



ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

May 2023

Dear SJC Alumna,

Happy Spring! I hope you are enjoying the change in weather and the spring flowers. We certainly had the opportunity to do so on campus during our recent reunion with temperatures in the high 70s.

Members of the milestone classes and other alumnae had a great time reminiscing and catching up with each other's lives. Attendees had many reactions: Mary Anne Kelly '68 said they had a small group but were having a great time getting to know each other even better; Sue Christman Williams '73 commented she was having the most fun since her 45th reunion; Shirley Berrian Sulzbrenner '73 commented that reunion was well organized.

On campus, the Fire Academy tours received great reviews. We were surprised when a booklet featuring historical SJC photos was distributed by the staff! At the Wyndham, everyone was up early on Saturday when the fire alarm went off at 6:45am requiring everyone to evacuate! Fortunately, no damage was done, and breakfast was served on time.

We have two reunions remaining. The 2024 dates are April 4-7 and our FINAL celebration as SJC alumnae will be April 3-6, 2025. We hope to have more events on campus on that final weekend. We will be discussing options with the Fire Academy and give you information as plans become firm.

At our annual Association meeting, Dr. Timothy Trainor, President of Mount St. Mary's University, and Mary Jackson, Director of the Physician Assistant graduate program of the new School of Health Professions thanked members for the SJC pledge to sponsor the entrance and lobby of the school and updated us on the progress of the programs. The Physician Assistant program is set to open September 2024. The Nursing master's program is in the development phase, targeted to open in September 2026. The Nursing program planning was expedited due to SJCAA input over the past few years.

Kathy Younkin '70 and Trudie Glazewski '74 are co-chairing a committee with members from several classes to develop plans for the commemoration of SJC at the entrance and lobby. It will include signage at the entrance, at least one rendering of SJC in the lobby and a digital display in the lobby featuring information about and photos of SJC. In addition, if the Nursing program is implemented, we have reserved the rights for sponsoring the proposed nursing lobby if we can raise the funds to do so. We will update you on those plans as they are developed and finalized.

I am pleased to announce we have already raised \$73,170 for the entrance/lobby sponsorship. With the SJCAA match of \$73,170, we are already over halfway to our goal of \$250,000 for this area. If we want to sponsor the nursing lobby, we will need to raise an additional \$100,000, for a total donation of \$350,000. Thanks to all of you who have donated thus far.

For those of you who have not, we ask that you donate what you can afford. A pledge/donation form is included in this mailing which also has guidance on how to donate using Qualified Charitable Donation from an IRA which can count toward a Required Minimum Distribution. Should you wish, your donation can be made in memory of or to honor an individual or group (parents, esteemed teacher, class of nurses, etc.).

This partnership with Mount St. Mary's will allow SJC to leave one final mark on the Valley as we wind down our Association, along with the brick program on campus, the SJCAA Scholarship at Mount St. Mary's, the eternal candle commemorating SJCAA in the Shrine and materials distributed at this point by FEMA. They have a brochure on the campus which includes a history of SJC and shows the campus buildings with their names AND our names for each building.

One of our Mount St. Mary's scholarship winners, Angela Vodola '23, attended the annual meeting and thanked the members for supporting her through her junior and senior years at the Mount. Angela was a Fulbright Scholarship semi-finalist but withdrew from consideration to accept a position as a Seton Teaching Fellow. After graduation, she will be working with inner city children, which is her passion. Our second winner, Rachel Warren '24 was unable to attend due to a scheduling conflict. Due to your generosity, the scholarship award per student has grown from the initial award of \$2200 in 2013 to \$6800 for the coming academic year.

Our Finance Chair, Claire Maurer, updated us on the Association's financial status. We currently have about \$130,000 in assets after setting aside our normal charitable contributions for the next two years and our pledge to match the first \$100,000 donated to the School of Health Professions. If we continue to receive our budgeted dues of \$50,000 through 2025, we project we will lose about \$10,000 a year. This is a remarkable achievement since we originally thought we would start losing money in 2016. Our financial stability is completely due to the generosity you, the alumnae of SJC, provide. Thank you SO much for your support during the past several years, allowing us to continue operations and have 50th reunions for ALL classes. Currently we have \$39,000 towards our \$50,000 dues budget for 2023. For those of you who have paid dues, THANK YOU. If you are not current with your dues, a dues envelope is included with this letter. We ask you to think about contributing to the Association; there are only a few more years to go. Any funds left over at the end of 2025 will be donated to charity.

Again, thank you for your continued support through the years. Your financial support, attendance at the reunion and comments to the SJCAA board have been inspiring to all of us. You have shown us how much the members appreciate the volunteer work we do to keep things going so we can 'stay alive til 2025'. Thank you for your generosity. For those who are not current with dues, thank you for paying them now. Also, please consider a donation to the School of Health Professions to leave one final SJC mark in the Valley.

Have a great Spring. We will continue to update you with Association news between now and the next reunion.

Karen

Karen Mattscheck '72
President, SJCAA