

## OUR

## Legacy

NEWS OF INTEREST TO THE  
ALUMNI, PARENTS & FRIENDS  
OF SKUTT CATHOLIC



Green and Black

Goes Blue!



Kurt Strawhecker, Monsignor James Gilg  
and Brooke Janousek Heck '97.



Patrick Slattery, Aba Kumi (Director,  
National Blue Ribbon Schools Program)  
and Jim Mangimeli.

By Jim Mangimeli

It was a trip to remember . . . and cherish. I was privileged to travel to Washington, D. C. on Nov. 12-13 to help represent our school at The National Blue Ribbon Awards Ceremony. Skutt Catholic was one of 50 private schools in the country to receive this award, and it is considered to be one of the most prestigious honors in education. It was held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, a magnificent, historic building that is known for inaugural balls, visiting presidents and senators, and top name entertainers that have been part of its history for over 75 years.

As I sat in the plane on the way to D.C., I thought back to the first days of Skutt Catholic with 120 students, half-empty hallways, and about a dozen staff members. In some ways it seems like long ago, but in other ways only yesterday that we were welcoming our first students coming through the doors. The school has grown tremendously in 20 years, and it is one of the joys of my life to have witnessed the transformation.

At the conference we were told repeatedly that we are now in elite company. The schools represented there are the best, and we were encouraged to try to share our excellence with other schools in order to help them be the best as well – that was the message. I was long ago convinced that our school is one of the best around, and this only confirmed what I believed. It was a great honor, but also a heavy responsibility. We are called to maintain, and even improve, our performance as well as to try to influence other schools to achieve the same level of educational excellence that exists here.

*continued on next page*

# Inside this Issue

Cover Story - Green and Black Goes Blue. . . . .	1	Event Updates . . . . .	13
President's Letter . . . . .	2	Chairman's Letter. . . . .	14
Principal's Letter . . . . .	3	Annual Report . . . . .	15
Alumni Board President's Letter . . . . .	4	20 Years of Excellence . . . . .	19
Alumni Updates. . . . .	5	SkyHawks in Service . . . . .	20
Driven to Excellence . . . . .	8	Welcome Home. . . . .	21
Around Skutt Catholic . . . . .	9	In Memoriam . . . . .	22
Fall Recap . . . . .	10	SkyHawks Excel . . . . .	23
Angel Flight . . . . .	11		

## COVER STORY

# Green and Black Goes BLUE!

*continued from front page*

Those of us who were here at the “beginning” hardly imagined that someday our school would be a Blue Ribbon School. It is the fulfillment of a dream and a product of a vision that started with Archbishop Sheehan and Monsignor Gilg, was continued through the hard work of many faculty, staff, parents, and students and was brought to fruition by Patrick Slattery and the current administration and staff at Skutt Catholic. As we waited to receive the award, I felt that I was representing all of those people who worked so hard to make Skutt Catholic what it is today. It was an honor to be able to represent so many exceptional educators and certainly one of the high points of my educational career. It was the best day ever to be a SkyHawk!



L to R: Monica Baxter, Mario Dicola, Kurt Strawhecker, Monsignor James Gilg, Brooke Janousek Heck '97, Jim Mangimeli, Paula Lenz, and Keith Engelkamp.

Blue Ribbon Luncheon, Washington D.C.

# President's Letter

Skutt Catholic began its twentieth year of educating young women and men with the announcement that the school had been named a National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education. The honor is among the highest academic accolades that can be earned by a school in our country. The U.S. Department of Education summarizes the award as follows:

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools where students perform at very high levels or where significant improvements are being made in students' levels of academic achievement. Since 1982, the U.S. Department of Education's National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has honored America's most successful public and private elementary, middle, and high schools. A National Blue Ribbon Schools flag waving overhead has become a trademark of excellence, a symbol of quality recognized by everyone from parents to policy-makers in thousands of communities.



Patrick Slattery  
President

Not all schools can apply for the Blue Ribbon "Exemplary" schools award. Only schools whose ACT/SAT test scores are within the top 15% of all school scores nationwide (public & private) are eligible to apply. Even then, most who apply in any given year will still not earn the Blue Ribbon award. Skutt Catholic's ACT averages are at an all-time high and within that 15% mark. More than 325 private schools registered to apply for this award in 2012, and Skutt Catholic was one of the top 50 to emerge from the very competitive group!

Skutt Catholic is the only high school in Nebraska with more than 400 students to earn this national award in the past decade. The Council for American Private Education, who initially screens the applications, also commended Skutt Catholic for our "commitment to providing modifications and support to educate students with learning needs." A significant number of private high schools that earn this award typically possess a narrower admissions policy, which limits enrollment to only more high-achieving students. Skutt Catholic works with a broader range of ability levels than many other Blue Ribbon high schools, and 100% of our students are included in the test data that qualified us for this award. As Jon Burt, principal, has previously stated, "this [Skutt Catholic] quality education is offered to many levels of students. As an Archdiocesan school, Skutt Catholic embraces its moral obligation and Catholic mission to provide a 'Universal' educational experience for students of many ability levels."

The top one-quarter of our graduates average a composite score of nearly 31 on the ACT. The top half is averaging more than a 29. The top three-quarters of graduates are earning nearly 27.5 on the ACT. Looking back through data over the past four years, we note improvements each and every year. The data shows that our average ACT scores have steadily risen 0.66 over this time frame when the state and national averages have both dropped by 0.1. The entrance exam scores of eighth grade applicants have not varied over the same time period, thus our annual ACT increases cannot simply be attributed to accepting higher performing students.

Standardized testing results are certainly not the only indicator of academic success, nor are they necessarily/arguably the most important. They are, however, one commonly accepted method to assess academic progress and learning, both on the individual and institutional level. They also continue to be highly valued by most colleges and universities when it comes to setting admissions guidelines. Our school's annual ACT scores are a "metric," among many, that show that Skutt Catholic's educational program is accomplishing its academic purpose. As we continue to modify our program to meet the needs of a variety of learners, we expect that our upward trend will only continue.

Beyond this Blue Ribbon Award, our twenty-year-old community celebrates 2,309 wonderful alumni, the 387 full ride collegiate scholarships earned, the 74 National Merit Scholars, and the 35 state championships won. We all celebrate an enrollment of 700 strong, an enrollment that has seen a 12.3% increase in the past decade when the national average for Catholic high schools has dropped by 10%. We take pride in having developed the most comprehensive, Catholic, college-preparatory curriculum in the state while remaining among the most affordable of Omaha's private high schools. Just as our first twenty years was founded on hard work, perseverance, a core vision, and a strong Catholic mission, so will our next twenty years. While recognizing our success, we will humbly move forward and improve this program to even greater levels for the benefit of all students who walk our halls.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Slattery  
President

# Principal's Letter



Jon Burt  
Principal

As we celebrate Skutt Catholic's 20th anniversary and our recognition as a Blue Ribbon school, the effort, innovation, and compassion of our faculty cannot be overlooked. One of the highest privileges a school administrator has is the opportunity to see top professionals in action on a regular basis, and at Skutt Catholic our teachers rarely disappoint.

Here's a glimpse of the "action" I witnessed in our classrooms recently during just one afternoon of unannounced drop-in visits:

- Advanced Pottery and Sculpture students working independently on a project of their own design utilizing core techniques they learned in class. The students were kind enough to take a few moments to show me a few pieces they were working on and explain the technique they were utilizing. They were very knowledgeable and open to the process.
- Novice Speech students celebrating their first dip into live speech competition – sharing their stories of fear, embarrassment, and triumph. They spoke openly and in detail about what they witnessed, how they felt and what they now hope to achieve . . . what energy. We may need to make room in our trophy cases for more state titles!
- Honors English 9 students dissecting the art of crafting a solid five-paragraph essay. I know this topic gives us adults the shivers, but in just 15 minutes of class nearly 75% of the students participated. They spoke intelligently and passionately about thesis statements and supporting points. The instruction was engaging but systematic. Our 9th graders are receiving fine instruction in writing.
- Honors Geometry students examining proofs for congruency using a wonderful interactive piece of Smart Board technology. I wish I took Geometry in 2012!
- AP U.S. Government students exploring political action committees during the build-up to the Presidential Election.
- American Studies students appalled by the social injustice of foot-binding – asking question after question of their instructor as they processed through the history and the psychology behind such a custom.
- Art I students using repetitive geometric design to create vibrant paintings.

Make no mistake about it; Skutt Catholic has experienced two decades of success in large part because of its excellent faculty. They are why our ACT cumulative scores have risen by nearly one point in the last five years and nearly two points in the last ten years. They are why our students speak so highly of their teachers and our school; their hard work and compassion are the reason we are able to educate a wide range of learning abilities. They are why we regularly receive positive feedback from our alums – such as this note from a recent graduate:

"Skutt honestly made the biggest difference in my life and prepared me for college in ways that I would have never expected and did not fully understand or appreciate until now! Thank you!"

Our faculty truly Make a Difference every day and have led us to become a Top 50 school in the United States. The next time you have a chance, please congratulate our teachers on a job well done!

Sincerely,  
Jon Burt  
Principal



# Alumni Board President's Letter

Happy Holidays!

2012 was a year to remember for many: from alumni engagements and the welcoming of new family members, to seeing the power of prayer through God's hands, and the acknowledgement of the great success of a school that we all love. All of these memories symbolize who we are as a Skutt Catholic community and what we value in our daily lives.

This year Skutt Catholic hit a major milestone of excellence in education for 20 years. Twenty years that have been driven by success and high achievement of our students, alumni, faculty, and staff who pride themselves on being the best they can be and believing that the sky is the limit. Nothing is impossible with the community that has been built over the past 20 years, with 2,309 alumni, 74 National Merit Scholars, 35 state championships, and now being selected as a Blue Ribbon school. These amazing achievements should make us all feel proud and honored to be SkyHawks and carry on this legacy for years to come as alums.

It was a successful year not only for the school but also for the Alumni Association. The annual Flight for Excellence welcomed over 100 alumni, friends, and family and in return raised over \$4,000. This money allows the association to plan and organize events such as the alumni basketball tournament and the free alumni homecoming event that is held every year.

This year homecoming was celebrated on a chilly Nebraska night in the beginning of October. Even with the cold temperatures, many alumni and their families joined us for the fun festivities as Skutt Catholic hosted Roncalli. The children enjoyed bouncing around in the castle bounce house as a way to warm up, while alumni and friends gathered together to reminisce about old times. In attendance were members of the Class of 1997 who were celebrating their 15-year class reunion. They were able to enjoy a tour of the school by Mrs. Monica Baxter and see the many renovations the school has made over the years.

For those of you who would like to update your current contact information including email and home address, please send all updates to: Sally Brittan at [smbrittan@schools.archomaha.org](mailto:smbrittan@schools.archomaha.org). She would be happy to make sure you are receiving emails from the school and a copy of *Our Legacy* magazine that is published twice a year.

Lastly, I would like to thank all of you for your constant support to the association, without you we could not plan and organize all of these exciting events. Also, be on the look out for more information about an alumni trivia night within the next few months.

If you want to become more involved or help with any of our upcoming events please email me at [skuttcatholicalumni@gmail.com](mailto:skuttcatholicalumni@gmail.com).

Kelsey Sievers '09  
Skutt Catholic Alumni Association President



Alumni Association President  
Kelsey Sievers '09

# Alumni Updates

**Kelly McAleer '97** and **John McMannama '97** are engaged and plan to marry in Omaha in June 2014. Kelly will be moving from Phoenix back to Omaha in early 2014.

In April SC alumni gathered at Dante (owned by **Nick Strawhecker '97**) in west Omaha. Pictured from left to right are: **Tom McGuire '97**, **Alison Dempsey Bayse '97**, **Nick Strawhecker '97**, **Sara Neneman Weller '97**, **Tara Hollenbeck Henkenius '97**, and **Elizabeth Spitsnogle McGuire '97**.



**Eric Kauffman '98** and Brittany Kauffman welcomed son Anthony Robert on Sept. 2, 2012. He joins big sisters Lauren and Amelia.

**Michelle Mimick Phillips '99** is one of three state finalists for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching. She will find out this spring if she will represent Nebraska in Washington, D.C. for the award ceremony. Michelle currently teaches 5th grade at Dundee Elementary in the Omaha Public Schools district.



**Colin Wagner '04** and Jamie Volz were married July 14, 2012. He is Communications Manager for the Alzheimer's Association of Omaha. Jamie is pursuing her doctorate in Economics at UNL. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica and they currently reside in Lincoln.



Brooke Janousek Heck '97 married Jim Heck '97 on Aug. 28, 2010. Msgr. James Gilg officiated the ceremony at St. Robert's. The reception was at the Lied Jungle at the Henry Doorly Zoo.

