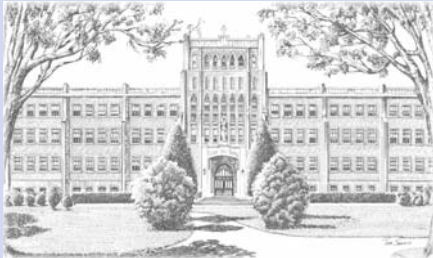


Focus

Celebrating 87 years of educating young women.



The Alumnae Newsletter of Mount St. Mary Academy

Spring/Summer 2010

Mount St. Mary Academy, founded by the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur, is a Catholic, private, college preparatory school for young women. Within a nurturing and academically challenging environment, the Academy strives to develop the whole person. Guided by our Catholic tradition, and rooted in Gospel values, we educate young women dedicated to lifelong learning, moral integrity and service to and acceptance of others.



The Bells of St. Mary, Ah hear they are calling!

Ah, summer is here, and for the alumnae of Mount St. Mary Academy, what a joyous time of year it is! For we, the alumnae, have the privilege of welcoming the Class of 2010 into our ranks. This class shares with us a common knowledge – not only of the scholastic lessons they have been taught but of the values and beliefs they have learned. They share a sense of dedication and pride which can only be found somewhere along that path they travel from senior to graduate.

Along the way, these new alumnae have been immersed in the traditions of our wonderful school, some old and some new:

On May 25, the Class of 2010 was inducted into the Alumnae Association at Baccalaureate Mass, a tradition which marks the beginning of their transition. Each senior was presented with a single long stem rose and a card of membership and welcomed by representatives of the Alumnae Board: Kelly Hennessy Oldenburg (1997) and Alexandra Kogler Fussell (1996). The seniors then sang their class song “Whenever You Remember,” followed by “The Bells of St. Mary.”

The following week marked the girls’ last week on campus, affectionately known as *Senior Week*. On the eve of the last day of their classes, the seniors performed their prank, an unofficial tradition. They “snuck” into the school, decorating the Mount with signs of senior pride and turning the student parking lot into a beach party, complete with kiddie pools! As has been the tradition for several years, even Pope Pius shared the joy, donning a sombrero and a new gown for the occasion. The last day of school also included the *Running of the Seniors*, during which the entire class raced through the halls, celebrating the completion of classes. As evidence of their respect for the school, the seniors returned the school (and Pope Pius) to its normal, “Apple Pie” condition when the day was over.

Finally it was time to say goodbye. The junior class hosted a Mexican-themed luncheon for the senior class which marked their last visit to the Mount before graduation. On Sunday, June 6, Mount St. Mary Academy graduated its 79th class. Each graduate wore a white formal gown and carried a bouquet of red roses, as has every graduate since 1931. As Sr. Carol Ann Kleindinst (1967) read her name, each graduate stepped forward to receive her diploma from MSM’s principal, Dawn Hurley Riggie (1971) – a moment that will doubtless live in her memory forever as it does with every alumna.

And with that, one chapter in these girls’ lives ends and another begins.

For the faculty and administration of Mount St. Mary’s, this is a sad time of year. For four years, we have nurtured and cared for 73 girls, watched them grow and prayed that when their time came to spread their wings, they would fly.

Luckily they are not just flying – they are soaring. To our delight these girls have become beautiful young women who face bright futures.

Over 84% of the Class of 2010 received scholarship money, while 25% received entrance into Special or Honors Programs. Our graduates will attend schools such as Notre Dame, Pepperdine, University of North Carolina Charlotte, University of Pittsburgh, St. John Fisher and Canisius College.

Our valedictorian, Rebecca Siegrist, qualified for full tuition scholarships totaling \$900,000 and will be attending the Mechanical Engineering program at the University of Pittsburgh. And she is not the only one with a promising future ahead of her! For those of you who attended this year’s musical, “Hello, Dolly!” you may not be surprised that our Dolly, Sarah Frank, was one of only 10 people accepted into the Theater Program at University of Buffalo. Swim Team Captain Victoria Mack earned more than 7% of the class’s scholarships including five scholarship awards at St. John Fisher College alone.

These are only a few examples of the outstanding results our class has achieved. In total, the Class of 2010 received over \$9 million in scholarship funds, averaging over \$125,000 per student. In a time when college admission is so competitive and tuition so exorbitant, we’re proud to say our graduates are prepared.

Of course, though we miss these young women already, there is some solace to be had. A drum beats steadily to the tune of “No more papers, no more books...” and a summer breeze calls us forth to play in the sun for a little while. As always, the fall will arrive all too soon and the Class of 2011 awaits.

MSM in Florida!

