# Spring 2015

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



Our newest Saint Mary alums prepare to

make an impact and carry on the Saint Mary mission.





#### ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

**PRESIDENT** Sr. Diane Steele, SCL, Ph.D., C'83

PROVOST & VICE PRESIDENT FOR **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS** Bryan Le Beau, Ph.D.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION Nancy Bramlett, MBA, CA

VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE Daniel Dentino, Ph.D.

VICE PRESIDENT FOR **DEVELOPMENT** Karolyn Dreiling, MPA

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMISSIONS & MARKETING John Shultz, MBA

### SISTERS OF CHARITY OF LEAVENWORTH **CORPORATION MEMBERS**

Sr. Maureen Hall, SCL, C'70, Community Director Sr. Nancy Bauman, SCL, C'70

Sr. Eileen Haynes, SCL, C'77 Sr. Eileen Hurley, SCL, C'71

Sr. Jean Anne Panisko, SCL, C'69

Sr. Peg Johnson, SCL, C'71

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Edward Barker Sr. Nancy Bauman, SCL, C'70 Kenneth Blum Irene Caudillo Joseph Contrucci, C'94 Rolly Dessert

Col. (Ret.) Stanley Evans Kathleen Fogarty, C'82

Ken Gilpin

Sr. Maureen Hall, SCL, C'70

John Kornitzer

Kathy Klug, C'84 Alan Lankford

Sandra Mortensen

John Murphy

Cathy Newton, C'70

Sr. Jean Anne Panisko, SCL, C'69

Richard Perkins

**Edward Spalty** 

John Starr

Fredrick Tromans (Chair)

Sr. Diane Steele, SCL, Ph.D., C'83 (President)

Linda Winter

\*Mary Alice Bramming, C'65

\*Ken Karr

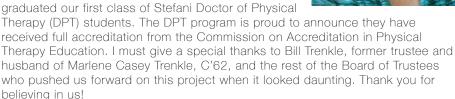
\*Trustee Emeritus

### A Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Alums.

This time of year my heart fills with gratitude. Spring is officially in bloom on campus. The grass has greened and the trees on the front circle have flowered. We've launched another class of Saint Marians on their life journeys. Their stories and accomplishments make me proud to be a Saint Marian myself.

431 young men and women officially earned their degrees this May, and for the first time in Saint Mary history, doctoral students were among them. We



In April, we also celebrated the groundbreaking of our newest building—The Charles J. Berkel Memorial Stadium. Plans are underway for the Campus Commons, a place to eat, gather, dialogue, study, and socialize. The Commons includes a renovated Saint Joseph Dining area and a remodeled first floor Mead. These are two major pieces in our vision for the Campus of Tomorrow. Anyone want to purchase an orange or blue dining hall chair for old times' sake?

The amount of support already received—from donated supplies to financial assistance—reminds me how strong our Saint Mary community is and how much you believe in the Saint Mary mission. Thank you, Charlie! And thanks to all of you for supporting our vision for the Campus of Tomorrow.

As we plan and build for tomorrow, we do so deeply rooted in our heritage of academic excellence and commitment to serve our neighbor. From food drives to clothing drives for the Syrian refugees, to building swings for disabled children, to spending the summer in Tanzania as a nurse, our students have completed over 930 service projects this academic year. Thank you, Gracious God, for the opportunity to serve your people and build a small piece of your kingdom of peace and justice.

Peace and blessings,

Miane Suele, Sce

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 additional online editions by the Office of Marketing, 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048, 913-758-6104. 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, 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, KS 66048, 913-758-6126 or alumni@stmary.edu. Please remember to include your class year, address, and phone number.



# Aspire Contents

### 2 | A SAINT MARY STORY

- 4 | VIEW FROM THE SPIRE
  - Saint Mary Welcomes New Board Members
  - A Farewell to Two of the Best
  - Celebrate the Sisters of Charity Jubilarians
  - Endowed Named Scholarships Work
- 8 | MEET OUR NEWEST ALUMS
- 12 ALUMNI CORNER
  - Class Notes
  - In Memoriam
  - Alumni News
  - Calendar of Events

### **CLASS CODES:**

- A Academy
- C College
- **U** University
- M Master's Degree







# **SYLVIA RETURNS HOME!**

Thirty-five years have come and gone since graduation day in 1979. After countless moves sponsored by the U.S. Navy, numerous teaching positions, two kids, two master's degrees, and retirement, one thing has not changed—Sylvia (Hill) Anchia's devotion to the place that made many of her achievements possible—the University of Saint Mary.

"After retiring from teaching in Texas, I wanted to return to the place that made my retirement possible"

So much so that she's back volunteering her time and living on campus. (Yes, in Maria Hall with the college students.)

