

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish

1910 - 2010

No. 59 of a Series on Our Parish's First 100 Years



Friday, June 7, 1957, was graduation day for twenty-three St. Charles eighth graders. In the morning, there was a breakfast for the graduates in St. Charles hall to which Fathers Henry Langenfeld and Richard Altenhofen and the parents were invited. Following evening graduation services in the church, the Catholic Family Movement held a party for the class members and their parents in the church hall. The members of the class are shown below.



CLASS OF 1957

First row (l to r): Enid Langdon, Mary Ann Bauman, Karen Beuthling, Margery Vande Sand, Jeraldine Herban, Mary Runzler, Ann Schneider.

2nd row: Rev. Henry Langenfeld, Wayne Alby, Thomas Martin, John Schmaling, Patrick Brenton, Kenneth DeVoy, James Tenhagen, Richard Johnson, James Bauman, Rev. Richard Altenhofen.

3rd row: Kenneth Bauman, David Brenton, Frederick Fabian, Gerald Alby, John Fonk, Lawrence Weis, Terrance Coyne, James Wanasek.

On June 13, district 10 of the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women held its annual meeting at St. Charles. Seventeen parishes of the district were represented by an attendance of 105 women meeting to report on the work of the past year and to make plans to continue with projects of Catholic action. Mrs. R. S. Delaney, the district president, presided at the session.

The meeting opened with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the church. Luncheon was served by the parish ladies before the program. Father Langenfeld, pastor of St. Charles, gave the address of the afternoon, his topic being "An Informed Catholic Laity, the Light of the World." Msgr. Joseph Heim of St. Mary's also gave a short talk.

Rev. Edward G. Brill, former assistant pastor at St. Mary's, who was director of the National Office for Decent Literature (NODL) for the Madison diocese, spoke on the purposes and aims of that office. Father Brill explained methods by which women of the community could help remove objectionable literature, both pulp and slick magazines, from the public magazine stalls.

NODL, he said, was established in 1938 with the purpose of raising the level of reading and movie-going habits. With the spread of pornographic publications, the work had been aimed chiefly at protecting children and adolescent youth from this influence by making objectionable printed matter not "cheaply and easily" available to those whose character was still in the formation period. NODL was a service organization, he said, and did not force its services upon

anyone. Lists were carefully prepared by competent adults of college education and high moral character, which were to serve as a guide for those who wanted to keep the magazine stands clean. Its code was to list as "objectionable" those periodicals that glorified crime and brutality, showed ways to commit crime, or advertised articles to be used in committing crime, and those periodicals that, as a policy, printed indecent photographs and reading material.

During the business session, Mrs. Clara Brehm of St. Charles was elected president of district 10 for the coming year. Other officers elected were Mrs. J. B. Linneman of St. Thomas, Waterford, vice president; Mrs. Constance Albrecht of St. Mary's, Burlington, secretary and treasurer to succeed herself; and Mrs. Grace Schmalfeldt of St. Mary's, Kansasville, director.

St. Charles Alumni Association held its annual reunion on June 12 at St. Charles hall. About 150 graduates attended the banquet. The former graduates were welcomed by president Charles Wiemer. Father Altenhofen was toastmaster for the occasion. Larry Weis gave the response for the graduating class of 1957. Responses were also given by the jubilee classes of 1917, 1922, 1927, 1932, and 1947. The class of 1952 won the Sister Hermana trophy for having the highest percentage of members of their class present at the reunion

Officers elected for the upcoming year were president, Pete Partee; president-elect, Carroll Vos; vice president, Mrs. Jean Dunham; secretary, Mary Ann Schmaling; and treasurer, Richard Lois. The banquet was followed by dancing at the hall.