**Sarah Menghini Percival '00** is currently the Vice President and President-Elect of the Nebraska International Languages Association and a French teacher at Westside High School.

On Nov. 6, **Patrick Leahy '01** was elected to the Natural Resources District Board, #7 seat. **John Murante '00** also won his race for the Nebraska Legislature in District #49.

**Tomi Diederich '04** and **Matt Farrell '04** had their first child on June 21, 2012: Nickson Cash Farrell. Nickson was named in memory of his beloved Aunt Nicole (Nikki) Farrell and Tomi and Matt's very dear friend Cash Coolidge '04.



**Kate Thomsen '99** married Johnny Major on Sept. 1, 2012 at St. Wenceslaus Church, a reception followed at Hilton Omaha. Skutt Catholic alumni in the wedding party included: **Maureen Thomsen '03**, **Melanie Sapikoski White '99**, **Michaela Odorisio Jones '99**, and **Luke Langer '99**. Kate is currently a product manager with Fifth Third Bank and Johnny is a minority owner and software developer at CNX Corporation. They live in Chicago, IL.





**Brian Sauser '00 and Amy Moylan Sauser '00** welcomed Mitchell Timothy on October 26, 2012. He joins big sister Julia (2) and big brother Tony (1) at home.

**Jeff Armstrong '02** recently moved back to Omaha from Kansas City and is the production manager at Sleight Advertising.

**Eric Ramirez '02** has a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Nebraska – Omaha. After initially working as the law librarian at the Douglas County Correction Center, Eric made the decision to pursue a more adventurous career as an English teacher in China. In early August 2012, Eric left for Phnom Penh, Cambodia, where he trained as a teacher for four weeks in preparation for his teaching assignment in Weinan, China. Eric is now teaching Chinese elementary school students in two schools in Wienan. He teaches with two British colleagues and one other American, as well as a staff of Chinese teachers.

**Laura Christiansen Larson '02** and husband Ben had their first child, Evan Christian Larson, on Oct. 2, 2012.



**Anita Fuchs Downing '04** is a CPA and was recently promoted to Assurance Senior Associate at McGladrey, LLP in Kansas City, MO. She continues to focus on financial statement audits in the Indian gaming, financial institution, and not-for-profit industries.

**Meghan Phelps Sullivan '04** and Nick Sullivan welcomed daughter Lucy Elizabeth on March 26, 2012.

**Jared Bolding '04** and **Michaela Masching Bolding '04** had son Cooper James on April 13, 2012.

**Danny Hames '04** graduated from Creighton Medical School in May of 2012 married Jessica Yager on June 2, 2012 and took up his pediatric residency at Boston's Children's Hospital. **Matt Hames '06** graduated from University of Nebraska at Lincoln in 2010 and is working for the Wineman Communications Group in Lincoln as a copywriter. **Bridget Hames '12** is a freshman at UNO and a member of the UNO Forensics Team.

**Sara Welniak '05** graduated from College of St. Mary's with a Master's of Occupational Therapy and is currently working in Lincoln at Bryan-LGH in the ICU. Sara ran the Chicago Marathon on Oct. 7, 2012 with a time of 04:37.

**Lauren Naughton '08** graduated Summa Cum Laude from Creighton University in May 2012 and was inducted into the Jesuit Honor Society Alpha Sigma Nu. Lauren is currently employed by the Spanish Ministry of Education as a cultural ambassador and is living in Madrid, Spain.

**Catheryn Amenta '08** graduated from UNL with a Biological Systems Engineering degree. She is working as a Project Manager for Epic, which is an electronic medical record software company in Madison, WI.



**Jessica Smith Charlsen '00** and Adam Charlsen had son William Michael on September 12, 2012. Will joins big sister Maddie who is three years old.



In July 2012, **Sarah Kerkman Harper '04** and her husband Captain Mark Harper moved to Misawa Air Base, Japan, where they will be stationed for the next three years. Sarah works as a writer/editor in the marketing department of the 35th Force Support Squadron. Mark was selected in August 2011 to attend USAF Weapons School from January 2012 through June 2012. Upon graduation he was assigned to the Misawa Air Base as the Intelligence Weapons Officer for the 35th Fighter Wing. The couple previously lived in Eagle River, Alaska, while stationed at Elmendorf Air Force Base.

*continued next page*

# Alumni Updates



**Katie McIllece Meints '05** married Jason Meints this past March in Des Moines, IA at Saint Francis of Assisi. A few months later, Katie graduated with a Masters in Organizational Leadership in Business at Grand View University and Jason Meints earned his Doctorate of Physical Therapy from Des Moines University. Jason is working at Physiotherapy Associates and Katie is employed as the Housing Director at Grand View University.

**Ryan Borchers '05** graduated Magna Cum Laude from Creighton University where he was a member of Alpha Sigma Nu and was editor-in-chief of the Creightonian. He received his MA in English from Creighton in 2011. He taught rhetoric and composition at Creighton last year. He is currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing at George Mason University in Northern Virginia.

**Erin Borchers '09** is currently a senior at Creighton University. She is majoring in Economics and Physics with minors in Business Administration and Mathematics. She is currently a finalist for a Rhodes scholarship. If she wins she plans on spending two years at Oxford studying economics and working on a MBA. At Creighton she is a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit Honor Society, and has recently been selected as one of 13 members of Creighton's first ever Phi Beta Kappa chapter. She was recently awarded a NASA grant to study dark particle matter and has written and presented economic research on the effect of taxation on small business at the state level. She is the president of CU STARS the Creighton tour guides, a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority, and is employed by Union Pacific Railroad in the fuel conservation department.



**Catherine Haller Koth '07** married Alex Koth on July 21, 2012. The couple currently lives in Kansas City where Catherine works as a business analyst for Cerner Corporation and Alex is an engineer for Kiewit Power Nuclear.

**Kylee Polsley '10** received her Associates in Arts Degree from Iowa Western Community College where she also played college softball. She is currently continuing her education at Chadron State College where she is also playing softball.

**Kelsey Stratman '12** won Co-Freshman of the Year Award and named to the All-West Division team for the Great Lakes Valley Conference after leading the conference and ranking 16th in the country with 1.29 blocks per set. Stratman is a middle hitter at Rockhurst University.



(From left to right) **Catie Yuhas '10**, **Chase Gorham '12**, **Bailey Lathrop '11**, **Rachel Platz '11**, and **Paul Troupe '10** completed the Omaha Marathon on Sun., Sept. 29, proudly wearing their old Skutt Catholic Cross Country uniforms.

**Aaron Large '08** was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy upon his graduation from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University on May 13, 2012. Aaron is serving on board the USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51) as the Anti-submarine Warfare Officer and recently completed a deployment in the Eastern Mediterranean.







SC softball players attended the "Strike Out Cancer" Fundraiser for Sue Hartigan in September. Sue is the mother of **Erin Hartigan '05**, **Amy Hartigan '08** and wife of Skutt Catholic softball coach **Timothy Hartigan**. Sue passed away on Oct. 9, 2012 and this year's softball team has dedicated their season to her.

Pictured: **Katie King '02**, **Karla Harpenau Hamilton '02**, **Katie Lakovic Snyder '99**, **Regina Mackevicius '08**, **Laura Flanagan '98**, **Kelly Baumert '06**, **Taylor Jonas '11**, **Ashley Jonas Banke '06**, **Angelee Dougherty '08**, **Allison Wedige '11**, **Erin McGonigall '12**, **Traci Flanagan '06**, **Sahra Kaboli-Nejad '11**, **Lindsey Wiehl '05**, **Amy Hartigan '08**, **McKenna Setlik '10**, **Rachel Bulkovec '05**, **Andrea Batenhorst '09**, **Jamie Weis '09**, **Grace Peska '09**, **Emily Banghart '11**, **Taylor Pick '11**, **Ellen Homan '10**, **Keri Koley '11**, **Elizabeth Bartak '05**



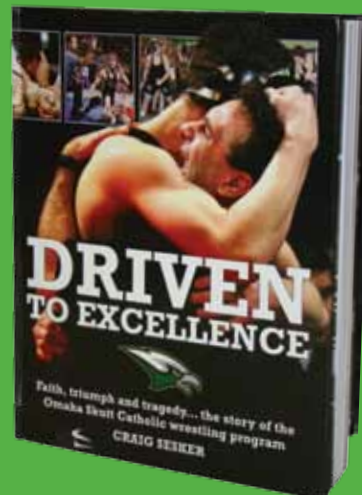
**Coach Keith Engelkamp**, **Taylor Jonas '10**, **Ashley Jonas '06**, **Emilee Jonas '12** and **Coach Larry King** celebrate at the wedding of **Ashley Jonas '06** to **Tim Banke '06**. All three Jonas sisters played softball for Coach Engelkamp and Coach King.

## Driven To Excellence

***Driven to Excellence** Faith, triumph, and tragedy...the story of the Omaha Skutt Catholic wrestling program by Craig Sesker was released on Sat., Sept. 15 at Skutt Catholic's Angel Flight fundraiser.* Guests of the event were able to purchase a copy of the book for \$20. Both Craig Sesker and SC wrestling coach, Brad Hildebrandt, were on hand to autograph copies.

The book can now be purchased on **skuttcatholic.com**.

An easy-to-find link on the site's homepage leads directly to an online purchase order and payment screen. Cost for online purchases is \$20 plus shipping and handling.



*It was the fall of 1993 when Brad Hildebrandt and R. J. Nebe walked into the office of Fr. James Gilg, President of the brand-new V. J. and Angela Skutt Catholic High School in Omaha, Nebraska. Gilg got an idea of what lay ahead with the two enthusiastic young coaches. "We will win a state championship within five years," Hildebrandt proclaimed.*

*"I sure hope it happens," Gilg said. But he had his doubts. And indeed the first season began unceremoniously---in one of its first events, Skutt went a combined 0-24. Undeterred, the two young coaches, armed with an unwavering work ethic and a steely determination, set about creating one of the most successful sports programs in Nebraska history. But while the Skutt program was breaking records, it was also dealing with a series of*

*tragedies that struck the very heart of this tight-knit wrestling family. This is their story...*

This gripping story will inspire young and old alike. Get your copy while supplies last!

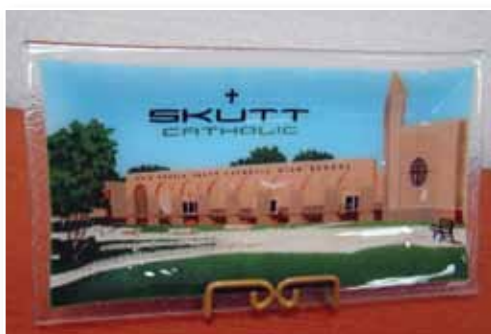


Coach Brad Hildebrandt and author Craig Sesker sign copies of *Driven to Excellence* at Angel Flight 2012.

# Around Skutt Catholic



2013 ACDA International



Peggy Karr Plate



Madison Lynam at 4:15 a.m. Thanksgiving morning! One of 750 girls comprised of cheer and dance team captains across the U.S.



The opening balloons at Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

**Amanda Olson, Shannon Schrader, Matthew Pohlman, Zachary Pohlman, and Annie Moylan** were each accepted into the National American Choral Director's Association Honor Choirs. Matthew will participate in the Junior High Honor Choir, Amanda and Shannon in the High School Women's Honor Choir, and Zachary and Annie were selected for the High School Mixed Honor Choir. They were chosen by audition for the three different ensembles from entries across the country. They will travel to Dallas for the Honor Festival in March of 2013. Their selection represents that they are among the top 36 singers across the U.S. on their voice part.

Congratulations to senior, **Haley Eck**, who was selected first trombone in the 2012 Nebraska All State Band; to sophomore, **Marie Wagner**, who was selected for clarinet; and to sophomore, **Matt Schaefer**, who was selected as an alternate trumpet player. Congratulations, also to junior, **Grace Eliason** and senior, **Annie Moylan** for making the 2012 Nebraska All State Chorus. Haley, Grace, and Annie are all two-year all-staters!

Skutt Booster Club commissioned artist, Peggy Karr, with the assistance of Proforma Identity Marketing Group of Omaha, to create a unique piece of glass fusion art based on a photograph by junior **Ceara Kirkpatrick**, Skutt Catholic Class of 2014, to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Skutt Catholic. Ceara has captured an angle of Skutt Catholic High School that is recognized by anyone who holds SC close to their heart. Plates can be ordered through the front office.