Sylvia was inspired by Sharon Williams Albers, C'65, and her husband, Tony, who lived on USM's campus for two years, volunteering in a variety of places and positions. She decided that one day she would do the same, and that day finally came on Sept. 23, 2014.

"After retiring from teaching in Texas, I wanted to return to the place that made my retirement possible," said Sylvia. "With my Saint Mary education, I was able to have a profession and now, a comfortable retirement."

Her days on campus are busy, and they rarely look the same. From translating admissions materials into Spanish to helping set up for events to taking photographs of Heritage Hall, Sylvia has truly made a lasting impact—and Saint Mary (especially the alumni and development office) couldn't be more thankful.

"We are so blessed to have Sylvia volunteering and giving her time so generously," said Karolyn Dreiling, vice president for alumni and development. "She is wonderful to the office and a living example of a Saint Marian forever dedicated to the mission."

### **Tell Us Your Saint Mary Story**

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

# VIEW FROM THE SPIRE



# Saint Mary Welcomes New Board Members

### Irene Caudillo



Irene Caudillo serves president and CEO of El Centro—an organization dedicated to connecting Latinos in Kansas City to educational, social, and economic opportunities. She has spent her career

creating and managing youth and family programs for nonprofit organizations throughout Kansas City—including Catholic Charities, Kansas City Health Department, and Wyandotte Mental Health Association. In 2000, Caudillo was selected by The Kansas City Star as a "Woman to Watch" and named by the Kansas City Business Journal an "Up and Comer." She graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a Bachelor of Science and from the University of Missouri-Kansas City with her Master of Public Administration.

### Kathy Klug, C'84



Kathy Klug graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Saint Mary. She currently serves as the lead analyst at Genesis HealthCare Corporation

in Kennett Square, Pa. Klug is responsible for supporting pharmacy-related systems used by over 400 Genesis facilities, along with quality-assurance testing and reporting. Prior to Genesis, she served as a product manager and client-services representative—both in the health care industry. Klug is an active volunteer, serving as secretary for the Kennett Area Senior Center Board of Directors, working in the Kennett Area Senior Center Book Shoppe, and volunteering on the Employee Council at Genesis HealthCare.

### **Richard Perkins**



Richard "Dick"
Perkins currently
serves as the
senior manager
of audit quality
control and as
audit engagement
manager for
Cochran Head
Vick & Co.,
P.C.—a large
CPA firm with

offices located in both Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant in Kansas and Missouri and a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants with over 40 years of experience in public accounting, with an emphasis in tax and auditing and accounting for employee benefit plans, non-profits, and governmental entities. Perkins graduated with a dual degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

### **Linda Winter**

Linda Winter is part owner of Arnold, Newbold, Winter & Jackson, P.C. (ANWJ)—a law practice concentrated on employee benefits. Along with representing pension and welfare trust fund clients, Winter supervises the paralegals and associates on all Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) clients in general regulatory compliance, health care reform, banking and investment management, and pension fund compliance. Prior to ANWJ, Winter worked with the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico and the United States Department of Labor in the Plan Benefits Security Division. She graduated from Marquette University with a Bachelor of Arts, and also earned her Juris Doctorate from Marquette University Law School.



### **Freda Proctor**

Assistant Professor of Music, Coordinator of Instrumental Music, and Resident Keyboard Artist

Assistant Professor Freda Proctor, a master pianist, organist, and flutist, bid her farewell to the University of Saint Mary after 27 years. Her arrival at Saint Mary marked the beginning of the instrumental program at Saint Marystarting the university's community band, and adding both the Bells of Saint Mary Hand Bell Choir, and an instrumental string ensemble. She was also responsible for the entire music-theory curriculum and taught piano and flute to students. "I love teaching at any level," said Proctor. "The love really is for the music and sharing the music."

"The University of Saint owes a deep debt of appreciation and gratitude to Freda Proctor for her superb work and career-long commitment to making music come alive at this institution and in the lives and hearts of so many students." -Dr. Bill Krusemark, fine arts department chair

Proctor loved performances, too. She started the alwaysentertaining Halloween concert, noting it as one of first in the area, and accompanied at nearly every other university recital and show.

Proctor plans to continue giving private lessons, and she already mentioned to Sister Anne Callahan, C'59, a Saint Mary music legend and professor emerita, that she'd like to continue doing a Christmas Concert for the sisters. "My relationship with the sisters—that's been one of my favorite parts," Proctor said. "They're so supportive of the music program, and they have consistently been a major part of our audience for the recitals."

