

Voices of Peace



'Those Who Look Only to the Past or Present Are Sure to Miss the Future' - JFK



Dear Students, Parents, Faculty, Alumnae and Friends of Peace,

The 2006-2007 academic year is one that has already been marked by many beautiful and wondrous transitions within the Queen of Peace community. We welcomed 17 new, talented, energetic, and accomplished faculty and staff, 220 bright, wide-eyed, enthusiastic frosh Women of Peace, as well as 20 upper class women all enthusiastically opting to transition into this vibrant educational community.

We welcomed all parents to evening programs that highlighted our goals to promote their active involvement through the establishment of a new Parent Network. The initiation of web email and on-line access to their daughter's progress reports, which will be provided by every teacher in every course, will provide greater access and services for parents. We have also initiated a new mentoring program for all frosh.

We welcomed all faculty and staff to a new year dedicated to living out the Dominican values of Justice and Compassion with a retreat focused on the global realities of children and our obligation to always seek first to assess the quality of life of our children and the quality of experience for our students. We were instructed to ask first: "How are the children?" then to seek ways to act justly and with compassion in light of this answer. These two values also were the focus of our opening school liturgy as we welcomed all to the faith community and called each other to be good companions on this journey and in our transition to becoming true women and men of peace.

"Town meetings" in late September and early October engaged students, parents, alum, teachers, and staff in an institutional assessment which will assist us in the construction of an institutional profile as well as a profile for the next President and Principal of Queen of Peace.

We established multiple channels for on-going internal communications and planning which include a President's Council, Principal's Council, and Curriculum Council that will meet bi-monthly throughout the year.

In this season of transition, we acknowledge the gifts and leadership of all the prior educational leaders who have generously served over the last 44 years and who have been instrumental in creating a strong, vibrant educational community that continually upholds the Sinsinawa Dominican values of justice, compassion, truth, partnership, and community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kathleen Hanlon

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What's New WithYou?

Same Great School; New & Improved Facility



Facility improvements were completed this summer at Queen of Peace High School, just in time to welcome students back for the 2006-2007 school year. "The goal of this first phase was to make the guidance counseling center and nurse's services

more visible, more user-friendly, and above all more accessible to the students," notes Dr. Kathleen Hanlon. Originally housed in the convent wing of the school, the counseling department and nurse's office have moved into the heart of the school - the academic wing. The school nurse's facility has moved to the second floor at the top of the stairs off the marble lobby.

The counseling center is now housed in the College Center, creating an integrated space where students can meet with their guidance and career counselors. With shelves stocked full of ACT and SAT preparatory guides, college catalogues, and scholarship resources, the counseling facility houses comfortable reading chairs, discussion tables, individual counseling offices, and laptops that students can use to research college and career options as well as fill out college applications.

"We absolutely love the completed renovations and the sense of community that the integration fosters. We are so excited to give monthly presentations for students and to increase student traffic in the center," says Guidance Director Katherine Walker. Now, information about particular courses, Advanced Placement credit, colleges, and possible career options is only a knock away.

Additional counseling services offered this year include small groups:

Rainbows: A 12-week group for students impacted by divorce or the death of a loved one. Training for facilitators began this Fall.

The Best of Blended Families: An 8-week look at how to handle family changes and stresses.

Study Power: A 4-week group focusing on effective study and test-taking strategies.

Fabulous Frosh: A 4-week group for frosh students who are feeling overwhelmed by the transition into high school.

Rest and Relaxation: A 5-week exploration of relaxation techniques as well as assertiveness training and active problem-solving skills.

With a wonderful new space to facilitate these activities, the counselors can undoubtedly meet the needs of our students in this ever-changing world.

Calling All Tennis Fans! We need your help:

As our hardworking tennis players continue to strive to become their best, they are in need of your help. The teams need tennis ball machines so that practices can run even more efficiently. Varsity Tennis Coach David Bell notes that such equipment has proven to help improve players' abilities. "With support and direction, our young, vastly improved, competitive team will continue to be a strong force!"

If you would like to make a donation or know how we could secure this machine, an expense of \$1,000, please contact Development Director Cindy Kmetty at 708-458-7600, ext. 250.

The Girls Thank You!

