

# ACADEMY MOTHERS' NEWS

## SAINT THOMAS ACADEMY MOTHERS' CLUB

August 2009

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## Remembering Father Dan by Tim Wolfgram

(The following eulogy was given during Father Dan's memorial mass on May 29.)

What can you say about a man of few words? Even though Father Dan's homilies were much shorter than many I have heard in my day, the meaning was not lost because of the few words. In honor of this fact, I will keep this short, about a man who was truly a gentle man.



*Father Dan and Tim Wolfgram*

The first time I met Father Dan I was just a small middle schooler in the 8th grade. I had been an altar server in grade school, and when I heard that Saint Thomas needed an altar server, I quickly jumped on board. Father Dan was also new that year, as he became the school Chaplain the same year. This is where our relationship first began, right here, centered around Christ. I served a couple of Masses for Father Dan that year and I slowly learned more about him as a person. This understanding of him significantly helped me change the stereotypes I had of, what on the surface, appeared to be nothing more than a cranky old priest.

Even though this probably appeared to be the case, through altar serving every Mass for the past four and one-half years, I have learned that Father Dan truly cared about each and every one of us sitting here today — and many more who attended Saint Thomas years before us. Being the Chaplain here was not a job or career or occupation. It was his life. He loved this place more than most of us can even imagine. I know that there is no other place that he would rather be than here with us now, but his legacy will forever live on in the halls of the Academy. He was such a humble man, not caring about himself, only others.

I think we all know Father would have liked to have been at Graduation this year; unfortunately for him, and for all of us, that was not possible. And so I ask you, let us not only remember him now, but also let us all remember him the next time we step foot into the institution that he loved so much. Whether that is tomorrow, the first day of school, or years into the future, take a moment when you walk into Saint Thomas Academy, and for the last time, say a special goodbye to a man who touched the lives of all of us in our community. Let us all remember Father Dan.

## The Significance of the Saint Thomas Academy Crest

Seen at the entrance to the STA campus, on publications and clothing, the Crest is the primary identifier of Saint Thomas Academy.



- The blue chevron represents the joining of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, near the physical location of the campus.
- The yellow sun in the center symbolizes the divine light of truth of St. Thomas Aquinas, the patron saint of Saint Thomas Academy.
- The two red crosses flanking the sword are from the shield of the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis, as the Academy is an archdiocesan school.
- Fr. Tom Kolar designed the Crest when the school separated from the University. He served on the faculty from the 1960s through the 1980s.

### Meet the Mothers' Club Executive Board

While these moms are listed here as leadership for Mothers' Club, they cannot accomplish all that the Mothers' Club does throughout the year alone. All STA Moms' efforts are valuable to Mothers' Club. If you have any questions, comments, concerns or just want to chat, please call any member of the Executive Board.

President -  
Susie Housh  
Vice President -  
Kathleen Lee  
President Elect -  
Julie Gould  
Recording Secretary -  
Mary Pat FitzPatrick  
Corresponding Secretary -  
Ann Kane  
Treasurer -  
Nancy Rock  
Past President Advisor -  
Julie Brady

## Upcoming Mothers' Club Events



**Tuesday, Sept. 8**  
**Mothers' Club Meeting**  
10:00-11:30 a.m.  
Rongitch Commons  
Guests: Coaches Panel

**Thursday, Sept. 10**  
**Moms Back to School**  
**Get Acquainted Social**  
7:00-10:00 p.m.  
(Pool & Yacht Club)

**Wednesday, Sept. 16**  
**Opening Mass and Reception**  
(Chapel/Cafeteria)  
Reception hosted by Mothers' Club

**Wednesday, Sept. 30**  
**Harvest Mass and Meal**  
Mass at 6:30 p.m. (Chapel)  
Dinner at 7:30 p.m. (Cafeteria)

**Thursday, October 8**  
**Mothers' Club**  
**Mothers of Alumni Gathering**  
7:00 p.m. (Pool & Yacht Club)

**Tuesday, Oct. 20**  
**Mothers' Club Meeting**  
10:00-11:30 a.m.  
Rongitch Commons  
Guest - School Counselor

**Tuesday, Nov. 17**  
**Mother's Club & Fathers' Club Meeting**  
7:00-8:30 p.m. (Court)  
Guests: Drs. Kim and Jim Harms

**Wednesday, Nov. 25**  
**Cadet Colonel Promotion**  
2:10 p.m. (Court)  
Reception following hosted by Mothers' Club in Rongitch Commons

# From the President

There is something special about this place! I don't know quite what it is, but these boys develop a bond with one another, and that brotherhood lasts, for some, a lifetime. There are many alumni in the building and they can testify to this bond. They too still love this place! It holds memories, experiences, and all the challenges young men face in their formative years.



