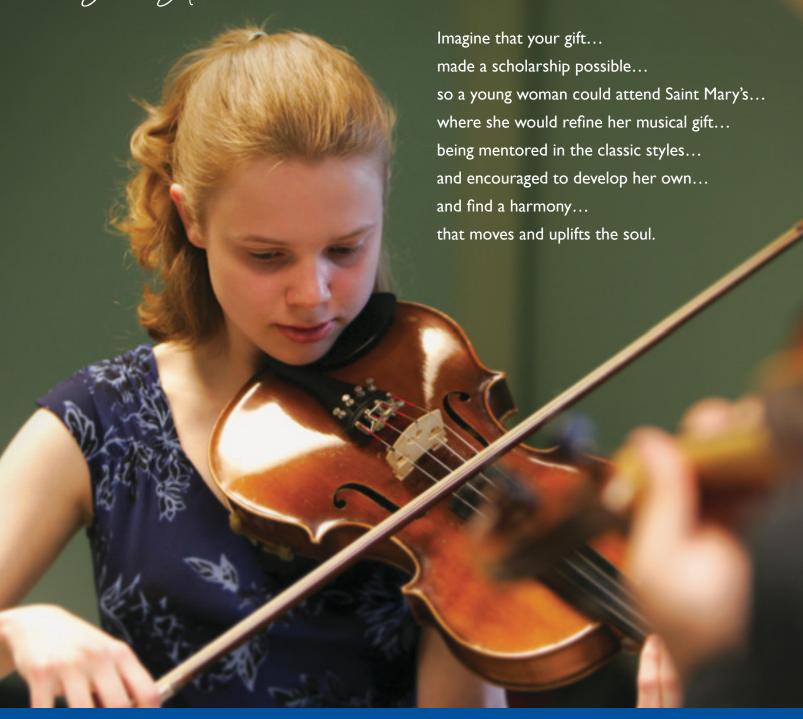
# Saint Mary's College OURIER Winter 2006

Perfect Harmony

Music at Saint Mary's

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Educating Women, Transforming Lives

The Annual Fund

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With determination and a music degree, Wilma Burke '55 launched a career spanning five decades on the New York stage.



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Music majors Crystal Buck '08 (seated at piano) and McKayela Collins '08 embrace the department's philosophy that "to learn is to perform and to perform is to learn."

Photo by Matt Cashore

## Volume 81, Number 4 Winter 2006

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#### The Mission

Saint Mary's College is a Catholic, residential, women's college in the liberal arts tradition. A pioneer in the education of women, the College is an academic community where women develop their talents and prepare to make a difference in the world. Founded by the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1844, Saint Mary's promotes a life of intellectual vigor, aesthetic appreciation, religious sensibility, and social responsibility. All members of the College remain faithful to this mission and continually assess their response to the complex needs and challenges of the contemporary world.

## Inside Mary's

### A College Filled With Music

by Carol Ann Mooney '72, President



At Saint Mary's, we believe that the arts enrich our souls and expand our intellects. We encourage our students to explore both curricular and extra-curricular fine arts offerings at the College.

Music, art, dance, and theater help us to understand ourselves, human nature, our culture, and the world. The poet Wallace Stevens believed that the arts restore human awareness, and that the artist's role is "to help people live their lives."

Whether our students view a thought-provoking art exhibit, take the stage in a dramatic performance, sign up for a music elective, or select a fine arts major, we hope that each will have a memorable experience leading to a lifelong passion and commitment to the arts.

This issue of *Courier* celebrates one very special expression of the arts at Saint Mary's—our nationally accredited music program. Everyone who has attended a concert here will attest to the fact that the talent on our campus is superb. George and I make every effort to attend as often as our schedules allow, and we are always thrilled by our brilliant students and professors.

This fall Saint Mary's College celebrated the 50th anniversary of O'Laughlin Auditorium and the Moreau Center for the Arts. This beautiful facility has enabled generations of our students to learn and perform in a venue

that remains a jewel in our greater community.

George Eliot once said, "I think I should have no other mortal wants, if I could always have plenty of music. It seems to infuse strength into my limbs and ideas into my brain. Life seems to go on without effort, when I am filled with music."

In that spirit, as we face the cold days of winter, I hope you take comfort in the warmth of friends, a good book, and a life filled with music.

"Music, art, dance, and theater help us to understand ourselves, human nature, our culture, and the world."

~ **>** 

## Letter, She editor

#### Reaching Out

Dear Editor,

I was happy to read about how Saint Mary's is continuing to implement community service into the curriculum ("Within Our Reach," Fall 2006). I was lucky enough to volunteer at South Bend's Center for the Homeless as part of a class project for Joe Incandela's Catholic Social Thought course. It was one of the best things I ever did in my



college career. It made me realize that there was a world outside of the Saint Mary's/Notre Dame "bubble." I later went on to use my federal work study hours there in both their preschool and family rooms. These experiences were building blocks for my chosen career as a speech pathologist. Thanks again to the Saint Mary's faculty for implementing social justice concerns both inside and outside of the classroom.

Sincerely, Erin E. McGarry '02 Chicago, Ill.

#### Send us your letters!

Send your letters and e-mails as they pertain to material printed in the magazine. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit them for accuracy and length. E-mail: courier@saintmarys. edu; regular mail: Saint Mary's College, 307 Haggar College Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556-5001

#### From the editor

Dear Alumnae,

As the editor of the *Courier*, my charge is a delightful one: to collect the stories of Saint Mary's and share them with you, Saint Mary's alumnae and friends. I will do my best to be

your eyes and ears at this great College, to bring the campus to you. And please write to me with your stories. I look forward to hearing from you.

The *Courier* staff and I bid a fond farewell to Cynthia Machamer, who was the editor from fall 2004 to the most recent issue, fall 2006. Cynthia took the *Courier* to a new level, exploring fundamental issues at Saint Mary's. We wish her all the best at



ileen Din

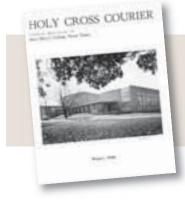
her new position at the University at Buffalo.

I come to the *Courier* from the Office of Development. There, I had the pleasure of meeting alumnae when they visited campus. Many alumnae have told me that from the moment they set foot on campus, they knew this was the place for them. And I understand what they mean. I had that feeling on the first day I came to work at Saint Mary's, and every day since.

There is a sense of community here that I felt the first time I walked the paths and the halls of campus. There are the bright and ambitious students, the faculty who not only know their students by name, but also are invested in their future, and the alumnae who are following and fulfilling their dreams and who cherish their alma mater. There is the vision that created and sustains this place and the devout determination of those charged with making that vision manifest. This College is the whole, and it is greater *because* of the sum of its parts. And I am thrilled to be a part of Saint Mary's.

Art Ein Do

Scot Erin Briggs Courier Editor



In the Winter 1956 issue, *Courier* gave readers an intimate tour of the Moreau Center for the Arts—a building the writer called "dazzlingly new and perfect and modern." Fifty years later, we offer an online encore of the article, "A Dream Come True," at www.saintmarys.edu/~courier.

## Avenue

### **Spirituality Lectures Bring Tradition to Life**

Hospitality, vocation, and the courage to speak one's mind. Three speakers in the Center for Spirituality's lecture series, "Bringing Tradition to Life," shared their thoughts

on these topics at wellattended events this fall.



Sister Nancy Murray, OP, channeled St. Catherine of Siena in a onewoman show.

Ana Maria Pineda, a Latina theologian and Sister of Mercy from Santa Clara University, kicked off the series with "Welcoming the Stranger: Hospitality in the Christian Tradition," on September 6. Giving examples from the Old Testament to the present day, Pineda argued that hospitality to strangers, immigrants, and refugees is not only a laudable practice but also "a moral imperative."

On October 25, Claire

Wolfteich, professor of practical theology and spiritual formation at Boston University, spoke on "Women and Work: Grappling with Questions of Vocation and Holiness." Although Catholics often use the term "vocation" to describe the calling of priests and nuns, Wolfteich suggested that laypeople who do meaningful work—inside and outside the home—also experience and transmit holiness.

Sister Nancy Murray, OP, wrapped up the series on November 6, channeling St. Catherine of Siena in a theatrical performance titled "Voices from the Past: Wisdom for Today, Hope for Tomorrow." A Dominican sister who has taught drama, dance, and theology (and sister of actor Bill Murray) she has performed the one-woman show close to 300 times.

Murray held a packed Stapleton Lounge audience spellbound with her recreation of the 14th-century saint's life and, in particular, her penchant for challenging authority. For Sister Kathleen Dolphin, PBVM, director of the Center for Spirituality, the performance was a reminder that "the voice of women in the Middle Ages was a lot stronger than we are sometimes aware, and Catherine of Siena was a key player."

According to Dolphin, the lecture series aimed "to bring the best of the Catholic tradition into our daily lives, but also-because traditions tend to get old and stuffy and relegated to a corner—I wanted to breathe new life into the tradition...I think it worked."

Continuing another tradition, the Center will sponsor the 2007 Madeleva Lecture on April 19. The presenter will be M. Shawn Copeland, a Boston College professor who focuses on political theology and the African and African American religious experience.

#### **Alumnae Board Welcomes New Members**







Nora Barry Fischer '73



Adriana Garces Petty '01



Kimmi Martin Troy '00



Abby Van Vlerah '04



Jill Moore Clouse '99, Nora Barry Fischer '73, Adriana Garces Petty '01, Kimmi Martin Troy '00, Abby Van Vlerah '04, and Rebecca Votto '93 have begun three-year terms of service on the Alumnae Association Board of Directors.

Clouse is an independent consultant working with the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern in Admissions and Career Management. She also is a teaching associate for graduate courses at Northwestern's School of Education and Social Policy. Clouse currently serves as a board member for the Chicago East Alumnae Club, and has been an active volunteer for the Admission Office. She resides in Chicago with her husband and son.

Fischer is a partner and practice group leader with Pietragallo, Bosick & Gordon. She is a former National Institute for Trial Advocacy instructor for the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and Duquesne University School of Law. Fischer is a past volunteer for her reunion gift committee and also serves as a VISA volunteer. She and

her husband live in Pittsburgh and have three children. Petty, who lives in South Bend, is a minority outreach specialist at the Saint Joseph County Minority Health Coalition. Petty was also a member of the Alumnae Leadership Task Force.

Troy resides in the Milwaukee area with her husband and son. She is a volunteer for the Admission Office and is a class reporter for *Courier*.

Van Vlerah is the assistant director of student activities for Saint Mary's College. She serves on the board of the South Bend Alumnae Club and volunteers at the Center for the Homeless in downtown South Bend.

Votto works for a boutique mergers and acquisition advisory firm in Newport Beach, Calif., and is actively involved in the Los Angeles Alumnae Club. Before moving to California, she was a member of the Chicago Alumnae Club, and the Chicago Alumnae Advisory Council. She received the Outstanding Young Alumna Award in 2003.

#### **HUST Reunion Celebrates Past, Looks to Future**



HUST alumnae Carolyn Marie Kelley '01 (left) and Janet Kay Kelley '97 reconnected at the program's September reunion.

Unique to Saint Mary's College, the Humanistic Studies Program (formerly Christian Culture) remains a vital enterprise since it was founded in 1956. Over 100 alumnae from around the country attended the program's 50th anniversary celebration on campus September 17–18.

Professor Miri Rubin, the inaugural speaker for the renewed Christian Culture Lecture Series, kicked off the reunion events. Her lecture, "From Jewish Maiden to Global Icon," explored the lesser-

known facts about the Virgin Mary, for instance that there is more written about her in the Koran than in the Bible, and that she is revered as a figure of female purity in Islam.

A professor of medieval and early modern history at the University of London in the UK, Rubin is one of the world's leading historians of medieval Europe. Her current research focuses on Mary and her impact on people throughout the centuries and across cultures and faiths.

"Is Mary a figure around whom Christians of different denominations might meet? How do non-believers relate to the vast and important heritage of Mary in music, art, literature, and architecture? What of Mary can be shared by other faiths?" These were among the questions Rubin addressed.

First established by Professor Bruno Schlesinger in 1957, the Christian Culture Lecture Series showcases preeminent humanities scholars who explored the Christian dimension of Western culture. The lectures continued for a quarter century, and have been revived thanks to a gift from a 1961 graduate of the program, Susan Fitzgerald Rice, and her

husband Dr. Donald B. Rice, of Los Angeles (Read more in Development News on page 8).

The reunion schedule of events also included a series of "back to school" colloquia where alumnae discussed classic and new books in the humanities. President Carol Ann Mooney '72 spoke on "The Future of the Liberal Arts at Saint Mary's," and Professor Gail Mandell gave presentations on the HUST program's past and future. Alumnae from six decades of the program led panel discussions on "What the Major Has Meant to Me."

According to Philip Hicks, professor and chair of the department, "Bruno Schlesinger created a major that asked students to study society from multiple perspectives—literary, historical, philosophical, and artistic—and to see the dynamic role that Christianity has played in shaping our world. In the program for Christian Culture, as he designed it, students read the Christian classics in tandem with the history of Europe from the Middle Ages to the modern era. Now, in the 21st century, Humanistic Studies remains one of the College's signature programs."



Celebrating at the Humanistic Studies reunion were (from left) Professor John Shinners, Professor Gail Mandell, and Professor and Chair Philip Hicks.

### **A Top Pick for Hispanic Students**

The Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education recently named Saint Mary's College as one of its 2006 Publisher's Picks. According to José López-Isa, the magazine's publisher, "Our list of publisher's picks...represents our latest and best thinking about which colleges and universities offer Hispanic students a solid chance of academic success."

Saint Mary's is one of eight Indiana colleges and universities to receive the distinction. Student surveys determine which institutions make the list.

"We're very pleased that the College's efforts to reach out to more diverse groups are being recognized by members of the Latino community nationwide," said Larisa Olin Ortiz, assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. "All the programs and support services we provide to our multicultural student body are factors that contribute to the academic success of our Latina students. This recognition should motivate all of us, as members of the Saint Mary's College community, to continue our commitment to diversity."

### Avenue

#### **Incandela to Assume Endowed Chair**

Joseph Incandela, professor of religious studies and associate dean of faculty, has been appointed the Joyce McMahon Hank Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology. He succeeds Keith Egan, professor emeritus, who held the Chair from its inception in 1998 through his retirement from the College last year.

A 13th-century Italian philosopher and theologian in the scholastic tradition, St. Thomas Aquinas is considered by many Catholics to be the Church's greatest theologian. Incandela's responsibilities as holder of the Chair will include teaching an upper-level course on Aquinas and conducting the College's annual Thomas Aquinas Symposium.

"It's a very humbling recognition," said Incandela of his appointment. "To have the opportunity to hold an endowed chair named for Thomas Aquinas, a theologian and philosopher whose ideas greatly influenced my own course of study and continue to influence my teaching, is a tremendous honor."

Incandela's scholarship on Aquinas is extensive and respected. Scholars widely cite his dissertation, "Aquinas's Lost Legacy: God's Practical Knowledge and Situated Human Freedom," and other writings. Incandela's main areas of study are medieval theology, contemporary philosophy of religion, and contemporary Christian ethics.

Recognized for his masterful teaching, Incandela won the Maria Pieta award for teaching excellence in 1995. His "Catholic Social Thought" course has challenged and influenced countless Saint Mary's students. Over the years, he has worked to help students live the principles of the Church's social teaching by encouraging internships at the South Bend Center for the Homeless and by volunteering himself.

A summa cum laude graduate in philosophy and theology from the University of Notre Dame, Incandela received his master's and doctoral degrees in religion from



Joseph Incandela

Princeton University. He joined the Saint Mary's faculty in 1987. In 2002, Bishop John M. D'Arcy appointed him to the lay review board for the Diocese of Fort Wayne–South Bend in response to The Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People. Incandela was also an ethics consultant on two local hospital boards.

The Aquinas Chair in Catholic Theology is the gift of Joyce McMahon Hank '52, a longtime member of the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees and Trustee Emerita.

### **Groundbreaking for State-of-the-Art Academic Building**



Saint Mary's College broke ground for its new academic building on October 5.

The facility will incorporate updated technology, more laboratory space, and environmentally sustainable practices and materials.

The building is part of the College's master plan, a renovation and construction effort designed to better serve students, faculty, and staff. Saint Mary's has already completed construction of a new dining hall, student center, welcome center, apartment-style housing, and a clubhouse.

Ballinger Architects, headquartered in Philadelphia, and Architecture Design Group of South Bend collaborated to design the 65,000-square-foot facility. Read more in Development News on page 8.

Dignitaries breaking ground for the new academic building included (from left)
Trustee Colleen Ryan, President Carol Ann Mooney '72, Bishop John M. D'Arcy, Board
of Trustees Chair Deborah Johnson Schweibert '74, Vice President and Dean of
Faculty Jill Vihtelic, Mission Commissioner Sara Sabie '08, Student Body President
Susan McIlduff '07, Student Body Vice President Maggie Siefert '08, and Vice
President for College Relations Shari Rodriguez.

## Developmen,

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Established in 1994 by past and current members of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors, this endowed scholarship fund enables donors to commemorate a cherished relationship or special occasion with a lasting gift to the College. Scholarship recipients are selected by the College in accordance with financial aid guidelines. Preference is given to relatives of alumnae. The 2006–2007 recipients are:

Katharine Muenzer '07 daughter of Mary Dillon Muenzer '83 Mary Corrigan '08

daughter of Dana Jeffirs Corrigan '81

Kristin Hingstrum '09

daughter of Shawn Foley Hingstrum '72

To obtain a gift card packet, please contact the Office of Alumnae Relations, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN 46556, (574) 284-4578, or e-mail alumnae@saintmarys.edu. Gifts may also be made online.

**COURIER** | Winter 2006

## Developmentews

### The Impact of Donor Giving

Throughout its history, Saint Mary's College has been improved, expanded, and enhanced by alumnae and friends who care deeply about the College. This year in particular, as Saint Mary's celebrates the renaissance of a unique lecture series, commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Moreau Center for the Arts, and breaks ground for a new academic building, the impact of donor giving is evident.

#### Christian Culture Lecture Series

Susan Fitzgerald Rice '61, a humanistic studies graduate, and her husband, Donald B. Rice, have revived the Christian Culture Lecture series. Thanks to the Rice's generosity and vision, the series will rekindle, in a new generation, the intellectual excitement that Rice experienced as a student by bringing Saint Mary's students, faculty, and the larger public into contact with leading humanities scholars.

This annual series honors the work of Professor Bruno Schlesinger and showcases Saint Mary's and the Humanistic Studies Program as centers of excellence in the liberal arts.

The Moreau Center for the Arts celebrates its 50th anniversary during the 2006–2007 season. Moreau too was made possible by the generosity and vision of the Saint Mary's community. Sister Frances Jerome, CSC, formerly Susan O'Laughlin, chair of classical languages and vice president of the College, bequeathed her inheritance as the first significant gift toward the building. O'Laughlin Auditorium bears her family name.



Miri Rubin, inaugural speaker for the renewed Christian Culture Lecture Series, and Donald B. and Susan Fitzgerald Rice '61, who made the lectures possible.

#### 50th Anniversary of Moreau Center for the Arts

Named in honor of the Very Reverend Basil Anthony

Moreau, CSC, the founder of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, the Moreau Center for the Arts consists of O'Laughlin Auditorium, the Little Theatre, the Moreau Art Galleries, studios, workshops and classrooms. When completed in the fall of 1956, it fulfilled the dream of establishing an arts center for students, faculty, staff, and members of the South Bend community. Today, it continues to be a hub of the arts for Saint Mary's student musicians, actors, painters, and more.



Sister Francis Jerome O'Laughlin, CSC

#### Academic Building Groundbreaking

More than 600 donors—alumnae, students, parents, faculty, staff, and friends of the College—have given generously to fund an academic building for Saint Mary's College. Bishop John M. D'Arcy, the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees, President Carol Ann Mooney, and members of the Saint Mary's College community broke ground for the state-of-the-art building on October 5. Gifts in support of the building have exceeded the \$16.5 million goal that will cover construction costs and an operating endowment. Saint Mary's has secured more than 100 percent of the cost in gifts and pledges, and 75 percent of that amount is cash-in-hand.

"This is going to be a wonderful building that fulfills our dream of having a world-class academic facility," said President Carol Ann Mooney. "It will bring updated technology into flexible classrooms that will accommodate a variety of teaching and learning styles; it will provide much needed laboratory space for the social scientists and it will include both formal and informal social space for faculty-student interaction. We have worked hard to make the building beautiful, efficient, and environmentally friendly."

## Developmentws

## Saint Mary's College New Academic Building

Saint Mary's College gratefully acknowledges its major benefactors, who made gifts and pledges of \$10,000 or more to the new Academic Building.

reciation

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Clayton and MaryAnn Mathile

Brian and Lee Ann Franks McConnell 1985

Timothy and Karen Zagrocki McDonald 1976

**Eugene and Sistie Doherty McEnery 1958** 

John J. and Susan Bresnahan McHugh 1975

Melissa Howe Miller 1989

Thomas J. and Catherine Shaughnessy Nessinger 1956

Edward M. and Barbara Patrick O'Toole 1959

Timothy I. and Donna DeCrane Panzica 1978

Laura Froning Parkinson 1941

Joseph A. and Susan Eyerly Pichler 1961

President's Alumnae Advisory Council, 2003-2004

Jennifer Mathile Prikkel 1995

Paul E. and Patricia Wiedner Purcell 1969

Kevin and JoAnn McDermott Reed 1977

Jim and Colleen Ryan

William J., Jr. and Lorette Borda Schmuhl 1966

Karen Bush Schneider 1973

Deborah Johnson Schwiebert 1974

Mary Lee Sheftic 1958

Mary Lucia Wolff Stevenson 1942

James R. and Mary Stanicek Theiss 1976

Robert and Judith Eckelkamp Tobben 1978

John W. and Linda Ubinger, Jr.

Edward J. and Dorothy Murnane Wehmer 1976

Kathleen Burke Welsh 1959

John J. and Kathleen Geary Vitanovec 1987

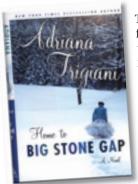
Larry D. and Susan Zurcher

\* deceased

## Pageners

Three books, three talented alumnae, three decades—*Courier* is delighted to present the latest writing by a trio of Saint Mary's authors.

## Home to Big Stone Gap by Adriana Trigiani '81



They're back! Ave Maria, Jack Mac, Theodore, Iva Lou—all the characters from the best-selling Big Stone Gap trilogy (and some new ones, too) return for another fictional foray to the author's Blue Ridge mountain home town. The newest book arrives not after a hiatus, since Trigiani has delivered three other novels and a cookbook since taking readers to Big Stone Gap for the first time in 1999.

In this latest installment, protagonist Ave Maria Mulligan MacChesney is older and wiser, but

HAVE

POWER

MARY SHEERAN

still learning and relearning big lessons in mid-life. Once again, Trigiani weaves together humor, wisdom, recipes, and vivid descriptions to render an absorbing story about "strong women at the crossroads." (A theatre major at Saint Mary's, she also manages to squeeze in a hilarious performance of *The Sound of Music* with an Appalachian twist.)

Settling into the book as winter begins is like visiting a familiar place and catching up with old friends. Even those who haven't read Trigiani's other work will find this a cozy getaway.

## Who Have the Power: A Legend of the West by Mary Sheeran '75

Writer Mary Sheeran's novel is a journey back in time, to 1866, and place, the American West. Hailed by the *Kirkus* 

Reviews as "fast-paced historical fiction," the author prefers to think of the book as "a character study of a young, independent-minded woman who found herself questioning her own identity, and not always wisely."

Who Have the Power tells the story of suffragist Elisabeth Barclay, who discovers she is half Washo Indian, a native American tribe whose sacred body of water was (and is) Lake Tahoe. "Although there are several action scenes, much of the underlying

thematic content has to do with feminist theology, the theology of abundance shared by both Native American and Christian religious thought, and the blindness of a dominant 'we-are-central' culture," says the author.

Sheeran was a history and humanistic studies major at Saint Mary's. Today, she divides her time professionally as a writer, editor, and singer in New York City.

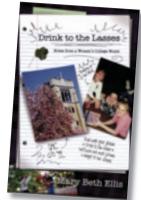
## Drink to the Lasses: Notes from a Women's College Womb by Mary Beth Ellis '99

"It takes a certain woman to attend a women's college ... Somehow, this one got in anyway." That's how Ellis introduces readers to this laugh-out-loud-funny memoir

of her Saint Mary's days, which she describes as "both party and elegy."

A freelance writer and college professor in Florida, Ellis was an English writing major and *Observer* columnist in college (and fitting with this issue of *Courier*, she also sang in the Women's Choir).

From trips through the tunnels to tandem classes in the early days of technology, Ellis takes readers on a wild ride through the place she affectionately calls "Catholic Disneyland." She's unflinching and hilarious when dissecting topics like drinking, dating, and her own



battle with obsessive-compulsive disorder. At the same time, what makes this a satisfying read is the terrific writing, which transcends gender, class year, and alma mater.

"The Women's Choir wore floor-length sapphire blue dresses designed by the cast of Dynasty. They had puffy sleeves and a pointy waist and nobody looked good in them, not even after we liquored up the audience before concerts. 'Big Blue,' we called them, and we hoisted them on hangers to our dorm rooms before concerts, then high-heeled back across campus at twilight dressed this way ... like the Reagan Administration Fashion Brigade.

"Once we wore them to a fundraising affair, at which an alumna was so appalled that she sat down and wrote the director a big fat dress-replacing check before the last vibrato shook itself from the ceiling. Big Blue was unceremoniously chucked in favor of stretchy black dresses, which were somewhat less hilarious but not nearly as character-building. I sorrowed quietly as I handed over Big Blue, having secretly adored myself in the satiny billows, soothed that on the outside, anyway, I was a walking symbol of the campus concept of Good Singer."

—from Drink to the Lasses by Mary Beth Ellis

## Belleathletics

#### **Hall of Fame Inducts Seven**

The Saint Mary's College Athletic Hall of Fame added seven new members to its ranks on September 23. At a lively reception and dinner in Stapleton Lounge, the College celebrated the accomplishments of six alumnae-athletes and one coach in basketball, soccer, swimming, tennis, and track and field.

President Carol Ann Mooney '72 thanked the inductees, their families, and coaches for helping to advance athletics over the years. "You're role models. You inspire us. You motivate me to keep moving forward with improvements for the College," she said.



New Hall of Fame members include (back row, from left) Mary Cosgrove '94, tennis; Allison Smith Provencher '98, swimming; Stacy Davis '99 and Coach Larry Szczechowski, track and field; (front row, from left) Jennie Taubenheim Robinette '96, basketball; Marcie Gaus Berry '91, soccer; and Annette Isom '83, track and field.

#### **Athletes Reach Out**

Wearing the same shirts doesn't make you a team, but sometimes folding shirts does. For their fall service project, the Saint Mary's golf and tennis teams spent a day at the Christ Child Society, where they sorted and packed clothing orders for needy families in South Bend.

Student-athletes also turned out in full force for the



Student-athletes and the Saint Mary's community raised over \$3,000 for breast cancer support services and awareness.

eighth annual
Oktoberfest 5K
run, and helped
raise over \$3,000
for breast cancer
support services
and awareness.
Members of the
cross-country
team, including
Chelsea Foote
'07, painted
themselves pink
to draw attention
to the cause. "The

college community does so much for us. It's one opportunity we have to give back," she said.

Service is required of all Saint Mary's varsity athletes. Sponsored by the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) they put on annual Halloween, Christmas, and Valentine's Day parties for local children and their families. Each of the College's eight varsity teams also chooses on-campus and off-campus service projects to participate in every year.

"Student-athletes at Saint Mary's are privileged not to want for food, shelter, or clothing, so we like to give back to the community as much as possible," says softball coach Erin Sullivan '04, who coordinates service efforts. "The teams enjoy volunteering at organizations that need their help and they often return to the same place each year after having such wonderful experiences."

### Run, Megan, Run

It was a season of "firsts" for cross-country runner Megan Gray '08. The junior from New Carlisle, Indiana, was the first harrier in Saint Mary's history to earn first-team conference honors. She was the first to collect an individual title when she won the Manchester Invitational with a time of 18:42 in the 5K course.

Most remarkably, she was the first cross-country team member ever to represent Saint Mary's at the National Collegiate Athletic Association championships, held November 18 in West Chester, Ohio. Braving a wet, muddy course, she ran the 6K event in 25:14. That time earned her 133rd place in a field of 279 of the nation's best Division III runners.

For Gray, just competing at nationals was a personal triumph. "This season has meant so much to me," she



Megan Gray '08

says. "I definitely didn't think I was going to place so well at regionals and make it to nationals." After studying abroad on the Saint Mary's Rome program last year (taking memorable runs around the Coliseum, the Trevi Fountain, and the Vatican) she had to overcome a knee injury and other health problems to get up to speed this fall.

Gray said that support from her coaches and teammates made the difference. "Cross-country is a team sport. Without all the girls there to help train every day at practice, it wouldn't be the same," she says. When the regular season ended and Gray was the only one preparing for the NCAA, her teammates took time out to train alongside her. "I couldn't have done it without them. They were there to pace me and push me," she says. "I think that definitely says something about Saint Mary's women. They are able to handle a million different things at once...and they go the extra mile."

lin Brodmerkel '09

COURIER | Winter 2006

## Publishe d presented

Susan Baxter, lecturer in communication and performance studies, was one of seven area playwrights participating in the New World Arts 24-7 Festival of New Plays in Goshen, Ind., in September. The festival's format required the playwrights to be locked in the Electric Brew coffee shop for the night, during which they wrote 15-minute, one-act plays to be performed by actors the following day. Richard Baxter, director of special events, was one of the directors for the festival.