Thank you to our Parent Association volunteers who have taken on our officer roles:

Jim Kelly, President
Gus Sundermeier, VP, Seniors
Sandy Vrkljan, VP, Juniors
Janet Cervantes, VP, Sophomores
Carolyn Walls, VP, Frosh
Michael Baum, Treasurer
Helen Haynes, Secretary

Your time, effort, and hard work is greatly valued!

The next general meeting is Thursday, October 26. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Parent Programs Director Natalie Formica at 708-458-7600, x268 or visit www.queenofpeacehs.org.

Service: Not Just Something We Do But A Lifestyle!



Michala Mika works hard to repair the roof of a family's home.

Instructional Technology Coordinator and Physical Education teacher Mary Pat Pearson looked forward to spending a week of her summer vacation building front porches and repairing roofs - just as she did last summer. Pearson and Peace Service Coordinator Kristine Owens led six students on a cross-country drive to Nazareth Farm in West Virginia. Nazareth Farm is a Catholic community of volunteers that promotes prayer, community, service, and simplicity. Their mission notes: "We are devoted

to developing relationships and eliminating sub-standard housing through home repair in rural West Virginia. We provide a communal experience of Church as a center of action and prayer."

Students who went on the trip include: senior Jennifer Baron (Justice), senior Michelle Barry (Burbank), senior and two-time trip-goer Susanna Kelly (Evergreen Park), senior Alison Kmiec (Palos Heights), senior Michala Mika (Palos Hills), and junior Lauren Szot (Chicago). The students and chaperones were put to work immediately. Because some of the homes in Doddridge County are heated entirely with wood, the group worked hard splitting logs as well as building additions on homes and constructing roofs - all under the supervision of site managers. In addition to cleaning and preparing meals, participants led prayers throughout the days.

These activities were meant to pull the volunteers out of the hustle and bustle of a life often cluttered by modern technologies. Like the homes they helped construct, these activities built a feeling of community and the foundation for lasting relationships. "The students are encouraged to spend time building relationships with the people whose homes they are repairing," notes Pearson.

Not Your Typical Summer Job



Senior Carol Gomez holds a young child she bonded with while working in West Africa this summer.

For one month this summer, senior Carol Gomez (Chicago) ventured out of her city, her group of friends, and that comfort zone in the name of service. In fact, Carol traveled across the Atlantic Ocean to Ghana, in West Africa, where she joined other students in a multicultural exchange program. After enduring a grueling 6-month application process, which included a 10-page essay and interviews, Carol was chosen to work at an orphanage in the capital city Accra. When asked why she

decided to apply for this opportunity, Carol responded, "I wanted to open up my mind and my heart and, above all, become a global citizen."

When Carol arrived in Ghana this past July, she was schooled in the local culture. She learned about the industry that exists there, the way families are structured, and how people communicate with each other. She began her work immediately. "The second day there I was learning how to farm. I even planted a field of yams in an effort to make the orphanage self sufficient." In addition to caring for and playing with the young children, she taught English, showing the kids how to write their letters and numbers.

From this experience, Carol says she gained a huge amount of confidence. "I have always liked helping people, but this experience has ignited in me a true passion for service. I am now secure in what the next step of my life will be."

Carol plans to go to college next year to pursue a degree in International Studies. She will then join the Peace Corps so that one day she can work in international healthcare. "Though the work and heat was tough," it was worthwhile to get up every morning to see the children and to know that I was making a difference."

The Peace volunteers were also successful in building relationships with the other schools in attendance. This past August, the volunteers attended a reunion for all of the Illinois schools who undertook this journey. According to Pearson, the students from the various schools still talk and are eager to work together on joint service projects.

The trip was perfect for Peace students. The teachings of social justice and compassion - the Dominican values that we celebrate this school year - were apparent everywhere on Nazareth Farm, and they articulated in action the Peace mission and curriculum. Pearson said, "learning to do things completely out of one's comfort zone and meeting people with such contagious energy is an amazing, life-changing experience. We learned to live simplistically, and I hope we all take some of that back to our lives here."

St. James

For the 33rd consecutive year, the Peace Community will "adopt" families from the parish. Please help us in our continued efforts to live the mission of Queen of Peace. Let us put our faith into action.

