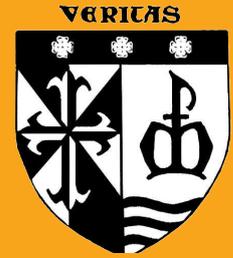


The Voice

August 2017



The Marywood Academy Alumnae Newsletter

Published in collaboration with the Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids

What a Difference a Year Makes

This is something we have all heard so many times through song, statement, and expression. Well, for Marywood and many of us, it is true. Take my life as an example: Widowed in October 2013, I vowed to remain single (yeah right). Then at the end of May 2016, I met someone through a mutual friend, Sara Smolenski. Many of you know Sara; a great friend of the Dominicans.

After meeting Larry Mulligan we realized we had a lot in common. He was widowed four years earlier, after a long-term marriage like mine. We know many of the same Grand Rapids people and we share a commitment to living a faith-based life. As of November 2016, we are married and I am now part of a very large family that includes four grown sons with families, (five grandchildren blessings!).

And... during this time the Marywood campus and community have had many changes as well. Alyssa Morillo Scheidt joined the staff as Director of Mission Advancement in January. In June, Lisa Mitchell came on board as the new Director of Associate Life. Both bring rich experience and a passion for the Dominican mission.

I hope you are already taking advantage of all the great ways to connect with the Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids. Check your email inbox for the Daily Blessings—a peaceful reflection in your day. Saturdays' Sister Stories feature beloved Sisters from the past as well as something new about many Sisters we all know. Visit their Facebook page or sign up at www.grdominicans.org.

There are also some fantastic upcoming classes at Dominican Center you're going to want to check out. Get details and sign up for: Reflective Film Series, Yoga, Zentangle®, Sacred Activism, and more at www.dominicancenter.com.

If you are in the Grand Rapids area, please stop in and experience the calm (and the wonderful items for sale!) at the Dominican Center Bookstore and Art Gallery. The current exhibit features many talented women who just happen to be Dominican Sisters as well as incredible artists; it's not to be missed.



Don't forget to join us in September for the Alumnae Annual Reunion Luncheon!

So friends, there is no slowing down on the Marywood Campus. Just ask the classes of 1966 and 1967 how successful their 50th reunions were. Wonderful women coming back together to reconnect and reminisce.

One last reminder: We are changing the Non-Potluck Potluck to a luncheon reunion of all classes. Please join us on Thursday, September 21, 2017, 11:30 am to 2:30 pm at Dominican Center at Marywood. Invitations will follow. Send us your email if it has changed or if you think you are not in our database and would like to get all announcements and invites.

Veritas,
Terri Fodor Handlin Mulligan, Class of 1963
Thandlin61@gmail.com

Reconnect

Help us keep your information current.
Send updates to:

Email: alumnae@grdominicans.org

Mail: Attn: Regina Mary Goedel, OP
2025 Fulton St. East
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Sister Story: Then and Now

Sister Phyllis Klonowski, OP

Sr. Phyllis Klonowski treasures the gift she says her Marywood classmates gave her: relationship.

Graduating in 1966, Sr. Phyllis was one of 62 in her class. It was a time of tremendous change and uncertainty in the world. Vatican II, President Kennedy's assassination, and civil rights marches—these were the moments that defined her high school days. At home, many parents struggled to know what to say to their children, but at Marywood, explains Sr. Phyllis, “we were exposed to these things right away—the Sisters helped us talk about what was happening.”

Though it was a serious time, Sr. Phyllis' school days included fun and a little mischief too. Asked about some of her most indelible memories, she recalls the sound of Fr. Wilson's Boston drawl as he'd begin the Hail Mary in the Chapel—before the days of microphones. She can't hold back her smile as she describes Sr. Euphemia's classic one-liners and quirky use of certain expressions like, “my country tis of thee”. Sr. Phyllis insists she was a good student and never in trouble; though she confesses she sometimes talked with the other students, breaking the rule that dictators were not allowed to speak with the other girls.

Sr. Phyllis and her classmates learned from Marywood teachers, including Sr. Lucille Janowiak for math, Sr. Nancy Malburg for chemistry, and Sr. Carmella Conway for literature, that because you have an education, you have a responsibility—



and being a woman doesn't excuse you from that. The girls would take this lesson to heart, many going on to work in healthcare and in technology.

Eventually, Sr. Phyllis became the teacher, traveling from Grand Rapids to Maple Grove and Wright, in Michigan, and later to the California desert. Because of her extensive science and healthcare background, and due to the increasing needs of the Sisters back home at Marywood, in 1971 she was asked to study pharmacy.