SC Dance attended UDA Summer Camp at Creighton in July and brought home tons of awards, including:

- UDA Leadership Award as voted on by all other teams at camp.
- 1st place in the Large Varsity Home Routine Competition.
- Five All-Americans were selected: **Caitlin McDermott, Madison Lynam, Abby Krone, Sienna Scott, and Katie Pohlman**.
- The "Drill Down Queen" winner was **Abby Hoffman**.
- The "Pin It Forward" recipient was **Abby Jonas**.
- The "Superior Trophy" for receiving a perfect score for our individual routines.
- Team Full Out Award given to the team whose Team Routine choreography was unique and "full out."
- Our three seniors were asked to apply to be UDA instructors next summer!

At the UDA camp the Skutt Dance Team attended this summer **Madison Lynam** was named an All-American. Because of that designation she was eligible to participate in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade. She submitted her application and was accepted!

**Colleen Bernal** was accepted for the China Bridge 2012 Summer Camp, funded by the Confucius Institute at UNL. The Confucius Institute will pay all expenses for two weeks while in China and the Nebraska group will start in Beijing and also visit Xi'an (TerraCotta Warriors).



# Fall Activities Round Up

By Mike McMahon

2012-13 started off with Girls Golf. **Coach Mike Stolarskyj** greeted 17 girls but that number dwindled to about ten that finished the season. The girls finished 3rd at the RCC meet, 3rd at Districts, and 11th at State. **Katherine Slump, Teresa Kaiser, Emma Sheridan, Nyashadzaishe Kamhaka, and Holly Schumacher** all qualified for the State Meet. Biggest obstacle - getting to practice! With only one senior, not very many of the girls were old enough to drive. That bodes well for the future.

*“Dear Lord, in the struggle that goes on through life,  
we ask for a field that is fair,*

The Boys Tennis team, coached by **Sheryl Vaughn**, won their 7th straight RCC team championship. With experience and tradition behind them, the state competition arrived with high hopes. There were some setbacks, but each match was extremely hard fought. **Brian Carmody & Andrew Johnson** (#1 Doubles) finished 2nd, **Zachary Pohlman & Griffin Sehring** (#2 Doubles) were 3rd, **Zach Legband** (#2 Singles) finished 4th while sophomore **Skylar Lowe** (#1 Singles) won his first match and then ran into a tough player from Lincoln Christian. The team finished as State Runner-ups for the 4th time in school history!

*a chance that is equal with all the strife,  
the courage to strive and to dare;*

Coach **Keith Engelkamp** and the 2012 Softball team finished the season with a 27-5 record. Included in that run was their 2nd consecutive RCC Softball Championship. The team swept through the district competition fighting off a tough Ralston team. At state, the girls finished 3-2 and grabbed 3rd place. Great year girls!

We all thought it was hot and dry this summer, but the SkyHawk Cross Country team ran and ran and ran during summer workouts. The boys and the girls began the year with mixed team results, however, personal goals continued to be in reach. At the RCC Meet held at SC, the girls were victorious, while the boys finished 2nd. A week later at districts (also at SC), the girls were 1st again and the boys were 4th. At state, our top individuals finished 12th (Abbey Lenz & Todd Leutzing). For a runner, there are always more roads to conquer.

*and if we should win, let it be by the code,  
with our faith and our honor held high;*

Football in Nebraska! Enthusiasm at SC was high this year. Opening the season with eight straight wins, **Coach Matt Turman's** group started quick. In the last game of the regular season a tough minded Gross Catholic Cougar team came to SC and squeaked out a 14-7 win. The program now had reached the state playoffs nine of the last ten years. In the 1st round, the SkyHawks faced Ralston at home and came away with a 28-0 victory setting up a rematch with the Cougars. In a hard fought, but disappointing battle, the SkyHawks came up short on a last minute field goal by the Cougars to lose 9-6.

November always begins with the final days of the Volleyball season. **Coach Renee Saunders** began her second season with the leadership provided by seven seniors. Up against perennial power, Gross Catholic, the SkyHawks finished 2nd in the RCC tournament. A tough district brought a #3 seed and a huge win over the top-seeded Gross Catholic Cougars. However, the SkyHawks couldn't "seal the deal" and fell to Gretna in the district final. The team finished the year with a 22-17 record and plenty of memories.

*and if we should lose, let us stand by the road  
and cheer as the winners go by.”*

2006 - 2009 - 2010 - 2011 = Four state championships in the last six years! No one can accuse the Mock Trial team of resting on their laurels. Each achievement has only made them hungrier. This December proved their ability when Mock Trial defeated Ainsworth to win their fourth straight state title, bringing them to a grand total of five state championships!

Knute Rockne said it well in his *Prayer to Play Fair in the Game of Life*. High school athletics are all about playing hard, playing fair and carrying your head high - win or lose. In this 20th anniversary year, SC should be extremely proud.



# Angel Flight

## Under Southern Skies Soars

by Elizabeth Tulipana

Skutt Catholic High School's annual fundraiser, Angel Flight, was held on Sat., Sept. 15 and welcomed 620 parents, alumni, and friends of SC. This year's event, themed *Under Southern Skies, An Evening of SkyHawk Hospitality*, grossed nearly \$410,000. A record-breaking amount — to support the school's general operating expenses. The event also commemorated our 20th school year and recent blue ribbon award.

Chairs for the event were Tom and Kathy Koley, Mike and Maryann Litz and Charles and Jen Olson. Joe and Judy Graham and Diane and Rick Mead were recognized for their dedication to Skutt Catholic as this year's honorary chairs. This year's Outstanding Alumnus was Kathleen Merkel, a 1998 graduate of Skutt Catholic. She was honored for her work with Catholic Relief Services, where with teams of people from all different religious, cultural, socioeconomic, and ethnic backgrounds she lends a hand to various communities' own efforts to improve the lives of their children, neighbors, and themselves across the world.

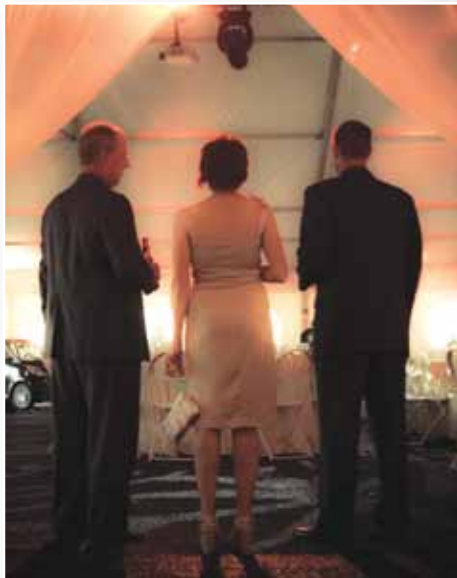
"We are honored to be a part of the Skutt Catholic family and are always amazed at the generosity and support for this event from past and present parents," says Tom Koley. "This annual event raises much more than dollars, it is the future for our children."

Thank you to all of the parent and student volunteers who made the event a success and for your generous support at the party, it was a great day to be a SkyHawk.

Photography courtesy of Nicole Ferguson '00







+ SKUTT CATHOLIC



# Event *Updates*

## March 22 & 23, 2013

**Skutt Catholic Alumni Basketball Tournament**

Start organizing your teams and watch for online sign-ups at [skuttcatholic.com](http://skuttcatholic.com)

## June 28, 2013

Skutt Catholic Alumni Association's

**Flight For Excellence**

Pacific Springs Golf Club

Noon shotgun start



## June 29, 2013

Save-the-Date for

Skutt Catholic High School

**Class of 2003's 10-Year Reunion**





# Chairman's Letter

As Skutt Catholic High School enters its 20th year of service to the Omaha community, it is a wonderful time to reflect on our past, diligently manage the present environment, and to plan for the future of our school. We began as a great vision by many of our early leaders, filled with faith and optimism to create a new Catholic high school in west Omaha. We had humble beginnings as a new school with only 122 students enrolled but knew our future was bright. Those students, faculty, administrators, parents, and benefactors created an outstanding facility, structure, and community in the school, which has flourished over these 20 years. I would personally like to offer our most sincere thanks to these people, with a special debt of gratitude to those faculty and administrators who have been at Skutt Catholic High School from the beginning.

As one would expect, over these 20 years we have had successes and challenges and have learned profound lessons from both. In our history, we have celebrated the successes of 2,309 outstanding alumni, earned 387 full ride collegiate scholarships, been awarded 74 National Merit Scholars, and won 35 state championships. Those statistics highlight only a small snapshot of the growth and character that students of Skutt Catholic have demonstrated in the classroom, on the field, and in the community. We take pride in having developed the most comprehensive, Catholic, college-preparatory curriculum in the state while remaining among the most affordable of Omaha's private high schools. We celebrate the fact that the school's ACT averages are at an all-time high.

Skutt Catholic High School was recently awarded the 2012 National Blue Ribbon Award for Exemplary Schools by the U.S. Department of Education. This honor places our school in very select company, as only 50 private schools were selected for this most prestigious award. Our faculty and administration deserve a great deal of credit for this award, which recognizes the excellence that our parents and students have already witnessed in Skutt Catholic's twenty-year history.

The administration and Board of Directors are committed to be responsible stewards of the resources, which we are responsible for. Maintaining and improving our campus and facilities is one of many important tasks that we face. The commons and school hallways remodeling project, along with the installation of synthetic turf at Moylan Field this past summer are examples of this plan. The administration does an outstanding job of managing the school finances in a responsible manner, while keeping sight of our goal of maintaining a world-class education for our students.

The accompanying Annual Report provides a look into the finances of the school for the preceding fiscal year. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to express our thanks to the many benefactors who have made this mission possible. Through your generosity, we are making it possible for the next generation of Skutt Catholic High School graduates to "Make a Difference!"

Respectfully,  
Scott C. Drvol  
Chairman of the Board



Scott C. Drvol  
Chairman of the Board

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scott Drvol  
*Chairman*

Jerry Crouse  
*Vice Chairman*

Dee Dee Carmody  
*Secretary*

Patrick Borchers  
Stefanie Christensen

Patty Johnson

John Kaiser

Larry King

Tom Koley

Sandy Lane

Brian McGrath

Mary McGuire

Julie McNeil

Shari Munro

Father Gary Ostrander

Phil Ruden

Dan Thiele

## HONORARY MEMBERS

Monsignor James Gilg

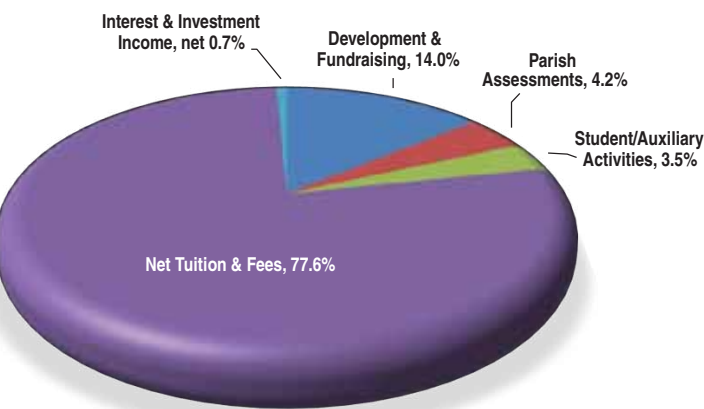
Sally Skutt Desmond

Tom Skutt

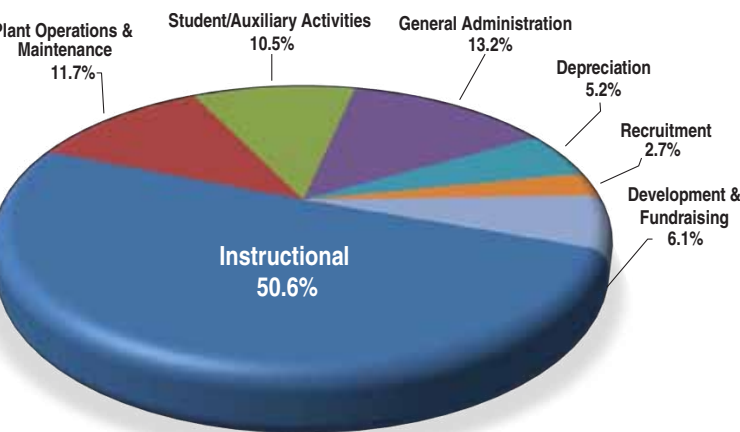
# 2011-2012 Annual Report

The 2013 Annual Appeal is underway and we are striving for 100% participation from our parents. The goal for this year's appeal is \$140,000. The funds raised assist our operational costs and help keep tuition as affordable as possible. The Annual Appeal helps make up the difference between what a family pays in tuition (approximately \$8,000) and the actual cost (\$10,000) to educate one student. Your support at a level meaningful to you will make a difference towards our overall goal. Thank you for your consideration and support of Skutt Catholic High School!