In April, Mount St. Mary Academy hit the road and headed for warmer climes – Florida! The Mount St. Mary Marching Band was invited to march in the Disney Parade on Main St. USA and presented us with a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with our Florida Mounties. Cornelia Quinlan Arbeiter (1960) was able to watch the parade. “I was the goofy one cheering, saying that’s my school!” Cornelia said.

Florida alumnae were invited to a private band concert on April 21 at the Kissimmee Radisson Hotel, where Principal Dawn Hurley Riggie (1971), Assistant Principal for Institutional Advancement Julie Rosenecker Wojick (1985) and Institutional Advancement Coordinator Bonnie May hosted a Chicken Barbeque.

The band, dance team and color guard performed poolside during cocktail hour and wowed our Southern Sisters. A group of 1960 grads thought they were fantastic and were amazed that the band sounded so good considering so many students had just started playing. “All we got to do was sing-you didn’t have an option...everyone had to sing,” one alumna commented.



Old friends reunite in sunny Florida.

My dear 2010 graduates,



I miss you!

On the night before your graduation, Mrs. Fussell asked me to write you a letter in lieu of my normal Focus address. I truly did not want to do this. I find it incredibly hard to let you go. I think I got through your senior week by pretending it was just another week at school, but more fun, and I got through your graduation ceremony by pretending that it was just another assembly, not an end and a new beginning for you.

I have had the extraordinary privilege of growing to know you and care for you over four very important years in your life. I met you as young girls and have to say goodbye to you as young women. I don't want to.

Oh, those four years – it all started with your acceptance letter and meeting you at Freshman Registration. Then the roller coaster began... I told you it would fly by, and it certainly did!!

Freshman orientation, Big Sister - Little Sister, Carnival outside, Open House, our school musicals – “Beauty and the Beast,” “The Wizard of Oz,” “Bye Bye, Birdie,” “Hello Dolly,” Thanksgiving Brunches and food drives, selling raffle tickets, Spirit Weeks and your victory at Lip Sync, Carnival inside, Winter Semi-Formal Dances at Classics, Mother-Daughter Breakfasts at Classics, Father-Daughter Dances at – you guessed it - Classics, Coffee House, May Crownings, Living Rosary on the front lawn, Student Council Sleep-outs for Charity, Junior Ring Ceremony, Junior Prom (on a Friday, like normal schools), senior privileges, Senior Lounge, Fall Ball, Senior Prom (yes on a Thursday!), Baccalaureate, Senior Week and finally Graduation.- these are but a few of the countless memories we share.

Thank you for being with me here at the Mount. Thank you for being such fabulous young women. Thank you for the joy, the laughter, the challenge and the fun you brought into my life. I am a better person for knowing you.

Now you are gone and I deeply miss you. Your graduation is an occasion to look back and remember, but it is also your time to look forward. You stand poised at the brink of your future. How exciting! Yes, a bit scary, but focus on the exciting. You can do and be anything. You can shape your world, your future, yourself. You have everything it takes. You are incredibly lucky. You have been well prepared. You have the love and support of your family, and you have all of MSM behind you. Seize the day, choose for yourself. Make your future.

As you go, carry with you the spirit of MSM. Cling to the importance of: community; respecting all and accepting all; service to others; life-long learning; integrity, honor and honesty.

My wish for you is that you be your best self, make a difference in this world and make us proud.

And always, always remember Mount St. Mary Academy is your home, and home is a place where you are always welcomed and treasured. Come back often! Come back soon!

Love always,

Mrs. Riggie



Elizabeth Merritt (2010), Sara Jank (2010), Sarah Frank (2010), Katherine Rose (2010), Ali DeBiew (2010), Angela Kapsiak (2010) and Rachel Saltarelli (2010) take a moment after graduation.



Sisters Samantha (2010), Michelle (2008), Jaelyn (2010) Reinhart



The Class of 2010 on the steps of MSM.



The Saltarelli Family celebrates graduation: aunt **Mary Saltarelli Knoerl (1979)**, cousin **Natalie Knoerl (2008)**, cousin **Sara McNeill McGee (2000)**, **Anna Saltarelli (2010)**, **Rachel Saltarelli (2010)** [cousins], cousin **Hilary Kleppe (2003)**, aunt **Marie Saltarelli Maziarz (1985)** and aunt **Monica Saltarelli (1982)**.



Graduate **Mary Teresa Galante** poses with her family: sister **Leah Galante (2005)**, cousin **Laura Powalski (2006)**, grandmother **Thelma Fraunhauser** (a resident of the Mount St. Mary Senior Apartments), mother **Peg (Mary Margaret) Galante (1975)**, [Mary Teresa], cousin **Kara Powalski (2008)**, aunt **Beth Powalski (1977)**, and sister **Sarah Galante (2007)**.



Corey Ansel (2010), daughter of **Dawn Seyler Ansel (1980)**, receives her diploma from Principal **Dawn Hurley Riggie (1971)**.



