

# Saint Andrew Apostle School

## Reunion Weekend 2004

### July 9-11

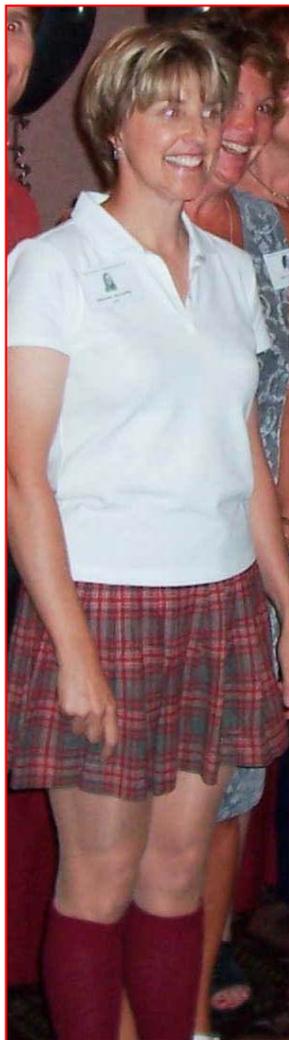


Photo by Dennis McCarthy



Photo by Ed Chambers

Old friendships were renewed and new friendships were forged as alumni of Saint Andrew Apostle School in Silver Spring, Maryland, gathered for a weekend packed with a variety of activities in celebration of the first all-class Reunion Weekend. Beginning with Friday Night Ice Breaker events organized by several individual classes, the celebration continued with a special Mass for all alumni on Saturday evening, followed by a Reunion for the first fifteen graduating classes of the school. Sunday festivities included the Mr. Kline Memorial Fun Run/Walk and a Family Picnic for all graduating classes. The array of events offered something for everyone.

This very special weekend, the culmination of four years of effort by the School Advisory Board to identify and locate Saint Andrew's graduates and establish a network for communication, was termed "The Lazarus Project" by Bob Greenleaf ('68). Efforts to reconnect and revitalize relationships with classmates after so many years seemed not unlike raising the dead. However, what many participants in the network and the Reunion Weekend have found is that any initial awkwardness quickly disappears. It is replaced by a comfortable camaraderie and perhaps a feeling of "being home."

So what ever happened to Lazarus? We know that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead at the request of Martha and Mary, beloved friends of Jesus (John 11, 1-44). We also know that Lazarus then took part in a banquet in Bethany, offered by Simon for Jesus, on the Saturday before Palm Sunday (John 12, 1-2). But we hear no more of Lazarus in the Gospels.

So what happens to the alumni of St. Andrew's now that they have been "raised" and shared a wonderful "banquet" of weekend activities? Stay connected and stay in touch! Let us hear from you! And perhaps start planning for Reunion Weekend 2010...

Lisa Schwartz Longacre ('74)  
Reunion Weekend 2004 Coordinator  
School Advisory Board Past-Chair

## Friday Night Ice Breakers

From Mike Oben ('70):

On Friday night at the Stained Glass Pub, it was so very cool to be able to see and visit with a bunch of our old classmates from 1970, as well as our 1971 schoolmates. It made the Saturday night affair that much more fun, since we had already re-connected with so many old friends the night before. In fact, it seems like some of us did more dancin' than talkin' on Saturday night, so the quality visiting time on Friday night really helped us all catch up. All in all, it was an incredible weekend that only re-confirmed that some of our dearest lifelong friendships are the ones we started way back in our St A's grade school days.

From Susan Hessmann Simpson ('72):

The class of '72 met Friday night at the Madison's in Olney. In attendance were John Bonomo, Joe Kern, Beazy Greenleaf, Carol Ostrye, Mary Murphy Gunnewick & her husband Joe, Veronica Mozzano Cleveland, Susan Hessmann Simpson, Steve Bethke, Bob Brown, Beth Fangmeyer Poulos, and Barb Seidl Barhaim. We laughed, ate, laughed, drank and laughed some more. The memories returned easily and we had a great time. By the time everyone took a breath it was midnight and we were the only ones left. We said our goodbyes and looked forward to seeing everyone on Saturday night. John Bonomo could not join us on Saturday, so we were very pleased he made the effort on Friday.