Susie Housh and Son Andrew ('09)

This is a good place to be. Our boys are lucky. And we, as the moms, grandmothers, and guardians are also fortunate because our treasured children are well cared for and truly loved.

Our Mothers' Club is here to serve a similar purpose for moms. This is our chance to connect with other moms, the administration, the faculty, and all who have a part in the lives of our young men. Ours is also a Friendship Building Organization. We want to welcome all moms. Get involved at whatever level you are comfortable. Join us, talk with us, volunteer for something you have never done. Give yourself the gift of Mothers' Club. We offer numerous opportunities for spiritual growth and service, and special events that celebrate our sons. This is your way to stay connected and participate in your son's school experience.

I look forward to seeing you at our kickoff meeting on September 8. Please extend an invitation to any new mom or current mom that you feel might like to share in our Friendship Building Organization/Mothers' Club. And thank you, for all you continue to do to support the Saint Thomas Academy Community.

Susie Housh—Mothers' Club President 2009-2010

## Mothers of Alumni Get Together!

One of the truly great things about Saint Thomas Academy is the network of great families and special relationships that we develop among parents. Like our sons, we share a special bond as a part of this unique community. We hope that graduation will not be the end of our treasured time together. Alumni moms from every year are assembling on October 8 at the Pool & Yacht Club to socialize, network and find ways to share our time and talent. Please join us for a glass of wine at this special event. Questions? E-mail Mary Lawrence at [Mary.Lawrence@microsoft.com](mailto:Mary.Lawrence@microsoft.com); or Sandy Ferrian at [Sandy@Ferrian.com](mailto:Sandy@Ferrian.com) or call Sandy at 651-686-9598.

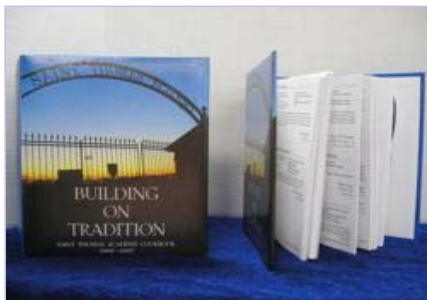


## New Uniform Sales Dates

The Academy will hold its annual New Uniform Sales on the following three dates: August 17 from 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.; August 18, Noon-7:00 p.m.; and August 19, 10:00 a.m.-2:00p.m. All uniform clothing and accessories will be available for purchase. Bring along your cadet to ensure a proper fit. (Mothers' Club tip: Those arriving midway through the sale versus coming at the start may have less of a wait.) For more information contact Janet Markee, 952-933-3800 or Mary Everett, 952-927-9999.

## Mothers' Club Donates Cookbook Proceeds to the Academy

The 4th edition of the Saint Thomas Academy cookbook, Building on Tradition, has been a huge success. The Saint Thomas Academy community donated immense amounts of time and treasured recipes to create this wonderful compendium. The cookbook features more than 1200 recipes, including favorites from past editions, and is a staple in most Academy household kitchens. Many of us have copies put away for our sons to take with them when they move into their first house and have to cook for themselves.



The cookbook sales will generate more than \$12,000 which is donated to the Academy. Thank you to Kitzie Nye for spearheading this project while she was president of the Mothers' Club, and a special thanks to the many volunteers, including a committee of alumni moms, who made the cookbook such a successful fundraiser and a true keepsake.

The remaining inventory of cookbooks are available in the Cadet Maker, the Academy bookstore. Purchase your copy while they last.

## Volunteers Make It All Come Together

The Mothers' Club has a dedicated group of women serving as board members and committee chairs, yet, the STA Mothers' Club activities cannot be successful without people like you. Your volunteerism and service at the Mothers' Club sponsored events is what makes it all come together. To put it quite simply – **WE NEED YOU!** The Mothers' Club is now signing on volunteers for activities that will take place in the 2009-2010 school year. Not only will your help be very much appreciated, but volunteering for Mothers' Club activities is also a great way to connect with other STA moms, socialize and make new friends.

For a detailed list of available Mothers' Club volunteer opportunities, look in the Membership/Volunteer Pamphlet that was mailed earlier this summer, or go to the Mothers' Club page online at [www.cadets.com/MothersClub](http://www.cadets.com/MothersClub).

