



Spring and Summer 2006 Alumni Newsletter

SAINT ANDREW APOSTLE SCHOOL

Silver Spring, Maryland

WE'RE PROUD OF OUR ALUMNI!



Serving in Coachella, California Katie, Matt, Mike, & Shantha

Shantha Ready, Saint Andrew's Class of '97, recently earned her bachelor's degree in English and Psychology from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. She has spent the last year as a volunteer with an Americorps-sponsored program called "Holy Cross Associates." The program focuses on four pillars: building community, living simply in solidarity with the poor, examining and strengthening one's relationship with Christ, and serving those that are most in need.

Shantha was placed to work at two agencies. At Aguas del Desierto Counseling Center, Inc. in Coachella, California, Shantha designs and co-facilitates family communication classes. She also is a faith-based community organizer with the Inland Congregations United for Change (ICUC) and primarily organizes youth groups.

Of her Saint Andrew's experience, she remarks, "I am grateful for the spiritual and moral foundation Saint Andrew's gave me. I learned there, at an early age, that the journey is life-long."

Next year, Shantha will begin graduate studies on scholarship at the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in Saint Louis. She plans to concentrate on mental health or family therapy.

Are You Involved in a ministry or community service project that could benefit from involvement of other St. Andrew's Alumni? Contact us at standrewalum@yahoo.com and we will spread the word.

SCHOOL NEWS:

New Graduates. June 3 marked a grand celebration as 56 students received their diplomas and graduated to become the newest Saint Andrew's Alumni. Students have chosen to attend the following high schools this fall:

Academy of the Holy Cross (5)
Connelly School of the Holy Child (1)
DeMatha Catholic High School (1)
Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School (3)
Gonzaga College High School (7)
James Blake High School (5)
John F. Kennedy High School (2)
Our Lady of Good Counsel High School (20)
Saint John's College High School (9)
Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart (2)
Undecided (1)

Outstanding Teachers. Mrs. Kathy Celotto, our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade reading teacher, was honored by the entire Saint Andrew Apostle School faculty as the school's nominee for Archdiocesan Teacher of the Year. The criteria for her selection were based on 1) Formation of Christian character in students 2), excellence in teaching, 3) exemplification of Christian values, 4) evidence of increasing professional standards, 5) effective in working with parents and students, and 6) goes the extra mile as a faculty member. Mrs. Celotto was recognized for her dedication to our students at an award's reception at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center.

Mrs. Toby Batt Heads for the Beach. Mrs. Batt, who has served as a Teacher's Aide at Saint Andrew's for over 20 years, will retire at the end of this school year. "You ask me why I love St. Andrew's?" she asks. "From the first day I became a volunteer mom, I felt a bond of love, friendship, and respect here. You can never have a bad day when faith and love are a part of your job, especially with the smiles, happiness, and laughter of the children."

We are Proud of our Scientists. Saint Andrew's continued the tradition of encouraging budding investigators by again hosting a science fair for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students in January. Numerous alumni volunteers aided the effort by participating as organizing committee members, judges, and mentors. Three Saint Andrew's science fair projects from our sixth grade then competed in the 2006 Science Montgomery in March. Maddy Cuddihy, Caitlin DeSantis, Caroline DeSantis, Maty Dunn, Katy Gillis (daughter of Patty Costa Gillis, Class of '77), Danielle Lembo, and Shane McNally (son of Bob McNally, Class of '71) competed against 6th, 7th, and 8th graders in the junior division, answered questions from many teams of judges, and performed as outstanding representatives of Saint Andrew's. The Cuddihy, Gillis, Lembo project, mentored by Maureen Costa (Class of '73) and entitled Solar Powered Car, won seven awards at the Sunday awards ceremony, attended by Congressman Chris Van Hollen and numerous representatives from government and industry. Shane McNally's project, entitled The Effect of Light on Plant Growth, also received an award. The DeSantis, DeSantis, Dunn project, entitled, "Does Cooking Change the Nutritional Value of Food?" also attracted great interest from fair attendees,



Excerpts from the 2006 Graduation Speech:

Mackenzie Rawls shared memories and expressed her appreciation to family and the school community in her address to her fellow graduates in the Class of 2006.

"As we the Class of 2006 have come together over time, we have formed the most memorable times together... we owe an enormous thanks to our parents...they have chauffeured us all around the county and beyond.... They helped us study for tests and oh, those projects! Our parents have been with us every step of the way....

Miss Kilty, you have led us to become intelligent, independent and respectable young people. Fr. Mike and Fr. Dave, with your religious leadership, you have taught us to become closer to God and we thank you for it. Fr. Dave...thank you for all of your support, and those cool gingerbread houses. We'll never forget them, or you.

...I want to thank all of our teachers... Mrs. Celotto and Mrs. Gormley ... Mrs. (Kritzer) Schultz. She was the most loving woman! Sometimes, when we were in class, she would call one of us down to her office. We would be so nervous, not knowing what we had done. She would say, "Sit down, want some chocolate?" She would just randomly call you down for her favorite chocolates, Rolos, and some conversation.

