

*"Before us lies the timber, let us build . . ."*

# TIMBERS

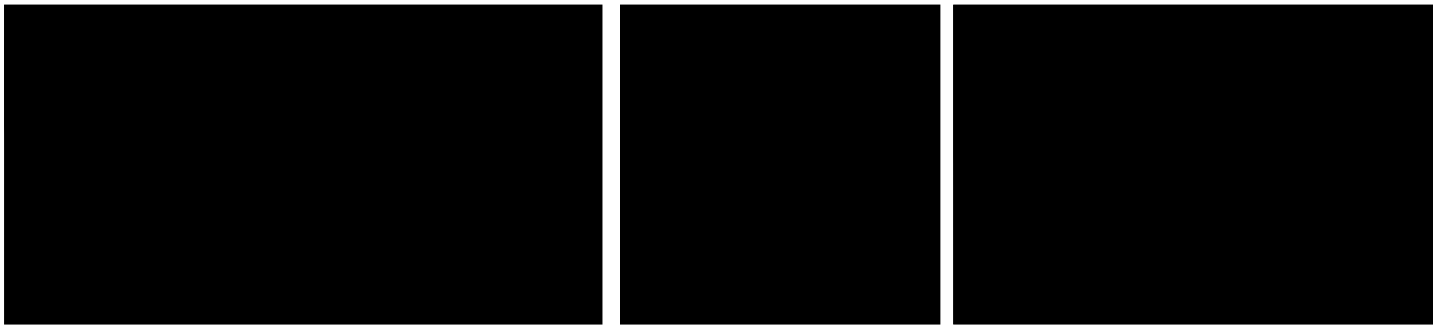


St. Gregory the Great High School

Summer 2008



## Wall of Fame



Graduation '08, It's a Wrap

### PROTÉGÉS ON PARADE - A "VIRTUAL" WALK!

The brainstorm of program director, Suzanne Stone, the "virtual walk" video generated quite a buzz in Chicago and St. Gregory's neighboring community. With the professional expertise of eight-time Emmy award winner Ben Hollis (WTTW's "Wild Chicago") the video followed the protégés to their internships, interviewing part-



## A LEGEND IN HER OWN TIME

On Saturday, May 10, Sr. Mary Pierre Faber reached the venerable milestone of 100 years! While Sr. Mary Cornille '61 swears that the Class of '52 was Sr. Pierre's favorite, there are many who would dispute that as nonsense saying theirs was her favorite class and *she was their favorite teacher!*

Being in a wheelchair does nothing to daunt Sister's sparkle, spirit or interest in life. She enjoys crossword and jigsaw puzzles and delights in sharing favorite stories and memories.

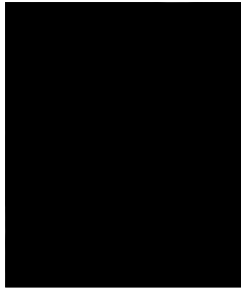
On Sunday, June 15, Sister Pierre celebrated her jubilee recognizing 80 years as a Sister of Christian Charity! She was in her glory, again the center of attention as she read aloud from the many, many cards of heartfelt sentiment received to mark this rare and sacred occasion.

In a recent conversation, Sr. Virginia Kuhn, principal of SGHS from 1964 to 1967, spoke fondly of Sr. Pierre saying she has them laughing every 60 seconds!

Cards and letters may be sent:

Sr. Mary Pierre Faber

Sacred Heart Convent | 2221 Elmwood | Wilmette, IL 60091



Sr. Mary Pierre enjoys cake during her 100th birthday celebration.

**Beatrice Berteau Carolan, MD '43** died peacefully in her sleep with her husband by her side on March 12, 2008. Beatrice pursued medicine during a time when women were a distinct minority. She earned her Doctorate of Medicine from Loyola in 1952. The day after graduation from medical school she married her medical school classmate John J. Carolan MD. They were married for 55 years and retired in Nevada City in 1989. Beatrice loved traveling, dancing, interior decorating and discussing politics. She had a passion for high heels and the San Francisco Giants.

