

Governors Club Newsletter



Johnson High School Governors Club
Alumni and Friends

Year End Review 2014

27th Annual
Johnson High School
“Celebrity”
Pancake Breakfast / Silent Auction
Saturday, April 12, 2014

Salutes

Distinguished Alumni



Paul Erickson
JHS 1970



Jim McDonough
JHS 1973



Denny Nelson
JHS 1954



Bob Schmidt
JHS 1973
(1954-2014)

Saturday April 12th was a great day at Johnson High School. Four Distinguished Alumni were honored based upon 1) their high school record 2) community involvement and 3) career accomplishments.

JHS Alumni President Janis Quinlan was emcee and Principal Micheal Thompson spoke on the exciting direction JHS is going. The venerable Bob Lies was the bagpiper.

Paul Erickson JHS 1970 Paul and his wife Marilyn taught in Australia from 1974 to 1976. Mr. Erickson led two international expeditions; one across Lapland, the other cross country skiing through Greenland. Currently, he is the Minnesota Amateur Sports Commissioner. He developed and shaped the Blaine Sports Complex from sod fields

into one of the world’s largest and most comprehensive amateur sports complexes. The Blaine sports complex has eight sheets of ice and is used by organizations around the state. He is credited with starting the USA Soccer Cup, one of the largest in the country. Paul spoke first. He acknowledged his east side roots and the challenges that molded him into who he is today. He quoted one of the JHS coaches who said “Success doesn’t come in a can.”

Jim Mc Donough JHS 1973 In 1997 Jim was elected as a Ramsey County Board Commissioner. Over the past 14 years he led the board on many issues. One of his major accomplishments is transit including the refurbishing and opening of the historic Union Depot in downtown Saint Paul and central corridor light rail. Also, Jim has been

recognized as a national leader in the prevention of sexual violence.

Jim married his JHS sweetheart Carol Schmidt. Jim and Carol's 4 children are also "Govies" from Johnson. Jim's mom is from the JHS class of 1950 making this a 3 generation JHS Govie Family!

Jim also spent many days playing and coaching youth at the Phalen Youth Club.

Denny Nelson JHS 1954 Denny played junior varsity hockey at JHS and lettered in track. He was a three-time Upper-Midwest Golden Gloves boxing champion. Denny started refereeing professional boxing in 1967. Denny officiated over 70 world championship bouts in Paris, Rome, London, Las Vegas, Phillipine Islands, Argentina, China, Japan, South Africa and Germany. He was inducted into the Minnesota Boxing Hall of Fame in 2012.

Denny is now retired from East Side Railing and Ornamental Company as their Vice President. Previously a board member of P.A.B.A. (Payne Arcade Businessmen's Association) and the Payne Avenue Harvest Festival. Denny married his JHS sweetheart Marlys and they have five children.

Bob Schmidt JHS 1973 Past JHS Governor's Alumni Club President and JHS Hall Of Fame alumnus died unexpectedly this spring. Bob was a community activist and the consummate volunteer; first to show up and last to leave. Bob cared very deeply about his family: wife Lori and son Army Ranger Mark, his school and his community. Bob will be missed.

Ken Erickson **JHS 1968**

Alum's at work on the East Side

We have received news from **Sigrid Stafford West**, class of **1959**, that she is tutoring reading at the Hmong immersion elementary school. There are other fifty-niners that are helping out in other elementary schools and also at Johnson. So if you

are bored with retirement, why not give tutoring a try and help a child out?

Heard in the Halls of Johnson

Another year and again there has been changes at Johnson. New teachers to take over the places of the retirees along with remodeling work throughout the building, new carpeting in the library and a reconfiguration of the west end of the second floor. For the last few years, Johnson has received many new upgrades to the building, which puts Johnson at the top of the list of most up-to-date buildings in the district. Along with the building improvements, we have had a drop in students.

As with many urban school districts, Johnson has had to confront the problem of declining enrollment. This situation has seen about a two-hundred student decline for our school from what used to be our average of sixteen hundred or more students in the past. The primary cause of this decline has been a drop off in birth rates in urban areas. The plus side of this fact is that we seem to have less crowding and smaller classes. The down side is we also get less student aid from the state. All-in-all, we are doing very well at Johnson, despite the loss of aid monies.

The Club's tutoring project is going along like gangbusters, our tutor works with the kids all day for two days a week and all sessions are full. The kids who responded are a great bunch of young people. This program has been up and running for almost twenty years, it has helped many students catch up to make graduation, and move onto college or trade school. Our tutoring program is all possible because of you, the alums of Johnson.

