

ALUMNI ARROW

NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2023

ED POWE '58 NAMED FRANKFORT, KY NEWSMAKER OF THE YEAR

Ed Powe '58 was selected by his hometown newspaper, The State Journal, as Frankfort, Kentucky's "Newsmaker of the Year" for 2022. The award was the icing on the cake for Ed, who says, "2022 was a good year!" In fact, it was a standout year for him. Ed is the co-founder and president of Focus on Race Relations: Frankfort (FORR), an advocacy group whose mission is to "increase awareness and to affect positive change around race-related issues." FORR was founded in 2017, after Ed and others in his community felt called to more actively address racism in the wake of the violence in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Ed and FORR spent about 5 years working to develop relationships and expand FORR's reach. In June of 2022, FORR hosted the first official celebration of Juneteenth by the city of Frankfort. The well-attended event was successful in meeting one of the main goals of FORR, which is bringing people together in order to create change. The four-day celebration included an essay contest, a 5K run, speakers, panel discussions, a silent auction, food vendors, shopping booths, a movie screening, music, and performances. There was also a family fun day with crafts, train rides, a bounce house, an obstacle course, and a walking course with 70+ signs highlighting Black history in Franklin County. As Ed notes on the FORR website, "the entire community, including local government, businesses, financial institutions, schools, churches, community individuals and community organizations pulled together to make the Juneteenth event educational and fun at the same time. Proving once again that we are 'better together.'"

Ed often repeats this idea, "Everything we do, we do it better together." FORR worked together with several partners for several years in order to install a historic marker at the site of a bridge in Frankfort where two Black men were lynched in separate incidents over 100 years ago. The goal was to honor



Photo courtesy of FORR Frankfort, Ed Powe

the lives of Marshall Johnson and John Maxey, who were abducted from their jail cells and hanged, dying without due process and with no one ever held responsible. The dedication ceremony, which was held in October of 2022, was attended by Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear and Frankfort Mayor Layne Wilkerson, as well as many other local dignitaries and church leaders.

When the historic marker was dedicated and unveiled, it marked the completion of a three-part project FORR worked on with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) of Montgomery, Alabama. The first part was the essay contest for high school students that FORR sponsored as part of the Juneteenth celebrations. The second part involved FORR creating memorial containers for both Johnson and Maxey, which are filled with dirt from the bridge site and labeled with their names. Both containers are now part of the collections at EJI's museums in Montgomery.

Ed fondly remembers his days at St. Sebastian. When he was young, his family moved to Akron

(continued inside)

ALUMNI UPDATES

CLASS OF 1956

Jean Metzler is a retired geologist living in Cuyahoga Falls.

CLASS OF 1959

Peter Baldacci and his wife, Donna, are living in Reno, NV after Peter's retirement in 2020. Peter was a pilot in the Air Force until 1972 when he went into the building industry, building single family homes in the Bay Area of California.

CLASS OF 1960

Thomas Fuller and his wife, Nancy, live in Akron and have five children ages 34-47: Allyson Felo, Ryan, Benjamin, Steven, and Megan. Tom is retired from active employment as of September, 2021, but he is serving as a consultant to his former employer, Alpha Phi Alpha Homes, Inc.

Leonard Vanko, who is retired from Goodyear, recently moved permanently to Venice, FL with his wife, Marilyn.

CLASS OF 1963

Nick Kryah wrote in and shared many fun memories from his school days. "Growing up, St. Sebastian was a second home to my family. All 7 of us kids graduated from the school. My dad was a scoutmaster and all 3 of us boys were scouts. My mom taught there for a number of years. My parents were very active in the parish, Knights, drama club, etc. On that little cafeteria stage I was a shepherd in the Christmas play in second grade. ... We shepherds ate ALL the Christmas cookie 'props' in the first school show, so it looked like there would be none for the evening family performance. Somebody saved the day, but the shepherds were relegated to the 'non-eating' part of the stage. The angels and Magi (who didn't pig out with the shepherds) were allowed to have a cookie in the evening performance. I was in other 'pageants' on that stage, the St. Patrick's Day play, Scout skits, something I recall about Ohio history... Anyway, fun memories of recess on the brick parking lot, walking home for lunch, playing football, camping with the scouts, heading to Forest Lodge with my skates after school, serving Sunday Mass, the creepy statue of St. Sebastian in the dark hallway stuck full of arrows, and of course Msgr. Zwisler and ALL the teachers I had in those 8 years, from Sr. Veronica to Sr. Mary Peter, and of course, Mr. George Gullis (sp?) the only male teacher around. Somebody



Photo courtesy of Yana Hotter

PLEASE SEND US YOUR MEMORIES

We love to hear from our alumni!

