

High School Gains Alumni Association

By Keith E. Domke
St. Clair Missourian Editor

"The more people who get involved, the better it will be."

— Glenn Owens
SCHS Class of 1963

St. Clair High School now has an alumni association.

During the October meeting of the R-XIII school board, Class of 1963 alums Fred Becker and Glenn Owens updated those in attendance on the formation of the group and its plans to help SCHS graduates further their educations.

The Class of 1963 recently had its annual reunion, and during the gathering several graduates began discussing what they could do to give back more to the high school.

"We wanted to know what we could do to help," Becker said. "We knew there were some scholarships given, but we learned there was no central scholarship fund.

We wanted to do something to help further education."

The idea of the alumni association was formed.

"At this last reunion, we passed a hat and got \$2,200, and we said, 'Hey, that was easy,'" Becker said. "That evolved into 'Why can't we make this a continuous thing?' so we decided to establish an alumni association."

Becker said all the paperwork has been finished and a charter received for the

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Trick-or-Treat

Halloween in St. Clair on Sunday and paraded through the dozen trick-or-treaters walked along North Main Street as Turner and his wife, Jan, of First Baptist Church, dressed part of the church's "trunk or treat" offering in the parking lot Hannah Huitt dressed as a Wheaties box as she walked

Missourian Photos.

Used 'Explosion'

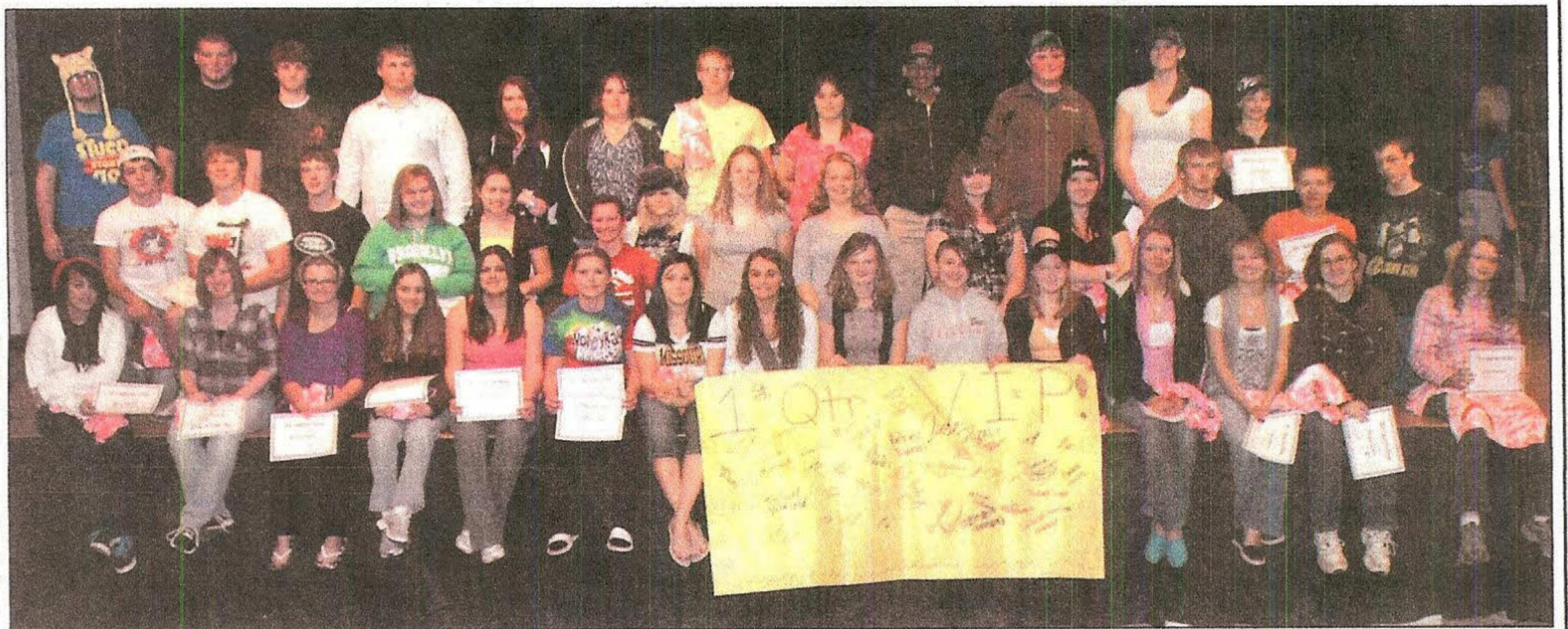
uri spokesman said. ...ened is that a fuse blew ...er near the intersection ...and Main, apparently as ... lightning arrester fail- ... Communications Execu- ...ary said last month. "It

wasn't an actual explosion, although it may have made a loud noise."

Cleary said a lightning arrester is a device that's designed to protect equipment from damage caused by a lightning strike. This type of arrester is

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St. Clair High School students stand and sit on the auditorium stage last Wednesday after being named Very Important People for the first quarter of the 2010-2011 school year.

Missourian Photo.

Y **FRIDAY** **SATURDAY**

Mostly Sunny Mostly Sunny
High: 46° High: 52°
Low: 29° Low: 40°

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tion to ensure a coordinated and efficient effort to meet

with all the positions as soon as possible.



