The Valley Echo

The St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Emmitsburg, MD

Volume 15, No. 1 Fall 2023

A note from your

SJCAA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Front Row: *(from left)* Florence DeLessio Marchetti '67, Sr. Anne Higgins '70, Mary Lou Ullrich Jones '64, Christine Wiberley Goglia '73. Second Row: *(from left)* Susan Stay Valenti '70, Maureen Hinke Hahn '73, Kathy McNaney Younkin '70, Christine Roos Mehl '70. Third Row: *(from left)* Jean Givens Denney '69, Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski '74, Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck '70, Claire B. Maurer '64

The SJCAA Board of Trustees is pleased to bring you the Fall 2023 issue of *The Valley Echo*.

There are many volunteers associated with the publication of this issue of our alumnae magazine. The names of the contributors for this issue of *The Valley Echo* are printed below.

We hope you enjoy this edition.

The Valley Echo

St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Inc.
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The Valley Echo is the annual publication of St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Inc. and mailed to active members of the association. Its mission is to inform alumnae of the association's activities, programs, and plans and to provide class news.

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Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck '70
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Cover: "The Stone House" is from an original painting by W. James McGlynn of Hockessin, DE. Jim is well known in the Wilmington/Bucks County, PA area as a very fine artist whose specialty is local historic buildings and scenes. Mr. McGlynn's paintings are in many public, corporate, and private collections.

2023/24 SJCAA BOARD OF TRUSTEES & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

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Managing Editor The Valley Echo
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Florence DeLessio Marchetti '67
Reunion Committee

Christine Roos Mehl '70
Reunion Committee / Co-Chair Reunion 2024

The Board meets twice a year – in September and in the spring during Reunion weekend.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Welcome to *The Valley Echo* 2023

Happy fall to the alumnae of St. Joseph College! We were back to normal celebrating Reunions this year. It was nice to see so many from the class of '73, the last graduating class from SJC. *The Valley Echo* is full of photos of alumnae celebrating their friendships from college and new friends made after leaving the school.

We have TWO Reunions left--April 4-7, 2024 and the FINAL SJCAA Reunion--April 3-6, 2025. The final Reunion WILL be a little different from current Reunions, we will be celebrating our association and all our years together.

A big THANK YOU to all of you who have continued to support our association with your dues. Your dedication is so heartwarming to all the board--and makes our jobs as volunteers so much easier and meaningful. It is a joy to spend our time keeping the association going for so many people who appreciate it--and dues help keep us alive. You have been very generous, keeping us in the black when we expected to be losing money. Please continue to pay your dues if possible, as the number of active alumnae continues to decrease. With your help, we are making it to 2025! THANK YOU AGAIN!!

On an even more impressive note--thank you to the alumnae who have already contributed to the SJC donation to the MSM School of Health Professions. We are currently at the impressive figure of $172,890 raised toward the SJCAA sponsorship of the entrance lobby AND the nursing lobby at the School of Health Professions that the Mount will be opening next fall. Combined with the $100,000 match from the SJCAA, our total raised is now $272,890…or 78% of our goal after four short months. This is a combination of actual donations PLUS the pledges some alumnae have made for contributions to the School of Health Professions over the next couple of years, which we can also count in our total. This sponsorship will allow yet another way for SJC to live on for many years in our beloved Valley, with our name on the entrance, a painting of the college in the lobby, and a digital display telling the story of SJC and the alumnae for those who come through the main entrance or enter the nursing lobby.

It has been in our hands to continue the life of the association--and you have come through in vast numbers to help continue our work. A heartfelt thank you to all the class agents who work to keep their classes together--and a special thank you to the SJCAA Board--without your volunteer efforts--working for free for over a decade now--this would NOT be possible. Thank you so much for your support.

To all alumnae--my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season for the winter 2023/2024. I hope to see many of you back in the "Valley" for Reunion 2024.

Karen

Karen Mattscheck '72
President, SJCAA

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SJCAA ANNUAL DUES

Active membership in the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA) guarantees an alumna will receive all association mailings, including *The Valley Echo*, the association's annual publication. Part of your dues contribution goes to produce *The Valley Echo*, which includes professional layout design, printing, and mailing costs. But that is only one of the items your dues support.

Pre-COVID, we budgeted our dues income at $50,000 in order to cover our main expenses. In 2022, this was exceeded as we received $53,900 in dues income. However, our annual expenses totaled $63,925, which include Charity ($16,550); Office Expenses ($8,172: printing, postage, office supplies, credit card fees, insurance); Website ($1,812: professional services for updating); *The Valley Echo* ($11,504); and our Management Services contract with Mount St. Mary's University ($25,887: Alumnae Liaison salary, telephone, computers and computer support, office space). Regrettably, the number of dues paying alumnae is dwindling so we anticipate that dues will not support the increasing cost of expenses in the remaining years of the Association, requiring us to use cash reserves to pay expenses.

Dues are tax deductible as the SJCAA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our charitable contributions are targeted to support those in the Emmitsburg community: Scholarships for the Mother Seton School, which the Administration distributes so several families benefit, Catoctin Pregnancy Center, Seton Center, and Masses for alumnae at the Basilica.

Because of your generosity, we have met our dues income goal each year. Although the number of alumnae contributing has declined, the average gift has increased. It is your generosity which will enable us to meet our goal of continuing until each class has had the opportunity to celebrate its 50th Reunion. We will continue to work to manage our finances as wisely as we can despite increasing costs.

- Claire Maurer '64, *Finance Chair*

The SJCAA sends bills or invoices for Annual Dues to all alumnae in October of each calendar year to provide operating funds for the coming year.

The invoice indicates

a. The year for which dues are being collected.
b. The date that the dues are to be received in the SJCAA office.

An example to explain the SJCAA's dues procedure:

In **October 2023**, the association will send **invoices** or bills to all alumnae for their 2024 ANNUAL DUES. Annual Dues for 2024 are due at the time the 2024 dues invoice is received by an alumna. **Dues for 2024 sent to the office as late as June 30, 2024 will also maintain active membership in the association.**

When you send a dues payment in December for the dues year beginning January 1, please note the following information:

In order to accommodate end-of-year tax rules, all donations written and postmarked on or before December 31st but received in the SJCAA office in January will be processed and receipted according to the **date on the postmark or the date of the electronic transaction**. The receipt date complies with best practices in accounting procedures for donations and/or dues received toward the end of the year.

2023 DUES PERCENTAGES

Class	TOTAL	FY23 Paid	Percentage
1946 Total	2	0	0.0%
1947 Total	6	2	33.3%
1948 Total	10	5	50.0%
1949 Total	9	3	33.3%
1950 Total	7	2	28.6%
1951 Total	15	4	26.7%
1952 Total	14	2	14.3%
1953 Total	8	2	25.0%
1954 Total	16	5	31.3%
1955 Total	15	7	46.7%
1956 Total	16	9	56.3%
1957 Total	22	7	31.8%
1958 Total	35	10	28.6%
1959 Total	36	8	22.2%
1960 Total	38	13	34.2%
1961 Total	51	23	45.1%
1962 Total	42	12	28.6%
1963 Total	62	34	54.8%
1964 Total	103	45	43.7%
1965 Total	89	45	50.6%
1966 Total	84	25	29.8%
1967 Total	99	22	22.2%
1968 Total	116	48	41.4%
1969 Total	142	44	31.0%
1970 Total	118	41	34.7%
1971 Total	101	29	28.7%
1972 Total	75	53	70.7%
1973 Total	124	42	33.9%
1974 Total	82	16	19.5%
1975 Total	30	4	13.3%
TOTAL	**1,567**	**562**	**35.9%**

Beginning with class year 1946 - Total solicitable base of alumnae (with good addresses): 1,567. *Please bear in mind this number fluctuates with updated addresses, dues paid, and deceased.*

562 alumnae have paid dues for a total of $47,119.00 from October 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023.

PHILANTHROPIES - MOTHER SETON SCHOOL

As we begin the 2023-24 school year, we want to extend our sincere gratitude to the St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA). Your generosity, reflected in $16,500 of donations last year, has been instrumental in enabling scholarships for our students. This support aligns seamlessly with the educational legacy we uphold from the Seton tradition. Thanks to your commitment, 21 students from 14 families could confidently navigate the financial challenges of the 2022-23 school year.

A special mention goes to the SJC Class of 1973, whose contribution of $5,100 on their 50th anniversary promises to make a significant impact in the coming year. We also appreciate the SJCAA members who have gone above and beyond, contributing IRA charitable rollovers and appreciated stocks to Mother Seton School. This level of dedication is a testament to the enduring principles of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, ensuring her legacy thrives for generations. Our most recent graduation ceremony marked another milestone as 33 students from 15 different zip codes across Maryland, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia received their diplomas. It reflects the reach of our mission to provide quality Catholic education to those who desire it for their children, just as Mother Seton originally intended when she began her school in Emmitsburg in 1810. It's worth noting that our enrollment has grown consistently for four years in a row, now reaching 370 students for this academic year. This growth underscores the trust and confidence placed in us by families. We enthusiastically embark on the new school year with gratitude and awareness of our pivotal role in shaping the educational journey of each student entrusted to our care.

In closing, we are truly appreciative of the SJCAA's partnership in our journey. Your support resonates deeply in our halls, and your contributions pave the way for a future where all can realize education's transformative power. We eagerly anticipate the milestones ahead as we work together to shape our students' brighter future.

For more information please contact Jennifer Buchheister, Director of Advancement, Mother Seton School, 100 Creamery Rd., Emmitsburg, MD 21722, 301.447.3165, advancement@mothersetonschool.org.

◀ Students with Sister Josephine Murphy DC

Students with Sr. Margaret Wooden, DC at Seton White House ▶

MSS Class of 2023 graduation candle ceremony ▶

REUNION 2023

Reunion 2023 celebrated the Class of '73 as our "Golden Girls." They were the last four-year class to graduate from Joe's, and 36 of them came to party. The Presidential Suite was hopping but they all found they couldn't last past 10:00 pm! Ellen Smelas and her Class of '63 celebrated their 60th with 22 classmates. Eleven from the Class of '68 who were celebrating their 55th joined with three from the Class of '58 celebrating their 65th for dinner Friday night.

There was one fly in the ointment! At 6:40 am on Saturday we were all startled by the fire alarm going off in the hotel. We found ourselves going downstairs in our pajamas to find it drizzling outside. The Fire Department came, inspected the hotel, then we all climbed back up the stairs. It was the topic of conversation at Saturday's Breakfast and Annual Meeting. Karen Mattscheck '72 presented the SJCAA Scholarship at Mount St. Mary's University to Angela Vodola '23, a 2022-23 recipient and Rachel Warren '24. Due to alumnae generosity the scholarship will be $6,800.00 for the coming academic year. The 2021 Legacy Award was finally presented in person to Kate Graham '68 for her contributions to school publications--*The Valley Echo* and *Allegra* as photographer, writer, and editor--which began during her first days in the Valley in 1964. The 2023 Legacy Award was presented to your humble servant Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck '70 for my years of service on the Board and running Reunion since 2015. It is an honor I will treasure.

The Saturday Night Banquet was full of fun visiting with classmates. Martina Esther Sabo '73 presented us with some wonderful words. She quoted from Luke, Chapter 8 Verse 2 about "certain women." "Consider these synonyms from the word certain: which includes: convinced, positive, confident, firm, definite, assured and dependable as they supported Jesus Christ in His Ministry. These descriptors speak of us to one degree or another and speak to our common heritage at St. Joseph College. We span decades with those attributes and we share a joint legacy of virtue and action…May we declare as certain women that Jesus is the Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. May we tightly hang on to Him and to one another in the years to come."

The Hassel cup was awarded to the Class of '63 for the highest percentage of members in attendance. The Sister Mary Ellen Award went to the Golden Class of '73 for the highest number of members in attendance. Finally the Class of 1952 Award, also know as the Husband's Memorial Cup, was awarded to the Class of '68 for the highest percentage of husbands and other guests.

Sunday Buffet Breakfast came too soon. It was time to say goodbye to friends we have known since our first days at Joe's. We have a special bond.

We have only two more Reunions. I encourage you to contact your classmates now and plan to attend Reunion 2024--April 4-7.

- Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck '70
Reunion Chair

Alumnae from the Class of '63 share memories at the campus lunch in the Student Center.

MARY ANN WIBERLEY SHATTUCK '70 HONORED WITH 2023 LEGACY AWARD

The St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA) Legacy Award, established in 2014, honors an alumna who has made a significant contribution to the association. The SJCAA Classes Committee accepts nominations for the award from Board members and class agents. A candidate for a Legacy Award is someone who conveys tolerance, warmth, kindness, and optimism, as well as leadership and service. Past Legacy Award winners are Maureen McPartland Smith '65, Claire Maurer '64, Betty Daly McFann '60, Karen Mattscheck '72, Marylou Ulrich Jones '64, Christie Damico Goles '64, Elinor Starr '53, Kate Graham '68, and Maryann Lesso '70.

The award for 2023 was presented to Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck of the Class of 1970. Mary Ann has served on the Board of Trustees since 2014. She has become an expert at running our Reunions since she started co-chairing the Reunion in 2015. Alumnae who attend Reunions are constantly complimenting her on her organization and detailed planning abilities each year.

Behind the scenes Mary Ann has managed negotiations with the Wyndham Hotel for every aspect of the Reunion events including arranging rooms; monitoring reservations; planning meals for each event; and scheduling class dinners, social hours, breakfasts, and the Reunion Banquet. Mary Ann is seldom seen during Reunion weekend without "The Bible," which is a complicated spreadsheet listing each attendee with all the information from their registration. She organizes the meal tickets, verifies meal selections, and communicates all of this to the Wyndham kitchen so that all the selections are available.

Mary Ann does everything she can to maintain a cordial and professional working relationship with the Wyndham. She has transitioned seamlessly through various Wyndham administrative staff changes over the years and as a result, they work with us to provide a memorable experience for all alumnae.

The planning for Reunion is a year-long effort. In addition to calls and Zoom meetings with Wyndham staff, Mary Ann, who lives in California, flies to the east coast to meet with the Wyndham staff and plan with the Reunion Committee as well.

Mary Ann's event planning skills have provided memorable Reunions for many 50th Reunion and Milestone Classes. Mary Ann impresses everyone with her calm, professional demeanor whenever she talks about anything to do with Reunion regardless of any challenges she is handling. Board members are always reassured that "all will be well" and this is an important quality in one who has to juggle so many "moving parts," not to mention personalities. Somehow Mary Ann always makes all of the wheels turn in the same direction, and, in spite of a glitch here and there, every Reunion is better than the one before it!

Nothing speaks more to maintaining the SJC Legacy than creating shared memories that enable our alumnae to recall our experience in the Valley and create new ones as we gather, each year, All Together.

The SJCAA Board's Classes Committee encourages nominations for this award from Board members, class agents, and any alumnae.

Kathleen Graham '68, recipient of the 2021 Legacy Award, was unable to attend last year to receive the award.

SJCAA'S SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED FOR 2022-2023

The St. Joseph College Alumnae Association (SJCAA) Scholarship at Mount St. Mary's University (MSMU) is an endowed scholarship funded by alumnae and friends of St. Joseph College. This scholarship is awarded to a rising or transfer junior and/or senior who has a minimum Grade Point Average of 3.0, who demonstrates financial need, and who is recommended by a faculty member at MSMU or another accredited college or university. Consideration is given to the students' career plans, community services, and academic awards. This year's scholarship winners are Angela Vodola and Rachel Warren. We were delighted to honor Angela and Rachel at Reunion 2023.

We were thrilled to welcome back senior **Angela Vodola** to our Annual Meeting. She is from Sandy Hook, CT where she attended Immaculate High School. Her majors at MSMU are Elementary Education and Special Education and she is described by her professors as a courageous leader, an ideal teacher, a humble person who puts others first. She applied for fellowships for post-grad education, and last January she heard that she had reached the semi-finalist position for a Fulbright Award, a very high honor for a student. Later in the semester she learned that she actually won, but instead accepted a Seton Teaching Fellowship (STF). When Angela expressed her sincere thanks to the association, she explained the STF as an education program working in underserved communities. She will greatly impact the academic and spiritual development of children. We wish her well!

Rachel Warren is a junior studying Elementary Education. She is from Rockville, MD and attended Rockville High School. Our scholarship application asks if they have a relation to an SJC graduate, and Rachel's aunt, Suzanne Stadtler, is a member of the Class of 1972. Described as a stellar student by her professors, Rachel already demonstrates the qualities of an effective elementary teacher. She remains on the Dean's List and was inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success. She is a terrific organizer and communicator. On arriving at MSMU Rachel started a work-study job at the Palmieri Activities Center, and plans to continue. She was also hired as an Activity Management Program leader. Rachel is service oriented. Since she was young she has worked through Life Connection Mission with her home parish to sponsor a little girl in Haiti, sending care packages and helping to pay for necessities.

For more information about the SJCAA scholarship program at MSMU, please contact the Alumnae Office at sjcaa@msmary.edu or 301.447.5075.

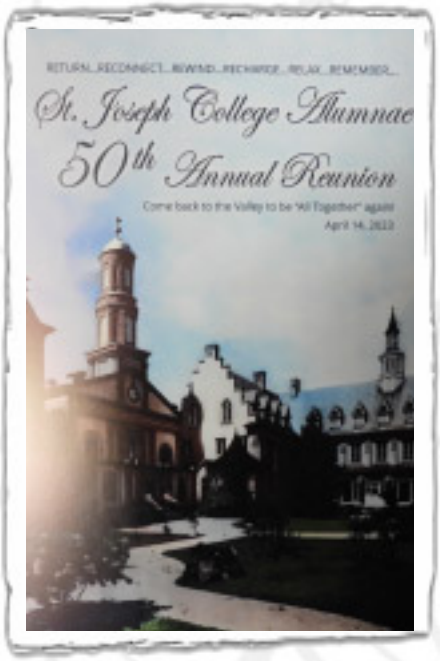
◀ Angela Vodola MSM '23 thanking the alumnae for the SJCAA Scholarship and sharing her future plans.

REUNION 2023 PHOTO *Gallery*

(From left) Kathy McNaney Younkin '70, Bobbie Davis Speace '64, Jackie Melroy Shiring '64, Claire Maurer '64, and Kim Johnson MSM get ready for Reunion attendees

(From left) Kathy Kerns Raubens '74, Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski '74, Jane Davis Gallagher '74, Jane Lowe Huber '74, and Barbara Wurster Reiprish '74 enjoy the Wine Social hour together

(From left) Becky Snyder Peters '69, Joanne Snyder Caye '70, Leslie Henze Blackstock '70, Christine Roos Mehl '70, and Jean Givens Denney '69 enjoy a laugh at the Thursday Wine Social.



FEMA greeted us with a special brochure celebrating SJC history.

(From left) Roseanne Szczur Montanaro '73, Jane McDonough Milne '73, and Mary Lombard Vassiliou '73 at the campus lunch

(From left) Shirley Berrian Selzbrenner '73, Christine Wiberley Goglia '73, Anne Steinour Laughlin '73, Rosanna Mancini '73, and Theresa Mihalik Herb '73 at the campus lunch

After lunch, alumnae gather to begin the campus tour led by FEMA volunteers.

Visiting the library, vastly changed from our days!

Dr. Lorie Moore-Merrell *(center in mint green jacket and black slacks)*, U.S. Fire Administrator, welcomes SJC alumnae to the campus.

(From left) Mary Leitch '58, Mary Jane Shaughnessy Beaulieu '58, and Sr. Claire Edwards enjoy social hour on the patio.

(From left) Anne O'Regan Brolley '68, Mary Anne Kelly '68, Sheila Kelly Vertino '68, and Mary Libby Palm '68 gather before their Class Dinner.

(From left) Martina Sabo '73, Martina Cartegena '73, Pamela Hull Reilly '73, Patricia Jenkins Cavuoto '73, and Patricia McLarnen '73 ready to enter their Class Dinner.

(From left) Monica Leck Rebovich ’73, Angela Neilan ’73, and Sharon Thompson Renner ’73 enjoy the Social Hour before the Class Dinner.

(From left) Beverly Harris Hovanec ’73, Linda Nigh Gerasimowicz ’73, Marella Colyvas ’73, Margaret Zrebiec Shearer ’73, and Theresa Mihalik Herb ’73 at the Class Dinner Social Hour

Reminders of the SJC years shared by the 50th Reunion Class of ’73.

More reminders of four years at SJC

Representatives of Milestone Classes begin the Mass Procession.

(From left) Kathleen Kramer Callahan '73, Toni Doherty Kellison '73, Susan Christman Williams '73 accompany Christine Wiberley Goglia '73 to take roses to the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton statue.

(From left) Deacon Pat Goles MSM '64, Rev. Martin O. Moran III, celebrant, and Nolan Williams MSM, acolyte

Patricia Jenkins Cavuoto '73 lights candles as Kathy McNaney Younkin '70 reads the names of those alumnae deceased since last Reunion.