Roger Hallman **H.O.F. J.H.S. 1959**



From one Hmong family, four of Johnson High's top students

By Mila Koumpilova

mkoumpilova@pioneerpress.com



From left, Jethro (16), Josalyza (17), Jephyeny (18) and Justin (19) Thao pose for a photo in front of Johnson High School in St. Paul on Wednesday, July 23, 2014. (Pioneer Press: Ben Garvin)

Fellow parents have turned to Kou Moua for help navigating St. Paul's Johnson High School. Teachers have asked the mother of seven for her magic parenting formula.

Moua's oldest children, Justin and Jephyeny, are the East Side school's two most recent valedictorians. Younger siblings, Josalyza and Jethro, are in the running for 2015 and 2016.

That's quite a track record considering that Moua and husband Zaaj Thao came to the United States as young Hmong refugees who spoke no English and had little formal schooling.

The four "JTs," as their children are nicknamed for their identical initials, are the stuff of Johnson High legend: They take the school's

most challenging courses and excel at them. They are star athletes and talented performers.

Soft-spoken and self-effacing, they win student council and other school elections. Three more promising Thao students are coming up the grades.

Johnson teachers and principals have puzzled over how the siblings find enough hours in the day to do all they do -- and do it so well.

Mila Koumpilova can be reached at 651-228-2171.

Follow her at twitter.com/MilaPiPress.

For the full article go to Twincities.com

Gone, but not forgotten...

2014

Anderson, Arthur, JHS '46

Anderson, Ray, JHS '53

Barduson, Angie, JHS '50

Carlson, Lorrie, JHS '54

Haenggi (Sheridan), Lucille, JHS '33

Hamre, Gregory, age 50

Hamilton, E. Joe, JHS '47

b 8/6/29 d 5/20/14

Jahnke, Bill, age 88

Johnson, Karl 'Steve', age 74

Kaesel, Art, JHS '

McGiamink, James, JHS '43

Schmidt, Bob, JHS '73 age 59

b 12/31/54 d 1/29/14

Schmidt, Robert M. Sr, age 88

b 4/20/25 d 1/28/14

On the mend

Splett, Patricia, JHS '56

(Stroke, recovery at home)

JHS GAC Board has openings...

We are looking for volunteers who wants to help JHS students and help honor Alumni.

We have monthly meetings the second Tuesday of each month during the school year and have summers off.

Would you like to find past acquaintances and meet new friends? There are countless opportunities from hosting events, doing mailings, keeping up the trophy cases, to outreach, just to name a few.

Janis Quinlan President [651-285-6509](tel:651-285-6509)

Ken Erickson Vice President [651-773-2566](tel:651-773-2566)

Would you like to donate to JHS GAC and Receive a tax break?

Our JHS Governors Alumni Club (501-c) is a non-profit organization with dedicated volunteers who raise money for students and to honor alumni.

We know the economy is slowly improving and we would welcome your financial support.

We have provided help for our sports teams and have provided assistance to purchase microscopes for the chemistry department, printer for journalism, among others. See the JHS website often to watch the great work.

Governors.spps.org

You can make checks out to Saint Paul Johnson Governors Alumni Club or JHS GAC. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Tax deduction (501-c). Send to **Governors Club Box 6533 St. Paul, MN., 55106**

Our mission is to help current students, teachers, support administration and honor alumni. However, like most non-profit organizations our finances are tight.

2014-15 JHS. Club Officers

President:

Janis Quinlan JHS '82

651-285-6509

Janis.Quinlan@CBBurnet.com

Vice President:

Ken Erickson JHS '68

651-773-2566

KErickson@CBBurnet.com

Treasurer:

Debbie Hummel JHS '82

651-774-3952

DHummel1982@hotmail.net

Secretary:

Dawn Bartell JHS '83

612-333-5554

DBartell@AmFam.com

Other Board Members

Rog Hallman JHS '59 651-771-0648

Roy Jolonack JHS '59 651-776-0815

Skip Peltier JHS '65

skippeltier@gmail.com

Jim Proulx JHS '69

651-492-0975

jim@visitjimmys.com

**Johnson website;
Governors.spps.org**

Alumni section; check out class names and e-mails.



jim@visitjimmys.com

651-482-1100



John A. Johnson Senior High School

1349 Arcade Street • Saint Paul, Minnesota • 55106

Pride of the East Side

Hall of Fame

Nearly every year since 1965, Johnson Senior High School and its student council, has honored at least one graduate who brings honor to the school, community, and city of Saint Paul. This event is sponsored by the Johnson Senior High School student council and occurs during the Fall Semester.

