

# ALUMNI ARROW

## NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024

### CLASS OF 1973 CELEBRATES 50TH REUNION

The Class of 1973 enjoyed a wonderful 50th reunion over the weekend of October 6-7, 2023. The two days were full of laughs and memories of their school days five decades ago. About 20 classmates gathered informally on Friday evening at Brighten Brewing Company in Copley, where they caught up and retold their favorite stories from days gone by.

Reunion activities on Saturday began with 4:30 p.m. Mass at St. Sebastian Church, followed by a reception in Zwisler Hall attended by over 40 people, including 26 alumni and their guests. The group took a tour of the school, which brought back many memories, especially of school hi-jinks and favorite teachers. After the tour, the group enjoyed a catered dinner in Zwisler Hall, which now serves as the school's social hall and cafeteria, but which was where this group used to attend Mass during their school years (the current church building opened in 1960).



**Front Row (L -R)** - Dave Kish, Tom Mascolo, Lisa Jahant Neidert, Bob Luby, Sue Mariani Davis, Marc Shannon; **Second Row** - Anne Giffels; **Third Row** - Greg Smith, Bob Hilbert, Kathy Coyne Bergh, Liz Trockle Pfeiffer, Peggy Lewis Sykora, Peggy Burkley Keller, Cindy Gorey Sunday, John Walsh, Dave McShaffrey, Lew Seikel; **Top Row** - Larry Dannemiller, Diane Dettling Ross, Patti Williams, Pat Wheeler, Mike Stankard, Laureen Fenwick Mellion, Dan Cox, Rick Szeles, Tom Karg.



The desire to bond with classmates and visit their old school drew alumni to travel home to Akron from several other states, including Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey, Michigan, Florida, and Texas. The evening even included a custom cake, pictured here, which was baked and decorated by Eileen Blinkhorn Cox '70, a fellow alumna who is married to Dan Cox '73. The reunion planning committee, including Dan Cox, Anne Giffels, Lisa Jahant Neidert, Tom Karg, Lew Seikel, Marc Shannon, and Pat Wheeler, wishes to thank everyone who came and everyone who helped make the 50th reunion one to remember!

#### Interested in planning a reunion?

Reunions for individual classes are organized by volunteers from the class. The Alumni Association is ready to assist you by providing class lists and by promoting the event in our publications. Please contact the Alumni Association at [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org). The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation is happy to provide informal tours for reunion groups or alumni any time! Please contact Kathy Holaday at 330-836-2233 x 113 or [foundation@stsebastian.org](mailto:foundation@stsebastian.org) to schedule a tour for you and/or your group. For more information on reunion planning, visit [www.stsebastian.org/school/alumni/events](http://www.stsebastian.org/school/alumni/events).

# ALUMNI UPDATES

## CLASSES OF 1940s-1950s ERA – FROM THE FORGOTTEN CABINET

Over the past few years, Fr. Valencheck has been sharing items he has found in an old filing cabinet in the basement of the parish rectory. In previous issues of the newsletter, we have reprinted several “Forgotten Cabinet” items, and here are a few more pertaining to our alumni from the 1940s and 1950s.

### CLASS OF 1940

Fr. Valencheck found a series of entertaining items from the Class of 1940, including the “Class Will,” excerpted to the right. The Class of 1940 also reported on the “Fads of the Day” and who started them at St. Sebastian Parish: “**Jack Malaney** has everyone wearing pork pie hats, with the brim turned up at that! ... Sister Francesca can blame **Marilyn (Fichtner)** for starting the babushka craze, which is such a bugaboo in Sister’s life ... **Jim Coulter** started wearing brown moccasins, (which he was the first to have) but he’s got company, for **Jane Homeier** has white ones. (Aren’t they terrible to keep clean, Jane?) ... Miss **Ellen Keating** has at the neck of her charming blouse, a devastating, eye-catching, simply darling clasp ... When **Donald Albrecht** walks on the grass, you can’t tell the difference between his feet and the grass, for Don has, of all things, a pair of green shoes.”

