

The Echo



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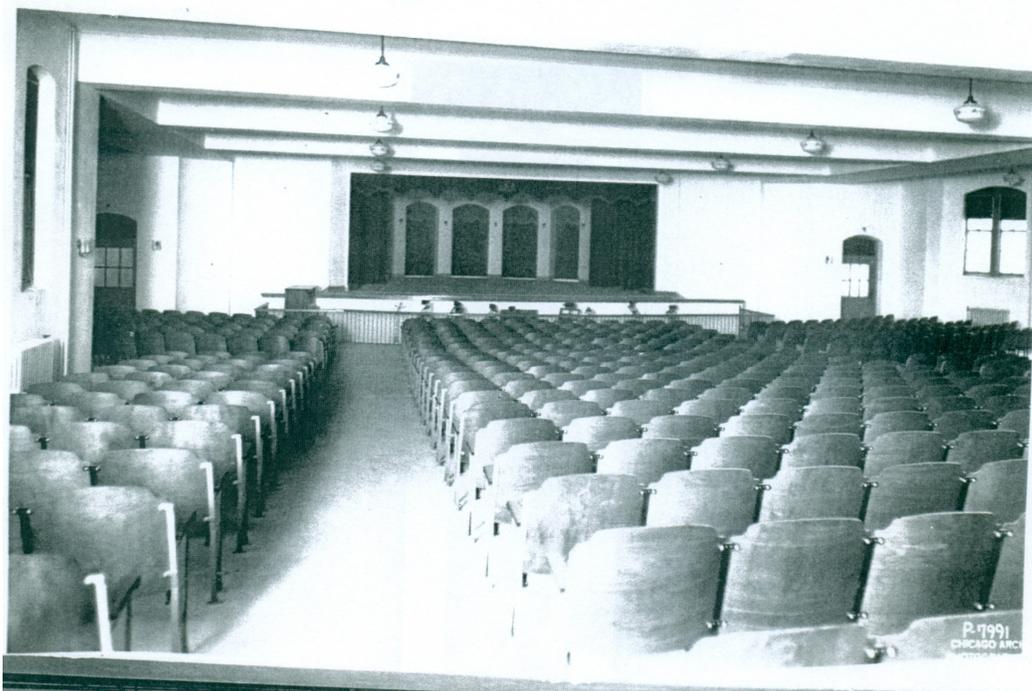
Newsletter for Sacred Heart Academy Alumnae

March 2019



New life for old Auditorium

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~ ~ 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.

Notes from Alumnae who were with us at Homecoming:

Sallie Gustine Duncan (8th grade class of 1946)

Last year of school, a senior was caught smoking in the grotto and immediately expelled!

Mary Pearson Fornatto '55

Loved S.H.A. religious teaching. It has always stayed with me. It has given me much peace to know Our Lord's love and mercy that He has for us. Always look forward to our homecoming.

Carol Karvon '55

I recently went on a bus trip to the Morton Arboretum to see the trolls – I really wanted to see it because we used to walk there from Sacred Heart Academy. That brought back many wonderful memories of going to school here and the friends I made. It was a wonderful experience. Whenever I come back for Homecoming it's like going home. We're welcomed with open arms.

Rose Feirtag Herlien '59

Where are you, classmates? I'm here with a resident from my parish, Gen Hadamik. This is the 59th reunion for class of 1959. I still work the lunch hour at a public school. I do 12 things at St. Mary's but the best is singing in the Resurrection choir for funerals. It's the last thing you can do for someone, give them a good send off.

Donna Yackley '60

Thanks for bringing back our times with all the Sisters. Learning the ways of what brings us to the Lord first. Always acting by the teaching of our Sister Electa, Sister Florence, all the teachers preparing us for what it is to join the Team of Love and Life. Thank you!

Gloria Caracello '61

I continue to do what I love. I substitute teach in the Catholic elementary schools, and travel in and out of the country. It is always special to spend time with family and friends.

Joy L. Price Kacena '61

Singing in Chorus with Sister Electa and all my classmates!