Bonnie Bazata, associate director of the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership (CWIL), presented "Promoting Students' Engagement, Transformation, and

Agency: A New Portfolio-Based Certificate in Women's Intercultural Leadership" at a meeting of the National Association for Women in Catholic Higher Education in June, and at the International Leadership Association (ILA) conference November 2–5. At the invitation of Ishar, a women's multicultural health center, she gave a series of three workshops in Perth, Australia, on CWIL's model for women's intercultural leadership. The audience included service providers from a variety of community-based agencies and leaders from a wide array of ethnic communities. Other presenters included Kimberlie Warren and

Mary Fran Brandenberger '78. Linda Zoeller, professor of nursing and chair of the department, and Chelsea Gulling '07 and Kirsten Kensinger'07, also participated. With Erin Crawford Cressy, Bazata also presented "Need to Stop for Directions? Navigating the Crossroads of Women's Intercultural Leadership Theory and Practice" at the November ILA conference.

Vincent Berdayes, associate professor of communication and performance studies and coordinator of the film studies program, presented his paper "Scenario Planning and the Radicalized Role of Narrative Within Futures Research" at the 2006 Narrative Matters Conference, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, May 24-27.

Carolyne Call, lecturer in psychology and director of the Office for Civic and Social Engagement, presented "The Faith-based College in the Modern World: Educating for Engagement" at the University and Civil Society: Autonomy and Responsibility conference at the University of Bologna, Italy, on May 19. In July, Call also presented at the Association for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges and Universities' annual meeting with Judy Fean, director of Campus Ministry, and Terri Johnson, former director of the Office for Multicultural Affairs. Their paper was titled "Using Catholic Social Teaching as a Foundation for Program Creation in Campus Ministry, Community Engagement, and Multicultural Affairs."

Nancy L. D'Antuono, professor of modern languages, presented "Tra storia e teatro: una commedia spagnola di tema genovese, El Genovés liberal di Lope de Vega," at the session she organized on Italia e la Spagna at the joint meeting of the American Association of Italian Studies and the American Association of Teachers of Italian, in Genoa, Italy, May 25-28. She organized two additional sessions on "Il Teatro italiano tra Seicento e Settecento." At the meeting Professor D'Antuono was invited by Professors Thomas Heck and Francesco Cotticelli to document and discuss the Spanish sources for their dual language edition of an Italian treatise on theater, the Dell'Arte rappresentativa permeditata







**Berdayes** 



Andrea Perrucci. Mary Firtl, graphic designer for marketing communications, collaborated with local author and educator Diane Zuber

e all'improvviso (1699) by

to create the newly released Christmas storybook, The Broken Doll. Firtl illustrated the book, which was originally written by Zuber as a musical play for her students to perform. The book retains its original music through an accompanying CD narrated by



Firtl

the author and recorded by area music students.

**Astrid Henry,** associate professor of women's studies and English and coordinator of the women's studies program. published "Feminist Deaths and Feminism Today" in PMLA 121 (October 2006). Her essay "Enviously Grateful, Gratefully Envious: The Dynamics of Generational Relationships in US Feminism" was published in Women's Studies Quarterly 34 (2006). She spoke at a presidential session on "New Directions in Feminist Theory" at the 2006 National Women's Studies Association Conference (NWSA), held in Oakland, Calif. There, she also organized and spoke on a panel, "To Be Real Ten Years Later," devoted to Rebecca Walker's edited

collection *To Be Real: Telling the Truth and Changing the Face of Feminism.* Recently elected member-at-large to NWSA's Delegate Assembly, she will also serve as the member-at-large representative to its governing council.

Krista Hoefle, associate professor of art and director of the Moreau Art Galleries, had two digital animations included in the international exhibition "Pixel Pops" at C2C Gallery in Prague (Czech Republic) in September and October (www.poppingpixels.org). Two of her digital print pieces were included in an exhibition at Swarm Gallery in San Francisco. The exhibition was juried by Marisa Olsen, editor and curator-at-large for Rhizome.org (the Web extension of the New Museum of Contemporary Art, New York City). Nine artists were chosen for this exhibition out of a field of 220 applicants from around the world.

Carla Johnson, assistant director of the writing proficiency program and lecturer in English, had her essay "Reflections on Seinfeld" published in *Seinfeld, Master of its Domain: Revisiting Television's Greatest Sitcom* (2006). In the book, Johnson's 1994 article "Lost in New York: The Schlemiel and the Schlimazel in Seinfeld," is cited as "the most detailed" study of the schlemiel in *Seinfeld*.

**Jason Lahr,** lecturer in art, participated in the Soft Opening II exhibition at Packer Schopf Gallery in Chicago. His paintings were also featured in an article on gallerist Aron Packer in the Oct./Nov. issue of *Lake* magazine.

Patricia A. Keresztes, assistant professor of nursing,



Meyer-Lee



Rajadhyaksha



Ruhe

coauthored several publications in 2006, including (with G. Wegner), "Coping with Workplace Death," in *Nurse Leader*, 4(2), 32-33; (with K. Brick) "Therapeutic Hypothermia after Cardiac Arrest," in *Dimensions of Critical Care Nursing*, 25(2); and (with L. Miskovich-Riddle) "CAP Management Guidelines," in *The Nurse Practitioner* 31(1).

Frances Bernard Kominkiewicz, associate professor, chair of the Department of Social Work, and director of the social work program, presented "Freeing Children to Tell Their Stories: The Utilization of Person-Centered and Experiential Psychotherapy in Child Welfare Investigations" at the seventh world conference for Person-Centered and

Experiential Psychotherapy and Counseling in Potsdam, Germany, July 13.

Jerome L. McElroy, professor of economics, presented "Sustainability in Cold Water Islands" at the International Conference on Sustainable Tourism with Special Reference to Islands and Small States, Foundation for International Studies, University of Malta, Valletta, Malta, from May 25–27. He also published the poem "Passionate Asymmetry" in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* in June.

Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership (CWIL), Tracy Robison, former director of the International and Intercultural Living Community Program at CWIL, Leticia Verduzco, former assistant director of Community Connections, and Joy Evans, assistant director for scholarship and research, presented "The Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership: Bridging International and Domestic Intercultural Learning" at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education in June.

**Thomas Platt,** professor of biology and chair of the department, published "First report of *Echinochasmus* sp. from the snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina* L.) from Reelfoot Lake, Tennessee, U.S.A." in *Comparative Parasitology* 73 (2006).

**Claude Renshaw,** professor of business administration and economics, gave an update on federal tax law at the joint annual conference of the American Woman's Society of CPAs

> and the American Society of Women Accountants, Las Vegas, Nev., September 19.

> Jack Ruhe, professor of business administration and economics, co-authored "Mission Statements and Ethical Orientations of Universities," for the *Journal of Business Ethics* with James Davis, Monle Lee, and Ujvala Rajadhyaksha, associate professor of business administration and economics. He spoke on "Ethics in Fundraising" for the Michiana chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals in South Bend, Ind., February 21; "Leading with Integrity," in a panel with local business leaders, April 27; and "Faculty Ethics: Issues, Challenges, and Solutions" at the

Academy of Management national meeting, August 12, in Atlanta, Ga.

Elizabeth Station, senior writer for marketing communications, was a regular contributor to theweekbehind.com, a Chicago-based online magazine, during 2006. She also translated two essays appearing in the book *Archbishop Romero: Martyr and Prophet for the New Millennium* (University of Scranton Press, 2006), edited by Robert Pelton, CSC. Contributors include scholars and clergy who gathered at the University of Notre Dame in 2005 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Romero's assassination in El Salvador, and to reflect on the meaning of his life for the Catholic Church.

## Faculty

By Elizabeth Station

## Teaching, Living the Music



—T.S. Eliot

## Whether you consider their repertoires or their résumés, the members of the Saint Mary's music department form a superb ensemble.

Professor and Department Chair Nancy Menk, who directs the Saint Mary's women's choirs, has pioneered countless musical projects over the last two decades. Jeffrey Jacob, who joined the faculty in 1978, is a renowned concert pianist, recording artist, and composer. Zae Munn, who teaches music theory, composed *Witness*, an original opera that premiered at the College last year. Soprano and professor Laurel Thomas has left her mark on the vocal music program since arriving in 2001, and performs widely as a soloist. Daniel Party, a musicologist and guitarist from Chile, is in his second year of teaching music appreciation, history, and writing.

All five full-time faculty members hold doctoral degrees in music. All are dedicated, passionate teachers. Whether they face an audience in a classroom or a concert hall, they inspire delight for music.

*Courier* recently sat down with the five professors to find out what makes them tick, tap, and hum. Excerpts from those conversations follow.

#### What impact do you want to have as teachers?

Menk: I want to be a role model for them in a way. I want them to see what they can do with a life in music, and how it can really fill up your life. I want them to see how happy it makes me, and how happy I am working with them. I want them to feel excited about what they're doing in music, a sense of pride in what they're doing with me, and when they've done something on a really high level, to see how good it feels.

**Thomas:** If I had to summarize it as far as my obligation to them, or what I want them to accomplish: I want to free them so that physically, emotionally, intellectually, technically they can do everything possible; they can find their utmost potential in what they're doing as singers and as human beings. To me, nurturing them personally is just as important as nurturing their technique and their intellect.

Party: What I like about teaching in a context like this is that I'm teaching our music majors more than music. There are many days where I feel that music is only about 50 percent of what I'm doing in the class. I'm teaching them how to write; I'm teaching them how to think critically. We're talking about music, but sometimes we're talking about culture, art, architecture, issues of gender, issues of race...I feel that learning about all those things will help them no matter what they do.

Jacob: I also try to give them a sense of the place of music in society. So in lessons we talk not just about the particular piece they're working on—we talk a bit about the period, the composer, perhaps what he or she was trying to express, and we try to make associations with history and literature. The more you understand about a piece, the better you play it, and beyond that, I want them to become interested in everything—everything in the world. There's a quote by Van Gogh that says the best way to live life is to "love many things." I've always thought that was good.

### Do most students choose the music major because they enjoy performing?

Munn: Yes...they don't need to be convinced to like music and to value music on a certain level, and usually it's very experiential, personal, and meaningful. But most of them have not made connections to the actual, objective reasons why music is so successful at communicating, why it's so successful as a language, why it's not just a personal response but a cultural response. That takes a lot of analytical chops that need to be built up before they can start saying, 'Oh, there's a pattern here,' and this is a pattern that's been building in the culture for centuries.

### What does music mean to you? Why have you chosen to make a life in music?

**Party:** Personally, I don't think I could argue that music is better or more fulfilling than other things. I would say art could be just as fulfilling. But music has meant more to me than other things in life, and as I've devoted my life to it, music has taken on all these connections. From music I get stimulation of all different kinds: intellectual stimulation, happiness, tears; it can move me; it can make me laugh; it can start a conversation. It can do so many different things, and that's why I keep going back to it.

**Thomas:** It feels like such an innate part of my soul...I can't imagine having this same kind of passion about anything else other than music.

Munn: I'm a composer because for me, it gets at something I can't get at any other way. I don't think that all things can be articulated with words. Through music I'm able to express things that I don't think are touched by words, and I'm also able to understand things in the process of composing and listening, which cannot otherwise be articulated. I actually think there is pre-verbal truth, and for me, music is a way to get at that.

Menk: I can't imagine teaching anything but music because it's so varied. I could do a different piece of choral music every day and never repeat. And I've been able to create new music by commissioning works, not writing music myself. To actually help new music come into being with my choir—it's one of the most exciting things in the world for me, to bring a new piece to life. It's my way of creating something. And also, there's something about making music that energizes you, takes your problems away, makes you feel physically better.

**Jacob:** For me, and this is true for many musicians, there is nothing else I could have done. Love of music came from day one. There are no musicians in my family, so I don't know where it came from, but there was this immediate emotional response to music that was so comprehensive that I could not have done anything else. T.S. Eliot wrote about 'music heard so deeply/That it is not heard at all/but you are the music/While the music lasts.' I always thought that was the most profound thing that anyone wrote about music. For me, that experience of 'being the music' is what made it absolutely imperative that I become a musician somehow, some way.

## for the record

#### **Alumnae Deaths**

Mary Lahey Cahill '31, grandmother of Mariellen Barry Roeder '89, October 9, 2006.

Gladys Reed Gwinn '36, December 27, 2005.

Bette Breit O'Keefe '39, sister of Geraldine "Gerre" Breit Walsh, Academy '40, August 24, 2006.

Marjorie Hall Witherspoon '41, mother of Mary Walsh Green '63, Kathleen Walsh Harty '65, Colleen Walsh Warin '69, Melanie Walsh Flannery '73 and grandmother of Maureen Flannery Crowe '01, July 20, 2006.

Catherine Geilen '45, January 31, 2006.

Katherine James Coutrakon '46, sister of Helen James Lutz '46, October 13, 2006.

Margaret "Peggy" J. Conerty '49, August 9, 2006.

Sister Elizabeth Ann Holland, OSB, '53, July 3, 2006.

Marjorie M. Morcombe '59, October 16, 2006.

Kathleen Grummell Troester '61, mother of Patricia Troester Collins '91, sister of Nancy Grummell Geary '59, and aunt of Kathleen Geary Vitanovec '87, Ann Troester Lennon '88, and Margaret Troester Murphy '90, November 1, 2006.

Kathleen Gatens Harrington '63, August 23, 2006.

Juliana Dwyer Davidson '71, September 30, 2006.

Suzanne Reed Price, SMC-ND '73, August 16, 2006.

Suzanne M. Draths '83, sister of Karen Draths Frost '86, and sister-in-law of Christine Ruddy Draths '80, October 15, 2006.

#### **Family Deaths**

Alfred Carpenter, husband of Jeanne Wick Younger '49, and brother-in-law of Marge Wick Collins '52, September 12, 2006.

Edward R. Durand Jr., husband of Elizabeth King Durand '60, September 20, 2006.

Robert Franden, father of Julie Franden Fitzgerald '59, May 1, 2006.

Louise Garrett, mother of Joanne Garrett '75 and Mary C. Garrett '78, June 28, 2006. Courtney V. Gordon, brother of Lori Russwurm Boecher '93, September 24, 2006.

Irene Jankowski, mother of Danuta Jankowski-Santellano '78, August 28, 2006

Donald F. Lewis, father of Laura Lewis Rente '90, October 10, 2006.

Mary Lou Manzie, sister of Valerie Manzie Stoelzel '77, October 2, 2006.

Clement M. Miller, father of Mary Beth Miller Dominello '97, Joyce Miller Fuchs '72, and Alicia Miller Cassell '82, father-in-law of Kathleen Pastore Miller '70, grandfather of Elizabeth Bradley Couch '84, Bridget Bradley Feeks '85, Sarah Bradley Fink '86, Heidi Heminger Bradley '90, Maria Dominello Panowicz '92, Elizabeth Miller Williams '92, Lisa Dominello Winde '95, Andrea Dominello Remke '98, and Carla Dominello '99, October 7, 2006.

Joseph J. Mistretta, father of Lisa A. Mistretta '80, October 26, 2006.

Father Robert Moran, brother of Pat Moran Hiaasen '49, April 8, 2006.

Ronald P. Noyes, husband of Melissa Underman Noyes '72, October 3, 2006.

Arthur H. O'Connor, step father of Eileen Scubelek Dimino '02, October 22, 2006.

Leona Elizabeth Schnaus, mother of Dorothy Schnaus Hart '62, Ruth Schnaus Smith '63, Roberta Schnaus McCarthy '66, and Helen Schnaus Cottingham '69 and grandmother of Christine Hart Jimerson '85, Kathryn Smith Von Wyl '86, and Colleen Ellen McCarthy '90, September 30, 2006.

Charles L. Simonds, father of Kathleen "Kate" Simonds Stratigos '79, July 15, 2006.

Paul Stickley, husband of Ann L. Wild '67, March 12, 2005.

Dr. Thomas F. Thornton, father of Susan Thornton Daly '68, August 28, 2006.

E. James Trimarchi, father of Julia Trimarchi Cuccaro '82, May 26, 2006.

Genevieve M. Underman, mother of Melissa Underman Noyes '72, August 14, 2006.

Clement Michael Winde, stillborn son of Lisa Dominello Winde '95, grandson of Mary Beth Miller Dominello '97, nephew of Maria Dominello Panowicz '92, Andrea Dominello Remke '98, and Carla Dominello '99, October 21, 2006.

#### **Marriages**

Cheryl Pilon Meyer '86 and Michael, September 1, 2006.

Ellen Conway Kelly '87 and Kieron, September 19, 2005.

Tammy Shelor Blain '89 and Todd, April 29, 2006.

Amy Haynes Cihak '89 and Peter, August 12, 2006.

Anne Frederick Heroman Jeanmard '94 and Mark, July 1, 2006.

Carolyn Withers Patterson '95 and Joe, November 18, 2006.

Karen Schmidt Meade '96 and Scott, May 6, 2006.

Bronwyn McAuliffe Azzarello '97 and Jimmy, August 5, 2006.

April Sass Johnson '97 and Jay, August 5, 2006.

Kimberly Pohlman Meske '97 and Norman, July 9, 2005.

Margaret "Peggy" Lenczewski Miller '97 and John, June 17, 2006.

Jessica Lentych Loyd '98 and Alan, May 13, 2006.

Michele Jarosick Smith '98 and Jeffrey, April 16, 2005.

Mary Tully Lehman '99 and Peter, September 2, 2006.

Jeanine Weigel Pickering '99 and John, September 9, 2006.

Heather Showalter Stepan '99 and Frank, July 22, 2006.

Anna Rolfes Atkinson '01 and Aaron, September 2, 2006.

Katherine "Katie" Claussen Bell '01 and Nicolas, September 9, 2006.

Betsie Sprague Monico '01 and Chris, June 24, 2006.

Laura Brennan Schlidt '01 and Thomas ND '97, August 5, 2006.

Jeanine Mauro Stricker '01 and Todd, September 10, 2006.

Kristen Wolfe Theisen '01 and Nicholas, May 13, 2006.

Kathleen Fech Thompson '01 and James, September 2, 2006.

Erin Martin Williams '01 and Hunter, July 8, 2006.

Caitlin Duffey Abramson '03 and Brian, July 29, 2006.

Katie Zigler Anderson '03 and Barry, November 11, 2006.

Jessica Saxton Fraser '03 and Michael, May 20, 2006.

Rebecca Fama Giffin '03 and Derek, May 27, 2006.

Jennifer Lombard Kibbon '03 and Lucas, September 23, 2006.

Elizabeth Rosswurm Lecher '03 and Scott, June 24, 2006.

Melissa Bulak Marscin '03 and Eric, April 22, 2006.

Mackenzie McGee Stark '03 and Joe, September 2, 2006.

Melissa Alvarez Stevens '03 and David ND '04, October 14, 2006.

Anne Didier Gustus '04 and Ryan Christopher, May 13, 2006.

Kristen Kurek Hernandez '04 and John, September 30, 2006.

Kelly Viater Maxam '04 and Brett, September 2, 2006.

Kathryn "Kate" Hartman Rosenzweig '04 and David, June 24, 2006.

Teresa Healy Hopper '05 and Jason, June 24, 2006.

Catherine Tindall Mott '05 and Jared, December 10, 2005.

Jillian Roth Gill '06 and Brittan, August

#### **Births & Adoptions**

Kimberley J. Tychsen DeCelles '86 and John: Ryan, January 1, 2006.

Ellen Conway Kelly '87 and Kieron: Twins, Louise O'Connor and Conway Tomlinson, September 19, 2006.

Chris Jachman Weimholt '87 and John: Joseph Henry, September 27, 2006

Kathleen Kearney Devereux '88 and Clarke: Quinn Kathleen, September 28, 2006

Angela LeJeune Puetz '88 and John ND '88: Margaret Marie, May 31, 2006.

Mary Flanagan Murphy '89 and Tom: Mary "Molly" Margaret, February 17, 2006

Frances Burke Phillips '89 and Edward ND '87: Benedict "Ben" Edward, May 9, 2006.

Mariellen Barry Roeder '89 and Randy: Twins, Conner James and Megan Marie, July 17, 2006.

Lynn Uritis Smith '89 and Kevin: Jorja, August 9, 2006.

Shannon McGowan Gannon '90 and Tim: Bridget Rose, October 19, 2006.

Patricia Walsh Whelpley '90 and John ND '90: Annette Elizabeth, March 23, 2006.

Jennifer Langness Caputo '91 and Michael ND '91: Tessa Marie, January 26, 2006.

Lisa Harrell Klein '91and Marc-Andreas: Alexia Katarina, September 24, 2005.

Susan Odgers Kondic '91 and Marinko: Noah Christopher, August 17, 2005.

Julia Drinan Lacayo '91 and Bernardo ND '90: Adam Joseph, June 16, 2005.

Rachel Tomas Morgan '91 and Peter: Sarah Tomas, April 15, 2006.

Bridget Murphy Patten '91 and Stephen: Twins, Sorcha Grace and Owen Daniel, July 11, 2005.

Faith Cederberg Sherry '91 and Peter: Lindsey Pickett, October 15, 2005.

Melissa Gemmell Janda '93 and Jeffrey: Kevin Jeffrey, February 22, 2006.

Cynthia Jordan Littlefield '93 and Matt: Lauren Olivia, July 11, 2006.

Michelle Budd Munch '93 and Willard ND '92: Maggie Michelle, October 24, 2005

Tiffany Bailey Armas '94 and Jim: Tara Elizabeth, August 14, 2005.

Wendy Betz Chapman '95 and David: Padraig Betz, August 13, 2006.

Maureen Buckley Everling '95 and Lawrence: Colleen Rose, November 18, 2003

Julie Peterson Krolczyk '95 and Jim: Michael David, November 25, 2005.

Tara Nagy Vrdolyak '95 and Edward: Grace Alexandra, August 28, 2006.

Barbara Howells Boukater '96 and Michael: Bryce Winston, September 10, 2006

Julie Powell Eastwood '96 and Brent: Aidan Olivia, September 12, 2006.

Deborah Schiek McCadney '96 and James: Twins, Andrew Patton and Giacomo Carter, October 25, 2005.

Mary Good Palmer '96 and Michael: Jacob Joseph, August 19, 2005.

Angelique Blair Wagley '96 and Jerry: Arley Blair, April 17, 2006.

Marysarah Cutrara Carpenter '97 and Jeffrey: Nora Josephine, March 8, 2006.

Helen Wilson McDermott '97 and John: Henry Thomas, May 8, 2006.

Brandee Carlson Foley '97 and Matt: Aidan Henry, September 7, 2006.

Kathleen Boyle Walicki '97 and Richard: Ryan Richard, June 8, 2006.

Erin Luedecking Zimmer '97 and Michael: Twins, Henry Thomas and James Robert, April 3, 2006.

Teresa Wyncott Manis '98 and Michael: Kiersten Lawrence, June 12, 2005

Allison Koenig McLean '98 and Ryan ND '98: William Thomas Koenig McLean, July 4, 2006.

Ivonne Grantham Smith '98 and Baron: Grantham William, September 26, 2006.

Kelly Herro Fikri '99 and Kareem: Rania Kristine, August 1, 2006.

Krista Morrissey Gipson '00 and Matthew: Alaina Kathleen, January 22, 2006

Machala Keenan Beam '01 and Jim: James Harrison, May 19, 2006.

Alyson Leddy Clements '01 and Gregory: Aidan Wesley, April 5, 2006.

Julia Peterson Hannan '01 and Philip: Aidan Louis, March 25, 2005.

Katherine Middlemas Kessler '01 and John: Anderson James, July 17, 2006.

Katherine Keller Schroeder '01 and Jeff: Madelyn Therese, February 1, 2006.

Melissa Bittner Sharpe '01 and George: Elle Marie, November 7, 2005.

Julia Fletcher Lee '02 and Shawn ND '02: Andrew James, June 13, 2006.

Meghan McGinty Anderson '03 and Ben: Luke Matthew, May 1, 2006.

### Nominate a distinguished friend

Do you know a Saint Mary's alumna who is a rising star, a business sensation, a distinguished academician, or has dedicated herself to service?

Each year the Alumnae Association honors deserving alumnae who have made significant contributions to the College or in her field. Please take a few minutes to nominate an alumna. Submit her name, class year, and why you think she should receive an award. Nominations must be received by March 1, 2007. Graduate and non-graduate alumnae are eligible for the award. Please send nominations via e-mail, fax, or mail to the Alumnae Relations Office, Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, IN 46556. E-mail alumnae@ saintmarys.edu; fax (574) 284-4749.

#### Distinguished Alumna Award

The nominee should exemplify the standards, ideals, and mission of Saint Mary's in her vocation and be of outstanding service to the College through ongoing work for the Alumnae Association, either with a local club or with the association directly. That service should also be demonstrated through yearly benefaction and other consistently devoted support and friendship to the College.

#### Alumna Achievement Award

The nominee should be outstanding in her personal and professional accomplishments. As a recognized leader in her field, she should exemplify the quality of a Christian liberal arts education and uphold the standards, ideals, and mission of Saint Mary's College.

#### Humanitas Award

The nominee should be outstanding in her personal and volunteer accomplishments and recognized for her concern for the interests and welfare of her fellow human beings. She should exemplify the qualities of personal dedication, compassion, selflessness, and sacrifice through social action, education, and reform within the community, church, or world.

#### Outstanding Young Alumna Award

The nominee should exhibit leadership in her personal, professional, or volunteer accomplishments and also in her involvement with Saint Mary's College. Alumnae from the classes of 1992–2005 are eligible for the award.

## Club news

#### **Albuquerque**

The Albuquerque Club had a few smaller gatherings during the fall. In September, Mary Louise Boelcke '81 and Julia Middendorf '85 met for a chat in Albuquerque after "Louie" had just finished a big case. Louie is a Civil Rights Attorney. Later in September, Julie Canepa '79 and Julia met in Santa Fe for dinner. Julie has a PhD in chemistry and works for Los Alamos National Labs. Julia would love to help arrange more gatherings for alumnae, but she needs some input!

For more information, contact: Julia Middendorf, mimijulia11@yahoo.com.

#### **Boston**

Greetings Boston Area Alumnae! The club is officially back in the planning stages. On Oct. 25, the club hosted its first monthly social at Solas in downtown Boston. Attendance included members from the classes of 1982 to 2003. All are welcome, so please join the group! The monthly socials will be held on the third Wednesday of each month. Please be sure to check the club's Web site for locations.

December was busy for the club as well. Members enjoyed wrapping Christmas gifts and spending time with Boston's homeless children at Christmas in the City, an annual gift giving event held for the children living in all of Boston's homeless shelters. All alumnae in attendance felt this was truly a rewarding experience, and it may be an annual event.

A small group gathered at the home of Sarah Looney Marshall '98 to bake homemade cookie care packages for students from the Boston area. The club hopes that the students enjoyed their little piece of home as they studied hard for finals

All Saint Mary's Boston area alumnae, families, and friends are invited to join the club as the board plans events for the spring and fall. Please visit the SMC Boston Web page for all the event details and meeting times. For more information, contact: Nicole Kraimer Strieter '99, nkraimerstrieter@gmail.com or (617) 610-5604.

#### Carolinas

The club celebrated Founders' Day on Nov. 9 with dinner at Maggiano's Restaurant in Charlotte. A reorganization meeting was also held during the evening. Thank you to all who attended the event and volunteered to assist with the club. More details to come!

For more information, contact: Kara Pearce '04, kara.pearce@cbre.com or (704) 331-1270.

#### **Chicago East**

On Oct. 28, alumnae and friends gathered at the Field Museum to hear Art Professor Marcia Rickard discuss the cultural, historical, and artistic significance of King Tut in preparation for viewing Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs. It was a family affair, with many alumnae bringing their parents and significant others to share in this interesting afternoon. Thanks to Professor Rickard for journeying to Chicago, and to the event chairwoman, Lindsey Cotter Mackenzie '02, for organizing this event.

Congratulations to the Chicago East Club on being named Club of the Year! Thanks to all the alumnae who support the club, its events and the Chicago Endowed Scholarship, Thanks in particular to those dedicated alumnae who sit on the Chicago East Board of Directors: Sarah Siefert Barney '99, Megan Bennett '03, Jill Moore Clouse '99, Martha Conlin '93, Lindsey Cotter Mackenzie '02, Molly Halm '05, Natalie Hock '04, Karen Zagrocki McDonald '76, Erin McGarry '02, Laura Meyers Malec '98. Geneviève Morrill '98. Maureen Garavan Oskielunas '05, Amanda Shock '01, Sarah Stegmaier '03, Kelly Walsh '01, and Chiara Marcheschi Wrocinski '98. President Carol Ann Mooney '72 presented the award to the club at the 2006 Chicago Founders' Day celebration.

For more information, contact: Genevieve Morrill '98, gcmorrill@yahoo. com or (773) 384-4967.

#### **Chicago Northwest**

The Chicago Northwest Club celebrated fall with a Mother-Daughter Tea on Oct. 14. Many thanks to Renee Young '93 and Halane Young '88 for organizing this wonderful event. Alumnae met at Infini-Tea in Antioch for a great afternoon of yummy food, tea, and conversation. Money was also raised for the Chicago Endowed Scholarship.

On Nov. 12 club members gathered with the other Chicago-area clubs to celebrate Founders' Day. The event included Mass and a great luncheon at St. Ignatius Prep in downtown Chicago. President Carol Ann Mooney '72 was the special guest speaker. Many thanks to her for her inspiring speech and updates on the future of Saint Mary's. The Chicago Northwest Club donated a Beleek tray and a 2006 commemorative Waterford snowflake ornament to the raffle during the event. All proceeds benefited the scholarship fund.

