



# THE CHARGER

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER SPRING / SUMMER 2011

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## ROBYN'S VIEW

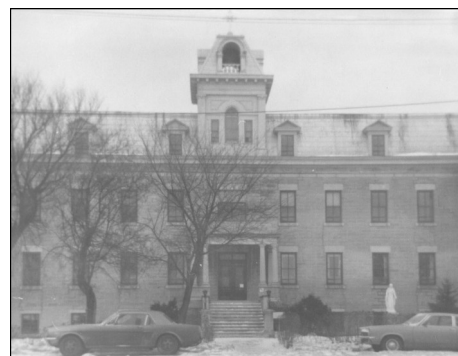


I thought it would be only fitting that I share the words I brought to the Oblate Farewell on behalf of the Alumni...

It is my pleasure to bring greetings on behalf of the Alumni this morning to an Order that has touched so many lives since the doors opened to St. Charles Boarding School in 1906.

There have been many changes since those doors first opened...here are just a few...different sections of the school have come and gone, the boarders are no longer, there has been concrete and now grass again in the backyard, the uniform has had many variations over the years, the school crest and name also has had some changes, computers and smart boards have replaced typewriters, the staff is entirely lay people-with one exception, and probably the biggest change, the school has been passed on to the parishes.

Despite all these changes (large and small) there is something special engrained in the fabric of the school that has survived the test of time. This was clear to me five years ago when my husband and I came to the Kindergarten Open House...it felt like I was coming back home. Today I see the faces of Alumni that span over the decades, former staff, former principals and the faces of future Alumni in the children.



To ensure future parents, students and staff remain connected with the vision of the Oblate Sisters, "*To promote the Spiritual Welfare of St. Charles and to ensure a Christian education*", a Historical Corner has been created in the former entrance of the old building. Sister Regina's life's work here at the school is on display. This is a work in progress, but the foundations have been put in place for the memory of the Oblate Sisters and your work to live on.

On behalf of the Alumni, I simply say...Thank You.

As the Order moves on in your journey please know you will be in our prayers as we have been in yours for so many years.

God Bless,  
3-2-1 Chargers  
**Robyn Powell (deBeer)**  
**'82-90, Alumni Rep,**  
**Board of Directors**

# Principal's Update



*... There are  
over 7,300  
names in  
the Alumni  
database*



It probably seems like only yesterday that you yourself were anticipating the traditional year-end activities at St. Charles, namely the Awards Ceremony, final exams, the Grade 8 Farewell, and Kinder Grad. Yes, the school is buzzing with excitement!

Throughout the newsletter are articles about the accomplishments of the students this year, be it in sports, science, reading or the arts. It also includes Sr. Emma's final newsletter column. After 23 years at St. Charles, she is retiring from education and moving on to a new ministry. To recognize her contributions to the school, the school celebrated her service with a Mass and an Assembly. A special part of the celebrations included the dedication of the school chapel to Sr. Emma's favourite saint, St. Therese of the Child Jesus.

Congratulations to the School Patrols and Ms. Robson who were awarded "first place in the Private School Division" by the Winnipeg Police Service for the second year in a row. The competition was stiff this year, but Ms. Robson's training and the students' hard work paid off! The group was recognized for its service to keeping the children safe in all kinds of weather and scenarios. The trophy they were given is displayed in the front entrance along with the other plaques and trophies awarded, in memory of accomplished alumni, to students for their great accomplishments.

If you have a moment, we encourage you to stop by the school. Over the summer, a new classroom will be furnished in what was the former science lab to accommodate the increasing school enrolment and some other long awaited renovations will also be completed. This "freshening up" of the building is possible through many,

many hours of volunteer labour. Thank you to all the families who have given so much of their time to paint, clean, design and install items throughout the building.

If at all possible, please join us at some of the upcoming events. These are great opportunities to reconnect with old friends and to make a few new ones. Please call the front office or check the school website for more information about the Founders Day activities, Golf Tournament, Kinder Grad, Grade 8 Farewell, musical/ drama productions, year-end Mass or the Awards Ceremonies. We would love to see you!

May you have a restful and peaceful summer.

- Dr. Penny



# Sister Emma's Corner

When I look back on the last forty-four years of my life, I can truthfully say, "The Lord has done great things for me. Holy is his name." Yes, forty-four years ago I began my teaching ministry here at St. Charles. I have come and gone over the years and I now end my ministry in schools at St. Charles. I guess I can say I have gone full circle. Out of my 40 years in schools, 23 were in St. Charles. They were times of growth, learning, enriching experiences, of giving and receiving. I can honestly say I have given my best to my students and colleagues but I have received even more.

