November 2009

Issue 145

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# NOVEMBER 2009

For those of you who attended the "Celebration of Doug's Life" you know what a loving night was shared. To some it seemed it can't be a year already. For others it has been the hardest year of their life. There was so much love for Doug and his family that you just knew Doug was there celebrating with all of us. The music was wonderful as usual. Steven, our host, sang many wonderful songs with the help of Brianna and many of the cousins and friends. Joe Mages and a friend drummed.

A tribute to Doug was led by Steven and Laura. All present wore yellow ribbons, and green braclets which read "In Loving Memory Of Doug."

I just believe as the evening closed Doug looked down from heaven with Jesus and Paula at his side, and said how proud he is of his Mom, Dad, Borthers, Sisters, Extended family and Friends.

WE LOVE YOU DOUG, AND WE WILL NEVER FORGET YOU!!!!!

## November Birthdays

| | |
|---|---|
| Grant Mages | Nov 07 |
| Kyle Mages | Nov 07 |
| AJ Zimiga | Nov 07 |
| Sandy Zimiga | Nov 10 |
| Alexandra Mages | Nov 11 |
| Paul Mages | Nov 12 |
| John Mages | Nov 18 |
| Ravi Plath | Nov 18 |
| Roger Mages | Nov 19 |
| Michelle Strate | Nov 22 |
| Stacie Mages | Nov 24 |
| Madeline Schmitz | Nov 30 |
| Trista Mages | Nov 30 |

## November Anniversaries

Joe and Linda Gall
Nov 11 42 years

Randy and Theresa Wagner
Nov 08 12 years

## Sorry Becky

I have Becky Wilson listed as Becky Mages in the October birthday section. Sorry Becky!! I really do know your name.
Linda

www.magesonline.com

Newspaper Deadline
News is due by the 20th
lindagall@rocketmail.com
mimi@myclearwave.net

