Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

I always enjoy writing this article for the spring issues of e-Connections and Pius Connections because it means spring has arrived or is just around the corner. I hope this letter finds you enjoying some kind of spring break even it is just the realization that each day offers a little more sunshine and the average daily temperature is going up!

A couple of weekends ago, we had many alumni visit their alma mater for the Annual Pius X Alumni Basketball Tournament. Our Alumni Director, Kristin Heath, and I had the opportunity to visit with many alumni and their families. What an enjoyable weekend everyone had commiserating with their fellow classmates and playing some good competitive basketball at the same time. Many had not been back for a couple of years and were surprised to see the new Commons, bathrooms and renovated classrooms and how everything had transformed!

We express many thanks for your extraordinary support over the past year. Your involvement and that of Pius X’s many friends and benefactors is making it possible to distribute $380,000 to the high school during the 2008-2009 school year. This distribution will put total giving from the Foundation to Pius X High School at $4.2 million since the Foundation was founded.

In addition since the A Tradition of Faith campaign began in January 2006, we have collected over $8.9 million. This investment is allowing the dream for expanded and renovated facilities and increased financial assistance to take shape. Continued payment of the pledges is crucial to the success of the campaign. Please help us in keeping these current. Thank you so much!

We will continue to be good stewards of the funds you have entrusted to us. I hope that you will continue to have pride in our accomplishments and in all that we do. Thanks again for investing in a vision that challenges Pius X to continue to develop into one of the best Catholic schools in the United States!

May God bless you.

Michelle Birkel
Director of Development
Coach O’Boyle honored at Governor’s mansion

Pius X coach and Athletic Director, George O’Boyle, was one of six Lincoln teachers honored at the annual Thank You Teacher Breakfast on March 3, at the Governor’s mansion. In celebration of Nebraska Teacher Recognition Day current and past students paid tribute to their teachers who made a difference in their lives.

Teacher Recognition Day is Nebraska’s way of saying thank you to its more than 23,000 public, parochial and private school teachers. It provides an opportunity to pay tribute to teachers whose efforts may have gone beyond the basic transfer of information normally associated with the job. The award is distributed in six categories: preschool through second grade, grades three through five, middle school, high school, higher education and retired.

Coach O’Boyle was nominated by former Pius X student, Joe LeDuc, and received the award in the high school category. “Thank you George O’Boyle for your 44 years devoted to inspiring thousands of young adults to believe in themselves,” LeDuc said. “Those who had been troubled were emulating you and reaching out to help others in need. You continued to lead by example, always the optimist, sacrificing for that in which you always believed so strongly.”

At the end of the 2008-09 school year George O’Boyle will retire. There will be a reception to honor Coach O’Boyle and celebrate his retirement on Sunday, May 24, from 2-5 p.m. in the Pius X Commons. A short program will follow. Please join us in celebrating his 40 years at Pius X!

Ms. Bollish announces retirement

After 30 years at Pius X High School, Ms. Bollish has announced she will retire in May. Mrs. Bollish was born and raised in North Platte, Neb. She graduated in 1953 from St. Patrick’s High School in North Platte. She moved to Lincoln in August 1979 with the location of her husband’s job, and began at Pius X a short time after. Two of her four children, Jeff ’83 and Lisa ’88, are graduates of Pius X. She plans to move back to North Platte and spend her retirement with her family.
Marilou Becker Scholarship is now endowed

The Marilue Becker Scholarship was created by her husband, Gaylord J. Becker after the completion of his wife’s 35 year teaching career in mathematics, her last 24 years at Pius X High School.

Marilue was born in York, Neb. to Edwin and Bertha Henning. When she was nine, the death of her father became a powerful influence. The value of education was instilled into her the short time she had with her father.

“After dad’s death, my mother sold the acreage and we started farming south of McCool,” Marilue said. “Besides helping with the farming, irrigation and cattle I was very involved in school, playing volleyball and basketball, performing in every play and very active in 4-H exhibiting my cooking and sewing skills and prize livestock.”

Following graduation from McCool High in 1956 Marilue entered Doane College in Crete, Neb., on a scholarship. She entered a two-year program which enabled her to teach in a country school. After one semester of elementary education, she transferred to the University of Nebraska, and changed her major to mathematics in secondary education. There she experienced a real love for mathematics and had many wonderful teachers. Marilue graduated in 1960, and joined the Dawes Junior High staff teaching mathematics.

In 1961, Marilue wed Gaylord Becker at St. John Catholic Church in Lincoln, Neb. She continued to teach until their first son, Christopher, was born in 1967. In 1971 the Beckers adopted their daughter, Carol Ann through Catholic Social Services. Marilue played an active role in St. John’s serving as wedding coordinator. She was also on the Parish Welcome Committee spending one evening a month visiting new parishioners.

After ten years in St. John’s Parish, they built their home in the Cathedral Parish. In 1974 Marilue was fortunate enough to accompany her husband to a national convention in San Francisco. They were able to secure the help of a nun to stay with their son and take him to school while they were gone. When they returned, Sister Darlene, then Principal at Cathedral, contacted Marilue about a teaching job. After three years, Msgr. Ivan Vap hired Marilue at Pius X where she continued to teach for the next 24 years, retiring in 2001.

“I was so happy to witness and be a part of the growth of Pius X and its contributions to the students,” Marilue said. “We helped develop the entire person with religious truth and values as well as subjects. The building of community was developing and growing with the service the students did in the school as well as in the community.”

Everyone leaves footprints on the sands of time.