**Thomas "Mike" Egan '61**, passed away June 3, 2008 in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, after a long illness. Mike attended both St. Gregory grammar school and SGHS, where he was captain of the basketball and baseball teams. One of the better athletes produced by St. Gregory's, he developed a deep appreciation and love for sports and the benefits they provide children. For 30 years, he built parks and playgrounds and did site development for Milo-Gem Corporation in order to make the world safer and better for children.

Mike and his wife Debbi moved to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico several years ago and opened Choco Banana, in a



## A BEQUEST FROM THE FINISH LINE IN HEAVEN!

**Mary Ann Seifert Schoenfeldt '48** lived an unconventional life to say the least. Though she entered the convent and taught school for many years she also left the convent, married and at the side of her husband Creighton earned a reputation as an uncanny judge of horseplay at the track!

In his book Horseplayers: Life at the Track, Ted McClelland writes, "One of the best handicappers I know is an ex-nun who married a horseplayer. Mary Schoenfeldt goes to Mass every day, but one afternoon a month her husband Creighton drags her to the racetrack. Every year she made a chart 'grading' each of the Kentucky Derby entrants. In 2003 her method pointed her to ten winners!" Baffling and unheard of!

Over the years, Mary gave much of the money away to a host of favorite charities. In April, a year after her death, St. Gregory received a bequest from Mary's estate in the amount of \$63,000!

In 2002, Mary returned to SGHS for the benefit performance of "Late Nite Catechism." A tiny lady with a mighty presence she was nearly overwhelmed in her oversized red St. Gregory sweatshirt, "a gift", she said, "from Mr. Bearden". She was delighted to be back and spoke with a number of people sharing stories and laughter in her old stomping ground.

In the 1948 "Twig" version of the Timber yearbook, Mary wrote of the death of Msgr. Klasen, "In contemplating our Timber - St. Gregory High - we find that when the heart of a tree dies, life is cut off . . . yet our tree lives on nourished by the memories he left behind."

Thank you Mary Seifert Schoenfeldt, Class of 1948! We are so grateful for the memories that compelled you to include St. Gregory in your will. Your generous gift will go far to nourish the vitality, the students and the "timber" of your alma mater even 60 years later. God Bless You!

**\*OF SPECIAL NOTE:** A question often asked about estate planning is, where do I begin? The answer lies in the heart. People concern themselves with estate planning for two main reasons: first as an expression of gratitude and secondly to make a difference. When it makes sense to our families, a gift remembering SGHS is an opportunity to say thank you to God for the gifts of faith and the foundation laid here that supported success. God lavished blessings on us beyond what we could ever deserve. Estate plans can be a reflection of the values we hold dear. Most of us have a deep-seated desire to leave a mark on this world. When we pass an important value on to a younger person we are nourishing the tree, the "timber" that is St. Gregory High School.

We thank you for the loyal support you've provided over the years and encourage your prayerful reflection. Consulting with your family and a trusted attorney is the best place to begin. The Development Office at SGHS welcomes your inquiries.

\*Excerpted with permission from Rich Goode, Director of Planned Giving

## Happy 65th Birthday Party



(left) "Pokey" Prim and neat, zealous mission leader, active staff member (right) Sister, teacher

# Alumni Updates

## CLASS OF 1943

**Howard Helfrich** lives in Arlington Heights and is a retired basketball coach for Earlham College and Glenbrook North HS. He is an alumnus of Oberlin College where he was exposed to great culture and music. At 83 he remains active, serves on the Board of the Northbrook Symphony and says his personal claim to musical fame is, "I am a three fingered player on a twelve string guitar!". He also plays tennis twice a week. He remains in touch with **Harry Trausch '43** and a few other alums including **Bernadette Schiller Giese '43**.

