

June 2016



Our Fatima Family

Welcome to the New OLF Alumni Newsletter

I am so happy to welcome you to the first edition of *Our Fatima Family*! This newsletter will be published three times a year—February, June and October. It is a newsletter for Our Lady of Fatima School alumni, friends and family. It is hoped that, with time, this newsletter will grow in scope, and that it will always be responsive to the needs and desires of the alumni community.

Since the closure of Our Lady of Fatima School (OLF) in June 2013, the alumni presence has been largely dormant. The recent merger of Our Lady of Fatima Parish and Annunciation Parish has allowed for the welcoming of OLF School alumni into a program that has been in place at Annunciation School for over seven years.

We recognize that the alumni community is much more than just the members of a single class—it is the neighbors who also went to the school, the faculty members who taught you, the priests who shepherded the parish, the friends of your siblings, etc.

This newsletter is the first step in the fostering of an alumni group—a Fatima Family! Our Fatima Family! It is hoped that the publication of this newsletter will welcome more graduates back to the family, and that people will want to reconnect—to have a reunion every so often, to reach out to a particular faculty member who made a difference in their life, to tell their stories of life after graduation and where the road to adulthood has taken them!

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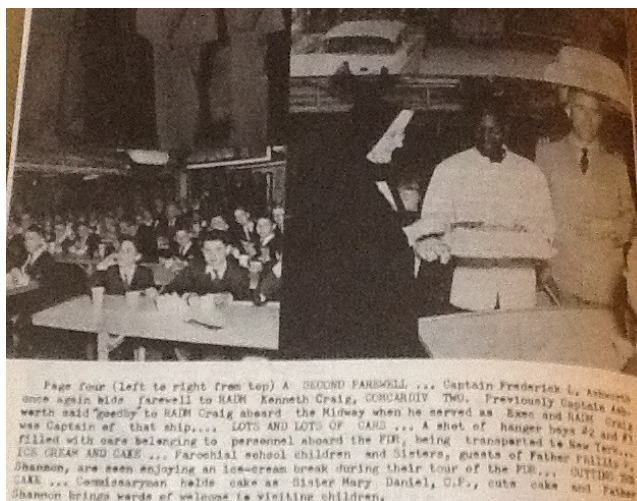
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Memorable Class Trip



In May 1958, Our Lady of Fatima students went to visit the aircraft carrier Franklin Delano Roosevelt at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The ship's Chaplain was Fr. Phillip Shannon, the brother of OLF Principal, Sr. Mary Daniel.

Anne Kelly Skolnik '61 was in the 5th grade at the time. She believes that Sr. Mary Daniel was also teaching 5th grade, in addition to being the principal, and says, "that was why we were allowed to go on the trip with the older kids."

Anne provided the photos above. The left photo was taken by the ship's photographer. The right photo is of a page from the ship's newspaper, *The Press-I-Dential*. Anne says, the trip was probably so memorable because it was "our first trip anywhere!"

OLF Alumni Facebook Asks.... What Was Your Most Memorable Class Trip?



Mary Eve Towey Norelli '64 also remembers going to the fair at Mt. St. Mary's in Newburgh. "I still have a picture standing in front of the bus with Carol Ann Sepa. That was a loooooong time ago, but a happy memory!"

Michele Cousin '70 remembers a trip to the Newburgh Fair on a big yellow bus. "I won a puppy and named her Pepsi. My parents were ready to kill me when I got home!"

Linda Tamburo Garbett '70 remembers a lawn party at the Newburgh convent. "We were singing *Maxwell's Silver Hammer* and *99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall* all the way back to school."

Louis Gambetta '79 remembers a trip to the Danbury Fair. "I got to buy a hand shocker prank toy, and Mrs. Jeffrey chided me about wasting my money! I also remember the Rockinghorse Dude Ranch, which was the first time I was ever on a horse."

Colleen Costello Rutkanus Remembers a trip to the Bronx Zoo, where she purchased a ceramic zebra with

her own money. She still has the zebra today!

Dariusz Szafran '86 remembers a trip to the Coney Island Aquarium. "Mr. Velardi made learning hands-on with real life applications. We didn't know we were learning that day with all the fun we had."

