



# *The Metz Cardinal*

April 2006 Newsletter of the Metz School Alumni Association

Metz Alumni Assoc., c/o Margie Breneman, 1204 N. Elizabeth, Nevada, MO 64772. Phone (417) 667-9361

Dear Metz Alumni and Former Students,  
Teachers, & Employees:

The 2006 Metz All School Reunion is going to be special this year – and we hope you are pleased with the planned activities and will want to participate. Please come visit with classmates and share remembrances of your days at Metz. Call a classmate you haven't seen in a long time, and encourage him or her to also attend!

Last year we helped celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vernon County, and this year we will help **celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Metz Banking Company!** We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming Metz All-School Reunion and Dinner which will be held **June 3 in Metz!**

Regards,  
Linda Moore, Metz Alumni President  
Nancy Thompson, Vice-president  
Madge Baze, Secretary  
Margie Breneman, Treasurer

## **JUNE 3 ALL-SCHOOL REUNION**

This year, the Reunion and Dinner will be held **in downtown Metz** with a bar-b-que and music entertainment in the street following the meal. **ALUMNI REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 4 P.M. AT WHICH TIME YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR TICKETS FOR THE MEAL.** The alumni meeting will start at 4:30 p.m. in the large tent. The Metz Banking Company is providing the bar-b-que and entertainment in celebration of its centennial anniversary (see related article). You are invited to bring lawn

chairs and stay to enjoy live music by 'Distant Kin' and a street dance following the meal. The Metz School display in the Bank will be open for viewing from 3-4:30 p.m. Because the Bank is providing the meal and entertainment, we will not have meal expense this year; however, a donation to help cover the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter would be appreciated. **PLEASE NOTE: TO OBTAIN MEAL TICKETS, YOU MUST MAKE MEAL RESERVATIONS BY MAY 20 – SEE THE ENCLOSED RESERVATION FORM.**

*Please express your appreciation to the Metz Banking Company for its generosity in proving the cookout and entertainment in conjunction with the Metz Reunion!*

## **METZ SCHOOL DISPLAY AT THE METZ BRANCH BANK**

While at the Reunion, please take time to visit the Metz School display in the Bank – some tremendous work has been done to preserve the school's history! All of the senior pictures have been repaired, re-mounted, or "fixed" in any other way that was needed. Bob Schyler of Schyler Designs in Rich Hill assisted Robert Seater with this work, which included removing or hiding the smudges, marks, and water streaks that plagued many of the matboards – please let both of these men know how much we appreciate their many volunteer hours to accomplish this. Additionally, the swinging arm picture rack has been

repaired, cleaned, and repainted; and it now looks great!

Representative uniforms for band (donated by Linda Luther), girls basketball (donated by Kristi Luther Hinkle), and boys basketball (donated by Chuck Edmonds) have been located, donated, framed, and are on display with the school trophies and pictures.

Please note that a cheerleader's sweater is being sought to complete the uniform display. If you have one of these sweaters (see photo), please notify Robert Seater (417-395-4450), any of the alumni officers, take it to the Bank at Metz, or mail it to the Alumni.



**1973 VARSITY CHEERLEADERS** (left to right): Eve Pryor, Ann Olive, Linda Tourtillott, Mary Jo Olive, Marilyn Tourtillott, Paula Robinson, Debbie Handly, Georgia Phillips.

### METZ SCHOOL YEARBOOKS

Thank you for your generous donations of school yearbooks! We are working to collect three full sets of the Metz School yearbooks – the first copy is for the Metz School display at the Bank in Metz. If a second copy is received, it will be placed in the Genealogy Department of the Nevada Library where patrons can view but not check them out of the library. The Nevada Library Genealogy Department is now the largest family history research center in this area, and having a copy of the Metz yearbooks available to researchers is very beneficial. If a third copy

of the yearbooks is received, it will be given to the Vernon County Historical Society to further ensure that this part of Metz history is preserved.

Yearbooks for the following years have been received and are at the Metz Bank. If you have yearbooks and would like to donate them, please bring them to the reunion, or box and ship them 'book rate' to the Metz Alumni. In Nevada, you can drop them at Madge Baze's at 1204 West Cherry, Apt 1, or Margie & Bill Breneman's at 1204 North Elizabeth.