Total Revenue



Total Expense



Operating Revenue:	Amounts:
Tuition and Fees	\$5,940,025
Less Financial Aid & Scholarships	(\$856,540)
Net Tuition and Fees	\$5,083,485

Parish Assessments	\$278,667
Student Activities	\$103,994
Auxiliary Activities	\$125,006
Total Operating Revenue	\$5,591,152

Operating Expenses:	Amounts:
Instructional	\$3,350,263
Student Activities	\$611,230
Auxiliary Activities	\$84,461
General Administration	\$876,326
Depreciation	\$344,160
Plant Operations & Maintenance	\$772,822
Recruitment	\$178,488
Total Operating Expenses	\$6,217,750

Operating Loss	(\$626,598)
----------------	-------------

Nonoperating Revenue, Support, Expenses, Gains, & Losses	Amounts:
Interest and Investment Income, net	\$48,314
Development & Fundraising Income	\$914,579
Development & Fundraising Expense	(\$400,603)
Total Nonoperating Revenue, Support, Expenses, Gain, & Losses	\$562,290

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$64,308)
NET ASSETS, Beginning of Year	\$10,713,448
NET ASSETS, End of Year	\$10,649,140

# Donors

## Guardian Angel - (\$50,000 +)

†Doug and Janice Pick

## Angel - (\$25,000 +)

Anonymous  
†Archdiocese of Omaha

## Patron Saint - (\$10,000 +)

Anonymous  
†Trevor and Andrea Barton  
†Jerry and Ann Crouse  
William Dinsmoor  
††Mark and Johna Duren  
†Raymond and Beth Eliason  
†††Joe and Judy Graham  
†††Leon and Annette Kerkman  
††Mike and Renee Masching  
††Barney and Julie McNeil  
Rick and Diane Mead  
Patera Landscaping, LLC  
††Philip and Linda Ruden  
††Tony and Karen Spurlock

## SkyHawk Club - (\$5,000 +)

Dan Billerbeck  
Scott and Anne Carlson  
†††Mike and Sue Dobel  
†Michael Fahey  
†Bruce and Karen Goracke  
†Sandy Lane  
†Paul and Julie Maass  
†Phil Myhra  
†Northwestern Mutual Life Foundation  
†Scott and Kristi Pavel  
††Dan and Mary Ellen Scholz  
†Skutt Catholic HS Booster Club  
Strategic Pharmacy Services, Inc.  
††Union Pacific Corporation  
US Bank  
††Jay and Amy Vankat

## President's Club - (\$2,500 +)

Anonymous  
††Ron and Beth Amenta  
††Amgen Foundation  
†Ron and Mary Andersen  
AOI  
†Kevin and Denise Bartels  
BP Matching Fund Programs  
†Patrick Bystrek  
College World Series of Omaha, Inc.  
†Cosgrave Company  
Phil Dawson  
†Valmont and Teehseen Desa  
††Mike and Roxanne Dooley  
††Scott and Robin Drvol  
†††Bob and Toni Elliott  
††Mark and Leslie Fey  
†††First Data Card Services Group  
William Fleming  
Fred's Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.  
GIKK Ortho Specialists  
†Doug Graham and Cindy Bartels-Graham  
††Greater America Distributing, Inc.  
††Mark and Frances Grieb  
†††Ed and Patty Johnson  
†Kiewit Corporation  
†Rob and Loriann Kirkpatrick  
Koleys, Inc.  
†Tom and Kathy Langdon  
†Michael and Nancy McCarthy  
††Steve and Chris Mendlik  
††Mutual of Omaha  
Nebraska State Bar Foundation  
James and Janette Nelson  
Oriental Trading Co  
†Gordon and Jane Parry  
†Scott and Trish Royal  
††David and Liz Sambol  
†††Reed and Jane Samson

Curtis and Tracy Schwartzkopf  
Larry Smith and Lori Krejci  
†††Mike and Lucy Smith  
†††Ken and Janet Sorensen  
†Bob and Ann Stratton  
Sunderland Brothers Company  
TD Ameritrade  
††Dan and Leslie Thiele  
††Thiele Geotech, Inc.  
††Doug and Sherri Troupe  
†††Jon and Laurie Wagner  
††Brett and Kathy Wawers  
†††Brad and Shelley Winking  
Thomas and Cindy Witt  
†††Charlie and Lynn Wurtz  
Bill and Kirsten Yates

## Principal's Club - (\$1,500 +)

Anonymous  
†ACI Services  
††American National Bank  
†Bank of the West  
†††Mark and Phyllis Bishop  
Bishop Business  
†††Brandeis Catering  
Monte and Jenise Brown  
††Bill and Lisa Diederich  
Greg and Melanie Doeschot  
††EC Lawn & Landscaping, Inc.  
†Ron and Jean Feuerbach  
Terry and Maureen Gregory  
David and Lori Haller  
Bruce and Marlene Haney  
††Robert and Theresa Homan  
††Larry and Linda King  
Chris and Maureen Klotz  
††Tom and Kathy Koley  
Scott and Diane Lawrence  
Vince and Paula Lenz  
†Jim and Lynnette Matgen  
†Martin and Liz Matukewicz  
Jim and Mary Meduna  
Mutual of Omaha Bank  
Michael and Karen O'Brien  
Andy and Beth O'Daniel  
††Oscar's Restaurant  
†Pharmaceutical Technologies, Inc.  
††Tom and Mary Pat Rerucha  
††Charlie and Amy Sievers  
†††Mrs. Thomas J. Skutt  
Sonoma Renaissance Resort and Spa  
Doug Thompson  
††Jim and Kathy Welniak  
†Werner Enterprises

## Trustee Club - (\$1,000 +)

5 Chimneys B&B  
Mark and Katherine Ahrens  
Colleen Anson  
†Tom and Cheryl Bies  
Clark and Kathy Bogseth  
Mark and Sally Brittan  
††Mike and Dee Dee Carmody  
†Central States Health & Life Co. of Omaha  
†Central States Indemnity Company  
Cerizo Portrait Artists  
†††Phil and Deb Christiansen  
Connie Coolidge  
Corporate Lawn Care  
†††Creighton University  
†Dante Pizzeria Napoletana  
Duct Medics  
†Doug and Marva Dunning  
†Jerry and Jill Feilmeier  
††John and Karen Friend  
††Jim and Irene Garbina  
Mike and Wendy Gerdes  
David and Katherine Hahn  
HDR, Inc.  
††A.J. and Marjorie Horinek

††Matthew and Anne Jetter  
††Matt and Julie Johnson  
††Todd and Liz Jonas  
Lee and Cynthia Jones  
Joseph Kizer  
Leading Edge Printing & Forms, Inc.  
Michael and Maryann Litz  
Shannon Lofdahl-Reddy  
†Alan and Lori Matulka  
Michael McDermott  
†Dan and Sheila Nelson  
Kevin and Dawn Nokels  
††Mary Kay O'Connor  
†Craig and Brenda Richter  
Doug Rohloff  
†Brad and Mary Smith  
†David and Dawn Sumrell  
Barbara Teets  
VISA Giving Station  
†Randy and Kathryn Wiese

## Patron Club - (\$500 +)

Anonymous  
Acura of Omaha  
ADP Major Accounts Learning Services  
†Steve and Amy Beran  
†††Mike and Clare Bissonnette  
†Mike and Beth Boler  
John Bystrek  
†Brad and Nancy Cagle  
†Dave and Laura Croonquist  
†††Jerry and Jeanne Dempsey  
Lou and Kathy D'Ercole  
†Chas DeVetter  
Drake Hotel  
Jeff and Mary Helen Elliott  
††Ron and Corene Faltin  
Gotcha II Corporation  
Grace Mayer Insurance  
Jerry and Kristina Gradoville  
Lee and Shari Grimes  
Steven and Melissa Gustafson  
Steve and Stacey Harrison  
††Terry and Anna Healy  
Steve and Mary Pat Heck  
Rick and Sue Hollendieck  
Bruce and Sherri Hoyer  
Marla Irish  
†John Kaiser and Felicia Hutnick  
Dan and Joyce Keller  
Rodney and Celia Kempkes  
Kiewit Building Group, Inc.  
Gary and Keven Kiser  
Elizabeth Klawitter  
††Don Kluthe and Roxanne Alter  
Dan and Michelle Koraleski  
LaVonne Kruse  
†Robert and Colleen Lange  
Dan and Linda Legband  
Bill and Nancy Liebermann  
†Mike and Jane Lynam  
Dan and Penny Martz  
†Bob and Tammi Masching  
†††Jack and Susan McMannama  
MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company  
Millard Hills Dental Health  
Mulhall's  
Multi-Images Photography  
†William and Barbara Naughton  
††Chris and Shayla O'Brien  
†††Mike and Peg Odoriso  
Paul and Kathleen Olmes  
Craig and Monique Olson  
Zach Ossino  
††Rick and Pam Pane  
Brent and Michele Pohlman  
Clifton and Angie Poling  
†††Duane and Kathleen Polodna  
†Prime Financial Services, Inc.  
Martin and Deborah Pudlowski  
Tim and Bev Richards

RMJ Enterprises  
†Rotella's Italian Bakery Inc.  
††John and Mary Ruzicka  
Steve and Patti Schafer  
†Mark and Jeannette Schroeder  
††Greg and Pam Sellenrick  
Rachel Skradski  
Dan and Tracy Sliva  
Roy and Macaela Smith  
Tim and Jennifer Smith  
Michael and Annette Sneckenberg  
Chuck and Christine Stevens  
Mark and Donelle Stokes  
††Kurt and Kathy Strawhecker  
Mark Strizich  
T Hurt Construction  
The Meehan Company  
††Terry and Kelly Thielen  
††George and Mary Thommi  
††Matt Tobia  
Tully's Kennels  
†††Dennis and Barb Vollmer  
†Stephen and Donna Weis  
Gary and Becky Werner  
†Jeff and Jan Wiepen  
Mike and Robyn Zeplin

## Benefactor Club - (\$250 +)

14-Karat  
Alliance Data Systems  
Mark and Sandra Baratta  
Adam Bartels  
†Ralph and Joan Batenhorst  
Dean and Jane Baumert  
Beringer Ciacchio Dennell Mabrey, Inc.  
Jason and Renee Black  
†Dan and Sheila Bleyhl  
Mark and Eileen Boetel  
T.J. and Lou Ann Bolt  
Borsheim's  
Lori Bouda  
Gary and Debra Budden  
†Mark and Lynne Capoun  
Felix and Peggy Carbullido  
Cargill  
Dan and Jenny Carlson  
Mark Carlson  
John and Eileen Chekal  
Patrick and Sandy Christen  
††Erik and Stefanie Christensen  
Classic Dentistry PC  
ConAgra  
John and Libby Connor  
David and Sara Conway  
James and Leticia Crisman  
Robert and Julie Cusick  
Hal and Mary Daub  
†Rick and Joanie Drew  
†David and Johnna Eck  
Mark and Brenda Ehrhart  
Envoy  
†Douglas and Julie Evans  
†Excel Physical Therapy  
††Exceptional Portraits  
Flagship Restaurant Group  
Randy and Kim Franzen  
Stuart and Laura Frigyes  
Joseph and Linda Gehrki  
††Dennis and Kathy Gorham  
††Mike and Karen Gottschalk  
Grant Dental Plaza  
Matt and Stefanie Grewe  
Paul and Jennifer Harms  
Tim Hartigan  
†Patricia Heffron  
Hinze Chiropractic & Acupuncture PC  
†Jim and Terri Honz  
Bill and Kathy Howard  
†Steve and Heather Hruby  
Scott and Joan Hughbanks  
Hy-Vee  
Interiors by Joan & Associates  
Delphia Janusz  
Jarel and Shari Jensen  
Larry and Colleen Jones  
Jason and Kerry Judge  
††Mike and Mary Kavan  
Gregory and Theresa Keane  
Kelly's Carpet  
Kingswood Baseball - Kingswood Cobras  
†Kevin and Nora Kleinsasser  
Knights of Columbus Council No. 10160  
Knights of Columbus Mother Teresa Assembly 2541  
Barrett and Christine Knudson  
Dan Kracl  
Mike and Susan Krause  
Michael and Elizabeth Kreekos  
††Rick and Joni Learch  
Mike and Sara Legleiter  
Litz Business & Technology Solutions  
Lowe's  
Mahogany Prime Steak House  
Mama's Pizza  
Joseph and Ann Mangiameli  
Marcotte Insurance  
Matthew Maryott  
††Dave and Janice McAlpine  
Jim and Jackie McCaslin  
†Chris and Katie McDonald  
Brian and Barb McGrath  
†††Greg and Renee McHale  
Shann and Jaclyn McKeever  
†††Paul and Patty Mendlik  
Ryan and Andrea Mendlik  
Roger Meyer  
†Susan Meyers  
Mid Plains Podiatry  
†Frank and Jill Mihulka  
Millard Oaks Dental  
Millard Vision Center  
†John and Mary Mimick  
Will Morris  
Mount Michael Benedictine High School  
††John and Pam Moylan  
Regan and Gary Muhs  
Don and Cindy Munchrath  
Bud and Stephanie Mushlitz  
National Paper  
Nebraska Orthopaedic Hospital  
††Nebraska Wesleyan University  
Nelson News/Century  
Novartis Matching Gift Center  
NP Dodge Real Estate Sales  
Edward and Hope O'Boyle  
Dan and Pam Odorisio  
†††Omaha Community Playhouse  
†Anthony Pasternak  
Terry Patton  
Pearson and Company  
Greg and Leslie Peterson  
††Jim and Kate Pieper  
††Richard and Colleen Pivovar  
Dick and Delores Podraza  
Troy and Jill Podraza  
†John and Cathy Quandahl  
Republic National Distributing Company  
†Dennis and Ruth Riesselman  
Nate Ruffino  
Scenic Wind Balloon Tours  
††James and Amy Schinco  
††Kyle and Deanne Schlautman  
Mark and Michelle Schmidt  
Schneider League Associates  
Paul and Stephanie Scholz  
Mark and Kimberly Schumacher  
Dale and Kim Scott  
SE KA PA LLC  
Christopher and Alison Sehring

† = Donors who have given to the school for 3 - 5 consecutive fiscal years.  
†† = Donors who have given to the school for 6 - 9 consecutive fiscal years.  
††† = Donors who have given to the school for 10+ consecutive fiscal years.

