

LANCASTER MENNONITE

www.lancastermennonite.org

WINTER 2008

Bridges

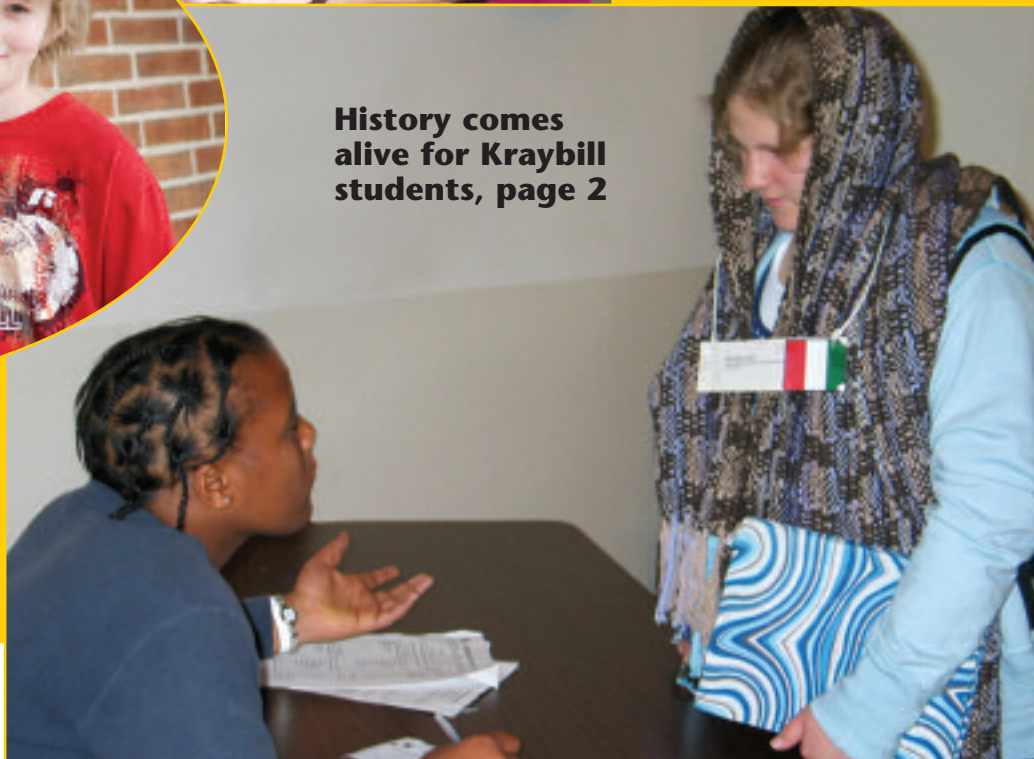


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*Centered in Christ
Transforming Lives
Changing our World*

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Lancaster Mennonite Bridges is the quarterly magazine of Lancaster Mennonite School, sent to alumni, parents and friends. LMS exists to transform students so they can change our world through Christlike love, peacemaking and service. The school welcomes students without regard to sex, race, nationality or ethnic origin.

Lancaster Mennonite School has four campuses:

Kraybill, grades PreK–8
598 Kraybill Church Road
Mount Joy, PA 17552
(717) 653-5236

Lancaster, grades 6–12
2176 Lincoln Highway East
Lancaster, PA 17602
(717) 299-0436

Locust Grove, Grades PreK–8
2257 Old Philadelphia Pike
Lancaster, PA 17620
(717) 394-7107

New Danville, grades PreK–5
393 Long Lane
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 872-2506

Address alumni and school news to
sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org.

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Volume 35, No. 3

HISTORY COMES ALIVE FOR STUDENTS

Take a walk in my shoes

Boni Garber had to carry her backpack and a whole armful of books wherever she went, and she couldn't set them down without getting yelled at. And, depending on who she asked, she couldn't even use the rest room.

"I seemed hardly human ...," she said. "It was like I was an unwanted piece of dirt in an immaculate room."

This was no ordinary school day at the Kraybill Campus. This was U.S. History class and Garber was taking a walk in the shoes of Natasha Bezuhov, a poor, illiterate Russian mother of seven who, in the early 1900s, was looking for a better life in America.

About 15 years ago Kraybill teacher Ken Schildt began involving his students in simulations so they could experience history firsthand. Each fall, his eighth graders become Native Americans who are forced to give up their land acre by acre. Later, during the re-enactment of the Second Continental Congress, students debate whether the colonies should declare independence from Great Britain. This lesson is collaborated with a language class where the teacher works with the students in writing a persuasive essay that they then use in the simulation.

The immigration simulation, a favorite among students, requires all eighth graders to play the role of immigrants who have just arrived at Ellis Island. Teachers and parents act as the processors. If the immigrants don't make the cut, they are deported—actually put on a bus and taken off-campus for a short ride.

As students take on the characters of those who lived much earlier, they discover that history could have taken a different turn. For example, in the vote on independence, some classes decide *not* to break free from Great Britain after they grapple with the issues.

"Students definitely remember these experiences more than some other things I try to teach them," Schildt said. "When I meet former students

they often ask if I still do the simulations."

Garber, now a ninth grader at the Lancaster Campus, says the simulations were "very effective" in teaching her about historical injustices, especially the immigration simulation.

"The whole experience will be a memory I will never forget," she said. "To be treated unjustly is always hard, but it was especially hard to know that these injustices happened to the immigrants who came to America."

That simulation, along with discussions at church, have led Garber to look at today's immigration issue.

"Who is our neighbor?" she asked. "Is it the guy who lives down the street or is it everyone in the world? I find I have a lot of questions, but I plan to live my life in a way that I can open my heart to everyone, no matter where they are from. Hopefully God's love will shine through me and touch other peoples' lives."

Besides the long-term learning implications, simulations also promote increased learning among students whose learning styles make it difficult for them to absorb material presented in a more traditional manner.

LMS ninth grader Jason Sauder says he likes it when teachers use interactive group activities.

