

**O**ur guests of **Royalty for Ye Olde Christmas Feaste 2008 for Sunday night** are **Brian Dale Stiemke and Diane Stiemke-Mandella**, children of the late Donald Stiemke, former SMHS Choir Director and co-founder of the Feaste. Brian, SMHS Class of 1982, has recently released a CD, "Sticks and Stones," a vocal pop/jazz project co-produced by Joe Puerta (Ambrosia, Bruce Hornsby) and Kevin Arndt. He is a seasoned session drummer and vocalist with numerous CDs, jingles and guest performances to his credit. Please visit his web site at [www.briandal- music.com](http://www.briandal- music.com). He and his wife, Maren Erickson, and daughters Kara and Shelby enjoy life in Bay View, and this year Kara has begun attending South Milwaukee Middle School. The fruits of Don and Gert's labor come full circle in their children and grandchildren who manifest their love of the performing arts. It is a bittersweet privilege for their granddaughter Kara to experience the opportunity to perform on the stage of the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center.

Diane Stiemke-Mandella, SMHS Class of 1971, resides in Franklin with husband Don Mandella. They are avid photographers, enthusiastic travelers and gardeners, and were die-hard recyclers back before recycling went mainstream. They were asked by Gert Stiemke to support South Milwaukee's heritage efforts when Gert found out, only a few days before she died, that the South Milwaukee referendum to build a new high school was successful. Diane serves as a Board Member of The SM Legacy, an organization dedicated to enhancing the South Milwaukee School District campuses and honoring the city's past while establishing a legacy for the future. The dream Don and Gert Stiemke nurtured for so many years - that of having a beautiful auditorium, finally came true.



*Connie U'Ren and Don Stiemke, Co-founders of Ye Olde Christmas Feaste. They directed 30 musicals together, several of which were honored with encore performances at the Pabst Theater.*



*Don and Gert Stiemke, Feaste Royalty in 1987*



*From left, Paula (Stiemke) Andrews, Barbra Andrews, Don Stiemke, Phil Stiemke, Brian Stiemke, Dave Stiemke, Gert Stiemke, Diane Stiemke-Mandella, enjoying the 1981 Feaste*