

ASPRE



Spring
2014

THE MAGAZINE FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY

THE big

On the Road to Reunion

See how one Saint Mary class is
prepping for a major milestone

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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Alums,

It is spring, finally! The magnolia trees on front campus are in full bloom. The grass has greened and birds are singing. There is something magical about spring, especially when it brings with it Easter, recitals, honors projects, and commencements. All of these mileposts and moments remind us that we are pilgrims on the journey of life. All of us are still learners in the school of life.



On a related note, Saint Mary is learning to live more ecologically—we are, as they say, “going green.” You may have noticed the magazine you hold in your hands feels quite different. **The *Aspire* has gone green!** The paper it’s printed on is now composed of 100 percent recycled material—one small act in a larger effort here at Saint Mary to be more environmentally conscious.

In keeping with the theme of renewal, this edition of the magazine focuses heavily on Alumni Reunion Weekend. Reunion never fails to stir my Saint Mary heart. I see our senior Saint Marians again remember what it is to visit into the wee hours of dawn as they share their lives as if they were still enrolled.

The bonds forged at Saint Mary are life-long bonds. I know. I am a Saint Marian. We grew up at Saint Mary. Here, we were challenged to become the leaders, teachers, actors, and doctors we are today. We learned to learn. We learned to face adversity, to care for one another, and to realize what the Gospel mandate that we are our sisters’ and brothers’ keeper truly means.

So come home to Saint Mary, renew your friendships, and give thanks that we are Saint Marians.

Peace and blessings to you,

Sister Diane Steele, SCL, Ph.D., C'83

MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Saint Mary educates students of diverse backgrounds to realize their God-given potential and prepares them for value-centered lives and careers that contribute to the well being of our global society. We value: community, respect, justice, and excellence.

The ***Aspire*** is published for the friends and alumni of the University of Saint Mary in the spring, summer, and winter, including the Honor Roll of Donors, and online editions by the office of Marketing, 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048, 913-758-6165. Please send all alumni news items, such as a marriage, birth, death, new job, promotion, award, additional degree, etc., to the attention of: Alumni Relations at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048, 913-758-6137 or alumni@stmary.edu. Please remember to include your class year, address, and phone number.



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CLASS CODES:

A - Academy

-

C - College

-

U - University

-

M - Master's Degree

STARTING A NEW CHAPTER

De Paul Library's Longtime Director Penny Lonergan, C'70, Retires

After a Saint Mary story spanning six decades, Penelope Lonergan, C'70, will retire as Director of De Paul Library on June 30, 2014.

Lonergan came to Saint Mary as a freshman in 1966, noting that "the majority of our faculty and administrators were Sisters of Charity. Very few students had cars; we had stereos and radios but only a few communal TVs in the dorms. There were no phones in dorm rooms; to make an outgoing call we had to use a pay phone."

Many of the Sisters made an immense impact on Lonergan, including her favorite teacher (Sister Barbara Sellers) and past President Sister Mary Janet McGilley.

"Sister Mary Ernestine Whitmore mentored me," Lonergan said. "She was a powerful but gentle person with a penetrating intelligence. . . Sister Mary Mercita Jackson was the cataloger and my librarian mentor. . . Though she was never computer-literate herself, she could see computers in the future of libraries, and began the project to convert our holdings from the Dewey Decimal classification system to the Library of Congress system."

Lonergan's career at Saint Mary began while she was still a student. She was among the first team of RA's, and continued as the assistant to the dean of students after graduation.

In 1976 she joined the adjunct faculty when Saint Mary began teaching adult basic education, GED, and college courses in Lansing's state penitentiary. When changes from the Secretary of Corrections "transformed me from an educator to a quasi-correctional officer. . . I notified my dean of my intention to resign."

Instead, she was asked to become the director of the library.

"When I arrived the library was still using paper in its operations, but I had a mandate to convert it to digital," she said. "We were able to begin that process when the college received a million-plus dollar federal grant for computerizing our campus."

Lonergan's most triumphant contributions to the De Paul library were a lifetime in the making. "Besides transforming the library from paper to digital, we will soon complete the reclassification of all of our Dewey holdings to the Library of Congress classification system—a project that began in 1967," she said.



