

The Echo



Vol. 16, Issue 1

Newsletter for Sacred Heart Academy Alumnae

March 2017

Dear Alumnae of Sacred Heart Academy,

Springtime greetings to each of you. Homecoming 2016 at Sacred Heart and the Villa Center was a great success, and I'm very happy to share that we will gather again at "home". All are invited to the celebration of the Eucharist in the Chapel at 11:30am, followed by a luncheon in Villa St. Benedict. Invitations will be mailed in August with all of the details.

*A very sincere thank you to the Alumnae who made a dues donation to the SHA Alumnae fund in 2016. We use your donations to print and mail **The Echo** and the Homecoming invitations to our 450 Alumnae, as well as for the expenses associated with Homecoming. I ask all of you to consider supporting the Alumnae fund. Donations may be made at any time.*

I hope to see many of you again at Homecoming, October 21st.

*Jane Doyle
Alumnae Liaison*



**The young women from the class of 1937
on their senior outing to Starved Rock State Park.**

*We remember our deceased Alumnae.
May they rest in the peace of Christ.*



*Dorothy Buchholz Tyler '30
Mary Dawn McNally Glenn '37
Cecilia Laketek Putz '39
Patricia Margarite Anderson '40
Elizabeth (Elsie) Zahn Gonda '41
Dorothea Liska Wokas '41
Rosemarie Antoinette Annoreno Farrell '43
Irene Zak Costello '48
Joan Farley DeBock '53
Bonnie Pietrzak Wingert '61
Barbara Moravcik Southerland '63*

~ ~ NEWS FROM OUR ALUMNAE ~ ~

We are happy to share the news gathered from SHA Alumnae. Many of you send notes throughout the year, and some update us at Homecoming. Please send along your information. Your classmates are interested to hear about your life since Sacred Heart Academy. There's a form on the back of The Echo which you can use to send us your news, or include a note when you mail your membership dues.

Here are a few notes from Alumnae who were with us at Homecoming

Class of '41

Marie Mazour Wallinger It is always a "joy" to come back to Sacred Heart. I was the only '41 gal from our class, but I was blessed with wonderful company - Sister Rosalie Marie, Sister Mary B. and my daughter, Pat. Great Bohemian food brought back fond memories. I also received the Class of '41 table plant. Thank you!

Class of '46

Corinne Wagner DeStefano I remember that we paid to iron our blouses - 5¢ for 15 minutes. We were a very happy class. I'm not doing too much anymore!

Class of '49

Gerri Swatek Stockhausen I remember that one of our screens fell out of the window and a fellow from Proco insisted that he would walk upstairs and replace it. I said no, no one can go up there, but he went up and put the screen in place. All the seniors were asking for information about him, and told me to look under the steps and make sure he wasn't there.

Class of '55

Anita Bosen Kvitek I continue to be very blessed. I now have two great-grandchildren. My family increased with two grandchildren who were married this year. I enjoy good health and life.

Class of '58

Patricia Karvon Leavy I always love coming home to SHA. I remember so many great times spent with the wonderful Sisters. It formed the person I am today. I volunteer at my parish as a Minister of Care, on the Peace and Justice Committee, and as an usher at Mass. (Not bad for a convert). I hope we continue to have our homecoming here at SHA, it was great!

Class of '59

Gloria Kure Feeney I fondly remember Sister Electa emphasizing diction when practicing singing for Sunday Vespers. I am loving living in uptown Chicago where my husband and I volunteer regularly at our parish run soup kitchen twice a week. We are enjoying family in Chicago and traveling to be with those near Houston, Los Angeles and Vancouver, British Columbia. Please continue having reunion here on campus! We love coming home!

Lillian Albarran Fleming My memories of our after school snack will always stay with me. It was so good! I have lived in Huntley Sun City for 10 years. I do volunteer work with the Huntley Police Department, am a block captain, a member of the neighborhood social committee, plus a member of the Prairie Singers. I also do some occasional grandchildren watching. It's a busy, happy, full life. Please continue having our reunions here at Sacred Heart.

