Imagine the impact you can make.

Your gift to the Annual Fund provides scholarships and financial aid to students like Rachael Chesley ‘11.

As a first-year, Jumped into Saint Mary’s life by joining the Class Gift Campaign and working as a phonathon caller.

As a sophomore, Lived “La Dolce Vita” with other Saint Mary’s women in Rome.

As a junior, Pioneered Saint Mary’s new student exchange program in Seoul, South Korea, as the first student to participate and recruited other students for this transforming experience.

As a senior, Leads the campus community as Student Body President while using her experience abroad to create a mentoring program for international students on Saint Mary’s campus.

Saint Mary’s students are dynamic women determined to change the world. Saint Mary’s provides the academic foundation and spiritual focus they need to build a better tomorrow.

Read more about Rachael at saintmarys.edu/rachael-chesley.

You can give our Saint Mary’s students the scholarships and financial aid that sets it all in motion, just like you did for Rachael.

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Laura Williamson Ambrose,
Assistant Professor, Humanistic Studies
Photo by Matt Cashore

back cover

Remembering Bruno Schlesinger
Photo by Matt Cashore
The Arts and Sciences of Innovation

by Kay Kenney, College Editor

While the faculty at Saint Mary's College most often are praised for their teaching skills, they also serve on the College's committees, lead travel abroad programs, and act as faculty representatives for student athletes and clubs. Just as important to the College is the understanding that our faculty are scholars in our own right. Their research, conference attendance, and sabbaticals support their love of learning, and in turn, our students' learning experience. In this issue, Courier addresses the why and how of faculty research as a key to providing students a quality education.

At the beginning of her presidency, Carol Ann Mooney laid out a strategic plan for the College in her visionary document entitled “The Path to Leadership 2012.” Specifically, President Mooney said Saint Mary’s would provide “education excellence equal to the best colleges in the country.” To accomplish this goal, President Mooney mentioned the College’s Center for Academic Innovation (CAFI), one of Saint Mary’s three Centers of Distinction, as the venue through which the College can nurture and direct academic excellence. CFAI programs include faculty research, student research, curriculum development, and student and faculty research collaboration.

CAFI also creates opportunities for innovation and discovery, which is essential for our faculty to update their knowledge in their field and to nurture their own scholarly work. Students benefit from the faculty who impart this sense of innovation and inquiry in the classroom or in collaboration on a research project. One of the best examples for supporting faculty who research was in an email sent by a rising senior thanking Isabel Larraza, assistant professor of chemistry. The student realized during her internship at Dow Chemical Company that her research project with Larraza prepared her for the real world of chemistry. Ultimately, it’s important to recognize that our faculty are excellent teachers because they are excellent scholars.

Kay Kenney
Isabel Larraza, assistant professor of chemistry, researches ways to create greener, less environmentally toxic methods to synthesize pharmaceutical intermediates, chemical compounds that create a reaction to promote new compounds. Last year she and chemistry major Kara Joseph ’11 were awarded a Maryjeanne R. Burke and Daughters Student Independent Study and Research (SISTAR) Grant, funded through the generosity of the Burke family. The SISTAR allowed Larraza and Joseph to research individual aspects of a subject entitled “Hexabromoacetone: A Green Path to Drug Intermediates.”

Although both worked independently, Larraza was only a few steps away in the lab to mentor Joseph through the research process. For Joseph, the summer was spent gaining not only lab experience, but also lessons in patience, persistence, and endurance—all necessary to weather the realities of working as a chemist. For Larraza, guiding her student...
through the crucibles of post-graduate-level research felt like a personal triumph as Joseph flourished into a scientist who found her footing in the lab. For both, their work resulted in acceptance for publication of their peer-reviewed paper in *Tetrahedron Letters* and a presentation at the Spring 2010 American Chemical Society National Meeting.

**A JIG IN TIME**

Laura Williamson Ambrose, assistant professor of humanistic studies, sifts through 16th- and 17th-Century early modern English texts for descriptions of local travel and travelers. Williamson Ambrose's work examines a time when European rulers launched ships to claim distant continents or commissioned cartographers to map the cosmos. Common folk also were marking space and time through art, theatre, and stories. Take one of Williamson Ambrose's favorite historical figures: Will Kempe, a bawdy stage clown who was a member of Lord Chamberlain's Men, the acting troupe which included William Shakespeare. Kempe played the fool in Shakespeare's comedies, but created his own national sensation when he Morris stepped (jigged) 100 miles from London to Norwich over four weeks. Williamson Ambrose studies his traveling performance as an example of how those English inhabitants understood the relationship of time to space.

As faculty within Saint Mary's intellectual community, scholars Williamson Ambrose and Larraza are advancing the College's strategic goal to be nationally recognized as a top liberal arts college. Their research, often done in collaboration with students and other faculty, adds value to Saint Mary's liberal arts education. Studies show that alumni who participated in research in science, arts, humanities, or social science, view their college experience much more positively. Also, completing an undergraduate research program greatly improved their problem-solving abilities, their mastery of context, and their communication skills.*

**A CENTER OF DISTINCTION**

English Literature Professor Laura Haigwood is director of the College's Center for Academic Innovation (CFAI), one of Saint Mary's three Centers of Distinction. Haigwood oversees College scholarships and grants dedicated to research opportunities for faculty to collaborate with students, for faculty to research across disciplines, and for faculty to investigate innovative teaching and learning methods. Funding for such endeavors comes from National Endowment for the Humanities grants and from individual gifts motivated by a personal passion or experience to underwrite faculty and student scholarly pursuits.

The importance of these scholarly opportunities is immeasurable. “Faculty become teachers because they love to learn,” said Haigwood. “If you cut off faculty from opportunities to do their own research and to learn from peers at conferences and seminars, then you cut them off from the source of their professional life.” Faculty

research is important for other reasons. “For example, when we submit our work to peers for review, we subject ourselves to the same informed, constructive criticism we give our students,” Haigwood said.

“We must be challenged to continuously improve our knowledge and understanding of our subjects, and to keep our expertise up-to-date with the most recent developments in our fields. Our research enables us to provide the highest quality education to our students. It’s critical for our faculty to be active, productive scholars as well as engaged and inspiring classroom teachers.”

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**“Who dares to teach must never cease to learn.”**

—RICHARD HENRY DANA JR.

Research is equally important for Saint Mary's liberal arts students. Creativity and understanding how to decipher new ideas play fundamental roles in cultivating one's purpose in today's global workplace. Cassandra Williams '11 eloquently summarized her chemistry research experience when she emailed Larraza from her summer internship at Dow Chemical Company. “I want to thank you for allowing me to do an independent research project with you this past year,” Williams wrote. “I really wish I would’ve had more time (at Dow), because I am loving the synthetic chemistry that I am doing this summer. Now, everything that you were trying to teach me during the school year makes sense. I can’t wait to see you in person so that I can tell you about all of the amazing equipment they have here at Dow!”

Teaching with Scholarship

RESEARCH WITHIN AN EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE

SUSAN LATHAM, assistant professor of communicative disorders, oversees a program that is founded on evidence-based practice. Latham, an expert in autism spectrum disorder, early language and literacy, and child communicative disorders, is one of two professors teaching courses on communicative disorders at Saint Mary’s College. In her classes, she instills a scientific, research-oriented mindset that students use in their fieldwork to assess and diagnose clients of all ages with a range of language disabilities. Students in the communicative disorders program are expected to do a research paper (literature review) and clinical practicum that may include areas of biology, linguistics, mathematics, and health care. They also are encouraged to complete a research project. Students will need to earn a master’s in speech and language pathology or audiology to practice.

This year, Latham shared a Maryjeanne R. Burke and Daughters SISTAR grant with Brynn Thomas ’11, who is researching how robots help improve communication in children with autism.

RESEARCH AND SERVICE

PATRICIA ANN FLEMING, senior vice-president and dean of faculty, focuses on service and research. Her primary areas of scholarship look at environmental philosophy, particularly with the ethical and epistemological concerns that surround radiation exposure. She served on a National Academy of Science Committee, which studied the possible effects of radiation exposure received by uranium miners, millers, ore transporters, atomic veterans, and downwinders. She currently works with the Veteran’s Board on Dose Reconstruction, established by the U.S. Congress to oversee the compensation of atomic veterans whose cancers may be related to their exposure to radiation during World War II and the years of above-ground testing of nuclear weapons. Through the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements, she has advised NASA regarding the moral duties associated with the cumulative effects of exposures received by astronauts during space flights.

HISTORY, RECAPTURED

DAVID STEFANICIC is a professor of history and author of two books on Polish history. Stefancic is regularly invited to conferences around the world to present his academic papers before his peers, such as in 2005, when he attended the Fourth International Napoleonic Congress in Dinard, France, and again in 2008 in Montreal, Canada. “These presentations are important because they represent Saint Mary’s College as a serious academic and research institution,” says Stefancic.

This past summer, Stefancic and Alyssa Klubeck ’11 shared a SISTAR grant. Klubeck and Stefancic researched the topic of “women and revolution.” Klubeck will present their research this fall at the European Studies Conference at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. “Researching history is like solving a murder mystery,” Stefancic says, explaining the appeal of his area of expertise. “You put the story together by solving the mystery piece by piece.”

THEOLOGY AND WOMEN

PHYLLIS KAMINSKI, professor of religious studies, is a scholar, writer, and editor of works addressing theology and women. Besides her research into the role of the daughter archetype within feminist theory and theology, Kaminski has written about the significance of Mary, a Jewish woman and wife, within Catholicism. She is recognized internationally for her work on Luce Irigaray and collaborates with scholars throughout the U.S. in seminars and conferences. In 2009 as SISTAR recipients, she and Mary Gross ’10 collaborated on their project “Educating for Transformation: Daughters in Conversation” and their respective papers.

THE TEACHING AND WRITING LIFE

Saint Mary’s College also provides faculty with alternative teaching schedules to fulfill research expectations. As a tenure-track faculty member, FRANCES HWANG, assistant professor of English, teaches one semester at Saint Mary’s each year, and then travels home to write in Berkeley, Calif. Author of the award-winning collection of short stories, Transparency, she says she values the balance teaching part-time at Saint Mary’s College has afforded her. “I’m fortunate to be at Saint Mary’s where both my teaching and writing are valued and supported,” she says. “Teaching is the backbone of my writing life. It supports my work, gives structure to my days, and deepens my understanding of how fiction works. Just as my teaching makes me a better writer, my writing makes me a better teacher. I encounter the same challenges my students face when they compose their stories.”
Reunion 2010
ALUMNAE RECOLLECT, RECONNECT, AND CELEBRATE.
Saint Mary’s College welcomed back more than 1,000 alumnae and guests for Reunion 2010. Held June 3–6, 2010, alumnae attended planned events, had informal late-night marathon talkfests in their rooms (even more necessary now to catch up on everyone’s lives), and toured the new Student Center and Spes Unica Hall, a state-of-the-art, academic “green” facility opened in 2008. During the Saturday evening dinner, alumnae celebrated the achievements of their former classmates who had been named Alumnae Association awardees.

For the Class of 1960, celebrating a Golden Reunion was especially memorable. For the Class of 2005, 123 alumnae returned, making it the College’s largest returning five-year class ever. For the staff students, celebrating their first ever group reunion with 70 alumnae, the weekend was historic.

Top left: Linda Holland Trauth ’70, Diane Daly McGarry ’70, Susan Orloski Henry ’70, and Ginger Updike Daily ’70 Bottom left: Class of 1965 held a memorial service for deceased classmates. Bottom right: Maureen Hogan Lang ’60
2010
ALUMNAE AWARDS

Four alumnae were recognized for their service to Saint Mary’s College and professional accomplishments.

ALUMNAE AWARDEES: Aimee Beckmann-Collier ’75, Andrea Sondag Schweitzer ’00, Florence “Lulu” Romano Daly ’82, President Carol Ann Mooney ’72, Juliette Noone Lester ’55

2010 Distinguished Alumna Award

AIMEE BECKMANN-COLLIER ’75

Aimee Beckmann-Collier, West Des Moines, Iowa, received Saint Mary’s Alumnae Association’s highest honor. As the 2010 Distinguished Alumna, Beckmann-Collier has volunteered her time to Saint Mary’s with verve and devotion for more than a decade by hosting College events, serving at college fairs, and contacting prospective students. She also has presided as president of the Saint Mary’s Des Moines (Iowa) Alumnae Club for a dozen years. Beckmann-Collier also served on the Alumnae Association Board of Directors between 1986 and 1992. She served several times on the Class of 1975 Reunion Campaign Committee and this year, she chairs her class committee. Beckmann-Collier received a degree in music from Saint Mary’s, and master’s and doctoral degrees in choral conducting from the University of Iowa. She is director of choral studies and a professor of conducting at Drake University. She is president of the North Central Division for the American Choral Directors Association, the country’s elite organization for choral specialists.

2010 Outstanding Young Alumna Award

ANDREA SONDAG SCHWEITZER ’00

Andrea Sondag Schweitzer ’00, Richardson, Tex., received the Outstanding Young Alumna Award. Schweitzer graduated magna cum laude from Saint Mary’s College in 2000 with a bachelor of arts in Spanish. Today, she teaches Spanish and leads the Department of Speech and Drama at Saint Rita Catholic School in Dallas. Schweitzer also volunteers at St. Rita’s coaching volleyball, preparing students for speech and drama competitions, and directing student musicals. She passionately embraces Saint Rita’s sister school in Honduras, giving her time on mission trips to help improve the Honduran school’s teaching techniques while establishing close bonds with Honduran families. Schweitzer also served as the club president for the Saint Mary’s Dallas/Fort Worth Alumnae Club and remains a treasured mentor, active club member, and event host.
2010 Humanitas Award
FLORENCE “LULU” ROMANO DALY ’82

Florence “LuLu” Romano Daly ’82 received the Humanitas Award. Daly, who earned a nursing degree at Saint Mary's College, lives in St. Paul, Minn., where she volunteers as a hospice nurse in addition to her other volunteer work. Her unwavering commitment to healing others has led her to far-away places, including earthquake-stricken Haiti, where she and her husband, Dr. Peter Daly ND ’82, an orthopedic surgeon, along with five other medical professionals, provided hope and critical medical care to Haitian earthquake victims in January 2010.

In 2003, Daly, her husband, and their four children, participated in what would become a life-changing mission experience at Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) in Honduras, an organization that provides holistic care for orphaned, abandoned, and at-risk children. The Daly family since has dedicated itself to establishing a desperately needed onsite surgical facility, The Holy Family Surgery Center (HFSC). Opened to patients in March 2009, HFSC serves as an outpatient medical facility for needy patients. Daly and her husband visit the facility with a medical brigade six times each year.

2010 Alumna Achievement Award
JULIETTE NOONE LESTER ’55

Juliette Noone Lester ’55, Washington, D.C., received the Alumna Achievement Award in honor of her accomplishments as a leader in national education. Now retired from the U.S. Department of Education, Lester has published and lectured extensively in the areas of education and training for public policy development and implementation. Her leadership in venues traditionally dominated by men provided groundbreaking opportunities for women.

After beginning her career in 1955 as a teacher at Worthington High School in Worthington, Ohio, Lester moved to Washington, D.C., where she was appointed the first principal deputy assistant secretary for vocational and adult education for the U.S. Department of Education. Her career included serving from 1978–80 as regional commissioner of education for the six Midwestern states for the Office of Education. In 1980, she served as the director of transition to establish the then-new U.S. Department of Education. Lester attended Saint Mary’s College for two years and then transferred to Ohio State University in her junior year where she received a bachelor's degree in education and a master's degree in history.
During Reunion 2008, Cathie Coleman Kelly ’68 and Kathleen Cooney Lisa ’67 approached the Saint Mary’s College Alumnae Office with a proposal: bring back alumnae who attended Saint Mary’s through the College’s staff student program. Kelly and Lisa suggested that word-of-mouth and a notice in the Courier would be sufficient to attract at least 20 staff student alumnae to attend the 2010 Reunion.

To the surprise and delight of Kara O’Leary ’89, director of alumnae relations, 74 of the more than 300 alumnae who participated in the program from 1936 until 1972 returned for the June 2010 event. For many of the staff student alumnae, it was the first time back on campus since their graduation decades ago. Alumnae attendance spanned the Class of 1944 to the Class of 1962. During Reunion 2010, they held their own dinner and impromptu parties. They arrived with an urgent, unspoken agenda to reestablish their place in Saint Mary’s history. Through formal and informal conversations during the weekend, they reflected on their college days with a wiser perspective than would have been possible at the time of their graduation.

For these women who are physicians, educators, and administrators, the memory of being a bright, impressionable 18-year-old staff student entering college through the program was now a point of pride. They acknowledged that they belonged to a unique group that was part of Saint Mary’s College, yet at times felt separate. In order to earn a Catholic education, they served their classmates three meals a day, bussed tables, laid out silverware, and juggled dishes and trays for 33 to 36 hours a week in the Le Mans dining hall. They wore stiffly starched white uniforms, white shoes, and hairnets. In between mealtimes, they attended classes a maximum of 12 credit hours, which required they attend summer school in order to finish in five years. On campus they were called “the dining room girls” or “the girls in white” referring to their uniforms, which they often wore to class as they raced from dining hall to the classroom.

O’Leary said that for these alumnae, Saint Mary’s recognized that college friendships and memories are not necessarily tied to same-year classmates. Just as with many alumnae who were athletes, staff students felt closest to the people with whom they worked the dining hall shifts and shared space on the fifth floor of Le Mans Hall. “It’s only natural that alumnae remain especially close to the students with whom they spent the most time. We wanted to honor those friendships by holding a reunion dedicated to their Saint Mary’s experience,” O’Leary explained.

DEPRESSION ERA BEGINNINGS

Pearl McEachran, a newly hired biology professor and chief dietician, started the program in 1936 during the height of the Great Depression. While employees from town found it difficult to get to work for the widely spaced mealtime schedule, McEachran sensed that many bright young women would welcome an opportunity to work in exchange for a college education. Students accepted to the program worked 30 hours a week in the dining hall in exchange for tuition (at that time about $2,500 a year), and room and board. They also were given $50 a month, which students applied toward book fees.

When McEachran died in 1942, Sister Maria Pieta, CSC ’22 assumed the staff student counselor role. As young Stella Scott, Sister Pieta herself had worked several years to pay for her tuition before attending Saint Mary’s College. Once at Saint Mary’s, she continued to work to pay for college expenses up until her graduation. Sister Pieta became the staff students’ leader and a kind of spiritual protector. She could size up a student’s potential and then point her toward a more fulfilling future. She provided students guidance in life and career decisions. Alumnae remember that she once urged staff students to read the daily newspaper to keep up with current events.

“It takes grit for a girl to work in the dining room serving her peers.”

—SISTER MARIA PIETA, CSC

“Sister Pieta was a thoughtful, serious, scholarly person with a subtle sense of humor,” remembered staff student alumna Kathleen O’Keeffe ’61. “She kept us united and was very protective of the program, as was Sister Madeleva. She was the very definition of ‘mindfullness.’ She never forgot her faith, and she related it to everything she taught us, but in a quiet way.”
THE "PENTHOUSE"

As many as 20 staff students at a time lived together on the fifth floor of Le Mans Hall. At the end of the hallway, just past the pay phone booth, staff students congregated in a sitting area furnished with an old sofa, a sewing machine, a salon-style hair dryer, and an ironing board. Called the "Penthouse" by staff students, they spent down time there laughing, discussing their day, and holding birthday parties for each other.

"It was the fifth floor that defined us," said Jule De Jaeger Ward '64. "Compared to the other rooms (at Le Mans Hall), I guess our rooms were small—but coming from a home in which I shared a bedroom with two sisters, I thought ours was spacious. I also loved sitting up on the window ledge, but probably wouldn't try it now."

"I liked the windows, because I thought the garret-like gave them a romantic appeal and an atmosphere of an old gabled mansion," said Virginia “Ginny” Leyes Kortenkamp ’64. "The rooms were very small, but I thought the setup made a nice atmosphere for close living, especially because our work schedules didn’t leave us much free time."

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING A CATHOLIC AND EDUCATED

Students applied to the Saint Mary's College program after being encouraged by parents who already had daughters in the program or by Catholic high school teachers who took them aside to let them know they could earn a Catholic college education through work. As information about the program reached high schools around the country, about 20 students were admitted each year from a pool of at least 70 applicants. Sister Pieta herself was known to encourage high schoolers to apply to the program when she met them on her travels. Students admitted to the program needed to have a proven record of being an excellent student and references that indicated they could maintain a high grade-point average while working nearly full time.

Kelly, the second of 10 children, had a mother who insisted she graduate from college. Although Kelly had offers from other colleges, she worried that those college scholarships wouldn't cover all the costs. The staff student program seemed ideal to Kelly, whose parents owned a restaurant in which she and her brothers and sister routinely helped out by cleaning and washing dishes. “I realize my situation made the staff experience different for me because I had already come to grips with the idea of waiting on people,” said Kelly. “I remember telling my dad when I was 13 years old that I didn’t think I should have to call people ‘ma’am’ or ‘sir.’ His response was ‘That’s up to you, and you should do what you want. But I can tell you, it’ll cost you money.’ Pretty smart guy, my dad.”

Lisa, who was the youngest of five children, knew that her father would retire midway through her college years. "I had been taught to meet my own responsibilities," she said. "As a family, we regularly visited my sister, Sister Miriam Patrick, CSC ’51 at Saint Mary’s during my childhood. She was the one who told me about the staff program. For me, it was an honor to have the opportunity to attend Saint Mary’s."