Tell Us Your Saint Mary Story

From success stories to tales of lives well lived to memorable trivia — we're looking for new subjects for the Saint Mary alumni spotlight. Send your stories to alumni@stmary.edu with "A Saint Mary Story" in the subject line.

VIEW FROM THE SPIRE

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

WELCOME TO THREE NEW FACES ON THE UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

EDWARD BARKER



Edward Barker graduated from Kansas State University with a dual degree in Business and Public Administration. He went on to graduate from the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Master's of Taxation Program, and earned his Juris Doctorate from Washburn University School of Law. He recently retired as the senior vice president and chief legal officer for the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth Health System, and has extensive program development and health care law legal experience.

Ed's association affiliations include the American Health Lawyers Association, Catholic Health Association, Catholic System In-House Counsel, and The Advisory Board Company-Medical Leadership Council. He served as Board and committee member of the Board of Directors of DePaul Hospital in Cheyenne, Wyo., the Board of Directors of Exempla Saint Joseph Hospital in Denver, Colo., the Board of Directors of St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center in Grand Junction, Colo., and Board of Directors of St. Frances Health Center in Topeka, Kan.

ALAN LANKFORD

Alan Lankford graduated from Kansas State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Architectural Engineering. After eight years of working at various engineering firms in Kansas City he decided to open his own firm. In 1993 Lankford + associates was started, and now almost 20 years later the firm is continuing to grow. Alan is a licensed Professional Engineer in 37 states and also a LEED Accredited Professional through the United States Green Building Council.



Alan's community involvement includes serving four terms on the St. Elizabeth School Board where he is also a past president. He also served as the athletic director on the St. Elizabeth Athletic Committee for three terms and was a dedicated basketball coach at St. Elizabeth's for 23 years. For the Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph School Board he served two terms and was also President of the board. At St. Teresa's, Alan was the Athletic Committee Chair for two terms.

EDWARD SPALTY

Edward Spalty graduated from Emory University with a Bachelor of Arts, and earned his Juris Doctorate from Columbia Law School. At Armstrong Teasdale, Ed focuses on franchise and complex business litigation



including intellectual property, non-compete and trade secret disputes. He previously served as Managing Partner of the Kansas City office and chair of the Antitrust, Franchise and Distribution practice group.

Ed is a U.S. Army veteran, and his civic and charitable activities include serving as outside general counsel and former state chairman of the board and national officer and director of Easter Seals, Inc. Ed is also the founding director of the Columbia University Club of Kansas City, a founding member of The National Golf Club of Kansas City, vice president of the Kansas City Chapter of the German-American Chamber of Commerce, and serves as outside general counsel for Hastings College.

NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS BUILD A LASTING LEGACY

On Feb. 20, 1995, Lorraine Gordon, C'69, established the Emilie J. Gordon Endowed Named Scholarship to honor her mother's legacy. Over the years, Lorraine has created multiple avenues to ensure that her mother's scholarship continues to grow.

For Lorraine's 50th birthday, she asked friends to make a donation to her mother's scholarship in lieu of birthday gifts. This allowed the scholarship to grow beyond the original gift of \$10,000 that is required to set up an endowed named scholarship at Saint Mary. For her 60th birthday, Lorraine did the same thing.

When Lorraine retired from teaching four years ago, she requested donations to her mother's scholarship. This brought another round of subsequent donations — again moving the scholarship financially beyond the original gift.



Emilie J. Gordon

Lorraine's two children, Rachel and David, who are not Saint Mary alumni, have also generously contributed to their grandmother's scholarship. This brought the scholarship to a different level because donations have now become multigenerational. What a lovely testimony to their mother and grandmother.

Since her retirement, Lorraine has continued to tutor and gives clients who are members of her parish the option of contributing to her mother's fund instead of paying her for her consulting services.

Lorraine herself also continues to donate regularly to her mother's scholarship. All this has driven the Emilie J. Gordon Endowed Named Scholarship from \$10,000 to \$24,955 today.

