

IMHS Alumni & Friends

Newsletter

Fall 2009



New Superintendent-Mr. Scott McClure

It is with great anticipation that I assume the responsibilities of superintendent of the Iron Mountain Public Schools. I am honored to have been given the opportunity to lead an outstanding staff toward providing the same quality educational programs that have taken place in Iron Mountain for well over 100 years.

During my 19 years as an elementary principal in Iron Mountain, I have witnessed the support of a community that values education and believes that schools are a central figure in helping young people reach their potential. Because of this support, our students continue to shine after they graduate. It is a thrill to learn how successful our students become as they leave Iron Mountain and tackle the challenges of adult life.

I also enjoy learning about some of the history of our district by reading our very own newsletter. I am always amazed when reading about the extraordinary success of our alumni.

I want to extend a sincere invitation to any alumni or friend to contact me at any

time if you would like to revisit your past experience at Iron Mountain or would like to learn more about what is currently happening in the Iron Mountain schools.

I will do everything I can to maintain the strong tradition that Iron Mountain schools have established. I know that we will be able to be successful because of our committed families, strong staff, focused student body, and alumni who understand the importance of recognizing their roots.

Sincerely,
Scott McClure



Remembering Kathy Bunnin



IMHS beloved English teacher, Kathleen (Keehan) Bunnin of Iron

Mountain died on Friday, April 17, 2009. Kathleen graduated from DePere High School, and then went on to receive her Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Wisconsin- Madison, and then her Master's Degree from Northern Michigan University.

Kathleen married Marty Bunnin on August 12, 1967 in DePere, Wisconsin and they shared more than 41 years together. They moved to Iron Mountain not long after they were married and raised two children, IMHS graduates Don-'94 and Becky-'96.

The following tribute to her includes an edited version of her class "rules" that many IMHS graduates will recall fondly and reveals her humorous and fair method of teaching her unforgettable English classes.
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The Rules A Survival Guide for B-8 and Mrs. Bunnin

How to pass this wretched course that I am only taking because it is required-whoever uses this junk anyway?

Learning takes place in an atmosphere that is well-ordered. To guarantee that all students learn, disruptive, rude, insolent, behavior will not be tolerated. A student who exhibits antisocial behavior will receive the Dixie Brown memorial Award (named for the former chairman of the English Department, the inventor of the award and my good friend and mentor). This award entitles the bearer to the following::

- A. Removal from the class for the day
- B. A grade of zero for the day
- C. A detention at the fabulous Café Strang

Detention is served after the award has been bestowed. At that time, one enjoys the amiable companionship of our much beloved assistant principal.

2. All students must have a notebook (for taking extensive notes on material covered in class that is not in reading texts), and a folder for all handout material (an extensive collection—again, additional to reading material assigned). Material in notebook and folder must be kept in chronological order. This material should be kept at least for the entire semester, if not for an entire lifetime, to be passed on to posterity as it is important to comprehension of what much of life and humanity is about and it may be of value should you ever appear on Jeopardy.

3. To make up work following an excused or anticipated absence, the following is required.

A. The student is entirely responsible for getting all work missed because of an absence. Waiting until you return is too late. You get no extra time for this work..You remain on the same time due schedule as the students who are in class.

B. For excused absences (plague, pestilence, war, death, famine, etc.) see me as soon as you return from your absence. If you do not make up your work when it is due, you receive a zero. You do not have unlimited time to make up your work. You do not have days, weeks, or months to do this. Look carefully at me! ***I am not your mother!*** I do not remind you of work that must be done. "I forgot," is never an accepted excuse.

4. Notification of major tests is given at least a week in advance. Always check the list of Coming Attractions on the front board for the schedule. If you are present in class on a day that a major test is given, you will take the test.

5. No one is ever excused from my class to go to a locker, the bathroom, to call home, Mom, Dad, family members, doctors, dentists, boy/girl friends, counselor, social worker, parole officer, etc., get drinks, food, or whatever you may think up and I have not listed here. You are mine for 45 minutes. Take care of all personal business prior to coming to class. Be in your seat when the bell rings or you will be marked tardy. Remain in your seat until either I tell you to move or I dismiss class. This is irrespective of the bells. You are not dismissed until I tell you that you are.

