

The Michaelite

A PUBLICATION FOR THE ALUMNAE OF ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY

Annual Class Reunion a Success *50 alumnae from '74; Graduation Years Ending in 4 and 9*

A record crowd attended Reunion 2009 on September 26 at SMA. There were 188 registrants and 187 in the gym, and ages ranged from 15 to 80. The five-hour event included decades reviewed, friendships renewed, and joy ballyhooed.

Mary Moriarty Mullins '49 summed it up in an E-mail sent to the school. She spent the day with her class after a 60-year separation: "The class of 1949 was represented by seven graduates. Amazing. Famous words as we met up, 'I would know you anywhere, you haven't changed'. Then we laughed. I plan to keep in touch and thank you again for a good day."

For the class of '59, it was a golden anniversary. Class chairs Maria Caputo and Ann May were relentless about making people come and their worked paid off: 35 registered. The class sat front-and-center in the gym amidst a bouquet of blue and gold balloons. In '59, those were the school colors; in 1960, they were switched to red and white.

Registrants graduated as far back as 1947 and as recently as 1999. These are the numbers per year. The biggest registration was from '74; it was 50.

Reunion 2009 began at 10:30 a.m. with registration and coffee on the main floor. The school lobby was transformed into a lounge, with photos and keepsakes hanging, baked goods covering clothed tables, and blue couches resting weary bones. The main hallway was guarded by the memorable six-foot statue of St. Michael, towering over all as he did for decades. St. Michael looked happy too.

After coffee and catch-up, there was Mass in the church, followed by cocktails in the gym. Wine, beer, and soda were served by 20-something Erik Guzinski, a professional bartender wrapped in a red cumber bun and bow tie. He brought an easy smile and a fast pour to a very thirsty crowd.

After cocktails, Co-Principal Julia Hartman and Father Myles P. Murphy welcomed the graduates, thanking the organizers and updating all about the school. After they finished, sophomore Ivy Flores sang an a cappella rendition of Amazing Grace, causing the room to fall silent so that even the rafters could hear. Her rich soprano voice filled the space and the 187 hearts.

It was a hungry group of graduates; after Ivy sang, everyone rushed the food line. They loaded up on giant meatballs, breaded fish, potatoes drenched in butter and spices, salad,



Maria Caputo '59 directing class traffic]

and more (much more). They continued to eat until the desert trays were licked clean.

With stomachs filled, class photos began; reunion years ending in 4's and 9's were the focus, with artist Mike Fitelson at the lens. Most shots were taken in the cafeteria, but the class of '74 was so large that it had to be moved outdoors to the church steps. If you are

(Continued on page 3)

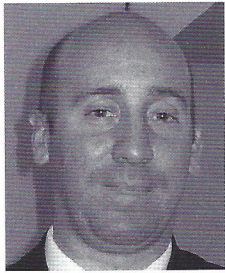


Ivy Flores sings Amazing Grace

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From the Principal: *New Year, Fresh Start*



Mike Duff

Dear Alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends.

It is with pleasure that I am writing you at the beginning of yet another Saint Michael Academy school year. We have had many successes in the past year and we look forward to the challenge of building on those successes. In the spirit of the Presenta-

tion Sisters, we at Saint Michael Academy are committed to helping all of our young woman in discovering those unique gifts which God has blessed them with individually. We do this, not only so that they may succeed academically, but so that they too, may one day bless the world with these gifts in the spirit of Christian love.

The year 2009-2010 is one of change for Saint Michael Academy. We say goodbye to our former principal, Mrs. Clotilde Dillon, who in her short time with us, made a tremendous positive impact. At the same time, we welcome three Dynamic new members to the Saint Michael staff: **Ms. Christina Pastor, Mrs. Micaela Darling and Mr. Mike Radice.**

Ms. Christina Pastor has come aboard to spear-head our Latin program. Ms. Pastor comes to us with a degree in Classical Civilization from Fordham University and is currently studying for a Masters Degree in Religious Studies at Saint Josephs Seminary. She has wasted no time and has already begun to run the after school Latin club!

Mrs. Darling, is our new guidance counselor, and she is likewise working on her master's degree in education (Hunter College). She brings with her tremendous experience working with youth. A part of her job is to ensure that students have a smooth ride choosing (and getting into) the college of their choice. Already, we have had a parade of schools coming to the school to court students.

Mr. Michael Radice has come aboard as Director of Advancement and has already begun breaking records! We had our largest reunion ever on Saturday, September 26th. Mr. Radice brings a wealth of knowledge, an indomitable spirit, and a genuine interest in the future of Saint Michael Academy.

The Dean of Academics, Ms. Julia Hartman, and the Dean of Students (yours truly), are enjoying the challenge of bringing our school through this transition period. We continue pushing our students toward academic excellence while providing them with enriching activities and real-life exposure.

Academically, we have added several new elements. This year, we now have enough computer electives to ensure that students leave Saint Michael with knowledge of MSExcel,

MSWord, Power Point, web design and graphic design. We have also secured a connection with an off site AP (Advanced Placement) Chemistry class; students now receive AP credit in History, English and Science. AP courses are college-level classes taught on high school campuses. They involve significantly more challenging curriculum and more rigorous homework than non-AP classes, and they culminate in a high stakes exam, administered by the College Board on high school campuses in early May.