Emilie Gordon, C'71, a native of Metz, France, met and married Lysle Gordon when he was stationed in Europe in World War II. She accompanied her husband to the United States in 1948. After making

sure Lorraine graduated from Saint Mary, Emilie then pursued a bachelor's at Saint Mary and graduated in 1971. She earned her master's in French education from the University of Kansas in 1973. She began working for Saint Mary as an adjunct faculty member in 1972 and continued to be a French Instructor until her sudden death. Just four days after Thanksgiving in 1994, Emilie was tragically killed in a car accident. One of the cars in the accident hit Emilie as she walked along the street. She was 69.



Lorraine Gordon

There is an envelope in Emilie's alumni file with a handwritten inscription by Dr. Agnes Sirridge: "History, 'The Alumni Office might want to file this information for a possible future article on her. This material captures Emilie as I knew her — a great teacher and a real cultural jewel.' Enclosed is a photo of Emilie, her funeral Mass, obituary, and Lorraine's eulogy."

The University of Saint Mary is indeed grateful to Lorraine for choosing to make such a fitting tribute to Emilie, who obviously believed and lived the values of Saint Mary. Emilie is honored in perpetuity at Saint Mary, and Lorraine has the satisfaction of knowing that her scholarship will enable future students to receive the same quality education that she and her mother had at Saint Mary College.

— Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97, Development Officer,
jane.liebert@stmary.edu, 913.758.6126

COMMENCEMENT 2014 CALENDAR

3:30 p.m. April 29
Convocation & Hooding in
Annunciation Chapel

7 p.m. May 9
Nurses' Pinning Ceremony in
Annunciation Chapel

10 a.m. May 10
Baccalaureate Mass in
Annunciation Chapel

11 a.m. May 10
Commencement Brunch in
Saint Joseph Dining Hall

1 p.m. May 10
Commencement Ceremony in
McGilley Field House.
A reception will follow on
the Front Circle

Learn more at
stmary.edu/graduation

16th Annual Lincoln Event



Hundreds of history buffs packed into Xavier Theatre on President's Day for a modern Saint Mary tradition—the annual Lincoln Event.

For this year's take on the event—the 16th annual edition—the crowd was treated to a lively look at Abraham Lincoln, first lady Mary Todd, and their descendants courtesy of Topeka-based Civil War historians and lecturers Dr. Herschel Stroud and Jacque Stroud. For additional effect, the couple wore period costume for their rousing discussion about the first family.

Country Club Bank of Leavenworth & Lansing is the Lincoln Event Benefactor. The bank's generous donations each year make the Lincoln Event possible.

The University of Saint Mary started the annual Lincoln series in 1999 to recognize the university's Bernard H. Hall Lincoln Collection, which includes extensive and unique Lincoln memorabilia. USM's De Paul Library houses the collection, which includes a rare, original copy of the 13th Amendment—the document that abolished slavery—signed by President Lincoln.

The university offers guided tours of the Lincoln exhibit. Call 913-758-6306 to schedule a tour.

Over the past 15 years, USM's primary Lincoln Event has featured a variety of luminaries for the featured speaker. Previous guests have included politicians, historians, U.S. Army generals, best-selling authors, and actors who've portrayed first lady Mary Todd Lincoln and President Lincoln himself.

The program for the 2015 Lincoln Event should be announced this fall.

Alumni Reunion 2014 – June 6-8

Nominations Needed for Alum Awards

Alums: We Need Your Help!

Please nominate your classmates who deserve to be recognized. (You do not have to be present at reunion to nominate someone.) Please submit your nominations by May 16, 2014, to University of Saint Mary, Sharon Clay, Alumni & Events Coordinator, 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048. Award winners will be notified by the beginning of June and honored at the 2014 Reunion.

We'll Need:

Your Name:
Relationship to nominee:
Your Phone Number:
Nominee:
Class Year:
Nominee's Address:
City, State, Zip:
Nominee's Phone Number:
Award Name:

In 500 words or less explain why the nominee should be recognized with a 2014 University of Saint Mary Alumni Award. Attach response and any supporting documentation such as news clippings, programs, etc. These items will NOT be returned.