As I prepare to leave St. Charles I would like to express my gratitude to my Oblate community for allowing me to serve the St. Charles school community for so many years. My thanks also go to the students, parents, staff, Board members and administrators for their acceptance, understanding and support. Letting go is not easy but I am confident that the school will continue to provide a faith-based and faith-filled education. I firmly believe that, with Dr. Penny at the helm, the school will continue, in the spirit of its founders, to fulfill its mandate as a Catholic school. Dr. Penny has proven over the last four years that it is important for her that the students and staff know and understand where we come from; that we continue to build on the solid foundation handed down by Archbishop Langevin, Mother St. Viateur and Mother Marie-Joseph.

To all I say thank you, farewell and may the Lord bless you as you continue, as a school community, to provide a sound Catholic education to the students. Estote fideles, be faithful!





# Memories from the Oblate Sisters



*... The original  
name of the  
school in 1906  
was  
St . Charles  
Boarding  
School*



## Bazaars and Teas

During the 40's and 50's bazaars were held yearly in the fall in the recreation room. All proceeds went to help the missions.

The windows and walls were covered with white sheets. Various tables were set up around the room. Each table was the responsibility of a Sister.

There was a fish pond which was always very popular with the younger children. A company would donate some toys that they couldn't sell because of defects and Sister Collette would repair them and these were used for some of the prizes.

There were a great variety of crafts that were made by the Sisters, some of them were very creative in this area. For example, they cut a pretty picture from a used greeting card and pasted it on a small jam lid, put a border around it and then added a loop at the back so you could hang it up. There were also knitted and crocheted items. There was a raffle wheel that had numbers on it. Little boards with numbers on them were sold and if your number came up when they spun the wheel you won the prize. We think this was used later on at some Teas.

There was a table for candy. Do you remember black balls, 3 for a penny, also mackintosh toffee, candied apples and chocolate bars and other favorites?

When the new annex was built in 1962 the Bazaar was held in the gym. There were basically the same ideas, handicrafts, raffles and the ever popular fish pond.

Each class would make decorations that were hung in the gym, hallways and cafeteria. Parents, grandparents loved to see the art work. Tea, coffee and dainties were served in the cafeteria.

In the 80's the Bazaar became the Spring Tea. All money raised went to the school. The raffle was held in conjunction with the Tea. It was a lot of work. It became a big fundraiser and it was difficult to find a convener. A lot depended on donations big and small. Sister Edna Lavoie donated a lot of her creative sewing and knitting. She has a real knack for sewing different pieces that were useful besides being unique. Someone would bring a decorated cake for the bake table and the volunteers would quickly have a raffle for the cake. There were a lot of impromptu moments. Big donations would come in at the last minute and that was the start of the Silent Auction.

There was so much going that many volunteers were needed. The gym was set up as a Tea Room with a long table down the middle. There were tea pourers, who were local politicians, priests, Mother Superior, Principal, Board Chairperson, etc. They would pour in half hour shifts, used the Silver Tea sets. Small tables were set up with tablecloths, vase and flower, tea cups and saucers. Junior high students would serve the tables, along with the help of their mother or father. They did their job well.

The crowd pleaser was the children's performances. It was a big attraction and therefore caused a lot of congestion in the gym.

In the cafeteria were the bake table, handicrafts and white elephant. The main entrance was set up for the Rainbow and Silent Auctions. The recreation room was the Kids Corner, fish pond, bean bag toss, popcorn, cupcakes, movies, etc.

We can't forget about the kitchen where egg salad, ham or tuna open faced buns would emerge and the plates of dainties. Thanks to all those dishwashers.

# Memories from the Oblate Sisters

In spite of all the hard work it was fun too.

**The following contributed to the above memories:**

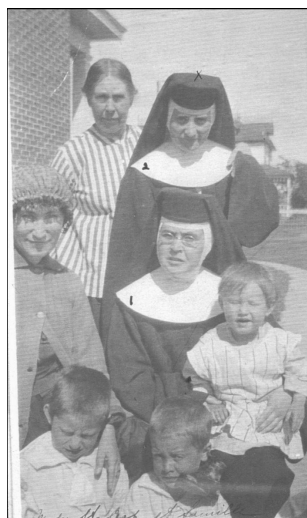
Sister Alice Arnal (Sister St. Emile) 1951-72, music teacher

Sister Bernadette Desorcy (Sister St. Ubald) 1949-58, 1962-66, kitchen

Sister Cecile Fontaine (Sister St. Roger) 1958-60, kitchen and student supervision, 1964-68, teaching, 1971-75, teaching

Valerie deBeer (nee Collins), 1959-72, student

Edith Ugrin (nee Havixbeck) 1942-53, student



Michele Thurston and Harry deBeer



Adrienne Ladouceur, Hostess



Ribbon cutting by  
S. Berthe Caron, Principal

# Oblate Sister Farewell

## Saint Charles Academy School Song



Let us honour our dear  
Alma Mater.  
Let us sing in one voice  
her fair name.  
Greater schools there may be,  
but none dearer  
To our hearts than the one  
we acclaim.  
The azure and the gold  
of her banner,  
To St. Charles bids us  
always be true  
To honour her ideals forever,  
And keep faith with the gold and  
the blue.

