



The Bluebird

A Publication for the Alumni of Goessel High School

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Summer

Contact Information

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Alumni Association

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Visit us on facebook:

[goessel alumni](#)

The alumni newsletter is also posted on the alumni page of the USD 411 webpage.

New Building Dedicated in Fall of 1935

The constituents of the Goessel School district have always been educationally minded. In 1926 with a minimum of friction, the Rural High School district was organized. Nine years later, school administrators and community members began to realize that the education system had outgrown the buildings.

In February of 1935 petitions were passed around and enough signatures were secured to hold a bond election. After the polls closed at 6:00 p.m., a tense period of time followed. For awhile the votes seesawed back and forth. The final count indicated a positive result of a majority of two to one.

Groundbreaking was held in early June. Heavy rains interrupted the building on numerous occasions. A new brick building was finally done and dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1935. Classes met for the first time in the new building the first Monday after Thanksgiving.

In a Principal's Organization Report from 1936-1937, it states the building was valued at \$49,000 and was classified as a Class "C" building. The State High School Supervisor Report from that same year reported that with a little effort and with the expenditure of a moderate amount of money, the school could soon be rated as a Class "A".

Because of the depression, many departments were left for future completion. The departments that were poorly equipped included homemaking, manual arts, laboratories, and the commerce department. Throughout the next year the bleachers were completed and painted. Also, a new gym floor was laid. This paved the way for the first basketball game to be played in the new gym on December 19, 1936. Two games were played and won against the opponent of Lincolnville. Approximately, 250 people were in attendance.

School administration continued to listen to suggestions for improvement. In the 1941 State Examiner's Report, improvements included a new electric range and refrigerator. New desks had been installed for typing and new lockers had been installed. Teaching resources had also been improved and teacher qualifications had been brought to higher standards. By 1941 Goessel was accredited as a Class "A" school. At the time Goessel was the only Class "A" school in the North Marion County League.

On April 2, 2013, the constituents of USD 411 voted in favor of a \$3.3 million building project. A 92% approval vote indicates that education is considered as valuable an asset in 2013 as it was in 1926.

G.R. (Girls Reserve Club)



How many girls will fit in the G. R.? In 1970 the answer was 80.

For many women who graduated from Goessel High School the letters G.R. may conjure up memories of a small, narrow, room. A room where only senior girls were allowed, although senior boys often found their way inside.

Eventually, the G.R. room became a storage area and most currently a closet space for the

FCCLA class.

This room has many stories to tell. Your stories are important.

When and how did it become a room only for the senior girls? Why was it closed down? What was the original purpose of the room? When did the G.R. Club transition to Y-Teens? What's happening in the picture on the

left? If you have a story to share or can offer some insight, let me know.

You can send your responses via email or regular postal services. The addresses are listed on the first page.

Alumni Office to be Established

Construction on a new educational wing will begin this fall. The rearrangement of classrooms will allow for an Alumni Office to be established in the original G. R. Room. Memorabilia, yearbooks, bound copies of the student newspaper; *The Bluebird*, pictures, etc. will be stored in this area.

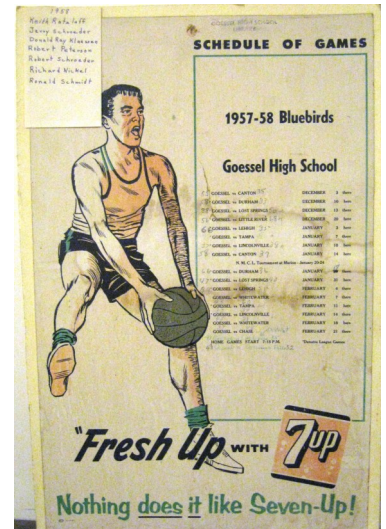
If you have memorabilia or pictures you would like to donate contact Ilona Abraham. Your stories and comments are also appreciated.

The poster on the right, donated by Brian Stucky, past art teacher at USD 411 will be on display in the new Alumni Office. This poster plus two others for different years were found when some remodeling was done a number of years ago.

One poster is dated 1957-58. It has the following names attached to the poster:

Keith Ratzlaff, Jerry Schroeder, Donald R. Klaassen, Robert Peterson, Robert Schroeder, Richard Nickel and Ronald Schmidt. A second poster is dated 1958-59. It has the following names attached: Ronald Schmidt, Keith Ratzlaff, Jerry Schroeder, Larry Schmidt, Robert Peterson, Eugene Frey, Robert Schmidt, and Stanley Bartel.

If you know why 7-up sponsored these posters, I would be interested in hearing from you.



Keeping in Touch

Keeping the alumni address list current is a monumental task. Your help is needed. If you know of classmates or alumni who haven't received this newsletter, please let us know their addresses. Contact addresses are listed on page one. This way we can include them in future mailings.

The USD 411 administration has been gracious and allowed us to include this alumni letter in the last two issues of the District Newsletter. This newsletter has been published and

mailed with the support of several donors. We would like to see the alumni letter mailed using our own resources.

Currently, this newsletter is being sent to approximately 1,370 alumni. Approximately, 700 alumni receive this letter through the postal service. Acquiring more email addresses would cut down on cost. If you are receiving this newsletter through the postal service and wish to continue receiving it in that manner, a contribution to cover the cost of mailing would be encouraged. A form has been in-

cluded that can be filled out and returned. Your email address can be added by emailing goesselalumni@hotmail.com

The purpose of the newsletter is to keep Goessel alumni informed, notify classes of various events of interest surrounding Goessel High School and receive information about the upcoming 2016 Alumni Homecoming event.

A copy of this newsletter is also posted on the USD 411 website under alumni. A Goessel alumni Facebook page has also been created.

Goessel High School Alumni

As a Goessel High School Alumni I would like to continue to receive this newsletter through the postal service. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep Goessel High School graduates informed. I understand my contribution will be used to pay for the cost of correspondence, including an alumni newsletter and announcements pertaining to the Goessel High School Alumni Reunion in 2016. Suggested contribution is \$5 per person, per year.

Name (s) _____ Class (es) of _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Clip and mail to:

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A Publication from the
Alumni Association

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First Girl's Basketball Team — 1967

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