In retirement, Proctor looks forward to spending more time with her family, including her nine active grandkids. "I love it at Saint Mary, but I have my first obligation and love-and that's to my family," she said. Proctor also wants to ride her three horses more, and jokingly said, "I don't have to worry about breaking my wrist or arm and not being able to play." She and her husband plan to split time between Kansas City and Osage City, Kan.-where they both grew up and now own land and a home-away-from-home.

### **Carlton Philpot**

Associate Professor in Business, Veterans Services Coordinator

After 12 years of teaching in the University of Saint Mary business department, Professor Carlton Philpot said his final goodbye. Philpot's expertise will be missed, as he taught a variety of classes in the business departmentmarketing, leadership, organizational behavior, international business, legal business-and founded USM's Veterans Services program.

When asked about his favorite memory at Saint Mary, Philpot said, "That's a hard question," and then pointed to his wall of student "thank you" notes. "You only need one of those, and you're motivated for another 10 years," he said with a laugh. "Saint Mary has been good to me. Hopefully, I've be as good to Saint Mary."

Along with his years of dedication to Saint Mary, Philpot also served 24 ½ years in the United States Navy, and he continues work on special projects for the military. Philpot played instrumental roles on the Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Project and the Colin Powell Project. which both commemorate the service of African-American soldiers in history with two bronze monuments at Fort Leavenworth.

"Though he has retired, Professor Philpot will always be a teacher at heart. His commitment to helping his students succeed both academically and personally was unswerving—he always had their best interests at heart." -Dr. Ron Logan, business department chair

In retirement, Philpot plans to continue working on special projects for the military and dedicate more time to sickle-cell disease (SCD) awareness-his 5-year-old grandson has SCD. He also plans to spend more time with his four grandkids and wife, who retires this November.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR **ALUMNI REUNION 2015**

June 5-7, 2015

Catch up with old friends. Make new friends. And celebrate Saint Mary-both as it was and as it is now.

All alumni are invited to this year's reunion, set for Friday, June 5 through Sunday, June 7, 2015 on our beautiful Leavenworth campus.

This year's reunion celebrates ALL class years and is a special reunion year for those graduating in years ending in a 0 or 5.

50th anniversary for the class of 1965 25th anniversary for the class of 1990

You still have time to register! Contact Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97, alumni & planned giving officer, at jane.liebert@stmary.edu or 913-758-6126.





# Celebrate the Sisters of Charity

# / Jubilarians!

- 75 Years -Sister Mary Denise Sternitzke, C'44

### - 70 Years -

Sister Mary Vincentia Maronick, C'45 Sister Michel Pantenburg, C'49 Sister Mary Eleanor Schram, C'71

### - 60 Years -

Sister Helen Cheeney, C'57 Sister Mary Jo Coyle, C'53 Sister Mary Rachel Flynn, C'58 Sister Kathleen Marie Henscheid, C'58 Sister Margaret Hogan, C'59 Sister Diane Hurley, C'59 Sister Jane Albert Mehrens, C'59 Sister Bernadette Marie Teasdale Sister Paula Marie Tweet, C'58

### - 50 Years -

Sister Mary Patricia Johnson, C'68 Sister Mary Jo Anzik, C'69 Sister Angela Rose Barbieri - C'69 Sister Janet Cashman, C'69 Sister Margaret Ellen Johnson, C'75 Sister Mary Patricia Lenahan, C'70 Sister Rita McGinnis Sister Linda Suzanne Roth, C'70 Sister Lucy Walter, C'67

# SHOP AT USM'S SPIRIT SHOP

THE USM SPIRIT SHOP HAS ALL OF THE APPAREL AND ITEMS TO MAKE YOUR SUMMER BLUE AND GOLD! SHOP ONLINE AT STMARY.EDU/SHOP

# ENDOWED NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS WORK

ary Jones Smith, C'82\*, a loyal Saint Mary alum, has given for years. We consider her a partner in fulfilling our great mission. In fact, we've grown downright dependent on her annual generosity. Consequently, when Mary dies, the absence of her giving will be felt.

Mary—a fictional alum created for this article—knows this, and she decided to do something so her giving never runs dry. She is taking steps today to establish the Mary Jones Smith, C'82, Endowed Named Scholarship.

Over the next two years, Mary is making a special \$5,000 donation to create her scholarship—a donation above and beyond her annual donation (it takes \$10,000 to create a scholarship in your name), and Mary decided to use our payment plan option. Mary is also giving through her will and set aside a portion of her estate to be directed toward her scholarship.

As a result of Mary's decisions today, she will continue to give in death at the same level she is giving in life.

Endowed Named Scholarships work well for people like Mary. And here are three reasons why:

### 1. Endowed Named Scholarships are Perpetual

Endowed Named Scholarships keep giving and giving and giving. They allow people like Mary to "lock in" their giving. Each year, family members such as children and grandchildren will be reminded of Mary's involvement with Saint Mary and the value of making regular gifts to support worthy causes. What a wonderful legacy to leave behind!