6. I am absolutely opposed to being in any way connected to what is popularly known as the "dumbing of America". Consequently, I expect that all of my students will have to work hard, perhaps even sweat upon occasion, in my class. The best formula for success in my class is to come to class, have with you your book, notebook, folder, pen/pencil, brain, and mind set to work.

These rules have no exceptions. No matter how cute, delightful, brilliant, rich, or powerful you are, in my classroom, all are equal. Each student lives by these rules. Expect No Favoritism! You will not get any!



Memories

Kathleen Bunnin was my dear friend for 35 years. Together we laughed, cried, taught English, raised our children, philosophized, and ranted and raved about everything from politics to religion. We also shared our innermost feelings and concerns and secrets. Our friendship was grounded in mutual love and respect, as well as a deep and abiding trust.

Kathy was fun, funny, intelligent, sarcastic and witty; all attributes that endeared her to her family, fellow teacher, students and especially to me. She was a dedicated and hard-working teacher; but I will always remember her as my loyal friend and the best mother any child could ever have.

Kathy was a very spiritual and devout soul who never missed weekly mass even though she held some deep disagreements with her Church's doctrine. She was a genuine Irish Catholic girl. She also lit more candles than anyone I ever knew....reason being she was also the biggest worrier I ever knew, often inventing things about which she could worry. This was often a source of humor between me and her children.

My good friend and I had so much in common but there was one activity where we were at opposite ends of the spectrum. Kathy was not likely to go romping through the forest primeval regardless of her love of Thoreau and Emerson. Whenever I tried to get her to join me and Dick to look for morels or just wander through the beautiful Upper Peninsula woods, she would always take a pass saying "God gave man a brain with which he invented trains, planes, and automobiles, hotels and motels,, so if I can't drive to or through it and sleep in a downy comfortable bed, I don't need to go there!" She did admit that she enjoyed my and Dick's sylvan excursions vicariously through our stories and by my writings, and that was good enough for her!

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Kathy Bunnin-continued from page 2

I miss Kathy every day, often picking up the phone to call her before I remember she is not here. Adjusting my friendship toward memories where once there were times spent together and words and laughter is not an easy change. Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while and leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same. I will always cherish the special gift of Kathy as my dear friend.

With love from Dixie Brown

When Kathy's son Donny was the co-manager, with my son Jason, for the varsity football team and I was the cheerleading coach, she traveled with me in the school van for every out of town game. She had to see "her boy" running the team! Every time he ran onto the field that season with the water bottles, she announced to everyone within earshot, "That was HER BOY!"

On one trip from Gwinn (using the back way) on the return trip, we missed a turn and drove many miles out of our way. She stated repeatedly, that she knew we were going to be on an upcoming "Unsolved Mysteries" as the two English teachers and eight cheerleaders who disappeared into the wilds of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Finally, we ended up at the Tilden Mine, and got directions to the highway. We arrived home much later than the bus and the team. When Kathy got home that night, Marty was so envious that we had seen the Tilden Mine, that he wanted her to take a road trip the next day so that he could see the same.

The memories made that season on the road with her as my co-pilot, will remain with me forever. In addition, that undying love and pride in her boy were undeniable. How many moms think that the team could not function without the manager?

These fond recollections, and the many lazy summer afternoons with Jason, Donny, Becky, Christie and Marc are treasured reminiscences of mine.

Kathy was a mentor and cherished friend.

Cheryl Wender-Menghini

I taught with Kathy since 1989 when I was hired as a Learning Resource teacher at IMHS.

If I could use one word for the gist of the "Kathy Bunnin Influence On My Life" at IMHS, I would use the word "PRESENCE..."

She had it with a capital "P"...

She was a model of educational excellence. With her intelligent mind, her wonderful confidence, her unswerving commitment to what she believed in and what she taught, she was absolutely unwilling to compromise in her beliefs.

