

## CAROLYN GABRIELSEN BARSTAD

**Carolyn Gabrielsen Barstad** has been part of the Eau Claire Public School System since she was five years old and started kindergarten at Lincoln School. From there, she went to Randall School for grades 1-6, Eau Claire Junior High School for grades 7 & 8,



Eau Claire Senior High School (which is now the Administration Building) for grades 9 & 10, and Memorial High School for her junior and senior years. Carolyn graduated from Memorial High School in 1959, and she went on to UW-Eau Claire for her BA degree in English and physical education that fall. She graduated mid-year during the 1962-63 school year and taught English and speech in Cadott, Wisconsin, from January until June 1963. That fall, Carolyn started teaching in the Eau Claire School System. During the years, she was at Central Junior High School, DeLong Junior High School, Memorial High School, and North High School. She continued teaching and counseling in the Eau Claire Schools until she retired in 1996, after 35+ years in education. During those years, Carolyn earned a MS

Degree in Guidance and Counseling at UW-Stout plus a number of other credits beyond her MS Degree – just because she likes to go to school and learn new things. She feels the Eau Claire School System was very good to her, because she was able to transfer to various positions and various schools during those years. She taught English, was a department chair, a school counselor, a newspaper advisor, a student council advisor, helped plan/chaperone proms and graduations, and took students to various post-secondary schools for tours and to meet university and technical college representatives. She retired in 1996 after 35 years of teaching and counseling.

During retirement, Carolyn was a substitute teacher in the English Department at North High School. She also had a part-time job at the Paul Bunyan Logging Camp Museum as the administrative assistant for about eight years and worked 20-25 hours a week. Both were great experiences, and she enjoyed them a lot. She is now retired from both teaching and the camp.

Carolyn thought that people might like to know a little about her family as well as her professional life, so she explained that after going their separate ways in life following high school graduation, Carolyn and her high school sweetheart, John Barstad, got reacquainted some years later and were married on June 12, 1993. They live on the North Side of Eau Claire and are enjoying retirement in the city where they both grew-up. Carolyn's nephews and nieces enrich their lives, and they love spending time with them whenever they can. And John's children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren have also been an important part of their lives through the years.