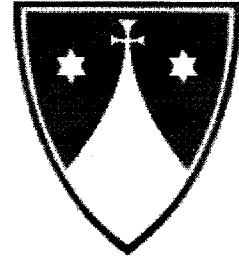


**Little Flower Alumni  
Association  
2854 Brendan Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21213**



**FEBRUARY, 2009**

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Thank you for enabling us to have our most successful year to date. Nearly 1,100 members are now on the rolls, and we look forward to continuing our support of Little Flower Church. If you know of anyone who wants to join, please let us know. They do not have to be a graduate of the school.

The door plaque and the World War II plaque were dedicated in January at the 11AM Mass, which was well attended. A continental breakfast was served afterward.

Don't forget the 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY ALUMNI MASS, on March 29, 2009 at 11 AM. We are trying to build up attendance, and you can be a great help. Refreshments will be served after Mass in the lower church.

As we did last year, the Alumni will maintain the property around the Church. By the time you read this, the clearing of dead bushes, trees and shrubs should have been completed. Come see for yourself what a big difference it has made in the appearance of the Church exterior.

On a final note, the response to the renewal of dues for the Alumni Association has been superb. Over 500 members have already sent in the \$10.00. If you have not yet mailed your check, please take a minute and do so now.

I want to hear from you if you have comments, suggestions, or criticisms so that we can continue to add to our support of Little Flower. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or e-mail.

*Bob Campbell*  
410-933-3666

[hsinn2@comcast.net](mailto:hsinn2@comcast.net)

## **BULL AND OYSTER ROAST**

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend our annual event, which will be held again this year on the first Sunday in October, October 4<sup>th</sup> at Martin's East.

This event has become very popular with our alumni; it has been close a sell-out each year. Along with the 50-50 raffle, it has become our major fund-raising effort of the year for the Shrine.

The price will remain the same, \$40 per person. Our menu will continue to include the most requested items – pit beef, raw oysters and oyster stew – along with many other choices from Martin's famous buffet.

Last year's DJ was well received; he did an excellent job of fulfilling the many requests for special songs, from many eras. He will be returning this year.

Several classes are planning their reunion at this event. Information on these reunions can be found elsewhere in the newsletter.

If you graduated in a year ending in either '4 or '9, we invite you to celebrate the anniversary of your graduation with us at the Bull Roast. It's not too soon to contact your Class Reps to begin making plans.

Ticket order forms will be available in the next newsletter. If you are interested in reserving a table now, you may contact Denny Meadowcroft at 410-879-9580.

### **CLASS OF 1944 – 65<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**

Members of the class of 1944 are planning a reunion at the Bull and Oyster Roast on October 4, 2009. If you are interested in attending, or have any questions, please contact Marita Kasal Comber at 410-377-7796.

### **CLASS OF 1949 – 60<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**

Please contact Jim Burke at 410-592-8816 for information on plans for this reunion.

### **CLASS OF 1954 – 55<sup>TH</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup>?

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](mailto:durkin4044@durkin23.cnc.net) or 410-248-9156 or Mary Frances Jasinski at [marypipkin@comcast.net](mailto:marypipkin@comcast.net) or 410-870-1805, to let them know your intentions.

### **CLASS OF 1979 – 30<sup>TH</sup> REUNION**

The Class of 1979 is planning their 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:mario_orlando2002@yahoo.com), Carla Holt Thomas at [carla.t@verizon.net](mailto:carla.t@verizon.net), Susan Maex at [maexperrella@aol.com](mailto:maexperrella@aol.com), or Will Jakubowski at [willjakubowski@aol.com](mailto:willjakubowski@aol.com).

### **CLASS OF 1963 – 60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION**

Did you miss the opportunity to attend our 45<sup>th</sup> 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 60<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:littlefloweralum@comcast.net) or 410-488-7169.

### **WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL PLAQUE**

#### **MATTHEW J. FITZPATRICK**

Information in the last newsletter about his service to his country and his family did not contain the name of his second daughter Kathleen Fitzpatrick Ruppert, class of 1959. The editor apologizes for the omission.

Tim Pugh, Class of 1955, gave us a biography of his uncle/godfather:

GEORGE J. MAERZ was born in Baltimore in 1906; he was the 8<sup>th</sup> of 11 children (six girls and five boys). His mother immigrated from Barvaria, Germany at the age of two. His father was born in Baltimore to German parents who had also immigrated from Barvaria. The family lived on Brendan Avenue and were parishioners of the Shrine. George was a Technical Sergeant with the U.S. Army, 313<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

He fought in the European theater and was killed in a firefight with German forces in Belgium during the Battle of the Bulge on December 19, 1944. He was 38 years old when he was killed, and was posthumously awarded both the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. He is buried in the Ardennes American Cemetery in Neupre, Belgium, about 75 miles from Brussels.