Barbara Rayniak Buri '61

I live in North Fort Myers, FL with a maltipoo named "Susie." I enjoy decorating and taking care of my home. I live in a community of 595 homes. I take "Susie" for a golf cart ride daily. She is a blessing.

Irma Frank Conley '62

When we were freshmen, we were the beneficiaries of "ballet lessons" from Mrs. Constance Egge. God bless the dear lady! Can you imagine 30 freshman doing jetes all the way down the length of the gym? Talk about a herd of elephants on that wooden floor! I will say, Mrs. Egge's patience won out. We were able to put on 2 passable performances – "flowers" in Waltz of the Flowers and "skaters" in Skaters Waltz. Anyone have pix? (Can you tell that Sr. Mary Agnes taught me to write?)

Mary Ann Althoetmar McLoud '63

We were the first class to have "The Flame" yearbook. We started in the summer of 1962 to work on it. Out in 1963. Today, I'm a retired nurse although I still give flu shots. My son, David, is a Critical Care nurse and lives with his wife and daughter in Houston. Daughter Katie is payroll specialist and lives with her husband's family in New Hampshire. My husband Jim is retired. We enjoy travelling.

Jean Allen Nickelman '63

1) Every Christmas when I hear "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" I remember our Christmas banquet in the gym, especially the lighting. 2) In Mr. Kovac's class (chemistry) he showed us his films from his service in WWII. 3) There was an event – our Glee Club sang with the St. Procopius Band under direction of Mr. Marchese and we sang "When We Begin the Beguine" and we have it on an LP.

Mary Lou Bellio Pugliese '63

Retired from the practice of law in 2015 and loving it – we travel and have fun with our kids and grandkids. Both of my parents died in 2017 so I was lucky to have time to spend with them when I stopped working.

Rita Shimek McIntyre '63

Enjoying retirement, spend the winters at our home in Florida, but still enjoy summers in Wheaton. I have 5 grandchildren all living close to me in Wheaton. I have been singing in choir at St. James in Glen Ellyn since 1983. I have been married for 51 years.

Aleena Shlikas Truby '63

I loved music class with Sister Electa! She was very dedicated to teaching and could be very funny! I kept in touch with her quite a few years after graduation! These days I am active at church, singing in choir! Also I volunteer at Good Samaritan Hospital at their resale shop.

Vicky Santos '63

As a boarder, I remember waking up to the wonderful aroma of bread pudding and cinnamon coming up to the dorms before Mass. Currently on the national board of directors for the Filipino American National Historical Society with 35 chapters across the U.S., including Hawaii & Alaska.

Judith Barenbrugge Carlisle '63

Learning to walk on the right side of the hallways.

Jeanne Barenbrugge Yorke '66

Mischievous Memory: My classmate (name withheld to protect her identity) ditched Study Hall once and we made our way to the Auditorium with Sr. Scholastica hot on our heels. We hid behind the curtains until she left.

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

Elizabeth "Betty" "Booper" Dombroski Gardner (8th grade class of 1946)

Has many fond memories of SHA as a "minum." Reminiscenced over the phone about teachers, activities, classmates, candy store, egg candling, nuns' stalls in Chapel, infirmary.

Donna Perrin Timmer '47

Our good friend **Dolores DeWitt McNamara ('47)** has left her home of 70 years to move to East Coast near her son.

Dorothy Miller Garhan '53**Alice Salata Kelly '53****Mary Ann Yackley Walz '53**

Because of health and other reasons, we were not able to come to homecoming this year. We did manage to get together this week for lunch to celebrate our 65th graduating year.



Alice (left), Dorothy (right), Mary Ann (seated)

Joan Fender Patterman '54

Could not attend homecoming because she was celebrating her 60th wedding anniversary that weekend with family and friends.

Carole Piller Wall '59

Moved to Minnesota, followed grandkids to Duluth & Minneapolis. Too far to travel this year.