She was a strong leader. She would question policies that came and went over the years, offering a different viewpoint for all of us to contemplate.

She was a humorist. This Irish girl had heart and lived for fun. I still hear her booming voice and laughter. Kathy shared some wonderful tales to the delight of us all. She was willing to laugh at herself, too.

I will miss her shining faith in academic excellence, her pride in her own children and their achievements, her willingness to go the distance for our youth, teaching them responsibility, independence and ownership in their education.

She accepted all of the students, even the most challenged, though we as colleagues didn't see eye to eye sometimes about what we thought was "good" for the students. She and I found our peace throughout the years, though, and I increasingly admired and appreciated her perspective.

She had a presence like few others before her. The halls of IMHS will never be the same without her. First, we lost her to retirement.

Now, we lose her to death. Still, she lives in our hearts and minds forever, a presence that will never be forgotten. In this way, Kathy is never really far from us.

Wendy Zambon

I was hired by Iron Mountain Public Schools in 1990 and had the honor of working with Kathleen (Kathy) until her retirement.

Kathy was nothing short of a dynamic educator and friend. I was continuously amazed by her presence, compassion, and drive for educational excellence. I loved her dearly and will miss her so much. Her passing deeply saddens me and those who had the privilege of knowing her. Throughout our time together, Kathy was my colleague, mentor, friend, and sometimes "mom." Know that I learned so many, many things from Kathy in and out of the educational arena, but I want to share a few tips that I find amusing from the "outside." As many of you know firsthand, or through reading this newsletter, Kathy was very humorous. (I tried to absorb anything and everything I could as she was so wise.)

Here are just a few of my favorite tips....

Always wave like the Queen you are; it's all in the wrist

Never eat the first and last cracker in a package; one never knows who or what touched it

Fish and company stink after three days; do make sure to leave after two

Never "go" in the woods; you never know what's in it

Never drink from a bubbler; they're always disgusting

And always Carpe diem; you just never know!!

Carpe Diem Everyone!!

Mrs. Pamela Petrie

A Memorial Scholarship is being established at IMHS. If anyone would like to contribute, they can mail donations to: Scholarship Administrator, IMHS, 300 West B Street, Iron Mountain, Michigan, 49801 .

Interesting Board Minutes

May 15, 1892

Resolved: that the Superintendent of Schools make inquiry throughout different departments of the schools of the extent that cigarettes are being used by the pupils so that steps can be taken by the Board to change this precocious habit.

February 26, 1897

Mr. Burn and T.B. Cattine were permitted to address the Board on the question of telephone service in the public schools.

October 17, 1913

Authority to excuse a person from further attendance at school upon preservation of certificate of birth or other creditable evidence showing that he is 14 years of age or more.

July 24, 1924: Number of Schools-10
Number of Teacher-93
Number of Students-3003

Oct. 18, 1976: Number of Schools-4
Number of Teachers-82
Number of Students-1539



Members of the Class of 1983 Had The Opportunity To Bring Heavy Hitters To The Palace of Auburn Hills For A Pistons Game In January



Joe Smaby (Smabes)-Occupation: Owner, Team Financial Group-Financial Services Company, Grand Rapids, MI
Rick Popp (Ricky Popp)-Occupation: Director of Employee Benefits, Ford Motor Company, Dearborn, MI,
Todd Penegor (Pen)-Occupation: Vice President, Kellogg Snacks, President, Kellogg Company, Battle Creek, MI
Trevor Hewes (Hewey)-Occupation: Global Business Development, Rose Moving & Storage, Belleville, MI-Owner, 1Stop4Golf, LLC, Farmington Hills, MI
Mike Konopacke (Kono)-Occupation: Vice President of Admissions, Baker College, Owosso, MI-Kingsford Graduate

Members of the Iron Mountain High School Class of 1959 recently gathered for their 50 year reunion. They were photographed in the Izzo-Mariucci Center prior to being given a tour of the High School.



