



ST. PAUL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNAE NEWSLETTER



March 2009

GOLDEN BELLES OF 1959 CELEBRATE

November 9, 2008 marked the 50th reunion for the Class of 1959, honored as the "Golden Belles." Forty-six members of the class were able to attend.

The Alumnae Association presented each one a Golden Diploma at the end of the liturgy in St.



Paul's Church. This was a delightful change of timing so that everyone could see the honorees.

A special luncheon was then hosted in the parish center by the Class of 1962 who had been the "little sisters" of the Class of 1959. This is a nice tradition that brings the host class together to work on the luncheon, preparing, them to bask in

the spotlight in another four years.



A surprise was in store for Alumnae President Marilyn Highlander-Pool '63 who was awarded the Sister Mary Carlita Service Award. Marilyn joins a long line of honorees, the first of whom was Sister Mary Carlita herself shortly before her death in January 1987.



PRESIDENT'S PODIUM

Dear Alumnae and Friends:

The Alumnae Board has planned three major events for this coming year: our annual Fundraiser, "April in Bloom," which will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2009 in the Rectory; our annual Mass and Luncheon on Saturday, November 7, 2009, honoring the Golden Belle Class of 1960; and Candlelighting, on Thursday, December 10, 2009. It is our hope that you will attend at least one of these events and hopefully all of them.

Each one of these activities offers you an occasion to be with former classmates, renew friendships, and to share fond memories of St. Paul's. Why not consider the annual luncheon as a get-together for your class? Or Candlelighting as a time to share a treasured tradition with your family and former classmates? Or coming to the reception for the Fundraiser to celebrate your kindness and overwhelming generosity to our young students, our beloved BVMs, and the women and their families at the Women's and Children's Center?

St. Paul's High School Alumnae Association will continue to be strong with your support – and we need your support to continue – especially the support of our "younger" alumnae. You are extremely valuable to us, and someday the Alumnae Association will be placed in your hands. It will be up to you to keep the spirit of St. Paul's "alive and well."

To our ever faithful and loyal Alumnae: it is in each of you that the spirit of St. Paul's lives on. In grateful thanksgiving "For all that you have done for us, we never can repay."

See you at the Fundraiser, at our Mass and Luncheon, and Candlelighting!

Sincerely,

Marilyn Highlander-Pool '63

NEW ALUMNAE WEB SITE LAUNCHED

The SPHS Alumnae Website has a new look and it is due to the wonderful gifts of **Karen Greeney '68** who has agreed to serve as webmaster for the Alumnae Association.

Karen's stunning Class Reunion website caught the attention of both President Marilyn Highlander-Pool '63 and Sister Karen Conover, BVM, Editor of the Newsletter and the creator of the first modest website. After months of negotiation and planning, the new site is "up and running."

It provides lots of information, everything from transcript request procedures to a yearly calendar of events to accessing the current and archived copies of the Alumnae Newsletter. Even more exciting, Karen envisions this as a place where classes can post links to their reunion websites, photos, etc. We hope it will grow in size and usefulness to the Alumnae.

Log on to www.sphsalumnae.org and see the latest addition to Panda Connections!

You can contact the Alumnae Association and the webmaster through sphsalumnae@yahoo.com

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER "APRIL in BLOOM"

You won't want to miss the upcoming **Fundraiser Reception on Saturday, April 25, 2009, from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. in St. Paul's Rectory!**

There will be plenty of food, great company, and, of course, the Grand Raffle drawing at 3:30 p.m., along with other prizes.

THANK YOU to all who will make the annual event a SUCCESS, so that we can continue to support young people in Catholic education, assist the BVM Sisters in their retirement, contribute to a center for women and children, and keep the Newsletter going.

SPHS ALUMS EMBODY CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

One of the hallmarks of a Christian is living out the corporal works of mercy: to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty, to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to visit the sick, to visit those in prison, and to bury the dead.