General Information:

- Nominees must be a Saint Mary graduate and may not be employed at Saint Mary
- Nominees reviewed by the selection committee

Submit a nomination for:

Saint Vincent De Paul Award:

- Recognizes an alum who exemplifies the mission of the university
- Nomination remarks must include the words, "learning," "service," and "character," to describe the nominee's contributions to society

Sister Mary Mark Orr Pioneer Spirit Award:

- Recognizes an alum who has achieved great success in her/his professional career
- Nomination remarks must include how Saint Mary plays a role in the nominee's success

Sister Mary Janet McGilley Service Award:

- Recognizes an alum who has helped advance the university by sharing her/his time and talent with USM
- Nomination remarks must include the nominee's contribution to Saint Mary and why he/she feels it is important to give back to the Saint Mary community

On Reunion Weekend, come and visit **Heritage Hall**. The hall is lined with class photos old and new in a single location that shows our pride in our past, present, and future.





WELCOME TO THE REUNION EDITION OF THE ASPIRE!

In advance of this year's Alumni Reunion Weekend, we've turned the Aspire cover story over to some Saint Mary alums who are celebrating some very important milestones.

The Class of 1974 wants all Saint Mary alumni to know that they stay actively connected and are gearing up for the annual June gathering.

And the Class of 1964 has an even bigger occasion on their horizons: their 50th anniversary. Class of '64 stalwart Mary Morin provides a first person account of how she worked the phones, keyboards, and search engines to try to reconnect with every member of her graduating class. That, and Mary happily offers encouragement and advice for Saint Marians who'd like to make the same kind of re-connection.

ROAD TO REUNION

THE BIG 5-0

WHEN IT COMES TO THEIR 50TH REUNION,

FOR SOME MEMBERS OF THE SAINT MARY CLASS OF '64, GETTING THERE IS HALF THE BATTLE

BY MARY MORIN, C'64

Over a year ago, I decided to take it upon myself to find women who started with me at Saint Mary College as freshmen in 1960. Our 50th anniversary will be June 6-8, 2014. With a list provided by Sharon Clay of the alumni office, I started my quest.

I had a few email addresses to start with. But then the detective work really began.

So, here's my "Road to Reunion" story, with suggestions for hunting down your own classmates.

First and foremost, be persistent: Ask classmates who they've kept in touch with. Get real addresses and/or emails. Keep asking.

Memories are slipping, so relying on a bigger circle of contacts can help. For example, Geraldine Miller Baker in Butte, Mont., gave me an address for Anna Mae Danner in Omaha. Penny Brand Baylie gave me Gretchen Hayes Twenter's in Boonville, Mo. Rosemary Schell Luckett gave me Brenda Smith Bender's in Switzerland!

Many I found on my own. Judy Twitchell Betka in Chandler, Ariz. When I called her, it was the Judy I knew and had last seen in 1962. Leona Darveau O'Reilly, who only went to school with us for one year. Google is my friend!

Unfortunately some findings haven't been so happy. So far I've found 18 deceased classmates. I feel fortunate to be alive to attend my 50th. It's a milestone!

The list of classmates I had found was growing and my list of ones not found was getting much smaller. But some still stumped me, like Tamara Watson.

Tamara graduated with us in '64 and went on to Julliard, and then dropped off of everyone's radar. Her roommates Joan Fitzpatrick, freshman year, and Joyce Zasorin White and Mary Lou Van Sickle Madden, thought she was in New York.

Finally a coworker asked if she could help me. We had tracked Tamara to Ithaca; then we found on the Internet that she had done a poetry reading at a bookstore. I called the bookstore; they knew her, but didn't feel they could give me her information. I gave them mine in the hope that they would pass it on, and I waited a week. Nothing. I composed a letter, enclosed a list of our classmates and the spreadsheet. I added the article from the Aspire on myself, and an article on Sister Mary Vincentia Maronick. I sent it to the bookstore and waited. A week later I got an email, a long one, from Tamara. Yes, she had been in Ithaca and retired for several years. Yes, I could add her to the list. Yeah, one more found!

It turns out that we're spread all over the world.

Maria Teresa Blacut Osborne is in Bolivia. Carolyn Desch is in Combermer, Canada. Wonja Hahn Kors is in Costa Rica. Rei Hasegawa is in Tokyo, Japan, as is Sister Junko Kizawa, who is a Mercedarian sister.