Stay connected:

Email: [standrewalum@yahoo.com](mailto:standrewalum@yahoo.com)

<http://www.standrewapostle.org>

From Dennis McCarthy ('71):

On Friday evening, July 9<sup>th</sup>, the Classes of '70 and '71 met at the Stained Glass Pub in Wheaton, MD. The crowd began to convene around 5pm and stayed until well after 10. It was great reacquainting with old friends. Amazingly, most people looked the same as in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Several people looked even better. There must have been some kind of preservative in the water fountains at St. Andrew's to keep everyone so young. The atmosphere of the SGP was conducive to the exact kind of rapport we were wanting. Several people brought pictures and other memorabilia. The memories were flowing like wine. More than a few of the remembrances dealt with the infamous Sister Anicetus. Her specter will be with us for a long time to come. This event was the perfect ice breaker. It seemed that everyone picked up where they left off, as in 'As I was saying . . .'. Let's hope it isn't another 33 years before we connect again.

From Orlando Mozzano ('74):

Stepping away from the normal. Fourteen from our Class of '74 shared a banquet of blessings under the evening stars at the home of our gracious classmate, Kathy Conroy Stock. Definitely an extremely unforgettable experience. Sharing everything from newfound passions for living, to all the insane and crazy. Some exuberated a remarkable capability to live life in a jumbled fashion, while others had the uncanny ability to keep their lives neat and tidy. We could not have done it without each other. Making the ultimate connection... "priceless"! "I always knew I'd laugh looking back on the times I cried, but I never thought I'd cry looking back on the times I laughed."

## Friday Night Ice Breakers

From Cathi Cooper ('75):

The Class of '75 met at Dave & Busters in White Flint Mall. In no time, we were talking and laughing. It was as if 29 years had not passed at all. The Class of '75 is currently planning their next reunion activity, which will occur well before 2033. In fact, it may occur next summer! If you are a member of the Class of '75 and did not have the opportunity to attend this year's event, please contact Cathi Cooper at: [cacooper@consolidated.net](mailto:cacooper@consolidated.net) to get on our email list, and help plan the next event.

From Bill O'Rourke ('77):

Several classmates from the St. Andrew the Apostle graduating Class of 1977 convened on Friday night, July 9 at the Silver Spring house of classmate Bill O'Rourke, the author. The classmates who attended were Colleen Berry Ginsberg, Lizzy Fernandini Nickell, Margie Bethke Hackett, Trish Weaver, Bill Patschak, Christy Maizel O'Brien, Maureen McMahon Garlock, Teresa Young Stonestreet, Tom Hollister, Linda Mallin Arroyo and, of course, me. Tom brought his lovely wife and children and Margie brought her 3 week old daughter...who was definitely the star of the evening!! For many of my classmates, this was the first time we had seen each other is upwards of 3 decades!!

I threw some food on the grill, we opened a few beverages and caught up with each other. We had a wonderful time chatting and laughing about our school times together and our lives since. In fact, hardly anyone took the time to eat the food cooked and brought..that is how much people enjoyed themselves. This opportunity to reconnect with my classmates was truly a pleasure for me and we plan to get together periodically in the future. Maybe as soon as this fall. I hope we do!!

From Mina Farzin ('80):

Quite an incredible weekend for our class. Everyone looked amazing and, as expected, more mature than before. Some people changed so much if you saw them in the street you would have walked right by them. Others still looked the same but older and more mature, thank goodness. We were missing a few people but since then have found many of them. It is nice to know that some of us will stay in touch and some have never lost touch. After-all, friends from childhood cannot be replaced. It was a very warm and friendly weekend that will be remembered be all.