Furthering her education in pharmacy school and through advanced and broad-based training in hospital, retail, and long-term elder care environments, Sr. Phyllis gained both clinical and management experience, ultimately earning an award for public education in health and pharmacy. It would not be her only honor.

Conducting her Masters research project at Purdue, Sr. Phyllis studied the effects of nutrition on radiation oncology drugs for someone who is sick—an area of medicine that hadn't existed before. At St. Mary's Hospital in Saginaw, she helped develop and change drug protocols, based on actual patient, real-world experiences after a heart attack. This work would help establish what we now know as evidence-based medicine.

Hers is a multidisciplinary approach, borne of a core Dominican belief: “work with who you have.” Sr. Phyllis elaborates, “you take the best of what you can get from any direction and bring it together.” She believes you cannot have health without a spiritual component—work that the Dominican Sisters' Pastoral Care Team performs today, at Marywood Health Center and Aquinata Hall Assisted Living. What is simply a part of daily ministry today was, not long ago, something Sr. Phyllis helped pioneer!



Sr. Phyllis hard at work in the pharmacy

“What you're given always builds.”



Alumna Feature

A member of the Michigan Pharmacy Association for 42 years, Sr. Phyllis serves on their Executive Board and is a Specialty Consultant on their Pharmacy Board. Her extensive experience with nutrition, natural and specialty medicines, the elderly, and ensuring access without discrimination (for people living in poverty) has led her to engage politically as well—at both state and federal levels.

From her earliest relationships with teachers and classmates at Marywood Academy to her myriad experiences with patients and professionals in healthcare settings, Sr. Phyllis' grounding in faith, education, care—and always, relationships—built the person she is today.

“What you're given always builds.”

Pat Jennings Class of '61, Dominican Associate

Walking silently, in single file, wearing saddle shoes and bobby socks cuffed a *very specific number of inches*, Pat Jennings (née Bohn) was already on her journey of faith. At the time, Pat didn't recognize how influential those days at Marywood Academy would ultimately be for her transformation as a child of God.



Pat and Eileen (Spinetto) Mead with their dates at a Coke Party

In those years, Pat was a good student who liked math and science. Though shy, she made many dear friends. She recalls that the Marywood girls all gathered at Coke parties before heading off to dances, stopping first at school so the Sisters could quiz the boys and appraise the girls' attire.

Partly because math was one of her loves, Pat fondly recalls the fun that she and Sr. Lucille Janowiak (then Sr. Stanley,) her geometry teacher, had together. Similarly, her affinity for the sciences helped Pat form wonderful memories of her teacher Sr. Frances Ann. In contrast, French teacher, Sr. Angeliqye would take Pat's face in her hands and say, “You will never be a Frenchman because you can't roll your tongue.”

“When I graduated from Marywood, I thought I knew all I needed to know about my Catholic faith. Boy, I had that wrong!”



Pat's faith progression began with her baptism in 1943 at Holy Name of Jesus in Wyoming, and continued in her active volunteer role at her home parish, Immaculate Heart of Mary, in Grand Rapids. Ultimately, she would become a Dominican Associate and spiritual director.

“I remember when I graduated from Marywood, I thought I knew all I needed to know about my Catholic faith. Boy, I had that wrong!”

The Spiritual Formation Program at Dominican Center laid important groundwork for Pat. She didn't feel particularly confident her first day, and was amazed by the Sisters' powerful example. “They were so knowledgeable, yet never condescending. They were quizzed quite intensely by some of the participants but they responded gracefully.” Pat's experience in the program would lead to her decision to come to Associate Life.

Pat says being an Associate has not only enriched her faith, but strengthened her connection with the Sisters too. She has valued learning the history of the Dominican Sisters; how they struggled and the hardships they endured. “It was eye-opening to learn the roots of Marywood—how deep and strong they are.”

The roots of Pat's faith are also deep and strong, nurtured at Marywood Academy and fortified by the focus of Dominican Associate Life.



“My heart has softened and is more understanding. I am less judgmental and see more of God in all things. Solomon asked for wisdom and an understanding heart. That is what I pray for.”

Dominican Associate Life

Who are the Dominican Associates?

The very purpose of the gifts of the Spirit is to share them.

Associates are men and women drawn by the Dominican spirit to a deeper way of living their Christian life and mission. Associates and Sisters alike rely on prayer, study, community, and service to support their baptismal commitment to Jesus Christ and to the Dominican charism: preaching the Good News.

Associate Life provides opportunities for fresh expressions of this charism. Sisters and Associates collaborate in meaningful service and through participation in congregational events, gatherings, committees, retreats, social justice activities, and various ministries. Associates extend the Dominican presence and values to family, community, place of worship, and workplace.