In addition to the work on the computer, I hosted a luncheon for classmates in the Kansas City area last October. Sixteen

women came, and laughed and talked for several hours.

In 2012 Margaret Ann Frick and I traveled to Butte, Mont., to see Dianna Porter. While we were there we had lunch with Mary Quastler Chenovick of Helena, Geraldine Miller Baker of Whitehall, and Erin Thompson Sigl from Butte.



PATRICIA LANAR

This past July I went to Ephraim, Wis. to visit Joan Fitzpatrick and her husband, Walt Fisher, who own the French Country Inn. Sue Lenihan Smith from Huntington Beach, Calif., Pat Rehm Cuddington from Fishers, Ind., and Beth Staley Brown from Lee's Summit, Mo. went with me. We had another mini-reunion, complete with copies of the Taper newspaper from 1960-61 and Joan's green beanie.

I encourage others to start early for an anniversary reunion. Our ties from Saint Mary are strong. Now we're at a time when we can look back and enjoy our friendships started long ago. I count 25 people coming to reunion so far and it's only March. We had a good

continued on next page

MORE PICS FROM THE CLASS OF '64

TRAVEL TO MEET PEOPLE.
USE THE INTERNET.
MAKE PHONE CALLS. DO
WHATEVER IT TAKES TO
STIR UP INTEREST IN AN
UPCOMING REUNION. EVEN
IF PEOPLE ARE UNABLE TO
ATTEND, THE JOURNEY IS
MOST REWARDING.



time in the '60s. I hope others enjoy themselves as much as I did then, and will in June. It will go by way too quickly.

Travel to meet people. Use the Internet. Make phone calls. Do whatever it takes to stir up interest in an upcoming reunion. Even if people are unable to attend, the journey is most rewarding.

We are also creating a bio booklet. We have 52 bios from classmates. Some may have gone to SMC for only a year or two, or all four. One attended for only a semester. We'll have a letter from our senior class president, Kathy Meyer Miller, and a page dedicated to deceased classmates. Paula

Plunket Burgan in Anchorage, Ala. is doing the layouts.

Besides the bio booklet, we're planning to have a series of tables at reunion for classmates to display something they do, a Show and Tell. Some are artists. Some do crafts. Some sew beautifully. Me? I read and am in two book clubs, so I'll make a list of my favorite books as a handout. Or, I might take a prayer shawl that I knit. P. S. Women in fiftieth anniversary classes always wear black shoes.

My next idea is to brighten up the picture with some colorful sit-down shoes, ones we couldn't walk across the room in, but that would look great in a photo.

ALUMNI REUNION JUNE 6-8, 2014

Remember the good times, reconnect with old friends and classmates, and rejoice in that remarkable Saint Mary spirit at this year's Alumni Reunion Weekend

All alumni are invited to celebrate at this year's reunion, set for Friday, June 6, through Sunday, June 8, on USM's beautiful and time-honored Leavenworth campus.

Come meet with old friends and make new acquaintances and celebrate Saint Mary—both as it was during your college career and as it is now. Connect the past with the future as you gather in USM's historic halls and stay overnight in beloved Maria Hall.

This year, special acknowledgment goes out to alums whose class years end in a 4 or 9 and are celebrating significant milestones. Whether it's your fifth anniversary or your 50th, all are welcome to take part.

Be there to help celebrate the achievements of your classmates and fellow Saint Marians at this year's alumni awards ceremony.

NEW THIS YEAR



+ Poetry Reading & Book Launch - Celebrate the debut of a new collection of poetry by Sr. Mary Janet McGilley, read by Sr. Susan Rieke. The book will be available for sale during reunion.

+ View the new Heritage Hall with recently found class photos dating back to classes from the early 1900s.

Register at stmary.edu/reunion or 913-758-6108.

CLASS OF '74

By Linda Jankowski

Our class is gearing up for our 40th reunion in June. Those of us who live in Kansas City meet once a month at First Watch in Westport for brunch.

We will have T-shirts, plus we have a 40-year alumni graphic on our very own Facebook page, thanks to the talent of Jamie (Wright) Coniglio.

