

# Eagle News

December 2016



CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
FOUNDATION

*Tradition of Excellence*



Happy Holidays!

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
FOUNDATION

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Supporter,

Happy Holidays! This is an exciting time of year at the Central High School Foundation, and we have a lot to be thankful for. We are thankful for all of our supporters who enable us to continue to do great things for Central High School!

I would also like to encourage all alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years to visit our website to [update your record](#), especially if you have not received updates and mailings from the Central High School Foundation at your own address. For many of our younger alumni, we send mail to the house you lived in upon graduating from Central. You don't want to miss out on great info from your alma mater!

Our boy's basketball team will be playing against the Winnebago Indians on Thursday, December 22, at 8 PM at the Ralston Arena. If you're interested in attending the game, tickets will be available to purchase at the arena. We hope to see you there to cheer our team on to victory!

As always, thank you for helping perpetuate 158 years - and counting - of tradition and excellence! Have a safe and Happy Holidays. Go Eagles!

Sincerely,

*Michelle Roberts*

Michele Roberts  
Executive Director



## 'Tis the Season For Giving

Honor someone you love this Holiday season by donating a tribute gift to the Central High School Foundation.

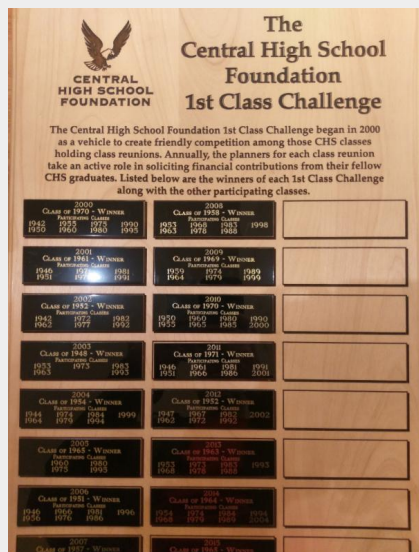
An honor or memorial gift is a thoughtful way to celebrate a special occasion or to honor family or friends. The Central High School Foundation's Honor and Memorial Gift Program allows you to recognize individuals, couples, groups, special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries, or the holidays!



When you make a memorial gift, a personalized card and acknowledgment is sent to the individual or family being honored. You will also receive a letter acknowledging your gift and the gift amount for your records. All donations will be recognized in the CHSF annual report.

For information on how you can give a tribute gift, please visit our website by [clicking here](#).

## The First Class Challenge Competition Ends December 31



The First Class Challenge is an exciting rivalry for classes holding reunions each year. The class that donates the most money by December 31, 2016, will win the 2016 First Class Challenge Award! This friendly class competition began in 2000. As the tradition continues each year reunion planners send classmates letters, asking for their financial participation to ensure their class wins "The First Class Challenge Award," given to just one of the many reunions happening throughout the year. The class contributing the most money by the end of the year wins! All contributions are tax deductible and are critical to the survival of The Foundation, and help it remain a solid support system for all Central High School students, graduates, and faculty. A plaque is proudly displayed in the CHS Courtyard and the CHS Foundation office recognizing the winners and the participants from each year.

So what class is going to win the 17th annual First Class Challenge Award this year? Currently the Class of 1961 is leading with Classes 1966, 1976, and 1981 close behind. Classes 1986, 2006, 1991, and 1996 are all in the mix as well, and it is really anyone's guess at this point on who is going to bring home the trophy!

It is simple, the only thing left to do now is donate! [Donate online](#) or mail your contribution to:

Central High School Foundation

Good luck and may the best class win!

## 2017 Hall of Fame Nominations



If you would like to recognize one of your classmates for their outstanding achievements, nominate them for the 2017 CHS Hall of Fame!

The Central High School Alumni Association's Hall of Fame Selection Committee is now accepting nominations for the 2017 Hall of Fame Class! If you have a distinguished alumni, educator or CHS benefactor that is worthy of this honor, please submit your nomination by December 31, 2016. You can [submit your nomination online](#) or download a nomination form by [visiting our website](#).

If you have any questions please contact the Central High School Foundation at 402-556-1996. Anyone can submit a nomination, and nominations are good for three years.