Patricia Sweeney Goodwin (1972), **Mary Emminger (2010)**, **Colleen Sweeney Emminger (1979)**



Graduates **Laura Giunta (2010)**, **Catie Smith (2010)** and **Mary Teresa Galante (2010)** enjoy the post-graduation reception in the gymnasium.

If any of our recent graduates have a graduation gown hanging in their closet, please consider donating it to a future graduate. MSM accepts donations of clean, gently-used white formal dresses in any size. Please contact Alexandra Kogler Fussell at (716) 877-1358 or afussell@mt-st-marys.org to arrange your donation.



Night of the Dragon

On March 20, the Mount was transformed into an Asian dreamscape as over 300 alumnae, parents and MSM friends celebrated The Night of the Dragon, the 15th annual Chrysalis Auction and Dinner.

Guests bid on over 400 silent auction items on display throughout the school and enjoyed cocktails in a Chinese Market (also known as our student dining hall!)

Dinner and a live auction were held in the gym, which was decked in Asian finery,

while Mount St. Mary's dance students provided the evening's entertainment, performing Asian inspired dances and a dragon parade.

We'd like to thank *Hodgson Russ LLP, Passport Wine & Spirits, M&T Bank, UNYTS, Try-It Distributing, TransOcean Products, Island Prescription Center, United Business Systems, Rich Products, Drs. Herzog, Yustin and Jones, the Zenger Group and the Law Offices of Andrews, Bernstein & Maranto* for sponsoring this event. The Chrysalis Auction would not have been possible without the generosity of Lisa May, **Diane Murray Keefe (1977)**, **Judith Lask Lowes (1975)**, Tammy and Tony DiPasquale, John and Linda Rossi, **Donna Hoelscher Suchan (1978)**, **Kathy Hoelscher Glieco (1981)** and **Kim Hoelscher Curtin (1981)**, The Reiser Dynasty, the Class of 2010 and our Board of Trustees, all of whom hosted gift-gathering events. Finally, we are deeply indebted to the creative of genius of Bonnie May and the Chrysalis Chairs, the Reiser Dynasty: **Elizabeth Reiser (1975)**, **Mary Reiser Fiorella (1979)**, **Anne Reiser Meegan (1985)** and **Carol Reiser Maranto (1986)**, all of whom have graciously volunteered to top their efforts by chairing next year's event!

If you missed this year's event, make sure you can join us next year. Save the date April 2 and we'll see you at the Chrysalis!



An inspiring tablescape promises a delicious dinner.



Laura Giunta (2010) poses in the entryway to the Auction.



Sr. Barbara Riter (1954) raises her paddle to start the bidding at the Live Auction.



Sr. Carol Ann Kleindinst (1967) and Chrysalis co-chair **Liz Reiser (1975)** demonstrate the use of the Clicker, an item from the live auction.



Mary Conway Reiser (1981) and **Anne Conway Sullivan (1976)** enjoy the dinner.



Dr. Damian Jones and **Jennifer Pitz-Jones (1996)**, our US History teacher, at the Chinese Market.



MSM students pose in the photo booth.



1975 classmates yuck it up.



Sisters **Amber Nixon Hartman (1993)** and **Danielle Nixon Fleckenstein (1994)**.



Chrysalis attendees and former event chairs Shawn and **Kim Hoelscher Curtin (1981)**.

Mount St. Mary Academy's Reverse Raffle

\$11,500 in Cash Prizes!

Only 400 Reverse Raffle tickets will be sold!

Tickets sales begin on August 1, 2010 and will be distributed on a first-come/first-served basis.

Ticket Donation: \$100 each

Ticket Position	Cash Prize
1st Ticket Drawn	\$100
13th Ticket Drawn	\$50
25th Ticket Drawn	\$50
50th Ticket Drawn	\$50
75th Ticket Drawn	\$50
100th Ticket Drawn	\$100
125th Ticket Drawn	\$50
150th Ticket Drawn	\$50
175th Ticket Drawn	\$50
200th Ticket Drawn	\$200
225th Ticket Drawn	\$50
250th Ticket Drawn	\$50
275th Ticket Drawn	\$50
300th Ticket Drawn	\$300
325th Ticket Drawn	\$100
350th Ticket Drawn	\$100
375th Ticket Drawn	\$100
400th Ticket Drawn	\$10,000
Total Cash Payout	\$11,500

Date: Saturday, October 16, 2010
Time: 6:45 PM – 9:30 PM
Location: MSM Gymnasium
Dress: "Come for Fun!" Casual

Ticket drawings begin at 7:30 SHARP!

Each ticket purchased provides the following:

- ❖ A **1 in 400** chance at the \$10,000 Grand Prize
- ❖ A chance at other cash prizes totaling \$1,500
- ❖ A chance to win one of many "2nd chance" door prizes
- ❖ Admission for two to the Reverse Raffle party with complimentary snacks, beer, wine and soft drinks
- ❖ A great time and chance to support Mount St. Mary Academy!