We are also playing a game of trivia on our Facebook page. We take turns posting a question about our time at SMC and are awarded points either for a stump or for correct answers. The winner gets a free dinner the weekend of the reunion.

Jamie (Wright) Coniglio is our librarian and is keeping meticulous track of points and number of comments each question generates. It has been fun to reach back into the memory banks.



From Left to Right - Margaret (Dorsey) McNamee, Leavenworth, Kan., Linda (Schmidt) Jankowski, KCMO, Darset (Simpson) DeGregory, Prairie Village, Kan., Karen (Kremers) Tyler, Arkansas, Jamie (Wright) Coniglio, Washington, D.C. area, Susan (Brucks) Stuart, Shawnee, Kan., and Patty Moore, Dupont, Wash. Not pictured: Nancy (Micek) Denzer and Charlene (Campbell) Nickel.

ROAD TO REUNION



+ CLASS NOTES

‘60s

Kathleen (Allgaier) Gribble, C’66, of Appleton, Wis., journeyed to Kenya, Africa as part of a Catholic lay mission. She says, “my trip of a lifetime had to wait until I was almost 70 years old, but what a joy to connect and be welcomed by so many dedicated missionaries and the wonderful people they serve. The trip was with Friends Across Borders - Kenya, sponsored by the Maryknoll Lay Missioners.”

Judy (Francis) Bellome, C’68, of Lawrence, Kan., Judy was inducted into the National Home Care & Hospice Hall of Fame: Volunteerism at Community Village Lawrence. Additionally, Judy and her husband, John Bellome, recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in Las Vegas, Nev.

Mary Anne (Morrey) Cresto, C’68, of Union City, Calif., has been appointed to the Alameda County, Calif., Commission on Aging.

‘80s

Lezlie Valenzuela Allman, C’84, of Kansas City, Mo., and her husband Bob, welcomed their first grandchild, a baby girl named Liberty Jayne, on Feb. 20.

‘00s

Kathy (Sanders) de la Cruz, U’08, of Leavenworth, Kan., was married on April 25, 2013, to Luis Gustavo de la Cruz Javier in Puerto Morelos, Mexico.

Jennifer (Culbertson) Hays, U’08, of Easton, Kan., and her husband, Tyler Hays, would like to announce the birth of their twin girls, Larkyn Elizabeth and Lyra Shea Hayes, on Oct. 27, 2013. Their big brother, Landon, who is 2, helped welcome them home.

+ IN MEMORIAM

‘30s

Orsoline Chiappetta, A’32, Clayton, Mo, Nov. 8, 2013.

‘40s

June (Quane) Cotter, C’41, Salisbury, Md., Aug. 23, 2013.

Mary (Cindrich) Sirridge, A’43, Tonganoxie, Kan., Nov. 20, 2013.

Jean (Schmitz) Jarvis, A’42, Gahanna, Ohio, Jan. 20, 2014.

Sister Rose Marie Catudal, A’44, Leavenworth, Kan., Feb. 20, 2014. She faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 67 years.

+ IN MEMORIAM (cont’d)

Mary Louise (Welling) Knoblauch, C’44, La Quinta, Calif., Nov. 25, 2013—a lifelong supporter of Saint Mary. For her model of a Saint Mary liberal arts education and its meaning, Saint Mary bestowed an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters upon Knoblauch in 2002. A lifelong learner and cherished educator, Knoblauch was inducted into the California Music Educators Hall of Fame in 2006, the highest honor for a music educator in the state. “I am grateful for the education and all the encouragement I received at Saint Mary,” Knoblauch said upon receiving the honor. “A liberal arts education really helps broaden a student’s perspective of the world and bolsters confidence in one’s self.”

Joanne (Haake) Meyers, A’44, Overland Park, Kan., Nov. 3, 2013.

Sister Mary Phipps, C’47, Leavenworth, Kan., Nov. 2, 2013. She faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 69 years.

Sister Mary Antoinette Thomas, C’49, Leavenworth, Kan., Dec. 8, 2013. She faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 69 years.

‘50s

Armelda (Phillips) Sassano, C’51, Clancy, Mont., March 18, 2013.

Mary Jeanne Minhondo, C’59, Murray, Utah, Dec. 16, 2013.