ASSOCIATES COMMIT TO:

- Developing a contemplative attitude toward all reality
- Attending to God's voice within
- Speaking the truth
- Proclaiming the Good News
- Joining others in service for the common good



For more information on Dominican Associate Life:

Visit grdominicans.org/associates

Contact Director of Associate Life, Lisa Mitchell
(616) 514-3115 • lmitchell@grdominicans.org



Touched by the Holy One,
we journey in solidarity with the
Dominican Sisters of Grand Rapids
and with one another.
Connecting and collaborating
in Christian mission and spirituality,
we embrace the Dominican charism
ministering in joyful faith
and compassionate love.

Preach in All Ways

community justice
prayer service
study joy

dominican associate
mission statement

Reconnecting at Marywood



Class of 1967 Celebrates 50th Reunion

Submitted by Nancy Malone '67

A glorious weekend in June saw 44 members of the Class of 1967 hit the campus filled with anticipation of meeting classmates who had not seen each other in almost 50 years. We arrived from Colorado, Florida, New York, Virginia, Greece, and many places in between. We laughed, hugged, screeched like the teens we once were and talked till our jaws were sore.

Marywood—the building has changed, we have changed, but the spirit that was forged by the good Sisters remained strong. We learned of each other's adventures, families, hobbies, and passions that have kept us occupied all these years. We toured the campus' many hidden gems: the wildflower garden, the meadow, the St. Francis of Assisi Sculpture Garden for Prayer and Meditation, and the beautiful new gazebo. The wonderful meals and treats prepared by the catering staff gave us the energy to carry on when our feet called out to us to stop. We played, we planted a beautiful memory tree, we visited areas of the campus that were not accessible as students and marveled at what the big deal was about the tunnels. We also had a chance to visit with many of our teachers, some contributing to the hilarity of the Saturday night dinner program.

Sunday found us in the chapel where Sr. Lucianne Siers ('67) delivered a beautiful scripture reflection that made us all so happy we have her amazing talent and energy amongst us. She was the momentum behind the reunion committee's work and the class is very grateful.

We concluded by promising we would keep better track of each other and attempt, as a group, to attend *The King and I* next June to compare our senior class performance to Broadway Grand Rapids' rendition.

Do you have a story to share?

Is there an alumna or Sister whose story you would like to see featured? Was there an experience you had at Marywood that shaped the person you have become? Let us hear your voice! Email a brief description and your contact information to alumnae@grdominicans.org.

Sixty Years, Amazing!

Submitted by Katie Cuncannan '57

The Class of 1957 gathered at Marywood for a luncheon on Wednesday, July 19, 2017.

We mourned the loss of our classmates who have gone, shared unique and treasured memories, and celebrated the great gifts of the Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids.

It was a wonderful time of laughter and "remember whens" (and perhaps even a few, "if onlys"). Sixty years...amazing.

Reconnecting at Marywood

Class of 1966 Quinquagenary

Submitted by Lynne Inman-Hoffert '66

The Marywood Academy Class of 1966 met to celebrate its quinquagenary on the weekend of August 27, 2016. Thirty-two classmates gathered for the weekend, with our “Tiger Lily,” Belinda Barnes, traveling the farthest (4,281 kilometers).

The reunion began on Friday evening at the home of event organizer, Martha Pursley Peabody. We hugged, we laughed, we ate, and we teased in the warm community Marty created for us.

On Saturday morning, we met at Dominican Center to share memorabilia (those ugly uniforms!) and enjoy brunch. Srs. Mary Navarre and Lucille Janowiak (formerly our math and religion teacher, Sr. Stanley) led the afternoon with tours of Marywood, including an overview of the remarkable Prairie Habitat developed on the grounds. Afterward, Marcia Boehm Carbines hosted us in her home and garden for more catch-up time and a bite to eat.

Saturday evening began back at Marywood with hors d'oeuvres in the sunlit Atrium at Aquinata Hall. Dinner was held in Dominican Center with another menu planned by Marty Pursley Peabody and tables decorated by “Peter Pan” (aka: Mary Celeste Stewart). At each place setting guests found a DVD recording of our senior play. Paul Yhouse, who worked backstage and later married our classmate Liz Orlyk, made the original DVDs for the cast members several years ago when he held a memorial for Liz. Classmate Sr. Phyllis Klonowski recited a blessing and Mary Orley Roper read a list of the seven classmates who already crossed. Joni “JIBBER” Beemsterboer read notes from those who regretted they could not join us.