*- The above was sung by the grade 3 class*



**WE WILL ALWAYS  
HOLD YOU DEAR**



Holy, holy, holy nun  
You are like the shining sun  
When you started at our school  
You dug a hole and made a pool

### Refrain:

**We will always hold you dear  
In our hearts for many years.**

Since you taught us how to pray  
We were hoping you could stay  
Cause you started up our school  
You are like a precious jewel.

### Refrain:

You are always at our school  
You never break  
the Golden Rule  
We will miss you everyday  
In our hearts you'll always stay.

### Refrain

You are such a caring nun  
You wear your hair in a bun



*...The original  
1960's  
Cafeteria  
kitchen is  
being  
remodelled  
this summer.*





# SCCS Student Accomplishments

Like an angel you have wings  
And you taught us many things.



## Refrain:

You are so much very fun  
Sunny, sunny, sunny nun  
You love praying to the Lord  
And you used to live next door.

## Refrain:



- Michael S competed at the Manitoba/Saskatchewan Swimming Championships last weekend. He swam 7 events and medaled in all of them bringing home 1 Gold, 5 Silver, and 2 Bronze medals. His times rank him in the top 20 in Canada at the moment with his 50 backstroke time ranking him 8th overall!! He made the provincial relay team which went on to break the past record by over 6 seconds, and put them in third place in Canada. He was chosen as one of the top swimmers in the province and is going on to a prospects camp next week. There he will train with the top 4 swimmers from Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia.. with Team Canada's National Coaches.

Congratulations Michael

## Congratulations, to our SCCS students on their recent accomplishments:



- Yasmin B, a swimmer for the St. James Seals, competed in the Manitoba Junior Provincials Championship March 4-6th in Brandon. Everyone on the team swam their personal best. Special congratulations to Yasmin for winning GOLD –100m breaststroke, BRONZE –200m breaststroke, 4th place-100m backstroke, 2nd place- 4x25m medley relay, 3rd place- 4x25m freestyle relay. Congratulations, Yasmin!
- Congratulations to Cieran O. who plays basketball for Roblin Park and got M.V.P.
- Congratulations to Ryan Mc. who plays for the Bison and won 3rd place in a tournament in Grand Forks.
- Congratulations to Josh M's hockey team, the Deer Lodge Blues, who won the City Championships for 13A's.
- Congratulations to Amy A's basketball team, who won Gold in the States.
- Congratulations to Kyra T. who won the Ingimundson Award at the Ranger Banquet. This award is for: dedication to the team at practices and games, strong work ethic shown by going in the corners to dig out the puck, works to best of ability, makes smooth transition to AA, very coachable, and leader amongst teammates.



# Thank You for Your Support

**THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH!**

Thank you to our Alumni for their generous support of our Spring Raffle and Chocolate Drive.

Both of these events have deep roots in our school. Many of our alumni have the opportunity to participate in these fundraisers at the parish level. Together these fundraisers account for \$20,000 a year in revenue.



## How Can I Help?

St. Charles Catholic School believes that every child should have the option of benefiting from a Catholic education.

Thanks to our Student Bursary fund, we are able to welcome families from all circumstances. Last year, the school sponsored \$40,000 in bursaries to families in the school. A collection was also taken up at our Christmas Concerts this year with enough money donated to sponsor an entire tuition! Donations of all amounts are greatly appreciated and will ensure the Bursary Fund's ability to assist.

Donations over \$20.00 will receive a tax receipt and can be forwarded to:

St. Charles Catholic School  
331 St. Charles Street  
Winnipeg, MB  
R3K 1T6



Thank you  
for your ongoing contributions  
towards this important fund.



**Kindergarten Open House**

Tuesday, January 31st, 6:30 p.m.

**K-8 General Open House**

Wednesday, February 29th, 6:30 p.m.

**Afternoon Open House**

Tuesday, March 20th, 1-3 p.m.

St. Charles is a K-8 school, offering full day, every day kindergarten, a violin enrichment program, K-8 French, a hockey skills development program, arts and drama, as well as before and after school care. Academy Kids Daycare is also located on the premises. For more information, please call St. Charles Catholic School at 837-1520

*Quality Education that is  
Intellectually Challenging  
and Faith Filled*

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**MEMBER SUBSCRIPTION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADUATING CLASS: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ ☐ I have enclosed my annual membership fee of \$10.00. Please continue mailing a hard copy of "The Charger".

☐ ☐ I have enclosed an additional donation of \_\_\_\_\_. Please send a tax receipt to the above address.

☐ ☐ Please send the Electronic Charger to the above electronic mail address and enter my name in the draw for a "CHARGERS" Touque

☐ Please contact me about upcoming fundraising events.





**Saint Charles  
Catholic School**

**RETURN ADDRESS:**

331 St. Charles Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3K 1T6

POSTAGE

LABEL