"I seem to learn better," he said. ■



Andrea Melhorn, right, plays the part of a poor Russian immigrant during a U.S. History simulation at the Kraybill Campus. Janeth Magiri, who served at Kraybill under Mennonite Central Committee's International Volunteer Exchange Program, is the processor who will help determine if Melhorn is admitted into the United States or deported. Magiri spoke her native language to give students a feel of the language barriers some immigrants faced. PHOTO: J. DANIEL MARTIN



When Christine Baer, far right, participated in Kraybill's immigration simulation, she played the role of a poor, pregnant mother who was deported when she tried to gain admittance to the U.S. Not all immigrants were poor. In top photo, Brent Dimmig and Brandon Kratz play the roles of wealthy immigrants who were easily accepted into the United States. Christine is a tenth grader at LMS this year, and Brent and Brandon are in ninth.

PHOTOS: J. DANIEL MARTIN



Ken Schildt, at right, has been teaching at Kraybill since 1978. He teaches social studies and literature and also serves as Kraybill's athletic director.



High school musical and dinner theatre

Lancaster Mennonite High School students will perform the musical, *Les Miserables*, during the school's 29th annual Arts Festival, Thursday through Saturday, April 24–26. Times are 7:30 nightly and 2 p.m. Saturday.

Originally adapted from Victor Hugo's timeless novel, *Les Miserables* is a story about law and grace that has touched the hearts of millions. It is set in 19th century France. Playwrights for this School Edition are Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schonberg.

Tickets for reserved seating are \$8.00 for students and \$10.00 for adults for all performances except Saturday's matinee when they will be \$1.00 less. For tickets call (717) 299-0436, ext. 340, or send payment and a self-addressed envelope to LMH Musical, 2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, Pa., 17602. Reserved tickets need to be claimed at least 30 minutes before the performance. ■

Dinner Theatre to benefit the Annual Fund

The annual LMS Dinner Theatre will be held Saturday, April 26. The meal will be catered by LMS Food Services under the direction of Dottie Weber. Tickets, at \$40.00 each, include reserved seating in the Fine Arts Center for the 7:30 performance of *Les Miserables*. For the best seating, send order and payment today.

LMS Dinner Theatre • Saturday, April 26

Les Miserables

5:00 appetizers • 5:45 dinner—Alumni Dining Hall
7:30 musical performance—Fine Arts Center

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Number attending _____ Amount enclosed (\$40 ea.) \$ _____

Consider hosting a table of six or more. To reserve seating for a group, send your entire order together and list names of all persons in your party.

Food choice (indicate # of persons per entree):

___ Chicken Cordon Bleu ___ Carved Ham ___ Vegetarian Lasagna

Instructions: Return this form with payment to LMS Dinner Theatre, 2176 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, PA 17602. Tickets for reserved seats will be forwarded to you upon receipt of payment. Please register by Friday, April 18.

Quiz Bowl: fun and challenging educational opportunity

2007-08 team

Varsity Players:

Darren Weinhold, 12*

Ted Maust, 12*

Joel Nofziger, 11

Janae Lapp, 12

*co-captains

Top 4 Junior Varsity

Ben Sprunger, 11

Seth Moffett, 10

Noah Jemison, 10

Molly Stapleton, 9

Other JV players:

Suzanne Yocom, 12

Logan Ressler, 12

John Bomgardner, 10

Katie Stapleton, 11

Dorothy Mozloom, 12

Kyle Bomgardner, 12

Aneka Zimmerman, 11

Andrea Mast, 10

After a grueling day of quizzing, the two surviving teams were down to what amounted to a sudden death tie breaker. Lancaster Mennonite 140. Elizabethtown 135. The team that answered the next 10-point question would be the Lancaster-Lebanon League Quiz Bowl Championship winner.

"Name the seven colors of the visible spectrum from the shortest wavelength to the longest wavelength," said the moderator. Elizabethtown buzzed first.

"Red, orange ..." the player began.

Senior Darren Weinhold remembers like it was yesterday. "I knew right when he said 'red' that we were going to win the League title," he said. "Ted (Maust) says I was grinning like a Cheshire cat. I probably was.

"The question was rather clever. A lot of people know what ROY G BIV stands for (acronym for colors), but not nearly as many could identify which color has the shortest wavelength."

With Elizabethtown's bungled answer, the runway was clear for LMS. After a brief hesitation, Franklin Peiffer, 2007 graduate, buzzed in.

"All eyes were on me, and I knew if I dropped it, that might be the end for us," Peiffer said. "My heart was beating so fast.

"I remember distinctly saying 'purple' instead of 'violet' as the first color. I don't know why. I remember wondering if, for some strange reason, they would call me wrong.

"When I finished, I pretty much knew I was right, but I couldn't really breathe freely until I was called correct."

But correct he was and after the team breezed through the bonus question, the trophy was theirs.

To get to this historical moment, the LMS team

had just won five straight tournament games in one day, with four of those teams ranked higher than LMS at the end of regular season.

"It was absolutely exhilarating!" Weinhold said. "Not only was it the first time we won the League title, but we were only ranked 11th out of 22 teams."

High school English teacher Kris Horst, who has been coaching for three years, admits that while repeating the league title this year would be a challenge, "anything can happen." All Quiz Bowl teams qualify for post-season play, with season standings determining who plays whom.

LMS began its Quiz Bowl program in 1983 with Elwood Yoder as coach. Social studies teacher Daniel Wenger followed, coaching for 21 years. Wenger retired from teaching in 2004 and from Quiz Bowl coaching in 2005.

The Lancaster-Lebanon Quiz Bowl League was established in 1992, and LMS joined during the 1994-95 school year. Although last year's league win is a first, Wenger's team won the Lebanon Valley Tournament in 1999 and the Conestoga Valley Tournament in 2000.

Wenger vividly remembers the Lebanon Valley drama. To win that tournament, the team had to break through a six-year stranglehold by Manheim Township and then beat Carlisle and Blue Mountain. During the championship round, Darren's older sister, Dayna Weinhold Reidenouer (1999 grad), was a player.

"The moderator had a score of music put up on the screen, and the teams were to identify the piece and the composer," Wenger said. "I knew ... Dayna was organist at a Lutheran Church. Under my breath, I was saying 'Come on, Dayna.' Sure enough, she buzzed in before time expired and answered, 'Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata No. 8.' I remember a kind of gasp coming from the audience."