Christine Kurpis Briganti '91 remembers a trip to Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. Her classmate **Dina Casale Zito** remembers it too. "Didn't we go up to the top of the Statue of Liberty? It was hot and scary up there!" she said. Christine recalls that the trip up the statue was too much for the class mothers who told the children they were "on their own." Christine says, "I remember climbing the stairs on our hands and knees, because we were scared!"



The Merging of Neighbors—A New Parish

On August 1, 2015, Annunciation and Our Lady of Fatima parishes were merged into one by order of the Archdiocese of New York as part of the “Making All Things New” initiative. The Parish is officially known as Annunciation-Our Lady of Fatima Parish. It is now one canonically-speaking, and will be legally incorporated as of August 31, 2016.

The parish will have two churches, with each church retaining its former name. Annunciation School will retain its name. The former Our Lady of Fatima Rectory will be renamed “The Pope Francis Mercy Center” and will be used for religious education for special needs students, an alumni office and as a location for life skills studies for nearby special needs students. The former Our Lady of Fatima School building has been rented out to a organization that specializes in early intervention education for children. The rectory and convent located on Westchester Avenue will be the official residences of the priests and sisters working in the parish.

Leading up to the merger, there was much speculation on what the new parish name would be. Working together, members of both parishes, under the direction of Fr. Robert Grippo, pastor of the newly-merged parish, created a merger team to ease the transition. A new logo was designed, the parish bulletin was redesigned and the parish website secured a new URL to reflect the new, temporary, hyphenated

name. When the time came for the parish to suggest possible new names to the Archdiocese, it was easily determined that everything was already in place to adopt the hyphenated name as the formal name.

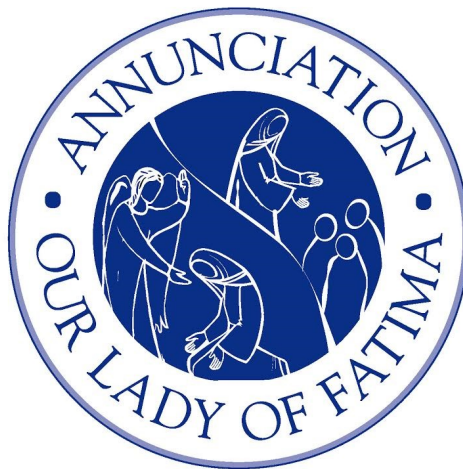
One of the expenses associated with the merger was identified by the sports committee tasked with merging the CYO programs of the two former parishes. While Annunciation Parish

has a massive CYO program, which spans six different sports, Our Lady of Fatima had just three basketball teams at the 7th- and 8th-grade levels. Since CYO is parish-based, not school-based, uniforms which identify the team’s parish name would need to be replaced.

The recommendation of the sports committee was for a gradual phase in of new uniforms over approximately three years (the average lifespan of a uniform).

The parish Mass schedule has been streamlined too, reflecting a declining number of priests available to say Mass. Annunciation Church now has four Sunday Masses and a Saturday evening Mass, while Our Lady of Fatima Church has two Sunday Masses and one Saturday evening Mass. As mandated by the Archdiocese, each church continues to have weekday Masses, and sacraments will be celebrated at both churches on a regular basis.

The parish is fortunate to have three priests in residence as well as three weekend associates and three deacons.



The new parish logo.

The Sheaffer Pen and the Art of Writing

By Mark L. Maiello

Take a cartridge of ink, insert it into the barrel, replace the cap at the bottom of the barrel, and you were ready to make your mark. That was the essence of writing at in Catholic school back in the '60s and '70s.

We used fountain pens—or more properly Sheaffer Student Pens—which were based on the fountain pen design, but were much easier to handle. The cartridge was infinitely more convenient for young hands to manipulate than the alternative: dangerous bottled ink. The Sheaffer pen was the big step up from printing with a pencil.

These “writing instruments” were not without their minor leaks and break downs. Our ink-stained fingers bore testament to that. Though the fingers were undefended, my desk at home (and perhaps even our early grade school furniture) was steadfastly protected from writing abuses with something called blotting paper. It was a thick, usually brown, somewhat fuzzy paper that recorded all your mistakes mainly associated with exceeding the margin lines. It also conveniently acted as doodle paper when concentration waned.