What might that look like today? Some possible expressions might be: to feed the hungry (people who work in soup kitchens, Catholic Worker centers), to give drink to the thirsty (those who work on water projects in Third World countries), to clothe the naked (those who run clothing drives, start projects like One Warm Coat), to shelter the homeless (those who work in projects like Habitat for Humanity, immigration lawyers), to visit the sick (Eucharistic ministers, nurses, hospice workers or volunteers), to visit those in prison (those who assist with Kairos retreats, visit or write to prisoners, prison chaplains), and to bury the dead (those in grief ministry or Project Rachel).

If you are involved in any one of these professionally or as a volunteer, or if you know of another alumna whose activities fit these categories, please send information about how your/their work or volunteering fits the Corporal Works of Mercy. Also, please include any interesting information that would make us all rejoice in the many ways Paulites reach out.

Don't be shy or modest! Let's see what we can celebrate in each other. Look for the results in the Summer 2009 issue.

ALUMNAE CANDLELIGHTING



Class of 1991 members gather with the faculty after Candlelighting: Lovell Abungan, Gia Aspiras Wunderlich, Sr Karen Conover, Sr Maureen O'Brien, Trifina Castillo, Jaymi Phillips.



A group from the 1970s made it a "second annual event" with dinner before and conversation after Candlelighting.

Golden Belles of 1959 enjoy time together at the November Luncheon.



It is always amazing to see how the Alumnae Candlelighting keeps going and going year after year ... like the Energizer Bunny! The evening is a special one, recalling past events of our high school years, but also offering

the opportunity to share this traditional combination of Scripture and Christmas melodies with friends and family. Some of the children of our alumnae have now come to look forward to this beautiful service.

Thanks to all who helped plan, set up the church, formed the "pick-up choir," brought goodies to share, and of course, to all who came to pray and sing together.

THE PARTY LINE


[Ed. Note: Interesting news and tidbits about alums, their families, endeavors, moves, work, etc. will appear here. Births and deaths will continue to be gathered into the traditional "ALUMNAE NEWS." Contact the Alumnae

with items for publication.]

Mary Ann McHugh '57 and husband Bill Hillyard celebrated their 50th golden wedding anniversary on 8/1/08 at the United Irish Cultural Center.

Class of 1968 members **Adrienne Borgia, Sylvia Macay Bramante, Teresa Armanini Devincenzi, Mary Stock Greppi, Dolores Callaro Conepa, and Mary Santos Henry** arranged a lunch in San Jose on 11/29/08 with their former teacher **Sister Joellen McCarthy, BVM** who has just finished 12 years in BVM leadership. Sister was their chemistry teacher at St. Paul's when she was a mere seven years older than they. Remembering how she told them that "atoms were in constant motion, although that is impossible to see," they remarked that she was "so cute" about this whole concept.

Chris Jiron Clark '70 and husband Craig celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on 10/6/08. They have two daughters and 2 grandsons. Chris and Craig dated for 5 years prior to their marriage at St. Paul's.

Cathy Quistgaard '71 writes that her son, Brian McCarthy, was accepted into medical school in Yakima, WA with a full military scholarship. He and his wife, a kindergarten teacher, have two young children (Colin 3 and Keira 17 months) and have moved from Rochester, NY. Cathy visited the young family in November.

Nancy Gray Welton '74 recently received the Whitney M. Young award, a national level award from Boy Scouts of America. The award was earned in honor of the Civil Rights leader for service to underprivileged youth. She works with boys who are incarcerated at Adobe Mountain School in Phoenix, AZ. Nancy serves as Scoutmaster of the only Boy Scout troop behind bars in the US. She believes that her willingness to volunteer was based on the Corporal Works of Mercy whereby we are called to "visit the imprisoned." Nancy is married with two sons, living in Glendale, AZ. Her entire family is involved in Boy Scouting. She also serves as the Chaplain of her sons' troop in Phoenix.

Corinne Espinosa Inong '75 wrote that her daughter Laura Nicole Inong was married to Salvador Mendoza, Jr on 10/17/08 and that they have a son named Salvador "Guero" Mendoza III.

