

Alumni Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF DAKOTA ADVENTIST ACADEMY,
PLAINVIEW ACADEMY, AND SHEYENNE RIVER ACADEMY



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Alumni Weekend Draws Near

Benjamin Dossenko, alumni president



Alumni and Friends,

All across the land, schools are starting a new academic year. This is a reminder that Alumni Weekend is close at hand. The Alumni Association officers would like to extend a warm invitation to each alumnus and all former staff members.

This year, we are very excited that Mr. Brendan Krueger, a former DAA music teacher in the 90's, has agreed to come and hold a Dakota Singers (DAK) reunion. If you were a member of DAK or "Honor Choir" please fill out the survey below using the provided QR code or link. The group will begin practice on Friday afternoon (exact time TBD) and will perform on Sabbath.

Another event to look forward to is a charcoal drawing class with Mr. Gary Way, DAA art and English teacher in the 2000s, on Friday afternoon starting at 3:00p.

The Golf Scramble will be held at Tom O'Leary Golf Course in Bismarck starting at 11:00a on Friday. Each participant will need to pay a \$35 greens fee upon arrival at the course. Tee Times have been reserved in advance.

Our Association feels blessed to have an academy to meet at each year. I would like to see an increase in the connections and communication among our Alumni Family. We look forward to seeing each of you who make the journey to Dakota Adventist Academy on October 7 & 8, 2022!

Alumni Officers

President -

Benjamin Dossenko,
DAA Class of '97

Vice President -
TBD

Treasurer -

Mitchell Merkel,
DAA Class of '98

Vice Treasurer -
Brenda Rexin Klein,
DAA Class of '92

Secretary -

Jodi Gottfried Dossenko,
DAA Class of '97

Vice Secretary -
Jaelyn Pickett,
DAA Class of '20

The Alumni Website is now live! Come connect with us at: dakota-alumni.org

1943 - 1948 - 1953 - 1958 - 1963 - 1968 - 1973 - 1978 - 1983 - 1988 - 1993 - 1998

CALLING ALL ALUMNI

OCTOBER 7 & 8

Please join us for an all-school reunion where every class will have their picture taken!

2003 - 2013 - 2018 - 1948 - 1953 - 1958 - 1963 - 1968 - 1973 - 1978 - 1983 - 1988 - 1993 - 1998

DAA CAFETERIA
ALL MEALS ARE

FREE WILL DONATION

OCT. 7 & 8

Alumni Weekend Schedule

Events and times are subject to change

11:00a	Golf Scramble
2:00p	Registration
3:00-5:00p	Art Class with Mr. Way
4:00p	Pioneer Reception
5:30-6:00p	Supper
7:00p	Vespers
8:00-9:00p	Social Hour
8:30-9:00a	Breakfast
10:00a	Sabbath School
11:00a	Worship Service
12:15p	Class Pictures following worship
1:00p	Lunch
2:00-5:00p	Free time for visiting
5:30p	Supper
7:15p	Vespers
8:00p	Alumni Business Meeting
8:30p	Alumni Games

Alumni Dues

Every year the Alumni Association officers work diligently to provide a memorable Alumni Weekend for all. The association also assists with the quarterly newsletter that keeps us all informed of what is happening with alumni and at DAA. We encourage you to support your Alumni Association with these costs by paying your yearly dues. At the 2013 Alumni Business Meeting held during alumni weekend, it was voted to set the annual dues at \$20. We appreciate your support and look forward to continuing to serve you.

Please make checks payable to DAA Alumni Association. Mail to: Mitch Merkel, PO Box 70, Ellendale, ND 58436

Kungels Celebrate Anniversary

Children of Lenhardt and Darlene Kungel

Lenhardt Lee Kungel and Darlene Mae (Quast) celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary on July 17, 2022, at The Bunker in Jamestown, ND. The event was catered by Nikki Damnke from the "The Grateful Plate". There were over 100 relatives and friends who attended representing 11 different states.

Lenhardt and Darlene were married on August 21, 1955 in the Kulm Seventh-day Adventist Church. Lenhardt must have been quite smitten with Darlene to have agreed to

a wedding date during the middle of harvest. After celebrating a short honeymoon in the Black Hills, they returned to the family farm where they continued to farm until their retirement in 1998. Since retiring, they have split their time between living in Jamestown, ND and Mesa, AZ.