†  
**SKUTT CATHOLIC**



# Donors

†Tom and Cindy Shimerda  
Chuck and Lisa Snyder  
Soccer Internationale  
St. Columbkille Parish  
St. Robert Bellarmine Parish  
Suiter Painting  
The Architecturall Offices  
The Hartford Employee Services  
The Shop 11234  
Ed and Marcia Thiele  
John Thomas  
Togs  
†Mark and Elizabeth Tritsch  
Tritz Plumbing Inc.  
Upstream Brewing Company  
Valmont Industries, Inc.  
Dr. Thomas J. Weber  
Westin, Inc.  
†John and Kathy Wilhelm  
Chris and Melanie Wood  
†Jeff and Kirsten Wooten  
††Dave and Randi Zabawa  
Al and Peggy Zach  
Randy and Patti Zerzan

**Green and Silver Club - (\$100 +)**  
Michael and Kristina Agostino  
†Alegent Health Lakeside Wellness Center  
All About Dogs Grooming Salon  
†Allen Furniture  
Amber Enterprises, Inc.  
Anderson & Schlautman, P.C.  
Andreas Designs  
ASICS  
Matt and Jacque Banker  
Barrington Lawn Care  
Pat and Sandy Bartels  
Ric Barton  
†Steve and Monica Baxter  
Larry and Kathy Beckman  
†Beverly Bedel  
Bill and Kate Bedford  
Sebastian and Mary Belfiore  
†Jeremy Belsky  
Bergman Jewelers  
Biaggi's  
Robert and Julie Biddlecombe  
Steven and Rhonda Bishop  
Bradley and Patti Blakeway  
†BlueCross BlueShield  
James and Joan Bowers  
Dr. William J. Bresnahan  
Jeff Brittan  
Brix  
Clarence and Shelia Brown  
Bill and Marcia Brown  
Don Burt  
Jon and Jenny Burt  
Rita Bystrek  
Marvin and Clarice Capoun  
†Tom and Grace Carmody  
†Champions Run  
Charleston Homes, LLC  
†Charlestons  
††Dan and Nora Chesire  
Dennis and Marian Cihacek  
†Jeff and Karen Clark  
Patricia Cockerill  
Jim and Nancy Coffey  
Kyle and Georgann Collier  
Tom and Jennifer Connolly  
Consolidated Supply Company, Inc.  
Continuum Financial  
Adam and Sara Cooper  
††Thom and Joan Copenhaver  
Corpuz Family Dentistry  
John and Marilyn Cotten  
Bill and Maureen Davis  
Richard and Jane Davis  
Debra S. West, D.D.S.  
†DeCosta Sporting Goods  
†Dennis Uniform  
Gary and Kimberly Devlin  
Kathleen Diederich  
DiGiorgios Sportswear  
Dimatic Die and Tool Co.  
Direct Buy of Omaha

Gordon and Nan Doeschot  
†DRI Title & Escrow  
Nick and Holly Durow  
†Tom and Susan Eberle  
†Doris Eck  
Edward Jones  
†Bernie and Kim Egenberger  
†Randy and Lori Eggink  
†Dave and Judy Egr  
EISAI Inc.  
Tim and Gretchen Ek  
Keith and Gretchen Engelkamp  
Enterprise Bank  
Melissa Erdei  
†Gregory and Jodi Ernst  
William and Marian Feltes  
Fox and Hound  
Charlie and Mary French  
Jeffrey Fusselman  
Patrick and Debora Ganyo  
Jerry Gau  
Caroline Gehring  
Joe and Karen Gehrki  
James and Jeana Gilin  
Gordmans  
Gradoville Dental  
Peggy Graham  
Matt Graner  
††Great Harvest Bread Company  
Phil and Lisa Haile  
†††Herb and Marian Hames  
Dee Hankins  
Chris and Linda Harrison  
Dan Hebenstreit  
Joe and Maggie Hebenstreit  
Joe Hebenstreit  
Governor David Heineman  
Keith and Mona Hendrickson  
Doug and Kolleen Hoffman  
Home Instead, Inc.  
Homewood Suites by Hilton  
David and Michelle Hoody  
House of J  
Nick Huff  
††Mike and Diane Huffer  
†Gary and Mary Hunt  
Hy-Vee  
Helen Ireland  
J Michael McBride  
Tom Jensen and Theresa Tworek-Jensen  
Virginia Jetter  
Jewelry by Kathy Kaster  
Craig and Colleen Johnson  
†Marc and Jamie Johnson  
Elden and Patricia Jonas  
†Eli and Michaela Jones  
†Ray and Sherri Judah  
Gerri Kampe  
††David and Laurie Kane  
†Randy and Kathy Kaster  
†Eric and Brittany Kauffman  
†††John and Kathy Keady  
Kevin and Mary Ellen Keeley  
Bruce Kenkel and Jennifer Mulholland  
Leroy and Linda Kerkman  
†Greg and Mary Kirby  
Ed and Nancy Kirker  
Casper Klucas  
Tim and Jody Knust  
Richard and Denise Kolkman  
Jeff and Teresa Kopietz  
Marty and Lanell Krafka  
Joseph and Amy Krettek  
Stefanie Kriovrisanakis  
†Steve and Ruth Kros  
Lamson Dugan & Murray, LLP  
Brian and Gina Langel  
Ben and Laura Larson  
Justin Limbeck  
Marc and Mary Lowe  
Lucky Bucket Brewing Company  
†Thomas and Annette Luedtke  
†Lutz & Company, PC  
Magnum Builders  
†Chris and Cindy Maher  
††Paul and Linda Marek

David and Cyndi Margritz  
Marriot Phoenix Mesa  
Marriott Chicago O'Hare  
†Mark and Kim McBride  
Steve and Bev McCann  
Scott and Laurie McCarthy  
McCarthy's One Hour Heating & Air Conditioning  
Mitch and Rosemary McDermott  
Timothy and LeeAnn McGonigal  
††Bernie and Mary Ann McGrath  
Tom and Mary McGuire  
††Tom and Terri McLaughlin  
Maddie McPherson  
Joe and Mary Kay McQuillan  
John and Mary McVey  
Robert and Sara Meradith  
Merck Partnership for Giving Mesh  
Perry and Katherine Mettling  
Jeff and Jackie Micek  
Mike and Diane Micek  
Michael Dwyer Photography  
Midwest Laboratories, Inc.  
Millard Athletic Baseball  
Dave and Deb Molek  
†John and Michelle Moore  
Stephen and Joy Morris  
††Kevin and Colleen Moseman  
Moylan - Tranquility IcePlex, LLC  
Scott and Lisa Muschall  
Debi Myhra  
†Bruce and Donna Nedrow  
Ann and Matt Nelson  
††Jim and Pat Nelson  
Rick and Karen Neneman  
Mark and Jennifer Newcomer  
Kelvin and Joyce Nicholson  
Nicola's  
Nobbies  
Novida Consulting, Inc.  
†Michael and Carol Nowak  
Tim and Carol O'Bryan  
Elizabeth Odorisio  
Marcus Odorisio  
Old Market Limo  
††Charles and Jen Olson  
†Craig and Kay Olson  
Steven and Angie Olson  
Omaha Concord Club  
Omaha Performing Arts Center  
†Omaha Symphony  
Patrick and Deborah O'Malley  
On a Whim  
Brian and Joan O'Neill  
Michael and Rita O'Neill  
†Kathie Onkka  
†Opera Omaha  
Scott and Kate Pachunka  
Panda Inc.  
Panera Bread  
Larry Pavel  
Brian Pawloski  
†Mary Persinger  
†Paul and Ann Peterson  
Scott and Denise Pfeifer  
Pines Country Club  
†Joseph and Heidi Plance  
Ken and Bev Pohlman  
†Karl and Arlene Porzelt  
Professional Carpet Cleaning  
Mark and Debbie Prucha  
†Danny and Laura Purcell  
James and Beckie Rago  
†Mark and Beth Rasmussen  
Sharon Rasmussen  
Red Zone  
Jake Reinders  
Renaissance St. Louis Grand Hotel  
Brett Render  
Rental City  
Kelly Richard Conway  
James and Paula Richstein  
John and Nadine Ries  
Jeff and Karisa Riesselman  
RNDC-Falcon Division  
Rob and Kay Rogers  
†Franklin and Mary Roh

Don and Pat Ruth  
††Brian and Amy Sauser  
†Scheels All Sports  
††Edwin and Lorraine Schlautman  
Gene and Deb Schlegel  
Dale and Linda Schnitzler  
Mel and Susan Schrader  
Edwin and Anne Servais  
Marcus and Katie Shanahan  
Mark and Carolyn Siracuse  
Vincent and Virginia Siracuse  
††Joe and Julie Skradski  
†Mark and Julie Slattery  
MaryAnn Slattery  
†Ed and Maureen Smith  
Irene Smith  
John and Susan Smith  
Ken and Deb Smith  
Mike Smith  
South Point Hotel Casino and Spa  
Southwest Tire Co  
Joy Speidell  
†Hugh and Colleen Spellman  
†Sprint Foundation  
†St. Charles Borromeo Parish  
St. Leo the Great Parish  
St. Stephen the Martyr Parish  
††St. Vincent de Paul Parish  
†Jerry and Jane Steffes  
Troy and Theresa Stevens  
†Marty and Traci Stiles  
David and Kathy Stodola  
Jim and Donita Stratman  
Trudy Stratman  
†Kevin and Jeanne Swain  
Timothy and Lynn Sweeney  
T.J. Bolt, D.D.S.  
††Alvin and Maria Tarrell  
Jean Tatten  
†Teez Salon  
Nick and Denise Thelen  
Loretta Thibodeau  
Mark and Tricia Thibodeau  
Shon and Terese Thielen  
Thirty-One  
Gary and Ann Thomsen  
Tigers Baseball Association  
Jim and Jackie Tischler  
†Lorene Tausch  
Trio's Salon  
United Rent-All  
Dale and Beth Van Gent  
††Vincenzo's  
Gregg and Karen Vonnahme  
††Tom and Vicky Walz  
††Marc and Pam Warburton  
†Walt and Colleen Wellwood  
†Chris and Vicki Wenke  
Mike and Tricia Wesely  
West Omaha Braves Baseball Team  
Tim Wieblehaus  
Ray and Mary Wilwerding  
Ben and Alissa Wormington  
†Randy and Veronica Wright  
Bill and Cindy Yost  
Fran Zaner

**Ninety-three Club - (\$1 +)**  
Ace Hardware  
Scott and Rita Adams  
Vicki Altic  
American Gramophone  
Tim and Vicki Andersen  
Dennis and Michele Anderson  
Kevin and Kim Anderson  
††Anthony's Restaurant & Lounge  
Applebee's  
Ed and Shirley Arkfeld  
Joe and Mary Arkfeld  
Jeff Armstrong  
Lisa Asmussen  
ATM Properties, Inc.  
Steve and Jeanette Augustyn  
Auto Zone  
Baker's  
†JB and Sharon Balis  
Perry and Catherine Barnhart  
Matt and Mary Jo Bassett