You do not need to be present to win.

Chances for additional side raffles and a 50/50 split will be available during the main event.

To obtain tickets:

Fill out the information below and return it with your check (payable to Mount St. Mary Academy) to:
 Mount St. Mary Academy, 3756 Delaware Ave., Kenmore, NY 14217, Attn.: Reverse Raffle.

Tickets will be mailed once availability and payment have been confirmed.

Additional information is available on the Mount St. Mary Academy website: www.mt-st-marys.org.

MSM Reverse Raffle Ticket Request

Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ St.: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____
 How did you hear of this event? _____

Number of Tickets Requested: ____ x \$100 = \$_____ (Payment enclosed)
 Number of persons planning on attending the event: _____ (Each ticket admits maximum of two.)

If purchasing multiple tickets in different names, please note specifics on the reverse of this form.

For those wishing to pay for tickets via credit card, we will accept VISA and MasterCard. Please call Bonnie May at (716) 877-1358 to order your tickets starting August 1, 2010.

MSM's Family Dynasty: The Jakiel-McMahon Family

In keeping with this year's Chrysalis theme, The Night of the Dragon, MSM announced a contest to identify our biggest family dynasty. We asked our alumnae to submit a list of their family members who attended the Mount. The contest winner is a family who serves as a wonderful role model of alumnae activity: The Jakiel-McMahon Family.



Mary McMahon Jakiel (1975)

National Honor Society
Student Council Rep.
Cheerleading
Senior Play (Sound of Music)

*There is nothing so powerful
As truth – and often
Nothing so strange.*



Pictured from Left to Right: Mary McMahon Jakiel (1975), Marj Jakiel (1975), Meagan Baco (2002), Anne Jakiel McBride (1974) and Lisa Jakiel Baco (1978) at the 2010 Chrysalis Auction, *The Night of the Dragon*.



Anne Jakiel McBride (1974)

MSM Board of Trustees,
Treasurer

National Honor Society
Student Council President
Play Chorus (South Pacific)

*Keep your face to the sunshine
And you cannot see the shadow.*



Marjorie Jakiel (1975)

Student Council Treasurer
Junior Class Vice-President
Volleyball
Varsity Basketball

*...and it's a fair wind
blowin' warm from the south
over my shoulder
guess I'll set a course
and go.*



Meagan Baco (2002)

National Honor Society
Most School Spirit
Freshman Class President

Varsity Soccer, JV Badminton, Varsity
Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball,
Outdoor Track, Ski Club
Stage Crew, Rumlbers, Serteen, Yearbook,
Mock Trial

*The end of this night we'll remember...
it designs our lives."*



Lisa Jakiel Baco (1978)

MSM Fine Arts Teacher
MSM Volunteer of the Year 2009

Homeroom Representative
Varsity Basketball
Varsity Volleyball
Stage Crew

*It is perhaps a more fortunate
Destiny to have a taste for
Collecting shells than to have
Been born a millionaire.*

The Jakiel-McMahons or “McJakiels”



Geraldine Kreutzer McMahon (1950)

Scholarship Club, Freshman Class President, Blue Light Staff, Cheerleader, LAC's, Dramatics, Reporter

Lovely to look at, delightful to know.



Kathleen McMahon Whaler (1976)

*Live each day to the fullest,
Then you can look forward
With confidence, and
Back without regret.*



Margaret McMahon Gresh (1980)

Blue Light Newspaper
Senior Play

*And now for something
Completely different.*



Kelly Jakiel (2004)

National Honor Society Vice-Pres.

Musical Ministry, Musical,
Reflections Editor-in-Chief
Birthday Girls, Blue Light,
Yearbook, Student Council

*If you want to view paradise,
Simply look around and view it.*



Amy Jakiel (2006)

National Honor Society
Most School Spirit

Blue Light Editor, Musical Ministry,
Musical, Rumlbers, Indoor Track,
Third Wave Club Co-Founder & President
String Ensemble Vice-President,
Dance Club, Stage Crew

Be the change you wish to see in the world.



Laura Jakiel (2008)

National Honor Society
National Merit Commended
Student

Equestrian Club, Mock Trial,
Music Ministry, Reflections, Relay
for Life, Rumlbers, Third Wave,
Yearbook, Masterminds

*We cannot know what will occur,
just make the journey worth the
taking...*



Madelaine Baco (2002)

Mount St. Mary
Daycare Graduate

Pictured on the day of her
graduation with sister, Meagan
and brother, Michael.

*A special thank you to Meagan Baco who submitted her family
dynasty to our contest and provided her family archives!*

Reunions

This fall, several honor classes will be celebrating their reunions.