Clyde Waylan, husband of **Mary Alice (Rossillon) Waylan, C’59**, Herington, Kan., Jan. 30, 2013.

David L. Straub, M.D., husband of **Myra (Ligeko) Straub, C’60**, Joplin, Mo., July 5, 2013.

‘60s

Albert Hayob, husband of **Nancy (Laber) Hayob, C’61**, Lee’s Summit, Mo., Sept. 2013.

Constance Teel, C’66, Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 16, 2014.

Joyce (Hayden) Carr, C’67, La Mesa, Calif., Feb. 18, 2014.

‘70s

Susan (Gorup) Biscanin, C’73, Houston, Texas, Nov. 2, 2013.

Donald Mehring, Helena, Mont., survived by his wife, Patricia, and his daughter, **Dr. Teresa Mehring, C’74**, Jan. 14, 2014.

Nancy Hsu, C’75, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, May 12, 2013.

Valentine “Val” Urlacher, father of **Lucy Urlacher, C’78**, Billings, Mo., Dec. 31, 2013.

‘90s

Mary Therese (Sheil) Carroll, mother of **Jean (Carroll) Ferrara, C’95**, Independence, Mo., Dec. 28, 2013.

‘00s

Mike Harris, husband of **Kathy Harris, U’02**, Carthage, Mo., Dec. 22, 2013.

Friends

Pete Zink. Pete served both Saint Mary and the Sisters of Charity as Plant Manager since 1980. He retired in 1997, but continued to volunteer until his death. Feb. 25, 2014.

Father John Leo Cooper, a priest of the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kan. Father Leo was Chaplain of Saint Mary College 1947-1954. Feb. 21, 2014.

Sister Mary Sarah Fasenmyer, Kansas City, Kan., Nov. 6, 2013. She faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 74 years.

Tom Tompkins, a longtime friend of Saint Mary, Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 4, 2013.

+ ALUMNI NEWS

EMPORIA, KAN., GATHERING

Who would expect that the small town of Emporia Kan., (less than 20,000) would be home to a dozen or so Saint Mary grads? Four of us met during the fall of 2013, when Jane Liebert was in town on business, and she spurred us to get together again, which we did on March 6. This time eight of us were able to gather in Sarah Brown Wyrick's living room for a light supper and sharing of memories. Jane and Sharon Clay from the alumni/development office updated us on the many changes that led to the present day University of Saint Mary. Sister Susan Rieke gave us a taste of her poetry, as well as the work of Michael Novak and Sister Mary Janet McGilley. We enjoyed the evening so much that we plan to do this a couple of times a year. We'll be aiming for a full dozen to attend in the fall!



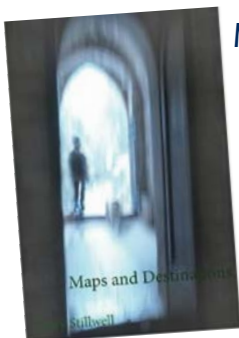
Back row: Jane Liebert, C'97, Mary Lammerding Wempe, C'48, Sr. Susan Rieke, C'66, Marilyn Trudelle Krueger, C'57, Sylvia Markowitz Koepke, C'57, Katie Stark Bacon, C'81, Lea Markowitz Ringler, C'73, **Front row:** Mary Lou Dewilde Efinger, C'61, Sara Brown Wyrick, C'68. **Not pictured:** Joan Koch Kloppenberg, C'7

Do you think that you're the only Saint Mary alum in your town? Prepare to be proven wrong! Contact Sharon Clay at sharon.clay@stmary.edu and she will send you a list of those with similar zip codes. You might be surprised at how many there are!

SPIREFEST 2014

— SpireFest was held Saturday, April 12, at the Overland Park Marriott. We missed the publication deadline for this issue of the *Aspire*, but check out the next issue for full coverage of SpireFest 2014. Thanks so much to all who attended and especially to our wonderful sponsors.