Photo by Theresa Kehoe

## Saturday Alumni Mass

From Rick Ellrod ('67):

As part of the reunion weekend, St. Andrew's hosted a Mass for alumni at 5pm on Saturday evening, July 10. The liturgy was celebrated by Father Joseph Kennedy, Pastor of St. Andrew's. Music was led by Matt Ellrod (69), Rick Ellrod ('67), and Barbara Girolami (Director of Liturgy and Music at St. Andrew's). Selections included a song composed and performed by Rick Ellrod for the occasion entitled, "The Fellowship of the Spirit." Bob McNally ('71) served as lector along with his daughter Amber, a current St. Andrew's 8<sup>th</sup> grader. Alumni who are current teachers at the school, Peggy Oliverio Konieczka ('72) and Nori Limarzi ('93), and the new school principal, Kathy Kilty ('83), brought the gifts to the altar. Kathy Bethke Yates ('74) and Lisa Schwartz Longacre ('74) served as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist. Bill O'Rourke ('77) served as usher. Mass programs were distributed and included original artwork by Norma Dhanaraj ('01). The Mass included a moving remembrance of deceased alumni. After Mass, alumni toured the school, assisted by Parent's Association representative Lori Dec and Principal Kathy Kilty ('83), before heading off to enjoy the evening's festivities.



Photo by Jeff Longacre

### In Memoriam:

Joe Cunningham ('66), Cathy Kiefer ('67), William McTighe ('68), Edward Nolan ('70), Suzanne Kmetz ('71), Elizabeth Dormitzer ('72), Catherine Mauro ('72), Patricia Anne Kenney Vandermeeren ('72), Terrance Roddy ('72), Ann Broda Evans ('73), Paul Robarge ('76), Cindy Stefun ('76), Tim Fanelli ('77), Stephen Shugars ('78), Mark Rigterink ('83)

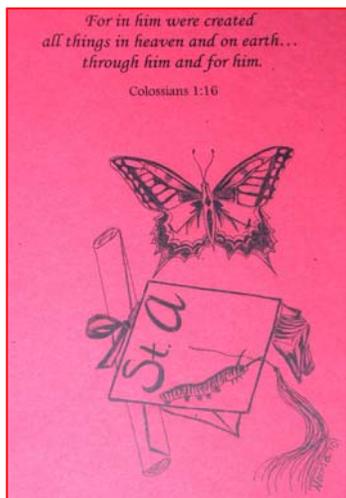


Photo by Lisa Longacre



Photo by Rick Ellrod

# The Fellowship of the Spirit

*For the St. Andrew Class Reunion, 2004*

Rick Ellrod

The Spirit calls us forth on a road that has no end,  
Striving ever to carry onward the cross that each must bear;  
But we do not travel alone, for the Spirit ever sends  
By our side His friends and companions, on the quest we all must share.

Friendships mellow our cares, and our joys they magnify,  
Comfort us and refresh our hearts when we falter or we fail;  
When we strive together we soar where alone we could not fly;  
In the Spirit we can do wonders, we can weather any gale.

## Refrain

"Forth now, fear no darkness!" Time and testing our faith withstands,  
The Spirit rallies us, neighbors and friends, to the trumpet of His call;  
God is with us forever, in our midst when we join our hands  
In the fellowship of the Spirit, all for One and One for all.

*(Repeat last line at end)*

We bring our loves and our lives to the God who makes them one,  
Teams and classes and families, ev'ry nation, ev'ry band  
In the Spirit finds its true home, its fulfillment in the Son;  
Let the grand community flourish in the Spirit's great command. *(Ref.)*

Live among us now, Holy Spirit, make us one,  
Let our lives be joined in one common cause,  
Loving each other, in love with You. *(Ref.)*

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## Saturday Night Reunion for Classes 1966-1980

More than 250 alumni and spouses gathered at the Knights of Columbus Rosensteel Hall in Forest Glen to celebrate the reunion of the first fifteen graduating classes of the school.