We need:

- * Non-perishable food
- * New or nearly-new clothing (children & adult sizes)
- * New or nearly-new toys, stuffed animals

If you have items to donate, please drop them off in the Queen of Peace Main Office no later than **December 5, 2006.**



Upcoming Peace Events

November 7

Meet the Winter Sports Coaches

November 8

Fall Sports Banquet
You Make a Difference

November 9-12

Mini-Musical:
Dear Edwina, Jr.

November 17

Hoops For Hunger

November 19

Open House
Tours at 12 or 1 p.m.

November 22-24

Thanksgiving Break

November 29

College Financial Aid Night

December 1

Father/Daughter Dance

December 3

Band Christmas Concert

December 8

All-School Liturgy

December 12

St. James Delivery

December 13

Winter Choral Concert

December 21-22

Final Exams

December 23-January 8

Christmas Break

Faith in Action: Building a Community With and For Others



The first ever Dominican High Schools Preaching Conference was held at Queen of Peace High School in Burbank, IL from June 13-18, 1999. Thirty-nine students from seventeen Dominican high schools participated in this ground-breaking event. Under the direction of Sr. Patricia Brady, the conference was moved to accommodate the increasing number of participants.

For one week this summer, three students under the guidance of Sister Helen McAllister, a Queen of Peace Christian Living teacher and Dominican Sister, attended the 8th Annual Dominican High School Preaching Conference. Peace students in attendance included: junior Kathleen Alvarado (Chicago), junior Sarah Geinosky (Palos Heights), and junior Annette Nowacki (Chicago).

Eighty-four students from Dominican high schools throughout the country gathered at Siena Heights University in Adrian, Michigan to hear Father Timothy Radcliffe, O.P. speak about the "crisis of hope" in the world today. He concluded his talk by challenging the students to look for signs of hope and forgiveness in their everyday lives and to share that hope and forgiveness with others.

In addition to Father Radcliffe's presentation, the students learned about the heritage of the universal Dominican Order through storytelling, music, dance, art, and group-shares about how peace, justice, and compassion have touched their own lives. Geinosky, Nowaski, and Alvarado will use what they have learned to continue their

service work as well as share their experiences at Queen of Peace liturgies throughout the school year.

At the conference, each school developed an action plan highlighting the ways each hoped to preach what had been learned. When asked to share their plan, the Peace preaching team explained its desire to design a womens-focus week centered around the theme of human trafficking. The objective would be to emphasize the need for fair trade programs and the importance of working with Catholic Relief Services in fundraising efforts. The students also look to organize a food fast/lock-in in order to educate the community about issues relating to peace, justice, and compassion.

As the conference attendees gathered for group pictures at the end of the week, one recurring theme continued to ring true. Being able to foster a sense of community among themselves and other schools as well as reaching out to the wider community will facilitate change.

Want to have a more convenient way to read your issues of Voices?

We have had many requests so far for an online version of *Voices*.

We will distribute our next issue through an email blast, in addition to the paper copy for those who prefer it.

If you'd like to receive the blast and in the process free up even more money for student scholarships, technology advancements, and facility improvements, just complete these easy steps:

STEP ONE: Go online to www.queenofpeacehs.org

STEP TWO: Click the "Voices Online" link on the homepage

STEP THREE: Fill in the survey and click "Submit"

If you already completed the survey, you do not have to resubmit.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

January 8
Yearbook Signing Party for the
Class of 2006

January 13
Entrance Exam
Class of 2011

January 19
JR/SR Winter Dance

January 20
Candlelight Bowl

January 26
Winter Spirit Assembly

January 29
All-School Liturgy

January 30
Academic Awards Assembly

Congrats to Hall of Famer Deb Murphy!



This Fall, Coach Deborah Murphy was inducted into the Harold L. Richards High School Athletic Hall of Fame. Coach Murphy, a 4-year Physical Ed teacher and Head Cross Country and Track coach at Peace, is one of two women to be inducted in this first class. When asked about the honor, Coach Murphy replied smiling ear to ear, "It is indeed a true honor, especially since this is the first class to be recognized."

Murphy began her athletic career in high school when she became the Illinois High School Class AA Champion in Discus and Shot Put. She concluded her high-school career as the South Inter-Conference Association (SICA) Sectional Champion. She was named a National High School All-American. In addition, she made the All-State Track Team and became the Shot Put Champ at the National Junior Olympics. Murphy had a 4-year track scholarship at Texas Tech University. We are proud to have Coach Murphy as part of the Peace community!