After winning, the team qualified for Nationals where they finished 19th out of nearly 200 teams and were voted rookie team of the year.

How is a match organized?

During a Quiz Bowl competition, players answer questions that cover all academic areas as well as current events, sports and pop culture. Each match consists of three rounds with four players per school per round, meaning a school's total team in any match can involve four to 12 players.

Questions in the competition are of two types: toss-up and bonus. The first team with a correct answer to a toss-up question receives 10 points and the chance to answer a bonus question worth 10 to 20 additional points. Results are printed in the *Lancaster New Era's* Thursday evening Weekender section.

Test your brain power

Can you compete with high school juniors and seniors? Following are questions that were taken from the November quiz bowl match. See answers on page 6.

1. What four-letter word means to incline an airplane laterally or to partially rotate it about its longitudinal axis?
2. The U.S. accepts more legal immigrants as permanent residents than all other industrialized nations combined; 52% of these legal immigrants settle in just two states. Which two?
3. To which charge did Vice President Spiro T. Agnew plead *nolo contendere* upon resigning from office in 1973?
4. Snell's Law governs the angle of refraction of what as it passes from one medium to another?
5. The end of the Cold War can be traced to Nov. 9, 1989, when what happened?



Who makes up the team?

According to Horst, any interested student may join the team, but those who score best, react the quickest, and have the best attendance during practices end up as varsity and top junior varsity players.

Weinhold says those who score well on aptitude-based tests and receive good grades in school are “usually, but not always” the best quiz bowlers. And, Maust says, they must be eager to learn, can retain facts, and are confident enough to use the buzzer. Oh, and it doesn’t hurt to excel in subjects like French or calculus.

Of the three seniors on varsity, two are National Merit Commended Students, and one is a National Merit Semi-finalist.

The gender factor

Although Quiz Bowl has traditionally attracted mostly males, at LMS nearly half—seven of 16—are female.

Senior Janae Lapp, a varsity player, says she would like to see even more females come out.

“Don’t be intimidated by anything,” she says, “whether it is being in the minority, fear of looking dumb, or being afraid that others will stereotype you as nerdy. If you have interest in Quiz Bowl, go for it!”

For Maust, a senior, the gender factor is a bit of a math problem. “Approximately half of our school is female and if they are uninterested, that cuts our pool of potential recruits by half,” he said.

Advice for prospective quiz bowlers

“Read. A lot!” says Weinhold. “History books and Shakespeare are probably the most helpful, but anything is useful.”

“Watch Jeopardy and pay attention in class,” adds Maust.

Lapp says prospective quiz bowlers should have a love for learning. “They are seekers of knowledge,” she said. “They don’t just sit and wait for it to come to them.”

What’s in it for the students?

“It is just a lot of fun,” says Weinhold, summing it up for his team members who say they enjoy hanging out with teammates and meeting new people. In addition, Maust says he likes those “random nerdy/quirky conversations that spring up at matches and tournaments.”

Then there’s the practical side. Students claim it looks great on college applications, keeps one’s brain sharp in other classes, and, some hope, may even help ward off Alzheimer’s.

Horst says additional benefits include leadership development, increased confidence, learning how to think quickly, and adding to one’s general knowledge.

“Plus, you can crush your friends and family in Trivial Pursuit and (TV’s) Jeopardy for the rest of your life!” Horst quipped.

On March 1 the team will make their second appearance (for this school year) on WGAL’s BrainBusters when their January match with Hershey is aired at 12:30 p.m. ■

In larger photo, LMS Quiz Bowl co-captain Darren Weinhold, right, buzzes in to answer a question presented by coach Kris Horst during a practice session. Classmates with Weinhold are, left to right: Janae Lapp, Joel Nofziger, and co-captain Ted Maust. In smaller photo, the 2006-07 Quiz Bowl team displays their L-L League trophy. They are front, left to right: Jason Sprunger and Darren Weinhold. Back: Jonathan Nofziger (alternate), Ted Maust, Frank Peiffer, and Coach Kris Horst. PHOTO: JAMES SENFT

Remaining Quiz Bowl schedule, beginning at 4 p.m.

January 28:
Pequea Valley at LMS

February 11:
McCaskey at LMS

Mennonite Sports Organization is formed



MSO Mission

Providing Christ-centered opportunities for children to play sports in a nurturing environment that promotes sportsmanship, fun, knowledge and enjoyment of the game.

Lancaster Mennonite School, working closely with a parent-run committee, recently established the new Mennonite Sports Organization (MSO) to provide Christ-centered sports opportunities for children in grades 1-6, with the possibility of adding pre-kindergarten and kindergarten.

In its first year, the MSO plans to offer boys and girls soccer, boys and girls basketball, and girls field hockey. Starting dates for each will be announced soon.

The MSO focus is not on winning, but on learning the game, developing team unity and building friendships—all within a nurturing environment that promotes good sportsmanship and fun. By working closely with congregations, the program will also encourage students to remain in the community of faith.

Affordable cost

The registration fee is just \$25 per player; additional players in a family are \$20 each, up to a maximum of \$85 per family. A team shirt is provided in the price.

Practice and play facilities

For practices, youth will have the opportunity to use the fine facilities of Lancaster Mennonite School's three elementary campuses:

- Kraybill Campus, near Mount Joy in northwest Lancaster County
- Locust Grove Campus, east of Lancaster near the Lancaster Campus
- New Danville Campus, just east of New Danville

Games will be played at the Lancaster Campus's first-class high school facilities.

Practice and game schedule

- Practice times and locations will be determined by coaches after the teams are set up.
- Practice will be held one afternoon or evening per week.
- Games will likely be held Saturday mornings.

Organizing teams

The MSO provides the opportunity for students from the same geographic area to play together. We will do our best to organize teams in a way that reduces travel time.

Get in on the ground floor!

Pastors, youth leaders, Sunday School teachers, parents and others are invited to start thinking about how the MSO can bond children from their congregation, Sunday School class or youth ministry. Registration materials will be available soon to distribute through congregations and schools.