Mrs. Gill's jokes were the corniest ones and we loved her for them. "A hillbilly came home from college and his pa asked, "Watcha learn at college?" The boy said, "Pi are squared." His pa slapped him upside the head and said, "Pie aren't squared, pie are round." None of us laughed until she cracked herself up! Teachers...you set the foundation of our future. You taught us how to do basic math and now we can find the slope of a linear equation. You taught us parts of speech and now we are turning into writers. Thanks to our teachers, we can go on to high school with confidence...

Many memories...Field Day... the second grade trip to the zoo... Romeo and Juliet..."Born for This"...the music and art show with Mrs. Trigiani ...the the biggest Terps fan in the school (Mrs Sheehan.) Remember the year we moved out of the trailers with Mrs. Siegrist? Silent lunch...now there's a memory we could probably live without! Can crushers and catapults...thank you Mrs. Hochhausler... Everyone will always remember Mrs. Konieczka for her wondrous history trips. Miss Ruthman, we really enjoyed your trip to the catacombs and the pro-life Mass. Mr. Sears, thanks for the pistachio parties. Mr. Mo, how could we ever forget your bell on the parking lot? And thanks for organizing the variety show. Mrs. Batt, you were always there for us. Gracias, Senora Tobar, you've taught us so much. Mrs. Ratcliffe and Mrs. Hosinski, could we have survived without our bandaids and late slips? Studio A was a blast! Thanks Mr. H. Thanks also, to all of our coaches...

Over the past ten years, we have come to know each other a little more each day....Last week, on our last day of school, many of us were in tears, both happy and sad. Don't be sad it's over, be happy that it happened... we are departing and going our own ways, but we will never fully be out of each other's lives. Who knows, you may see one of our classmates on Broadway one day, or perhaps you'll be voting for one of them. Maybe you'll be partners in some business venture. We are the class of 2006, and we are all in this together. We can stand hand in hand and make our dreams come true...I'll never forget you! We're soaring, flying, we're breaking free!"

ALUMNI NEWS:

**"Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."
Matthew 5: 16**

Congratulations to the Class of 2002 who begin new adventures and new opportunities this fall as college freshman. The following lists the colleges where the members of this class have chosen to enroll, as known at publication time:

Boston College (1)	Ohio University (1)
Catholic University (1)	Penn State University, University Park (1)
Cornell University (2)	Saint Francis University (PA) (1)
Fordham University (1)	Salisbury University (1)
Gettysburg College (1)	Shepherd University (2)
Hofstra University (1)	Towson University (2)
James Madison University (1)	University of Delaware (1)
John Carroll University (1)	University of Notre Dame (3)
Marymount in Arlington (1)	University of Scranton (1)
McDaniel College (1)	University of Southern California (1)
Montgomery College (4)	University of South Carolina (3)
Morehouse College (1)	University of Maryland, College Park (6)
Mount Saint Mary's University (2)	Virginia Tech (2)
New York University (1)	Washington College (1)
Ohio State University (1)	West Virginia University (2)

Formation of Alumni Association. We need your help! Through a six-year effort of the School Advisory Board we've reunited and formed a solid network to stay in touch, but the potential for what we can do together as alumni of St. Andrew's School is limitless. Our vast network of almost forty years of graduates now spans the country and beyond. Are you interested in helping set the direction for where we go from here? For more information, or to learn about our next organizational meeting, please email Andrea Morgan at angiedds@aol.com

We Need a Name. As we build our network into a true association of alumni, it occurred to us that we really need an appropriate name. Just calling ourselves "The Alumni Association" is rather dull and unworthy of all that we are capable of becoming. As you remember, thanks to the creativity of Bob Greenleaf (Class of '68), our efforts to reconnect and revitalize relationships among alumni that culminated in our reunion weekend in 2004 were called "The Lazarus Project." But as you know, after Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead at the request of Martha and Mary, beloved friends of Jesus, and after Lazarus took part in the banquet at Bethany that was offered by Simon for Jesus, we hear no more of Lazarus in the Gospels. So what do we call our efforts now as we grow and explore new possibilities? Send us your creative ideas at standrewalum@yahoo.com

NEWS FROM THE FRANCISCANS:

Sister Nena Larocco will celebrate her 50th Jubilee with a Eucharistic Liturgy held on August 12, 2006 at the Motherhouse in Rochester, Minnesota. Sister Nena is currently a 5th grade teacher Saint Bartholomew School in Bethesda, Maryland.

Sister Geneva and Sister Avis complete their 6-year terms on the Administrative Team for the Franciscan Sisters of Minnesota.



Sister Geneva Berns, Associate Minister on the Administrative Team, was the supervisor of Pastoral Care at the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, California from 1990 to 2000 where she conducted workshops, retreats and seminars throughout the United States and internationally. She holds a Masters Degree from St. Michael's College in Vermont, and is a trained pastoral counselor. She is certified as an elementary teacher and a chemical dependency practitioner.