From Engineer to Teacher: Jose Finds a Voice



When he graduated from the esteemed Ateneo de Manila University with his BA in Mathematics, Jose Gamboa never expected that one day he would stand in front of a classroom. In fact, from the moment his grandfather gave him his first Lego set, Gamboa knew he was a builder.

"I loved planning, building, and the satisfying feeling of realizing a finished product," he notes. Gamboa became an engineer.

However, when the Japanese company he worked for shifted its focus from building to demolition, Gamboa decided to move on. Jose remembers the day that changed the rest of his life.

On March 23, 2003, Gamboa left the Philippines to visit his sister and nephew in Chicago. During his stay, Gamboa tutored his young nephew, who was having difficulty in math at the time. "When I saw the sparkle in my nephew's eyes after he began to grasp some of the concepts, I couldn't help but feel inspired." Gamboa had found his calling. No longer would he build structures; instead he would build young minds.

Having completed his MA in Teaching

Secondary Education with a concentration in Mathematics at National-Louis University, Gamboa worked for the Chicago Teaching Center. His experience leading year-round math programs for Chicago-area high-school students, namely Upward Bound and BLAST (Building Leadership and Success Together), made him even more aware of the importance to prepare and encourage high-school students to pursue post-secondary education and career options by any means possible.

As Peace continues to focus on improving students' abilities to think critically and solve problems under pressure, Gamboa is eager to use his experiences in ways that show students how to approach real-world challenges. "As a Construction Management Engineer for 16 years, I used math in reading architectural plans, estimating project costs, scheduling project deadlines, and in figuring the logistics of man-power, equipment, and materials on any given project. Whether one is an engineer or not, math has very practical applications in all of our lives and that's something I want to show the students.

Excited. Delighted. These words didn't quite capture how Gamboa felt as the rush of a new school year took flight. "Indescribable expectations" was more like it!"

A Homecoming That Never Tasted So Sweet!



When Mary Greco took a two-year sabbatical from teaching at Queen of Peace, she knew it wasn't good-bye. An educator for 22 years, a mother of 7, and a grandmother of 2, Christian Living teacher Mary Greco has returned to Peace for her ninth year. When asked how she felt about her return, Mary replied gleefully, "I love it. Peace is my home away from home. The students are the best in the world. I truly believe that."

After 12 years of operating and owning a pre-school, Mary decided to take up teaching full time. She received her Bachelors in Pastoral Ministry and English from St. Xavier University at the age of 40. She began at Peace in 1995, but her presence had been felt here long before.

Mary is not only a Peace teacher but also a 1972 graduate. She found that she was "so satisfied with the educational and spiritual growth" she felt as a student, Mary wanted her family to be able to experience the same personal growth. All three of Mary's daughters are also alumnae. Currently, one of Mary's nieces is a senior, while another gears up to enter as a frosh next year.

"Tradition and continuing the Peace mission means everything to me. In my experience, there is no better place for a young woman. I've seen the end results. Young women come out of here, go on to wonderful things, and become even more successful, caring, and socially conscious. They are Women of Peace. It really means something to be a Woman of Peace."

Welcome home, Mary!

The Peace Community Honors One of its Own



A master teacher. A life-long learner. An innovative educator. A cherished colleague. A proud mother. All the titles in the world couldn't quite capture who Elaine Andrysiak was. Above all, she was a person whose gifts, talents, and generosity will always be interwoven into the fabric of the Queen of Peace Community. Elaine Andrysiak died Saturday, September 16, after a long struggle with cancer. Teachers, staff, alumnae, and friends of Peace honored Elaine Thursday, September 21, at a reflection service held at the school.

As a curriculum coordinator and member of the English department at Queen of Peace High School for 24 years, Andrysiak believed in the potential of all students. This was evidenced in her classes day after day and year after year as she challenged students to reach beyond their own expectations. An avid reader, lover of opera and music of all kinds, as well as someone who could find lessons in the popular culture of the day, she wove all of this into her instruction. This creative energy inspired countless young women throughout her tenure at Queen of Peace

In fact, her dedication to excellence and motivating students provided the impetus for the development of cutting-edge curriculum across the disciplines, as well as programs for the professional development of the faculty. Her belief that reflection with practice imprints instruction contributed to the institution of a professional portfolio program nearly 12 years ago. That, in turn, led to the adoption and continual evolution of the student portfolio program. According to Elaine, faculty and staff must be examples for their students. Teachers could not ask students to do something that they themselves were not also doing.