### 2. Endowed Named Scholarships are Protected

Endowed Named Scholarships at Saint Mary are set aside and kept separate from operating and capital fund accounts. Mary has the assurance that her endowment fund will be secure. The written agreement will be on file, and the terms are carefully followed.

### 3. Endowments are Personal

While it is possible to make a general donation to the endowment, many people want a scholarship with their name. And they want to tailor the purpose of their scholarship to benefit a specific area of interest.

Saint Mary has sound policies for creating and managing scholarship funds. This information is available upon request. Also, you can choose from a variety of ways to make your scholarship dream come true—whether that's through a current gift now, or through your estate plan later.

Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97, Alumni & Planned Giving Officer, 913.758.6126 jane.liebert@stmary.edu | Proud member of the Saint Mary Legacy Society

\*Mary Jones Smith, C'82, is fictitious name for example purposes only.



# Meet Our Newest Alums

Free spirits, super planners, sports fanatics, trailblazers, athletes, scientists, and singers. Every graduating class is unique, and the class of 2015 is no exception.

On May 9, 431 graduates were sent on their way—to make an impact and carry on the Saint Mary mission.



Megan Woods 15
Biology (Fun fact: I never changed majors.)

#### Hometown:

Tonganoxie, Kan.

### **Favorite Class at USM:**

Immunology! It's an intensive class. You have to work hard for an A, but an A in that class means so much.

### **Favorite Thing About USM:**

Faculty—I'm going to miss my relationship with the science faculty, especially. They welcomed me with open arms, and they truly care about their students. They trained me to be an independent student—to be responsible for my own education and take initiative ... but were always there to help.

### **After-Graduation Plans:**

In the fall, I'm starting a two-year master's program at Kansas City University of Medicine and Biosciences (KCUMB). Along with taking classes, I'll be working in a lab focused on treatment (or gene therapy) for Duchenne muscular dystrophy—the most common life-threatening childhood form of muscular dystrophy. Gene therapy would help with this disease's symptoms by turning an isolated protein on or off in certain areas. This is what I'll be working on with a team of students and an instructor for the next two years, along with my master's thesis.

### ... And After That:

I could apply to medical school, or I could start a doctorate-level biology research program, which would prepare me for a research position. I could also work in a lab after finishing the master's program at KCUMB.





# Patrick Swain 15

Business Administration & Sport Management

### Hometown:

Strasburg, Colo. (40 miles east of Denver; home to 2,400 people)

### **Favorite Class at USM:**

International Political Economy—The class opened my eyes to our world's interconnectedness. One day in class, I asked Dr. Logan, professor and business department chair, "Why does any of this matter?" And he literally showed me how connected politics is to something as simple as going to the grocery store in Leavenworth.

I also enjoyed my ethics course with Dr. Zimmerman, assistant professor and sport management program director. It taught me how think through ethical and legal considerations and create my own opinion. This course and USM have developed my confidence. I feel like I can go into any conversation, with people twice my age, and articulate my own opinion and ideas.

### **Favorite Memory at USM:**

I lived in the dorms for two years, and some of my best memories and friends are from those first two years. My roommate and I would leave our door open, and people would come in and hang out for hours. The dorm was like a big family. Everyone knew everyone.

### **After-Graduation Plans:**

I'm not going far. I start a master's program in enterprise risk management at USM. Earning a master's degree will better position me to progress as an officer in the Navy—I'm ultimately aiming to become a SEAL. I come from a military family, so from very early on, I knew I wanted to first go to college, and then serve my country.

# Maria Suarez' 5

Biology (... and the triple jump—I was on the Track & Field team!)

### Hometown:

Salinas, Calif.

### **Favorite Class at USM:**

Organic Chemistry—and I'm not a "chemistry person." I actually thought I wouldn't do well in the class because there was too much math. A few weeks in, I found myself really enjoying what I was learning, and I didn't mind doing the homework.