For more information

Please contact Jeff Shank at (717) 394-7107. ■

Answers to Quiz Bowl questions on page 4

1. Bank
2. Texas and California
3. Tax evasion
4. Light
5. The fall of the Berlin Wall

Do you know children and youth who would benefit from a Christ-centered education?

Visit our four campuses over the next weeks and months and learn more about the many exciting growth opportunities at Lancaster Mennonite School. Come during a scheduled event or call to arrange a separate visit. Also, check out our web site at www.lancastermennonite.org.

OPEN HOUSE

Pre-kindergarten

Kraybill & Locust Grove: January 29, 9–11:30 a.m.
New Danville: January 30, 9–11:30 a.m.

Kindergarten: January 30, 9–11:30 a.m.

Kraybill, Locust Grove & New Danville

All Campuses: February 4, 6–8:30 p.m.

The evening will include tours and conversations with teachers. A 7:00 welcome assembly will be held at the Kraybill and Lancaster Campuses. The Lancaster campus will also include high school course selection for the 2008-09 year, and information about financial aid/scholarships.

Prospective Student Days

January 24 and March 27

High School: 8:05 a.m.–3:05 p.m.

Other grades: mornings only

Please call to register.



PHOTOS: JEREMY HESS PHOTOGRAPHY

For more information or to schedule a visit:

Kraybill, grades PreK–8

Principal John Weber, (717) 653-5236

Lancaster, grades 6–12

(717) 299-0436, ext. 311

Locust Grove, grades PreK–8

Principal Judi Mollenkof, (717) 394-7107

New Danville, grades PreK–5

Principal Judi Mollenkof, (717) 872-2506

School facts

- There are 1,513 students enrolled at four campuses (PreK–12).
- Approximately 52 percent of LMS students are from Anabaptist denominations, and more than 20 other denominations and many non-denominational congregations are represented.
- At the Lancaster Campus, 21 percent of students are of under-represented racial/ethnic groups. At Locust Grove, 26 percent, and at New Danville, 29 percent.
- Students at the Lancaster Campus represent 47 school districts, four Pa. counties, six states, and six countries.
- Thanks to Graybill Hall (high school residence hall), there are 55 international students at the Lancaster Campus. Sixty students live in Graybill Hall.
- Five high school fall sports teams won section titles and advanced to playoffs.

LANCASTER MENNONITE SCHOOL

Centered in Christ • Transforming Lives • Changing our World



In December the LMS community celebrated Jesus' birth during Christmas programs at each of the four campuses. Above, high school Campus Chorale students are joined by alumni and friends for a moving performance of Handel's Messiah, which was held at the Lancaster Campus. The four guest soloists were international opera singer and 1989 LMS alumna Madeline Bender; Madeline's husband, international opera singer Paul Whelan; local soprano Amy Yovanovich; and international singer Timothy Bentch. This was Director John Miller's sixth and final Messiah performance at LMS since he plans to retire at the end of the school year. PHOTOS: JONATHAN CHARLES

Inviting students to personal faith

In addition to integrating faith into daily classes and setting aside regular times for Bible study and worship, the school periodically schedules events with specific emphases. In early October, for example, the Missions Inspiration and Education Week brought speakers to the Lancaster Campus from Eastern Mennonite Missions, Mennonite Mission Network, and Mennonite Central Committee. Guests shared stories of times when, in service to others, they ended up being served. They also described service opportunities and challenged students to examine their attitudes toward those they may serve.

Several weeks later, Sue Conrad, associate pastor at East Chestnut Street Mennonite Church, led daily chapels at Lancaster during the high school's annual Commitment Week. Her theme

was "Telling our stories with Jesus at the core."

"Sue connected energetically and realistically with students," Campus Pastor Dorcas Lehman said.

During her daily messages, Conrad used biblical and personal stories to communicate that God has a story to tell the world through each of us. She also said that Jesus offers healing and hope when we are hurting; God never abandons us, even if it seems everyone else has; if we mess up like Peter, Jesus is there to forgive us and use us in new



Sue Conrad
PHOTO: GALEN SAUDER

ways; and as salt of the earth (Matthew 5) we need to remember who we are and whose we are, even in our private lives and relationships.

During Career and Faith Week, set for the last week of January at the Lancaster Campus, guest speakers will share how their faith has affected career choices, how they carry out their work, and how they relate to co-workers and clients. The speakers will also be invited to share in classes.

Career and Faith Week grew out of the school's educational strategic action plan that calls for additional emphasis on helping students identify gifts and abilities and learn about various career options. ■

Celebrating student accomplishments

- In the fall, the LMS **boys cross country** team won its first district team title in class AA. Other fall winnings include field hockey with section and league titles; girls cross country, section title; girls volleyball, section title; and boys soccer, section title. The golf team qualified five players for district competition.
- Nine seniors received **Keystone Degrees**, the state's highest FFA award, during the Pa. FFA Association's 79th Mid-Winter Convention.



- **Five high school musicians** were selected to participate in the Pa. Music Educators Association (PMEA) District 7 music festivals. Junior Eric Umble earned first in clarinet for District Band and also qualified for District Orchestra, along with junior Devin Troy, violin, and sophomore Andrea Mast, violin. Junior Maggie Nicholas, first in soprano 1, and senior Hana Grosh qualified for District Chorus.



- **AP Scholars:** Senior Darren Weinhold earned the AP Scholar with Distinction honor from the College Board in recognition of exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program (AP) Exams. In addition, seniors Seth Charles, Erika Christopher, Racheal Erb, and Serena Jeblee were named AP Scholars.

- Three 2006-07 **high school publications** took honors. The yearbook, the *Laurel Wreath*, received a Gold Medalist rating from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association for the 14th consecutive year. The book also received All-Columbian recognition for concept, coverage and photography. In addition, the *Silhouette*, the school literary magazine, and the *Millstream*, the school newspaper, received silver ratings from the Pa. School Press Association.



Cross country photo at top: front, left to right—Chris Root, Seth Charles, Nigel Anjiri, Ryan Schlo-neger. Middle—Erich Eitzen, Zach Zook. Back—Head Coach Weston Shertzer, John Fueyo, Coach Lee Thurber, Keith Mast. PHOTO: LINDA WINGARD.