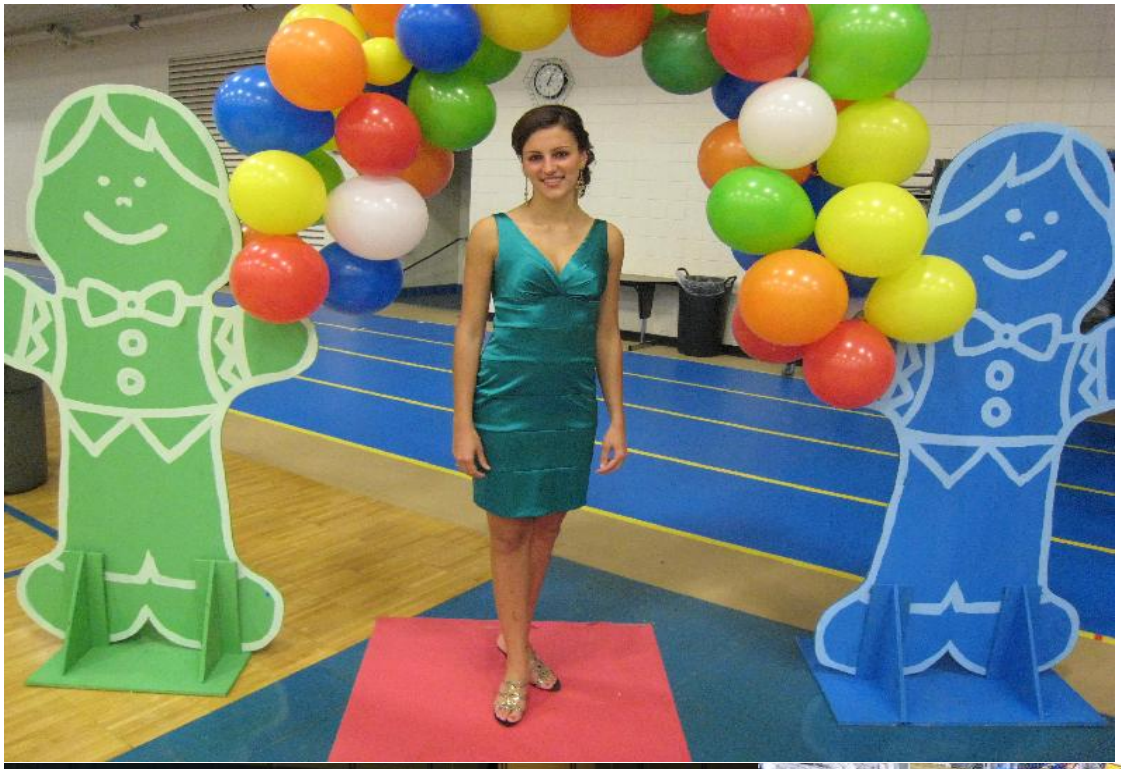
# Coming Events

October 31,2009- Jennifer's Bachlorette party
November 06,07- Sister's Shopping, Mankato, Mn. Overnight at Betty's in Lake Crystal and brunch at Barbs.
November, 09- Baby due for Lindsey and Tim
November 21,09-Mages Family Christmas at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in North Mankato, Mn.
December 05,09-Wedding of Jennifer and Adam
January 22-24,2010- Men and Boys fishing and snowmobiling party at Emerald's Hideaway.
February-2010- Baby due for Sarah and Chad
March-2010- Baby due for James and Trish
August-2010-Wedding of Melanie and Stevie
September 18-19,2010-Sister's Weekend
Fall 2012- Trip to Germany

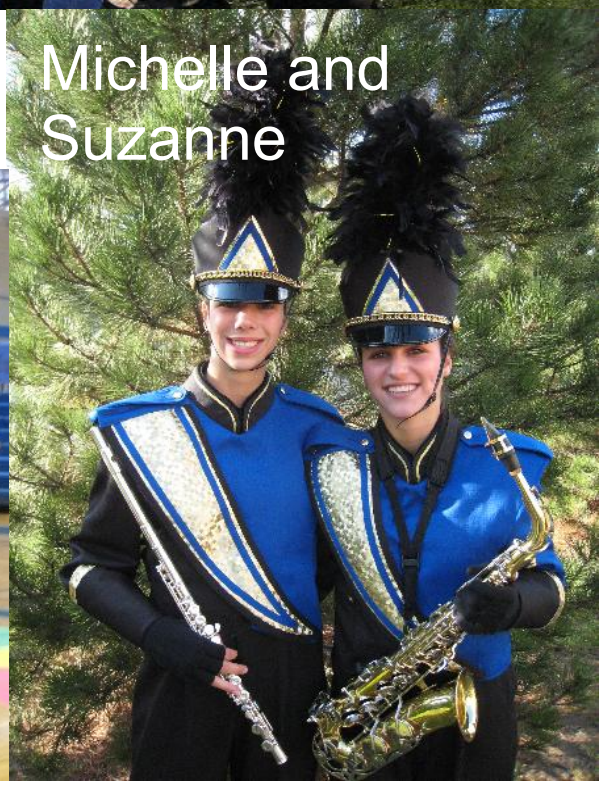
## Sister's Weekend 2010

Maggie has so wonderfully invited all of us back to Emerald Hideaway for our annual Sister's Weekend on September 18th and 19th ,2010. The Queens from 2009 need to get their categories for 2010 into the "Family Reunion" so we can prepare for next year. Those Queen are as follows:
Betty Jass-Queen of the gowns
Donna Nelson- Queen of the hats
Mom Mages- Queen of the purses
Those categories can be the same as the year before or you have the privilege of choosing your own idea. We will be looking forward to the choices. We will print the results in next months newsletter.

Linda



Suzanne's Homecoming celebration in Hastings, Minnesota



Michelle and Suzanne

# Suzanne's Homecoming Cont.

Suzanne's senior year was made more special by being a Homecoming queen candidate! She was one of ten young women voted in by her class of 400 students to be a candidate for the Candyland-themed Homecoming. She enjoyed a fun week of special activities that ended on Friday with a big pep rally, coronation, and the football game where she made a split second change from being recognized on the field as a candidate, in her dress, to marching in the band field show, in her uniform! The fun ended with a dance. We are very proud of her! Kathy

# Diane's Angels

Every year at sister's weekend we decide what we will donate our you can't say your husband's name pot too. This year we wanted to give it to Diane Klegstad, and get her something special. I thought an angel would be appropriate for Diane as she is one, and looked in Mankato for a cement one. I just couldn't find one that wasn't plastic, so I gave the money to Diane, and told her what we originally wanted to do. Diane told me she know a place near their home where she could look for one, and this is what she found. Linda

How do you like the angels we found? There is a couple near Ashby that makes cement figurines so we took a drive there on Saturday. Plan to keep them in the house over the winter and come spring make an angel garden. I continue to be overwelmed everytime I think of how wonderful your family is. Love you all, Diane

# Sister's Shopping Update

The plan is still on for the 2009 shopping stay over and shopping in Mankato, MN. All of my lovely, gorgeous, spirited, sneaky, and silly sisters are welcomed to stay ay the Flamingo Cafe, Bar & Hotel for the evening of Nov 6th. Supper will be served at 7 p.m. with group silliness to follow until bedtime??????????????? whenever that will occur, IF it occurs. Please RSVP me at 507-726-2370 or 507-351-1242 for a bunk. If anyone wants to sleep in my bedroom, it is "Subble trouble" time at my house. The tentative menu will be pork chops with spuds, veggies and other items form the "RoadKill Menu", Be there or be square.