Finally, here is an update regarding the officers of the club. Emily Willett Kubaszak '92, the club's founding treasurer, is moving to South Bend with her family. Best wishes to them and many thanks for her years of service to the club. Halane Young has agreed to take on her duties as the new treasurer.

Also, thanks to Jennifer Durot Andrew '78, who is stepping down as membership director. She will continue as the head of the book club. Sara Arlene Leavitt-Turner '96 and Louanne Scanlon Mauro '70 are taking over her membership duties, with the goal of producing a club directory this year. The club truly appreciates everyone stepping forward!

The club is open to all ideas and suggestions from alumnae regarding activities. Please let the club know your thoughts!

For more information, contact: Julie Marsh Deischer '93, ddjd95@msn.com or (847) 462-9033.

#### **Chicago West**

The Chicago West Club wrapped up another great year of reading when the book club met at the home of Carrie Cummins Mueller '92 in October. Book ideas were collected for the 2007 list, which is managed by Anne Murray McDermott '85. Thanks for organizing the annual book list and schedule and providing the club with a variety of discussion material each month.

November was busy, but members had to eat! A "Dinner Out" event was held in November for some non-reading entertainment. Claim Jumpers in Lombard was the setting for a lively get-together. Thanks to Patty Piercy Cushing '90 for coordinating these events.

The club was pleased to be a part of the Chicago East Club's Founders' Day Mass and Luncheon held on Nov. 12 in conjunction with the other Chicago-area clubs. The event was well-attended and hosted at St. Ignatius College Prep in Chicago. Alumnae shared an afternoon with President Carol Ann Mooney '72 to celebrate the College's history. There was also a raffle with the proceeds benefitting the Chicago Endowed Scholarship.
The club's appreciation goes to Chiara Marcheschi Wrocinski '98 of the Chicago East Club for her hard work to coordinate this celebration.

On Nov. 16, the club enjoyed an evening with Adriana Trigiani '81 at her book signing at Anderson's Bookshop in Naperville. She rolled out her newest book, *Home to Big Stone Gap*. With Adriana's larger-than-life personality, members enjoyed the chance to catch up with fellow Saint Mary's alumnae and celebrate her latest release.

The club wrapped up the year with its annual holiday 'Share the Spirit' gathering. Thanks to all who joined the club at the various gatherings this year. The club welcomes all new faces. See you in 2007!

Check the Web site for the 2007
Book Club list so you can get a head start
on next year's books. Watch the mail for
a club newsletter in January/February.
The club officers are always looking to
grow the club and find more reasons to
get together, so consider bringing a fellow

alumna and joining the club together! Thanks to all of the club officers and readers who make events enjoyable and eagerly anticipated.

For more information, contact: Alison Spohn '93, irishannie93@yahoo.com or (630) 922-6902.

#### Cleveland

Calling all young alumnae – if you are an alumna from 1990-present, the club wants you! The club would like to hold young alumnae events in 2007, but it needs your help. Please contact Kathleen Policy '98 at (440) 887-1844 or kpolicy@ hotmail.com if you are interested in helping plan events.

The next Cleveland Book Club meeting will be held in January. More details coming soon.

The annual meeting will be held in February at Panera on Tiedemann. Watch your e-mail inboxes for more details. During the meeting, club members will be informed of the successes of 2006 and then plan for 2007. Please join the club officers for this very important meeting. They need your input to make the Cleveland Club successful!

More information about upcoming events is available on the club's Web site (www.smcclevelandclub.com).

For more information, contact: Kathleen Policy, kpolicy@hotmail.com or (440) 887-1844, or Christine Gill '90, christinegill1@yahoo.com or (216) 651-1917.

#### Colorado

The Colorado Club was pleased to welcome four new students from Colorado to the Saint Mary's community this year! Club members hosted a send-off for new students and their families in August. The club's next event will be the annual Mass and Brunch gathering in March. Please stay tuned for details and an invitation in the mail this winter.

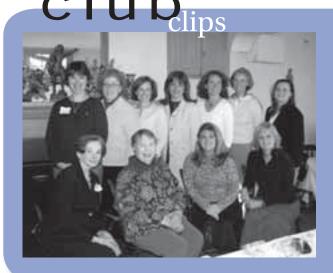
For more information, contact Tara Krull '95. tarakrull@hotmail.com.

#### Columbus

The Columbus Club celebrated Founders' Day in October at the home of Sarah Hussey Ryan '89 in New Albany. Alumnae brought food and a bottle of wine to share for a wine tasting. A speaker came from Huckleberry House, a shelter for runaway teens in Central Ohio. She spoke about the services offered at the shelter, and alumnae brought donations for the organization.

The SMC/ND Christmas Mass and Brunch was held on Dec. 10 at Ohio Dominican University in Columbus. Santa made an appearance after the brunch with gifts for the children.

The Columbus Board will meet early in the year to discuss and plan 2007 events. Meetings are open to anyone interested in attending.



Pictured are those alumnae who attended the Fairfield/Westchester Club's Founders' Day on Nov. 4.
Standing (from left to right): Lynn Van Wassenhove Smierciak '82, Claire Mahoney Anderson '79, Joan Giunco Cohen '76, Judy Mardoian Gavoor '76, Sally Georgen Archer '83, Louise Purcell Hemmerle '78, Amy Kramer Broghammer '97. Seated (from left to right): Margaret Nerad Flannery '60, Midge Myler Russo '54, Cindy Corsaro '74, and Carolyn Friday '72.

For more information, contact: Laura Proto Campise '92, lccampise@sbcglobal. net or (614) 488-8443.

#### **Dallas/Fort Worth**

Members of the Dallas-Fort Worth Alumnae Club gathered on Dec. 8 at the home of Tia Barrett Bisignano '70 for the annual Christmas Party. The evening began with a celebration of Mass honoring the Feast of the Immaculate Conception followed by a decadent holiday meal. Book Club will meet again on Jan. 7 at the home of Theresa Causa Major '95 where the group will be discussing My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult. In March, the club is anxiously looking forward to the Saint Mary's Women's Choir performing in Plano on their annual tour. More details for these and other upcoming events can be found at the club's Web site.

For more information, contact: Andrea Sondag Schweitzer '00, andreasondag@ yahoo.com or (214) 497-6993.

#### **Des Moines**

Des Moines area alumnae gathered for a Founders' Day celebration on Nov. 19 at the home of Aimee Beckmann-Collier '75. The featured speaker was Debbie Johnson Schwiebert, '74, chair of the College Board of Trustees. Alumnae appreciated Debbie's informative comments about the current state of the College and her passionate commitment to Saint Mary's.

Alumnae prepared treat bags for Saint Mary's students from Des Moines, which were sent to them during finals week. Michelle Nagle '02 coordinated the project.

For more information, contact: Aimee Beckmann-Collier, aimee.beckmann-collier@drake.edu or (515) 222-1516.

#### **Detroit**

The Detroit Club rounded out the summer with the New Student Send-off hosted by Carolyn Solomon Wujek '02. Twenty-three first year students were joined by 30 of their parents and other alumnae who shared tips and stories on making the most of the Saint Mary's experience.

In late August the club hosted a Scholarship Fundraiser on board the Tallship Unicorn. The 2006-2007 club year kicked off with the annual planning meeting in late September. The first activity this past fall was a dinner gathering for Founders' Day at a local restaurant. The event was well attended and it was a great opportunity to renew old friendships and make new contacts. The annual Christmas party was held on Dec. 2 at the home of Roseanne Wallace Horne '80.

For more information, contact: Heather Jackson Martin '93, hamartin2005@yahoo.com or (313) 647-0678.

#### Fairfield/Westchester

The Founders' Day event was held Nov. 4 with Mass at St. Mary's Church in Ridgefield followed by lunch at the Elms Inn. Alumnae from 1950 through 1990 were in attendance. Cindy Corsaro '74 sang a moving a cappella version of Amazing Grace during the communion meditation.

The club presented a Founders' Day Award to Judy Mardoian Gavoor '76. Judy represents the spirit and tradition that are an integral part of the Saint Mary's community. Judy has served the club as past president, hosted numerous club events, participated in local school fairs, and now serves as a member of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors. She recently relocated to the Chicago area with her family.

In addition, alumnae generously donated layette items for the local Birthright chapter in Danbury. (Birthright is an international organization that helps pregnant women in need.)

Members should have received their dues invoice with the invitation to the Founders' Day event. If you haven't sent in your check, please do so (payable to Saint Mary's Alumnae Club). Dues keep the club going and growing!

The club is looking forward to its annual winter social event—to be determined.

For more information, contact: Sally Georgen Archer '83, ctarcher@optonline. net or (203) 544-7150.

#### Idaho

The club has three new freshmen on campus this year. Hopefully they enjoyed their first fall in South Bend!

The Hesburg Lecture series from Notre Dame was held in early November.

The Saint Mary's/Notre Dame Club of Idaho participated in Boise's annual Rake-Up on Nov. 18, raking the yards of two senior citizens. After enjoying hot apple cider and doughnuts, members watched the Irish beat Army.

The club sponsored a board meeting at Louie's Restaurant to reenergize the board on Nov. 29, and the Christmas celebration was held in December.

For more information, contact: Jacquie Jablonski Halgerson '83, jfhalge@msn.com or (208) 386-9613.

#### Indianapolis

The Indianapolis Alumnae Club had a busy fall. On Nov. 11, a group of alumnae met with art professor Julie Wroblewski Tourtillotte '82 and a group of students to view her exhibit "Near and Far—Looking at Patterns" at the Indianapolis Museum of Art. It was a great exhibit, and alumnae

enjoyed the chance to interact with current students. Thanks to Melissa Pauwels '02 for coordinating the event and to Professor Tourtillotte for allowing the club to tag along.

On Nov. 15, Big Hat Books in Broad Ripple hosted a pre-signing reception for Indianapolis alumnae and Adriana Trigiani '81, who was in town promoting her new book, Home to Big Stone Gap. There was a great turn out and Adriana was awesome. It was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate in the success of fellow alumnae. Thanks to Big Hat Books for hosting the event.

Founders' Day was celebrated on Nov. 16, with Betsy Burke '85 as the host of the event. Fellow alumnae caught up while enjoying dessert and coffee. Thanks again to Betsy Burke and all the board members who contributed the desserts.

Alumnae gathered on Dec. 3 for Mass at Saint Mary's Catholic Church in downtown Indianapolis with brunch following at Scholar's Inn. Thanks to everyone who came.

Please remember that board meetings are held the first Wednesday of every other month. New faces and new ideas are always welcome!

For more information, Betsie Sprague Monico '01, (317) 823-2660 or KrisAnne Wilson '01, (317) 781-0371.

#### **Kansas City**

The Kansas City Club is staying active with a variety of events. An October highlight was yoga. Instructor Amy Laws '97 shared her talents with members of the SMC and ND clubs. She had 12 of us bending, stretching, and laughing prior to socializing. The yoga event raised \$150, half of which was sent to the Rose Brooks Center. Thanks to Amy for leading us, to Arwen Dickey '98 for planning the event, and to all who joined the fun! Club members also joined ND football fans for game watching every week. Go Irish!

The annual Christmas Tea was held on Dec. 3 at the InterContinental Hotel on the plaza. Thanks to all who attended!

The Kansas City Club had an exciting 2006, which included increasing membership 25%, doubling club funds, donating to the community, and enjoying several events. The club is gearing up for an exciting 2007!

For more information, contact: Kelly Tyler '87, Kelly@KellyTylerTrainingServices. com.

#### Louisville

Alumnae gathered for coffee at the home of Rachel Lamb Schrepferman '92 on Oct. 6. Everyone loved getting reacquainted with fellow Belles!

For more information, contact: Rachel Schrepferman, rachelshep@bellsouth.net or (502) 897-0044.

## A l u m n a e club news

#### Milwaukee

The Milwaukee Club had a reorganization meeting this fall. To find out more about getting involved in the Milwaukee Club, check out the club's page on the Alumnae Relations Office's Web site or e-mail the club at smcmkeclub@gmail.com.

In November, a group of alumnae joined Adriana Trigiani '81 at a reading of her new book, *Return to Big Stone Gap*. Check out the Web site for pictures from the event.

Hope you can join fellow alumnae at the next club event...check the Web site for regular updates!

For more information, contact: Missy Lind '98, MAL515@sbcglobal.net or (414) 288-6774, or Kristi Brandon Butman, '03, Kristi.Butman@marquette. edu or (414) 288-6777.

#### **New Jersey**

The New Jersey Club hosted a reception for current Jersey students on-campus at Riedinger Alumnae House in October. The "cottage" was a big draw for the 13 young ladies that took a break from their studies to check it out! The current students are looking to network with alumnae back home. The club would love to build its alumnae network and give these girls a friendly place to begin building their network. If you are interested in supporting these voung women, please send vour contact information (name, title, office address, best phone number to reach, e-mail) to dawn@tallshipunicorn.com.

The club kicked off the Christmas season with an absolutely wonderful event with Adriana Trigiani '81. She had a book signing at the Clinton Book Shop on Dec. 16. As with any event involving Adri, there was laughter, lunch with great Italian food, shopping, and friends. The club thanks her for coming and all alumnae, current students, and their mothers who came out for the afternoon.

This was the second holiday season that the club sent Christmas care packages to all of the current Jersey girls. This simple gesture from the club is so appreciated by the young ladies as they study for their finals. Please remember to send in your \$25 annual dues (make checks out to NJSMC Alumnae Club and send to: 2 Gravel Hill Road, Asbury, NJ 08802). Your dues help support the club and its efforts to connect with the Garden State's students!

May all enjoy a blessed New Year in 2007!

For more information, contact: Dawn Parker Santamaria '81, (908) 713-1808.

#### Northwest Indiana

The club is now live on the Web! The site can be found on the Alumnae Relations home page. It features the latest news and information about the club including upcoming events and membership. If you have any suggestions about things you would to see on the site, please let the club know.

On Nov. 9, alumnae gathered for some ceramics therapy at Ceramix 101 studio's "Holly Plate Workshop." Members created a ceramic Christmas plate just in time for holiday entertaining.

The holidays just aren't the holidays without the club's annual Christmas Celebration and White Elephant Gift Exchange! Club members met on Dec. 14, at Abuelo's Mexican Food Embassy in Merrillville for an entertaining evening.

Look for more details on these upcoming winter and spring events: Yoga, Wine & Cheese, Ice Skating at Deep River Water Park, Super Supper, Off the Vine Wine Tasting. Log on to the club's Web site for future details.

For more information, contact: Jackie Brody Tavitas '91, jackie\_brody@yahoo. com or (219) 670-3363.

#### **Philadelphia**

The club is currently looking for new leadership. If you are interested or have questions, please contact: Carol Hastings Bradbeer '86, carolbradbeer@comcast. net or Lynn Uritis Smith '89, lusmith@comcast.net.

#### **Pittsburgh**

The Pittsburgh Alumnae Club is currently reorganizing. In early fall, local alumnae received a survey from club coordinators Leslie Schneider Krueger '93 and Colleen Miles '03, letting them know of their potential interest in an area alumnae club. On Oct. 23, nine members of a newly formed Board of Directors met to discuss the future of the club. Be on the lookout for information about future club events, like a springtime luncheon to be held in late March.

For more information, contact: Colleen Miles, cbmiles@hotmail.com.

#### South Bend

The South Bend Alumnae Club kicked off its year with its Annual Student Send-off. Kathleen Malone Beeler '69 and Susan Malone Feeley '82 graciously hosted this fantastic event poolside at Kathy's home in Granger. Twenty incoming students and their families gathered to celebrate their decision to attend Saint Mary's. The students, their families, and alumnae were honored to have President Carol Ann Mooney '72 and Vice President For College Relations Shari Rodriguez also in attendance. Thanks to Kathy and Susan for hosting this event.

The club raffled off two tickets to the ND vs. Purdue game that were graciously donated by Elizabeth Christopher Elmore '68. Congratulations and a special thank you to Laura Pfeil Elliott '84; her generosity enabled the club to contribute

\$310 to the South Bend Alumnae Club Endowed Scholarship. Thanks to everyone who bid in support of the scholarship fund!

Speaking of the club's endowed scholarship, the club has three local students receiving scholarship money from the club: Kassie Evans '07, Emily Stillson '09, and Lesley Chan '10.

The club celebrated Founders' Day on Oct. 12 with special guest speaker Kara O'Leary '89, president of the Alumnae Association's Board of Directors. She shared how alumnae could get more involved in the College by attending events, participating in the alumnae club and providing financial support. Founders' Day is always a great opportunity to reflect on the importance of Saint Mary's.

The club continued its very popular book club with meetings in October and December. SMC's in the City also continued this year, hitting Club Noma, the newest hot spot in South Bend.

The club held its annual Holiday Party for its local students and alumnae on Dec. 7. Sweets and hot chocolate always help the students study for their finals! The party also wrapped up the club's holiday service project. Saint Mary's senior class initiated a new service project this Christmas. The goal of the "12 Days of Christmas" project was to raise approximately \$5,000 through both monetary and gift donations for needy families in the community. The South Bend Alumnae Club supported the student-run project by sponsoring a family at Christmas time. The club helped to provide gifts and food for the family.

On Jan. 11, the club will meet at Bonefish Grill for SMC's in the City, and the book club will be held on Jan. 16. The club will also cook dinner for the residents of Hannah's House on Jan. 30.

For more information, contact: Amy Dooms Taylor '01, doomsamy@netscape. net or (574) 299-7344.

#### **Twin Cities**

The Twin Cities Club celebrated its 75th anniversary with a reception on Oct. 30 with President Carol Ann Mooney '72 as the special guest speaker. The Ryan family, Colleen and Jim, plus daughters Molly Ryan Carson '95 and Kate Ryan '00 hosted the event at the Ryan Companies Northwoods Room in downtown Minneapolis. Fifty alumnae, parents and guests attended, including Shari Rodriguez, vice president for college relations, and Michelle Poeppe Egan '93, assistant director of alumnae relations. Club President Sharon Scheckel Madigan '80 greeted the guests, described upcoming activities, and encouraged all to stay involved in the club.

The book club met on Oct. 17 at Borders in Richfield. Eight attendees discussed Lucy Grealy's Autobiography of a Face, and Ann Patchett's Truth & Beauty. The group also met on Nov. 28 to discuss Ann Patchett's *Bel Canto*, regarded by many as her best work. The 2007 reading list and meeting locations will be coming out as a postcard again this year. Thanks for your wonderful contributions. 2007 will be the 7th year of the Book Club! Attendees vary each month and completing the novel before you come is optional. All are welcome!

The Twin Cities also repeated last year's very popular "send a Starbucks card for finals" gift to current students. Club members are as enthusiastic about giving this gift as the students are about receiving it! Thanks to all contributors!

For more information, contact: Sharon Madigan, sharon.madigan@hotmail.com or (651) 230-2219.

#### Washington, DC

The Washington, DC, Alumnae Club has a busy fall with a Founders' Day Mass and Brunch at St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, DC. Additionally, the club is beginning a series of Zip Code Wine and Cheese events where alumnae within certain zip codes can get together and connect.

Finally, the fall brings the club's annual Together for Others drive into full swing. Now in its twentieth year, the club identifies a need and then raises funds and collects items to help in its service project. This year, the club worked with Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Arlington to assist with Christ House, a homeless shelter.

For more information, contact: Checka Trigiani Noone '88, checkatrig@aol.com or (703) 721-1769. 2005 - 2006

## Club of the Year

### Chicago East Alumnae Club

he Club of the Year Award is presented annually by the Alumnae Association Board of Directors to recognize outstanding effort on behalf of Saint Mary's College and her alumnae.

The Chicago East Alumnae Club has always been considered the granddaddy of all the Saint Mary's alumnae clubs. It was the first to be established (in 1897), traditionally

the largest (it now serves 1,539 alumnae), and the first to establish an endowed scholarship. As a leader, it has always had high expectations for itself. However, late in the 20th century, the Chicago East Club was in a state of flux. Operating costs had significantly escalated,

A main focus for the club has always been to support its endowed scholarship...the board plans every major club event with the intent of acquiring scholarship donations and educating more alumnae about the endowed fund.

few events were planned, and no strong leadership was present. The club was quickly coming to a halt. But a group of concerned younger alumnae reorganized the club with the assistance and leadership of some of the club's past officers

and the Alumnae Relations Office. Through hard work, dedication, and persistence, the club has reinvented itself and has a strong vision for its future.

First, a new leadership structure was implemented. Recognizing that too much responsibility had quickly led to burnout, the club spread that responsibility over a large group of people. The board now consists of various chairs (e.g. Founders' Day, communications, scholarship, etc.). Each chair has a co-chair, who assists for two years before taking over the committee. She, in turn, identifies a new co-chair. This mentoring structure has been very successful in cultivating new leadership, particularly among younger alumnae and has changed the leadership structure for alumnae clubs.

Because the Chicago East Club serves over 1,500 alumnae, communication can be costly. The club still mails out its annual newsletter, but it utilizes e-communication and a Web site whenever possible. It sends out broadcast e-mails on a regular basis, keeping its members informed about upcoming events and the latest news from Saint Mary's. It

also sends out e-vites for certain events and has used Pay Pal as a method to RSVP and collect payments.

Founders' Day, book club, and a student send-off are all on the Chicago Club's annual calendar. Even though these events are well established, the board continually reexamines them, asking, "How can we engage more people?

A main focus for the club has always been to support its

endowed scholarship. The club's board has taken that focus a

step further. In addition to hosting their annual scholarship tea fundraiser, the board plans every major club event with

the intent of acquiring scholarship donations and educating

more alumnae about the endowed fund. A raffle has become a standard part of their Founders' Day celebration. Last

year, this raffle raised

an extra \$925 for the

Chicago scholarship. At

a recent event targeted

toward younger alumnae,

attendees were provided

information about the

invitation to join in the

effort. The result was \$500

scholarship and an

in donations.

How can we make this event better?" Changes in their student send-off is a direct result of this examination. Recognizing that so many firstyear students come from greater Chicagoland, the Chicago East Club collaborated with the Chicago Northwest Club to co-host a send-off. Members of both clubs serve on the committee, and a central location is chosen for the event. Students get the opportunity to meet and connect with more students and more alumnae. The club also recognized a need among first-year students for a handbook describing the ins and outs to living in South Bend. Where can you get a decent haircut? Who has the best pizza? How do I get to the mall? The result was a helpful hints booklet titled, "Get Out and About in the Bend." At first this booklet was given to the club's first-year and transfer students. Now, with the extra revenue created by selling ad space, the booklet is distributed in the fall to all first-years and transfer students.

On the cusp of its 110th anniversary, the Alumnae Association Board of Directors is

pleased to honor the Chicago East Alumnae Club as the 2005-2006 Club of the Year.



The Chicago Club Board received the Club of the Year award at their Founders' Day celebration on Nov. 12. Row 1 (left to right): Geneviève Morrill '98, President Carol Ann Mooney '72, and Lindsey Cotter Mackenzie '02. Row 2: Martha Conlin '93, Laura Meyers Malec '98, Kathy Owens '84, and Kelly Walsh '01. Row 3: Claire Higgins '05, Karen Zagrocki McDonald '76, Sarah Siefert Barney '99, Chiara Marcheschi Wrocinski '98, and Jill Moore Clouse '99.

### Alu mna e

## class news

**'**49

Nancy Burnes Riley 1188 Conway Road

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Sept. 11, 2006
Dear Ladies, I had lunch today
with Sis Murnane Walsh, Claire
Daley Archibald, Mary Ellen Deibler
Gleason, MaryAnn Fellinger Ryan, and
Sue Wagner Broeren.

Sue and Dick had just seen

Joanne Clair Lyons and John over the
weekend when they were in Chicago
visiting Gerry Clair Gilboy. Sue
looks marvelous and is finally back
on the golf course. Their family was
together—children, grandchildren, and
great-grandchildren—recently to celebrate
Dick's 80th birthday.

Mary Ellen's husband, Bill, is recuperating from heart surgery, as is **Sue Caron Riley**'s husband, Bob.

I just returned from a visit to the home of my daughter, Liz, in Darien, Conn., where we celebrated my 70th birthday. In addition to Liz's darling six-year-old daughter, we had son Mark and his 8- and 9-year-old children visiting also. Lots of fun for me!

I spoke with **Marylou Manion Gatens** in August. When I visited her in Florida in April, her condo building was being repaired from the effects of a tornado. Marylou's screened porch had been blown away. After she returned home to lowa City, another tornado hit. This time her very old and historic church was totally destroyed.

Bebe Lively Glerum called me from Grand Rapids to tell me that Mary Lou Beenan Leonard's cancer of eight years ago had metastasized. I phoned Mary Lou in Grosse Pointe today and told her we would put her on our prayer list. It seems as if we get one friend off the list and another goes on.

**Margaret Miller Zenner**, I need your new address, please, and phone number.

Pat Webb Oertley has sold her home and is temporarily at the Marriott in Bend, Ore. Her address at present is P.O. Box 1354 in Bend, Ore., 97709; her old phone number has been transferred to her cell phone.

A note from **Bernie Socha Fitzsimmons** says that she is finally an empty nester again as her daughter and granddaughter have moved into their own new home. Bernie's son, Chuck, is a Christian Brother. For the past three years, he has worked with orphans and prisoners in the ghetto of Ascuncion, Paraguay.

Bernie is in contact with Irene Raywood Johnson and Ann Cummins McIntvre.

Thank you, **Hallie Swift**, for your good wishes and for enclosing Ann's Christmas letter to you. Ann and Bob

are still busy with continuing education classes and their ballroom dancing group.

Irene called me from Miami. A widow for three years, she has sold her second home in Lake Placid. She is busy with volunteer work and the Pioneer Group of Dade County, of which she is a founding member. Irene enjoys having her two sons and grandsons close by. She is in touch with **Marian Cannon Clark** and has been trying to reach **Pat Moran Hiaasen**.

Good news, Irene! I received a letter from Pat, for which I send my thanks. She said that she "loves reading about everyone in our class and only wishes some absentees would write to let us know how they are doing." Hear! Hear!

Pat's sad news was that her dear and only brother, Father Robert Moran, of the Paulist Fathers, died in April in Washington, D.C., of a brain tumor. Pat is grateful that he spent his last Christmas with her in Plantation, Fla. Our sympathies and prayers, Pat!

Pat's happier news is that her family enjoyed a reunion in June at son Carl Hiaasen's home in Islamorada, Fla., and that she is planning to attend our minireunion in June at Saint Mary's College.

Mary Jane Kobayashi's letter of June 8 tells of the very impressive accomplishments and awards of her brother, Dr. Francis Kobayashi, who received the John Cardinal O'Hara, CSC award at Notre Dame in June in recognition of his long and distinguished career at the University of Notre Dame as a professor, researcher, and administrator. The list of his contributions and services outside of the University go on and on. Congratulations to your entire family, Mary Jane!

I am sad to report that **Peggy Conerty** died on Aug. 6. Peg lived alone and had no immediate family. She was found dead in her apartment. The death notice appeared on the day of the funeral, so none of us could plan to be present. That made all of us in the Chicago group feel terrible!

Sally Tiedebohl Billingsley and Bob are selling their house in a golf-course community in Englewood, Fla., and moving to a smaller villa a few blocks away. We need the new address, Sally. When I spoke with Sally in August, she and Bob had just returned from their annual family reunion in North Carolina. They were leaving shortly for Washington, D.C., to visit their year-old grandson and his parents.

Jean Murphy Westland called in early September to say that her home in Buena Vista, Colo., is still on the market. She can't wait until her new apartment in Holy Cross Village will be ready so that she can audit classes at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College for free—a perk of the retirement community.

**Maxine Lange Orr** moved into a ranch house May 1. The previous owner had completely redone the house, Max

said. Her new address is: 25 Orchard Drive, Peoria, Ohio, 45356. She e-mails Mary Jo Mack Blaney, Jeanne Beck Hofreuter, and June Mulvihill Williams. I would like to hear from you three ladies.

Many thanks to those of you who send your good wishes and news.

Watch for further notice of our minireunion at Saint Mary's College the first weekend in June 2007. God Bless! Nancy.

'51

Nancy Wills Browne

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Eight 1951 grads gathered this June for our 55th reunion. A wonderful time was had by all who attended. The campus growth impressed each of us—Fleur Hulsebus Burkhardt, Helen Kuhn Carey, Sara George Crave, Carolyn Huebner Collins, Therese Murphy Jones, Jean A. Mullally Joyce, Barbara Berry Saggau, and me.

We learned that Fleur lives in Louisville, Ky. She loves to play the new game, Sudoku.

Helen Carey and her husband joined our group for the picnic Saturday and the champagne breakfast after Mass on Sunday. We had a good visit with them.

Sara Crave joined Carolyn Collins and me for a trip to the wonderful needlepoint store in South Bend. Sara's oldest daughter is working for the University of Wisconsin and for the United States Agency for International Development. Recently, she has been teaching methods of agriculture in Africa. Sara treated us to some of the delicious cheese her sons manufacture (known as Crave cheese).

Carolyn Collins and her husband,
Walt, have a beautiful new condominium
on the edge of Notre Dame's campus,
where Walt continues to teach journalism.
One of their daughters, Jeanne, is the
superintendent of schools in Burlington,
Vt., which is the state's largest school
system. Many students are refugees,
brought in as part of a United States aid
program. More than 30 languages are
spoken by these students.