Photo by Lisa Longacre

Alumni traveled to attend the reunion from: MD, VA, DC, WV, PA, NJ, DE, NY, OH, WI, MI, NC, SC, FL, TX, CO, AZ, CA, WA, Bermuda, and Far East Asia! Congratulations to Patty Herlihy Belchere ('68) who traveled farthest!

From Bob Greenleaf ('68):

Inside, the guardians of Ladd Street - Mrs. Schwartz and Mrs. Patschak - checked me in and gave me a name tag and a small, empty photo album embossed with the St. Andrews Reunion logo. Behind the check-in tables was the ballroom set up with round tables. Every table had a centerpiece, a festive balloon arrangement, and a placard stating the year of the class assigned to that table. At opposite ends of the room were the bar and music. To the left of the music was another room, about the size of a classroom, where the buffet was laid out. Next to the bar, tables were set up with memorabilia, clippings, and letters from teachers who could not attend.

I got there a little after 7 p.m. Within 20 minutes, the place was filled. It was like a New Years Eve party of old friends. While the St. Andrew's curriculum did not cover dancing or the niceties of a cocktail bar, most alumni in attendance seemed to have overcome that deficiency. By 11 p.m., the hall was still as full as at 7:30 p.m. If noise indicates a party's success, this one was spectacular. One young lady wore her old school uniform with a hem line that would not touch the floor if she were to kneel! No men wore the old school tie; probably because their daughters would not let them be seen wearing it.

Lots of photos were taken, photos of spouses, kids, etc. were shared, and stories told about what's been going on since graduation. Time truly flew. The bar closed at 11 p.m., the music ended at midnight, but many were still there until 1 a.m.



Photo by Ed Chambers



Photo by Steve Hessmann

Did you turn in your "memory card?" If not, you can still send your favorite school memory to: St. Andrew School Reunion, P.O. Box 10591, Silver Spring, MD 20914 before September 15, 2004. The P.O. Box will then close forever. We will compile and share those received.

## Saturday Night Reunion for Classes 1966-1980



Photo by Ed Chambers



Photo by Steve Hessmann



Photo by Ed Chambers

From Mrs. Mary Becker:

What a glorious evening of fun and laughter and conversation. I left all of you as teenagers - only to return to a competent well educated group of middle-agers running our world in such challenging times! One so different from your school days. Be assured of my prayers for each of you as you continue along life's journey.



Photo by Ed Chambers

From Mrs. Jeanne Vicini:

The reunion and all associated activities were so well planned that everyone had an experience they will long remember! I enjoyed talking with everyone and reliving my special time at St. Andrew's. My only regret is that I did not get a chance to talk with even more people - even though I was hoarse the next day! St. Andrew's is so special! I am thankful I had the opportunity to work there and am more thankful that my sons were students there. Thanks - I had a wonderful time!



Photo by Agnes Conaty

We still have a few photo albums available for you to fill with pictures of the weekend. Stop by the back of the church and pick one up, while supplies last!

## Mr. Kline Memorial 5K Fun Run/Walk

From Austin Conaty ('76):

Sunday July 11, 2004 was the last day of the St. Andrew Alumni weekend. Before the picnic, the final event of the weekend, we held a 5k Run/Walk to Honor Coach Howard Kline. At 9:00 a.m., the runners and walkers arrived and registered at the St. Andrew's reserved picnic pavilion. Thirteen in all registered. Coach Bill Taylor (entering his 30th year as a coach at St. Andrew's), Erich Schwartz ('72) and Joseph Schwartz ('76) were the runners. They took off with their course maps in hand, quickly leaving the walkers behind. The walkers included Joan Hawkins (daughter of Coach Kline), Kathy Weaver Cannon ('69 - long time coach), her sister Patricia Weaver ('77), M.C. Garvey Hatley ('75), Ann Garvey Wubbena ('78), Andre Taylor ('79), John Conaty ('79), Austin ('76) and Agnes Conaty and Karen Gilsenan Tracy ('80). Six families were represented by the 13 who participated. The word is that Joseph Schwartz edged out his brother Erich by 4 years, or half a stride depending on the camera angle. The walkers shared stories of the old St. Andrews track days reminiscing of many of the fond memories that Coach Kline left us with. Coach Kathy left us with memories of an event to honor the memory of Coach Kline in the form of T-shirts that she donated. The shirts were designed by Sandy Pfister's ('70) talented husband, Steve Sellars.