A person is remembered for his or her character, compassion, generosity and values. When we leave positive impressions behind us, we enhance the lives of our friends and loved ones, and we give them footprints to follow.

Thoughtful legacy planning is one means we have to make a print in the sand.

Planned gifts are everlasting and ensure the future of Catholic education. They leave behind a lasting memory for families and show commitment to their faith and the need to see that faith passed on to generations to come.

The future of Pius X High School relies on the generosity of those that wish to touch lives by leaving a legacy.

For more information about the St. Pius X Legacy Society or planned giving, contact Michelle Birkel at (402) 488-1048 or michelle.birkel@piusx.net.

Touch the lives of others...

...forever.
Annual Appeal is close to reaching goal

This year’s Annual Appeal got off to a great start and we are getting close to reaching our goal! Thank you to everyone who has contributed thus far to this great cause! We are so blessed to have such dedicated, supporting parents, alumni and friends who care about Catholic education and ensuring our Catholic schools for the future.

The goal of this year’s appeal is to raise $175,000. The Annual Fund provides the critical dollars used to bridge the gap between tuition and the actual cost of educating Pius X students. Bridging this gap enables Pius X High School to keep the tuition so affordable. As depicted in the following chart, Pius X is blessed to have some of the lowest tuition rates in the country.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>9th Grade</th>
<th>10th Grade</th>
<th>11th Grade</th>
<th>12th Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pius X High School</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln, NE (2008-2009)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Creighton Prep</td>
<td>$6,935</td>
<td>$7,035</td>
<td>$7,135</td>
<td>$7,235</td>
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<td>Omaha, NE (2007-2008)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln Christian School</td>
<td>$7,032</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln, NE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lincoln Lutheran School</td>
<td>$6,985 (Community Member)</td>
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<td>Lincoln, NE (2008-2009)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duchesne (2007-2008)</td>
<td>$6,450</td>
<td>$6,550</td>
<td>$6,650</td>
<td>$6,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Omaha, NE (2006-2007)</td>
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Note: Tuition & fees make up 33.3% of the operating budget for the 2008-2009 school year. Tuition is broken down above with a comparison to other faith-based secondary schools in Lincoln and the Archdiocese of Omaha.

Gifts this year ranged from $10 to over $5,000 and are used to meet the school’s most pressing needs. As a result of gifts to the annual fund, the Foundation will be able to distribute over $380,000 to the high school during the school year and also help with the following:

- Bridge the Gap between tuition charged and the cost of educating our students (approximately $400 per student)
- Provide tuition assistance and scholarship aid to students
- Retain and attract quality instructors
- Provide overall support of our operating budget

As of March 30, we have raised $174,499 in pledges and cash donations from our alumni, parents, businesses and friends. Of this amount, $151,791 has been collected. THANK YOU!
The Alumni Office is busy planning for the 2009 summer reunions! We have seven out of the nine honor years already scheduled and plans are well underway! For more reunion information visit our website at www.piusx.net/alumni.

We now have an official Pius X Alumni Facebook fan page where you can get updated information on happenings and links to update your information and a list of our missing alumni. Be sure to check it out!

Do you have any news that you would like to share with your classmates? Please let us know, and we will include it in our next Pius Connections issue. Thank you to all of our Pius X Alumni for being a part of our school!

Sincerely,

Kristin Heath ‘91
Alumni Director

2009 class reunions

This year we will be honoring the class years of 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994 and 1999, and reunion plans are getting well underway! Is your class having a reunion this year? If you haven’t heard anything about your class reunion yet, please visit our website at www.piusx.net/alumni and click on the reunion link, or call Kristin Heath, (402) 488-0931 ext. 10132. We could be missing your information to make contact with you!

The class of 1959 is planning their reunion the weekend of June 12 -14. The class of 1969 and the class of 1999 are planning a reunion the weekend of July 17-19, with details yet to be announced. The class of 1974, 1979 and 1984 are planning a fun filled reunion the weekend of July 31-Aug. 1. The class of 1989 is in the planning stages for a reunion the weekend of August 8! If you haven’t started planning, call today to reserve your date!

This is your reunion year; where are you?

The following alumni are considered “missing” because we do not have a current address for them. If you are on the list or know one of these people, please contact the alumni office. For a complete listing of missing alumni, visit us on the web at www.piusx.net/alumni and click on the missing alumni link.

1959

David J. Bauer
Helen Bounds
Pat Glenn
Robert E. McFadden
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
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1994

Join the Pius X Booster Club for a day of fun in the sun at the Fifth Annual Thunderbolt Scramble on June 29, at Firethorn Golf Club. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., and includes lunch, dinner, range balls, a cart and prizes.

Register now, because space is limited! Sponsorships and other special donations are also available. For more information please call (402) 488-0931 or email piusxgolfscramble@yahoo.com.
March Madness at Pius X

March Madness - Thunderbolt Style was held March 20-21, in the Pius X gyms. Thank you to all who participated, volunteered and cheered on our players at this year’s tournament! We extend a special thanks to Greg Lesiak and David Easley for coordinating the event. Approximately 290 alumni made up 36 teams this year, with teams from 1983 through 2008 consecutively, as well as a team from 1975.

Congratulations to this year’s winning teams:

Forycki Division: 2001A  Seib Division: 1989A
Anderson Division: 1988  Kelley Division: 2002B
Aldrich Division: 1991

A reception was held after the tournament for all participants and their families in the Commons area. After the reception many teammates gathered at Dino’s Eastside Grille for more catching up with their classmates. There was a great turnout and we look forward to seeing everyone again next year!