This esteemed educator helped to facilitate the rebirth of Peace's interdisciplinary program and oversaw its expansion. She expanded the Advanced Placement program and championed it as a vehicle to challenge all students, not just a few. As a result of her unyielding passion to educate, Andrysiak was honored with the Heart of the School Award in 2001 and the coveted Queen of Peace Hall of Fame Award in August 2004. This Hall of Fame honor is a prestigious award that is not bestowed every year; in fact, the last honoree before Andrysiak was inducted in 2002. The award is reserved for a special person in the Peace community whose qualities transcend those of all others.

In her passing, she has left a legacy that will forever be remembered. Andrysiak's imprint is visible throughout Peace's curricular and program initiatives. Her capacity to see the possibilities and dream big had been the energy for those changes - reading and writing analytically, developing a plan for improving school-wide critical thinking, inspiring a parallel connection between English I and Christian Living I based on the Gospel and Dominican values, and above all creating an environment of greater unity and harmony where all are encouraged to reflect and better themselves and the world.

Elaine Andrysiak was all these things. But above all, she was and still remains an inspiration. She served in the creation of an atmosphere that promoted growth, humanity, and Christian charity. Without a doubt, Andrysiak will be remembered, her spirit kept alive, and her legend forever acknowledged at Queen of Peace. We will miss you, Elaine.

Dear Parents, Friends and Alumnae,

The events and accomplishments described in this issue of *Voices* have truly identified our year's focus on the Dominican values of JUSTICE and COMPASSION. We continue to feel energized by the students and faculty who give of their time and talents endlessly to create our unique Peace community. Whether it be through cross-country service trips, producing the Fall play, or arranging parent education seminars, the dedicated staff and faculty know that without your support none of what we love to do is possible.

Our mission is to empower young women through an ever-challenging curriculum, advanced technology, and diverse extracurricular activities. We instill in our students a willingness to study, to pray, and to embrace the Dominican values. However, the success of our mission requires more than the devotion of faculty and students; it requires your continued support and dedication.

We ask those who have experienced our Peace community and what it means to become Women of Peace to ensure our future success in empowering the next wave of women leaders. We hope that our alumnae continue to come in large numbers for their reunions and the annual Mazzuchelli Scholarship Dinner & Auction, *Buona Sera*. We encourage our parents and friends to join us at all our community events. Most of all, we need you to respond to the annual appeal this fall.

With your continued support, we know that 2006-2007 will be a memorable year in the history of Queen of Peace High School. Thank you for joining us on this journey to unparalleled success in the education of women who find their own voices and make a world of difference.

In the spirit of Peace,

"Success is always the result of partnership"



Cindy Kmetty
Director of Development and Alumnae Relations



(From top left) Jacy DiFoggio Doumas, Ellen Sullivan, Colleen Fitzpatrick Zientek, Maureen Sheehy Skowronski, Sue MacCarthy Star, Mary Laura Malham Randolph, (bottom row) Marge Koster Dunning, and Mary Taube Curtin

Now spread across the country, eight Queen of Peace graduates from the Class of 1978 recently reconnected in Scottsdale, Arizona. "We try to see each other at Thanksgiving when many of us are home. But this was the first time in 25 years that we ALL made it," says 1978 Class President Jacy DiFoggio Doumas. When they gathered this summer, QOP memories filled their time together, whether it was the fun times they shared at the bowling alley as members of the Peace Bowling League, promoting school events as members of the PR Club or planning dances as part of the Student Council. Now mothers, dear aunts, career women, and volunteers, these women from the Class of 1978 hold the time they spent at Peace close to their hearts. It's true what they say: Peace friendships really do stay with you for a lifetime!

Peace Profile: Mariola Janik Lets Peace Empower Her!



Janik (right) sits with Oak Lawn Rotary District 6450 President, Kathleen Kobak.

When Mariola Janik began her high-school career at Peace in 1998, she never expected that it would shape her entire being. "Everything I stand for, everything I value, and everything I still want to become is because of Peace," the 2002 graduate reflected tearfully.