Class of 1950 plans a 60th Reunion Weekend

- Sept. 17, 2010: Mass at noon at St. Louis Church, followed by lunch at Templeton Landing (formerly Shanghai Reds); 7 p.m. Wine and Cheese Reception at MSM with an update by Sr. Carol Ann Kleindinst, Assistant Principal and a tour of the building.
- Sept. 18, 2010: A variety of trips and activities to choose from in the afternoon and evening.
- Sept. 19-21: A two night stay at the Catholic House on the grounds of the Chautauqua Institution.

Class of 1960 Reunion – 50 Years!

- September 18: Mass at 4:00 p.m. in the MSM Chapel followed by drinks, dinner and frivolity!

1970 MSM Class Reunion Girl's Night Out

- Saturday, September 25: 6:00 pm-cocktails, 7:00 pm-grazing stations - \$60.00/person
- Verbena Restaurant - 930 Maple Rd. Williamsville, NY 14221 (716-580-3125)
- checks payable to Deborah Warren - 1580 E. River Rd., Rochester, NY 14623 (585-436-6067) .
- RSVP by August 1, 2010.

Class of 1975 plans its 35th Reunion

- October 23: Tour of the Mount at 3:00 p.m., Mass at 4:00 p.m. with dinner following

Class of 1990 celebrates its 20th Reunion

- September 4: Mass at 4:30 p.m. in the MSM Chapel, followed by dinner at Amici's Restaurant

Class of 1995 plans its 15th Reunion

- October 23: Mass at 4:00 p.m. in the MSM Chapel. Additional details to follow!

If you graduated in a year ending in -1 or -6 and would be interested in planning your class's reunion for 2011, please contact Alexandra Kogler Fussell (1996) at (716) 877-1358 or afussell@mt-st-marys.org.

Mount St. Mary Academy depends upon the generosity of our alumnae in order to continue our tradition of providing academic excellence to young women. If you would like to make a donation, please fill out the following form.

This gift is from:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Email: _____

I/We enclosed a gift of:

_____ \$1000+ _____ \$100-199 _____ \$500-999 _____ \$25-99 _____ \$200-499 _____ Other

____ I wish my gift to remain anonymous

____ Enclosed is my check

Please charge my ____ Visa ____ Mastercard

Charge Account # _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

Please make checks payable to: Mount St. Mary Academy

Mount St. Mary Academy is registered with the New York State Office of Charities as a 501(c)(3), not-for-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law.

AlumniAWARDS

Each year, the Alumnae Association and Mount St. Mary Academy present awards to members of our community who contribute to the support of the school's mission. This year, we paid special tribute to three women who exemplify what it means to be a Mountie: Sr. Marian Baumler, SSMN (1958), Diana Jo Ponticello and Dr. Susan Kowalewski.

The greatest honor that a Mountie can receive is the Alumna of the Year Award, this year bestowed upon Sr. Marian Baumler for her years of dedication and service to the Mount. Sr. Marian currently serves as Adult Formation Ministry Director at St. Christopher's parish and as a Provincial Councilor for the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur Eastern Province. In all her actions, Sr. Marian dedicates her efforts to the development of the whole being, a belief intrinsic to the Mount's mission.

The award was presented by Peg O'Brien Simons (1978) and Dr. Roslyn Romanowski (1978) who were students at MSM during Sr. Marian's tenure as principal. They attested to Sr. Marian's life-changing teaching style and her dedication and perseverance (even during the years when streaking was all the rage!)

Diana Jo Ponticello, known affectionately as Dy to all 18 classes who have graduated in her presence, was inducted into the Alumnae Association as this year's Honorary Alumna. Her induction surprised only Dy, as the student body, faculty and staff, parents and alumnae have long recognized she belongs at Mount St. Mary's. Dy has served the school with a "simplicity of heart" characteristic of the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur and every Mountie that they have taught. Leah Ponticello (2007) surprised her mother and presented the award in collaboration with Principal Dawn Riggie (1971).

The Mount recognized Dr. Susan Kowalewski as our Volunteer of the Year, thanking her for her hard work both as a parent and as an educator. Dr. Kowalewski approached the school with a plan to create *Leadership through Education And Development* (LEAD), a program which would educate the student body on leadership opportunities for women. She pursued and won funding for the program and introduced a curriculum which included field trips, panel discussion participation and guest speakers. Though not an alumna, Dr. Kowalewski is a wonderful example to the students of what dedication and hard work can accomplish.

The Baccalaureate Mass additionally recognized the honor classes of 1940, 1945, 1955 and 1960, represented by Mary Cain Downey

(1940), Sally Hurley (1945), Geraldine Kogler (1955), Ruth Tuttle Frawley (1960) and Barbara Warren Strzyz (1960). These women and their classmates have left their indelible mark on the school and we are greatly thankful.