Sheaffer pens came in several see-thru colors: blue, green, red and even clear. The price was something like \$2 or so—a handsome sum in those days. Thus the pens were to be cherished and were expected to outlast years of academic abuse. They sometimes did—and as many times did not. They succumbed to the effects of gravity, failing and leaking after crashes with hard linoleum or with the unforgiving surfaces of pavement and sidewalk concrete. They routinely disappeared, irretrievably lost due to forgetfulness, holes in pockets, malfunctioning

pocket clips, rough play periods, or other such nonsense that categorized them forever as “missing in action.” They were also a constant companion in those days.

We were forbidden to use a ballpoint. The Sheaffer pen was the required tool for education to change us from mere children into young adults. It was our sword in the final victory over ignorance. Well okay, I overstated that a bit: it was only a pen. But the truth was, one couldn't report to school honorably without it.

These pens had one other rather heinous

use—they could be utilized for the destruction of clothing. With a proper flick of the wrist, one could launch a volley of broadly aimed, irreparably damaging ink blobs from several feet away. Their targets: the clean button down shirts that the boys wore. The casualties often included

any intervening fabric belonging to innocent bystanders. Horrific consequences by outraged students and angry teachers followed.

But the value of the pens was not in their mechanics—whether honored or misused. No, these pens were really tools that helped one attain a talent, a skill that can almost be described as a form of artistry. Under the teacher's steady guidance (the demanding but well-intentioned oversight of many a nun), and armed with lined paper and a chart of the scripted alphabet that spanned the length of the chalkboard, one learned the proper proportions, shapes, and geometries of Latin letters. One learned

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Schaeffer Pen

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penmanship, and in no small measure, that talent changed you. The ability to write cur-sively made it possible for your invisible, ephemeral thoughts to appear almost as you formulated them. With time and practice they flowed from mind to paper—not quite, but almost effortlessly. In so doing, a young person became a participant in the human ability to communicate by written word.

I recall how so many of us hated penmanship and being graded on it. We all cannot be artists. Some of us scrawl, others wield a pen with a flourish, most of us are somewhere in the middle of the artistic spectrum—laboring in that wide valley between Da Vinci and graffiti (the latter is an art form too—when appropriately applied). But it is wondrous how this skill still beckons you to achieve.

To this day, I try to sign my name legibly. I find myself laughing at my poor attempts to sign credit card receipts. The common ball point or rollerball pen seems to skip over that glassy slick paper and there's not nearly enough room to do a decent job. I silently cheer when I get a signature neatly done on a check, a form or some other document. It's as if you reaffirm that ability that made you a communicator—that made you a writer (thank you Catholic school teachers).

Nowadays, we write as I am doing now, on a computer. It fulfills the same job: effortlessly transforming ideas from mind to...flat screen. But the pens still are there. You can still buy a descendant of the Sheaffer student pen. Why bother when you have a smart phone or a laptop? No reason other than to recognize that before we can walk, we need to crawl—to achieve. Perhaps that is the value in being taught to get that signature just so.

Bits & Pieces:

For a look at the Sheaffer Student Pens from the bygone days of the 1960s and 70s go to <https://peaceablewriter.wordpress.com/2014/10/01/tale29-2/>

Also see http://dirck.delint.ca/beta/?page_id=2554

Sheaffer ended U.S. production of all its pens in 2008, but the brand name still survives under ownership by BIC.

Reprinted from The Annunciator—February 2016

In Memoriam

Please pray for the soul of the following family of alumni:

Dolores N. Greco, mother of Mark '65, David '69, Gary '71 and Amy.
Thomas J. Murphy, father of Jennifer '86, Kathleen, Thomas and Meg.

May they rest in peace.

Knights of Columbus Offer Service Award Scholarship

The Blessed Mother Council of the Knights of Columbus, which has been in existence for seven years as a joint venture of Annunciation and Our Lady of Fatima parishes, has announced its first annual Christian service awards. Annunciation 7th-graders were eligible to apply for two \$1,000 scholarships and two \$100 stipends, which will be payable in their 8th-grade year for tuition and fees at the Annunciation School.