(From left) Michael Birch MSM '71, Leah Rosenbrock Birch '73, Patricia Jenkins Cavuoto '73, Anne Steinour Laughlin '73, and Susan Christman Williams '73 enjoy Social Hour before the banquet.

(From left) William Leitch, Mary Alice Friede Mauser '67, Mary Leitch '58, Mary Jane Shaughnessy Beaulieu '58, Rita Gisriel Cole '67, and Kathleen Sheehan Horn '67 at the Banquet Social Hour

(From left) Sr. Anne Higgins '70, Christine Roos Mehl '70, Joanne Snyder Caye '70, Becky Snyder Peters '69, Susan Stay Valenti '70, Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck '70, Constance Mauro Barnett '70, Sue McKenna Clifford '70, Kathy McNaney Younkin '70, and Leslie Henze Blackstock '70 gather at the Banquet Social Hour.

Members of the Class of '63 at dinner

Members of the Class of '63 at dinner

Members of the Class of '63 at dinner

Members of the Class of '68 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’68 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’73 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’73 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’73 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’73 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’73 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’73 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’58 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’70 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’74 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’69 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’65 at dinner

Members of the Class of ’67 at dinner

(From left) Claire Maurer ’64, Jennifer Buchheister, Mother Seton School, Mary Lou Ullrich Jones ’64, and Kim Johnson, MSM

◀ *(From left)* Kim Johnson, MSM accepts check from Dorothy Cartagena ’73 and Leah Rosenbrock Birch ’73 for the SJCAA Scholarship Fund.

Martina Sabo ’73 recalls fond memories of the Class of ’73 years on campus.

Ellen Krieger Smelas ’63 accepts the Hassell Vase awarded to the class with the highest percentage of members in attendance from Claire Maurer ’64.

Christine Wiberley Goglia ’73 accepts the Sr. Mary Ellen Kelley Award awarded to the class with the highest number of members in attendance from Claire Maurer ’64.

Mary Anne Kelly ’68 accepts the Class of ’52 Friends and Family award for highest percentage of family and guests in attendance from Claire Maurer ’64.

The traditional ending of the banquet with the singing of the Alma Mater, *All Together*.

The Class of ’58’s 65th Reunion Photo

The Class of ’63’s 60th Reunion Photo

The Class of ’68’s 55th Reunion Photo

The Class of ’73’s 50th Reunion Photo

Class News

1947

Sr. De Chantal (Mary Fran) La Row
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At Christmas I received a card and note from **Norma Walker Stec** and more recently we spoke to each other on the phone. We are both deaf and wear hearing aids. Despite them we had difficulty hearing and understanding each other on the phone. Norma said that Frank continues the syndrome with what the cardiologist terms long-care COVID dementia, however physically he is pretty good. Norma says she is getting quite deaf. She knows there is talking but she cannot understand the words. Her balance is completely gone and she uses a rollator walker to get around and is really slow. She did get hearing aids but they proved worthless. The better news is that she and Frank are physically well and can enjoy Mother Nature and the change of seasons.

The Christmas card that I sent to **Irene Campbell Seitz** was returned stating that it was undeliverable as addressed and unable to forward. I did not get a Christmas card from her and I was unable to reach her by phone.

I have been unable to reach **Cecilia Gallagher Pascuzzi** after many tries but I believe she is living at the same place. She did try to contact me but I was unable to take her call at the time and then when I tried to return her call I could not get through to her.

The year has continued to be normal at St. Louise. I still spend time doing correspondence, reading, and talking to friends and relatives on the phone. I have slowed down and only do a limited amount of shopping and outside activities. This coming December will mark my 75th anniversary as a Daughter of Charity. They have been very interesting, happy, and blessed years most of which have been in health care, and I thank God for them. May God continue to take care of you and those dear to you. Let us continue to pray for each other and for the members of our class who Our Lord has called to our Heavenly Home.

1954

Claire Kirchner Lawless
9070 Belvoir Woods Parkway
Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-2702
301.452.4167

70th Reunion in 2024!

On behalf of all, special thanks to **Romaine Smith Burelbach** for her many years of keeping us informed. I will do my best to continue "spreading the news" but depend on you to supply it.

As for me, after 60 years in the same house in Maryland with two daughters living nearby, I moved two years ago across the river to a Sunrise continuing care community in Virginia, close to my other daughter and older son, many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Though COVID had forced me to give up tenpin bowling after 40+ years, I now enjoy bingo, bridge, have even learned mahjong and won a cornhole tournament! I also attend exercise classes (groan!) and enjoy bus outings to the theater, restaurants, and historic sites (the DC area has many, you know!). In addition to my five children, I have 16 grandchildren (13 boys!), and nine greats (eight boys!), with three more due this year. Most of my family are in the area or nearby on the east coast, so I see them often.

Pat McGrath Jones still plays golf twice a week, though she's feeling the effects of aging, as I'm sure we all are!

Ro McCarthy Borrosso enjoys her beautiful condo on the water on Long Island. Her children are nearby so she sees them often--shopping, eating out, and doing "fun things together"--even swimming in the summer.

Mary McIntyre Gray and Bill are enjoying retirement in Shepherdstown, WV, a small college town on the Potomac River about 50 miles upstream from DC. Bill is recovering from a broken hip suffered recently. Their family is scattered throughout the US.

It was nice to hear from **Ann Chamberlain Tibiletti** in Tyler, TX who says she is still active, playing bridge two-three times a week. Her four children are two doctors and two lawyers. She has five granddaughters and eight

greats, five boys and three girls--all but one living close by.

Sister Louise Sullivan retired from Niagara University in 1998 after 23 years as Professor of French and Chair of the Dept. of Foreign Languages. Since then she has worked with Catholic Charities in Boston, taught French to immigrants in Montreal for three years, and is now in New York. Over the years she has been writing and translating and is now working on the writing of a Daughter of Charity who was their Superioress General during Vatican II.

Louise informed me that **Sister Patricia Ann O'Brien** is living at the Daughter of Charity retirement home in Albany. Her eyesight is failing so she no longer has a phone or email but still gets around and I'm sure is interested in any news of the class.

After not hearing from **Sister Catherine Fitzgerald** for several years, I asked Louise about her. I'm sad to report that Louise informed me Cathy passed away in September 2021 at the nursing care facility Villa St. Michael adjacent to the basilica in Emmitsburg. At Reunion 2019 Ro, Mary Gray, and I attempted to visit her but were unable to. She had dementia and apparently was failing then.

Sadly, I also learned recently of the passing of three more classmates--**Joanne Tierney Bleimeyer**, **Pat Brady Hines**, and **Marie Paule Melroy Munkacsy**.

I enjoyed a nice lunch with Jo several years ago while in Florida but then stopped hearing from her. After much searching, I recently reached her stepson, who told me she had gradually declined in recent years until her passing in February 2022.

Pat's daughter informed Romaine that she died peacefully at home on January 25, 2023 with family present.

My updating of the class address list and search for news brought me an e-mail from Marie Paule's son Mark informing me that she passed away in February after battling Alzheimer's for a number of years.

May they all rest in peace!

My emails to **Mary Lou Williams**, **Norma**, **Wanda**, and **Jo Gates** have generated no response. Likewise, letters to **Honey**, **Jeanne Hines**, **Beth**, **Ro Maguire**, **Edna, Juanita**, and **Nancy Schirra**. None has yet been returned, either. Does anybody have any info on them?

Please keep in touch--and I hope to see some of you at Reunion 2024--our 70th, and our last opportunity to gather "Side By Side."

1955

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Did you know? The Class of 1955 started out with 46 eager freshmen. One left the very first week and 12 at the end of '52. There were two new arrivals for our sophomore year and then 11 left at the end of that period. Six joined us as juniors and four left at the end of that year. We graduated 26! Now, we are 13, having lost **Clarebeth "CB" Maguire Cunningham** on October 12, 2022 and **Carol Murray Fuchs** on March 2, 2023. Both were enrolled in Mass remembrances at the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Seton and a memorial card was sent to each family with condolences from the class. May memories of them live on in us and may they rest in peace.

Miriam Johnson Curnin was the first to respond to my email just in time to awaken my new printer. She and Tom are summering in the Berkshires as is their tradition. Miriam describes their N. Egremont, MA home as a magnet for the family, children, grandchildren, and their friends. "Everyone's favorite place." Their grandchildren can be found in a variety of endeavors--law, clinical psychology, arts administration, and two entering their senior year of college. There's no dearth of conversation in that home! When asked to share the best thing that happened to her at St. Joe's she expressed gratitude for Mr. Waters and Dr. Wasilifsky who guided her in "the lifetime gift of the joy of English literature." Miriam is also grateful for the lifetime friends she acquired--"wonderful girls who became wonderful women!"

Betty Barbieri McClellan's email followed Miriam's. Betty shared her exciting June travels with daughter Kathy and husband Ross to Amsterdam, the Rhine, Lake Como, and Milan. A Santa Fe opera trip is planned for August and Puget Sound in September. In the midst of all her travels, she found the time for a hip replacement in June. Bill is well but he chooses to stay home and travel on the wings of Betty's memories. They take great pride in their grandchildren and their academic and athletic skills. When not travelling Betty enjoys bridge, needlepoint, Bible study, and her Opera Support Group. She feels blessed to have family nearby

and is grateful for their generous help when needed.

Virginia Ohlmuller Rooney is another who sings the praises of Mr. Waters. Whether on Marco Island or in Delaware she continues to use her well-trained speaking skills in the ministry of Lector. Her husband Bill is also a Lector. Virginia shared this heart-warming 2023 Fathers' Day Mass at their parish in Wilmington, Bill was the scheduled Lector. Their children, grandchildren, and surrogate son all attended (unbeknownst beforehand to Bill). There was great joy when Bill looked out from the lectern and saw the entire first pew occupied by his family. What a gift! A Grace moment, for sure!

In spite of many health issues, **Pauline "Pal" Lisella Raftopoulos** is always upbeat! She has three of her children living with her and she has many friends from her high school years. She and her husband Spyro lived in New Jersey for 25 years but they then moved to Pal's childhood home in Summit Hill, PA where she still lives. For recreation, she enjoys sewing and is always happy to find interesting programs on Hulu and other streaming services.

Cathy Connolly Persons was proud to have flown by herself to join her oldest daughter for a two week winter stay in Florida. Her youngest daughter Liz and family were returning from their stay in Abu Dhabi, and Cathy was eager to have them back and living nearby.

A very dark, rainy day was brightened by a phone visit with **Dolores "Dee" Nevy McMullen**. With four adult children and 11 grandchildren living nearby, she is kept busy with their frequent visits. Dee and Jack have a cottage in the coastal town of Bethany Beach, DE about four and a half hours from their home and their family often gathers there in the summer.

Barbara "Barb" Henner Keogh's large family keeps her young and vibrant! Many live nearby so she has lots of company and many willing volunteers. She is still driving and has never lost her love for bridge. Her one sad note was the recent sudden death of her 35-year-old grandson Patrick. The cause of death had not yet been determined, when we spoke. She ended our conversation on the happy note that her niece's daughter would be attending Mt. St. Mary's on a Lacrosse scholarship. Barbara is thrilled with this new connection with "our" Valley!

Sister Mary Martha "Mary T." Gardiner shared memories of her June retreat "The Earth Calls Us Home" led by Jan Novotka, a former member of the IHM Congregation with a rich ministry of music and prayer. Ecology was the basis of the retreat, and Pope Francis' *Laudato Si* was the inspiration. Sister was grateful for this peaceful and grace-filled time. In April she had flown (by herself) to Maryland for her brother's 90th birthday. It will be her 90th in 2024! A "sisters reunion" was planned for July with her sisters Cathy and Susan. Mary T. is still teaching ESL classes twice a week and serving as Senior Companion with the Telespond Program. She is still able to push wheelchairs so she goes along in the van and accompanies Sisters to their medical appointments. She delights in "still being of some use!"

Even though **Betty Brown Shea** left after one year to study at Drexel, she has fond memories of her classmates and the hi-jinks in the dorm hall as we got to know each other and became friends. With her 90th birthday on July 12, Betty was looking forward to a grand family gathering for the 4th of July to celebrate her and to enjoy the Jersey Shore together. Another member of the nonagenarian club!

Monalee Overdorf Welliver is another who left after her first year. She has many memories and recalls, especially, Sr. Denise Eby and her science class. Monalee's children and their families live close enough to visit frequently. Her oldest son Kim, a licensed pilot, even provided her with a private plane ride to a friend's celebration! Her son Sean faithfully sets up a laptop on Sunday mornings so she can Zoom with Sue Garner McNulty '63, Betty Brown Shea, and me. When various family members are visiting, they too join the Zoom. The more the merrier! Building on the friendship enjoyed at the 2022 SJC Reunion, Sue Garner McNulty and Anne Marie "Tobie" Gibbons both '63 road-tripped to Staunton, VA in April to have lunch with Monalee and to share details of their recently experienced 2023 SJC Reunion.

After many attempts to reach her, **Maria Del Pilar "Mapy" Irizarry** surprised me with a late July phone call. All is well! A bad fall in February led to a fractured hip which was skillfully repaired. Mapy was faithful to rehab and is now walking unaided. She is presently living with her daughter and son-in-law while her healing continues. She is blessed with two caregivers who love to cook. Mapy prefers to stay out of the kitchen. Everyone is happy!

I was unable to connect with **Margaret "Jill" May O'Connell**. Phone messages were left but never returned. I pray that all is well.

Every year, I attend a Women's Retreat at the Dominican Spiritual Life Center in Niskayuna, NY. In 2022 Mary Jane Shaughnessy Beaulieu '58, who lives nearby, joined me for a "free time" visit. This year, Sue Garner McNulty '63 joined me for the retreat and, once again, Mary Jane stopped by, and this time, she was accompanied by Mary Liz Crenshaw '58 who also lives nearby. The four of us enjoyed a mini SJC Reunion! It is always a thrill to reconnect with alumnae. There are so many memories to share! My activities are somewhat limited but I am still driving and I get myself and others to my two women's groups. None of my children live nearby but they are very generous with their time and skills and are frequently available to tackle my perpetual "to do" list. My days are rich with what I call "God moments" and I am ever grateful for the attention and support of the Holy Spirit.

DO read whatever mail you get from the Alumnae Office. 2025 will not be the end of SJC! We will live on in many hearts and in the exciting developments of the School of Health Professions at Mt. St. Mary's, scheduled to open in fall 2024.

1956

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Sadly, two of our classmates passed to their eternal reward at the end of 2022.

Sister Margaret John (Rose) Kelly, DC died at Villa St. Michael in Emmitsburg, MD on November 24th. A Mass of Christian burial was held December 3rd at the Basilica of the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Among her many accomplishments, Rose earned a Ph.D. at St. John's University where she founded and directed the Vincentian Center for Church and Society for 21 years.

Alhen Ehrensing Green of Bowie, MD passed away on December 5th after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. A Mass of Christian burial was held at St. Pius X Church in Bowie on December 14th. In lieu of flowers the family requested donations to the Alhen E. Green Scholarship Fund at St. Joseph College Alumnae Association. Alhen was the mother of eight, grandmother of 25, and great-grandmother of eight.

Joan Kerr Benjamin lives in Mercy Ridge in Timonium, MD, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. She has her own apartment and can come and go, though she has given up her car. Her three sons live in Oregon, Virginia, and Rockville, MD. Her three-year-old grandson is the love of her life. Joan is well except for some arthritis; because of a hip replacement she uses a rollator.

Anne Christe Calcagni lives in the same home in Norfolk with Tony who still works every day! All the children are grown and well. Her daughter lives in Richmond and the four sons live in the Norfolk and Virginia Beach area. Anne has 11 grandchildren, of whom ten are nearby and a great-granddaughter in Nevada. Anne volunteers once a month at church and loves her garden club and garden that yields tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, and green peppers.

Betty Taylor Claypoole lives in the same home in Cranford, NJ. She is doing well. Her daughter lives in Palmyra, NY and has just retired. Son Eddie works in ecology and lives on a farm in Delaware. Son Kevin lives nearby and takes her places. His summer plans included taking Betty to Lake Hopatcong from her cottage on Lake Shawnee to have lunch and then around the lake to view all the houses from a big pontoon boat.

Nona Murray Duvall lives in Harbor Chase in Woodbridge, VA. She just welcomed a new great-grandbaby and attended a baby shower for two more great-grandchildren who are due to daughters of her daughter Joan who lives nearby. Many of the Colorado family who had not travelled because of COVID came for the joint shower. She still plays bridge on a regular basis and feels good. Nona is still singing and leads vocal groups. Her grandchildren call her Nona because it's so easy to say!

Mary Fran Kane lives in the house in which she grew up in Palatine Bridge, NY. A double house, her niece lives upstairs and keeps an eye on things when Mary Fran takes off for winters in Cape Canaveral, FL. She frequently sees launches from the nearby space center. She was planning to go to the horse races in Saratoga Springs in August. Though she has given up golf, she is doing well and says she is in a good place in life.

Mary Ann Radzievich Pagano and Danny live at Maris Grove in Glen Mills, PA. Meals are provided five days a week, and Danny takes over on the weekends. Their five children are all doing well. Two daughters live nearby as do three grandchildren. Though Mary Ann needs oxygen on a regular basis, she is still plugging away.

Noel Stewart Rupprecht lives in Fairport, NY. When I spoke with her, she had just returned from Denver for a big family reunion in memory of her daughter Betsy who had died this year, 12 years after a very serious car accident. Betsy's husband still sees Noel for dinner on a regular basis. In September she was planning to travel to see her sister-in-law.

Chica Godbee Golibart fell in early April, had a hip replacement, and rallied for her 90th birthday on April 13. Her entire family came to Cape Charles, VA for the celebration. Her recovery has been so complete that she wouldn't know she had a hip. Two of her grandchildren are married and one will present her with her first great-grandson in February. Chica spent three weeks visiting Emmitsburg in the summer. As a nurse, she is especially pleased that one granddaughter is a BSRN nurse and a grandson will graduate as a physician's assistant in February.

I drive frequently to a suburb of Columbus, OH where I see 12 family members, including five great-grandchildren. I visited with my Colorado son Kevin and two grandsons at a family wedding in August. In June my daughter Mary and her husband Kevin who live nearby and I visited nine countries on a Baltic Sea cruise. My health is good, and I volunteer with St. Margaret's House, Faith in Indiana, and League of Women Voters.

Paying dues keeps *The Valley Echo* coming, so do send them to St. Joseph College Alumnae Association, Inc., Mt. St. Mary's University, 16300 Old Emmitsburg Rd., Emmitsburg, MD 21727.

Stay well, keep in touch, and remember each other in prayer.

1957

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We are saddened to report we lost two classmates this year. **Jeanne Mitchler Fiks** passed away January 3, 2023 in Washington, DC. We will miss her stories of vacations in Europe and how much she enjoyed the food and culture of her travels. **Joan Stovicek Hutchinson**'s obituary was in the *Ann Arbor News*. She passed away May 4, 2023 in Brighton, MI. She will be remembered for her work with the pregnancy clinic fighting for the rights of the unborn.

The doctors have told **Betty Ann Kenney Sheridan** that she should have a valve replacement to correct a heart murmur. She and Bill are debating whether this is the proper time to do such a serious operation. Betty Ann is currently residing in a care center, the Pines at Hilton Head, to build up her strength and gain weight back. She would love to hear from anyone who wishes to call her at 770.343.8494.

My husband and I had the pleasure of seeing **Carol Knauer Pastor** this summer. She says she remains in good health, although using a cane because of hip problems. She enjoys her life and work on Coronado Island, CA. She is busy writing for two magazines and the local newspaper and volunteering with the police department and museum.

Margaret Hayner Atkins dropped in on me in the spring when she was in town for a memorial service. She looked vibrant and in good health despite her recent bout with lymphoma. She still loves to cook and garden and walks up to five miles a day.

Occasional notes from **Lucille Marano**, **Carol Bon Tempo Glennon**, and **Adelaide Burroughs Campbell** say they are doing well.

Jacqueline Smith Woelkers and husband just returned from a cruise on the St. Lawrence Seaway, visiting Montreal, Quebec, Gaspe, Halifax, Boston, and New York City. The trip was to escape the extreme heat in Phoenix this summer.

1958

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From **Mary Jane Beaulieu**--our Class Agent **Margaret Belanger Zanghi** was unable to submit news for this edition. So with the help of the Alumnae office and all of you here is our news.

Reunion was delightful as ever...always special to be in the Valley. At dinner Friday night were **Sister Claire Edwards**, **Mary Liz Leitch** and Bill, and myself. Friday during the day Sister Claire and I attended the tour and drove around, including a trip to the Grotto. I left some flowers at Msgr. Kline's grave. At noon Saturday we met Marcie at the Carriage House for lunch. Mary Liz and I carried the roses for our class at Mass, and we were joined by **Anne Quigley** and Steve and **Anne Meyer**

Feehley for our dinner.