The WISE financial literacy class was introduced last year and 44 students participated. The world is becoming more financially complex and competitive, and we at Saint Michael want to ensure that our students are savvy enough to succeed.

Our relationship with McGraw Hill and The Associated Press continues again this year, providing real life business skills to many students which can not be taught in the classroom alone.

Technologically, we now have seven new SMART Boards utilized in classrooms. A SMART Board is an interactive whiteboard providing touch control of computer applications and annotation using standard Microsoft Windows applications.

Of course, it is not all about Academics, work skills and technology! We are also excited about the World Dance Fusion Club that has begun under the direction of our English Chairperson, Ms. Halima Al Tiye. A variety of other activities for the students continue, ranging from Science Clubs, to Step Dance, to the Cooking Club. Softball has been added to Basketball, Volleyball, and Track as one of our sports activities and the students are ready to play!

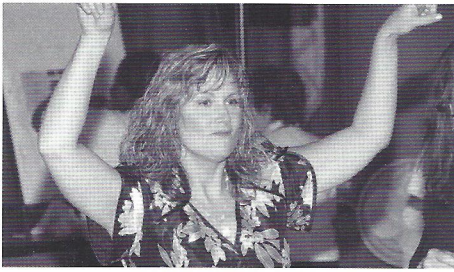
As always, we would like to thank you for your thoughts, prayers, and support as we continue to strive for greatness. We know that Saint Michael Academy is as special to our Alumni as it is to all of us here at the school. We know that you look back on your days here with fondness and we are committed to creating the same memories for our future graduates. God bless you and yours.

In Christ's Love,

Michael P. Duff
Interim Principal/Dean of Students
Saint Michael Academy



Julia Hartman



Bernadette sways with the music

REUNION - Continued from page 1)

curious about the day, go to Mike's website where you can see the shots and buy your favorites. A percentage of each purchase goes to SMA: <http://mikefitelson.zenfolio.com/p328994048> (password MikeRadice). The pictures accompanying this website are his.

While classes were photographed, kitchen-table conversations continued amidst flowers and balloon bouquets. Others danced to the spinning of DJ

Dominic, who offered a lively fair leading to a Congo line, the Jitter Bug, and body shakes. Bernadette Kaufman Broughal '83 enjoyed a solo approach: she made her own dance waving with the flow of the music.

Parallel to dancing were building tours and an ongoing raffle. The raffle generated over a thousand dollars for the school, and made several lucky winners very happy:

Goodbyes die hard, so conversations continued at McGarry's Pub next door. The owner expected 15 people, but he got three times as many, transforming his outdoor courtyard into an SMA waterhole. During the time, contact information was shared, hugs lasted long, and an occasional tear leaked out. As people parted, there were promises to keep in touch – and we certainly hope they are kept.

REUNION 2009 RAFFLE WINNERS

THE WINNER

Joan O'Brian, '64
Madeline Lyncg Sansevere '69
Beth Rooney Pruzer '59
Sandra Ramirez '74
Ines Glick, '64
Marilyn McIntosh Goldhammer '64
Marilyn McIntosh Goldhammer '64

WHAT SHE WON

2 tickets to the Broadway Musical *Hair*
1 artwork by Boston-based artist Karen Frostig
2 *In the Heights* Tickets With Tour, etc.
New Yankees Autographed Baseball
2 Tickets to the New York Philharmonic
2 Tickets to the Chamber Music Society
4 Tickets to Christmas Eve Mass at St. Patrick's

National Achievement Scholar: Senior Gabrielle Rajerison



Among the 160,000 African American students who took the PSAT, SMA senior Gabrielle Rajerison placed in the top three percent nationwide. This achievement earned her the official National Merit Scholarship Program distinction "Outstanding Participant." The gift to Rajerison is that her test scores will be sent

to colleges from coast to coast; they will court her with earnest.

But Ms. Rajerison has made her choices, and is interested in hearing "yes" only from Yale University, New York University, Sarah Lawrence College, Seton Hall University, Kenyon College, Knox College, Hamilton College, and Coe College.

As a student, Ms. Rajerison stars in and out of the classroom. Academically, she has been on the honor roll consistently from the beginning, and is a member of Honora Nagle Society. The Society accepts students who demonstrate strong academic and leadership skills. In November, she will

be inducted into National Honor Society. Her school load includes AP English, Physics, and college level history courses. Ms. Rajerison is also working toward an Advanced Regent's Diploma.

Outside of the classroom, she serves as Development Assistant for Mr. Radice, Vice President of Global Community, member of student council, and works on the prom and year-book committees. For community service, she serves with Go Girls, providing voluntary service to area elementary schools. She also interns at St. Bridgid School and works with Operation Hush, which helps feed homeless people.

Ms. Rajerison is a native of Woodside (Queens), and a graduate of Holy Cross School in Manhattan. She is the daughter of Bakoly Razafrindralambo and Serge Rajerison, immigrants from Madagascar. Also at home are a 9 year old sister and some of her mother's relatives, including a maternal aunt, uncle, and their children. These relatives came to this country to escape political unrest in Madagascar. They want to provide hope and opportunities for their children.