THROUGH THICK AND THIN

During Reunion 2010, staff student alumnae had time to cherish, joke, and lampoon their college experience. They created their own timeline for the College’s archives. During the short weekend, they recreated a supportive community based on their experiences as students at Saint Mary’s.

Kortenkamp tells an anecdote that conveys the depth of caring the Saint Mary's staff students felt for each other. In September 1960, a social was planned on the campus back lawn for incoming first years and transfer students. Students were abuzz because University of Notre Dame students also were invited. "When we (staff student) newbies were told we would be serving refreshments at the garden party, the older staff students rebelled, in a way," said Kortenkamp. "All the upper-class students said that the new staff students should be free to mix in the same way as all the other students. On that day, the older staff students served in our stead. Wasn’t that beautiful and charming?"
FACES OF

Reunion 2010

Top right: Kathleen Phalen Valenta ’45 conveys the joys of reunion.
Perpetuate the legacy—
Remember Saint Mary’s

“When Don and I planned our wills, we focused first on our children and grandchildren. After that came Saint Mary’s College and the University of Notre Dame—equally. God bless their founders and the wonderful institutions they are today. Go Belles!”

Susan Fitzgerald Rice ’61 and her husband, Don, UND ’61, invest equally in their respective alma maters because they value their education. They support Saint Mary’s as members of the Steering Committee for the anticipated campaign: Faith Always, Action Now. Both serve on the Christian Culture Lecture National Advisory Council and provided initial funding to establish the annual lecture in honor of the late Bruno Schlesinger, professor emeritus of Humanistic Studies. In addition to their yearly gifts to the Annual Fund, the Rices established an endowed scholarship and included a gift to the College in their estate plans. Saint Mary’s gratefully acknowledges Susan and Don’s significant contributions.

A bequest, like the Rices’, will benefit future generations of Saint Mary’s students. Please contact Jo Ann G. MacKenzie ’69 to request information on how a bequest might fit into your estate plans.

(574) 284-4600 · jamacken@saintmarys.edu
Mary Niemeyer McCoy ’70 presented a seminar at Reunion 2010 on how she challenged convention and followed her heart. Her advice to any woman considering a mid-life—or any time of life—adventure is to go where the fire burns hottest. McCoy adopted the phrase, attributed to Confederate Army General P.G.T. Beauregard, in her work as a senior vice president for human resources at Mid-American Federal. She later made it her rallying cry to make a case for adventure.

McCoy’s own fire was ignited in 1973. After completing her master's degree in human behavior at United States International University (USIU) in San Diego, she worked for the university’s admission department. On work-related trips to the Maui campus she met the USIU campus director who was a former director for the Peace Corps in Micronesia. One evening she was invited to his home, but she dreaded the thought of an evening of viewing slides of his photographs of Micronesia. Her worry turned into astonishment as she was captivated by the sights of the Pacific's beauty, by the people, and their customs. “After that, I researched and read everything I could get my hands on,” she said. McCoy even visited Micronesia as a tourist, which only whetted her appetite for more.

Returning to Micronesia became imperative, despite her full life in the United States, and she didn't see the sense in years spent pining for another trip. “I didn't want to go back in a wheelchair,” she said. Her escalating interest in all-things Micronesian led her to apply to the Peace Corps as a means to do good and spend more time in the Pacific.

Once accepted, she embarked on an adventure that has shaped the rest of her life. McCoy requested a placement in the Pacific, and thanks to her background in management, she was selected to run a non-governmental organization (NGO) on the main island of the Kingdom of Tonga, the last Polynesian monarchy left in the world.

At the end of her Peace Corps stint, she accepted a job offer as a business partner in a new venture with a native Tongan, the former Peace Corps associate country director. The two launched the Training Group of the Pacific, a company that trains high-level dignitaries who come to work in Tonga. They offer training in Tongan culture, language, and protocol—all important in a complicated monarchy like Tonga. Together, they co-authored a book titled Making Sense of Tonga.

Running a business in Tonga is more challenging for McCoy than it was in the States. She has learned that our Western concept of time isn’t universal. “The Tongan default position is that one’s time is owned by everyone else and our default position is that we own our time, so we can ‘sell’ it to others,” she explained.

McCoy has learned to take it in stride when a business contact misses a meeting by a few hours or doesn’t show up until the next day. The Tongans live a slower-paced way of life, and McCoy’s appreciation for this difference has evolved, but it’s still a challenge for her. McCoy is forever trying to keep her Tongan business partner on track by running a business in a Western way while he keeps her on track by working in ways that are not offensive to Tongans. Another cultural difference is that Tongans ascribe to a different concept of “belongings” believing that anything left out is communal property. “He realizes that if he did it his way, all the equipment would be taken by others,” she said.

McCoy has had eight years to come to grips with these cultural differences—not to mention a new diet of raw tuna and seasonal fruits, and life without television. “It took several years for Tonga to feel like home, and my life here will never look like a typical Tongan’s life. But I’ve carved out a place that works for me and is respectful of my environment,” she says. She has created a successful business in a country where the humidity wreaks havoc on her computer equipment.

Today, McCoy’s front yard is a sandy white beach. The people she now calls family have taught her their definition of the important things in life—slowing down to savor her experiences, as well as enjoying a meal of fresh, savory tuna tenderloin. ■

THE Friendly ISLANDS

In 1773, when Captain James Cook arrived at the Kingdom of Tonga, a group of 169 islands— with only 36 inhabited—in the South Pacific, the British explorer just happened to arrive during the iniasi festival. The yearly presentation celebrates the first harvested fruits given to the Tu’i Tonga, the islands’ chief. While Cook received an invitation to the celebration, according to British writer William Mariner, island chiefs actually wanted to kill Cook during the festivities, but could not agree on a plan. Thus, the island kingdom earned its first nickname, the “Friendly Islands.”
Two albino deer graze on a suburban soccer field. Looming behind them, an eerie landscape contains a painted white circle in the green grass, metal goal posts, and a red barn.

To photographer Jennifer Steensma Hoag, an art professor at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. and the Saint Mary’s Spring 2010 Artist-in-Residence, the deer represent the perfect hunting conundrum. Hoag is interested in the overpopulation of wildlife in certain states and the practice of hunting to control wildlife populations. She chose deer as the subject of her fall 2004 sabbatical project. “Deer are so beautiful, and large fauna leave a more significant impression within this context,” she says.

Because we tend to want to protect such animals from extinction, solutions to overpopulation are a debate largely avoided in mainstream media, and for that matter, art. Hoag thought that exploring the other side of the coin would grab her audience’s attention.

Her photographs, presented in a series titled “The Nature of Invasion” feature images of locations where recent human activity is evident—a field in front of a water tower, the space between two houses in a suburban development, or the grassy median breaking up a busy highway. Hoag photographed these locations and then digitally imposed images of deer onto them. When on exhibit, the photographs are displayed in simple shadowboxes, giving the feeling of artifacts you might see displayed in a natural history museum. In this ordinary, human-centered setting, the deer don’t look quite at home standing, lying, or in one case, squatting in the foreground, and the buildings look off-kilter and menacing. Hoag’s juxtaposition of human and natural elements begs the question, “Who is invading whom here?”

As part of her residency at Saint Mary’s, Hoag shared her discoveries with Saint Mary’s students through the Re/Act project, a collaboration between Saint Mary’s students in Doug Tyler’s “Introduction to Digital Photography” class and Calvin College students. The two groups communicated via a Facebook group page, with Tyler and Hoag as moderators.

Tyler explained, “The students from both schools posted pictures to a group page and then created combinations with one another’s photographs in an attempt to create interesting photos which ‘react’ to one another.” The students combined images digitally and then used the Comment function on the Facebook site to discuss the results and how the combined images interact with one another. Additional images can be viewed at saintmarys.edu/~art266/.

Each semester the Saint Mary’s art department invites an artist to campus. Saint Mary’s students consult about their own work with the visiting artist, who also provides students with experiences such as workshops, slide lectures, and the creation of installations.
Mark Kubacki in the Sister Madeleva garden outside Le Mans Hall.

The GROUNDSKEEPERS’ Legacy

by Ann Jacobson
Saint Mary’s College has had only two campus groundskeepers for the past 56 years. Today, Superintendent of Grounds Mark Kubacki upholds a legacy initiated by the collective vision of Sister M. Madeleva Wolff, CSC, and Joseph T. Bonadies, the College’s first groundskeeper.

Bonadies (1916–1992) became the first Saint Mary’s College gardener in 1954 when then-College President Sister M. Madeleva Wolff (1887–1964) hired him to realize her vision for the campus’ landscape. Sister Madeleva’s love of nature, well documented in her poetry, inspired her to consider the campus an outdoor classroom and an arboretum for scientific learning and aesthetic enjoyment. Bonadies and his successor, Mark Kubacki, used their knowledge of groundskeeping to honor her tradition of landscaping, horticulture, and gardening that goes back to the 19th Century.

“Joe shared Sister Madeleva’s vision to feature naturally growing plant materials—including some that are not necessarily native to this area, but which grow well here—and to offer a diversity of plant materials,” said Kubacki, who has helped shape the campus’ landscape since 1984. “Joe’s philosophy, which is also mine, is not to have the grounds look like a rigid, corporate setting, not a place where you feel like you can’t walk on the grass or pick the flowers. It should feel like home.” Keeping an abundance of flowering shrubs and trees whose blossoms peak each year near graduation and reunion remain among Kubacki’s inherited legacies.

Kubacki was born in 1954, the same year Saint Mary’s College hired Bonadies, a fact that Bonadies would sometimes hold over the younger man’s head. “When I had what Joe thought were too many of my own ideas for the campus grounds, he would tell me that he had started working here even before I was born, and I got the picture,” Kubacki said.

Kubacki, who grew up in Mishawaka, Ind., says he was a typical kid in that he would try any tactic to avoid mowing the Kubacki’s family lawn. Ironically, when he landed a job with the Mishawaka Parks and Recreation Department as a Marian High School student, he was assigned to work at Eberhart Park Golf Course (now Eberhart-Petro Municipal Golf Course). To the young Kubacki’s surprise, he actually enjoyed all the mowing. He liked the hands-on work involved in the golf course landscaping projects because he saw tangible results in a relatively quick time.

After graduating high school, Kubacki entered Purdue University in W. Lafayette, Ind., where he studied agronomy—agricultural science slanted toward environmental and human concerns—
through the horticultural department. Within a year, Kubacki transferred to Michigan State University, East Lansing, where a turf management program had been established for several years.

Kubacki returned to the South Bend area shortly after he graduated in 1975 and landed an assistant greens management position at South Bend Country Club. Six months into the job, he learned about an assistant groundsgkeeper job opening at Saint Mary's College. Bonadies, who by then was the College's lead groundskeeper and the father of Margaret Bonadies Blonigan '81, was planning an imminent retirement and searching for an assistant to eventually serve as his replacement.

Once hired, Kubacki had ample time to learn the ropes from Bonadies, who put off his retirement until 1984. "Joe enjoyed the work and the group he had working with him too much to retire. The administration gave him great support, and he was a dedicated guy to the College," Kubacki explained.

Flowers weren't the only things that bloomed on campus. The following year, Kubacki met then-Saint Mary's art major and South Bend native, Judith (Judi) Poklinkowski '77. On hot days, the grounds department workers frequented an air conditioned snack bar that was located in the basement of the former dining hall where Judi and other students congregated. The couple married in 1977 after Judi's graduation. Judi is an art teacher at South Bend Adams High School. Their daughter, Kallie Anne Kubacki '09, works at the University of Notre Dame. Their son, Ryan, is a student at Holy Cross College at Notre Dame, Ind.

Today, Kubacki oversees five, full-time campus groundskeepers, plus Tom Schultz, a summer groundskeeper who is a South Bend School Corporation teacher. Schultz and his wife, Maureen McCarthy Schultz '68, also a teacher with the school corporation, are the parents of Erin Adele Schultz '03 and Kathryn Elizabeth Schultz '05. Schultz's time working on campus goes back 35 years, when he also worked full time under the direction of Bonadies.

"I believe that the campus grounds benefit from the continuity that has come from our department going back 56 years, starting with Joe and Sister Madeleva, and continuing with my great group, Tom Schultz, and a supportive administration," said Kubacki. "Our main goal will continue to be keeping the campus safe, clean, and aesthetically pleasing for students as well as the entire Saint Mary's community."
Fall 2010 marks the 41st year of the Saint Mary’s College Rome Program. As the first study abroad opportunity offered by Saint Mary’s, Portia Prebys ’66 set up the program in 1970 and continues as the resident director today. Peter Checca is a professor of Italian on the Saint Mary’s College campus and has been a student counselor for the Rome Program since 1984. Prebys recently received a knighthood and title of “Cavalier” from the Italian government. Professor Checca travels there with students every other year.

**HOW DID THE ROME PROGRAM BEGIN?**

**CAV. PREBYS:** Vatican Council II [finalized in 1965] encouraged religious orders and institutions to have some representation in Rome. Thus, the Sisters of the Holy Cross and the College were contemplating establishing a presence that turned out to be a study abroad program. In the 1970s, [now the late] Saint Mary’s College president Monsignor John J. McGrath encouraged Saint Mary’s sophomores to study abroad. I was living in Italy at the time on two Fulbright Fellowships to study Renaissance history. At that time, only a handful of U.S. schools had study abroad programs in Italy, and they were specifically in Rome and Florence.

**HOW HAS THE ROME PROGRAM CHANGED OVER THE LAST FOUR DECADES?**

**CAV. PREBYS:** Years ago and for some time in the history of the program, students phoned home once at Christmas and wrote aerograms weekly to their families. Today, our biggest challenge is to keep eyes off of multi-purpose screens and onto the real artifacts of history, the non-virtual, two thousand-year-old marvels of the world. The more one understands Rome’s sites and monuments, the more one can truly comprehend the course of history and our history. Immersion into Western Civilization is what the Rome Program has, above all, to offer.

**PROF. CHECCA:** While everything changes, I think the features that make this program so special haven’t changed at all, including the superb instruction and the program’s faculty, which is very, very dedicated.

**HOW HAS STUDENT PARTICIPATION CHANGED?**

**CAV. PREBYS:** I estimate that nearly four thousand students have participated in the Rome Program, including the summer program, which ran from 1974 to 1994. Now, we often have children of alumnae who studied at the program in the early 1970s. Until about 10 years ago, students spent the entire academic year in Rome; at present, roughly half do.

**IN WHAT WAYS DOES THE PROGRAM ALTER STUDENTS’ LIVES?**

**PROF. CHECCA:** They discover more about themselves intellectually, personally, and spiritually. Many learn more about their Catholic faith by being in Rome, the center of Christianity. What they have read in books about Italy now becomes first-hand knowledge. It also sparks their interest in things they discover outside the classroom—a new culture, Italian fashion and food—the Italian way of life.

**CAV. PREBYS:** The experience abroad defines an epoch in the life of a young person and continues to be an influence long after graduation. After study abroad, students have a greater interest in further study of language and culture.

**CAVALIER PREBYS NOW HAS NEARLY 45 YEARS OF RESIDENCY IN ROME. IN WHAT WAYS HAS THIS BENEFITED THE ROME PROGRAM?**

**CAV. PREBYS:** It has enabled me to fully interact with the Italian language, culture, and society, and become an Italian, in general, and to bridge the two worlds, which helps offer the best experience for our students.

**CAVALIER PREBYS, DID YOUR KNIGHTING EARLIER THIS YEAR BY GIORGIO NAPOLITANO, PRESIDENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC, PURPOSELY COINCIDE WITH THE PROGRAM’S 40TH ANNIVERSARY?**

**CAV. PREBYS:** No, it was purely coincidental!
READY FOR THE GAME:
Sister Lou, ready for the game at the Notre Dame football stadium.

“SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE FOOTBALL: Undefeated since 1844.”
Love Thee, 
(SAINT MARY’S AND) 

It’s been more than 60 years since Sister Louisita “Lou” Welsh, CSC, first came to South Bend to study nursing. Her love for sports started even earlier. The youngest of three daughters of farmers in rural central Illinois, Sister Lou grew up in a family that embraced the outdoors and baseball. Her father, Bill, was a fan during the Golden Age of America’s favorite pastime and passed on an appreciation for the game to his youngest daughter.

After completing high school in the early 1950s, Welsh entered the Holy Cross Central Nursing School, housed at St. Joseph Hospital, South Bend, Ind. As part of the program, nursing students could volunteer to be on call for ambulance duty during Notre Dame football games.

Welsh’s first Fighting Irish football ambulance duty was scheduled during the Notre Dame versus Purdue rivalry. “Most students signed up, so I was lucky to be chosen even once. But the day I was on duty nothing happened, so I didn’t get to accompany any player to the hospital,” she recalled.

When she returned to South Bend to join the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross in the late 1950s, Sister Lou says the “mystique” of Notre Dame football, with its legendary players and coaches, made her an avid fan. In the novitiate, her interest in Notre Dame football was bolstered by being surrounded by so many of her fellow Sisters who also were fans. “We listened to the games on the radio and had a great time,” said Sister Lou. “Even when I moved to other cities to live and minister, Saturday afternoons were often spent together with other Sisters enjoying the games. It continued to be a part of my sports life, as it is today.”

While Notre Dame had won seven national championships by the 1950s, it would be nearly 40 years until they became a resounding national presence by signing an unprecedented contract with NBC in the early 1990s. At the time of the 1989 Fiesta Bowl, Sister Lou was living in Tucson, Ariz., and helped to throw a party for what would turn out to be the Fighting Irish’s most recent national championship. “Notre Dame’s popularity in South Bend didn’t necessarily extend to every part the U.S. at that time,” said Sister Lou. “Since we could not find any memorabilia in Tucson, we went to the computer and made colorful signs of our own to put in the yard and hang on the garage and house. It was obvious to all who passed by that the Notre Dame football team was playing in Arizona. Some people would honk, and others would stop. We had a great afternoon and became acquainted with a lot of passersby. And yes, for whatever reason, there were a lot of folks who chose to ignore us.”

Ten years after that championship season, Sister Lou returned to Saint Mary’s to fill a role in the College’s Division for Mission. Since then, she has become a dedicated fan of Saint Mary’s athletic competitions. As the College’s Athletic Department chaplain she can be spotted on the sidelines for all Saint Mary’s home basketball and volleyball contests, enthusiastically getting fellow Sisters active in following the Belles. “When I came to minister at Saint Mary’s College, I immediately began going to the games and getting involved with Saint Mary’s sports,” Sister Lou explained. “I find the Saint Mary’s athletes to be just a great group of young women, so dedicated to both academics and sports.”

Sister Lou still manages to attend one Notre Dame football game every fall, but her main enthusiasm has shifted to Belles’ athletics. “More of my energy is now devoted to Saint Mary’s sports than Notre Dame, for our young women and our staff together make up a special department in the College—one that I pray continues to grow and thrive.”
Saint Mary’s Receives Rare Heritage Edition of The Saint John’s Bible

On August 25, 2010, Judy Rauenhorst Mahoney ’74 bequeathed a rare Heritage Edition of The Saint John’s Bible to Saint Mary’s College. Four of the Bible’s seven volumes—Pentateuch, Psalms, Prophets, and Wisdom Books—were displayed and blessed in O’Laughlin Auditorium during the Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, the annual liturgy marking the opening of the College’s academic year.

“It is an honor to receive the Heritage Edition of The Saint John’s Bible,” said President Carol Ann Mooney. “Saint Mary’s is proud to be among the few educational, religious, art, and cultural centers around the world, including the Vatican, to be presented one of just 299 copies of this fine work.”

The Heritage Edition is a full-sized, fine art reproduction of The Saint John’s Bible and is intended to allow a larger audience to see the Bible’s unique presentation of the Word of God. The Saint John’s Bible is a hand-calligraphed, hand-illuminated Bible that has taken a team of scribes and artists more than a decade to complete. It features 160 vibrant illuminations that include a blending of religious imagery from various traditions, cultures, and creeds as well as visuals from modern time.

Saint Mary’s College’s Heritage Edition will be on permanent display at the Cushwa-Leighton Library. For more information about The Saint John’s Bible, visit saintmarys.edu/pr-the-saint-johns-bible-2010.

Saint Mary’s Creates Social Media-Driven Commencement Experience

For the College’s 163rd Commencement, Saint Mary’s launched a social media-driven Commencement web site. The site made viewing Commencement activities “virtual” and enabled students to upload their own photos to the site. Family members logged on as far away as South Africa and left congratulatory messages on the site.

“We wanted to give the seniors something special that would allow them to share a little piece of their Saint Mary’s experience with family and friends as well as allowing them to have a digital keepsake,” said Daniel Miller, director of web and interactive communication at Saint Mary’s College. “We also wanted to include a community aspect to it by inviting alumnae to be part of the conversation. We built the site around tools that the students were already using like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr.”

Members of the College’s web communications team uploaded videos and photos from the event as it was taking place. The site also showed photos and videos of events leading up to Commencement, such as the Honors Convocation, Senior Week functions, the Nurse’s Pinning Ceremony, and the Baccalaureate Mass. Visit saintmarys.edu/2010 for more information.