Nov 7th, Sat at 7:30 or so, it's welcome to "Barb's World " for breakfast (If we don't sleep, maybe we can help her make breakfast!!!!! After all we'll be bright eyed and bushy tail and rarin' to go, RIGHT!!!

There will be a prize for the "Shopping Diva" that will be voted on during lunch. One for the money...../two for the show.....three to get ready.....& four to blow the budget!!!

Make sure you have your shopping shoes on, your checkbook ready, new BIC pen in hand and shopping list memorized, BECAUSE MOVE ALL EVERYBODY...MANKATO IS OUR TOWN NOW! !!! !! ! ! !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

SINCERELY FROM THE 2009 EVENING GOWN BABE.

Betts

# Mages Family Christmas 2009

The annual Mages Family Christmas will be held Saturday November 21, 2009. It will start at noon for dinner. Turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, beverages, plates, cups, napkins and utensils will be provided. The rest of the menu will be potluck. Bar-b-que and buns will be provided for supper.

This event will take place at Holy Rosary Catholic Church at 525 Grant Ave, North Mankato, Minnesota.

Directions to the church. Follow Hwy 14 to the LorRay Drive exit. Turn south on LorRay Drive which is located about a mile and a half from Joe and Linda's home, follow until you reach Lee Blvd, turn left and go down the hill to Belgrade Ave, turn left and follow to Sherman, turn left. Holy Rosary church will be on the east or right side a few blocks down at the intersection of Sherman and Grant.. You can enter at the right side of the church to get to the basement.

If you have problems finding the church you can call Joe's Cell 507-340-4305 or Linda's cell at 507-304-3187.

John and Cindy

Japan and China

# Trip to Japan and China

John and I left for China on August 28th, 2009. Our flight was 3 ½ hours late due to mechanical problems. We missed our connecting flight in Tokyo, Japan. This was a bonus for us. We got to stay in Japan for 24 hours. The airline put us up and fed us. We were treated like kings and queens. We landed in Tokyo at 6:15pm on August 29th, after a 12 hour flight. Time change was 11 hours ahead of Minnesota time. We stayed a Narita, Japan. Walked around that night. The next morning we went walking around touring with 7 other people from Minnesota. We toured the Buddha temple. We walked the streets to shops and sights of Japan to see their culture. Stopped at a Japanese restaurant Before eating we watched next door clean eel. John ate eel at the restaurant. At the meal we ate rice, soup, fish, beer, wine, tea. Our first of many meals to eat with chop sticks. The restaurant manager gave us all bells for good luck for our luggage. Our group became close, a lot of laughing. The sites were fantastic. We loft for Beijing, China, at 8:00pm on August 30th.

John had business meeting August 31st. They went to the US Embassy. I went exploring at the Marriott hotel, went swimming. The hotel was unbelievable. The sites outside were beautiful. At 11:00 three of us ladies went in a van to meet the men. We went touring the grocery stores, and markets. It was very interesting meat hanging with snouts on them., eggs in a basket-with droppings on them and cracked, live fish, snails. We toured a Wal-Mart- my first experience using a squat toilet- not so nice. After we went to Tian' Anmen Square(Heaven gate) Forbidden City. Returning to the hotel we went to a reception 10 course meal served on a lazy susan( all meals are served this way.) We ate moon cake- which is served only once a year to celebrate harvest.

September 1st We went on a bus drove past The birds nest and the water cube from the Olympics on the way to The Great Wall of China. When we got there about 5 of us walked the Great Wall. John called home from the Great Wall. We went straight to the airport to fly to Qingdao Our hotel was in Qingdao, China. The view from our hotel room was of the Yellow sea, constant ships going to the harbor. Also sail boat races We were 2-3 blocks from the shoreline. Could also see the Olympic stadium were the water events took place and the Fu mountain. Had a 12 course meal-they like their wine and beer. When you take a few sips they are right there to fill the glass and do a toast. Each evening the housekeeper would set out slippers, turn down the bed and turn the clock so we can see from the bed. Window blinds were electric. A 7 star hotel; fresh fruit every day in your room, ice bucket filled. We went for walks every night there-the weather was 70's-80's.