Faith Hawkins Welsh was scheduled to attend, but had to cancel due to a sudden mastectomy. All is well now. She did send me a note that her 52-year-old son Chris died unexpectedly shortly after. On a happier note, her good news is that grandson William T. Welch graduated from Georgetown, his sister Katherine completed her freshman year at Smith, and the younger brother enrolled in flight school. All of us are saddened by the sudden death of **Dolores Sicilla Fitzgerald "Doey's"** daughter Allyn as well. Can't imagine the pain. Prayers for these losses.

Shortly after Reunion Mary Liz and I met with Marty Methot Meadows '55 and Sue McNulty '63 at our local retreat house. We sang a nice rendition of *All Together*. Joanne Stahlhut Coppola '71 from our parish had a Mass said for Sister Margaret John Kelly (Rose Kelly '56), who had been her teacher. Rose was my big sister. A fellow parishioner approached us and said she had gone to high school with her in Philadelphia. Small world!

Carol Redmond is recovering from some serious surgery...abdominal area. Her family really stepped up to the plate. Ron spent three weeks in respite care.

As part of my reunion trip, I spent a night in Frederick with my grandson and his wife. The next day I met **Rosemary Capello Fitzpatrick** for lunch. She was with us freshman year. A five day student she would return each weekend with marvelous baked goods from her family's store. After 65 years...we had a wonderful lunch together. She was an only child, had six children, and has 18 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. **Mary Sheridan Flynn** and I resided in the same area of first floor Seton. I gave Mary a call...she is watched over by her husband Charlie. We enjoyed reminiscing about our college days.

Annette Delfina Strauch writes that she and John are still living at Mercy Ridge. They feel blessed to be there. John is 92 and Annette is 89 and feel they could no longer manage to keep their home of 32 years. John and Annette have seven children and 28 grandchildren. They also now have five great-grandchildren. Unfortunately John has mild Parkinson's disease but still manages activities. Annette suffered a stroke on Mothers' Day and is recovering slowly. She asks that we keep her and John in our prayers. She has fond memories of Reunions past and classmates. Being together always seemed fresh and new. She hopes that we all are doing well.

My spring involved three trips to Charleston, February bridal shower, May wedding, June baby shower (for the couple in Frederick). All wonderful events.

All the news I have experienced this year...that I can remember!! – Mary Jane

1959

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65th Reunion in 2024!

Dear Classmates—because of a family illness, I was not able to submit a report this time. I do, however, want to remind everyone that our 65th Reunion is next year. Please mark your calendars for April 4-7, 2024 for our 65th Reunion. I hope that many of you will be able to attend.

God bless everyone and please keep in touch with me.

1960

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What a treat! Finally getting around to sharing our class news…blame it on Wimbledon! For delay on my part. But, and a really good thing. Though I think of **Nancy Gill McShea** often, for the past few days I've been "with Nancy" non-stop. To this day, Nancy is BIG with the US Tennis Association and she can claim being on a first name basis with both John and Pat McEnroe. More than a bit impressive, Nancy. Love following you on Facebook.

Happy for update on **Sue Anderson**. Sue shares that she reads a lot and walks a lot and her grandchildren keep her busy busy busy. Her oldest Elizabeth, graduated from Loyola University in Baltimore and is a speech pathologist at the Baltimore/Washington Health Center. Granddaughter Katherine graduated from Loyola

University also and works in Marketing in Upper Marlboro, MD. Claire recently graduated from Mt. St. Mary's and is in the health field. Grandson Matthew is a rising senior at Villanova University.

Mary Crawford Beltran better known as "Pudgy" reminds us all how she attended school with Marty and Sue so naturally they have a strong tie. Pudgy recently had rotator cuff surgery and during rehab fell and broke a bone in her hand. Ouch! And Oh, no!!!! She tells me how her granddaughter Anna has become her driver. Anna has actively been #1 assistant at Pudgy's Annual Art show. Grandson Lucas is at Davidson College in North Carolina and is goalie on their soccer team.

Hearing from **Linda Ryan Healy** was not with the happiest news, Tom's death in May. Her children Tom, Kathy, and Erin were her strength the last six years of Tom's life. On a happier note, Linda's three granddaughters are all out of college and sporting good jobs.

And now to **Charlotte Duffy Kain** who is always the first to respond to me…well, she didn't this time around which caused big time concern on my part. But, eventually Liz connected with her and "all is good" with both her and Tom.

Direct from **Regina Smith Shahade**, "Al and I moved again"…back to their earlier location, Boonton, NJ, and closer to their daughter Beth. She does a lot of dog sitting her daughter's rescue, Fancy Staffy pit bull. And a giggle along with this; Gina says Staffy is half her size!!!

Gloria Defina Chisholm who states there is nothing new except a recent fall (join the club, Gloria). Lucky those in her retirement home to have her. She is actively busy busy busy as a Eucharistic Minister which entails many jobs.

A move loved by **Carol Gorman Hogan** and Bill. They moved to Marshall, VA and purchased a house with their daughter and her family in the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains. It's been an adjustment but now that they're settled, they are loving it. The Hogans are more than pleased with their new parish which is actually where their daughter Kathleen was baptized. And, Carol and Bill will soon be celebrating their 63rd wedding anniversary. Lots of mazel!!!!!

Kathy Kathy Kathy…**Kathy O'Donnell O'Brien** you made my day! My tennis day! Saying you are now bionic. Kathy has two new shoulders and a replaced knee and is back playing tennis and now learning to play pickle ball. Color me green! 'cause I'm in that same bionic club but instead of a racquet my new best friend is my cane and/or walker. YOU GO GIRL!!!!! Sadness in Kathy's life was Brendan's unexpected death last December. Lots of sad tears and tears of pride watching her children lovingly care for their Dad in his final days. Kathy finds joy in everyone's love for Brendan very comforting.

Beth Addison Moreland, along with her sister, eats out often welcoming new places. Additionally she has a front flower bed and a good number of plants on her deck which she enjoys taking care of. But she says, "With the unusual weather this spring and summer, it can be quite confusing to decide what they need-and when." Beth says she and her sister are stay-at-home souls for the most part but do enjoy doing crossword puzzles and jigsaw puzzles. Life is good, Beth.

Martha Spurlock, our Marty, claims she doesn't have much to report. Wrong!!! She says she spends her time pondering our age (LOL), playing bridge, reading, and lunching with friends. She sees **Sue Corcoran Bruswitz** often and invited me to "do lunch" with them at Seasons 52. I'm going to surprise you, Marty, and take you up on your offer. All we'll need is Pudgy.

I must quote **Kay Saunders Desilva** verbatim, "Life is much like floating up a lazy river." She and Phil continue to isolate per doctor's orders. Phil has severe COPD and Kay was recently diagnosed with hypogammaglobulinemia. Now, get this: her immunologist, who is in her 30's and a Johns Hopkins Fellow, looked at her and said, *"None of us have ever had someone your age with this as an initial diagnosis. It's probably congenital."* Since Kay was eight years old with pneumonia too many times she has had at least seven serious respiratory scares, so now she knows why. Rx: Stay away from sick people or people you don't know. Kay's sons' families are fine. Three grandchildren in college and the youngest in 5th grade.

Always happy hearing about **Sally Grabe Poux**. She has recently been in Seattle for granddaughter Una's high school graduation. Una is next matriculated at the University of Washington in Seattle. Next, Sally's family will be going to visit her in Lake Michigan for a week then Jerry's family visiting for three weeks and then Sally's son Dan will visit for a week. Phew! Nice but lots of work!!!

Wonder if **Vicki Scott Gomez** realizes the "right on" perspective she gives to our aging lives…Wait! I'll get to that…but first Vicki shares that since she moved five

years ago to a 55 and older community she has gotten involved in a garden club, an aqua fitness class, book club along with several other activities so she keeps pretty busy. Besides that she has a little dog, Daisy who she says runs her life. She genuinely misses her college friends and wishes for a reunion. At our age, Vicki, because you mention so many friends falling, rehabbing, and not driving…maybe Zoom is in order. LOL. Now to Vicki's good perspective for us…*"the bonus of our lives now is that we can enjoy the lives of our grand-children as they grow up."* Good thinking, Vicki.

Nancy Williams Yeager says she has nothing exciting to report but I disagree. She and Bill have everything in order. Family good. Five of her eight grandchildren have already graduated college. Most recently her granddaughter Jessica received her master's degree in occupational therapy from Misericordia University and will have started her new job by now. Two of remaining three are in college; one at Rutgers and the other at NJIT. Her youngest is still in high school. Travelling has been a NO NO due to pandemic but she and Bill are looking forward to time in September at the Jersey shore.

Maxine Hansen Olson sadly reminds us all that her Curt died January 2019. He set up a trust fund for his son and daughter. As a trustee Maxine was able to stay indefinitely. Last September she asked if her son Roy and his daughter could stay with her; agreed and signed a lease. Then on March 14th of this year Roy bought the house. Now, she says, LET THE REMODELING BEGIN!!!! You can see Maxine is happy happy happy. Then, to add to her happiness, she's headed to eight days in the North Woods of Wisconsin. She claims emphatically that "anything is better than triple digits in the desert."

And now…my Boss, **Liz Phelan Burmaster**. Liz flew from Florida to Colorado where daughter Kara and her husband Brian live and attended granddaughter Abby's high school graduation on Thursday. Abby will be attending Iowa University in the fall. On Friday, with her daughter Kathleen took a five a.m. flight out of Denver to Baltimore, rented a car and drove to Villanova University for Catherine's graduation. Made it with just ten minutes to spare. Liz's oldest granddaughter Phelan is getting married to Tom Weber from Chicago. Wedding will be in Florida with bridal shower in Florida also. With Dick facing some health issues, they will not be travelling north this summer. Grandson John is starting PA school in August and grandson Calvin getting ready to apply for PA school next year. Granddaughter Charlotte graduating from Auburn in December with a degree in graphic design. Too funny, after all this Liz later contacts me, not wanting to forget her Matthew; he'll be attending Ursinus College in Philadelphia this fall, playing basketball.

On a sad note--right before I submitted this news Liz informed me that her husband Dick, MSM'60 died on August 9, 2023. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

Yikes! Dare I admit I'm overworked? (Typing is not my forte)…I forgot me! All good (LOL) except ambulation is not my forte these days. My new best friends are my cane and walker. How sad is that??? Though I don't play the game anymore I'm still involved in golf operations, USGA, NJSGA, WMGA. My two oldest grandkids are married. Grandson Nick married a fellow Villanova classmate and granddaughter Morgan married to a Navy pilot, is stationed in Anacortes, WA. Rachel loves her job with Milwaukee tools, and they obviously love her. Matthew divides himself between an Internet company and his love, being a high school lacrosse coach.

Keep in touch. Take care of yourself. Be healthy. Stay safe!!!!!

1962

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Your class secretary **Vi Barkauskas** thanks those who have sent us messages about their lives, acknowledging the fond memories of times at SJC with classmates and the current joys and struggles of being octogenarians. Up until January of this year I had been well and very mobile. However, at the end of January, I broke my hip and have been in physical therapy ever since. The bone has healed, but the resulting muscle weakness is very slowly resolving. A time to develop new skills with patience.

Carol Vessel Auth wrote that she and Jim retired in Great Falls, MT. Neither of their two sons lives very close to them. Their son Jimmy and wife Jodi live in Spokane, WA where he is a computer engineer, and she is an RN. Both of their kids are students at Montana State University in Bozeman, MT. Grandson Spencer is in mechanical engineering and his sister Avery is in environmental engineering. Their son Erick and wife live in Henderson, NV. Erick is a civil engineer, and his

wife Chanel is an emergency room RN. Their twins are going their own way. Aidan is in the army and soon heading to Poland. Riley, his twin, is a paramedic with an ambulance service in Henderson, at least for now. He has been accepted to try for the fire department, his dream job. Carol and Jim will be married 60 years in August and their health is good considering they will be 83 and 86 in October. Travel is limited to visiting relatives. A reunion this August in Maryland and a week or two in Florida with Carol's brother are upcoming highlights.

Ann Distelhorst Bowman checked in to let all classmates know they are in her prayers and thoughts daily. She writes, "Amid our struggles and health issues, may we be blessed to remember one another and the happy memories we shared on the SJC campus." She applauds the efforts to secure the memorialization of our college on the campus we shared during 1958-1962.

For **Pat Ryan Donovan** 2023 has been all about travel. She thinks her ambitious travel year has been because she feels she is aging out of lots of travel destinations. Time for travel is running out. So, again, she went to Rincon, PR--her 20th winter there--always great fun with a community of friends, beautiful beaches, and warm weather. Then she went on a three-week Mediterranean cruise from Lisbon to Nice, the end of April. Every day was a different, movie-set-like port. The weather was perfect for 21 days in a row! The most special part of this 200-guest cruise was that four of her siblings and their partners came along. They live all over the country and this was a fabulous way to spend quality time together. Mid-June she headed out west to watch her youngest grandchild graduate from the University of California at San Diego. Great fun to see her daughter and her husband. They live in the San Francisco area. And one more trip to report: July 3 she leaves on another three-week jaunt. This time it's a cruise to Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo, Berlin, Gdansk, Bergen, and some other fjords along the way. It's a Viking Ocean Cruise. Two cruises in three months! And she hates to leave Cape Cod during high season. But for Scandinavia, it's traditionally July or August, so off she goes. Her companion for the cruise is Phil who has never been on a cruise and never thought he would want to. He is not a big fan of getting up early to make an excursion, or, for that matter, going on any excursions with a bus load of people. He prefers driving himself and setting a leisurely pace. But at 87, Pat thinks he will appreciate not having to schlep luggage like usual. She hopes this isn't a disaster!

Diane Belden Brooks writes that 1962 seems like an exceedingly long time ago, and yet, not that long ago, because so many memories are still very vivid, as if just yesterday. She has been feeling very nostalgic lately, possibly a condition of aging. She has even thought of taking a solo road trip to Emmitsburg, staying at Bucher's (now called the Carriage House), visiting the Basilica, strolling Main Street past Ott's and the Palms and seeing if the bowling alley is still there. Strolling SJC campus, of course, will not be an option, but she can look with affection as she drives slowly past the Avenue. Those four years in the Valley linger sweetly in her heart. She is once again spending the summer in Cape May, having returned on Mother's Day from a winter in DeLand, FL. Since her beloved Del died in December of 2020, she has been managing two homes, including a new roof on the house in Florida, and a new septic system for the home in Cape May. She had thought of selling the house in Cape May, but it was their first home, purchased in 1972. They raised the children here, and it's very comfortable. So, she is staying put and doing the necessary admin work. It has been a learning curve for her. However, "I am woman, hear me roar." All is well. She attends bible study classes in both locations, leads discussions at a monthly history book club, and is involved with environmental awareness issues.

Diane's son Chris has a blended family with six children. Her daughter Dawn has two boys, Andrew who works in New York City and Michael who attends Stewart Home School in Frankfort, KY. Chris' boys, Elliot, 16 and Lucas, 13, attend St, John's Prep in Danvers, MA. Elliot just returned from a ten-day trip with his German class to Berlin and Bavaria. His dad met him in Munich at the end of the trip and they spent a week in Garmisch/Berchtesgaden hiking Zugspitze. Elliot aspires to become a pilot. Lucas, a natural teacher, loves working with young children.

Diane is hoping to see Pat Ryan Donovan again when she goes to Boston at the end of the summer. They spent a lovely weekend at her home on Cape Cod last year. She said that in spite of the passage of time, they chatted as comfortably as they did when they were roommates senior year. She also hopes to see **Karen Krieger Kirk** again soon. They had a happy reunion in Ocean City, NJ last year, and she hopes they can repeat it again.

Ann Cantalupo Failla's husband Robert (Bob) Failla passed away after a year's illness on June 30th. They were married 61 years, raised two wonderful children, and adored six grandchildren together. Please keep him in your prayers.

Mary Homlish Lynch and her husband Dennis just celebrated their 60th anniversary and are retired and in good health. They came to Texas in 1974 where Dennis practiced plastic surgery at Scott and White Clinic. They decided to give it a five-year trial and found that they loved living there and stayed! Mary took a job as executive director of Temple 4-C, a children's advocacy program and administrator for the Head Start program in her county. It was a challenging and rewarding time. When she started, the agency was serving about 100 children and served well over 1,000 when she retired 20 years later. In 2000 she missed working and their local Catholic high school lost their 11th and 12th grade theology teacher. Mary filled in for three years until they found someone who was certified. Her qualifications included 16 years of Catholic education and a major in English! That barely got her by with smart, confident, informed high school students, but she loved it. After their children were gone from home, Dennis went on many medical missions in Africa, the Middle East, and South America where he repaired cleft palates and lips. Mary was able to go with him several times and was touched by the people who left their remote villages to get medical care for their children. It was a profound experience. Several years ago, Dennis and a neighbor and a former colleague began raising cattle--never in her wildest dreams! They are all having an exciting time while learning more than they ever thought they would know about raising cows. Their three children and five grandchildren are all spread from Texas to South Carolina and Colorado. They are all happy, kind, productive, and fun people despite the challenges of growing up years. Mary and Dennis love the times they get to be with them. They are blessed and grateful.

1963

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Our 60th Reunion was a wonderful time for all of us! 24 attendees spent the weekend remembering our days together, reliving our campus life and academics, above all reconnecting with each other in deeper friendships. We won the Hassell Cup!

"There are good times and then the best of times. Our Reunion was definitely the BEST!" wrote **Jo Barkley Cornelison** of our warm blanket of friendship. Our enthusiastic 60th Reunion resulted from the active participation and collaborative efforts of so many during **Sue Garner McNulty**'s Zoom meetings over several months. Many thanks to Sue for making this possible each month, yearbook photos and memorabilia on hand, accompanied by the *Alma Mater* or the *Ave Maria*.

To coordinate transportation, Sue, after travelling from Chicago, met Jo from New Orleans, **Eileen Nead Riley** from upper New York State, and **Beth Hollander Williams** from Florida at the DC airport, and along with **Tobie Gibbons** mini-vanned it to the Wyndham. At the same time, **Maureen Lynch Gucciard**, arriving also from Chicago, went to BWI airport to meet **Jane Metze Freeman** from Amelia Island to travel up to Gettysburg. Those extraordinary efforts made all the difference in getting our friends there.

Our phone committee worked through February, contacting each person on our class list, tracking down some lost members too. Thanks to **Susie Boland Southwell, Linda Carr Kenny, Andrea Brophy Marchal, Susanna Molinari,** and **Mariellen Halberstadt Marchione**. As a result, we had greetings from **Ann Kirby Clark** who was with us freshman year; **Judy Dwyer Murphy** who was on a mission trip in Georgia; **Sheila Keating Wright** who has returned to visit family in the area over the years; **Mary Higgins Haile** who was with us in spirit; **Mary Hannon Kelhart** who fondly remembered her SJC days; **Angela Bialczak Parent** who sent greetings; **Joan McNamara Trentham** who shared high school memories with Andy. Others who were in touch were **Ronnie Carroll Donnelly, Mary Ann Krastall Yahn, Maryanna Freiberger Keller, Tina High Goldsmith, Jean Lentz, Judy Markey Gallagher,** and **Susan Williamson Swartz**--who all wished to be there and have continued to keep in touch.

Thursday, we set up our suite in the Wyndham, with plenty of wine and goodies from everyone. **Sheila Degnan McCarron** and her lovely daughter Colleen set up two bulletin boards for the photo display; **Maxine Wallish Gorman** brought the SJC Collage from our 50th; Linda had plenty of memorabilia, and others brought lots of photos, including a great album from

Kathy Johnson Raby.

As always, **Mary Ellen Gill Purkis** made reservations at the Dobbins House for that night, as well as for our class luncheon on Saturday at the Carriage House, both lovely occasions.

We really missed the **Codey** girls, **Maureen Caputo** and **Joan Durkin** whose presence and presents were ongoing throughout. From suite supplies to our surprise gifts at the Friday Class dinner, their generosity overwhelmed us. Joan made a special trip to our Bounty Street home with boxes galore. Their sister Anita Codey Grady SJC'72 had lettered our Welcome Poster and our Prayerful Remembrance list in beautiful gold calligraphy.

On a sunny, warm Friday we toured the campus after lunch in the Student Center, all hosted by the FEMA personnel. Amazing that the exterior of the campus remains as we remember it because of its designation as a National Historic Site.

That night at our Class Dinner at the Wyndham, we opened beautiful calligraphied jewelry boxes all at once and found an SJC '63 bangle bracelet for each of us, gifts from Maureen and Joan. The photos capture our joyful reactions for such a treasured momento.

Saturday, we prayed in our suite, "Women Saying Yes to God," honoring all the women who have touched our lives in a beautiful ceremony, each of us remembering a deceased classmate. Sheila and **Mimi Chesley-Cora** composed our thoughtful readings and lovely hymns. Along with everything, Maureen sent a beautiful memorial candle. Her dear Franklin passed away on March 29, 2023 and our prayers were particularly directed toward her, their four children Franklin, Daniel, Brian, and Marisa, and their families, especially the six grandchildren. They were planning their 50th wedding anniversary celebration for August.