Farming and Christian education were two passions they both shared. Lenhardt was presented the award of "Outstanding Farmer of McIntosh County". He also served on the McIntosh County Weed Board until his retirement, as well as chair of the Agricultural Stabilization Committee. His passion for Christian education led him to serving as vice-president and then president of the Alumni Association of Dakota Adventist / Sheyenne River / Plain View academies. None of this could have been accomplished without a loving and supportive wife. Darlene's greatest talents are leadership, hospitality and music. She also served as treasurer for the Alumni Association. She has held various roles in the church and could be found leading out in song service every Sabbath. The Community Kulm Singspiration was organized by Darlene and was an avenue to unite the community under one roof doing what they loved best, praising the Lord in song.

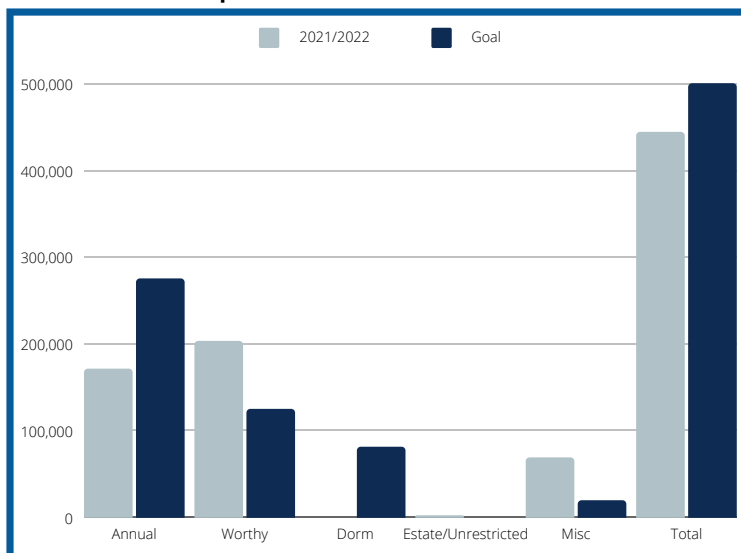


Together, their love for young people has led them to financially assist many students and establish the "Kungel Family Endowment Scholarship" at Dakota Adventist Academy.

The couple have four children, Charlotte (Randy) Reimer of San Antonio, FL; Barbara (Tom) Simons of Lincoln, NE; Bonnie (Lonnie) Kreiter of Lincoln, NE; Theresa (Mark) Parker of Lincoln, NE;

Five grandchildren, Jonathon (Hannah) Reimer of Lincoln, NE; Shaunna (Luke) Mayers of Ashland, VA; Kevin (Heather) Reimer of Chattanooga, TN; Lauren (Jon) Lewellen of San Diego, CA; Amanda (Andy) Johnson of Lincoln, NE; and nine great-grandchildren.

Development Donations Received





DAA Camp Week

Tracy Peterson, DAA recruiter

Whether at home or at school, traditions are an important part of our lives. DAA's tradition of Camp Week has had a few modifications throughout the years, but there are certain things one just doesn't mess with!

Last year we moved the timing of camp, starting on the second Sunday of the school year instead of during the middle of the first academic week. Though different, it didn't alter the important things like Capture the Flag in the dark! We even still had a designated time to welcome the new staff with "brownies" (sponges disguised as brownies). Who knew that brownies could be so spongy?

This year the weather was very gracious with the nice warm temperatures and sunny days. As per tradition, Dr. Kimber Boyko taught many students the art of wakeboarding and water skiing. Every year someone learns a new skill!

The most important tradition that makes Camp Week special is the opportunity for the students and staff to bond not only with each other but also with God through the dedicated time spent building a relationship with Him. Pastor Kisa, Pastor Marveen, and Pastor Kris shared worship thoughts every morning and evening, the Student Association (SA) provided worship music, and God was, as always, present. This DAA tradition holds a special place in the hearts of all that participate - past, present, or future!

Vice President Position open!

The Alumni Association wants you on the team!

Contact us to apply today at: dakotaalumni@gmail.com

Scan for more information!

DAK REUNION

Follow the link below to get in contact with Mr. Brendan Krueger for more information!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/5QJDPCB

Golf Scramble

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7
12 PM 2022

TOM O'LEARY GOLF COURSE

1200 N WASHINGTON ST
#1, BISMARCK, ND 58501

12:00 PM TEE TIME
\$35 PER PERSON

Alumni Weekend Dorm Room Reservations

Make checks payable to Dakota Adventist Academy

Mail to: Dakota Adventist Academy
15905 Sheyenne Circle, Bismarck, ND 58503

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Dorm Room \$25 x _____ rooms x _____ nights = \$ _____

Arriving on _____

Note: Please bring your own linens for dorm rooms.