1936	1950	1960	1970
	1951	1961	
	1952	1962	
	1953	1963	1976
1944	1954	1964	1979
1945		1965	
1946		1966	
1947		1967	1982
1948	1958	1968	1983
1949		1969	

Robert Seater reports that he has procured a bookcase on which to display the yearbooks at the Bank. *Thank you, Robert!*

### IN MEMORIAM

Below is a listing of former Metz graduates who have passed away since the 2005 Alumni meeting. This information was taken from the Nevada and Rich Hill newspapers, and we would appreciate information on anyone who may have been inadvertently omitted.

- Marla Johnson Mahan ('74)
- Ila Rose Graham Mouradian ('46)
- Joyce Christy Kenney ('42)
- Mary Ochs Handly ('48)
- Elsie Shrum (Teacher)
- Marvin A. Wikoff ('38)
- Robert Handly ('36)
- Edward Kleitz ('45)
- Clyde Alexander (Classmate '36)
- Leonard Coffey (Classmate '53)
- Mary Ann Williamson Kronenbitter ('47)

Wilma Graham Phalen ('45)  
Franklin Nation ('42)  
Bob Coffey ('55)  
Dorothy Liles Robinson ('31)  
Gladys Helen Young Forkner ('33)

**NEW STATE SPORTS RECORD ESTABLISHED  
ON DECEMBER 16, 2005 BY MISSOURI STATE  
HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION**

In 1970, Bill Baker did not receive the full recognition that was due him at that time



when he set two Missouri high school sports records and tied a third record! The Metz High School boys varsity basketball team went to the State playoffs in Rolla, where Bill set a Missouri high school sports record which has not been broken to this day: **BILL BAKER MADE 52 CONSECUTIVE FREE THROWS DURING TOURNAMENT PLAY!** Additionally, he made 194 free throws

in 216 attempts for the 1969-70 season (89.8%) which now ranks number 4 on the MSHSAA's all-time list for a single-season boys performance.

**HOWEVER, IN 1969-70, THAT WAS THE BEST SEASON FREE-THROW PERFORMANCE EVER!** Bill also tied a third record with others by making 30 points in a playoff game.

Using scorebooks from the 1970 State playoff games, newspaper articles, and other documentation, it has been deter-

mined that Bill Baker's state record in those games has not been broken to this day and the following letter (in part) has been received from the Missouri State High School Activities Association:

"This letter is to confirm receipt of the documentation we received regarding your outstanding free-throw shooting performance and to confirm the placement of these efforts in the All-Time Records of the Missouri State High School Activities Association.

Regarding the 52 consecutive free throws made between February 27 and March 7, 1970, I would like to confirm that this performance is now the official Missouri State High School Record for consecutive free throws made.

As also documented in the materials, you made 194 free throws in 216 attempts for the 1969-70 season (89.8 percent) which ranks no. 4 on the MSHSAA's all-time list for a single-season boys performance. However, at the time you achieved this season mark, it would have been the best season free-throw performance, ever.

The MSHSAA is grateful for the many hours of research by Mr. Robert Seater and the time he has committed to recognizing your performance and in securing their proper place in our State's basketball history.

Sincerely,  
Rick Kindhart, Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Kindhart has expressed his regrets that he will not be able to attend the Metz Reunion to make a special presentation to Bill due to the Missouri





baseball championships being conducted in Columbia on that day. He asked that his best wishes be extended “to the great folks in Metz and to the Metz Banking Company in particular for preserving a true part of our State’s heritage.”

We are extremely pleased that former Metz School Principal Jerry Sparks and Duane Bauer, Coach of the 1970 team, will make the presentation to Bill Baker at the June 3 Alumni Reunion!

**MISSOURI SPORTS HALL OF FAME**

Metz High School is now represented at the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in Springfield by two 8” x 8” engraved pavers that have been placed in recognition of sports achievement at Metz High School. These

METZ HIGH SCH.  
1916 - 1984  
STATE B - BALL  
1970 CL-S. 3RD  
COACH D. BAUER

pavers, located in the west central, Vernon County area of the large Missouri depiction at the entrance to the Hall of Fame, represent both the School and the Community.

METZ HIGH SCH.  
BILL BAKER '70  
STATE RECORD  
52 CONSECUTIVE  
FREE THROWS

**THE METZ BANKING COMPANY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY**

In 1906, the Metz Banking Company was purchased for \$800, the capital was



increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000, and it was changed from a private to a State-chartered bank.