Our prayers were with **Pat Lieb Mudd** and **Claudette Coulon Thibodeau**, both suffering the effects of Alzheimer's disease. Sheila posted an article about Pat's trailblazing work with the Abuse Survivor Program in her diocese and lifelong dedication to Catholic Charities.

Then to our luncheon at the former Bucher's and the beautiful Mass at the Basilica. Sue and Susanna carried roses in the alumnae memorial procession. **Sister Judith Parkin** came in her motorized chair for the Mass, and we were so happy to see her again.

That night at the Reunion Banquet, we won the Hassell Cup for the highest percentage of attendees. We erupted in cheers at that unexpected recognition. A coup for our 60th, testimony to the everlasting spirit of the class of '63.

Back in our suite, we celebrated, listening again to Tobie's memorable 50th speech, reading **Marjorie Roberts Tautkus**' essay on the liberal arts, recalling all our friends pictured on the SJC photo collage. Susie B won the daisy quilt our beloved **Kaywood Greeve Fuqua** made especially for our 60th Reunion before she passed away. Winners of the gifts from Maureen and Joan were Beth, who coined the "magical bubble" phrase capturing our weekend, who won the pretty SJC throw, and Susanna, who travelled the farthest from San Rafael, CA, who won the gold cosmetic bag.

Besides Sheila and Colleen, **Cathy Parrott Kryzanauskas** and Mariellen brought along their daughters who truly enjoyed the weekend. We met Mariellen's cute granddaughter too. **Joy Schauber Kim**, our photographer, drove across the state from Chestertown with **Mary Lou Spurrier**, who commented how fun it was to see our newcomers. Matt and **Alanna Higgins McHugh** planned a family reunion cruise to Bermuda later in the spring with her sister Pat and family also. Both Tobie and Susanna had plans to travel to France in the spring.

Defying geography, Sue's Zoom has galvanized us for past two years as many others join in on a regular basis from all over the USA. The regulars include **Kathie Daniels Risen, Anne Dondero Prinn, Ellen Caulfield White, Claire Baril Green, Margaret Collins Erwin, Mary Lou Murray, Anne Knowles Harmon** and dear **Nell Gelsinon Carvell**.

Our sad news is that Nell passed away on May 4th. There was a memorial gathering in Austin and another in Spring Lake, NJ in July as her family and friends celebrated her life. Maryanna, Linda, Joan, and Maureen attended the memorial in Nell's honor. Among Nell's many accomplishments while living in Brazil, Belgium, Mexico, and Texas were her innovation in nursing, especially palliative care and her role as a CASA volunteer for 14 years. She and Peter have three children Tim, Susan, and Christina and three grandchildren.

Kathy Raby's Tom, MSM '63, passed away on April 12. Many of our classmates have been in close touch with her throughout his long illness, and her children Karen, Margie, and Tommy and all the family provided much

support. Kathy and Tom have three grandchildren. At Reunion the following weekend, we were especially aware of their recent sadness. Andy and Bill Marchal had visited them just a few weeks earlier when they were still in Florida.

We extend our sympathy to **Ann Walsh Tedesco** who lost her husband Mike on January 1. Mike and Ann made Tampa their home after his career in the Air Force and have three children Mark, Erin, and Kimberly and four grandchildren. We enjoyed seeing Ann and Mike at our 50th.

All of us appreciate the monumental efforts of the SJCAA President Karen Mattscheck and the SJCAA Board, the Reunion Chair Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck and her committee, and MSM liaison Kim Johnson for organizing such a wonderful Reunion 2023. And for their continuing dedication and vision for the association.

Tobie's speech resonated even more at our 60th Reunion. She ended with a quote from *Sometimes* by Sheenagh Pugh--"Some women become what they were born for." We are holding on to our friendships with each other and our memories of our SJC days. This is us—SJC Class of 1963.

1964

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60th Reunion in 2024!!

First of all, thank you for responding to my requests for news; I am grateful to have heard from so many of you! To start with, I think it is important to acknowledge the passing of our classmate **Maureen Fahey Sullivan** last October. Maureen had not been ill and died peacefully in her sleep. May she rest in peace!

Sue Larson Robbins wrote from Tennessee that her family is doing fine. She spends her days working at Lowes and going to the gym and to doctors' appointments, something to which we all can relate! Emily, her youngest granddaughter, graduated from Tennessee Tech with a BSN and now is an RN at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville. Sue's great-grandson Levi graduated from Kindergarten, and she also has two three-year-old great-granddaughters. Sadly, Sue has lost two brothers in recent years---David in September, 2021 and Lawrence this past March from Parkinson's disease. We are so sorry, Sue!

Anne McAllister LaBoon reports that the wine and spirits business is still booming, and two days a week working for a national distributor are just enough to keep her in the business world and to give her a purpose. She still participates in Walking with a Purpose in her parish and enjoys the discussion. She also joined a social group that offers fun-themed programs monthly and raises money for the parish and for charities. Anne stays in touch with the Goles family and attended a Brothers Four concert that Pat arranged at Oak Crest, the community in which he lives. Anne is also a member of the committee that is designing the lobby interior of the new MSM School of Health Professions. From all I've heard, they're doing a great job!!

I found it amusing that **Marge "Maggie" Donahue Stauffer** began her note to me by saying "not sure if this is very interesting" and then proceeded to say that they travelled to Laramie, WY to see their daughter-in-law receive her Doctor of Nursing degree; Marge went on a girls' reunion of former neighbors to Amelia Island, FL; and she and her husband Barry went on a trip to California and spent a few days at Disneyland with their ten-year-old granddaughter. She closed by saying she and Barry are now training for a biking/hiking/kayaking trip to Croatia in September. When she's home, Marge keeps busy with some volunteering. That, to me, is the definition of interesting!!

Several classmates expressed hope of attending the mini-reunion in September. **Jackie Jermyn Azzarto** plans to come from sunny Florida, where she continues to stay active with her choral group, The Treasure Coast Community Singers. She is in her 10th year securing and managing grants for this group, and she says it's not getting any easier. If you want a treat, I encourage you to look them up on YouTube. They are fabulous! Jackie also does water aerobics every morning, and she will travel west and north this summer to see family.

Kathy Smith Donovan will travel to the mini from Massachusetts. Although their travelling has slowed, she and Frank still visit family and enjoy holidays. Colleen and Mike, their daughter and son-in-law, live in Middlebury, VT and provide them with delightful "grand animals." Son Chris and daughter-in-law Allison live in Sherman Oaks, CA and have two sons---Tyler, a college sophomore, and Chase, a "reluctant" student at a wonderful Catholic high school.

Marian Weld Oviedo reports that she and Raul are fine.

He has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease but his medication is helping significantly. Marian had a total knee replacement in February and has healed exceptionally well, thanks in large part to her five children who took turns helping her. They have had a lot of company this year including Raul's son and family from Honduras and, in a separate visit, his nephew who is also from Honduras. She is also looking forward to the mini-reunion in September.

Bobbie Davis Speace, who arranges the mini, has a full life volunteering at her parish, subbing as an RN at an adult medical day care center, participating in both a book club and a wine club, and trying to keep up with her five grandkids. Lexi received her Master's Degree in May and is teaching second grade in North Carolina, and Cole, her brother, is a sophomore at Coastal Carolina. Josie and Drew, the twins, are starting high school. Josie received a scholarship to St. Elizabeth Prep and will be on the swim team; Drew attends Chatham High. Huck, Amy's son, is just starting Kindergarten, and Bobbie says that he is a cutie.

Heather Laird Martin isn't sure about attending the mini, but she sends her love to all.

Mary "Max" Gillespie checked in to say that she's busy going to basketball and baseball games played by her grandsons Leopold (13), Dabney (nine), and Griffin (seven) and walking her two-year-old puppy, Titan.

Ann Miles shared that the house that she and **Joan Finn** built near Tucson, AZ is complete and they were finally able to move in. As Ann said, someday they hope to get the car into the garage but since it's full of moving boxes, that remains a distant dream. They miss a lot of things from their life on the coast, notably "pizza, bagels, diners, edible Italian food, delicatessens, and the ocean" as well as their families. However, they were headed to New Jersey in July for Ann's sister's 90th birthday, and that promised to be a large family gathering and lots of fun.

Kathy Flanagan Huber is grateful for the prayers for her daughter-in-law as apparently the surgery was successful. Now they are awaiting the three-month scan. Meanwhile, they don't have any big trips planned but they do pop down to Louisville, where they lived for over 50 years, to see friends. They've also made friends in Cincinnati, plus they see their six and eight-year-old granddaughters often.

Mary Rocks awaits two more great, great nieces or nephews this year, bringing the family total to 27. Wow!! She mentioned that she has been in touch recently with **Karen Coss Ridenour** as Karen's son-in-law is Mary's eye doctor. Small world!

Her wonderful trip to France last year (which included a cooking lesson. She has photographic proof!) left **Claire Maurer** an unwelcome souvenir---COVID for the second time, and that required a 10-day quarantine. Since then, Claire has been to Brooklyn twice to visit family, including four children under nine years of age. She also went to North Carolina with some long-time friends to visit another friend whose health did not permit her to travel. Claire continues with our alumnae association as finance chair and photography editor of *The Valley Echo*. She is also president of her condo association in Ocean City. When I heard from Claire she was happy that beach season had begun and she could camp out in her beach chair and catch up via Kindle on the books she didn't get to read this winter.

Matt and **Muff Van Ogtrop Locraft** are doing well. Matt has had some serious health challenges in recent years but has healed and is "almost back to new." Muff says you can't keep a good man down! Her sister Marca died in November of brain cancer. She died peacefully, a gift for her and her family. Matt and Muff don't travel much but they keep busy with church and community activities as well as family celebrations, as all five of their children live within 25 minutes of them. That's such a blessing! They also have 12 grandchildren. Muff stays in touch with **Mary Cook Purdy** and **Maria Druzgal Xenakis**.

Rita Welty Bourke's second book *Islomanes of Cumberland Island* is doing well. (Paperback and Kindle versions were released in early April.) She spent a lovely weekend on St. Simon's Island and visited Christ Church Episcopal, watched cargo ships navigate St. Simon's Sound, and took the ferry to Cumberland Island. She had a book-signing sponsored by the St. Simon's Literary Guild, and daughter Leslie was her IT person, flashing pictures of the Carnegie Mansion, the wild horses, the marsh, and the ocean during Rita's talk. A relatively new literary magazine (*Well Read Magazine*) published her "mostly true" story of how Hot Chicken came to be. Created in Nashville by the son of a slave, it is now featured in restaurants across the nation. Rita tried it while in St. Simon's: caution advised.

John and **Carol Hammond Wagner** are healthy and as busy as they want to be. Their travel is limited to visiting their son and his family, about an hour away. Kennedy, their granddaughter, who is great fun and is always on the move, will soon be eight. Carol continues

to be active with the organization that works with youth who have aged out of foster care. Carol said they are literally dumped on the street when they reach 18 and are ill-equipped to deal with the world. She is on the Board of Directors as well as a number of their committees, and the hope is that they will begin building transitional housing units for them in the near future. She's also active with the Salvation Army, co-chairing their major annual fundraiser and working with the Women's Auxiliary. Carol also has weekly bridge, Bible study, book club, and her coffee group. I'm tired just reading about all of this.

Bev Jones Wyatt said that 2023 has been a milestone for the Wyatts. Their oldest and youngest grandsons (of eight grandkids) are on the spectrum. Bradley (oldest) graduated Cum Laude from Beacon College, and Marshall (youngest) graduated from Swarthmore Haven High School as a member of the National Honor Society and will be joining the Fighting Irish at Notre Dame. Bev states that they are examples of strides forward for those on the autism spectrum, and she gives kudos to all who have supported them along the way. She says that Maurice works five days a week (thank God), and she is just a "happy lump." Bev is another classmate looking forward to the mini in September.

I had a delightful phone conversation with **Ellen Gregorec Potter**, and it was wonderful to talk with her. Their four children are literally scattered all over, as Ann lives in Sydney, Australia; Chris practices rural medicine in Nevada; Katie is in upstate New York, and Michael lives in Tennessee. Chris's daughter is in a dual-enrollment program where she earns college credits while finishing high school. Michael's son and daughter-in-law are expecting their first child in September and one of his daughters recently graduated from high school. One of Katie's daughters, after studying agricultural education and living in Alaska and Ghana, is now teaching in Washington State. Her sister married a man from Nepal, and while they had a brief wedding in Massachusetts, they flew to Nepal and had a Hindu wedding there, complete with a week-long celebration. Ellen and Katie attended, and Ellen spent her birthday (two days after Christmas) with the other women having the henna applied to her hands. It all sounded so fascinating that I confess to spending a lot of time asking questions about it. Mathilda, the bride, is currently working on her Ph.D. in sociology in Salt Lake City and her husband, an electrical engineer, is also working there. Katie is also a grandmother, making the Potters great-grandparents. Ellen and Dennis run the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry in their parish, including picking up donations and coordinating the distribution of food.

And from the Mount Evans Hospice 5K Run in Evergreen, CO, **Ginny Pittman Boschen** wrote that she is "celebrating life and so glad to still be upright." She does the run every year in memory of several friends as well as her dear husband Tom who passed away a couple of years ago and "whose Spirit greets me on the top of the most difficult hill to run up."

Life has been busy in the household of Chuck and **Mimi Ratke Cochran**, with many events involving their 13 grandchildren. Recently their grandson Ben, son of daughter Cassie, graduated from the Naval Academy and was commissioned as a Marine. After spending a few weeks living with Chuck and Mimi and working at the Academy, he will head to Quantico. Ava, his sister, graduated from high school and will attend James Madison University. Meanwhile, the Cochrans' daughter Colleen's son Sam also graduated from high school and is headed to the Naval Academy. This will make four of their grandsons who will be USNA graduates. I wonder if that's a record!! Sam won the Maryland State Wrestling Championship in his weight class, a feat also accomplished years ago by the Cochrans' son Chip. Mimi and Chuck became great-grandparents last summer with the birth of Griffin, grandson of their oldest daughter Christy. This fall they will celebrate the wedding of their granddaughter Natalie. They also continue to spend each February and March in St. Augustine, FL where they visit with Steve and **Olivia Duffy Bowers** as well as Joe and **Cookie Kaheny Costanzo**. **Pat Higgins Brennan** also went down for a visit. Chuck and Mimi are in good health, for the most part. Chuck enjoys yard work and, when not outside, he "devours books, one after the other." Mimi enjoys the patients at her one day a week "dream" job and the clients she meets in her work with the St. Vincent de Paul Society. At her job she discovered that one of her patients had grown up with Kathy Flanagan Huber. We often enjoy visits with the Cochrans when they come to Ocean City.

As for the Jones clan, it has been a full year. All three of our granddaughters graduated recently: Becca received her AA from our community college; Katie graduated from high school and is headed to the University of Delaware, and Becca's sister Susannah received her M.Div. from the seminary at the University of the South in Sewanee, TN. On June 24th she was ordained a priest of the Episcopal Church and is ministering at St. Paul's Church in Berlin, just six miles from us. Our twin grandsons Jacob and Luc attend the University of Southern Maine and Jack, our Marine,

graduated from the Defense Language Institute where he studied Farsi. He's awaiting deployment, which is scary to everyone but him. I am writing this in July, and on the 22nd we sail from Boston on a 35-day cruise up into Canada, Greenland, Iceland, Rotterdam, and the British Isles. We have had to cancel a few trips due to Mike's back and leg issues, so we are beyond excited about his trip.

In closing I want to put in a plug for our two final reunions: our 60th on April 4-7, 2024 and the final SJC reunion on April 3-6, 2025. I hope to see each of you at both of them!!!

1965

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Here we are again in the midst of an unpredictable summer. For those in the east who have had to cope with smoke from the Canadian wildfires and then flooding and to those in the midst of record heatwaves, hang on! The good news is we have news from classmates!

Our Canadian classmate, **Anne Sacchet Payne** wrote life is busy, "*replete* with mostly positive events" (good word choice, Anne!). Although she is currently awaiting knee surgery, Anne continues to be very active. She is coordinator of tai chi for seniors in her community and has recently completed a biography of her maternal grandmother. Her grandmother dictated her life story to Anne's mom Gertrude McDonald Sacchet '37 who transcribed the stories. Anne moved one step further and compiled everything in her computer and added photos. She then shared her collection with her siblings and their children. She is maintaining balance and flexibility while awaiting knee surgery with a CARS exercise program (Controlled Articulation of Individual Joints in Active Rotation). She recommends a book *From Age-ing to Sage-ing: A Revolutionary Approach to Growing Older* based on the concept "spiritual eldering" and is considering attending a workshop sponsored by the Spiritual Eldering Institute. She spent last spring with her brother and sisters in Hagerstown. Her brother is being treated for pancreatic cancer and he requested a visit to the grotto at the Mount. They also stopped at the Basilica at the former Provincial House. A catered event is planned for her 80th at a nearby restaurant and she expects her sisters will join her for the celebration.

Speaking of the 80th milestone, E**ileen Sekerak Sullivan** and **Kathy Murphy Clarke** had their birthdays noted with colorful lawn signs and decorations thanks to their families. **Jean Tierney Terza, Margo Honey Keesler** and **Maggi Mullahy Yates** are among those with "later birthdays–they're not celebrating their "four score" milestone quite yet...another calendar year for them! Jean is still working. She and her husband sold their New Hampshire get-a-way–just too much travelling. A grandson will be married next May. She and her Connecticut girlfriends spent four days in Lancaster, PA. "Thought of our classmates as we travelled through the different towns they came from--great memories". Maggi and her Cape Cod neighbors were kept in their homes with the Canadian smoke. She and Bob had planned to visit her New York sister in March but a blizzard interfered. Visits from her sons, volunteering, and her daily run keep her busy.

Kathy Murphy Clarke reminds everyone that the 2025 Reunion is one of her goals and she encourages us all to think ahead. A must do for Kathy is to see her Midshipman granddaughter graduate from the Naval Academy. Kathy is fortunate to have a weekly helper for Mike; it gives her time for Yoga for Seniors class and occasional coffee with friends. **Margaret Keil Sottosanti**'s husband John has written his autobiography *Mortal Adhesions*, available through Amazon and other booksellers. You can find more information at mortaladhesions.com.

The Philly Girls met this summer. The group includes **Jane Manning Brennan, Maggie Quayle Bellew, Mary McInyre Lear, Kay Ehringer Mufalli** and **Janet Welaj Klaer** and husband David. Classmate **Eileen Hayes Hurley** was missed. **Sue Flanigan Conrad** joins the group from time to time. Sue's younger sister **Kathleen Flanigan Balcer '68** passed away in late February. She was a kind and beautiful lady and will be missed by many friends and her SJC classmates.

Anne Nichols Gildea lost her brother Steve. He passed away suddenly from a fall from which he never recovered. Anne and Jim are satisfied with their decision to reside at Harbor's Edge, a retirement community. An added bonus was finding another SJC alumna in residence--Heather Laird '64.

Kay visited **Barbara "Birdie" Garvie Hummell** before Birdie's move to Texas. Daughter Gretchen has a much

more flexible work schedule than her sister Jennifer and they found a suitable living arrangement close to Gretchen's workplace. Kay is still beautifying her customers' landscapes with seasonal plantings. She's going to have a hard time giving up her business (and customers) when the time comes. Kay's legendary "Aunt Josey" passed away at 99; she remained in her home with round-the-clock care from the Mennonites.

Jane Manning Brennan sent an update on the former Provincial House renovations and future plans for the Mount's School of Health Professions:
"I want to share with everyone what is happening with the Alumnae committee that is working on developing ideas for creating some sort of memorial to the legacy of Saint Joseph College, to be incorporated into the entrance way of the MSM School of Health Professions (SOHP). Karen Mattscheck's letters to the alumnae have described the ongoing implementation of the SOHP and the role of SJCAA in it (donating funds, supporting the fund-raising efforts, etc.). The SJCAA Board is working to ensure that there will be a recognition of the legacy of our college and its contributions to bettering the lives of others through the education of women. One of the ideas includes a digital display in the lobby of the building (similar to those found in museums and historic sites) that will provide a visual record of the history of the college, campus life, and educational programs. This is a work in progress, and we would appreciate any memorabilia such as a copy of the yearbook, class pictures, nursing cap, uniform or cape, to mention a few ideas. Again, the goal is to make sure that the existence and contributions of SJC will be shared long after we are all gone to our heavenly home. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments about this request."

A large "web of support from family, friends, and paid caregivers" has helped **Nancy Boemanns Fratini** and her family manage. Husband Al is holding his own and daughter Amy is involved in a day program three days a week. Amy also has services from an independent provider on two other days. Nancy is able to carve out some "me time" for herself, enjoying exercise and time with family and friends. She is challenged by caring for both and keeps positive. She and her classmate and friend, **"A" (Antoinette) O'Neal Ashburn** enjoyed reconnecting via phone recently. They both recalled past memories and caught up on life. "A" maintains her country home and manages all the work that it entails. Nancy keeps in touch with her newly found half-siblings and sees them on occasion. That has been "one of life's wonderful surprises".