Leaving on _____

DAA Promotes Teacher to Vice-principal

Jodi Dossenko, conference communication director

Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams has added the responsibility of Dakota Adventist Academy vice-principal, starting in July of this year. She and her family moved back to the Dakotas two years ago when she accepted the English teaching position after Gary Way retired.

Born on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, Jovannah grew up on the reservation as well as in the surrounding area, spending a lot of that time in Rapid City. She and her husband, Zak, graduated from Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, and accepted positions at Holbrook Indian School in Arizona. While there, Jovannah served in several different capacities which included girls' dean, registrar, vice-principal, and dean of student services - all while teaching various English courses. She also taught a "Next Level Prep" course where students explored what they wanted to do after high school and the different opportunities available to achieve their goals. The experience she gained teaching the prep course has propelled her to work those aspects into a unit for DAA's senior English class.

For the past two years, in addition to teaching English, Jovannah has also taught a pottery class. Although she loves pottery, she has passed this role on to her husband and DAA's art teacher, Zak. He is versed in the technical aspects of pottery and will do an excellent job taking over the class.

While Jovannah will still be teaching English at DAA, she will also be working half-time as the vice-principal. This role will focus on assisting students to keep good attendance, work with student leadership, as well as be the primary person in charge of administrative discipline. She will do all of this while working on her master's in educational leadership. Her master's program degree will allow her to take leadership in higher administrative positions to gain experience in situations a principal would handle.

Since Jovannah was baptized at the age of 16, she has received a negative response from her family regarding her faith. Because of this, her attempts to be her family's advocate for Christ haven't seemed like a possibility. Their mother forbade her from taking her brother, Forrest, to church, which broke Jovannah's resolve to reach out to her family about God. Her brother went to live with Jovannah and Zak as a teenager while he attended Holbrook Indian School. During a mission trip to Belize, he made the decision to be baptized. Today, Forrest has joined the DAA team and accepted the role of food service director. Jovannah is thrilled with this development and thanks God for answered prayers.

Zak and Jovannah have five children, two of which attend Brentwood Adventist Christian School in Bismarck. The family is happy to be living and working in this part of the country.



Jodi Dossenko (left), Zak Adams (right), Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams (bottom)

Teacher Fall In-service

Jodi Dossenko, conference communication director

Adventist teachers from across the Dakotas gathered together at the Conference Office at the beginning of August. Elementary and secondary met separately during the day on Monday but joined together in the evening to experience a Lewis and Clark Riverboat cruise. "It was fun connecting with those we don't see on a daily basis," commented one of the teachers. Earlier in the summer, Dakota Conference churches joined together with small donations that added up in a big way to treat the teachers and staff with the cruise.



Jodi Dossenko

On Tuesday, staff met together and went through Mindy Sayers' workshop on mental health. Many found it helpful and one teacher stated that "this was needed". Mindy used the story of Hagar and Ishmael in the desert and wove it into the presentation highlighting the importance of being a "thrifer" not just a "survivor." Self-care is deeper than just bubble baths, Netflix, or junk food. TJ Roberts said, "Mindy provided an alternative perspective on the story of Ishmael. This opened my eyes to the Biblical map on how to handle the struggles and conflicts we often face as teachers." Jovannah Poor Bear-Adams expressed, "Her presentation was a much-needed breath of fresh air. Issues of self often get ignored. It was nice to be able to face it head-on." "Mindy was just what I needed for this in-service. I could tell she spoke from the heart and experience. It was interesting, applicable, interactive, and inspiring," related another educator. Overall, teachers felt this year's In-service provided a lot of good tools to take back to the classroom.

2022-2023 Dakota Adventist Academy Staff

Zak Adams & Jodi Dossenko



Zak Adams

Art Teacher,
Assistant Boys' Dean



David Ballesteros

Music Teacher,
Spanish Teacher



Forrest Calhoun

Food Services
Director



Kisa de Bruin

Chaplain,
Bible Teacher



Pam Fenton

Science Teacher,
Health Teacher



Eric Garrett

Plant Services
Director



Madison Hudema

Assistant
Girls' Dean



Peter Hutaurok

Math Teacher,
Physics Teacher



Anthony Oucharek

Principal, Physical
Education Teacher



Doreen Oucharek

Administrative
Assistant



Ryan Peterson

Vocational Teacher,
Plant Services Assist.