The scholarships were awarded based on an application that outlined a student's academic achievement, their performance of Christian and/or community service, the submission of a personal essay and an interview. The essay had to identify the mission of the Knights of Columbus and describe how at least two of the student's Christian/community service activities embodied the Knights' mission in today's society.

Applications were presented anonymously to the council's selection committee who selected four semi-finalists for the scholarships. In April, the semi-finalists were invited to the council's meeting and were asked to respond to questions about their respective applications and essays.



Following this interview, the selection committee selected two finalists. Congratulations to Christiana Santo and Faith Mallon who are the \$1,000 scholarship winners. Eamon Tracey and Regina Potenza are the recipients of the \$100 scholarships. The scholarships are named in memory of Louis J. Capozzi, a long-time, former Annunciation School teacher who passed away this year.

The Blessed Mother Council #1484 of the Knights of Columbus, established in June 2009, has approximately 60 members.

Annunciation School tuition for parishioners with one student is \$5,856 per year. Tuition is discounted for each additional child in families with more than one enrolled student.

Tom Fitzmaurice, who is the Grand Knight of the Council, said, "the Knights of Columbus has long been a strong supporter of Catholic schools with the understanding that parents who choose Catholic schools for their

children do so at significant cost and personal sacrifice. The Blessed Mother Council wishes to lend its support to our local school and to encourage Annunciation students to continue to embody the ideals of Christian service as well as academic excellence."

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please click [HERE](#) to add your name to our email database.

Class notes

1958

Victoria Ranieri Lia recalls, “We were educated by the Dominicans, and I can remember that when we got our report cards, the Monsignor handed them out one by one, giving comments to each one of us....very scary, especially if you didn't get a good grade in religion. I didn't appreciate my education until years later when I had my own children and could educate them in the Catholic faith.”

Victoria is married and has four children and 11 grandchildren (with another arriving in July). Due to her husband's band's job, the couple has moved quite a bit—residing in New Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Canada. They are now settled in Massachusetts. Victoria says, “I graduated from Wellesley College, and my husband graduated from Bates College. I am an advocate for abused children who are under the care and protection of the state of Massachusetts. I keep very busy with our grandchildren, traveling, playing golf and with my cases. We have a home in Naples, FL which we visit on and off during the winter months.”

1959

Although **Raymond Albanese** didn't graduate from OLF, he did go there for quite a few years. Ray graduated from Eastchester High School and went to NYC Community College and Westchester Community College. For many years, he worked in his family's restaurant (Albanese's Restaurant) in the north end of Eastchester.

Ray has worked for 19 years for Westchester County in the Department of Emergency



Ray

Services, where he is the 4 County Coordinator. He and his wife, Pat, live in Eastchester and have two children—Andrew and Alaina. Andrew and his wife, Susan, have blessed Ray with three grandchildren—Adriana, Alexa and Andrew, Jr.

Ray has belonged to many organizations including the Eastchester Fire Department (volunteer firefighter and commissioner), Knights of Columbus (4th degree and honorary lifetime knight), Eastchester Little League, Eastchester Youth Soccer, Eastchester Blue Devils and the Tuckahoe-Eastchester Lions Club.

On Saturday, June 11, Ray received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award from the Tuckahoe-Eastchester Lions Club, the highest award in Lionism. Ray says, “It's a very prestigious award given to Lions Club members by Lions International. I'm very proud to be the recipient of the award.”

Ginger Christiano Sillari celebrated 48 years of marriage in May. She and her husband have lived in Scottsdale, AZ since 1995 because of a promotion that was just too good to turn down. They have four grown children—three are married and the youngest is engaged. They also have six grandchildren and 2 step-grandchildren.

Ginger notes that she has already been to two reunions of her class. “Although there are so many years to cover, I can say that my life has been so full and with much joy, happiness and good health for our entire family (knock on wood)!”

Theodore Homa started his eight-year journey through OLF in the parish house school where first, second and third graders shared a common classroom under the tutelage of the beloved mother substitute, Sr. Mary Daniel, the Dominican nun who was the principal and teacher of a very unique group of innocent kids.