Class of '60

Cynthia Steiner I remember Sister Florence teaching me voice and participating in choral class, and learning Latin with Sister Laurencia. I remember playing basketball, and Father Sylvester.

Class of '61

Gloria Caracello I continue to substitute teach at two Catholic grade schools. I am a traveler, and recently traveled on a cruise to Bermuda and a tour of the New England states. My future travels will be to Italy, Poland/Prague, and Croatia.

Class of '62

Irma Frank Conley I'm still doing music with St. Irene's choir in Warrenville, and I've been privileged to play the organ at Sacred Heart Monastery's week day Masses throughout the year. In my spare time, I am trying to develop a rosary-making ministry. My sister, Rosie (Frank Marquette '66) has been doing this for the missions for years, so I am extending her legacy by recruiting more rosary makers. So far, I've made 300 rosaries, and she's made over 2,000, wow! She also makes beads out of rose petals from memorials, and makes them into rosaries for the families.

Class of '63

Barbara Stalmach Hocking My husband and I have experienced a year of blessings. We will celebrate 48 years of marriage in June '17.

Patricia Dackiw Kemp My favorite SHA memory is of the sunken garden. We are planning to travel to Spain and Portugal, and our yearly trip to Lake Tahoe. When we are home, there is always a bit of volunteer work to do.

Shirlee Abrams Jasien For the past 12 years, we have lived at Lake Summerset in northern Illinois. We fill our time with volunteer work, family time enjoying our grandchildren, and vacations. These are the best years of our lives.

Mary Ann Althoetmar McCloud I am retired from nursing and enjoy traveling with my husband, Jim. We took a cruise to Alaska in June, and visited our daughter in Colorado in July. We have traveled to Georgia, Virginia, South and North Carolina to visit with family and friends. I am blessed to be in good health. My SHA favorite memory is of the investiture at the sunken garden.

Joan Brummel Wiczek I started 2016 with a spinal fusion, and therefore wasn't too active this year. We spend time at our trailer in Shadow Lakes in Braidwood. Today I made time to be here while my husband is in the hospital, recovering from pacemaker surgery. I loved the investiture held in the sunken garden area. Thanks for having these

reunions so we can continue our friendship from SHA.

Class of '66

Kathleen "Casey" Kuhn LaJeunesse Sacred Heart Academy became a wonderful home and a place to form lifelong traditions and lifelong friends. I am a licensed Clinical Professional Counselor and practice in Warrenville, IL. I specialize in grief and loss. I am a wife, mother and grandmother - love those kids!!

Rose Mary Frank Marquette This is my 1st homecoming—my 50th. I have so many happy memories of SHA - things like flying our gym suit flag up the flagpole during the last week of school! Any of you remember your gym suits? I am the mother of two and the grandmother of four - each one is so special! It's my turn now to spoil them rotten. "What happens at Grandma's, stays at Grandma's". Reuniting with Sister Mary Agnes Kallus after 60 years was absolutely awesome! I make rosaries for the missions in my spare time - about 2,000 to date. I also make "memory" rosaries from rose petals. I'm preparing for retirement - trying to decide what I'd like to do next.

And some notes from those who could not be with us...

Joanne Swieczkowski Snyder '58 I wish I could attend Homecoming, another year of not being able to come. God's blessings to you all!

Carol Bekielewski Mejdrih '63 I am going to have knee replacement surgery on October 10th, so I will not be able to attend Homecoming. Please keep me in your prayers.

Bernadette Bicek Viskocil '49 Sorry I will not be able to attend the Homecoming this year. Please give my regards and blessings to the Sisters and friends.

Suzanne Friedrich Connors '60 Sorry that I cannot attend Homecoming. Best to all and prayers for everyone.