Thank You to Clotilde Dillon

Mrs. Clotilde Dillon, our Principal, resigned this summer to spend more time with her family. Her husband had been ill for some time, and his condition worsened; he needed more of her help. His needs, coupled with caring for two children and working 60+ hours per week here, had become too much. She chose her family; it was a wise decision. Two veteran SMA administrators now share Mrs. Dillon's position:

Julia Hartman, Dean of Academics, and Mike Duff, Dean of Students. In the mean time, Father Myles P. Murphy is heading a search for Mrs. Dillon's replacement. He has interviewed several candidates and is looking for the right one. As soon as a new principal is hired, we will let you know.

Mrs. Dillon was only here for two years, but she accomplished a great deal. She is, and will be, missed.

The Science and Magic of Enrollment



Nilka Rivera,
Director of Admissions

St. Michael Academy, every year, joins 49 Catholic high schools in a quest for the perfect freshman class. Last year most of us took an enrollment hit, thanks to depleted external financial aid, scholarships, and parent wallets.

This fall, we regrouped and held a series of meetings with staff and alumnae to set goals and revise plans. The goal is to enroll 65 freshmen for next fall, which exceeds (by five)

2008-09 enrollment. To accomplish this, we will continue what works and add some elements. New things include revising principals' luncheons, adding open houses, working with the press, and using more teachers, students, and alumnae in the process.

The fall is the height of the recruitment season. We are feverishly selling to prospective students, parents, principals, and teachers. Our activities include an organized flurry of open houses, classroom presentations, school fairs, mailings, principals' luncheons, and Shadow Days. Each is described below.

Open Houses

SMA hosts three open houses: two in the fall, one in February. The fall dates are Saturday, October 24 (1 to 4 pm) and Thursday, November 5 (6 to 7:30 pm.). The February date is the 8th from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Open houses are marketed in four ways: newspaper advertisements; media press releases; mailings to principals, teachers and parish newsletters; and posting on our website and Facebook.

The October event will be traditional; November's will be unique. On October 24, prospective students and parents will begin with orientation in the library, followed by a student-led building tour. It will conclude with a club fair in the cafeteria. The Step Team will perform.

The November event will be thematic, and will include a theatrical performance unfolding through the building. The tour will commence with orientation in the cafeteria, followed by a student-led building tour. On each floor will be a performance tied to the theme, "The Promise for the Future." The "Promise" is what a SMA education can do for you. Messages will be delivered artistically. On each floor, a drama will unfold using art, music, dance, and drumming performed by students, alumnae and other professionals. Following this, guests will visit a classroom to learn about academics.

School Visits

Mrs. Nilka Rivera, Director of Admissions, will visit from 50 to 60 public and Catholic elementary schools to present about SMA to prospective students. Teachers, students, and alumnae will accompany her.

Schools in all five boroughs will be visited. During her 40-minute presentation, Mrs. Rivera will make a pitch about SMA followed by playing a game with the students. The game will take the form of SMA Bingo, where correct answers to questions result in marks on a card and a series of winners. When students get a Bingo, they win a prize.

High School Fairs

Mrs. Rivera also attends school fairs hosted by Catholic elementary schools. The schools invite admissions officers to set up booths that can be visited by students from their school and others. Booths are staffed by school representatives, students, and alumnae; literature and take-aways are distributed. There are about 10 fairs per year.

Mailings

Each year, principals from over 300 area Catholic, charter, and public schools receive mailings from SMA. The first is an invitation to open houses; the second is a package of materials about the school; the third is an invitation to a luncheon. The magic three keeps us in the principal's eye through peak season.

Principals' Luncheons

Last spring, the first-ever luncheon for elementary school principals was held. It was a way to have one-on-one conversations with the persons who steer students to high schools. Last year, 10 principals attended, and were wined and dined by SMA staff. Meals were paid-for by William Kenney, a big fan and an Advisory Board member.

This year, two luncheons will be held: October 27 and November 4. The first will offer a program: elementary school fundraising. Our guest speaker will be Tom Farrell, of Trinity Fundraising Consultants. Trinity is a national consulting firm that helps schools and churches raise funds. The November date will focus on best practices in elementary school admissions. Again, luncheons will be underwritten by Mr. Kenney.

Shadow Days

Throughout the year, SMA makes itself available for school-day visits by prospective students. These prearranged visits involve attaching an 8th grader to a current freshman, and having them walk through a typical day. The exposure helps younger students experience the school in a more personal way. Information about Shadow Days is presented at school fairs, visitations, and open houses.

FOUR WAYS TO HELP

- Promote SMA at your Parish church and elementary school, and among friends and family.
- Engage parents on Facebook.
- Volunteer at open houses.
- Host a principal's luncheon.

How Else Can You Help SMA?

For many with limited funds, a desire lingers to help the school. Cash is needed by SMA, of course -- education does not come free. But you can help in other ways.

Volunteer Time and Talent (and Muscle)

Volunteering your time enables the school to spend more of its money and resources on educating students. It can also give you a sense of personal satisfaction and an opportunity to share your abundance.

Here are five immediate needs. If you have skill in one or more areas, please let us know. We need:

1. one attorney to work with the planned giving program
2. twelve phonathoners for the December and March phonathons
3. one clerical person to keep our database up-to-date.
4. one piano tuner
5. unlimited window-washers

Recruit Students

Every Catholic school, large and small, faces the challenge of filling its ranks with capable, eager students. Recruitment cannot be done by the Director of Admissions alone; it is a group effort and you can help. Here is what you can do:

1. submit articles to your church newsletter about your experiences at SMA
2. talk to principals at your parish elementary school about enrolling students here
3. encourage your children, grandchildren, and your neighbors' children to attend SMA

Encourage Others to Give

You can organize small events to raise funds and to promote the school. You can do these in your home, a local restaurant, your parish church, or elsewhere in the neighborhood. Here are three ideas.