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Class notes

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He recalls that, “Sister would use an easel with posters to teach her subjects in sequence throughout the school day. We were an avant-garde bunch, introduced by circumstances of limited space, to the experience of departmental education. Sister Ann Gregory taught us art. Sister Rose Anita taught us music. As the school grew, there were others, and ultimately we exited the parish house and populated the ‘50s modern school on the hill on Strathmore Road.”

Teddy graduated from OLF and went on to Stepinac High School, and then to Fordham College, and finally to St. Louis University School of Medicine. He served in the U.S. Navy and then went into practice in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

He has written two books, both of which are available on Amazon.com—*Archimedes’s Claw* and his memoirs, *Standing Between the Gates of Heaven and the Precipice of Hell (A Doctor’s Experience with the Afterlife)*.

Teddy says, “Never once did I forget the cherished friends I made at OLF. Angels be with you all.”

Christine Tutrinoli Dugandzic started OLF in the early days, on Beech Hill. She fondly remembers Sister Rose Anita, Sister Ann Gregory and Sister Mary Daniel for their guidance and faith formation during those important years. She saw the early changes including the move to the “real school.” She was there when Father Madden became a Monsignor and was part of the third graduating class.

After graduation, Chris studied at Maria Regina, Elizabeth Seton and then graduated from Eastchester High School. She then obtained a bachelor of Arts degree in English from Good Counsel College. Chris worked in what was then known as personnel in both White Plains and New York



Chris

City before her marriage in 1976.

Chris says she was fortunate to be a stay at home mom while raising a family, has lived in both Florida and Arizona, volunteered for several charitable causes and has enjoyed traveling.

1960

Diane Colletti Rivenburgh married Robert Rivenburgh in 1967 at Our Lady of Fatima Church. The now-retired couple lives in Indianapolis, IN and was fortunate to have lived all over the United States for different jobs. They live near their two children, Beth and Scott, and have five grandchildren, three of whom live in Indiana, and two of whom live in Ohio. “We spend at least four months in Florida each year and the remainder in Indiana, but we try to travel as much as we can and see the areas in the U.S. that we haven’t lived in,” says Diane who adds, “I’d love to hear from ‘old’ classmates. My email is rivedi1@hotmail.com.”

Walt Johanson graduated from Mount St. Michael High School and Iona College, where he earned a bachelor of arts in 1968 and an MBA in 1980. He also earned a master of arts in 1981 from Hunter College.

Walt avoided the draft by entering the Marine Corps (1965-1967) and then the U.S. Navy, where he served from 1968 to 1995. During those years, his assignments took him to Vietnam, Cuba, Canada, Japan, the Philippines and Italy. Assigned to the War Gaming Department at the Naval War College, he helped plan the 1990-1991 Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and was tasked to write *The United States Naval Reserve, The First 75 Years (1915-1990)*.

After the Navy, Walt taught in the Mt. Vernon public schools from 1998 to 2011. He

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has also taught at CCNY, Mercy College, Iona College and the Naval War College.

He has written for *National Review*, *Naval War College Review* and several online publications. He is currently researching and writing on the topics of the (1) *Prehistory of the Constitution: What the Founders Learned from Ancient Greece, Rome, Israel and England*; (2) *From Appomattox to Lusitania: America's Rise to World Power 1865-1915*; and (3) *From the Missouri to Today: America's Abandonment of World Leadership, 1945-today*. He puts on Powerpoint lectures about his work-in-progress to various audiences.

Today you can find Walt at library used book sales, calling in to radio political commentary shows as "William of Westchester" and searching for a publisher of his works in progress!

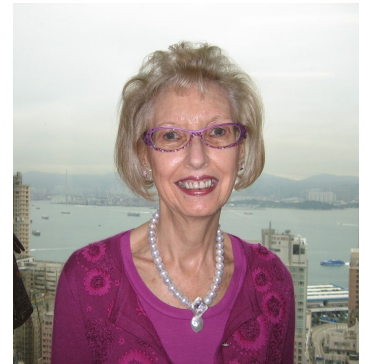
Walt was inspired to enter the Navy as a result of a daytrip to USS Franklin Delano Roosevelt (CV-42) in 1958, when its Chaplain, CDR Philip Shannon, invited students from OLF to visit the ship while it was making a port call at Naval Station Brooklyn (see page 2). His sister, Sr. Mary Daniel, OP, was then Principal of OLF. Msgr. Shannon, later pastor of Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Scarsdale, died in 1989.