### CLASSES OF 1957-1959

Fr. Valencheck writes, “The arts have always been important at St. Sebastian Parish. It was Monsignor Zwisler’s belief that being in plays, especially, assisted children in becoming comfortable and confident speaking before crowds of people.” Fr. Valencheck found a folder that revealed that during the 1951-52 school year alone, eight plays were produced by grade level. This included a production by what was the fourth grade at that time (what would become the **Class of 1957**) of Cinderella of Loreland. **Marcia Goehler** played Cinderella, **Michael Ahern** was Ash her cat, **Marjorie Klein** was the Stepmother, **Mary Kraker** was Tilliebell, **Frances Martucci** played the godmother, and **Roy O’Neil** was Biff.

In 1955, the 4th and 5th graders put on Mr. Popper’s Penguins, a “comedy about a beguiling family addicted to tales of Antarctic exploration who are heirs to two South Pole Penguins. They end up with a flock of them, which threatens to eat them out of house and home. How will they pay the bill collectors for the freezing plants, swimming pool, live fish, and all which are necessary to keep their pets well and happy? But Mr. Popper finds a way!” Cast members included **Kathleen McGuckin (Class of 1959)** (Roberta), **Richard McCready (Class of 1958)** (policeman), **Frederick Martone (Class of 1959)** (penguin), and **Janice Karg (Class of 1959)**.

### The Class Will, 1940

The first page of the final school paper for the Class of 1940 was entitled, “The Class Will,” and was followed by a lengthy list of bequeaths, including:

**Joan Dettling** wills her baseball ability to **Rosie Humphry**.

**James Coulter** wills his colorful sweaters to **Sister Fidelma**.

**Mary Lou Knapp** wills her merit cards to **Ellen Rohnor**.

**Donald Albrecht** wills his traffic post to **Skip Ball**.

**Pat Motz** wills her sister’s sweaters back to her.

**Phil Ulrich** wills his knack of making conversation to **Mark Hamlin**.

This document has been examined and found legal. It will take effect June 12, 1940, **Jeanne Schreiner**, Attorney.

## PLEASE SEND US YOUR MEMORIES!

We love to hear from our alumni! Do you have a favorite story or memory? Email [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org) or contact Kathy Holaday at 330-836-2233 ext. 113.

## CLASS OF 1973

**John Glass**, who left St. Sebastian after completing 7th grade, has been in contact with some of his former classmates, but has lost touch with many and would be happy to catch up. He thought it would be fun to send along this brief update on his life since he left St. Sebastian:

In the Fall of 1972, I moved to Japan with my mother and father and attended St. Mary's in Tokyo in 1975. We then moved to Sao Paulo, Brazil, where I attended the School of Mary Immaculate ("Chapel"). I graduated in 1977 and returned to the U.S. I went to Pitzer College in Claremont, California and acquired a bachelor's degree in Sociology. I played in a couple of bands (guitar) in and around Los Angeles and soon realized that I didn't want to be "waiting for my big break" into my 30's, so I decided to forego a career in the music industry. I moved to Texas in 1988 and have been here since. I earned a Ph.D. in Sociology in 1995 from the University of North Texas and worked for non-profits and several local colleges and universities. I retired from Collin College in Frisco, Texas last fall after 17 years of service. Over this past summer, I was awarded Professor Emeritus status by Collin and plan to return to teaching part time in the spring of 2024. I live with my wife of 26 years on 40 acres of land near Gainesville, Texas. Two of my memories of St. Sebastian...Ms. Rudolph used to call me, the "Glass Menagerie," which I didn't understand at the time, but I was honored to have been given a nickname by her, and Ms. [Seikel] (I believe that is who it was), who used to read to books aloud to us in class. That was so calming, and it allowed me to foster my imagination as I had to visualize in my head the characters, the plot, and the action of the narrative. A very fond memory.

### Class of 1974 50th Reunion: June 28-30, 2024

Don't miss out on this wonderful weekend of activities! Karel Kipp, Helen Graf, Jill Lyons-May, Lisa Paris, and Patti Tschantz are enjoying working together to plan the reunion. Please send your current, up-to-date contact information to [alumni@stsebastian.org](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org) or [TallKarel@gmail.com](mailto:TallKarel@gmail.com) and stay tuned for more information!