As a fresh-faced frosh unsure of what she wanted to be when she grew up, Janik encountered "amazingly talented teachers like Sister Helen McAllister." Sister Helen, a Christian Living teacher at Peace, encouraged Janik to become involved. So one thing Janik did was attend the annual Dominican Preaching Conference. Fluent in English, Polish, and Spanish and currently studying Portuguese, Janik also credits her Peace Spanish teachers for opening her up to a language and culture that would later inspire her career goals. It was her foreign language experiences as well as her participation at the Conference that ignited her true passion for foreign service.

This past Spring, Janik graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in Social Policy and International Studies. While attending Northwestern, she took on the Adelante Internship. For two months, Janik sojourned in Viña del Mar, Chile, developing marketing strategies for the International Language Institute and conducting research for APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation).

Janik then volunteered for the Cross Cultural Solutions program in Salvador, Brazil, where she provided daycare to disabled children and elderly women at Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity. Janik also took advantage of Northwestern's Field

Studies Program. As a Global Exchange Practicum student, she took daily field notes, compiled research, and wrote a 20-page paper on fair trade and anti-sweatshop campaigns. As a result of her hard work and dedication, Janik was chosen to represent Global Exchange at the United Students Against Sweatshops Conference in Washington D.C.

Her activism, advocacy, and commitment to service prepared her for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Upon graduation, Janik secured a position in the Office of Policy Planning with the State Department. With her top-secret security clearance, Janik researched foreign relations, prepared reports on foreign programs, and made weekly presentations to Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, and the President at the White House.

Mariola is just getting started. Her plans for the future? This very young, accomplished woman plans to become a foreign-service officer. She will apply for the Rotary Foundation's Ambassadorial Scholarship in an effort to study social work at the Universidad Católica de Santiago de Guayaquil in Ecuador. Once there, she wants to cultivate partnerships among the different indigenous communities.

Janik looks back at her time at Peace as profound. From her role as President of the National Honor Society to her study of the *McDonaldization of Society* as part of the St. Catherine of Siena Congress, "Peace provided me with an environment to grow, to be proud of what I stand for, and to embrace the differences of others." Exemplifying the true meaning of justice and compassion, Janik will undoubtedly continue on her mission of service. Remember this young woman's name!

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others."

Planning has begun for the 4th annual

Mazzuchelli Scholarship Benefit

Buona Sera - A good evening for a great benefit!

March 30, 2007

Don't miss your chance to get involved!

Join the event committee.

Donate an auction item.

Sponsor a table.

Purchase a ticket to attend.

Get involved!

Be part of a fun and wonderful evening, while providing assistance to students challenged by financial hardship. Help our young women continue to receive a quality academic and spiritual education at Queen of Peace.

Save the date and contact Cindy Kmetty, Development Director at 708-458-7600, ext. 250 for more details.

Sponsored by the Queen of Peace Board of Directors.

ALUMNAE EVENTS RECAP

More event photos can be found on Peace's website by clicking "Alumnae and Events"

14th Annual Golf Outing



Not even threats of rain could keep the golfers away! Our 14th Annual Peace Golf Classic was a major success! We couldn't have asked for a better group to join us on the green. We had alumnae, parents, faculty, former faculty, and friends swinging clubs at Palos Country Club.



We sincerely thank those alumnae, parents, faculty, former faculty, and friends who attended, sponsored, and volunteered. Due to your generosity, the Peace Golf Classic profited over \$8,000. These funds will continue to assist Peace students in financial need.

Two donors also sponsored seniors on our Peace Golf Team. Five were able to attend. What better way to show our future alum how much fun we have at our events! In fact, the winning foursome included three of our talented golfers from the Class of 2007: Michala Mika, Cortney Companio, and Cindy Dowell. With much fun had by all, we look forward to another successful outing next year. Thanks for *chipping in* for the girls!

Class of 2001 Reunion



Not to be outdone by the millennial graduates, the Class of 2001 proved that they are just as fun and lively as they were 5 years ago! These alum were excited to catch up with classmates and to see where life post graduation had led.

