



HOLDREGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Giving Back to Education

HHS Alumni Recognition Feature!

Dear HHS Alumni and HPS Foundation Supporters,

Holdrege High School is fortunate to have many very successful graduates. We are excited to continue sharing the stories of some of those HHS Alums. Kristine (Long) Jacobson, Class of 1990, has joined our efforts with her journalistic talents to bring you this month's feature.

Several classes will be having reunions during Swedish Days. We hope that you will be able to join us at the ***HPS Foundation 5th Annual Golf Tournament*** on **Friday, June 14th at 11:00am**. The entry brochure is accessible at holdregedusters.org.

We also welcome your suggestions and comments and encourage you to join the Duster Alumni Association (*see form below*).

Sincerely,
Matt Allmand, Chairman
HPS Foundation Committee



Doug & Becky Koesters Steinke - Classes of 1987 & 1988

Steinkes make strides as doctor, outdoor photographer

By Kristine Jacobson

Becky (Koesters) Steinke remembers this boy who used to pick on her during junior high band class. She showed him.

Becky is now a successful family practice physician in Grand Island and competes in marathons and 5Ks on the side.

She remembers that boy - Doug Steinke - all too well. In fact, she married him. Becky, class of 1988, followed her childhood dream of becoming a doctor and now enjoys serving generations of families in her career at Family Practice of Grand Island.

Doug, class of 1987, found his career path when he became a stay-at-home dad and combined his love of the outdoors with photography.

Doug Discovers Photography

Doug remembers joking with his brother, Dave, about how they would avoid any college classes that involve writing term papers. But one of his proudest moments was getting his first article published in an outdoor magazine.

Since then, more than 120 of Doug's photos have been published in magazines like Ducks Unlimited and NEBRASKAland. In fact, he has an article and photos in the current May 2013 issue of NEBRASKAland. His first article appeared in the January/February 2008 issue and featured his son, Blake on the front cover. Turns out Doug had a talent in photography.



Doug & Becky Steinke

"It just happened that the photos I take stand out from other photos," Doug said. It might have been all the time he spent hunting and enjoying the outdoors as a child in Holdrege.

His first dream job was to become a storm chaser. After he graduated from Holdrege High School, he attended the University of Nebraska at Kearney, where he ran track for two years and studied pre-meteorology. After figuring, he didn't want to move to Oklahoma to complete his storm-chaser studies, he attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he graduated with a degree in water science. His first job out of college was working for the Natural Resources District in Grand Island as a resources assistant.

"It was completely outside," Doug said. "I got to see a lot of the country."

Becky's Doctor Dream

Becky, in the meantime, was following her childhood dream of becoming a doctor. "I knew I wanted to go into medicine, and I wanted to do deliveries," Becky said.

She graduated from Creighton University in Omaha in 1992 with a degree in biology. She then studied medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, graduating in 1996, and completed her three years of residency with one year in Omaha and two years in Grand Island.

Doug and Becky married in 1993 and lived apart for several years until Becky moved to Grand Island. After her residency, she landed a job in Grand Island. They soon started a family, which now includes three boys, Garrett, 14; Blake, 12; and Gage, 9.

As the boys were growing, the Steinkes' careers kept them busy with long days and hours that required both of them to work early mornings and late nights. "It got to be that the nurses were raising our kids," Doug said. They made the decision for Doug to be a stay-at-home dad. At the time, their children were 6, 4, and 1.

"At first, it was an adjustment," Doug said. "But now it's the best thing that could have happened."

With Doug having more flexibility, Becky's career blossomed. "She's in high demand," Doug said of his wife. "I can pretty much take care of the kids and take them to activities and she can do her thing and do it well."

Becky delivered around 100 babies that first year Doug worked at home. Since then, she has cut back on her patients and delivers on average 50 babies a year.

While Doug was home with the kids, he was asked to review new products for Avery Outdoors and to take pictures of the products. His photos started to be selected for publication, and that's where his outdoor photography career began. To keep the stress down in her life, Becky took up distance running when a friend asked her to run a 5K with her several years ago. Although Becky ran track and cross country in high school, she stopped running with her long hours of medical training.

"I had to walk the first 5K," she said. But she kept training and now enjoys running various 5K and 10K races, including the annual Swedish Days run in Holdrege, and the Lincoln Marathon and Half-Marathon. She has run the full marathon twice now, with her second time being just this year on May 6th. Becky is looking forward to running the 2013 Silver Run organized by Phelps Memorial Health Center in Holdrege on June 15th, along with some of her former classmates who will be back celebrating their 25-year class reunion.

Becky is most proud of finishing first place in a recent women's 10K in Omaha in the 40 and older category, which included more than 400 competitors.

Recalling Holdrege High

Both Doug and Becky have fond memories of their days at Holdrege High School.

Doug especially enjoyed FFA with Dr. Marvin Monson, and he remembers teacher, Brian Borden. "Mr. Borden was probably one of the best teachers I had," Doug said. "He didn't let me get away with anything."

Doug also has good memories of Rick Jeffery, former track and cross country coach, who is now the mayor of Holdrege.

Becky enjoyed biology instructed by Mr. Tim Ronnenkamp and English, instructed by Mrs. Marcia Rost, whom Becky said expected a lot of her students. And Becky enjoyed her days in junior and senior high band, where she played the trumpet.

She escaped that ornery boy who picked on her in junior high band when he dropped band from his classes. But, Doug eventually realized his error and asked Becky to the prom in high school. And, the rest is history

About Us

The mission of the HPS Foundation is to support and enhance the educational efforts of students and teachers of Holdrege Public Schools by providing funding for innovative and challenging programs, learning experiences, and activities.

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