+ PUBLICATION NOTES



Mary Kathryn Stillwell, C'66, of Lincoln, Neb., has released *Maps & Destinations*, a full-length poetry collection published by Stephen F. Austin State University Press. The University of Nebraska Press issued her study, *The Life & Poetry of Ted Kooser*, in 2013. Kooser served as U.S. Poet Laureate from 2004 through 2006. Dana Gioia, poet and former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, writes that "Stillwell's carefully researched new book provides biographical information never before available. This is a uniquely useful study of Kooser's life and work." Finishing Line Press published her poetry chapbook, *Fallen Angels*, in 2013. Comparing her poetry to the "subtle beauty of Kenneth Patchen's '23rd Street Runs into Heaven,'" Raymond P. Hammond, editor of *The New York Quarterly*, calls the collection a "carefully orchestrated trifecta of sight, sound, and sense that draws the reader back time and time again." All three books may be obtained through local bookstores or online from the publishers or visit <http://amzn.to/1d00QET> to purchase on Amazon.

A SCHOLARSHIP FOR ALUMS

— A brand new scholarship was recently established just for alumni to award. The best part? YOU pick the recipients, YOU can award it to as many students as you would like, and YOU get to make a big impact on a student's life!

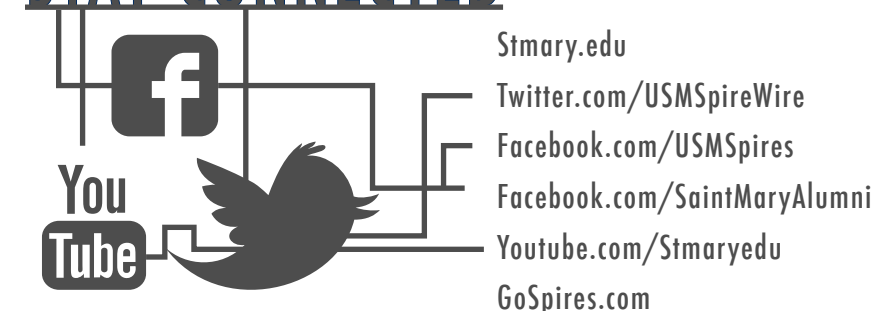
Help your alma mater connect with those potential students who would excel at the University of Saint Mary. You know Saint Mary, our values, traditions, and what we stand for. More importantly, you know the kind of dedicated, driven, and talented student that will succeed here. You can award these students \$1,000 toward reaching their God-given potential.

The Discovery Scholarship is awarded at \$500 per semester, and can be renewed each year as long as the student meets the renewal criteria. Family members of alumni are not eligible and the awardee must be a prospect that has not already applied to USM.

Award the Discover Scholarship today at stmary.edu/referral or call Sharon Clay at 913-758-6108 for more information.

YOU can introduce these students to Saint Mary and expand your Spires legacy!

STAY CONNECTED



Have an Alumni Event Coming Up?

USM's development & alumni staff will help you promote your event! Contact Sharon Clay at 1-800-752-7043, ext. 6108, or email sharon.clay@stmary.edu if you need invitations designed or social media promotion.

+ ALUMNI CALENDAR

June 6-8, 2014

Alumni Reunion — Friday - Sunday, Remember the good times, reconnect with friends and classmates, and rejoice in that remarkable Saint Mary spirit at Alumni Reunion Weekend 2014.

This year, special acknowledgment goes out to alums whose class years end in a 4 or 9 and are celebrating significant milestones. Whether it's your fifth anniversary or your 50th, all are welcome to take part. Be there to help celebrate the achievements of your classmates and fellow Saint Marians at this year's alumni awards ceremony.

Nov. 16, 2014

Fall Luncheon — Sunday, Nov. 16, at Grand Street Café.

August or September, 2014

The KC Alumni Council is currently planning to host a fundraiser in August or September; it will be an evening of wine and music featuring Saint Mary alums and Sisters of Charity. Keep your calendars and eyes open for more details!

Dec. 14, 2014

Saint Mary Christmas Vespers Concert — Sunday, Dec. 14. Annunciation Chapel.

Feb. 16, 2015

The Annual USM Lincoln Event — Monday, Feb. 16. Speaker to be announced.

April 18, 2015

SpireFest 2015 — Saturday, April 18, at the Overland Park Marriott.



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SAINT MARY ALUMNI REUNION

Alumni Reunion
June 6-8, 2014
Reconnect with Friends