- The **average SAT score** for the top half of the 2007 graduating class, including math and verbal, is 1238.

- **Kraybill students raised over \$100,000** for the Kraybill Campus during their annual Race for Education fund raiser.



FFA photo, above: front, left to right—Lindsay Lapp, Kandace Hershey, Derek Nissley, Katie Zimmerman. Back—Angela Becker, Charise Garber, Chris Root, Suzanne Yocom and Ann Ntari. PHOTO: RYAN KING.

- Sophomore Bryant Betancourt won the Lancaster County Health Care Hero **writer's contest**. His essay, written in Janet Banks' Writing Skills class, was forwarded to the State competition.

Bryant Betancourt

Erika Christopher

PHOTO: GALEN SAUDER

- Senior Erika Christopher has been cited as a winner in the 2007 National Council of Teachers of English **Awards in Writing**. ■

PMEA photo (third down), left to right: Maggie Nicholas, Devin Troy, Andrea Mast and Eric Umble. (Hana Grosh is missing from picture.)

Spring auctions to benefit annual fund

School auctions are a fun way for families, alumni and other friends to support LMS students. All proceeds go to the LMS Annual Fund which keeps tuition affordable. For more information call the New Danville Campus at (717) 872-2506, Locust Grove at (717) 394-7107, and Kraybill at (717) 653-5236. Also, go to www.lancastermennonite.org.

New Danville Country Auction, Friday, April 18: Food starts at 4:00 and the sale begins at 5:00. Sale items will include quilts and wall hangings, artwork, quality crafts, tools and power equipment, classroom baskets, gift certificates, new items from area businesses, delicious food and baked goods, and a separate plant and shrubbery auction. To donate, please call John Mattilio at (717) 917-4682.

Locust Grove Country Auction and Chicken Barbecue, Friday, April 25: The event will include a Chicken Barbecue from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The auction, beginning in the afternoon, will feature specialty items, art and handcrafted items, lawn and garden items, gift certificates, collectibles, and more.

Kraybill Benefit Auction & Pig Roast, Friday and Saturday, May 9 & 10: Big change for Friday—As usual the all-you-can-eat “southern style” Pig Roast will run from 4:30–7:30 p.m. But the 6:30 p.m. auction has been changed to an event that will specialize in items of interest to three groups—children (toys,



PHOTO: GARY HILLER

games, etc.), women (tea parties, massages, health and beauty products, etc.), and men (hunting and sports gear, sports tickets, tools, etc.). Visitors can also preview the outstanding quilt collection and general merchandise to be sold Saturday, starting at 8:30 a.m.

Quilts will be sold at 1 p.m. Saturday, and a wide variety of food and children’s activities will be available throughout the event. See www.kraybillmennonite.org/auction.htm. ■

Mark your calendar!

Quilting bee at Lancaster Campus February 25–29, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Alumni Dining Hall lobby: The noon meal will be provided. Quilters can also help by donating a top, finishing a top, donating a completed quilt, or by making a special quilt or wall hanging. Call Gary Hiller at (717) 653-5236.



Day trip to the Big Apple for alumni and friends, Saturday, March 22: LMS has 40 seats available for a day trip to New York City. Executive Coach will leave the Lancaster Campus at 6 a.m. and return around 11:30 p.m. The day is yours to shop, sightsee, or attend a matinee performance. Cost: \$40 a person. Contact Deborah Sprunger at (717) 394-7107 or sprungerdl@lancastermennonite.org.

LMS Golf Tournament, Wednesday, April 30, at The Host: This year’s event will again include morning and afternoon tee times. The fee of \$85 per golfer includes greens fee, cart, light food before the round, a meal afterward, and skill/door prizes. Brochures will be sent in March. For more information, contact committee chair Allan Shirk, (717) 299-0436, ext. 382. ■



LMS summer day camps scheduled

Basketball

Boys basketball, grades 5–10.....July 21–25

Field Hockey

Jr. high field hockey, grades 6–8.....June 9–13

Sr. high field hockey, grades 9–12August 4–8

Soccer

Sr. high boys soccer, grades 9–12August 4–8

Tennis

Intermediate tennis, grades 4–8.....July 28–Aug. 1

Advanced tennis, grades 9–12Aug. 4–8

Other camp opportunities

Spiritual fitness, grades 10–12June 6–8

Coed culinary arts, grades 4–9July 14–18

Intro. to Stop-motion animation, grades 6–10July 15–17

Intro. to video production (iMovie), gr. 7–10July 14–18

Intro. to digital photography, grades 6–10July 21 & 22

Digital video editing, grades 6–12.....July 23–25

Other camps being planned: drama, volleyball, girls soccer, boys junior high and elementary co-ed soccer, girls basketball and lacrosse. For a brochure and application, please call (717) 299-0436, ext. 310.

■ Superintendent Richard Thomas has been named moderator of Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) of Mennonite Church USA, effective January 1. The moderator chairs the executive committee and, with the moderator-elect, moderates the spring and fall conference assembly celebrations. ACC is an association of 33 congregations and agencies such as Lancaster Mennonite School. John Weber, principal of the Kraybill Campus, is moderator-elect.



Richard Thomas

■ Director of Advancement Heidi Stoltzfus was recently named vice chair of Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) Mennonite Women, an organization that helps to plan and direct conference-wide events for ACC women, sometimes holding joint events with Lancaster Mennonite Conference. She will serve as vice chair for two years and then become chair.



Heidi Stoltzfus

■ In December about 20 LMS juniors had a chance to visit and interview Landis Homes residents and learn, first-hand, how ordinary folks lived a long time ago. The intergenerational visit was the fulfillment of a U.S. History assignment and part of an ongoing relationship between Landis Homes and LMS that provides intergenerational opportunities for both.

During the interviews, students asked questions such as: What was it like to live before computers? Who was the most important person in your life? What was most rewarding about your career? and What was the church like during that time and how is it different now? According to Landis Homes Director of Activities Marva Godin, it was a terrific experience for the residents.

