon Muir Buhr and Carmen Grove Suminski, Introductions, Lunch Greeting by Dr. William Craft, President of Concordia.

Panel facilitated by Dr. Larry Papenfuss (Dovre Center of Faith and Learning) *A time for us to connect with students. Emeritus Professors invited for lunch, An opportunity to visit at the conclusion of lunch.*

Hosts, Tedd and Marlene Dewald

5:30 p.m. Speak Easy 1001 30th Ave.S. Moorhead, MN 56560 Available for those who do not attend the banquet. Tim Braaten, Connie Nick hosts.

5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Homecoming Pre Banquet Reception, Centrum, Knutson Campus Center, Cash bar

6:30 p.m. Homecoming Banquet and Alumni Achievement Awards, Centrum, Knutson Campus Center

8:30 p.m. Social Gathering, Speak Easy 1001 30th Ave. S. Moorhead MN 56560

Saturday, September 29

8 - 10 a.m. Reunion Breakfast Centrum, Knutson Center

MC: Ted Dewald

Invocation: Bob Toso

Breakfast

50th Class Reunion Chairs: Sharon and Carmen comments, Introduce Reunion Committee

Celebrating and Remembering Memorial: Jan Jodock and Marlene Dewald

Introduction to Dr. Dovre: Lynda Jacobson Lohmeier

Dr. Dovre

Report of Class Outreach: Louise and Paul Evenson

Hymn to Concordia

10 - 10:15 a.m. Class Members Only for Photo

10 a.m. Academic Open House, Integrated Science Center

11 a.m. Homecoming Parade - Walk or Ride

12 p.m. Tailgating with Classmates

12:30 p.m. Home Ec get-together, location TBD

1 p.m. Football Game, Jake Christiansen Stadium

5:30p.m. Athletic Hall of Fame Reception

6:30 p.m. Homecoming Concert

8:30 - 12 midnight, All Reunion Classes Gathering

Knutson Center Centrum

Appetizers/cash bar

Sunday, September 30

10:30 a.m. All- Campus Worship

CONCORDIA'S MISSION and OUR CLASS GIFT

We have all benefited from the mission and values of Concordia College, and in our 50th year reunion, we have the opportunity to strengthen this mission with our class gift. I really do believe that the education that is offered here significantly helps our graduates to make a positive difference in our world. When we connect with each other this September, we will receive an even larger picture of Concordia's aspirations for our students. Let's begin to think about how we can pay-it-forward after our Reunion through our Class Gift. It's exciting to help our alma mater continue to thrive!

CLASSMATE NEWS

Dave Wee, who majored in math and Spanish studies, has had a career as a software engineer who ended up specializing in international airlines, living in Europe for some time. He has established an endowed scholarship at Concordia as a tribute to Concordia which made him a lifelong learner.

Louise (Lommen) Evenson, serves on the board of directors of Lutheran World Relief. In February Louise, along with other board members traveled to Colombia, South America to monitor a coffee project LWR sponsors with Starbucks Foundation to assist in the coffee productivity, health and water quality of farmers in the Andes.

Paul Evenson works part-time with California Lutheran University in fund development, and serves on the board of directors of Spirit in the Dessert Retreat Center, with one of their programs helping seniors embrace 'vocation' in retirement years, and also work with Veterans related to storytelling and the sharing of their experiences.

Classmates Who Have Passed Away:

Paul Donley of Bloomington, MN passed away on June 27, 2017.

David E. Erickson of Minneapolis, MN passed away on December 26, 2017.

Gary A. Graham of Irvine, California passed away on September 13, 2017

Mark D. Madson of Anoka, Minnesota on December 17, 2017.

Gary A. Maser of Eau Claire, Wisconsin on August 23, 2017.

James A. Parke of Park City Utah passed away on February 21, 2018.

CAMPUS NEWS

Concordia Language Villages: The summer of 2017 continued a three-year trend of strong enrollment with over 4,580 villagers and families attending a Concordia Language Villages' program. Registration for the summer of 2018 continues that upward trend in enrollment, demonstrating the value placed on world language and culture education.

Concordia Language Villages received the largest gift in its history from Simone Corporation and its CEO Kenny Park: \$5M to support the first phase of construction of the Korean Language Village on Turtle River Lake. The gift was given in celebration of 30 years of language and culture at Sup sogŭi Hosu, the Korean Language Village. Additionally, the Language Villages will recognize and celebrate 35 years of Sēn Lín Hú, the Chinese Language Village, with a special program prior to International Day on August 10.

Music:

- This May, the Concordia Orchestra spent two weeks on a cultural immersion trip in Greece, visiting eight cities and performing several concerts.
- The 2016 Concordia Christmas Concert “Gather Us In, O Child of Peace” earned a regional Emmy award for special event coverage. This is the second time a Concordia Christmas Concert has received the Upper Midwest Regional Emmy award.
- Dr. Rene Clausen was honored with the Weston H. Noble award for Lifetime Achievement at the 2018 ACDA Central and North Central Conference this year. Clausen is in his 32nd year at Concordia College as the conductor of The Concordia Choir.