Anniversary Classes Reunion



So much intelligence, success, and history all in one room! If you are a member of the Class of 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, and 1996 and didn't attend the reunion, you missed a wonderful evening! Alumnae gathered at their alma mater for tours, pictures, great food, music, and merriment. If you're a graduate with a year ending in 7 or 2, get ready - you're next!

What's New With You?

Class of 1966

Barbara Davis (Gross) has taught special education and second grade and is now the technology coach for Milan Elementary School. She has lived in a country home in Tennessee for the past 21 years with her husband, Allan. Barbara and her husband also sing in a band.

Class of 1986

Michelle Denis (Bird) is a Police Communication Operator II for OEMC in Chicago. Michelle and her husband Raymal, have welcomed their first child into the world this past June.

Class of 1991

Heather Brown (Koepeke) has her MA in Speech Pathology and is a Speech-Language Pathologist at Metamora Grade School. She and her husband Chris reside in Metamora, IL with their 8-year-old daughter and 5-year-old son.

Class of 1974

Genie Kontos (Phillipos) has been teaching first grade for the last 12 years and is actively involved with philanthropic organizations in Granada Hills, California, where she lives with her husband, James. They have three children, Thomas, Jonathan, and Anna.

Class of 1987

Kelly Rimkus (Badon) is married to Dan Rimkus, and they have four sons and one daughter. Their oldest attends Providence Catholic and their daughter attends Peace.

Heather Mack has just returned from assignment in Korea. She was promoted to the rank of Major in the U.S. Army.

Class of 1976

Laurie Ziada (Udell) is a Document/Audit Coordinator for Federal Signal Corporation. Laurie and her husband Hussein, live in Frankfort and have 4 children, ranging in age from 16 to 22.

Swoo Sun is a professor of Interior Architecture and also serves as Secretary General of the International Federation of Interior Architects/Designers. She currently resides in Seoul, Korea with her husband Sung Lee and their 10-year-old twin sons.

Class of 1992

Kristen Catuara (Caum) earned her BA in Applied Psychology from University of Illinois and is now an Education Program Manager for The Family Institute at Northwestern University. She and her husband Michael reside in Chicago.

Class of 1984

Sue Eskra works with fellow Peace alum, Annie Hunger. After many years in the medical field, Sue is pursuing a career as a Marketing Manager/Special Events Coordinator for Annie Bell, the children's book author. She lives in her dream home out in the country with her family.

Class of 1988

Amy (Bjes) Costello has her BA in Psychology from Western Michigan University and lives with her husband Jim and children Kylie and Austin in Frankfort.

Linda Lewis (O'Shea) is a graduate of Dominican University and a Registered Emergency Room Nurse at Gottlieb Memorial Hospital. Linda and her husband Shawn live in Brookfield with children, 3-year-old Aidan and 18-month-old Colette.

Class of 1985

Annie Hunger (Actipes) is a children's book author & illustrator. She has published her first book this year called *The KandyKane Kids, Welcome to Kandy Town* under the name Annie Bell. Annie has been a speaker at our Career Day. She is the mother of four children, ranging in age from 3 to 13.

Class of 1989

Christine Rorer (Helstern) is currently completing her Masters in Computer Science. She is an Applications Developer & Programmer at St. Xavier University. She and her husband, John, live with their 3-year-old son Christian in Orland Park.

Stacie Burden has her BSBA from Roosevelt University and works for ABN Amro Services/La Salle Bank. Stacie is active in Peace's Alumnae Association and Reunion Committee.

If you would like to be featured in "What's New" go online to:
www.queenofpeacehs.org
and click on Alumnae!

It's not the the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years! -- Abraham Lincoln

What's New With You?

Class of 1993

Tamara McHugh (Ptaszkowski) earned her B.S. in Biology and Physician Assistant Studies from Loyola University and Midwestern University, respectively. She is a Physician Assistant for Healthy Kids in Tinley Park. She and her husband Tim have two sons, 4-year-old Kyle and 10-month-old Kaden.

Cathy Santiago (Wajda) graduated from UIC and is now a Purchasing Agent for WPM Construction. Cathy and her husband Dave have a 17-month-old daughter, Sydney.

Class of 1996

Jody Coglianese recently relocated to Woodland Hills, CA to work as a producer on the Tony Hawk video games at Neversoft Entertainment.

Rebecca Pencak (Brennan) is a kindergarten teacher. Rebecca and her husband have celebrated the birth of their second daughter, Amelia. Their daughter Madalyn is 3 years old.