“There seems to be something magical about teenagers and elders getting together,” she said. “The younger generation learns so much, and they (students) seem to represent hope to the residents.” ■

January 24–26	High School Winter Drama, <i>The Robe</i> , 7 p.m.
February 22–23	Locust Grove Drama, <i>Charlotte's Web</i> , 7 p.m.
February 24	High School Winter Concert, 3 p.m.
February 29	MSC High School Band/Orchestra Concert, 7 p.m.
March 27–28	LMMS Drama, <i>Anne of Green Gables</i> , 7 p.m.
April 4	All-School MS Fine Arts Festival, Lanc., 6:30 p.m.
April 24–26	HS musical, <i>Les Miserables</i> , 7:30 p.m. + 2:00 Sat. matinee
May 2	MSC MS Choir Festival Concert, Lanc., 7 p.m.
May 18	High School Spring Concert, 3 p.m.
May 20	Kraybill Middle School Choral Program, 7 p.m.
May 20	Lanc. Campus Middle School Spring Concert, 7 p.m.
May 30	Campus Chorale, 6:30 p.m./Sr. Class Dedication, 7:30



Top photo: Construction of the new academic building at the Lancaster Campus is well underway. About \$1 million is still needed to dedicate the facility debt free and provide endowment for its maintenance.

Directly above is Kraybill's nearly completed Kristin L. Palazzo Gallery and lobby. A dedication service will be held Sunday, February 10, at 2 p.m. It will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony and the unveiling of a commemorative plaque in the auditorium/gymnasium lobby adjacent to the Kristin L. Palazzo Gallery. The public is invited.

PHOTO: GARY HILLER.

At left, junior David Denlinger interviews Landis Homes resident Harry Eager.

PHOTO: DEBORAH LAWS-LANDIS



CLASS NOTES

In July, **John Shertzer, 1961**, Lancaster, became executive director of Black Rock Retreat, Quarryville. He attended Cornell University School of Hotel Administration in New York and spent 18 years working in hospitality. Before that he was president of The Office Works, an office supply store.

Kevin and **Sharon Witmer, 1980**, **Yoder** returned from Kenya, East Africa, in June. They live in Elkhart, Ind., where they are co-pastors of Olive Mennonite Church.

Heidi A. Wenger, 1982, Lancaster, is teaching English to kindergartners in Seoul, South Korea until July 2008.

Paul Sadaphal, 2001, Reading, graduated from Alvernia College and is employed at Alvernia while pursuing his master's in political science at Lehigh University.

Jed Burkholder and **Tim Hoover, both 2002**, have opened The Infantree art gallery on Prince Street, Lancaster. Hoover, a Messiah College graduate, is a graphic designer for Mennonite Central Committee. Burkholder is a barista

at Prince Street Cafe and does some writing and photography.

Stephen Edwards, 2003, Daytona, Fla., was a summer intern for NASA, in launch control and ground operations at the Kennedy Space Center. He has also served as ministry leader with Campus Outreach at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He will graduate in May 2008 with a degree in Engineering Physics.

Jocelyn R. Engle, 2004, Lancaster, is director of marketing for Engle Printing and Publishing, Mount Joy. She graduated from Eastern University with degrees in marketing and management.

Katelyn Rutt, 2005, Lancaster, served with Virginia Mennonite Missions in Orange Walk Town, Belize, this summer. She was involved in deaf ministries, including a vacation Bible school for deaf children.

Jin Heindel, 2007, York, left in November for a six-month assignment with Youth Evangelism Service (YES) in The Balkans. She is sponsored by Eastern Mennonite Missions, Salunga.

Three **2007** alumni were named AP Scholars for exceptional achievement

on the college-level Advanced Placement Program exams. They are **Peter Horst**, **Brian Martin** and **Ben Rittenhouse**.

MARRIAGES

Steve Nissley, 1987, and Grace Dodzweit, July 7, 2007. They live in Elizabethtown.

Madeline Bender, 1989, and Paul Whelan, June 30, 2007. Madeline graduated from Manhattan School of Music Opera Theater and has performed in many major opera houses in the U.S. and Europe.

Dorcas (Dori) Steckbeck, 1993, and **Marvin Landis, 1992**, September 23, 2007. They live in Lancaster.

Jonathan R. King, 1993, and Megan Lynne Kelly, May 24, 2003. They live in Wyomissing where Jon is employed by Alvernia College as sports information director and head golf coach.

Jessica E. Landes, 1995, and David Spieser, August 25, 2007. They live in Williamsport where Jessica is house manager for the theatre department of Lycoming College. She also plays vio-

CLASS REUNIONS

1957

Sixty-three classmates and spouses from the class of 1957 enjoyed a wonderful time of getting re-acquainted at the Finger Lakes in New York, according to reunion planner Maddie Sollenberger. Participants visited Sonnenberg Gardens and Watkins Glen, took a boat cruise on the lake at Watkins Glen, and enjoyed a delicious banquet dinner at The Inn on the Lake, Canandaigua. The planning committee also prepared a memory book for their classmates.

1977

On November 17, ten 1977 classmates participated in the 5K Walk/Run that was part of the Fall Gathering & Auction. Then at 10:30 am 55 alumni/spouses gathered in Alumni Dining Hall for a brunch and sharing (meal catered by T Burk Deli, Smoketown). In the evening, 40 met at Edward Ruth Galleries for a dessert reception. ■



Classmates from the class of 1957 pose for a picture during their 50th year reunion in October.

At right, class of 1977 classmates Linden Showalter, left, and Bill Umble visit at their class reunion brunch that was held in Alumni Dining Hall in November.

PHOTO: LAMAR WEAVER



lin in the Williamsport Symphony Orchestra. Earlier she volunteered for a year as an activity aid at L'Association Servir in Valdoie, France.

Tim Godshall, 1995, and Virginia Showalter, May 27, 2007. They are volunteers at Jubilee Partners, an intentional community near Athens, Ga.

Kirk Landes, 2000, and Dorothy Butler, July 13, 2007. They live in Leesburg, Va. Kirk graduated from Eastern Mennonite University in 2004 and is employed by TARGET as a receiving specialist. Gabriel, Dorothy's son, completes their new family.