Later, several classmates broke into an impromptu rendition of our class song, “No Man Is an Island,” just as we did 50 years ago on closing night of “Peter Pan.” This time, with Sr. Mary’s Shakespearean teasing in mind, the lyrics changed in a manner Joan Baez would approve: “... We need one another, So I will defend, Each [one] as my [sister], Each [one] as my friend. I saw the people gather, I heard the music start, The song that they were singing, Is ringing in my heart. No [one] is an island...”



After Mass in the Chapel on Sunday morning, we concluded our marvelous reunion weekend. We left full of gratitude for the time together, and for Marty Pursley Peabody and the staff of Dominican Center for organizing and hosting.

Return

Mark Your Calendars! Marywood Academy Alumnae Events

MARYWOOD ACADEMY ANNUAL REUNION LUNCHEON (FORMERLY KNOWN AS NON-POTLUCK POTLUCK) **SEP 21 Thu**

Gather with classmates to reconnect and enjoy a fabulous lunch. (The perfect start to an afternoon of ArtPrize!) Look for an invitation in August.

CLASS OF 1958 60TH REUNION **2018**

The Class of 1958 is planning a 60th reunion for next summer. The plans are just in the beginning stages but we are excited and looking forward to it. Email Bonnie Jean Randall at bonnie.jean@tds.net for more information or to get involved.

The Voice is a publication of Marywood Academy Alumnae and the Marywood Academy Alumnae Council, supported by the Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids.

The Marywood Academy Alumnae Council is established to implement initiatives from Alumnae for Alumnae.

We value your input and ideas! Please contact us:

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There are some who bring a light so great to the world, that even after they have gone, the light remains.

Please Pray for the Souls of...

Carol Clary Rondeau ('66): died 2009

Maisie Woodard McGerry ('53): died 2014

Susan Gentleman Gagliardi ('53): died 2014

Joan Bagrowski Slater ('56): died August 6, 2016

Lucia Martelle VanderMeer ('61): died August 29, 2016

Marguerite Dombrowski Callaghan ('54): died August 31, 2016

Barbara Wanderscheid Sweeney ('50): died October 6, 2016

Nancy Tenfelde Clasby ('56): died November 4, 2016

Sr. Audrey Kubian, OP (Mary Kubian) ('37): died December 12, 2016

Sally Eccleston Vincent ('50): died December 28, 2016

Sr. Herman Marie, OP (Selsa Maez) ('42): died May 9, 2017

Jean Heyer Kolb ('58): died May 17, 2017

Sr. Juliana Barilla, OP ('33): died July 9, 2017

Remembering Nancy Tenfelde Clasby '56

Marywood Alumnae lost a truly remarkable person when Nancy Tenfelde Clasby, Class of 1956, passed away on November 4, 2016.

Nancy was an author, researcher, professor, advocate, and activist, in addition to a wife and mother. Nancy was a person in whom a deep commitment to social justice was deeply ingrained. A civil rights activist since the 60s and later an assistant professor at the University of Miami, Nancy developed the first Black Studies Program to be adopted by the University and taught their first Black Literature courses.

According to an article written by Howard Cohen in the *Miami Herald*, Nancy’s daughters credit her dedication to justice and dialogue as a significant influence on their south Florida community, and on their own upbringing. The article continues, “[Nancy’s] husband Eugene Clasby believes his wife’s passion to fight for others, to educate, and to promote diversity came from her spiritual grounding in Catholicism.”

In 2000, Nancy sent the Dominican Sisters a copy of her book, *New Jerusalem: Myth, Literature and the Sacred* and referenced the dedication page, where she thanked Sr. Aline (Needham) and Sr. Blanche (Steves), her teachers at Marywood Academy.

“Marywood was an inspiration to follow the life of thought and teaching, and Srs. Aline and Blanche were my models. Their rigorous intellects and broad cultural interests set a standard for all my later academic pursuits. Their piety and devotion to the truth was a pattern for spiritual and philosophical growth.”





Dominican Sisters
Grand Rapids, Michigan

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The Voice – Marywood Academy Alumnae Newsletter

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Stay Connected with Dominican Sisters ~ Grand Rapids!

Visit grdominicans.org to find the latest news and to learn more about Marywood Alumnae events.

Stop by Dominican Center and see what's new!

Check out our website for more information on upcoming programs and workshops and to register online: dominicancenter.com



@dominicansistersgrandrapids
@dominicancenter

Save the Date

Marywood Academy Alumnae Annual Reunion Luncheon

**Thursday, September 21, 2017
11:30 am - 2:30 pm**

Dominican Center at Marywood

*Gather with classmates to reconnect
and enjoy a fabulous lunch.*

Watch for an invitation in August.

Enjoy