A new brick bank building was constructed in 1907, and the bank celebrated that Fourth of July by moving into its new facility. The stockholders at that time were J. M. Downing, Col. J. G. Hudson, J. P. Allen, T. E. Williams, Chas. Hedden, R. L. Graham, G. M. Smith, E. T. Dye, S. D. Witt, W. F. Long, Jas. Witt, W. Barnhill, M. R. Barnhill, and R. H. Peck.

In 1912, Dr. W. Melick was elected president and Irl D. Hudson, cashier. Irl Hudson served in the Navy during World War I; and following his discharge, he returned to the banking business in Metz where he remained active for about 40 years.

Now, 100 years after that \$800 purchase, the Metz Banking Company has grown substantially and expanded with a branch in



Nevada in 1996. A new building was constructed and the charter was moved to Nevada in 2001.

**THE HISTORY OF METZ**

A new Internet website featuring Metz and its history is being developed by the local genealogy society, using information from various Vernon County history books, newspaper articles, and photos, post cards, and other memorabilia from Metz residents. The website is at <http://www.rootsweb>.

[com/~motcogs/](http://com/~motcogs/), and a copy of the Metz information will be placed in a display book at the bank.

If you have information, photos, etc., about Metz, its history and people, which you would like to share, please contact the Genealogy Society at P.O. Box B, Nevada, MO 64772 or e-mail [TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net](mailto:TriCountyGenealogy@starband.net). Items will be copied and the originals returned to you. Please contact Nancy (417) 922-3596 for more information about this.

### COMMEMORATIVE POSTAL CANCELLATION

In conjunction with the Metz All-School Reunion and in celebration of the Metz Banking Company's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Metz Postmaster has applied for a special commemorative postal cancellation. If received, the Postmaster will have a postal booth at the Reunion site from 3-7 p.m. on June 3 where you can purchase envelopes, stamps, and postcards and have them cancelled with the commemorative stamp. This is sure to be a collector's item and you may wish to purchase several. The commemorative cancellation will also be available at the Metz Post Office for 30 days following the Reunion. If you will be unable to attend the Reunion, you can place an order by mail. The Metz Post Office can be contacted at (417) 484-3437.

You may want to bring your copy of the Alumni newsletter and have it stamped (no charge).

### DESTRUCTIVE FIRE

Six Frame Buildings on Main Street  
Burned Last Friday Morning

Metz suffered from another destructive fire early last Friday morning, and as a result six frame buildings on the west side of Main street were burned.

The fire broke out in W. M. Hedden's building about 12:45, but what caused it is unknown.

The flames quickly spread to the Ellis hotel on the south and W. H. Catherwood's butcher shop on the north. The Corbin building north, occupied by Elmer Charles as an office, was the next to catch fire, and R. C. Sinclair's restaurant and the old postoffice building were next. Here, by heroic work, the flames were stopped.

Read the entire article about this tragic fire in the November 15, 1907 issue of *The Metz Times*, which is now available on microfilm in the Nevada Library Genealogy Dept. Thanks to the efforts of the local genealogy society, a full set of microfilm of *The Metz Times*, May 27, 1904-December 1943 and May 3, 1946-September 16, 1977 can be viewed at the Library during regular hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tue, Thu: 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Sat: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sunday: closed.

Additionally, indexes are available for several early years of the newspaper.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 3, SCHEDULE

**3:00-4:30 p.m. – School Display in Bank**  
**4:00 p.m. – Reunion Registration**  
**4:30 p.m. – Metz Alumni Meeting (in Tent)**  
**5:30 p.m. – Bar-b-que Meal & Live Music**  
**by 'Distant Kin' courtesy of Metz Banking Company**

**Bring Your Lawn Chairs  
and Come Visit with  
Former Classmates  
on June 3, 2006  
in Metz!**

2006 Metz All-School Reunion Meal Reservation Form

Complete and return by May 20 for each meal ticket reservation. Copy form, if needed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

If Alumni, year graduated \_\_\_\_\_. If classmate, year your class graduated \_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

If Alumni, year graduated \_\_\_\_\_. If classmate, year your class graduated \_\_\_\_\_.

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ YES, I AM ENCLOSING A CONTRIBUTION FOR ALUMNI PRINTING AND POSTAGE EXPENSES.

**Mail by May 20 to Metz Alumni, c/o Margie Breneman, 1204 N. Elizabeth, Nevada, MO 64772**

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