## CLASS OF 1944

**Vivian Leonard Weber** is wondering why the class never had a reunion. Anyone willing to organize one?

## CLASS OF 1945

**Bertha Dominik Blaha** and her husband celebrated their 61st anniversary in October.

**Mary Bechtold Weifenbach** has been living in Arizona for two years. In May she and her husband celebrated their 59th anniversary. Their two sons also live and work in Phoenix.

## CLASS OF 1946

**Vera Angelini Muldoon** is "blessed" with six children and their spouses, 21 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

## CLASS OF 1948

**Joan Raef Francois** is looking for a 60th reunion with the class of '48.

## CLASS OF 1950

from **Ray Thomas**: "I was really surprised as I was given the Sportsmanship Trophy for this Session. I think I got rewarded for coming back and making all sessions after the new hip and knee. They knew I was struggling and I was but kept improving for which I am very happy."

**Carol Riley Liermann** still works at the Marytown Retreat Center in Libertyville, IL.

## CLASS OF 1954



**Pauline Panerali Messier** of Pauline's Restaurant fame (1754 W. Balmoral, Chicago) is a member of the Norridge Those Were The Days Radio Players. She is pictured in a

**Bianchi, Bill Kane and Frank Corbett** at Lou Malnati's. He's looking forward to the 50th in 2011!

**Thomas Krull** is a realtor in Phoenix after 35 years of human resources in Chicago.

## CLASS OF 1964

**Diane Ogle Dulay** is "retired and loving it."

## CLASS OF 1972

**Connie Krueger Jacobson** and her husband are expecting their first grandchild in August '08.

## CLASS OF 1973

from **Mary Belle McQueen Gentry**: "25 years here in Massachusetts and I still love my Chicago, da Bears and St. Greg's! Working for Bose Corporation. Empty nest now with chemist daughter Britt working and living in Boston and finance guy son Keith in San Diego."

## CLASS OF 1974

from **Ellen McKay Peronto**: "Hello from NE Wisconsin! I celebrated my 30th anniversary of nursing from St. Francis Hospital School of Nursing. I'm a nursing supervisor for an outpatient orthopaedic clinic. In 2003 I married Bob Peronto and we have eight kids between us. I wonder how the Class of '74 is doing. Did we miss a reunion?"

## CLASS OF 1985

**Diana Luna Hickson** and her husband welcomed Julia Marie on October 26, '07. She joined her 11-year old brother and 6-year old sister.

## CLASS OF 1995

**Josh Norman** is studying to be a pastor at Moody Bible Institute and working as a waiter.

## CLASS OF 1999

**Eric Urbanski** is a federal agent working in Wichita, KS.

## CLASS OF 2003

**Liam O'Brien** is studying to be a social worker at Truman College and working as a barista.



## Reunions in the Making

### CLASS OF 1952

Class members gathered for lunch in April. They had such a good time that plans are in the making to meet for supper on Wednesday, October 15. Alumni interested in attending should get in touch with **John Lee** at [sweenylee@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sweenylee@sbcglobal.net).

### CLASS OF 1953

The 55th reunion is Saturday, September 6 at the Wellington of Arlington Heights. Contact **Jean Winandy Evinger**: [jeane35@juno.com](mailto:jeane35@juno.com)

### CLASS OF 1958

The class will celebrate 50 years on Saturday, September 27 at the Fairway Banquets in Niles. Contact **John** or **Mary Beth Teister Nilson**: [The.Nilsons@comcast.net](mailto:The.Nilsons@comcast.net) or 773-334-0532.

### CLASS OF 1968

The 40th reunion is Saturday, October 4, at Monastero's on Devon. For more information, please contact **Jeanette Giese Schneider** at 815-929-0038 or [schneidersoxfans@comcast.net](mailto:schneidersoxfans@comcast.net), or **Mary Ann Green** at [grenie0823@yahoo.com](mailto:grenie0823@yahoo.com).