Hold a small dinner party in your home for 10 people and charge \$20 or more per person. Tell them you are raising money for your high school alma mater, and explain why it is important to you. In advance, call Mike Radice, SMA Director of Advancement (212-564-5346), so he can arrange for a school representative to attend and answer questions.

Sponsor a bingo night at your parish church as a fundraiser, and split the proceeds between the church and SMA.

If you are a musical artist or actor, hold a small performance for friends and family in the back room of a bar or club or in your home and charge admission. Make it clear that the money is going to SMA and explain why.

Items We Need

SMA is in need of the following items. If you have one or more of around the house, your place of business, or if you can negotiate a gift, it will be appreciated:

- Two computer scanners
- One laptop computer
- Weight training equipment
- One electric keyboard with midi
- One speaker system
- 20 graphics calculators
- One rug cleaner

Thank You to our over 300 student and adult volunteers, 600 annual fund and scholarship donors and 40+ faculty and staff.
Without you,
none of this would be possible.

Summer 2009 Raffle Winners

Alan Ibbotson.....\$10,000
Joseph and Sally Storch.....\$3,000
Peggy Armellino.....\$2,000
Congratulations and Thank You!!

Manolito

*Global Latin Food
Notable Wine List, Romantic
Lunch, Delivery, Takeout*



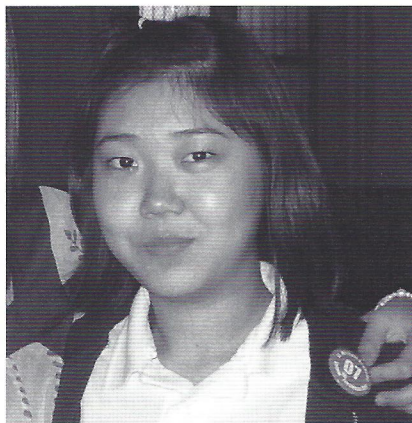
**Sunday - Friday: 11:30am - 11:15pm,
Saturday: 11:30am - 12:00am**

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Maria may be the first woman President of the United States.



Ah Rang may be the one who finally brokers peace in the Middle East.



Tatyana may be the first to find the cure for lung cancer.

...but they won't be if you don't give...

Gifts Unlock Possibilities

Contribute to one of the most historic and student-centered high schools in New York City, and enable our students to write the future.

Now in its 85th year, St. Michael Academy provides high-quality education and prepares students for the future and the opportunities it provides. Of our graduating seniors, 98 percent are accepted into college and most receive scholarships. One of our seniors recently placed in the top 3% nationwide on the PSAT.

Along with our core curriculum, which includes Advanced Placement courses, students learn about entrepreneurship, economic development and environmental awareness. Our job training program prepares them to find part time work in the business sector, and we engage students in volunteerism; it is important for them to be a part of their community.

In addition to classroom learning and community service, St. Michael Academy gives special consideration to leadership, character development, financial literacy, and independent research. We also provide a peer tutoring program with measurable results.

Cash contributions are critical for the day-to-day operation of St. Michael Academy. They ensure academic

standards and help bridge the gap between tuition and the actual expense of the education. The cost of teaching a single student is \$11,000; tuition is \$6,000, which is a competitive rate.

When you give, you are thanked in many ways:

- twice per year newsletters updating you on school activities and alumnae doings
- periodic E-mail announcements about upcoming events and school successes
- a personalized "thank you"
- a copy of the Annual Report, mailed in November
- personal letters of thanks to you from students who received scholarships you enabled
- E-mailed copies of press releases describing major events as they happen

And to yourself, you give the satisfaction of knowing that you helped St. Michael Academy educate young women for the future.

Annual Fund Campaign letters and envelopes accompany this newsletter. Thank you for responding with your contribution. For more information on giving, contact Mike Radice, Director of Advancement, 425 W. 33rd St., New York, NY 10001, 212-564-5346, MRadice.SMA@gmail.com.

Matching Gift Program Doubles Your Dollars

When you give to St. Michael Academy, your employer may match the gift with an equal amount. If you give \$1,000 to SMA, for example, your employer will send us a check for \$1000; if you give \$25, it will send \$25. Many businesses do this as an employee benefit, but sometimes they forget to tell you.

Companies large and small have matching gift programs and even those who are struggling maintain them for the tax

benefit. Here are two ways to determine if your company has a matching gift program:

1. check with your human resources department (or person) to determine if the company matches gifts
2. go to www.easymatch.com for a list of businesses that match employee gifts

If your company has a program, the human resources department will tell you what to do to make the gift happen.