Two pastoral changes in nearby parishes were announced near the end of June by the archdiocesan chancery office. Rev. Warren J. Schmitt, assistant pastor at St. Mary's, was assigned to the pastorship of Sts. Peter and Paul parish at Nenno, with the attached mission of St. Anthony at Allenton. Rev. Gerald T. Schmitz from St. Mary's at Hales Corners replaced Father Schmitt. At St. Joseph's parish at Lyons, Rev. Francis Tenpenny was transferred to St. Gregory the Great parish in Milwaukee, where he became pastor. He was replaced by Rev. William J. Zelly, who had been assistant at St. John Nepomuc parish in Milwaukee.

Burlington held its first Maxwell Street Days sale on the last weekend in July. The St. Ann's Society was one of several church and scout groups to have a booth on a downtown street. The ladies showed and sold miscellaneous fancy work and had a bake sale at their booth. The Society earned about \$585 for its members' efforts.

St. Charles students reported for the new academic year on Wednesday, September 4. The first full day of school was September 5. The school, with a beginning enrollment of 287, had 26 more students than it had at the start of the previous year. There were 41 in the first grade, 39 in second, 43 in third, 34 in fourth, 43 in fifth, 33 in sixth, 28 in seventh, and 26 in the eighth grade.

**Plan To Attend the
ST. CHARLES
FALL FESTIVAL**
Saturday Evening and All Day Sunday
SEPTEMBER 14 and 15
DANCING
FOR YOUNG AND OLD
• TOPHATTER'S ORCHESTRA •
SATURDAY • 8:00 P. M.
CHICKEN In the BASKET
SUNDAY - 11:00 A. M. TO 7:00 P. M.
\$1.00 PER PLATE
GAMES • PRIZES • ENTERTAINMENT

September 14 and 15 were the dates for St. Charles' big Fall Festival, which was held in the hall and in the school. Joining with other parish organizations, such as the Holy Name Society and the St. Ann's Society, in staging the 1957 Festival was the St. Charles Booster Club, a new organization composed not only of St. Charles members, but members of other churches and other faiths as well. John Moe, president of the St. Charles Booster Club, and James May, were co-chairmen of the Festival. Peter Kurtenbach served as secretary of the general committee and Aloysius Vande Sand was treasurer.

Ralph Spiegelhoff was chairman of the dinner committee and Dr. Ralph Schneider was kitchen committee chairman. Assisting them were Mrs. Hilda Lois, Mrs. Joyce Schilz, Mrs. Ruth Rubach, Mrs. Carrie Schilz, Mrs. Amelia Bauman, Paul Spiegelhoff, and Francis Koenen. Robert Sturm and Bill Weidert were in charge of booths.

On the evening of September 14, the Teen-Towners (see box) sponsored a public dance to open the festivities. On Sunday, September 15, a Chicken in the Basket dinner was served. As a result of this first Fall Festival, about \$7,350 was added to the St. Charles School Building Fund.

In September a Catholic census and information program, authorized by Archbishop Albert G. Meyer of Milwaukee and the bishops of Wisconsin's other four dioceses, was conducted in all parishes of the state. The canvassers visited homes to obtain complete information on all Catholics active and inactive; to extend to persons who did not belong to a church an invitation to attend an information forum and an offer to bring them to it; and to extend to the lax and inactive Catholics a welcome and invitation leaflet announcing the forum. Heading the canvassers for St. Charles were co-chairmen Ralph Spiegelhoff and Mrs. Angie Martin.

A reception for new members of the St. Ann's Society was held in the hall on Tuesday evening, November 5, following Mother of Perpetual Help devotions. The new members were received into the society at ceremonies in the church before the reception. Mrs. Bernice Wanasek, newly elected president of the society, and Mrs. Mary Wagner, membership chairman, and their committees arranged the reception. At the same time, a harvest food shower was held for the school Sisters, who were guests at the reception.

Confirmation services were held at St. Charles on Friday, November 22. The evening service consisted of the Confirmation and a sermon, both presented by Archbishop Albert G. Meyer of Milwaukee. There were 94 participating in this special service, and 27 priests attended from various neighboring parishes.

Those included in the Confirmation class were as follows:

Grade four - Joel Wagner.