Mary Christiano Ruh '59

My father, Anthony Christiano, was a printer who printed the school newspapers for many of the Catholic schools in Chicago. So in my senior year at SHA I suggested we publish a newspaper, which my father printed for us. It was a great educational experience. *(Mary provided a copy of the newspaper for SHA's archives.)*

I came back to visit once and received a tour with my husband from Sr. Joella, that's how I knew her. I always loved the chapel. I saw a picture recently of Sr. Electa. She was my piano teacher. After graduation I attended Marquette University where I was granted the BS in MedTech, MS and PhD degrees in Physiology. I'm retired now as Professor Emeritus from Saint Louis University, where I was on the faculty of the School of Medicine for 35 years.

I have a dear college friend in Naperville

whom I occasionally visit. I have passed the school several times. I see the grotto, which I always loved.

Sandra Srotyr Wall '59

Husband Donald passed on January 7, 2018. He is in a better place – no pain, no suffering. Brother Ed Srotyr, husband of Jane Vesely ('61), passed away February 23, 2018.

(Dorothy) Ann Sonnefield Bailie '60

Thanks to all for making my life great.

Mary Ellen Higgins Arndt '63

Give everyone my best!

Carol Simon Beck '67

I enjoyed reading the Echo. Thank you so much for keeping in touch.

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

Sister Mildred (Lillian) Slabenak, OSB '38 (April 2018)

Florence Jana Hlava '39 (March 2018)

Phyllis Gonwa Zea '45 (March 2017)

Blanche Kyselá Baley '49 (September 2018)

Phyllis Kusek Baker '49 (May 2018)

Judy Yetter Bulin '63 (March 2018)

Sister Barbara Ann Svec, OSB '56 (October 2018)

Joanne Swieczkowski Snyder '58 (August 2017)

Karen Weber Moss '65 (July 2017)

Virginia Hlava Stuck '65 (June 2017)



... and deceased SHA faculty

Sister Agnes Ann Svec, OSB

Sister Benita Jasurda, OSB



Save the Date

Homecoming 2019

Saturday, October 19

Mass 11:30am

Luncheon 12:15pm

2019 Anniversary Classes

Are you a graduate of 1939, 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959 or 1964?

Would you like help locating classmates to plan a special get-together on Homecoming weekend? I'm happy to do my best to assist you in finding your friends.

contact Beth Hemzacek
ehemzacek@shmlisle.org
630.725.6013

A very sincere thank you to the Alumnae who made a dues donation to the SHA Alumnae Fund. We use your donations to print and mail The Echo and the homecoming invitations to 480 Alumnae, as well as for 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 at Homecoming 2019!

Homecoming 2018



Marie Mazour
Wallinger '41
and guest
Pat Murphy



Class of 1963 (left to right): Carol Bekielewski Mejdrich, Aleena Shlikas Truby, Rita Shimek McIntyre, Mary Ann Althoetmar McCloud, Mary Lou Bellio Pugliese, Vicky Santos, Judie Barenbrugge Carlisle, Shirlee Abrams Jasien, Barbara Stalmach Hocking, Jean Allen Nickelman



Marie Tesar Gray '42, Sister Lois Jean Jensik, OSB '53 and Sister Susanne Thome, OSB



Sister Mary Agnes Kallus, OSB '43
and Mary Flaherty Clark '48



Class of 1958 (clockwise from bottom right):
Pat Vesely Hogan, Mary Riedy Kramer, Sister Judith Ann
Heble, OSB, Mary Lou Silovsky Foley, Pat Karvon Leavy



Carol Karvon '55 with Sallie Gustine Duncan (8th grade class '46) and Sallie's granddaughter Emily Duncan Plumb



Class of 1949
 Seated: Geraldine Swatek Stockhausen, Margaret (Peggy) Sykora Fullmer, Sister DePaul Stava, OSB
 Standing: Mary Flaherty Clark (Class of 1948), Sister Margaret Mary Schima, OSB, Joan Endemann Helie



Sister Christine Kouba '50 with Elio and Mary Elizabeth Pearson Fornatto '55



Rose Feirtag Herlien '59 and Mary Lou Silovsky Foley '58

Irma Frank Conley '62



Class of 1961: Joy Kacena Price, Barbara Rayniak Buri, Sister Helen Jilek, OSB, Rosanne Carter Polich, Gloria Caracello