Judy Freda Provenzano '58 I am the mother of three daughters, Julie, Jennifer and Joanna. They each have three children. My husband, John, and I are retired. For the last 14 years we have had Julie and her children living with us. Life is hectic. God has given us a second family. All the grandchildren are good and doing well in school.

Linda Newell Vargas '62 So sorry I am not available to attend this Homecoming. May God bless you all with a happy gathering. My prayers for blessings of good health and a peace-filled year for my fellow graduates of the Class of 1962, and for you, dear Sisters. Thank you for your education and guidance in our lives. With love and prayers...

Dorothy Winckler Ball '65 I'm disappointed that I will not be able to attend this year, as our parish, St. Barbara, is celebrating their 100th anniversary with a gala on the 15th and Mass on the 16th.

Terry Vesely Herzog '49 I am unable to attend Homecoming - feel bad about it too. I hope to come to Mass. (Terry was able to join us for Mass, and we took this photo)



Nancy Belter Briles '57 I work for the school district in the transportation department, as a bus assistant on a special needs bus. I live in Sun City, AZ with my husband, Michael. (Thanks, Nancy, for sharing the photos of your family)

Michael Patrick Farrell, Esq. sent a letter to advise us of the death of his mother, **Rosemarie Antoinette Annoreno Farrell '43**, in 2015. He wrote, "I recently read the March 2016 edition of The Echo and recalled all my mother's fond stories of life at Sacred Heart and of all the girlfriends she had made while in school. My mother truly valued the Sisters at Sacred Heart, the values they instilled and the kindness that they gave to her. Over the years, my mother kept in contact with a group of her classmates that she referred to as her "girlfriends" and I recall meeting several of them when I was young. What a "run" they had and what wonderful people they were.

Last March, we shared the story of **Dorothy Buchholz Tyler '30**, who was looking forward to her 104th birthday in May. She celebrated with family and friends and shared her "rules to live by", which were shared again at her funeral in June.

"I would first say love God with your whole heart, mind and strength and pray every day. Keep a positive attitude and smile. Get plenty of sunshine and sleep and eat your fruits and vegetables and drink lots of water. Be mentally tough and help others and volunteer. Give life to something, plant a garden, grow flowers or vegetables, talk to people, especially your neighbors. Love everyone. Keep busy." Thank you to Margaret Durkin, Dorothy's daughter, for keeping in touch with us.

The Sisters are very grateful for the estate gift from **Patricia Marguerite Anderson '40**. After college graduation, Pat's career took her to Western Electric and eventually to the Sandia National Laboratory in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Her senior quote read, *"Words cannot express my sincere gratitude to my parents and teachers for all they have done for me these past four years. Sacred Heart ideals will always be a faithful guide to me."*

Mary Dawn McNally Glenn '37 was a child of the depression, who came to SHA through the auspices of her uncle, Father Frank McGuire. While here, *her faith deepened and her appreciation for even the smallest things in life was firmly fixed*. In lieu of flowers, Dawn requested that donations be made to the Benedictine Sisters. Thank you to the Glenn family.

We close this section with Mother Nepomucene Jaeger's favorite prayer.

If you would increase your happiness and prolong your life, forget your neighbor's faults. Forget the slander you have heard. Forget the temptations. Forget the fault-finding and give little thought to the peculiarities of your friends, and only remember the good points which make you fond of them. Forget all personal quarrels of which you may have heard by accident, and which, if regarded, would seem a thousand times worse than they are. Blot out, as far as possible, all disagreements of life. They will come, but they will grow larger if you remember them and the constant thought of acts of meanness, or worse still, malice, will only tend to make you more familiar with them from yesterday. Start out with a clean slate for today, and write upon it, for sweet memory's sake, only those things which are lovely and lovable.



CELEBRATING HOMECOMING 2016



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News from the Class of 1961

We had our annual SHA Class of '61 Spring Dinner in April, 2016 at the Hilton Hotel in Lisle. Those in attendance were: (front row, l to r) the late **Bonnie Pietrzak Wingert**, **Rosanne Carter Polich**, **Gloria Caracello**, **Joy Price Kacena**, **Peggy Mosquera McCann**, (back row, l to r) **Judy Beumer** and **Jean Schloegel Mills**.