Tim and Paula Bastian  
Cletus and Mary Baum  
Jennifer Baumert  
Bauno's Hair Studio  
Father Tom Bauwens  
Beauty Brands  
††Matt and Shelby Beers  
Carlene Beffa  
Bella Boutique  
Donna Bennett  
Sarah Benzel  
Mike and Joyce Bernard  
††Best Western Settle Inn  
†Delores Bies  
Angie Biga  
Kerry and Sylvia Black  
Bliss Boutique  
Tim and Julie Bloomingdale  
†Blue Barn Theatre  
††Body Basics  
Hunter Bolding  
Jared and Michaela Bolding  
Jim and Debbie Boler  
Allison Boulay  
Jim and Cecilia Bowers  
Scott and Diane Bramhall  
Dan and Gail Briggs  
Fay Broomfield  
Christopher Brown  
Scott and Michelle Bruner  
Brad Buechler and Alka Desa  
Buechler  
Martel and Natalie Bundy  
Dan Hirsch and Catherine Buresh-Hirsch  
Greg Burke  
Doris Burns  
Emogene Burns  
Lauren Burns  
Dan Bystrek  
††Paul and Beth Camenzind  
Carlos O'Kelly's  
Stephen Carroll  
Jason Cavanaugh  
Jack and Polly Chandler  
Jason and Lisa Chandler  
Adam and Jessica Charlsen  
John and Patricia Choate  
Chocolate Peacock  
Kevin and Susan Christensen  
Clearview Pet Care  
Rick and Elaine Coenen  
Chris Collins  
Daniel and Laura Collins  
Gary and Bette Collins  
Steve and Ashley Conlin  
James and Lois Coughlin  
Mike and Nancy Courtney  
Scott and Monica Cox  
Rick and Georgia Cronin  
George and Denise Curry  
Ashley and Chase Cushman  
Dairy Queen  
Molly and Dustin Daly  
Ken and Stephanie Daniels  
Frank Deloa and Lea Barajas-Deloa  
Cliff DiFonzo  
Brad and Julianna Dinslage  
Susie Dobel  
Gayle Donahoe  
†Ronelle Doud  
Ann Doyle  
Ellen Doyle  
Kevin Drew  
†Durham Western Heritage Museum  
††Brian and Britta Durow  
Eagle Run Golf Course  
Brad and Kim Earl  
Mallory Eckert  
Betty Eckley  
Stephen Edloff and Ann Marquardt-Edloff  
Egermeier Wealth Management Group  
Marshall Egermier  
Paul and Mary Ehlinger  
John and Debi Ehresman

Bob and Kathy Eichelberg  
Eileen's Colossal Cookies  
David and Sarah Emanuel  
Jennifer Epp  
Faces Spa  
†Family Fun Center  
Darrell and Mary Ann Farley  
FarmHouse Cafe  
Kenneth Feltch  
Walt and Lora Fischer  
Flhairs Salon  
†Fontenelle Forest  
Paul and Debbie Foss  
Leona Friedt  
Chris and Karen Fullinfaw  
Gregory Gage  
David and Marylou Garrett  
Whitney Gelhaus  
Minna Gerber  
Jason and Kelly Gibson  
Marjorie Giesler  
Becca Gilbert  
Kevin and Jean Gilreath  
†Gloria Deo  
Mike and Debbie Gomez  
†Virgil and Linda Goracke  
††Mike and Lori Gordon  
Kathleen Gorham  
Steve Gosch  
Deborah Grant  
Beth Groh  
Katie Hanke  
Chad and Ashley Harrill  
Mike and Gloria Harris  
†Theresa Hartman  
Dan Hatz  
†Ron and Barb Haynes  
Mark Hebenstreit  
Hector's Restaurant  
††Matt and Suzy Heffron  
Bonnie Heimann  
†Bob Heimann  
†Thomas and Nancy Heimer  
Benjamin and Janel Heitz  
Dan and Barbara Henkelman  
Cheryl Henry  
†Henry Doorly Zoo  
†Tom and Candy Higgins  
Teresa Hilgers  
††Jim and Mary Sue Hinchik  
Karen Hjelmstad  
Thomas and Margaret Hoarty  
Merle and Nancy Hoegermeyer  
Victor and Kathleen Hoelting  
William and Lori Hoelting  
Marilyn Hoffman  
Mike and Peggy Hoffman  
Terry Hoffman  
††Jim and Marcia Hofstetter  
Terry and Julie Holz  
Home Depot  
Horsemen's Park  
Les and Pam Hotovoy  
Cindy Howard  
†Damian and Gina Howard  
Nathaniel Huston  
Hy-Vee  
Richard and Barbara Jablonski  
Janousek Florist  
Jerry Ryan Clothing & Sportswear  
Wayne and Judy Jesz  
Jake and Stacie Johnson  
Fred and Cindy Jones  
Mark and Sherri Jones  
Rick and Beth Jones  
Joslyn Art Museum  
Bob Kanger and Terri Hill Kanger  
Tom and Patty Kangior

Jim and Mary Sue Karl  
Eileen Karmazin  
Stan and Jane Kathol  
Katina's Couture  
Gary and Monica Katz  
Marguerite Kaup  
Tom and Sandy Keck  
David and Marilyn Keller  
Martha Kirker  
Conor Kiser  
†Kobe's Steakhouse  
Jeff and Katie Koenig  
†David and Janet Kohl  
Ron and Mia Kohlmeier  
Jenny Kolar  
Richard Kolowski  
John and Stephanie Koraleski  
Todd Korensky  
Mark and Paula Kramer  
John and Mary Krause  
†Kerry and Beth Krause  
Arthur and Bernice Kreikemeier  
Kyle Kreinbring  
Dakota Krejci Smith  
Keenan Krick  
Richard and Patty Kroger  
Kevin and Ann Krone  
††Winifred Krontz  
Verlyn and Geri Kroon  
Karen Kruse and Mark Hathoot  
†Dan and Holly Laferla  
Nabil and Julie Laham  
†Rowan and Kim Lang  
Patrick Leahy  
Legacy Gyros  
Legacy Nails & Spa  
Legacy Salon Walk  
Ben and Lisa Legendre  
Goitom Legese  
Betty Leuck  
†Dan and Angie Lohaus  
Lonestar Steakhouse  
Bill and Paula Lonie  
††Lou's Sporting Goods  
Don Lowe  
Sean and Mary Lynch  
Joe and Anna Mackevicius  
Malibu Gallery  
David and Karen Malloy  
†Mangia Italiana  
Joseph Manley  
Ben and Lucille Mannino  
Maplewood Lanes  
David and Karin Martinez  
Spenser Masching  
†Max I. Walker  
Leon May  
John and Christine McCormick  
John McCrosky and Deborah Whalens  
Laura McDermott  
Lisa McDonald  
James and Pat McGonigal  
Dan McGovern  
Tom and Liz McGuire  
††Patrick Mejstrik  
Jill Mellot  
†Adrian and Joan Meyers  
Millard Roadhouse  
Don and Shari Miller  
Jim and Barbara Miller  
†Joe and Jenifer Milone  
Dan and Anne Miner  
Jeremy and Heidi Moore  
Morgan Stanley Smith Barney  
Gary and Christina Moser  
James and Laura Moses  
Mr. Tuxedo

Dick and Joan Munchrath  
††Kevin and Shari Munro  
Timothy McVaney and Carol Murdock  
Mark and Jennilyn Narke  
Nebraska Furniture Mart  
Bill and Anne Nelson  
Christina Newman  
T S. Newman  
Dan and Chris Nordstrom  
Erin Oberhauser  
Jerry O'Doherty  
††Office of Stewardship and Development  
Philip and Susan O'Halloran  
Old Chicago  
Old Mattress Factory Bar and Grill  
†Omaha Steaks  
Omega Foods, Inc.  
Mary O'Neill  
O'Reilly Auto Parts  
Rebecca Osborn  
Robert and Grace Osborn  
Stephen and Laura Osborn  
Steve and Barb Osborn  
††Jeff and Claire Ossino  
Trent Ostrom  
Don and Anne Ostronic  
Cindy Otten  
Doug and Lisa Ourada  
Juan and Isela Padilla  
Matthew Palinski  
†Papio Fun Park  
Randy and Terri Park  
Ryan T. Patera  
Pepperjax Grill  
Perfect Image Window Cleaning  
Periwinkles  
Chad and Lisa Perkins  
Chris and Erin Perry  
Charlotte Petermeier  
Patrick and Anita Peterson  
Dennis and Sue Pfeffer  
†Randall and Clarice Pfeifer  
Pharmacia Matching Gift  
Kevin and Trish Pickens  
James Pieper  
Ron Plum  
Rick and Linnel Podraza  
Mark and Jackie Polacek  
Bart Pugh  
Colleen Richardson  
William and Joanne Robinson  
†Romeo's  
Patrick and Michele Rooney  
†Rose Performing Arts Center  
John and Maureen Rossi  
Nick and Cyndi Roy  
Brooks and Mary Jo Rump  
Kathryn Russell  
Rose Saap  
Lisa and John Salerno  
Craig and Molly Sall  
†Salon Fusion  
Renee Saunders  
Tom and Cheryl Sauser  
Scarlet Thread Embroidery, Inc.  
Richard and Diane Schafer  
Schaffer Family Eyecare  
David and Wendy Schmitt  
†Mark Schnitzler  
William Schreck  
Kevin and Teresa Schumacher  
Steve Schumacher  
Jim and Lisa Schwetschenau  
Jake and Sarah Scott  
John and Laura Scott  
Ron Searcy

Jeff and Pam Serfass  
Charles and Jackie Sievers  
†Skate Daze  
Thelma Slattery  
†Chet and Kelly Slump  
††Dennis and Mary Kay Smid  
Luke and Amy Smith  
Kathy Smith  
Ronald and Katherine Smith  
Jason and Teresa Smith  
John and Katie Southard  
†Spaghetti Works  
Spezia Italian Restaurant  
Stacy L. Moffenbier DDS PC  
†Pat and Jean Stewart  
Janet Stiles  
Marc and Heidi Stodola  
Chris and Monica Storm  
Ed and Jennifer Storm  
Mike Strawhecker  
Nick and Aliza Stremlau  
Amy Strong  
Allan and Debra Sueper  
John and Janel Sunderland  
Joseph and Carol Szczepaniak  
†Kevin and Janet Taphorn  
Paul and Ann Taylor  
Tenaska  
Jenna Theisen  
Andrew Thielen  
Todd and Theresa Thoma  
Yale and Nicki Thomas  
††Ronald and Rita Thomas  
Duane and Judy Thome  
David and Pamela Tingley  
To a T Gifts and Goodies  
†Louise Tritsch  
†Margaret Tritsch  
Tropical Tans  
John and Michele Trout  
True Value Home and Garden  
Alan and Dorothy Tuffy  
Jennifer and David Tufte  
Elizabeth Tulipana  
Zane and Katie Tupper  
Sam and Kat Turco  
Tim and Sara Tuschen  
Bryson and Rachel Twist  
Dan and Maureen Urban  
††Vala's Pumpkin Patch  
Nancy VandenBosch  
Marty and Lori Vanderheiden  
Dave and Susan Vanlandingham  
Dave and Kathy Volkman  
Colin Wagner  
Mitch Waite  
Wake-n-Skate Boardhouse  
Shannon Walenta  
Roger and Janet Walker  
Craig and Annette Wallace  
Pam Walsh  
†William and Denise Warneke  
†Rob and Julie Warren  
Kenneth Watkins  
David and Diane Weis  
Margaret Welsh  
Thelma Wesely  
Boyd and Kathleen West  
Wheatfields  
Jenny Whitcomb  
Tom and Mary White  
Connie Wichman  
Don and Kathy Wickert  
Dave and Deana Wiebelhaus  
Richard Wiener  
Tony Wiese  
Joe and Joan Wilcox  
Nick Wilde

Christine Williams  
†Patrick and Jennie Wilson  
Margaret Witt  
††Rick and Pam Witt  
Woodland Hills Golf Course  
David and Kathleen Woodman  
Shannon Wooten  
Colin Wurtz  
Edward and Virginia Wurzer  
Chris and Susan Yordt  
William and Michelle Yosick  
Bob and Michelle Zaleski  
Bart and Erin Zavaletta  
Jess Zeiss  
Pat Zerzan  
†Bob and Mary Zielinski  
Damian Zuerlein  
Craig and Teresa Zwiener

# **Gifts were made In Memory of:**

Susan Hartigan  
Marjory Meyers  
Elizabeth Riedmann

*In this annual report, V.J. & Angela Skutt Catholic High School gratefully acknowledges the many ways in which donors supported our school from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. It is with a great deal of care and pride that we have prepared our donor list for this publication. Please contact the Advancement Office at (402) 333-0818 if there are any omissions or misrepresentations.*



# Skutt Catholic Gets Vocal

# About 20 Years of Excellence

by Lucy Smith

It was out there; on billboards, in print, on the television, across the web! Skutt Catholic commercial messaging was seen around town. In honor of our 20th year and the U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon designation, we got a little vocal across the city about our notable accomplishments! Notable accomplishments that include:

2,309 Alumni

387 Collegiate Full Rides

74 National Merit Scholars

35 State Championships

1 Blue Ribbon

All that excellence accomplished in 20 short years!