Gina Weaver, 2002, and Robert Lusk, November 17, 2007. They live in Stevens.

Janelle Engle, 2002, and **Joel Benner, 2003**, June 16, 2007. They live in Lancaster. Janelle is employed by Manheim Central School District as a middle school teacher and head coach of the varsity field hockey team. Joel is completing a biology degree with a concentration in respiratory therapy at Lancaster Regional.

Joel Lehman, 2002, and **Stephanie Miller, 2001**, November 10, 2007.

They live in Lancaster where Joel is an online journalist at Lancaster Newspapers and Stephanie is a chemist at Lancaster Laboratories.

Eric Martin, 2005, and **Rita Weaver, 2005**, August 4, 2007. Eric is a mechanic for C.B. Hooper of Intercourse. Rita graduated from the Lancaster General College of Nursing in May and is a registered nurse at Lancaster General. They live in Blue Ball.

BIRTHS

Heather Rodenberger, 1979, Spokane, Wash., a daughter, Madeleine Mei, "Dai Dai," January 5, 2003, arriving from China October 15, 2007. Heather is working in the field of clinical research and drug development.

Gary, 1991, and **Kelly Blank, Alexandria, Va.**, first child, a son, Samuel Ralph, September 4, 2007.

Zack, 1991, and **Kristin Samuel, Levittown**, triplets Nicholas John, Noah Jude and Chance Charles, June 5, 2007.

Tom and **Rochelle Breneman, 1993, Jones, Marietta**, third and fourth chil-

dren, twin daughters, Ainsley Pearl and Aspen Paige, March 8, 2007.

Brent, 1993, and **Jennifer Roland, Mechanicsburg**, a daughter, Alana Grace, October 24, 2007.

Nathan and **Laura Mellinger, 1994, Beach, Virginia Beach, Va.**, second child, first son, Samuel Alexander, July 18, 2007.

Joel, 1996, and **Shelley Wissler Leaman, Ronks**, second son, Zachary Joel, May 18, 2007.

Aaron and **Lisa Smoker, 1996, Underwood, Quarryville**, second child, first daughter, Audrey Jane, August 23, 2007.

Brian and **Jennifer Milich, 1996, Redding, Glenmoore**, first daughter, Skylar Anne, September 27, 2007.

Joel and **Monica Rohrer, 1996, Lederman, Marshall, Mich.**, first child, Caleb John, November 6, 2007.

Derrick and **Jessica Rohrer, 1998, Weaver, Elizabethtown**, first child, Andrew Scott, August 31, 2007.

Dave and **Deb Charles, 1999, Bear-den, Lancaster**, first son, Chase William, August 10, 2007.

Increased phonathon giving to be matched



Kathy Martin, 1979, enjoys chatting with an alumnus during a recent phonathon. Each year 150 callers are needed for the 10-night event.

Numerous alumni and other friends are providing leadership gifts as a way to encourage increased giving during the LMS Alumni Phonathon which will be held in February and March.

According to Director of Alumni Relations Jeff Shank, the 2008 Challenge Fund will match each gift that is increased by \$25 or more.

During 2007 the phonathon raised \$162,000 for the Annual Fund which helps keep tuition affordable and provides student scholarships. The event played an important role in helping the school balance its operating budget.

For more information about the Challenge Fund or alumni phonathon, please call Shank at (717) 394-7107. ■

Jeremiah, 1999, and Kristine Widders **Denlinger**, Newark, Dela., first child, a son, Isaac Widders Denlinger, November 28, 2007.

Zach, 2001, and **Megan Hostetter, 2001, Kennel**, Lancaster, second son, Asher David, April 25, 2007.

Nathan and **Jena Moyer, 2002, Umbrell**, Elizabethtown, second child, first son, Lane Travis, October 23, 2007.

DEATHS

Dorothy Peifer Metzler, 1957, Lancaster, December 20, 2007.

Phoebe Mae Blank Mellinger, Lancaster, December 5, 2007. Attended 1949-50 with class of **1953**.

Doris Charles Weaver, 1970, Lititz, October 30, 2007.

James Nissley, 1979, Elizabethtown, January 28, 2005. ■

Correction: Emmett Murphy, 1962, lives in Troy, New York, not Connecticut.

Fundraiser supports students



Thanks to all who helped raise over \$160,000 during the Fall Gathering & Auction weekend that was held at the Lancaster Campus November 15-17.

The Iron Bridge Run/Walk raised \$40,000 toward a new track, the Brent Nauman Memorial 3v3 tournament brought in \$60,000 to support an

athletic trainer, and the auction/barbecue raised \$60,000 for the Annual Fund.

Next year's Fall Gathering, set for September 26-27, will be a homecoming event for alumni and friends. ■

For November 17 Iron Bridge Run/Walk results, go to www.lancastermennonite.org. The winning team for the basketball tournament is, left to right: Chris Peterson, Steve Leaman, Geoff Groff, and Trevor Ranck.

Time to set that date!

Class reunions

For more information go to www.lancastermennonite.org

1948	September 27, 2008
1953	April 19, 2008
1958	June 28, 2008
1963	September 19-20, 2008
1973	October 11, 2008
1978	September 20, 2008
1987	June 7, 2008

Class of 1959 will hold a reunion May 1-2, 2009.

If you are a contact person for a 2008 class reunion:

Please consider planning your reunion around Homecoming 2008. Give your date to Director of Alumni Relations Jeff Shank at shankja@lancastermennonite.org or (717) 394-7107 as soon as possible so families can plan ahead. Your information will be posted in *Bridges* and on our web site. For help with planning, go to www.lancastermennonite.org and click on "alumni," "class reunions," and "information for reunion contact persons."

Homecoming 2008

Great opportunity for your class reunion!

LMS will hold Homecoming 2008 September 26 and 27 at the Lancaster Campus in conjunction with the school's Fall Gathering & Auction. For more information contact Jeff Shank at (717) 394-7107 or shankja@lancastermennonite.org. Tentative schedule includes activities listed below. Details to follow.