## CLASS OF 1976



The Class of 1976 had a fun get-together in September, hosted at Papa Joe's by restaurant co-owner and classmate **Jeff Bruno**. Also attending were **Tom Abdenour, Larry Aylward, Caroline Martucci Garritano, Al Hilkert, Lisa Sinopoli Lutz, Amy Rizzo, Jim Maher, Jim Meadows, Cathy Vitt O'Toole, Jim Pianalto, Lynn McNeil Ruby, Joe Sovacool, Vince Sullivan, Julie Pier Uecker, and Mitch Williams**. **Kathy Madigan Hager**, who helped initiate the gathering, was unfortunately unable to attend at the last minute.

## CLASS OF 1982

Marcy Smith received the St. Irene Award from the St. Sebastian Sanctuary Society at the annual Christmas Tea on December 19. This new award was established by the Sanctuary Society to recognize one member each year for her outstanding service and contributions. Congratulations, Marcy!



## CLASS OF 1985

J. Scott Tremaine lives in Warren, Michigan, where he works as a Senior Software Engineer. He writes, "I am the proud father of two amazing boys. In my spare time, I am focused on publishing my first book and indulging in my hobbies, which include creating training courses for new software developers and designing board games."

## CLASS OF 1992

**Brian Windhorst** will be honored with his very own bobblehead at the Akron RubberDucks baseball game on Sept. 14 vs. the Hartford Yard Goats. Brian is a sportswriter who covers the NBA for ESPN.com.



## CLASS OF 2015

**Alex Phillip** was a key member of the University of North Carolina cross country team's sixth place finish at the Division I NCAA Men's Cross Country Championships on Nov. 18 at the University of Virginia. Alex finished among the top 20 runners, earning All-American honors and recording the third-fastest championship time (29:26.8) for UNC.

## CLASSES OF 2020-2023

Congratulations to **Jack Doucet '20**, a senior at Archbishop Hoban High School, and **Sydney Borges '20**, a senior at Walsh Jesuit High School, who were both named **National Merit Finalists** in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Jack and Sydney scored in the top one percent of approximately 1.6 million juniors in the country who took the PSAT last October! Congratulations also to **Mason Reiss '20**, a senior at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, who was honored as a National Merit Commended Student, and **Cameron Greenwood '21**, a junior at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, who earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Program. In other academic awards, Hoban sophomores **Sophia Burgoyne '22** and



**Colin DiNicola '22** were named Academic Knights for the second quarter in honor of their scholarship, leadership, service, values, and character.

*Jack Doucet '20, Sydney Borges '20, Mason Reiss '20, Cameron Greenwood '21, Colin DiNicola '22, Sophia Burgoyne '22*

**Anne Rea '20** and **Julia Rea '23** participated in the 2023 state cross country meet on November 4 as members of St. Vincent-St. Mary High School's team, which finished 15th overall for Division II. Anne finished in 27th place and earned All-Ohio Team honors. Anne recently signed a national letter of intent to pursue her athletic and academic career at John Carroll University.

**Louisa Dennée '23**, a freshman at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, was named the Scholarship Student for the 2023-24 year by Martell Dance Studio. The honor includes a scholarship that covers tuition, a role as a student teacher, and a solo dance performance at the final recitals of the season. Congratulations, Louisa!



**Aggie Llewellyn '21** won the Akron City Series first singles championship in tennis in September, 2023, marking the second year in a row she earned this honor! Aggie is a junior at Firestone Community Learning Center.

**Jack Doucet '20** and **Jimmy Bordenkircher '20** qualified to compete in the 2024 OHSAA Division II swimming state championship as part of Archbishop Hoban High School's 400 freestyle relay team.



Congratulations to St. Sebastian Parish School's high school CYO girls' basketball team, which won the Cleveland CYO High School Girls Diamond Division championship game on Feb. 25, beating St. Jude (Elyria) 54-20. The team featured alumni **Tori DeKatch '20**, **Lola Hall '21**, and **Abbey Monaghan '20**, along with several classmates from St. Vincent-St. Mary High School. Tori led the team's scoring with 14 points.