For more information on Mothers' Club volunteer opportunities contact Volunteer Committee Co-chairs Julie Gould at 651-340-8771 or Ann Deasey at 952-829-7843.



## Join us for a Harvest Mass and Meal

All STA mothers and guardians are invited to the Mothers' Club annual Harvest Mass and Meal that will take place on Wednesday, September 30. Mass will be held in the STA Chapel at 6:30 p.m., followed by a delicious harvest meal at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. An invitation with sign-up information will be available online and included in the September all school e-mail. We hope to see many new moms at this event. We ask all STA mothers to reach out to our new moms and to those who have not attended Mothers' Club events in the past, and encourage them to come to this very fun event. Grade level seating will be offered to moms who would like to meet mothers of their son's classmates.

## Upcoming School Events

Aug. 17, 18, 19  
New Uniform Sales



Wednesday, Aug. 26  
New Parent Orientation  
(all grades)

Friday, Aug. 28  
New Middle School  
Student Orientation  
& Freshmen Orientation

Monday, Aug 31  
First Day of School

Friday, Sept. 11  
School Photos

Monday, Sept. 14  
Parent Night

Wednesday, Sept. 16  
Opening Mass & Reception

Monday, Sept. 21  
Senior Parent Night

Monday, Sept.. 28  
Eagle Awards

Friday, Oct. 9  
Homecoming

Thurs./Fri., Oct. 15-16  
MEA

Monday, Oct. 26  
Middle School  
Grandparents Day

Tuesday, Oct. 27  
High School  
Grandparents Day

Wed./Thurs., Nov. 11, 12  
Parent/Teacher Conferences

Wed., Nov. 25  
Cadet Colonel Promotion



## Five Senior Cadets and their Moms *In the Spotlight*

Five Seniors in the Class of 2009 have a unique distinction: all are sons of Mothers' Club Presidents. Andrew Housh is the son of our current President Susie; Will Brady is the son of Julie (2008-2009); John Nye is the son of Kitzie (2006-2007); Ryan Ferrian is Sandy's son (2007-2008); and Andrew Gould's mom Julie is President Elect and will serve in 2010-2011. Bravo to these Cadets and Moms! We wish them all great success!



Susie and Andrew Housh



Julie and Will Brady



Sandy and Ryan Ferrian



Julie and Andrew Gould



Kitzie and John Nye

### A Prayer for My Son



Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is afraid; One who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat; and humble and gentle in victory. Build me a son whose wishbone will not be where his backbone would be; a son who will know Thee and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge. Lead him; I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort; but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge – here let him learn to stand up on the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fall. Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master others; one who will learn to laugh yet never forget how to weep; one who will reach into the future yet never forget the past. And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, the meekness of true strength. Then, I will dare to whisper, I have not lived in vain."

-General Douglas MacArthur

## Middle School Dates to Remember



### August 17: Cross-Country Begins

Report to the gym at 8:30 a.m. to check in. Cross-Country does not have a separate Middle School team. Therefore, MS students are welcome on the JV and Varsity team! The following forms are needed to begin on August 17th:

1. MSHL Health Questionnaire & Parent Permit
2. Physical Exam on File at STA
3. Emergency Card
4. Triplicate Information Form

Forms may be picked up in the Main office or call 651-454-4570 to have the forms mailed to you.

### August 24: Middle School Football Begins 3:00 p.m.

Report to the gym. Wear shorts, t-shirt, tennis shoes and bring football shoes. The only form needed is an Emergency Card. This will be available in the Main Office or you can request one be mailed to you by calling 651-454-4570.

### August 26: New Parent Orientation

All incoming 7th grade parents, new 8th grade parents and all 9th grade parents. Even if your son attended STA Middle School, this program is very helpful to learn about the High School.

6:15-7:00 p.m. – Social

7:00-8:30 p.m. – Program

### August 28: New Middle School Student Orientation

9:00 a.m. – Noon

### August 31: First Day of School

First bell rings 7:55 a.m., classes begin 8:00 a.m.

### August 31: Sign-Up for Middle School Soccer

Practices are held during the school day. Grade 7 – Period 8, Grade 8 – Period 7

### October 26: Middle School Grandparents Day

### Important Phone Numbers

Middle School Office: Anne McQuillan

651-693-1520

Director of the Middle School: Mr. Fleischhacker

651-683-1578.

Web site: [www.Cadets.com/MiddleSchool](http://www.Cadets.com/MiddleSchool)