Not a bad run. Our commercials and advertisements acted as messengers of good news and were seen in several different places.

The Omaha World Herald ran a two-page ad in its post-election Wed., Nov. 7 issue. Omaha.com posted Skutt Catholic online ads promoting our Nov. 11 Open House and our Jan. 12 eighth grade test date. Skutt Catholic sponsored Prep Zone during state fall play-offs. Skutt Catholic's logo hung out on Omaha.com's navigation bar for an entire month. If you clicked on the logo, you would land on skuttcatholic.com's home page.

A 30-second commercial aired on the Cox Cable networks. Cox.com ran Skutt Catholic Open House online ads. Print ads were spotted in a variety of publications across the city. Additionally, a Skutt Catholic billboard announcing our U.S. Department of Education's Blue Ribbon designation was seen on I-80 during the months of October and November and a Catholic dasher board proudly hangs next to the rink at Moylan Ice Plex.

We hope you enjoyed the messaging. We trust that the community took notice. Our Open House attendance numbers were up 15% over last year – and anticipate that higher Open House numbers will translate into more students taking our eighth grade test. Our 20th year was the perfect opportunity to celebrate publicly the achievements and accolades Skutt Catholic has received over the past two decades.

Skutt

2,309  
Alumni

387  
Collegiate Full Rides

74  
National Merit Scholars

35  
State Championships

1  
Blue Ribbon

20  
Short Years

Omaha.com

SC Open House  
November 11 • Noon - 3p.m.

SKUTT CATHOLIC

CLICK HERE TO CONNECT

8TH GRADE SCHOLARSHIP ENTRANCE EXAM  
SAT., JAN. 12, 8A.M.

BE A PART OF OUR NEXT 20 YEARS.  
SKUTT CATHOLIC

CLICK HERE TO CONNECT

8TH GRADE SCHOLARSHIP ENTRANCE EXAM  
SAT., JAN. 12, 8A.M.





John Martinez works with a child on the Rosebud Indian Reservation at the Kid's Club.



Ami and Rachel Twist pose for a picture outside of the Kid's Club.

SC students' work on an abandoned church that was turned into a bunkhouse for homeless teens on the reservation.



A group of Skutt Catholic students with Shane Redhawk after a day of tearing down drywall.

# Sky Hawks in Service

By Rachel Twist

It was 104 degrees, the humidity was high and there was not a cloud in sight. We had no air conditioning; no cooling breeze and no ice cream treats to help beat the heat. But by the second day, we didn't even notice.

Last summer's service trip to Rosebud Indian Reservation was one for the record books: both in weather and in spirit. A group of 21 students and four chaperones spent five days dedicated to service work and faith building. I was happy to be one of the chaperones this year; it was a glance through the looking glass as I watched my students do the same service work that I did when I was a student here at Skutt Catholic. The experiences they had were incredibly similar to those that I had, but the way all of the relationships, work projects, and prayers affected them was unique to each person. My personal faith grew as I saw God at work through my students and their spirits glowed brighter and brighter as they watched the progress on their work sites and felt the love from the children.

The heat only intensified as our hearts continued to burn with God's love; it was an incredible sight to see a room of high school students, their hands lifted in song, praying to Jesus for hope, forgiveness, relief, and support.

On the last night we were there, the skies opened up and rain beat down as a cooling breeze brought us comfort. We united as a school and as brothers and sisters as we sat and sang for hours, enjoying each other's company and satisfaction of a job well done. Being able to come full circle and serve, as a chaperone on a trip with my students was an incredible thing.

It's amazing to see the SkyHawks, once again, making a difference.



Skutt Catholic students' work on the siding of an old church that is being re-purposed and used as a bunkhouse for homeless teens.



Viktor Chebotarov

# Welcome Home, *Viktor Chebotarov*

by Kristen Reeves

Viktor Chebotarov, Skutt Catholic Class of 2012, was born in Ukraine. He was raised in an orphanage where the living conditions were indescribable. His only high school experience was when he attended a brick laying school in Ukraine for two years.

Seven years ago on the other side of the world, Omahan Kelly Lytle made the decision to adopt Viktor and two other Ukrainian orphans. Unfortunately, before the adoption process was complete, Viktor turned 16 and was too old to be internationally adopted. But in Kelly's heart and mind, Viktor was her son and in Viktor's heart and mind, Kelly was his mother and the other boys were his brothers. When faced with these inconceivable circumstances, Kelly could not and would not leave him behind; so, four and a half years ago, Kelly officially adopted the two other boys (now ages 12 and 13) and brought Viktor to live in the U.S. with them on a student visa.

After a year in an OPS ELL program, Viktor transferred to Skutt Catholic. His life experiences were very different from other teenagers and families who are in our school community. His family unit, his upbringing, and his past were all unique. At the time of his transfer to SC, he had only been speaking English for a year. Despite the differences, while Viktor was a student at Skutt Catholic he grew to be a very typical Nebraska boy. He loved his family, did his homework, liked to go to high school football games, and as a senior in high school was making plans for his postsecondary education. However, given the temporary nature of his student visa status, thoughts about his future were so uncertain that at times it was almost impossible for the family to bear.

The thought of Viktor returning to the Ukraine was unfathomable. Most frightening was the danger that awaited him if he returned. Prior to Kelly taking Viktor out of the country, Ukrainian authorities attempted to keep Viktor from leaving. Since that day the authorities have repeatedly contacted Viktor and his family and threatened arrest and imprisonment upon his return. Viktor is a gentle soul. He is insightful and introspective. He is also cautious, quiet, and reserved. As an orphan living in a country that cares little for people in need, his childhood was stripped from him. He witnessed the unspeakable and survived the unimaginable. Kelly, with her generous heart and her love for those in need liberated him and has given him a life he could never have had otherwise. No one could imagine him being forced to return to a country where he had nothing and no one.

Viktor is very smart, hard working, and very well mannered. He had come so far, learned so much, and has so much to offer. His teachers all enjoyed working with him and appreciated the perspective

he added to their classes. While attending Skutt Catholic and participating in a very challenging college prep curriculum, Viktor earned a 3.6 GPA. In addition to working hard in the classroom, Viktor also participated in the work-study program. By the time he graduated he had worked nearly 500 hours at our school to help offset his tuition. His work supervisors were always impressed by how hard he worked and how pleasant he was to be around. He is truly a young man with dreams for his future and a drive to achieve them. As he neared graduation, we feared that all of that would be wasted if he were forced to return to Ukraine where it is difficult for even a well-established person to find employment. It would be nearly impossible for someone who began life as an orphan, has no connections, and has been targeted negatively by the authorities to find a meaningful job in Ukraine.

Upon graduation from high school, the best option for Viktor's family to keep him safely in the United States was for him to continue his education and to remain on a student visa. However, being a single mother of three children and the mounting debt that this had caused made Viktor's financing of postsecondary education very difficult. Based on his international status, Viktor could not qualify for most traditional types of aid. That same year tragedy struck when a student killed Vicki Kaspar. Dr. Kaspar was an administrator at Millard

---

*"The Skutt chapter of this miracle is enormous....  
If SC hadn't been so encouraging and cared about  
Viktor's needs, which allowed him to bloom, this  
miracle wouldn't have happened."*

---

South High School and in her honor the Millard Business Foundation established a scholarship titled "We Are All Patriots." The scholarship was intended for a student who attended a Millard area school and who had shown success in overcoming adversity. After everything he had been through and everything he had accomplished, Viktor was the perfect candidate for the scholarship. He was nominated and was selected as the scholarship recipient.

The monetary value of the scholarship was minimal, but the scholarship award was the start of a whole new chapter for Viktor and his family. Viktor accepted the scholarship with grace and humility in front of more than a hundred community leaders at the Millard Business Foundation dinner in the spring of his senior year. No one could have known that in that audience was the very person whose



political connections would lead Viktor and Kelly to an attorney who would ultimately bring them to the realization of their dreams.

After working tirelessly for so long, on July 6, 2012, Viktor and Kelly had an interview at the U.S. Immigration Office in Omaha. They expected this to be their first interview and were advised by their attorney that they would likely be denied based on the history of the immigration officer they had been randomly assigned. They walked into her office; sat down and then...Kelly believes God took over.

The immigration officer they had expected to be difficult was very gracious. She asked Viktor a question and despite his fears and nerves, he answered perfectly. She paused, patted the file and said, "Okay then, everything here looks okay. I am going to go ahead and approve this today." Viktor and Kelly were stunned. The officer moved on, talking to Viktor about when to expect his Green Card in the mail.

IT WAS OVER! A six and a half year battle was done. The whole appointment took seven minutes. Seven minutes and one signature erased so many injustices and traumas, so much fear and so much unfairness that Viktor had experienced in his life. He is now safe. He is just Viktor, a UNO student, a Skutt Catholic High School graduate, a member of a beautiful family, and a permanent resident of the United States! Viktor will be granted citizenship in five years.

Kelly believes, "The Skutt chapter of this miracle is enormous. If Skutt Catholic had not been so welcoming when I had to transfer Viktor, this miracle wouldn't have happened. If SC hadn't been so encouraging and cared about Viktor's needs, which allowed him to bloom, this miracle wouldn't have happened. If the teachers and staff hadn't invested so much time and interest in Viktor, this miracle wouldn't have happened. If a generous anonymous donor hadn't helped with Viktor's tuition junior year, this miracle wouldn't have happened. If Viktor hadn't been nominated for the "We Are All Patriots" scholarship, this miracle wouldn't have happened."

Kelly and Viktor wish to thank all of those who played a part in his experiences at Skutt Catholic. To his classmates, teachers and staff, donors, parents and everyone in the Skutt Catholic community, "Thank you for playing your part in God's amazing plan to keep Viktor safe and lead him to finally see justice and security in the future."

# In Memoriam

*The following names are friends of Skutt Catholic who have passed away since January 1, 2012. If you have an immediate family member who has passed away recently, please contact the Advancement Office. We would be honored to include them in the Skutt Catholic Book of Remembrance.*

**Trino Alvarez** – maternal grandfather to Taylor Bullins '13

**Mary Bathen** – maternal grandmother of Hannah Winther '15

**Doris Boes** – maternal grandmother of Brandon Masching '13

**Robert Byrnes** – maternal grandfather of Zachary Ossino '07, and Adam Ossino '10, and Aaron Ossino '14

**John Cochran** – paternal grandfather of Paul Cochran '05

**Patrick Cronican** – father-in-law to faculty member Kari Cronican and paternal grandfather to Robert Cronican '10, Libby Cronican '13, and Julia Cronican '15

**Kathleen Creal** – maternal grandmother of Michelle Nordstrom '00, Laura Nordstrom Sherwood '02, Scott Nordstrom '06, and Sarah Nordstrom '10

**Kathryn Elliot** – mother of Rebecca Elliott '98

**Ruth Elsasser** – maternal grandmother of Michael Stephenson '06, Danyelle Stephenson '10, and Emily Stephenson '15

**Joan Garro** – maternal grandmother of Lucas Kopietz '15

**Lavonne Gates** – paternal grandmother of Ryan Gates '10 and Hannah Gates '12

**Susan Hartigan** – mother of Erin Hartigan '05, Amy Hartigan '08 and wife of Skutt Catholic softball coach Timothy Hartigan