Marta Lopez Bayol '76 is proud to have her daughter Gabriela as a 9th grader at St. Ignatius College Prep and her sister **Maritza Lopez '83** has a son Nick in 9th grade at Archbishop Riordan HS.

Adriana Ponce Santos '81 lives in Fair Oaks (near Sacramento), has been married for 22 years, and has four sons (Alexander 17, Matthew 14, Jason 11, and David 2). She says "they keep me young." Although an accountant by trade, she has been teaching art for several years and loves it. Her sisters, **Cecilia Ponce Santiago '83** and **Gabriela Ponce Sullivan '85**, live in Pleasanton with three children each and are also teachers. Adriana says, "I now have a deeper appreciation for teachers and especially my St. Paul teachers. God bless each one. I was especially touched by Sr. Lynn Lester and Sr. Mary Ann Zollmann who to this day I firmly believe greatly influenced my formation."

Dina Pellegrini Santana '88 has a daughter, Isabella, who just started kindergarten at St. Paul's. She and husband Ernie now have two children with the arrival of Silvio in 1/08.

Adriana Olloqui Bergman '92 and husband Erick are parents to two: Benjamin (2-1/2) and Maya Bella born last July.

Jessika Garcia '94 has two children, Jezabella (13) in 8th grade at St. Paul Elementary School, and Julieta (3). They live in Antioch, but "everyday life" is in San Francisco. Jeza is a great basketball player, a member of Mission Recreation Girls BB team, which is #1 in No. Cal and #9 nationally. She has her heart set on Sacred Heart Cathedral HS that has an outstanding women's BB team. Jessika has worked for Schwab since 1998 in the Office of Corporate Counsel.

PLANNING A CLASS REUNION?

Please contact the Alumnae Office (see address and email on p. 8). We can provide updated information on classmates. We are also happy to receive information you gather along the way and will publish notices and photos after the event.

CLASS NEWS & REUNIONS

Class of 1960 will be the Golden Belles this fall. Their little sisters from the Class of 1963 have sent each a Save the Date message for November 9, 2009. If you know a classmate who did not receive this notice, please contact the Alumnae Office at sphsalumnae@yahoo.com

Class of 1964 has a new webpage. Check it out at <http://stpaul64.multiply.com/>

Class of 1984 is looking ahead to a 25th reunion on August 1, 2009 beginning at 6:00 p.m., at Azul Restaurant, San Francisco. Contact Gladdie Ocampo Contreras at gladdco@gmail.com if you want to be part of the planning committee or for more information.

Class of 1986 held a reunion on March 20, 2009. Pearl Bermudez is one of the organizers. We look for a report in the July issue.

Class of 1988 marked their 20th with an event on October 11, 2008 on the Bella, a Hornblower cruise. Since it was during the Fleet Week celebration, they had front row seats for some of the festivities. Although they had reached out to many in the class, only 11 were able to come, but organizers Rosie Eder-Carvajal and Dina Pellegrini Santana said they had a great time! Anna Contreras flew in from Florida for the event. Johanna Solozano would have joined them but is living in Guatemala! Thank goodness for the Internet and email! With many transplanted to different cities, states and countries, it allowed classmates to reconnect, share stories, and communicate with each other again! They are hoping to have a 25-year reunion in 2013. Fortunately, they have found more members since the reunion. There is talk about planning a Napa wine trip in the summer, so details will follow.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The Leukemia-Lymphoma Society is looking for a volunteer receptionist 2-3 days a week at the Fox Plaza Building, 1390 Market St, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94102-5306. Contact person is Lupe Campillo-Deasy at (415) 625-1120. This might be just the outreach you are looking for! (*Information courtesy of Marilyn Ferrucci '54*)

TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS for CHILDREN and GRANDCHILDREN of ALUMNAE

The greatest portion of the monies collected in the annual fundraiser provides tuition assistance to the children and grandchildren of alumnae who attend Catholic high schools.

Financial assistance toward providing a Catholic high school education is a significant way to continue the mission and ministry of St. Paul's High School. This assistance is in addition to the annual grant to a female graduate of St. Paul Elementary made in memory of Sister Mary Carlita, BVM.