CORPORATIONS MATCHING GIFTS TO SMA IN 2009

COMPANY	SOURCE	CONTACT
Bank of America	Matching Gifts Program	www.bankofamerica.com/foundation/index.cfm?template=fd_matchinggift
Chubb & Son	Contributions Administrator	908-903-2137
ExxonMobil	ExxonMobil Foundation	888-846-4438
Gen Re Corp.	Human Resources	203-328-5635
IBM Corporation	K-12 Matching Gifts Program	914-499-4183
New York Life	New York Life Foundation	888-695-4350
Prudential	Prudential Foundation Matching Gifts	888-554-7846
Tiffany & Co.	Employee Relations Matching Gift Program	800-843-3269

**Annual Fund
CAMPAIGN
2009 Goal:
\$100,000
by December 31, 2009**

Leaving a Legacy to SMA

– *The Heritage Society* –

Through our Heritage Society, St. Michael Academy helps donors with planned giving options to meet financial goals. As you plan for your future and ours, we can provide information to help you do the following:

1. consult an attorney
2. make an estate plan
3. update your estate plans regularly
4. name an executor and alternate executor

5. remember the significance of memorials
6. consider a percentage of what you leave behind rather than a dollar amount
7. consider property gifts

It is never too late to begin. For brochures on estate planning, or to get help for including SMA in your will, call Mike Radice, Director of Advancement, at 212-564-5346.

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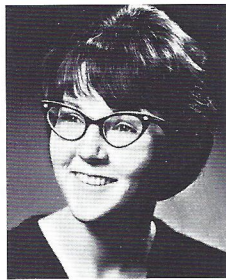
212-643-9797

From ECHOES February 19, 1964

This and That

By Rita Flickner

[Even though this is from 1964, everyone can relate to this story of comic release.] I'm not going to be clever about it; I'm not even going to make any witty remarks. I'm just going to state it in the quite tones of despair and exhaustion: January examinations are over!



Now, exams by themselves don't bother me (well, not much), and I find the month of January completely inoffensive. It is just having them come all together that affects me this way ("this way" means the bloodshot, vacant eyes, the mumbling speech, the charming somnambulistic appearance). And all because of my tender, unselfish heart!

I say this because what upsets me in the January tests is the suffering our teachers go through. Think of them, sitting there, bored and restless, while we enjoy our exams. Think of them, slaving through mounds of paper, with little red pencils their only aid. Think of them, putting those marks on report – no, don't think about that; it's too depressing.

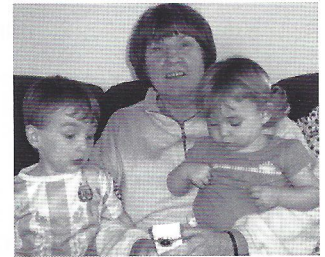
But the worst anguish comes with their disappointment in their students. Here we have a teacher laboring all year to instill in her students some modicum of understanding, some crumb of knowledge. Then comes January – and failure! How can a teacher look upon a student who has just murdered Virgil's Latin or Euclid's geometry, with the same professional fervor as before? Can she ever forget their

assaults upon the English (or Spanish, or French) language? Can she look on their little, upturned faces, and not reflect on the emptiness within? Would it be better to postpone the truth 'til June?

In view of this terrible agony to which our teachers are subjected, I suggest an act of self-sacrifice on the part of us students. Much as it might hurt, let us give up January exams ... Let us take part of their burden on our shoulders. We can comfort ourselves that in forfeiting these precious hours, we are making their world a little brighter.

To further this cause, I have decided to establish another new organization, the Abolish January Exams Committee. Membership applications can be obtained in Room 601 (no mob scenes, please). I am sure that in supporting this worthy endeavor you will once again exhibit the kind spirit you have shown in the past. Remember our motto: "The life you save may be your own."

Rita Cassidy (Flickner) '64 lives with her husband in an apple orchard in a small town in Maine. Most of her life has centered around their home and four children. Her professional interests have been in early education and she has done a lot of volunteer work in schools over the years. These days her most precious title is Grammy.



Alumnae Notes

Dolores Saluga wishes everyone a healthy, happy 2009.

Jane Sergi (Lichte) '50 mourns the loss of her husband, Frank. They were married 50 years. She will keep Sister Assumpta in her prayers. She remembers her as a young girl running from class to class, her habit flying.

Dolores F. Lanzaro (D'Andrea) '51 can't believe it's been 57½ years since she graduated from Saint Michael's, and 17½ years since she retired from Verizon (named NY Telephone Co. when she started there.) after working 40 years. She is enjoying retirement, and was sorry to hear about Sister Assumpta. Sr. taught her French, and Dolores can still sing "Le Marseilles," and can answer most French questions on Jeopardy (Ha-Ha).

Rosemary Shea (Rooney) '51 is glad that Saint Michaels is in such dedicated people's care. God bless and guide you!

Dorothy McKay (Matthews) '51 is awaiting her ninth great grandchild in January. She continues working part time since retirement on May 2006, and was laid off in August 2008 from the Health Department. She is now busier than ever at St. Peter's Church and School with sacramental prep, lunch duty, Eucharistic Ministry, etc. Hi to all the class of '51, Lorette (Dumas Schmidt), Jeannie (Casey Salamoni), etc.

Bernadette McDougall (McVittie) '52 recently lost three sisters in a row: Agnes on May 24, 2007; Martha on March 2, 2008; Grace on December 16, 2008.

Florette Vassall (Henry) '53 is Executive Producer of the Cablevision series

"EVVY" Cultural Interchange. She is a former fashion model, international reporter and writer, and a retired school teacher, having taught in Acapulco, Mexico and Berlin. She is still active as a commercial and print model in television and magazines.

Ann Kean (Handibode) '54 is still employed, now 40 years at Grace Lutheran School as a Pre-K teacher.