Saint Mary’s Ranks Among the Nation’s Top 100 Liberal Arts, Again

For the fourth year in a row, the U.S. News & World Report 2011 College Guide named Saint Mary’s College one of the best “Best National Liberal Arts Colleges” in the country. Saint Mary’s ranked 93 out of the 250 schools on the list, which was published in the September issue of U.S. News & World Report. U.S. News rates schools based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. The U.S. News & World Report College Guide is a tool for students and parents considering higher education opportunities.

Saint Mary’s College President Carol Ann Mooney set a goal early in her presidency, which began in June 2004, to move Saint Mary’s into the national liberal arts rankings. “We know that national rankings are important to our incoming students and their families. I am very pleased that we are ranked in the top 100. Students graduate from Saint Mary’s with an education that challenges their minds, awakens their imaginations, and instills in them the desire to leave the world a better place,” Mooney said.
Basketball

The 2010 season proved to be yet another successful season for the Saint Mary’s basketball team as the Belles finished in the top three of the conference yet again. As the season progressed, the team would maintain at least a .500 winning percentage throughout the winter—a first since the 1988–89 season. The Belles set a handful of new school records and accomplishments as Anna Kammrath ’10 and Kelley Murphy ’12 earned All-MIAA honors. Kammrath, who set new school records for rebounds in a single game and career as well as steals in a game, was a First Team All-MIAA (Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association) selection while Murphy was a Second Team All-MIAA honoree.

Tennis

The Saint Mary’s tennis team had another successful season in the spring of 2010 as they won at least 10 dual matches for the fifth-straight year. Since the MIAA changed the format of the conference tournament beginning in 2007, the Belles have won at least two matches in the season-ending event. That streak was continued in 2010 as Saint Mary’s rebounded from an opening round loss to Albion to claim wins over Alma and Olivet. At the conclusion of the MIAA Tournament, Camille Gebert ’10 and Jillian Hurley ’11 were both named to the All-MIAA First Team. Gebert went undefeated at #2 singles in conference play for the second straight year while Hurley had 10 wins combined between doubles and singles matches in MIAA matches this year.

Golf Part Two

For the second consecutive spring, the nationally ranked Belles golf team clinched the conference’s automatic qualifying bid to the NCAA Division III Championships by holding off a late surge by Olivet. At the NCAA national tournament in May, Natalie Matuszak ’12 and Mary Kate Boyce ’11 helped lead the Belles to tie their best ever finish at nationals as the team brought home fourth place. The pair finished in the top ten in the country to earn All-American honors. Matuszak, who was in first place for much of the national championship tournament, finished tied for third while Boyce finished in ninth place.

Softball

The Belles softball team has won at least 20 games and has boasted at least a .400 team slugging percentage in each of the last five seasons. Moreover, the team earned their way into the MIAA Tournament in May for the fifth time in the last seven years as one of the top four teams in the league. Ashley Peterson ’10 set more than a dozen school and conference records as her illustrious career concluded with her second All-American honor. Peterson, who was also named the MIAA MVP for the season, and Hayley Bojorquez ’11 were both All-MIAA First-Team honorees while Lauren Enayati ’12 and Kate Mitchell ’12 both earned All-MIAA Second-Team accolades as Saint Mary’s landed four players on the All-MIAA teams for the first time since 2006. Moreover, Peterson and Bojorquez were both NFCA All-Region honorees for their 2010 performances.

New Coaches

This fall, two new faces become a part of the Saint Mary’s Athletic Department as Michael Joyce and Mark Benishek joined the head coaching ranks. Joyce will be taking over as the head soccer coach while Benishek will fill the position of head swimming coach. Joyce most recently served as the head coach of the women’s soccer team at Cornell College in Iowa from 2007–09. Benishek, meanwhile, is the assistant director of RecSports at the University of Notre Dame where he is in charge of Aquatics.
Alumnae Deaths

Myrtle Kramer Streine '28, mother of Catherine Streine Hartford '63, April 28, 2010.
Lorraine Emma Meiser Melton ex '37, March 11, 2010.
Mary Hanson Peaslee ex '50, March 29, 2010.
Nancy Reed McEvoy ex '51, June 19, 2010.
LaVerne Slager Lewis ex '52, April 13, 2010.
Mary Gilding Heinrich ex '54, August 14, 2009.
Mary Susen Huber ex '44, April 16, 2010.
Mary McNulty O’Connor ex '54, May 15, 2010.
Sister M. Christian (Bertha Marie Koch), CSC '59, June 14, 2010.
Sister M. Rita Dolores (Dolores Virginia Carr), CSC '58, July 9, 2010.
Helena Ueno Brown ’59, April 21, 2010.
Patricia Carey ’59, June 22, 2010.
Sister M. Helen Barrow, OSB ’65, January 26, 2008.
Sister M. Rita Dolores (Dolores Virginia Carr), CSC '58, July 9, 2010.
Sister Mary Agnes (Mary Josephine Teeling), CSC '60, mother of Elizabeth Meyer Smith ’66 and Mary Meyer Gross ’88, sister of Pamela Herrold Koush ex ’65, March 13, 2010.
Jill Rentschler ’60, June 29, 2010.
Margaret Zeis McGarvey ex ’64, June 2, 2009.
Sister M. Helen Barrow, OSB ’65, January 26, 2008.
Monica Torzewski Peak ’67, aunt of Kelly Martinczak ’05 and Kimberly Martinczak ’08, April 29, 2010.
Julia Anne Matt Swanson ’74, June 27, 2010.
John M. Gemmell, father of Melissa Gemmell Janda ’93, June 12, 2010.
Catherine Hennessy, mother of Carol Hennessy Excell ’81, June 9, 2010.
Col. Michael Edward Lebiedz, husband of Joan Walsh Lebiedz ’79, father of Kathleen Lebiedz Poteracki ’04, Margaret Zeis McGarvey ex ’64, June 2, 2009.
Sister M. Rita Dolores (Dolores Virginia Carr), CSC '58, July 9, 2010.
Helena Ueno Brown ’59, April 21, 2010.
Patricia Carey ’59, June 22, 2010.
Sister M. Helen Barrow, OSB ’65, January 26, 2008.
Monica Torzewski Peak ’67, aunt of Kelly Martinczak ’05 and Kimberly Martinczak ’08, April 29, 2010.
Julia Anne Matt Swanson ’74, June 27, 2010.
John M. Gemmell, father of Melissa Gemmell Janda ’93, June 12, 2010.
Catherine Hennessy, mother of Carol Hennessy Excell ’81, June 9, 2010.

In Memoriam

Thomas “Tom” Nessinger ND ’54, who served on the Saint Mary’s College Board of Trustees from 1987 to 1998, died on April 19, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Catherine “CC” Shaughnessy Nessinger ’56, son Thomas S. ND ’82, daughters Marguerite and Mary Nessinger ’86, two grandchildren, Sophia and Genevieve Mook, and a sister, Rita Siemer.

Immediately after graduating from the University of Notre Dame, Nessinger was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served in Korea until his discharge in 1955. He then joined the accounting firm Arthur Andersen and worked there until his retirement as a partner in charge of recruiting in 1989. Memorial services were held in Frankfort, Ill.

“Tom really didn’t know much about Saint Mary’s except through me. He was hoping that our daughter Mary would go to Notre Dame. But when we took her to Saint Mary’s to audition for the music major, he experienced the College’s friendliness and was just taken with the place,” said his wife. “He said “This is the place for her.””

“Tom was in charge of recruiting at Arthur Andersen, and visited Notre Dame two or three days a year to interview Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students. He realized the quality of the Saint Mary’s student and decided they deserved to have their own on-campus interviews. He started it for Andersen, and other companies followed. He always said Saint Mary’s students stood up to any other school, and he would know because he interviewed everywhere.”

Family Deaths

Loretta Calnan Acker, mother of Ann Acker ’70, Mary Acker Klingenberger ’79, grandmother of Molly Acker ’66, and Anne Palmietter Acker ’06, aunt of Carol Collins Hogan ’72, March 28, 2010.
Patricia Bringardner, mother of Elizabeth Bringardner O’Donnell ’79, Mary Pat Bringardner Mahoney ’81, Joelene Bringardner ’83, and Laura Bringardner DiValerio ’90, aunt of Susan Bringardner McCarthy ’84, Tracy Bringardner Sommer ’85 and Molly Bringardner Carlson ’91, February 28, 2010.
Henry Caputo, husband of Alice Wodtko Caputo ex ’60, uncle of Cynthia Nave Prendergast ’71 and Sandra Nave Grenada ’72, November 15, 2009.
Matthew L. Cockrell, father-in-law of Barbara Hollihan Cockrell ’78, June, 2010.
Jeff Duff, husband of Eva Polizzi Duff ’05, son-in-law of Michele Roberge ’78, June, 2010.
John M. Gemmell, father of Melissa Gemmell Janda ’93, June 12, 2010.
Catherine Hennessy, mother of Carol Hennessy Excell ’81, June 9, 2010.

FOR THE RECORD

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Troester Collins ’91 and former husband Troester Murphy ’90, uncle of Patricia Edmund Meagher Troester, father of Golden ’85 and, September 4, 2009.

Kay Hogan King ex ’82 and Peggy Pecjak Strazzabosco Graham ’85, aunt of Mary Mary G. Strazzabosco, mother of Julie Stephenson Powers ’78, April 27, 2010.


Mary G. Strazzabosco, mother of Julie Strazzabosco Graham ’85, aunt of Mary Kay Hogan King ex ’82 and Peggy Perchak Golden ’85 and, September 4, 2009.

Edmund Meagher Troester, father of Ann Troester Lennon ’88 and Margaret Troester Murphy ’90, uncle of Patricia Troester Collins ’91 and former husband of Rosalie Riegle ’59, June 27, 2010.

George W. Valenta, ND ’50 ’51, husband of Kathleen Phalen Valenta ’45, father of Elizabeth Valenta White ’78 and Frances Valenta Dwyer ’79, April 28, 2009.


Muriel Flanagan Cullen Argen ’53 and Dr. Ralph J. ND ’53, December 2009.

Katherine Rzepka Staples ’02 and Brian, April 24, 2010.

Sarah Nestor Babcock ’03 and Brock, April 24, 2010.


Don’t see your class news?

Contact Jessica Stuifbergen ’99 in the Alumnae Relations office to find out how to become a class reporter.

jstuifbe@saintmarys.edu or (574) 284-5332

Summer Academy

Summer Camps

Visit saintmarys.edu/camps

FOR THE RECORD

Nora McKeveitt Pfeffer, mother of Martha Pfeffer MacDonald ’67, January 30, 2010.


Mary G. Strazzabosco, mother of Julie Strazzabosco Graham ’85, aunt of Mary Kay Hogan King ex ’82 and Peggy Perchak Golden ’85 and, September 4, 2009.

Edmund Meagher Troester, father of Ann Troester Lennon ’88 and Margaret Troester Murphy ’90, uncle of Patricia Troester Collins ’91 and former husband of Rosalie Riegle ’59, June 27, 2010.

George W. Valenta, ND ’50 ’51, husband of Kathleen Phalen Valenta ’45, father of Elizabeth Valenta White ’78 and Frances Valenta Dwyer ’79, April 28, 2009.


Marriages


Katherine Rzepka Staples ’02 and Brian, April 24, 2010.

Sarah Nestor Babcock ’03 and Brock, April 24, 2010.


Annie Hartzel Olsen ’92 and Chris, Andrew James, September 28, 2009.

Marguerite Schropp Lucarelli ’93 and Tony; Eileen Mary Patricia, August 14, 2009.

Seanne Patrick Buckwalter ’95 and Patrick; Twins, Jacob Patrick and Charles Patrick, October 21, 2009.

Anne Hartzel Olsen ’92 and Chris, Andrew James, September 28, 2009. Marriages


Candice Janicek Arniola ’00 and Aaron, Luca Elise, January 5, 2009.


Marie Martin; Junkmann ’00 and Jake; James, October 29, 2008.

Sara Cwidak Kunzhal ’00 and Eric Kate Alice, April 9, 2009.

Colleen Killian Mariotti ’00 and Ryan ND ’00; Reid Killian, January 10, 2010.

Molly Burns Michaelski ’00 and Matthew; Alexander Matthews, August 1, 2008.

Kate Murphy Nevendorn ’00 and Taylor; James “Finn”, September 5, 2009.


Julie Semancik Wade ’00 and Rudy; Myla Marie, November 13, 2009.

Katherine Claussen Bell ’01 and Nicolas; Audrey Jeannette, January 7, 2010.

Betse Sprague Monica ’01 and Christopher; Mallorie Elizabeth, March 6, 2010.

Christin Yesnik Fairchild ’04 and Michael ND ’00, MBA ’04; Elle Marie, May 22, 2010.

Elsie Rupright Bohl ’05 and Brandon; Gabrielle Marie, May 19, 2010.

Kassandra Kriegel Reiff ’05 and Tobin; Austin James, August 29, 2009.

Jillian Roth Gill ’06 and Brittan; Matthew; McCarty, February 21, 2009.

Jillian Roth Gill ’06 and Brittan; Matthew; McCarty, February 21, 2009.

For the most up-to-date information, rosters, and team schedules visit saintmarys.edu/athletics today.

GoBelles!
CLUB NEWS

Boston
Happy Fall, Boston area alumnae, another amazing summer in New England has passed! In late July we held another successful student send-off, welcoming our local future alumnae with pizza at Alta Strada in Wellesley. We had 17 people in attendance, and we were so happy to spend some time with future, current and former Saint Mary’s students! Coming up this fall, we look forward to our annual Founders’ Day event (location and date TBD) and several game watches. Please check your email for our regular e-news updates for all planned events, and if you are not receiving them, let us know at smcboston@gmail.com. If you’d like to be involved in planning events or just know more, please email us. We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

Chicago East
The Chicago East Alumnae Club hosted its annual Spring Fundraising Tea on April 29, 2010. Thank you to Peggy Abood ‘92 and Maureen Abood ‘90, who graciously hosted this event in their fabulous Lincoln Park condo. Over 40 Belles from the Chicagoland area were in attendance and approximately $3000 was raised for the Chicago Endowed Scholarship. Guests caught up with each other, campus events and scholarship recipient Kristen Starkey ’11 while enjoying great appetizers, sushi, wine, and, of course, tea.

In total, the Chicago Endowed Scholarship has awarded over $100,000 in aid to Chicago students since its inception in 1984. Be sure to check upcoming newsletters for 2011 Tea information.

Chicago West
The Chicago West Club hosted our annual Student Sendoff at the home of Dan & Patty Piercy Cushing ’90 on August 3rd. Six incoming students and their parents were greeted by recent graduates Caitlyn Murphy ’09 and current student Christina Bueno ’13 who answered questions and offered direction as the girls packed & planned for the new school year. Everyone was eager to hear tips & advice and quickly began mingling – it was a wonderful evening. Our best wishes to all the girls – we envy your time just starting at Saint Mary’s!

Book Club continues to meet each month, with fall events in August, September and October. Many thanks to all the book club hostesses in 2010. You can check out our reading list on the club website – and watch for the 2011 list in January. Please offer book ideas or volunteer to host a book discussion by contacting Anne Murray McDermott ’85 at stmcmcdermott@sbcglobal.net.

We are also planning our service day at the People’s Resource Center in Wheaton for October/November. We usually have a strong turnout to offer much needed assistance in the food & clothing pantries, but don’t forget cash donations are always welcome.

In December, be sure to watch the website for details on the club’s annual Evening of Sharing Christmas gathering which will be held on Dec 2nd.

We are now on Facebook! Please check us out under name: Saint Mary’s College Chicago West Alumnae Club. Many thanks to Maria Smerglio Mulhair ’91 for creating & maintaining this new method of communicating with our alumnae. If you are interested in becoming active in the club, please contact Alison Spohn Kavalich ’93 at irishannie93@yahoo.com.

Cleveland
On August 5, the Club hosted a student send-off at Mavis Winkles Restaurant in Independence. Current and incoming students enjoyed the evening with lively discussions. The event was a great opportunity for the students to meet before the start of the Fall semester.

We are sending out our annual newsletter via e-mail. If you have not received it, make sure we have your current e-mail address. Contact Cheri Petride Miller ’79 at cmiller8457@earthlink.net.

Colorado
On Saturday, July 24th, the Colorado Alumnae Club held its annual student send off at the home of Club President, Sheila Flynn Boone ’65, in Parker. The four students were lovely, and the alumnae were all excited and impressed to see firsthand four examples of the intelligent, well spoken and charming young women who are attending our alma mater.

After lunch, the alumnae selected a question, from a list of questions about Saint Mary’s. One of the most popular questions was, “what was your freshman roommate like?” We heard about lots of interesting experiences! When someone talked about “…special events before Christmas vacation”, the students all wanted to renew the tradition of the midnight walk through the halls, singing Christmas Carols. They could not believe the questions about school uniforms – they were not in favor of renewing that tradition!

The next event will be our celebration of Founders’ Day in the fall.

To find out more information about the Colorado Club, please call or email Sheila Flynn Boone ’65 at 720-851-0985 or sfboone@comcast.net.

Columbus
The Columbus Club recently hosted a New Student Send-Off as well as a Happy Hour and Bunco Night. The next Happy Hour will be Tuesday, September 21st at The Burgundy Room. The Columbus Club will also be hosting a Founders’ Day Wine Tasting, which will feature a silent auction, on October 15th. All money raised will go towards the Club’s Scholarship fund. As always, the Book Club continues to meet every 6-8 weeks. All Columbus Club members are reminded that annual dues are due and for more information regarding any of the events please contact Katie M. Vincer Sears ’03 at kvincer@gmail.com.

Dallas/Fort Worth
We held our annual Student Send-Off in August at the home of Ellen McQuillian Drape ‘92. The club has 1 freshman and 13 returning students this year. Our book club recently read The Shack by William Paul Young and Mennonite in a Little Black Dress: A Memoir of Going Home by Rhoda Janzen.

If you’d like to hear about upcoming book club meetings or join our club’s other activities, send us an email at smcdfwcclub@gmail.com.

Des Moines
The Des Moines Club’s summer service project involving providing a meal at St. Joseph Emergency Shelter, which is the only Des Moines-area shelter that serves entire families: Michelle Nagle Likteig ‘02 spearheaded this project, in which almost one-third of the Club’s members participated.

In August the Club held a send-off at the home of Sarah Sullivan Bigelow ’96 for new student Allison Gerths. Alumnae enjoyed hearing about Saint Mary’s from a current student, Jessica Cross, and sharing with Allison what they value about their Saint Mary’s education.

Sister Kathleen Dolphin, Director of the Center for Spirituality at the College, will speak to the Club on the legacy of Vatican II and its meaning in a troubled Church. Des Moines Club events are typically SMC-only gatherings, but husbands and friends are invited to this special evening. For more information, contact Aimee Beckmann-Collier ’75, (515) 222-1516; aimee.beckmann-collier@drape.edu.

Eastern North Carolina
The Eastern North Carolina Alumnae Club celebrated its first anniversary at their Student Send-off Brunch on August 1st at the home of Judy Tripe Geaslen ’84. Twenty Belles representing classes from 1962 to 2011 were in attendance. A beautiful blessing was offered before our meal by Sister Mary Margaret Weber ’67. Many laughs and memories were shared by all! A special thank you to the current Board members for sponsoring this event for the club: Christine Luby Gaither ’72, Judy Tripe Geaslen ’84, Heather Peoples Sopko ’00, Christina Cronley Sumner ’02 and Shannon Rogers ’02. The upcoming events for the club include book club on September 29th at the home of Mardi Hack ’62, our Founders’ Day Mass and Celebratory Dinner on October 23rd, and participation in the Annual Jingle Bell Walk
In May, London Club president Cynthia McKiell Hunt ’80 hosted a dinner for Saint Mary’s faculty participating in the European Summer Study program. Pictured in the photo left to right are: Pablo Hernandez, Assistant Professor of Economics at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia; Melissa Bialko, Professional Specialist in The Theatre Department; Cynthia McKiell Hunt ’80, and David Stefanici, Professor of History.

sponsored by the Arthritis Foundation on December 4th. The club is making a conscious effort to hold events throughout the triangle to encourage participation. If you have not connected with us, or need to update your contact information, please contact CC Summer ’02 at Christina.Sumner@progress.com.

Grand Rapids

The Grand Rapids Saint Mary’s College Alumnae Club continues to meet every other month for our book club. Our next book club meeting is in September at the home of Nicole D. May, ’92. Our next selection for September is Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Please contact Tara Melichar Millar ’90 tmillar@comcast.net for further details. Sendoff will be held August 12th at the home of Nicole May, ’92. Look for upcoming events on our website.

If you are new to the West Michigan area or have any suggestions or ideas, please contact Rebecca Jawahir Sypniowski ’96 rjawahir@msn.com for more information. We are always looking for new alumns to join in our fun!!

Kansas City

The Kansas City Club was light on events but big on welcoming new members, and new babies, this summer. The Club’s fourth annual ND football ticket raffle helped the Club continue its scholarship for a KC Belle. The Christmas tea is slated for December 5th. Contact Kelly Tyler ’87 kelly@KellyTylerTrainingServices.com for details about the event and club.

London

On May 31, 2010, Cynthia McKiell Hunt ’80 and her husband Alex hosted a dinner for the European Summer Study Program faculty at their home. Attending were David Stefanici, Professor of History; Melissa Bialko, Professional Specialist in the Theatre Department; and Pablo Hernandez, Assistant Professor of Economics, Hollins University, Roanoke, Virginia.