Class of 2009

SCHOLARSHIP STATISTICS

Number of graduating seniors-110

Number of seniors scholarships-75 (this includes Michigan Promise and Service Organization awards)

Number of Seniors receiving Michigan Promise-59

Number of applications taken out by Seniors-1,708

Number of applications returned/processed-1,202

IMHS SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND

Total amount awarded-\$339,950

LOCAL SERVICE ORGANIZATION

Total amount awarded-\$28,900

MICHIGAN PROMISE SCHOLARSHIPS

Total amount earned-\$232,000

INDIVIDUAL COLLAGE/UNIVERSITY AWARDS

Total amount awarded-\$629,900

Grand Total Awarded to 2009 Seniors:

\$1,230,750



Pete Ryan, CMAA -Class of 1987

Athletic Director of the Year

Saginaw Township Community Schools

Peter C. Ryan completed his Bachelor of Science in Education and Master of Arts in Education at Central Michigan university in 1991 and 1992. He began his career as the assistant director of Community Education and Recreation for Alma Public Schools in 1992. He spent his next four years as district activities director for Portland Public Schools. His current position as district athletic director for Saginaw Township Schools began in 1997, and he became the executive director of the Saginaw Valley High School Association in 1999.

Pete and his wife Amy have been married fifteen years. They have four children-Allison, Nick, Sydney and Little Ryan. His mother, Midge, still teaches at IMHS. They enjoy summer vacation in the U.P., boating and playing water sports.



Iron Mountain High School, along with Mr. and Mrs. Walter and Nancy Sullivan are proud to announce the recipients of the 2009 Student Activity Scholarships. This is the second year for this scholarship to be awarded. This scholarship fund was originally established by private donations from Walter and Nancy Sullivan and later supported by donations made in memory of Mr. AJ Kent. Scholarships up to \$200.00 are awarded to student who have completed the application process and wish to attend and individual sports camp. This year the scholarship was expanded to include students wishing to attend education camps. Students who were awarded scholarship are: Emily Mattson (Marquette Figure Skating Summer School), Megan Delano (Nike Tennis Camp), Paul Kuoppala (Excel Sports Training Football Combine), Ethan Lindquist (MTU Explorations in Chemistry), and Jake Coe (Between the Pipes Goalie Camp).

Anyone who would like to make a donation can mail it to Mrs. Maryann Boddy in the HS office at 300 West B Street.

“The Mountaineer”

Reprints from past issues of “The Mountaineer”

Cover Girls



Following Story From: October 27, 1944

Lights, action, camera! The setting is the Iron Mountain Football Stadium, the time, 8:00 o'clock and the Drum Majorettes are leading the band down the field in the early morning frost and mud. Hour after hour formations and music are rehearsed until even the most stout-hearted participant has come to the end of his patience.

With minds on their route the twirlers, who are Jean Jolicoeur, Verna Maki, Pat Rahoi and Lena Sandona with our prize-winning drum majorettes, Delores Hughes and Marilyn Rahoi strut proudly in gay and snappy uniforms during the half of the game to display the magnificent finished product at which they have worked so hard. It is indeed something to see and the hearts of all spectators are lifted to heights which cannot be described.



VIC BADINI

Following Stories From: January 19, 1945

Victor Badini comes into the camera headlines this week mainly because of his work on the mechanical end of “The Mountaineer” under the “impressive” title of shop foreman.

Vic, a 12-2, is a member of our football squad and belongs to the Varsity club. He expects to see service in the Navy upon completion of his high school work this month.

There are many tasks and printing jobs which it is the work of the print shop to do to keep all the work on schedule.

Radar Test Taken By 17-Year-Old Seniors

Radar is the name given to a method of “spotting” and determining the location of enemy or any forces. Radar is one of the most important electronic elements of his war.

The method of Radar equipment works is known only to a few officials and to armed forces technicians whose duty it is to operate, service and build the equipment, although its general principal of operation has been left out. Radar waves are transmitted from a scanning device out into the atmosphere for over 30 miles surrounding the unit. Should one or several of these waves hit a foreign object, they are reflected back to the receiver units. The time taken for the waves to be transmitted, strike an object, be reflected back to the receiver unit and received is automatically computed into distance, speed and number of foreign objects.