## CLASS OF 1993 CELEBRATES 30TH REUNION

The Class of 1993 packed a lot into their 30th reunion weekend Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2023, with stops at many of Akron's favorite places. The group kicked things off with a tour of St. Sebastian Parish School on Friday afternoon, followed by a potluck dinner at Forest Lodge. On Saturday, several classmates participated in the Akron Marathon (one of Akron's biggest events) as members of a relay team on a beautiful fall day. Saturday afternoon was for family fun, with picnicking and play at the picturesque Ledges area of the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. On Saturday night, classmates enjoyed an evening out at R. Shea Brewing, sharing stories and laughter into the night. And on Sunday, the group gathered a final time for brunch at Mustard Seed Market &



Café in Highland Square.

Mary Kilian Tetrault, one of the reunion planners, offered this summary of the weekend, "We stayed up late, ran in the Akron marathon relay, and marveled at the changes and the frozen in time aspects (clocks, crucifix, smell and feel) of the physical St. Sebastian campus while touring the school. Mostly we reconnected, shared where our lives have taken us since 1993, and even asked forgiveness and forgave our selfish acts and childhood harms. Speaking as someone who had not been home to Akron in many years, it was a weekend that reconnected me to my roots and the people I still carry in my heart today."



### TOP PHOTO

**Front Row (L -R)** - Beth Touschner, Meaghan Quinn, O'Dalee Balana, Mary Kilian Tetrault; **Second Row** - Allyson Filer Himmelright, Maren Ammerman Trocki; **Back Row** - Mike Hamad, Nikki Mariani Dennison, Jacob Paynter, Emily Simmons Willard, Jeremy Schultz

### BOTTOM PHOTO

Jeremy Schultz, Jacob Paynter, Emily Simmons Willard, Allyson Filer Himmelright, Maren Ammerman Trocki, Meaghan Quinn, Mary Kilian Tetrault, Julie Robbins, O'Dalee Balana.

## ✦✦ *We Will Remember ...* ✦✦

The Alumni Association extends our sincerest sympathy to the families and friends of our deceased alumni (approx. Oct., 2023 to Feb., 2024). 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](mailto:alumni@stsebastian.org).

Mary Lou Stiller Burns '41, May 8, 2023  
Fr. James J. King, S.J. '43, January 30, 2024  
Sr. Kathleen A. King, H.M. '45, January 21, 2024  
Mary Beth Reymann-Conroy '52, October 21, 2023  
Gilbert B. Reymann '54, June 3, 2022  
Thomas J. Walker '55, November 26, 2023  
Michael W. Ahern '57, September 24, 2023  
Marianna Homeier Hamrick '57, November 28, 2023  
Jolean Schnee Mahaney '57, February 17, 2024  
Lindsey "Ed" Powe '58, July 27, 2023

Gerald H. Klein, Jr. '60, December 5, 2023  
Donald W. Bates '61, October 7, 2023  
Raymond E. McChesney '64, June 24, 2023  
Leo (Tony) A. Waickman '65, November 2, 2023  
Charles R. Marshall '66, September 7, 2023  
John "Jack" C. Whitehurst '69, August 24, 2023  
Kim L. Davis '74, December 20, 2023  
Gregory F. Petras '78, October 21, 2023  
Luke R. Oldfield '07, January 25, 2024

## ALUMNI GIVE BACK TO ST. SEBASTIAN

The St. Sebastian Parish Foundation is extremely fortunate to have the continued support of so many of our school's alumni! In November and December of 2023, our alumni responded generously to two year-end appeals. First, the **#weGiveCatholic** effort to help pay for a new greenhouse brought in over \$5,600 from 30 alumni donors, nearly half of the \$11,400 collected! Second, the Foundation's **Annual Appeal** was supported by 43 alumni donors for a total of \$4,975 for the Alumni Scholarship Endowment and for the Unrestricted Fund for the areas of greatest need in the parish. Thank you to these wonderful alumni donors, listed below, for your support of St. Sebastian Parish and School! Gifts to the Foundation can be made at any time online at [www.stsebastian.org/foundation/donate](http://www.stsebastian.org/foundation/donate).