Tim stated that George was his mother's brother, and his godfather. He had the opportunity to visit his grave in Belgium in February, 2004.

(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](mailto:littlefloweralum@comcast.net)

**Susan Hitzelberger Scheerer, '63**

## **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 29<sup>TH</sup>, MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>, AUGUST 30<sup>TH</sup> and NOVEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2009.

Light refreshments will be served after Mass.

It is our hope that many of you will join is 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<sup>ST</sup>.

## **E-MAIL ADDRESS**

The Alumni Association now has a computer workstation at the Rectory, and the Committee can be reached by e-mail. Question, comments, etc. can be sent to [littlefloweralumni@comcast.net](mailto:littlefloweralumni@comcast.net). Changes in your information should also be sent to this e-mail, so that we can keep the data base as up-to-date as possible.

## **DUES**

Dues invoices have been mailed to all members, and we would ask that you pay your dues as soon as possible. The dues are still only \$10 per year. If you did not receive an invoice, you can still pay your dues simply by sending a check, made payable to **LITTLE FLOWER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION** to 2854 Brendan Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21213.

## **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: [littlefloweralumni@comcat.net](mailto:littlefloweralumni@comcat.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.

## **SUSPICIOUS E-MAIL ALERT**

The Committee has been advised that a number of our members have received e-mails from a person claiming to be from the class of 1969. He states that he wants to reconnect with "old pals" and talk about a "business transaction". We cannot confirm who this person is, and would advise anyone who is contacted by him to be cautious.

The Committee wants to assure everyone that we do not share our data with outsiders and do our best to protect our information. If someone were trying to contact one of our members, we would take that information, and contact you and let you decide if you want to make contact, we would not give your information to someone else without permission.

## **BELAIR ROAD BOYS CLUB**

Did you grow up in the B'lair Road area, from Clifton Park to Moravia Road? Did you know that there is a group of "boys" who meet for lunch, the third Wednesday of the even months at 12:00 at American Legion Post Number 130, 8666 Silver Lake Drive, off of Silver Spring Road in Perry Hall? If you are interested, you are invited to contact Denny Meadowcroft at 410-879-9580 for more information, or to make arrangements to attend.

## **MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH**

Since we formed the Alumni Association, we have reached out to the thousands of graduates of the Shrine to join us. We know that there are many others out there, who may not have graduated from the Shrine, but whose memories are tied to the Shrine. For many of us, especially if you went to one of the all male or all female high schools, most of our social life was connected to the Shrine. One of the first things that happened when you graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade was to become eligible to join the CYO.

CYO meant Friday night socials; if you were a member in the mid-to-late sixties, do you remember that we had our own "house" band. Do you remember their name? The sixties was the era of the folk song, and we had many a Friday night coffee house sing-along. Summer time included at least one bus trip to Ocean City; fall meant a trip to Patapsco State Park or a hayride on an empty school bus to a farm in Westminster.

You didn't have to be Catholic or a graduate of the Shrine to join, just a member of the parish. There are no records of those names, but many of us are probably still in touch with someone from that time.

There were many other organizations within the parish – scout troops, sports teams, a drum and bugle corps, a choir, an outstanding folk group who played the 10:30 mass in the chapel for years, the CYO had an award winning drama club. If we could contact these people, they would be invited to join us, if you know how to contact someone like this, please do so, or tell us and we will contact them.

As with any organization, we must continue to grow and add new members.

## **FROM THE EDITOR**

Please feel free to contact me if you have news that you would like to share with the membership. Birth announcements, weddings, deaths and any other information provided to me will be listed in the newsletter.

**Susan Hitzelberger Scheerer '63**  
**410-488-7169**                      **littlefloweralum@comcast.net**

## **THE LAWS OF LIFE**

Similar to Murphy's Law –

Paradox of the Corporation – the less important you are to the corporation, the more your tardiness or absence is noted.

Salary Axiom – the pay raise is just large enough to increase your taxes; just small enough to have no effect on your take-home pay.

Law of Insurance – an insurance policy covers everything except what happens.

Strange Rule of Staleness – any food that starts out hard will soften when stale.

Any food that starts out soft will harden when stale.

Law of Employment – when leaving work late, you will go unnoticed. When leaving work early, you will meet the boss in the parking lot.

This sketch was first published in the Sacramento Bee on January 18, 2009. Since then, it has been circulated all over the Internet. The message it conveys is powerful, and it should continue to be seen. No words are needed.