Do you have a story about:

Class field trips, such as Camp Christopher?

Valentine's Day classroom parties?

Favorite memories from International Festival?

Email your memories to alumni@stsebastian.org or contact Kathy Holaday at 330-836-2233 ext. 113.

We published this picture in the last issue of the newsletter, asking if anyone could help us identify the year or any of the servers in this undated photo from the parish archives. Patricia Garrett Lengacher '66 thinks the second to last server in this picture, the boy with his full face turned toward the camera, may be her brother, Tim Garrett '59. Do you recognize anyone? If so, please contact us at alumni@stsebastian.org or 330-836-2233 ext. 113.



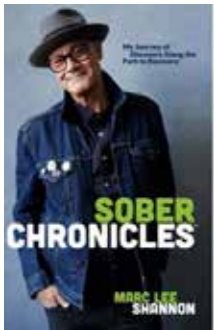
Nick Kryah '63, *continued*

thought he could tame the all-male 7th grade class (Miss Leahey had the girls)...but, no, that didn't work. (And Miss Leahey had similar 'success' with the girls.) Somehow we all survived."

"It's been lovely to receive the Alumni Arrow and catch up on some of the 'doings' in my old stomping ground. I graduated from SSS in 1963 and went on to Hoban and then left Akron for Webster College in St. Louis in 1967...I've been gone a long time. Most of that time I've been a theater professional, touring the US, Europe, and Asia. I 'retired' eight years ago but find myself being lured into special projects: some playwriting, some directing, acting, and, most recently, designing... I often think back to being onstage in the old cafeteria in a St. Patrick's Day play and performing my first REAL role in 'The Stolen Prince' for the CYO in the same space. Wow. The roots of my career laid out a long time ago at SSS." To read more about Nick, visit this blog on Metro Theater Company's (St. Louis) website: metroplays.org/blog-2020-2021/kryah.

CLASS OF 1972

Patricia Hardt Donaldson retired in 2020 as a public school teacher and dietitian. She and her husband, Bob, who were married at St. Sebastian Church in September of 1981, have two children: Joseph (40) and Brian (38). She writes, "Although we live in New York's Hudson Valley, we now enjoy retirement with our children and grandchildren, who also live nearby. We spend summers in Cape Cod and winters in Englewood, Florida."



CLASS OF 1973

Marc Lee Shannon released his first book, "Sober Chronicles: My Journey of Discovery on the Road to Recovery" on Nov. 10, 2022. The book is a collection of essays that were originally published in "The Devil Strip," a weekly Akron newspaper, from 2019-2021 as part of his monthly Sober Chronicles column. To celebrate its release, Marc, who is a long time guitarist and singer-songwriter, headlined the 2022 My Recovery Day Jam on Nov. 12 at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, an event that featured sober musicians sharing their messages of hope. "Sober Chronicles" is available from Amazon as well as Marc's website, www.marcleeshannon.com.

CLASS OF 1975

The Class of 1975 gathered over the weekend of October 14-15 for a mini-reunion. **Jackie DelMedico Paparella**, who helped organize the event, reports that they had a great time! A small group met up for drinks on Friday night. On Saturday, several alumni took a tour of the school, and many walked over to Forest Lodge afterwards to compare skating stories. Saturday night, approximately 27 class members, plus many spouses,



met at the Holiday Inn in Montrose for appetizers, drinks, and lots of stories. Jackie says, "We really had a blast and decided we would try to get together more frequently. Maybe even before our 50th anniversary, which is right around the corner!!" (Note: Several people left before this group photo was taken on Saturday night.)

CLASS OF 1982

Melissa Neman has three children in their 20s: Taylor, Benny, and Zack. She works as a Care Coordinator for Kendal at Home. She writes, "I'm enjoying planning my daughter's wedding, which will hopefully take place next summer! I also enjoy singing in the choir here at St. Sebastian!"

CLASS OF 1992

Lisa Barron has two children, Emmyrson and Collin, and has lived in Florida since 2005. She is employed by Empyrean Benefit Solutions as National Director of Enablement.

CLASS OF 1993 SAVE THE DATE: 30TH REUNION THIS FALL

The Class of 1993 is planning to celebrate their 30th in Akron next year over the weekend of September 29-October 1, 2023. Please contact Mary Kilian Tetrault at 206-406-8069 or marytetrault@gmail.com if you have questions or would like to help with the planning.

CLASS OF 1996

Dan Tate works as a patent attorney for Cooper Legal Group. He and his wife, Colleen, live in Akron, and their children, Ethan and Evelyn (Evie), attend St. Sebastian Parish School.