1961

Maureen Fath Sabine says, "If you had told me in 1961 that I would live and work in Hong Kong for most of my adult life, I would have been astonished. At that time my only exposure to Hong Kong was the 1955 romantic melodrama *Love is a Many-Splendored Thing*, and the only China that the U.S. formally recognized was the island of Formosa, as Taiwan was quaintly called back then. When I graduated from Fatima, I headed down a familiar Catholic path, first to the Ursuline School and then to the newly opened Thomas Moore College for

women at Fordham University. My change of outlook and direction probably happened during my junior year abroad at the University of Strasbourg in 1968. It was a thrilling time of civil and student unrest, and Strasbourg was part of the drama with student leader Danny Cohn-Bendit slipping back and forth across the French-German border. It was hard to go back home to Scarsdale, but I hunkered down to study and in 1969 took up a scholarship to do a Ph.D in English at the University of Pennsylvania.

It was there that I met my husband, Martin, who had come on a Thouron scholarship from Oxford to do an MBA at Wharton. The Thouron scholarship was conceived by intelligence officers who had served together in the Second World War to promote Anglo-American friendship, and it certainly worked in our case! Martin and I married in 1971 and moved to London in the same year where we remained until 1977. He worked in the City and I finished my dissertation on the metaphysical poets in the old iconic reading room of the British Museum. Pre-Thatcher London was rocked by trade union strikes, an IRA bombing campaign, and bitter economic and class differences; and when Martin was head-hunted for a corporate finance post in Hong Kong, we decided it would be interesting to get away from it all and do a short spell in the British colony. Like many other expats, we ended up staying, building our careers/own business, and having a family of three sons in this vibrant, crowded, noisy, 'can-do' metropolis. We are very fortunate that two of our sons have returned to work in Hong Kong, with Tony (38) a news anchor, sports com-



Maureen

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mentator, and producer on local TVB Pearl, and Peter (35) an independent media producer and weekend DJ, while Chris (28) is a lawyer back in London.”

“1977 was a serendipitous time to arrive politically, economically, and socially. Mainland China was just opening up; Hong Kong was moving away from British sovereignty; the city was growing exponentially as a financial center; and universities were about to undergo a sustained period of major expansion. I was the expatriate wife who tagged along with my husband, but I virtually walked off the plane and into a college job soon after arrival. To my surprise, while American-trained Ph.Ds were becoming a dime-a-dozen back in the States, they were not only rare but much in demand in Hong Kong. In 1978, I took up a teaching post in English at the University of Hong Kong and remained there until my retirement as full professor in 2013. The end of my time there was also something of a beginning with my last book *Veiled Desires*, published by Fordham UP, and a tribute to the Dominican and Ursuline nuns who encouraged excellence, expected us to use our talents, and taught us the difference between success and achievement.”

John Damiano lives in Jupiter, FL with his wife, Josephine. They have two children—Laura (36) and Chris (34). Laura lives in Briarcliff Manor, NY. Chris also lives in Jupiter.

After OLF, John graduated from Fordham Prep in 1965 and Manhattan College in 1969 with a BBA. He then began a long and enjoyable career at NBC Television in June 1969. That summer, he also joined the National Guard and remained in the Guard until retiring at the rank of Captain in 1977.

John’s NBC career spanned 38 years. At NBC, he held positions in sales, computers, marketing and research. He spent his last eight years there as Executive Vice President of NBC Television Network Affiliate Relations,

primarily responsible for negotiating and maintaining the network relationships with 200+ independently-owned television stations coast to coast. He met his wife at NBC in 1971, and they married in 1973. John retired from NBC in June 2007.