Next year's award ceremony will be held at Alumnae Sunday on June 12, 2011. If you would like to nominate someone for the Alumna of the Year award, please visit the Alumnae tab of our website. Applications are accepted year round.



Dy Ponticello, Dr. Sue Kowalewski and Sr. Marian Baumler, SSMN (1958).



Special Honorees Mary Cain Downey (1940), Sally Hurley (1945), Geraldine Kogler (1955), Barbara Warren Strzyz (1960) and Ruth Tuttle Frawley (1960) at Baccalaureate Mass.

Around the School

In the 2010-11 Business First Guide to Western New York Schools, Mount St. Mary Academy once again ranked within the top 5% of area high schools. For the third year in a row, MSM was ranked #6 of 133 public and private schools in Western New York, based on New York State Regents testing and the type of diploma graduates earn. The school was additionally honored with subject awards in English/Foreign Language and Science.

Spring has been a stellar season on the field. On June 1, the Lacrosse Thunder took their 6th straight Monsignor Martin Association Championship. Junior Jenny Grimm, niece of Anne Kohl (1984), scored five goals in the championship match-up against Nardin. Meanwhile at the track, sophomore Malayah White has been racing past the competition, setting Msgr. Martin League records for the 200 m and 100 m dashes. White competed in the New York State Federation meet and will race this summer at the Junior Olympics and Empire State Games (ESG). Also competing at the ESG will be some familiar Mountie faces: Leah Ponticello (2007), Caitlin Long (2007) and Breanna Catipovic (2010) who have been chosen for the Western Soccer Team. Opening Ceremonies for the Empire State Games will be held on July 21 with soccer matches scheduled for July 22-25.

Recent graduate, Lindsey Lauren Visser (2010) won 1st runner-up at the New York State Junior Miss Pageant. The competition was hosted in Buffalo at Rockwell Hall at Buffalo State College, and featured high school students from throughout the state. In addition to a scholarship awarded for the 1st runner-up placement, Visser received scholarships for self-expression and the Elaine Mack scholarship awarded for community service.

AlumniNEWS

Engagements & Weddings



Bridget Sullivan (2001) & Patrick Ryan wed May 29, 2010 at Canisius College Chapel, Buffalo, NY. Bridget is the daughter of Denis and **Anne Conway Sullivan (1976)** and sister of **Kelly Sullivan (2004)** and **Sheila Sullivan (2007)**.

Elizabeth Gruber (2002) got married Memorial Day weekend to András Brém, an artist and teacher from Long Island, NY. Liz's sister **Rachel Gruber (2007)** was Maid of Honor, and **Jessica Knoerl (2002)** was a bridesmaid.

Amy Manganello (2002) married Jeff Rosenberg on April 10, 2010. Amy's sister, **Beth Manganello (2003)**, was the Maid of Honor, and a few other Mounties were also able to attend. Amy is working as an HVAC design engineer at Cannon Design in Boston, MA where she has been since the summer of 2006.

Margherita Truncali (2003) is engaged to Joseph Montagnola and plans to wed August 2011. Marghi and Joseph met and graduated from Canisius College.

Births



Rebecca Christie Bauer (1991) and her husband, Rob, welcomed their fourth child, Henry David, on April 24, 2010. His older siblings are: Jack (6), Will (4), Anna (2).

Christine M MacMillan Campeau (1994) and her husband welcomed their second son, Sebastian Anthony Campeau, on May 29, 2010. Older brother, Alexander and Sebastian's grandmother, **Louise Campeau** was a graduate with the Class of 1962.

In Memoriam



Please pray for the following members of alumnae families who have died.

Paul Almeter, April 7, 2010, brother of **Mary Almeter (1948)**, father of **Amy Almeter Pearl (1983)** and **Margaret Almeter Shotwell (1986)**.

Patrick Allen, February 14, 2010, father of **Rebecca Allen Bronson (1995)** and **Colleen Allen Nudell (1997)**.

Christine Zajac Bodozian (1966), August 19, 2009, sister of **Rosemary Zajac Roskam (1962)** and cousin of **Janet Zajac McPherson (1962)**.

Jean Godios Berkowitz (1976), March 2, 2010, sister of **Mary Ann Godios Galluccio (1966)**, **Carol Godios Buskey (1968)**, **Denise Godios Miller (1973)**, and **Patricia Godios Scott (1979)**.

Frank Carroll, February 27, 2010, brother of **Sr. Judith Carroll, SSMN (1964)**, uncle of **Deirdre Carroll Whelehan (2001)** and **Katie Carroll (2007)**.

Amy Altenburger Egan (1972), 2009.

Judith LaFleur Fox (1960), November 25, 2009.