Therese Jones is a docent at the Block Museum at Northwestern University. She enjoys continuing education classes in political science and literature. Her plans include a trip to Spain in September. Her 16 grandchildren keep her busy.

Barbara Saggau drove in from St. Joseph, Mich. She vacations in Florida every year, and she and her husband, Tom ND '51, are active with their alumni organizations while there.

Therese Despres Randall-Herzog had hoped to be able to attend our reunion but, due to circumstances beyond her control, could not attend. After selling their Florida home, she has moved into her summer home and is remodeling extensively. Terry's daughter, Jeanne, has just moved to Lansing, where her husband will be teaching at Michigan State University.

Jean Joyce and I had a wonderful and informative phone conversation in August. Her daughter works in admissions at Notre Dame, so reunion coincided with a two-week visit with her daughter. Jean lives in Tulsa, Okla. Her oldest son lives there also and has been a great deal of help since her husband's death. Jean teaches parenting classes in an organization called Birthright and plays bridge often. We discussed some of the wonderful opportunities we were given when we attended Saint Mary's College and some of the caring Sisters who taught us.

Several questionnaires arrived from classmates who were not able to join us. One of these came from **Sister Michael Marie Williamson, CSC**, who is a registered nurse living at Moreau Convent at Saint Mary's. She enjoys music, reading, watching Notre Dame games, and exercising.

Imogene De Smet sends her news from Sioux City, Idaho. She is retired from teaching medieval renaissance literature at the University of Wisconsin. Imogene enjoys the interesting hobby of doll collecting (old bisque and compos) and gardening. She works in her parish as part of their RCIA team.

A completed questionnaire also arrived from **Patricia Curran Warren** from Oboville, Calif., and Lake Tahoe. She is very active playing tennis and traveling. Her husband, Jerome, retired as a Superior Court judge five years ago. Their last trip was to Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland.

My husband, Dick, and I spent an enjoyable summer at our cottage in the north woods of upper Michigan. We plan to return to Northville the weekend of Sept.16, when we will visit our son, Tom ND '80, and his family in Indiana—at the time of the Notre Dame-Michigan game in South Bend.

We look forward to gathering again in 2008! I speak for all of us when I say that we would love to see more of you. God Bless.

'53

**Lorry Riley Lambert** 

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One day late last winter, **Ann Haskins Kelly** called and asked me if I would write this column so that **Joan Randag Maloney** could have a break. There's no reason for all of you to remember, but this was my job when we graduated, and I was terrible at it. It isn't often that we are given a second chance, even 50 years later, so I said "yes."

I e-mailed many of you, and **Muriel**Flanagan Cullen was the first of the four of you who answered me. Dick fell in April, had two fractures and "weeks and weeks in the hospital," but he hopes to be at Notre Dame games with only a cane. The Cullens have three grandchildren at Notre Dame and expect to be in the stands cheering when senior Casey Cullen, who played football last year, is on the field again this year.

I had a very brief note from **Betty Klein Moore**, who said that all was too quiet in Texas for news!

Pat Doyle Mulligan wrote to say that she and Hugh recently sold their downtown Chicago apartment and moved to their cottage about an hour and a half from Chicago. They spend three months in Stuart, Fla., during the winter. Their daughter, Martha, was very ill last year, and they spent several months with her as she recovered. She is well and healthy now. The Mulligans' other two children live in New Jersey and Massachusetts.

Ginny Birsic Ellis tells me that she is heavily into gardening right now. Her own garden is two-and-a-half acres, and she does more in the courtyard at St. Theresa's Church. Ginny's children are spread from New York City to Montana, with one living at home. She told me that Rita Spaulding Quinn and Paul just returned from a jaunt, but I didn't find out where they went!

Pat Kerper Moriarty wrote me a nice, newsy note telling me that she and Joe have 11 grandchildren ranging in age from 5 to 27, with two at Notre Dame. Pat and Joe visit Mary Curley McDougal and Mac every two weeks. Joe brings a sandwich and a movie for himself and Mac, who is wheel chair bound, to enjoy while Mary and Pat go out to lunch. Pat talks to Mary Jane McKeon Gray about once a month, and she and Ed are fine. The Moriartys are planning a trip to see Sue Seidendsticker Cannata and Frank in Arizona, a trip that was postponed from last spring.

I talked to **Bunny Fay Murphy** and her husband, Bud. They live in Windham, N.Y., now and have two grandchildren at Notre Dame.

My own news is that, in two weeks, Jack and I are traveling to Rome and Milan for a couple of weeks, but after that I will be available to read lots of e-mails for our next column. It may take a village to raise a child, but it takes the whole United States to contribute the news for this column! So write!

**'55** 

**Barbara Bridgman O'Connor** 2612 Payne St.

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In late June, Charlie Wolf put out a call for prayers. **Joan Hemingway Wolf** was

seriously ill. The e-mailers got busy. We all prayed! And Joan rallied! Then on July 13, Joan died. How could Joan be dead? She was so indomitable! Our senior class president guided us through the trials of senior year—and always with great aplomb. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Wolf and Hemingway families. Joan's sister, Bernadette Hemingway Martin '52, was a senior our freshman year.

Juliette Noone Lester arrived late last year at our 50th reunion because her husband, Urban, was ill. On May 22, 2006, Urban Lester died of atrial fibrillation in Washington, D.C. He had been a professor of law at Catholic University for many years. The funeral Mass was said in the Crypt Church of the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. He was remembered as a "master professor of civility and grace." Our sympathy goes out to Julie. Remember Urban and her in your prayers.

On a happier note, John and **Carol Wiseman Smith** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July. All seven Smith children and 21 grandchildren were home in Wilmette to celebrate. Carol was thrilled but was ready for bed rest afterwards.

Joan Kershaw Putnam is delighted to have daughter Amanda and her family back in Oklahoma City. Amanda's baby, Clara, is just about a year old, and Joan is enjoying her greatly. Amanda had been living in Chicago. I'm sorry that she left because Joan and I were able to see each other more often! In one of our more recent phone conversations, I learned that Mary Beth Croxall Wahl had recently been to Rome with her daughter, Gretchen, who lives in Chicago. I've seen Gretchen's byline in Chicago Magazine. Last fall, they had traveled to New Zealand together—stopping in California to see Mary Beth's sister, Trudy Croxall McDermott '58

Nancy Cole Hodapp writes of a very hectic spring. Right before Easter, they received an S.O.S. from daughter Linda in Grand Rapids. Just after surgery, Linda had suffered a seizure, so John and Nancy hurried to Grand Rapids to tend their two grandchildren and assist in Linda's recovery. It was then that Nancy discovered a lump in her breast. It was pronounced positive for cancer, and a successful lumpectomy followed. The cancer had not spread, but Nancy had several weeks of treatment. "When we celebrated our 47th anniversary on May 25, we truly knew we had something to celebrate," she wrote.

Bob and **Mary Ann Immonen Haidinger's** plans for their 50th
anniversary party in February had to be
cancelled because of a 20-inch snowfall
and blizzard. Instead, she and Bob are
taking each of their three children and
families on separate trips, beginning with

a week in London with Tom and his family. On the way home from Florida in January, they stopped at Merritt Island to see Jim and **Mary Ellen Stahl Ingram**. Mary Ann and Bob were looking forward to welcoming two grandchildren in April.

From Jean Ritcey Woodcock comes news of her family. "Herb and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary in June 2005. Our daughter gave us a beautiful dinner at her home. We were fortunate to have all three of our sons with us and most of our grandchildren. In August 2006, we celebrated the marriage of our daughter, Kathleen Anne. It was a beautiful wedding and reception at the Clayhill Restaurant in York, Maine. I made the bride's dress, which was Alencon lace. She did look lovely. Making her gown was a labor of love for me."

From the Courier Office: Kitty Nolan Calacci sent word of Jean Engler Weber. "Dear Friends, Mary Ryan Darling e-mailed me from Arizona that our classmate and my fellow lowan, Jean Engler Weber, died last week after enduring Alzheimer's disease. Those of us who started our years at Saint Mary's College on the second-floor wing of Holy Cross Hall remember her well for her enormous enthusiasm for academics, flute playing, and late-nighters. I believe she was the first in our class to earn a Ph.D., after which she taught at Northwestern and some Arizona universities. In some summer visits to Clear Lake, Iowa, she and I, and her daughter, Mary. had great speed boat rides. Although so many years have passed since then, we will miss her friendship.'

REUNION May 31-June 3, 2007

'57

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I begin this column with the happy thought that, God willing, many of us will be together next June to celebrate another reunion—a very important one. Losing friends and family reminds us of the need to make time for each other and to seize the moment.

In April, Pat Moore Walle died in Anchorage, Alaska, where she and husband Dennis had lived for many years and raised their four children. Pat had come to Saint Mary's College from New Jersey, but her family lived for a while in Oak Park—actually, across the street from mine. Pat received her undergraduate and law degrees from DePaul and worked for years as a tax law specialist and tax preparer. Pat's mother was Irma Thompson Moore '28. Responding to the news, several classmates recalled "red-headed Pat Moore" and her quick wit. Our sympathy to Dennis and their children.

## Happy 100th Birthday!

According to the Alumnae Relations Office's records, these alumnae celebrated their 100th birthday in 2006.

#### Congratulations!

Dorothy Shea Brandenburg '30
Eleanor Vertin Daniell '28
Ceslas Mary Freehill '28
Julia Szabo Lukacs '28
Virginia Foley Martin '27
Helen Hofmann McEvoy '27
Kathryn Scholl Munning '30
Marjorie Gallagher Murphy '28
Elizabeth Smogor Odusch '27
Hortense Ciralsky Salinger '29
Muriel Abell Sims '29
Myrtle Kramer Streine '28
Helen Fitzpatrick Wieland '24

We also extend condolences to **Mary Jo Donovan McGuire**, whose husband,
Butch, died in May in Rochester, Minn. A
heart transplant recipient 11 years ago,
Butch was well known for his generosity
toward others in that position.

The spring of 2006 "For the Record" page mentioned the death of Mary Louise Schuster Carey '27, mother of Sally Carey Cutting. Sally reports that her mother had been blessed with a long life and relatively good health until her last six months. Sally and husband David are enjoying their farms in the Kansas City area. Last fall, Sally enjoyed a reunion of the group that went to the University of Vienna in 1955. Sr. Helen Malits '56 helped with the search for the alumnae.

Our prayers go also to **Chickie Taylor Spalding**, whose brother, Hobe, died in July. Chickie and Tom are now living in Bluffton, S.C.

Mary Jane Schoen Mowle responded quite cleverly to the class column in the summer 2006 edition of the *Courier*. I had stated that unless you were a true child prodigy you had already celebrated a significant birthday. Mary Jane denies she was a prodigy but said that she and her husband are celebrating her special birthday this October by taking a wonderful cruise. They will begin in Hawaii, and then go down the island chain to New Zealand and Australia, ending in Sydney. Like most of us, she is looking forward to reunion.

Kathy, daughter of **Margaret Brown Anderson**, graduated in May from Penn
State with her Ph.D. in French culture
and will be teaching at Central Michigan
University. Margaret is continuing her work
supervising student teachers for Northern
Illinois University.

## Alumnae class news

Meghan Cassidy '06

granddaughter of Irene O'Leary Van Beckum, graduated summa cum laude from Saint Mary's College this May with a B.A. in English Writing. Meghan will be teaching in a New Haven Conn., inner city high school for "Teach for America." Irene was invited to the legacy reception at graduation. I hope you all saw that wonderful picture of Irene and Meghan on the back cover of the Courier winter edition.

A visit with Barbara Butler Henry '85 included discussion of our upcoming reunion. Let me use this moment to urge everyone to plan ahead to attend. I also ask that you share any specific requests or suggestions with the Alumnae Office. Take the time now to write a note, call, or e-mail a friend to encourage her to join you.

Some people are already thinking ahead. Peggy Maher Engler called me after this year's reunion weekend. (I was very much aware of the reunion since we were babysitting for our two grandchildren while our son, Richard, and his wife, Beth, attended his 20th reunion at Notre Dame.) The Englers' son, Chapin (my godson), was ordained a deacon that weekend and Peggy is thinking that his ordination as a priest of the Diocese of Charleston, W.V., will be our reunion weekend. Some conflicts cannot be avoided, but start now to set aside the first weekend in June 2007.

#### Barbara Benford Trafficanda 40 Camino Del Prado

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I am sad to report the death of Teresa Dittrich Welch's mother, Mary, in August 2005; Rosemary Zirelle Spalding's father, Michael, in January; and Susy Brown Bapst's brother, Dick, in May. Gerry Dunn Leinenweber also reported the tragic loss of Annette Fontana Saylor's daughter, Julia Saylor Plumhoff, on April 2, 2006. Julia leaves her husband and three daughters, ages 6, 8 and 12 years of age. You may recall Annette also lost her husband three years ago. God has surely given her a heavy cross to bear. Please remember Terry, Rosie, Susy, and Annette in your prayers.

Gerry Leinenweber is pleased to announce her son, Justin, the 9-month-old baby who accompanied her to our 25th reunion, graduated from the University of Illinois Law School in May and will work for Winston & Strawn in Chicago this fall.

Marge Liebrich O'Connor is grateful for the prayers for her grandson, who suffers from leukemia and continues to undergo chemotherapy. Accompanied by their husbands, she and Miriam Callahan Porter met for lunch in

Williamsburg, Va. The Porters were in town for the birth of a grandchild.

Connie Roller Curtin is finally "fixed!" Following her hip revision surgery, she experienced severe muscle spasms in the groin. An x-ray showed a pelvic fracture. After almost three weeks in rehab, she is back to normal and ready to cruise with Sally Porth Brown from Vancouver to Puerta Vallarta. In the course of her genealogy studies, she discovered that on her paternal grandmother's side, her great-grandfather sixteen generations back was a priest who left the Church with Martin Luther and established the Lutheran branch of her

George and Ann Meagher Vander Vennet are undergoing a full kitchen remodel—quite a test on a marriage. Ann says it is going to take as long as "an elephant is pregnant and then add a few months. . .I have totally lost interest so George is the sole enthusiast for the project." Their 2-year-old spina bifida guy, Van Immonen, is walking alone a bit with his new orthotics and progress is being made. When you visit Saint Mary's College be sure to see the Vander Vennet theatre in the new Student Center, which was funded most generously by George and Ann.

Colleen Taffee Goldkamp Harmon has had some serious but "mysterious" health problems which have had her in and out of the hospital. Last I heard, it's not lupus but perhaps something related. Keep her in your prayers.

From the Boston area, Mary Hughes Enright is celebrating becoming an Irish citizen. "Having three grandparents born in Ireland and tracing the history of one—Sicely (Cecilia) Finegan—Mayo, from her birth through all the offspring, marriages, death certificates along the way to my marriage (change of name) to Bud, the ARD CHONSALACHT NA HEIREANN has issued me a certificate of citizenship! I am now processing to a passport also. I hope my grandparents feel honored that, after all their efforts, there is a payback to them and to Ireland."

My sister, Betty Benford Belfiore, spent two weeks with me this summer. One week on Balboa Island and a few days on Catalina Island, shopping, eating, drinking, and shopping some more. Betty and Jack bought a new house in Venice, Fla., where they have been wintering. Her plan is to spend at least six months there this year. I saw Sharon McGee Sitton Bradshaw on Balboa as well. She and Murray spend two weeks there-one of them with all her kids and grandchildren.

In April, Gerry and I traveled to Miami for a wedding then on to New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut, to visit his cousins. We had no idea where we were going, but thanks to the GPS system in our rented car, it was a piece of cake. We finished up in the Big Apple with lunch at

## Excelsion

Sister Ruth Boylston Heaney OSB '36 received the papal cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice, Jefferson City, Mo., August 2006. This award is presented to clergy and lay persons who have given distinguished service to the Catholic Church.

Katherine Lancelot Harrington '65 published the book Half Moon, Jesperson Publishing, 2006. Harrington's pen name is K.L. Vidal.

Nora Barry Fischer '73 received the 2006 Professionalism Award from the Civil Litigation section of the Allegheny County Bar Association, Pittsburgh, Pa., October 2006. Fischer is a partner with the law firm of Pietragallo Bosick & Gordon, LLP, and group leader of its Litigation Defense practice.

Mary Savage O'Brien '77 was named president of Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center, Milwaukee, Wis., September 2006.

Patsy Gaertner Eull '80 received an "Eleven Who Care Award" from KARE 11, Minneapolis, Minn., September 2006. The award is given annually to 11 outstanding individual community volunteers. Eull has coached Special Olympic sports for fifteen years.

Dianne Aigotti '86 was named Chief Risk Officer of Aon Corporation, Chicago, Ill., November 2006. Aigotti will retain her role as corporate treasurer.

Margaret Kelly Doyle '87 was named a Senior Vice President at the Northern Trust Company, Chicago, Ill., July 2006.

Mary Beth Ellis '99 published her college memoir Drink to the Lasses, Cold Tree Press, 2006.

Grand Central Station, cocktails at Tavern on the Green, and dinner at Patsy's.

My daughter, Carmella Trafficanda Hurlbut '86, three days after receiving her master's in education (with five kids and a teaching job), attended her 20th reunion at Saint Mary's College. Her classmates sent me a picture of the six of them seated in front of my senior comp mosaic, now located in the new dining hall. Remembering those long, lonely, and arduous nights in Moreau basement so many years ago-just me and Johnny Mathis—who would have thought?

Small world story: Gerry and I were invited to our first regatta in San Diego two weeks ago. It was the Lightning North American Championships at Mission Bay. We were aboard an "observer" boat, and the captain was more than happy to situate the boat so Gerry could get in close with his camera—resulting in some fabulous photos of the sailboats and their colorful spinnakers. I happened to e-mail Pat Wilson Fastiggi about our experience because her family is so involved in sailing. As it happens, her son

and crew were in the race. She gave me his sail and bow number, and Gerry found that he had taken about 10 pictures of her son's boat, which we e-mailed to him.

Our oldest grandchild turned 21 in July! Yikes!

Next deadline is March 1st. For your information, most of the news I receive now comes via e-mail.

#### Wini Tennis Kristufek

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WOW!! Our 45th reunion was truly wonderful! I really enjoyed all the activities, but especially, I enjoyed visiting with classmates, some of whom I hadn't seen since graduation. When you read this article, our 50th reunion will be about 4 \_ years away. Start planning now to attend. You won't want to miss it!

Beth Fiss Watson sent word from Windsor, Ontario, of a most interesting

visit to Spain, which included a stay in one of three "villages" set up to help Spaniards schooled in English grammar and vocabulary make the transition to speaking English with ease. Beth chose a village located in northern Spain which had been abandoned and then rebuilt for this purpose. For one week, an equal number of Spaniards and English-speaking "Anglos" spoke only English each day. She had a wonderful time with an exceptional group of Spanish professionals intent on speaking English with accuracy, and she also enjoyed the company of the other "Anglos" from the United Kingdom. Australia, Canada, and the U.S. Anyone who is interested in knowing more about this project may e-mail Beth at elizabeth. watson023@sympatico.ca.

Wini McGuinness Meikle, back home again in Winchester, England, said it was super seeing so many classmates at reunion. She and her husband left South Bend and headed south for a tour that began with The Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, and then moved on to Elvis Presley in Tupelo and Memphis, Faulkner's home in Oxford, Miss., Civil War battlefields, and jazz in New Orleans. They ended their five-week visit in the United States in San Diego, a "favourite" of theirs. They would love to see any classmates traveling to England; and, in the meantime, Wini will be practicing the tango for our 50th!

From South Bend, **Mary Roemer** sent word that she had made a big decision. (Her sister-in-law made her do it!) Mary planned a three-week trip/cruise from Athens to Cairo, Luxor, Jordan, Mombassa, and then back to Kenya for a safari!

Sherry Reardon Gibbons wrote from Glen Carbon, Ill., of a memorable visit to Alaska, where they learned a great deal about our 49th state. Sherry especially enjoyed our 45th reunion, since daughter Judy Gibbons Riordon '86 returned to Saint Mary's College for her 20th reunion along with her one-year old, Matthew Francis. Following reunion, Sherry and her husband, John, were able to enjoy a family reunion with the families of their seven children, including ten grandchildren.

She's still alive and kicking, although not kicking as much or as hard as she used to. **Donna Sheridan Reistetter** sends word from Annandale, Va., that her health is essentially unchanged, but she is weaker and doesn't feel like doing much. Em (her husband) keeps her going, though, so that's a good thing.

Now that fall is here, **Sandy Graham Bartlett** in Ridgewood, N.J., will be cheering at the sidelines for her grandchildren as they play football and soccer, cheer, and swim. It is really great to have your grandchildren nearby.

**Susan Metzger Tully** e-mailed from Reynolds Plantation in Greensboro, Ga., to say she was sorry to miss our reunion, but she had a family reunion planned at the same time to celebrate her grandson's second birthday. Susan is living in a "golf mecca" and has been playing much more golf than tennis after serving as president of the National Senior Women's Tennis Association. She finds golf much more forgiving on the body. Susan also reports that her volunteer work with Habitat for Humanity is strenuous but rewarding. She always looks forward to visits from family and friends, so anyone interested in a fabulous golf outing should contact her. She has a huge home and would love to share it with funseekers. Susan gets together with Claire Casellini Geil occasionally but, she admits, not often enough.

It was good to hear from **Sister Mary Ellen Vaughan, CSC**, who was in Ventura, Calif., visiting Sisters in a retirement community there. Sr. Mary Ellen, a member of the leadership team for North America for the Sisters of the Holy Cross, has among her duties providing appropriate care for the older Sisters of the Order in their twilight years.

Our traveling classmate, Eleanore Wilson Eldred, has been at it again this year. Following a niece's wedding in Florida in April, the whole family enjoyed the beautiful marriage of their older son, David, to Karen Craffey over Memorial Day weekend on Cape Cod. This celebration extended over four days, and even included Eleanore's 93-year-old mother, oxygen and all. Eleanore arrived back in Detroit just in time to drive to South Bend with Norma Lee Ngan for our 45th reunion and to enjoy another great weekend. In early July, she and husband, Roger, flew to Africa. Although one purpose of this visit was to meet with daughter Mary, who is in Madagascar with the Peace Corps, Eleanore commented that the trip proved to be interesting, enlightening, and broadening...really special. She would like to make a return visit.

From Northvale, N.J., **Christine McGoey Cummings** sent word that, in addition to all her community and parish commitments, she had recently been busy moving daughter Jeannine and her husband, Dave, along with their daughter, Ava, to Baltimore. Christine now knows how wonderful and exhausting it is to care for a 19-month-old for a day!

As of this writing, Mary Ellen (Straw)
Berry Malone was out of her "boot"
and in foot therapy. She has become
very interested in Feng Shui and was
thinking of taking classes from B.J.
Sitzberger Gorman. Straw was also
considering opening a spa called "Fit and
Fancy," which would have a manicurist,
a massage therapist, and workout
machines. This would be close to her
farm in Edom, Texas, in an old post office
building established in 1865.

Christine, Eleanore, Straw, Norma, Vaughanie, and I plan to be together

again at Straw's farm in October for our fifth mini-reunion. It's such a great time enjoying good company and laughing out loud with dear old friends!

Thanks to **Sheila McAnaney Kostanecki** for the e-mail saying that she had a great time at the reunion and hoped all was well with me.

My next deadline is March 1, 2007. Let me know what's new with you. There are classmates wondering where you are and what you've been doing.

**'63** 

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Too late for our last letter, Peggy Woodin Green wrote of considerable destruction to their home of 28 years in Beaumont, Texas—thanks to Hurricane Rita. Her Jennifer was to be married five weeks hence, and evacuation was encouraged. Wedding dress, addressed invitations, mother-of-the-bride dress, will, insurance papers, two crucifixes, family photos, and high hopes accompanied them as they fled the area. Then, they had to relocate the reception after damage to the club, hire a caterer, and find housing for guests since hotels had cancelled reservations to accommodate F.E.M.A. Bottom line: lovely wedding. Two grandbabies were added shortly thereafter, and Peg was to have returned to teaching. You're a busy lady, Peg, and you gotta be old enough to retire!

Janet Sloan Johnston and Fred are continuing to delight in their move from Alaska to northwest Washington. "Our mental health is supported by where we live and our intellectual health is challenged by continuing to argue politics (raw material is endless!) with one another and discovery of Sudoku.' And they seem to travel constantly-all across, and up and down, the country. This is one funny, and very interesting, lady. I wish we roommates of 418 Holy Cross Hall had more fully enjoyed her devious wit back then. However, I would have been thrown out rather than flunked out! Carole Kramer Leeman sells real estate in Findlay, and has two sons. Tim with two sons, and John with a girl and two boys, the older of whom is in a long-fought battle with cancer. Prayers for him, please. Kathy Weidl Mettler is still doctoring, doting on the eleven grands her three have provided, and says Steve is "doing fine." Joann Vanek says, "Now that I am working less, I am spending a lot of time doing body work: Pilates, physical therapy, and an occasional massage... I want to keep walking the streets of New York." Irene Canny Lange writes periodically, practically begging me (and, I trust, any and all of us) to come visit

her in Fort Myers. They're there from November to May, living in a 55-plus community, and love it. How can you stand all those old people, Irene? She walks to daily Mass, "cramming for finals!" The last of her five children was to have married in August, and Irene was looking forward to the festivities. Also, she should by now have her eighth grandchild. Virgie Burke Gannon reports that she and John were to celebrate their 40th anniversary by taking a cruise along the coast of France, Spain, and Portugal in late August. They are expecting their fourth grandchild in October and enjoy gatherings in Door County with the family. Diane Majerus Brewer continues on the faculty of George Washington University, and their "youngest is a rising senior in college, so the end of the road is near." Then will you retire? You working girls make me feel so lazy. My next note is from another still-working lady, Joan Dorgan, looking forward to the coming year teaching energetic 7th graders. She spent two weeks this summer at Berkeley on a research grant, and enjoyed while there spending time with Gail Donovan, Margo Vitalich Manley, and Ann Purcell Perini.

Sally O'Connor Fallon writes of having "had a wonderful trip to China and Thailand in June with Tabor kids," and "ten days in Wisconsin with family, including six days at our cottage on Lake Superior with Seattle daughter Molly." Sally also boasts a new granddaughter, courtesy of son Bill. "Overall life is good—don't think I'm retiring anytime soon!" She also invited me up to her Cape Cod/Martha's Vineyard vicinity—and I bet she means all of us. Shall we? Mini-reunions are fun. too. Cathy Ryan Condon was planning an August trip to Philadelphia to visit their oldest, Mary Anne, and her five children under nine. Cathy says, "We are well and very grateful for each day." Mary Jo Pauli Landry wrote from "our place in Washington State" (Olympic Peninsula) where they planned to spend the summer. They were to be with their daughter and her husband in Seattle, too. MJ and John were enjoying a visit from Phoebe Blake and Peter saying, "She is wonderful as ever...they now live in Providence, where she sees Myrna Walker Hall....Did have a nice visit with Marybeth Miller Gemperle and Mary Jo Connelly Martin in the spring." Pat Martin tells us that, "As for work, the best thing that has happened is the completion and approval of the design for a 24-color custom rug that will be made in China....when finished will be 12' W x 15'6" L," this for a family room in a client's home.

Dolores Cox Blohm writes that her son has informed them that their first grandchild is on the way. Jo Lehnis Gotham, newly retired, has "enjoyed water aerobics and walking this summer to try to stay in shape of some form. All our kids and grandkids were here in July,

## A l u m n a e class news

so that was fun, hectic, and exhausting—Mike and I loved every minute of it." **Rosemary Mason Hopkins** enjoyed in February a journey to India with friends. And she boasts twin granddaughters, two and three pounds at birth, who are doing fine and are named Rose and Caroline after their grandmothers.

And now the tough news: As I write this, we've had a week to contemplate our losing **Kathy Gatens Harrington** to cancer, having peacefully left us, asleep in the night. Kathy loved life and lived it voraciously to the very end. Sally Fallon, **Irene Beitler Kennedy**, and her husband had been with Kathy in the last days, and she continued to entertain and enjoy them as always. Numerous e-mails asked me to convey our heartfelt condolences to her family.

And moi? Tongue cancer, radical surgery, no lymph node involvement, so neither chemo nor radiation—thanks to prayer for which I thank Him, and you. I bother to mention myself simply to encourage all of you to, like Kathy Gatens, to enjoy every minute God has given. We just don't realize the breadth of His gifts to us until we lose some. And I, for one, can't wait to get well enough to get back out there to help others—something I've neglected since retirement. So stop and think a minute, my friends, of what you have, who gifted you with it all, and what you have to share with His less fortunate ones. God bless us all.

**'65** 

#### Sheila Kelly Ames

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An update from **Theresa Lyons Brosnan**: "This past summer on Cape
Cod was a beautiful one, with both my
husband, Jack, and I having successful
surgeries. Our son, Mike, is teaching in an
inner-city high school in Bridgeport, Conn.,
and our older boy, John, is a computer
engineer working in Framingham, Mass.
So, both sons are close by. Neither is
married, but some lucky girls will be very
happy some day. This will be my 33rd
year teaching. Jack is still a C.P.A. and
enjoying it."

"I have some fun news," states Sheila Flynn Boone. "Today Terry Miltich Murphy called me in Colorado. I wasn't home; but when I got the message, I contacted her and we got in a quick but very fun visit. Terry's daughter lives here now; so, I hope that Terry and her husband, Jack, will be back from time to time and we can get together for a better visit. In the meantime, Terry expressed an interest in Tuscany, so I gave her all the contact information. We had another fun event last month—our kids gave us a 40th anniversary party, and Pat Devine McCarthy and Dick

came out from Boston. Pat was one of my bridesmaids, and she and three others from our wedding joined us on the altar when we renewed our vows. (Michael tried once again to slip the 'obey' part in... but, again, he failed!). I'm getting excited about Tuscany in November; I know it will be fun. Today, when I was driving to meet Terry, and last month when Pat was here, I realized again how lucky I was to be a part of the Saint Mary's family. What a wonderful four years we had, and what great friendships we formed there."