Carolyn Stalters (Courtney) '55 traveled with her husband, Tom, to Hawaii in March. She toured Italy in September with her sisters Pat (**Patricia Courtney McGovern '54**) and Mim (**Maryanne Courtney Villien '54**). Carolyn is active in her local library and sings with St. Aldan's choir. She has six grandchildren. The youngest, Maria, is from Guatemala; a true Mayan Princess. **Gerrie Schaedler '55** meets her for lunch several times a year.

Margaret Gallagher (Cullinane) '57 and her husband stopped by Saint Michael Academy for a visit in August 2009. They both looked well.

Colette Balfe '58 lost her son, Eric, to cancer on September 19. She sends a "thank you" from her heart to the Presentation Sisters and our St. Michael's community for all your prayers.

Suzanne Cusack (Boylston) '58 is with her husband Jim enjoying their mission of founding and tending to their 85-bed inpatient treatment center Veritas Villa. Veritas works with those in need of help for chemical addiction and their families (alcohol, drugs and tobacco); it is located in Kerhonkson, NY. Suzanne attributes her gift – being a student at St. Michaels and having been nurtured by the Sisters with a blessed combination of discipline and love – as the reason why the Villa's Women's Treatment Program...for women by women...is so successful.

Dolores Carolan (Boyce) '59 is enjoying her retirement with her husband George. She is keeping busy with the North New Hyde Park Lions, and the Friends of Hillside Public Library. She can't believe it's been 50 years since graduation from SMA!

Frances Kalin's (Marullo) '59 number 11 grandchild arrived September 9, 2009 – a boy, Frances Xavier Holmes. We are blessed.

Nancy Battaglini (Caiafa) '60 has been living in Marietta, GA, for almost 26 years. She and her husband, Mike, are both retired and are doing well. She spent Christmas in New York last year with her daughter and her family.

Carolyn Sadowski (Peters) '60 is loving retirement and being a grandma. She has three children and three grandsons, and recently bought a house in North Carolina near the water. Eventually she will move there when the cold is too much. Anyone near Wilmington?

Catherine Staines (Dunne) '60 is enjoying retirement – has more time for family and friends.

Margaret Becht (Morrow) '61 still keeps in touch with **Christina McCullough Cronin '61**. She is in touch with others as well, and hopes to see everyone at the 50th anniversary.

Patricia Hoyt (Egan) '61 retired after 25 years of school nursing. She has five grandchildren.

Vivian Ackerman (Ciolli) '62 is still searching for her home in the country – in the arms of God – despite downed power lines, ice storms, no heat, and sliding off the road in Massachusetts. She is looking for a "farmette" for her grandsons Matthew and Benjamin to visit.

Ann Brauner (Grant) '62 lost her husband, Ron, of 40 years in December 2008.

Sr. Mary Byrnes '62, PBVM, has been elected to the Advisory Board of The Presentation Sisters to advise on matters affecting the congregation.

Veronica DiVerniero's (Hughes) '62 mother, Veronica Mary Hughes, passed away on November 22, 2008. Please say a "Hail Mary" in her memory.

Donna McClymont (Stever) '62 divides her time between Florida and Connecticut. Volunteer work at The Neighborhood Health Clinic, which serves uninsured, low-income residents of Colliers County, FL, keeps her busy during the winter season. Summers in CT are spent enjoying every minute of her time with her three grandchildren.

Elaine McCormack (Quinn) '62 will celebrate her 65th birthday in Ireland this year along with her three grandsons – Sean, Declan, and Dylan, husband Jim of 47 years, and family, friends and the Irish cousins! Elaine and Jim spend their winters in Sarasota Florida and welcome one and all if you're in the area.

Cheryl Obey (Robinson) '62 says all is well with her. Her daughter, Karyn, is headed to Afghanistan for her second tour there. Please keep her in your prayers. Arnold and I continue to care for her 6½ year-old son, Christopher.

Sr. Pat Reills '62, PBVM, enjoyed her recent sabbatical as a "time of study, refreshment, and renewal." She especially enjoyed visiting parishes in California, Louisiana, and New York, where she has served over the years. Sr. Pat is currently working in Massachusetts where she is a counselor serving at-risk children, adolescents, and families.

Donna Rollman (Doron) '62 is living in Indiana where she works with

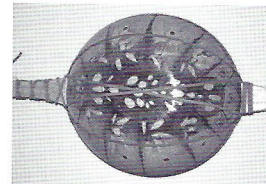
dyslexic children as a phonics tutor. Earlier this year, Donna happily welcomed her third granddaughter.

Kathryn Semel '62 retired April 3, 2008, from Green Chimneys Children's Services as their Special Events Coordinator. It was truly a day of independence. This gave her more time to enjoy her nine grandchildren all just minutes away; number 10 arrived in July! She looks forward to a bit of travel, fun – golf – and great friends.

Bernadette Vath (Pregot) '62 is in her 22nd year of teaching. She teaches special education in Plainfield, NJ. On May 9, she was blessed with Sophia, her daughter's second little girl. Then, on May 12th, she was blessed again with John, her son's first child.

Eileen Garvey (Driscoll) '63 celebrated her 38th wedding anniversary with her husband Dennis in August. Last year, she retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and she and Dennis have since relocated to Tarpon Springs, FL. Their girls, Caroline and Shannon, are pursuing graduate studies in New York and New Jersey.

Linda Blanchette (Bascombe) '64, a pyrographer, is a contributing artist in the Staten Island Museum's "Contact: 1609" commemorating the quadricentennial of Dutch/Lenni-Lenape contact. A sample of her wood-burned work is seen here. The exhibition continues through January 10, 2010.