Athletics:

- Senior Bailey Hovland broke several throwing records this year, winning the MIAC Championship and breaking the conference meet record in the hammer throw. Hovland’s hammer mark qualified her for the Women’s Track and Field Nationals Meet this spring.
- Brandon Zylstra ’15 signed a reserve/futures deal with the Minnesota Vikings for the upcoming season, after two successful seasons with the Edmonton Eskimos. Zylstra caught 100 passes for a league-best 1687 yards in 2017.
- Head tennis coach Joseph Murrey was named 2018 MIAC Coach of the Year after leading the team to the conference postseason for the first time since 2011.
- Becca O’Shurak has been hired as the first female head coach of women’s soccer. O’Shurak has previously served as assistant coach at Youngstown State and Tennessee Tech University.
- Chad Johnson was named the Bobby Bell College Impact Player of the Year by the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation. He is only the second athlete from the MIAC to receive the honor. This honor is in addition to his MIAC All Conference Awards (3 years) and the 2017 MIAC MVP Award he received earlier this year.
- Rachel Bergeson has accepted the offer to serve as Concordia’s athletic director. Rachel has served as the interim athletic director since April. Prior to that role she was deputy athletics director, the senior woman administrator, and compliance officer for Concordia and also served as interim athletic director during the 2016-17 athletic season. Before taking on her role as the top women’s administrator in the athletic department, Bergeson was the assistant coach for the Cobber women’s basketball team from 2007-11.

Other Updates:

- Concordia has been awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from the Andrew Mellon Foundation in honor of former Mellon Foundation president Earl Lewis ’78. This grant will be used for faculty development, scholarships for diverse students, program support for the Office of Diversity and support for the National Book Awards. This grant is in addition to the \$800,000 grant from the Mellon Foundation the college received earlier this year to support PEAK and diversity initiatives across campus.
- Rachel Schaefer ’18 was named a Fulbright Scholar and will be working at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia next year.
- This past fall, Concordia College launched the RISE Campaign, a comprehensive fundraising campaign with a goal of raising \$150,000,000 by December 2019. These funds will be used to support three pillars of the Concordia experience: integrative learning, inclusive learning, and innovative learning. For more information, head to www.riseforconcordia.com
- The Department of Chemistry celebrated 100 years in early March (Chemistry has been at Concordia 102 years, but the event was postponed until the completion of the new Integrated Science Center). The day-long celebration included talks from chemistry alumni from across the country, a career networking event for students and a banquet in the evening with Robert Homann, Professor Emeritus and Past Dean of the College, as the keynote speaker.

- Over spring break, 130 students served out the mission of the college all over the country, participating in 8 volunteer opportunities including: Habitat for Humanity Trips to Louisiana, Florida and the Carolinas, a hurricane relief trip to Dallas, Justice Journey Trips to New Orleans and El Paso, and High Impact Leadership Trips to Milwaukee and Pittsburgh.

Alumni Awards:

The National Alumni Board voted on the 2018 Alumni Achievement, Sent Forth and Called to Serve Awards. To learn more about each award, visit Cord.edu/alumniawards

2018 Alumni Achievement Award Recipients

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Charles Beck '48 | Dr. Richard Sibley '67 |
| Darnell Carter '75 | Claudia Swendseid '78 |

2018 Sent Forth Recipients

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Dr. Tammy Frisby '99 | Arday Ardayfio '02 |
|----------------------|--------------------|

REUNION HOTELS

Holiday Inn

3803 13th Avenue South, Fargo. Phone 701-282-2700
\$129/night, 1 king or 2 queen beds

Microtel Inn and Suites

2915 12th Street South, Moorhead. Phone 218-284-4022
\$79.99 night, 1 king or 2 queen beds

Courtyard by Marriot

1080 28th Avenue South, Moorhead. Phone: 218-284-1000
\$154.00/night, 1 king or 2 queen beds (special rate ends September 27)

There are numerous other choices of lodging in the Fargo-Moorhead area.

Hope to see you at our 50th Concordia Class Reunion September 27-30! Please contact me if you have any questions: Sharon.e.buhr@gmail.com or at 701-840-0973.

***A few corrections to the 1968 reunion book you received in June. We strive to make sure our information is correct, however a few errors were found after the book was printed.**

- Carolyn Hink's maiden name was incorrectly listed at Higham and should be Rustebakke
- Bjorn Pederson was listed as not having submitted to the book, however his bio is found on page 149
- A few classmates were left off page 209 as those in the class but not submitting to the book:
 - Susan (Teigen) Dalbout
 - Gayle (Larson) Dalseth
 - Dale Darchuk
 - Larry David
 - Mary DeVries-Lindquist
 - Michael Dille
 - Carrol Dobler
 - Douglas Dobson
 - Janice (Swezey) Gauger