## 2017 Class Reunions



As we approach the end of 2016, it's important to remember all of the fun class reunions that took place this year! Although 2016 is wrapping up, we are excited to get started planning the class reunions for 2017. If you have not set up your class reunion for 2017, contact [Brittany Gunn](#) at the Central High School Foundation to get started. The Foundation has a plethora of resources to help make your class reunion the very best possible. This list will continue to be updated as more reunions are scheduled, but here are the three classes that have already made plans for their 2017 class reunions.

#### Class of 1962

August 26-27, 2017

Contact Beth Sargent - [beth.sargent@cox.net](mailto:beth.sargent@cox.net) // / 402-598-5253

#### Class of 1967

August 18-19, 2017

Contact Howard Borden - [Hbordenomaha@gmail.com](mailto:Hbordenomaha@gmail.com) // 402-578-4162 or 402-556-0577

Debbie Schwertley - [Dschwertley@aol.com](mailto:Dschwertley@aol.com) // 402-669-1209

#### Class of 1987

September 29-30, 2017

Contact Joe Fogarty - [gauntboy@gmail.com](mailto:gauntboy@gmail.com) // 206-856-6469

### 2018 Reunions

#### Class of 1958

October 26-28, 2018

Contact: Jackie Jepsen McLellan - [Jmclellan8@cox.net](mailto:Jmclellan8@cox.net) // 402-491-3692

**Victor Lewis, CHS 1968, Receives Honorary Doctorate**



Victor Lewis, CHS 1968, by Michael A. Black

On Thursday, December 8, musician Victor Lewis, CHS 1968, received an honorary doctorate degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln music department. As a jazz drummer, Victor has performed with several great musicians, including Woody Shaw and Carla Bley. Victor is currently a member of the jazz faculty at Rutgers University. Congratulations, Victor! To read more about Victor's accomplishments, [check out this article](#) from Kathe Anderson.

## The Feeling You'd Die For - Jed Ortmeyer, CHS 1997



Central alum Jed Ortmeyer had a very successful career as a hockey player after graduating from Central in 1997. He played for four different National Hockey League teams during his 11 year professional career. Jed recently wrote an article in The Players' Tribune detailing how a blood disorder and blood dots threatened to cut Jed's hockey career short. [Click here](#) to read Jed's incredible story.



Help raise money for scholarships for music students! The annual Craft & Conversation Day will be held on Saturday, February 4, 2017, from 9 AM - 6 PM in the Central High School cafeteria. The event cost is \$25 and will be hosted by the Central V.O.I.C.E. organization. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. This event is open to all crafters and their friends! To register, email [chsvoicevol@gmail.com](mailto:chsvoicevol@gmail.com) and get signed up today!

## Eagles Star in *A Christmas Carol*



Two Central students are starring in *A Christmas Carol* at the Omaha Community Playhouse! Henry Wisneski is starring as Peter Cratchit while Ian Hill is Young Scrooge. Congratulations to these Central students for their outstanding work with the Omaha Community Playhouse! *A Christmas Carol* runs from now through December 23. For ticket information, [click here](#).

## Central Yard Signs Are Now Available



Central has ordered hundreds of yard signs that can be displayed proudly in your yard during the recruitment

month. Deciding which high school to attend is a huge decision, so let's show eighth graders and their families how much Eagle Pride we have!

If you're interested in having a sign for your yard, you can reserve a sign by [clicking here](#). If you sign up, signs will be delivered to your yard by National Honor Society students over the holiday break. For other questions, contact Lori Falcon at [Lori.Falcon@ops.org](mailto:Lori.Falcon@ops.org).

A reminder that there will be an open house for all incoming freshman on Saturday, January 21, 2017, from 2-4 at Central.

## Rock the Nest Date Announced



We are excited to announce that Rock the Nest "Trivia Night" will be held on Sunday, March 26, 2017, at the Scoular Ballroom. Check our website and future newsletters for more details as we get closer to the event. It will be a great opportunity to reconnect with your high school classmates, have fun, and raise money for your alma mater.

## Join Generation "C" Today!

Although he graduated in 1966, Robert Batt has never lost his Eagle Spirit, and his passion for Central High School is as strong today as it was when he was running through the halls to get to class. While at Central, he was an active member of JROTC and involved himself in the French and Math clubs. Beyond graduation, he has demonstrated a long-lasting commitment not only to Central High School, but the Omaha community.