Following Story From: April 18, 1952

I.M.H.S Girls Chic In Tweeds, Corduroy

When April 13th rolled around, the girls of I.M.H.S really stood out as the best dressed in the whole Easter Parade!

For instance, did you see a beautiful tangerine duster? Well, your reporter did and wearing it was Sally Ring who was busy dusting off the admirers.

Two coats which were made almost alike caused quite a stir along Stephenson Avenue. Yes, receiving many envious glances from both females and males were Kathleen Sovey and Marilyn Kell. Kathleen wore a new yellow corduroy coat with bat wing sleeves and black velvet collar and cuffs. Marilyn had her new blue corduroy coat and many people who saw the two together thought they were twins!

While riding down on the West Side, whom should your reporter see but Susan Polglase who had a new tan tweed suit. Also new, she noticed, was the three quarter length of forest green that she wore.

Your reporter resolved that next year, she too, would be part of the Easter Parade.

Following Story From: March 17, 1944

Arizona Bound

Katie Kingsford has left for Arizona where she will spend about two months on the ranch. Katie will not go to school during this time. She will have a tutor who will come to the ranch twice a week. To many students, I'm sure this would be “strictly on the beam”, but remember, she is going to have lots of fun too., for she likes horses and is a very good rider.

* Articles are published as originally printed.

From the mailbag.....

Please remove Iris Olsen Glidden '35 from your mailing list. As her daughter, I must report that she died in August 2008. Her four children grew up listening to her stories of her youth in the IM High School, and how she continued to relish her ties to the friends she made there. Please keep me on your mailing list.

Bonnie Glidden Buchanan

Check enclosed to help with your newsletter—you do a great job—keep it up.

Vic Quinn

I enjoy your paper. Keep up the good work. Hope to send a check every year.

Victor Badini

Enjoy the newsletter very much. Keep up the good work.

David Ducharme

In memory of Tom ('35), and Rudy ('36) Brisko, and Clarence ('36), who is still up and at 'em. Rudy was one of several who left school for several years to support the family by working on the WPA for \$44 a month. We all left for Milwaukee after graduating. Have enjoyed receiving the newsletter. We also all lived to celebrate our 90th birthday. Keep up the good work—

Clarence Brisko

Thank you for the Newsletter! Please accept the donation. We appreciate the news!! We commend the effort!

Kathleen Maynard Rochon & J. Robert Rochon

Love the Newsletter!

Archie & Greta Betti

Here is a small donation to help in the continued publication of the IMHS Alumni Newsletter. We have three generations of Christy's to graduate from Iron Mountain High School: Donald R. Christy-1962, Jody Michael Christy-1987 and Michael Paul Christy-2008. Thanks for all you do and much success in the future.

The Christy Clan

Thank you to all of those responsible for the outstanding job that you do in putting the "Alumni and Friends" newsletter together! I always look forward to receiving it and enjoy it very much. My mother is still in Iron Mountain and attended her class reunions faithfully until the class grew so small (and elderly) that they stopped meeting. I know that she would really appreciate receiving your newsletter and was wondering if you could add her to your mailing list?

With appreciation,

Patrick Sherman

Enclosed is a donation to the IMHS Alumni and Friends Newsletter. Very informative.

Thanks,

William Olivanti

Submitted by Betty Simon for the newsletter. Alumni Generations-Louis Wentarmini-1933, Louise Wentarmini Dulan-1936, George Wentarmini-1937, Elizabeth Wentarmini Simon-1942, Steven Wentarmini-1966, Ann Louise Wentarmini Berry-1970, Daniel Wentarmini-1990, Karen Wentarmini Hackstock-1994 and Laura Wentarmini Murawski-1999.

Betty Simon

Thanks for doing such a great job. I was especially interested in the picture of the class of 1933. My father, Severs Brosio, graduated for 1931 and I recognized so many of the people in the photo. Many were parents of my friends and people I knew when I was growing up.