Leticia Reyes has her BA in Political Science from the University of Illinois and currently works at the Governor's office as a Political and Public Affairs Consultant.

Class of 1999

Bridget Kevin earned her BA from Illinois Institute of Art and currently works as a Digital Artist.

Anna Mortimer (Majchrowicz) earned a Business Management degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She works as a corporate trainer for the MGM Grand Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas. She married her husband Phil in June 2005.

Class of 1999 con't

Megan Nielsen earned her BS in 2003 from Butler University and is a Credit Analyst for Marquette Bank. She has recently started her MBA at DePaul University with a concentration in Real Estate & Finance.

Jacklyn Owsianiak earned her BA in 2004 from Trinity Christian College and has been a Chicago Police Officer since 2004, patrolling Chicago's 6th District. She also presented at our Career Day. Jacklyn and her fiancé Jason, who is also a Chicago Police Officer, have a May 2007 wedding planned.

Molly Stirn (Mann) received her Marketing degree from Bradley University and was recently promoted to Regional Corporate Accounts Manager at Enterprise Leasing Co. She has been a Peace Career Day Presenter. Molly recently married Justin Stirn in July 2006.

Elizabeth Wodarski finished her Master's at Dominican University in 2005 in Library Science and is now a Children's Librarian for the Chicago Public Library. Elizabeth has been a presenter for our Career Day. She and her fiancé, Jason, are putting the finishing touches on their November wedding.

Class of 2000

Jamie (Kramer) Chesna is a Chicago Police Officer. Jamie and her husband David have a daughter, Reilly 2, and a son, Canon, 4 months. Jamie has been a presenter at Peace Career Day.

Christina Calderone earned her BFA from Columbia College. In June 2006, she started working for the Boys & Girls Club of Chicago as a Teen REACH Coordinator. She and her fiancé, Kal Moy, are planning their September 2007 wedding.

Class of 2001

Larissa Smith is a Graduate Assistant for the Ronald McNair Scholar Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is working on her P.h. D. in Anthropology and Archaeology.

Jenny Gonzalez graduated with her M.S.A. from Loyola University. Jenny is an accountant for Deloitte & Touche LLP.

Class of 2003

Kelly Calderone is attending Millikin University where she studies theatre. This past summer, she worked with those who have cognitive and physical disabilities as an Inclusion Aide for the Chicago Park District.

Chanel Rose earned her BA in Political Science from Southern Illinois University. She is a Paul Simon Fellow for Lt. Governor Pat Quinn.

Natasha Wasinski is currently a student at Loyola University where she studies Communication, International Studies, and has a minor in French. She lives with a homestay family in Geneva, Switzerland this fall, studying Public Health, Social Justice, and French. Natasha then will conduct an independent research project on media coverage and the role journalism plays in global health matters. Natasha's younger sister is a frosh this year at Peace.

We Need Your Help!

So many of our students enjoy and must ride their bikes to school. However, we do not have the bike racks needed to secure the bikes. If you or someone you know is willing and able to donate a bike rack, please contact Cindy Kemtty at 708-458-7600 Ext. 250. Thank You!

*A Newsletter for alumnae, parents, students, and friends of Peace. Fall 2006 Vol. 13 Issue 1
If you have any questions or suggestions, contact Victoria Guzzo, Coordinator of Marketing and Public Relations.*

**(708) 458-7600 (773)586-7300 www.queenofpeacehs.org
7659 S. Linder Ave., Burbank, Illinois 60459**

Queen of Peace High School is sponsored by the Sinsinawa Dominican Congregation.

Queen of Peace maintains a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in its admissions policies and practices, education programs and activities.

**Queen of Peace High School
7659 S. Linder Ave.
Burbank, IL 60459**

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PERMIT NO. 117



open house

Visit an open house on Thursday, October 19 at 7 p.m.
or Sunday, November 19 at 12 p.m. or 1 p.m.

**Share these Dates
with the Junior High
Students You Know!**

Personal Tour Night

Monday, January 8, 2007
7 p.m. at Peace

Entrance Exam

Saturday, January 13, 2007
at 8 a.m. at Peace

Shadow Days Available!

Call 708-458-7600
Ext. 501 to Reserve a Spot!