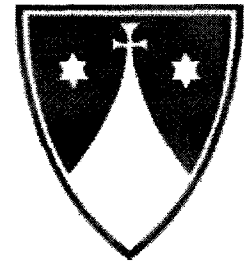


**Little Flower Alumni
Association
2854 Brendan Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21213**



DECEMBER, 2008

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our recent membership drive was a monumental success. We had 400 dues paying members last year and closed the drive with 1,050, a 150% increase. The class reps played a major part in that increase, as did Fred Fickert, who established the computerized billing system. My sincere thanks to all of you.

Although we competed with a tough economy and a Raven's home game, the Bull and Oyster Roast was well attended, and I want to thank all those who supported it, especially the workers and donors of cakes for the wheel.

I feel that the annual Roast will continue to be a time for old friends who may not otherwise see each other on a regular basis to get together and reminisce. Remember that the Roast is not only for grads and parishioners, but also for family and acquaintances. Put the date of Sunday, October 4, 2009 on your calendar.

The sale of the school and convent has been finalized. This has been a large burden on our back. This revenue will be used in many ways, not the least of which will be long overdue repairs and maintenance. The alumni will continue to raise funds in support of Father Mike's efforts along these lines.

The landscaping has been put on hold for the winter months, and will resume in the spring. Our goal for next year is to have all shrubbery and trees removed, replaced or trimmed as required. Flowers will continue to be added for property beautification.

One area on which I would like to improve is attendance at Little Flower for Sunday Mass, by graduates and former parishioners. While I realize that you have your own parish to support, if only 200 extra people were at Little Flower each month, it would greatly help the bottom line. If you have any suggestions as to how to get more participation, please contact me.

Please continue to contribute by paying dues next year. They're still only \$10 a year. Invoices will be mailed after January 1st.

Bob Campbell

410-933-3666

hsinn2@comcast.net

BULL AND OYSTER ROAST

Nearly 400 people gathered at Martin's East for a afternoon of feasting and friendship. Judging by the number of plants and cakes on just about every table, the Cake/Plant wheel was well received by all who attended. Did you take any of the **50/50 raffle tickets** enclosed in the newsletters? Phil Reisinger, class of 1957 did, and **he won \$2,144**. Thanks to everyone who supported the raffle. Our efforts resulted in raising approximately \$5,500 for Father Mike and the Shrine. If you missed the event this year, plan now to attend next year on October 4, 2009.

DOOR RESTORATION

Thanks to the generous donations of many people, the restoration of the doors of the church has been completed. The doors have been beautifully refinished and restored to their original appearance. If you have not had the opportunity to view the doors, we urge you to take a moment to drive by and see what you have helped to accomplish.

A plaque inscribed with the names of those who donated \$500 or more will be dedicated after the 11:00 A.M. Mass on Sunday, January 11, 2009. A Memorial Booklet, listing everyone who donated to the Door Fund will also be available. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. Light refreshments will be served in the lower church after the dedication. If you plan to attend, please contact Jim Durkin at 410-248-9156 or durkin4044@durkin23.cnc.net, so that we can plan sufficient refreshments for everyone.

CLASS CONTACT

| NEW | | | |
|------------------|-------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| NAME | YEAR | PHONE NO. | E-MAIL |
| Victor Appolonia | 1987 | 410-977-2287 | batimoretowinginc.@yahoo.com |

TRIVIA

Several people knew that William Dwight Schultz was the person referred to in the trivia question. However, the wrong class year was listed. He was a graduate in the year 1961, not 1962.

IN MEMORIAM

Mary Regina (Jean) Kutcher Collins, class of 1941, passed away on April 18, 2008 from complications following a second stroke. After leaving the Shrine, Jean attended The Catholic High School of Baltimore, and upon graduation went to work for the C & P Telephone Company. She worked there until her marriage to Stephen E. Collins in October 1948, and then settled down to raise a family of three children – Steve, Donna and David, in the Baltimore area.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL PLAQUE

Leo McDonagh, class of 1942 and Mark Hunt, class of 1946 have given us information about two of the names on the Plaque.

JOHN J. KOSKER lived on Brendan Avenue. He graduated from Little Flower in 1939 (approximately). He was in General Patton's army and was killed driving a jeep. He was a Boy Scout in Troop 94 and Patrol Leader of the Wolf Patrol.

JOSEPH F. MACKIN lived on Pelham Avenue. He graduated from Little Flower in 1936 (approximately). He captured a German soldier in a fox hole. He was killed in action at the Battle of the Bulge on Christmas Eve, 1944. He was an Assistant Scoutmaster in Troop 94.

Mark Hunt stated that he had spoken to Frank Gallagher, former President of the Baltimore City Council. He was in Troop 94 at the same time as John and Joseph. Some years ago Frank had visited one of the military cemeteries in Europe, and found that John and Joseph are buried right next to each other.

Mary Margaret Mackin Goldbeck also supplied information about her brother Joseph. In 2006, Mary and her sister Carol and their daughters were fortunate enough finally, after 60 years visit the grave of their brother and uncle. He is buried in the Luxembourg American National Cemetery, about four hours by train from Paris. She says that the cemetery couldn't be a more immaculately, well-kept memorial to the 5,076 Americans who lost their lives in France and Belgium. There are roses all around, and memorials with maps of the battles, and a beautiful chapel. General George S. Patton is also buried there.