Inducted	Graduated		Inducted	Graduated		Inducted	Graduated	
2014	1991	Jason Kroll	1994	1937	Rev. Warren Johnson	1973	1912	Arthur Anderson
2012	1960	Karлинд Moeller	1993	1974	Steven Carl Younghans*	1972	1955	Herbert P. Brooks
2010	1972	Greg Pogreba	1992	1967	Lawrence H. White, Jr.	1972	1941	Dr. John E. Verby
2009	1941	Vic Tedesco	1991	1949	Russell A. Boogren	1971	1902	Elvyn Stakman
2008	1973	Bob Peltier	1990	1948	Lou Cotroneo*	1971	1921	Florence C. Gerten
2008	1968	Doug Peltier	1989	1946	Wesley Barrette	1970	1948	Rev. Emery G. Barrette
2008	1964	Kathy (Brullo) Peltier	1988	1958	Daniel B. Bostrom	1970	1931	Gunnvor Falk Sheff
2008	1965	Skip Peltier*	1987	1942	Arnold C. Bauer	1969	1925	Clifford Olson
2008	1967	Ron Peltier	1986	1965	Dr. George F. Smith	1969	1925	Warren Burger
2007	1948	Wally Wakefield	1985	1927	Walter C. Nelson			Chief Justice,
2006	1972	Bob Schmidt*	1984		Hon. John A. Johnson			U.S. Supreme Court
2006	1943	Mary Ann Franssen*	1983	1930	Leo Damiani	1968	1928	Dorothea Hinch Chelgren
2005	1983	Ray Hitchcock*	1982	1958	Bruce F. Vento	1968	1925	Walter Dorle
2004	1939	Romolo Monda	1981	1955	Dorothy Hillan Dodds	1967	1911	Dr. Herbert Molander
2003	1988	Bill Burkhart	1980	1919	Marie Swenson Hitchcock	1967	1950	Hon. Wendell Anderson
2002	1940	Ed Oslund	1979	1951	Glen O. Hanggi	1967	1939	William F. Poppenberger
2001	1938	Dorothy Lynch*	1979	1936	Robert E. Hess	1967	1930	Reuben O. Gustafson*
2000	1959	Roger Hallman*	1978	1940	Robert G. Wick	1967	1930	Jerome L. Blanchard
1999	1948	Beverly Vanstrum*	1977	1951	Warren W. Schaber	1966	1932	Judge Andrew A. Glenn
1998	1980	Lucia Wroblewski	1977	1935	Judge Harold W. Schultz	1965	1952	Edna Larson Paul
1997	1968	John L. Acosta	1975	1937	Melvin M. Rothstein	1965	1952	Dr. Richard E. Flatham
1996	1963	John Kaphingst*	1974	1931	Dr. Eva Jane Larson	1965	1946	Dr. Joseph L. Norquist
1995	1978	Terrence Fogarty	1974	1950	Kenneth O. Haag	1965	1927	Arnold Sundgaard
			1973	1912	Carl E. Sandberg			

* Also a past or current member of Saint Paul Johnson Governor's Alumni Club

Some 2014 Grants to JHS students and teachers:

Bus tokens
 CCFC College readiness; supplies, folders, notebooks
 Chemistry; 14 hands-on lab activities
 First Robotics Modulox; reusable gearboxes
 Library; non-fiction books
 Link Crew dance
 JHS administration for Teacher of the Month
 JHS multi-cultural club
 R.O.T.C.
 Special education; books

Yearly annual grants to miscellaneous groups

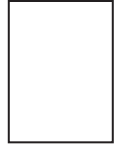
Bob Schmidt JHS (1972)
 Herb Brooks JHS (1955)
 Hull Scholarship

On behalf of the JHS Governors Alumni Club, the JHS students, staff and administration – **THANK YOU** for your generous support.



Governors Club
P.O. Box 6533
St. Paul, MN., 55106

Governors.spps.org



Coming Attractions

JHS Alumni All Class Reunion luncheon at **Gulden's every 2nd Tuesday of each month; 11:30 to 1:15.** 2999 Highway 61 North, Maplewood, MN. 651-482-0384

27th Annual

JHS Celebrity Pancake Breakfast and silent auction honoring 4 Distinguished Alumni at Johnson High School, 1349 Arcade Street.

Sunday
April 12, 2015
8:30-12:30pm



The School Song

Johnson, our dear old high school
We hail maroon and white
Thy name is ever dearest
Thy teams will ever fight
Rah! Rah! Rah!

Johnson, our dear old high school
To thee we sing our praise
For thee we work
To thee we pledge
The strength of all our days

J-O-H-N-S-O-N
Johnson! Johnson!
Yea Governors!
Fight!

10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 Wheel!