CLASS OF 2005

Emily Wilde Biggins relocated to Lexington, Kentucky, in April of 2015 to work for Morgan Stanley. She is now an advisor and partner in the Brown Biggins Group assisting clients with their financial needs.

CLASS OF 2015

Alex Phillip, who is a junior at John Carroll University, continues to set running records left and right. He ended a record-breaking cross country season with JCU by winning the NCAA Division III National Championship in a time of 24:37.6 on November 11, 2022. Alex won by 2.4 seconds to become the fifth runner in DIII history to win back-to-back national championships. During the current indoor track & field season, Alex has set two records:

On Feb. 11, Alex set the DIII record in the 5000m with a time of 13:44.98. Earlier in the season, Alex broke the 3000m record with a time of 7:53.24. Stay tuned, as JCU's Joe Ginley says, Alex continues to "add on the accolades that cement him amongst the best Blue Streaks and the best runners in NCAA D-III history."

COME VISIT ST. SEBASTIAN!

CAMPUS TOURS

If you would like a tour of our campus, please contact Kathy Holaday at 330-836-2233 ext. 113 or HoladayK@stsebastian.org. Kathy would be happy to show you around!

VIRTUAL TOUR

The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation created a special virtual tour of our campus, with special highlights of the school and classrooms, as part of the Foundation's 50th anniversary celebrations. To view, please visit www.stsebastian.org/foundation and click on "Foundation's 50th Anniversary Virtual Tour."



CLASSES OF 2019-20

Anne Rea '20 and **Olivia Kindbom '19**, students at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, qualified individually to compete in the state championship cross country race, held in Columbus on Nov. 6, 2022.

Both girls have qualified for the state competition each year they have been on the STVM team. In February, Olivia signed a national letter of intent to continue her academic and athletic career at the University of Dayton.



Elizabeth Schlueter '19 was selected as the state winner of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) Good Citizen and Scholarship Contest, which was created in 1934 to encourage and reward the qualities of good citizenship. Elizabeth will now compete for the national award. Elizabeth is also a finalist for a national Coca-Cola scholarship award.



ED POWE '58 *continued*

from Canton. Ed said when he started school at St. Sebastian, his family was one of the few Black families at the school. "It taught me to get along," says Ed, "I enjoyed learning, I made friends, and I am really appreciative of my friends and the education I got from St. Sebastian School ... those are some happy memories."

Ed pointed out one thing that is very special to him. He said he played many sports, and he especially enjoyed basketball. Practices were held after school, but not right after school, so he did not have time to walk all the way home and then back for practice. So, his teammates would take turns bringing him back to their house for dinner before practice. He admits he sometimes "felt strange as a little Black kid sharing a meal with white families, but they really made me feel welcome. It meant a lot to me."

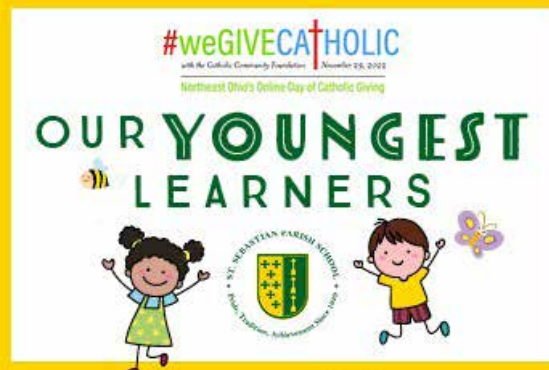
Ed's family moved to Chicago while he was in high school, and Ed settled down there until he moved to Frankfort in 1990 to take the job of general manager of the local Sears store. He and his wife, Jan, raised their daughter in Frankfort, where Ed became very involved in community leadership and has been honored with many awards for his decades of civic engagement.

As Ed prepares to hand off FORR to the next generation of leaders, he offers this reflection, "When it comes to Race Relations in Frankfort, Kentucky, I truly believe that I have made a difference. The foundation upon which I built that allowed me to accomplish this was first formed at St. Sebastian School."

To learn more about Ed and his endeavors with FORR, please visit www.focusonracelrelations.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON GIVING TUESDAY!

THANK YOU to everyone who made a Giving Tuesday donation! Thanks to your generosity, the 2022 #weGiveCatholic effort raised \$13,600 for the replacement of the activity tables and chairs in the kindergarten and preschool classrooms. This year, in addition to the online giving campaign, the school held a "change bandit" competition, which brought in \$2,200! Congratulations to the preschool classes, which brought in the most money and were rewarded with doughnuts and cider.