Tracy Peterson

Recruiter,
Barn Manager



**Jovannah
Poor Bear-Adams**

English Teacher,
Vice-Principal



Gregory Ratter

History Teacher,
Bible Teacher



Stephen Staff

Boys' Dean,
Athletic Director



Christine Taylor

Girls' Dean



Delilah Treft

Assistant Food Services

REMEMBER
TEACHERS IN
PRAYER THIS
SCHOOL YEAR!

In Remembrance

Melodie Rittenbach

5.17.2022

DAA Class of 1982

Leslie Lockridge

5.18.2022

SRA/DAA Staff 1976-1983

Carolyn Stotz Devitt-Kiesz

5.18.2022

PVA Class of 1957

Dorothy Aichele Kabanuk

6.3.2022

Donor

Curt Hansen

6.16.2022

SRA Class of 1974

Clifford Johnson

6.29.2022

Donor

Hilda Rittenbach Dickhaut

7.15.2022

SRA Class of 1947

Helen Dockter Olson

7.29.2022

SRA Class of 1953

Answered Prayers: A New SmartBoard

Pam Fenton, DAA science and health teacher

Ten years ago, a generous donation pushed Ms. Fenton's classes here at DAA, into the modern age with the latest educational technology. The SmartBoard enabled students to engage in complex subjects like never before. "Henry" found himself enjoying his study of the more challenging concepts in Biology and playing learning games outside of the classroom from previous chapters just for fun. The classroom dynamic had been transformed into something interactive. Unfortunately, after a long run, the SmartBoard became non-functional. Ms. Fenton limped through the end of last school year and started a GoFundMe fundraiser.

At the beginning of August, the amount needed fell short of the goal. Then monies were received so that the school year could be started with a complete classroom. The difference was made up with the knowledge that there would be continued fund raising, returning the good faith money. After a few phone calls, the goal was reached and the good faith money returned. Ms. Fenton would like to express her sincere appreciation and thank all of her former students, alumni from DAA, and friends for their generous support and prayers.

Rewriting History

Lynette Miller, development director

In a little over a month, alumni, friends, and family from around the country will make their way to DAA for another memorable Alumni Weekend. I have noticed that some people faithfully attend school reunions, others scoff and wonder if it isn't a bit crazy to fly halfway across the country to see folks who, except for maybe three or four, are not acquainted with who you are now. Reunions have become those rare opportunities for a do-over. I can mingle with people I was once too shy to speak with and be the person I wanted to be in high school. Rewriting history this way has become a big lure for reunions. Fellow classmates come to find that what bound us together was much more important than those small differences that separated us in high school.

Words cannot adequately express how thankful the school is for the support it has received from our alumni, constituents, churches, and the Dakota Conference. Not just financially, but with your prayers and words of encouragement as well.

DAA is God's school. Many of you have heard me say that several times as I have visited you in your churches, on campus, at Regionals, and at Campmeeting. You are making a difference in so many lives with your generosity. Thank you once again for your donations, your prayers, and your encouragement. May we all continue on the path to eternity and to a home with Jesus.

Town Hall Meetings Regarding Dakota Adventist Academy

You are invited to attend one of our Conference Town Halls. These meetings will be centered around Dakota Adventist Academy with the goal to share as much information as possible regarding how our Conference is working towards the long-term viability of DAA.

Along with updates, financial information, and trend lines, you will have the opportunity to ask anything about DAA.

Please plan to attend one of the seven meetings being held at the local Adventist Church. They will begin at 6:30p, local time, and last no more than 90 minutes.

DAKOTA CONFERENCE TOWN HALLS

Join us for a DAA centered meeting!

Bismarck - September 8
 Fargo - September 19
 Aberdeen - September 22
 Jamestown - September 26

Dickinson - September 27
 Rapid City - October 13
 Sioux Falls - October 20

Each meeting will be held at the local church and begin at 6:30p.



Giving to Dakota Adventist Academy

Many who give to DAA experience the satisfaction of knowing their gift makes a real difference in the life of a young person. You help in "Build Friendships for Eternity." Your gifts will help us serve this generation and beyond. Working together we can help our youth build friendships for eternity and a home in Heaven.