Photo by Lisa Longacre



Photo by Ed Chambers



Photo by Agnes Conaty



Photo by Lisa Longacre



Photo by Lisa Longacre



Photo by Agnes Conaty

## Sunday Afternoon Alumni Family Picnic

From Tony Gentilcore ('73):

**WOW!** What a day, filled with picnic baskets, hamburgers, hotdogs, and chicken from the grill, smiles, laughter and tears of joy, running, sweating, reminiscing, and phone number exchanges. Grandparents, parents, and a multitude of energetic children rode the train, rode the carousel and ran around trying to catch up to the speed of the young ones running everywhere. Such was the experience of more than 50 alumni and their families that enjoyed the Sunday picnic in our own backyard at Wheaton Regional Park. More importantly, as light breezes blew and the rays of sunshine shone, EVERYONE there knew that our Lord was WITH us.

The Health Ministry of St. Andrew's was proud and happy to contribute to the Lazarus Project by providing First Aid services to the alumni of St. Andrew's. Armed with Band-Aids, water, Gatorade, a reclining chair, ointments, and even an Automated External Defibrillator (AED), the Health Ministry provided all-day support at our Wheaton Regional Park picnic pavilion. Prepared for just about anything with some of the top nurses in the State of Maryland in attendance, we were blessed to have only three very minor injuries throughout the entire event.

The Health Ministry of St. Andrew's was established nearly 5 years ago when a small group of ladies from the parish met and decided to use its resources to serve the parishioners of St. Andrews. In this short time, it has developed into a model for other communities to emulate. Just last week, nurses and colleges from all over the country met nearby to hear how parishes run Health Ministries and St. Andrew's was used as an example of excellence. We hope that seeing our ministry in action inspires you to use your talents and skills to volunteer within your current parish. Lead by example!

The theme of the day was clearly "family." The St. Andrew's Parish community, past and present, is truly one big family. Present or not, you were thought of by someone during the day.



Photo by Lisa Longacre



Photo by Agnes Conaty



Photo by Ed Chambers



Photo by Ed Chambers



Photo by Agnes Conaty

## Acknowledgements

The resounding success of this array of weekend events was possible only through the united efforts of a great many people.

First and foremost, thank you to parishioner Amy Yendall, whose generous donation of her expertise as a former professional Reunion Coordinator provided me with wise advice and reassurance throughout every step of this process.

Thank you to each of the class Points of Contact: Rick Ellrod ('67), Bob Greenleaf ('68), Matt Ellrod ('69), Jane Lehr McGrath ('69), Kathy Parlon Hopkins ('70), Dennis McCarthy ('71), Veronica Mozzano Cleveland ('72), Susan Hessmann Simpson ('72), Mary Margaret Sarsfield Regan ('73), Orlando Mozzano ('74), Catherine Cooper ('75), Austin Conaty ('76), Bill O'Rourke ('77), Dolores Murphy Maloney ('78), Jim Schwartz ('78), Andre Taylor ('79), Annmarie Sarsfield Edwards ('79), Nancy Schwartz Glaeser ('80), Don Mullikin ('80), Elizabeth Finn-Annis ('82), Matt Longacre ('01), Christine Regan ('01), Becca Lynch ('02), and Billy Andrakakos ('03). This weekend simply would not have been a success without you.

Thank you to all of those who made the effort to attend and participate in the weekend. Special thanks to those who traveled from out of state. The Class of '71 had an amazing showing for the weekend, with more than 25 classmates plus their guests attending the Saturday Reunion. Special thanks, also, for our alumni faculty who were able to join in the celebration: Father Joe Kleinstuber, Mary Becker, and Jeanne Vicini. Thank you to all those teachers and coaches who could not attend but sent letters for us to share. You each helped make the weekend very special for so many.