Mary Ellen Diebold Gasiuk (1952), August 5, 2009, mother of **Peg (Peggy) Gasiuk Park (1984)**, sister of **Catherine Diebold Flanagan (1954)** and **Gertude Diebold Crysler Zoyhofski (1958)**, cousin of **Eleanor Diebold Luthringer Soutter (1948)**, **Carroll Diebold Becker (1951)**, **Mary Jane Diebold Honecker (1953)**, **Sally Diebold Lane (1956)**, **Pamela Diebold Pawenski (1976)**, **Paula Diebold Davenport (1978)** and **Sheila Diebold Dobbins (1984)**.

Angela Hanania (1976), April 4, 2010.

Delores Hoch, March 27, 2010, mother and Donald Hoch, May 28, 2010, father of **Beth Ann Hoch Latko (1984)**.

Kathleen Tobin Marella (1960), February 26, 2010.

Kathleen Murphy Mayfield (1973), June 3, 2010, mother of **Kathleen Mayfield Vinovrski, (1997)**; sister to **Theresa Murphy Bornholdt (1972)**, **Sharon Murphy (1975)** and **Maureen Murphy Matthew (1986)**; and aunt of **Anne Bornholdt (1994)** and **Lauren Murphy (2006)**. Kathleen suffered a severe brain injury in 1998 at the age of 43 and lived at the Catherine McCauley Nursing Home (behind Kenmore Mercy Hospital) for eleven years. Kathy really loved MSM; her years there were central to her life and the woman she became.

Thomas McAuliffe, May 29, 2010, brother of **Elizabeth McAuliffe Pelligrino (1954)**.

Naomi McKee, March 24, 2010, mother-in-law of Diane McKee and grandmother of **Kathleen McKee O'Grady (2003)**.

Marie Weisbeck (McDonald) O'Brien (1935), June 5, 2009, mother of **Mary McDonald Sweet (1962)** and cousin of **Colette Zimmerman Dufort (1935)**, **Frances Trabert Schott (1932)**, **Madelyne Trabert Hack (1933)**, **Joan Dufort (1957)**, **Linda Schott Walsh (1960)** and **Suzanne Schott (1966)**.

Jean Johnson Porter (1942), sister of **Norma Johnson Berg (1939)** and **Marilyn Johnson Wende (1950)**.

Robert Racle, husband of **Lorraine Jaquays Racle (1964)**.

Rosemary V. Regan, December 16, 2009, mother of **Carol A. Roland Regan (1968)**.

Ronald Robertson, Sr., June 2, 2010, husband of **Barbara Czaja Robertson (1954)**.

Harold Rung, husband of **Cathy Rung (1976)**.

Helen Scanlon (St. Mary Seminary 1926), June 21, 2010, sister of **Margaret Scanlon (1918)** and **Elizabeth Scanlon (1923)**, aunt of **Mary Margaret Scanlon Gianfagna (1973)** and **Kim Scanlon Floss (1986)**. Helen was the recipient of the Honorary Alumna Award in 2008.

Patricia Utnik Schiavone (1972), May 25, 2010.

Jane C. Cempura Voss (1956), February 6, 2010.

Kathleen Krajewski Webb (1960), November 21, 2009.

In our last Focus, we asked for prayers for Mrs. Simpson, mother of Karen Simpson Taylor and Sr. Kathleen Simpson, DC who passed away on December 8, 2009. We mistakenly identified Mrs. Simpson by the wrong first name. We ask for your continued prayers for Mrs. Dorothy Simpson, beloved mother of Karen and Sr. Kathleen.

AlumniNOTES

A special congratulations to Sr. Mary Constance Ward who recently celebrated her 95th birthday.

1930's

Joan Dufort (1957) writes on behalf of her mother, **Colette Zimmerman Dufort (1935)**, "She hopes she is not the only one left from her class of 1935! She sadly misses her cousins [**Frances Trabert Schott (1932)** and **Madelyne Trabert Hack (1933)**] and most especially **Marie [Weisbeck McDonald O'Brien (1935)]** as they were raised as sisters."

We would love to hear from our earliest classes! Please write to us at 3756 Delaware Ave, Kenmore, NY 14217 and tell us how you are and where you are!

1950's

Congratulations to Jim and **Donna Carney Spicer (1954)** who celebrated their 50th anniversary in February!

1960's

As of March 29, 2010 **Sr. Christine Marie (Georgienne) Nizialek, CSSF (1968)** became receptionist at the Our Lady of Hope Provincial Center. This is the headquarters of the newly established Our Lady of Hope Province of the Felician Sisters, which encompasses eight former provinces in the U.S. and Canada.

1970's

Mary Howard Nicolatos (1974) is currently teaching Kindergarten at the Catholic school that she has taught at since 1985. She is a grandma to Michaela Todd, born in May 2008 and Jacob Donovan, born in December 2008.