From Pat McCarthy: "Dick and I spent a weekend in Denver for Sheila and Mike Boone's 40th anniversary celebration! They renewed their vows at 5 p.m. Mass at their parish church, Ave Maria, in Parker, and then went for dinner and party at a country club. We had a wonderful time visiting with them, their family (children and grandchildren), and friends. Sunday, before we left, we had a barbeque at Sheila and Mike's and got to catch up on news and make plans for our trip to Tuscany. How I love being with those from college days!"

Yet another anniversary celebration (we certainly were young brides!), reported to me by **Lil Chard Beshel**, is that of **Joan Marskey Slattery** and husband Bill. "I spoke to Joan (well, via phone message), and Bill. They are just back from Ireland. They took all their family on the trip to celebrate their 40th. It seems that there is lots of that kind of celebrating going on in our class."

A note from Sara Johnson Walz: "Nick and I went to his helicopter squadron reunion in Washington, D.C., in June. We visited with Pat Sears Kraemer and Joe. Pat had spent the previous weekend in the hospital, but by the time we saw them, Pat was doing much better and we had a great visit! Nick and I left Washington just before the rains came and visited with Janine Renaud Burns and husband David at their lovely home on the shores of an inlet of the Chesapeake Bay in southern Virginia. We talked non-stop, went for a ride on their boat, and got to see the Emergency Response building, which the two of them were instrumental in getting built. Dave is part of the Emergency Response Team in their county, which is remote, beautiful, and sparsely populated. If you retire there, you better be ready to help out! Janine became project manager for the building construction. She did a great job bringing it in on time and under budget. (What else would you expect?) The building, which houses their ambulances and emergency equipment, is beautiful and functional. They just celebrated the birth of their 7th grandchild. They still get up to Washington and see Janine's parents and sisters, who are all doing well; they vacation in Toronto, where they just bought a condo. We also made a trip to Hawaii in June to visit with Mary Kay Thomas Newton and her husband, John. They own two

condos on Waikiki and shared one with us. MK headed back to San Diego at the end of our visit to be there for the end of the school year at her Montessori school, where her son, Tom, teaches. Cille Sorrentino Bucolo came to visit us in Michigan City to sit on the beach and relax. She is headed to Tuscany in the fall with other Saint Mary's College friends. Saw Cille again along with Mary Delaney Willer and Ed, and Colleen Leahy and Jack, at Katherine Zeller Nicklin and Oliver's 35th wedding anniversary in August. Kathy and Oliver may move downtown in Chicago like all the young newlyweds do. What a fun place to live! (Can't wait to visit.) Finally, we welcomed our 8th grandchild. Her name is Annie. Our son, Tom, and his wife, Patty, let us do a little babysitting for their boys while they flew off to China in late June to meet Annie just before her 1st birthday and bring her home to a very excited group of adoptive brothers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins."

And from a satisfied partygoer: "Katherine Nicklin's children threw a fabulous 35th wedding anniversary for her and Oliver on Aug. 5, in Winnetka, Ill. The kids really did a lovely job—as did Mother Nature. The party was held in their yard and the weather was beautiful."

News from **Susan Casey D'Amico** in sunny California: "Dick and I met John and **Kathy Walsh Harty** on Aug. 10, and we all went to the Del Mar Race Track. John, Kathy, and Dick were winners. I broke even. It was a beautiful day and we had a great time. After the track, the four of us met **Kathy McAnaney Glaser** for dinner. We reminisced and had a wonderful evening. We all agreed to meet again soon."

"I'm afraid this is not good news," writes **Char Carroll Daniel**. "I was diagnosed with ovarian cancer several weeks ago. I've had the surgery and will start chemotherapy, probably around the first of September. I would appreciate prayers from classmates, probably for the next six months, to help get me through this very difficult time. On a happier note, Peter, our third son, will marry in November. Our three sons have all found wonderful wives."

I was delighted to hear from Barbara Kurien Reid, and to add her to our large '65 e-mail list. "My eldest daughter, Donna (U of FL '87), was married on June 26, 2006, in Lake Tahoe, Calif., where she has been living for the last ten years. It was a wonderful three-day wedding celebration attended by her dad, Ron Reid ND '63, and her sister, Tina Reid '88, with two of her children Taylor (SMC '13) and Damien (ND '15) (if grandpa's wishes come true), and several hundred of their closest friends. Last July '05 I moved to Bronxville, N.Y. I am still working at Elias Group LLP, and am serving as president of a wonderful singles club in Greenwich, Conn. I would love to hear from alumnae

in the area. I can be reached at barbara@ reid.net."

"Not much from me," says E.J. Caluwaert McFadden "...we take our son, Ryan, to Belmont University in Nashville, where he will begin his freshman year in audio engineering studies...so our house will be very quiet. For the last ten years, we've had several of Ryan's band members rehearsing in our basement: so, unless Lee or I take up playing Ryan's drums, the emptiness will be hard to deal with for awhile. Our daughter, Amy, is continuing to settle in with her various iobs and the winter and summer sports she loves in Steamboat Springs, Colo. We are jumping into our new lifestyle... since only three days after we leave Ryan in Nashville, Lee and I will be traveling to Prague, Vienna, and Budapest. Now that Lee is retired, we hope to do a lot of sightseeing!"

Joan Blila Boettcher sent me a wonderful family picture (gorgeous group), along with a thoughtful note. She and Bruce live in Eden Prairie, Minn., and Joan has three absolutely beautiful daughters.

Mickey Binkle Boulac was honored by Notre Dame as the first woman ever to be presented with an honorary monogram in June, at the annual banquet. From Mickey: "June 1 was a special day for the Boulac/Binkle clan gathering at Notre Dame. In April, it was announced that Brian was receiving the James E. Armstrong Award conferred on an alumnus/alumna who is a current employee and has rendered distinguished service to the University. Brian has been at Notre Dame since '59 (except for 18 months active military duty) and believes he received it for longevity! The award was presented at the Monogram Dinner. What Brian didn't know was that many of his players and friends contributed to fund a locker in his name in the Guglielmino Athletic Complex, the new football facility. His plaque was unveiled just prior to the Monogram Dinner. My surprise that evening was an honorary monogram. Over the years, we have had the pleasure of working with hundreds of students—something that didn't merit recognition because we love doing it. The best part was that, the next day, all of our immediate family members and many close friends shared in the festivities and a Mass at the Log Chapel, at which we renewed our wedding vows celebrating 40 years of wedded bliss. Our four daughters are all Notre Dame graduates: Dawn ND '89, Denise ND '90, Debbie ND '93 and Dyan ND '94. We have been blessed." If I may quote the Notre Dame Monogram Club News: "A prominent South Bend lawyer, she has had an impact on countless Notre Dame studentathletes." Wonderful honor, Mickey, Our congratulations.

Junie Miller Smith writes to us from Farmers' Branch, Texas. She sees Patti Podesta Crumley quite often, and says

that Patti is "as cute as ever." Please keep Patti's mom in your prayers. She has had a minor heart attack.

We have two classmates who have lost their mothers recently. **Rosann Gorman Conroy** lost her mom, Willa Gorman, in March at the age of 95 in Flossmoor, Ill. Rosann was a constant caregiver. And, **Judy Piers Locher** lost her mother, Elizabeth Piers, in May at the age of 85. Judy, whose home is in Oregon, had spent the last year living and caring for her mom in Paducah, Ky., during her illness.

"I just received my Courier," reads an e-note from Patsy Callahan Berry in San Antonio, Texas. "I guess we are in that phase of life where we are parenting our parents, children, and grandchildren. I just moved my mother to San Antonio and into an independent-living situation. She has lived in Wichita, Kan., her whole life. It was just too difficult for my sister, brother, and me to care for her long distance. She is having some difficulties adjusting, but we all know she is in a much better situation right here. I am very proud of our class scholarship to a worthy student. We are carrying on a wonderful tradition. We all were so blessed to be a part of Saint

April brought terribly sad news from Therese McCaffrey McConville out east. Therese lost her wonderful sister, and our dear classmate, Mary Ellen McCaffrey Dillon, after a lengthy and courageous battle with leukemia. Mary Ellen was able to keep the disease at bay for 15 years. Therese wrote an amazing tribute about her sister. Please keep both families in your prayers. Mary Ellen will be missed by everyone in our class and remembered as a woman of strength and courage. We send Therese and Mary Ellen's husband, Mike ND '64, along with their entire families, our deepest sympathy.

I hope that you classmates who went to Tuscany on the Saint Mary's College trip took lots of photos of yourself and our classmates. Our eldest daughter was married on Nov. 4, so I wasn't able to join the travelers. And so, we just have to do it again!

**'69** 

Joyce O'Donnell Bussewitz

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Greetings from Wilmington, N.C.! Please note my new e-mail address above. We moved here in late July, and are still getting settled. In addition, we experienced our first tropical storm, Ernesto! I see a generator in my near future. Are there any Saint Mary's College alumnae in this area?

Well, I guess it is a matter of feast or famine. When I wrote my last column,

I was concerned I'd exceed our allotted space. I believe the Class of '69 set a record for news that time. Jot down in a calendar or at your computer that our deadlines are Sept. 1 and March 1. While I know it seems a long time until you read the news you send (since our news is just published twice each year), I can truly say that I always get positive feedback. So, do go ahead and send me an update about you, your family, and any classmates you've seen, spoken to, or written.

I was happy to hear from **Barbara Morris Woodroof** that the internet has reconnected her with an alumna. Barb wrote, "...I have been reunited, so to speak, with my Big Sis at Saint Mary's College. **Virginia Werner Devona '67** was my Big Sis, and we were very close. Then we graduated and lost touch. Now, through the lines of the computer age, we are corresponding again and have the opportunity to renew our friendship. That is all from the very dry and very hot Dallas-Ft. Worth area."

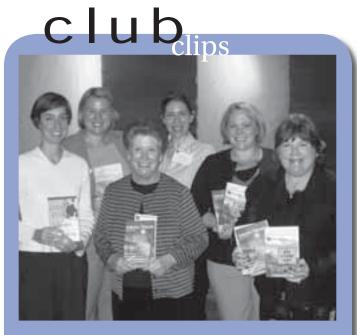
Margaret Roberts Richards sent an e-mail after a wonderful but too short weekend in New Jersey. She has two darling grandsons, Nate (Nathaniel Luke) and newborn Will (William Westapher). The boys are just 13 months and 13 days apart! The proud parents are Margaret's son, David, and his wife, Kristin. Margaret loved "holding and playing with them." They live in Red Bank, N.J. David started a new job in mid-town Manhattan in December and has the long commute. They also are just finishing an addition on their house. So babies, new addition, new job...Oh, to have the energy to be in my 30s!" Margaret added that her daughter, Margaret, and husband, Jason, would be Will's godparents, coming in from St. Paul for the baptism. Also, her other daughter, Mary, and other son, Thomas, would join them from Washington, D.C. They were looking forward to that reunion and baptism in early October.

Bev Pagorski Reid took her mom on a visit back to the Chicago area from their home in Michigan. They stopped to see family, friends, and the cemetery, and to bid a fond farewell to Marshall Field's and Company. One of the friends they saw was Janice Williams, who met them in Merrillville. Janice also saw Jo Ann Grima MacKenzie. "She came here for lunch and we had a good, long chat."

I sent out over 30 e-mails requesting some news, classmates. Here's a shout out of thanks to those of you who responded. Here's a friendly nudge to ALL of you to share some news! Take good care of yourselves and write soon!

**'73** 

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Members of the Georgia Alumnae Club book group discussed the books of Adriana Trigiani '81 at a meeting during fall of 2006. Pictured left to right: Joellen Bringardner '83, Julie Wall '00, Barbara McCusker Poole '66, Gina Caponi Parnaby '02, Mary Kay Schultz '00, and Susie Servier Mackin '69.

From Mary Beth Conlon Winter:

"While traveling in the northeast this past summer, my daughter and I were able to spend an evening with Maureen Breen Barunas and her family in Pittsburgh. Maureen continues her work as an executive with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Two of her three boys have now headed off to college. We enjoyed a wonderful dinner and a 'just us girls' shopping day. I continue to work as a high school choral director in Fayetteville, N.C. I have recently taken on a job as a church choir director of music as well. Our children are now 19 and 16, and I'm looking forward to being able to retire from teaching and take on a new 'second' career for the next phase of my life."

From the Courier Office: Carol Dzikowski-Shamory took part in the Maud Powell Music Festival, singing three roles and serving on the voice faculty for the Powell Festival Institute. She finished her collaboration with Maestro Kevin McMahon on the libretto for the new opera about Maud Powell, which was performed on the Maud Powell Mainstage in June, with Carol singing the role of the Grand Dame. She also performed this fall with the Illinois Valley Symphony Orchestra—singing Douglas Hill's "A Place for Hawks" and "The Blue Pigeon" by Romeo Cascarino.

REUNION May 31-June 3, 2007

**'77** 

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Beth Campanale Daugherty 2956 Layne Ct. Richmond, VA 23233 dfamily@comcast.net

From Debbie: I have a little news to share this time. I'm hoping that our new reporter, Beth Campanale Daugherty, will have lots to add to what I'm reporting. Class of '77 members: Drop either of us a line. Let's beef up our columns! Your classmates are eager to hear about you!

Joan McAuliffe McCaughan was kind enough to update us with this note: "I have been living in Key Biscayne, Fla., since 1982 with my husband, Bill ND '76, ND Law '79. We are blessed with four children, Billy ND '04, Colleen ND '08, James ND '10 and Peter, a future Notre Dame student. It seems as if a little arm twisting might have been involved; but they all chose Notre Dame freely. So, I have been back to the Notre Dame-Saint Mary's College community frequently in the past six years. But now I am putting out an A.P.B. for some long-lost friends whom I would love to see at our 30th reunion in June of 2007. Where in the

#### Alumnae class news

world are: Mary McMahon, Mary Sue Cavanagh, Sarah Wachter, Mary Beth Marsho Walton, Patrice Biel, Sandy Vuagniaux Lamar, JoAnn Crock, Eileen Barbera, and Sue Maude? Please e-mail me at joanm511@yahoo. com. I would love to hear from all of you and anyone else I may have forgotten. Let's make our 30th reunion a great weekend!" Note: Joan mentioned in a separate e-mail that she had enjoyed catching up over dinner recently with Monica Knowles Reding. Both of them are looking forward to our reunion in 2007.

My former Saint Mary's College roommate, Maura Nugent Bardsley, has some good news to share: "It will be an exciting year for our family as my daughter, Colleen, begins her first year at Saint Mary's College. The day before the June orientation, Colleen and I had a wonderful visit in Indianapolis with her new roommate and my college roommate, Debbie Reale. It was fun for Debbie and me to reminisce and to share memories of past Saint Mary's College experiences with two young women just getting ready to make memories of their own. After the Saint Mary's College orientation, my daughter and I cut through the Science Building on our way to the parking lot, and I commented that finding Dr. Feigl in her office would make a perfect ending to a day on campus. What a delight it was to find her there, and what a nice visit we had! With our oldest son, Kevin, out of college and on his own and our son, Brian, beginning his senior year in college, my husband, Michael, and I are also making some major changes. Michael has accepted a transfer to Sydney, Australia, for two years with E.D.S. We are very excited about this new adventure and look forward to traveling while living overseas. We already have our apartment near the Sydney Opera House and will be moving there after a family weekend at the Penn State game Sept. 9. I may be far away, but I can be reached at mabards@yahoo. com."

**'79** 

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I heard from lots of classmates this spring and summer! Don't be discouraged if you don't see your submission right away. Our deadlines for this class only occur twice a year (March 1 for the summer issue and Sept. 1 for the winter issue). Keep writing!

Mary Beth Higgins Williams wrote to say that she and her husband, Ron, have moved to a duplex in Glen Carbon, III.—about 20 minutes from St. Louis. Ron is an assistant public defender, and Mary Beth started her own law practice several years ago. Previously, she had worked as an assistant state's attorney for four years. Ron and Mary Beth completed the Chicago Marathon in fall 2005 and planned to run it again in 2006.

Mary Beth keeps in contact with Mary Anne Dempsey Poinsatte. She and her husband, John Paul ND '79, live in Hixson, Tenn., where Mary Anne works as coordinator for the Pregnancy Help Center of Catholic Charities of East Tennessee and John Paul travels overseas quite frequently for his job with Invista, a manufacturer/marketer of polymer-based fibers for clothing, carpeting, and much more. Their son, Justin, is a sophomore at Notre Dame—and the fourth-generation Poinsatte to attend Notre Dame! They also have two daughters, Rachael, who was accepted to Notre Dame and should now be a first-year student there, and Joanna, who is still in high school.

According to Mary Anne, **Patti Maguire Butterfield** and her husband,
Gregg, live in Mattapoisett, Mass., and
have two children, Colin and Caroline,
both in high school.

Mary Beth also hears from **Barbara** "Bunny" Blankenburg Kiep, who lives in Hamilton, Ohio, with her husband, Roger, and their three children, Greg, Meredith, and Jenny. Greg is in graduate school at Xavier University. Meredith is strongly considering attending Saint Mary's College and Jenny is entering high school.

Bunny got together with **Maria Tan Mitchell**, who lives in Bedford, Ind.,
with her husband, Mike, and their two
daughters, Alison and Jessica. Alison is
attending Purdue University, and Jessica
is in high school.

Jean Kyle Fulcher and her husband, John ND '79, live in Findlay, Ohio. Daughter Katie is a senior at Miami University of Ohio. Their son, Michael, is in high school.

Joyce Johnson Reynolds, who left Saint Mary's College after our junior year to finish college at Seton Hall, lives in Acworth, Ga. Her husband, Bob, is a pilot for Delta; Joyce began a nursing program this fall. Last December their son, Bobby, was ranked number 95 in the world in tennis! Their daughter, Debbie, just had her second child.

Teresita Valdivia Collins wrote to say that she and her husband, Pat ND '79, live in Vero Beach, Fla., with their three children. Their daughter, Kaylee, graduated from Notre Dame last May with a degree in political science. She is now working for a political consulting firm in West Palm Beach, Fla. Her sister, Corey, is a junior at Notre Dame this year. Teresita's youngest, Kyle, is a junior in high school. Teresita teaches accelerated math part-time at her local Catholic grade school.

Mary Jane Gauer Krtek and her family visited the Collinses in June before leaving on a cruise. Mary Jane and her family live in Kansas City, Mo., where she works for the airlines.

Jerri Plumb Kelly is now the athletic director at Lake Brantley High School in Altamonte Springs, Fla. She continues to teach at the school as well. She and her husband, Jeff, have three children. Their second daughter, Casie, is a first-year student at the University of Michigan, where she is slated to play water polo. Jerri says that when they went to orientation, she just couldn't bring herself to sing the Michigan fight song!

Rosemary Hammer Lancos wrote to say that their lives have changed a lot this year. After having spent five years living in Manila in the Philippines, she and Paul ND '78 moved back to the United States. He began a new job with Tupperware as head of marketing for the Asia/Pacific region. They are now based in Orlando, Fla., which Rosemary says, "doesn't feel so hot after living in Asia." Their daughter, Katie, graduated from Notre Dame in May and is searching for that first "real" job. Their son, Matthew, is a junior at Villanova. As for Rosemary, she is still getting things settled and exploring a new part of the world.

On a sad note, however, Rosemary added that she also spent much time last year with her sister, **Florence Hammer** '82, who fought cancer, but lost the battle on July 19, 2006. "A great many of her Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College friends came to Cleveland from all over for the funeral. Classmates **Barb Hamel** and **Caryn Marcucci Doherty** came to support me. Saint Mary's College nurtures such abiding friendships."

As they say, keep those cards, letters, and e-mails coming. My e-mail is jpmurphy@flash.net.

'81

**Cindy Jones Helgason** 906 25th St.

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It was wonderful to see a great turnout for our 25th reunion! It was such a perfect weekend—the weather, the cool apartments that we stayed in, the golf carts that took us around, and, especially, the connections between old and new friends. Amazing how we haven't changed a bit! Nothing is new here in lowa except that recently my business, Soapourri, was reported in *Midwest Living* magazine as one of "Our Favorite Midwest Finds." A big thrill for me!

**Teresa Gorno-Reid** has lived in Naperville, Ill., for 14 years and has three children with her husband, William: Evangeline, 10, Alice, 7, and Grace, 4. She is a psychologist.

Ann Monaghan McAlexander lives in Fishers, Ind., with her husband, Brad, and their two children, Patrick, 12, and Maggie, 10. Ann is a systems analyst for Liberty Mutual Insurance. She says, "I

received an M.B.A. from Indiana University in 1993. I have always worked since graduation from Saint Mary's College; my husband, who's a high school teacher (English and social studies), stayed home for seven years when our kids were little. I met my mom, **Katie McNamara Monaghan' 48**, at reunion this year, and we had fun having a girls' weekend away by ourselves. The best part: As an "Older than Golden" alumnae, Mom had a room at the Inn, and I was her guest!

Michelle Taylor Holman reports that she lives in Carol Stream, III., with her husband, Keith, and their three children: Caitlyn, 15, Patrick, 12, and Claire, 8. She has lived there for 19 years and works in banking. Michelle says she had a great time at reunion and missed everyone who couldn't make it!

Kathleen Mihelich Black has lived in South Bend, Ind., for 22 years and works as a substitute teacher. She is married to Bernard, who is a database administrator at Memorial Hospital. She has three sons: Christopher, 20, a junior at the University of Dallas majoring in history; Andrew, 16, a sophomore at St. Joseph's High School; and Patrick, a freshman at Washington High School. "In 2003 I took my oldest son to visit my ancestral homelands of Poland and Croatia. We discovered that many of the families currently lived on or near the same land that had been in our families at least 150 years."

Christy Frank Murphy has lived in Rye, N.Y., for 15 years. She works for Sotheby's International Realty. She is married to Tom, and her children are Bridget, 17, Meredith, 16, and Meaghan, 14.

Madeleine Meiners Hedrick reports: "I attended the reunion with some St. Louis friends. Mary Lauber. Sue Powers, Jan Lampe Deiters, and I flew up to Chicago and met **Denise** Hokl and Betsy Henken Bacon. We stayed in the senior apartments during reunion. I have lived in Texas since 1986. Tom ND '79 and I have three kids. Kate is a sophomore at Notre Dame, Paul a freshman at Harvard, and Kevin a sophomore in high school. I've been staying busy with school, church, and neighborhood associations, and playing tennis. Tom worked for McKinsey and Co. for 15 years but has a little more free time since he left them four years ago. We have been able to spend some time in Colorado, especially during our hot Dallas summers."

Katie Walsh has lived in St. Louis, Mo., for most of her life. She is an attorney and travels a lot—particularly to the New York area—as part of her job. She hopes to be able to look up more alumnae friends.

From **Dawn Parker Santamaria**: "While my Tallship sailed the Great Lakes this summer, I was fortunate enough to host many Saint Mary's College alumnae aboard during our leadership sail

programs and dockside club receptions. It was especially great to break bread and wine with my '81 gal-pals: Ro Bellanca Posselius, Carol Barry Cawley, Patti Koch Corn, and Kathryn Blankenship."

Karen Finkenbinder Knop has lived in Indianapolis, Ind., for 20 years. She is an RN and works in the NICU as a clinical preceptor teacher-in-training. She has 9-year-old twins, Alexander and Shelbv.

Kathleen Kanehann Wilson has launched a Web site, www.NuKazoo. com. NuKazoo is a new weekly advice column with viewer responses to everyday ambiguous situations. She is married to Steve and lives in Hinsdale with their two sons Gavin, 5, and Connor, 7.

Anne Lynch Pittman is a physician/ administrator in Lexington, Ky., where she has lived for six years. She is married to Tom and has one child, Brigid, 8. Anne says, "It has been great to see so many women I admire—and to catch up with old and new friends."

Martha Maggio Merizon, Maria Bladowski Sobczak, Ann Kiley Schneider, and Jane Kopec Bentkowski spent five glorious days at Maria's lake cabin in the north woods of Wisconsin in July. They hope their "Chicks in the Sticks 2006" adventure becomes a new tradition.

Beth Norton lives in Saint Louis, Mo., and is an artist and teacher. She just purchased a home with a great studio.

Sharon Moore Cardona writes: "I'm still retired from the Air Force, now going on five years. I'm working as director of nursing at Saltzer Medical Group here in Idaho. My daughter, Karin, is a sophomore at Saint Mary's College; Kristina, is a junior at Bishop Kelly High School; and son "Dragon" is in seventh grade. My husband, Joseph, is a traveling executive nurse, currently working in Kansas to pay college and high school tuitions. I recently recovered from a serious illness and have regained my strength."

Susan Laney Munie lives in Belleville, III., with her husband, Michael, and their two daughters, Maggie, 10, and Ellie, 8. She is a stay-at-home mom.

Jean Sneeringer Sedlacko reports: "My family and I live in Burtonsville, Md. My husband, Steve, and I were married in 1999 and have two sons: Stevie, 6, and Joey, 3. I'm an attorney for Enterprise Community Partners in Columbia, Md., a national nonprofit organization focusing on low-income housing and community development. My primary role is to provide legal assistance to our loan fund, which lends mostly to nonprofit developers who are building or renovating affordable housing. My husband is in food sales, after a long career as a chef (which is great for the home front). In my spare time, I'm president of Northwest Church Family Network, a nonprofit in Washington, D.C., that provides supportive housing for formerly homeless families.

Jennifer Disabato Clapper lives in

Denver, Colo., with her husband, Jay, and Devin, 8, and Marin, 6. She is a pediatric nurse practitioner. She reported, "I have worked at the Children's Hospital in Denver for 25 years. After 27 years, my husband has stopped practicing veterinary medicine and is now an artist painting acrylics and oils.'

Dana Jeffirs Corrigan is an artist and mom in Westlake. Ohio, with her husband, Brian ND '81, and four children: McKenna Corrigan '08, Connell, 18, Quinn, 14, and Aidan, 8.

From Lauren Perry Wiley: "I completely changed careers about six years after leaving Saint Mary's College. I earned my master's degree in child development from the Erikson Institute in Chicago and have been working as a therapist with young children and their families for the past 18 years. I live in the Kankakee area and I am married to Dennis, who is the executive director of a residential facility for adolescent sex offenders. I have two kids: Luke, 17, a senior in high school; and Hannah, 13, an 8th grader who has just signed with an agent in Chicago as a professional actress."

From Lexi Swedish Gibbons: "I am living in Tucson, Ariz., with my husband, Tom ND '81, and three of our five children. Our oldest, TJ, graduated from the Naval Academy in 2004 and is stationed in Coronado, Calif. Number two, Daniel, is a junior at Virginia Tech; Sean is a senior in high school: Keegan is a sophomore; and Meaghan is in the 6th grade. I was reunited with my roommate, Kathleen Carbonara, as well as with Nancy Singer Gies, Bridget O'Keefe Sepich, Kathy Griffin, Laura Ruddy Emory, Annemarie Mannion, and Laura Barry Walsh at reunion. We really had fun catching up and looking at old pictures. I spent a bunch of time with Peggy Showalter Malady, Mary Beth Kasper Rapice, and Bernie Ryan as well since we were all together at the same hotel. Dorothy Spollen Johnston has lived in Dallas, Tex., for six years with her husband, Randy, and their three children: Patrick, 12, Erin, 8, and Sean, 2. She is an MIS project manager and works

CC Cantwell Pujals lives in Glenview, III., with her husband, Pedro, and children Peter, 11, J.C. 7, and William, 4.

for Michael's Arts and Crafts.

From Barb O'Connell Hovt: "Mv most recent (and, I hope, last) career venture is as the enrichment teacher at a local public school. It's really a lot of fun, and I especially like the fact that I work with a broad age range—kindergarten through fifth grade. My oldest daughter, Clare Hoyt '06, graduated from Saint Mary's College this past May. She is currently working at a law firm in Chicago to save money for law school. My second daughter, Maura Hoyt '07, just started her senior year at Saint Mary's College and is a nursing major. Matt is a senior in

high school and Neil is a sophomore."

Melinda DeCrane Capone lives in Cockeysville, Md., with her husband, Chris, and their three kids. She is a preschool teacher.

MaryRose Carroll-Campobasso writes: "I was sad to have missed our reunion, but my husband, Fred, had a quadruple bypass the end of February, and although he is feeling much better, he was not up to being left at home with the four kids! I continue to live in Glenview and see Ann Foley Waris and Meg Burke Gagliardo frequently."

Catherine Shaughnessy Brennan is a clinical nurse specialist and lives in Okemos, Mich., with her husband, John, and their children: Eddie, 15, Clare, 12, and Kevin, 9.

Tricia Burke is president of Office Environment Company in Louisville, Ky. She has been married for 10 years to George VanArsdale and has a 25-year-old stepson, Michael. Her big news is that she's going to be a grandmother in November! All '81 classmates are welcome to come "porch" with her in Louisville!

#### Sue Poss Harrison

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Hi there, Class of 1983 classmates! You should all feel free to e-mail or write me with your news. There is a lot going on in everyone's lives, and your classmates want to hear from you! I get an e-mail list from Saint Mary's College only every five years (at reunion time), and as it has been a few years since our last reunion, my e-mail list is becoming outdated. Many of my e-mails to you asking for news get returned, so please, please, please drop me a line any time with your news. I get feedback from almost everyone who sends me news that they love to hear from our classmates in the Courier-so why not write in with your news next! Thanks from all of us!