Bob is a well-recognized business man in Omaha, having served as the company spokesperson and Executive Vice President of Nebraska Furniture Mart, a Midwest institution in the furniture, appliances, and electronics business. In addition, he has been a mentor to many young people in Omaha and a supporter of civic causes such as purchasing video cameras for police cruisers. He also served on the Omaha Personnel Board, and supported initiatives and collaborative efforts at UNO, his alma mater. He is currently a member of the Boys Town Advisory Board and a regular donor to The Heart Ministry Center. At the state level, he is Chairman of the State Liquor Commission and has served on other state service committees. Nationally, he served on the U.S. Concert Committee for Yellowstone to help raise funds to restore fire-ravaged Yellowstone National Park.



Photo by Laurie and Charles Photographs

For his community service, civic efforts, and university support, Bob has received plenty of recognition. UNO

presented him with its Citation for Alumni Achievement and with a Distinguished Alumni Award. The Omaha Press Club also selected him as a "Face on the Barroom Floor." He credits his success and sense of responsibility to his community to the foundational education he received at Central High School. Generations of the Batt family have attended Central, such as his sister Ellie Batt, CHS 1970, who sits on the Central High School Foundation Board of Directors. In this way, the Eagle Spirit is not just a result of his time spent at Central High School; it is a family tradition.

To learn more about Generation "C" and to join today, [click here!](#)

## Support While You Shop

Are you shopping for back to school supplies on Amazon? Be sure to shop using the link below to support the Central High School Foundation while you shop! 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases will be donated to the Central High School Foundation. Happy shopping!



**Start with a Smile at**  
**[smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) this Holiday Season**

Support us and find all of your holiday essentials including gifts, decorations, and more.

**You shop. Amazon gives.**

**amazon**smile

## TAGGing Just Got Easier!



**New for 2016:** You can now TAGG your purchase by taking a picture of the receipt rather than taking a picture of a QR code! That way if you forget to TAGG your purchase before leaving the restaurant, you can take a picture of your receipt after getting home!

Omaha Central High School Foundation has partnered with TAGG (Together A Greater Good), an Omaha start-up, to provide an easy and free way to support the Foundation. TAGG offers a smartphone app that, when used at 120 participating local businesses, the business will donate 5% of your purchase, any

day any time! The app, available on iPhone and Android devices, is free to download and easy to set up. Here's how to get started:

- 1) Go to the App Store or Google Play and download the free app 'Together a Greater Good' to your iPhone or Android device.
- 2) When it's time to pay at a participating business, click the orange 'TAGG My Purchase' button on the app and tell the cashier that you want to 'TAGG' your purchase.
- 3) On your phone, enter in the total pre-tax amount of your purchase and click 'Next.'
- 4) When you go to TAGG a purchase, you will now have the option to take a picture of your receipt (instead of asking a cashier for a QR code to scan). We ask that you do this within 7 days of purchase.
- 5) On your phone, select Central High School Foundation from the list of organizations.

To learn more about TAGG, check out their [website](#). Happy shopping!



## Like Us on Facebook!

Are you on Facebook? [Like our Facebook page](#) to be connected to other Central alumni, staff, parents and supporters, all while receiving the latest news.

We are continuing to grow our social network! When we reach our 2,500 fan milestone, we will award a great prize from the Central High School Alumni Store. Winners will be pulled from our Facebook Fans!



## Connect With Us on Instagram



Are you on Instagram? Follow the Central High School Foundation [@CHSFomaha](#) for historical pictures of Central and its students. Instagram is a photo-sharing social media platform that is available for free for any smartphone. We want to be an active part of your network, so connect with us today to get started.

## Stay in the Loop and Update Your Record

Haven't received information from us in a while? It might be because we don't have your new mailing address or email! Look for your name on our ['Lost Alumni'](#) list, then [fill out the form](#) to update us on how to get in touch with you!

All alumni who have graduated in the past 10 years are strongly encouraged to visit our website to [update their record](#), especially if they have not received updates and mailing from the Central High School Foundation at their own address. For many of our younger alumni, we send mail to the home they lived in upon graduating from Central.

## Corporate Sponsors