Class of 1960
Seated: Edith Hurtgen Wagner and Alice Nykl Sima
Standing: Donna Yackley, Diann Kampmeyer Kohley, Dorothy Mukenschnabl O'Reilly



Sister Irene Jasien, OSB '57 and Sister Jo Anne Form, OSB '57 with Jeanne Barenbrugge Yorke '66



SHA Class of 1963 55th Reunion Celebration

SHA's Alumnae Luncheon weekend of October 20-21, 2018 presented a perfect opportunity for the Class of 1963 to hold its 55th Reunion. The Luncheon was held on Saturday in the beautiful Villa St. Benedict dining room, and our group was grateful that the Alumnae staff set up a special table for the 12 of us gals who gathered for the event (along with many other graduates from classes dating back to 1941).

Despite the crazy weather pattern that had us all gasping at the swirling snow showers just outside the dining room window, our Class of 1963 group enjoyed the time together, while feasting on a delicious buffet topped (of course) with SHA's signature pork roast, sauerkraut and dumplings! After much reminiscing during the luncheon, a few of us opted to take the guided tour of the impressive apartments within the senior living community that comprises Villa St. Benedict. We all decided that it's certainly something worth thinking about for the future!

On Sunday morning, after our classmates gathered in the Sacred Heart Chapel for prayer and Mass, we headed over to The Morton Arboretum for our reunion brunch and to share quality time catching up on what's been going on in our lives along with memories galore. There were 22 of us, including several guests, who participated.

Before lining up in the buffet line, classmate Joanne (Fitzmaurice) Kuttner prayed a special blessing. After brunch, a brief program followed where the Planning Committee (Mary Lou Bellio Pugliese, Mary Ann Althoetmar McLoud, and Judie Barenbrugge Carlisle) welcomed everyone and asked for a moment of silent prayer for the known classmates who were deceased since the 50th reunion ... Carol (Jaspers) Geyer, Kamile Kalina, Barbara (Moravcik) Southerland, and Judith (Yetter) Bulin). This brings the total to 14 of our known classmates who have gone to their heavenly reward.

Next was the totally fun part of the program where everyone shared their LOL memories of their years at SHA, along with a photo session to memorialize our special time together for the 55th. Right before everyone departed, there was a drawing for the beautiful fall floral centerpieces ... and then hugs and goodbyes all around!

Praying that the Good Lord will bring us all together again for the 60th ... and looking forward to it!

Villa St. Benedict Great Room Will Be Great

Can you remember when the Sacred Heart Academy auditorium was once bursting with activity? As an alumna of the Academy, you probably have quite a few stories to share and memories of the times spent in the auditorium. While the academy has changed from a school to a vibrant senior community, one room - the auditorium - has been dormant, untouched, unoccupied for some time ... until now. Renovation is in progress to create a Great Room, designed as a multi-purpose space for Villa St. Benedict residents - where they can dance, sing, have educational lectures, share knowledge, learn new things, and engage in social activities. Anticipated completion is this summer.

As an alumna, for a truly unique and lasting expression of appreciation, a commemorative gift may be offered. Was there a teacher or a fellow student you want to recognize? How about considering a class gift? Your memorial or honorary designation becomes a permanent tribute for all to see and lasting legacy of your class. You can also make a pledge and spread your giving over three years. The giving opportunities are endless and your support is important and much needed. To learn more about giving opportunities visit www.villastben.org or call the Villa St. Benedict Foundation office at 630-725-7011.



Tammy Brunner, Foundation Coordinator for Villa St. Benedict, spoke at our 2018 luncheon about plans for the Auditorium.



THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU
to our friends who donated generous door prizes
for those attending SHA Homecoming 2018 luncheon.

Please help us support their businesses!

Allgauer's Restaurant
Country House Restaurant
Hilton of Lisle/Naperville
Hyatt Regency Lisle

You may stay current with the Sisters here at Sacred Heart Monastery by visiting our website at www.shmlisle.org

We send out email updates to those who are interested in Spirituality Programs presented here at the Monastery. If you'd like, please provide your email address and request to be added to this list. (Beth Hemzacek at ehemzacek@shmlisle.org)



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 Beth Hemzacek