- |             |  |             |   |
|-------------|--|-------------|---|
| 1940        | Jeanne Schreiner Ott   | 1966 & 1969 | Ben and Pam Schlegel Urdiales   |
| 1945        | Thomas L. Savalan, in memory of Malvina Savalan Cummins                                  | 1968        | Brian and Sharon Walsh, in memory of John Beringer, Sr.                                 |
| 1946        | Marilyn McGuckin Dies, in memory of Dan and Catherine McGuckin                           | 1969        | Denis and Jeanne Cochrun Van Doros, in memory of Tom and Mary Jeanne Cochrun            |
| 1946        | Nancy Karg Maloyan, in memory of Richard Maloyan   | 1969        | Chuck Maroon, in memory of Denise Maroon Finley   |
| 1947        | Roland and Sara Bertolini, in memory of Joseph, Louise & Raymond Bertolini               | 1969        | Deborah A. Roesel Culver  |
| 1949        | Edward Dannemiller   | 1969        | Jeffery and Marjorie Reiheld Parrish  |
| 1949        | Susie Meadows Straits  | 1969        | Jim Costigan  |
| 1954        | James E. McDonald, in memory Emmet and Eleanor McDonald                                  | 1970        | Dr. Cathleen Labate   |
| 1954        | Fred and Jeannie Zeno King   | 1970        | Mary Alice Hardt Brosseau, in memory of Mary Hartnett                                   |
| 1956        | Lou and Micki McCool Trenta, in honor of Fr. Valencheck's 25th Anniversary of Ordination | 1971        | Steve and Cathy Buschko, in memory of Stephen, Patricia, Karen, and Tom Buschko         |
| 1958        | Dennis McAleese, in memory of the Departed Classmates of the Class of 1958               | 1971        | Stanley Bernat, in memory of Stanley and Irene Bernat                                   |
| 1960        | Carol Whitehurst Deeser  | 1972        | Dave and Terry McCulley, in memory of Anne McCulley                                     |
| 1960        | Jim and Barb Mancino Petruccio   | 1972        | Patricia Abdenour, in memory of Susan M. Foley  |
| 1960        | Terrence Steel, in memory of Frank and Catherine Steel                                   | 1973        | James and Elizabeth Walsh   |
| 1961        | Angela Lobello Devore, in memory of Angelina Lobello                                     | 1976        | Edward Balaun, in memory of Elizabeth Balaun Coughlin                                   |
| 1961        | Terence and Barbara Crawford   | 1978        | Patrick Hernon, in memory of Chris O'Brien  |
| 1961 & 1962 | Mike and Ginny Bader McGuckin  | 1978        | Judith Buzzi, in honor of Josephine Drought   |
| 1963        | Anonymous  | 1978        | Anonymous   |
| 1963        | Terence and Joan Lucas Hughes  | 1978        | Mike and Michelle Traverse Huber  |
| 1963        | Nancy Moneypenny Simon, in memory of Judy Moneypenny Walters                             | 1981        | Michael and Kristine Hergenrother   |
| 1963        | George and Jan Bachmann  | 1981        | Margaret O'Boyle Nasrallah  |
| 1964        | Mary Kalail Pullekens  | 1981        | Brigid Beringer, in memory of John Beringer, Sr. and Charles A. & Kathryn Beringer, Jr. |
| 1964        | Bob and Debbie Mancino, in memory of Beth Mancino Hawke                                  | 1982        | Elizabeth Pinkerton   |
| 1965        | Anne Lynett Clark  | 1982        | Marcy Smith   |
| 1965        | Ceil Bryson Cohen, in honor of Clarke, Harrison and Teddy Azar                           | 1984        | John and Dianne Hergenrother  |
| 1965        | Joanne and Tom Welsh   | 1984        | Anonymous   |
| 1966        | Mary Beth Spalding Torre, in memory of John Spalding '60 and Ned Spalding '62            | 1986        | Anonymous   |
| 1966        | Katherine Hatton and Richard Bilotti   | 1988        | Jennifer Tornichio McCormick  |
| 1966        | Carole Zachardy  | 1989        | Fr. Christopher Trenta  |
| 1966        | Jim and Debbie Large   | 1993        | Jack and Erica Gerstenmaier   |
|             |  | 1998        | Tim and Tara Johnson  |
|             |  | 2000        | Tim and Emily Marks   |
|             |  | 2001        | Max and Josellen Bedell, in honor of James and Vivienne Bedell                          |

Thank  
You!