They say “breaking up is hard to do!” Catching up is even more challenging! After graduation from Rosemont College, Rosemont, PA in 1969, **Elaine Enge** became Elaine Benante, having married Richard Benante. Together they raised Kirsten, now an attorney in Los Angeles, CA; Michael, creator of www.aeroindustryjobs.com; and Christopher, considering a shift from psychology to chiropractic medicine. Elaine pursued oil painting, exhibiting at the Village Gallery in Gallimaufry, Ossining, NY. After the family moved to Harrogate, TN, she exhibited locally in Cumberland Gap and Middlesboro, KY.

In 1999, Elaine followed Kirsten to Wrightwood, CA. After exhibiting at The Four Seasons Gallery in town, she purchased the gallery and enjoyed not only her painting but the work of some 50 local artists!

Elaine says, “It was in Wrightwood that I met Dr. Michael McGowan, DC, ND. Not only did he literally save my life, but also our friendship grew, and we were married in 2013. We have

spent the years enjoying traveling together not only within the States, but exploring Europe, Russia, Australia, Mexico and Michael’s native New Zealand. Because our families are quite grown, we have maintained our residences in both California and Tennessee, enjoying the differences! Our home in California is in the San Gabriel Mountains (Yes, Wrightwood is a little skiing town on the Pacific Crest Trail of ‘Wild’ fame!) and Harrogate



Elaine and Michael

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is a quiet town in the mountains, bordering Kentucky and Virginia—lush and green and gentle.”

Maureen Rosato Berry graduated from Maria Regina High School and then Mt. Aloysius Jr. College (Cresson, PA) with an associate of science degree. She went to work as a secretary at Burroughs-Wellcome, a pharmaceutical company located in Tuckahoe, NY.

It was at Burrough-Wellcome that she met her husband, George Berry, and they were married on February 9, 1969. Maureen recalls that there was a major blizzard that day, so the priest from Our Lady of Fatima came to her parents’ house and married them there.

Maureen and George have a son, Fr. Michael Berry, OCD, who is a Discalced Carmelite Priest and the Prior of the Monastery of Mary Help of Christians in Hubertus, WI. Their daughter, Christine Berry Dwyer, who with her husband, David, has given them three beautiful grandchildren.—Matthew (14), Megan Rose (12) and Joseph (9).

After living in Westchester for three years, Maureen and George moved to Rockland County, where they have lived for the last forty-four years. Eight years ago, George retired, and the couple purchased a home in Ft. Myers, FL where they spend the winter months. Maureen says that she is currently keeping an eye on her 91-year-old mother and going to the kids’ baseball and basketball games! When she gets a chance, she loves to read a good mystery novel.

Judy Stevens Wilson has lived in Houston, TX with her husband, Dan, for 41 years. They have two children—David (44) and Becky (36). Judy says, “David and his wife, Alicia, have three precious little girls and live close by. Becky and her husband, Evan, have two darlings, a girl and a boy and live in Se-

attle, WA.”

After OLF, Judy graduated from Maria Regina in 1965 and Endicott Jr. College in 1967. She and Dan were married in 1968 and settled in Hartsdale, NY until the Navy took over for more than four years.

“My career included retail, office work, elementary school teaching, and finally a job I loved,” says Judy. “I worked for a local non-profit hospice for twenty years with the volunteers, where I was the director of volunteer services. Now, I am a volunteer there. My responsibilities included recruiting, training, assigning and retaining these wonderful volunteers. This was by far the most rewarding experience I have ever had. There were so many amazing people I met during that time. Hospice makes a difference in lives each and every day.”

In addition to Texas and New York, Judy and her family have lived in Connecticut and Rhode Island. Judy retired last year, which she says has been great because she gets to enjoy their grandchildren, sailing, family, friends and each day.

June Minervini Stinchfield lives in Waccabuc, NY, a small hamlet in northern Westchester County. She has been married to her husband, Grant, for 48 years, and they have three children—Grant Jr., Laura and Zoe. They also have four grandchildren—three girls who live near Boston, MA and one grandson who lives in Dallas, TX.

June worked as an interior designer early in her life, but then later went back to school to finish her degree. She earned both her bachelor’s and masters degrees at Sarah Lawrence College, majoring in writing, religion and psychology. She then went to a psychoanalytic institute to train as a psychoanalyst and practiced for about 10 years. June got her Ph.D in depth psychology. She is now retired.