Sadly, we lost another classmate, **Bonnie Pietrzak Wingert**. She passed away in June, 2016, just weeks after our April dinner, pictured above. After graduation, Bonnie married Gary Wingert and had 3 children, Christine, Jeffrey and Dennis. She remained in the Westmont area and when her children were of school age, started working as a closer for a mortgage company. When the home mortgage market bottomed out, Bonnie started working for the Westmont Park District, which she loved and where she remained up until her death.

Bonnie attended most SHA functions and participated in our reunions through the years. She kept in close contact with her friends from school and will be especially missed by those of us who knew and loved her. Bonnie has left behind her husband of 52 years, her three children, her grandchildren Patrick, Cassandra, Kayla, Julie, Matthew and Stephanie and great-grandchildren, Haylee, Connor, Andrew and Noah. She was very close with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and her devotion and presence will be deeply missed. May she rest in peace.



From l to r, **Barbara Rayniak Buri**, **Peggy Mosquera McCann**, **Donna McNulty Cellini**, **Rosanne Carter Polich**, **Gloria Caracello**, **Joy Price Kacena**, **Judy Beumer**, **Jean Schloegel Mills** and **Joyce Green Hoffman**. (Joyce's hubby, Phil, was our photographer.)

In August, we held our 55th reunion dinner at the Hilton in Lisle. Although lower in attendance than our 50th, we had a very nice time and were able to extend it to Sunday. We were very happy to have two classmates from out of town, **Barbara Rayniak Buri** from Florida and **Joyce Green Hoffman** from Texas. It was so great to see them. Joyce turned her trip into a mini vacation and she and her hubby, Phil, traveled here for the reunion, and also visited relatives in the area.

On Sunday, Joyce, Phil, Barb, Gloria and I went to the Morton Arboretum for lunch and spent most of the day there. We visited the gift shop and toured the grounds' exhibits and topped it off with a tram ride through the many acres of beautiful trees and flowers. We enjoyed a very relaxing ride on that gorgeous day.

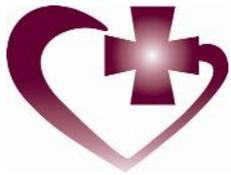


On October 15th, the Homecoming luncheon was held at Villa St. Benedict. We enjoyed a wonderful buffet in their dining room. This was the first time in several years that we were back at "SHA". The attendees from our class were **Sister Helen Jilek, Judy Beumer, Gloria Caracello** and yours truly, **Rosanne Carter Polich**. After lunch, Gloria and I joined gals from the class of '60 in the VSB club lounge. Pictured are: (sitting, l to r) **Dorothy Mukenschnable O'Reilly, Alice Nykl Sima and Edith Hurtgen Wagner**. Standing, **Gloria Caracello** and me, **Rosanne Carter Polich**.

OUR FINAL NOTE: Sorry to say, this will be the last newsletter page submission for our class of '61. The Echo Newsletter will continue, but not our special page(s). It has been a pleasure writing this newsletter article for the past 6 years and we hope you enjoyed reading it. This page started with good intentions and did connect some of our classmates, for which we are thankful. With that said, to all the gals that have kept in touch and attended our functions, thank you so very much and until we meet again, keep healthy, and live and love life to the fullest.

God Bless You All,
Rosanne Carter Polich
Gloria Caracello

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The Echo

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Please Stay in Touch

Let us know if you have changed your address
and/or share any interesting news with your SHA Alumnae friends.

Name _____ Class of 19 _____
(First) (Maiden) (Last)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____ Email _____

NEWS: _____

Do you have interesting photos of your SHA years to share?
Send them along with your news and updates. Return this form to:
Benedictine Sisters of the Sacred Heart c/o Jane Doyle