Ellen Pida Mathis reflects things are beginning to be "more normal" since the major ramifications of COVID are behind us. Her health is good but solo travel days have turned into family accompanied trips. She was in Fort Worth, TX with a grandson and they toured a museum focused on JFK's assassination. She writes it was both a nostalgic and, for Ellen, a surprisingly emotional experience. Ellen has managed a number of residential rental properties during the past 50 years but finally decided to downsize to just the duplex she has lived in for 43 years. Her area, Belmont Shore, is a beach community and everything, including an ACE Hardware store, is in walking distance. She stays active in some nonprofit organizations in the community and is planning to be at our 60th Reunion in 2025.

A Georgia deep-freeze just before Christmas had **Carolyn Walker Algiere** wondering why she didn't stay in Florida! Nonetheless, visiting with Carolyn's younger son was enjoyable. A September trek to Missouri and then up to Michigan is next with an RV trip to the beach is October. Mahjong skills have not come easily but she enjoys it. Exercise class and long walks are keeping "the old bones strong"!

Sr. Carol Czyzewski, fssj had carpel tunnel surgery on her right hand in mid-June. The surgery went well but some ongoing pain prompted her to postpone surgery on her left hand until after her vacation time with family in Oregon. Sister is still enjoying her Polish language studies and has met a variety of new acquaintances as study partners.

Mary Brandon Rummele and John enjoyed a ten-day Viking River Cruise on the Douro River in Portugal. The high hills on both banks of the river are covered with row after row of grapevines planted so close together that they must be picked by hand. Usually, Ukrainians come to harvest and the growers are uneasy about this year's harvest. Port wine is the most famous product; painted tiles rank second. Mary was most impressed with the handbags, vests, boots, hats, jewelry as well as flooring made from cork. Cork is the thickened bark of the Cork Oak trees. These trees' cork can be harvested every five years. Special tools are needed to shave the very thin strips needed to get leather-like ribbons of cork from top to bottom of the trunk. They also travelled to Salamanca, Spain, an old city which houses one of the first four universities in Europe. Mary practiced her Spanish with an elderly couple in the plaza. They were very welcoming but the first thing the gentleman asked was "Are you a Republican or a Democrat?" Mary is planning a Florida reunion for February 26th, 27th or 28th. She will touch base

after the New Year with "the sunshine girls" and arrange a time to meet.

Charlie and I became great-grandparents for the first time in late June. Our #3 son Matt's son Jacob and his wife Taylor welcomed baby boy Jasper to their family. Matt's daughter Jaden and her husband Michael are expecting a girl in December so it's going to be the year for a generational expansion. The great-grands are 16 generations removed from their Pilgrim ancestor George Soule. My Irish grandmother from Sligo has rolled over in her Brooklyn, NY grave several times! In sum, we are doing well and are grateful for many blessings.

Remember Mary and I think of all of our classmates frequently and hope you will share information on how you are keeping with us. Your classmates would love to hear from you, too, so contact one of your SJC classmates and enjoy your own mini-reunion without leaving home! Keep in touch!

1966

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Rose Serio Sheheen travelled in August to Africa for a hot air balloon safari in the Serengeti National Park to witness the migrations of thousands of wild animals. Closer to home, she welcomed a new great-grandson.

This was a surgical year for **Melinda Bloom** who had operations on her right and left feet and left shoulder. Travelling to New York City she and her husband attended granddaughter Penny's dance recital and Kindergarten graduation. Daughter Sharon, living in Arizona, visited in summer. Sharon generously gifted Zoom to her so Melinda can conduct regular on-line meetings with the class of 1966. Our Zooms actually started eight years ago. These are a source of support and joy for those attending.

Susan Kaiserski Keller feels as though she's coming out of COVID. She and husband Pat spent two weeks at The Woods Resort in West Virginia. She's trying to weed out things in her house, but "letting go" seems daunting. Her Healing Touch and Foot Reflexology work brings her great satisfaction with the reward being the smiles on clients' faces. She plans on continuing her massage therapy for years. In late summer, she headed to the Catoctin Mountain Orchards for peaches and observed the spread of new housing around Frederick.

Heading her religious community in Belgium, **Sister Nirmala Abeyasingha**, Religious of the Good Shepherd, oversees seven sisters from six nationalities--all striving to learn French. Her order is international and concentrates on women and girls in need. Her community's duties range from being a chaplain in a women's prison, to working with women and children who have suffered domestic violence, to visiting female prostitutes, to working with the St. Vincent de Paul Society as well as administering to refugees. In addition, they help prepare children for the sacraments. Sister asks for prayers for vocations in Europe to help the poor. Two sisters participated last August in *JMJ in Portugal*, a pilgrimage to Lisbon in conjunction with the International Catholic Youth Festival.

In the spring, **Maureen Mullin Klein** planned and coordinated, *Experience Traditions*, an International Furnishings and Design Association (IFDA) Japan Fair in New York City. She and two co-chairs designed and coordinated a chock-full schedule of public events, hosting 12 members from Japan who presented seminars ranging from architecture to tea. Maureen also designed a Japan Fair follow-up edition for Network magazine, which appeared in late summer. She has served on the International and NY Boards of IFDA, which has provided many networking and professional opportunities over the years. Her grandchildren live nearby keeping Maureen busy with family.

Mary Ellen Flinton Sullivan calls herself the Sullivan Matriarch with some 23 in her family. Children are Tara, Maura, Timothy, and Patrick, plus nine grandchildren and spouses. In the summer, Mary Ellen's family vacationed in Bethany Beach, DE, and locals **Judy Brittingham Ward, Betty Depenbrock Martin**, and **Kathleen Smith Franke** joined her for lunch.

Last February--complete with snow--Melinda Bloom, **Sally Gwynn Evans**, Kathleen Franke, **Melissa Hanscom McDivitt, Jane Davis Marden, Ginny Walsh O'Neill**, Betty Martin, **Mary Furey Keenan, Kathy Spillane Miskavage**, and **Aggie Anderson Fleming** gathered at Ginny's sister Barbara's lovely Lewes, DE home for a luncheon. A few short weeks later Aggie passed without a warning after this warm and wonderful gathering. Her funeral and celebration was held in Old Saybrook, CT in October.

Kathleen Franke has been coordinating the beach gatherings since day one. The 13th Bethany Beach gathering called BBB (Bethany Beach Babes) was held October 6-8, hosted by Kathleen Franke, Betty Martin, **Judy Ward** and Jane Marden. Some 15 years ago, the

original get together was at the Hyatt Regency, Cambridge, MD and the following attended: Betty Martin, **Loretta Reddy Smolenski** (who has since passed), Kathleen Franke, Aggie Fleming, and Jane Marden. Betty Martin graciously hosted the next year at her new home in Bear Trap, Bethany Beach and the rest is history.

Ginny Walsh O'Neill remarked that whenever she mentions the '66 Zooms and get togethers in Bethany Beach everyone is astonished at our ability to stay "All Together" for these 57 years. She attributes this cohesiveness and determination to Mother Seton and our classmates.

Cathy Cohill Gallagher and **Barbara Seiler Byrne** also passed unexpectedly this year. Numerous classmates watched Barbara's memorial, which was live-streamed. Fortunately, the Internet allows us some solace when distance keeps us apart.

Kathleen Franke says that she and husband John are enjoying beach life with rescue pup Chyna. Their three oldest grandchildren are in Illinois, and youngest four are in Texas, in various grades with the oldest loving JROTC. One grandson is studying automotive engineering and, while pursuing an internship in Japan, climbed Mt. Fuji. She and her husband volunteer with the St. Vincent DePaul Society in various capacities, assist with their church landscaping, and she works with Delaware Hospice.

Sally Dore Fierro visits ex-husband Louie twice a week in a care facility while awaiting moving to a nursing home. Recently diagnosed with dysautonomia, Sally relies on drinking water, using sodium and wearing support socks. She also sees a neurosurgeon for shots to her spine after an accident years ago. Both grandchildren are in college, one at the University of Maryland and the other at Salisbury University. Hosting her entire family of seven in Iceland in the summer Sally says that 79 seems like a new age. Go, Sally!

As she pushes 80, **Mary Tarozzi Windley**, enjoys living in Williamsburg, VA, which is near Gloucester County where she has many former friends and colleagues. She serves as HOA President for her condo (which she describes as a frenetic volunteer job) and works with the hospitality ministry at St. Olaf Catholic Church. She also enjoys keeping tabs on her children and nine grandchildren. Of special concern is her thirteen-year-old grandson who was diagnosed with Crohn's disease. The inflammation was under control but the nausea remained. Fortunately, an observant family doctor suggested that, in addition to Crohn's, he might have abdominal migraines (like his sister). After treatment, her grandson is thriving and finally gaining weight. Mary has begun a journal, "My Eightieth Year" with the hope of adding years to it.

Jane Davis Marden spends time on the doubles and, occasionally, singles tennis court, cares for three rescued pups, and still has her dog sitting business. Sundays, she feeds animals at The Equine Rescue League outside Leesburg, VA. The equine have been abandoned, rescued at slaughter, or forcibly taken by county authorities. She also volunteers care for neighbor female friends who have had knee replacements and other situations that require doctor and hospital visits. She recently renovated her basement, which had to be gutted due to water damage. Daunting at first, the task became very satisfying when the decorating began. Thank goodness for Thrift Shops, Wayfair, and Ruggable! In addition, she works with her HOA. She enjoys writing and painting photographs that she takes (think of paint by number except there are no numbers). She is writing her obituary so her son won't have to bother with that. She also wants to write an autobiography, *God's Really on My Shoulder*, but says no one will believe it. Her grandson will be a junior in the fall at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA.

As our class looks back almost 60 years we are blessed that we met each other back in 1962-66 and deeply grateful that the Zooms, BBBs, lunches, and get-togethers have kept us, "All Together."

1967

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Greetings class of 1967! First off, a big THANK YOU for all who responded to our call for news. It is always so wonderful to get the news and hear the many experiences, glad and sad. We see life progressing through the generations which often gives joy and hope. At the same time, simply because of our years, we are adjusting to changes that are common to many at this point. Through our stories, there is a sense of community, even though we are spread across the states and in some cases,

the world. Enjoy reading!!

Louise Gorman Manetta writes that while she had been spending winters in Tulsa, OK near her daughter's family and summers at the ocean near Bethany Beach, DE, she has remained in Tulsa for an extended time now to accommodate for her husband Ed's needs due to his Alzheimer's dementia. He remains very pleasant and agreeable for which she is thankful, but has difficulty tolerating frequent changes of environment. Louise has found some parttime nursing help for Ed and is hopeful that she will be able to return to the ocean next summer. She ends her letter confirming that although caring for Ed has been difficult and challenging, "God opens another door when he closes one."

Maggi McGrath Yerkes, living in Northern Minnesota, spoke of a record six-foot snowfall this past winter. Maggie and her husband Tony continue to volunteer for church and community. During the year, they enjoyed visits with family in South Carolina, Chicago, and Colorado as well as visits with immediate family locally. The highlight of the year was their celebration of the marriage of their daughter Mara with Thijs, who is Dutch. All of Thijs's family were able to fly to Minnesota where both families enjoyed the "special blending of Dutch and American traditions."

Marg Cloney Wood tells of the many activities that are still in her routine, albeit in a more limited way due to arthritis. She enjoys her handball group through church, spends time playing the piano at leisure (as long as her "aching" hands will allow), reads historical novels, and lately, has attended more to spiritual pursuits. When reminiscing on the passing of **Sandy Buono Sedam**, Marg told a tender story that happened shortly after our graduation. Sandy and **Kathleen Flynn Gaffney** were living in Takoma Park, MD at the time of the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Marg was at work in Washington, DC and couldn't get home due to the rioting. Through the help of a co-worker, Marg met Sandy at a Hot Shoppe near Takoma Park and spent the weekend safely with Sandy and Kathleen. Sandy then drove her home on Sunday. As Marg puts it "I will never forget that."

Suzanne Geho Rymer writes that her family is doing well. The children's careers are thriving and the grandchildren continue to "find their many talents"… academically as well as through music and sports. Suzanne and husband Jim had a busy travel year. She describes it as an "awesome bucket list" of trips including destinations such as Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Cairo along with a cruise down the Nile to numerous ports. Holidays were spent seeing family in Pennsylvania, Tennessee, and Georgia. In March, she and Jim hosted the first Soup Supper in their neighborhood since the start of the pandemic. These special social gatherings had been a continuing tradition since they moved there (2007) and it feels good to be able to have them again. Through her parish, Suzanne has joined TASTE (Taste and See, Taste…Eat), a very fulfilling faith sharing program for women. As her letter closed, she mentioned the loss of many good friends this year. As is true for most of us, the prayer list is growing.

Ginny Werber Hartmuller and husband Roger went on a "fantastic" trip to the South Coast of Jamaica in February. Ginny also reports that planning travel has been a bit tentative lately due to health concerns, mostly for Roger, who is recovering from back surgery and has been experiencing frequent vertigo. Things seem to be moving in the right direction, and they hope to be "on the go" again soon. Ginny continues to stay busy with exercise class, numerous card groups, book club, and cultural opportunities through her community.

Rita Roshak Augustines has been very busy with travel over the years--Alaska, Patagonia, Africa--and at the time of her letter, hoped to fit in Iceland, Athens, and Istanbul before the year's end. She is keeping active in a walking group and meets with a personal trainer twice a week. Her granddaughter will begin her study of bioengineering at UC Berkeley this fall and her grandson "spends his time building robots."

Connie Spanarelli O'Connell and her husband Mickey spend summers in Bethany Beach, DE where they own a condo on the beach. Summer is a wonderful family time for them since their daughter and family own a home close by and their son and family spend summers in the area as well. Connie taught French in middle school and also taught Italian in the three years before retirement. She and her husband remained active after retiring, teaching young children French and Chess as well as being reading partners. They volunteered at the local library in Bethany during their summers hosting a Children's Hour with reading, music, and crafts for ages six months to five years. Amidst these activities, they have managed to visit over 60 countries through the years, their favorites being Europe, Asia, and Australia.

Peggy Abell DeGeorge, who spent Freshman and Sophomore year with us at Joe's reports that she has had a challenging year health-wise, but she is now "heading in a positive direction." She and her husband Jim are living in a 55+ community in Columbia, MD and have appreciated great support from their neighbors. Peggy

says that her husband has been a "saint and my amazing nurse."

Des Anges Cruser and her husband Alan are looking forward to retirement from "his long time service as chair of psychiatry in two large public systems." She is completing the last draft of her novel about a woman fighting corruption in higher education, set in West Virginia in 2004. We look forward to the publication of her novel and will keep you all posted.

Sister Betty Ann McNeil continues her ministry in research and writing about Mother Seton. She would love to reconnect with anyone who visits the Seton Shrine in Emmitsburg. The expanded museum and visitor center are scheduled to open in October 2023, and Betty Ann encourages us to visit with our families. She recently visited with **Sister Mary Jean Doyle**, who through Catholic Charities, is serving victims of trafficking. She has also visited **Sister Kathy Natwin** who is retired and living in the Albany area.

Carol Newstead Palmer and husband Cliff are doing well and living in the Baltimore area enjoying the urban life style with their son and two granddaughters. Carol's oldest granddaughter attends the Baltimore School for the Arts. Her daughter and son-in-law live in Washington, DC and both work for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Carol is still playing tennis and looks forward to any mini gatherings in the area.

Peggy Sullivan Carr and husband Joe are thankful for their good health but are "seriously considering downsizing or even moving to a Senior community," comments we are all familiar with. Peggy's oldest granddaughter is in law school and her youngest is just starting college. She recently socialized with an SJC graduate of '65 and shared lots of laughs about many of the "restrictions" we had back then.

Eileen Brown Kerrigan writes, "I think that I survived the pandemic but after soooo many hours and days isolated from everything, it is taking me just a little time to get in the swing of things again." Sounds familiar, doesn't it? Her granddaughter who graduated from Dartmouth is in New York City pursuing a career in theater. Eileen and her family recently gathered for her grandson's graduation from Haverford College. Eileen is still working at a local preschool, and especially enjoys "Grandma" days with her six-year-old granddaughter. As many of us say so often her "true blessings" are her family.

Kathy Kelleher Sohn is looking for a publisher for her book that is a memoir about her Peace Corps years in India 1967-69. She is taking voice lessons and says, "I do personal training to keep in shape and aim to walk as often as I can." She visits with her two children and her two grandchildren regularly and is surrounded by her birth family siblings, nieces, and nephews. It's no surprise that Kak loves "to read and take naps." She visits with **Sue Albin Watson** who lives nearby and hopes to get together with **Kate Sheehan Horn** soon.

Rosa Diaz Smith and husband Karl are living in the Woodlands near Houston, TX. Karl is "finally retired" and Rosa enjoys playing Mahjong, painting, and organizing luncheons for the community. She travelled to Bolivia in August and visited **Miriam "Chiqui" Ardaya**.

Kate Sheehan Horn and husband Dick recently moved to North Carolina, just ten minutes from her son and his family. Besides nursing in hospitals and schools, music is her "other passion." She enjoys singing in her church choir and playing the organ at other Masses. She has been in touch with **Marti Unglesbee Figlioli**, from San Miguel, CA and **Sandi Stump King** who is living in Hagerstown, MD. Kate writes "It's always good to come back to Joe's--so peaceful and calm. The countryside never seems to change. I am so glad I attended St. Joe's. It's been a good part of my life."

Life at the beach stays busy for **Mary Alice Friede Mauser**. So far, there are no major problems with health but the small aches and pains of aging are (too often) present and everything is accomplished at a slower pace, it seems. She has become more active at church and notices an ever growing hunger to live out our faith as taught through the years. Joining the St. Vincent de Paul Society with its outreach to the poor has been fulfilling. Another current activity is committed prayer for priests as a member of the Seven Sisters Apostolate. Highlights of the past year include the many extended visits with friends and family. Of particular note is a gathering last October of classmates **Rita Gisriel Cole**, Kathleen Gaffney, Ginny Hartmuller, Suzanne Rymer, and **Ginny Greene Murphy** with spouses. It was a little like an eighth grade dance with the boys watching sports in the living room and the girls chatting on the porch. Everyone was satisfied with the logistics!

Rita Gisriel Cole and husband Dennis are well and enjoying lots of family activities. Dennis recently retired after 40 years of coaching football, the last 15 of those as an assistant to their son. Their oldest granddaughter will begin high school in the fall and it has

been such a joy to watch her grow and mature. Their ten-year-old granddaughter loves to play games, from Yahtzee to Clue, and "Nana" loves the days caring for Maeve who will soon turn three. Hobbies include reading, pickleball, golf, and hanging out with the girlfriends.

It is hard to believe that our SJC Alumnae Association will soon dissolve. It is our hope that we can continue to keep the class of '67 "All Together." As travel becomes more difficult with many of our classmates, we plan to get an updated list of contact information to you in the hope that you can "reconnect" with others in your area. You are truly an amazing group of women and let's reach out to each other so that "Friendship's links may ne'er be broken."

1968

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In her Christmas newsletter, **Mary Louise Libby Palm** reported that she and Bill enjoyed a lovely trip to the Alps last September where they visited the Italian, Swiss, Austrian, and German Alps. The Alps were spectacular, as expected. They visited Lake Maggiore in Italy, then went to Zermatt, Switzerland, where they saw the Matterhorn and took the cog railway up a neighboring mountain with spectacular views. They then took the Glacier Express train to St. Moritz, a daylong train ride through amazing scenery. This day trip gave them great admiration for the Swiss engineers who created the passes and tunnels the train travelled through. The next day they travelled by bus to Innsbruck, Austria where they toured the city. Then on to Salzburg, which has inspired artists and thinkers such as Mozart, Klimt, and Einstein with its romance and beauty. Their trip ended with a visit to Oberammergau, Germany where they saw the Passion Play that the townspeople stage every ten years. They were originally scheduled to see the play in 2020 but because of COVID, it was delayed to 2022. Mary Louise says the play, in German, is six hours long, with a two-hour intermission for dinner at the halfway point. They were given a copy of the play in English so they could follow along (although Bill says they already knew the plot). Many townspeople performed as actors or choir members. The theater, which seats about 4,700 people, is enclosed on three sides and roofed. The stage is open but covered by a plastic "tent" structure to keep the cast dry if it rains. The tour company for this trip was Collette, and Mary Louise says they did an excellent job—they had a great tour guide and the bus driver did an expert job negotiating their huge bus around the hairpin turns of the two-lane alpine roads. After this memorable trip, and back home, Mary Louise says they haven't done anything exciting. They've been enjoying the summer swimming in their local pond and visiting with their four grandchildren, ages six to ten.