Being away from Iron Mountain since 1962, I have kept up my Mountaineer pride by trying to keep in touch with fellow classmates from the class of '59. We will be having our 50th reunions in August. Also, fantastic event occurred in 1990 when the late Wally Swanson organized the alumni band to march in the Fourth of July parade celebrating the 100th birthday of IMHS. It was such a thrill to march down the streets playing the school song. I will never forget it. Keep up the good work, I look forward to reading every issue.

Sincerely,

Julie Brosio Mentel

Love your newsletter - it's so nice to catch up on days gone by! Would love to send in some information to the Alumni Generations piece (3 generations): Wilhelmina Johnson (1925), Lorna McLeod (1938), Sherri (Gunville) Morgan (1979), Jeffrey Gunville (1982). My Grandmother is still alive at 92 years old and still fondly recalls her childhood days in IM and at IMHS!

Sherri Morgan





Iron Mountain

We Are On The Web!
www.imschools.org

Thank You.....Our publication relies tremendously on the generous support and donations of Iron Mountain Alumni. If you would like to make a donation toward future issues, checks can be made payable to: IMHS Alumni & Friends Newsletter, 217 Izzo-Mariucci Way, Iron Mountain, MI 49801.

Victor Badini-1945, Archie-1947 and Greta-1953 Betti, Clarence-1936 for Tom-1935 and Rudy-1936 Brinsko, Bonnie Buchanan-1958, Donald Christy-1962, David Ducharme-1950, Sally Larsen-1947, Susan Fox Neitzel-1952, William Olivanti-1950, Victor Quinn-1964, Kathleen-1940 and Robert-1941 Rochon and Elizabeth Simon-1942

Take A Seat Patrons:

*Agnessi, Alleva, Amicangelo, Anderson, Andreoli, Arnold, Bartolameolli, Bartoletti, Berg, Bird, Blair, Booth, Boyce, Braspennickx, Bruce, Carlson, Carollo, Cecconi, Cerasoli, Chartier, Cini, Ciocchetto, Clarke, Class of 1954, Class of 1958, Class of 1960, Class of 1968, Clemo, Cohodes, Colassacco/Costa, Conn, Cowell, Dallapiazza, D'Andrea, Danielson, Donahue, Eutizzi, Ferzacca, Finn, Fitzgibbon, Fleury, Formolo, Fortier, Foster, Frankini, Franson, Friberg, Fuse, Gauthier, Glanz, Glidden-Buchanan, Groeneveld, Haelterman, Hamm, Hansen, Harper, Hogberg, Hoppenrath, Hosking, Itzov, Jacob, Jacobs, Johnson, Klug, Knapp, Kukuk, Kushner, Lake, Larsen, Laurila, Leonard, Levin/Finne, Liscomb, Luciani, Manahan, Marchetti, Mariucci, McClure, McConaughy, McCraw, Miazga, Miller, Mindok, Mitchell, Mouw, Neitzel, Nelson, Nepper, Noel, Notheis, Olivanti, Palmer, Paoli, Payne, Peck, Person, Peruchini, Pesavento, Pollard, Ponzio, Poppy, Posthumus, Pozza, Pretschold, Pucci, Rigoni, Ring, Rizzarda, Robertson, Rogers, Rossato, Ryan, Sandona, Santini, Schinderle, Scholke, Schultz, Shefchik, Simon, Simone, Sleik, Spigarelli, St. Louis, Stang, Swanson, Swartout, Terwilliger/Chartier/Trumbell/Allen/Freeman, Thomas, Tirschel, Tomassoni, Topel, Trevillian, Trudell, Trumbell, Truscott, Turcotte, Uhazie, Unger, Uren, Valiquette, Vardian, Verrette, Vornkahl, Walts, Weber, Weiss, Zigman

*List of Seat Purchasers-Not Dedications

We extend our sincere appreciation to all of our generous seat patrons. There are still many seats available! If you would like to purchase an engraving for yourself or a loved one, please contact Mrs. Naida Weinert at 906-779-2600 or go to <http://www.imschools.org/Auditorium/AuditoriumFundraiser.htm> for more information. Please consider helping us in securing our renovation.

If you would like to contribute a story or information, please contact us at alumni@imschools.org