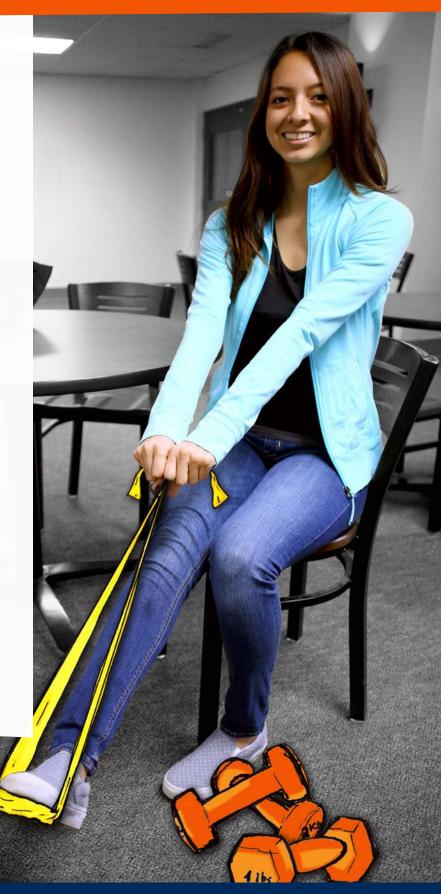
I also loved Dr. Mackintosh's Diversity of Plants and Animals class. It was a lab-intensive class, where we learned about different organisms and species, and then had the opportunity to learn even more with dissection. Our class started with a worm and progressed to a frog by the end of the semester.

### **Favorite Thing About USM:**

I love a lot about Saint Mary, but I'm really going to miss lab time. I didn't have to perform a lab technique perfectly—it was all about learning. In lab, I got to experience a concept firsthand and be exposed to so many things a book couldn't explain.

### **After-Graduation Plans:**

I was accepted into the Stefani Doctor of Physical Therapy program at USM, which I'll begin this summer. Originally, I thought I wanted to go into pediatric physical therapy, but after doing shadowing hours, I've realized that there are so many options. Wound care, orthopedics, women's health—I'm open to the possibilities, and I'm really looking forward to learning about each one in physical therapy school. I'm also looking forward to learning more about how to handle each patient as an individual. There's more to physical therapy than just assessment and exercises—each patient has their own physical and mental needs, too.





# Kelsey Coplen 5

# Emma Vavricek 15

### Hometown:

Shawnee, Kan.

### **Favorite Class at USM:**

Pediatrics in Nursing—I've always had a passion for caring for children, and this class made it clear that pursuing a nursing career was the right decision.

### **Favorite Thing About USM:**

The close-knit community and our beautiful campus top my list. I was at a big state school before USM, and you always felt like you were just another person on campus. Here, faculty know you and so do all of your classmates. You see the same people every day, and there's an unexplainable connection you make with these people.

### Hometown:

Lansing, Kan.

### **Favorite Class at USM:**

Senior Seminar—Out of all the classes in the nursing program, this course focused the most on global nursing and our potential to make an impact around the world!

### **Favorite Thing About USM:**

Faculty are genuinely interested in us and care about us. They want to know how we're doing and go out of their way to make a true connection with us.

### **Kelsey & Emma's After-Graduation Plans:**

We leave for a global health trip to Kibosho, Tanzania with the International Service Learning program. We'll work with a local health care team for 12 days in the area's hospital and nearby medical clinics, while also making regular home visits to remote villages. From giving basic physical assessments to shots and vaccines, our days are dedicated to serving the people and making a difference in this community.

### **ALUMNI CORNER**



### + CLASS NOTES

### '50s

Sr. Marie Madeleine Shonka, Eloise Grellner Lenahan, C'58, Overland Park, Kan., retired Oct. 29, 2014 after 30 years of service as a Medical Technologist at Quivira Internal Medicine, where she served as lab supervisor for 15 years. Previously, she worked 10 years in Oklahoma City at St. Anthony Hospital and Medical Arts Laboratory before taking leave to raise her family. She has two children: Patrick Lenahan, Prairie Village, Kan., and Beth Lenahan Zinn, Olathe, Kan., and four grandchildren: Nick, Julia, Brandon, and Joe Zinn. Eloise is involved with activities at Holy Spirit Church, Overland Park, Kan.

### '60s

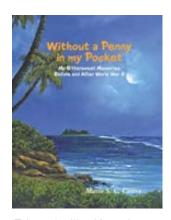
Sister Susan Rieke, C'66, Lansing, Kan., participated in a poetry reading at the Johnson County Central Resources Library in Overland Park, Kan., Oct. 21 and the Writers Place in Kansas City, Mo., on March 20—reading poems from her own collection. Sr. Susan edited and published selected poems of Sister Mary Janet McGilley, "Lean to the Times," and hosted a poetry reading at the SCL Mother House on Oct 30. "Lean to the Times" can be purchased through the USM Spirit Shop (click gifts and accessories). She serves as the Sr. Mary Janet McGilley Endowed Chair in Liberal Studies.

Mary Kay Stillwell, C'66, Lincoln, Neb., gave a poetry reading at USM in DePaul Library on April 16, 2015. Stillwell's poetry can be found in numerous literary magazines and journals as well as a number of anthologies. She authored "Life and Poetry" (2013), a praised biography about Ted Kooser, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry and 13th poet laureate of the U.S. Stillwell studied writing with Kooser and in New York with William Packard, a respected American poet, playwright, teacher, novelist, and founder and editor of the New York Quarterly. She also earned her Ph.D. in plains literature from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln.