Joanne Ekhaml and her family planned a busy 2023 filled with much travel. They spent nine days touring Spain, which they really enjoyed. They had plans to return to Europe in early October to meet their son David and his family in Rome, which they visited in 2006, with a possible side trip to Naples, which they have not visited. Back in the US, they had trips planned to Charleston, SC and Naples/Marco Island, FL in July and August. Joanne adds, "Yes we know it's summer, but these trips are for a family reunion and our friends' 50th wedding anniversary." They are also reinstating their annual culture trip with four couples to western Massachusetts in August, and in September they'll spend their annual week in Martha's Vineyard.

In the past year, **Beverly Eagan** and Larry Tuteur made their 16th move since 2017 and are very pleased with this latest move. They signed a three-year rental of a gorgeous Haussmann-style apartment with a view of the Eiffel Tower. If you've visited Paris, you've seen these apartment buildings along boulevards in the heart of the city (https://ruemag.com/decorating/9-characteristics-of-parisian-haussmann-style-apartments, for a description of Haussmann apartments). They rented this apartment unfurnished and bought furniture, a major step in their commitment to Paris and France. Another part of a longtime commitment is that in France, furnished apartments have one-year leases whereas unfurnished ones have three-year leases. With three-year leases, the tenant pays the power bill, the key to everything. Next summer, they will have been in France five years and will be entitled to apply for citizenship or for a ten-year residency card. To prove residency, they need a power bill; and now they have one!

In May **Christine Maley Harbaugh** attended a family reunion in Delaware of cousins and second cousins, some of whom she hadn't seen in years. Family came from California, West Virginia, and New York. All

members of the generation of their parents, aunts, and uncles have died, so the gathering of the cousins to share stories and photos was very special. In June Chris visited Longwood Gardens, in Kennett Square, PA, not far from Wilmington, DE, for a lovely day marveling at the beauty of God's handiwork, as well as the ingenuity, vision, and talent of the Dupont family. Later she attended a women's retreat at MSM University where she learned about Blessed Fr. Stanley Rother, priest, martyr, missionary, and MSM seminarian who was martyred in Guatemala in 1981. There is an altar with his relics in the seminary chapel at the Mount. Just one more miracle, attributed to his intercession, is needed for him to be named a saint. Chris also visited the Rhoda Wise House and Grotto in Canton, OH. Rhoda Wise was a mystic and stigmatic to whom are attributed some healing miracles, including one experienced by Rita Rizzo, the future Mother Angelica. Chris says the Rhoda Wise Home and Grotto are worth a visit.

Patricia Harris Miller at 76 and George at 82 live a quiet, retired life in Omaha where they feel blessed to live in such a vibrant city. While they don't travel, they find plenty of things to do. She sees herself as the Queen of free cultural events, art shows, concerts, festivals, etc. There are several theatre companies in Omaha to which their kids give them tickets for Christmas. Their two grown daughters and their families live in Omaha as well and are executives in their companies. One of their three grandchildren just graduated from college. Pat is involved with multiple community organizations including PEO, a women's philanthropic organization and liturgical ministries in her parish of 13,000. She co-chairs a group called PrimeTimers that plans events for seniors at the parish. She was involved in more activities that she loved but they closed as a result of COVID. Pat says she is just as busy and just as lazy as she wants to be. She plans to attend SJC's last Reunion if she is able. I asked Pat how she ended up in Omaha because I never knew where she was from. She has deep roots in Nebraska, saying both of her parents' ancestors go back at least 160 years. Her great-grandfather drove the Sidney-Deadwood Stage with William Hickock and started a freighting line with Buffalo Bill's trail cook when he was still running cattle. Her father's work as a Navy pilot and then FBI agent took him far from Nebraska and as a result, Pat grew up in Memphis, Cleveland, Newark, and Pittsburgh. Who knew? Her father was pleased when the FBI finally transferred him back home to Omaha. Pat settled there not long after SJC adding that it's a good place to be.

As **Susan Romanowski Redding** wrote, she was busy organizing and packing for her family's annual trek to Bald Head Island, NC. At our 55th Reunion earlier this year, it seemed that the two topics of conversation at our age were our most recent trips and what body parts have been replaced. Sue reports that she still has all her original parts, despite urgings that she should replace a few. She swims every other day and does some yoga. When she's at home in Greenville, NC, she and Bill volunteer with the Sierra Club and a local environmental justice group. She finds the local group contact especially meaningful. She also works with a local coalition organized by their regional medical center to address gun safety, a very important issue. Sue serves on the Medical Ethics Committee at the medical center and suspects that she's in the running for the longest tenured member. She's threatening to have "please excuse me from the next meeting" engraved on her tombstone, but she enjoys medical ethics and the issues. Since all this does not keep her busy enough, Sue has also been studying Spanish and dabbling in some mosaic work. Their girls are doing well. Bill displays his woodwork at the local arts council, writes a lot, and plays music every day. He's also active in their university neighborhood association. At the end of her message, Sue adds a plug for *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari, as well as his two other books. Both offer lots of food for thought.

Sheila Kelly Vertino's news is all travel-related. She and Al realized that they were the oldest people on their last four group tours, which made her think those fun times might be coming to an end and that they should take advantage of travel experiences while they still can. Their trip in May to Morocco was her favorite one so far. (She posted wonderful daily pictures of their Morocco adventure on Facebook.) They hadn't planned to travel again until January (to southern Spain with a group from the Mount). But then she saw a 40% off trip to Scotland. Unlike most tours of Scotland that don't venture very far north, this one goes to Orkney and its megalithic villages, tombs, and mysterious standing stones. Sheila blames this trip on the television series *Outlander,* and they were scheduled to go in August.

Anne "Sparky" Coleman Neel is receiving treatment for metastatic pulmonary adenocarcinoma non-small cell cancer (NSC). After struggling through health problems since the summer of 2022, her diagnosis finally became clear last December. She says the oncology department at St. Clair Hospital in Mt. Lebanon, PA has been a blessing. They work in conjunction with the Hillman Cancer Center and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), and Sparky is pleased with the care she has received. She's also being treated

for wet macular degeneration, which is not responding to treatment so well, yet. The cancer treatments, a combination of chemo and immune therapies, seem to be effective. Sparky lives next door to her sister and has wonderful friends in their Pittsburgh neighborhood. She has a cat named Fuzzball, and has a garden planted with tomatoes and onions. She reports she is happy and at peace and sends her love to all.

Mary Brown, **Cathy Carroll Loy** and Mary's longtime friend Kaye Stauder called me in July from Mary's cabin on Lake Rabun in north Georgia where they were spending the weekend. Earlier in the year Mary went on a Viking River cruise on the Douro River in Portugal and later, she took a trip to the Bahamas. She and Kaye were planning a visit to Connecticut and Cape Cod to get together with old friends. Cathy had back surgery in August—to have some discs in her spine fused. She has been bothered by back problems over the past several years that have limited her activity and is hoping that this surgery will provide some relief. Mary called me afterward to let me know that it went well.

Our 55th Reunion was in April and while we had a small number of classmates there—**Dottie Hemler Monteith, Betsy Klunk Esposito, Mary Louise Doyle Dingle** (and Harry), **Carol Healey Haran, Kate Graham** (and her sister Jeanie), **Jocelyn Fritz Collins** (and Mike), **Ruth Lynch Buchwalter** (and Stan), **Anne O'Regan Brolley**, Sheila Kelly Vertino, **Pat Gavin Wynne**, and Mary Louise Libby Palm (and Bill)—we spent almost all of our time talking and getting caught up with, or just getting to know, each other. We had some firsts. A fire alarm went off at about 6:30 am, just as some folks were up, others were thinking about getting up, and others were so sound asleep they thought the fire alarm was their alarm clock and tried to turn it off. We were outside in the rain in our pajamas waiting for the fire department to give us the all-clear. What set off the alarm was a small fire in the kitchen, which had been closed for weeks due to a shortage of staff and was being started up again.

The other first was that, with just 12 classmates, we won the "Friends and Family" award, formerly known as the Husbands' Cup for the largest percentage of guests registered and attending the Reunion. Thanks go to Bill, Mike, Stan, Harry, and Jeanie.

Jocelyn said she and Mike really enjoyed Reunion, despite the early morning fire alarm that sent us all out into the parking lot (or, in their case, to Dunkin' Donuts). She said that, for her, the highlight of the Reunion was the campus visit and tour. She emphasizes that we all should make every effort to get back for the final Reunion. A few days after Reunion, they left on a bucket-list trip to Europe that included a week each in London and Paris. While in Paris, they enjoyed a brief visit with Bev Eagan and Larry. Without too much time to recover, they left for Chicago where their oldest grandson graduated from the university. While they were there, they spent some time with Mike's MSM roommate, Joe Bremer and his wife Cathy. Jocelyn and Mike are enjoying life in Needham, MA, and are working hard to keep up with their nine grandchildren.

My trip in the past year was a Smithsonian/Ponant cruise through the Panama Canal, starting at the Caribbean/Atlantic side cruising to the Pacific side and then on to Costa Rica for a short visit. I went with my sister Alice, and a friend and her sister. When we were grade-school-aged children, Alice, our brother and I lived in Panama when it was the Canal Zone. While each day, our school bus took us over the Canal, we had never been through it, and we were excited to see it and take that journey as adults 50+ years later. (A little factoid: I was in the same fourth grade class as Joe Bremer, who was Mike Collins's MSM roommate.) Alice and I went a few days early and found the house we lived in and wandered around our old neighborhood on the former Army post, Fort Clayton, now the town of Clayton, known also as Ciudad de Saber (City of Knowledge). As part of our cruise, we toured one of the Smithsonian's tropical institutes in Panama City and had the opportunity to visit with indigenous local tribes on both sides of the isthmus. (If you get a chance and you're interested, read David McCullough's *The Path Between the Seas* about the building of the Panama Canal and what an amazing feat that was.) We toured parts of Costa Rica and travelled by a small boat through mangrove swamps. Our ship was small (184 passengers in 92 cabins), which we loved because we got to meet interesting fellow travellers. About three years after it began, both of us ended up, for the first time, with mild cases of COVID when we returned home.

Please try to make plans to go to the 2025 Reunion, which will be the last one held by the SJC Alumnae Association. Mark your calendars for Thursday, April 3rd through Sunday, April 6th, 2025, and contact your old roommates and buddies and talk them into going. If you don't have their contact information, reach out to Ruth or me; we probably can help you. Act now because it's going to be here before you know it! Take care all and stay healthy.

1969

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55th Reunion in 2024!

The Valley Echo is published in the fall but as I write this, it is July and the "heat dome" has just arrived in New England. Hopefully, everyone has avoided the many weather events caused by climate change.

COVID eased up and many of our classmates got back to travel.

Helen Bursley-Fournier went on a Disney cruise out of New Orleans to Cozumel in April with her son, his wife and two children, and her daughter Meghan. She is planning another Disney cruise with Meghan to Nassau in September. In May, Helen and Don flew to Seattle to attend the graduation of their oldest grandson from St. Martin's University. Helen and **Pat McIntyre Burton** stay in touch via texts and Facebook and try to connect annually in person.

Mary Pat Cohill continues her weekly Pilates class and the many New York City activities but has been able to escape the city often. She spent ten days in Tampa in March with her niece and family. In June she was in Bend, OR with family for her great niece's high school graduation. She did some hikes, including a lava cave hike, kayaking on a lake, and took in an honest to goodness rodeo. In July, she spent two weeks with **Lynn Koerner** at her cottage in Westford, MA, and **Liz Reaves Ellison** and I were able to join them one afternoon. Mary Pat and Lynn have a big trip to Morocco planned for November.

Micki Lipps Freeny and her daughter took a trip to Antarctica over the Christmas holiday. The seals, penguins, and whales were amazing. The cruise ship was small and their adventures were exciting. Her highlight was seeing three whales breach nine times in succession. They also loved Buenos Aires. In June, Micki was in San Francisco cat-sitting for her nephew and then spent four days in Sonoma. She continues to take four-five ballet classes a week and also does a story time every week for babies and toddlers.

In January, **Joan Dennery Casey**, went on a tour of Egypt with her beau. An added bonus was having Lynn Koerner on the same tour. In April, Joan took her family to Greece for ten days. They rented two gorgeous VRBO houses—one in Athens and the other on Santorini. All three of her adult children and her new son-in-law were able to join her in fulfilling a wish she's had since that History of Art class back at Joe's. They rented bikes for a tour around the Acropolis and then walked the city, had wonderful weather and lots of authentic Greek food. They flew to Santorini for another five days of exploring, sun, and shopping. They ended the trip with a private dinner cruise around the islands. Returning home, she's tackling some major projects—replacing wiring in her house, repainting, and then new furniture—so she will stay busy.

Jean Murray Walker and Grant had a big European trip planned last year for their 50th but had to cancel. After Grant finished his melanoma treatment, they were able to travel and in February spent a week in Cozumel and then in June spent two weeks touring three National Parks—Yellowstone, Grand Teton, and Glacier. Grant is doing well and Jean is busy with pickleball, biking, and swimming. Their Colorado grandchildren are busy teenagers, and she is hoping their Minneapolis grandchildren will visit in August.

Barbara Crouse Banaszynski and Tom relocated to Hilton Head Island giving up their home in Louisville, KY. They visit Louisville often as Tom is still practicing in Kentucky and returns for a week every five or six weeks. Their children visit them often in Hilton Head. Barb discovered that **Mary Martha McNamara** and her husband Bob are close by in a community, Rose Hill, in Bluffton, SC. They have had fun catching up and meeting for lunch. Tom and Mary Martha discovered they have mutual friends as they were in the same Junior Year Abroad Program in Rome.

Wendy Cran Newcomer reports that she is a great-grandmother!! Her great-grandson Joseph Anthony Prentiss turned three in July and is a carbon copy of his mother, Wendy's granddaughter Lauren.

Wanda Robek Power retired eight years ago and moved from New Jersey to central New Hampshire where they have a beautiful view of the mountains and plenty of space to garden. They had been quite active in their parish before the pandemic with a program for people with dementia. Now things have changed as two years ago, Mike was diagnosed with a form of leukemia that limits their social life due to his vulnerability. During the pandemic, Wanda started posting one of her photos on Facebook with a quote attached. Often the quotes are responses to world events but sometimes they just express random thoughts and ideas she comes across.

Wanda says it has been an excellent and thoughtful experience for her. This summer they received the go-ahead to attend outdoor events, so they are being a bit more adventurous. In August they will celebrate their 50th anniversary and are hoping to take a trip by car since they still can't fly.

Kathy Steigelman Power retired from government in 2021 and is happily leading a life of reading, Pilates, and swimming. As a state and federal official, she had to read voluminous materials and had limited time to enjoy recreational reading. Now, she is working through her 20-year-old "want to read" list and started her own one person "banned book" club, became a regular at the library, joined discount book clubs, and thoroughly immersed herself in solid literature, speculative fiction, history, short stories, etc. She shares her love of books with her husband Brian (MSM), their two sons, and three grandchildren. Kathy's sister was a graduate of SJC nursing program ('66) and she is very proud of the affiliation with the Mount in health services. Kathy continues to believe that New England is still the best place to live! (And I agree.)

Ann Mooney Kirmil and John have been on the road quite a bit. In February, they spent a long weekend with both her daughters and their families in New Jersey where her daughter Julia lives. In April they were in Richmond where Ann grew up and visited with **Faye Stank Anson** and **Beth Dignan Blumer** while there. In May and June, they visited the kids again and also spent time in Baltimore with friends and attended the symphony. But they spend the summer in their home in Ocean View, DE. Ann tells us that there is no ocean view in Ocean View—they are actually a couple miles back from Bethany Beach. Ann and John are heading to New England in September and planning to connect with me, Liz Reaves, and Lynn Koerner while they are in Massachusetts.

PJ Heaven Reilly and Jim took a relaxing cruise last fall from Montreal, up the St. Lawrence Seaway, around the coast of Nova Scotia, and then south to Florida. In June, they explored northern Michigan and spent some time at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. They had graduations for three grandchildren in the spring. James graduated from Georgetown with his master's degree and is now employed with a private equity firm but he was also drafted by a pro lacrosse team so he has two jobs to keep him busy. His sister Eileen graduated from high school and is on her way to Bucknell. Grandson Danny is headed to Ohio State. Reil is still working and PJ is loving retirement while volunteering at the local library.

Beth Dignan Blumer and John cruised from northern Portugal to Spain and France visiting the Tomb of St. James the Apostle, Guggenheim Museum, and Mont St. Michel. In Normandy, David and Julie Eisenhower joined their tour to Omaha Beach and the American Cemetery where there was a wreath laying and David Eisenhower spoke. Then they were on to London, leaving days before King Charles's coronation.

Finally, Dick and I are well and busy with our one-year old grandson Beau as well as golf, biking, pickleball, and skiing. We are so thankful to be able to stay active. In April, we travelled to Ireland for the first time and explored some small towns where my grandfather lived. We have a trip planned to Chile in November exploring the Atacama Desert and coastal regions. Our pandemic era SJC Zoom group continues to meet on Wednesdays. For the last three plus years, ten of us have supported each other through surgeries, personal losses, all things both good and bad, laughed, cried, shared books, shows, movies, recipes, celebrated birthdays, and tried to solve the problems of the world—still working on that one!

Hoping to see everyone at our 55th Reunion April 4-7, 2024.

1970

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Reunion 2023 was terrific and a few of us were able to attend—**Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck, Christine Roos Mehl, Leslie Henze Blackstock, Susan Stay Valenti, Sue McKenna Clifford, Kathy McNaney Younkin, Alberta Johnson Baker**, and myself. We were happy to cheer on Mary Ann who was awarded the SJC Legacy Award for 2023 for her outstanding work on the SJC Reunions.

Shortly after Reunion, Alberta Johnson Baker and Kathy McNaney Younkin were off on a Viking River cruise of the Rhine River with Kathy's brother and sister-in-law, and another couple. They had a fantastic time starting with two days in Amsterdam before boarding the ship. In May it was off again for Alberta and two Spanish teacher friends to Ocean City, MD, then to visit her sister and her husband in Delaware. Alberta says her travels are possible because her brother-in-law Dion comes from Indiana to stay with her husband Stan while she is away. She says she is super grateful to Dion, and the brothers enjoy spending quality time together.

Alberta's California family visited in July and she continues to see the family in Maryland regularly. Her oldest grandchild is entering high school in the fall, and her youngest goes to second grade. Two will be in middle school. Alberta adds, "I still go to Jazzercise six days a week and participate in social events when possible. We are fortunate to have a good caregiver for Stan during the week, and lots of friends who help."

Ginny Hammond Conmy writes that she is still in Richmond and has her children close by. Erin is expecting a baby June 17--first grandchild and Ginny is thrilled! Her brother Father Marty reached his 50th year mark as a priest, and they all had a big celebration. Ginny says, "I keep busy writing--as with all us, COVID altered my life--did not have COVID but avoiding it was a big job! Thank God we can readjust to a more normal life!" She adds, "So often think of us Joe's girls and send much love to each one daily!"

Susan Stay Valenti's husband Ron died very suddenly on March 2nd of a massive heart attack. Her two sons have been helping her with all the details that follow such a catastrophe. Susan did get away to spend some time in July at the Jersey Shore with family and had a wonderful time. She added, "Yesterday was Ron's birthday, which we celebrated, so it was comforting to be together." Susan is also selling their house in Emmitsburg and has bought a home in Maryland, near her sons.

Jane Fitzpatrick Padgett's husband Ken sent an email—"Dear Sister Anne, Thank you for your email to Jane. In case you didn't know, Jane sadly passed away on September 4, 2022 after a brief but courageous battle with lung cancer. We had been married for almost 44 wonderful years producing three beautiful children and currently, four beautiful grandchildren. When Jane died, she was on the express train to heaven. Knowing that she is without pain, in God's arms and sharing in His glory, has allowed me to fully accept God's will, not without tears and some laughter."

Cathy Hill retired after 12 wonderful years as the founding Dean of the School of Education at the American University in Dubai. She returned to the US on July 1 and has settled in Cambridge, MA.

Patty McGucken Habersberger sent this email, "Anne--Thank you so much for serving as our class agent. I have not made reunions for some time now. My husband Gus passed away June 11, 2022 after suffering for four years from stage four prostate cancer caused from exposure to Agent Orange while serving in Vietnam. It's strange to be alone after 52 years. But I know he is still with me in spirit. Perhaps I will try to get to reunion this year. Who knows? Give my love to all the girls."

Carol Ervin Sharkey shared wonderful pictures on Facebook of her trip with family to Denmark, Sweden, and Norway. In August she spent time in Colorado with the grandkids and said she will try to resume Zoom calls in September. It seems like everyone is busy right now.

Arlene Seeber spent time in Cape May, NJ with four of her grandchildren ages 24, 22, 19, and 16. She lamented, "No more making sand castles but deep and funny conversations with great laughter."

I heard from **Barbra McCune** at Christmas 2022. She shared her thoughts on 2022 and how difficult the year had been for many folks. Illness, loss of loved ones, mass shootings, and an unsettled political climate continue to challenge us. But we are a people of faith and hope and continue to see progress on many fronts. We enter 2023 with renewed optimism that we can move in a more hopeful direction.