Here's the latest on a few members from the Class of 1983: Bridget Madigan Zalcman writes that for the past 11 years, she has been living in Bethel, Conn., with her husband of 20 years, Fred, and their three children: a daughter 15, and two boys ages 11 and 7. Bridget met her husband at Indiana University School of Law, from which she graduated in 1986. She now has a law practice in Bethel.

Kelly McLaughlin Gruscinski and her husband, Tom ND '83, live in North Olmsted, Ohio. Kelly and Tom have three children: Mickey is a student at Saint Mary's College, Tim attends Kent State University, and Kevin is in middle school. Kelly works as a school psychologist parttime and teaches psychology at a local

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## A l u m n a e class news

community college. Her husband, Tom, is a federal prosecutor at the United States Attorney's Office in Cleveland.

'85

#### **Elaine Suess**

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Greetings, classmates! There must have been something in the air this summer, since five of you promptly jumped on the computer to send an update after receiving your *Courier*. Let's do that again!

Update number one was from Chicagoan Melissa Meyer Burke. She shares that she just spent a weekend with Jayne Kenny Mikulski, Mary Isphording Ladrick, Jeanne Anselman Aversa, Colleen King Kuhn, Kathy Curran, and Beth McDevitt-Major, so she had the news at her fingertips. Jayne is living in Fayetteville, Ark., with her husband, Mike ND '82, and four children, two girls and two boys. She is very active with her church and family there. Mary is in Cincinnati with her husband and four girls. She is busy in the architecture and museum industries as well as a busy mom to her four successful girls. Jeanne is in the Boston area with her husband and two boys. She is working in higher education and is always on the move with her boys. Colleen is in Pittsburgh with her husband, Nick ND '84, and four children-two girls and two boys. Her oldest, Elizabeth, starts at Notre Dame this fall. Colleen is also very active and may be one of the hardest working women I know! Kathy is in the San Francisco Bay area and has two boys and a girl. She is a social worker involved in many projects, some of which

are affiliated with the Catholic Church. Her next project involves work with prisoners. She has some very interesting writings on this subject. Beth just moved back from Belgium after spending a number of years abroad, in both the Far East and Europe. She lives in the Milwaukee area now with her husband and their three children—two boys and a girl. Melissa is in Chicago with her husband, Marty ND '85, and their adopted daughter and biological son. She is busy with her kids and loving their growing-up years.

Colleen Flynn Roohan checked in with us from California. She was disappointed to have missed the reunion but did have a chance to catch up with a few people as a "caller" for the class campaign. She had just returned from Quito, Ecuador, with Catherine Brissette Reidy. They took their eldest daughters, Mary Kate and Maddie, and worked for a Jesuit-run organization with which Catherine and her parents have been associated for years. She said that it was a truly amazing and rewarding experience.

Not surprisingly, Colleen is keeping busy with her four kids. Her eldest, Eddie, has started college at Loyola University of Los Angeles. As some of you have already experienced, Colleen says it is truly a weird feeling to have a college-age kid! Her other children are Mary Kate, who is a junior, and Joe, a freshman. Her youngest, Sheila, will be in fifth grade. Colleen still works as a geriatric nurse practitioner, now as a volunteer. She runs a ministry to the sick and elderly—keeping track of seniors and their living and health situations. Husband Ed ND '85 is doing great—now an official five-year cancer survivor—working in Los Angeles and traveling a bit. Colleen is hoping to hook up with more west coast Saint Mary's College gals in the coming year!

Theresa Kloska Thomas dropped a note mentioning that she is working with the editors at Ascension Press on a new book: Amazing Grace for Homeschoolers. Other books in the series are Amazing Grace for Those Who Suffer, Amazing Grace for the Catholic Heart, and Amazing Grace for Mothers. The new Amazing Grace book, to be completed in early 2007, will be filled with 101 stories of hope and inspiration for families who home school. [Calling all homeschoolers!! Theresa is looking for stories and hoping some of our classmates might be interested in contributing. If so, please use the following link to share your story. She will be collecting stories through 2006 (the deadline on the Web site at the time of this writing was incorrect) http://www.amazinggraceonline. net/submit\_story.asp?id=6.]

Like Colleen, Theresa and her husband sent their oldest off to college this year: David was awarded a full-tuition scholarship at the University of Dayton as a John W. Berry Scholar. Theresa is very grateful and proud of him! Two of her children are in the diocesan high school, and one is in eighth grade at the diocesan grade school (his first experience with "regular" school this year, mainly because he wanted to play football). Theresa home schools four of her children, as she has been doing since 1994. Unbelievably, there is time left over for Theresa to write a column for Today's Catholic and, occasionally, for Catholic Exchange. Follow this link to read one of her articles http://www.catholicexchange.com/vm/ index.asp?vm\_id=6&art\_id=33665.

Working hard in Texas and being rewarded for it is **Debbie Laverie!** She has been promoted from associate professor to full professor of marketing at Texas Tech University. Debbie mentions

that she has an endowed chair in the Jerry S. Rawls College of Business Administration and is the chair of the marketing department as well as the director of the University's Teaching, Learning and Technology Center.

The final update is from **Debbie** Hickey, who's living large in the Outer Banks of North Carolina, where she moved from San Diego in November 2004. Debbie says that the transition back east has been great, as she is now "within six hours of most of my family." She was also fortunate enough to find a job right away and is working for the local Coldwell Banker franchise as the CFO. She notes that living at the beach comes with perks: it's easy to get people to come and visit! The past two summers she has hosted a "mini Saint Mary's College reunion" with Patti Buchanan Barniskis, Anne Gilmore Feith, Maryellen May, and Darlene Wojda **Hanson**. They were joined this year by Debbie's Saint Mary's College roommate, Theresa Biondo Flick. Patty is living in the Twin Cities area after spending a few years in Singapore. Her oldest son is going to Marquette in the fall! Anne is a busy woman, as always, with her two daughters and is currently building a new home. Maryellen is working for The Hartford in the District of Columbia area and is very recently happily married to D. J. Darlene is in the District of Columbia area and is very busy chasing her two little ones, who are in 1st grade and pre-kindergarten. Theresa has had a tough year, as she recently underwent a pancreas transplant and is facing a kidney transplant in September. She is a fighter and is doing well, all things considered. Debbie has also had Mary Ann Potter Ruthmeyer visit a few times since she's moved. Mary Ann, her husband, Bernie,

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Now available to Indiana residents for the year 2007, Saint Mary's College plates can be issued for passenger cars, recreational vehicles, and trucks weighing less than 11,000 pounds.

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Please note that both an application form and a \$25 donation are required for each vehicle you register with a Saint Mary's College plate. For more information and to download the form, please visit www.saintmarys.edu/alumnae.

All donations will be deposited in the Saint Mary's College general scholarship endowment.



and son, Leo, 1, came to visit for a week in the summer. Debbie shares that Mary Ann's visits are special, as she introduced Debbie to her boyfriend, Steve, over 12 years ago in San Diego! Debbie also keeps in touch with Meg Rowley, who is doing really well throughout all of the changes her bank has experienced. Meg is working for JP Morgan in their private client services area. Also in Chicago are Cathy McIssac Branigan, Patty Drabic Quinn, Joanne Noonan, and Trisha Glomb Ladner, who are frequent e-mailers.

We're grateful for the updates! Next deadline is March 1. Take care!

'89

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I'll start off by once again asking everyone to send me an e-mail with your updated contact info. We've got lots of bad e-mails and addresses on the class list, so please take a moment and send your info to the address above. Thanks!

Katherine Senko Yarussi is enjoying a calm and well-traveled life! After a golf trip to Ireland and then to Tuscany for a wedding, she headed back to Dublin for some contract work with Aer Lingus. What a life!

From the pictures sent by **Becky Jasper Seibert**, it's clear she is enjoying family life with her husband, Scott, and son, Isaac, 1, in New Hope, Minn.

The weekend of July 14, 2006 found Jen Sante Soller, Sheila Feeley, Katie Gugle, Deanne Wachel Sabatino, Julie Stautberg, Barb Bolla Kopko, Kathi Danahy Pernsteiner, and Lynne Lauer Kasperan spending their annual girls' reunion back on campus for some quiet time and to check out all the changes—the Opus apartments made them want to re-enroll! The group spent one afternoon at Lynne's beautiful cottage on Koontz Lake, where Peggy Halloran joined them. Sounds like a fabulous time!

Summer means pool time, meeting friends for lunch, playing lots of tennis, occasionally working at the pro shop, and heading out to the islands (Lake Erie, that is!) for Anne Bader. It also means recovering from and recharging for a new school year in Avon Lake, Ohio. This year Anne moved from teaching second grade to teaching third grade. She tries to see Jenny MacDougall Bero at least once a year in either Michigan or Ohio. Jenny recently passed along loads of third-grade educational materials to supplement Anne's curriculum. Jenny, who took time off from teaching third grade to stay home with her children, has taken a teaching position in the fifth grade at St. Joseph School in Lake Orion, Mich., where she did her master's internship and where

her daughter is going to school. Jenny and Pat ND '90 moved to Michigan five years ago and, two years ago, bought a home in Clarkston, Mich., close to Jenny's parents, allowing them the opportunity to visit South Bend at least three times each fall. She had been a stay-at-home mom to Erin, 8, and Payton, 4, but got bored and returned to school for a second master's degree—this one in educational administration. Jenny considered a principal position before jumping at the chance to teach at St. Joseph's. She caught up with Linda Arce Cosgrove and Katy Cancro Colletto at their 20th high school reunion.

Karen Crespy spent the July 4th weekend in Grand Rapids, Mich., with Barb Moorhead Vedders and family. Abby, 8, and Jack, 5, entertained her at the pool and entertained themselves by beating her repeatedly in UNO Attack. Barb and her husband, Joel, are both registered nurses at Spectrum Health's Butterworth Campus on the orthopedic floor. After five years in Chicago, which included earning an M.B.A. in Notre Dame's executive program, Karen headed back to the east coast in late July and now lives in Bethesda, Md., about a mile from where she grew up. She is a marketing manager for BNA Books in District of Columbia and is happy to be back around her family and lots of friends—and hopes to soon reconnect with Cathy Mansfield Fox. Prior to leaving Chicagoland, she had one more girls' lunch with Karen Luby Burton. Karen is keeping busy with her husband, Kurt, and boys, Andrew, 11, and Alexander, 5. She's always running off to one of their sporting events!

Mimi Tuohy O'Leary and Mike ND '89 took their three kids-Joe, 10, Mary Kate, 9, and Jack, 5—to Chicago last summer to see Peggy Kramer McLaughlin and Jack ND '89. Peggy and Jack have three boys-Jake, 3, and identical twins Colin and Patrick, 20 months. The O'Leary kids loved helping to care for all of the boys and being the "big kids" for a change. Jack is enjoying his job with Aon Insurance in Chicago, and Peggy works in the legal department at Harris Associates. Joining the group for dinner one evening was Colleen Martin Garrity. Colleen works part time at Northwestern Hospital and works full time as mom to Liam and Finn. This past summer. Colleen was scheduled to participate in two different mini-Ironman events. Go, Colleen...you are making your classmates proud!

Also this past summer, the O'Leary family spent a weekend in Indiana with **Sandy Cerimele Fralich** and her family. Sandy and John have two kids: Lucy, third grade, and Andrew, first grade. They are very happy in Indianapolis, where Sandy is now working for a private insurance company after being with the government for 15 years in the workers' compensation department. During the

visit, Sandy mentioned that she has now lived in Indiana longer than she lived in Ohio. Funny thing, though; Mimi is 100% sure that Sandy still cheers (loudly) for the Cleveland Browns every Sunday.

The O'Learys are all doing well and continue to hold their breath during this hurricane season. They live in Palm City, Fla. (30 miles north of West Palm Beach) and are fortunate enough to go to Lake Wawasee every summer in northern Indiana; so, their kids have visited the Saint Mary's College/Notre Dame campuses many times. Mary Kate is hoping to go to the Fine Arts Camp at Saint Mary's College in two short years and Lucy Fralich (Sandy's daughter) may join her as her roommate. What goes around comes around they say...

Theresa Kress Marks continues to enjoy living in Maui. After 10 years of kids at home she has a quiet house for the first time—at least for a few hours a day. Both her girls—Skylar, 10, and Annabel, 7—are writing and recording their own songs, just like their father, Gary. Their main inspiration is the Beatles. Even 3-year-old Shawn does a mean rendition of "Hard Day's Night." Theresa has been surprised at how much she enjoys writing and is currently working on a book about an Indian saint named Ammachi, a world-renowned humanitarian.

She also had a wonderful reunion with **Janel Hamann Vanek** last spring in Pt. Reyes, Calif., just north of San Francisco. They had a relaxing weekend hiking, shopping, and eating. Janel lives in Ashburn, Va., with her husband, Phil, and their two children, Kathryn and Christopher.

Lisa Lavelle Burke resigned her law partnership in Washington, D.C., to stay at home now that baby boy number two is on the way! Lisa, Tom, and Jack, 3, are anxiously awaiting his arrival.

Amy Haynes Cihak sent word of her marriage to Peter on Aug. 12, 2006, at Saint Edward Park in Seattle, Wash. Congratulations, Amy!

Tammy Suth Crowe and Tom ND '89 are enjoying their life and family in Indianapolis, Ind. Four growing children, Chelsey, 17, Gabriella, 14, Kiersten, 13, and Madeline, 11, keep them on their toes! Tammy has been at Roche Pharmaceuticals for 15 years and works in sales.

Penny Falaschetti Dolan and Dennis ND '89 welcomed their third daughter, Maggie Colleen, on Memorial Day, May 29. Their older daughters, Erin, 11, and Molly, 6, are thrilled to have a baby sister. This was the first time Penny spent the summer home with her children, and it was a challenge—she gives a lot of credit to all stay-at-home moms! In late August, Penny returned to work at the University of Chicago, where she coordinates the clinical trials in Gynecologic Oncology.

Penny passed on news of **Caroline Piatak Sinclair**, who lives in Rochester,

Minn. Starting in fall 2006, Caroline began home schooling her four oldest children—Collin, Maggie, Elizabeth, and Grace—while juggling Duncan, 1! Good luck. Caroline and Mike ND '89!

In Milwaukee, Wis., Mariellen Barry Roeder and Randy are thrilled with the arrival of their twins, Conner James and Megan Marie, on July 17, 2006. Katie Flanagan Murphy and her husband, Tom, welcomed their February blessing, Mary Margaret "Molly," in St. Louis. Lynn Uritis Smith and Kevin added daughter, Jorja, to their family of boys—Cole and Mac—on Aug. 9, 2006, in West Chester, Pa. Lynn also passed along news that in Wayzata, Minn., Frances Burke Phillips and Ed ND '87 welcomed Benedict "Ben" Edward on May 9, 2006. Congratulations to all!

Tammy Shelor Blain is happy to announce her marriage to Todd! They tied the knot in South Bend, Ind., at Clay United Methodist Church on April 29, 2006. The reception was in the South Bend Marriott atrium. Todd is in the Secret Service, working for the Department of Homeland Security. The couple lives in Plainfield, Ill., where Tammy is a region business director within Ortho-McNeil, Inc., a subsidiary of Johnson & Johnson.

Patty Walsh Whelpley '90 and John ND '90 welcomed Annette Elizabeth into their family on March 23, 2006. Annette is the youngest of five Whelpkins who give her way too much attention. Patty and John live in Vienna, Va., outside of Washington, D.C., where Patty home schools her children and has been doing some freelance, pro bono public relations work for a pro-life OB/GYN practice in the area, Tepeyac Family Center.

'93

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Tricia Starr Reeder is living in Alexandria, Va., with husband Dave ND '93. They welcomed John (Jack) William on June 11, 2005. His big sister, Emily Patricia, 2, was excited to have a new friend in the family. Tricia has put her job at the Pentagon on hold to stay at home with the kids.

**Joy Wysocki Lee** and husband Chris live in Goshen, Ind., and have two children, Caden, 3, and Onycha, 1.

Michelle Pitcher wrote in to report that in November 2005, she and her husband, Marty Willis, finalized the adoption of their daughter, Megan Rose. "She was eight weeks old when she entered our lives as a foster child in 2004. She will be 2 in May. She is joined by her brother, Michael Robert, who will be 5 in May. He was 14 months old when he, too, entered our lives as a foster child. His adoption was finalized

#### Alumnae class news

in June 2003." On the day of Michael's adoption, **Mary Soice Nixdorf '94** and her husband, Rob, flew to Michigan from their home in New York to surprise the family at the courthouse. Michelle, along with her husband, is still managing the family's hardware store and takes the kids and a chocolate lab to work every day. During their time away from work, they are remodeling their Victorian farmhouse, built in 1901.

Julie Lynch and husband Matt Asher welcomed twin boys, Patrick Leo and Cullen Bray, into their family in Charleston, S.C., on June 15.

Michelle Budd Munch and husband Bill are keeping busy as they welcomed their fifth child, Maggie Michelle, born Oct. 24, 2005. She joined Billy, 11, Andy, 9, Shelby, 7, and Angie, 4. "I continue to stay at home and raise this crew. Believe me, there is never a dull moment. I truly enjoy it!"

Suzanne Schaffler Bautch writes that she and husband Danny ND '92 welcomed baby boy Austin James into their family. Born June 13, 2006, he joins Jackson, 5, and Ava Rose, 2. Suzanne has been living in Garden City, N.Y., for the past two years and stays home with the kids while Danny works for Goldman Sachs in Manhattan.

**Cindy Jordan Littlefield** and husband Matt welcomed Lauren Olivia, their first child, on July 11, 2006.

Entrepreneur Laura Giorno DeRousse has been busy starting her own line of all-natural cosmetics, Tropical Betty. "All of our products are handmade and inspired by the tropics. The line is carried in local and national boutiques and salon/spas, as well as being available through our Web store at www. tropicalbetty.com." While Laura began her line as a side business, last summer, she left her 12-year career as a commercial property manager to pursue the business full-time. In 2005, she was able to expand the line to include a division called TB Corporate Gifts. "This not only includes the cosmetics, but other island-inspired gifts, including koa, acacia, tapa, and Hawaiian confectionery. It has proven to be a very successful branch to the business and has allowed me to continue to work in the commercial property management industry, as many building managers are now my corporate clients." Laura had been working in property management at The John Buck Company in Chicago before Tropical Betty took off. (Coincidentally, she was hired by Sue Draths '83, who picked out her résumé because she was a Saint Mary's College graduate.) Laura is married to David, who is director of business development for Premier Waste & Recycling. "We were married on the island of Kauai in September 2002. We had a beautiful beachfront ceremony with our immediate family in attendance. We have been living in downtown Chicago on Michigan Avenue ever since—and love it! We recently welcomed our first child, daughter Ella Grace, in February 2006."

Laura remains close friends with **Sue Oross**. Sue has lived in Atlanta for the past 12 years. She works as an office manager in a successful law firm and has recently taken on responsibilities for their Miami office as well. Laura writes: "Although we don't live near each other, we are fortunate to be able to visit each other once or twice a year. Sue visited recently for my baby shower in February and is doing great!"

#### '95

#### Colleen Morrissey

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Thanks to everyone for sending updates! I apologize for the short class news section this time; I completely forgot to send out reminders. My only news is that I enjoyed another trip to Europe in May 2006; we visited Spain, the French Riviera, Monaco, and Italy for two weeks. Also, I became an aunt for the second time! My sister, **Krista Morrissey Gipson '00**, and her husband, Matt, welcomed their second daughter, Alaina Kathleen, on Jan. 22, 2006. She joins older sister Cecilia Rose, 3. Please keep sending updates; my next deadline is Feb. 28, 2007!

Maureen Buckley Everling and husband Larry welcomed Lauren Buckley Everling on May 6, 2006. She joins big sister Colleen.

I have some sad news to report; in July 2006, **Katie Northup**'s 30-year-old brother, Joshua, died suddenly of an undiagnosed heart ailment in Louisville, Ky. Katie has moved from New Jersey to Louisville, where she purchased a home and is working in marketing at KFC.

Jennifer O'Dell writes: "I was married on Oct. 28, 2006, in Toledo, Ohio, to Jason Shaffer, my boyfriend of three years. He is a graduate of West Virginia University and is currently a graphic designer at the National Science Foundation in Arlington, Va. We honeymooned right after the wedding for a couple of weeks in Ireland. Also, I was promoted recently to the position of assistant director of corporate affairs for the Laborers International Union of North America in Washington, D.C. I am the Union's expert on corporate governance reform and securities regulation as it relates to our union's benefit funds. I love my job and love living here in the nation's capital. I also passed another milestone-I have been in remission from Hodgkin's Disease (a lymphatic cancer) for over 10 years now, after being diagnosed not too long after graduation.

Julie Peterson Krolczyk reports that she and husband Jim welcomed their

third child, Michael David, on Nov. 25, 2005

From the Courier Office: Kristen Martina Kowalski wrote: "My husband, Dave, and I welcomed our second child, Nathan Walter Kowalski, on Feb. 22, 2006. He joins big sister Grace, 5. We are still living in Glen Ellyn, III. I also completed my master's in taxation from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in May 2006. I was a member of the inaugural year of the one-year program offered in downtown Chicago."

Kristen also had news of Molly Condon Sell and Kate Nugent Shean. Molly is living in Chicago with her husband, Terry. She just began a new job and is the head pastry chef for a large catering company, Food For Thought, in Chicago. Kate and her husband, Skip, welcomed their second child. Carolyn Quinn Shean was born March 28, 2006. She joins big sister Brigid, 4. The Sheans are living in Western Springs, Ill.

#### REUNION May 31-June 3, 2007

**'97** 

Amy L. Brabeck

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Bonjour! Hola! I hope this finds you doing well and keeping warm this winter. As I write, it's a delightful September afternoon in Durham, about 85 degrees. Autumn flowers are beginning to blossom and apples are starting to make an appearance at the farmers' market—the beginnings of fall, my favorite season. That was true at Saint Mary's College, too...such a beautiful time of year on campus.

Ignacio and I are still in North Carolina and doing well, having enjoyed the summer. Ignacio directed Duke's summer study abroad program in Madrid, and I joined him for three weeks toward the end. We stayed in Madrid mostly and also visited the south (Cádiz) and the north (Burgos). I had never been to the north before; it was amazing how different it was from Madrid and the south. It reminded me so much of Bruges, without the canals and horse-drawn carriages. During the last week of the study abroad program, I took intensive daily Spanish courses at one of the many language schools in Madrid. My Spanish continues to improve; maybe some day I will

Summer travels also took us to Illinois, where we were happy to attend **April Sass**'s wedding to Jay Johnson. April and Jay were married on Aug. 5, 2006, at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church in Darien, Ill. It was a clear, sunny day and a lovely wedding. April and Jay bought a home and are living in Bolingbrook, Ill. April continues to teach at St. Joan of Arc School in Lisle; Jay works at Argonne

National Laboratory in Argonne. **Michele Kuhlmann Nelson** and husband Calvin ND '98 were at the wedding as well, and we enjoyed catching up with them. They are living in Round Lake Beach, Ill., with their daughters, Catherine, Carolyn, and Anna.

Ignacio and I are now back in North Carolina and the 2006-7 school year is underway. I continue to teach French at Meredith College and tutor French and Spanish at Wake Technical Community College, as well as coordinate their foreign language help center. Ignacio is in his seventh year teaching Spanish at Duke.

I now invite you to prepare a cup of tea or hot chocolate and sit down and relax for a few moments. Enjoy catching up with our classmates, many whom you will see (I hope) at our 10-year reunion this summer. (Can you believe it?) Amusez-yous bien!

Wedding bells rang for many classmates in 2005-6. On Aug. 5, 2006, **Bronwyn McAuliffe** married Jimmy Azzarello ND '97. Classmates in attendance were **Kristen DiNovo Maxwell** (bridesmaid), **Laura Smith Nocera, Ellen Duggan Ariston, Regan Doherty, Kathleen Urda, Kate Kozacik Galley, Jennifer Ligda Busk, Beth Dorr McAuliffe '94, and Anne Kratzer Wilmes '00. Bronwyn and Jimmy are living in Houston, Texas.** 

On Aug. 6, 2005, **Laura Lechman** married Johnny Rodriguez in San Pedro, Calif. They met at a California high school, where they both now teach. Laura received her master's in rhetoric and composition from California State University on May 18, 2006. Eventually, she hopes to teach English composition at a community college. Laura and Johnny celebrated their first anniversary and her graduation by taking a trip to Europe in July 2006.

Kim Pohlman married Norman Meske on July 9, 2005, at the Drake Hotel in Oakbrook, Ill. Kim's matron of honor was Theresa Causa Major '95. Bridesmaids included Nikki Gauthier Dirnberger and Jennifer Kovalcik Paterno. The ring bearer was Geoffrey Dirnberger, Kim's godson. Kim and Norman honeymooned in Paris for 10 days and now reside in the Norwood Park neighborhood of Chicago.

Going a little bit further back, **Melissa Roberts Wheeler** married Martin in November 2003. Melissa writes: "Our married life has been totally blessed. We both are working for the Church. I am chairperson of the theology department at Bishop Dwenger High School in Fort Wayne, Ind. I love teaching the students about their faith; specifically, I teach Catholic Social Teaching and Old Testament. Catholic Social Teaching gives me a chance to connect faith

and politics...two of my loves. I am also currently earning my master's in theological studies from Notre Dame. In January 2005, we welcomed our daughter, Ruth Naomi. She is a true blessing to us. Kelly Cook Lewis came for a visit with her little one, Riley Lynn. All the girls were able to hang out together... so much fun. Naturally, Kelly and I talked about how great it will be when our girls are in the same class at Saint Mary's College! This past summer, we had the chance to see Emily Bochy. We were visiting family in Ireland, so Emily came over from England (she's currently living in South Yorkshire) to visit. She is loving life!"

Soon to move beyond the United States borders as well are Alex Norris Pfeifer, husband Mark ND '98, and their son, Patrick, Alex writes: "In a couple of weeks, we're moving to Australia! Mark got a post-doc at La Trobe University, which is located outside of Melbourne. It was a hard decision to leave, but it will be great for Mark's career, plus it's a once-ina-lifetime opportunity. We will be there for three years, and who knows where we'll be after that! I'll miss living in California because I actually ended up liking it here. I never thought that being married to a physicist would be such an adventure, or that I would be a world traveler! I've always wanted to live abroad, though; but I never dreamed it would be in Australia. Patrick is doing fine, too. He's 3 and has a huge personality, very affectionate and intelligent, and extremely active. He keeps me busy!"

Many of our classmates have welcomed additions to their families. in the past year. Marysarah Cutrara Carpenter and husband Jeff ND '97 had their first baby, Nora Josephine, on March 8, 2006. Katie Boyle Walicki and husband Rich ND '97 had their second child, Ryan Richard, on June 8, 2006. Rvan is the little brother to Katie and Rich's first child, Bridget Susan, 3. The Walickis live in Jackson, Mich., where Rich works with his dad in the family business. Erin Luedecking Zimmer and her husband welcomed twin boys, Henry Thomas and James Robert, on April 3, 2006. They join their big brother William. who turned 3 in August 2006.

Marianne Banko Luken writes: "I am writing to update the Saint Mary's College class of 1997 about the addition to our family: David, Emma, 5 (and in kindergarten), Jack, 2, and I welcomed Clare Marie on April 3, 2006. The older two are in love with her and enjoy every new thing she does. We continue to live in HOT Phoenix, Ariz. I am still able to stay home with the kids. I absolutely love it and thank Dave every day for the blessing."

In Indiana news, **Brandee Carlson Foley** and husband Matt moved into a new home in Fishers, Ind., in January 2006. And on Sept. 7, 2006, they welcomed Aidan Henry Foley. Brandee says, "Everyone in the Foley household is happy and healthy."

Kathleen Urda is working on the final

revisions to her dissertation at Fordham in New York City. She enjoyed a three-week trip home to South Bend in late summer and attended Bronwyn's wedding on Aug. 5.

Peggy Lenczewski Miller has had "a full year." She married John on June 17, 2006. John is from the Cleveland area; they met while working at MBNA four years ago. Peggy writes: "Lest we sound too corporate-America, John released his first solo CD last November while I was participating in the National Novel Writing Month project. We bought our first home in South Euclid in March and are settling in and getting used to being married. After working at MBNA for six years, I quit at the end of July and am looking for a new job in the area. I am also training for the Towpath Half Marathon and volunteer for the Cleveland Clinic. I recently visited my good friend, Catherine Bohan-Opel '98, who was the maid of honor at my wedding. She and her husband, Jonathon, welcomed a little boy, Nathon Alexander, mid-August and are doing well.

Thank you all for the updates you sent. I hope to hear from a record number of you for our next report (my deadline is April 1), the last one before our 10-YEAR REUNION! For now, take care and a happy and blessed 2007 to all. I look forward to seeing you soon. À bientôt, Amy

'99

#### Jennifer Wejman

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Last June, I graduated from DePaul University, along with **Margaret Gable** '**'00**, with a master's degree in education in language, literacy, and specialized instruction. I am still teaching second grade at Alphonsus Academy, where **Breeyan Creevey '02** teaches as well. Since I am in Chicago, I am so lucky that I get to see so many Saint Mary's College graduates whether they live here or are just visiting.

On Sept. 9, 2006, I attended the wedding of Jeanine Weigel Pickering and John. Colleen Weigel '02 was a maid-of-honor. Other bridesmaids included Tricia Malovey, Julie Byrdak Jaworski, and Gretchen Weigel '96. Shannon Cibella Teague, Laurie Pater Roettker, and Molly Cullen '00 were also in attendance.