An Ad Hoc Scholarship Committee has been set up to process the applications. Alumnae who wish to apply for consideration of a family member should request an information packet by writing to:

SPHS Alumnae
Attn: Scholarship Committee
221 Valley Street
San Francisco, CA 94131

Requests for applications should be postmarked by April 30, 2009. A packet will be sent to each family that has requested consideration on May 9. Completed materials must be returned by May 29, 2009. The Scholarship committee expects to respond to each family by the end of June.

LETTER AND E-MAILS

Thank you for all of your hard work and for keeping this newsletter going. So far, our class of 1969 is up to 55 contacts with emails, from the 25 we started with when I first contacted you 1-1/2 years ago. Some of us have reconnected and started some wonderful friendships, myself especially when I reconnected with my two best friends from high school who are now very close and dear to me in my life. The three of us went away to the Sierras this past weekend and had a fabulous time, sharing, laughing, talking and reminiscing about our wonderful years at St. Paul's. Thank you again, as you were the one that made this all possible.

Rosalie Gonsolin '69

MASSES for ALUMNAE and BENEFACTORS, LIVING and DECEASED	April 5	Sun	10:45 a.m.	
	May 15	Sun	8:30 a.m.	
	Jun 6	Sat	4:30 p.m.	
	Jul 9	Thu	8:30 a.m.	
	Aug 16	Sun	9:15 a.m.	

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



photo by Kurt Burton

Sister Karen Conover, BVM, (SPHS Faculty 1980-94) currently Chairperson of the Science Department at Holy Names High School in Oakland, received her MS in Chemistry from the University of Minnesota. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher and began her love of chemistry in the 5th grade when she got her first chemistry set. Later she was inspired by her own high school science teacher.

In graduate school, she noted that most of her classmates were going on to pursue a doctoral degree, but Sr. Karen knew that what she really wanted was to teach high school. Watching college students struggle with many of their chemistry courses proved to her that the important preparation for college work begins in high school science classes. In particular, students must become strong problem solvers, with dimensional analysis as the basis for future study in their next science courses.

She has been teaching for 36 years – yet has taught in only three schools during all this time. She spent eight years in a co-ed school in Kansas City, fourteen years at St. Paul High School in San Francisco, and at HNHS since 1995.

As Chairperson of the Science Department for most of her years at Holy Names, she says that mentoring brand new teachers has been one of the most rewarding parts of her tenure. She believes that it is very important to attract science graduates to science education, as most search for work in the private sector where salaries are significantly higher.

Three levels of chemistry are offered: regular, honors, and advanced placement. Chemistry is a required subject, so Sister Karen eventually has all HNHS students in one of her classes. Chemistry is designed as a strong

conceptual course. For students with strong math skills and possibly a desire to pursue some area of science in college, Chemistry Honors adds the mathematical applications to the concepts. Advanced Placement is a college-level course, requiring rigorous math and in-depth laboratory investigations. By the second semester in AP, students find themselves dealing with chemical topics they have never studied before. HNHS is the only school in the Diocese of Oakland currently offering the very challenging Advanced Placement Chemistry. She is delighted that there are nine students in her AP class this year, including a very bright sophomore who is taking chemistry for the first time, bypassing Chemistry Honors.

Sister Karen is convinced that all students can learn chemistry, but not all at the same pace or depth. She believes the adage “CHEM is TRY!” is probably the most important for success, and she is always available to help that become a reality for her students.

--reprinted and edited with permission from *The Monarch*. Holy Names High School, February 2009.

A SEARCH ENGINE THAT “PAYS” DONATING to the BVMs (or any charity) is FREE and EASY!

The Development Office of the BVM Sisters is involved in an easy way to gain some funds. GoodSearch.com is an Internet search engine with a unique social mission. It donates half its revenue from advertising sales (about a penny per search) to the charity its users designate. You use GoodSearch.com just as you would any search engine (like Google); it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results.

Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Sisters of Charity of the Blessed Virgin Mary as the charity you wish to support. There are even directions on the GoodSearch.com home page to help you add the GoodSearch.com icon to your toolbar so you can easily open to the GoodSearch.com website whenever you would like to look something up on the Internet!

To-date, over 89,000 Internet searches have been done using GoodSearch.com for the benefit of the BVMs. Because of these searches, the Sisters have received over \$1,000. Please consider joining this effort to raise additional money for the BVM Congregation. Just think, if 500 people use GoodSearch.com four times a day, that would raise about \$7,300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! It proves that every little bit helps.

New Arrivals: ...Silvio, second child born to **Dina Pellegrini Santana '88** and husband Ernie, on 1/1/08; ...Maya Bella, born to **Adriana Olloqui Bergman '92** and husband Erick, on 7/28/08; ...twin girls, Adriana Maria and Briana Maria, born to **Maria Ramos Alvarado '83** and husband Eddie, on 10/10/08; ... Audrey Nicole, born to **Laksmi Espana Wilson '94** and husband Don, on 12/11/08

May They Rest in Peace:

Alumnae Members: ...**June Crowley Grainger '41**; ...**Helen Dunphy Webber '38**, in 3/08; ...**Marian Sheehan Wardlaw '41**, on 10/7/08; ...**Frances Carroll '32**, sister of Julia Carroll '32 (dec), on 11/28/08; ...**Patricia Murphy Field '41**, on 11/30/08; ...**Kathleen Ruane O'Malley '67**, daughter of Nabla O'Brennan Ruane '37 (dec), sister of Alana Ruane Brugaletta '71 (dec), niece of Avyleen O'Brennan Lawton '36 (dec), Aine O'Brennan '38, and Noireen O'Brennan Morris '47 (dec), cousin of Nancy Boffy Trejo '57, Eileen Boffy Shipp '62, Brenda Lawton '64 (dec) and Dierdre Lawton Verkler '71 (dec), on 11/29/08; ...**Catherine Kelly Harris '38**, cousin of Mary McGee Prevedello '54, on 12/11/08; ...**Carla Bruno Cukar '57**, sister of Eva Bruno Picchi '66, on 12/17/08; ... **Claire Bernie Roddy '47**, on 1/7/09; ...**Joanne Joost Lehane '50**, on 2/1/09; ...**Isabelle Giacomini Browne '33**, sister of Mary Giacomini Coffaro '32 (dec), Sister Cornelia Giacomini, SHF, aunt of Marilyn Coffaro Hamilton, member '67, on 2/3/09; ...**Dorothy Kara Zaro '32**, on 2/23/09; ...**Dolores Kelly Wandel '33**, sister-in-law of Anastasia Kelly Kelly '33 (dec), on 2/24/09; ...**Teresa Mahoney McLean '41**, on 3/7/09; ...**Juanita Alvarado Marckwordt '57**, sister of Virginia Alvarado Weir '55, on 3/14/09

Extended Family: ...**Teresa Kennedy**, sister-in-law of Patricia Kennedy Jewett '65, in 10/08; ...**James Zernicke**, son of Frances Brady Zernicke '41, in 11/08; ...**Ramiro Cruz, Sr.**, husband of Pat Weiner Cruz '55, on 12/16/08; ...**Eludia de Ortiz**, grandmother of Brenda Solorzano Caudle '86 and Johanna Solorzano '86, on 12/24/08; ...**Evelyn Lynch**, mother of Marie Lynch Comer '75, on 12/29/08; ...**Elly Acevedo**, mother of Liz Acevedo Avila '73 and Linda Acevedo-Ratto '80, in 1/09; ...**Lena Oliverio**, mother of Louise Oliverio, 1/4/09; ...**Madeline Chiodo Reidy**, mother of Nancy Reidy '68, Sandra Reidy '71, and Julianne Reidy '73, sister-in-law of Jayne Reidy Ramorino '41 (dec), on 1/11/09; ...**Noreen Cotter**, mother of Eithne Cotter Nerio '67 and Eileen Cotter Gilman '68, on 1/21/09; ...**William (Tony) Newhoff**, husband of Gloria Isetta Newhoff '43; ...**Timothy McAuliffe**, husband of Maureen O'Sullivan McAuliffe '54, on 2/20/09; ...**Betty Kenny Reh**, sister of Mary Ann Kenny Stark '42 (dec) and Josephine Kenny Stark '54, on 3/4/09