Courses for the four-week European Summer Study Program take place not in a classroom but in locations where history was made. Destinations this year included Paris, London, Edinburgh and Dublin with detours to Bath, Stonehenge and St Andrews, among others.

Dr Stefanici said, ‘This year 26 Saint Mary’s students participated. We also welcomed students from Notre Dame and San Diego State. Students heard a lecture on the French Revolution on the steps of the Paris Opera House built by Napoleon III, attended a Shakespeare play in the Globe Theatre, and learned about the Irish Rebellion of 1916 in front of the General Post Office in Dublin where it began. They were able to take up to six credits to apply toward their general elective needs.’

The next European Summer Study Program, part of the College’s Center for Women’s International Leadership, is scheduled for 2012. If you would like more information, please contact Dr. Stefanici at dstefan@stmarys.edu.

New York City

On June 21st a small number of alumnae gathered at the apartment of Cathy Callas ’77 to join in on the Summer Solstice meditation which marks the longest day of the year, when the sun is at its full power and the earth is most abundant. Cathy Martin Baiardi ’71 an Empowered-Life Coach led the meditation. Thank you to both ladies for a wonderful evening. If you are interested in getting involved in the Saint Mary’s Alumnae Club of New York City please contact Carey O’Neill ’99 at careyoneill@gmail.com.

San Diego

The Saint Mary’s Alumnae of San Diego had a busy summer seeing old friends, making new friends, and planning ahead. The San Diego Belles began our summer at the clubhouse of Sandy Parry ’07 to revisit our successes of the past year and to schedule our upcoming events. On Saturday, August 9th Sandy Parry ’07, Barbara Drossel McNight ’77, Lynn Dargis Ambrose ’52, and Mary Jean Wallace Paxton ’52 set out to meet a few of the incoming members of the Saint Mary’s Class of 2014 at the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College Student Send-Off, which was a great success!

Please join us Sunday, October 17th for our Founder’s Day mass and events at St. Bridget’s Parish in Pacific Beach (more information to follow, please contact Colleen O’Rourke Veltz ’94 colleenveltz@gmail.com). Don’t forget to join us and the Notre Dame Club of San Diego during this 2010 Football Season! For more information regarding future activities or suggestions please contact Sandy Parry ’07 at sandyparry@yahoo.com or (619) 871-8016.

South Bend

The South Bend Club held their annual picnic on June 13 on campus at Dalloway’s Clubhouse, where the elected new officers for the upcoming year.

The first-year student sendoff will be held on August 15th from 2 – 4 at Dalloway’s. The club will hold a dessert reception with a meet and greet for the class of 2014.

Founders’ Day will be held on Thursday, October 28th in the Stapleton Lounge in Le Mans Hall. Professor Susan Vance will be the keynote speaker. She will be speaking about the women’s entrepreneurship initiative that just started on campus and that was featured in the Summer 2010 Courier. For more information on club events visit http://www.saintmarys.edu/~alumnae/clubpages/INDIANA/southbend.html.

St. Louis

The St. Louis Alumnae Club proudly raised over $500 to help fund a service trip for Leslie Wilson, ’13. Wilson, a biology major, was chosen to volunteer at The Holy Family Surgery Center in Honduras, spearheaded by Florence “LuLu” Romano Daly, ’82, a registered nurse, and Dr. Peter Daly ND ’82, an orthopedic surgeon. The goal of HFSC is to provide same day surgical procedures for underprivileged patients who otherwise could not afford surgery. Many of these patients struggle to receive medical attention in the few public hospitals due to inadequate access to services and personnel. Thank you to the many alumnae who made this trip possible for Leslie. Also in August, Monica Councilor Wohlberg, ’01, organized a freshman send-off in Webster Groves for freshmen Molly Brendle, ’14, and Colleen Madden, ‘14. Thank you to all who contributed to making it a wonderful event. Please email Kara Kezios, ’01, at kik900@yahoo.com, if you are interested in serving on the Board this year or wish to be added to the email address for event information. Volunteers are needed! Stay tuned for details on an upcoming gathering. - Kara Kezios, ’01

Advertise in our playbill, Applause, and support the arts at Saint Mary’s College.

Contact Christopher Sallak at csallak@saintmary.edu
World War II. In singing class praise, I neglected to
responsibilities upon leaving college just prior to
class of 70, members who had to assume great
record the amazing accomplishments of our small
30
team. She was a ping-pong champ. My best mem-
was my teammate on a championship basketball
just went outside and hugged trees.”

smoker as often she had to ask special permission
our Puggy had become a nun, I was surprised. Liv-
you just hate us?” “No,” we replied. “We just outgrew
at heart. By the time our class reached our 50th, we
nun of any of us. Our small class of 70 was split in half
have stuck with Saint Mary’s like wallpaper on a wall.
Thankfully, God had His way.

In my day as a student, Hilda Bromeling, whom
we called “Puggy,” was the least likely to become a
num of any of us. Our small class of 70 was split in half
the first few decades. There were the “City Slickers”
and the “Country Kids” from small towns. Our Puggy
played both sides, but basically, she was a party girl
at heart. By the time our class reached our 50th, we
blended perfectly. One City Slicker asked us, “Didn’t
you just hate us?” “No,” we replied. “We just outgrew
you.”

A decade after graduation, when I heard that
our Puggy had become a nun, I was surprised. Liv-
ing next to her as a sophomore in Le Mans, she
struggled just to get to prayer hour when most of
us attended daily Mass. Puggy was known as a great
smoker as often she had to ask special permission from
Sister Pieta for the key to the smoking room. When
Frän Unckrich Deibig and I attended our
10th reunion, we asked Puggy how she handled her
smoking problem. Sister replied with a big smile, “I
just went outside and hugged trees.”

As a student, Puggy was a bouncy athlete. She was
my teammate on a championship basketball
team. She was a ping-pong champ. My best mem-
ory of her is the smooth manner in which she could
jump a horse over the bars.

I could go on and on about Sister M. Saint Brig-
id’s versatility and virtues. She loved our class and she
prayed for us daily. Though very ill, she was on cam-
pus for our 70th reunion (part of God’s plan?).

If I make it back at age 91 for the
Courier’s spring
Sis-
end from Florida with her four daughters.

I spoke to Gert Daley Moran who lives in a sub-
urb of Chicago and who now has 15 grandchildren and
10 great-grandchildren. She lives in the same
complex as Pat Rogers Tyrrell, who recently fell
and broke her right arm. Gert lives alone, but goes
every weekend to visit her daughters. Lary Cahill
lives close by, but unfortunately, is not well.

Kay Houser Sanford and her husband, Bob,
celebrated their 41st wedding anniversary at Mass
with a special blessing from their friend, Father Brian
Feenlon. “We are still living on our own at home and
as active as possible at our ages,” Kay says.

Miriam Marshall Hemphill writes: “I went to Ore-
gon last month to attend my granddaughter’s wed-
ding. She and her husband went to Thailand for their
honeymoon, which was cut short by unrest in that
country—riots and the like. Then I was in Oregon
again to see the same granddaughter graduate from
medical school. She will do residency in a Portland
suburb before going into family practice. Her first act
as an MD was to wrap my toe, which had mi-
nor surgery a couple of weeks ago. This took place
in her parents’ living room. This afternoon, I start an
Osher course in opera, which is based on fairy tales. It
should be fun.”

Mary Alice Wright Connolly
2501 Southwest Thornton Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50321-2130
(515) 285-7888

Mary Cullinan Murphy
2946 Knollwood Lane
Glenview, IL 60029-2643
(847) 729-1051

From Mary Alice: Almarie Sackley Mathews
reports recovering from her fall in the garage in her
new home in Denver. Although beset by severe ar-
thritis pain, she is walking with a walker. She also is
fighting the pain of sciatica. True to Almarie, she is
making progress each day. My daughter, Ann, may
see Almarie in September on a trip to the mountains.
Perhaps we will have more news at that time.

Our friend, Mary Alice O’Laughlin, seems
to be doing well. She just returned from her winter
home in Mexico. Shortly after her return, she got the
disturbing news that her only surviving brother
had died. This very upsetting news, though not a
complete surprise to her, was extremely traumatic.
Subsequently I have talked to her, only to hear more
bad news. Mary Alice had to have extensive surgery
on her face and nose, which involved some plastic
surgery. It was an outpatient experience and I vis-
ited with her the night of the surgery, and every-
thing seemed to have gone well. I will update her
condition—which I am sure will be good—in the next
Courier. Mary Alice has quit playing golf, but is sub-
stituting bridge for golf. Soon Mary Alice will see Sis
Griffin Schwaba ‘41 and will update me on the visit
so I can share it with you.

Mary Alice gave me a piece of news about Mary
Jane Cullinan Murphy. It seems that Mary Jane,
several weeks ago, had a bad fall and suffered a
broken hip. She is now residing in the same nursing
home as her husband, John “Murph.” She had to have
two hip pins and faces a long recovery. We hope and
pray she is making swift progress and is feeling much
better.

Jeanne Yuncker Klem reported that Mary Voll
Coquillard is a new resident in Holy Cross Village in
South Bend. Jeanne had not talked to her and knew
no more details. Jeanne’s grandson has returned
from Afghanistan. He is a physician and will return to
his medical practice.

Gerry Roche Fahey, in Hinsdale, Illinois, told
me that she is doing fine.

From Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Louise Peterman
Prosser gave me a report about the oil spill from
someone who is living the disaster. She said every-
one is furious with BP. The wildlife has been so affect-
ed by this spill. And people’s livelihoods are certainly
affected. Perhaps we will get some good news from
that front soon. She did say she would be traveling
with her family to Nova Scotia in June. In July, she
will go with other family members to New York. You can’t
keep the Saint Mary’s girls down. Way to go Weesie!

Jeanne Sohm Thyberg, Pat Nolan Mclaugh-
in ‘42, and I still try to meet for lunch about once a
month. Pat’s older sister, Mary Nolan Kelly ‘40
died suddenly last week. Our condolences go to Pat
and her family. During our lunches we laugh and tell
stories about our lives. The Saint Mary’s stories and
laughter are wonderful therapy. Jeanne is busy tak-
ing care of Stan. Her children are close to Des Moines
and help with his care on a daily basis.
As for me, one of my grandchildren will be going with her family for two weeks to Haiti to support the people there in their many needs. Another grandson, who lives with me, just graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in physics and math. This surprises me since I cannot add two plus two. He will be going on to get a Masters and PhD in physics. He is a joy and our family is so proud of him. My sons and their wives and families see me frequently and they are a joy for me.

My daughter, Ann, retired this past spring. She has developed a program for struggling readers and has implemented it in a local school. It has been very successful. She works about three days a week, and we garden or run errands the other days. I frequently help Ann babysit for my granddaughter Madelyn. She is a fireball continually running, running, running. I know why children are given to young people! She is a joy.

I don't have much news from girls outside the Des Moines area. If you have a minute write or call me. I know there must be some of you who would love to share your lives with our wonderful classmates. I will be glad to share whatever you like, and I would love hearing from my treasured friends from the class of 1944.

I am late with my letter as I have had the stomach flu, and I have been depressed as my brother, Al Vodicka ND '45, passed on May 11. It was unexpected as he had a fall and was doing well, but got an infection, which was fatal. Al was married to Eleanor Toffenetti '45 for almost 68 years. They met on the South Shore train going back to South Bend as he was returning from my sister's (Marion Vodicka Casey '39) wedding. It was love at first sight and Eleanor was the ideal wife for his brother. They had six children and 14 grandchildren.

I received a nice note from Jane Daly Clark after she read about my brother's passing in the paper. She invited me to visit her when I am in the area. Some time ago, Jane sent me a picture of her and her 19 grandchildren.

I also had a call from Marianne Van Drisse telling me about her travels. She told me about her 19 grandchildren. Some time ago, Jane sent me a picture of her and her 19 grandchildren.

Joanne Morris O’Brien 32865 Faircrest Drive Beverly Hills, MI 48025 (248) 647-1544

All reports of the reunion call it a “great success.” Even though I wasn’t able to be there, I have heard many glowing reports. This is the first time I have missed our reunion and I am thankful to Alice Flynn Osberger and Penny Schilling Ferriter for bringing me on-the-spot news.

Penny called to tell about the picnic, which was great fun in spite of the rain, which began shortly before the picnic. Everyone gathered under a big tent, which Penny described as big enough to be from a circus.

Toby Black Kress and Jim, and Anne Reynolds Pyron and Ira, were also attending were Jean Suelsz Streicher, Kay Morris Langworthy, and Elaine Korth Loser.

Dorothy Skemp Heberlein, Sister Ramona Oppenheim, Betty Nolan, Marge Quinn O’Grady, and Alice Dusek Swanke shared the good times.

Joellen Pence was not at reunion, but sent her scrapbook that she kept during freshman year. So everyone there enjoyed reminiscing about her letters and pictures. Joellen lives in Omaha where she is retired from Mutual of Omaha. She writes that she is fine and enjoying living in a retirement community.

Alice Flynn Osberger writes: “The reflections of many speakers struck a familiar chord with most of us. It was our spiritual and academic formation at Saint Mary’s, and the friendships, that have sustained us through the years. It was good to be in the familiar and loving community of belief and caring for one another.”

Mary Mudd McHale said she will bring her daughter the next time so she can see for herself what Saint Mary’s has meant to her. Mary’s daughter, Connie, Mary Ellen Moloney Brady came with her daughter, Laura, and Kathy Osberger ’75 stopped by with her friend, Cathy Schlesinger ’75, who in town to help move her parents, Bruno and Alice, to California. Dr. Schlesinger taught many of us and our daughters, and then retired five years ago after 60 years at Saint Mary’s.

Penny Gardner Haaser came from Connecticut and went to Chicago after reunion with Terry Kelty Studeman, Mary Ruth-McGee Dorsher, and Fran Hanson Thale.

Ann Trautschold Sheedy expected to have knee replacements for the amount of time. She recently celebrated her 60-year wedding anniversary. She lives about half of the year in Cuchara, Colo., and myself. We admired her 80th birthday this year? “After that it will be a summer as usual, alternating between their homes in Long Beach, Ind., and Oak Brook, Ill.,” Joanne says.

Janice Martin Hickey lives in Pittsford, N.Y., and has three sons and one daughter. She asks for our prayers for her daughter, Joan Marie Moffett, who had a stroke last October and needs our prayers. Joan has three young children. This is my last report. We need some new reporters. Cookie and I have done it for 60 years and now need a replacement. It is not a hard job, so give it a try.

Irene Vodicka Monaghen 23993 Kaleb Drive Corona, CA 92883 (951) 277-9605 (Home) (951) 314-7497 (Cell) Irene_vm007@yahoo.com

Irene called to tell about the picnic, which was a “great success.” Everyone gathered under a big tent.

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In March, we lost a dear classmate with whom many of us had remained close over the years, Celeste (Lettie) Miller. Celeste became ill on a vacation in Mexico and was airlifted back to her home in Dixon, N.M., where she died peacefully on Tuesday, March 30, surrounded by close friends and her beloved partner of 43 years, Sarita Pene. Celeste joined the Order of the Holy Cross after she graduated (with degrees in political science and theology). She taught political science for 17 years at the Holy Cross College in Dakkak, Bangladesh, until 1970, when she left the order and returned to the U.S. She moved with Sarita to New Mexico where she taught political science at The College at Santa Fe and worked as an art therapist at the battered women’s shelter and Santa Maria El Mirador. Celeste earned an MSW at Highlands University in 1980.

Celeste and Sarita settled in Dixon in 1977, building one of the first passive solar homes there—her way of caring for the earth. Later, they added a weavery and a guesthouse. Celeste became a tapestry weaver and showed in the Annual Dixon Studio Tour for many years. She and Sarita became the hub of a community of artists who lived along “the high road to Taos.” Her greatest passion was working for world peace. She was inspired by Ghandi, Father Berrigan, and John Dear. She organized the Embudo Valley Peace Group, which participated in many Hiroshima Day Demonstrations in Los Alamos, including a dramatic presentation of human-sized stilted puppets. Celeste was known for her enthusiasm, feistiness, ability to urge others into action, and above all, her generosity. A Mass took place at Celeste’s home on March 31, followed by burial at the Composto Catholic Church in Taipa.

Over the years a number of our classmates have visited Lettie and Sarita in “La Casta,” including Mary Jo Strott Bowman, Nancy Hutchison Newton, Lynn Dargis Ambrose, and myself. We admired the wonderful life that they had created with their many friends there. Lettie remained an inspiration in many of our lives: a crusader against injustice and an advocate for the environment. (I am glad that she didn’t have to witness the oil spill!) She worked to make the world a better place and we will all miss her. Does it seem possible? We feel so young, yet we’re usually the oldest in the group. Are you one of those celebrating a BIG 80th birthday this year? If you are, please send me something special that you are doing to celebrate. Joanne Frazil mentions looking forward to having dinner with her family on June 13 (while not mentioning that it will be her 80th). “After that it will be a summer as usual, alternating between their homes in Long Beach, Ind., and Oak Brook, Ill.” Joanne says.
For the second time, Dr. Mary Catherine Georgas Flath ’84 has received the prestigious annual Gussler Family Endowed Chair in Science and Mathematics Award at Ashland Community and Technical College. The award was presented at the college’s Commencement Ceremony in May. Now Professor of Anatomy & Physiology, Dr. Flath joined ACTC as an Assistant Professor in Biology in 1994. She became an Associate Professor in 1998 and a full Professor in 2004. She has a PhD from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Gloria Georger ’77 was featured in a Chicago Tribune article in a story about women in leadership roles in the manufacturing sector. Georger, who majored in accounting, took over as manager of Ford Motor Company’s stamping plant in Chicago Heights three and a half years ago, becoming one of five female managers at the automaker’s 27 plants in the U.S.

Portia Prebys ’66, the longtime director of the Saint Mary’s College Rome Program was recently knighted by the president of Italy. At a ceremony in May in Rome, Prebys was knighted with the title of Cavalier of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic. The civil knighthood is an honor given for meritorious service to the nation of Italy. Prebys received the honor for her long career in international education.

Marti Hogan Pupillo ’78 was promoted to Director of Communications for the International Dairy Food Association. Pupillo joined IDFA in 2006 as content editor of News Update, IDFA’s weekly e-newsletter, and its website, www.idfa.org. In 2009, she managed a project team that revamped the site’s design, navigation and functionality, making it easier to use and more relevant for members.

The Hon. Mary M. Rukavina Kuhnmuench, 1978, was recently elected the President of the Wisconsin Trial Judges Association. She is the first woman to serve as President of the Association that represents the more than 200 Circuit Court Judges in the State of Wisconsin. She is the immediate past president of the Milwaukee Trial Judge Association. She was also recently appointed as Secretary of the Executive Committee of the Wisconsin Judicial Conference, by the Supreme Court of Wisconsin.

The Community Associations Institute (CAI) presented Lucia Anna “Pia” Trigiani ’80 with the Award of Excellence in Designations during the organization’s annual volunteer awards ceremony held April 30. The award is presented annually to the individual who has made significant contributions in advancing CIAs designation programs and ethical standards. Trigiani currently serves as the first chair of the Virginia Common Interest Community Board responsible for overseeing Virginia’s common interest community manager licensure program.

Susan Glockner Gallagher ’80 has joined the firm of True Partners Consulting LLC as chief operating officer. Before joining True Partners Consulting, Gallagher worked at Huron Consulting Group, where she was one of the 25 founding managing directors of the company. She was responsible for driving growth nationally in the legal business and played a key role in developing the strategies to initiate and sustain relationships with clients and legal counsel.

Debbie Laverie ’85 was awarded a Minnie Stevens Piper Professorship and the Minnie Stevens Piper Professor of 2010 award, for unusual dedication to teaching at the annual commencement exercises at Texas Tech University. The Piper Professor program is a statewide competition and Laverie was nominated by Texas Tech’s Office of the President.

Amy Marget Nimmer ’76 was appointed Director of Human Resources Regional Deployment and Operations at John Deere. Amy rejoins Global Human Resources following a highly successful assignment as Director, Corporate Citizenship Center for Excellence and President, John Deere Foundation.

Mary Ann Luzar Tattersall, PhD, ’72 received the NIH Director’s Award as a member of the NIAID Response to H1N1 Influenza Pandemic Group.

Lynn Dargis Ambrose writes that she would be lunching with Betty Foley McGlynn who was attending a grandson’s graduation in Los Angeles followed by an anniversary celebration for her sister, Mary. Lynn was going to the Bay Area for her own grandson’s graduation, and planned to stop on her way back for a visit with Betty and Mary in Los Angeles. While in the Bay Area, she hoped to connect with Nancy Ahlforth Steele (who had celebrated her 80th with friends and family from far way) as well as Mary Jean Wallace Paxton as well as recent grads. Lynn had gotten her pilot’s license for her 40th birthday, so for her most recent birthday, she went sky-diving in Hawaii. “I can cross that one off my ‘bucket list’ she notes. Now that her children are entering their fifth decade, she has begun traveling with them, going to Baja in March and getting VERY close to pods of mother whales with their calves. She loved the laid-back Mexican beach lifestyle—”, … reading, surfing, beachcombing, art walks in the villages,” she says. She will attend a reunion of Baltic Peace Corps volunteers in Portland in August.

Joyce McMahon Hank. They ate dinner at the Morris Inn with Joyce’s granddaughter, Emily, a freshman, and in September, to see the ND-Michigan State game with Jerry and Joyce’s granddaughter, Colleen. “Joyce and I recalled that it was 60 years ago when we first met as roommates at Saint Mary’s and how good it is to be connected after so many years have passed,” says Joey, who continues to spend winters in Englewood, Fla., on the Gulf Coast. She is very concerned about the damage the oil spill might do to the fragile beach environment there. In March, she and Mac welcomed their eighth great-grandchild, who is fortunately living in Madison, where they live in the summers.

Mary Jean Wallace Paxton writes of visiting her sister, Ruth, in Washington. Ruth has Alzheimer’s and has moved to an assisted living residence, so she and four of Ruth’s friends packed up her house and prepared it for the market. “Ruth is very happy at Brighton Gardens, and thinks of it as her home. She has no regrets about leaving her old one, which she occupied for over 20 years. Ruth retired from 34 years of teaching sociology at George Washington University. I have the peace of mind of knowing that my sister is happy, safe, and well-cared for. I ate some meals at the Gardens, and the food is very good, well prepared, and appetizingly served. Dave (husband) and Samson (dog) were happy to have me home,” says Mary Jean. She continues her mentoring, and with a group of students, toured the USC campus learning about their programs and facilities. “My grandnephew, Kevin McPherson, who graduated from USC last year, met us for lunch and talked to some of the students who want to go there.”

The fountain of eternal youth must be located in St. Petersburg, Fla., the home of Mary Ann
Scherger Fairlie, who writes of going on a four-month-long University at Sea cruise with Exploritas (formerly Elderhostel). From December 26 until April 18, she and her husband, Drew, set out on a cruise from India, stopping along the way in Southeast Asia, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Borneo, and Indonesia before crossing the Indian Ocean to Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, “visiting 26 c’ountries during the trip, learning about their history, culture, religion, geography and the like. It was a fantastic trip, but we were certainly happy to be back in the good old U.S.A. upon our return,” Mary Ann says.

After a brief stop back in St. Petersburg, she and Drew flew right off to Texas where one son, Tom, “conducts a symphony orchestra and where our son, John, a bassoonist, soloed with Tom’s orchestra and also premiered a concerto for bassoon and orchestra that he wrote. It was a proud moment for us, watching Tom and John working together and seeing the great reception John’s original piece received with a standing ovation at each of the two concerts they performed.” Not ready to rest yet, Mary Ann set off for a family wedding in Kansas City in May, then a family reunion in Steamboat Springs in June, followed by another family gathering at the Outer Banks in North Carolina in August. Unwilling to waste any time resting between times, they’ll “just travel about the country in between those events, visiting family and friends in several states. Hopefully when we get back to Florida in late August, we will stay put for a while, but one never knows,” Mary Ann says. She’s only 79—until next year. She does have a Facebook page, where I look forward to seeing pictures of all her travels. A few of our classmates are on Facebook already.

I was in Florida visiting Dor Murnane McMah- hon for New Year’s and got to meet her extensive circle of friends and family there. Her sister came for a month-long University at Sea cruise with Exploritas, who writes of going on a four-month cruise at Christmas, which made it a very special holiday reunion.

Most of Midge Myler Russo’s time is spent visiting family in Washington, D.C., Atlanta, Kansas City, and Boulder. She has 17 grandchildren, ranging from 21 years to her youngest son’s six-month-old twins. She and Joan Rossi will try to make plans to visit Sister Jo Luker at Maryknoll.

Do you remember the dream analysis Sister Terese Fabbri, MM gave us at one of our reunions? She’s still presenting dream workshops in Michigan City and doing some counseling too. Occasionally she gets to South Bend for lunch with Mary Curley McDougall ‘53 and me.

This may be really old news, but since it comes from Judy Jones Sullivan, it’s accurate. Mary Wieland Scheetz was able to get Phoenix-area classmates together for lunch with Nancy Gibbon Ross when Nancy was there last fall. Bev Ritzz Campbell and Margaret Griffith Howe were there. Barb DiSalle Lindskold couldn’t attend, but had Mary and Nancy to dinner later.

Sister Jo Luker, MM is now at her Maryk- noll motherhouse. Her address is: Maryknoll Sister, Maryknoll, New York 10545; Phone (914) 941-7575.

Both Jean Zimmerer Thomas and Joan Rossi talked with her recently and say she sounds wonderful.

An update on Lorraine Nigro Cervanyak: She is doing parish volunteer work and enjoying many friendships and her daughter and four sons who live in the area. She’s acting as treasurer for her daughter’s campaign for county coroner, which is an inter- esting experience for “Mom,” Lorraine says. Daughter Lora retired as a major in the Colorado State Patrol, the highest rank a woman has ever achieved. Lorraine talks to Betty Galloway frequently, Mary Lee Vorce Stenstrom, Doris Weldemar Boadjemi, and Dolores Schneider Kleinrichert.

Jane Flynn Carroll spent time this spring with daughter Lucy Carroll Landwehr ‘84 in San An- tonio. She and Joan Rossi plan lunch in Geneva, hopefully with Rita Bianucci Sereno. Rody Oppenheim Dilschneider and Jack ND ‘53 are bringing her sister, Sister Ramona Op- penheim ‘50 (after 59 years of serving in the Phil- ippines, Guatemala, and San Diego), to Saint Mary’s for her Sister’s 60th reunion. Then they will spend several days at their son, John’s, Lake Michigan home in Wisconsin, and then head for a reunion with Rody’s brother, Father Frank, who’s celebrating his 55th year as a Jesuit. They’ll head to Denver in September for a visit with their son’s family and sister, Virginia Op- penheim Barlock ‘48. All this will be followed by a dull winter.

Walking her poodle and enjoying the ocean view keeps Kay Curran Douglass “hanging on,” Kay says. She often looks back at her great college life and would like to hear from her friends in Holy Cross Hall. Anne Murray O’Neill and John ND ‘54 flew back from Florida to Iowa this year to avoid the cars, floods, and tornadoes. They heard Father John Jen- kinz speak in Fort Myers in April. Family matters, including four graduations, are keeping Patt Gannon Scully busy this spring. She now has 21 grandchildren and nine great-grand- children. Patt’s been working with clay, taking a class from a master potter. Metals and watercolors are also a part of her art world.

From South Bend: Lois Langford Berry volun-
teers as a librarian at the Robinson Community Learn- ing Center. She and Bill ND ‘53 are taking their family to Colorado to celebrate their 55th anniversary. Mary Ann Kramer Campbell and Tom ND ‘54 are happily settled in at Andra House in Holy Cross Village. She says being able to go to all the Notre Dame games makes Tom feel he’s in heaven. Pat Andrews Pilger will have a grandson at Notre Dame next fall. Neither she nor Rick ND ‘54 drive any more so you can find them at home on Leeper Avenue. Sue Mulvihill Higdon left her home through a covered bridge in Madison County, Iowa, took a train to Chicago, and on to South Bend. She left and returned 22 years later and hopes she never leaves again.

Five of her six children living nearby keep Sue Hartmann happy in Indianapolis. She continues volunteering at St. Augustine’s Nursing Home. Mary Fran Koenhmann Nolan spent a week with her, taking a day out to have lunch with Peg Tiernan Sheehan in Decatur, Ill.

Bev Bierbuesse Campbell and Paul drove the long way home from Arizona this year and decided they need a lesson in geography. Bev spent much of her winter and spring recovering from pneumonia and still gets tired.

In early January, Rita Bianucci Sereno had seven spinal discs fused with two metal supports inserted in her spine at Chicago’s Rush Hospital and continued in rehab until mid March. She is finally home and sounds great, is on no medication, and does not have the pain she had before surgery. She may have to have more surgery, so keep her in your prayers.

Traveling has been a part of Pat Byrne Lyren’s year. Her oldest grandson is teaching in Japan and she was able to visit and team-teach a class with him. A pilgrimage in Scotland was followed by time in England and the isles of Iona and Lindisfarne.

Please remember that although I know Judy Jones Sullivan, I’m no Judy Jones Sullivan, so keep your news coming.

Can you believe it’s time for another class column in the Courier? This June, I have heard from a few “old faithfuls” and even a new contributor.

Lucy Connolly Ohrlich kept me informed from their winter location in Sebring, Fla. Never one to sit idly by, Lucy has involved herself in various community projects, including acting as cashier for a benefit cooking for various potluck socials, and working on her lighthouse acrylics, which she sells at their club art fair. But she seemed most enthused by her bridge playing, which allows her (as she puts it), “to use a skill I practiced at Saint Mary’s.” Lucy’s last letter included a snapshot of Lucy and Jean War- gin Schoelgel who had joined Lucy for lunch in Ft. Meyers. Jean and John have sold their condo in Wisconsin and have a home in a senior residence in Virginia, near their youngest daughter. They will con- tinue to winter in Naples, Fla.

From Michigan came an email from Jo Ann Nich- ols Landman. Jo Ann has left the real estate firm she had been with and now works at Landman Real Estate. She has three children and five grandchildren living nearby, and they all enjoy the Landman condo
in northern Michigan, especially in the winter. Last week I had lunch with Rita Conley Bourjaily. Mary Kay Shanahan Cesareno, and Sheila Siebert Gallagher. Rita hears from Joanne Dungen in Florida email. Pat Garvey Mc Cann is a welcome email correspondent to Rita and me. Pat and Dave enjoy life in the Palm Springs area, and Pat is busy doing a genealogy of her family.

Maryjeanne Ryan Burke and Dick stopped in Frankfort on their way to their summer home in Michigan and we had a wonderful dinner. Dick and Maryjeanne are always on the go, having visited Managua, Nicaragua, for the baptism of their newest grandchild. Maryjeanne reports that Mary Carey Swift will be in South Bend for Joe’s 55th reunion at Notre Dame. Maryjeanne and Joe have a daughter living in Chicago and she hopes to get back for a visit after reunion. Please keep in mind that June of 2011 will be our 55th reunion. Any suggestions for activities will be most welcome.

I am sorry to report that on April 19, I lost my husband, Tom, Notre Dame ’54. Tom had great respect and regard for Saint Mary’s. During his years recruiting accountants for Arthur Andersen, Tom established an interview program at Saint Mary’s. He felt that the quality of the accounting students at the College rated its own program. Previously, our students had to be interviewed at Notre Dame. He devoted much time to Saint Mary’s on its Board of Trustees. He truly loved Saint Mary’s.

Speaking of the Board of Trustees, the chairman is now Mary Burke ’85, daughter of Maryjeanne and Dick. The spirit of ’56 lives on.

I am sure I reflect the thoughts and prayers of all the class as we send Paula and her children our expression of sympathy.

Sister Drue McEniry called to say she enjoyed the last column, which is very thoughtful, and Jody Vetter Olson sent an email. Mary Hustead Bottom called me last September and sounded enthusiastic and as full of life as ever.

This spring, Patti Rogan Beckman phoned and we had a good visit before she was on her way to New York to look after new grandchildren.

I have to apologize to Pat Hurley McMahon for not including her news sent at Christmas along with a vibrant picture taken at the November marriage of her son, Matt, and Erin Logan on the Mayan Rivera. The McMahon’s son, John, and his wife, Sue, brought their six-year-old son, Rowan (who was asleep under a table when the picture was taken), and their darling baby, Sabrina, who was in the picture, from Sydney, Australia, and daughter, Beth, joined the wedding in Abingdon, Ill. In April of 2009, Pat and John made a mission trip to Jamaica and it was “life changing,” they say. “About 20 of us from around the U.S. went with Father Tony Palazolo from Food for the Poor, focusing on the Island’s most needy. We worked with orphans, built and painted two homes, visited and helped elderly, abused, discarded, and homeless souls. [It was] an awe-inspiring experience,” the Mahcons write.

From Sunrise, Anz., Teddi Reid Murray writes that she is teaching full time at a preschool. She has the oldest pre-Kindergarten group and says it’s “exciting and challenging.” Teddi was a powerhouse for the Christ Child Society in South Bend, and true to form, in her spare time she knits baby afghans for layettes for the Christ Child Society of Phoenix. Judy Quinn Barnett sounds as irreverent, as always, and in an email, referred to my heart surgery as a “valve job,” adding that a 90-year-old friend of hers had the same operation and is back at her dance class “good as new.” Judy and husband Neil were in Cincinnati over Memorial Day for the 40th birthday of their son, Matt, and were able to go directly back to Bainbridge Island so she could finish two portraits: two Jesuits for the new Faith Center at the Barnett’s church in Bainbridge.

My best to all.

Ann Leonard Molenda
5130 Windsor Manor Court
Granger, IN 46530-8307
(574) 273-0310
alhstilt@aol.com

Fresh in my mind is the death of Paula Lawton Bevington’s beloved husband, Milton, on May 20, 2010. He had been diagnosed with Follicular Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma in late January, was hospitalized in May for pneumonia, and then admitted to Hospice Atlanta, where he died. Milton loved Saint Mary’s and was a frequent visitor over the years, the last time just a couple of weeks before his death. His wife and I often had dinner with them when they came, and always enjoyed the friendship. Honey Hurley Gfroher has been a wonderful channel of information, and I know Honey and her husband, George, will greatly miss Milton. Honey refers to Milton as the “beloved leader of their family, husband, father, grandfather, and brother, who has made such a difference in their lives... and in the lives of all of us who know him, and respect, admire and love him.”

Honey writes about Paula Lawton Bevington’s “amazing strength and courage, her ability to capture the situation in a few, poignant words that touch us to the core. Paula will get through this dreadful time because of her strong faith and wonderful family.”

Honey and I agree Milton was extraordinary and Paula was his match, which made the couple so dynamic and effective in any undertaking. For those who want to send a note to Paula, her address is:

Paula Lawton Bevington
2500 Peachtree Road N.W., #104
Atlanta, GA 30305

Aren’t you glad you came to reunion? We all got there one way or another: physically, spiritually, or emotionally. It was an awe-inspiring experience...”

Honey McEniry continues, “I have to apologize to Pat Hurley McMahon for not including her news sent at Christmas along with a vibrant picture taken at the November marriage of her son, Matt, and Erin Logan on the Mayan Rivera. The McMahon’s son, John, and his wife, Sue, brought their six-year-old son, Rowan (who was asleep under a table when the picture was taken), and their darling baby, Sabrina, who was in the picture, from Sydney, Australia, and daughter, Beth, joined the wedding in Abingdon, Ill. In April of 2009, Pat and John made a mission trip to Jamaica and it was “life changing,” they say. “About 20 of us from around the U.S. went with Father Tony Palazolo from Food for the Poor, focusing on the Island’s most needy. We worked with orphans, built and painted two homes, visited and helped elderly, abused, discarded, and homeless souls. [It was] an awe-inspiring experience,” the Mahcons write.

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Aren’t you glad you came to reunion? We all got there one way or another: physically, spiritually, or memorably. We do “reunite” well. The threads were picked up easily enough, not long ago they had been set down and the weaving of our lives continues. Amazingly, for a few, it was the first time back.

Upon our arrival, Liz King Durand surprised each of us with a beautiful etching “Saint Mary’s for all Seasons.” Thank you, Liz, for such a memorable gift. Some of us arrived on Thursday, which was a quiet day on campus. Our gathering place (decorated with our pictures from the Blue Mantle) was the Le Mans Room at Saint Mary’s Inn, which is next to the northeast corner of campus. Some of us stayed at the Inn and some in Le Mans Hall, but gather we did. Thanks to the alumnai staff, which drove golf carts from early in the morning until 11 at night each day so we could get anywhere in a flash. It was also great to get to know the staff and get updated on Saint Mary’s College and happenings as we rode.

The rest of us arrived on Friday, many by detoured routes due to weather and airline difficulties. Our Eucharistic Liturgy in the Holy Spirit Chapel in Le Mans Hall truly brought us all together. Judy Haller Stanton set the mood with the theme and music, which was accompanied by Nancy O’Toole Doppke. Mary Carol Vanceco and Carol Cavanaugh Ryan were candle bearers; Father Richard Conyers ND ’65 was the presider. Mary Jo O’Callaghan Martin and Maureen Hughes Murphy performed the readings. Diane Zarantonello Sullivan read the intercessions (based on your input), which included prayers for all of us and “those here today and those unable to be here.”

Ann Lord Barton and Maureen Hogan Lang read the names of “those who have gone before us in faith.” We prayed and sang as we presented a rose in memory of each.


The gift bearers were Joyce Robinson Adamson and Marybeth McGowan Crossin. The communion ministers were Elaine Van Eten Cassidy, Carol Koch Nagel, and Molly Bolster Frawley. We ended with “How Can I Keep from Singing,” which was exactly how we felt. The President’s Reception and Dinner followed in Stapleton Lounge where College President Carol Ann Mooney ’72 made us feel at home. We presented our class gift. We extend many thanks to Joyce Robinson Adamson for her gift of leadership in chairing our reunion and to Marybeth McGowan Crossin for arranging a great program for the weekend.

On Saturday morning, Nancy O’Toole Doppke chaired a town hall meeting where Gaylor Bordes Cronin, Liz King Durand, Marilynn Morrissey, and Judy Haller Stanton shared their experiences about how Saint Mary’s has influenced them. In turn, this prompted the audience to share about their ideas, lives, and careers. This lively discussion continued with many and varying opinions given and received—as friends do—for the rest of the weekend. The rain at noon on Saturday brought us all close together under the big tent for the picnic, however, we ran between the drops for the class picture on the steps of Moreau. On Saturday evening at the Reunion Banquet in Noble Family Dining Hall, the Alumnae Association awards and the Reunion Gift Campaign awards were presented. We heard from some really dynamic alumnae. We also projected the activities on stage, so there was no bad seat in the house. Post-banquet gatherings continued merrily the rest of the evening.

Sunday liturgy was celebrated at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto where we enjoyed the choir additions.
Cruising Alaska’s Glaciers 
and Inside Passage

Aboard the six star, all suite M.V. Silver Shadow

July 21 to 28, 2011

Join fellow alumnae and friends on this magnificent cruise from Vancouver, British Columbia, through the pristine Inside Passage, to Seward, Alaska, aboard the six-star, all-suite M.V. Silver Shadow of the Silversea fleet, voted “World’s Best Small Ship Cruise Line 2008” by Travel + Leisure. Fly free from one of 22 gateways and enjoy complimentary beverages throughout the cruise, gourmet dining, included onboard gratuities and personal butler service. Pass towering mountains and untouched coastlines and watch for whales, harbor seals, porpoises, sea lions, sea otters and eagles. See Sawyer and Hubbard Glaciers and call at the historic towns of Ketchikan, Juneau, Skagway, and Sitka.

M.V. Silver Shadow

The intimate, six-star M.V. Silver Shadow, is one of the small ships of the Silversea fleet, voted “World’s Best Small Cruise Line 2008” by Travel + Leisure and “Favorite Cruise Line 2009” by Robb Report’s Readers. Featuring refined luxury, a spacious interior, and nearly one-to-one guest-to-crew ratio, this ship ensures an incomparable cruise experience.

The deluxe, ocean-view Suites offer either a large picture window or glass doors that open to a private teak veranda. Nearly 300 sq. ft. or more, each Suite features two twin beds or one queen bed, a sitting area, marble bathroom with double vanity, separate shower and full size bath, fresh fruit and flowers and exclusive butler service.

Savor epicurean delights created by the prestigious international Relais & Châteaux® in one of four incredible dining venues or via 24-hour in-suite room service. Complimentary beverages are served throughout the ship.

The M.V. Silver Shadow also features world-class recreational facilities and spa.

♦ Sail aboard the six-star, all-suite M.V. Silver Shadow.
♦ Free air is included from 22 gateway cities.
♦ Great pricing–better than two for one.
♦ Enjoy dedicated butler service with attention to detail.
♦ Personalized - a nearly one to one crew to guest ratio.
♦ All beverages - cocktails, champagne and wine included.
♦ All gratuities - to superb, professional crew included.
♦ Spacious suites from approximately 300 square feet.
♦ Majestic glaciers, mountains and fascinating wildlife.

For more information about this tour, visit: http://www.saintmarys.edu/alumni-travel/
I spent a wonderful Donor Recognition Weekend at Saint Mary’s, April 23–24, 2010. The campus was in beautiful spring bloom. We (my husband, Jean, and I) were “students for a day” and attended a class, “Catholic Faith and Life,” discussing “being a Catholic” and Sister Madelena, CSC, and her idea, “Why we educate our daughters.” We met some of the 2010 “New Voices” scholars at a session of their annual seminar where life in the mind and spirit come together to discuss spirituality and their related fields for some very interesting and informative insights.

We also heard what new and exciting things are happening at Saint Mary’s from College President Carol Ann Mooney ’72.

As our class representative for the Mother Pauline Society, we attended an appreciation luncheon on Saturday. This Society was named for Mother M. Pauline O’Neill, CSC, the first president of Saint Mary’s College from 1895 to 1931. She helped Saint Mary’s grow from an academy to a fully accredited liberal arts college, and built Holy Cross Hall and Le Mans Hall during her tenure. The Mother Pauline Society honors 375 individuals who have notified the College that they have included a gift to Saint Mary’s in their estate or financial plans. Our class of ’62 has 11 participants: Anne Casey Beaudoin, Mary Armbruster Brannen, Carolyn Dunlay Hamilton, Deborah Peeney Hickey, Anne R.Kearney, Margaret Huemmer Kluszynski, Marie Hank McKellar, Janice Zicherle McNellis, Mary L. Norris, Mary Ann Smith Riebenack, and Betsy Patterson Sentowski.

Classmates, have you thought about this as a way to give back/remember Saint Mary’s in your estate planning?

Gifts for endowment, scholarships, and other awards listed include: Carolyn Dunlay Hamilton (library fund and scholarship); Judith Nelson Burke (scholarship); Kay Moore Gibbons (Rome Program Assistance Fund); Suzanne Krajci Dillon (Memorial Scholarship); and Kathleen O’Boyle Kearney (nursing scholarship).

Our Saturday Liturgy for the weekend was in Holy Spirit Chapel in Le Mans Hall, complete with voice and hand bell choirs. Classmates at our Class of ’62 table at the Recognition Dinner included: Betsy Patterson Sentowski, Paula Walsh Henry, and Sheila Kenny Murray. The dinner was dedicated to Sister Madeleva recognizing the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the Madeleva Society founded in 1979, to honor those whose gifts demonstrate outstanding annual commitment of $1,000 and above to Saint Mary’s tradition of educational excellence. Charter Members recognized were Jerome and Judith Nelson Burke, David and Judith Tarnawski Eckrich, Sheila Kenny Murray, and Roman (deceased) and Betsy Patterson Sentowski. Past Steering Committee members listed: Carolyn Dunlay Hamilton and Paula Walsh Henry. Sister Rachel Callahan, CSC is a member of the Board of Trustees. So you can see our class is well represented and active any day.

In other news, Sheila Kenny Murray met in warm Naples, Fla. with Ardith Becker Fitzpatrick and Harriet Howard Stephens for a fun weekend to get away from the cold Midwest winter in 2009–10. I also talked with Mary Margaret Boesem. We won’t be able to get together for our annual lunch while I am in Niles, Ill., to present my brother’s Coach Bill Casey Memo¬rial Scholarship at Notre Dame College Prep High School on May 28, but she is fine and she says hello to everyone.

I am busy with family celebrations (baptisms, confirmation, birthdays, sports, school, and scouting events) for my eight grandchildren and loving every minute of it.

Please send any news to me or the Saint Mary’s Alumnae Office.

From the Courier: Greetings to all from Ginny Lynch Collins

I just received the summer issue of Courier and it spurred me on to do something I’ve been planning to do for a very long time: send some news! We have been making life very difficult for Anne Casey Beaudoin, our class reporter, who relies on us for her column, by not letting her know what we are doing, who we are seeing, and where we are gathering. Do you still sit right down like I do each time a new issue comes in the mail, open it to our year (we’re getting closer to the front, aren’t we) and hope there will be news of our roommate, our mailbox mate, the people who were in our major, or the people we sang with in the Rec? Over the years, we have seen pictures in Courier of classmates, such as Mary Ellen Norris Durbin who was honored with the Humanitas Award in 2007, or Sheila Kenny Murray and Betsy Patterson Sentowski who were pictured in the summer issue attending Recognition Weekend, or Sister Eva Mary Hooker, CSC ’63 who is a faculty member, or of those who have served on Alumnae Boards or Club Boards. But our column is missing news from so many others! Especially now that I have our current class list in preparation for the 50th Reunion planning, I read each name at Notre Dame College. I wonder what life holds for Sue Shalgos Wolsfeld, Bonnie Pieda Barnes, and Dottie Schnau Hart, are you still singing? De Vonne French, are you still practicing medicine? Mary Kay O’Boyle French, are you still in politics? So many people, so many questions? Therefore, please make Anne’s life very easy for these next few issues and write her a note. It will be a great way to lead into that very special Reunion.

After that plea, I should start with myself! Married for 47 years to Dick, who is now retired after a career in public accounting and consulting, mother to four married children who very wonderfully for us all live in the area, grandmother to nine who keep us extremely busy with sporting events, school programs, family milestones, etc. After everyone was in college or out, I segued my volunteer ESL tutoring into teaching at a community college after getting an M.A. in linguistics at age 54! Fifteen years later, I am still at it, but now I only teach two courses, a semester, but never summers. My students are from all over the world, some have advanced degrees in their own countries but need to improve their English to have a good life in America and all have enriched my life greatly. The rest of my time, I love to read, play golf, read, travel, and read.

Living in Chicago, I see Saint Mary’s people everywhere I go; in fact, there are four of us right now! Dine and dined together with several from our class and have been in touch with others, but their news is for them to tell! My Saint Mary’s connection, although not as strong as my years on the Alumnae Board, has been an ever present feature of my life, ranging from trips to campus for Christian Culture/Humanistic Studies reunions, to hosting a reception for accepted students, and to attending Chicago Club programs. Our 50-year Reunion will be the next event that will nurture that tie, and I am truly looking forward to being there with all of you!
good about trying to reconnect and add momentum to our own 50th reunion. Peace, love, joy, and enjoy.

From the Courier: Joan Marks Houck writes: “It’s so amazing to me that my husband Carl and I are planning our 14th roundtrip to New Zealand. So when Mary Ann asked us to give her some info for our class notes, my current amazement came to mind.

When we first went to New Zealand in 1979, I never expected to return. Originally, we went for the fly fishing and we kept going because of the people we met. Then about every four years ago or so, we’d return taking one of our six kids with us when he/she reached high school. Ten years ago when Carl proposed our going to New Zealand each year after his retirement in 2004, at first I balked. Now, since 2004, we go every year from mid-January to mid-May. More and more, I’m amazed that our past years there were preparation for the future that only God knew. I’m doubly grateful that all of our kids and some grandkids have been there once, and several, even more often.

There, we are in the world’s southernmost English-speaking country and diocese. When we’re not at our Colorado home, we’re in Gore in the far south of New Zealand, just an hour and a half from Queenstown. I know that several of you have been to our area—Mary Ann Curnes Fuller and the brother and sister of T-Bird Thelda McDermott Dillon— anybody else?

Over the years, I never had a regular, paid job. Instead, I coordinated high school religious ed,

Susan Shalgos Wolfsfeld writes “I have retired from my retirement as a paralegal. In September 2008 I left the law firm where I had spent 9 years as a paralegal, traveled for five weeks through Asia with my daughter Katie, came home and was bored, especially with doctor’s appointments. I interviewed with Legal Aid in Minneapolis in May 2009 and began working/volunteering there 3 days a week since January 2010. I work for and with an attorney who once clerked in the law office where I worked for nine years. How things turn around. I once helped him find the law, find the smoking gun in deposition transcripts, draft letters and briefs and now he helps me make my every day interesting, different and fulfilling dealing with clients in the niche of consumer law.”

From the Column: Kathy Huisking Sullivan writes: “It hardly seems possible that it has been two years since our 40th reunion at Saint Mary’s. Due to the dedication of our gift committee and the generosity of our classmates, the class of 1968 raised the most money, I was sorry that it was not reported in the class news.

Some of us decided not to wait every five years before we meet again, due to the prodding of Barbara Gibson South. She encouraged us to have a mini-reunion, so seven of us met in Boston and stayed on Cape Cod. Penny Wingerl Sullivan invited us to her lovely second home. Our group consisted of Penny, Barbara, Kathy Huisking Coffey, Mary Behrens McCarthy, Sue Deddish Mazilauskas, Gwynne Morgan, and me. It was a wonderful trip and we spent many hours reminiscing and sightseeing.

This spring the Belles met at my home. The weather was perfect and everyone enjoyed touring the various Memphis attractions. We were very impressed with St. Jude Hospital and the wonderful strides it has made in cures for childhood diseases.

Our next mini-reunion may be in Georgia as Mary Behrens McCarthy has offered to host us at her lake home and to tour Atlanta for a few days.”

Once again, reunion was one to which everyone could look forward and more. This was my second time, and my biggest regret is that I did not start attending this special event much earlier. If you have not been to a Saint Mary’s reunion, it is an almost too-incredible experience to describe. It truly is coming home again, being surrounded by love and support, and leaving feeling revitalized to handle whatever challenges you left behind or put aside when you packed up and took off.

This was a first reunion for some, Sue Orloski Henry being one, and most likely the eighth on for many others. (Pam Carey Batz, Addie Stafanec Cashore, and Sara Bateman Koehler immediately come to mind as falling in the latter group). All of you, who have not attended a reunion, please start planning now to attend our 45th, and let your family know this is something special for you. As we all
know, there can and will be major life events that can and do alter our plans, but if you can make it, please do attend.

The 54 members of our class who were able to come together over 2010 reunion weekend included Patricia McCusker Allgood, Fran Carroll Amer, Donna Halbert Bachtel, Peggy Gallagher Baldwin, Pam Carey Batz, Marcia Frasor Blum, Gwen Gill Caranchini, Addie Stefanac Cashore, Becky O’Connor Chandler, Mary Lee Carr Charles, Sue Chase Hildebrand, Cathy Collett, Barbara Morrin Cook, Nano Padon Cox, Ginger Updike Daily, Joan Dubay David, Eileen Donoghue, Jane Bates Doyle, Kathy Bernard Franzel, Kathy Carbine Fullin, Pat O’Hara Gable, Julia O’Brien Gatta, Pat Lyons Gottlieb, Sally Fogarty Hasbrook, Sue Orloski Henry, Ellen Shanley Jones, Pat Scully Keane, Ronnie Henry Kessinich, Sara Bateman Koehler, Kathy Yuhas Kwinn, Sheilla Slattery Leete, Kerry Long, Mary Berndt Lovett, Elaine Zimpelman Maimon, Mary Nast paper McCoy, Diane Daly McGarry, Kate Pastore Miller, Shelley Miller Minch, Nancy Delaney Nesbit Noralee Angeli Petruccelli, Bridge Mooney Phillips, Vickie Derda Quinlan, Lucy Salas Riebling, Sandra Brown Rogel, Denise Scanlon Roder, Kathy Wroblewski Shannon, Mary T. Dunleavy Smith, Rosemarie Rinella Stocky, Kenton Temple, Linda Holland Trauth, Sue Vanek, Ellen Nesbit West, and Mary Lou Wylie.

Unfortunately, but most understandably, Sue Stittmater Sandeen had to cancel at the last minute due to her mother’s health.

The stories we shared over the course of the weekend covered the full range of life experiences: The most joyful. Pat Scully Keane and Pam Carey Batz shared pictures of their daughters’ weddings in Chicago and Boston respectively. Gwen Gill Caranchini has a new six-week-old grandson, Nola. Dee Martin arrived Saturday night announcing the birth of a new grandchild just two days before, and Pat O’Hara Gable was able to show off her 18-month-old grandson, Daniel, at Saturday’s picnic.

The most hopeful and life sustaining. We have had our fair share of classmates that have endured and successfully fought serious illnesses such as arthritis, cancer, kidney failure, and the like. Yet their stories are both inspiring and heart wrenching. Retirement and starting new second careers. Some of our classmates are retiring and focusing on travel, grandchildren, volunteering, and the benefits of not working, while some are still adding to their career accomplishments. Others are starting new careers.

Mobilizing our resources to handle life challenges. Handling the elder care of our parents seems to be a common theme most particularly related to our set of dementia and Alzheimer’s, and the challenges associated with relocating them closer to us and/or to assisted living facilities.

Relying on our faith to accept what we have have no control over. In dealing with the loss of those near and dear to us, as a group, we have lost 15 of our classmates. In addition, all of us have also lost someone whether it be spouses, children, siblings, parents, and/or close friends.

Mary Neimeyer McCoy came from Tonga where she has lived since entering the Peace Corps about eight years ago. Mary gave an inspiring talk on Friday afternoon about following a long-held dream to experience life in the Pacific. She comes back to the States once a year to visit with friends and family. She has one son who is a trauma physician in San Francisco.

Kate Pastore Miller wrote and illustrated a book of children’s poetry in 2007, entitled Poems in Black and White published by Wordsong. You can find it at both Amazon and Barnes & Noble. She and Hub ND ’69 have two sons, Tom and John, one of whom lives with his family in a very small brownstone in New York City.

Gwen Gill Caranchini has written a book on her lawsuits against General Motors, which is scheduled to come out in Fall 2010. I believe the title will be, Is What’s Good for GM Good for the Country? She is also working on a second book about growing up Italian. In addition to her writing, Gwen is selling real estate in Kansas City, Mo. She has a daughter, Kelly, who lives in the Chicago area with her husband, Steve, and their daughters, three-year-old Maggie and six-week-old Nola.

Pam Carey Batz had to leave reunion early as she is starting a four-year program on spirituality. Since retiring from banking a year ago, her husband, Bill, has been supporting their bishop serving as Secretary for Social Concerns for the diocese, as you can well imagine this is a daunting task at best. Pam and Bill’s daughter, Ann, was married in Boston just two weeks before reunion, and their youngest daughter will be returning to Saint Mary’s in the fall.

Kathy Bernard Franzel. Pat O’Hara Gable, and Kenton Temple are all head librarians, working in Seattle, Wash., South Bend, Ind., and Knoxville, Tenn., respectively. Kathy welcomes visits from any of our Saint Mary’s classmates who find themselves in her area! Pat’s daughter, Margaret Gable Wroblewski ’00, was also attending Reunion with her 18-month-old son, Daniel. Margaret and her husband, Ryan, recently relocated from Houston to Dallas. Kenton has two daughters, Derry and Erin, who have relocated to the Seattle/Bellingham area where Derry is a trauma center nurse, and Erin is pursuing her degree in family counseling.

Sue Vanek and Addie Stefanec Cashore are still working in administrative roles at Saint Mary’s and are the best hosts at each reunion. I did not have a chance to catch up with Addie’s husband, Tom ND ’70, but did hear about the living conditions of their daughter and her family in Honduras: no hot water and limited electricity. Eileen Donoghue is still teaching college in New York City for the NYCU system and loves living close to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in that city. Becky O’Connor Chandler is a university administrator and instructor at the University of Chicago’s Center for Teaching and Learning. They have a son, Michael. Peggy Gallagher Baldwin is director of professional development at Stevenson in Baltimore, Md. Peggy and Michael have two daughters, Hilary and Charlotte, and a two-year-old grandson. Margaret Gill Caranchini has retired from Hewlett Packard and is tutoring and teaching classes on computer terminology at Colorado State University in Fort Collins. Colo. Julia O’Brien Gatta is a seminary professor at the School of Theology, The University of the South in Sewanee, Tenn. Julia has written a book, The Neatness of God: Parish Ministry as Spiritual Practice, recently published by Morehouse Publish- ing. Mary and John’s ND ’68 adopted daughter, Mary, now 16, is beautiful and delightful. Sara Bateman Koehler is teaching religious studies at Cathedral High School in Indianapolis, and currently serves on Saint Mary’s Alumni Association Board of Directors. Sara and Ken ND ’70 have two daughters, Kathryn and Kelly. Ken attended several of the reunion events enabling him to catch up with much of the comings and goings of our classmates.

Kathy Carbine Fullin, now retired and splits her time between Madison, Wis., and Arizona where her son and his family are located. Her daughter has two children ages one and three. Mary Lou Wylie is retired from James Madison University and loves the role of doting grandmother to James Patrick Ech- terling, who got off to a bit of a rough start after his birth, but is doing very well now.

Susan Orloski Henry has not changed at all in the past 40 years. This was her first reunion, but I am sure not her last. After Northwest’s merger with Del- ta, Sue retired from the airlines. She is living in Minne- apolis, and last summer, had the opportunity to have dinner with Molly McNerney Gillard’s daughter, Katie Gillard ’97, to share memories about Molly who was Sue’s roommate for three years at Saint Mary’s. Barbara Morrin Cox is living in downtown Chicago, is a Eucharistic minister, and works part time at Saks Fifth Avenue, selling a new designer line.

Sheila Slattery Leete (Minneapolis, Minn.), Bridget Mooney Phillips (Clearwater, Fla.), Lucy Salas Riebling (Center Valley, Penn.), and Dee Martin Huie (Naperville, Ill.) have all stayed in close touch over the years. They were all together with Paula Shipman shortly before her passing three years ago. Sheila married one of her graduate school college professors and they lived all over the world, moving their five children as opportunities present- ed themselves. Sheila’s husband passed away when their youngest was in preschool or kindergarten and she has done an incredible job as a single parent. Her children are now settled in Washington, D.C., San Francisco, Minneapolis, New York City, and Iowa. Although Bridget left Saint Mary’s after our sopho- more year, she has continued to stay very involved by participating in class and club reunions as well as regular get-togethers with Sheila, Lucy, Dee, and Paula. I believe Bridget and Wayne ND ’68 have two sons and two daughters. One son works with Google in California and one of their daughters is now transitioning from a career as an engineer to study medicine at the University of Maryland. Lucy and Bill (who received his MS in Mechanical Engi- neering) only have one child, a son, Danny, who is a civil engineer. Like his dad and Dee’s husband, Danny attended Manhattan College.

Dee and her husband, Nick (who received his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Notre Dame), have five children, four of whom graduated from Notre Dame, and seven grandchildren, the newest was born two days before reunion. Their children are also scattered across the country. They have settled in Madison, Wis., one in Irvine, Calif., and one in the Chicago area.

I will continue with stories about reunion attendees in my next column. Follow me on social media for news from our classmates who were not able to attend reunion.

Sister Veronique Wiedower, CSC is a Campus Minister at Saint Mary’s. Terry McNamara Wahler is currently living in Waukee, Iowa. She attended graduate school at Creighton University and MIT, has lived in the United States, and has now retired for the third time. Terry and her husband, Howard, have three children, Robert, Michael, and Jennifer. Mary Moulder Jaeger and her husband, Bob ND ’70, have retired and moved from Colorado to Pawley’s Island, S.C. They have three children: Anne, a lawyer in Washington, D.C.; Bill, a Ph.D. candidate and college professor; and Tim, a high school science teacher.

Joanne Jones Hicks transferred to the University
of Dayton after our sophomore year and is living in West Branch, Iowa, still working as a registered dental assistant. Joanne has two sons, Brian (in a sixth-year graduate program for electrical engineering and astronomy at Boston University), and Kevin (a master carpenter), and one granddaughter, Ashley Morgan Hicks, for whom she sponsors dancing lessons, providing them a great opportunity to bond and hang out. Sue Bracco Gleason is living in Santa Barbara, Calif., with her husband, Gary Gleason ND ’70. They have two daughters, Kelly and Molly. Sue and Mary Beth Tettlow DeNiro get together on a regular basis. Mary Beth and Michael have two daughters, Meghan (a teacher in Portland), and Maura (who is pursuing her MFCs). Mary Beth was unable to attend our 2010 reunion because she was with her family in Pittsburgh celebrating her Dad’s 94th birthday.

Kathleen Maura Sullivan Gutowski is retiring in June 2010 from her position as a special education teacher for the Norwalk, Conn., public school system. Judy Merritt Lyons is an account executive with the Stepan Company, and lives with her husband, John, in Glencoe, Ill. They have three sons: John, Jeremy, and Jason. Diane Wallace McKee has been married to Pete for 40 years and they are ‘still crazy after all of these years.’ They live in Grand Island, N.Y., and have two children, Christopher and Kathleen, and a new grandson, Danny. Diane is teaching religion at Mount Saint Mary Academy after taking early retirement from the Social Security Administration, and Pete is a consultant for banks.

Mary Noell Rooks is a French and Spanish teacher at Morris Community High School. Mary and her husband, John, live in Morris, Ill. John is a lawyer who has helped Mary chaperone all of her student trips to France (brave guy). They have two sons: John, a graduate of Loyola Law School, and Thomas, who is in Singapore completing two LLM degrees through NYU and National University of Singapore, having already graduated from USC Law School.

Judy Kakich Martini retired from Mass Mutual Financial Group in 2006. After her father passed away in early 2008, Judy and her husband, John, moved to Middleburg, Va. Judy is volunteering as a tour guide at Shelburne Farms, a former Vanderbilt Estate, which is now operated as a sustainable, managed dairy farm and education center.

Jean Duggan Wieher ‘68 lives her work as a lobbyist for Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Jane and her husband, Bill, live in Manakin Sabot, Va. They have two children, Lindsay and Michael. Terri McHirney Case owns her own web design company, Case Connections, LLC. She retired from teaching high school sciences in 2003, and that same year, Terri and her husband, Jim, moved to Henderson, Nev. Terri and Jim have two daughters, Suzanne and Lauren. Terri worked as a ‘Rhona Muir’ in her company, the ‘Rhona Munro’ in a pub in Holland, Mich. Juliet has five children, Ryan, John (deceased), Patrick, Kevin, and Molly. Jean Radovich Murphy is a physician living in Kingston, Tenn., with her husband, James. Prudence Wear Farrell and her husband, Peter, moved to Oregon from metropolitan New York in 1974. Peter retired from the Oregonian five years ago and they have built their dream home on the Oregon coast on property they bought in 1976. Prudence has spent the years editing writing, proofreading, public speaking, and organizing for not-for-profits. Peter now manages the Cannon Beach Library and he volunteers on the board of the Cannon Beach Arts Association. They have one son, Tim, and two grandchildren who live in Mexico.

I have set up a Snapfish page to share 2010 reunion pictures at the following Web site address and will also be in touch about setting up a blog that will let us keep current with each other more than two times a year: http://www5.snapfish.com/snapfish/thumbnails/share/AlbumId=1604512027/a=3059180027_3059180027 ots=5 SHR otsi=CSALBinkCOBRAND_NAME=snapfish/

I am also floating the idea of writing/compiling a book about what brought each of us to Saint Mary’s and how our time there has brought us to where we are today. Like Prue Wear Farrell, I believe we were at Saint Mary’s at a pivotal time not only in our own personal lives, but within the context of history (women’s right, civil rights, political assassinations, a divisive war, men on the moon, the beginning of computer technology, Woodstock, and so much more). In addition, our life experiences are far beyond what we ever imagined or dreamed, hence, we have a story to share. Please let me know if you are interested in participating.

Melissa Underman Noyes 209 Southwest Hatters Court Palm City, FL 34990 (772) 781-4066 munoyes@comcast.net

Greetings. No news is not always good news, especially when I am trying to write a class news column. I am counting on all of you to email me with details of how you celebrated your birthday—particularly if it involved other classmates. In my ancient history notes, I came across a column that mentioned a 40th birthday celebration—seems like yesterday, doesn’t it? That also means that I have been the class reporter for a very long time, so you all owe me updates on your lives or I will be forced to republish those old columns.

All I have to write about is the Fourth Mc Gin- nis Pub Tour of Ireland last February. Kevin and Suzanne (Terry) Duggan McGinnis started this trip with friends and family, and it continues to grow. It is not really a pub tour. It is named after the restaurant/pub owned by Terry and Kevin in Indiana. Terry is an attorney in Chicago and her sons run the pub. This was a ‘pub tour’ in the truest sense of the word. The second leg of the trip, a pub tour organized by Phyllis Duggan Wieher ’68, her son and daughter and their spouses were also on the trip. The weather was surprisingly good with enough sunshine to show the countryside to its best advantage. We traveled to some wonderful places and towns: cliffs of Moher was a favorite of mine, and Galway, Clifden, Sligo, and Carlingford. We spent a remarkable day in Belfast and sure a memorial marker installed by the City Council in honor of those who died on 9/11. In Dublin, we were able to view the Book of Kells at Trinity College without waiting in line, which is not possible during the busy summer months. It was a wonderful ten days filled with laughter and friendship, and yes, we did spend time with the locals in their pubs, which was much fun.

As always, love and best wishes to all of you.

Dillon

Mar_CONTINUE

From Leslie: Writing from Tbilisi, I want to let everyone know that I had a great but brief mini-reunion with two former roommates, Mary Gail Angus McLaughlin and Sheila Gallagher Dillon. As well as LeMans, member of our year, Cely Michel and Karen Zagrocki McDonald. This reunion was held back in January, as I blusted through Chicago on my way back to Tbilisi, where I have worked since early October 2009 as director of the Save the Children programs for Georgian children and families. It seems this is my respite after six years in Afghanistan as, honestly, my personal quality of life is quite easy by contrast to the recent past. Anyways, back at dinner, everyone is doing well, though we marked the sad news that Mary’s sister, Cathy, had died unexpectedly in late 2009. That
Janna Stewart Blake also lives in Lake Forest, Ill., near Dorothy and Pat and is busy being the super athlete she always has been and raising two young teens with her husband Joe.

Last Christmas, I had the great delight to see Margaret Gibbons in Chicago and get her update on her life in New York City. Margaret has worked as a fashion photographer there for over 30 years and has some great stories about that life. I also had breakfast with Leslie Wilson who is now with Save the Children in Tbilsi, Georgia. I always love having my consciousness raised about women and education when I am with Leslie.

Mary Wolf Conaty is teaching kindergarten in Knoxville, Tenn. Three of her five daughters who went to Saint Mary’s came over to my house for dinner this past winter, and it was a slice of heaven to be with them—all smart, fun and beautiful like their mom.

I have currently returned to Paris with my husband Jim for 4 1/2 months after living here from 1997-2004. We will be meeting our daughter in Istanbul for one of her stops on the Semester at Sea program. I had the good fortune to co-lead a group to the Cathedral of Chartres for a pilgrimage. I get a chance to put my spiritual director’s hat on while I am on this side of the Atlantic.

While I have been back in Europe, we had dinner with Jane Meagher and her husband, Scott. They were en route to Bosnia for their son Andy’s high school graduation, where he earned an international baccalaureate.

Ann Praught ’77, who has a florist shop outside of Boston, also came to Paris to check out the flowers on the European side. I am hoping to see Marijo Rogers Kelly ’77, who is a major francophile here, too. If you saw her house you would think you were in France.

Mary Ann Daly ’77 and I coordinated a Saint Mary’s/Notre Dame party for the classes of ’76 and ’77 last January in Chicago. I think I have updated most of the Saint Mary’s class of ’76 from that gathering. Mary Ann Daly ’77 is busy with her private psychotherapy practice in Chicago. It is always wonderful to get together with her and we try to see each other often.

From Michelle: Hello, my friends. I hope you are all well now that we have reached the milestone of our 50-plus years’ of age. I still haven’t gotten used to taking one of my grandmother’s vitamins every morning. Here are some news reports from our last reunion. Please email me any updates and be well.

Patricia Shannon LaBarge (Robert LaBarge ND ’78) graduated from John Marshall Law School and is the proud mom of Mary Eileen (Molly) LaBarge ’08 and Tim ND ’10. The LaBars live in Sturgis, Mich., and Patty plays tennis and volunteers at the owning of the animals.

Colette Pawlak-Floyd is a social worker in Binghamton, N.Y. She and her husband, Frank, have two Notre Dame graduate children, Sarah and Jonathan.

Patti Frawley, who could always figure out stuff on the Rome Program, became a psychotherapist with a degree from Notre Dame, and is now in private practice in Kalamazoo, Mich. She and her partner, Skip Lee, have raised two daughters, Renae and Hana. Her daughters have graduated from the University of Michigan and Loyola University, Chicago.

Luci Staples McCall is a high school teacher in Grand Rapids, Mich., and is married to Bill ND ’78, ’80. Their two daughters both graduated from Saint Mary’s, Megan in ’04 and Kathleen in ’06. Their son, John, graduated from Miami of Ohio and is getting his master’s in accounting at Notre Dame. Luci says that for fun, she does “everything.”

Clair Hacht is the principal of Blessed Sacrament School in Belleville, Ill.

Marla Trecelko Buck and her husband, Daniel, are proud parents of Brian ND ’08 and Marissa, who attends St. Joseph University in Philadelphia.

Mary Rost Gorecki and husband, Dennis, are living in Naperville, Ill., and have three children, Sarah (a teacher in Orlando, Fla.), Kristi (at last report, studying to become an RN), and Therase, a high school senior.

Karen Bickel Currier is also a school principal in Naperville, Ill. Jane Skelly Kinsella teaches middle school in Bryn Mawr, Penn. She and her husband, Michael ND ’78, have two sons, Brian (a Boston College graduate) and Kevin (a Villanova graduate).

Lynn Lukmann is also a teacher, teaching seventh-grade science in Griffith. Ind. Lynn says, “I’m very fortunate to live less than an hour away from Saint Mary’s campus. When feeling overworked, I hop in the car and drive to South Bend. As soon as I turn onto the tree-lined road, an inner peace sets in. As I walk around campus and through Holy Cross Hall, great memories flood my head. It’s hard to believe they happened more than 30 years ago, yet are still so vivid.”

Cathy Gunn Kleinschmidt teaches piano in St. Louis, Mo. She writes, “My husband and I celebrated our 25th anniversary with a wonderful trip to Europe and met up with our daughter, Laura, at the end of her semester (abroad) and traveled with her for another eight days. It was the trip of a lifetime.”

Margie Montgomery Land is a nurse in a pediatrics office in Indianapolis and is mom to Tara, Megan, and Hunter. She and her husband, Casey, recently traveled to Africa. They climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, went on a safari in Masai Mara, and visited cousins in Kenya. Magee writes, “It was fantastic to share in the experience with our children as well as visiting family so far away.”

Laura Herzog Serruto lives in Glen Ellyn, Ill., with her husband, Thomas, and three children, Joey, Emily, and Tommy. She is a substitute teacher and aide and says she spends a lot of time watching kids’ sporting events.

God love her, flew down from Minneapolis so she could join the dinner party (after visiting family in South Bend), and she is doing well with her two young sons (ages 14 and 11, I’m guessing) and her husband, Rick. Of course the hours flew by, and we all wanted to talk for hours more. So, of course, we’ll all pick up the threads and stories of our lives at our 35th reunion next year. Meanwhile, I am most closely in touch with Marianne McCabe Brehl, but since she’s our star reporter, you’ll hear her updates directly from her.

From the Courier Office: Kat Beaulieu writes: No matter where I am, I seem to always find a Saint Mary’s friend. I find it only reinforces the specialness of our feminine connection that was fostered by our years at Saint Mary’s.

My daughter Julie is a sophomore at Santa Clara University and I saw Mary Klopfer ’74 there who also has a daughter at Santa Clara. We both are good friends of Molly McKenna Sliney who has a daughter, Margaret, who will be entering the Saint Mary’s class of 2014. Molly and her husband Bob (ND MBA) are thrilled with a degree from Notre Dame, and is now in private practice in Kalamazoo, Mich. She and her partner, Skip Lee, have raised two daughters, Renae and Hana. Her daughters have graduated from the University of Michigan and Loyola University, Chicago.

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Michelle Lyon King is a registered nurse in Duluth, Ga., working part-time on a telemetry/cardiac floor. She and her husband, Raymond, have two children, Christopher, who graduated from Valdosta State, and Mary Elizabeth, who is in high school.

Barb Timm Stratton works as a fitness instructor/video producer in Milwaukee. She and her husband, Harry, have five children: Cole, Brett, Parker, Gracie, and Fitz.

Paula Kale Vordenran works as a technology assistant for the public schools in Ashburn, Va. She and her husband, Jim, have two children, Kelly and Kyle.

Brigid Rafferty writes from Chicago. “I made a ‘semi’ career change a couple of years ago when I became certified to teach English as a Second Language. I now teach ESL to adult Hispanic immigrants at Eric House, a social services agency in Chicago’s Little Village neighborhood, which I really enjoy.”

Debbie Stancik Krawczyk is teaching third grade at Academy of St. Bartholomew in Middleburg Heights, Ohio. She and her husband, Andrew, have a daughter, Theresa.

Maria-Lisa Mignanelli Brown and her husband, Charles, have a daughter, Marisa. Maria-Lisa is a technical support specialist at Rhode Island Airport Corporation and lives in Cranston, R.I.

Juliana Porretta Clements reports that she and her husband, Thomas, have two children, but are empty-nesters.

Patricia Schmitz Olszewski is a consultant for speech disorders software in Maryland. She and her husband, Gerald, have two children, Christopher and Claire, and live in Potomac.

Kathleen Sheedy is a lawyer in Mequon, Wis. Hon. Mary Rukavina Kuhnmuench ’78, senior class student body president ’78, sent an update bio: "[Mary] was recently elected the President of the Wisconsin Trial Judges Association, the first woman to serve as President of the Association that represents the more than 200 Circuit Court Judges in the State of Wisconsin. She is the immediate past president of the Milwaukee Trial Judge Association. She is also currently teaching elementary school business after a long business career. Adeed a second masters to my MBA, so now have my M.Ed. in educational leadership as well. This year I was honored to be chosen by the U.S. Air Force for their Distinguished Educator Award, which involved four days of meetings with USAF officers at Lackland and Randolph Air Force bases in Texas. I will be traveling to Hawaii and Ireland this summer.” Mary lives in Palatine, Ill.

Mooney ’72 gave an especially wonderful speech. We are very lucky to have a president so engaging and dedicated to her school. The picnic held on the lawn of Le Mans Hall brought so many faces together. Those attending included: Chip Dornbach Snyder, Rosie Marie Lopez Jones, Joanie Winter Rogge, Sue Smiggen Condit, Pia Trigiani, Cathy Loftus Anderson, Rosemary Boris Hughes, Kathy Hughes Johnson, Sheila Wixted Bus, Louise Enyedy Bergin, Sue Turcotte, Kathy Vilona Hussey, Maria Frigyesi Etling, Cynthia Waicikus, and Nina Anezi Stefani.

Saturday night began with a beautiful dinner, which honored some notable alumnae. The weekend concluded with Sunday morning Mass followed by a champagne brunch.

So, the class of 1980 is back in the Courier. Please keep the information coming to me or Maria. Everyone wants to know what is going on.

Greetings, classmates. Hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Thanks to all of you who have kept in touch via Facebook and email. Mary Graft writes: “Just completed my third year teaching high school business after a long business career. Added a second masters to my MBA, so now have my M.Ed. in educational leadership as well. This year I was honored to be chosen by the U.S. Air Force for their Distinguished Educator Award, which involved four days of meetings with USAF officers at Lackland and Randolph Air Force bases in Texas. I will be traveling to Hawaii and Ireland this summer.” Mary lives in Palatine, Ill. Ellen Dalton Patterson writes: “I still can’t believe it has been 25 years since my time at Saint Mary’s College has come and gone. My family and I are living in the Charlotteville, Va., area. My husband, Rob, is a professor at UVA and I am currently teaching elementary school. My three girls, Anne (fourth grade), Addie (second grade), and Alice (kindergarten) all go to the same school where I work. I keep in touch with (though not as much as I would like) Denise Drake Lawless, Teri Meyer Tennerman, and Barb Mungovan Koch through Facebook. I enjoy so much thinking about our days at Saint Mary’s College.” Great to hear from you, Ellen.

Alicia Ojascastro Behrndt is living in St. Louis, Mo., with her husband, Kevin, and their two children. Alicia writes, “This year, on the 30-year anniversary of when Kevin and I met each other during orientation weekend, we will bring our daughter, Allison, to her freshman orientation at Notre Dame. Our son, Ryan, will be a sophomore at St. Louis University High School. We continue to cheer for the
Irish of course, and now also cheer for Ryan as he plays football for the SLUH Junior Billikens. Kevin practices law for a local St. Louis firm and I am the vice president of Global Finance for Maritz Holdings Inc., one of St. Louis's largest privately held companies, which has revenue over $1 billion." Great to keep in touch with you, Alicia.

Eileen O’Brien Metzger sends the following message, "I’m keeping busy in Indianapolis with my five children. The oldest, Kristen, will be a senior at our alma mater, Saint Mary’s. She is graduating with a degree in education. She went to Rome for a semester and loved it. She is very involved. She started a chapter for Invisible Children, is vice president of ND group for spring break. You can see her on Facebook. Thanks, Eileen.

Cyndy Short is living in Kansas City, Mo. She writes: “It is hard to believe another year has passed. Spring was a whirlwind for us with our oldest son winding up his high school career. Kyle graduated and will be headed to college this fall on a soccer scholarship. He will attend the liberal arts college attended by his father. Our other two children continue in middle and elementary school where both are active in sports. I continue to travel for work as my trial practice goes national. As a specialist in capital defense work, I see the country one courthouse at a time. I am also teaching, which I enjoy and hope to do more of as time moves forward." Great to keep in touch with you, Cyndy.

Amy Louise Murray sends the following update via Facebook, “Hello y’all. Here I am all the way on the West Coast, working as a chef in the local sustainable food movement. I opened my first restaurant, The Happy Belly, in 1994. It has been a wild ride. I am so grateful and humbled by the wonderful people in my community and friends and family base who have supported me for the last 16 years. My second restaurant, Venus, has just turned ten, and is in the heart of downtown Berkeley. It’s like ‘Little Kitchen on the Prairie.’ We prepare everything in house, buy whole goats and pigs, butcher, fabricate, pickle, preserve, churn butter, and create really yummy and wholesome food from pristine sources. And we have an excellent bar with artisan cocktails from small batch spirits and local fruit from our friends’ and neighbors’ abundant backyards. It’s too bad ND and UC Berkeley don’t play each other in football or I’d see more of you. Diana Butler Buxton travels this way from New York and family about once or twice a year. Jennifer McGrath Goodman’s brother, Danny, teaches at Berkeley, so I see her once a year. Come visit or KIT on Facebook.” Thanks, Amy, and all the best to you with your new endeavor (sounds delicious).

Marianne Camenzind Woods writes, "Hard to believe that a year has passed since we all gathered for our 25th reunion. What a fun weekend that was for me to reconnect with so many of you. Throughout the year I have had the good fortune of staying in touch with Kay Kaltenbach Lobo, Debbie Stack O’Connor, Beth Jones, Katie Keenan Chelsky, Kris Kelly Doder, Kathy Hau Beckman, Ann-Marie Bracken Hickey, and Jill Origer Tabit. Kay and her husband, Carlos, live in Wheeling, Ill. We shared a house together for reunion, sort of like we did in college, only with guys roommates. Kay does quite a bit of overseas travel for Abbott Laboratories, where she has worked for 16 years. Debbie and her husband, Bob, reside in Clarksburg, Md., with their three children. After a long career with American Airlines, Debbie made the decision to ground herself to pursue her creative interests. She makes purses and jewelry, marketing them under the website: www.etsy.com/shop/thecherishedbead. Beth lives in Ann Arbor, Mich., while working for NSF International. Beth can often be found on Facebook where she showcases her travels. I love her profile picture on top of a camel. Katie and her husband, Mark ND ’84, live in Appleton, Wis., with their four children. Their oldest, Christi, will begin her junior year at Notre Dame this fall. Their three boys keep Katie running, yet she never seems tired. Kris and her husband, Vince, live in St. Louis, Mo., with their three daughters. Kris has accepted a new position as the principal of the Sacred Heart Villa pre-school. Some of her high school friends have kids in the school, which is fun for all. Kathy and her husband, Jeff, live in Cincinnati, Ohio. Since graduation, she has been with the Hyatt Hotel in Cincinnati, holding the position of director of revenue. When not at work, Kathy and Jeff enjoy the Hyatt perks of traveling. Ann-Marie and her husband, AI, live in Western Springs, Ill., with their three children. Their oldest son is heading to college this fall. In her spare time she sits on the town board of Western Springs. Jill and her husband, Mark ND ’82, live in Los Angeles with their four children. This past May, I ran into Jill and Mark at a Notre Dame. They were there celebrating their son’s graduation. As for me, I enjoy life with my husband, Brian ND ’83, and our four children, while living in Door County, Wis. Last year, we celebrated 25 years of marriage. This past May marked the halfway point, having two of the four kids through college and employed: Justin (Menard ’07) and Ann-Marie (Menard ’10). Our teenage daughters and two golden retrievers keep life at home interesting and wonderful.” Thanks for keeping in touch, Marianne.

I keep in touch with Anne Archibald Deutsch, Angie Sleper Helmsetter, Karen Wagner Lewis, Janice Dwyer Wiggins, Mary Rymarquis Stiglmeier, and Ann von Wahde Fink. Anne lives in Naperville, Ill., and completed her fourth marathon in Champaign on a very hot day in May. She is planning her fifth marathon for this October, the Wisconsin Dells Marathon, and an International Distance Triathlon in northern Illinois. Anne writes, “My times are nothing to brag about, however, I feel blessed that I have the health and physical endurance to participate in these activities, which I truly enjoy.” In the
midst of all this training and raising six children, they have completed a full kitchen remodel and worked around Doug's travels to China. Her eldest daughter is a preschool teacher and is doing well in Hudson, Ohio. She and her husband are bringing their oldest, Jake, to Notre Dame this fall. Janet writes that he is looking forward to it and says that Susie Miller Schilling’s son, Nick, will also be starting as a freshman at ND this fall. Janet’s favorite memory is of being in August. In August, their son, Mark, will be a senior at Archbishop Hoban High School, and daughter, Katie, will start as a freshman there. Janet’s youngest, Claire, will be in sixth grade. She says that she is reminding friends to keep June 2011 open for our 25th reunion.

Susie Miller Schilling emails an update on her busy family: “Katherine just graduated from Notre Dame with a BA in Political Science and Peace Studies. She was a part of the Glynn Family Honors Program and was an international scholar at the Kroc Institute. Patrick just completed his junior year at the University of Kansas where he is a wide receiver on the football team. Nicholas will be attending Notre Dame in the fall, and has been accepted to the Glynn Family Honors Program. Megan just finished her sophomore year at our Catholic girls’ high school and is playing lacrosse and composing music on the piano. Christopher will be in the seventh grade and is busy with many sports. Nick ‘86 and I are celebrating our 24th anniversary at the end of June and are grateful for all our wonderful years together.” Thanks, Susie.

Hopefully many classmates are planning to attend our 25th reunion. You won’t want to miss it. As for us, our youngest, Megan, is excited to attend the Fine Arts Camp at Saint Mary’s this July. They will have a blast. I’m excited to show our beautiful campus to so many families. Our daughter, Catherine, a sophomore this fall, is running track and cross country for Montini Catholic High School. Our son, Brendan, soon a senior at Montini, is on the golf and volleyball teams. My parents, Mary and Frank Gisch, are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in July with a Mass and family party. My sisters, Peggy A. Gisch ’87, Elizabeth Gisch ’91, and Kate Gisch Ogilvie ’93 are all so happy to be celebrating this event together. Please email an update soon, and take care and God bless.

From Kathy: I was able to connect with quite a few classmates on Facebook. John and I still live in Saint Louis. Jack (16) is a junior and Michael (14) is a freshman in high school. Mary Kate (10) is God’s sense of humor. She is giving me gray hair and she is only in fourth grade.

Jean Soffranke Reinhold lives in Cleveland. Sadly, her dad passed away last summer after a long battle with multiple myeloma and many other chronic medical problems. He died at home with seven of his nine kids there as well as Jean’s mom. Jean’s oldest child, Helen, is a freshman at Fordham.