Julie and her husband, John, bought a house in LaGrange Park, where they live with their dog, Rusty. Shannon and her husband, Ryan, built a house in New Lenox, where they have recently hosted two fabulous parties! Tricia is teaching fifth grade in Cicero. She is also working towards her master's degree in education at DePaul University.

Recently, I had brunch with my former Chicago roommate, **Stephanie Villinski**.



The Boston Club hosted a social on October 25 at Solas in downtown Boston. Standing (from left to right): Beth Castricone '01, Rosie Leonard Maxcey '93, Julie Leonard '93, Ellen O'Tool Tregear '99. Seated (from left to right): Sarah Looney Marshall '98, Jeni Hackbush '03, Katie Ward '03, Debbie Mardoian Haroian '82, Nicole Kraimer Strieter '99.

She continues to use her talents as an attorney to help low-income families with legal assistance. She lives in Logan Square in Chicago.

I met up with **Beth Schafer** and **Chrissy Bartle Meko** for lunch when they were in town. Beth was leaving the next day to move to Alabama after living in Michigan for the past four years. Chrissy and her husband, Justin ND '99, live in Charlotte, N.C. She teaches first grade. They also told me news about **Kelly Herro Fikri, Jenny Boese Nowinsky**, and **Catherine Griebel**. Kelly and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Rania, on Aug. 1, 2006. Jenny is working in Minnesota as an NCAA compliance officer. Catherine works in New York, for Safe Horizons, helping to stop human trafficking

Jen Mazurek Miles and her husband, Jim ND '99, continue to reside in Northbrook, Ill. Jen is in her eighth year of teaching fifth grade at the same school where she began her teaching career. Jim and Jen celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary in July with a trip to Hawaii.

Jill Moore Clouse and her husband, Michael, gave birth to a son, Sean Allen Clouse, on May 9, 2006. The Clouse family lives in Chicago.

My Notre Dame friends informed me of more baby news. **Sara Levandusky Reinthaler** and her husband, Brian ND '99, had a baby girl, Clare, in March. This summer **Katie Ryan Dehmer** and her husband, Tom ND '99, also had a baby girl—named Anna.

'01

#### Molly Kahn

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From Molly: Greetings, Belles of 2001! In June, we celebrated our first reunion! Although it is difficult to believe that five years have passed since graduation, I was thrilled to see a record number of classmates returning to celebrate this special event. A big thank you to all of you who returned the classmate update form to Alyson and me. There is a lot of information to share, so here goes.

In LaPlata, Md., Casey Kimball Compton and her husband, Brent, welcomed a daughter, Anna Claire Compton, in July 2005. Casey is a settlement agent for Buyer's Title, Inc. Kara DeDecker Monson is in advertising for the Weinstein Organization in Chicago, where she and husband Eric reside. Angela Shearman works as an accountant for the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and is working on her M.B.A. at the Northwestern Kellogg School of Management. Julie Norman is a production assistant for ESPN/ABC Sports in New York, N.Y. Kyle Veltri is the assistant women's golf coach at the University of Notre Dame. Also

#### Alumnae class news

working in the collegiate field, Jennifer Griffith is the assistant director of distance education admission at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Ind. Stacy Anderson earned her master's degree in school counseling from Duquesne University and lives in Claysville, Pa. Colleen Borkowski is a paralegal working for Sonnenschein Nath and Rosenthal LLP in Chicago. Katherine Kelleher is a student at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago and will graduate in the winter of 2007. Colleen Dolphin is a graphic designer for Dolphinography in Lauderdale, Minn. Maureen Capillo is a program specialist for PeaceGames in Boston, where she lives. **KrisAnne** Wilson, who did an excellent job as one of the reunion campaign chairs, lives in Indianapolis, where she is an analytical chemist for Eli Lilly. Our other reunion campaign chair, Shannon Sarachman **Buchmann**, is an accountant/budget analyst for Saint Mary's College (her office is in Le Mans!). Shannon and husband Michael welcomed a beautiful baby girl, Briella Jean Buchman, on Jan. 10, 2006. Briella even attended her first Saint Mary's College reunion!

On May 6, 2006, Colleen Carey Passolt married Brian at St. Mary of the Annunciation in Mundelein, III. The maid of honor was Colleen's cousin, Mary Crawford Nolan '02. Bridesmaids included classmates Colleen Borkowski, Lori Schulte Smithe, Katie Kelleher, Shannon Ross Perrino, and Ellen Wright Riley. Colleen Sullivan served as a Eucharistic Minister. Casey Russell, Mary Ellen McGowan Landry, Cathy Schroeder Ward, Molly Kahn, Stephanie Rosenthal Boreale, Amanda Shock, and Sherry Desautels also attended the beautiful wedding. Lori Smithe completed her master's in social work from Loyola University of Chicago and is the guidance counselor at her alma mater, Carmel Catholic High School, Lori and her husband, Tomm, live in Lakemoor, III. Many of the Belles of 2001 dads relived Senior Dads weekend with a rendition of "Who Let the Dads Out?" at the reception held at the Marriot Lincolnshire Resort. After a honeymoon in Hawaii, Colleen and Brian now make their home in a condo in

Jill Perry Hall married John ND '01 on a beautiful spring day in Denver on May 28, 2006. Molly Noem Fulton '00 was a bridesmaid and classmates Mindy Rennaker and Dr. Cindy Traub attended. Although they attended school across the street from one another for four years, John and Jill met in Denver after graduation and now make their home there.

Amy Dooms Taylor married John from South Bend, Ind., on June 10, 2006, at the Church of Loretto, Saint Mary's College. Maarin Erbacher was the maid of honor; Victoria Butcko and

Mary Wisniewski were bridesmaids. Other Saint Mary's College alumnae in attendance were Shannon Buchmann, KrisAnne Wilson, Melissa Pauwels '02, and JudeAnne Wilson '96.

On June 17, 2006, in St. Louis,
Jessica Claes Mumaw married Ben, a
Michigan State graduate. Her Saint Mary's
College bridesmaids were Emily Swiss,
Molly Banahan Edwards, Melissa
Bittner Sharpe, and Jillian Koepke.
Nora Byrne works as an editor for
Anderson Direct Marketing in San Diego.
In 2005, she completed a master's in
philosophy from Arizona State University
and is married to Christian John Gielow.
Stephanie Bartels Kretschmer is a
marketing coordinator for Lindquist LLP.
She and her husband, Richard Louis ND
'99, live in Brentwood, Calif.

In the medical field, Megan Jardina is a registered nurse at Children's Memorial Hospital in Chicago, Ill., and began a master's in nursing, women's nurse health practitioner program, at the University of Illinois Chicago. Monica Councilor Wohlberg is an administrative fellow at Saint Mary's Hospital in Waterbury, Conn. Monica earned her master's in health administration from Saint Louis University and is married to Matt. Kelly Dawson Archambeault is a registered nurse at Elkhart Memorial Hospital. Kelly and husband Brian welcomed son Evan Robert in October 2004

A registered nurse at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, **Jessica Barnett Taberski** and her husband, Bryan, welcomed twin boys, Mason and Parker, in March of 2005.

Molly McVoy is now Dr. Molly McVoy at the University Hospitals of Cleveland, Ohio. She earned her M.D. from the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine. Sarah Merrick Granger is a registered nurse for the County of Los Angeles and is married to James Edward. Jillian Fenske Boerstler is a purchasing buyer for the Sisters of St. Francis Health Services in Mishawaka, Ind. Jill and her husband, Stephen, live in South Bend. Martha Hartwich is a registered nurse at Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital. Martha wrote, "After graduating, I stayed at Saint Mary's College for another year and completed the accelerated nursing program. Following this, I moved to San Diego and worked as a registered nurse on a post-surgical/ medical unit for a few years. Currently, I work on the intensive care unit of a psychiatric hospital here. San Diego has proven a great city to pursue my musical interests. I sang in a symphony chorus for a few years and, last year, I gave a classical piano recital. My latest endeavor is piecing together an acoustic rock band and co-hosting an open mic in downtown San Diego!"

Julia Scheib Martin, a social studies teacher at South Fayette Township High School, is currently enrolled in a master's of school counseling program at Duguesne University. She and husband Scott live in Bridgeville, Pa. Rachel Windler Gordon is a teacher for Knox County Schools in Knoxville, Tenn. She earned her master's of education from the University of Tennessee and is married to Jason. Asha Mukerjee Ruiz is a fourthgrade teacher for the Lakota School District in West Chester, Ohio, where she lives with her husband, Kevin. In 2005, Asha earned her master's of education degree at Miami University. Brigid Phelan teaches elementary school at Our Lady of Victory in the Archdiocese of Washington and lives in Gaithersburg, Md. This fall, Brigid also began her master's in education. Cristine Renner Traugott is a fifth-grade teacher at Valley Elementary School and lives in Frederick, Md., with husband Ken.

In baby news, we are happy to report that after a premature birth on Feb. 1, 2006, Madelyn Therese Schroeder, daughter of **Katherine Keller Schroeder** and husband Jeff, is home and doing perfectly! She arrived two months early and had to spend 56 days in the NICU in Plano, Texas. Katie has decided to take a break from teaching to stay home with Madelyn. **Rebecca Stephens Pavich**, a teacher in Highland, Ind., is married to Chad. In October 2004, they welcomed their first daughter, Katelyn Elise Pavich.

From Alyson: Greetings, 2001 Belles! Hope everyone enjoyed reunion. Sadly, I missed it, but here is the latest news from our class: Crystal Aguilar-McMillan wrote. "I've been living and working in Lubbock, Texas, for about three and a half years. I recently received my master's degree in pedagogical theories and performance aesthetics from Texas Tech University. I work for Literacy Lubbock as a resource and office manager; my other job is as a dance teacher for ballet, tap, jazz, ballroom, Latin, belly dance, and flamenco." Julia Peterson Hannan also checked in: "I was married to Philip on Nov. 25, 2005. Philip

is a native Irishman but lives in Lexington, Ky. We were married in Maynooth, Ireland, and several Belles were in attendance. We also had another monumental occasion on March 25, 2005, when our son, Aidan Louis Hannan, was born. I changed jobs in March 2006 to be an accounting manager for a hotel chain called Home-Towne Suites and a lodging broker called Creative Lodging Solutions." And Shelly Ambroziak is working as a home-based social worker and counselor in South Bend while pursuing her master's in social work at I.U.S.B.

A huge update from Molly Gast Holzrichter: "Maha Zayed is entering her final year at N.I.U. for her doctorate in clinical psychology. Jen Bradburn has been living in San Francisco for the past year with her job at Google. She has been with them for the past four years and was recently promoted to agency relations specialist. Desiree Hollis is living in Los Angeles and works for EMC. Marcie Livesay bought a condo in Chicago and owns her own business called Chicago Urban Tails. Marcie started the pet care business to make some money while attending grad school at Lovola for social work. The business became so successful that she now has four managers and over 25 dog walkers. Melissa Pennington lived in Waukegan, Wis., after graduation but got a job with Abbot and moved to Sheboygan. She was promoted last month and moved to Kenosha, where she just bought her first home. For my own news: I moved to Milwaukee after graduation, worked for Milwaukee Public Schools, and married Rob in 2003. We welcomed our baby girl, McKenna, in 2005. Then, last summer, we bought a house in Kohler, Wis. We love the small-town atmosphere."

In wedding news, **Kristin Wolfe Theisen** wrote, "I was married on May 13 to Nicholas in St. Petersburg, Fla. The traditional Catholic ceremony was held at the beautiful, old St. Mary Our Lady of Grace Church, and the wine-inspired reception was held at a nearby yacht

#### **Getting Married? Expecting?**



We'd like to help you celebrate, but we can't print news about future weddings or babies.

When your plans become reality, please let your class reporter or the *Courier* office know, and we'll gladly print your news after the fact.



club in celebration of our honeymoon in California's Central Coast wine country.' Lauren Oppolo Bukovac added, "I was married on April 22, 2006, to David. We are living and working in Chicago." Annie Rolfes Atkinson shared, "I married Aaron, from Phoenix, Ariz., on Sept. 2, 2006, in my hometown of Clinton, lowa. After honeymooning in Aruba, Aaron and I settled into a house in central Phoenix." Erin Martin Williams was also married-on July 8 to Hunter. They just moved into their house in Oswego, III., where Erin is currently a second-grade teacher. And lastly, Laura Brennan Schlidt wrote that she married Thomas ND '97 in August. She has also finished her master's program at Loyola University Chicago and is currently teaching sixth- grade reading and language arts at Mannheim Middle School in Melrose Park, III. Congrats to all!

In baby news, Katie Willkom Stopczynski wrote with blessed news, "On Dec. 28, 2005, John and I had a beautiful baby girl, Madilyn Patricia (Madie for short). We are still living in Brentwood, Calif., but hope to return back to the Midwest in the next five years." Kate Middlemas Kessler wrote, "My news is the birth of my second son, Anderson James Kessler (AJ), on July 17, 2006. He was a whopping 9 lbs., 4 oz., and we're all doing great with our family of four!" And Machala Keenan Beam said, "Things are going very well for my family in Colorado Springs. Our son, James Harrison Beam, was born May 19. I am now staying at home full time to be with him and am enjoying every minute of it." Amie Zache Kinkade wrote, "Taylor Rose was born April 18, 2005, and is now the third little blessing to join the Kinkade clan. I am so excited to have my first possible Saint Mary's College grad!" Missy Bittner Sharpe added, "On Nov. 7, 2005, we welcomed Elle Marie Sharpe into the world."

Mariecruz Segura-Perez wrote to share that she and her husband have a home in East Chicago. Jami Newcomb wrote, "I am finishing up my three-year grad program in speech-language pathology at the University of Wisconsin at Madison this year. I've already taken a job in the Philly area working with bilingual elementary children for the 2007-08 academic year." Nina Riconosciuto wrote, "I am working as a study coordinator for a research company. We run pharmaceutical trials for different psychotropic medications. I am enjoying my first nursing job that involves typical 9-5 hours. I'm also getting ready to run my second marathon this fall." Also in Chicago, Kate Nolan wrote, "I am now a spin instructor at the second largest health club in Chicago. It is only a side job right now, but it is something that I am actually passionate about. Jeanne Tierney has just been hired as curriculum director at St. Clement's in Chicago. She is very excited about this position and is looking forward to the new school year." And **Tara Butz** wrote, "I graduated from Saint Xavier's University with my master's this past May. I am getting ready to teach second grade again this fall in Barrington."

Beth Castricone added that she graduated from Simmons College with an M.B.A. on Aug 4. Kathy Giel wrote, "I recently made a job transition and am working as a reading coach for grades K-3 at Hickory Bend School in Glenwood, III. I am still living in Lincoln Park." And Brigid Phelan wrote, "I have switched jobs from teaching third grade to teaching fourth grade in Washington, D.C. I have found a wonderful school that will pay for my full master's, so I will be starting that in the fall." Kara Kezios also wrote with changes, "After two years in New York City working at Showtime Networks, I moved to St. Louis to attend law school at Saint Louis University. I was welcomed by Cindy Traub, who finished her Ph.D. at Washington University and was packing for her move to Maryland to teach at another St. Mary's!" And Maren **Ammerman** has moved to Greensboro, N.C., to be the assistant buyer to the specialty foods buyer at The Fresh Market. Angela Finke Pingel has also relocated to New Orleans. And Andrea **Herek Wetters** provided this update, "Christine Diana finished up her master's degree from the University of Michigan in the spring of 2006. Kelly Sterritt Clancy welcomed a beautiful baby boy, William Thomas Clancy IV, in March of 2006. And, I married Keith in my hometown of Bay City, Mich., in July 2006.'

Melissa Wheeler wrote, "Jeremy and I are moving to Chicago this October! He got a post-doc position at the University of Chicago and is starting this fall. I will be ending my career as a forensic drug chemist and entering another world of drugs-pharmacy! I am applying to enter pharmacy school for fall 2007." Amanda DeMeester wrote, "I had a busy but thrilling summer producing fundraisers in East Hampton, Fire Island, and throughout New York City. In my 'spare time' this summer, I also produced a benefit for a nonprofit theatre company that had a show in the Fringe Festival." And Christine Draper added, "I am still a realtor in Tucson but have recently found a passion for group fitness. I have worked to become a certified Les Mills group fitness instructor and am beginning to look into pursuing a graduate program in physical therapy—quite a change from selling houses!" Crissie Renner Traugott added, "My husband, Ken, and I are enjoying life in Maryland! I continue to teach fifth grade and am anxiously preparing for our upcoming school year. Colleen McCarthy recently resigned her position for the Democratic Leadership Council and has signed on to Governor Bill Richardson's '08 presidential campaign. She's traveling quite a bit, but we always manage to catch up when she's in town.' And Amy Mastagh received her master's in social work from I.U. in May 2004 and has been working for the Social Security Administration. She is very dedicated to her position and says that her goal is to work in the fields of policy and research for the agency. Rose Lutzka signed up for the Army Reserves in December 2004, and after basic training and advanced training, she returned home to Illinois. She plans to attend the Saint Mary's College accelerated nursing program as an Army R.O.T.C. cadet.

And finally, I have relocated to Portland, Ore., after finishing my master's in school counseling at William and Mary. I have accepted a position at Wilsonville High School and am excited about the upcoming school year. I hope that you all are doing well, and until next time, my heet

From the Courier Office: Betsie Sprague Monico was married to Chris on June 24, 2006, in Kalamazoo, Mich. Saint Mary's College bridesmaids were KrisAnne Wilson, Stephanie Kretschmer, Pam Willbrandt Crocker, Melissa Pauwels '02, and Shannon Buchmann. Also in attendance were Kelly Walsh, Maarin Erbacher, and JudeAnne Wilson '96. Betsie left PricewaterhouseCoopers in January and now works at ADESA, Inc. in Indianapolis as a tax consultant.

#### **'03**

**Amanda Sula Goman** 26B Rolling Oaks Road Sugar Grove, IL 60554

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#### **Amy Greene**

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#### Meganne Hoffman

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From Amanda: I hope everyone is well. Remember to e-mail the class reporters at smcbelles2003@yahoo.com. Unfortunately, some of your e-mails sent to this address may have been deleted as a result of a technical difficulty. The problem is now resolved. If something you sent to us is not in this issue, please e-mail us again. I need your updates by Feb. 24 for the Summer 2007 issue. We also need current addresses. Here is the latest news:

**Melanie Burke** received her M.A. in the teaching of literature and writing from George Mason University on May 18, 2006. She is now teaching English writing at Northern Virginia Community College.

Meghan McGinty Anderson and her husband, Ben ND '03, welcomed their first son into the world on May 1, 2006. His name is Luke Matthew. Erin McGinty '04 is the godmother. Meghan is living in Jacksonville, Fla., where Ben is a Navy pilot, and she continues to work as a family nurse practitioner. Nicole Strzyzykowski Mills has two children, Chloe, 3, and Bradley, 1. Nicole continues to teach after a year off to be with her kids. Nicole's husband, Daniel, is in the Army and has returned from Iraq after spending a year in Baghdad.

Becca Fama Giffin married Derek on May 27, 2006, in Hobart, Ind. Her bridesmaids included Amber Swiat, Martha Thieneman, Lauren Brown, and Elizabeth Rosswurm Lecher. Becca and her husband are living in Portage, Mich. Elizabeth Lecher married Scott on June 24, 2006, in Indianapolis, Ind. Erika Brito was a bridesmaid. Saint Mary's College graduates in attendance included Emma Melero Juarez, Amanda Grashoff Keister, Lauren Brown, Amber Swiat, Becca Fama Giffin, Amanda Sula Goman, and Katie Bacone. Katie is now a core artist for the Motus Dance Theatre in Indianapolis, Ind.

Mackenzie McGee Stark married Joe ND '00 on Sept 2. 2006, in Peoria, Ill. Saint Mary's College bridesmaids included Leslie Kleczek and Caitlin McGee '08. Other Saint Mary's College graduates in attendance were Katie Vincer, Erin Moran, Katy Best, Nicole Ciminillo, Julie Stowers Bohl '00, and Meagan Walerko '08. Mackenzie is taking a year off from medical school to do research at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn. Next year, she will return to Chicago to finish medical school.

Adrienne DeGraff Westlake moved to San Antonio, Texas, in July 2006. Reba Koehler Maschmeyer is working as an applied behavior analysis therapist with preschoolers with autism. She is enjoying living in St. Louis with her puppy, Kucha. Reba's husband, John ND '03, is an embedded software engineer for Boeing. Rebekah Hauch Gano is living west of the suburbs of Philadelphia, Pa. Her husband, Shawn, got a job there after completing his Ph.D. at Notre Dame. Rebekah is a teacher and assistant director at Sylvan Learning Center. She also teaches special classes and leads field trips at a local nature center during the school year, which she says is a blast!

Lisa Hudes spent three weeks in Malawi, Africa, in July 2006 and had the best time! Lisa wrote in about how she spent her time teaching literacy to a Standard 7 class, painting blackboards, building a library in one of the primary schools, and falling in love with the children. She has one more year in her master's program for school counseling. Lisa also wrote in to tell us about two alumnae. Tita Moreno recently moved to New Jersey for her job. So far, she

### Alumnae class news

is enjoying the northeast and loves the easy access to the city. **Marnie McKee Kuhn** is living in Madison, Wis., with her husband, Pete.

Last summer, **Kristen Mowry Janiczek** moved from Chicago, III., to Grand Haven, Mich. Kristen and her husband, Randall ND '02, bought their first house after Kristen transferred with her company, BDO Seidman, LLP, to their Grand Rapids office. BDO Seidman is the fifth largest accounting firm in the world; Kristen works in their internal learning and professional development department as a learning program developer/designer and coordinator. She misses Chicago but is very happy to be back in her home state!

In my own news, I began a new teaching position in August 2006 as a K-5 bilingual and English-as-a-Second-Language teacher at Gombert Elementary School in Aurora, III.

Ladies, send us your updates! We know many of you still need to write in about life since Saint Mary's College.

From Amy: Wedding bells have been ringing for numerous members of the Class of '03! Jill Maxbauer Niemi was married to Sam on Feb. 25, 2006. She writes, "We had a large wedding planned for Labor Day Weekend but decided we couldn't wait to get married! So we talked to our priest, and he agreed to marry us before Lent. We had our immediate family there—14 people in total. It was an intimate and romantic ceremony, with my sisters, Lisa Maxbauer Price '99 and Kathleen Maxbauer McNulty '97, as bridesmaids." Jill and Sam are living in Traverse City. Jill has been hired as the enrollment coordinator for the Interlochen Center for the Arts, and Sam is an accountant. The couple has two dogs named Bogart and Seamus. Jill notified Marnie Kuhn, Meghan McArdle, and Rebekah Solmos Love '04 of her marriage. In case anyone else would like to congratulate Jill, her e-mail is jmaxbauer@yahoo.com.

Kris Robinson Paluszkiewicz wed Mike on July 2, 2006. Melissa Bulak Marscin was her maid of honor. Attendants included Christine Maurhoff and Sarah Rykowski. Kris and Mike are residing in Peoria, Ill. Kris also informed me that Christine is attending graduate school in England and that Melissa married Eric Marscin on April 22, 2006, in Palatine, Ill. Kris was a bridesmaid in the wedding. Melissa and Eric are living in Elgin, Ill., and are rumored to have honeymooned in Paris!

Amy Baum Purshotam graduated from the University of Southern California with a master's in social work in May 2005. She married Jatin on Sept. 10, 2005, in Lake Arrowhead, Calif. Alisha Keller was her maid of honor. Amy and her husband are residing in Irvine, Calif., with their dog, Parker. Amy is working as a child/adolescent therapist for Western

Youth Services.

Renee Donovan Genetti and her husband, Michael ND '01, are moving to London this winter. Michael is in charge of opening several new offices for his company in the U.K. Renee plans on attending classes at Cambridge in the field of medieval literature.

Candi McElligott writes that she has been working with The Horton Group, an insurance, risk management, and employee benefits broker in Orland Park, Ill., for a little over a year now. This past summer she was promoted to director of office services and public relations for all four United States locations.

**Deanne Czajkowski** is working full time at a public accounting firm in downtown Chicago and is also pursuing an M.B.A. in the evenings at Loyola University Chicago. In her little free time, Deanne and her fiancé have found time to train for the Chicago marathon. Deanne is a charity runner through The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

Lauren Dasso is also working in Chicago. She attended numerous Notre Dame football games this past fall and enjoyed meeting up and tailgating with her Saint Mary's College and Notre Dame friends.

Stephanie Redwanski Belschner recently started teaching two fundamentals of communication classes at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne and two interpersonal communication classes at lvy Tech. She is also working part-time as a makeup artist for MAC cosmetics! Stephanie says she absolutely loves all of her jobs.

Katie McVoy graduated from Notre Dame Law School this spring. She is clerking for a federal judge in Pittsburgh and trying her best to live as a Cleveland Browns fan in Steelers country.

Adrienne Dorbish also graduated from law school this past spring. She is working at the firm of Agee, Clymer, Mitchell & Laret in Columbus, Ohio.

In my own news, I am finishing my last year of law school in Toledo, Ohio, and am doing lots of traveling before my student lifestyle ends.

Stay in touch, ladies! We love hearing from you!

From Meganne: Greetings, 2003 Belles! I hope this *Courier* edition finds everyone in good health and in good spirits.

Susan Kutz is currently living in Fort Lewis, Wash., working for the Army as a first lieutenant and a medical platoon leader. During 2005, she was deployed to Kuwait on a mission to transport any and all patients in Kuwait. All members of her unit made it back home to the U.S.A. safely.

I had the great joy of reuniting with **Meghann Robinson** in Rome this spring when she was visiting her sister, **Sarah Robinson '08**, who was studying abroad with the Rome Program. Meghann

graduated from the ACE program last summer and then decided to stay in Nashville for a few more years, teaching middle-school math and language arts at her ACE school. This past summer, Meghann interned on the Notre Dame campus in liturgical music with Campus Ministry.

Tami Miller is working in Orlando and is still in the merchandise management pool for Disney. She has been working as a temporary program coordinator for the Disney Institute since the beginning of the year. She assists the Disney Institute to ensure that all traveling business programs run smoothly. She gets out of the office every once in a while by helping out the special events and media team at the Magic Kingdom and by facilitating some of the YES programs.

Lauren Hofer is in her second year at the Harrison School of Pharmacy at Auburn University in Alabama. She writes that she enjoys War Eagle football but not as much as Notre Dame football.

Jena Morreale graduated from Columbia University in February 2006 with a master's degree in occupational therapy. After passing her boards, she started work at New York-Presbyterian Hospital-Cornell Medical Center as an acute/ICU therapist. Jena has also moved into a new apartment and saw Val Gillis in July at Val's family reunion on Long Island. She sees Karen Fink and Erin Woloshansky-Colburn often in the city.

Mary Ellen Brown has begun a new position as the scheduler/protocol coordinator for Secretary Chertoff at the Department of Homeland Security on July 24. She reports, "It has been a CRAZY three weeks due to the recent events in London, but I'm absolutely loving my job! VERY long hours but wonderful co-workers, so it makes it worth it!"

Marianne Jennings is in graduate school earning her master's in curriculum and instruction through Concordia University in Chicago. She is still teaching third grade at Faith Hope and Charity in Winnetka. Marianne just returned from a trip to Europe, where she had a wonderful time.

Marianne has met up with a couple of SMChicks over the past few months. She writes, "Kerry O'Reilly and I went to visit Tina Reitano in Pittsburgh. We toured the city, including going on a 'Ducky' Tour. It was one of those truck/boat things! We had a fabulous time! Kerry O'Reilly, Amy Virzi, Suzie Dolembo, Tina Reitano, and I also had dinner in Chicago one night while Tina was in town for business. Kerry has moved back to Elmhurst, where she is working as a school speech therapist. She graduated from Marquette in May."

Suzie Dolembo, **Linda Padilla**, Linda's son, Jeremiah, and Marianne met at Lighthouse Outlets in Michigan City to do some back-to-school shopping and catching up. Suzie is teaching high school math in South Bend, while Linda

## Instructors Needed for Saint Mary's Summer Camps

Do you have a background in music or art? Have you been looking for a reason to come back to campus? Here's a chance to share your love for Saint Mary's College with potential students! The 2007 Saint Mary's Fine Arts Camp currently has positions open for instructors in both music and art. The 2007 Summer Academy has an art position available. To be considered for the positions, please send a resume and cover letter to:

Lisa Reed Peppers '87 Office of Special Events Saint Mary's College Notre Dame, IN 46556 (574) 284-4711 lpeppers@saintmarys.edu www.saintmarys.edu/~camps

is teaching at an elementary school in Hammond, Ind.

Heather Muth graduated from Second City Productions in Chicago and is looking forward to pursuing more career opportunities in the film industry. Erin Schultz is traveling around the country with Child's Play Theatre, which is based in Chicago. Erin just recently returned from a two-month performing stint, traveling from lowa to New York.

Corrine Negrelli has made the move to Chicago to live with Amy Wall after finishing her master's of fine arts in fashion from the Savannah College of Art and Design. Bridget Myers went down to Savannah to visit Corrine at the end of August, before Corrine moved to the Windy City.

Becca Stumpf received her master's degree in photojournalism from the University of Montana in Missoula and was interning at the Billings Gazette. This fall, Becca returned to Missoula to do freelance work and to photograph weddings on the side. She recently accepted a position at a newspaper in Hamilton, Mont., just south of Missoula, as a photojournalist.