### CLASSES OF 1970 - 1979

**Attention ALL 70's Grads!** Do-It-Yourself 70's Reunion - Saturday, September 6. The venue has been reserved, now it's up to you. Spread the word to your fellow classmates about this "All-70's Bash!" It's BYOB and food! Come to Grove 6 at Bunker Hill Forest Preserve. Contact: **Anne Clark Calascibetta** at [annemcalas@aol.com](mailto:annemcalas@aol.com).

### CLASS OF 1988

For 20th reunion plans contact **Sean Quigley**: [metalrag@yahoo.com](mailto:metalrag@yahoo.com)

## ALUMNI . . . IN MEMORIAM

**Beatrice Berteau-Carolan, MD '43**

(03/12/08)

**Thomas Vogt '53** (04/09/08)

**Estelle Matheson Neas '56** (05/27/08)

**Walter Geary '58**

**Thomas Egan '61** (06/03/08)

**Ross Riley '61**

**Virginia Schambari '61** (02/18/08)

**Br. Robert Ruhl '65** (02/02/08)

**Donna Jones Galetka '67** (12/07/08)

### FAMILY OF ALUMNI

Sister of Mary Berteau Carr '41

## St. Gregory - On the Move and In the News!

### Teacher Travels to Russia on Fulbright-Hays Scholarship!

Breanne Goldman was so fascinated with Russian culture and history in grade school that she was inspired to minor in Russian Studies in college. Traveling to and studying in Russia has been one of her major life goals. Awarded the Fulbright-Hays Scholarship Abroad by the University of Chicago, Breanne will join a group of 12-15 educators from across the country to study the ways in which Americans have learned about Russia through myths and media stereotypes. They will travel to Moscow, St. Petersburg, Vladimir and Murom which will also include a homestay component. Highlighting their journey will be visits to St. Basil's Cathedral, the Kremlin, the Bolshoi Ballet, Lenin's Tomb as well as the Hermitage Museum and Peterhof in St. Petersburg. Based on such experiences, Breanne will put together a comprehensive curriculum to bring back to SGHS in the fall.

### St. Gregory the GREEN? Veggie Power Fuels School Bus!

Opportunity knocked on the door of faculty member Charlie Pierce with his acceptance into a master's program at Eastern Washington University. Spurred on by environmental awareness and the rising cost of fuel at a time when life demanded a cross country move, Mr. Pierce decided to convert his vehicle to run on straight vegetable oil. With a cadre of keenly interested student volunteers to help, he accomplished the 35-hour task on schedule and drove off into the sunset. SGHS is sorry to lose Mr. Pierce; since October he filled the indispensable position of ELL (English Language Learning) teacher to the eight Catholic Charities refugee students accepted from such diverse countries as Myanmar, Burundi, Congo, Sudan and Iraq.

### Religion Teacher Awarded Scholarship to Study in Israel!

"Bearing Witness Advanced" is a unique professional development opportunity for Catholic school educators from across the US. This advanced extension of Bearing Witness allows educators the opportunity to learn first hand from resident scholars while they are afforded the opportunity to visit sites sacred to both Jews and Christians. After completing last summer's ADL course, Mr. Sieve was inspired to create a Bearing Witness course at St. Gregory. In all his classes he addressed the privileged and ancient connection between Judaism and Christianity thereby opening dialogue among students, dispelling myths and intolerance and creating a bridge towards respect and understanding. While in Israel, educators will visit the official memorial to the Holocaust and hear from religious and government leaders including the Papal Nuncio, kibbutz members, an Arab affairs correspondent and the Director of the Interfaith Encounter Association. Brian, along with other participants will attend Mass at the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and the Mount of the Beatitudes. They will visit holy sites in Galilee and the Old city of Jerusalem including the Western Wall. A highlight will be celebrating Shabbat with an Israeli family in the holy city of Safed.



**167 W. Bryn Mawr Avenue Chicago IL 60630**

