Greetings Augustana Class of 1953,

I hope this letter finds you enjoying a cup of hot coffee in a warm spot in your home! With record low temps, we are looking for warm places here in South Dakota this January — the Huddle is a great place to grab a warm drink and catch up on the day’s news while our students come and go at a less hurried pace than just a few weeks ago. January, while cold, is an enjoyable time on our campus. Many students take the opportunity to travel the world during Interim, while many others explore an interesting course such as “The History of Jazz” or “Career and Life Planning” during January. So while we enjoy the pace, we look ahead to a busy second semester and the exciting time of graduation for our Class of 2013.

If you have the good fortune of living close to Sioux Falls, there are a few interesting programs (in addition to our athletics and music offerings) planned this spring in which you may want to take part.

THE RENDEZVOUS PROGRAMS

We have a robust international student population at Augie. One of the opportunities we have to learn about our students and their home countries is the “Rendezvous” program offered most Fridays at 3:00 p.m. on campus in the Back Alley. These events are free and open to the public. Students speak about various topics ranging from food, culture, religion and politics from their home country. Find a complete schedule at www.augie.edu/events.

ACADEMY FOR SENIORS

Each fall and spring, Augustana offers an Academy for Seniors program. This semester, the theme for the series is “Enriching Lives Through the Arts, Sports and Music.” The program is from 10 a.m. —1:15 p.m. and includes Chapel, the lecture and a lunch. To see the schedule of speakers, visit www.augie.edu/aas. Registration is $37.50 and includes all three programs and lunches. Contact Kay Dahlquist (605.274.5521 or kay.dahlquist@augie.edu) in the Advancement Office to register.

You will find news of your classmates, below, and enclosed with this letter is the SCOOP, containing even more information about your alma mater. As always, we encourage your financial support to the College — all gifts of every size provide crucial support to our students. If you’ve already made your gift this year, we sincerely THANK YOU! If you’ve yet to make a gift, we graciously ask for your support.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Yours, for Augustana,

Mary Toso ’90
Director of Alumni Relations
Class Notes for 1953

**Phillip Bruns**, 80, died on February 8 in Los Angeles, CA. His performances at Augustana qualified him for a scholarship to the Yale Drama graduate school and a Fulbright scholarship in England at the University of Bristol where he met friend Peter O'Toole. He would return to the US and become "one of the three busiest, outstanding young men in the commercial world" in 1968 according to Time magazine. He spent 3 years with the Jackie Gleason Show and played the father character on the Mary Hartman Show. Frank married twice in his life. In 2009, he authored the autobiography "The Character Actor's Dos and Don'ts and Anecdotes"

**Hazel (Fletchall) Johannsen**, 80, passed away on September 9, 2011 in Madison, SD. Hazel graduated as a Registered Nurse in 1952. In 1952, she also married Roy Johannsen. She was an active member of the St. Peter Lutheran Church - W.E.L.C.A. and Retired Nurses Association. She was an avid gardener and good friend. She loved cooking, baking, and playing hostess to family and friends.

**Kenneth Kinnunen**, 84, died on May 14, 2012. He served in the US Navy during World War II.

**Arlyss (Engen) Peterson**, 80, died on July 23, 2012 in Sioux Falls. Arlyss and Bob were blessed with four children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

**Neil Raber**, 74, died on November 24, 2011 in Eagle, ID.

**Marilyn (Davis) Sroka**, 80, passed away on April 28, 2012 in Lake Forest, IL. Originally hailing from Sioux Falls, SD, Marilyn wanted to live in the big city and moved to Chicago in her early 20's. Married to Henry Sroka for 51 years, Marilyn always made family a priority. She loved spending time with family and friends, gardening, traveling and just having fun.

**Kirstine "Stina" Stjernholm**, 81, passed away on May 24, 2012 in Pueblo, CO. After graduating from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S. D., she taught elementary school in Pueblo for a number of years before earning her Master's Degree in Library Sciences from the University of Denver. She began her second career as a librarian at her alma mater. She then returned to Pueblo to work in the library of Southern Colorado State College, now Colorado State University. She retired in 1995, after 28 years of service to that institution. Stina was a woman of deep faith who was active in her church and volunteered many hours there. She also loved telling jokes, watching sports on TV, playing card games and traveling. She was a devoted aunt to her 21 nieces and nephews, and played an integral role in her large extended family.