The past year has been rich with new interests, activities, and travel for Barbra and Rich. She took a two-semester memoir writing class and is hard at work writing about her years in Honduras as a physician missioner. Rich is an enthusiastic, if somewhat biased, "first reader."

Barbra is also singing with the Transylvania Choral Society. In December, they performed Rutter's "Magnificat" with a chamber orchestra. She says that it was a wonderful performance!

Rich continues to enjoy mountain biking and is now taking on more challenging trails. It's a great way to exercise and have fun at the same time. He has also made regular visits to his Pennsylvania family and joined them to celebrate his mom's 97th birthday. Rich recently celebrated the 42nd anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. He has been blessed to be able to serve as supply priest to several churches in the area as well as be a guest preacher at his former parish in Princeton. One of their Asheville churches has a special service for folks who are homeless and they have both enjoyed being part of that. One of the special blessings of this past year occurred when Rich had the opportunity to baptize Lucas, the child of a local couple whose marriage he performed shortly after moving to North Carolina.

Although Barbra and Rich enjoy travelling abroad, they

focused on domestic travel in 2022. Barbra says that it was fun to spend time with friends and family in a relaxed and safer environment thanks to vaccines.

In late October they did a 12-day road trip to the north-east. Rich was invited to be the guest preacher at Grace/LaGracia in White Plains, NY where his former associate was installed as Priest in Charge. It was a jubilee day! They saw many friends and family during that trip ranging in age from their one-year-old great-nephew to their dear friend, Ms. Elsie, who continues to grace them with her wisdom and humor at age 102.

Leah Smith Gomez visited **Janice Scrib Dyer** in Naples, FL. Janice posted a picture of them on Facebook having dinner at M Waterfront Grille. Janice hopes to see Leah again soon when Janice visits her son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter in Williamsburg, VA.

As for me—I am still living in Emmitsburg and teaching one literature class at the Mount.

To update you on the old Provincial House--two of the wings of the building have been leased to the Mount! One will be the Blessed Stanley Rother House, for the formation and education of men who are planning to enter the Seminary after their year here. Thirty men are moving in at the end of August. In addition, the renovation/reconstruction of E Wing, the future home of the Mount's Graduate School of Health Professions, is ongoing.

I also had a long and wonderful phone conversation with **Karen O'Callahan Baughman**, who lives in Kentucky.

There are just two Reunions left so I hope that you will plan to attend at least one of them. Remember our 55th Reunion will be the last Reunion—April 3-6 2025.

1971

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Debbie Rabbottini Thomas met classmates **Kathy Broderick Denton, Nancy Snyder Chambers, Debby Zemanic Doyle**, and **Judy Cartenuto** at the Wyndham in Gettysburg on a recent trip. Debbie says that this has been or will be a great year for travel for all of us. She and Jeff spent the month of May driving around mostly France, plus a bit of the Netherlands and Belgium. They took their younger daughter Kelly along to show her Paris, the Loire, Normandy, etc. for the first ten days of the trip. The rest of the gals are going to travel in September. Kathy is heading to Spain with her sister Robin. Debby Doyle is going to Korea with her children, Joe and Liz. Nancy will be celebrating an upcoming milestone birthday in Italy with her daughter Heidi. And Judy, who consults for a law firm, is taking her vacation in September to go to her nephew's wedding in New England. Debbie added that being together with friends of 50 plus years is so special, and was really healing for her as she had broken her neck (the odontoid for you nurses) in early January, spending three months in a rigid cervical collar, not knowing if her life would be normal again. She added that driving down from the mountains in western Pennsylvania by herself in an unfamiliar rental car to see these SJC friends was so normalizing that she finally felt like her old self again. That's what dear friends can do for you… help you remember who you were and who you are when life gets challenging!

Kathy Corley Murray wrote that she spent two months in rehab unit after tripping over the corner of a box while cleaning up after Mass. She broke the top of her right humerus, her left fourth metacarpal, and the top of her left tibia. Fortunately, she lives in a continuous care retirement community, so she had good medical care, lots of visitors, and targeted rehab to get her back into her cottage. Then she had a month of outpatient rehab. Her cat Miley was taken care of by caring residents. Her bones are healed, but muscles are slower to stop hurting. She is back to her normal activities and grateful that God is good! P.S. Her church is being renovated, and they are in a huge tent in the parking lot. She fell on asphalt--it could have been worse.

Jayne Conrad Gallagher, Pat Brett Gallagher, Kathleen Kirchner McCann, Jill McCabe, and **Barb Abel Sariano** had a mini reunion in Emmitsburg in June. Jayne and Jack moved to Mims, FL in February.

1972

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Another year of get-togethers and sharing memories through emails! We have had a few mini-reunions, including a luncheon in September 2022 in New Jersey. Thirteen classmates enjoyed an afternoon together.

Classmates included **Pat Bader Walsh** and husband Ray who were in for a visit from Arkansas, great to see them! And **Julie Lombard** and **Mary Louise "Scotch" Kincaid Asaki** drove up from Maryland to join the group. Also in attendance were **Elaine Prendergast McGovern**, **Mary Bohan Kelly** and husband John, **Sandy Cardella Speicher** and husband Joe, **Marcia Minton Bollwage** and husband Scott, **Joanne O'Donnell O'Connor** and husband Marty, **Jane Clifford, Mary Mehl Doherty** and husband Joe, **Bernadette Ackerman Benninger**, **Cathy Homan Winslow**, and myself. We are planning yet another get-together this September at the Brick House Tavern in New Jersey.

And nine classmates got together in Charleston in May for a nice week together. All raved about the area and their time together. In attendance--**Debbie Curley-Reid** and John Reid, **Pam Harrison Anderson** and husband Dave, Mary Bohan Kelly and husband John, **Jayne Bianco Cohill** and husband Mike, **Maureen Maloy Biggers** and husband Bob, Mary "Scotch" Kincaid Asaki, **Chris Mele**, and Jane Clifford's husband Tom. **Ann Brummitt O'Brien** and Jane Clifford hosted classmates at their homes in the area. Brummitt hosted a cocktail/appetizer party at her home which has a 500 year old tree in the front. Her home is decorated impeccably and shows true Southern charm. Clifford had guests over for a dinner at her beach home which has fantastic views of the ocean. During the time there, classmates took a trip to Fort Sumter, a trip to Charleston itself, and a harbor dinner cruise. The excitement from the dinner cruise--a woman fell before they got onto the ship and all the nurses, led by Jayne Bianco Cohill sprang into action to help her! And Jane hosted some breakfasts at her home. I heard that Jane's husband Tom and Chris Mele celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a shot of tequila that morning during breakfast! A true '72er!! I hear that after everyone left--Brummitt went on a vacation to relax--on a safari in Africa. No news yet on how that went. Also, I have heard another get-together might be planned soon…this one might be to spring training in Florida. Details to follow as they develop.

Recently a few classmates got together for a lunch in Toms River, NJ. Joe and Mary Mehl Doherty, Mary Bohan Kelly, Sandy Cardella Speicher and husband Joe, Bernadette Ackerman Benninger, and Debbie Curley-Reid and John Reid attended and had a great time.

Other class news…Julie Lombard reported that her "baby" graduated from Berkeley and is off to LA to follow his dreams in music! Son Vinny will be a senior next year in Marie Biology with a minor in Chemistry at the University of Hawaii. He was delayed for two years due to a severe concussion in ice hockey. He is now fully recovered. After graduation, he wants to move from the big island to Oahu and work in the shark research lab which has always been his dream. Julie is doing her dream retirement as a foster coordinator in dog rescue. It is a lot of work, but she absolutely loves it. She lives by herself in the country with her pack of six dogs and four cats and has never been happier.

Cathy Homan Winslow was on a cruise when we were at our 50th Reunion. They couldn't dock at many of the ports, but Homan said it was great, she lived in the "lap of luxury" the whole time. She was following it up with a gambling cruise through the North Sea and then planned on retaking the cruise this year so she could go into the ports they visited.

Barbara Klein Mank and husband Greg visited New England last fall, had a great time and took some beautiful photos. Mary Louise "Scotch" Kincaid and her family went to Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and Hadrian's Wall in northern Britain. They spent 31 days on the trip, and Scotch located a Kincaid in Scotland. Mary Pat Bohan Kelly and husband John met Mary Pat's sister Ann (SJC '71) for a Mississippi river cruise last Thanksgiving. They got to meet halfway across the country with no family member doing the cooking!

And in an unbelievable event--FIFTY YEARS LATER--**Jo Ketner Gallagher** has her class ring back!!!! She lost it soon after graduation after taking it off in a bathroom at work. When she realized she had left it there, she went back but it was gone. A few months ago, our alumnae office was contacted by a women near Baltimore with a photo of a ring from a member of the class of '72. We identified it, based on the initials etched inside that it was Jo's, and she got it back, looks great!!!

The class had a few balance challenges last year. Both Mary Morel Ingram and Debbie Curley-Reid suffered falls that led to a lot of physical therapy--and the class shared many emails about getting better balance as we age! I am happy to report that Debbie was told she wouldn't walk for six months--she proved them wrong and was walking in a couple of months. My favorite story is Debbie in her first rehab facility. One day they took her to the bathroom and told her to pull the chain to notify them when she was done. She did-- no one showed up after 20 minutes. She had her phone with her, so she called them. The person who answered said she needed to talk to another person and was going to transfer her-- after five minutes on hold, Debbie hung up and called again--they were going to do the same thing,

and she asked them if they would like her to call 911--which was her next step--they were there QUICKLY to remove Debbie from the bathroom! I gave that advice to my mother who is frequently stuck in her bathroom (I have talked to her on the phone in there) but she never took Debbie's suggestion.

Linda Raudenbush was back in Australia for her yearly two-month hiatus. She enjoyed it, but was glad to get back home.

Jo Ketner Gallagher and husband Dick had a nice party to celebrate their 50th anniversary--after renewing their vows. It was good to be in attendance, I was there 50 years ago. Also at the party were **Gloria Hammel**, Linda Raudenbush, and Chris Mele.

And I got a memory teaser from **Mary Leatherman Mindel** who continues to clean out her parents' belongings. She wrote them in 1968/69 winter, "We had a big fire here last week. One of the trees near the creek caught fire. Some kids had been ice skating and built a little fire near the tree to keep warm. Apparently, the fire got out of hand. We all went down and cheered the Emmitsburg fireman along. The girls have been ice skating a lot. The creek is long and they say it's pretty smooth." I sent it to the class, no one admits remembering it, but Joe Doherty (earning his keep as our class historian) did find an article in the Emmitsburg paper about the fire.

I have been doing a little visiting over the past year. I got to see **Linda Ciborowski** and husband Rich in their home in Barkhamstead, CT. It has been a pleasure visiting an area of Connecticut I never went to when I lived there. Rich is a talented photographer and takes great photos. And Cibby enjoys gardening and cooking among other things--they have a great home there. I hope to be back again this summer. I also got to visit Mary Morel Ingram and her husband Kevin in June in Maine. What a great time…even though it was rainy or overcast the entire time, I had a blast! I got to see part of Acadia, we ate some great food, and got to video chat with Cibby, Julie, and Mary's sister Patty Murphy-Lynch, SJC '74. I have also visited Jo Ketner Gallagher and husband Dick several times at their home in Hanover as I have visited Pennsylvania. Jo and Dick are GREAT hosts, I have had some great times at their house. They recently rescued a cocker spaniel, Lady, who is really cute. And Gloria Hammel also rescued a corgi, Archie, who I have seen on Zoom calls--he is really really cute. I am now volunteering at a dog shelter on the Cape, and I believe a dog is in my future.

Thanks for supporting SJCAA to allow us to continue our Reunions until 2025. I hope many of you come back to the last Reunion April 3-6, 2025. I know Joe Doherty is already preparing a video for that date. It should be memorable, as always. Enjoy the fall and holidays and I hope to hear from all of you with your news.

1973

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We had a wonderful 50th Reunion in April. A great team of 11 planned our events and did an outstanding job. With 36 classmates in attendance there was plenty of recalling old memories, making new ones, and catching up on family news. Friday night we were able to Zoom with **Pat Noto** and **Mimi Ghosh Mangrobang**. At the Saturday night Banquet, **Martina Sabo** spoke eloquently of our four years in the Valley, reminding us of our common bond and need to "tightly hang on to Jesus Christ and to one another in the years to come." She received a well-deserved standing ovation.

Maureen Hinke Hahn is doing lots of grandchildren babysitting, volunteering at Church, and keeping up with things around the house. She writes, "Reunion was great…everything about it was wonderful, including the hospitality room." She has extra favors from our class dinner (magnet with the SJC Alma Mater) for anyone who didn't receive one, whether you attended the dinner or not. Just email her at mathhahn@aol.com.

Sue Koch Corwin's husband Tim passed away on June 24, 2023 after a two-year battle with lung cancer. Please keep Sue in your prayers as she navigates this new phase of her life.

Pam Hull Reilly emailed "nothing new to report." She helped plan Reunion and attended with her husband Pat.

Marella Colyvas is planning a trip to a resort hot springs in Nevada at the end of October. Other trips she has planned are simply from where she lives in Colorado to the east coast to visit folks. It's nice to be able to travel again. Her life is slowly getting back to normal, though still plans to protect herself from COVID when it feels appropriate.

Summer seems to be flying by for **Dotita Cartagena Kafka**. She had her daughter Sara's three kids with her June 18-25. After a few days off they returned on the 30th, with their parents. They had a busy Fourth of July week. She is planning to visit Evan in Asheville with Sara and her family in July as well. In August she and her sister Teri are going to Puerto Rico for two weeks. She will also see Eric's brother and wife beginning of August. She is blessed to have family!

Andie Miller Stewart and husband Robby had a great time at Reunion. Robby met and talked with lots of our classmates and had "a much better time than he expected. It was so good to see so many of us and recount past times." Following Reunion, they drove on to Virginia and visited with Robby's family. Andie's mother-in-law turned 90 this past spring. They stayed in the guest suite of her residence. It was so convenient and they got to personally evaluate the food she complains about. Their granddaughter Taylor stayed with them for a week in June while she attended soccer camp at Oakland University. Their grandson Miller is with them for a week in July, riding bikes with grampa. They are going to visit their son and daughter-in-law in California over Labor Day. The four of them will drive north to Elk to stay at a lighthouse cottage to visit and hike. This is their first flight post COVID. Andie is excited and anxious.

Kathy Krammer Callaghan would like to thank everyone for the prayers for her husband Tim during his battle with squamous cell cancer that metastasized to his lymphatic system. He has had two surgeries to remove the tumor from his hand and the lymph nodes. It looks like the immunotherapy treatment is starting to work. And the surgeon was able to get clear margins around his hand tumor. Immunotherapy is continuing. So things are looking very good and she believes all the prayers have been helping. They plan a visit to Kathy's mom in August followed by a trip on the Ohio River. If all continues to go well, they hope to travel to Germany next year to visit with friends they haven't seen since before the pandemic. The rest of the family is thriving and the grandkids are growing.

Martina Sabo finished her first year at Montessori School of McLean. It was wonderful being an assistant teacher. So good she has signed up for the coming school year. It keeps her out of trouble. She looks forward to going back as it adds structure to her day. She is looking at the summer off as retirement training. She is doing genealogy, reading scriptures and rereading the Margaret of Ashbury trilogy, and watching movies on DVD. A friend gave her hundreds of *Great Courses* DVDs. She is overwhelmed not knowing how to proceed with all her activities.

Rosemary Grosik Helton moved again--4648 Leeward Dr., Chesapeake, VA 23321. Her phone is still the same. She didn't want to stay in DC and originally considered moving to Florida, but found a lot of hidden costs, and decided to go back to the Hampton Roads area of Virginia. The big day came on May 18-19. She says that it was the worst move ever!!! She is still trying to find things. Not sure how the movers did it, but so many things are not as she packed them. Every time she opens a box, it's like Christmas. Besides unpacking from the move, she has been busy with improvements going on including all new windows and doors; cutting down a 71-foot tree (got 2.5 cords of wood for the fireplaces); converting the laundry room into two rooms (a 15 x 27 with HVAC & fully wired), a laundry, and a game room for her grandson (tired of stepping on Legos--OUCH!); installing a new fence, back-up generator, a grill & smoking station with a fire pit; adding more insulation to the attic; landscaping with rubber mulch; and installing a spa. The house backs into a wildlife reserve with a city park next to it--walking distance--with a mall and all kinds of stores within a mile or so. She sees cranes and other critters out the windows and from the deck. A VA mini hospital will be open next year adjacent to the mall.

She is considering resigning from her current government civilian job on November 9, 2023. Not sure how well she will do with being really retired???

Her surgery after the Reunion did not go as planned. She is scheduled for robotic surgery to resection her left ureter and remove some kidney stones on July 18. Please say some prayers or send good karma her way that all goes well. She wants to be able to get on the road again.

She plans to see as much of this big bubble we live on called Earth as she can. She is planning to travel with Marella Colyvas to St. Louis, MO for the Thanksgiving holidays. Then, it is off to Las Vegas in February for a charity race followed by a family and friends trip to Orlando with a follow-on Caribbean cruise. Next, she is

looking at a Mediterranean cruise later in 2024. The game plan is a 90-day world cruise in 2025 as this is the best way to see a lot of places without the hassle of \having to pack, fly, unpack, repack, and fly routine.

Jacki Wajas Gibney notes "not much new," but did include some news with the Class of '74.

Sue Christman Williams said Reunion was great and she enjoyed reconnecting with everyone. After spending much of March, April, and May in Michigan she was glad to get back to Maryland to gardens that were badly in need of tending. Extended family was there for the Fourth of July so that was great fun. She keeps busy with her Native Plant group, her gardens, and doing Identifications on the I Naturalist app. Her son RJ, grandson John, and their All Star 11U (Virginia State Champions) baseball team played in the regional tournament in July--unfortunately losing in the final game but it was quite the wild ride to get there.

Leah Rosenbrock Birch had a wonderful time at Reunion. It was so nice to see many of our classmates and reminisce together. In July, she and Mike celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Where did that time go? Their children Chris and Emily surprised them with dinner for a few close friends and family including a re-creation of her wedding bouquet and a shadow box featuring their wedding song. Otherwise, the summer has been busy with grandchildren. Leah has run Nana's daycare and transport service but wouldn't miss these special memories. They grow up so fast! They are looking forward to a family vacation at the beach in August, and she and Mike have a trip planned in October to the Grand Canyon, Bryce, and Zion national parks.

Toni Doherty Kellerson and husband Steve continued their worldly travels with a trip to Fatima, Portugal this past year.

Nicky Young Rachin has been very busy being retired. This heat wave is what it is like living in Arizona in August. She walks with a friend three times a week at 5:00 am. It will start cooling down in September. She understands the dog days of summer, but does not walk her dog since she can burn the pads of her paws. She is not able to do her annual hike in Glacier Park, MT in August. Between removing a cancer spot near her eye and shots in her eyes, she is not allowed to leave Phoenix for eight weeks. The cancer spots started in college and after years. Make sure you get a full skin body check. She is recovered and okay. In October, she is expecting a second grandson in Harrogate England which means a trip across the Pond in the future.

Shirley Berrian Salzbrenner travelled from Paris to the Swiss Alps on Viking this year visiting Switzerland, Germany, Luxembourg, and France while touring on the Rhine and Moselle rivers. She is currently dog sitting for her daughter while she and her family are in Africa for their church.

Anne Steinour Laughlin came to Reunion from her winter residence in Florida. She spends the rest of the year in Gettysburg and Michigan.

On a sad note, **Rosanna Mancini** passed away on August 14, 2023 after a brief illness. She attended our 50th Reunion in April and was all together with us one last time. Please keep her family in your prayers.

As for me, **Chris Wiberley Goglia**, I continue to keep busy with ballet classes, golfing, gardening at home as well as weeding gardens at church. I am also treasurer for two volunteer organizations. I spend time with my grandchildren and will continue to help with driving my grandson Ben to and from high school. He will be a freshman at Mount St. Joseph's High School in Baltimore. Annabella my granddaughter will begin her freshman year at Washington College in Chestertown, MD in August. She plans to major in History and is excited to begin this new chapter in her life. In July, I spent ten days in Myrtle Beach, SC with extended family. We had a Celebration of Life for my brother Charles who passed away October 2022.

Thank you to all who continue to send news. It is always a pleasure to receive emails from each of you. Sue Christman Williams has graciously offered to plan occasional Zoom meetings with classmates. We have had two and will continue, as there is interest. Emails will be sent the week prior to the meeting. Plan to attend for the hour or just to say hi. I have about 69 email addresses. Please contact me if you are not receiving emails from me.

I look forward to seeing as many classmates as possible at Reunion 2024, April 4-7.

1974

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50th Reunion in 2024!

We hope that everyone is getting excited that we will be celebrating our GOLDEN REUNION during the weekend of April 4-7, 2024!! We will be reserving the Presidential Suite so that all of us have a fun gathering place in between our activities. You will be receiving emails to inform you about the special events that will be planned for the weekend! Here is some news from some of our classmates who shared stories about the past year!