Theresa Conte's '64 first grandchild, Ella Porcaro, was born to her son Michael and his wife Michelle on April 27, 2007. She is the family's pride and joy.

Rosemarie Gates (Gardella) '64, LCSW, MBA, has been a psychotherapist for the past 18 years, and in private practice in Manhattan (Murray Hill) for the last eight. The uniqueness of each client makes the work enjoyable and challenging. For fun, Rosemarie enjoys theatre and dance, having friends over, singing opera, reading, and creating ceramic sculpture.

Mary Ann Kochman (Cicack) '64 is proud and relieved that her daughter, Maj. Jennifer Gotkin, has returned safely from a six-month tour in Iraq.

Adele Tierney (Mari) '64 had her first grandchild, Gordon Clarke Reiter, born on August 9, 2009. "He's so beautiful."

Margaret Tusinski (Tosiello) '64 has retired from her position as a Special Ed Teacher in Brentwood, New York. She and George, her husband of 43 years, have moved to Mesquite, Nevada. They have two children and "four of the most adorable grandchildren you ever did see".

Jerilyn Charles (Van Cura) '68 works as a Nurse Supervisor at Mercy Medical Center.

Mary Ann Brown (Bedell) '69 was appointed Interim Regent for the entire New York Metropolitan Region. Her youngest son, Brad Schwartz, married Darya Porat on May 31, 2009, and their oldest son, Keith Schwartz, and his wife Heather, had identical twin boys, Alex Taylor and Ryan Daniel, born on May 13, 2009. Their daughter, Dara Brown, is working towards her RN degree and is currently employed in cardiology at Montefiore Medical Center in NY. Their daughter, Leslie Aptekar, and her husband, Matt, and their son, Andrew, are doing well in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. "We are so blessed," says MaryAnn.

Kathleen Egan (Gimblet) '69 and her husband, Ken, relocated to sunny, warm North Carolina and love it! She is still working as an RN in Pediatric Practice and Ken is fully retired (he worked as a NYC Police Officer and stagehand). They were excited to become first-time grandparents in April 2009 to a baby girl! All their kids still live up North, so they make many trips still to the NYC area! If you are in the area (NC) come on in for a visit!

Alexandra Rago (Cebrij) '71 is currently a Director in the Facets Programming Area at the TriZetto Group located in Union, NJ. Her son, Andrew, is 22 years old. She remembers her classmates and teachers at St. Michael's very fondly and attributes her success to what she learned at St. Michael's Academy.

Marilyn Smith (Guzman) '71 recently retired after 34 years with the NYC Department of Education. She began her career as a teacher, then went on to become an assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and ended her career as a Network Leader. She is also grandma to Justin age 8.

Marie Welborn '71, and her husband of 23 years, Brian, continue to live in the

Twin Cities area of Minnesota; however, her daughter, Erica, attends college in New York State at Cornell University, Marie's alma mater. Marie has her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Minnesota and practices in Minneapolis.

Barbara Nugnes (Murphy) '72 is still married to Frank and living in New Hyde Park, NY. She is still working for St. Vincent CMC Home Care. Her daughter Krissy graduated from Queens College with a BS in Physical Education Teaching. Krissy is starting at Adelphi University for her MS in Health.

Amy Pawliw (DiNucci) '73 – to Cathy Lewis McQuade '73 from Amy DiNucci: How are you? It's a small world. Amy's nurse manager was Cathy's Freshman sister, Joan. Amy discovered this while she was showing her yearbook to her daughter. Cathy even signed her yearbook, but they have no recollection of each other!!

Lorraine Barros '74 would like to hear from her fellow classmates, and also her Freshman sister Catherine Americo. Please E-mail Lorraine at ElleB4444@yahoo.com.

Brenda Siragusa (Gormley) '74 has moved to Florida.

Diane Cervasio (Bossone) '75 moved to Bucks County, PA, with her husband, Mike, and children Olivia 16 and Austin 7. She loves PA! and would like to get in touch with any alumni in the area. Email her at DILIVAUSE@comcast.net.

Lorrie Nordstrom (Diffley) '78 has three grandchildren. Her daughter had a boy and her stepdaughter had a girl. She would love to hear from friends at Lornord@aol.com. Life is good!

Mary O'Grady '79 works for the New York City Fire Department as a Case Manager Nurse. She lives in Park Slope, Brooklyn, with her daughters Molly 16 and Courtney 14.

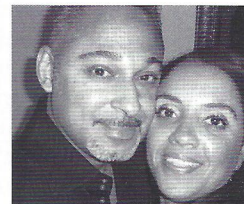
Christie Colon '81, SPHR, is the Director of Human Resources at John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY). She resides in Long Island, NY.

Patricia Gil '84 graduated with great memories of St. Michael's. She is currently living in New Jersey, and is a school administrator in NYC, and has a 7 year-old daughter. She sends a big "hello" to all her St. Michael's friends from back then.

Robin Bock '86 graduated from the College of New Rochelle with a Bachelors of Science degree in 1990. After living in New Rochelle, NY, for over 10 years, she moved to Germantown, MD, in 2003. She worked as an Application Administrator for Avon Products, Inc., in Rye, NY, for 10 years. She now works for the Department of Health and Human Services in Rockville, MD, as a Management Analyst. Her partner, Jarice, of three years, is the love of her life.