Annual Fund Goal

\$275,000 / year

Gifts to the Annual Fund are unrestricted donations that are valuable to the operation of the school. They contribute to the stability and security of the school program and are applied where the need is greatest.

Worthy Student Fund Goal

\$125,000 / year

These gifts go to work immediately in assisting students with financial needs. Approximately half of our students currently receive assistance from this fund. Support is needed annually, especially in these financially difficult times.

Dorm Renovation Goal

\$80,000 / year

Our students spend many hours in their dorm rooms throughout the school year. It is their home away from home. Here they study, sleep, relax, and spend personal time in worship. In addition, the dorms are used during Alumni Weekend, Campmeeting, and other special events.

Non-cash Gifts

Donations of shares of stock, land, and crops are just a few ideas for non-cash donations.

Ways to Give

As you consider what type of gift to give, we encourage you to consult your CPA or attorney. You may also want to speak with Conference or DAA administration to understand the areas of need. Undesignated gifts that are received through estates are unrestricted and their use will be determined by the K-12 Board of Education.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to a scholarship fund should make their check out to Dakota Conference Corporation, mark it for the scholarship of their choice and mail it to Dakota Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 7200 N. Washington St, Bismarck, ND 58503-6301.

Apply for a Scholarship

Call Lynette Miller at the Dakota Conference office: 701.751.6177.

Legacy Gifts

Gifts left in the form of a legacy through your estate plans play a vital part in the operation of DAA. As you determine how your estate will be handled after your death, you can plan to give a portion to DAA. These gifts have tax implications and are often transmitted through a legal document such as a Will or Trust.

Gifts-in-Kind

Gifts of a non-monetary nature will benefit the school. They enrich programs and capital improvement. Examples could include furniture, landscape materials, library books, or musical instruments.

Special Funds

Donors may give to a variety of programs including music, mission trips, art, basketball, or special projects. These enrich the quality of the programs offered to our students.

Gifts of Time & Talent

Do you have time or expertise in an area that might benefit DAA? Contact us to see what projects need assistance and how we might work together.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts may be made in memory of a loved one or a classmate.

Endowment Gifts

These gifts are a major contribution to the school's future stability and are often considered a legacy gift. These gifts, held by the Dakota Conference Corporation, include permanent funds that provide lasting financial resources to DAA and its programs. Invested in interest-earning accounts, the income is used annually for the designated purpose of the endowment.

Kungel Family Endowment Fund

Established by Lenhardt & Darlene Kungel, this fund will provide two Dakota students a \$1,500 annual scholarship.

PVA-Ron Purkapile Student Scholarship Fund

The purpose of this scholarship is to provide South Dakota students with supplemental funds to attend DAA. Recipients will need to meet scholarship requirements. Students will be selected on a yearly basis by the scholarship committee.

Dakota Adventist Academy

Development Office
15905 Sheyenne Circle
Bismarck ND 58503-9228
www.mydaa.org

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BISMARCK, ND
ZIP CODE 59501

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR

August

- 1-2 Teacher In-services
- 14 DAA Registration
- 21-24 Camp Week for DAA students

September

- 4 Adopt-a-Highway
- 5 Community Service Day
- 8 Bismarck Town Hall (6:30p)
- 11 K-12 Board of Education (10a)
- 13 College Fair
- 14-18 Homeleave
- 19 Fargo Town Hall (6:30p)
- 21-6 MAPS Fall Testing
- 22 Aberdeen Town Hall (6:30p)
- 26 Jamestown Town Hall (6:30p)
- 27 Dickinson Town Hall (6:30p)

October

- 7-8 Alumni Weekend
- 13 Rapid City Town Hall (6:30p)
- 15 Rapid City Regional
- 19-23 Homeleave & UC Volleyball/Soccer Tournaments
- 20 Sioux Falls Town Hall (6:30p)
- 24-28 Week of Worship

STAY CONNECTED

We love to hear from you and your classmates love to keep up with you. Please send us your news, photos, and changes of address, marriages, births, etc.

For those of you who spend the winter months away from home, send us your winter address and the time frame you will be gone so you don't miss an issue of this newsletter. Thank you.

Email: development@dakotaadventist.org

Website: dakota-alumni.org

APPLY TODAY

Apply to attend Dakota Adventist Academy today! Registration is still open for the 2022-2023 academic year. Visit mydaa.org to apply online or call Tracy Peterson at: 701.258.9000.