Grade five - Karen Baker, Charles Brenton, Charles Eisenbart, Gerald Macklin, Charles Pfeiffer, David Pieters, Peter Post, Philip Schneider, Thomas Vos, and Patrick Warren.

Grade six - Diane Alby, David Baker, Richard Bauman, Marie Carroll, Patricia Coyne, Patrick David, Judith Elderbrook, Joanne Fell, Mary Kay Forbes, Patricia Helgert, Diane

TEEN-TOWNERS

The Teen-Towners youth club, a group of about 55 teen-agers from St. Charles, was founded by Father Richard Altenhofen in October of 1956. It sponsored monthly dances (except during Lent) and various other events for all teen-agers in the Burlington area. For the dances, the club members decorated the hall, scheduled an orchestra or obtained the records, printed their own tickets, and did all the other necessary work that goes along with sponsoring a dance. At each of the dances, four young married couples acted as chaperones.

During Lent of 1957, when no dances were scheduled, club members started work on making over the former fifth and sixth grade school room into a club room where they could have a meeting room and a place to play records and work on the dances. With everyone working on the project during their spare time, they soon removed all the desks and started on the necessary painting. In the meantime, the girls got together and started sewing curtains for the windows, a total of 17 pairs were needed.

The club's officers were president, James Schiller; vice president, Norene David; secretary, Kathy Kayser; and treasurer, Larry Trimberger. The committee heads included Betty Brehm, refreshments; Jeanne Rein, tickets; Joann Schranz, decorations, Mary Ann Schmaling, publicity; and Eric Larson, clean-up.

Kasprzyk, Charles Kayser, Charleen Lange, John McElroy, Michelle McNamara, Jean Martin, Elizabeth Nelson, Ronald Probst, Ronald Rein, Judith Rewald, Richard Robers, James Roemer, Linda Schranz, Patricia Smith, Mary Tenhagen, Mark Tennessen, Richard Thate, Joseph Weis, Russell Weis, John Wiechert, Robert Wilson, and Susan Wood.

Grade seven - Thomas Bauman, Judith Brehm, Diane David, Wayne Fletcher, Kristin Forge, Marvin Johnson, James Koenen, Dennis Kumba, Diane Lackas, Diana Moe, Katherine Partee, Dennis Pennefeather, James Pfeiffer, George Pisula, Richard Scherrer, Wilma Schimberg, Richard Schlitz, Cynthia Sundberg, Jerome Trimmerger, Judith Van Bolhuis, John Wagner, Roger Weis, and Judith Wood.

Grade eight - Barbara Eisenbart, Ruth Ann Probst, Carol Wagner, Jerome Ketterhagen, Margie David, Gregory Nelson, Jeanne Bauman, Thomas Pieters, Judith Menheer, Russell Reesman, Charles Tenhagen, Robert Scott, Kay Southey.

Also included in the Confirmation class were the following converts: John Bent, Donna Dawson, Mrs. Eva Finster, Mrs. William Jira, Richard Johnson, Robert Kuzelka, Mrs. Gale Nelson, Mrs. Sharon Nelson, Mrs. Merlyn Peterson, Mrs. Nancy Schlitz, Mrs. Patricia Spiegelhoff, Francis Southey, Mrs. Ildaruth Southey, Mrs. Sally Stark, and Norman Swanson.

On December 29, 1957, the following were confirmed at St. John's Cathedral in Milwaukee by Archbishop Albert G. Meyer: Marjorie Busch, Ray Ludwig, Valeria Mezich, Carol A. Moczynski, John E. Roemer, Charles Steiner, and Ernest Towery.

A former teacher at St. Mary's High School, Sister Mary Madeline Sophia, of the School Sisters of Notre Dame, was speaker at the breakfast of the St. Ann's Society on Sunday morning, November 24, following corporate Communion at the 7:30 Mass. Sister Madeline Sophia, who was head of the English department at Messmer High School in Milwaukee, spoke before about 130 members of the society, including a number of former pupils who were in her classes during the nine years she taught at St. Mary's. Her subject was "What's Right With Women."