Thank you to Barbara Girolami, Director of Liturgy and Music for St. Andrew's, who kindly allowed us to contribute so freely to the program for the Saturday Alumni Mass. Thank you to each of those who served in the Mass, and especially Rick Ellrod ('67), whose stewardship may help to inspire other alumni to find ways share their time and talents within their current parishes.

Thank you to our very special Registration Table helpers on Saturday night, Ellie Sarsfield, Penny Schwartz, Betty Patschak, Lupe (Clow) Lauer, and Bill Taylor. What better way to melt away the years than to be greeted with such warm hugs and smiles from these familiar faces?

Thanks to Austin Conaty, race coordinator extraordinaire. Because of his confident and experienced organization, the Mr. Kline Fun Run/Walk came off more smoothly than I ever imagined. Thank you to Kathy Weaver ('69), who generously responded within seconds to my plea for a sponsor to provide commemorative t-shirts. Thank you to Steve Sellars, husband of Sandy Pfister ('70), whose generous donation of professional artistic talent provided the participants with a perfect memento of the day.

Thank you to each of the St. Andrew's Health Ministry members that shared parts of their Sunday with us. Elizabeth O'Connor, Kate Whelan, Pauline Lynch, Yvonne Miranian, Lorraine Priestley, Maria Jurlano, and Cheryl Tryska ensured that expert First Aid assistance was available to us throughout the day.

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Tony Gentilcore ('73) for his uncanny ability to anticipate needs and quietly fill them. Through his assistance with a variety of preparations, from scanning and printing several photos from the rectory archives for the display boards, to volunteering and recruiting other volunteers from the Health Ministry to provide first-aid support for the Sunday activities, to insisting on meeting me at sunrise on Sunday morning to help shop for picnic supplies, he demonstrated an upbeat spirit and inspiring sense of community that is simply awesome. Special thanks also to Bill O'Rourke ('77), point of contact for his class, whose dependable help throughout the weekend was amazing. After hosting an Ice Breaker cookout at his home on Friday, he somehow managed to be ready to help setup for the Reunion event on Saturday morning, stepped in as last-minute usher at Mass, spent an entire Sunday afternoon cooking over a hot grill at the park, and was among the last to leave only after being assured that there was absolutely nothing more to be done. Special thanks to the fabulous Dennis McCarthy ('71), point of contact for his class, whose enthusiasm, humor, and persistence throughout the process, even from 3000 miles away, served to encourage the tremendous participation of his classmates and demonstrated the awesome power of the St. Andrew's global village.

Thank you to all of those who volunteered time to set up and clean up for the various events, including Damian Wilk ('70), Carlene Weis Harper ('69), Carolyn Costello ('67), Sue Patschak ('74), Mark ('76) and Laura Fangmeyer.

Thank you to parishioner and school parent Scott Lester of Kendrick Co., who supplied the photo albums for alumni attending the Saturday night reunion. Thank you to the Knights of Columbus, Rosensteel Chapter, for providing the wonderful venue and fare for our celebration and graciously accommodating our planning uncertainties. Thank you to parishioners Jean and Matt Sims, who provided the delicious celebration cake. Thank you to Bill Lemon of Disc Inferno, who helped set the nostalgic mood by providing the music for Saturday night.

Thanks to my fellow School Advisory Board members past and present, especially Kathy Bethke Yates ('74) and Patty Costa Gillis ('79), who have helped to build the alumni efforts to the point of celebration.

And finally, thanks to each of the St. Andrew's alumni, whose messages, memories, and photographs shared over the years have reinforced my conviction that St. Andrew's was and remains a very special community. Helping coordinate this weekend to provide you an opportunity to share the same experience has been an absolute pleasure.

Best wishes to all,

Lisa Schwartz Longacre ('74)



Photo by Ed Chambers

Sponsored by the Saint Andrew Apostle School Advisory Board