Jen Lombard Kibbon has received her M.S. in finance from St. Xavier University in May 2006. On Sept. 23, 2006, she married Lucas in Palos Heights, III. They are currently in the process of building their first home together in Tinley Park, III. Jen is employed by Thomson Quantitative Analytics, where there is a small group of Belles in the office, including Mary Ann Wisniewski '01 and Teresa Healy Hopper '05.

Maria Conticelli continues to live and act in Chicago. She recently performed in "The Grotesque History of Marie Antoinette" at the Athenaeum Theatre and anxiously awaits her next show. Meanwhile, she is waitressing at Uncle Julio's Hacienda.

Caitlin Duffey Abramson married Brian on July 29, 2006, in Philadelphia at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul. Attendants included: Dorothy Carder, Kris Payovich Cornell, Nicole Gorowski, and Nellie Williams Gould. Caitlin has finished her Teach for America commitment and is entering her fourth year of teaching first grade in North Philadelphia. Caitlin and Kevin also bought their first home last April.

**Kelly Long** started her I.M.B.A. this past fall at the University of Denver.

Katy Best is living in Peoria, III., and working as a polysomnographic technologist, running sleep studies at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center. Katie reports, "It has been interesting to learn something completely new, and it also is a rewarding challenge. I was recently at Saint Mary's College for Erin Hurtle Brandes's wedding. She married Brad, and they currently live in South Bend. Casey Mahoney '04 was also a bridesmaid. Kara Beck, Amy Wall, and Sara Bishop were in attendance. We had a great time. Kara, Erin, and I even made a special trip to a local tattoo parlor to commemorate our time at Saint Mary's College."

Lauren Smith started law school in August at the Cleveland-Marshall School of Law in Cleveland. Lauren also updated us on several Belles: "Mary Dugan is finishing up her second year of medical school and will be starting her clinicals soon. Heather Goodrich Schrider and her husband, Scott, have one more year left living in Bude, England. Heather has been taking business classes, and she and Scott have been able to see a lot of Europe, recently taking a trip through Scandinavia and Russia."

Jessica Saxton Fraser graduated from Ball State with a master's in political science in May 2006. She is a research analyst for a labor union in Indianapolis. Jessica was married to Michael on May 20, 2006. Brianne Feeks Willett was her matron of honor; Nora Janisch was a bridesmaid.

**Erin Moran** is in her fourth year of medical school in Indianapolis and is applying for her pediatric residency in the Midwest. Good luck, Erin!

In my own news, I have had the pleasure of reuniting with many Belles in the past year as a result of working in Rome with Saint Mary's College.

Meghann Robinson and Regina
Andaloro came to Rome to visit their sisters, who were studying on the Program. I often see Teri Neer and also celebrated the Italian World Cup win with Jessica Sloan '05, who was finishing up her master's dissertation in Rome this past summer. I also had dinner at the apartment of Erin Krombach '05 and Lora Wilcomb '05, who have moved to Rome to teach English.

I spent the summer tutoring two Italian children and helping them with their English. We lived on a beach south of Rome for five weeks and then spent two weeks in the Italian Dolomites, even picnicking for a day in Austria. I have done lots of traveling this year, including a 4,000-mile road trip to Wyoming—crossing nine states and three time zones.

Please continue to send in your updates. What a joy it is hear from everyone! Happy Holidays to you and your family.

From the Courier Office: Amber Taylor O'Rourke married Howard ND '02 on May 6, 2006, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Sarah Stalter '04 was maid of honor. On May 21, Amber and Howie relocated to Pittsburgh, Pa., so that Howie can complete his medical residency in radiology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Amber can be reached via e-mail at amber SMC@gmail.com.

#### '05

#### Meghan Scallen

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I hope everyone had a fabulous summer! Thank you all for your updates. Please remember to e-mail me with any changes in contact information so that we can stay in touch. I have a lot of bad e-mails on my list, and I want to be sure everyone has the opportunity to submit their news! The next deadline is Feb. 22, 2007. Now, let's read about what everyone has been up to:

Stefanie Simmerman has moved to Orange County, Calif., to work as a marketing analyst for Corinthian Colleges, Inc. April Thomas is currently working for a trading software company in Chicago and attending grad school at DePaul University to earn her master's in writing. Stephanie Grammens is living in Chicago and working for Reed Business Information as a Web manager for two engineering magazines.

Kate Lauer has just finished the accelerated nursing program at our very own Saint Mary's College and is moving to Arizona in September. She will be working in the pediatrics intensive care unit at St. Joseph's Hospital in Phoenix. Kendall Krische moved back to California recently and is working as the preschool director/teacher at Holy Trinity School in San Pedro, Calif.

Karen Godfrey is starting her second year of teaching third grade at Saint Francis Xavier School in Wilmette, Ill. She will begin her master's in reading this fall at Loyola University through their reading specialist certification program. Karen reports that Lucy Andaloro will be teaching second grade at Saint Francis Xavier School as well this fall.

Katie Zientara is living in Chicago with Shannon Radecki '04. Katie was working at Rush University Medical Center as a registered nurse in the CCU/CSU. She expected to begin graduate school for her acute care nurse practitioner degree in the fall. In September 2005 Catherine Tindall Mott was hired as director for the Nuveen Community Center for the Arts in Montague, Mich. She married Jared on Dec. 10, 2005. Natalie Zettler, Christina Dunham, and Jennifer Stark were all in the bridal party.

Erin Korreck is living in Silver Lake, Ind., and working as a child and adolescent case manager. She is also working toward her master's in sociological practice from Indiana University in Fort Wayne. Andrea Nichols is moving to Ireland to begin her master's in world heritage management with the United Nations at University College, Dublin.

Cynthia Rodriguez is still in New Orleans hoping to survive this fall's hurricane season in one piece. She is working on a dual master's in social work and public health at Tulane University. Cynthia is currently interning for Catholic Charities, where she runs a transitional prison program while also doing some clinical work.

Annemarie Kennedy is working in the sales and catering department at the Boston Harbor Hotel and is moving into her new apartment in South Boston in September. Becky Bosack, Emily Sterritt Johnson, Karen Godfrey, Deirdre Mangan, Lauren Connolly, and Carolyn Gass all went out to visit her for a mini Saint Mary's College reunion in August. They also met up with Natalie Zettler Leisinger and Molly Welton for a night out in the city. Annemarie reports that Natalie and Kate Brand are often in Boston, though Kate moved back to Chicago in August.

Molly Welton graduated at the end of July from Villanova University with her master's in accounting. She is back to work full-time for Ernst & Young in the core assurance practice. Additionally, she moved to a brand new condo in West Chester, Pa. Pamela Kane currently works in the operating room at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, Ill., on the cardiovascular/thoracic team. She will be starting graduate school at Rush University this fall.

Sarah Harward has moved from Colorado to Ocala, Fla., to take a job teaching religion at Trinity Catholic High School. Michelle Eggers started a new job three months ago handling all the marketing and business development for a Bay Area architecture firm. She and her fiancé, Chris, recently ran a half marathon through Napa and are now busy looking at condos in San Francisco. In July, Nina Helmen finished her Fulbright teaching assistantship in Germany. She has moved

to Washington, D.C., and is working for a diamond importer in the city.

Mary Pauline Moran is currently working for Johnson & Johnson Consumer Products with a rotation on the Wal-Mart account in Bentonville, Ark. Mary Pauline reports that Mary Kathryn Homer is starting a master's program in creative writing at Chatham College in Pittsburgh. Gina Skubick just graduated with her master's degree in organic chemistry from the University of California, San Diego.

Romona C. Parks is one of Saint Mary's College's newest admission counselors. She is looking forward to her new career. Romona reports that Dana Carr has recently accepted the position of coordinator of the intercultural living program/floor for the College's Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership. Sheila Egts is moving to Greenville, S.C., where her fiancé is working as an engineer for General Electric. Sheila plans to begin her job search after the big move.

Megan Thompson has entered her second year of teaching fourth grade at St. Anthony School in Clarksville, Ind. Sarah Brown is currently in her second year of law school at the Washington College of Law at American University in Washington, D.C. She is keeping herself busy as the president of the Women's Law Association and as a member of the Administrative Law Review. This summer, Sarah was able to go on a mini-reunion to Gulf Shores, Ala., with Mary Holland, Lindsay Downs, Theresa Mills, Katie Press, Molly Ritter '06, and Sarah Vabulas '06.

From January through May this year, Michelle Stanforth went on deployment in the Philippines with the Navy on the destroyer U.S.S. Chung-Hoon for Operation Enduring Freedom Philippines. During deployment, she was able to visit ports in Malaysia, Guam, Saipan, American Samoa, Kingdom of Tonga, Vanuatu, and Australia. Michelle is still stationed in Pearl Harbor and is the antisubmarine warfare officer onboard her ship. In August, she earned her Surface Warfare Officer Pin qualification. Michelle has also been traveling the United States while attending several schools all over the country, including ones in Newport, R.I., Seattle, Wash., and San Diego, Calif.

From the Courier Office: Elia Sanchez sent the following update: "As some of you may have heard, I am in a new position at the Elkhart prosecutor's office. I am very excited about my position here. I am coordinating a program called the FACT program. FACT stands for Fatal Alcohol Crash Team. The goals of the program are to investigate fatal and serious bodily injury crashes, including hit-and-run crashes throughout Elkhart County. Part of my job will be to assist in preparing cases for review and prosecution by the OWI fatality prosecutor in Elkhart County. Excellent preparation for law school!"

The Saint Mary's Women's Choir:

## A Mosaic of





Joe Raymon

## Poice

By Scot Erin Briggs

he Saint Mary's Women's Choir gives students something to sing about. Forty women, from all disciplines, rehearse four hours every week to make the choir's performances, both on campus and on national tours, spectacular and moving.

The Women's Choir's extensive repertoire spans from Baroque to contemporary. Bach and Schubert are performed alongside modern composers like Gwyneth Walker and Paul Carey. This breadth is the work of Professor Nancy Menk, who directs the choir and also commissions new works written specifically for women's voices. Menk has taken the choir to Carnegie Hall, and on national tours. She pairs the choir regularly with its sister group, the Saint Mary's Collegiate Choir, and with the Notre Dame Glee Club and the South Bend Symphony Orchestra. "I think in the 23 years I've been here, I have the best choir I've ever had right now," said Menk. "I don't know why, but it just keeps getting better."

Sara Sult '07, a biology major from Fort Wayne, Ind., and Lauren Knisley '07, a nursing major from Toledo, Ohio, have been singing with the choir since their first year at Saint Mary's. Both women say that singing in the Women's Choir has been an experience that rounded out their education and broadened their horizons.

"It's such an interesting environment," said Sult. "Not everyone's a music major, but we all have one thing in common: our love for music." For Sult, "It's that happy break, that one and a half hour every day where I can get away from anatomy."

When she's not wearing her long black choir gown, you'll likely find Sult in waders collecting specimens. For her senior comprehensive project, Sult is working on a survey of algae in Lake Marion and has identified ten species not previously found in the lake. "It's something that challenges me, that's why I'm doing it," said Sult about her major.

Her interests, varied as they are, seem to find a happy balance in combination. Sult said she listens to music all the time, and said she loves jazz. "I can only study to instrumental jazz though. Otherwise, I sing along."

The Women's Choir experience inspired Sult to audition and be selected for an elite chamber choir while participating in the College's study abroad program in Maynooth, Ireland. The choir performed for President Mary McAleese, and was named the best college choir in Ireland. "It was such a multicultural group, but again, we had music in common." So much so, that they still correspond with one another.

Sult, who attended public coed schools before Saint Mary's, credits her comfort in pursuing her passions partly with attending an all-women's college. "You feel less competition. This is such an encouraging environment. It's very liberating."

Sarah Sult '07 and Lauren Knisley '07, members of the Saint Mary's Women's Choir

"I think in the 23 years I've been here, I have the best choir I've ever had right now," said Menk. "I don't know why, but it just keeps getting better."

That resonates with Lauren Knisley. "Here at Saint Mary's there's a level of maturity. There is such diversity in terms of where people are coming from and their life experiences. All-women is the way to go."

Knisley said when she auditioned for the Women's Choir her first year, she was surprised to be selected. Now that she's in the middle of her clinical work in the nursing program, Knisley describes choir practice as "a therapeutic leisure activity—it's incredibly peaceful for me."

After graduation Knisley plans to specialize in pediatric oncology. "I've always loved kids," said Knisley. "Nursing 101 opened my eyes to so much. I can't imagine doing anything else."

"Traveling is one of the most amazing advantages of being in the choir," said Knisley. "Freshman year we went to DC, sophomore year to Los Angeles—I had never been past Wisconsin. Last year, we went to Carnegie Hall in New York City. It was one of the best experiences of my life. This spring we're going to Texas. I love traveling."

That wanderlust has piqued Knisley's interest in travel nursing, which she plans to pursue after graduation. "I want to see everything."

For now, Knisley seems content to be active in everything. She participated in student government for three years,



The Saint Mary's College Department of Music presented its 34th annual Madrigal Christmas Dinners, Renaissance-style holiday feasts and performances, in December.

volunteered with "Take Ten," a program that promotes nonviolence, worked as a camp counselor and a fundraiser for families and kids affected by cancer, and currently teaches health education to children in the community as part of work with the nursing program.

For Knisley, the Women's Choir has been an important piece of her education. "Everything I have done at Saint Mary's has put the puzzle together," said Knisley. "When I get out there, I'm going to be ready. I'll be a whole person."

Scot Erin Briggs is editor of Courier.

Inside the Classroom:

## Communication and Performance Studies

## Who am I? New Answers to Enduring Questions

Shakespeare said that all the world's a stage, and Performance Studies 190 students find out that each of them plays not one but many roles on that stage. Assistant Professor Shannon Rose Riley says she begins her class by introducing students to Erving Goffman's theory that we are all social actors and how we act is determined in part by the stage we're on.

At first, Riley says, students resist the idea that their identity is not constant. "They say, 'no, this is my true self,'" says Riley. So, Riley asks them if they are the same person with their parents, friends, and boyfriend.

"I want students to see how fluid identity is depending on the context it's performed in," Riley says. Why? "Within the possibility of performance-creating-identity is the possibility to perform it in a different way," she says.

In addition to challenging students to think in new ways about their own identity, Riley also wants them to think about the interplay between culture and identity. She draws on a wide variety of source materials to help her students explore this connection, from Iranian Weblogs to a new medium that looks at racial violence in Los Angeles. To say that Riley takes an interdisciplinary approach would be an understatement.

One article on the course reading list is "Performance in Everyday Life and the Rediscovery of the 'Self' in Iranian Weblogs," published in an online Iranian feminist newsletter. The article discusses Weblogs as a "backstage" in a fundamentalist society that radically restricts personal freedom in public.

Protected by the anonymity available in the Weblogs, Iranian women reveal a very different aspect of themselves in their blogs, shoring up the theory that identity is not a constant.

Riley's course also examines the racial and ethnic differences revealed in Anna Deavere Smith's play *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*, a work that has been characterized as "documentary theater." The play dramatizes the racial violence that ensued after the Rodney King affair by using the actual words of people who experienced it.

Riley's course culminates with a performance-asresearch project, an opportunity to use performance as a way of gathering information. This fall, for instance, a student project



consisted of enacting a mock election where one audience member was not allowed to vote.

"They didn't just talk about leaving someone out, but rather they demonstrated it," says Riley. "People got to experience what that felt like in their bodies." Riley says this experience can transform intellectual theory into what she calls "embodied knowledge."

"With performance-as-research, students are using performance to approach the theories they've been reading about," Riley says.

Riley is a fellow of the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership (CWIL), with a joint, one-year appointment in the newly restructured Department of Communication and Performance Studies and the Intercultural Studies Program at Saint Mary's. This fall, Performance Studies 190 was cross-listed so students could earn credit in either program.

Playwright and performance artist Anna Deavere Smith pioneered a genre called "documentary theatre" that blends theatrical arts, social commentary, and personal testimonies. She will speak at Saint Mary's on January 26, a visit made possible by the Margaret M. Hill '61 Endowed Chair in Theatre.

The second in a six-part series on Saint Mary's nationally accredited programs

## Where the Music Takes Them

By Elizabeth Station



Music majors Crystal Buck '08 (left) and McKayela Collins '08.

"Our music program is so incredibly thorough," says Crystal Buck '08, a vocal performance major who transferred to Saint Mary's from a music conservatory at a large public university.

"Since there are fewer students and the professors know you personally, they know what you can achieve, and they push you to do that."

There's the mandatory entrance audition, the weekly recital forum, and the requirement of basic piano proficiency. There's a conducting class where they learn to lead a choir by

practicing on an ensemble of their peers. There's the senior comprehensive, where they dissect and perform musical works for a supportive, but demanding, audience. There are the theory and composition courses that require brains, technological savvy, and talent.

# Both professors and students say the environment is uniquely supportive. "We're really blessed here," says Buck. "Because the faculty isn't competitive, the students aren't competitive, and everyone is encouraging to one another."

And for those who want it, there is singing—wonderful singing—in many languages.

The Saint Mary's music department is small, with just 23 students pursuing the major. Five full-time faculty members and a large cadre of adjunct instructors teach everything from stagecraft to orchestration to music education. Accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, the program offers a bachelor of arts in music or a bachelor of music with a performance or education major. Students from outside the department can also take music appreciation, history, voice and instrument lessons, and other classes.

Active performers and dedicated teachers, the faculty is not afraid to lavish attention on—and demand excellence from—music majors. Yet both professors and students say the environment is uniquely supportive. "We're really blessed here," says Buck. "Because the faculty isn't competitive, the students aren't competitive, and everyone is encouraging to one another."

Being a women's college contributes to that. "There's a real focus on women making music," says Nancy Menk, professor of music and chair of the department, who directs Saint Mary's two women's choirs and other projects that showcase female voices. "We're always looking for ways to involve the students in things. We take them to competitions and festivals, bring in guest artists, create new works for them to perform, let them meet composers and premiere new works...There's so much going on."

Professors guide and nurture, but they also encourage independence. Last spring Erin Anhut '07 and Bridget Spore '08 founded a 16-member vocal ensemble, Bellacappella, which performs "fun, popular music for all ages." The students direct the group and even arrange some of its songs.

Students like McKayela Collins '08 wholeheartedly embrace the department's philosophy that "to learn is to perform and to perform is to learn." Passionate about opera, the soprano had a role in *Witness*, an original work by Professor Zae Munn last year. She also sang with the Women's Choir at Carnegie Hall in New York and the new Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. "We get so many chances to be on stage; it's always testing us and it's always improving us," says Collins.

This fall, the Women's Choir shared the stage with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra and the New York Philomusica Ensemble, two enviable opportunities to rehearse and perform with professional musicians. "We bring in guest artists not just to perform and leave, but to work with our students," says Professor Jeffrey Jacob. "I think that's the best thing we do here."

The department also strives to connect students' musical training to what they learn in other disciplines, which Jacob says broadens their education and prepares them for life. "I wish that I'd had the opportunity as an undergrad to go to a liberal arts college, because six hours a day in a practice room is not the way to become educated," says Jacob, a concert pianist who trained at Juilliard. "It's so limiting in terms of the individual."

Saint Mary's music majors go on to teach, continue their studies at graduate school, and some become professional performers. Many direct and perform music in their churches. Others have careers in arts administration and music publishing.

Since all the options are potentially rewarding, Menk says that she would never discourage a young woman who loves music from following her bliss. "I say, let them do it, because they'll always be happy. They'll be doing something they love and they will find a way to make it work." At the same time, Menk is practical. "We try to find our students' strengths and then build on them, and try to give them opportunities that are suited to their personal musical strengths and abilities, rather than always trying to make them fit into our mold."

Students agree. "That's one thing that I'm never going to forget about this College," says Buck, who is holding fast to her dream of a singing career. "They take what you have, and they don't tell you what to do with it—they help you know what you can do with it."

And besides, she adds, "You've got to do what you love to do."

Elizabeth Station is a senior writer in marketing communications.

# A Place

hen she assumed the presidency of Saint Mary s in 1934, Sister M. Madeleva Wolff, CSC, '09 said that her best qualifications for leading the College were her ability to work and capacity to dream. One of her enduring dreams was to inspire students through immersion in the arts.

For many years, Sister Madeleva wanted an academic building that represented the kind of education that the Holy Cross Sisters offered, says Sister Basil Anthony O'Flynn, CSC, '46. She wanted a venue where the students could learn the fine and performing arts in a place of beauty. Equally important, she wanted to engage the Michiana community, adds Sister Gertrude Ann Otis, CSC, '52.

Those dreams became a reality with a generous gift from a member of the Sisters' own community, Sister Francis Jerome, CSC (formerly Susan O'Laughlin). A vice president and professor of Greek and Latin at Saint Mary s, Sister Francis Jerome died in 1948, leaving a \$500,000 bequest. Her brother, John O'Laughlin, took an active role in helping Sister Madeleva bring the Moreau Center for the Arts—and within it, the auditorium that would bear the family name—to fruition.

The College hired the Chicago architectural firm of Naess and Murphy to design the new arts center. Modeled after a renowned Wagnerian Opera House in Bayreuth, Germany, O'Laughlin Auditorium was built at a cost of \$2.5 million. On October 11, 1956, it was inaugurated with the NBC Opera Company's premiere of *The Marriage of Figaro*.

Saint Mary's made national news when the New York-based opera company flew into town for the gala opening. *Time* magazine reported that the citizens of South Bend greeted the company as if it were a conquering football team. Sister Gertrude Anne, who worked as director of admissions and secretary to the College's lay board of trustees at the time, remembers the excitement well.

Opening night was packed with people who had paid their dues to build the building," she said. Even before that, when the opera company arrived at the airport, they were greeted by a large entourage from the South Bend and Mishawaka area. The mayors gave them the keys to the city. They came to Saint Mary's by motorcade, and along the way people lined the streets holding banners and balloons.

The ensuing years were heady ones for the arts at Saint Mary's College. Students shared the Moreau Center with world-class talent. Contralto Marian Anderson sang; Jacques Maritain lectured; and Robert Speaight and E. Martin Browne directed Shakespeare and medieval mystery plays. Gaynell Bordes Cronin '60, a drama and theology student, acted in at least a dozen productions in O'Laughlin and the Little Theatre, including *The Skin of Our Teeth* with guest star Helen Hayes.

Susan Fitzgerald Rice '61, a Humanistic Studies major, had a role in *Plain and Fancy* and never missed an exhibit in the Moreau Art Galleries. Rice recalled, I think I tried to attend every performance. There were the student productions and a huge calendar of events, and we were encouraged to attend them all." Added Cronin, I don't think there was any play that I was in that the place wasn't packed...O'Laughlin was big, so that meant not just our own women at the College but the community at large supported everything we did.

By design, the Moreau Center was meant to encourage synergy among departments and disciplines. Professors from art, music, theatre, and English collaborated to bring stage productions to life. While drama, music, and dance students rehearsed their parts, art students helped create sets and costumes with faculty guidance. The building has given

By Elizabeth Station and Chris Sallak
Photos by Matt Cashore

MENTERS AND EXTEND

# of Beauty

birth to plays, studio art, musical performances, and much more over the years.

In Sister Madelevas day, all students were required to attend a weekly convocation" in the auditorium, and its chic foyer was used for dances. There was a feeling of comfort, of community, of belonging, not just for us as performers but also for many people who were a part of the audience, Cronin remembered.

Fifty years later, that spirit remains alive. The Moreau Center marked its anniversary in October with a concert that celebrated its origins. Professor of Music Jeffrey Jacob composed original works for the occasion, drawing on texts by Maria Auxiliadora Alvarez, a Latin American poet. Professor and soprano Laurel Thomas performed the pieces with mezzo-soprano Mary Nessinger '86 and the Saint Mary's Women's Choir. In a collaboration reminiscent of opening night a half-century ago, the composer and performers shared the stage with the New York Philomusica Ensemble.

Sister Madeleva, had she been present, would have approved. The Sisters of the Holy Cross and the guests they brought to Saint Mary's had much in common, according to Cronin, who sees the spiritual power in performance. They were searching for the holy. They were trying to find God in what they were doing, and they expressed it through the arts, she says.

Cronin has run a children's theatre in her hometown of Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y. for 40 years and also works as a religious educator. Looking back on her time at Saint Mary s, she says, The sacred space was the chapel at Le Mans Hall for most of us. But for me, the other highly sacred space was O'Laughlin.





Perseverance is the pattern that emerges in Burke's accomplishments, beginning with working her way through school. "Saint Mary's had so many wonderful opportunities for me," she said. "I was on scholarship, and I worked accompanying voice students, in the library, and at the switchboard."

can do, you can be proud. You'll eventually get it. You got to have perseverance in this business."

In her work, Burke has faced challenges head-on with that same dogged determination.



in Cactus Flower, and The Sound of Music.

Photos courtesy of Wilma Burks

"Probably one of the most difficult things I'd ever done was *Song for Anastasia*, where I played Anastasia, she said. "It was a big role and I had to do it with a Russian accent. The composers arrived, looked at my opening number and said, 'This isn't the version we wanted.' They then presented me with a song, a 14-page aria. And they said 'We know you can't do it.' I looked at it and said 'Oh, I can do this.' I wouldn't recommend this to anyone who didn't want it as much as I did, but I stayed up the night before the opening and I learned it. I'm happy to say the reviews were wonderful."

Burke credits her success to that perseverance, and to the people who believed in her along the way. "I remember coming home from school my sophomore year and my parents told me they couldn't afford for me to go back," she said. "Sister Madeleva gave me a scholarship for the rest of the time. I have so much gratitude for her and for Saint Mary's."

For Burke, that supportiveness is what distinguishes Saint Mary's from other colleges. "There's so much competition out there," she said. "We all know this at Saint Mary's—not to be jealous, not to feel that someone is taking something away from you. Each of us is an individual with God-given talents and it's up to us to make the best of them."

In 1973, Burke married her favorite leading man, Bob Brooks, with whom she performed in *Cactus Flower*. After 33 years of marriage, Burke says, "It gets better all the time!"

In 2005, Burke came back for her 50th Reunion where she performed. "My friend Pat Cutter Reynolds ('55) had encouraged me to go back to Reunion," she said." It was really Pat who encouraged me to do the concert too. That concert at Saint Mary's whetted my appetite to play the piano again."

It's been almost 50 years since Burke made her debut on Broadway and its siren song still calls to her. "I had not been performing for a while," she said. "But I got a new agent in September and just auditioned for two new plays. I'm not finished yet."

The Department of Communication and Performance Studies invites you to the first annual Ann Plamondon Endowed Lecture.

## "Deception in Politics"

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, PhD

**February 7, 2007** 

7:30 p.m.

**Little Theatre** 

Reception to follow

An expert on political campaigns, **Kathleen Hall Jamieson** is Professor of Communication and Director of the Annenberg Public Policy Center at the University of Pennsylvania. She is the award-winning author of *Everything You Think You Know About Politics ... and Why You're Wrong, Eloquence in an Electronic Age, Packaging the Presidency* and other books.

The Ann Plamondon Lecture Series was established with generous gifts from alumnae, faculty, staff, friends, and parents to bring respected scholars and communications professionals to Saint Mary's College. It honors Professor of Communication Studies Ann Plamondon, who will retire at the conclusion of the 2006–07 academic year following 24 years of service.

### To the Diverse Students' Leadership Conference, March 1-3, 2007

"The conference is proof that Saint Mary's is doing more than just sitting back and talking about diversity."

**Alumnae Invited!** 

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-Claridith Landry '06 (founder of conference)

"The conference was very powerful because it allowed me, through real life examples and experiences, to learn more about others but also more about myself as a human being in this diverse world."

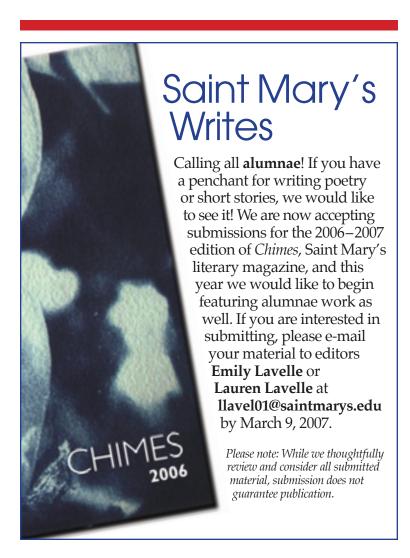
-DSLC participant (2006)

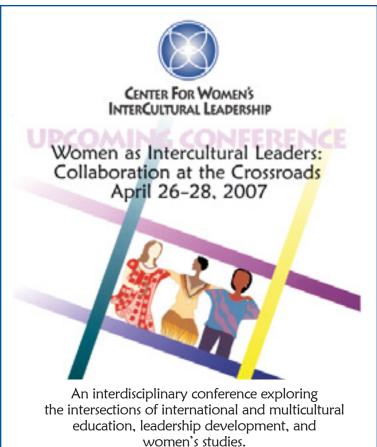


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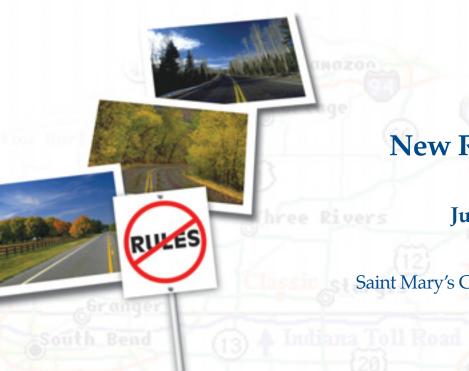


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## New Road-No Rules Seminar

July 13-15, 2007

Sponsored by the Saint Mary's College Alumnae Association

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