### '70s

Marie Castro, C'71, Kansas City, Mo., was awarded the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Governor's Humanities Award in October 2014 for her preservation of CNMI history and her 2013 book "Without a Penny in My Pocket: My Bittersweet Memories of Before and After World War II." Her book begins in the 1930s, describing traditional Chamorro

life centered on the family, farm, and the church, until after the war when Saipan was transformed by its violence. Castro also gave a book tour in the summer of 2014 in CNMI sponsored by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council through funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities and is part of the council's ongoing Community Lecture Series.



**Mary Ellen Sixta Johnson, C'75**, Edwardsville, Kan., is a substitute for Kansas City, Kan., USD 500 at both preschool and elementary levels and continues to paint and do textile art.

### '90s

Annette Billings, C'93, Topeka, Kan., was featured in the Topeka Capital-Journal on March 1. She retired after 38 years of nursing to pursue a career in writing. Billings released her second book titled, "A Net Full of Hope." Her first collection of poetry, "Hope's Wife," was published in 2002. It will be re-released soon.



### '00s

**Sean Coughlin, C'02**, Astoria, N.Y., is currently the house manager of a Broadway show in New York.

Sheila Doss-McQuitty, U'09, M'12, San Jose, Calif., has been serving as director of clinical programs and research for Satellite Healthcare. On Jan. 16, 2015, she was elected president-elect of the American Nephrology Nurses' Association (ANNA) for the 2015-2016 term and will serve as President for the 2016-2017 term. She begins her post in April at ANNA's National Symposium in Orlando, Fla. During her tenure, Sheila will oversee the implementation of ANNA's strategic plan in nephrology and provide a full spectrum of services to the organization's 10,000 members. Sheila has served in dozens of national positions over the last 15 years including liaison to Specialty Practice Networks, director, and Western Region vice-president; as well as numerous positions in the Association's Northern California Chapter. Her nursing career spans more than 35 years, specializing in nephrology since joining Satellite Healthcare in 1990. In 2002, she was named nursing director of Research, and stepped into the role of director of Clinical Programs and Research in 2013. Sheila has published in a variety of journals, like the American Journal of Kidney

Continued on next page

### **ALUMNI CORNER**



### + CLASS NOTES (CONTINUED)

Disease; Nephrology Nursing Journal; Hemodialysis International, Nephrology News and Issues; and Nephrology, Dialysis and Transplantation; delivered over 35 presentations ranging from ANNA National Symposiums to the People to People Nephrology Nursing Delegation to China; and she is widely recognized for her contributions to the field of nephrology nursing and research—awarded a Nurse of the Year award from ANNA and the Best Hemodialysis Nursing Abstract Award at the 29th Annual Dialysis Conference in 2009. Sheila is actively involved in the National Kidney Foundation of Northern California, the Association of Clinical Research Professionals, and serves on the editorial board of the Nephrology Nursing Journal.

**Jennifer Pouliot Holland, M'12**, Sturgeon, Mo., released the second edition of her book in June 2014, titled, "Train the Brain to Hear." Holland also started working on her doctorate in psychology.



Jacob "Jake"
Pruger, U'14, Santa
Cruz, Calif., was
among 15 new recruits
headed to the Santa
Cruz County Sheriff's
Office police academy
in Nov. 2014. The 15
recruits make up one
of the largest classes
in the academy's
recent history.
Pruger's father, Mike,

is a detective in the Coroner's Unit for the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Office. Pruger graduated with a degree in criminology and psychology.

Friends/Faculty/Staff

**Dr. Mary Davidson Cohen**, former associate dean, was honored by the Association of Professional Fundraisers (AFP) Mid-America Chapter, as 2014 Philanthropist of the Year. She was also named Philanthropist of the Year in 2012 by Nonprofit Connect of the Kansas City area. Dr. Cohen is executive director of the Barton P. and Mary D. Cohen Charitable Trust.

\*The cutoff date for class notes was March 9, 2015. Information received after that date is not included, but will be included in the next print Aspire. Email your class notes to alumni@stmary.edu

### + IN MEMORIAM

### **'40s**

**Jean Haynes Myers, A'40**, Overland Park, Kan., Aug. 8, 2014.

Winfred Emert McClain Minnis, C'41, Mission, Kan., March 6, 2012. She was the sister of Joan Emert Siegert Warton, A'49, C'53, Garland, Texas.

**Joan Weaver Hauserman, A'45,** Sutter Creek, Calf., lost her husband, Daniel, on March 12, 2014.

Marigene Wegeng Suellentrop, C'45, Lenexa, Kan., lost her husband, John, on Feb. 3, 2015. Marigene's granddaughter attended Saint Mary, Elizabeth Suellentrop, C'00.