Jean Connors Mueller and husband Gary are going to Key West for a week in November. Previously they used to go twice a year until Gary was diagnosed with bone marrow cancer in June 2019. He fortunately, and by the grace of God, recovered well after a stem cell transplant. Of course, COVID didn't help either but they still have to be very careful, germ wise, but they are moving forward!! Jean is looking forward to attending our 50th Reunion!!

Mary Hennigan Gasper expresses that she is done living the age (70) of the year that we all entered St Joe's--1970!! Now, a year later, she notes that now she has to say "I am in my 70s instead of just saying that she is 70 years old." Mary says that staying busy and active keeps the aches and doctors away! In December, Mary and her husband drove to Houston, TX by way of Jacksonville, FL, and spent Christmas with their two granddaughters, four and a half and eight months at the time. Son Nick was voted in as a Houston River Pilot and did his tests and trial runs until March, when he moved to the next and final level before he goes solo in September. Their annual trip south was shorter this year, as planned. Turn around and they were home in a month. She is hoping they are able to go back to the usual eight week stay in Texas and Florida. Mary's life consists of mowing, dreaming up projects, arranging pictures, cleaning, and freezing blueberries. Her husband always has a vegetable garden, and each year becomes more of a challenge. A doe jumped the fence two nights in a row just to sample the beans. Even though they bought a new fence charger, but since it takes three days to charge at the beginning so they ended up taking night shifts to guard the vegetables! The highlight of this summer was a trip to the north country of New York where they had a three-day celebration in the small town where Mary's mother and her family grew up, and where Mary spent summers in the village. Mary says it was her "last hurrah" and an opportunity to visit old friends, locals, and the cemetery. The family home was sold in 1995, but the current owner offered to let her tour the home and see how it had changed.

Elaine Maddox and husband Ken went on a cruise that circumnavigated Iceland with stops in Reykjavik, Isafjordur, Akureyri, Seydisfjordur, Djupivogur, and Heimaey. Sounds amazing, Elaine!

Pat Morel Murphy-Lynch's life has been very busy this winter/spring with babysitting and caring for an aging cousin. But one great adventure was to connect with **Annie Flynn Shira** who lives in Savannah, GA and spend time with Annie and her husband Bill at their amazing Tybee Island beach home, where Pat and husband Peter stayed for a week. Activities included dinner at the Grey, which is the old greyhound terminal in downtown Savannah and a great tour of downtown Savannah, where they got to know all the important places in Annie's young life there. Pat is very much looking forward to next year's 50th!!

Donna McCarthy Feld continues to reside in Virginia and will have grand baby number three--another girl--due November 3, 2023. She says that everyone is healthy and ready for another little one to join big brother Will and sister Hazel. Donna is looking forward to a week in Cape May with **Eileen McAlarnen "Irish"** in September and a week at the Long Beach Island house before closing up.

Kathy Kerns Raubens sent a picture of herself with **Barb Wurster Reiprish**, **Jane Davis Gallagher**, **Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski**, and **Jamie Lowe Huber** at

the SJC Reunion in 2023. This was a special reunion for all; first time Barb was back on the Joe's campus and the first time the five have reunited since 1972!

Jamie Lowe Huber shares that this year she attended the 2023 SJC Reunion along with her friends, and they had a ball as always for many, many years! They had the opportunity to tour our beloved SJC campus, now the Fire Academy, and shared many stories and memories. Jamie is a super busy "Mum Mum," to her six grandkids who range in age from 19 months to 11 years old. Since Jamie is mom to three wonderful boys, grandmom to two grandsons, the addition of four granddaughters allows her to live and love the "girlie life." She states that boys are also pretty cool! She spends lots of time going to baseball, football, street hockey, basketball, soccer, gymnastics, and ballet to see the grandkids and loves it all as she watches them growing up. Jamie is hoping to get some travelling time into the future, and she can't wait until we all meet again at SJC Reunion 2024. "A special time of our lives. Friends for 50 + years. The Best!"

Barb Wurster Reiprish says that reconnecting with her "special" Joe's friends at the 2023 Reunion was unforgettable. Seeing Jamie, Jane, her former roomie Kerns, and Trudie again after some 50 years was fantastic. It was like old times--lots of laughs and memories shared. "Love those gals!" Life is busy these days with hubby Dennis and their five grandchildren. They have been on the road a lot, attending many basketball, field hockey, and ice hockey games. Never a dull moment! After 40 years of teaching Home Economics at her high school alma mater, Barb is still trying to keep her cooking skills sharpened by happily working at Knoebels amusement resort in the Alamo restaurant. If ever travelling to central Pennsylvania, Barb invites you to stop by for their famous "chicken and waffles." She is looking forward to our 50th Reunion and reminiscing with all of our classmates.

Jane Davis Gallagher and husband Jim, spent a fun Valentine weekend in Naples, FL with **Mary Ann McWhorter Riley** and her husband Matt at the home of mutual Mount friends. Always lots of laughs and way too much food. Mary Ann and Matt had lots of news on their new build on Jekyll Island, GA. In April, Jane and Kathy Kerns Raubens flew to Philadelphia and were picked up by Jamie Lowe Huber, who had invited them to stay over before they left for Reunion, picking up Barbara Wurster Reiprish on the way. Once in Gettysburg at the Wyndham, they joined Trudie and celebrated at Reunion with Barb, whom they hadn't seen in person for 47 years, although the five of them try to Zoom every week when it is possible to keep current on each other's lives. They had the best time reminiscing and catching up at Reunion 2023.

Paula Kozloski Swetley shares that all is well at the Swetley household. In November 2022, Paula and husband Mark welcomed their third grandchild Callum. He is the second child of their youngest daughter Nicole and husband Danny, and has a three-year-old sister Anna. Both Paula and Mark are enjoying their retirement by watching Callum throughout the work week. They feel blessed they are to be part of Callum's daily routines and milestones! For a week in July Paula and Mark celebrated their grandson Jack's 13th birthday. Instead of just visiting in Florida, they enjoyed days of sight-seeing and dining throughout the city of London, England with Jack, and his parents Kristin and John! Plans are being made to enjoy a luncheon in August with several of the Joes' girls. **Becky Rutherford Dacey** will be inviting Paula, **Chris Konyha Morrow**, and **Maureen Sommar Milde** for a time of catch-up and reminiscing of the Joe's days! Paula's husband Mark and his MSM Class of '73 fraternity brothers Jimmy Gallagher, Xavier DeCaire, Tommy McKeever, Bob MacLean, Kevin Kelly, and George Palmere enjoyed their 50th anniversary celebration in June 2023 at the Mount! Paula notes "Don't forget that our golden anniversary for the class of '74 will be April 4-7, 2024! Let's make it the best ever! Remember--"Joes is love!"

Maureen Sommar Milde and husband Michael joyously celebrated their son Sean with family as he was being inducted as a New York State Attorney. Sean was previously in the Armed Forces and is a recent graduate of Fordham University.

Barb Callan Bogia shares that her group of eight former St. Joe's girls that remain friends refers to themselves as "RWC": **Mary Ellen Kirchner Pluemer, Debbie Mitchell Kraponick, Kathy Whalen Quarles, Nadine Brainard Smith, Cyndi Mountford Ogulewicz, Rita Harvey Pinedo, Judy Yowaiski Ricker** have experienced some major medical issues this past year. She reflects that it's amazing what you can do these days to support each other from afar. In fact they are all planning a get-together in Baltimore at Nadine Brainard Smith's home in October 2023. In October 2022, Barb and husband Dave went on a 20-day-trip with seven other neighbors from Amsterdam to Budapest on a river cruise and then Dave and Barb went onto Prague. They had such a good time really relaxing and enjoying the countryside. Barb has been extra busy with her presidency on her Condo Association Board. She has managed to get away to Cape Cod in March for a

knitting weekend and in June went to Hobart, NY which is a book town. Eight bookstores in a tiny village of 500 people! Dave's enjoying his golfing and making special items for nieces and neighbors--bookcases, cabinet pullout drawers, etc. Barb says she can't wait to see everyone at our 50th Reunion.

Jackie Wajcs Gibney writes that the church's leisure club keeps her "running" around with meetings and organizing day trips while her three-year-old grandson keeps her busy the rest of the time. In August, Jackie hopes to get together with **Fran Loreto Redman, Jean Connors Muhler, Terry Barker McGoldrich, Pat "PB" Noto, and Kathy Novak**. She notes that she can't wait to see everyone again at our 50th Reunion and hopes that the Home Ec House will be fully renovated so it will be included in the campus tour. Jackie hopes that we will get to see what 50 years has changed for all.

Trudie Mangiaracina Glazewski had an exciting travel year with an October trip with sister Margie to Palm Springs, CA to visit their other sister Frannie. Then in November, a trip to Portland, OR with husband Rich to spend Thanksgiving with son Matthew and his new spouse Mirko. They had time to visit a few vineyards and see the sights of the Portland area. While there, they also explored Washington State and stayed at the Quinault Lodge in Olympic National Forest for a few days of pine trees and fresh air! The 2023 SJC Reunion at the Gettysburg Wyndham and in Emmitsburg, MD was a blast when Jamie, Kathy, Jane and Barb and I gathered and celebrated the 49th Reunion of the class of '74 with alumnae from many of the other classes! Then in June, Trudie and Rich went to Tega Cay, SC to visit their other son Rick, his wife Jackie, and their grandsons Caden, 12, and Connor, nine. It was a wonderful time getting to know the kids again after they hadn't seen them in person since 2019! More travels included vacations in Cape May, NJ for some seaside air and activities like walking, biking, relaxing, and exploring Ocean Drive and the beach.

Remember that our one and only 50th CLASS OF '74 Reunion will be held at the Gettysburg Wyndham April 4-7, 2024. Please contact all of your friends and encourage them to attend each of our remaining Reunions while the SJCAA is still planning organized Reunions until 2025. Only two more Reunions left! We look forward to celebrating this milestone Reunion with as many classmates as possible! It will be a weekend to remember forever!

Wishing you all health and happiness and as always smiles and sunshine!

SISTER MARGARET JOHN KELLY, DC

JUNE 13, 1934 – NOVEMBER 24, 2022

Sister Margaret John Kelly (Rose Marie), 88, died at Villa St. Michael in Emmitsburg, MD on November 24, 2022. She was born on June 13, 1934, in Strafford, PA to Margaret Mary (Walsh) and John Joseph Kelly. She graduated from St. Joseph College (SJC) with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English in 1956. In April 1957, she entered the Daughters of Charity in Emmitsburg.

Ronnie Merrill Malone SJC '56 remembers that Rose was really, really smart, well read, and very articulate. She had lots of opinions about things and was a great conversationalist. She had a great sense of humor, a great laugh, and was easy and fun to be around. She was very unpretentious. She always had a book recommendation and brought you up to date about Catholic issues in the world and what was happening with the Daughters of Charity. Ronnie added a little known fact that Rose and Grace Kelly were second cousins. Their fathers who were both known as Jack were first cousins. Rose knew Grace who was also from the Philly area.

Sister Margaret John was also a much loved educator who taught English Literature at SJC from 1966-1973. Sister Anne Higgins SJC '70 remembers her as the best teacher she ever had, and a model for her in her own teaching life. Sister Anne says that classmates used to say that Sister Margaret John was a walking encyclopedia of English Literature. She was always talking about some book or other that they hadn't read, and Sister Anne kept a list of those, so after graduation, she read most of them! One quote that Sister Anne remembers is that Sister Margaret John would warn us against "the heresy of recency."

After SJC closed in 1973, Sister Margaret John served as President at Catherine Labouré Junior College in Boston, MA. In 1980 she served as Vice President of Mission Services at the Catholic Health Association Office in St. Louis. She served the Sisters of the Northeast Province in Albany, NY as Councillor from 1984-1987 and as Visitatrix from 1987-1993. After completing her term in Provincial leadership, Sister Margaret John was missioned to Bayside, NY and assigned to ministry at St. John's University. There, she was the founder and Executive Director of the Vincentian Center for Church and Society at St. John's

University until 2015. She helped to establish the Ladies of Charity at St. John's University in 2009.

In every role as educator, she promoted education as the key to alleviating poverty. Throughout her life as a Daughter of Charity, Sister Margaret John served as a Board of Director for many health, social, and educational institutions. She received many awards with one of her most cherished ones coming from the Ladies of Charity at St. John's University. In 2015, she was missioned to Villa St. Michael in Emmitsburg, MD where she assisted in the Vincentian Translation Project and entered into the Ministry of Prayer, a ministry she retained until her death.

Sister Margaret John Kelly was preceded in death by her parents and siblings John Jr.; Joseph; James; Thomas; Edward; Charles; Aloysius; Sister Mary Kelly, IHM; Sister Joan Dolores Kelly, IHM; and Marguerite Conway. She is survived by her brother-in-law William Conway, many nieces and nephews, friends, and her Sisters in the Community.

A wake service was held on Friday, December 2, 2022, in the Villa Chapel in Emmitsburg, MD. The Mass of Christian Burial took place on Saturday, December 3, at the Basilica of the Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton with burial in St. Joseph Cemetery on the grounds.

IN *Memoriam*

Alumnae Deaths

1945	Agnes Ratas Gustafson	September 7, 2022
1948	Mary Cloonan Houle	October 22, 2022
1949	Alice McLaughlin Goetz O'Neill	December 15, 2022
1950	Katharine Joyce Kelly	November 17, 2022
	Mary Anne Kelly Zak	March 7, 2022
1953	Helen Rupp Eaton	January 8, 2023
	Elizabeth Downey Farley	October 21, 2022
1954	Joanne Tierney Bleimeyer	February 2022
	Sr. Catherine Fitzgerald	September 15, 2021
	Patricia Brady Hines	January 25, 2023
	Marie Melroy Munkacsy	February 9, 2023
1955	Clarebeth "CB" Maguire Cunningham	October 12, 2022
	Carol Murray Fuchs	March 2, 2023
1956	Alhen Ehrensing Green	December 5, 2022
	Rose Kelly (Sr. Margaret John Kelly, DC)	November 24, 2022
1957	Jeanne Mitchler-Fiks	January 3, 2023
	Joan Stovicek Hutchison	May 4, 2023
1958	Marcia Mehl Campbell	February 11, 2023
	Maureen O'Toole Thomas	July 17, 2022
	Marie Lynch Wall	February 22, 2023
1961	Phyllis Mack Gillespie	March 24, 2023
	Mary Taft Whitcomb	August 6, 2023
1962	Katharine Eckloff Price	August 12, 2023
	Anne Diller Welkener	October 11, 2022
1963	Nell Gelsinon Carvell	May 4, 2023
1964	Mary Lou Shreck Blumer	July 25, 2023
	Maureen Fahey Sullivan	October 28, 2022
1965	Jeanne Falcetta Schumann	July 17, 2023
1966	Barbara Seiler Byrne	May 14, 2023
	Mary Agnes Anderson Fleming	April 8, 2023
	Catherine Cohill Gallagher	March 7, 2023
1967	Sandra "Sandy" Buono Sedam	March 5, 2023
1968	Kathleen Flanigan Balcer	February 27, 2023
	Nancy A. Faller	October 5, 2022
	Eileen Marie McCarthy Haller	February 10, 2023
1970	Valerie Klimas Rouleau	January 9, 2023
1972	Susanne M. Palmer	December 15, 2022
1973	Rosanna Mancini	August 14, 2023

Family Deaths

Charles Christopher Wiberley, son of **Dorothy Drummond Wiberley '42**, brother of **Ruth Ellen Wiberley '69, Mary Ann Wiberley Shattuck '70**, and **Maria Christine Wiberley Goglia '73** – October 10, 2022

Allyn Patterson, daughter of **Dolores Sicilia Fitzgerald '58** – June 27, 2023

William Christopher Welsh III, son of **Faith Hawkins Welsh '58** – April 21, 2023

Richard "Dick" Burmaster MSM '60, husband of **Elizabeth Phelan Burmaster '60** – August 9, 2023

Thomas Healy, husband of **Linda Ryan Healy '60** – May 1, 2023

Brendan J. O'Brien MSM '58, husband of **Kathy O'Donnell O'Brien '60** – December 4, 2022

Robert "Bob" Failla, husband of **Ann Cantalupo Failla '62** – June 30, 2023

Franklin Caputo, husband of **Maureen Codey Caputo '63** – March 26, 2023

Thomas Raby MSM '63, husband of **Kathy Johnson Raby '63** – April 12, 2023

Michael Tedesco, husband of **Anne Walsh Tedesco '63** – January 1, 2023

Marca Van Ogtrop Piehuta, sister of **Maria "Muff" Van Ogtrop Locraft '64** – November 20, 2022

David Alan Larson, brother of **Susan Larson Robbins '64** – September 28, 2021

Lawrence Michael Larson, brother of **Susan Larson Robbins '64** – March 29, 2023

Kathy Macpherson, sister of **Beth Macpherson Rowe '67** – November 11, 2022

Rosario "Roy" Lobosco, husband of **Lyn Moore Lobosco '67** – December 27, 2022

Tracy Gisriel Krug, sister of **Rita Gisriel Cole '67** – August 9, 2022

Corinne "Cokey" Dignan Muth, sister of **Catherine "Kitty" Dignan Chrismer '62** and **Beth Dignan Blumer '69** – June 24, 2023

Sidney Mae Olson, granddaughter of **Kathleen O'Donnell Ellis '69** – May 9, 2023

Ronald Albert "Ron" Valenti MSM '69, husband of **Susan Stay Valenti '70** – March 2, 2023

Dorothy Mattscheck, mother of **Karen Mattscheck '72** – April 7, 2023

Harold E. Berrian, father of **Shirley Berrian Salzbrenner '73** – October 24, 2022

Timothy J. Corwin, husband of **Susan Koch Corwin '73** – June 24, 2023

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.
- 1 John 3:2

SJC Reunion 2024 *April 4 - April 7*

Plan now to attend SJC Reunion 2024!!

RETURN…RECONNECT…REWIND…RECHARGE…RELAX…REMEMBER…

The Reunion Committee is hard at work planning another great weekend. We invite you to come back to the Valley to be "All Together" again! Help us celebrate with the classes ending in 4 and 9. Reunions are for all Alumnae! Contact your friends and classmates now to meet you at Reunion 2024.

Here's the schedule.

THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2024

Return - Register at the beautiful Gettysburg Wyndham Hotel. Check in at the Reunion Registration desk, attend a welcome wine social, and then meet friends and classmates for dinner. A list of area restaurants is available at the Registration desk.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

Reconnect - Visit SJC's campus for a boxed lunch in the Pines followed by an informal guided tour of the campus. A self-guided Heritage Tour: *St. Joseph's Valley and St. Mary's Mountain* is available at the Registration desk for those desiring a more comprehensive walk down memory lane.

Rewind - with classmates at a Friday evening class dinner prepared specially for each Milestone class. During the past Reunions at the Wyndham, groups large and small have held Friday evening class dinners there with great success. Class agents please contact Reunion Co-Chairs Christine Roos Mehl or Leslie Henze Blackstock to arrange a private dinner.

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

Recharge - Your day begins with a Buffet Breakfast and the Annual Meeting. Even if you decide not to participate in the breakfast you are still invited to attend the Annual Meeting. All are encouraged to attend, learn about new opportunities, and share ideas for the future.

A highlight of the weekend is the **4:30 p.m. Alumnae Memorial Mass at the Basilica of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**. Milestone Classes participate in a rose procession and ceremony honoring our college, Mother Seton, and our deceased alumnae.

Remember - Return to the Wyndham for a social hour, then go on to our banquet and listen to memories from our Golden Jubilarians. Photos of Milestone Classes and all honorees will be taken following the banquet.

SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2024

Our final event is a Continental Breakfast, before bidding farewell to friends and classmates

Other Weekend Opportunities

Visit Gettysburg's great shops and outlets, the Emmitsburg Antique Mall, or play a round of golf. Relax at the hotel pool and exercise room. "Remember when" at the Wyndham as you view yearbooks and class memorabilia. Reunion weekend is the time to reconnect!! We look forward to seeing you April 4–7, 2024 at the Wyndham Hotel in Gettysburg, PA.

Making Reservations

Two registrations are necessary, one with SJC, and one with the Wyndham. SJC registration forms will be mailed to you in early January 2024. Return your completed registration form to the SJC Alumnae Office or register online at www.msmary.edu/sjcaa.

Make your hotel reservations by visiting the Wyndham Gettysburg Website, https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/wyndham/gettysburg-pennslyvania/wyndham-gettysburg/rooms-rates?&checkInDate=04/04/2024&checkOutDate=04/07/2024&groupCode=040324SAI for the SJC special group rate and ensure your room assignment within our Reunion block of rooms. If you are making a reservation for arrival prior to Thursday, April 4 or departure after Sunday April 7 please call the Wyndham Hotel directly at 717.339.0020 (press 3) and make this reservation with an on-site front desk representative. Ask for the St. Joseph College Alumnae Reunion 2024 Group Block to obtain the SJC group rate.

For More Information Contact:

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