She termed her address a heart to heart talk for women only, and with humor, wit, and wisdom, she designated ways in which women make their best contribution in the business of living. Woman is the universalist as compared with man, the specialist, said Sister Madeline. While a man, by necessity, is wrapped up in his special life's work, the business of earning a living for his family, advancing himself in business in his profession, he is inclined to lose the "whole" view of life in the specialization of his duties. Women's talent is to keep the wider view, to contemplate and see. "As Catholic women, we want to go along with change, to accept the demands of a changing and expanding world, for it is His power that makes these things possible," Sister Madeline continued.

Because of her wider vision, a woman is the leader of man to God. Through her love, her tenderness, her devotion, man learns to know the attributes of God, and is drawn to His worship. Woman, herself, has a perfect model for the virtues of womanhood in the woman who spoke the words, "Be it done," and thereby taught womankind how, through positive action, to accept joy as well as sorrow in perfect acquiescence to supreme love.

The Christmas season brought Christmas parties in the church hall by the St. Ann's Society and the Lady Foresters of St. Charles. The Home and School Association had a party and program on Sunday, December 15, for the children and parents. The children presented a program of acts, songs, short stories, and musical selections celebrating the Christmas season.

On Christmas Eve, Father Langenfeld celebrated the solemn High Mass at midnight. He was assisted by Father Altenhofen as deacon and Rev. David Brehm, S. J., son of Mr. and Mrs.

Louis Brehm, as sub-deacon. The sermon was given by Father Langenfeld. The Christmas Day Masses were at the regular times.

The parish's annual financial and statistical report for 1957 showed that there had been 57 baptisms, including 7 adults; 9 marriages; and 14 deaths, including 1 infant. In addition to the 44 children who had received First Communion, there were also 7 adult First Communicants. Nine hundred Masses had been offered at St. Charles and 560 sick calls had been made. About 13,800 Confessions had been heard and about 42,500 Communion had been received during 1957.

Cub Scout Pack No. 133 of St. Charles parish held its annual Blue and Gold dinner in the parish hall on February 26. One hundred ten Cubs and their families and guests attended. The buffet dinner was prepared under the direction of Mrs. Marian Yambor and Mrs. Annette Wilson.

A flag ceremony by the Cub Scouts opened the program. Father Langenfeld gave the invocation. A review of the work accomplished during the year by the three dens was given by Mrs. Rosemary Schneider. After community singing, led by Father Langenfeld, awards won since the last pack meeting were presented by Cubmaster Francis Meurer. Recipients were George Hancock, wolf badge; Gregory Fell, wolf badge; John Vande Sand, lion badge, gold arrow, silver arrow; Peter DeGrave, gold arrow; Tom Schneider, gold arrow, silver arrow; and James Rewald, gold arrow.

The feature presentation of the evening was the color movie, "Cub Cowboys and Indians on the Desert," which was filmed as the month's project on movies and movie-making. The movie was taken by Ralph Spiegelhoff and Dr. Ralph Schneider. Dr. Schneider also showed a reel of pictures he took at the winter headquarters of Ringling Bros. Circus and of the water skiers at Cypress Gardens, Florida.

The annual art program and exhibit of paintings entered by Burlington sixth through eighth grade students in the Helen Mears art contest, sponsored by the Burlington Woman's Club, was held at St. Charles school on March 18. Miss Mary Ela, former professor of art at Berea College, Kentucky, was the speaker at an evening meeting. Special music was provided by St. Charles pupils, Ellen and Mark Tennesen and Donald Richter, who performed a piano duet and accordion selections.