Philip Huppmann, class of 1948 gave us information about his uncle.

CHARLES HUPPMANN graduated from Little Flower, and went to Calvert Hall and then on to Johns Hopkins. World War II began and he left Hopkins to join the Air Force (back then it was the US Army Air Corp). After training, he became a bombardier on one of the Air Force B24's, flying missions over India. His plane was downed by a Japanese fighter over Burma, and that is where he lost his life.

The Army recovered his body after the war, and he is interned with the crew from his ill-fated plane at Arlington National Cemetery. He was officially Lt. Charles Huppmann. His B24 was named "Rangoon Rosie". Among the medals he was awarded were the Purple Heart and the Flying Cross.

Since WWII our country has been involved in a number of other armed conflicts. If anyone knows of other heroes from our parish who have died in the line of duty, please provide us with information that we can publish in a future edition of the newsletter.

Mary Lou Fitzpatrick Stoewer, class of 1956, supplies us with information about her father.

MATTHEW J. FITZPATRICK died on June 11, 1945; he was only 23 years old. He was a PFC in the Army Air Corps and was stationed at Smoky Hill Army Airfield near Salina Kansas. He was training to be a tail-gunner. He was on a routine training mission in a B-29 when the plane was struck by lightning and crashed, killing all on board. He left behind his wife Mary Anna, who was expecting a baby in November, 1945 and a 2 ½ year old daughter (Mary Lou).

He didn't attend Little Flower school, but became a member of the parish when his family moved to Sheldon Avenue when he was a teen. He graduated from City College in 1940. Both his daughters attended Little Flower. Matthew is buried in Holy Redeemer Cemetery.

(NOTE FROM THE EDITOR – Someone called me with information about a name on the plaque as I was literally walking out the door for vacation. Unfortunately, I misplaced your name and phone number. Please contact me.)

I can be reached at 410-488-7169 or littlefloweralum@comcast.net

Susan Hitzelberger Scheerer, '63

CLASS OF 1954 – 55TH REUNION

In 2009, we will mark 55 years since we graduated from the Shrine. Why not join your fellow classmates, relatives and friends for a reunion at the annual Bull and Oyster Roast to be held at Martin's East on Sunday, October 4th? We may possibly even make plans for the entire weekend, as we did in 2004! Please contact one of your Class Reps if you intend on attending this very popular event - it's never too early to make plans for next Fall. You can contact Jim Durkin at durkin4044@durkin23.cnc.net or 410-248-9156 or Mary Frances Jasinski at marypipkin@comcast.net or 410-870-1805, to let them know your intentions.

CLASS OF 1979 – 30TH REUNION

The Class of 1979 is planning their 30th reunion, to be held in the Spring of 2009. Members of this class are encouraged to contact one of the following committee members as soon as possible, to update their contact information and/or a classmate's contact information.

Mario Orlando at mario_orlando2002@yahoo.com, Carla Holt Thomas at carla.t@verizon.net, Susan Maex at maexperrella@aol.com, or Will Jakubowski at @willjakubowski@aol.com.

CLASS OF 1963 – 60TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Did you miss the opportunity to attend our 45th Reunion at this year's Bull Roast? Maybe you couldn't face the fact that it had been 45 years. Then think about the fact that most of us will celebrate our 60th birthdays in 2009. Many of those who attended this year's Roast contacted with classmates they hadn't seen in many years. Everyone who attended had a great time, and wanted to do it again next year, thus the idea of celebrating a momentous occasion together. Plan now to attend; contact Susan Hitzelberger Scheerer at littlefloweralum@comcast.net or 410-488-7169.

CLASS REUNIONS

Did you graduate in a year ending in either '4 or '9? Next year, you will be celebrating the 5th, 10th, 15th 20th, etc. anniversary of your graduation from the Shrine? Why not plan on having that special reunion at the Annual Little Flower Alumni Association Bull and Oyster Roast that will be held on October 4th. Contact your Class Reps to begin making plans for your next reunion.

FIFTH SUNDAY MASSES

The Alumni Association would like to encourage all Alumni and their families to attend the 11 A.M. Mass at Little Flower on the following dates:

MARCH 29TH, MAY 31 ST, AUGUST 30TH AND NOVEMBER 29TH, 2009.

It is our hope that many of you will join in another effort to assist Fr. Mike and the parish with their financial obligations.

Did you get married at the Shrine? Would you like to come back to the Shrine to renew your wedding vows? If so, plan now to attend the Mass on May 31 ST.

Light refreshments will be served after the Mass.

CHANGE OF INFORMATION

Please be sure to notify us when you have a change of address, phone number or e-mail address. Changes may be sent to the Alumni Association in care of the Rectory, or, whenever possible e-mailed to: **littlefloweralum@comcast.net**. Keeping us advised of changes to your address helps us to keep mailing costs down, as we have to pay a fee for each letter returned by the post office. Use of e-mail also helps us to cut expenses.

COMMENTS FROM 1957

"I'll tell you one thing, if things keep going up the way they are, it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$20."

"Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$5,000 will only buy a used car."

"Did you hear the post office is thinking about charging a dime just to mail a letter?"

"When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 29 cents a gallon. Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage."

Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$75,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the president."

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY. MANY OF THEM WILL NOT BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS. REMEMBER ALSO THE FAMILIES THAT SUPPORT THEM.

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO WISH EVERYONE A HAPPY AND HOLY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR.