"It is not the money that’s important, but what we can do with it. We can take care of ourselves and those we care about. We can use it to have meaningful experiences. And we can use it to improve society and the world."

—Professor Susan Vance
This moment made possible by alumnae and friends of Saint Mary’s College

Generations of women call Saint Mary’s “home.” In the sacred spaces of campus, students realize the tradition, sisterhood, and community that surround them. Gifts to Saint Mary’s Annual Fund help preserve the beauty of campus and provide the funding necessary to enhance and maintain residence halls, classrooms, and administrative buildings.

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The Mission
Saint Mary’s College is a Catholic, residential, women’s college in the liberal arts tradition. A pioneer in the education of women, the College is an academic community where women develop their talents and prepare to make a difference in the world. Founded by the Sisters of the Holy Cross in 1844, Saint Mary’s promotes a life of intellectual vigor, aesthetic appreciation, religious sensibility, and social responsibility. All members of the College remain faithful to this mission and continually assess their response to the complex needs and challenges of the contemporary world.
Right before we started working on this issue, I was looking through a pile of files I’d inherited. In it was a report from the College’s Office of Institutional Research—the “Five-Years-Out Employment Survey” of 2004 graduates. It turned out to be a fascinating read.

One section that caught my eye included responses to the question, “Looking back, please list any additional general education requirements that would have been useful to you.”

As you might imagine, there was a broad spectrum of answers. But it didn’t take long for a clear trend to emerge. In that 2009 study, nearly a quarter of responses to that question mentioned personal finance topics. When the same study was conducted two years later with the Class of 2006, that number jumped to nearly a third.

While many students navigate the intricacies of financial aid, the full reality of financial independence doesn’t typically hit until after graduation. That’s when insurance policies, credit scores, budgeting, and investing take on a new level of importance. That’s when it’s time to figure out how on earth you can afford to sign up for that 3 (or 5 or 10) percent salary reduction to go into a retirement account while simultaneously making student loan payments.

“I took a legal and financial literacy class as a non-major elective senior year that I think should be a requirement,” responded one ’06 alumna. “It was extremely helpful in preparing me for the legal and financial decisions I faced upon graduation and would otherwise have been extremely underprepared to make.”

The good news for future Belles: As of this fall that class, Financial Success Strategies for Women, is being offered as part of the new core curriculum. The good news for alumnae: You can get a taste of that class—including the reading list and a quiz—on page 10.

Of course, some will always shy away from such a class. It may be because it seems antithetical to the College’s liberal arts focus. It may be because of the long-standing notion that it’s a bit crass for women to talk openly about their finances. While that idea may be changing (see page 7), the reality is that to talk about one’s income and expenses openly oneself up to being judged as ignorant, greedy, lucky, or imperiled.

That’s why I so appreciate the story on page 3, “Putting money in its place,” in which several Saint Mary’s professors and Holy Cross sisters offer their wisdom about personal finance. Their answers may surprise you—and challenge you, too.

Unfortunately, the Office of Institutional Research doesn’t conduct a 15-years-out, 25-years-out, or 45-years-out survey. But we would bet that it’s not just the 5-years-out alumnae who struggle with their financial choices, knowledge, and planning. If anything, it gets harder over time. Raising a family, handling taxes and tuition and mortgage payments, planning for retirement, drawing up a will and other legal documents, considering long-term care options and disability insurance and prescription drug benefits—none of these complicated tasks is for the faint of heart, yet nearly everyone confronts them at some point.

While this issue of the Courier is no substitute for a serious personal finance course, we hope it helps you—no matter how many years out you are.

According to Susan Vance, professor of business law, entrepreneurship, and personal finance, here’s where you should be: “At the end of the day, we are happiest with our financial lives when we understand our relationship with money, when we understand finance, when we set financial goals for ourselves so we have direction, and when we use money in ways that are in line with our values.”

Balance, in a word.

Of course, it’s easy to get distracted and even intimidated in the quest for a harmonious relationship with money: turbulent economic times, rampant consumerism, endless options for investing and donating, and nagging insecurity about retirement.

As real and complex as these issues are, Vance and other experts from Saint Mary’s and the Sisters of the Holy Cross maintain the most effective way to understand money’s place in our lives—and thus achieve balance—is by exploring basic ideas and beliefs as well as building confidence to put money in its place.

**A philosophical look**

Musings about the role of money in our lives are age-old, says Megan Halteman Zwart, visiting assistant philosophy professor, whose Social Justice course focuses on consumption habits.

“Historically, philosophers have often worried that our tendency to seek, hoard, and worship money will prevent us from the kind of reflection that is essential to living an ethical life,” she explains. “These concerns come from various schools of thought—from Socrates, who lambasts the ancient Athenians because he sees them as focusing on material wealth to the exclusion of cultivating their souls; to the Catholic intellectual tradition, which highlights our duty to use our resources to care for the vulnerable; to some contemporary utilitarians who think we are morally obligated to maximize the aggregate good by giving almost until the point of need ourselves.”

Though these reasons are varied, “Most philosophers agree that money can easily be an obstacle to the sort of happiness we should be pursuing,” Zwart adds.

She points out that Thomas Aquinas famously addressed the issue in *Summa Theologica*, Question 66, Article 7:

Hence whatever certain people have in superabundance is due, by natural law, to the purpose of succoring the poor. For this reason Ambrose [says]: “It is the hungry man’s bread that you withhold, the naked man’s cloak that you store away, the money that you bury in the earth is the price of the poor man’s ransom and freedom.

So according to these philosophers, a good relationship with money starts with a moral obligation to share.
A spiritual look at giving and gratitude

Religions maintain the same focus of sharing. “What I have is for my use and also for sharing with others. This is something that followers of many spiritual practices believe,” says Sister Veronique Wiedower ’70, CSC, who serves as the College’s vice president for mission. You’d be hard-pressed to find a religion that encourages accumulation for its own sake or casual consumption, she adds.

“Money is not the end in itself. It’s a tool to provide other things. It’s a gift from God. The end is a good life when I’m aware of my needs and the common good.”

Adopting this way of thinking isn’t easy in a consumption-driven world where the lines between wants and needs are blurred. “It’s easy to get sucked in,” Wiedower says. Even for sisters. “We have possessions that we think we need, but then we see young sisters come on campus from other countries. They’ve lived their whole lives without these things and they’re happy. It gives us perspective.”

So does living in a community of people with similar values who keep each other aware, she adds.

To be clear, she isn’t saying it’s wrong to enjoy things money can buy. But it is worth examining wants versus needs, especially in relationship to others’ basic needs. “What I do impacts others, whether they survive, have clean water, whatever the issue is,” she says.

In moving toward sharing, it’s critical—and easy—to develop a spirit of gratitude, Wiedower says. “Practice being in the present moment: When you eat, have gratitude for food. When you’re with someone, be present in and thankful for that moment,” she says.

Sister Geraldine Hoyler, CSC, general treasurer for the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, adds that gratitude extends equally to gifts big and small. “I think about the story of the widow’s mite. She gives her little bit graciously. Gracious giving is not about size, it’s about how you give. Gracious giving doesn’t come from my excess, but from me.”

“Money is not the end in itself. It’s a tool to provide other things. It’s a gift from God. The end is a good life when I’m aware of my needs and the common good.”

Sister Amy Cavender, CSC, assistant professor of political science at Saint Mary’s, offers another simple method of developing gratitude: “Take some time at the end of each day to reflect, and to answer the question, ‘What are three things from the day that I’m most grateful for?’ Odds are that, most of the time, the answers won’t involve material goods.”

Professor Vance’s primer on women and money

While a healthy relationship with money is important for everyone, I’ve learned that women face particular challenges when it comes to money. For many women, how they relate to money is complicated and can evoke both positive and negative emotions.

In her book Emotional Currency, Kate Levinson talks about the two sides of our emotional relationship with money. On the positive side, money can bring feelings of success, satisfaction, joy, empowerment, and connection.

The negative side of money brings feelings of guilt, conflict, greed, denial, regret, or fear. This usually happens when we don’t feel in control of our finances or when we use money in a way that does not reflect our values. And sometimes women use money to fill a void, to balance the feelings of not having enough in other areas of life. It’s no coincidence that money is one of the most common areas of marital conflict.

This emotional relationship with money is often based on family and cultural messages we’ve absorbed throughout our lives. To adopt a better relationship with money, it’s important to understand where our beliefs and fears come from and why we make the money decisions we do.

Sometimes these messages will cause women to put their heads in the sand and not take control of their finances. They may delegate financial responsibilities to a partner and turn a blind eye to money matters in the home. But we know that for a variety of reasons—including being single, widowed, or divorced—many women will spend a significant period of time on their own and will have to take control of their finances. So it is important not to rely on “Prince Charming” or, as my students like to say, “A man is not a plan!”

Consider these facts: Women often take time out of the workforce, or choose to work reduced schedules, to raise children and care for aging parents. Some women will take
When, however, we find ourselves grateful for material goods, we might reflect on our good fortune and remember that not everyone is so blessed, she says.

This may lead us to help others, which is “an appropriate response of gratitude for what we have,” Cavender adds. “Of course, it’s also important that we—as individuals and as a society—seek to address the underlying reasons why some have a surplus of wealth while others lack enough to meet basic needs.”

**Not rocket science**

If money is a gift from God, it is important to understand personal finance in order to use resources in the best possible way for our individual situations, says Vance.

She’s troubled that so many women not only don’t have a basic grasp of personal finance, but also are intimidated to even try to understand it. Her research illuminates this problem.

In a 2006–2007 study of 951 Saint Mary’s alumnae, 72 percent gave a fair/poor rating to their readiness to handle financial affairs at graduation. And 19 percent rated their current readiness to handle financial matters as fair or poor.

Additionally, 74 percent of all respondents indicated a need to know more about investing, and this sentiment was consistent through all class years from the 1950s through the 2000s.

These and other startling statistics from the study reinforced Vance in her professional—and personal—mission to increase the number of financially literate Saint Mary’s women, starting with students.

“It isn’t rocket science!” she insists. “It can be taught.”

With this in mind, she developed Financial Success Strategies for Women more than 10 years ago to help them become comfortable and confident about money. [Please see accompanying story on page 10.] “It is important this be taught at the undergraduate level in part because students have more time than alumnae to learn the material, and because decisions made in the 20s can significantly impact the quality of students’ financial lives, including their retirement. In today’s world, that is more important than ever,” she says.

As dedicated as Vance is about imparting this financial knowledge, she emphasizes money as means, not ends—a message that comes through particularly in one of her course readings, Kate Levinson’s *Emotional Currency*. “It is not the money that’s important, but what we can do with it,” Vance says, echoing Levinson’s writing. “We can take care of ourselves and those we care about. We can use it to have meaningful experiences, for example, through travel or taking classes. And we can use it to improve society and the world.”

Positions with lower salaries to better meet the needs of their family. This means that over their lifetimes, women generally earn less than men. As a result, they often have less saved for retirement. Yet, women outlive men by approximately seven years and will need those assets to last a longer period of time. In today’s precarious world, women need to take steps to secure their financial futures. What can you do?

**Educate yourself about finance and investing.** Read books. Find an online “financial boot camp.” It is important to understand how the markets work and the strategies to employ in both good and bad times. Do you know how to select the best mutual funds in your 401(k) plan? If not, learn how. Even if you use a professional financial advisor, you want to be knowledgeable about finance.

**Start saving now—at least 10 percent of your income.** It’s never too late to start saving. Pay yourself first! If you are married and not working, invest in a spousal Roth IRA. If you are working, take advantage of any company 401(k) match and invest in a Roth IRA. Can’t find the money? Often it is the small things that add up. Check out David Bach’s “latte calculator” at finishrich.com/lattefactor. You will be surprised.

**Set financial goals for yourself and break those goals into manageable steps so you can see you are making progress.** Goals need to be specific and reflect your values. For example, don’t just say, “I want to save the down payment for a house,” say, “I want to save $20,000 for a down payment. I will do this by automatically transferring $1,000 in a separate savings account for the next 20 months.” That way, you can see you’re making progress and are more likely to achieve your goal.

By taking control of your relationship with money, you will reap immediate rewards—and long term ones too, well into retirement. So go for it! You are a smart, confident Saint Mary’s woman. You can do it!

Professor Susan Vance, JD, CPA, teaches business law, entrepreneurship, and personal finance. She has taught at Saint Mary’s since 1981.
Growing money with meaning

In fact, focusing on worthy causes can go hand in hand with financial growth through socially responsible investing.

General treasurer Hoyler, a certified public accountant, says the congregation’s investment strategy centers on the order’s mission and core values, stewarding its resources in an equitable and sustainable manner. A good place to start, Hoyler says, is with the basic concept of “doing good and preventing evil.”

The congregation has set parameters based on its values for choosing investments. For example, the congregation is very concerned about numerous issues, including war and peace/nonviolence, oppression of women, health, use of land and water, issues regarding Sudan and Darfur, and human trafficking. So, “If these are the values we say we have, then we’re going to make our investment choices and activities around those values,” Hoyler explains.

The congregation’s impact on these issues is strengthened through its membership in the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), a coalition of religious orders, denominations, and religious institutions.

In general, Hoyler explains, socially responsible investment programs have three dimensions: avoidance, proactive elements, and socially directed support.

“Avoidance means the Holy Cross sisters won’t invest if we have a prohibition against what certain companies produce. For us, an example is a company that produces nuclear munitions,” she says.

Which brings us to proactive elements: “Even if we have a prohibition against something, we may think this issue is so important that we buy stock and become active as stakeholders to change the company,” Hoyler says. “You don’t need to hold a lot of shares to make a difference.” In fact, many drug companies now offer free medications to financially disadvantaged people because socially conscious shareholders have demanded it.

View money as a gift, feel gratitude for it, develop confidence about it, and use it to improve the lives of others.

As to socially directed support, the congregation chooses to invest small amounts of money in organizations that “do good,” such as credit unions in economically disadvantaged places, micro lenders such as Shared Interest in South Africa, and minority-owned businesses that strengthen communities.

As important as socially responsible investing is, Hoyler doesn’t encourage institutions or people to make radical changes. “Institutions especially can’t make these huge leaps in changing their investment policies. It’s little steps, little steps, little steps. It’s better to take little steps than to take no steps.”

And guilt has no place in the process. “Every institution does wrong and makes mistakes. If I make a mistake, I can rectify the mistake. Maybe I need to make reparations beyond rectification. But what good is guilt? If I carry the guilt, I become bitter. Instead, just say, ‘This is something I need to do differently’ and then take steps in that direction.”

Blissful dividends

These small steps—viewing money as a gift, feeling gratitude for it, developing confidence about it, and using it to improve the lives of others—can help lead to true happiness and growth, according to some models of philosophy.

Zwart explains: “Ancient philosophy views certain practical actions as ethical or spiritual exercises that contribute to transforming the individual.”

For example, someone might decide to forego one restaurant meal per week in favor of giving money to a charity. She might initially find this difficult, and resent having to cook more. But, “She learns more about her charity of choice and feels herself becoming part of a community who cares about the same things she does,” Zwart explains.

This can be transforming. “Eventually it becomes much easier to give up other luxuries and redirect more money to worthy causes,” Zwart says. “In fact, she finds that many things she used to see as necessary now feel superfluous. Furthermore, as she gives more and consumes less, she is able to see the world through a more compassionate lens.

“And even if the path is difficult, the end result will be a more satisfying, longer lasting one.”

Certainly, that balanced relationship—built on deliberation, confidence, and sharing—is worth the investment. 

Interviewees for this issue of the Courier referred to a number of books and websites that they found valuable in considering money, finances, giving, and gratitude. Here are those sources.

Susan Vance, business professor
Smart Women Finish Rich: 9 Steps to Achieving Financial Security and Funding Your Dreams by David Bach
Also, see the course reading list on page 10.

Sister Veronique Wiedower ’70, CSC, vice president for mission, Saint Mary’s College
The Practice of the Presence of God by Brother Lawrence
The Present Moment: A Retreat on the Practice of Mindfulness by Thich Nhat Hanh

Sister Geraldine Hoyler, CSC, treasurer, Sisters of the Holy Cross
Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (iccr.org)
Sisters of the Holy Cross justice and financial brochures (cscsisters.org/justice/Pages/brochures.aspx)

Nursing students’ book club (page 45)
The Total Money Makeover by Dave Ramsey
We started saving money on day one of our marriage. When we had two incomes as young marrieds and no children we saved one income. This made for a nice down payment on our first house.

—Pamela Carey Batz ’70, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

We follow a plan to be debt free. Knowing where we spend our money before we get paid helps us budget for fun times, tithing, and essentials and pay off our student loans and mortgage ahead of time. It sets us up to provide a better life for our children and give back to our community.

—Jill Fenstermaker Stowers ’99, Bloomington, Indiana

The one great financial decision I’ve made was to attend Saint Mary’s. While I hesitated attending because I paid for college myself, the awesome opportunities I’ve had thus far are directly related to my experience as a Belle. While some people question my decision when I tell them I’m still paying for college, I’ve never regretted my choice.

—Brooke Sheldon ’07, Ballston Spa, New York

In 1975 my husband and I sold one car, moved into a cheaper apartment, and saved for a year. In 1976 we loaded up our camping gear and headed west from Lake Charles, Louisiana. For the next five months we crisscrossed the United States. Our travels took us to the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, Wyoming, and New York. In 1977 in Knoxville, we both found jobs in our professions within three months. Our year of chosen unemployment provided memories that helped a lot during years of babies, house payments, job losses, and divorce.

—Kenton Temple ’70, Gatlinburg, Tennessee

In 1972, my husband and I bought a rental property—a house and garage apartment. It cost all of $30,000. We still own it, and it’s the best retirement investment we made. Inflation-proof income is making our life in retirement so much fun.

—Barbara Rasmussen ’61, Fullerton, California

My best financial decision was putting away money for college when my daughter was born. The money grew over the years—enough to pay for a good education. I believe that education can make the biggest single impact on future income, and I wanted her to have that advantage. I’ve done the same for my two grandchildren.

—Diane McGarry ’70, Fripp Island, South Carolina

When I changed jobs in 1997 I received a cash payout for my unused vacation time, which was significant. Shortly thereafter, my father’s health problems made it impossible for my parents to stay in their home. My windfall helped me purchase a townhouse for them so they could keep the money from selling their home. My dad passed away two years later, and those savings helped provide my mother, who was developing Alzheimer’s, with wonderful living environments. I am so thankful I was able to show my parents my appreciation for their love and support.

—Karen Preston McCarty ’70, La Selva Beach, California

When we had our son, I made a career decision to go part-time. My company pays full benefits regardless, so we retained family benefits. My husband works from home, allowing us to avoid childcare costs. What we gave up in salary more than made up for the valuable time we spend with our son.

—Kelly Powers Chandler ’98, Lexington, Kentucky

We paid off our first home early by doubling the mortgage payment, and did something similar with the second home.

—Margaret Gallagher Baldwin ’70, Baltimore, Maryland

We asked the above question on the Alumnae Association’s Facebook page, and we heard back from dozens of Belles. Here’s just a sampling of the creative, gutsy, and prudent decisions that paid off for them.

The best financial decision I’ve made was going into business for myself. Knowing that every dollar I bring in is the direct result of my own work and reputation is rewarding and motivating.

—Kathleen Foley ’00, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Going back to school to get my master’s degree. Even though I went into debt, it’s the best investment I made. No one can ever take it away.

—Lisa Campione Mullen ’93, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Saving a lump sum at age 24 to use for six months traveling abroad. Because of that I met my husband, and we’re still living in Ireland with our son nine years later. What I thought would be a fun European holiday has taken me on an incredible life journey I never expected.

—Maureen Gill-Emerson ’99, Dublin, Ireland

I live within my means. I’ve always approached my life happy with the salary I earn and making that salary work. As my career progressed, my salary grew. My ability to travel or buy a house increased, but my debt did not. My freedom and peace of mind came from being debt free, not from the things I owned.

—Allie Putman Sabo ’96, Columbus, Ohio

Share your thoughts with the Courier on future topics of interest at facebook.com/saintmarys.alumnae
Money is one of the most private subjects in our lives. It is security, the past, the future, and family all rolled into one. But one needs advice, and preferably from a disinterested and professional source. So, the first step to having cold cash (read liquid assets) sufficient to rest comfortably and be deaf to those thoughts that go “bump in the night” is to find someone to talk to honestly and organize.

**KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE.** Total your assets. Then total your liabilities. Diversify. Think about how to balance assets and liabilities prudently.

**KNOW WHERE YOUR ASSETS ARE.** Where are your liquid assets? Are they held by a bank custodian? A broker? Where is your insurance? Who is your lawyer? Your accountant? There may be someone at one of these places who can help you structure a plan.

**KNOW YOUR GOALS.** Add your annual obligations, charitable donations, entertainment, travel, clothes and food, potential medical expense, and maintenance. Is your “outgo” likely to exceed your income? Remember your income in retirement is that total of your Social Security income, annuity income or trust fund, and should also include 4 percent of all other liquid assets.

**DEVELOP A TIMELINE AND DEFINE YOUR EXPECTATIONS.** Don’t invest in the market with the 75-year average return as your near-term expectation. Knowing history is useful, but those averages smooth out bubbles as well as the gut-clutching swoops. You cannot count on your investment cycle matching a market cycle. In fact, the last five-year returns for the S&P 500 Index are a negative -0.2 percent annual average while 10-year government bonds returned an annual average of 8.5 percent over that same period. Those results fly in the face of the often-cited theory that equity is a better place to put your money than fixed income or debt. True, but not all the time.

**MAKE ROOM FOR CONTINGENCIES AND WINDFALLS.** Fit additions and withdrawals into your overall plan. Don’t invest on a whim but with a long-term view. When you buy, aim for value that looks sure to appreciate. Today, that appears more likely to be a health care company or a large integrated oil company than to be, say, a fashion retailer.

**NOW LOOK FOR ADVICE.** A financial planner is the way to go for most people; they charge a one-time fee for their service. (If you have more than $3 million you should look for a money management firm or deal with a financial consultant.) Above all, ask how someone gets paid. Brokers paid on commission are likely to recommend a good number of transactions. If an advisor has created and manages mutual funds, it should be no surprise that he or she thinks a mutual fund is the best decision you’ll ever make. You get the idea. Try to get at motivation. Does it serve you?

When it comes to useful financial advice, I think of Sophie Tucker. She died in 1966 at the age of 80, widely known by her nickname, “The Last of the Red Hot Mamas.” She said, “From birth to age 18, a girl needs good parents, from 18 to 35 she needs good looks, from 35 to 55 she needs a good personality, and from 55 on she needs cold cash.” I am tempted to substitute “education” and “conversation” for the middle two qualities, but she was right to aim for the last one: “avoid being a burden.” It boils down to having a solid, well thought-out, realistic long-term financial plan.

Beverly Troxler O’Grady ’63 joined the predecessor firm of Wilkinson O’Grady in 1973 and has been managing portfolios since 1978. She has served as president, director and is a principal of Wilkinson O’Grady. The firm manages $2 billion in separate portfolios for approximately 200 clients worldwide.
How to respond to a financial crisis

Last year a soon-to-be-divorced woman sought financial advice. She knew she would have to move with her preschool-aged daughter, unable to meet the costs of home ownership. We reviewed her finances, considered spending changes she could make, and discovered that things would be tight until kindergarten began, but she would probably be able to keep her house. She refinanced her mortgage, cut some expenses, stayed in her house, and got back on her feet. This client’s financial crisis was only a small part of her tumultuous year. Yet her finances had a huge impact on how tall she stood in the face of her challenges.

Financial crises arise when life events upset the often delicate balance of income and expenses. If you are facing a crisis now, such as a death in the family, major illness, divorce, or debt, here are some tips to help you muddle through until you are thriving once again.

ACCEPT HELP. If someone offers free babysitting, dinner, or a monetary gift, think twice before saying, “No, thank you, I can manage just fine.” Most people want to help when a loved one is in crisis. We feel helpless and want to act. Don’t allow pride to speak before you think about the impact of the offer.

TAKE A LONG, HARD LOOK AT REALITY. Income - Expenses = Financial Stability. You don’t need to be a math major to add your incomes and subtract your expenses. If your result is close to or below $0, you need to make changes to part of the equation. What can you live without? Are there sources for additional income?

DO NOTHING DRAMATIC. Hasty major decisions could create long-term headaches. Most decisions are not urgent. Do not sell your house immediately upon losing your job or quit work upon receiving a large inheritance or insurance benefit. Set a date to make a decision later and then find an objective listener to help you think clearly.

TALK TO YOUR CREDITORS. Most creditors will accommodate you if you are unable to make payments. Being up-front informs creditors that you do intend to pay. You may be able to adjust your payments by refinancing your mortgage, going into forbearance on student loans, or only paying interest for a while. It never hurts to ask.

SEEK PROFESSIONAL GUIDANCE. Financial professionals offer objective perspectives and explain your options. Seek a “fee-only” Certified Financial Planner who charges by the hour and doesn’t earn commission from selling financial products. Search for one in your area through the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors (NAPFA.org) or the Garrett Planning Network (garrettplanning.com). Most professionals offer a complimentary initial consultation, which may be enough to get you pointed in the right direction.

ABOVE ALL, BE KIND AND TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF. No, don’t indulge in retail therapy or chocolate to wash away the woes of your financial crisis, but do take time off to enjoy a book by your favorite author, walk down a tree-lined drive or around a lake, spend time with people you love, and get extra sleep. Such care will help you gain perspective and make better decisions when you do have to decide.
As a college senior, my experience with personal finance has been limited to rent payments, textbook fees, and weekend fun money. But I know that soon I’ll be navigating unfamiliar territory such as insurance plans, investments, and—it’s never too soon—retirement planning. So, during my final semester at Saint Mary’s, I enrolled in Financial Success Strategies for Women. Along with almost 60 other seniors in the course, I’m looking forward to graduating in May with a clear understanding of the basics of personal finance.

Susan Vance, professor of business law, entrepreneurship, and personal finance, created the elective 10 years ago to provide students in all majors an opportunity to grasp the financial concepts needed to make informed decisions as they embark on life after college.

“When a new graduate starts her first job, I want her to know how to make sense of her benefit package—to know the difference between various health insurance options, and to take full advantage of her retirement savings opportunities,” says Vance. “Saint Mary’s students are bright and articulate, and I have found that regardless of major, they ‘get it’ once they take my class.”

Topics covered include an overview of the financial planning process, investing in 401(k)s and IRAs, credit management, buying decisions, insurance, personal financial statements, income taxes, legal documents, living wills, and durable power of attorney.

Vance also uses the class to address any fears or worries students may have about personal finance. “Students are concerned they will be in over their heads or they worry they don’t have the math skills needed to be successful financially. Some are paralyzed because they are afraid they will make a wrong decision. I address all these concerns the very first day in class. I assume no knowledge going in and I walk them through the topics so that they feel comfortable and competent.”

The students appreciate her approach. “I can’t express how thankful I am to Professor Vance and Saint Mary’s for the Financial Success Strategies for Women course offering,” says Katie Dapper, a senior double-majoring in business administration and communication studies. “This is the perfect time in my life to learn these financial strategies—I will feel much more confident as I enter the work world and make career-related decisions.”

“The majority of my financial knowledge stems from my parents,” says Maura Diamond, a senior majoring in English and French. “I’m lucky to have a fiscally aware mother as a role model, as she and my dad provided me with a strong economic foundation. But this class is furthering my knowledge of the concepts.”

The course continues to grow in popularity among students. “It is always one of the first to fill up during registration, so I’m thankful for the opportunity to take the class,” says senior communication studies major Hilary Ferguson.

This semester, two sections of the 3-credit course are offered, and beginning with next fall’s entering class, Financial Success Strategies for Women will be offered for general education credit.

“Accomplishing this means that long after I retire from Saint Mary’s, our students will continue to have access to financial education,” says Vance. “This is truly my legacy.”

Alexandra Davin ’12 is a senior communication studies major with minors in English writing and advertising. Originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she is moving to Chicago after graduation to start her career.

Check out the student reading list for Professor Vance’s Financial Success Strategies for Women course:

- Emotional Currency: A Woman’s Guide to Building a Healthy Relationship with Money by Kate Levinson
- On My Own Two Feet: A Modern Girl’s Guide to Personal Finance by Menisha Thakor and Sharon Kedar
**Test Your Financial Literacy**

The following true-or-false questions are from a comprehensive quiz Susan Vance gives to her students at the beginning—and the end—of the Financial Success Strategies for Women class.

1. **T**  **F**  You will generally have more money at retirement if you invest $2,000 in an IRA each year from age 21 to age 30 and make no further contributions than if you invest $2,000 in an IRA starting at age 31 and continue to do so until you retire at age 65. (Assume both options are invested in the same mutual fund earning the same return.)

2. **T**  **F**  Your net worth is determined by subtracting your annual expenses from your annual income.

3. **T**  **F**  If you use Internet banking to pay bills each month, your creditors will always be paid electronically the same day you authorize the transaction.

4. **T**  **F**  If you pay off your credit card bill in full each month, it doesn’t matter what interest rate you are charged (10, 15, 20 percent), assuming there is a grace period.

5. **T**  **F**  With a traditional PPO health plan, your insurance company generally will allow you to visit an out-of-plan doctor but you will have to pay more of the cost than if you see an in-network doctor.

6. **T**  **F**  Assume Mary retires at age 65. If she has a Roth IRA, she will not have to pay any federal income tax when she takes money out of the account.

7. **T**  **F**  You want to pay an extra amount toward your mortgage loan principal. If you do so at the beginning of the loan, you will save more interest than if you pay the extra amount toward the end of the loan.

8. **T**  **F**  If you have an employer-sponsored retirement plan that “vests” after three years of employment and you change jobs before that, you can roll over the amount your employer contributed.

9. **T**  **F**  Jane is a child of Mary and Joe. Mary and Joe list Jane as a dependent on their 1040 tax return. Jane has a summer job and must complete a tax return of her own. Jane can claim an exemption for herself on her 1040.

10. **T**  **F**  A tax deduction reduces taxes owed dollar for dollar (each dollar of deduction reduces the tax bill by a dollar).

11. **T**  **F**  If you carry collision insurance on your automobile, you will be covered if someone sues you for personal injuries after an accident.

12. **T**  **F**  If you have a term life insurance policy, your policy will not build up a cash value each year.

Interested to see how your financial knowledge aligns with the topics offered in the course?  
**Take the quiz!**
It was a cold, grey, late-winter day in 1959, and first-year student Joann Vanek was struggling to figure out what she wanted to do with her life. She made her way to O’Laughlin Auditorium to attend a lecture by Barbara Ward, the groundbreaking British economist who studied global development. As Vanek sat listening, she became increasingly inspired. The lecture opened up a new world of ideas for her—ideas that would eventually lead Vanek to help change the face of global statistics and provide a better understanding of the status of women around the world.

FORGING HER WAY

After graduating from Saint Mary’s in 1963 with a bachelor’s degree in social science, Vanek immediately began doctoral work in sociology at the University of Michigan. She admits she wasn’t much of a researcher at that point. “I was not a stellar student, but I was a good teaching fellow,” she says. Though her teaching skills kept her afloat, it was her dissertation that blew her mostly male colleagues and professors out of the water. Vanek analyzed historical data, comparing the time women spent on housework in the 1920s to time they spent in the 1960s. She found that, though technology made housework more efficient in the 1960s, women were actually spending more time doing housework in the 1960s than they were in the 1920s. Her research and findings established her as a pioneer in the field of household economics and women’s studies. Scientific American published an article she wrote in 1974 based on her dissertation.

“The Victories Were Very Exciting”

After earning her doctorate, Vanek spent two years teaching at Queens College in New York and several years working for the National Science Foundation. However, Vanek’s interest in international issues that was sparked by the Ward lecture motivated her to apply for a job at the United Nations. The year was 1980—smack dab in the middle of the United Nations’ Decade for Women (1975 to 1985). The UN Statistics Division was experiencing international pressure to produce data on the situation of women around the world, and it needed a talented statistician dedicated to gender concerns. Vanek happily accepted the position.

Almost immediately, however, she began to feel the weight of her task. She and her team had to compile information from more than 150 countries on topics such as education, employment, leadership, and health—and had to deal with many gaps in their data. “Once you take seriously that there is a need for statistics on women, national statistics offices have to begin collecting data on topics that they have not collected data on before,” Vanek says.

In 1991 the UN released The World’s Women: Trends and Statistics, an in-depth report compiled by Vanek and her team.
The New York Times ran a story about the study, which helped it become a best-selling research publication for the UN.

Only after Vanek sat down to read the entire publication cover to cover was she finally able to fully comprehend what all the data meant. The incredibly unequal status of the world’s women hit her “like a crushing blow.”

By the time she retired from the United Nations in 2001, Vanek and her team had completed two more volumes of *The World’s Women*. Because her department was slow to change, she says, and because compiling worldwide statistics on women demanded new strategies, she faced frequent battles throughout her 20-year career. “But the victories,” she says, “were very exciting.”

Vanek’s career has included twists and turns, but she learned important keys to success during college. “Saint Mary’s made us interested in being responsible members of our communities, the church, and the world. It also gave us the tools to think deeply and showed us the importance of doing something that was intellectually satisfying.”

Looking back on her career, she is able to see her path clearly. “While it didn’t seem so at the time, all of my work has had a thread of consistency,” she says. Her ability to use statistics to help others understand the big picture is like second nature: “I like to package data and make it understandable. That’s what I do well, and I enjoy doing it.”

“Numbers are needed,” she says, “to influence policy and change the situation for women around the world.”

Moving on to her current work, Vanek is director of statistics for WIEGO (Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing), an organization she helped found in 1997 to increase the voice, visibility, and validity of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy. With her colleagues, Vanek has helped highlight and identify the enormous global workforce outside the realm of official, protected employment. “Those who are talking about the importance of the informal economy, whether it’s the World Bank or the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts, they quote us,” Vanek says.

Chelsea Iversen ’08 is a freelance writer living in San Francisco. She first encountered Vanek’s work while doing research of her own. You can contact her at writegenuine.com.

In today’s world, there are **57,000,000** more men than women. This surplus of men…diminishes until it disappears at about age 50, thereafter becoming a surplus of women owing to their longer life expectancy.

More than half of rural households and about a quarter of urban households in sub-Saharan Africa lack easy access to drinking water. In most of those households, the burden of water collection rests on women, thereby reducing the amount of time they can spend on other activities, whether income-earning, educational, or leisure.

On average only 17 percent of seats [in national parliaments] are occupied by women….The highest positions are even more elusive: Only 7 of 150 elected heads of state in the world are women, and only 11 of 192 heads of government.

Go online to see the full report unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/Worldswomen/WW2010pub.htm
It’s not about the money
The peculiar financial landscape of stay-at-home parents

By Heather Grennan Gary

“"If you’re home full time, sometimes it feels as if your work isn’t always as appreciated or respected just because you don’t get paid for it.”

Ever wondered how much a stay-at-home parent is worth? Official folks try to calculate the answer every year; the website Investopedia determined in January that $96,261 fairly compensates an individual whose job includes childcare, meal planning and preparation, house cleaning, driving, laundry service, and yard maintenance. (Just imagine if Investopedia had considered more complex parts of a stay-at-home parent’s job, such as home health care provider, insurance benefits coordinator, counselor, tutor, peace negotiator...)

In truth, stay-at-home moms know they’ll never see a dime of that hypothetical salary, and, for the most part, they’re OK with that—at least, they knew it wasn’t part of the deal when they signed on for the job.

While earlier generations of women typically stayed home to raise children—either by choice or because it was “what you did”—a number of more recent Saint Mary’s alumnae currently elect to spend their working hours with their kids rather than at a paying gig. That decision comes with money-related challenges that surpass the reality of running a household on one income.

“You have a full-time, never-ending job once you become a parent whether you work outside the home or not,” says Amy Mestrovich Barone ’94, a mom of two school-aged sons who previously owned a wedding and event planning business. “But if you’re home full time, sometimes it feels as if your work isn’t always as appreciated or respected just because you don’t get paid for it.”

That feeling can be exacerbated by forces closer to home—that is, by those in the home.

“The biggest challenge when you’re not getting paid for something is that it’s easier for everyone to take what you do for granted and assume it will always be done,” says Amber Taylor O’Rourke ’03, who is at home raising her 4-year-old son and 1-year-old daughter after working in nonprofit communications. She remembers a time during her childhood when she, her brother, and her father weren’t pulling their weight with chores, and her stay-at-home mom went on strike for a few days. “Seeing dishes and laundry pile up and not having a dinner prepared each night quickly forced us to realize that her efforts were not being appreciated,” she says. “I think going on strike is something all stay-at-home parents may need to do at one point or another!”
Planning is essential

For many women—and some men—the desire to stay home with their children is their vocation and becomes their job. But with it can come financial challenges.

Personal finance experts advise those considering a move from paid employment to stay-at-home parenting to practice living on one income for several months before making the leap. Helen Murphy Tine ’94, stay-at-home mom of a 7-year-old daughter and 3-year-old son, set the bar higher for herself. “Even when I was single, I saved a portion of my earnings for my future children’s college fund,” she says. When she and her husband were dating, Tine made sure he was OK with her eventually leaving her job as a software engineer at Motorola to become a stay-at-home mom. Once they got married they started saving money in earnest and practiced greater frugality as steps toward that goal.

“We created a budget for ourselves with the idea that I would stop working at some point,” Tine says. “We viewed all my income as savings. When I stopped working, the only amount in the budget that changed was what we were saving.”

Of course, sometimes plans change. In 2007 Jaime Sessions Kammerzell ’99 was balancing her professional duties as an editor at Rigzone, an oil and gas magazine, with her family responsibilities, including two sons, then ages 3 and 10 months. She had no plans of leaving her job until the day she got a call from the child care provider about her younger son, who was having trouble breathing. “I couldn’t get there fast enough,” says Kammerzell, whose son was later diagnosed with asthma. “It was a wake up-call. I needed to be with my kids—at home.”

Kammerzell (who has a 1-year-old daughter in addition to her sons, now ages 8 and 5) talked with her mom, mother-in-law, and a friend—all experienced stay-at-home moms—about the reality of one-income budgets and the various implications of not earning a paycheck. “It was a difficult decision,” she says, but in the end, “My husband and I knew we could make it work. Heck, just eliminating the daycare costs was going to be a huge savings.”

“It is a bit of a shock when you realize half—or more—of your income is no longer there.”

In reality, the relative savings or costs of staying home with kids can be hard to gauge, even when parents diligently plug numbers into online calculators (see parents.com/app/stayathomecalculator). And sometimes the decision to stay home boils down to more than the financial feasibility—and more than the choice between a full-time job or no job. “I always knew I wanted to be a stay-at-home mom, even when I was in college,” says Kristina Robinson Paluszkiewicz ’03. When she and her husband studied their financial situation before their son was born, they knew it would be tight if she left her job as a high school math teacher, but they were willing to sacrifice to make it work. A few months later, after their roof started leaking and their furnace died, they realized they needed to adjust their plan. Paluszkiewicz took a part-time job at a daycare so she could make some money and still be with her son while she was working. After her daughter was born earlier this year and her husband received a raise, she started again as a full-time stay-at-home mom. But there’s little room for error in their streamlined budget. “The double income allowed us to make some financial mistakes and not suffer much,” she says; that luxury no longer exists.

Dealing with sticker shock—and guilt

Most of the women interviewed for this article acknowledged their job as stay-at-home mom (SAHM) has included some vigorous and creative dollar-stretching strategies over the years: using coupons; shopping at garage sales; handling basic household repairs; opting for public school over private; eschewing credit cards; moving into a less-expensive home. But all that necessary penny pinching can sometimes lead stay-at-home moms to put their own material wants—or even needs—last.

When Tine quit working, for example, her frugality kicked into high gear—so much so that it became “extremely difficult” for her to spend money on clothing for herself. “I don’t have a lot of time to shop for clothes and feel guilty paying full price,” she says. “Sometimes my husband has to remind me that it’s fine for me to buy clothes for myself.”

Katie Maxbauer McNulty ’97, a former executive aide who has a 4-year-old daughter and a 2-year-old son, says she and her husband have gotten used to living with less, but they wish they could better afford some things they enjoyed more frequently in their pre-parenthood days: travel, entertainment, philanthropy, and household improvements.

“It is a bit of a shock when you realize half—or more—of your income is no longer there,” she says.
But McNulty tries to keep the situation in perspective. “Just because I’m not adding income does not mean I’m not impacting my family’s bottom line.”

Rebecca Klest Walsh ’01, a hybrid stay-at-home/working mom of two preschool-aged daughters, is in the process of becoming a Certified Financial Planner. Of all the expenses competing for space in a family’s budget, Walsh pleads with her fellow moms not to ignore their own retirement savings. Most stay-at-home parents are eligible to contribute to a Spousal IRA, a retirement account for married non-wage earners who file their taxes jointly. In her handout “Family Finances for Parents of Preschoolers” she explains why it’s more important to save for one’s own retirement over a child’s college education. “Your children can get money for college: grants, loans, and scholarships. Nobody will give you money for retirement. If you fill your child’s college fund at the expense of your retirement, you may end up relying on your child for support at some point during your retirement.”

Making it work

One challenge for all couples—but particularly those with a stay-at-home parent—is coming to agreement on spending, administration, and planning—what Walsh calls “establishing a financial household.” Reaching consensus on questions like how much each spouse can spend before needing to consult the other, how to remain accountable to a spending plan, who pays the bills, who researches investments and insurance, and how a family can best live out their values and achieve their desires and career goals is essential to create financial harmony within a household. It also puts both partners on equal footing when it comes to family finances, regardless of who’s the primary breadwinner.

“It took a long time [for my husband and me] to get to the point where we were speaking the same language—despite the fact that he is an economist and I am a financial advisor, our minds work extremely differently from one another!” says Walsh. “But now we’ve established our financial routines and mindsets that allow our financial conversations to be less frequent and less intense.”

And being able to keep financial conversations that way can help both spouses—wage earner and stay-at-home-parent alike—focus their energy on their real work, whether inside or outside the home.

Of course, on some days, no matter how much one believes in the importance of staying home to raise kids, the primary challenge comes back to how to measure the value of one’s work in the absence of a paycheck or professional status. Common stereotypes of stay-at-home moms—whether they be uneducated, unfashionable, unambitious, completely kidcentric, or pampered and rich—can take a toll on even the most self-assured SAHMs. On those days, the negative messages have a tendency to loom large—and mislead.

“The hardest part was my five-year college reunion,” says Paluszkievicwicz. “I wanted to attend but felt like I hadn’t done enough, or hadn’t fulfilled some imaginary requirement because I was working part time at a daycare and raising my son. I guess—at the time—I felt like I’d wasted what I was given and would be looked down upon by all my successful classmates.”

But recently Paluszkievicwicz was out to lunch with a college friend, and conversation turned serious. When her friend said she felt she hadn’t yet done much with her life, Paluszkievicwicz reminded her of her wonderful job, her great husband, her beautiful home, and exciting travels. “When she said, ‘Yes, but I don’t have kids yet,’ that kind of put things into perspective for me,” says Paluszkievicwicz.

Barone says that she finds immense value in the fact that she no longer dreads Sunday nights. “I don’t hate the thought that ‘I have to go to work tomorrow’ anymore.” In being home with her family, she says, “I have become more organized and have learned to relax a little more and really try to enjoy life as it is rather than just trying to get through the day.”

Walsh sums up the real benefit of choosing that unpaid job—especially after one has sufficiently planned and discussed and worked to navigate the peculiar financial landscape of stay-at-home parents. “There is a freedom that comes from not being paid. It is a freedom to take the long view.”
Students gathered at Riedinger House on January 25 to enjoy tea and refreshments, as well as learn more about the Alumnae Association and house's unique history, during the College’s annual Heritage Week. Kara O’Leary ’89, director of alumnae relations, began her talk by explaining the house, built in 1939, was intended as a practice house for home economics majors.

“Four students lived here at a time, learning housekeeping skills,” she explains.

Due to high costs, the house was built on a seven-eighths scale. While the house has been updated over the years, much of the original art and furniture remains.

When Riedinger House first opened its doors, it was considered to have a “perfect kitchen,” according to the February 1939 issue of the Courier: “electrical throughout, with all-steel cabinets in the latest design, and the best equipment available.” The kitchen’s careful design served an important purpose: Home economics majors were required to make a meal for then-president Sister Madeleva in order to successfully complete their coursework.

Before taking the students on tours of the house, O’Leary explained its current primary function is to house visiting alumnae and other guests of the College.

Tour guide Meghan Feasel ’13 stayed in Riedinger House at age 13 with her mother, Julie Wagner Feasel ’89, and her mother’s former college roommates, Kelly Glavin Zeh ’89 and Penny Falaschetti Dolan ’89, along with their children.

“We watched the Summer Olympics and spent a lot of time in the gardens,” recalls Meghan. “I thought it felt more like a home than a campus building.”

The event was part of Heritage Week, an annual January tradition celebrating the history of Saint Mary’s. O’Leary says the timing is ideal, as it takes place during a less busy time of year and allows students to focus on the traditions.

“Saint Mary’s has lots of history. And with lots of history comes tradition. That’s what students want to learn.”

—Michelle Rozman ’12

Michelle Rozman ’12 is majoring in business administration with a concentration in marketing. She interns for the Courier.
Seniors receive Orr fellowships

Amanda Lester ’12 and Melissa Jackson ’12 are the first Saint Mary’s students ever to receive the Governor Bob Orr Indiana Entrepreneurial Fellowship.

Established in 2001, the fellowship allows around 25 recipients to receive two-year paid positions with high-growth Indiana companies. Fellows gain executive-level mentorship and build professional networks. Upon completion, participants travel internationally to the emerging market of their choice, all expenses paid.

After graduation Lester will work for TinderBox, which provides web-based solutions for businesses to create proposals. Jackson will work for Aprimo Inc., a marketing software solutions company. Both companies are in Indianapolis.

“TinderBox was my first choice,” says Lester, a communication studies major. “My official role is still being sorted out, but I believe I will be primarily responsible for the marketing function, media interaction, Internet, and social media development.”

Jackson, a business administration major, is equally enthusiastic. “I believe it is a great place to launch my career,” she says about Aprimo, which the Indiana Chamber of Commerce has called one of the best places to work in Indiana. “Working so closely with the chief marketing officer of a fairly large firm is not something that you typically experience with an entry-level position.”

—Gwen O’Brien

Accounting team wins state again

For the second year straight, Saint Mary’s took first place at the Indiana Certified Public Accountants Society (INCPAS) case competition in Indianapolis on November 18. Coach Professor Mary Ann Merryman, center, has led the Belles to the final round for the past six years. Team members are, from left: Allie Courtney ’12, Chelsea Pacconi ’13, Merryman, Maggie DePaola ’12, and Katie Gutrich ’13. Courtney and DePaola participated last year. “We pushed each other to stay focused and motivated to be the best,” Courtney says.

—Christine Cox

Fitness program kicks into high gear

Angela Athletic Facility was more crowded than usual as the 13th session of Belles for Fitness (BFF) got underway in February. The team exercise program required each participant to work out for a minimum of 200 minutes a week for five weeks. “This was our biggest session ever—28 teams and 158 participants,” says Bridgette VanSchoyck-Clark, physical education instructor. “This session was also the most successful to date, with many teams meeting the goal.”

VanSchoyck-Clark, who teaches spinning, yoga, and pilates at Angela, started the program in 2008 after noticing students “doing these crazy, marathon workouts two weeks before spring break to get ready for bikinis.” She wanted to create a program that would encourage participants to tone up in a safe, effective manner. BFF emphasizes the importance of support and accountability by making participants undertake the program as part of a team.

The American College of Sports Medicine recommends 300 minutes of exercise per week, which helped determine the BFF goal: “I figured students probably already walk about 100 minutes per week on campus,” VanSchoyck-Clark says. She hopes the five-week timeline helps participants develop the habit of incorporating more physical activity into their lives. The program permits participants to do any kind of exercise, including cardiovascular, strength training, flexibility, fitness classes, sports—anything helps reach the 200-minute goal.

“Regular exercise is so important for college students,” says VanSchoyck-Clark. “It helps boost their immunity, it helps them de-stress and work the kinks out after a day of being hunched over a desk, it keeps our most important muscle, the heart, healthy, and it increases endorphins or ‘feel good’ hormones—which is very helpful in the winter, when we can easily go two weeks without sunshine.”

—Heather Grennan Gary
The Most Reverend Kevin C. Rhoades, Bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, delivered the lecture at the 15th Annual Symposium on St. Thomas Aquinas on January 26.


Before the symposium, Rhoades met with three religious studies students. “Bishop Rhoades was eager to learn more about the religious studies and campus ministry programs at Saint Mary’s,” says Stephanie Cherpak ’12. “We were able to discuss our personal interests in theology with him as well as our future goals.”

Rhoades, who was installed as bishop of the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend in 2010 after serving as bishop of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, previously taught systematic theology and canon law at Mount Saint Mary’s Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

—Christine Cox

College’s endowment outperforms national average

Saint Mary’s endowment showed a return of 21.4 percent for fiscal year 2011, outperforming its average peer by 2.2 percent.

According to data released in January by the National Association of College and University Business Officers NACUBO—Commonfund Study of Endowments (NCSE), the 823 colleges and universities that responded to the NCSE survey saw an average return of 19.2 percent.

“What this says is that Saint Mary’s College and the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees have developed a well thought-out and disciplined investment approach for these very volatile times,” says Bruce Fink, director of investments at Saint Mary’s.

The 19.2 percent average represents a marked improvement over the 11.9 percent average return for fiscal year 2010 and a continuation of recovery from the -18.7 percent average return reported for fiscal year 2009.

As of June 30, 2011, when participating colleges and universities submitted their numbers to the NCSE, the Saint Mary’s endowment was $128 million. This represents a 30 percent increase in the value of the endowment from what Saint Mary’s reported for the 2009 NCSE report in the aftermath of the 2008 financial crisis.

Strong investment performance and generous donor gifts were central factors driving this growth.

Even through volatile economic times, the College endowment has maintained its level of support, Fink says. “We have been able to distribute about $6 million each year from the endowment, a significant portion of which is for student scholarships and financial aid.”

—Gwen O’Brien

Bishop Rhoades presents at Aquinas Symposium

Mellody Hobson, president of the Chicago-based money management firm Ariel Investments, will deliver Saint Mary’s 2012 Commencement address on May 19. Hobson is a nationally recognized voice on financial literacy and investor education and is interviewed regularly for national television and radio programs and publications.

As president of Ariel Investments, Hobson is responsible for firm-wide management and strategic planning, overseeing all operations outside of research and portfolio management. Additionally, she serves as chairman of the board of trustees for the mutual funds. She joined Ariel in 1991 after graduating from Princeton University.

Hobson is a regular financial contributor on Good Morning America and a frequent guest on ABC’s World News Tonight. In 2009 she served as executive producer and host of an ABC prime-time special, Unbroke: What You Need to Know about Money. Hobson is also a weekly finance expert on the Tom Joyner Morning Show and a regular columnist for Black Enterprise.

Beyond her work in finance and investor education, Hobson serves on the board of the Field Museum, the Chicago Public Education Fund, and the Sundance Institute. Additionally, she is on the board of governors of the Investment Company Institute. She is a director of DreamWorks Animation SKG, the Estée Lauder Companies, Starbucks, and Groupon. Hobson is a Henry Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute, a former member of the Princeton University Board of Trustees, and a 2010 recipient of an honorary doctorate degree in humanities from Howard University.

—Gwen O’Brien
Student-athletes can usually be found in predictable places: the classroom, library, gym, field, pool, court, or running path. You may not think to look for them in an orphanage in Honduras, say, or in a Spanish cathedral, the White House, or a wildlife refuge in Australia.

But think again.

Because Saint Mary’s is a Division III institution, our student-athletes don’t face the same limitations as those at Division I schools, where athletic scholarships make playing a sport comparable to holding a job. And many Belle student-athletes seize the opportunity to participate in some form of distance learning: More than 30 percent of current student-athletes have studied abroad or in Washington, or have participated in international service work. That number jumps to more than 55 percent when members of the first year class are removed from the equation.

“I think Saint Mary’s—and especially the athletic department—instills in its women a confidence that we can ‘do it all,’” says Katelyn Tondo-Steele ’12, a senior soccer player and biology major who studied in Freemantle, Australia, as a sophomore.

That doesn’t mean it’s easy to fit it all in. “I knew from the beginning that it would be difficult to study abroad, run cross country, and earn the 150 hours needed to sit for the CPA exam after I finished my accounting degree,” says Joanne Almond ’12, a senior accounting major who spent a semester in Seville, Spain. “In order to stay on track and excel...
in my sport and schoolwork, I worked with my academic advisors to create a four-year plan that would allow me to study abroad.

The constraints of some majors can make a distance learning opportunity seem impossible. Sophomore soccer player and nursing major Kaitlin Teichman ’14 found a way around that, however. She participated in an alternative spring break trip to Honduras last spring. “I really wanted a service-oriented experience,” she says. “The Saint Mary’s community has encouraged me to pursue all of my interests whether they are athletic, academic, or individual.”

Softball player Kate Mitchell ’12 seized the opportunity to get a close-up view of the justice system by participating in the Washington Semester Program. As a political science and psychology double major, Mitchell was able to better imagine her future plans—plans that include law school next year. “If I hadn’t participated in the Washington Semester Program, I do not believe I would have been as passionate about my future as I am today,” says Mitchell.

That kind of comprehensive learning experience is one of the biggest ways student-athletes prepare for life after Saint Mary’s. But an athlete’s love of the game can provide a special advantage for those studying abroad, as softball player Morgan Bedan ’13 discovered last summer. Bedan was studying in Cordoba, Argentina, during la Copa América—the American Cup, a major soccer tournament that happens once every four years. “Soccer fans in Argentina put even the biggest sports fans in the U.S. to shame,” says Bedan.

Cordoba was one of the tournament’s host cities, and she saw several national teams around the city. The entire experience—from the pre-tournament hoopla to the fervor of futbol fans to discussions about the event with her host mom—provided a unique window into a new culture. “It was amazing to see a nation unite around such a simple thing as a soccer tournament,” says Bedan. “As a sports fan, I’d never experienced enthusiasm like that.”

And that’s the whole point of distance learning. The enthusiasm, passion, and challenge that student-athletes accumulate on their adventures are terrific souvenirs to bring back home—and share with their teammates.

WHERE IN THE WORLD are Belles student-athletes? Current student-athletes have studied or served in these locations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy (Rome Program)</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
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<td>Uganda</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>European Summer Study</td>
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<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
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<td>Argentina</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
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<td>Tanzania</td>
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</table>

Clockwise from top: Sophomore soccer player and nursing major Kaitlin Teichman ’14 takes photography pointers from a resident of Hogar Diamante, a home for boys where she did service work during her alternative spring break trip to Honduras.

Snow in July! Softball player and political science major Morgan Bedan ’13 marvels at the sight during a visit to a vineyard in Mendoza, Argentina.

Softball player Kate Mitchell ’12, a political science and psychology double major, participated in the Washington Semester. Here, she and her Washington semester roommate, Olivia Lang (right), visit the Capitol.

Accounting major, cross country team member, and (at least this one evening) flamenco dancer Joanne Almond ’12 spent a semester in Seville, Spain. Her host mother lent her a flamenco dress to wear to the city’s annual fair.
“One of a Kind.” That’s the headline from a summer 1989 Courier article describing Sister Basil Anthony O’Flynn ’46, CSC. The same words were repeated again and again as alumnae and friends of Saint Mary’s learned of her passing. “Sister B.A.,” as she was known, was 94.

Saint Mary’s College President Carol Ann Mooney ’72 was a student when Sister B.A. was vice president of fiscal affairs. She remembers the statuesque sister, who stood about six feet tall with her habit, as “initially intimidating, but ultimately gentle and caring with students.”

Mooney has referred to Sister B.A. as the “heart of the College,” not just for the years she spent here or the positions she held, but also for the times in which she served. “Sister B.A. was a major link to significant times in the College’s past,” Mooney says. “Sister sat at the table during the merger/non-merger discussions with Notre Dame and held every administrative post at the College except president.”

“Sister was very much a calming voice when we faced some of the critical issues affecting the future of the institution,” recalls William A. Hickey, who served as acting president of the College (1974–1975 and 1985–1986) and then as president (1986–1997). “Her generosity of spirit, mischievous nature, and sharp wit were
Sister B.A. was born Brigid Anne O’Flynn. When she received her habit, she was given the religious name Basil Anthony in honor of Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau, founder of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. “The name had never been given before,” Sister told the Courier in 1989. “It was the centennial anniversary of the Holy Cross, so I think that’s why I got it.”

The Washington, D.C., native born of Irish immigrants entered the Congregation in 1941. Her brother and only sibling became a Jesuit priest. “I never knew a time when I didn’t think I was going to be a nun,” she told a South Bend Tribune reporter for a November 2007 article marking her 90th birthday.

Sister B.A. accumulated a bevy of degrees, receiving a bachelor’s in English and philosophy from Saint Mary’s College in 1946; a master’s degree in theology from Saint Mary’s College’s School of Sacred Theology in 1949; a master’s degree in education (counseling and guidance) from the University of Notre Dame in 1967; and a master’s degree in pastoral care from the University of Michigan in 1975.

Sister B.A. worked at the College for 37 years, spanning five decades, mostly as an administrator. Her relationship with students depended in part by what job she was doing. As dean of students (1961–1968), she often served as disciplinarian. She was also vice president for fiscal affairs (1968–1972), vice president for public relations and development (1972–1973), vice president for campus affairs (1973–1974), and assistant to the vice president for college relations (1979–1998) until retiring at the age of 80. In addition, she served as chair of the Board of Regents from 1975 to 1979.

Over the years the College recognized Sister B.A. with many honors. In 1975 she was named the Alumnae Association’s Distinguished Alumna. In 1994 the College presented Sister with the President’s Medal in recognition of her outstanding service to the community and her contributions to the life of Saint Mary’s College. In 1998 a scholarship fund was established at Saint Mary’s in her name by Bob and Mary Kelly McLaughlin ’42. In 2002, Sister B.A. was awarded an honorary doctorate from the College.

In October 2007, Saint Mary’s College threw Sister B.A. a surprise party, something she told the Tribune she’d never had before. Friends and colleagues packed the Student Center to celebrate her 90th birthday. As a gift, the College compiled a two-volume memory book for her. More than 100 alumnae, faculty, and staff paid tribute to Sister’s life, work, and faith by sending special memories about her for the book.

“Two of the greatest gifts she ever received were the endowed scholarship at the College and the alumnae letters on her 90th birthday,” recalled Deborah Johnson Schwiebert ’74 of her dear friend. “Many times when I visited after her 90th birthday she would bring out the book of letters and her eyes would light up and she would share wonderful memories and stories.

“Sister B.A. was a remarkable woman. Her dedication to and love for the Congregation and the College were such an inspiration to me. She lived a life of service and gently encouraged everyone to do the same.”

Schwiebert encourages those who want to honor and remember Sister B.A. to support the scholarship fund in her name. “Sister B.A. wanted every qualified young woman to experience and love Saint Mary’s as she did. She will be greatly missed by generations of Saint Mary’s women.”

Sister Basil Anthony loved her years here, but she looked forward to an even better place to come. When the Courier asked her in 1989 what she thought heaven would be like, Sister B.A. answered, “I think it’s going to be relaxing in the arms of God. Everything is going to be as perfect as you can imagine. I think being in the presence of God is going to be enough for me.”

Farewell, Sister B.A. We know you will continue to watch over Saint Mary’s.

For the full 1989 Courier article and Sister B.A.’s 90th birthday messages, go to: saintmarys.edu/courier

Scholarship donation information: Those wishing to make a gift to the College in honor of Sister B.A. may designate gifts to the Sister Basil Anthony O’Flynn Scholarship, Saint Mary’s College, 110 Le Mans Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556.
Marriages

Kimberly Bero Rennick ’96 and Alexander, October 29, 2011.
Anne Marie Joseph Irey ’98 and John, July 16, 2011.
Meghan Theard Vakulska ’98 and Todd, November 19, 2011.
Aileen Emery Veldhuizen ’00 and David, October 9, 2011.
Stephanie King Bahus ’02 and Kevin, July 2, 2011.
Lee Cassie Yates Cleggett ’02 and Daniel, September 10, 2011.
Sarah Alter Darling ’02 and Chad, October 1, 2011.
Megan Colvin Graue ’02 and Justin, March 19, 2011.
Erin McCarrick Hardison ’02 and Scott, October 22, 2011.
Kelli Taylor Green ’03 and Travis, October 18, 2008.
Kymerly Dunlap Andren ’04 and Darin, June 4, 2011.
Staci Gierich Bergstrom ’04 and Steve, October 1, 2011.
Emily Agness Botich ’04 and Joseph, October 22, 2011.
Courtney King Fritz ’04 and Derek, April 8, 2011.
Adrienne Upah ’04 and John, May 14, 2011.
Renee Gruber Walker ’04 and Josh, September 24, 2011.
Kristi Spiggle Werth ’04 and Eric, April 2, 2011.
Diane Pisani Boehret ’06 and Justin, October 8, 2011.
Annie Huffman Vorys ’07 and Mike, July 10, 2011.
Mary Eser Bortman ’08 and Brent, August 27, 2011.
Sarah McConnell Hand ’08 and Maxwell, August 6, 2011.
Meghan Larsen Reidy ’09 and Tim, August 13, 2011.
Erin Haines Wu ’09 and Phong, June 18, 2011.
Maggie McNicholas Sayles ’10 and Mike, July 8, 2011.

Births & Adoptions

Patsy McGowan Donahue ’92 and Jim: Grace Margaret, June 23, 2011.
Elizabeth Harvey Preston ’92 and Bryan: Owen Michael, November 16, 2011.
Sheila Doran Shan ’96 and Patrick: Norah Patricia, September 30, 2011.
Molly Sanford Dodd ’97 and Alex: Elizabeth Regan, February 10, 2011.
Monica Thorson Dunn ’98 and Aaron: Colette Suzanne, October 21, 2011.
Kate Votrubka Frey ’98 and Charlie: Benjamin Carl, October 14, 2011.
Margaret Finegan Daley ’99 and Martin: Madeline Mary Josephine, August 1, 2011.
Laura Brennan Schlicht ’01 and Thomas: Margaret Grace, May 14, 2011.
Brooke Wagner DeSapio ’02 and Vince: Cecilia Clare, March 25, 2011.
Liz Kocourek Dunleavy ’02 and Brian: Christopher James, April 18, 2011.
Denise Rasch Eissworth ’02 and Erik: Grace Elizabeth, June 13, 2011.
Meaghan O’Connor Gerhardstein ’02 and Andrew: Autumn Drew, June 21, 2011.
Carri Cuellar Gibson ’02 and Jeremy: Dillon Scott, May 14, 2011.
Alison Ashley Johnson ’02 and Brett: Devin Ashley, July 23, 2010.
Marie Sordelet Lyle ’02 and Brian: Gianna Grace, November 30, 2010.
Katie Consentino Newberger ’02 and Charlie: Evan Tang, November 11, 2011.
Mary Crawford Nolan ’02 and William: Crawford Anderson, July 12, 2011.
Shannon Meyer O’Rourke ’02 and Tim: Mary Grace, August 18, 2010.
Kathleen Quiroz Tate ’02 and Matt: Linus Michael, October 12, 2010.
Jamie Norton Trailov ’02 and Jason: Alyssa Danielle, April 10, 2011.
Michelle Biersmith Hennings ’04 and Daniel: Brandon Merle, December 10, 2011.
Holly Bergman Muller ’04 and Brian: Grace Elizabeth, July 6, 2011.
Jessica Ratke-Buckholz Stelow ’04 and Matt: Grace Mary, October 14, 2011.
Annie Huffman Vorys ’07 and Mike: Olivia Marie, July 15, 2011.
Penelope Trehawey Mattice ’10 and Brian: Elizabeth Ann, October 9, 2011.

Alumnae Deaths

Lucie Crowley Ols ’30, August 22, 2011.
Anne Bodie Schuknecht ’40, November 3, 2011.
Elizabeth Dillon England ’41, October 5, 2011.
Victoria Puddicombe Kelly-Bauer ’42, mother of Kathleen A. Kelly ’70 and Margaret Kelly Crimmins ’80, January 9, 2012.
Helen Rauen Kristufek ’42, October 22, 2011.
Mary Kelly McLaughlin ’42, mother of Claire Teresa Stewart ’75, December 16, 2011.
Virginia M. Melevage ’48, June 6, 2011.
Kathleen McCaffery Ward ’48, November 6, 2011.
Virginia Logan Bradley ’50, October 24, 2011.
Catherine Deck Skeehan ’50, mother of Teresa Skeehan Stewart ’74, grandmother of Claire Teresa Stewart ’15, October 16, 2011.
Marcia Cavanaugh Sneed ’50, February 24, 2010.
Elizabeth Grimmer Treacy ’50, October 31, 2011.
Patricia McAndrews Pilger ’54, October 30, 2011.
Sister Maura Campbell, OP, PhD ’55, January 29, 2011.
Mary Ann Hoben Jensen ’55, sister of Patricia Hoben Daniels ’65, mother of Julia Jensen Hoffman ’82, November 15, 2011.
Eleanor Griffith Stolzer ’56, October 2, 2011.
Mary Van Hecke Benthal ’57, mother of Clare Van Hecke Korte ’88, April 12, 2009.
Mary Lou Armstrong Bouche ’57, April 5, 2008.
Marie Lyman Meagher ’57, January 5, 2012.
Anne Rody Cooney ’59, mother of Colleen Cooney Kipp ’84, niece of Joan Agnes Bell ’84, January 19, 2012.

Joan Swanson ’59, November 11, 2011.

Kathleen Dolan Reed ’60, mother of Lisa K. Peppers ’87, October 27, 2011.

Mary Margaret Boesen ’62, cousin of Maureen Hogan Lang ’60 and Coleen Hogan ’75, January 17, 2012.


Jane Feldmeier DeLovine ’64, March 18, 2011.

Joyce Richards Babin ’67, June 5, 2011.

Patricia Dugan Bash ’67, August 5, 2011.

Deborah Byrne Tynan ’70, November 6, 2010.

Cynthia Melczek ’77, November 2, 2011.


**Family Deaths**

Esther Leone Anania, mother of Donna Anania-Reich ’77 and Susan Anania Hunter ’84, December 30, 2011.

Burnett Bauer, father of Kathleen A. Kelly ’70 and Margaret Kelly Crimmins ’80, grandfather of Claire Barrett Kurlbelak ’99, October 28, 2011.


Clarence “Blinky” Blankenburg, father of Barbara “Bunny” Blankenburg Kiep ’79, October 2, 2011.

Jerome Brault, father of Catharine Brault Murphy ’85, July 7, 2011


Thomas P. Cerneka, father of Lisa Cerneka Burns ’84 and Heidi Ann Cerneka ’87, August 15, 2011.

Mary Catherine Chambers, mother of Kelly Chambers Mazeski ’81, December 17, 2011.

Tim Daly, son of Martha Abberger Daly ’41, brother of Diane Daly McGarry ’70, December 16, 2011.

Joseph J. Daniels, husband of Patricia Hoben Daniels ’65, May 18, 2010.


Ralph H. Dwan, Jr., husband of Mary McGahey Dwan, December 18, 2011.


Robert E. Helgesen, father of Patricia Helgesen McAlpine ’73, grandfather of Meghan McAlpine ’13, uncle of Pamela Helgesen Couture ’79, December 21, 2011.

Gail Hinkle, mother of Tonya Sheets Sexton ’90, December 8, 2011.

Elizabeth Imler, mother of Julia Imler Doyal ’78 and Joan Imler Grass ’80, October 11, 2011


Isaac James Keeler, infant son of Jessica Brudy Keeler ’04, November 22, 2011.


Eleanor Carol Koscielski, sister of Alice Koscielski Lesniewski ’48, aunt of Marie Koscielski Gerken ’92, cousin of Barbara Rys Fournier ’64, June 21, 2011.

Mark Koscielski, son of Catherine Germanco Koscielski ’53, brother of Marie Koscielski Gerken ’92, nephew of Alice Koscielski Lesniewski ’48, cousin of Barbara Rys Fournier ’64 and Megan Marie Christiana ’09, November 9, 2011.

Regina P. Kruśniak, mother-in-law of Mary Inwood Kruśniak ’80, November 12, 2011.


Eleanor Liedel, grandmother of Sara Leavitt-Turner ’96, December 5, 2011.


Rose Madden, mother of Mary Anne Madden Hoffman ’73, grandmother of Meganne Hoffman ’03 and Jennifer Hoffman ’10, April 16, 2011.

Marianne Martin, mother of Jeanne M. Martin ’81, November 22, 2011.

Robert O. McCoy, Jr., father of Mary R. McCoy ’82, October 8, 2011.

John McGrath, husband of Margaret Broughton McGarr ’59, father of Katherine McGrath Wollenberg, December 8, 2011.

James O. McNamee, father of Mary McNamee Birleson ’88 and Patricia McNamee Cherry ’74, January 12, 2012.


James J. Murphy, father of Kathleen Murphy Villano ’79, grandfather of Nicole Villano ’08, September 16, 2011.

James J. Murtagh, Sr., father of Joyce Murtagh Stengle ’86, October 4, 2010.


Elinor Rys, mother of Barbara Rys Fournier ’64, aunt of Alice Koscielski Lesniewski ’48, June 29, 2011.

Eugene Schaffer, husband of Kathleen Smith Schaffer ’52, September 9, 2011.

Alice Schlesinger, mother of Mary Schlesinger ’72 and Catherine S. Schlesinger ’75, wife of the late faculty member Bruno Schlesinger, January 24, 2012. Schlesinger, an artist, painted the portrait of Sister Madeleva that hangs in Madeleva Hall.


Alan Charles Soch, son of Jo Ann Lyden Soch ’53, October 4, 2011.

Ronald Eugene Sphon, father of Alison Sphon Kavulich ’93, January 5, 2012.


John E. Treacy, husband of Elizabeth Grimm Treacy ’50, December 9, 2011.

Frances D. Updike, mother of Virginia Updike Daily ’70 and Mary C. Updike ’71, mother-in-law of Monica Manchester Updike ’70, grandmother of Erin Daily Duba ’03, aunt of Miriam Donnellon Kimball ’75, Cassandra Kimball Compton ’01, October 21, 2011.


Donald L. Vondriska, father of Ann Vondriska Wilson ’78, September 30, 2011.

Thomas A. Walsh Jr., husband of Barbara Roman Walsh ’72, uncle of Kelly Roman Ganter ’97 and Kara Roman ’04, August 5, 2011.

Matthew Niles Wiley, father of Nadine Wiley Priestley ’82, November 22, 2011.
Creating a personal legacy
at Saint Mary’s College

The Roberts family on vacation in Barcelona, Spain.
From left: twin sons Drew and Connor, Ann, and her husband, Duane.

My four years at Saint Mary’s left me with a fine liberal arts education, lifelong friendships, fond memories, and a profound sense of gratitude to the community that gave me so much. Over the course of my life, those bonds to Saint Mary’s have only deepened.

By including the college in our will, my husband and I have ensured that our attachment to Saint Mary’s will endure long after we are gone.

— Ann Struhs Roberts ’82

Please contact Jo Ann G. MacKenzie ’69 to request information on making an estate gift to the College. Alumnae and friends who inform the College of their future gift are recognized as members of the Mother Pauline Society.

(574) 284-4600 • jamacken@saintmarys.edu

For more information, please visit saintmarys.edu/planned-giving
Chicago East

After ending 2011 on a high note, hosting a cocktail reception for President Carol Ann Mooney ’72 and other esteemed members of the College, we began the new year invigorated with “Belle Pride” and ready to start tackling a new list of goals! Beginning in February, the Club will host monthly “Sunday Socials” where alumnae of all ages and backgrounds can get together for a casual drink and conversation before beginning the week. A complement to our already successful book club, wine club, legal group, and business/networking happy hours, Sunday Socials are.

Filice, Kendall Antekeier, Ally Drake, Kelly Zenere, Nina Midgley, Laura Smith. Bottom row left to right: Liz Molnar and Jessica Schott

Members of the class of 2011 pose with Saint Mary’s College president Carol Ann Mooney ’72 when she visited the Chicago East in December. Pictured from left to right back row: Elisica Filice, Kendall Antekeier, Ally Drake, Kelly Zenere, Nina Midgley, Laura Smith. Bottom row left to right: Liz Molnar and Jessica Schott

donated their time and talents to the Club this year. You have gotten us off to a great start! Interested in getting involved in the Chicago East Club? Please contact Kate Treder ’07 at SMCChiago-President@gmail.com.

Chicago West

The Chicago West club has kicked off the New Year with a few events. On Jan 7th the club met for our first quarterly Mass & Coffee event in Glen Ellyn at the St. Petronelle Parish. Following mass attendees adjourned for coffee/breakfast at Honey Restaurant and just to enjoy one another’s company. If you’re interested in starting a few Saturdays with Mass & Saint Mary’s fellowship, please join us. Visit the club website for more details and upcoming events.

Book club began, and we have already welcomed some new faces this year. Please join us for a book discussion the last Thursday of each month. Book selections and hostess information is available on the club website at http://our.saintmarys.edu/~alumnae/club-pages/ILLINOIS/chicago-west.html.

We are looking for a few good women to assist with book communications. If you are interested, please contact Alison Spoonie Kavulich ’93 at irishanne93@yahoo.com.

Beginning in February, the Club will host monthly Constant Contact newsletter continues to keep everyone in our Chicago community in the loop about upcoming events, Club news, and what’s going on in South Bend. We are in the process of revamping our advertising program, targeting local SMC-affiliated businesses to sponsor our newsletter. Interested in marketing your business to fellow Chicago Belles? Please contact SMCCChicago-Communications@gmail.com for more information or to be included in future mailings.

The Saint Mary’s College Chicago East mentoring program continues to thrive. We have received lots of positive feedback from mentors and mentees alike. A big thank you to everyone who has helped the program through a successful first year! Along the same lines, we are currently pursuing a relationship with Josephinum Academy in Wicker Park, an all-girls Catholic high school. Interested in lending a hand? Please contact SMCCChicagoService@gmail.com or SMCCChicagoMentor@gmail.com.

Calling all class representatives! In order to continue serving our diverse Chicago alumnae community, we remain committed to recruiting volunteers to help keep their classmates up-to-date and involved in the Chicago East Club. Are you interested in representing your graduation year? Please contact SMCCChicagoNewMembers@gmail.com for more information.

Our annual Spring Scholarship Tea is just around the corner! Help us maintain our legacy of helping young women needing a variety of social services. Organized by Sarah Sullivan Bigelow ’96, the project is seen as one that can be ongoing for the club. Club leadership will meet in June to plan the next year’s activities. To participate in the planning meeting, contact Alme Beckmann-Collier ’75 (aimee.beckmann-collier@drake.edu).

CLUBCLIPS

We are looking for a few good women to assist with book communications. If you are interested, please contact Alison Spoonie Kavulich ’93 at irishanne93@yahoo.com.

CLUBNEWS

The Saint Mary’s Dallas Alumnae Club enjoyed reading and discussing the One Book, One Saint Mary’s selection for this year, as well as the same lines, we are currently pursuing a relationship with Josephinum Academy in Wicker Park, an all-girls Catholic high school. Interested in lending a hand? Please contact SMCCChicagoService@gmail.com or SMCCChicagoMentor@gmail.com.

Calling all class representatives! In order to continue serving our diverse Chicago alumnae community, we remain committed to recruiting volunteers to help keep their classmates up-to-date and involved in the Chicago East Club. Are you interested in representing your graduation year? Please contact SMCCChicagoNewMembers@gmail.com for more information.

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Des Moines

The Des Moines Club’s mid-winter service project involved painting at Ruth Harbor, a home for pregnant women needing a variety of social services. Organized by Sarah Sullivan Bigelow ’96, the project is seen as one that can be ongoing for the club. Club leadership will meet in June to plan the next year’s activities. To participate in the planning meeting, contact Alme Beckmann-Collier ’75 (aimee.beckmann-collier@drake.edu).

Downtown

The Detroit club is very excited to have President Mooney visit in March. We are planning an evening reception on March 27th in honor of her visit. We are also currently looking for volunteers to fill the officer position of treasurer. If interested, please email smcdac@gmail.com.

Eastern North Carolina

The Eastern Carolina Alumni Club of Saint Mary’s College is growing and hoping to have many new members in 2012! The club recently hosted its Annual Founders’ Day Celebration. The event, which
was initially scheduled for October 2011, was held on January 29 and included Mass at St. Raphael the Archangel Church and dinner following at Winston’s Grille. Sister Mary Margaret Weber CSC ’67 commented that meeting on January 29th was quite appropriate for our group as it is the feast day of Mother Mary of the Seven Dolors—the first sister of the Holy Cross and the first superior general of the Sisters of the Holy Cross. This was a great evening for a dozen of our local Belles to renew and/or engage in new friendships. Upcoming event for the club include the following:

Book Club - Our book club meets on the last Wednesday of every month. We encourage each of you to take some time out of your schedule and join us for one or more events in 2012. As always, we are looking for new alums to join in our fun!!

Los Angeles

The Christmas season was made a bit brighter by the LA club’s “Ladies Who Lunch” gathering in Pasadena. More than a dozen women gathered outdoors, on a crisp, cool sunny Sunday morning for a lovely meal and sparkling conversation. The club hopes to continue organizing these informal gatherings in various neighborhoods throughout the southland. We look forward to seeing old friends and hope to meet new ones in the coming year.

Milwaukee

The Saint Mary’s Greater Milwaukee Alumnae Club enjoyed a rebuilding year in 2011, and sponsored three very successful and well-attended events. The Club joined with the Notre Dame Club of Milwaukee in hosting a Milwaukee Brewers Baseball game and tailgate party in mid-August, the annual College Send-Off party hosted by Mary Pat Wilson Russell ‘78 for six new Saint Mary’s first year students, and finally our year ended on a wonderful note at our Founders’ Day Cocktail Party and Reception at the Milwaukee Athletic Club in November. The Reception was hosted by Kathy Sheedy ’78 and provided a great opportunity for alums from a variety of classes, including the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s, to spend time together reminiscing about our collective memories and experiences from our Alma Mater. We also broadened our leadership team by adding Kelly O’Connor ’06, as vice-president and treasurer of the Club.

2012 provides new opportunities for our Club to build on our previous success. We will once again host a Milwaukee Brewer Baseball game and tailgate on Tuesday night, July 17th when the Brewers take on the World Champion Saint Louis Cardinals. Our College Send-Off party will take place once again the first week in August. We hope to add a service project this year, including a September Saturday Habitat for Humanity day (a non-foot ball weekend, of course). And finally, we will once again end our year in early November with the Founders’ Day Celebration. Details on all of these events will be forthcoming via email over the spring and summer. If you have an interest in joining the Club or serving in a leadership position, please write Mary Rukavina Kuhnmuench ’78 at prosqtr1@aol.com.

New Jersey

Our regional initiative to join hands with the Saint Mary’s alumnae in NYC and CT continues to strengthen our ability to offer more frequent opportunities to bring us together. We will be hosting our second annual networking event in May once the current students are home for the summer.

We want to help our students make connections out here at home. Along with several New York regional Notre Dame Clubs, Saint Mary’s Alumnae Clubs of NYC and NJ will be sponsoring a daughter of our U.S. military sisters Under Sail from West Point Military Academy to Perth Amboy in June. We will kick off this exclusive ND and SMC sponsored voyage for six girls with a dockside reception aboard Tall Ship Unicorn on Thursday, May 31st, at North Cove Marina in Manhattan. We also hope to host another dockside reception on the Jersey side of the Hudson once docksage can be secured. Please stay tuned for dates, locations and details via our email announcements. If you’re not receiving our Club updates, please email Dawn Parker Santamaria ’81: dawn@sister-sundersail.org. And, dues are always due!!

Please forward your $25 check to SMC/N Club c/o Dawn Parker Santamaria ’81, 2 Gravel Hill Road, Asbury, NJ 08802.

New York City

The NYC Alumnae Club has had some wonderful events in the past few months. On November 18th we gathered at City Crab on Park Ave South and 18th street for great conversation over a glass of wine. Our Christmas event was held in mid-December at the Church of the Heavenly Rest where we listened to the Cantor Choral Society sing and then we gathered afterward for dinner at Paola’s restaurant on 92nd and Madison. A thank you to Mary Ellen Stoltz Bianco ’72 for helping to set up this wonderful evening for the club. We will be hosting our second annual networking event in May once the current students are home for the summer. We want to help our students make connections out here at home. Our annual Sister Under Sail dockside reception will be held on Thursday, May 31st at North Cove Marina in Manhattan. We will sponsor a U.S. military daughter. Please stay tuned for dates, locations and details via our email announcements. If you’re not receiving our Club updates, please email Carey O’Neill ’99: careyoneill@gmail.com. And dues are always due!!

Please forward your $25 check to SMC/N Club c/o Carey O’Neill, 114 West 86th Street Apt 17A, New York, NY 10024.

Richmond/central Virginia

Alumnae in central Virginia are invited to gather Tuesday, May 1, to honor renowned alumna best-selling author, Adriana Trigiani ‘81 – featured at the Junior League of Richmond’s Book and Author event. We have a table of 10. For information and attendance contact Mary Ellen Stumpf ’74: 804-232-9144 or stumpfandassoc@aol.com
San Diego

The Saint Mary’s Club of San Diego congratulates our co-presidents, Sandy Parry Kesser ‘07, and Nicole Merca-
di Fortunato ’00 on life’s most wonderful event! Sandy married Daniel Kesser ND ’10 in a beautiful ceremony at
the San Diego Mission on December 30, 2011. Sandy was a gorgeous bride, and we wish her and her hand-
some groom much happiness. Nicole and her husband welcomed their first child, Gianni Angelo Fortunato on
January 29th. Cute Gianni weighed in at 6 lbs, 10 oz and was 18 inches long. As Nicole said, “I was reading our lat-
est Book Club selection, but was interrupted by labor”! Nicole was reading John Adams, by David McCull-
ough, which was the book discussed at a lively meet-
ing at Kathleen Hossley Hines’ ’59 lovely La Jolla home
on February 20th. As usual, Kathleen provided delicious
goodies for all the readers to enjoy. Everyone enjoyed
the book. The San Diego Book Club continues to meet
almost monthly and always welcomes new members.
Look for e-mails from the club coordinator, Lynn Dargis
Ambrose ’52, for updates on selections and hosts.
Barb Drossel McKnight ’77 and her husband,
Wade, will host a Spring Scholarship Fundraiser at
their Ocean Beach home. Plans are in the works for
an April/May Couples Party to raise money for the
San Diego Club Scholarship Fund. Besides enjoying
wine and delicious food from their ocean-view deck,
guests will have the opportunity to “win” surprise
goodies in a fun raffle. Sandy Parry Kesser ’07 and
Barb will email further information.

South Bend

Happy Spring, South Bend Alumnae! The South Bend Club has been busy this year. In December, finals candy care packages were sent to local on-
campus students as a sign of support and encour-
agement during such a stressful time and we are planning on doing the same again in May. Keep an eye out for candy collection locations and dates! We
need your help supporting our local students!

In February, club members participated in a ser-
vice event at Hannah’s House, a nonprofit organiza-
tion serving pregnant teen mothers in Michiana. We
prepared and served dinner for current resi-
dents and Hannah’s House alumns and then helped
watch their children while they participated in their
monthly meeting. It was a very busy night but ex-
tremely rewarding to all who attended!

SMC’s in the City has continued going strong—
keep an eye out for upcoming locations and dates!
As always, to keep updated on Club events, be sure
to “like” our page on Facebook (Saint Mary’s College
South Bend Alumnae Club), keep an eye out for email
updates, and watch the newsletter for Club news! If
there are any ideas for future events or Club activities,
please email them to us at smcsouthbend@gmail.com.

Twin Cities

The Twin Cities Alumnae Club continues to have
a wonderful year! The Founders’ Day event held in
November was a great success. Alums gathered to
learn more about the local charity, Breaking Free,
which strives to educate and provide services to
women and girls who have been victims of com-
mercial sexual exploitation (prostitution/sex-traf-
icking) and need assistance escaping the violence
in their lives. The charity was able to sell accessories
and jewelry and all of the proceeds went back into
the charity. The next event serving pregnant teen mothers in Michiana.

In December, the book club met to discuss Four
Queens: The Provencal Sisters Who Ruled Europe, by
Nancy Goldstone. The club was also able to send
out the annual Starbucks cards to current students
to help keep them motivated through finals week!

As spring approaches, the club looks forward to
a couple more book club meetings as well as other
events. Check out the details and more Twin Cities
club events on Facebook. You can find the page by
looking up “Saint Mary’s College Twin Cities Alum-
ae Club.” If you’re not on Facebook and would like
to be on the mailing list, please email Colleen Dol-
phin ’01 at colleen@dolphinography.com. **We are
looking for someone to take on the leadership
role of president of the TC SMC Alumnae Club.
If you or another alum you know is interested
in taking over this position as Colleen’s two-
year term wraps up, please email her at the
above address. Thank you!**

Youngstown

In November 2011, Erica Antonucci ’07 and Al-
ison Greene ’08 became new co-presidents of the
Youngstown Alumnae Club. Jessica Brinker Foster ’08
also became the new club treasurer. In December,
the club hosted its first event, a holiday dinner for
alumnae and students. The new presidents are very
eager and have new ideas for the upcoming year. You
can email them at saintmarysalumnae.youngstown@
gmail.com for club information or suggestions.

San Diego Club Scholarship Fund. Besides enjoying
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From the Alumnae Relations Office

Saint Mary's College mourns the loss of a devoted alumna and volunteer, Emiliita "Bunny" Wagner Barker. Bunny served her class as class reporter for the Courier for nearly 70 years, a term of service unmatched. She also served on the Alumnae Association Board of Directors from 1967-1970 and as the president of the Saint Mary's College Louisville Club in 1945. In addition to her service to the College, Bunny was an active volunteer in her hometown of Louisville. Bunny was preceded in death by her husband, Ken, and is survived by three children, eight grandchildren, including Ashley Clark Bass '98, seven great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

We are also sad to report the death of Mary Kelly McLaughlin, who maintained a lifelong relationship with the college. She received the President's Medal in 1984 for outstanding volunteer and professional support of civic and charitable organizations, and for serving on the Alumnae Board of Directors. In 2002 she was honored with the Distinguished Alumna Award in recognition of her work on educational and parenting issues. In the 1980s, she and her late husband, Robert "Bob" McLaughlin, began funding scholarships at the College in addition to her service to the College, Bunny was an active volunteer in her hometown of Louisville. Bunny was preceded in death by her husband, Ken, and is survived by three children, eight grandchildren, including Ashley Clark Bass '98, seven great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews and friends.

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count exactly) included members of Lynn’s parish, Curillo associates, professional colleagues and neighbors as well as Saint Mary’s alums, Jennifer Wagner ’05, Emily Olson ’91, Mary Musante Kraemer, and Mary Jean Wallace Paxton. True to their Saint Mary’s education, Emily, Mary, and Mary Jean won book prizes for identifying authors from their photos and writings. The book theme was carried out enthusiastically by guests who dressed as characters in books, a most interesting assortment that included Lynn’s daughter, son-in-law, and their four children as characters from the Harry Potter books, and her goddaughter as one of the maids from The Help. Lynn, we eagerly await your 90th.”

Joan Gadoski Huguenard celebrated her 80th birthday with the gift of 10 weeks of volunteer teaching in Namibia. She writes: “Gorgeous orphan children came to our after-school school for classes in math and English, a safe environment for play and learning, and a free lunch at 2 p.m. (for many, their first meal of the day!) They are looking for other volunteers, especially retired teachers, who might spend three months or longer teaching there. For more information, contact her at joan@justjoanonline.com or read some of her columns about Namibia and her work there on her website: www.justjoanonline.com

Susan Klimcheck Miller writes: “The stories about everyone did for their 80th birthdays were so much fun to read. My birthday was rather sad since my lovely 21-year-old granddaughter lost her battle with childhood cancer the day after my special day. Even though all my 21-year-old granddaughter lost her battle with childhood cancer the day after my special day. Even though all my children and some of my grandchildren celebrated Ashton’s reunion with God, we also got together in August for one whole week on the South Carolina beach. There were 24 of us from all over the USA. Each one of my six children cooked a special meal each of one of the six days. Time was spent on the beach, sight seeing, playing games, and doing sand sculpture. My gang has celebrated my birthday every five years since my 65th with family reunions, a balloon ride, and going to the South Carolina beach twice. We had had so much fun together with grandchildren staying up all night to watch the sun rise over the ocean, with word games, Monopoly, Michigan Kitty games (that is a card game), and so many other games. We had fun telling stories of growing up together and having each other and our God to help us through the good and the bad times.”

The Chicago group gathered for lunch at Piccolo Sogno in Chicago, on November 1. Those attending included Mary Rose Shaughnessy, Jo Brazaitis Ebert, Faith Kilburg McNamara, Elaine Smith Cara, Helen Wade O’Brien, and Maureen Marie Galoney and Sarah Struett O’Keefe ’55, who wanted to remember her sister Mary Jo Struett Bowman.

Marie Galoney has finished her official rehab (after two stents last spring) and has plans to move into the Admiral, a senior residence in Chicago, sometime this year.

We are sorry to hear that Kathy Smith Schaffer’s husband Gene died this past year. Dor Murnane McMa-hon keeps in touch with her and passed this on to me.

Betty Foley McGlynn writes in her Christmas letter: “This was my See America First year. I left the globetrotting to the three kids. Other than many trips to Chicago throughout the year, my only travel was to South Dakota, in August. A friend and I spent five days visiting our former pastor, Father Peter Etzel, S.J., who is now director of the Sioux Spiritual Center in Howes, about a two-hour drive northeast of Rapid City. We enjoyed an all-day Gray Line tour of the Black Hills, Mount Rushmore, and many other scenic sites on a picture-perfect day. That monument is so impressive that you just can’t stop taking pictures of it. Father Peter drove us through the amazing Badlands to visit another former pastor, Father George Winzenberg, S.J., who is now president of Red Cloud Indian School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, a most impressive, multi-faceted operation in an area where the Jesuits have worked for more than a century.”

Joanne Hickey Frazel was getting together for Christmas with her family at a son’s home in Chicago. Four sons live in Chicago, and another came from New Orleans. A daughter came from Minneapolis. She says: “After our meal, we sang Christmas cards—not very well—but we try. I look forward to Reunion.”

Gloria Gazzara Eppler is planning on coming to Reunion. She writes that she and her entire family were going on a Christmas cruise on the Mexican Riviera: “We leave the 23rd and come back the 31st. We did this last year and it was wonderful. No work for anyone. I still have a hard time walking. But life goes on.”

Mary Ann Scherger Fairlie and her husband will be going on a 60th anniversary cruise with their children at the same time as Reunion, so she will have to miss it. “We just got home a few weeks ago from a five-week trip to Europe. Visited Spain, Portugal, and Morocco before catching a Mediterranean Cruise called ‘In the Footsteps of St. Paul.’ We especially loved our two days in the Sea of Galilee area and our visit to Jerusalem as well as Ephesus and Rome. Now we are starting family visits for the holidays with three families arriving this week and two in January. Two were already here for the Thanksgiving holiday, so our family is keeping us busy.”

I went on a cruise myself in September, from Amsterdam to Istanbul, a ‘repositioning cruise’ from the North Sea to the Mediterranean, stopping along the way in Belgium, France, Spain, Gibraltar, Sicily, and Athens, before Istanbul. I became so enthralled with all the Byzantine art I saw along the way, especially

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Enroll today at saintmarys.edu/summer-session/alumnae
in Sicily and Athens, that I signed up for a Voyage to Antiquity cruise next September, from Istanbul to Venice, that will focus on Byzantine art.

Next stop—Reunion. Hope to see you there.

**CLASS NEWS**

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**'54**

Ann Korb  
18313 Farm Lane  
South Bend IN 46637-4354  
(574) 277-6443  
ack339@aol.com

Happy spring and a future or belated Happy Big Birthday to those of us born in the early ’30s. Thanks to those who sent news and to Lorraine Nigro Cervanyk, who, although she had no news, none-theless sends her greetings.

Judy Jones Sullivan called to tell us her sister Amy died in November. Rose-Marie Oppenheim Dilenschneider’s brother Vince died in January and her brother Walt died last year. Our prayers and sympathy go out to Judy and Rody.

Lois Langford Berry and Bill Berry ND’53 and I were called to tell us her sister Pat McAndrews Pilger’s funeral in November. Pat’s husband Rick Pilger ND’54 arranged for a bagpiper to play after the Mass. “Amazing Grace” and “Going Home” (New World Symphony) were a fitting tribute to Pat.

Mary Ann Kramer Campbell: her husband Tom Campbell ND’54 was a pallbearer at the funeral of Sister M. Basil Anthony O’Flynn, CSC ’46 in December.

Jane says her family is one of Saint Mary’s boys in the ’50s.

For some happy news: Bernice Boucher Hopp says she and Jim are enjoying the events and new friendships at Marquette Manor. She’s serving as president of the Indianapolis Day Nursery Auxiliary this year.

Peg Tiernan Sheehan tells of a glorious fall lunch with Sue Hartmann and Mary Fran Koehnemann Nolan this fall. It was a nonstop yakking. Mary Fran says: “I am just realizing that we didn’t realize at the time how blessed we were to be there during Sister Madeleva’s presidency.”

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**'58**

Ann Leonard Molenda  
51310 Windsor Manor Court  
Granger, IN 46530-8307  
(574) 273-0310  
alshist@aol.com

Greetings from the snowy wonderland of South Bend, Indiana. By the time you read this, spring will be upon us and hopefully crocuses peeping out, and tulips and forsythia right behind. Last August I ran into Sistie Doherty McEnery and her daughter Mary McEnery Harding ‘84, and Mary’s daughter Elle at the Notre Dame Bookstore. Sistie said that Ellen Carsewell Molenda and Jim had recently died. People who knew Jim spoke so highly of him and the happiness he and Ellen had together. All of us want to extend our sincere sympathy to Ellen. I wish her comfort and courage in her sorrow.

Sistie said she had run into Betty Drey Woodward in St. Joseph, Michigan, where Betty and Ken were vacationing. Sistie was having dinner with them that evening.

Sistie said Honey Hurley Gferroer’s mother Mary Ruth Hurley, celebrated her 100th birthday with a party at the Butterfield Country Club in Oakbrook. Sistie reports, “Honey looked beautiful and her husband George looked great.”

A couple of weeks later, I visited my son Dr. Michael Willson, his wife Marilyn, and daughter Claire in St. Paul, Minnesota. Jody Vetser Olson picked me up at Michael’s and took me out for lunch, where we laughed and talked for a couple of hours. Jody was a real “sport” since she was leaving vannicing the next day to fly to South Bend to meet Paula Lawton Bevington for the Humancist Studies Lecture. I had planned to see Jody and Paula here, but my timing was off.

On a serious note, Paula forwarded me an email sent to her in October, from our classmate Lourdes Huanqui de Farias. Lourdes writes: “Now, we are also passing for the same period of our life. Juan, our dear Juan, like Milton, also left us, on June 11, after six years of suffering a hard illness. It has been and remains a painful experi- ence. I still don’t understand how life is going to be for us in the future. Juan, like Milton, was the center and motor of all of us. Days with him were always happy days, pains were not allowed. Juan has left me five children and eight grandchildren. They are a great support for me, but it is a difficult lesson for all us to learn.”

Paula writes: “Juan was the author of many young adult books, at least a was a prize winner. Paula herself has eight of them. Contact Information: Aturaux, Pisuea, 33 El Bosque, Villaviciosa de Odón, 28670 Madrid SPAIN. Paula’s new email address is pibevington@gmail.com

Sally Teppert sent me a cheerful letter describing a mini-reunion in Silver Spring, Maryland, at the beautiful home of Helen Patton. Kathryn Kramer Massey and Carolyn Sidney Martin made up the tour guide.

Sally writes: “On our first full day, Helen whisks us off for a tour of Gettysburg. The cyclorama is a must. It portrays the three-day battle at Gettysburg during the Civil War. This portrayal seems more than real with sounds and sights in a 360-degree setting.” The group went to the memorial for Dr. Martin Luther King, and toured The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Next year the group meets at Carolyn’s condo. Earlier, Sally wrote that in July, she visited Barbara Hartmann Russell in Fargo, North Dakota. She had dinner and spent the night with Barbara and Gary. Sally enthuses: “I want to let you know about our own Pat Hurley McMahon and husband John have moved to Pinehurst, North Carolina. John wrote the letter and sent a hilarious picture of the two of them amid a sea of boxes. Pat writes: “We’re having too much fun to unpack.”

They have a condo on a golf course and besides plenty of golf and tennis there are concerts, lectures, and a good local bookstore. Pat is struggling with a knee replacement that hasn’t healed well, but hope- fully that will improve, and in the midst of everything, Pat is painting, exhibiting, and will teach an art class beginning in February. Contact information: John and Pat Hurley McMahon, 60 Midland Drive, Pinehurst, NC 28374. Phone: (910) 420-1192. Cell phone: (706) 840-3972. Pat’s email: patsdsmc@ncrr.com

Christmas mail brought a thoughtful letter from...
Joan Renehan Thompson, and a beautiful picture of Fran and Joan with their children and grandchildren. However, in her letter, Joan writes, “Bassora has survived hurricane winds up to 140 mph. The streets are covered with downed trees and power lines. Many are without electricity, most without cable connection, and all agree that we have never had anything like this.” Joan mentioned the loss of friends as well as friends with incapacitating illness. Fran has slowed down, but Joan keeps busy volunteering at the hospital and doing water aerobics with friends. She recommends reading Jerusalem, Jerusalem by James Carroll as an “incredible, readable history of Jerusalem from the beginning.”

Hannah Storen Kreps sent colorful family pictures, including a wonderful one of Hannah and husband Bill, and a wedding picture of a grandson and his bride. The inscription reads: “May our joy be found in giving our hearts to Him, the One who gave His all to us.”

Jewel Reitz England wrote last summer that her husband Geoff retired in September 2008, and they moved to 78411 Desert Willow Drive, Palm Desert, CA 92211. Jewel writes: “Geoff has retired love. I miss my little first-graders, but do sub to keep my feet in the water.” Both sons live in Montana, while daughter Kelly and family live in South Carolina. Jewel’s daughter Erin and her family live close to Jewel and Geoff. In the spirit of our age, “Like so many others in our class, we have our health issues, but we keep on by keeping on.”

My granddaughter Morgan Bedan ’13 is on a committee advising on plans for a new/renewed Angela Athletic Center. Morgan is the catcher on the Saint Mary’s softball team as well as an excellent student. She tells me that Saint Mary’s athletic facility is very outdated and that its facilities are quite inferior compared to those at other colleges where Saint Mary’s teams travel to compete. The level of athletics has improved so much since our time, and so have the number and percentage of student athletes at Saint Mary’s. Athletics and physical fitness are much more important than they were when we were students.

For fun, maybe some of you can send me an email or letter describing what athletics (“gym”) was like for you in our era. My memories are hazy. I think we email or letter describing what athletics (“gym”) was like for you in our era. My memories are hazy. I think we have the number and percentage of student athletes at Saint Mary’s athletic facility is very outdated and that its facilities are quite inferior compared to those at other colleges where Saint Mary’s teams travel to compete. The level of athletics has improved so much since our time, and so have the number and percentage of student athletes at Saint Mary’s. Athletics and physical fitness are much more important than they were when we were students.

As always, blessings to all of you as we travel on our life journeys with the hills and valleys and joys and sorrows we all experience.

Remember when our class news was near the end of this chronological epistle? We are getting much too close to the beginning, but lucky we are to be here.

In April, the Chicago luncheon group included: Diane Zartantonello Sullivan, Elaine Van Etten Cassidy, Nancy Prawdzik Kidder, Arlene Aglon Feldmeier, Peggy Hock Cahill, Jane Simpson Kiep, Karen Wilke Galvin, Barbara Graham Stotzer, and Maureen Hog Lang. Elaine looks great and is back to her usual spiry self after heart surgery, now knowing what it is to “feel good.” Diane had recently spent an afternoon with Nancy O’Toole Doppke, who is making an incredible recovery from a serious car accident in August. Peggy had just returned from Atlanta, where she visited daughter Mary Carol Cahill Sullivan ’88 and her grandchildren. She celebrated her birthday by seeing Wicked with them and saw “lots of football.” Karen had been to Montauk, New York, and family live in South Carolina. Jewel’s daughter Erin and her family live close to Jewel and Geoff. In the spirit of our age, “Like so many others in our class, we have our health issues, but we ‘keep on by keeping on.’”

My granddaughter Morgan Bedan ’13 is on a committee advising on plans for a new/renewed Angela Athletic Center. Morgan is the catcher on the Saint Mary’s softball team as well as an excellent student. She tells me that Saint Mary’s athletic facility is very outdated and that its facilities are quite inferior compared to those at other colleges where Saint Mary’s teams travel to compete. The level of athletics has improved so much since our time, and so have the number and percentage of student athletes at Saint Mary’s. Athletics and physical fitness are much more important than they were when we were students.

As always, blessings to all of you as we travel on our life journeys with the hills and valleys and joys and sorrows we all experience.

‘60

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‘62

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Happy New Year full of blessings and peace. I encourage all classmates to come back for our 50th Reunion, May 31–June 3 this year. Committees have been working diligently to make our 50th a memorable experience for all of us. In making my calls, I have news from Ardish Becker Fitzpatrick (Ardis) in Lake Mills, Wisconsin. She and husband Mike spend six months in Naples, Florida, and six months in Wisconsin. She retired in 2008 from teaching middle school and has taught in elementary school. She now teaches literacy adult education through the Volunteers of America. She and her husband like to sail on Wisconsin lakes.

Barbara Mouch Hamilton spends winters in New Jersey, and summers in Sandusky, Ohio, on the water. She has lived in New Jersey for 37 years, has two children, Brian and Christine, and seven grandchildren in New Jersey. Oldest daughter Sarah went to Notre Dame and lives in Columbus, Ohio, with her four children. Barb was visiting youngest son Patrick and his wife in West Palm Beach, Florida, to celebrate their first child (Barbara’s 12th grandchild) when she wrote to me. Barb retired in 2009 after 24 years as a guidance counselor in a public middle school. She also worked eight years in a Catholic girl’s school.

Mary Cirilli Marcello and husband Ron live in Denton, Texas. Ron is professor at U of N Texas. Mary has retired from high school teaching and spends time with her grandchildren and sons in Texas. She reports Mary Margaret Boesen had major reconstructive surgery on December 7, when her jaw cancer returned after five years. Please keep Mary Margaret in your prayers. (Editor’s note: We received word that Mary Margaret passed away on Jan. 17, 2012.)

Barbara Piedmo Barnes lives in my hometown of Mansfield, Ohio, where she and husband Dave raise horses. She is active in music ministry at St. Peter’s parish. Her husband had heart surgery last summer and is doing well now. She has children in Texas, Ohio, and Door County, Wisconsin. She has retired in 2008 from teaching art and music. She is looking forward to Reunion 2012.

Betsy Patterson Sentowski is a retired teacher who was going to Russia on an air/cruise trip with Pat Potenziani Vich, who attended Saint Mary’s our freshman year. She is looking forward to Reunion 2012.

Rolliana Binder Scheckler lives in Madison, Wisconsin, and Door County, Wisconsin. She has retired from teaching art and music. She is unable to be at Reunion due to family commitments.

Mary Anne Balles Bland (Berkeley, California) enjoys reading Class of ‘62 news and hopes to attend Reunion. She is looking for Libby Nkape Salamone, who is on our lost classmates list. Does anyone know Libby’s address, phone number, or email address? Mary Anne would appreciate you letting Saint Mary’s and her know if you do. Also, if you...
know of any classmates who have died, please let Saint Mary’s and me know so we can include them in our memorials and in the Class Mass at Reunion.

Thanks for your news over these 50 years. I hope to see you at Reunion 2012 in May/June.

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What a tremendous response to my plea for news. Ginny Duggan Murphy retired two years ago as chair of the English department at Mother McAuley High School in Chicago, but is still teaching English there. Her first grandchild is not very far away. Two of her four sons are married, with six grandchildren between them, and they live within five minutes of her. Sue Badaluco Gerhard and her husband, John, took a 23-day driving tour around Ireland and found the scenery spectacular. They also rented a beach house in Whitehall, Michigan, for a family reunion. Bobbye Borchers Flecker and Angie Brauningstein Maher hosted several Saint Mary’s College-Notre Dame couples for the Notre Dame-Pittsburgh game. Bobbye was also interviewed after a Steelers game on TV.

Pat Ralicki McGowan sent me a Christmas letter punctuated with events and pictures of their fourth grandchild, a girl. There are now two girls and two boys. On August 28, Pat’s birthday, Hurricane Irene struck, causing much damage. However, Pat’s children helped immensely. One of the benefits of grandchildren, she says, is that the promise of their young lives lifts a great deal of personal pain. Pat is a volunteer at St. Joe’s Social Service Center’s Project Ready, a job-skills upgrade for folks who can use a lift.

Anne O’Neill retired in May and has a new email: aoneill@edustrat.com. She plans to attend our 50th reunion. Susanna Hayes continues to work on the Colville Reservation in Coulee Dam. Last summer, she walked across southwestern Ireland, met people with her family name, and was amazed at the Catholic churches that were packed in Limerick, Kinsale, Dingle, and Ennis.

Fran Bardello Craig plans to retire from her company, Uanet, technologies, and turn the reins over to her son, Chris. He and his wife have two boys and live nearby. “What a wonderful time of life,” says Fran, who sees Pat Ralicki McGowan and her husband every New Year’s Eve for bridge. Eileen Bleeck Cavanagh and husband, Ray, live in Vienna, Virginia, only about 15 minutes away.

Ginny Leyes Kortenkamp suggested Fordham professor Elizabeth A. Johnson, author of Men Named Saint: The Stories of recognizing what has always been men’s roles and the role of the church. She is in real estate in Sacramento, California, and sister-in-law Mary Pat Wenning Stadler lives in Bluffton, South Carolina.

Pat Powers Gowdy has three children and eight grandchildren, ages 11 to 1. They all try to get together in Maine in the summer and winter. Pat looks forward to the 50th.

Maria Mazza Kompare was accepted into the National Collage Society annual show and can be accessed at their website. At her husband’s 50th Notre Dame Reunion, Maria saw Karen Mortimer Williams, who was attending with her husband, Dave.

Molly Follis Tuton has retired, one of her two sons is married, life is good, and she will try and be at our 50th, she says.

Pat Malone Nave sounds like she and her husband are in the travel business. They took their first grandchild to England as a graduation present before he went off to the University of Montana. He is the first grandchild. Pat’s and husband then traveled to Australia, Greece, and Turkey with Notre Dame alumni, which she highly recommends.

Jean Canizaro Enochs recently visited with Sue Badaluco Gerhard and Mike and Linda Camiller Sanderson.

Bob and Kathy Menzie Lesko attended the Notre Dame-Stanford game, runched with Kathy Podesta Mehigan, and Bill and Roberta Limarzi Weinsheimer in San Francisco. Bob has told about Sue Badaluco Gerhard’s College and Notre Dame memories and the possibility of going to the ND-Navy game in Dublin, September 2012.

Diane Smith O’Donnell lives in Woodstock, Illinois, a stay-at-home mom for 26 years, where she raised seven children, volunteered as a catechist/Confirmation teacher, youth ministry team member, and helper at St. Mary School. For the past 12 years, she has been the full-time DRE. Diane and husband Sean are going to Ireland (which seems to be a preferred destination). They have nine grandchildren ages 15 to three, and God willing, they say, they will be at the 50th.

Robin Keyworth reports that she lived in seven states in the 14 years before moving to Minnesota. She has retired from a 33-year career in retail real estate and now works three days a week as the major and planned giving officer for the Basilica of Saint Mary and the Basilica Landmark (a 100-year-old church). Husband Steve Haal is an architect, and they divide their time between a downtown townhouse and a cabin on Cedar Lake in Deerwood, Minnesota. Ben, their son, teaches international law in Seoul, Korea, while their granddaughter Hayden lives in New York.

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With deep sadness Saint Mary’s College announced the death of Sister M. Basil Anthony O’Flynn, CSC ‘46 on December 16, 2011. Many of us knew her as the impressive dean of students. Everyone felt the downward stare of this almost-six-foot-tall authority figure while we were at the college.

Fortunately, I had a separate experience with this wonderful woman when I picked her up at a hospital in Anderson, Indiana. Sister was scheduled to be the speaker for the Indianapolis Saint Mary’s Alumnae Club. In the back seat of my car were my six-year-old daughter, Bridget, and her younger brother, Dan. As children are, they proceeded to act up. Sister asked me if I knew her real name—Brigid Anne O’Flynn. With that Sister told me that Bridget was not bothering her in the least. Twelve years later as Bridget (Bridget Gott Kennedy ‘91) entered her first-yearman at Saint Mary’s I reminded Sister Basil Anthony that she had a namesake to watch over for four years.

In my last column, I tried to tell something of everyone who attended our 45th reunion. Here are some notes on those classmates who could not be present with us for that special weekend.

Christine Nichols Donohue who lives in Weatherfield, Connecticut recently retired. Christine completed a Master’s in Library Science in 1977 at Simmons College, Boston. Her children’s names are Liam Sean and Erin Christine...a bit of Ireland there.

Pam Pagano Cooney also retired and still lives in Houston. Pam has four grandchildren. Two of the grandchildren live in Houston, one in New York, and one in Los Angeles. She definitely needs a grandchild in Minneapolis to have the country covered.

Lorelei Long Croft writes from Paso Robles, California, where she lives with her husband, Robert. She is retired and has four grandchildren in California. A fifth grandchild, in Japan, wishes to move to California.

Mary Maude Guillot Carr put down her books as a librarian and principal recently. Mary Maude received her master’s degree from that evil school called USC. I am surprised her husband, Maurice ND 67 allowed such transgression. Mary Maude has grandchildren in New

CLASS NEWS

34 | Spring 2012
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My first news arrived in November from Angela Maynard Sewall, saying that she had been appointed chair of the board accreditation board of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), for a term through June 2012. Earlier last year she had been elected to a three-year term as a member of the board of directors of the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education. Angie has been a faculty member in the School of Business at the University of Arkansas since 1992, dean since 1997, and active in educational policy roles, including member and dean’s representatives on the Reading Recovery Board Council of North America, and member of NCATE Executive Board. For 22 years, she worked in the Little Rock School District as teacher, principal, and associate superintendent. I did email a call for news on December 23, but received many “message undeliverable” replies. If you have a new email address since Reunion 2008, please let me know.

Mary Motto Cully and Martha Sullivan McGinnity did acknowledge my inadvertent but serendipitous invitation to connect on LinkedIn. I have also been keeping up with our classmates who have joined our belles68 page on Facebook. If you’d like to join this group, please let me know. Karen O’Donnell Thorpe is a frequent contributor; her most recent post was a photo of her 1968 wedding party featuring Bobbie Clinton Baker and Taya Haulgland Mahoney.

Karen also shares tales of her Caribbean sailing adventures with her spouse, and sometimes, our classmates. Barbara Menke Pinckney and her husband had a fabulous time sailing for seven days in the British Virgin Islands on a catamaran with Admiral Karen O’Donnell Thorpe and husband “Captain Roy.” Barb-ra writes that her grandson, Hudson Michael Garrant, arrived on December 18 to the delight of his 15-month-old sister, Aidan, and parents, Christopher and Angela. Barbara is very pleased to have retired in 2011.

Margaret Piton writes that she has been in frequent phone contact with roommate Donna de Mambey Boynton, and that she has fulfilled a long-held dream of visiting Siberia and Lake Baikal this year. She planned on spending the 2011 holidays in Florida. She is now in Lublin, Poland, where she is teaching Russian. In Russia, a small e-book about travel in Russia, and she continues her blog yourtravelwriter.blogspot.com.

Mary Lou Motl writes that she and Denise Cote went to Costa Rica for a delightful week in April of last year, where they saw the non-erupting volcano, hiked in the cloud forest in search of the Quetzal, which they did see and hear, and zip-lined above the monkeys that they also saw in the treetops. Not a bad trip to celebrate the year in which we became eligible for Medicare.

And Judith Leahy Lundin sends in great news about her recent experience with, and healing from, surgery for basal cell carcinoma. She had gone to a cosmetic surgeon in Reno about a small cyst by the corner of her eye that had been bothering her. With just one look, the doctor diagnosed skin cancer; had it biopsied, and scheduled surgery and a skin graft because of the deep incision. Judith will be happy to respond to emailed questions about her experience.

She writes that she is hearing so many stories of skin cancer from people in our age group. We should have been using sunscreen instead of baby oil way back when, but we just did not know the dangers. Judith also writes that her daughter is doing well, raising her two sons (Dalton and Spencer) and thinking of returning to school in the area of child development.

Catie Condran Geist had persuaded Judy to join Facebook during a visit before the 2010 Staff Reunion. Judy is registered for LinkedIn as Judith Lundin, which may be the reason she was not hit with one of the recent invitations sent from my LinkedIn account.

But that error turned out to be serendipitous as it did prompt an email from Marty Sullivan McGinnity who writes: “Well a quick update is, I moved to the New York City area right after graduation from Saint Mary’s and I haven’t left. Outside of working for a software startup company for a couple of years, I’ve worked for BM my entire career. I’m still there and work in marketing with our Channel Partners in the software division, and I still enjoy it. Meg Sullivan Lope, my twin, has her own marketing company and works primarily for GM in the Detroit area. She just became a grandma for the first time.”

I received an email from Gwynne Morgan a few months ago about the printing of the book that we used as the basis for our pre-2008 Reunion workshop. Unfortunately, I could not find this email, and was unable to locate more information about the book with Google, Amazon, or Gwynne’s own Facebook page.

Since Reunion 2003, Sally Blackley Clemen and I have been having a nearly annual visit in South Bend when she and spouse Dayne travel from their home in Florida. Sally and Dayne are retired and enjoy frequent trips to places far more exotic (and warmer) than South Bend. Sally has offered suggestions for bed and breakfast inns for the 2012 Navy-Notre Dame game in Dublin.

I continue to work full time and am now in the final days of my semester break, which I am spending with my mother (who will be 99 next week). We arrived on December 17, and were joined by Richard for his week of school vacation. Unfortunately, I could not find this email, and was unable to locate more information about the book with Google, Amazon, or Gwynne’s own Facebook page.

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Unfortunately, this column starts with news of the loss one of our classmates, Jane Hoyne Hosty, who passed away suddenly on Tuesday, September 6. Jane, who lived in Dayton, Ohio, died at home due to a head injury resulting from a fall. Jane is survived by her children, Katie Hosty (2831 N. Woodard, #1N, Chicago, IL, 60618) and Larry Hosty, Jr. (5283 Leatherwood Dr, West Chester, OH 45069), as well as several siblings, nieces, nephews, and her former husband, Larry Hosty. I still remember Jane for her smile that lit up the room.

Ronnie Henry Kesseneich shares that husband Peter retired fully on August 31 after four months of semi-retirement. They headed to New Orleans the next day for a visit with his mom. Rusty, just as tropical storm Lee headed into New Orleans: “Despite 16 inches of rain in four days, we had a great visit. We then headed to South Bend in October for the Air Force game and continued for 2,400 miles to Cleveland, Ohio; Niagara Falls, Ontario; Toronto; Niagara Falls, New York; Morrisstown, West Virginia; and back to Atlanta. Retirement is good. Next trip?” Who knows. We had a wonderful family Christmas with the Henry side and are looking forward to days of relaxation and many adventures in 2012. Happy New Year,” Ronnie says.

Gwen Gill Cararchini shares Christmas newsletter providing the following update. “I continue to do real estate but I am returning to the practice of law—some real estate law, some foreclosure defense, and some discrimination law. Real estate is slow and I get bored if I don’t do 10 things at once. I am getting ready to open an office in the same building as my real estate company—Keller Williams—in Prairie Village, Kansas, as I will be getting my Kansas license this year as well.”

“I continue to be more involved in the Episcopal Church—sorry folks, the Catholic Church has gotten a bit conservative for my taste—and my church is very, very involved in the community, which I love…. I work on the office in Fridays and do soup kitchen downtown and also work with various outreach groups through the church. I have a lot of lovely friends and it has been good for me. Of course, the loves of my life these days are my two granddaughters—Maggie (four and a half) and Nola (18 months). The highlight of the year was their coming to Kansas City with their parents for Thanksgiving for a week…the holiday was filled with parties for Kelly’s friends and my friends to ooh and ahh over the grandchildren. We had a great dinner reminiscence of bygone dinners with Dennis. I spent the Christmas holiday in Chicago (Wheaton) with my son, Kenny, in his second year of his PhD program at NIU in Special Ed Art Education. My stepson Vincent (who was my husband’s son before we met) and Kelly gave a joint presentation to the Illinois Association of Special Ed Art, which was thrilling. He is going to take my husband’s name this year and we are thrilled.”

Mary Lou Wylie provides the following updates on several of our classmates. “Edi Hill Gibney got a little wild and crazy this September when she went with her good friend, Susan, on a 12-day raft trip down the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon. It was the most extraordinary experience... It was a bit more rigorous and scary than she was expecting, but she survived and has a million stories and pictures to share. “Donna Felicioli Holtz’s Christmas card included pictures of a beautiful kitchen with the note ‘We started with our kitchen demo around Christmas time in 2004. This year, Bill completed the last cabinet drawer on his 65th birthday. In September, we’ve fulfilled a long time dream to kayak Black Canyon of Colorado with our friends. Life is good and we are so thankful.” Judging from Barbara Morrin Cook’s card, it seems that she broke her foot this year and had to postpone a hiking trip to Glacier National Park, now scheduled for 2012.”

Sally Fogarty Hasbrook shared this special story. “Our children and spouses surprised us with a 40th wedding anniversary tailgate party before the Notre Dame-Navy football game, October 29. The official date was December 30, so they really pulled off the surprise.”

“We were supposedly meeting ‘friends of friends’ at the Log Chapel before the game, only to find our kids sitting outside. We then opened the doors to find a group of close friends, relatives, and our friend Jim Bonke ready for Mass, during which we renewed our wedding vows. A little disconcerting was the extremely sudden hailstorm during the renewal of the vows, truly ‘shaking down New Orleans’. Our Senator Mary’s roommate and bridesmaid, Kerry O’Hara Shannon, and her husband Tom drove from Milwaukee for the party. We ended the day with a family gathering at The Mark at Eddy Street Commons. It was quite a celebration and a wonderful day.”

Mary Niemeyer McCoy is back in the U.S.A. After 10 years of living on an island in the South Pacific, Mary has returned to the San Diego area where she has resumed her consulting/speaking business. She is still a bit overwhelmed by the abundance in the grocery stores, but is convinced that running hot water is a great invention that you shouldn’t take for granted.

Addie Stefancas Cashore reports that she was in Santa Barbara in November representing Saint Mary’s at the funeral of Mary Kelly McLaughlin ‘42. At the funeral, she saw Mary Beth Tétell DeNiro and Sue Bracco Gleason, who are both active members of the California Central Coast Alumnae Club. Mary Beth passed along the sad news that Debbie Byrne Tymns died in November, 2010, in New Orleans. Debbie is survived by three children. According to her obituary, Debbie earned an MBA at the University of New Orleans and spent her professional career passionately dedicated to the success of multiple downtown New Orleans hotels including Westin, Le Meridien, Chateau Sonesta, and most recently, Loew’s New Orleans.

Kenton Temple shares the following fun news about her weeklong visit with Diane Wallace McIver: “We had a blast; mostly talking and talking and talking. We looked at all the yearbooks and pictures I had and shared all that had happened in our lives for the last 40 years or so, way too much to cover for your column. We are both very happy to be back in touch with one another.”

Pat O’Hara Gable and Steve Gable ND ‘70 have a new grandson, Robert Thomas, born December 30 in New York City to their oldest son, Andrew, and his wife, Nicole. Their two-year old GiGi (Geri-dine Grace) is very into helping with the baby. GiGi doesn’t love the Robert part of his name and calls him “Thomas Harold.” No one knows where Harold came from, but I suspect her naming may come from “Thomas the Train” and “Harold the Crayon.”

Anf Toffanetti Schumacher writes that Gil is back to “curling” after extensive hand surgery in May. Ann got “conned into” teaching bridge to a new group of eight ladies and is thoroughly enjoying it. Ann and Gil enjoyed several lovely Michigan vacations this past summer, including the Soo Locks (used to transport freighters from Lake Superior to the Atlantic Ocean) and Whitefish Point on Lake Superior.

As for me, Karen, I continue to love, love, love my job at Juniper Networks and have recently been moved over to their newly created IT Supplier Management Team. My daughter Megan is thoroughly enjoying her graphic design position at St. Supéry Vineyards and Winery. We spent a weekend in San Francisco the week before Christmas revising our tradition of attending the Nutcracker, enjoying the city’s Christmas decorations, and shopping and eating. We followed up last weekend in St. Helena with a tour and wine tasting at Sterling Vineyards followed by dinner at one of the newest up-and-coming restaurants in the Napa Valley—one of the many perks of Megan’s job. Please continue to share your news, and let’s start planning some regional mini-reunions to keep us connected through the big 45 in 2015.”

From the Courier: Mary Ellen Stumpf writes: Class connections in recent years have included a group trip to Toronto by Mary Ellen and Ann Wallace Troutman, Jennifer Johnson Barth, and An-
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(650) 965-1527
susan.salem13@gmail.com

From: Michele Roberge
To: The Alumni Relations Office
Subject: Happy birthday to me this month!

I have a special birthday treat for you this month. As a young person, I would never have believed I would have the opportunity to travel to the desert southwest. So, in honor of my birthday, I plan to write about my recent trip to the Grand Canyon and the positive impact it has had on my life.

Barbara Raynor Lucas
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bigbarb2042@yahoo.com

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CLASS NEWS

Alumnae Board Seeks Nominations for 2013–2016 Term

The Saint Mary’s Alumnae Association Board of Directors will select three new directors for a three-year term beginning June 2013 at the September meeting. All alumnae are invited to submit nominations (self-nominations are welcome) by July 27, 2012. Please contact the Alumnae Relations Office at (574) 284-4578, email alumnae@saintmarys.edu, or visit saintmarys.edu/alumnae-friends to obtain a candidate profile form. A personal statement also is required. Candidate profile forms must be submitted on a yearly basis.

Criteria for the 2013–2016 Term

Geographic: All geographic areas are eligible

Class decade: Vacancies may be filled from the 1976s and 2010s

Among the selection criteria:

• Demonstrated involvement and/or service to the College
• Demonstrated leadership skills through professional and/or personal endeavors

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CLASS NEWS

Alumnae Board Seeks Nominations for 2013–2016 Term

The Saint Mary’s Alumnae Association Board of Directors will select three new directors for a three-year term beginning June 2013 at the September meeting. All alumnae are invited to submit nominations (self-nominations are welcome) by July 27, 2012. Please contact the Alumnae Relations Office at (574) 284-4578, email alumnae@saintmarys.edu, or visit saintmarys.edu/alumnae-friends to obtain a candidate profile form. A personal statement also is required. Candidate profile forms must be submitted on a yearly basis.

Criteria for the 2013–2016 Term

Geographic: All geographic areas are eligible

Class decade: Vacancies may be filled from the 1976s and 2010s

Among the selection criteria:

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Happy New Year, Ladies. Let’s keep those updates coming! I have not heard from many members of the Class of ’80. Let’s get going and send in your information. I started a Facebook page for the Class of ’80. I am hoping we can get more information that way. The page is Saint Mary’s College Class of 1980.

Please keep Carol Laughlin Nocek in your prayers. She has a very long recovery from a serious car accident.

Mary Pat Crinch Lake says, “It hardly seems possible that we were freshmen at Saint Mary’s 35 years ago. I am now officially an empty nester, all three children have moved out. My son Sean lives in Colorado, where he and his wife are the parents of my beautiful granddaughter. Colleen Lake ’11 graduated from Saint Mary’s and is now in the Advanced Standing Program at the University of Pennsylvania. She will graduate with a master’s in social work. Our youngest, Caitlin Lake ’15, is a freshman at Saint Mary’s and beginning her tenure as a Belle.”

‘82

Would you like to see news from your classmates? Contact Jessica Stuijbergen ’99 at jstuifbe@ saintm arys.edu to find out how to become your class reporter.

‘84

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From Diane: Hello Ladies. As you are receiving this, spring should be bursting out everywhere. I am writing this in January and it has been a mild winter so far. Let’s see what happens. I am on Facebook and read all your updates. I will not publish any of them unless you instruct me to. Anyone who is not connected to me can find me at Diane Smith Poirier on Facebook and I will friend you.

Anne Marie Oberheu says: “2011 has proved to be an exciting year as the Piclous get ready to send Lauren Marie off to college in the fall while Caroline enters her freshman year of high school. Lauren, 17, finished her senior year of volleyball as captain of the team… she is interested in pursuing a civil engineering degree. She/we were very excited when she received her admissions letter to Rose Hulman, a premier engineering institution, where she will be studying civil engineering, including our physician staff in our health management division. We are consultants as a whole to the corporation, which insures 3.5 million lives throughout the country. “The only notable new thing in my life is… that I will have completed my third half marathon at Kiawah on December 10. Mom and Dad graciously hosted us and we had great cheerleaders in them, Fred, Laurie, and Maggie the dog. Fun was had by all!”

Susan Van Etten reports, “My daughter Katie Zitz is a first year at Saint Mary’s College and lives in McCandless Hall. She loves Saint Mary’s College. Also, Sandra Gonzales Ver Beek: daughter Olivia is a freshman living in McCandless Hall. Lynn McCarthy Frost: daughter Keeley was just accepted to Saint Mary’s College. She stayed with my daughter for the Notre Dame Air Force game for the weekend in October, and they had a great time!”

Kelly Cambron Fretwell reports, “Maria Lopez Honan, Eugenia Menchaca, Ava Borrasco, and I all met up in Panama with Gina Latoni-Gonzalez ’83 in October, for a girls’ weekend celebrating Gina’s 50th. We had a VIP tour of the Panama Canal and toured the old city. We saw authentic Panamanian dancing and soaked up the beautiful scenery and jungle life at Gina’s and Carlo’s place on the coast. We celebrated Gina’s birthday by dancing to 80s music under the disco ball!”

Judy Belger Scara reports, “Last time I mentioned we were planning a mini-reunion with Mary Kimmel Berezo, Mary Beth Alban Shields, and Gwen Warwick Anderson. We had it and it was amazing. I showed them my neck of the woods: Hollywood, Beverly Hills, and Malibu where we had cupcakes in a ‘paparazzi-free zone’! It was great to spend time catching up and reminiscing. We all agreed we wouldn’t wait so long until the next reunion.”

Ann von Wahde Fink reports, “Just returned from a 14-day odyssey to California by car, traveling with camping gear, atlas and due date. Flying by the seat of our pants and letting our best angels light our way. We experienced something akin to Michelangelo’s ‘Divine Spark’ when we camped one night in Tuscon’s dry Sonoran desert at the foot of a 70-degree, dry cave (alone, locked in a state park under a grove of Mesquite trees). The next day, we camped on the border at Organ Pipe National Park. After a life-giving rain, the desert awakened, blooming green and florid. We lay under a 50-foot saguaro under dark, desert skies for hours experiencing every star in Earth’s heavens. We saw shooting stars and even a meteor flame to ground. We meditated on the rim edge of the Grand Canyon, slept in red Rock canyons, and spent time learning from the generous Hopi in a traditional village (without electricity or running water). We walked among the giants of the Petrified Forest and read stone cliffs carved by ancient peoples. We walked the steps of turn-of-the-century copper miners and met many who were eager to help us see the roads less traveled. We learned much, saw much, and loved much. I wish you a new year of many roads less traveled, with those you love by your side fearless and ego-less!”

Diana Butler Buxton and her husband Dr. Douglas F. Buxton, will celebrate their seventh anniversary on March 19, surrounded by family being united in the Blessed Sacrament of Holy Matrimony at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, followed by dinner at Alison Eighteen in New York City. They plan to attend the Notre Dame-Michigan game in September, and would love to tailgate with anyone who might also be out in South Bend that weekend. Please connect with Diana via Facebook and LinkedIn.

My husband, Joe, and I attended the Notre Dame-MSU game at the spur of the moment. I met Caroline Adornetto Caudill and her son Matthew, age 7, at Detroit Metro Airport during their layover from Atlanta to South Bend on Wednesday afternoon. We came home and decided we needed to be in South Bend too. We found a place to stay for the weekend that night. We left Friday afternoon and had tickets for the game, thanks to Alicia Ojcasastro Behmdt. We hung out with Caroline, her son, her mom, Linda, and brother and his son. We had a great weekend.

I was also back in South Bend for the Boston College game with Janice Dwyer Wiggins, Karen Wagner Lewis, Angie Sleeper Helmstetter, and Mary Ramirez Stigmeier. Unfortunately, Anne Archibald Deutsch couldn’t attend due to a running injury. We had a lot of fun as always. We talltailed with the ‘enemy’ and showed them how football works at Notre Dame.
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From Mary Fran: We look back on our reunion as one of our year’s highlights.
Joyce Murtagh Stengle emailed that she and John Stengle ND’86 have raised our three girls, Janet (15), Julia (13), and Jenna (11) in Toledo, Ohio. We enjoy many sporting events as all three girls have been successful in swimming, tennis, golf, and basketball. Last October, my father Jim Murtagh ND’48 passed away, leaving us with wonderful memories. The girls continue with piano as requested by their grandfather. We travel to as many home football games as possible. Look for the Murtagh Toledo Ohio flag near the Joyce Lot. It was great to see the Saint Mary’s family at Reunion.”

Mary Louise Padden writes from Louisville, Kentucky. Mary Louise has a law degree and practiced for five years, then helped start ImagePRO, a promotional marketing company, where she is director of marketing communications. She also has a consulting company, JDM Consulting LLC, which “is a vehicle for freelance marketing and website design.” Mary Louise has two Boykin Spaniels, and is the rescue volunteer for a several-state area. Her adventurous streak has led her into whitewater kayaking, multi-sport adventure racing, climbing and mountaineering, and racing her yellow Ducati motorcycle. She is hoping to race in a Formula Continental race car at the Sports Car Auto Racing Association event. This girl loves speed. Mary Louise is part of a race team, AcelleRace Motorsports, which “specializes in the development of young aspiring drivers moving from go-karts or USAC sprint races into open wheel racing.” She handles legal, website, art, graphics, merchandising and driver coaching for the team. Mary Louise enjoyed seeing everyone at Reunion.

Susan Carmody reports that she thought the “college went all out” on our reunion. It was nice to see everyone and visit and catch up.” Susan attended Reunion with Carol Branka of Chicago, who is a fellow biology major and past roomate. Susan and her husband Tim Taylor, a pharmacist, live in Bloomington, Illinois. Susan is a physician and practices in an urgent care center, which is part of the St Joseph’s Hospital. Susan and Tim have two daughters, Grace (6) and Cate (3).

Susan Miller Schilling and Nick Schilling ND’86 of Overland Park, Kansas, have college on their minds. Daughter Megan was accepted into the Class of 2016 at Notre Dame this fall, and she will join brother, Nicholas, who is sophomore class president there. Older brother, Patrick, is playing at Kansas University after playing four years on the football team, including the Orange Bowl Championship. Oldest daughter Katherine graduated from Notre Dame in 2010 and was just named to Notre Dame’s Kellogg Institute Advisory Board as its youngest alum ever. Susie writes, “We will finish 18 straight years of grade school, when Christopher graduates this year and goes to the Catholic high school.” Susie says she started a new business with NYB Organic (US yogurt company she was involved with) introducing from London a company with certified organic skin care and wellness products in the U.S.” Susan and Nick celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary last summer. Susie says it was wonderful to see so many at Reunion.”

Marcy Woods Kilpatrick and our family had a fun visit after the ND-BC game in November. Marci and sons Liam (16) and Aidan (14) are living in South Bend after being “managed” by us, introducing from Cairo, Egypt, when the revolution began last January. Kevin Kilpatrick ND’86 is in Baghdad as a physician with the State Department. Daughter Eileen is a freshman at Purdue. Quinn is a junior at Notre Dame, and Connor graduates from West Point in May. Marci enjoys being near her parents, Col. David and Eileen Woods, who live nearby. Marci and her mother, Eileen, organize neighborhood groups committed to collecting food for the monthly food bank.

Jeanne Grammens said it was a thrill to settle her daughter, Gabrielle Grammens, 15, at Saint Mary’s College this fall. Older brother Nicholas is in the honors program at Indiana University, Maddie is a junior at Cathedral High School, and Tomas is in seventh grade at Saint Thomas Aquinas in Indianapolis. Jeanne works at Marian University in campus ministry. Highlights for Jeanne this year included a pilgrimage to Assisi, Italy, and our Saint Mary’s Reunion, she says.

Teresa Keefe Konrad, Scott, and family live in Brooklyn, New York. Teresa writes that “their oldest, Kevin, is studying mechanical engineering at SUNY Buffalo. Caleb (15) plays the drums and lives to fish. Ian (12) started piano lessons this year and wants to be an artist.” Teresa says, “We escape up to our place in the Catskills every chance we get. Scott is three years away from retirement, but I’m still in advertising and hope to last a little while longer without burning out.”

Suzy Avitabile Huschke and Mark are enjoying life in Eden Prairie, Minnesota. Suzy writes that Elizabeth is a sophomore at Notre Dame and studying electrical engineering, “spent eight weeks over the summer working with International Rescue Committee in Boise, Idaho.” Adrienne, a high school senior, and Frank, a freshman, are learning to ski and do Nordic ski teams. The family enjoys lots of outdoor activities like canoeing, fishing, and Nordic skiing. Suzy writes that it was great to see everyone at Reunion.

I visited with Margo Mischer-Philbin and Jim Philbin ND’86 while we watched the Notre Dame bowl game in December at Jim’s parent’s home in Oak Park, Illinois. Margo and Jim have two darling daughters, Lucy who is in eighth grade, and Rose, who is in third grade and home schooled by Margo. The family participate in couple parish mission trips to El Salvador. Margo coordinates the monthly meal that their Duluth, Minnesota, parish provides for the homeless shelter.

My father Frank Gisch passed away peacefully at age 88 on March 2, 2011. Dad was a big fan of Saint Mary’s College—Peggy Gisch ‘87, Elizabeth Gisch ‘91, Kate Gisch Ogilvie ‘95, and me. I am grateful that I lived near my parents for my father’s final years. On a lighter note, Mike Kitz ND’84 and I celebrated our 25th wedding anniversary with a trip in September to Northern Italy, which was spectacular. God bless you and your families.

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From Mary Kay: I hope the others have things to add as I don’t get out much. As I write, I am just packing up the final signs of the holiday season. I loved hearing from so many friends.

Rachel Durkin Drga writes that her daughter Madeline is happy and healthy and getting ready to start middle school. Rachel and her husband continue to work in the theatre, but they have taken on new and different responsibilities. At home, new responsibility has arrived since their adoption of a little Lhasa Apso. Meghan Farley Astrachan’s holiday photo of the family at Liberty Island reminded me how long it’s been since I’ve visited New York. Mary Ellen McKenna Dickson’s photo featured only her four children, but I feel confident in guessing that her youngest is at least as tall as her. The list goes on. Letter after letter, photo after photo, I am reminded how lucky I am to have attended college with such wonderful people.

My more-than-full-time teaching schedule has curtailed my social calendar. Through my involvement with the Los Angeles Area Alumni club, however, I have been able to participate in a few events with Anne Borman and Katy Kronenberg Penna. My favorite this year was our visit to the Claremont Wine Walk, an event only six miles from my house, but almost 60 miles for them. I still travel to Chicago at least twice a year. In the summer of 2011, Jamie Smith Taradash and I drove out for a graduation party for Clare Van Hecke Korten; oldest daughter. I really enjoyed visiting with both of my former colleagues (we were resident advisors together), but I was even more appreciative for the opportunity to interview her daughter and her daughter’s friends about the college application process. I learned quite a bit, and shared what I could with my son. By the time you read this, I hope and pray, he will have made his choices.

Because we know it is easier to keep in touch electronically than it is through holiday letters and parties, we hope to set up a Saint Mary’s College Class of ’88 Facebook page. Be on the lookout for it.
Good Shepherd Hospital, enjoying her five-year-old Meaghan, singing in the church choir at Holy Family parish. She has volunteered for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and is looking forward to Saint Mary’s College Northwest Club’s next book club selec-
tion. She wishes the Cubs would finally do it this year.

Thanks again to all who sent in updates. Please be sure to join us in the SMC90 Facebook group, which is now 116 members strong. Nearly a third of our class is there.

From Sue: Peggy Sullivan Monahan and Jon Monahan ND’90 are living in Champaign, Illi-
nois, with two children: Sean, a high school senior currently applying to colleges (yes, Notre Dame is on the list), and Maggie, an eighth grader looking forward to high school at St. Thomas More. Peggy is working as a senior business analyst at the Uni-
versity of Illinois Housing division. Jon is president of the family business: Monahan Filaments.

Theresa Hart Dearie helped to manage her hus-
band’s (Jim Dearie ND’90) campaign for the city coun-
cil of Lebanon, Ohio. After a hard-fought campaign, Jim was victorious and will serve on the city council.

Mary Cassidy is happily nearing completion of her MBA from the Notre Dame Mendoza College of Business.

Lynn Van Hersett Hamms writes in with the sad news of her grandmother’s passing at the spry age of 97. Ruth Wishart Sullivan is survived by her daughter Phyllis Sullivan Van Hersett ’62 and grandchildren Lynn and Joan Van Hersett Elledge ’93, in addition to three sons and a grand-
daughter who are Notre Dame alumni.

Our prayers are with Tonya Sheets Sexton, who lost her mother Gail Hinkle before the holidays.

Deirdre Milan Ralph and family are still living in Annapolis, Maryland, on the Naval Academy prop-
erty but not for long. They are moving after 10 years, down the street to a neighborhood called West An-
napolis. They will miss all the conveniences of gov-
ernment housing, which included waterfront living and lawn and maintenance services.

Anita Knebel Ehmsen’s daughter Raleigh Ehms-
sen plans to attend Saint Mary’s in the fall, a future member of the Class of 2016. English, journalism, Spanish, and Youth Ministry are her interests right now. Is this the first daughter of our class to make their way to Saint Mary’s? Get in touch and let me know.

I got together with some of the Saint Mary’s girls over the summer at the home of Monica Badar Hehl in Plainfield, Illinois. It was a great afternoon. I was so thrilled that Kelly O’Brien and Mary Sande were in town too. We had lots of laughs. Also there were Kim Mahoney Barrio and her husband Jerry, Kim and Jerry enjoy living in Palatine, Illinois. Kim is busy working as a case manager nurse at Advocate

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From Patsy: Tess Lynch and Donald Nichols were married March 25, 2011. They live temporarily in Musk-
ogee, Oklahoma, while Donald works construction at the Oklahoma Renaissance Faire. Tess assists him in building on the site. They are currently building a two-
story pirate ship and a Spanish Colonial Mission-style building. Tess still commutes to Tulsa, Kansas City, and Chicago to work with National Seminars Group, where she has been a senior event manager for almost 19 years. Tess and Donald live in a crazy house in the coun-
try and have a bunch of gypsy friends.

Michele Delaney Peterson and Brendan are moving from Chicago to Pennsylvania. Michele has been in Chicago for the past 15 years and is hop-
ing to reconnect with Saint Mary’s friends back in Pennsylvania. Brendan and Michele have three chil-
dren: Jack Finn (5), Declan (2), and Mavee (7 months). Michele moved to Chicago after law school in 1996 to work for the Public Guardian’s Office. While it was wonderful to be among so many Saint Mary’s friends in Chicago, Michele is looking forward to starting a new chapter in Pennsylvania, closer to her family.

Nicole Dugan May and Phil live in Grand Rapids, Michigan, with their two children: Sara (four) and Bren-
dan (two). Nicole works part-time for JPMorgan Chase in corporate training. Phil works for Fifth Third Bank.

Nicole recently got together with eight classmates for their annual get together. It was planned to be a post-
poned 40th birthday celebration that they had hoped to have in Florida. Nicole was diagnosed in the summer of 2011 with stage one breast cancer. The girls rallied. Within 24 hours of setting a date and location, timely to be between chemo treatments, all eight women had tickets booked for their long weekend at their rented house on the shore of Lake Saugatuck, Michigan. It was the first time the nine of them had been together in four years. It was a fabulous weekend and would have been regardless of the circumstances, since they always re reconnect as if it were freshwater year back at the dorms. This trip was so special for Nicole, that they would all come to support her and just help her laugh through everything. They have also collectively sent her weekly care packages since October, when the treatments started. These eight fabulous women are Kelly Brantman Roles, Beth McGee Robertson, Mary Johlie Harrison, Amy Wolpert Larkin, Meg Telesca Ramey, Jan Campbell Borgmeier, Jen Lib-
by Kenealy, and Nikki Samarzija Floody.

It is a tes-
tament to the quality of people at Saint Mary’s and how special our alma mater is. Kelly Brantman Roles lives in Maple Grove, Minnesota, with her husband Brad and their beautiful children Tabitha (4) and Zachary (2). Kelly is blessed to be at home with their little ones while Brad manages their mortgage company, Supreme Lending.

Brett McGee Robertson and Mike live in New Bri-
ghton, Minnesota, with their four children. Jan Campbell Borgmeier and Dan live in Rochester, Minnesota, with their six children: Mary Johlie Harrison and Kent live in Richmond, Virginia, with their three children: Nikki Samarzija Floody and Pete live in Tucker, Georgia, with their two children: Jen Libby Kenealy and Dave live in Alexandria, Virginia, with their three children.

Amy Wolpert Larkin and Ed live in Hamilton, Ohio, with their four children. Meg Telesca Ramey and Russell live in Centerville, Virginia, with their daughter, Grace. This group of nine women has managed to keep in touch through ongoing email conversations and an annual reunion at one of their homes. With grow-
ing families and responsibilities, it has gotten tough to get everyone together, but they all look forward to their long weekends filled with laughter and chatter. Nicole is looking great and doing well with her fight.

On December 15, Kerry Meehan McOsker received her nursing pin from Los Angeles Harbor Col-
lege. It was a long two years for Kerry and her family, but her education at Saint Mary’s helped tremen-
dously with time management and writing. Once she passes the boards, Kerry is hoping to work in a telemetry unit. To celebrate surviving the program, Kerry and John McOsker ND’89 and I took their kids to Hawaii for a week and met up with Shannon Hilton Smith and her family who happened to be on the same island. It was a wonderful visit and they are looking forward to our class reunion.

Elizabeth Harvey Preston and Bryan wel-
comed their son Owen Michael on November 16. On December 3, Meg Whitty Molloy came into town, and Beth, Meg, Moira Lydon Miller, and Michelle Lia got together to meet Owen Michael and to cel-
brate. Meg stayed with Beth for a weekend, passing along some of the knowledge she has gained raising her four children: Maggie, Jimmy, Missy, and Billy. The Preston family lives in Chicago.

Lori Corirossi Hazen and Scott Hazen ND’92 re-
cently met up with Eileen Isleib Schaffler and Bill in Chicago when they were on their way to the ND-USC game. They hadn’t seen each other in over six years.

Finally, Jim Donahue ND’92 and I welcomed our fourth child, Grace Margaret, on June 23. Grace was wel-
comed home by Shannon (nine), Jack (six), and Meghan (four). The four kids keep me busy, but we are enjoying our life here in Baltimore. Please email or send me a note on Facebook if you have any updates. Please always re-
member to keep our classmates in your prayers.

Mary Cosgrove Moran writes: My husband Matt Moran and I live outside Chicago with our five-
month-old daughter, Angelina Cathleen, born March 8, 2011. I was just admitted to the Illinois bar and am licensed in Michigan and New York as well. I am tak-
ing time off from the practice of law to spend time with Angelina, but will start working again soon. I was an assistant district attorney in Buffalo, New York,
**CLASS NEWS**

**'96**

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From Julie: Hello fellow classmates. I am writing this update as we enter 2012 and I hope the new year finds all of you well and happy. Many of our classmates have new beginnings to report as well as a lot of other good news as well.

Mary Udovich Baginsky still lives in Washington, D.C., with husband Steve. Mary finished her clinical year at Johns Hopkins and currently works at the George Washington University Hospital as a clinical registered dietitian. She specializes in nutrition support, oncology, and renal disease and absolutely loves her new job and making a difference in her patients’ lives. Karen Gerlach finished her radiology residency at Virginia Commonwealth University and has since moved with her family to California. There, she is starting a mammography fellowship at UC Irvine this July. So far, the kids are adjusting well to the move. In another new career move, Barbara Howells Boukater is now the business manager at an incredible organization called Buckhead Christian Ministry, which helps Atlantans get back on their feet after financial crisis. I am sure these three women are doing wonderful things at work and positively impacting the lives of so many.

Christina Orsinelli Simone is doing well in Columbus after getting married and settling in to a new home and married life. Karla Oselka Walsworth added to her family while living in London with the birth of baby number two, Wesley Frank, who was born October 22, 2009. Karla enjoyed a visit from fellow alum Betsy Killian as well before moving back to the States to Dayton, Ohio. (I’m so glad to have her in the area.)

Sheila Doran Shane delivered baby number six on September 30, a girl, Norah Patricia Shane. Laura Ferguson Van Wyk and husband Chris recently completed their long adoption process and traveled to Ethiopia to bring home their new daughter in April of last year. Abenezah is 3 years old and adjusting well to her new life in Virginia. She has an amazing amount of energy and is crazy about swimming in the neighborhood pool. Their son Simon is 4 years old and adapting well to being a new big brother. Laura continues to work exclusively from home for the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C.

Maureen Davis ’97 is happy to report that she finished the Rock-in-Roll half-marathon in Vegas, her 14th and final race of 2011. Needless to say, the race bug bit her. She competed in her first triathlon and added three more shortly after. She also competed in a handful of half-marathons, duathlons, and a 200-mile Ragnar Relay team that ran from Madison to Chicago. This year, she plans to increase her long-distance relays to three, heading up a women’s ultra team of six who will run 33 miles each from Chatanooga to Nashville in the fall. Until then, she is training for more triathlons and her first marathon. Good luck, Maureen, and keep us posted.

Candace Novak Valach recently moved from Columbus, Ohio, to Cincinnati, where I have been able to connect with her a few times. I also was lucky enough to enjoy a couple “Belle-apologia” gatherings, first with Beth Luedtke Petrie. Madeline Wahl ’97 Veronica Villalobos Smith, and Ann Pilger ’95 last fall as we met in Washington, D.C., for the Notre Dame-Maryland football game. Beth, Veronica, and Ann all live in Washington, D.C. Ann is enjoying the city after moving there from Florida. Beth continues to work for the FBI, and after several years working with the EEOC, Veronica is now the director of the Office of Diversity and Inclusion for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management. Maddie continues to work as a physician’s assistant in Pittsburgh and, along with Simone Barber Vecchio, came to visit me last winter. We had a wonderful time celebrating Simone’s birthday as well as mine, and New Years. I’m still chugging away at my doctorate and making progress. Last year I defended my thesis and passed my qualifications exam, so now the last requirement to complete is my dissertation. I hope the rest of you are doing well. If you are on Facebook and looking to connect with former classmates, please join our class page. You can find it under “Saint Mary’s College ’96 (Notre Dame, IN).”

From Alison: Colleen Murray Kartychak writes: “My husband Rob and I welcomed our 2nd son, Patrick Daniel, on June 10, 2010. He joins Big Brother, Bobby (age 4).I have been fortunate to be able to stay home following his birth, and I recently started a work-from-home job as a Regulatory Analyst with ConEdison Solutions, a retail electric supplier. Although I am no longer practicing law, after 7 years in litigation it is a nice change of pace and a unique opportunity to utilize my legal training and background in a non-traditional way.”

From the Courier: JudeAnne Wilson married Raymond Hastings on September 17 in West Lafayette, Indiana. KrisAnne Wilson ’01 served as JudeAnne’s maid of honor. Shannon Sarachman Buchmann ’01, Vicki Palk Cassidy ’96, Michelle Poepege Egan ’93, JoAnn Grima MacKenzie ’69, Amy Dooms Taylor ’01, and Jessica Studteben ’99 were also in attendance. JudeAnne and Raymond were married at Ross Camp Chapel and the reception was held at the Trails. The happy couple is living in Lafayette in their new home they recently purchased. JudeAnne continues in her role as director of development for the Lafayette Catholic School System.

**'98**

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Happy 2012 to all of you. Angela Olsen Grauer is still living in Chicago, working in sales at IOKO Office Solutions, a position she’s enjoyed since 1998. Angela was married on September 10 to Walter Grauer at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Many ’98 classmates were able to make the trip to Wisconsin, including: Laura Zurcher, Megan McMahon, Claudia Burgard Solomon, Rachel Torres Bell, Laura Meyers Malec, Monica Thorton Dunn, Ann Halvoron Schlabach, Mandy Strauss Kreuzer, Nora Meany, and Cathy Navarro-Harkin. Rebecca Zurcher ’95 was also in attendance.

Kate Votruba Frey and husband Charlie welcomed a son, Benjamin Carl, on October 14.

Claudia Burgard Solomon and lan welcomed their son, Joseph Sidney Solomon, on November 20, 2010.

Shannon Cunk Hipp and Tim Hipp ND ’95 started out 2011 by welcoming Charlie Hiram, born January 31. He joins big sister Flannery Jane, now four years old. In August, Shannon completed her PhD in English at Emory University with a dissertation on T. S. Eliot entitled “Eliot Among the Women.” She is now back to teaching, and all of the Hipp’s are doing well in Atlanta.

Last fall, Genevieve Morrill and Nathan visited Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Highlights included hiking the battlefield at Austerlitz and strolling through Prague drinking hot mead. Genevieve also started her term on the Saint Mary’s College Alumnae Association Board of Directors in September, and spent a long weekend on campus getting up to speed on the board’s work and how it supports the College.

Anne Marie Joseph married John Irey on July 16. They were married in the beautiful stone Chapel at Saint Hugo of the Hills in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. They had a beautiful, loving, and fun celebration. In attendance were fellow Belles: Lori Riebe Smul, Michelle Abraham Sartor, Rossitta Stoyanova, and Jennifer Dugan Muldowney. Anne Marie and John are enjoying their newlywed life in Chicago.

Liz May Smith had her third daughter, Olivia Catherine, in May. Sisters Kailyn (8) and Mia (3) absolutely love having another sister. She is living in Valparaiso, Indiana, and still working as a neonatal nurse practitioner at Children’s Memorial Hospital in Chicago.

Aaron Dunn ND ’98 and Monica Thorton Dunn welcomed their third daughter, Colette Suzanne, into the family in October. Their band, Point Five, just released its first album. It includes 12 covers of Americana bluegrass tunes. Go to their website at pointfiveband.com to read more about them or to purchase a CD.

Elaine Tsiamas Kaznessis was promoted to senior manager in September at Accenture. Elaine has been working there for more than 13 years. She is responsible for setting the strategy and managing the operations of a North American technology unit specializing in information management skills. Elaine is also responsible for supporting Accenture sales efforts at a global level. Her degrees from Saint Mary’s College (international business and computer science) have found full use at Accenture. Elaine and her husband, Yiannis Kaznessis ND PhD ’99, joined a Notre Dame advisory council in October, focused on graduate studies and research. Their children Eve (eight) and server (five) are enjoying the benefits of the council membership with more frequent trips to Indiana from Minneapolis, visiting grandma and grandpa.
From Katie: Hello ladies of the Class of 2002. Our class continues to amaze me with their accomplishments and life events. How blessed we have been since leaving Saint Mary’s almost 10 years ago. Hope to see as many of you as possible in person this spring as we celebrate our 10th Reunion on campus. It is almost impossible to believe a decade has passed since graduation.

Our update begins on the West Coast from Marilee Seiler Griek, who married John Griek on June 18 in Chicago. Marilee reports, “Our ceremony took place at St. Joseph’s Catholic Church. The reception was held in the beautiful ballrooms of Germania Place in downtown Chicago. Laura Stevens was my maid of honor and Tammy Grady was my matron of honor. Kerry Gill Rogers, Katie Miller Quinn, and Catherine Val lent Seiler ’04 were bridesmaids. Also in attendance were Emily Swiss Bennett ‘01, Jessica Claes Mawm ‘01, Jenny Wejman ‘99, Stefanie Roth, Megan Keleher, and Natalie Val lent ’11 (I hope I am not forgetting anyone). We currently live in Folson, California, outside of Sacramento. Although I miss Chicago, where I lived for eight years before moving to California in June of 2010, I really enjoy the sunshine in California and working in a small Catholic school!”

Alison Ashley John son and husband Brett welcomed a daughter, Devin Ashley Johnson, on July 23, 2010. Alison writes, “Devin has been a delight and has a lot of personality. In October 2011, I left my position with United Health Group and we moved across the country to San Francisco. My husband accepted a position at Autodesk as a web designer. We are exploring all the Bay Area has to offer. I am enjoying spending more time at home with our daughter, but plan to return to work in the coming months.”

Sarah Hoshaw writes in about an exciting career move: “After working as a project manager in the department of finance for Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center, I am now working for HealthLinc, as their director of corporate strategy and community engagement. I love my new role. HealthLinc has a series of primary care practices that also provide mental and dental health services. While we accept all patients, we have a specific mission to focus on those that are uninsured, underserved, or have Medicaid and Medicare.”

Lee Cassie Yates had a busy 2011. She moved from Chicago back to Kentucky in May 2011 and started a new job as an associate attorney at Kerrick Stivers Coyle. She also married Daniel Ryan Clagett on September 10. Her Saint Mary’s 2002 bridesmaids were Christina D’Aquilia-Phillips, Noreen Gillespie Connolly, and Kelly Riley-Swallows.

Denise Rasch Eswirth reports that she and husband Eric Eswirth ND’00 and their three children live in Saint Louis. While raising Aidan (five), Owen (three), and a daughter, Grace, who was born in June, Denise has been working as a literacy coach at Daniel Boone Elementary for five years. Erin McGarry Hardison married Scott Hardison on October 22, at St. Ambrose University Christ the King Chapel in Davenport, Iowa. A reception followed at the University Club in Moline, Illinois. Belles in attendance were Kathleen Nickson D’Avria and Sarah Chad doir Alden. Scott and Erin honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico. Erin is still working as a speech pathologist with LinguSystems. The newlyweds live in Davenport.

Ann Marie Dennany Keeler reports, “In December, I accepted a position with MLive Media Group. As the B2B marketing analyst, I research and develop digital and print media audience solutions for eight offices across Michigan. Also, in August, there was a mini Saint Mary’s reunion when Shannon Mayer O’Rourke, Erin Bush Gennuso, Julia Libecap, and I got together in Chicago to celebrate Shannon’s daughter’s first birthday. We stayed up half the night giggling and telling stories. It was spent a lot like many nights in Le Mans Hall.”

Shannon Mayer O’Rourke would also like to report that she got hitched to a cool new surname and an even better fellow in 2006. They welcomed the most adorable little lady, Mary Grace, into their family in August 2010.

Katie Quiroz Tate and husband Matt ND’00 had their second son, Linus Michael, in October 2010. Liam is a proud big brother. They are living in Muskegon, Michigan, and she is enjoying staying home with her boys.

Meaghan O’Connor Gerhardstein sends news of a baby girl. She and her husband welcomed their third daughter, Autumn Drew, on June 21.

After three-and-a-half years of evening classes, Katie Corsentino Newberger finally finished her MBA at Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management with concentrations in marketing and management. She works at PepsiCo in their Global Nutrition Group, focusing on new product innovation. Katie and husband Charlie are thrilled to announce the arrival of their first child, Evan Tang Newberger, born on the lucky Friday of 11/11/11. He was the best Christmas gift they could ask for, she says.

Mary Crawford Nolan is excited to announce the arrival of son Crawford “Ford” Anderson Nolan, who joined big brother Will on July 12. Mary and husband William Nolan ND’01 live in Canton, Ohio. Mary is already planning her reunion weekend visit to campus by stockpiling on ramen noodles and boxed wine. She says that she has Papa John’s on speed dial for late night breadsticks.

Erin Schenz Campbell is very excited to see her fellow Belles at our upcoming 10-Year Reunion. In October 2010, she and husband John welcomed their son Jonah. She is still practicing law at Helmer, Martins, Rice and Popham, Co., LPA in Cincinnati.

Jaime Dineen Gleason will be working part time with the pharmaceutical company where she works in 2012, so she can spend more time at home with son Logan. He was born on February 25, 2011, weighing 9 lbs. 9 oz., and measuring 21 inches long.

Jamie Norton Trailov and husband, Jason welcomed their first baby, Alyssa “Aly” Danielle, on April 10, 2011. They are currently living in Chicago where Jamie works at Children’s Memorial Hospital as a pediatric speech language pathologist.

Carril Cuellar Gibson sends exciting news as well. We were blessed with a surprise addition on May 14, 2011, a healthy baby boy named Dillon Scott Gibson. He arrived weighing a whopping 10lbs. 2oz. If the nugget had waited four more hours, he would have shared his daddy’s birthday. That would have been a nice surprise since Daddy was out to sea and couldn’t be here for the birth. At least Dillon was patient enough to wait for Mommy to graduate with her Master’s degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Chapman University on May 13, 2011. Since we have added our third child to the family with one in kindergarten and one in preschool, I have decided to continue to stay at home and put my career on hold. I know I couldn’t have made a better decision,” Carril says.

Caroline Eckert Marks reports that she and husband Charles Edward Marks ND’02 relocated back to the Midwest in August 2010, after eight years in Los Angeles. They spent six months building a house in Avon, Ohio, and moved into it in February.
Happy 2012, Class of 2004. Thank you for all of your news. Happy New Year, and see everyone at reunion in May, she says.

Jamie Mortens Ervin writes that she was honored to attend a wedding of her friend, Merle, in December, for whom Annie is honored to be the maid of honor.

Jennifer Rea writes: “My husband Brian and I recently married. We met while working for the Walt Disney Company within the strategy and business development team,” Adrienne says.

Jamie Mortens Ervin writes that she is still working in the hospitality industry and is writing on the side. She hopes to finish her current project, a second book before this summer goes to print.

Sarah Alter writes in with her first update since graduation. “After living and teaching elementary school in Austin, Texas, for six years and earning my M.Ed. in Reading Education and Special Education at Texas State University-San Marcos, I moved back to Indiana to be closer to my family. Less than three months after moving back, I met my husband. We were married at Our Lady of Loretto Church on the Saint Mary’s campus on October 1.”

Annie Basinski Dubsky reports that she is living in Pompano Beach, Florida, working from home in her beachfront condo, selling translation services and creative global marketing solutions to global corporations for Lombridge. You can follow Kristin’s insights on twitter at kristinhsen or send her an email at k.n.hansen82@gmail.com. Since I am writing this from Pittsburgh on a very cold January day, I can honestly say I am jealous. I really enjoy Kristin’s insightful blog posts.

Abby Van Vlerah writes that she is currently bowling Green, Ohio, working on her PhD in American Culture Studies and Women’s Studies. She attended Carolyn Clements’ wedding in December. Carolyn married Jay Hughes in Atlanta. Also in attendance were Joan Muecke, Courtney King, Katie Weiss Sebesta, and Amanda Winkelman, who was a bridesmaid.

Courtney King was married to Derek Fritz in the Dominican Republic, in April, 2011. Abby was in attendance for Courtney’s wedding as well.

Katie Weiss Sebesta and husband Barry welcomed their first son, Benjamin Kwon Sebesta, on June 3, 2010. Katie and Barry and adopted Benjamin from Korea.

Captain Jessica Millanes Shearer, USMC, and husband Rob are living in Oklahoma with their one-year-old daughter Evelyn. Rob is still in the Marine Corps and was promoted to major in July. Jessica’s time with the Marine Corps will officially end in August.

Emily Agness is a NICU nurse in Indianapolis. She married Joseph Botich of South Bend in October.

Mary Kartheiser sends in the following update: “Candice Polisky continues her work in Portland, Oregon, and manages to make it to Manistee, Michigan, every summer, where she and Mary vacation with their families. Mary continues to teach fourth grade in Lake in the Hills, Illinois. Recently, she started taking courses at Northern Illinois University toward her EdD in literacy. In December, Mary met up with Maureen Balchak at Maureen’s condo in Evanston, Illinois. Maureen works at Northwestern University in the student athletics department. Mary and Maureen traveled to Pensacola, Florida, last fall to visit Julie McGranahan. Julie teaches art and sixth grade language arts in Pensacola. Chloe Lenihan flew in from New York, to join them. Chloe has been busy with Buds of May Productions, which she founded with a friend with whom she studies at Espero Studio. As of January, Chloe and Buds of May are performing a play Ethan’s People while working on a second short film and a web-series.”

Elizabeth “Annie” Gallagher reports that she is enjoying her new job in the Schuykill Haven School in Pennsylvania as the K-12 gifted coordinator and Title I teacher. She has a new puppy named Phoebe, who unfortunately does not get along with Rudy, Annie’s cat that already reigned over the house.

Stephanie Artnak recently left her law practice at Barnes & Thornburg LLP’s Indianapolis office, where she practiced mergers and acquisitions law and accepted a position as general counsel/United States Attorney for Westor Foods US, which manufactures a variety of goods, including frozen bakery products, pies, cupcakes—and Girl Scout cookies. Stephanie says it’s her dream job, and why not?

Melissa Knauss-Wood and husband Andy welcomed their first child, Anderson Edward Wood, on September 29.

Megan Ramsey is currently a second-year inter- nal medical resident at St. Vincent Hospital in Indianapolis. She was just accepted into chief residents for the upcoming year. Way to go. Meg. She and husband Riley, a resident at Indiana U, celebrated their second wedding anniversary recently and are living near downtown Indianapolis.

Stephanie Cunningham Ryan writes that she and husband Peter bought a townhouse in Chicago last June. Stephanie successfully defended her dissertation titled “Student Ratio Use and Understanding of Morality Concepts within Solutions Chemistry,” for the Learning Sciences program at the University of Illinois, Chicago, in September. She now has a PhD and is in a post-doctoral position at UIC.

Meaghan Blake received her PhD in chemistry from Penn State in 2010. She currently lives in Midland, Michigan, working for Dow Chemical Company as a senior chemist in Core Research and Development.

Adrienne Upah married John Vignocchi of Lake Forest, Calif., on May 14, 2011. Bridesmaids included Katie Virzi, Stephanie Patka, and Kaley Humbert Thornburg. “We had a Catholic wedding ceremony at Holy Name Cathedral in downtown Chicago, and a reception at the Chicago Yacht Club (where John has been a member for eight years). Other Saint Mary’s alumnae in attendance included: Laurel Bernel, Meg Lawrence, Kristen Shimala, Michelle Bezdicek Davis and husband Jason Davis ND’04. I’m currently living in Los Angeles, and working for the Walt Disney Company within the strategy and business development team,” Adrienne says.

Jackie Zins writes that she took a trip to Seattle over the summer, where she met up with Katie Riley. Jackie ran her third half-marathon in Savannah, in the fall. Jackie graduated with a master’s degree in School Psychology from UNC Chapel Hill in 2010, and is in her second year as a school psychologist in Alarance County, North Carolina.

Becca Doll recently moved back to Los Angeles from Washington, D.C., to intern at LACMA. She was offered a position as collections and registration assistant for their fashion collection, which includes travel to Paris and Berlin. She is looking forward to her next step, hopefully in a museum working with costume collections, she says. Becca is also the national Facebook administrator and on the social media committee for the Costume Society of America, which has led to some great opportunities, including installing the Rodarte donation to the LACMA.

Brittany McMahon Craig writes: “My business, Crowning Celebrations, has been good. I was recently quoted/featured in The Knot Ohio. I enjoy planning weddings and events here in Northwest Ohio. And I am going on my third semester teaching at the University of Toledo on the wedding planning industry. It’s crazy to be back on a campus with students every single week, and it brings back great memories of Saint Mary’s College.

Aside from work, I’ve been married for six years to my husband John. He has been my rock while I’ve grown my business. We have four dogs and are enjoying suburbia and remodeling our house.”

Annie Basinski Dubsky is living in Minneapolis with husband Chad. She writes that Michelle Biersmith Bennnings and husband Daniel welcomed a son, Branden Patrick. She writes: “For whom Annie is honored to be the godmother. The baptism will be at Notre Dame in May.”

Holly Bergman Mullen is living in Grand Rapids, Michigan, working as a neuro intensive care unit RN. She was married in 2009 to Brian Mullen. They welcomed their first baby, Grace Elizabeth, in July 2011.

Sara Mahoney is living and working in Wash-
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From Natalie: Happy 2012! I write from Washington, D.C., where I am working on a master's degree in interior design at the Corcoran. I received an update recently from Cassie Callon, who resides in Fernandina Beach, Florida, where she works as a retail sales specialist for Chiquita Brands. After graduation, she worked at Live Nation in Indianapolis and Chicago, as a sponsorship coordinator until December 2008. She also worked at CNO Financial in Indianapolis, as a life insurance support specialist from 2009-2010. Cassie reports that Noelle Whiteside resides in Phoenix and works in sales for Thermo Fisher Scientific.

Kelly MacDonald resides in Santa Barbara, California, where she is a speech and language pathologist at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital. After graduation, she lived in Charleston, South Carolina, where she earned her master's degree in communicative sciences and disorders from the Medical University of South Carolina in 2010.

Mary McKenna Corrigan resides in Chicago, where she is a middle school religion and social studies teacher at St. Genevieve School. Mary is also enrolled in Notre Dame's ACE leadership masters of education program.

AlexaRae Antekeier resides in San Francisco, where she is working as an account executive in public relations for Ruder Finn West. AlexaRae joined Ruder Finn in April of last year. Previously, she held the position of account executive at S&S Public Relations in Chicago, and attended Kendall College of Art & Design for continued education courses in graphic design.

Erin Brady resides in Los Angeles, where she started as an executive assistant to the executive producer at Andrew Glassman Media. She has since been promoted to producer of reality television.

From Cate: Mary Fearon graduated from Loyola University's school psychology program last May with an educational specialist degree and certification from the National Association of School Psychologists. She is currently a school psychologist for the Cicero Public School District in Illinois.

In August, Mary Esler married Brent Bortman in a lovely evening ceremony at The Atheneum in Detroit. Corey Duffy served as maid of honor. Other Saint Mary's ladies in attendance included Mary Fearon, Megan Staley, Nora Casey, Abby Hinchy, Allison Fleece, Sarah Griffin, Jenn McLean Morgan, Audrey Ballinger, Connie Walsh, and Cate Cetta. Annie Davis moved into an apartment in Chicago and began working at a new school, the Chicago Bulls College Prep, a charter school on the city's West Side that is focused on helping students graduate from high school and continuing their education through college graduation.

Hello, Class of 2010. I hope everyone had a great year. I know I did. I am proud to announce the birth of my daughter Elizabeth Ann Mattice, on October 9 at 1:34 a.m. She weighed 8 lbs, 4 oz, and was 21-1/4 inches long. She has brown hair and blue eyes. Kara Rusnak and Michelle Peterson came to visit and to celebrate her birth. I am working at Notre Dame as a kitchen assistant at the North Dining Hall.

Alessa Piñón recently moved from Michigan and will begin her second year of teaching as a kindergarten teacher at Newell Elementary School in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Maggie McNicholas married Mike Sayles ND'10 on July 8 last year, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame. Jackie Corey and Mary Elizabeth Ulliman were members of the bridal party. Groomsmen included James Ircink ND'10, Kevin Lall ND'10, Mike Faron ND'09, and James Butler ND'09. The couple is living in the South Loop of Chicago, and Maggie is working as a sixth grade teacher at Millennium School in Homewood, Illinois.

Megan Temple moved back home to Ohio, where she enrolled in a non-degree graduate program at The Ohio State University. She took some master's courses in education, which allowed her to earn her second teaching license in Ohio, for PK-5. During the second half of the 2010-11 school year, she taught at a school in the deaf and hard of hearing classroom. She then moved back to South Bend to be close to boyfriend Michael Hartman ND'11, who is continuing his education at Notre Dame while she teaches kindergarten.

Meagan writes, "It has been a crazy year since graduation from Saint Mary's, but I still think about how amazing those four years were. I am blessed to have had so many wonderful experiences."

Heather Quick is working for Motorola solutions in Columbia, Maryland, in the U.S. Federal Government division.

Rosemary Ansel moved from Columbus, Ohio, to the suburbs of Chicago (Hoffman Estates), to work for Sears Holdings Corporation. She joined the company as part of Sears' buyer apprentice program and has moved on to become a full-time assistant buyer at Sears Holdings on the kmart side, for the bath department.
Senior nursing majors are a busy group—so busy that their clinicals schedule conflicts with Tuesday/Thursday classes, which is when the elective Financial Success Strategies for Women is offered. Several who wanted to take the class decided to take matters into their own hands.

They started reading Dave Ramsey’s *Total Money Makeover* during Christmas break and continued into the Spring semester. The group, meeting here in an Opus Hall apartment, includes (from left) Bethy Brophy, Elizabeth Mueller, Colleen O’Connor, Colleen Hughes, Julia Humphry, and Stephanie Kreager.

“My classmates and I know that we need to figure out how to be financially responsible for ourselves,” says Mueller. “I don’t want to be caught in a world of debt, and we all want to learn to save and make the most of our money.”