June and Grant have always bought and renovated houses—their own and for spec. “It’s something we love to do and will proba-

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bly keep on doing it for as long as we are enjoying it," she says. "We also love California and spend winters in Santa Barbara, a lovely town that is close to where our daughter lives. I enjoy yoga, dancing, reading, being outdoors, but most of all, being with my grandchildren. I'm looking forward to hearing about classmates from oh so long ago!"

Thomas Oberst graduated from Archbishop Stepinac High School. He says, "The 1965 Yearbook for Archbishop Stepinac High School shows that seven of its graduates were from the OLF Class of 1961—Daniel Philip Flanigan, David William Galloway, John Charles Perretti, Justin Ralph Scoppa, Robert Bruce Tangney, Thomas Gregory Deinet and me."

Back then, Archbishop Stepinac High School had over 1,500 students and was a favorite destination for Catholic grammar school students from all over Westchester County. You can see the Class of 1965 yearbook on-line



Thomas

and see the graduation pictures at <http://www.classmates.com/yearbooks/Archbishop-Stepinac-High-School/4182776484?page=0> This was the largest graduating class in the history of Stepinac. Tom says, "We had our 50th reunion this year, and I was one of the organizers but could not attend."

After Archbishop Stepinac, Tom went off to college and the Marines and ended up in Massachusetts. He lives in a small town just outside of Boston and has spent his career in the high-tech industry, where he still works.

"We grew up in a different time and place back then in 1961, and the memory of WWII was very fresh in the collective minds of our adult leaders," Tom recalls. "That led to a very different upbringing than was experienced by my four kids. I would love to find

out how my Our Lady of Fatima classmates feel today about the changes in today's Catholic Church."

1970

Linda Tamburo Garbett graduated from Maria Regina High School and studied theatre at SUNY New Paltz. In 1976, she moved to California, where she married her husband, Bruce, in 1988. The couple has one daughter, Tiana, who was born in 1995. Linda created her own marketing agency, LG Partners, after working at various advertising agencies in southern California. She enjoys traveling as much as possible.



Linda

1979

Louis Gambetta is a practicing podiatrist in Little Falls, NJ. He and his wife, Mary Judith, live in Denville, NJ. They have two sons—Matt and Joey. Both boys are attending the University of Notre Dame.

1996

Stephanie Deutsch-Salim graduated from Georgetown University in 2004 and earned a master's degree in physiology and medical degree from New York Medical College in 2006 and 2010, respectively. She completed training in pediatrics and is now a forensic/child abuse pediatrician working in the south Jersey/Philadelphia area who evaluates child victims of physical or sexual assault. Stephanie is married and has an infant son named Moby.

Didn't see a Class Note from your year?

You can help make Class Notes even better next time.

Send your class note today to mtmccombe@annunciationcrestwood.com for inclusion in our next newsletter.

Encourage all your friends and siblings to do the same!

How Can You Connect to Other Alumni?

In addition to this newsletter, Our Lady of Fatima School has another way to connect to your former classmates and friends. A quickly growing Facebook group, with more than 180 members, is available for those who have a Facebook account. This Facebook page is more alumni-centered, and is a great place to reconnect with former classmates, friends or neighbors. It is also a place where you can share memories and sometimes learn about news a bit earlier than waiting for the newsletter to be published. You can find our Facebook page by searching for "Our Lady of Fatima School (Strathmore) Alumni" or using this link: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/750013335114776/>.



Our newly merged parish also has a facebook page. That can be found by searching for "Annunciation-Our Lady of Fatima Parish" or using this link: <https://www.facebook.com/Annunciation-Our-Lady-of-Fatima-Parish-113514832016683/>

Would you like to see Our Lady of Fatima School Alumni on other social networking platforms? Email your suggestions to mtmccombe@annunciationcrestwood.com.

Do You Enjoy Writing?

If you enjoy writing and have some great memories about your time at Our Lady of Fatima School, I welcome you to submit your essays for future publication. Please email your story to Mary Theresa McCombe at mtmccombe@annunciationcrestwood.com.

Not sure if your idea is right for the newsletter? Get in touch with me prior to writing to discuss your idea, and see if we can work it out!