✠✠ *We Will Remember ...* ✠✠

The Alumni Association extends our sincerest sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased alumni (Oct. 2022 to mid-Feb. 2023). If you learn of the passing of a St. Sebastian alumnus, please contact us by phone at 330-836-2233 ext. 113 or by email at alumni@stsebastian.org.

Dorothy Stampfli Aylward '43, November 4, 2022
Marjorie "Jimmie" Reiheld Leib '46, Feb. 8, 2023
J. Philip O'Neil '46, February 1, 2023
Nancy Long Mondoizzi '47, December 28, 2022
Patricia Perunko Gilbow '48, December 29, 2022
Walter "Scott" Kidder '53, January 14, 2023

Charles J. Schwarz, III '56, October 22, 2022
Judith Moneypenny Walters '56, October 29, 2022
Thomas L. Boyer '64, August 17, 2022
Thomas J. Buschko '76, January 31, 2023
Michael R. Beck, III '89, December 24, 2022

ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

The Alumni Scholarship Endowment was established by the St. Sebastian Parish Foundation in 2013 to provide financial assistance to students attending St. Sebastian Parish School. Thanks to the wonderful generosity of the St. Sebastian community, in 2016 the fund received enough donations to become an endowment that provides tuition assistance on a yearly basis. What a wonderful way to make a lasting contribution for the benefit of St. Sebastian Parish School! Listed below are donors who gave to the Alumni Scholarship Endowment from January, 2022 to January, 2023. The St. Sebastian Foundation and the parish school families who benefit from this fund are deeply appreciative of their generosity! Gifts to this fund can be made at any time online at www.stsebastian.org/school/alumni/scholarship-endowment.

- Janet M. Ciotola
Jerry and Allie Petit, in memory of Jerry Petit; Hal Traverse; Roger Cooke; Jerry Reeves; and Bob, Judy and Rich Huber
- 1940 Jeanne Ott, in memory of Conrad C. Ott
1942 Ramona M. Botzum
1944 Robert and Catherine Conway
1945 Tom Savalan, in memory of Malvina Savalan Cummins
1947 Sara and Roland Bertolini, in memory of Joseph, Louise and Ray Bertolini
1947 Michael Stiller, in memory of Ruth and Patricia Stiller
1949 Edward Dannemiller
1951 Richard and Janet McGuckin, in memory of Cletus and Kathryn McGuckin
1952 Thomas Gardner, in memory of Margaret Gardner
1953 William L. Fanelly, in memory of Michael and Virginia Glenn Fanelly
1953 Ann M. Towell
1954 James and Carolyn McDonald
1955 Tom and Suzanne Rhodenbaugh
1955 Thomas and Linda Riegler, in memory of Leo and Helen Riegler
1957 John Reichart, in memory of Marie J. Lynch
1958 Jim Maurer
1958 Dennis McAleese, in memory of the Deceased Classmates of 1958
- 1960 Robert B. Floyd, in honor of the Class of 1960
1960 Barb Mancino Petruccio and Jim Petruccio, in memory of Beth Mancino Hawke
1961 Mike and Ginny McGuckin
1961 Angela Devore, in memory of Angelina Lobello
1961 Ronald and Margaret Elsner, in memory of Charles and Dorothy Elsner
1966 Katherine Hatton and Richard Bilotti
1967 Paul R. Murrow
1969 Chuck Maroon
1972 Patricia Abdenour, in memory of Susan Foley
1972 Tom and Sandy Carroll
1972 John and Alice Luse, in honor of Ralph and Midge Maher
1972 Dave and Terry McCulley
1973 Teresa Redle Brostowitz
1975 Denise Labut, in memory of Byron Sturm
1975 Teresa Kloss Thompson, in memory of Mary Jane & Dan McCorkle and Lina Kloss
1977 Jackie Savage, in memory of Teri Peterson
1977 T. Mark and Gail Yakubowski, in memory of Thomas Dannemiller, Sr.
1978 Paul Thomas Kearnes, in memory of Thomas and Rosemarie Kearnes
1981 Tricia Marks Marshel, in memory of Steve and Generose Marks
1982 Frank Fitzgibbons
1982 Elizabeth Pinkerton, in celebration of Marcy Smith
1982 Eric Schreiner
1985 Anne and Andy Dennée
1986 Paul and Jenny Hummel
1989 Fr. Christopher Trenta
1994 Eric Schmidlin
2000 Patrick O'Neill
2001 Daniel P. Murphy
2015 Caroline Hummel

Send us your Alumni Updates!

We love to hear from our alumni! Please let us know what you are doing. Email us at alumni@stsebastian.org or use the online form: stsebastian.org/school/alumni/contact.

*Thank
you!*