ALUMNI

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not-for-profit organization.

The process actually was set in motion by Gary (Class of 1963) and Jim (1960) Marchbank as earlier this summer they began discussing how individual classes have at times over the years distributed one-time memorial scholarships. Jim Marchbank suggested the possibility of classes banding together to create a larger fund that would be available to assist more students. The idea took off and the association was formed.

"It was phenomenal," Becker said of the process.

Members of the Class of 1963 are spearheading the association and hope to raise enough money to offer annual scholarships.

"Our legacy, the Class of 1963, would be to get it going and keep it well after we're gone," Becker said. "We want to create something that will go on and on."

And the way to do that, Becker and Owens said, is alumni participation.

"The more people who get involved, the better it will be," Owens said. "Just think how much money we'd have if every SCHS grad would give 10 bucks."

"Right now, we're trying to gather support and get ideas," Becker said. "We're trying to put this thing together and pull together all the ideas floating around. The success of this really will depend on the energy of our alumni."

Three more people are needed to fill out the nine-member board of directors. Anyone interested in becoming a board member may contact Gary Marchbank by e-mail at wazoo369@yahoo.com.

Response to the formation of the alumni association was positive.

"I'm glad we're getting this up and running," St. Clair School Superintendent Michael Murphy said.

St. Clair High School Principal Vicki Enyart agreed.

"It's nice to see everything falling into place with this," she said. "This will be a good thing for our school."

Any SCHS alum interested in making a donation may send a check made out to the SCHS Alumni Association and send it to Becker at 7778 Liberty School Road, Leslie, MO 63056.

"We're committed to getting this going," Becker said. "We're planning on making something really big out of this."



Ribbon Cuttings

Both Household Sales & Leasing and Nathan Tate's Northwest Social Network business had ribbon-cutting ceremonies last week members of the St. Clair Chamber of Commerce.

EXPLOSION

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attached to electric wires at the top of a pole, and when it senses the sudden high voltage caused by a lightning strike, it closes instantaneously to divert the lightning through a wire to the ground.

"Although there was no lightning in the area the day the incident occurred, this device likely was damaged by a storm at some time in the past, but didn't fail immediately when the damage occurred," Cleary said. "When they fail, they can make a loud 'bang,' which is probably what people in the area heard that day."

At the time, witnesses near the intersection be-

lieved the event was an underground explosion. People said that at about 12:30 p.m. that day the ground shook below them, windows rattled around them and smoke was seen coming out of the manhole cover at Main and Springfield.

Local authorities were baffled and could not explain what may have caused the "explosion." Both the St. Clair Fire Protection District and Missouri Natural Gas sent crews to the scene but found nothing out of the ordinary.

"We couldn't find evidence of anything," St. Clair Fire Chief Tim Wideman said at the time. "I just don't know what happened."

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VIP

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and awards students and faculty and staff," club sponsor Melissa Krimmel said. "We promote good grades, good attendance and a positive attitude at SCHS." Teacher and Fellowship of Christian Athletes sponsor Ben Martin was the speaker for the Oct. 27 induction event.

"Small-town life is the best kind of life," he told the VIPs and the family members in the SCHS auditorium audience. "Small towns are where Americans develop high morals."

"St. Clair is not perfect. It has its problems. But

VIPs, this is where you come in. What you are going to do is find solutions. ... If you see a problem, you've got to be the change."

Each VIP received a certificate and a T-shirt. They also were rewarded with a pizza lunch afterward.

"You're not just important people," Martin said, "you're very important people."

The 42 first-quarter VIPs are Laura Bardot, Kelly Barns, Michael Belfield, Ryan Beltz, Joshua Bozada, Linda Branham, Jessica Brown, Jessie Chavers, Alicia Collings, Shawna Crisler,

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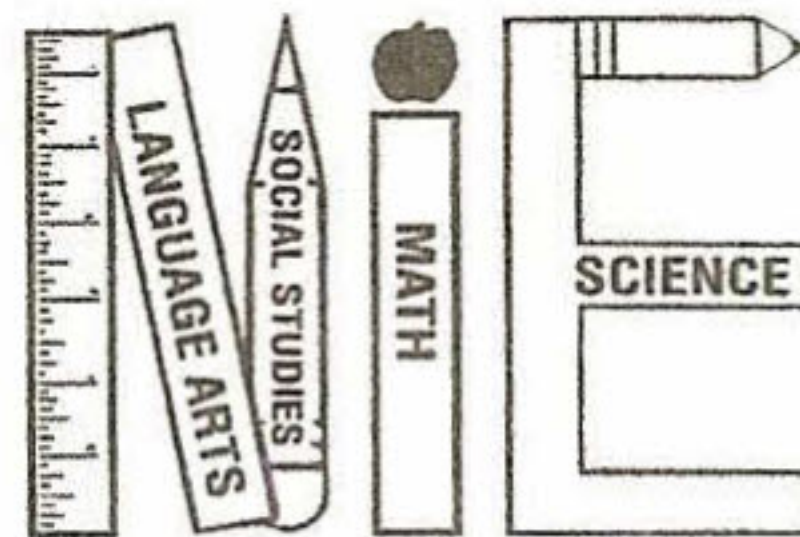
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