"Where I'd Like To Be" was the pictorial subject portrayed by the participants in the art contest. Judges for the contest were Mrs. Rudolph Schlicker, Mrs. Bonnie Dennison, Lake Geneva; and Mrs. Thomas Moyle, Rochester. There were 119 entries in the contest from all the grade schools in Burlington. Five "best" entries, to be sent to Racine for the district contest, were picked from the total number. One of the five was that of Robert Scott of St. Charles. In addition to Scott, whose entry went on to the district, other winners from St. Charles included eighth graders Jerome Ketterhagen, second prize, and Gregory Nelson, honorable mention; seventh



Some of the St. Charles Cub Scouts who attended the 1957 Blue and Gold dinner. From left, Dennis Weis, Charles Bull, Chuck Tess, Francis Schimberg, Richard Wilson, Ronnie Yambor, Dave Pieters, Art Lois, Phil Schneider, Chuck Kayser, James Schmaling, Chuck Eisenbart, Robert Wilson, John Vande Sand, and Richard Thate.

graders Robert Duller, first, Wilma Schimberg, second, and Jim Koenen, honorable mention; and sixth graders Judy Elderbrook, first, and Joanne Fell, second.

A class of 45 children received their First Holy Communion at the 7:30 Mass on Sunday, May 4, with Father Altenhofen officiating. Members of the class were:

Susan Baker	Michael Howe	Penny Pankratz	Paula Vondrachek
Lawrence Bauman	Christine Johnson	Michael Reesman	Margaret Wagner
Michael Carroll	Richard Kayser	Gary Rochan	Joseph Wanat
Susan Clausen	Stephen Lee	John Russell	Thomas Warren
Richard Chesick	Suzanne Lewis	Richard Schmaling	Catherine Weidert
John Daniels	John Linneman	Charles Schneider	Dale Weis
Timothy Daniels	Edward Ludwig	Thomas Schott	Judith Wiechert
Carol DeGrave	Gregory Macklin	Thomas Sheahan	David Wiemer
Judith Eckert	Michael McNamara	William Sheahan	Delores Weiler
Darrell Elmer	John Moe	Shari Tenwinkel	Michael Wilke
Mary Ehlen	Thomas O'Neill	Ernest Towery	Larry Yambor
Jane Frisbie			

On the following Sunday, which was Mother's Day, 250 mothers and daughters attended the 7:30 a.m. Mass and corporate Communion, and afterward enjoyed a breakfast program in the church hall. Breakfast was served by fathers and sons of the Holy Name society. Greetings from mothers were spoken by Mrs. Grace Klinkhammer, and her daughter Mary Ann responded for the daughters.

A program consisting of musical sketches, enacted in costume, carried out the theme very dear to the hearts of all women, "Ladies and Their Hats." Mrs. Dorothy Fabian, reciting an original prologue in verse, introduced the various numbers that depicted women's hat styles of past eras. Mary Lois Howe and Mrs. Fabian, vocalists, and pianist, Mrs. Eunice Paepke, provided the musical accompaniment.

Taking part in the sketches were Angie Martin and Carrie Schilz, in "Old Grey Bonnet;" Fifi Jochem and Florence Scott, "Sunbonnet Sue;" Marion Ensing and Betty Pihringer, "The Bird on Nellie's Hat;" Beatrice Regner and Lois Schott, "Just An Old Sombrero;" and Marilyn Hewitt and Helen Zabler, "Me and My Gal." The revue closed with a devotional tableau, with Mrs. Norma Degen as devotee before the shrine of the Blessed Virgin.

Mrs. Rosemary Schneider as toastmistress presented gifts of geranium plants from St. Ann's Society to mothers earning various merits of motherhood. Receiving gifts were Mrs. Theresa Schmitt, Mrs. Elaine Wagner, Mrs. Verna Siegler, Mrs. Catherine Schwochert, Mrs. Helen Schmitz, and Mrs. Catherine David.

As president of the St. Ann's Society, Mrs. Bernice Wanasek presided at the breakfast. Father Langenfeld, spiritual director, addressed the ladies in a tribute to motherhood. Assisting as stage crew for the entertainment were Jack Schmaling and Kenneth DeVoy.

(to be continued)