- Linda Ebersole Memorial Golf Tournament
- Pig roast & chicken barbecue*
- Athletic games on new turf field
- Campus Chorale Reunion & Concert
- Alumni Reception
- Blazers Fun Bike Ride
- 3 v 3 Brent Nauman Endowment Basketball Tournament*
- Iron Bridge Benefit Run/Walk*
- Specialty Auction to benefit Annual Fund*
- Informal class drop-in and/or class reunions

*These events are part of the Fall Gathering & Auction, held each year at the Lancaster Campus.

From learning disability to directing Discipleship Ministries program



Ryan Showalter, 1998, attended the Kraybill Campus for kindergarten through grade eight and the Lancaster Campus for grades 9–12.

If, as a young student with a learning disability, Ryan Showalter had been told he'd someday become the youngest ever director of Discipleship Ministries at Eastern Mennonite Missions (EMM), he likely would have said, "No way."

But today Showalter oversees a department of seven, including those who direct Discipleship Ministries' four short-term programs.

It's been a journey, Showalter says, describing his struggle with reading during his first years of school. He credits Kraybill Campus tutor Sandra Garman for patiently teaching him how to read by grade two. Later he discovered that, to qualify for the high school sports he loved, he had to do well academically.

"I learned early that I had to have discipline and work hard," he said. As Showalter grew academically, he also grew spiritually. The summer of 1997 he attended Mennonite Youth Convention in Orlando, Florida, where speaker Tony Campolo delivered a "fireball message" on tithing one's time. That experience, coupled with Friday morning Bible studies and prayer meetings with friends during his senior year at LMS, resulted in Showalter becoming more serious about his walk with God.

After high school, he went immediately into EMM's Youth Evangelism Service (YES) program during which he spent eight months in youth ministry in Wales.

"It was a life changing experience for me," he said. "I realized God wanted all

of my life, not just Sunday mornings."

After YES, Showalter accepted a full-time ministry position with Harrisburg Youth for Christ, soon adding full-time classes at Harrisburg Area Community College. In 2001 he left both to begin classes at Eastern University, St. David's, Pa., and graduated from there in 2003 with a degree in youth ministry.

"I felt like God was saying, 'This is payday for all that hard work,'" he said, recalling how his mom proudly reported back to Mrs. Garman that her son not only completed college but did it cum laude.

Two years later, after another YES assignment (church planting in Waterbury, Connecticut) and during a master's of divinity program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Showalter said "Yes" to the director position at Discipleship Ministries.

Showalter is married to Jennifer Waldron-Showalter, an MRI technologist for the MRI Group. They live in Lancaster and attend Mount Joy Mennonite Church where Showalter was credentialed as a pastor. Showalter also serves on the board of Mennonite Central Committee. Today he continues his seminary studies at Eastern Mennonite Seminary (EMS), Lancaster campus.

What does your work involve?

Making sure short-term efforts run smoothly with EMM's long-term efforts. We want to be strategic so that the assignments impact the world and fit into our long-term vision. We hope many short-termers will become long-termers and the experiences will prepare many for church leadership.

What is the best part of your job?

I love working with young people. I love their passion to follow God ... and how they allow that passion to affect how they love their neighbor and their world.

The most challenging

Finding ways to take the timeless reali-

ties of the gospel and communicate them in a way that youth understand.

What did you value most at LMS?

(1) the spiritual environment that allowed for diversity in beliefs, (2) the fact that the high school was a bigger Christian school with more opportunities, and (3) having more racial/ethnic diversity than most local public schools—something that I think helped me develop a cultural view of the world.

Who or what at LMS helped you the most in who you are today?

Mrs. Garman, the coaches, and key chapels. I vividly remember when high school student Jason Forshey (1995) was in a serious car accident. We took time to pray in chapel and later in the classroom. The message here was: "Academics are important but right now we need to be the body of Christ in caring for others."

Favorite teachers

At Kraybill, Jim Baer, and at the high school, Myron Dietz. Baer had a lot of knowledge and wisdom but knew how to apply it in a practical way. At LMH I remember the debate chapels between Dietz and young Bible teacher Pete Dula—representing two different world views but the same Christian faith. I liked that.

Your passions

I'm passionate about helping young adults learn to know God and experience God in other cultures, and about providing opportunities to serve the church and "the least of these."

Future plans

To finish graduate school and serve in overseas missions with Jennifer. ■

Discipleship Ministries includes four short-term programs: Kingdom Teams, providing three to five-day inner city assignments for youth groups; GO! which trains intergenerational mission teams for assignments of one week to a year; Summer Training Action Teams (STAT), eight-week cross-cultural assignment for ages 15-18; and Youth Evangelism Service (YES), six to 11-month cross cultural opportunity for ages 18-30. For more information go to emm.org/short-term.

LMS: a difference to celebrate

This fall my wife, Joyce, and I were privileged to accompany the seniors and other staff and parents during the senior class trip to Washington, D.C. I was gratified to hear so many compliments about this fine group of students as they had fun together, strengthened friendships, built faith, and participated in educational experiences. In many ways these two days in Washington are a microcosm of the differences students enjoy at LMS.

Each year I have the opportunity to share the LMS Difference with families and students who are considering Lancaster Mennonite. I tell them about how LMS provides students like Ryan Showalter with an excellent education that develops their gifts and abilities so they can engage our world with faith, hope and God's love.

In this issue, Showalter, a 1998 alumnus, expresses gratitude for the school's racial/ethnic diversity that helped prepare him for his current work as director

of Eastern Mennonite Missions' Discipleship Ministries. Ryan says the diversity of LMS—which is greater than that at many Lancaster County public schools—enhanced his ability to minister in our increasingly diverse country as well as around the world.

Offering a planned PreK-12 program that includes elementary and middle school education at three campuses plus a separate high school is another LMS Difference to celebrate. This planned program is already showing positive results through improved standardized test scores that are used to measure our performance and progress.

Other differences include denominational diversity, a high school residence hall, and 60 international students. With the LMS Difference empowering students for a lifetime, it is not surprising to me that friendships formed here also frequently last for a lifetime.

As you consider an elementary, middle or high school education for your



J. Richard Thomas

children, I invite you to visit the four campuses of Lancaster Mennonite School or check out our website at www.lancastermennonite.org.—jrt



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