**Sister Mary Laura Huddleston, A'49, C'61**, Kansas City, Kan., lost her cousin, Margaret Schnurr, on Jan. 26, 2015.

Mary Anne Sullivan Henke, C'49, Leawood, Kan., Nov. 15, 2014.

### **'50s**

**Sister Irene Skeehan, C'52**, Leavenworth, Kan., lost her cousin, Fr. Bill Skeehan, on Nov. 29, 2014 in Tulsa, Okla.

**Sister Ann Barton, C'54**, Leavenworth, Kan., and **Virginia Barton Gravatt, C'56**, Gardiner, N.Y., lost their nephew, Brian Bawden, on Jan. 5, 2015.

**Jeanne Verssue Tiedt, C'58**, Willard, Mo., lost her sister, Madeleine Verssue, on Oct. 11, 2014.

**Colleen Williams Mockler, C'59**, Helena, Mont., lost her husband, Jim, on Nov. 24, 2014.

### **'60s**

Marietta Wieseler Soukup, C'61, Sioux Falls, S.D., and Sister Barbara Wieseler, C'67, Kansas City, Kan., lost their brother, Leonard Wieseler, Nov. 19, 2014 in Yankton, S.D.

Wonja Hahn Kors, C'64, Costa Rica, lost her husband, Pieter, Nov. 13, 2014.

**Beth Brown, C'64**, Lee's Summit, Mo., lost her daughter-in-law, Ann Brown, on Dec. 25, 2014.

Barbara Marten Killam, C'64, Topeka, Kan., Jan. 18, 2015.



**Sister Roberta O'Leary, C'65**, Lansing, Kan., lost her aunt, Alice O'Leary, on Nov. 9, 2014 in Butte, Mont.

**Sharon Ovaitt, C'67**, Jefferson City, Mo. lost her sister, Ruth Elizabeth Oviatt, on Oct. 1, 2014.

**Sister Barbara Wieseler, C'67**, Kansas City, Kan., and **Marietta Wieseler Soukup, C'61**, Sioux Falls, S.D. lost their brother, Leonard Wieseler, Nov. 19, 2014 in Yankton, S.D.

**Sister Susan Yerkich, C'67**, died Feb. 23, 2015. She faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 52 years.

**Carolyn Konert Roettger, C'68**, Leslie, Mo., lost her sister, Margaret Konert Toler, on Dec. 30, 2014.

**Sister Mary Clarice Lousberg, C'69**, Leavenworth, Kan., lost her brother, Jack, on Feb. 10, 2015.

Mary Canjar, C'69, Denver, Colo., Oct. 16, 2012. Mary's brother, Fr. John Canjar, died Nov. 20, 2014.

### **'70s**

**Lynne Kavula Morales, C'70**, Redding, Calif., lost her husband, Arthur, on Dec. 14, 2014.

**Sister Kathleen Wood, C'70**, Leavenworth, Kan., lost her niece, Juli Guinn, on Jan. 18, 2015.

Julie Wulfkuhle Fallon, C'70, Enfield, Conn., on Dec. 17, 2014.

**Sister Ann Victoria Garcia, C'71**, Leavenworth, Kan., Feb. 23, 2015. she faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 54 years.

**Harriett Clark Buselt, C'77**, Littleton, Colo., Sept. 15, 2014.

### **'80s**

**Sister Loretto Marie Colwell, C'81**, Kansas City, Mo., lost her nephew, Mike Herrick, on Nov. 20, 2014.

**Sister Mary Marcella Winninghoff, C'83**, Leavenworth, Kan., Jan. 5, 2015. she faithfully served the People of God as a Sister of Charity of Leavenworth for 63 years.

### **'90s**

**Anita Gregory, C'72, C'95**, Kansas City, Kan., lost her mother-in-law, Dorothy Gregory, on Aug. 16, 2014. She was also the grandmother to **Angie Gregory, C'00, U'03**, Kansas City, Kan.

**Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97**, alumni and planned giving officer, Lansing, Kan., lost her mother, Geraldine Liebert, on Jan. 5, 2015. Liebert's father died in 2010.

### **'00s**

**Elizabeth Suellentrop, C'00**, lost her grandfather, John, on Feb. 3, 2015. Liz's grandmother also attended Saint Mary, **Marigene Wegeng Suellentrop, C'45**, Lenexa, Kan.

**Sister Rejane Cytacki, C'01**, Lansing, Kan., lost her grandmother, Genevieve "Jean" Cytacki, on Jan. 20, 2015.

**Sister Jennifer Gordon, M'08**, Denver, Colo., lost her grandmother, Isabel Lang, Dec. 27, 2014.

### Friends/Faculty/Staff

Melanie McClure, assistant professor in nursing, lost her sister, Nichole Roberdes Arnold, on Dec. 18, 2014.