EDITOR'S NOTE: *Please send information about birth of children, degrees earned, and death of fellow alums and immediate family members of alumnae so that we may pray for one another. It is also very helpful to indicate all immediate family members of the deceased who are alumnae of St. Paul High School (and year of graduation, if possible). This information and these connections are not always known unless we are informed. Send information to: SPHS Alumnae, 221 Valley St., San Francisco, CA 94131 or via email to <sphsalumnae@yahoo.com> Thank you.*

DUES PAYMENTS TOP LAST YEAR'S RECORD

You've done it again! SPHS Alums have heard the call to preserve and continue the Alumnae Newsletter. A record number of alumnae, **514** as of **2/20/09**, have sent in the \$15 dues (or more!) for 2008-2009. Over half of those sent them with or following the annual November Mass and Luncheon reservations. This represents **\$9,230** toward the Newsletter and WE ARE SO GRATEFUL!! This frees up more of the Fundraiser for Tuition Assistance, which is so needed in these hard economic times.

YEARBOOKS AVAILABLE LAST CALL!

The Alumnae is doing its final clean out, and there are a few extra copies of yearbooks available for sale for \$10.00 plus shipping & handling. Please contact President Marilyn Highlander-Pool at mlpool68@yahoo.com.

Those available are:

2-1955, 1-1956, 3-1957, 1-1959, 3-1960, 2-1961, 3-1962, 1-1964, 1-1971, 6-1972, 1-1975, 1-1977, 1-1978, 3-1979, 3-1980, 1-1981, 1-1982, 6-1983, 2-1984, 1-1985, 4-1986, 4-1987, 2-1988, 2-1989, 1-1990, 2-1991, 2-1992, 2-1993, 1-1994.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Arlene Vitorela DiPetro '63 requests prayers for her husband who is hospitalized with acute leukemia and will be undergoing bone marrow transplantation in the near future. (1/29/09)

Yvonne Santos '71 had surgery at Kaiser, South San Francisco, on 2/6/09.

Deborah Masten Smith '72 requests urgent prayers for the recovery and healing of her 14-year-old nephew, Jared Keadle, who was struck by a car and has serious head and brain injuries. He is at UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento. (2/20/09) He is off life-support and has come out of the coma. (3/12/09)

Tara Manini '91 had surgery to remove cancer in the lung on 3/4/09. She is home and relearning how to breathe. Prayers are requested for her healing and recovery.

Pat Kennedy Jewett '65 was hospitalized over three weeks with a painful leg infection and serious hematoma from a fall. She is home now, but confined to a wheelchair and walker. She is grateful for prayers. (3/09)

**ST. PAUL HIGH SCHOOL
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
221 VALLEY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94131-2320**

sphsalumnae@yahoo.com

www.sphsalumnae.org

Return Service Requested

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday, April 16, 7:00 p.m. Alumnae Board

Saturday, April 25, 2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
Annual Fundraiser Reception

Thursday, May 14, 7:00 p.m. Alumnae Board

Saturday, June 13, 12:00 noon
Thank You Luncheon

St. Paul High School Alumnae Newsletter

is published three times a year:
March, mid-summer, and October.

It is sent to all alumnae, faculty and staff of St. Paul High School, San Francisco, for whom current addresses are available.

Printing and mailing costs are provided in part by annual dues and supported from proceeds of the Annual Fundraiser.

Deadline for submission of articles or information is March 5, July 5, and October 5.

Editor: Sr. Karen Conover, BVM

FUNDRAISER RECEPTION

**Saturday, April 25
2:30 - 4:00 p.m.
St. Paul Rectory**

**GRAND RAFFLE
TICKETS INSIDE!**