Sister Avis Schons, Associate Minister for the Franciscans, entered the Franciscan community shortly after high school. She worked in education, including being principal of the Franciscan's elementary school in Bogotá, Colombia, social outreach for a parish, and as Director of Catholic Charities - Saint Francis Center in Vista, California, before being elected to the current Leadership Team. She currently serves as the Central Minister for Incorporation and the Rochester Franciscan Life Teams, working with persons interested in joining the Sisters or Cojourners.



Excerpted from http://www.rochesterfranciscan.org/Pages/body/leadership_bios.html

Sister Lorraine Stenger and Sister Dorothy Hansen celebrated their Golden Jubilee at a celebration in Albuquerque, New Mexico in October 2006. Sister Dorothy is a Program Director for a Woman's Shelter there.

Sister Chabanel, who was the school secretary for years, is living in Rochester, MN and is a senior citizen advocate.

Sister Anicetus is still doing well in the Franciscan's health care at their Motherhouse in Rochester, MN.

IN MEMORIAM

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord,
and let perpetual Light shine upon them.
May their souls
and the souls of all the faithful departed
through the mercy of God
rest in peace.
Amen.

We have learned of the death of several members of our Saint Andrew's family since our last newsletter. Please remember each of them and their families in your prayers.

Classmates...

Class of 1971 Richard Michael Gallo (May 8, 2006)

Richard was the son of Anna D. and the late Julius M. Gallo. He lived in Falls Church, Virginia with his wife and two children.

Class of 1975 Catherine Ann Cooper (October 7, 2005)

Catherine was born March 3, 1961, in Dallas, Texas, the daughter of William Sherman Cooper and Marilyn Swanson Cooper. She earned a B.A. in Political Science/French, and a master's degree in agricultural education from Iowa State University. In association with her master's degree, she traveled to Africa with her children in Spring 2005 to teach sustainable agriculture. She developed and implemented curriculum to teach holistic soil management and conservation techniques in Guinea. Research, writing, and ethnographic program planning development were her key contributions into conservation and sustainability education. She spoke three languages, and was a member of Amnesty International and St. Henry's Catholic Church, Belleville. She worked as a program specialist for life adventures for the YMCA of Southwest Illinois. Catherine's life was filled with her love of her three children, family and travel.

And friends...

Mr. John Dattoli (April 1, 2006)
father of Matthew ('96), Meredith ('04), and Anthony (current)

Mr. Ed Chambers (May 19, 2006)
father of Ed ('70), Barbara ('71), Cecelia ('73), Mary ('74), Jennifer ('79),
Matthew ('80), Jim ('82)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Parish Picnic:

The Alumni Association is working together with the entire parish community on plans for a fall picnic, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, September 17. More information to come shortly.

Attention Classes of 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006:

Saint Andrew's is planning lots of activities geared just for you.

- Join other Saint Andrew's teens for a trip to Six Flags on Thursday, June 14 from 2 to 9:30pm. Cost is \$45 includes admission and bus transportation.
- Come enjoy a Barbecue and activities at Saint Andrew's on June 25 with kids from Holy Trinity. Cost is just \$5.
- Join teens from several other parishes in Montgomery County for a Barbecue and Scavenger Hunt hosted by Saint Elizabeth's parish on July 6. Cost is again just 5!

Check the back of church for additional activity fliers and registration forms.

Are you looking for some fun ways to put in volunteer hours to meet your high school requirements? Do you have a special interest in working with teens? Saint Andrew's is looking for some teens and a few adults who are willing to join a planning committee and boost the Saint Andrew's teen program.

For more information on any of these teen activities, please contact Mary Tull at standrewreled@yahoo.com

Mark Your Calendars Now for the Biggest Party Ever:

Saint Andrew's Parish will celebrate it's 50th Anniversary in 2009-2010. Stay tuned for more details.

Our First Alumni Mailing is on its Way:

The Alumni Association will be sending out its first postal mailing this summer. Please complete and return the enclosed survey so you can have input into the planning of future activities and events. Watch for it in your mailbox. If we do not have your home address, there is still time to send it in via standrewalum@yahoo.com

MISCELLANEOUS:

Parish Bulletin. Should you be interested in a Business or Professional ad in the Saint Andrew Apostle Catholic Church weekly bulletin, please call Tony at 1-800-750-7824. What a great way to let us patronize your business!

Share the News. Do you have news you would like to share with the Saint Andrew's Alumni community? Let us know by contacting us at standrewalum@yahoo.com

The Alumni Newsletter will continue to be published by the School Advisory Board to keep you updated on events we think will interest you, and share news of your classmates and your alma mater. Do you have ideas for ways to enhance the newsletter, or want to help out? Contact us at standrewalum@yahoo.com

Sponsored by the Saint Andrew Apostle School Advisory Board