Mimi Eng '86 stopped by the school for a visit.

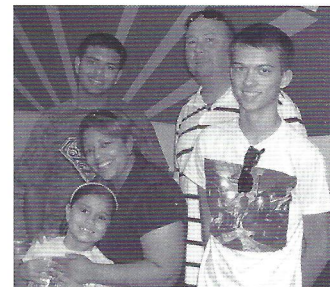
Jacinta "Cindy" Acevedo-Feliciano '86 is living in Boca Raton, FL, is married and has an 11 year-old daughter. Please look her up on Facebook.



Cindy Acevedo Feliciano and her husband.

Ana Maria Bencosme '87 has lived in Florida and Maryland since graduating. Currently, she lives in Fort Lauderdale and her field of concentration has been Property Management. She is divorced and has two beautiful children. Her son, Victor, is 18 years old and her daughter, Xenia, is 15 years old. She also has two precious cats.

Nilsa Vera (Lanzot) '87 has been living in Tampa, FL, for almost 14 years now and although she misses her friends and family in NYC she loves living in Florida. She's a CCT-Paramedic working mostly with critical care patients, and is a single mom of two wonderful children (18 and 7). She hopes this finds everyone great, and thank you to all the girls from '87 (and Sheila Ilundain '86) that were able to share her birthday at the South Street Seaport.



Nilsa, her children, and boyfriend.

Mayra Molina (Rios) '90 resides in NYC with her husband and two young daughters. Anyone wishing to keep in touch can find her on Facebook under her maiden name.

Elizabeth Soto (Cisse) '90 is currently working at NYU Langone Medical Center in the Otolaryngology Department. She has been a Medical Office Administrator since 2000. She also has an import/export business based in Ivory Coast, West Africa. She travels back and forth from Harlem to Ivory Coast! Elizabeth is married with two children, Desiree (freshman in college) and Abdulai (6th grader).

Blanca Vasquez '93 graduated from Marist College with a Bachelor's degree in Communications (Theater and Radio/TV/Film). She is currently a working actress in voiceovers and educational theater. She has done audio-books, promos and commercials like NY Lotto, Target, Kohl's, and others. For the past six years she has toured children's bilingual musicals with Society of the Educational Arts (SEA). She has also been a teaching artist with such institutions like Boys & Girls Harbor, New Perspectives Theater Co., as well as with SEA. In addition to acting, she has worked as an arts administrator.

Kesha L. Washington '94 is a Senior Branch Manager with M&T Bank and lives in Rochester, NY, with her 2 year-old son Jordan. She is a member of Delta

Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and also sits on the board of the Mental Health Association. She is currently training to run a half marathon (13.1 miles) as a member of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Team in Training."

Charlene Feliciano (Vargas) '97 was married in 2007 to Jose Feliciano, whom she dated while she was in high school. For the past four years she has been in the mortgage business and works for JP Morgan Chase-Commercial Term Lending Department. Of late, things have been good, considering all the turmoil of the past year. She also has gone back to college and is now attending Westchester Community College. She has lived for the past three years in Rye, NY, and is looking to reconnect with my classmates of '97.

Karolyn Abreu '99 is head of the International Customer Sales department for a Ward's Natural Sciences, a company that supplies all necessary scientific equipment to schools, universities, distributors, and governments. Upon graduation from the Rochester Institute of Technology, she remained in Rochester, helping expand the company worldwide. A fond hello to all '99 alums.

Natasha Pierre '02 is in Graduate school at Cambridge College getting her Masters in Mental Health, Addiction and Trauma Counseling. She is also doing internships in her future field and enjoys this work very much. In addition, she currently works for Bank of America in Philanthropic Management doing Product Management. She is also in the process of getting writings of hers published in a few magazines and publications. After graduating from Northeastern U. she decided to stay in MA and live in Somerville, MA.

Alba Dodaj '09, recipient of a Judge Chas. J. Vallone Scholarship, is congratulated at the awards ceremony by members of the Astoria Civic Assn. Board of Directors, Brenda Schiesser Andrlle ('60) and Mary O'Hara ('62). Alba is currently a freshman studying finance and economics at Baruch College, CUNY



Brenda Schiesser Andrlle, Alba Dodaj, and Mary O'Hara at the awards ceremony.

In Memoriam

Rita Sullivan '37.

Claire Cappiello (Geary) '40

Dorothy Hayden (Bauer) '42

Charles Gannon '43 (grammar school)

Kathleen Varcos (Logue) '51

Elizabeth Thornhill (Coleman) '52

Doreen Schuppel (Twomey) '55

Loretta Bernardo (Stapor) '57

Class of 1959: As part of class reunion planning, the class chairs and development office reviewed the list of those who were no longer with us.

Marianne Campagna

Sr. Nora Cronin

Dorothy Milano DeMaria

Barbara Murnane Lunz

Norma Muniz

Eileen Veronica Foy Puhekker

Anna Marie Baglino Ruzzo

Patricia Lopez (O' Connor) '62

Nancy Martino (Mazzarella) '64

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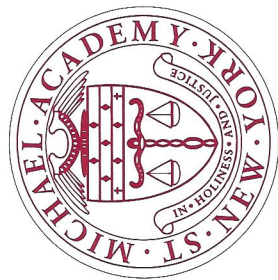
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