**Ken Heidbrink** – maternal grandfather of Austin Evans '13

**Donald Honz** – paternal grandfather of Elizabeth Honz '97, Kathryn Honz '98, and Daniel Honz '00

**Joseph Ivory** – paternal grandfather of Emily Ivory '15

**Richard Jensen** – paternal grandfather of Jamie Jensen '06

**Edward Kaiser** – paternal grandfather of Alexis Kaiser '11, Stephanie Kaiser '13, and Teresa Kaiser '15

**Mark Langdon** – brother of Patrick Langdon '12

**Pauline Merriweather** – sister-in-law of faculty member Jim Mangimeli

**John (Jack) Murcek** – maternal grandfather of Micaela Malloy '08 and Ashley Malloy '14

**Stan Olsen** – maternal grandfather of Glenn Westman '04

**Richard Pietryga** – maternal grandfather of Nicholas Trout '10 and Austin Trout '13

**Betty Riedmann** – maternal grandmother of SC chaplain Rev. Jeff J. Mollner

**Louis Rohloff** – paternal grandfather of Samantha Rohloff '15

**Billy Jean Robinson** – paternal grandmother of Rachel Robinson '08, Samuel Robinson '10, and Aaron Robinson '13

**Leslie Rowland** – sister-in-law of Activities Administrative Assistant, Joanie Drew

**Lauren Russo** – cousin of Jayna O'Bryan '08 and Daniel O'Bryan '15

**Melvina Schmitz** – maternal grandmother of Amber Schnitzler '11, Gina Schnitzler '14 and Courtney Schnitzler '16

**Emily Scott** – paternal step-grandmother of Cole Scott '15

**Jeanette Semin** – paternal grandmother of Frank Semin '07 and Paul Semin '15

**Avianna Stottle** – daughter of Matthew and Angel Theisen Stottle '99

**Isabelle Lilly Thallas** – niece of Joe Thallas (our Angel Flight Brandeis Catering General Manager)

**Kathy Willrett** – mother of Michael Willrett '10 (deceased)

**Richard Wilwerding** – uncle of V.P. of Finance, Shari Jensen

**Dorothy Ellis Younger** – maternal grandmother of Corey Drvol '07, Kristen Drvol '08, and Ryan Drvol '12

+

SKUTT CATHOLIC



# Sky Hawks Excel in the Classroom

by Patrick Slattery

Diagram 1

Skutt Catholic High School - Class of 2012  
ACT DATA – 174 Graduates

	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
Top 25% of Graduates	32.59	31.66	32.14	30.23	30.91
Top 50% of Graduates	29.99	29.13	29.92	28.06	29.07
Top 75% of Graduates	26.73	27.21	27.78	26.5	27.27
All Graduates	25.52	24.89	25.64	24.89	25.44
Bottom 25%	18.95	17.81	19.12	20	19.84
State Average	21.8	21.7	22.3	21.9	22
National Average					21.1

Progress!

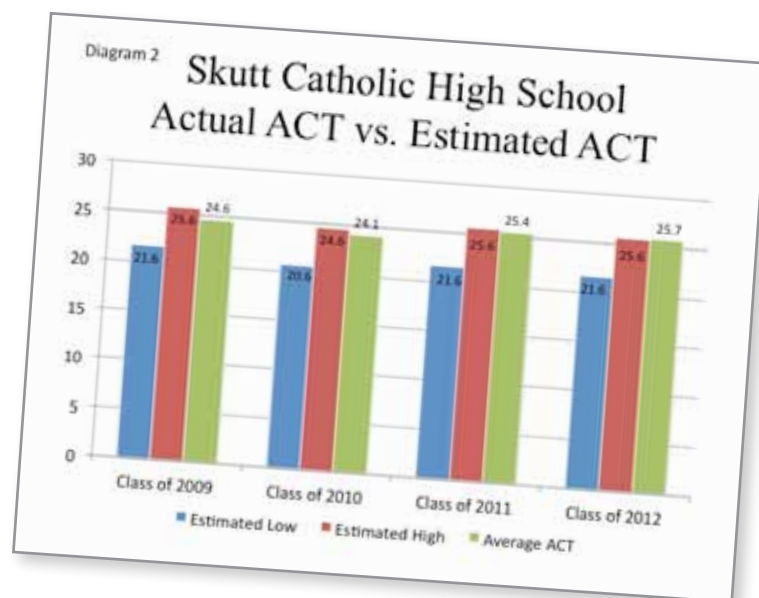
	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite
2012 Total Scores	25.52	24.89	25.64	24.89	25.44
2009 Total Scores	24.72	23.79	25.48	24.5	24.78

Diagram 1

- The data pool represents **all** 174 graduates from the class of 2012. The data is broken up into quartiles.
- Our data shows a 0.66 increase in scores over the past four years; a trend opposite of the state and national average which has seen a 0.1 drop over that same time period.
- Nebraska schools that claim to have the highest reported composite ACT average in the state (27-28) also limit enrollment to anywhere between 40-70 students per class – based in good part by entrance exam scores. Skutt Catholic's top 50% of graduates (87 students) scored over a 29 on the ACT. 130 students scored more than a 27.0 on the ACT.
- As an Archdiocesan school, Skutt Catholic embraces its moral obligation and Catholic mission to provide a 'Universal' educational experience for students of many ability levels. Programs are in place to work with students in our bottom quarter, a group that includes students that other schools have not accepted, and separate data does indicate these students are also improving academically.

Diagram 2

- Students take the PLAN test during their sophomore year, and this test offers a projected (Estimated) ACT score for when they are seniors. Skutt Catholic is then able to compare the actual ACT score earned in a student's senior year to the projected/estimated score from that student's sophomore year PLAN test.
- This chart shows how the senior class' ACT average compared to the projected/estimated ACT average provided by the sophomore PLAN test two years earlier. The PLAN test estimated a range – low and high scores – for the future ACT scores.
- In 2009, seniors were within 1.0 point of the high projection. In 2010, seniors were within 0.5 of the high projection. In 2011, seniors were within 0.1 of the high projection. In 2012, seniors actually exceeded the high projection from sophomore year by 0.1.
- Scoring note: This diagram shows the school's 2012 composite score as 25.7 which varies from the 25.44 listed in diagram 1. The 25.7 is based on students who were also present at Skutt Catholic sophomore year to take the PLAN test. The 25.44 in diagram 1 includes transfer students who were not present at Skutt Catholic in their sophomore year and thus were not included in that PLAN data. One could argue this further validates the value of four years at Skutt Catholic.



There are many ways to both define and measure “success” in a school environment. Skutt Catholic wishes to share the following data regarding ACT performance of students. While not suggesting that the following is either the best or most important metric of school success, the data does provide all constituents with clear evidence that the academic program at Skutt Catholic is directly benefiting student performance on a measure that is highly valued by colleges and universities in our country.

In summary, data over the past four years shows that the Skutt Catholic's composite ACT average has risen 0.66 when the state and national average has dropped 0.1. Graduates are increasingly exceeding their projected ACT score based on their sophomore year performance on the PLAN test. Additional information about the data is published below each graph.

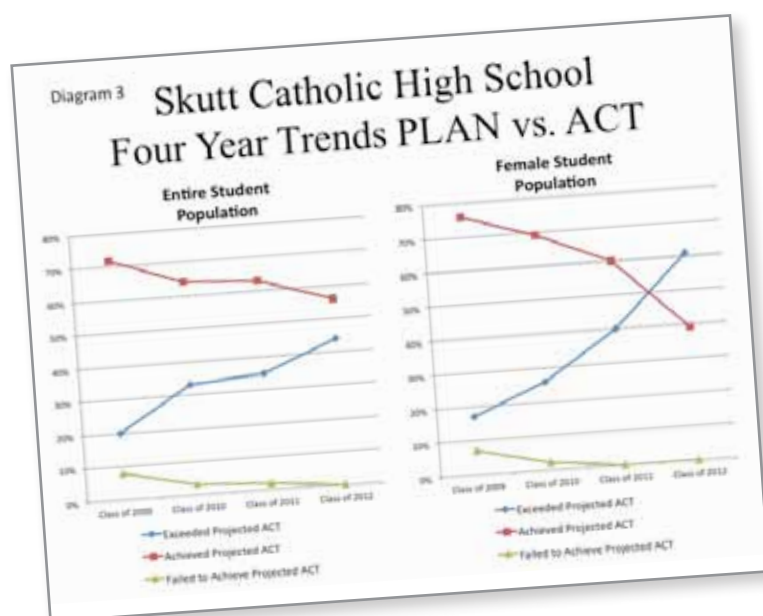
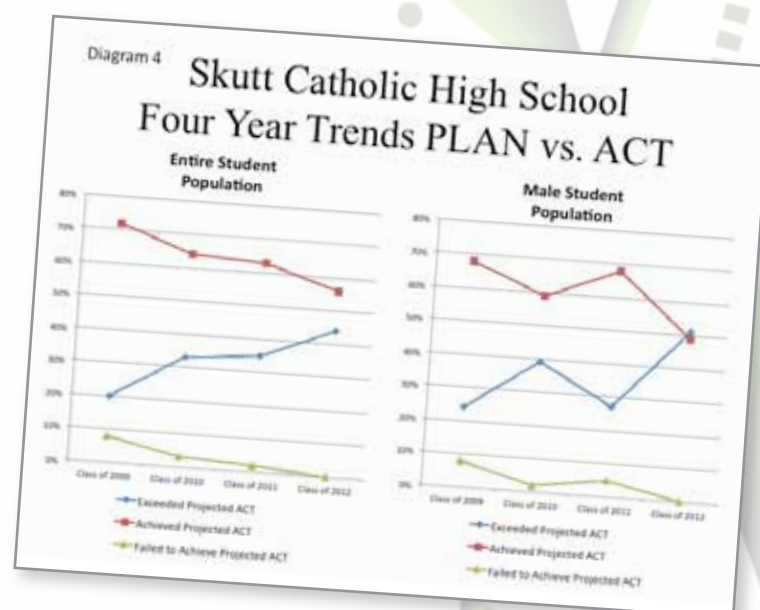


Diagram 3

- The graph on the left shows that the total number of students who end up exceeding their projected ACT score has more than doubled in the past four years (blue line). The number of students who have not met or exceeded their ACT score dropped to zero in 2012. That is to say, **every single graduate in the class of 2012 either met or exceeded their projected ACT score.**
- The graph on the right shows that female students at Skutt Catholic have realized tremendous growth in exceeding their projected ACT score. In 2009, only 18% of females were **exceeding** their projected ACT, as most were simply meeting their projected score. Four years later, more than 60% of females exceeded their estimated score, with the rest achieving the projected score.
- The red line drops (Achieved Projected ACT) because more students were actually exceeding their projected ACT score (blue line). A good thing!

Diagram 4

- As stated above, the graph on the left shows that the total number of students who end up exceeding their projected ACT score has more than doubled in the past four years (blue line). The number of students who have not met or exceeded their ACT score dropped to zero in 2012. That is to say, **every single graduate in the class of 2012 either met or exceeded their projected ACT score.**
- Similar to diagram 3, the graph on the right shows that the male population has seen a general upward trend in the number of students exceeding their projected/estimated ACT score. In 2009, 24% of male students exceeded their projected ACT score. In 2012, more than 50% exceeded their score with the rest at least achieving their projected score.
- Again, the red line drops (Achieved Projected Act) because more students were actually exceeding their projected ACT score (blue line). A good thing!



3131 South 156th Street  
Omaha, NE 68130-1907

**SKUTT**  
**CATHOLIC**

# Introducing the Green Pages an Online Business Directory

Dear SkyHawk alumni or supporter,

Skutt Catholic is pleased to announce the creation of an online Business Directory, called the **Green Pages**. The **Green Pages** will help promote businesses that are owned or operated by Skutt Catholic alumni, parents of alumni, or long-time friends of the school. In addition to building the Skutt Catholic network, the directory will promote your business to anyone who visits the directory pages on [skuttcatholic.com](http://skuttcatholic.com).



In order to participate in this opportunity, **please go online to [my.skuttcatholic.com](http://my.skuttcatholic.com) (no www.)** and complete the **Green Pages** directory data form. Your information will be listed in the appropriate industry category for easy review by our website visitors.

Skutt Catholic will not share your information with any outside data collection service and at any time you may ask to be removed from the directory. **Please submit your data by Thursday, February 28** to be included in the initial online issue.

We will publicize the directory to our current and past families through email blasts and online advertising. Don't let this opportunity pass! Please take a moment to fill out the online form. Email your company logo to Janet Stiles [jmstiles@schools.archomaha.org](mailto:jmstiles@schools.archomaha.org) so that your logo can be inserted into the web content. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Lucy Smith at [lcsmith@schools.archomaha.org](mailto:lcsmith@schools.archomaha.org) or 402-333-0818, ext. 5118.

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
OMAHA, NE  
PERMIT NO. 1118

**[www.skuttcatholic.com](http://www.skuttcatholic.com)**

Skutt Catholic High School  
3131 South 156th Street  
Omaha, NE 68130-1907  
p: 402-333-0818  
f: 402-333-1790