Theresa Ryan Rooney and Michael live in Hinsdale. They have three darling children Michael (third grade), Nora (fifth grade), Meghan (sixth grade), and a puppy, Duke.

Deborah J. Heffernan-Sherman and Dan live in Valparaiso, Ind. She is busy with the crazy schedules of Jake, 11, Katie, 10, Annie, 8, and Bridget, 6.

Sheila Smiggen writes that she is ‘doing good’— work, work, work. I was in Germany and Japan and have been traveling quite a bit domestically. I am getting ready to jump into triathlon season again, so lots of running, biking, and swimming. I am still working for Nutrilite.”

Margo Mischler-Philbin is married to Jim Mischler-Philbin ND ’86, and she writes: “Our family celebrates several milestones and anniversaries within the next few months: the ninth anniversary of making Duluth, Minn., our home, and Jim’s work with the Northern Communities Land Trust, which provides housing for low-income folks, the baptism
anniversaries of both of our children; the 45th birth-
day of both Jim and I, the 12th year for me as an at
home/home schooling mom (I will still be home but
both girls will be in school for the first time come this
fall); and the best one: our 20th wedding anniver-
sary. Thank you to so many from Saint Mary’s/Notre
Dame for coming to Dayton, Ohio, to celebrate with
us all those many years ago.”

Sheila Flood is back in Janesville, Wis., I was
able to visit with Sheila on my way up to north-
ern Wisconsin to pick my sons up from camp. She
looks exactly the same as the day we graduated.
Tess Bruns Boldrey has been in Columbus, Ind.,
since graduation. She writes, “I am keeping busy
with coaching my daughter’s St. Bartholomew
Middle School volleyball team, coaching my son’s
baseball team, and working as a project manager/
project estimator for Force Construction Company,
Inc. (a very unique and exciting way to use my BS in
project management). Life is non-stop activity.”

Barb Goldkamp Henry writes: “I’m still living in
Gahanna, Ohio, working as business manager/finan-
cial advisor for a small consulting company. With
our oldest, Rachel, starting junior year in high school
this fall, Matt is going to be a freshman, Danny is
starting second grade, and Sam is starting first
grade, it is non-stop activity.”

Beth Kallmyer lives in Chicago and is still work-
ing at the National Alzheimer’s Association where
she is the director of family and information services.

Colleen O’Brien Benjamin works three days a
week on a post-surgical floor at Borgess Medical
Center in Kalamazoo, Mich. She enjoys her days off
with kids, Maggie (11), John (10), and Michael (8).
She met up with Maureen Blanchfield Pierret
in Kalamazoo, with her 11-year-old-daughter, Clare,
who got along well with Colleen’s Maggie (maybe
future Saint Mary’s roommates).

Mollie O’Sullivan Grojean and Bill live in Kansas
City. Their family just returned from a trip to South
Africa. Sadly, her father passed away this spring and
the funeral was in St. Louis, so we were able to visit
a little. Their oldest son, Ryan, will be a sophomore at
ND, living in Alumni Hall. Kendall (17) and Emma (15)
attend Notre Dame de Sion and play field hockey
and lacrosse. Isabel (13) will be in eighth grade at St.
Paul’s, and is a soccer and lacrosse player.

Cami Trafficana Hurbut and Phil live north of
Los Angeles. Their family will be playing soccer
for UC-San Francisco this fall. Ned (16) will be a junior
and plays football and volleyball. Toby (14) will be
a freshman. He plays soccer, baseball, and piano. Gus
(11) will be a sixth grader and is into soccer. Lucy (9)
is a Brownie, and plays soccer, too. She writes, “I am
still teaching fourth grade. It is a whole lot of work
raising five kids and working full time but the money
is necessary and the rewards are endless!”

Mary Kathryn Leary switched to the non-profit
sector and is the director of finance for the Society
of St. Vincent de Paul in St. Louis.

Cheryl Bonacci and I connected via Facebook and
she writes, “I’m running two steps behind myself right
now (there’s an Update for you, no wait, I was doing
that in college). Life in our little world is beautiful.
“Although no one told me that ‘nine’ is the ‘new 13,’
i’m trying to take a deep breath while getting a dose
of what the teenage years will be like. I’m still working
as a volunteer Catholic chaplain with kids in prison.”

Caroline Wittenberg Donohoe sends a note
saying, “Our big news is that Timothy Raymond (Tim),
born on February 11, 2009, has joined our family
through adoption. Ray, Bill (3), and I couldn’t be hap-
pier. Since Tim arrived, I’ve taken a hiatus from my
part-time job as a freelance writer/editor of elemen-
tary textbooks, and am enjoying being home with
the boys. Ray will be in Saint Francis seventh grade English
and will finish up the school year at the end of June. Then
we’re off to the Jersey Shore for a crazy vacation with
Ray’s family. Last spring, Dawn Short Beck came for
a short visit to watch the Boston Marathon. We had
a great time catching up. I also got a chance to visit
Laura Ingallinera Cody and her family Good times.”

Mary Beth Lavezzorio lives in Chicago. She re-
ports, “The kids are busy with everything: Maria will
be in 4th in the fall in eighth grade. Anthony is 11
and entering sixth grade. Natalie is eight and enter-
ing third grade.”

Carrie Lemek Leutenegger says there is not much
new in her life. She still keeps in touch with
Kim McNamara Desotel. Peggy Ryan Pilgrim, and
Barb Anthoine Barry. She says Barb every summer when we go visit her mom in Maine. Barb and
her family come up from Boston.

Sadly, Mary Francis Wilkin’s mom passed away in
February 2009 in Long Beach, Ind. Mary Francis
is in her 18th year of teaching and is living in Long
Beach. She enjoys her summers off.

Cheryl Pilon Meyer has lived in the Las Vegas
area for four years and continues her work with
CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) for chil-
dren in district court. She writes, “Mike and I were
married in 2006 on the beach of Coronado (with a
bagpiper playing ‘The Bells of Saint Mary’s’) and I am
the proud stepmother of a fabulous six-year-old.”

Anne Edgar Bruneel is a partner with Husch
Blackwell Sanders, LLP in Saint Louis. She and Mike
celebrated their 26th anniversary on July 6. Kids Matt
(25), Lauren (23), and Will (18) are doing well. She
writes, “To top it all off, I am a grandma. Abigail
(Abby) is two years old and a complete joy. Quote
of the year by Mary Frances Wilkin “You have a
granddaughter and I barely have a newspaper sub-
scription. Life is busy, but good.”

Ana Maria Gonzalez Wood writes that she and
John are living in Houston with their amazing chil-
dren, Carolina (13) and William (11). After working
as a CPA and estate planning attorney, I joined Prud-
ential Financial 15 years ago as an insurance agent/
financial advisor, taking over my mother’s practice. I
have not seen Jenny Borchers in quite some time,
but we do keep in touch on the phone!”

Priscilla Karle Pilon reports, “I am active in the
Houston Alumnae Club where we have a fantastic
group of alumnae who are from all different class
years. Although I love Houston, I am headed out for
the summer to Rhode Island where my two boys
will join me to sail and see family. My husband, Matt,
joins us when he can and we host many a family
get-together since we are both from the area!”

She visited with Tess Guarino Lipo, who is a freelance
grant writer in Oak Park, Ill., and who is married to
Frank Lipo ND ’87. They have three awesome girls
and one cute cat.

Patty Schneider O’Connor and Brian are in Pitts-
burgh. Their oldest, Tricia, will start college in the fall.

Tricia will be a senior in high school in the fall. Sean
will be in eighth grade in the fall, Gavin will be in sixth
grade, Meghan will be in fourth grade, and Clare will
begin first grade. Sadly, Patty’s mom passed away last
April after a long battle with Alzheimer’s.

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Kelly Brantman Roles and Brad welcomed Zach-
ary, Braeden, on November 9, 2009. His big sister, Tabitha, is two and just loves playing with her baby brother. The Rolas' family lives in Maple Grove, Minn.

Gina Esposito visited Saint Mary's in April to participate in the Power Lunch organized by Professor Pat Pierce, Chair of the Political Science Department. She traveled with her whole family to start the whole "indoctrination" process for daughter Maria, three. In the summer, Gina joined Kristin Bowling Manning, Cathy Olene Pellegrino, Michelle Mannard McGowan, Laura Jeffirs Kruyer, and Vicki Chudzynski Gits to celebrate their 40th birthdays. On Gina’s 40th birthday, Kristin and Cathy showed up at her parent’s house, totally surprising her and her family.

Michelle Lia successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on March 17, 2010: luck of the Irish in her 40th birthday. On Gina's 40th birthday, Kristin and Cathy showed up at her parent’s house, totally surprising her and her family.

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on me that next summer we will have our 15-year reunion—unbelievable. But, we aren't there yet, although it appears that several of us have held some recent reunions of our own lately.

Clare Heekin Lynch and her husband, Tomas, welcomed the birth of their second son, Conall Adam, on March 15, 2010. Big brother, Gavin, is already trying to show Conall how to dig dirt with his trucks. Clare is enjoying being home and raising her boys while growing her freelance communications consulting business in the Pittsburgh region.

Meghan Bruchas Brunson traveled to Washington, D.C., for a critical-care nursing conference and stayed with Mary Udovich Baginsky. It was three years since they last saw each other, even though they talk all the time. Mary finished her degree last May and is now an official dietitian. In September, she will begin a 40-week clinical dietetic internship in a D.C.-area hospital before taking the board exams. It has been a challenging two years of school to complete the program at U. of Michigan, and her husband, Steve, who works in the area, has been wonderfully supportive.

Kristen Ross O’Connor went to Denver and Colorado Springs for business last May and linked up with Kelly Kilmer Mullagh while there. Kelly moved to Colorado Springs last year. Kristen was able to bring her youngest little girl (Lucy) with her, and with Kelly’s little girl (Abby), they were able to have a play date. It had been over five years since Kelly and Kristen last saw each other.

After ten years working at Saint Mary’s, JudeAnne Wilson left her position as director of annual giving for a new job in Lafayette, Ind. She assumed her new position, director of development for the Lafayette Catholic School System, on March 8, 2010. JudeAnne is responsible for enhancing the marketing efforts for the school, which includes creating a comprehensive marketing campaign, increasing enrollment by identifying new markets for recruitment, and working with donors to increase giving and implementing new fundraising programs for the school system. She loves her new job and is thrilled to begin this next chapter in her life. If you would like to reach her, her new email address is judeannewilson@verizon.net.

Megan Maloney O’Sullivan recently gave birth to her son. Molly Maloney O’Sullivan was born on Megan’s birthday, March 25, 2010. to her fourth child. Mary Molly Maloney O’Sullivan judenewilson@verizon.net. you would like to reach her, her new email address is

 Giving and implementing new fundraising programs. It has been a challenging two years of school to complete the program at U. of Maryland, and her husband, Steve, who works in the area, has been wonderfully supportive.

JudeAnne Wilson’s sister, JudeAnne Wilson, welcomed son, Luca Paul, on February 5, 2009. Having two under the age of two has been a joyful adventure. JudeAnne is responsible for enhancing the marketing efforts for the school, which includes creating a comprehensive marketing campaign, increasing enrollment by identifying new markets for recruitment, and working with donors to increase giving and implementing new fundraising programs for the school system. She loves her new job and is thrilled to begin this next chapter in her life. If you would like to reach her, her new email address is judeannewilson@verizon.net.

Clare Heekin Lynch and her husband, Matthew ND ’98 ‘06, welcomed two new Saint Mary’s Belles: twin girls, Mia Frances and Therese Jude. Mia Frances was born on March 25, 2010. and Therese was born on April 1, 2010. The girls were baptized in spring 2010 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hebron, Ky., just outside of Cincinnati. The girls were baptized in spring 2010 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hebron, Ky., just outside of Cincinnati. The girls were baptized in spring 2010 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in Hebron, Ky., just outside of Cincinnati.

Meg Winkler Kniskern and her husband, Matt, welcomed their first child, son, Jacob, was born in January 2009. Jenny is staying at home with both her boys still and loving it. They are still living in Warsaw, Ind., and currently looking for a bigger home for their family.

Ivonne Grantham Smith is busy working full time and taking care of her two sweet boys. She has managed to squeeze in a triathlon and a half-marathon here and there, which has added to the craziness.

Tricia O’Connor-Wiltshire and her husband welcomed another baby girl, Anna Patricia, in August 2009. “She thinks her big sister, Claire, is hilarious, and Anna has become a much welcomed part of the family. In summer 2010, the Wiltshire family will be heading to the Outer Banks in North Carolina with Abigail Lafka’s family. Tricia is looking forward to a much needed vacation and spending it with her Saint Mary’s roommate and best friend. She is sure their husbands will be tired of their ‘I wish we were still in college’ conversations by the end of the trip. Ending on a sad note, we are sorry to report that Amber Jones Liu’s infant son died in February with in hours after his birth. Our thoughts and heartfelt prayers are with you, Amber.

From the Courier: Jessi Lentych Loyd and her husband, Alan, welcomed Grigsby James by May 24, 2010.

Greetings, Class of 2002. I am excited to be taking over the class reporter position from Katie Corsentino Newberger, and am feeling the pressure of some big shoes to fill with regards to updates. Here are a few updates from some ’02 Belles’ Kathy Roberts Panzer reports that she and her husband, Matt ND ’02, were delighted to announce the arrival of Caelin Evan Panzer this past January. Everyone is doing wonderfully and Kelly and Matt are enjoying every second of their life with two little ones. Kelly returned to work in the spring at Alliance Home Health Care as its marketing director.

We are sad to learn that Jennifer Nelson Bojarски lost her grandmother, Alfred V. Angelini, on February 22, 2010.
Kristin Thompson Martin and her husband, Daniel ND Law ’02, report the exciting news of the birth of her second son, William O’Reilly Martin, who was born on November 6, 2009, joining his older brother, Alex, two. They are still in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Kristin loves being a stay-at-home mommy with her boys. Jeanne Haske has expanded her successful Etsy store called “Ruffled,” featuring her gorgeous, handmade fashion clutches to a storefront location in Wicker Park. Check out her site when you are looking for great gift ideas or bridal party clutches or stop by An Event Studio in Chicago when you are in the neighborhood. When she is not sewing up a storm, she continues to work at Jenner & Block in Chicago supporting complex litigation cases. This summer, her trial will take her to New York and Boston. It has been quite a spring for Courtenay Lauer Taylor who welcomed her second son, William Lauer Taylor, in May. She and her husband, Rob, are thrilled with their new addition and big brother, James, who will be two in July, loves his new playmate. After five years living in the Seattle area, Quinn Shernelson, her husband, Dayne ND ’97, her one-year-old daughter, Riley, and her golden retriever, Daisy, are packing their bags and heading to Texas. Dayne will be working for the U.S. Army’s Medical Hospital in El Paso, Tex. Quinn is excited to enjoy her time staying home with Riley and Daisy, and is looking forward to their new house with a pool.

Katie Corsentino Newberger is enjoying new-lywed life with her husband, Charlie, in Chicago. She is finishing up the homestretch of her MBA at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management, and will finish in December. To celebrate their first anniversary and her upcoming graduation, she and Charlie are taking a trip to Italy in the fall. School has been the year. Erin teaches third grade at the Lane School in Hinsdale, Ill., and Debbie teaches first grade at St. John the Baptist School in Crystal Lake, Ill. Erin and Debbie are looking forward to spending the summer in Chicago and catching some rays. They report, “If anyone wants to dance with us this summer, you can find us at Hangge-Uppe’ Lauren Bossy Caruso is enjoying life with her six-month-old daughter, Honour. She and her husband, Peter, live in Clarendon Hills, Ill.

As for me, I continue to work as a director with AArete LLC, an operational consulting firm based in Chicago. After seven years of traveling for out-of-town clients, I am currently working with a local Chicago client and am loving being in town and able to catch up with my favorite Saint Mary’s chicks. I hope everyone has a safe and happy summer. Go Belles.

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Hello, Class of 2006. It is hard to believe that our first reunion is already less than a year away. Please send news or updates to me at mnel2@gmail.com. Best wishes for a happy and healthy conclusion to 2010.

Jenny Nugent Ganser married Ryan Ganser on June 28, 2008. Mollie Lavelle Kisselburg, Christine Dietz, Mary Buehl, and Kellye Mitros were in the wedding party. Jenny and Ryan welcomed a son, Aidan James, on April 8, 2010. Becky Feauto and Jake La Liberte were married on August 7, 2010.

Michelle Grossnickle and Michael Russell ND ‘05 were married on August 14, 2010 in Cincinnati, Ohio, at Holy Cross-Immaculata Church. Bridesmaids included Renee DiNovo and Jennifer Wolff. Nora Casey ’08, Mary Fearon ’08, Carly Rundborg ’08, and Elaine Laney ’05 were in attendance.

Jennifer Robbins graduated in the spring of 2009 with honors from Michigan State University College of Law with a concentration in health law. She then moved to Washington, D.C., where she was admitted to the Virginia Bar in November 2009. Jennifer is currently working on Capitol Hill in government affairs for non-profits focusing primarily on women’s issues and health care reform.

Danielle Taylor is currently working on a Master’s Degree in Library and Information Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, focusing on archives and records administration. She expects to graduate in May 2011.


Jill Funnell and Erin McQueen finished medical school this May with Jill graduating from the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and Erin graduating from the College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University. Jill will start her residency at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak Michigan in the medicine/pediatrics program. Erin will start her residency at Ball Memorial Hospital in Muncie, Ind., in the family medicine program. Erin married Alan Young on May 22, 2010. Bridesmaids from our class included Kristen Palombo, Moira Cronin, Lindsey Stillson Roth, and Jill Funnell. Marsha DeSmet and Courtney Odelson were in attendance.

Meghan E. Marenkovic Blasi married Dominick M. Blasi III on September 19, 2009. Angela Kelly writes that Angela Rizzo has been given the distinct honor of being selected to the Air Force Nurse Corps, an integral part of the Air Force’s health professions team. Angela competed against many other qualified applicants and was selected because of her leadership, motivation, education, clinical skills, and potential to become an outstanding Air Force officer. She will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant this summer by her friend and fellow Saint Mary’s alumna, Angela Kelly, Lieutenant, Nurse Corps, United States Navy, and will promote to First Lieutenant in August, ahead of her peers. Lieutenant Rizzo will start Commissioned Officers’ Training in October, 2010, and will serve on Active Duty at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Miss. Angela Kelly has been serving active duty in the United States Navy as a Lieutenant in the Navy Nurse Corps for the last four years. She has recently been transferred from National Naval Medical Center Bethesda, Md., to Naval Health Clinic Great Lakes, Ill, and is tasked with providing medical care at the Navy’s only recruit processing center for every sailor who enlists in the Navy. Angela is also enrolled in Vanderbilt University’s Master of Science in Nursing program and will graduate in August of 2011. She has been married for almost two years to her husband, Justin, and they are looking forward to returning to Saint Mary’s this fall for some Irish football games.

From the Courier: Jillian Roth Gillis writes that she married Britt Gill in August 2006. They welcomed a son, Austin James, in 2007, and a daughter, Adrianna Charlotte, on February 21, 2009. Jillian says they feel so lucky to have two healthy and happy children, and hopes Adrianna will be a Class of 2031 Belle. Jillian is still working full time in marketing at a medical equipment company in Sandusky, Ohio.

From the Courier: Stephanie Lutz writes “I was promoted to the rank of Captain in the USAF effective May 31, 2010. I finished four years at Keesler Air Force Base, Biloxi, Miss., where I worked as a sexual assault response coordinator and also was the chief of protocol. I deployed twice during that timeframe. In July, I will transfer to Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala., where I will be a flight commander and instructor for Air University’s Squadron Officer College Air and Space Basic Course.”

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From Cate: Hey, Class of 2008. Hope all is well two full years after graduation. Please remember to send Natalie and I updates. We love hearing from everyone and want our class to know what’s new with you.

On May 22, 2010, Abby Elizabeth Hinchy welcomed a son, Eli James, into the world. Eli was born in Indianapolis, Ind., weighing 8 lbs., 1 oz, and 20-1/2 inches long. Abby reports that Eli eats all the time and has a great disposition.

From the Courier: Lindsay Renee Burnside writes: “I was accepted into the Peace Corps and left for Ecuador on February 18, 2010. My assignment involves natural resources conservation with a job title of environmental education awareness.” After graduation, Lindsay worked as an environmental education instructor at the YMCA Outdoor Center’s Camp Tecumseh, in Brookston, Ind., at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Environmental Learning Center.

From the Courier: Christopher Yesnik Fairchild and Mike ND ’00, MBA ’04 welcomed a daughter, Elle Marie, on May 22, 2010.

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From the Courier: Christin Yesnik Fairchild and Mike ND ’00, MBA ’04 welcomed a daughter, Elle Marie, on May 22, 2010.
Bruno Schlesinger’s career spanned three generations of Saint Mary’s students and nine College presidents. His accomplishment and foresight in founding what is today the Department of Humanistic Studies can be measured through the ongoing contributions of its stellar faculty and students. One labors hard to find a more loyal group of alumnae of incredibly diverse accomplishments who attribute their success—and indeed their world views—to the education they received at Saint Mary’s in their HUST major, which recognized long before interdisciplinarity became an academic buzzword, how important it was to consider the products and achievements of Western culture through integrated contexts and perspectives.

— Joseph Incandela Associate Dean and Professor of Religious Studies

See Winter 2010 Courier for alumnae tributes to Professor Schlesinger.