**Janet Loewenstein**, aquatics director, Leavenworth, Kan., lost her mother-in-law on Dec. 25, 2014.

**Bob Killion**, campus minister, lost his grandfather, Robert, on Jan. 17, 2015.

**William Downing**, Overland Park, Kan., Dec. 17, 2014. Downing was a philosophy teacher in the 90s.

**Vita Mignon Scribner Goppert**, friend of **Saint Mary**, Olathe, Kan., Nov. 13, 2014. Goppert was the wife of Clarence Goppert.

**Annie McCarvel Bonner**, friend of **Saint Mary**, Gresham, Ore., Jan. 21, 2015.

\*The cutoff date for in memoriam was March 9, 2015. Information received after that date is not included, but will be included in the next print Aspire. Email your class notes to alumni@stmary.edu

# **ALUMNI CORNER**



+ ALUMNI NEWS

### **Stock Transfers**



Giving doesn't always involve a checkbook. Consider donating appreciated stock to Saint Mary. You can deduct the value of the stock on your taxes. Example: You purchased stock valued at \$2,500 and 10 years later it is valued at \$5,000. If you fall in the tax bracket where you pay 15 percent capital gains tax rate, you will owe \$750. But what if you donate that stock to Saint Mary? You transfer the ownership of the stock to Saint Mary and claim the \$5,000 value as a charitable deduction on your taxes, and you do not pay any capital gains tax. That sounds like a great investment opportunity.

For help with transferring stock, contact Karolyn Dreiling, Vice President for Development, 913-758-6293, karolyn.dreiling@stmary.edu.

# SpireFest 2015 Recap



# **Omaha Alumni Gathering**

Omaha, Neb. area alumni gathered at the home of Mary Jo Brazil Guinan, C'62, on Dec. 3, 2014. Alumni celebrated the Christmas season, enjoyed great food, reconnected with one another, and listened to a presentation by Dr. Bryan LeBeau, Provost, and Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97, Alumni and Planned Giving Officer. Attendees were: Anna Mae Danner, C'64, Mary Jo Brazil Guinan, C'62, Kathleen Wilger Henvey, C'72, Margaret Stewart Hladik, C'70, Mary Ellen Kranda Rice, C'71, and Mary Sterk Van Sloun, C'60.

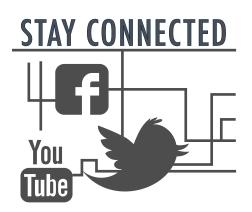
If you would like to host an alumni gathering in your area, contact Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97, Alumni and Planned Giving Officer, jane.liebert@stmary.edu.

# **Seattle Alumni Gathering**

Seattle, Wash., area alumni gathered for a special tour of Theo Chocolates in Seattle organic, fair trade, and very tasty. Pictured here are (left to right): Olivia Robinson, C'96, Karen McIver-Wilson, C'87, and Laura Jaurequi, C'83. The Seattle Alumni group welcomes any and all alumni.

To get in the know about gatherings in Seattle, contact Olivia Robinson, C'96, ovrobinson@yahoo.com





stmary.edu twitter.com/USMSpireWire facebook.com/USMSpires facebook.com/SaintMaryAlumni youtube.com/stmaryedu GoSpires.com flickr.com/USMSpires instagram.com/USMSpires pinterest/USMSpires

### + ALUMNI CALENDAR

### **Alumni Reunion**

Friday-Sunday, June 5-7 USM Campus

### **Emporia Kansas** Alumni Gathering

Thursday, June 18

Home of Sylvia Markowitz Koepke, C'57 RSVP to Sarah Brown Wyrick, C'68, swyrick46@gmail.com, (620) 340-9402

### **Billings Montana Alumni Gathering**

Friday, June 26

Home of Michelle Friend Coons, C'95 RSVP to Michelle at mkfriend@msn.com, (406) 652-0026

### **Student Move-in Days**

August 8 & 15

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Help the Student Life staff by welcoming students and their families to campus. Volunteers needed to distribute Saint Mary swag, enroll students in text message alert system, check names, and pass along valuable information to new and returning students. To volunteer, contact Jane Ellen Liebert, C'97, Alumni & Planned Giving Officer, 913.758.6126, jane.liebert@stmary.edu.

### SpireFest 2016

Saturday, April 16, 2016 Overland Park Marriott





4100 South 4th Street Leavenworth, KS 66048 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID LEAVENWORTH, KS PERMIT NO. 31

# DATED MATERIAL PLEASE DO NOT DELAY