Sharon Murphy (1975) is celebrating her 25th year as a Professor of Political Science at Nazareth College in Rochester, New York where she also serves as the Director of the International Studies Program. Sharon has had the opportunity to travel to Europe, Egypt, and South Africa and is planning a trip to Jordan and Jerusalem for the summer of 2010. In 2005, she went to teach English in Rwanda, where the Sisters of St. Mary of Namur have a school.

1980's

Susan Curry (1982) was appointed Director of The University of Chicago Law School Public Interest Law & Policy Program: <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/news/curry062310>.

1990's

Carmel Carson (1996) is living happily in Cheektowaga, NY, where she is currently working for Superior Technical Resources, Inc. as their Business Development Coordinator. She is the mother of a beautiful seven-year-old boy named Jayden and recently participated in the 30-mile ride in the Ride for Roswell.

2000's

Elizabeth Gruber (2002) is graduating from the University at Buffalo School of Medicine with Thesis Honors. She was inducted into UB's chapter of Alpha Omega Alpha, the only national medical honor society and even sang the national anthem at graduation! Liz will be moving to Boston for her residency in Internal Medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a major affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

Katie Raybould (2002) moved to South Carolina in February 2010 with a relocation offer from her job. Katie says, "It was the best decision I have made. I was able to travel to Philadelphia for nine weeks to work on a top priority account that we have with DHL and will soon be traveling to JFK and Seattle to work on the same account (Boeing). Things are going great!"

Danielle Fortier (2004) graduated from Buffalo State in May 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts in Art and Design, and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems.

Stephanie Ohol (2005) was hired by the Buffalo Bills in April 2010 as the Media Relations Office Manager after completing a year-long internship with the Bills.

Christy Kassler (2006) just graduated summa cum laude from Daemen College where she was awarded the Excellence in Writing Award.

Katherine Tryjankowski (2007) graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Graphic Design from the Art Institute of Pittsburgh in March 2010.

Wish List

We've asked our teachers what would make their classrooms complete for the 2010-11 school year. Help make our teachers dreams come true! Choose a gift to give or make a donation in the amount of one of the following items:

- A classroom version of Jeopardy for the Social Studies Department: www.classroomjeopardy.com (\$550).
- Photoshop for the Art Department (\$700)
- Maps of the Roman Empire and Ancient Civilizations for Latin Class (approximately \$50 each)
- A VCR/DVD combination for the Science Department (approximately \$80)
- A Scanner for the Math Department (approximately \$100)
- 26 Copies of The Book Thief by Markus Zusak (approximately \$7 each) for Holocaust Class
- Lockable Cabinet for Sports Equipment for the Athletics Program (approximately \$100)
- Fitness Equipment for the Fitness Center: Exercise Ball Rack, new Yoga Mats, Exercise DVDs and Wii Fit games, Ipod for stereo, Flat Screen TV with internet hook-up, Ab Circle, Perfect Push-up, Bosu Ball, Bikes, Medicine Balls, Malibu Pilates Chair and more. For more information and pricing please see: <http://www.mt-st-marys.org>

If you would like to make a donation or give a gift, please contact Bonnie May, Coordinator of Institutional Advancement (716) 877-1358 x. 306 or bmay@mt-st-marys.org



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Please Save the Date

Shop 'Til You Drop Alumnae Preview Night,
Friday October 1, 2010

Reverse Raffle, Saturday, October 16, 2010

Alice in Wonderland, Alumnae Night, Saturday,
November 20, 2010

Chrysalis Ladies Night, Tuesday, January 25,
2011

Chrysalis Auction and Dinner, Saturday, April
2, 2011

Alumnae Sunday

Please mark your calendar for June 12, 2011 when we welcome all graduates and alumnae home to Mount St. Mary. The celebration will begin with Mass in the Chapel and will be followed by dinner.

This is an opportunity for you to see old friends, teachers and, of course, your Alma Mater! Please join us in celebrating the sisterhood of MSM.

Future Mounties

Looking to continue your family dynasty? Whether your daughter, niece, granddaughter or cousin is entering 5th grade or 8th, it's time to introduce her to the Mount!

- Open House, September 26 and 27
- Meet the Mount Night, October 15
- Shadow Days for 8th graders are available from October 4 and following
- Entrance Exam, November 20
- Alumnae Tour and Tea, April 9

We're pleased to welcome Katie Stubbe (2002) home to MSM. Katie has joined the administrative team as our new Admissions Coordinator. If you would like to schedule a tour of the school or learn more about our application process, please contact Katie at (716) 877-1358 or kstubbe@mt-st-marys.org.

Focus

*The Alumnae Newsletter of
Mount St. Mary Academy*

We welcome your comments!

Please send them to:

Focus

Mount St. Mary Academy
3756 Delaware Avenue
Kenmore, New York 14217



VISIT US ON THE WEB:

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