Sept 2nd John had meetings-toured a meat packing plant Linyi Xinchery Jinlus. Three of us ladies went shopping by the shoreline walking distance. One of us could speak the language so we could bargain. You need to bargain for everything you buy. That evening we had a formal reception. People from all over the world. We sat by a gentleman from Ireland. Ate squid, sushi, snails, fish, rice, shrimp,and many different desserts, plenty of wine, beer. They also had a clear drink-(like ever clear)-tasted good. After we checked out the night life in the bar music and beverages, To end the night walked to the shoreline.

Sept 3rd John went to a Pork conference-everyone wore head phones for interpreter. I walked to the beach, parks, site seeing. Later four of us took a taxi to a Mansion and the Pacific Ocean. There were at least 100 brides and grooms there to get their wedding pictures taken before their wedding day. They rent the dress and tux. The brides had shorts and tennis shoes on under their dress and walked in the ocean to sit on a rock to get their pictures taken. The brides and grooms were eating sweet corn waiting for their turn. We also went to beer street, went to Tsingtao beer factory. Every night we saw Chinese lantern flying in the sky. The sky scrapers had lighted moving pictures on them. Light show at the Olympic stadium, During the day flying kites everywhere.

# John and Cindy-Japan and China Trip Cont.

Set 4th - Every morning we ate at our hotel Shangri-La, there was eight different stations to get all different foods. John had meetings again. Evening reception with Chinese dancers, opera singers, and other Chinese performers. Unbelievable! A buffet style meal. We sat on the table with men from England, Poland, Netherlands, and China. They spoke English well.

Sept 5th We went to the meat Exhibit by bus. Expo venders had different booths. After expo we all went shopping. John and I bought pearl necklaces and a pearl ring. Ate on beer street with the Minnesota gang.

Set 6th Toured a chicken factory. On the bus ride there and back we were able to see the country side. We saw people working in the fields, the homes and small cities. They dry their corn on the side of the tar road, shell the corn with (looks like screw drivers).We did see a few small tractors and a one row combine. The crops looked good. That evening when we got back we went to a restaurant where you pick out your food in a different room. There is live fish, snails, bugs, pictures of food choices. We then went to a private dining room to eat. Walked around after eating.

Sept 7th Flew back to Beijing. John and I and another couple took a taxi to The Summer Palace at the foot of Xishan Mountain. We took a dragon boat ride on the lake. It embodies the building style of ancient China imperial gardens. While we were gone two of the other guys went on a mission to find the Harley dealer to buy John and I shirts. They found it. Back to the Marriott hotel. We all went shopping in " the back room". Bought purses, watches, silk scarves, Harley shirt. After shopping we ate at the Hard Rock. Walked back.

Sept 8Th flew to Tokyo Japan to get connecting flight. Then to home . It was a great trip. I wish I could of stayed longer.

Mom's Sister's Day in Morton, Mn on September 26,2009 hosted by Mary Lou Butzer and her daughters Susie and Rachel. Bottom Row Left to right. Mary (Martha), Carol (Adella), Linda (Barbara), Diane (Emil), Susie (Mary Lou), Gail (Ed) Top Row Left to right. JoAnn (Emil), Lisa (Barbara), Audrey (Emil), Julie (Adella ), Mary (Lydia), Terese (Lydia), Rachel (Mary Lou), Laurie (Ed), and Janet (Ed).

# Sister's Day Continued

Top: Adella and Martha—Bottom L to R Mary Lou, Johanna, Barbara

# Jennifer's Last Fling Before the Ring

## Jennifer's Last Fling Before the Ring!

*Jennifer is tying the knot!*
*Join us for one last evening of fun*
*Saturday, October 31, 2009*
*6:30 p.m.*
*John and Cindy's House*

We'll meet at John and Cindy's for a grill out and then off on a party bus for a night of fun! Water and limited pop will be provided. Please BYOB anything you would like to drink at the house and on the party bus. We'll be leaving on the bus at about 9 p.m. so feel free to come whenever you can!

Since it's Halloween night, we're asking everyone to dress up in either an old prom or bridesmaids dress. We will also be dressing Jennifer up as a bride.

**Please RSVP to Bonita Mages at bamages@cord.edu or 320-250-4428.**

There will be a charge for the bus but we will not know the exact amount until after the RSVP's are in.

Space is available if anyone needs to stay after the festivities.

# Celebration of Doug's Life

# Celebration of Doug's Live Cont.