A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL
By Bill Kovacich

As we begin our second year as principal of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, the goals set when we arrived here begin to take shape. The tired building needed some sprucing up and we have just completed painting of the hallways, stairwells and foyer. For safety, we have moved the school office downstairs by the main entrance. The administrative offices and conference room remain on the middle floor. We have tidied up the cafeteria, now known as “Alumni Hall”, with some paint and the collecting and hanging of the graduation pictures of all our alumni (see accompanying article). This year, we have purchased new desks and chairs for the third, fifth and sixth grades, completing a two-year revamping of all classroom furniture for the school. Finally, with the help of the parish, we have replaced the leaky school roof.

This year, we initiated a development office with the hiring of alumnus, Ed Mahoney, formerly of Archbishop Riordan High School. We have saddled him with some lofty tasks in his first year like the formulation of an alumni list, the initiation of our alumni newsletter, and the planning of two events: 1) an Alumni Open House on January 29th, 2) the planning of our first Dinner/Auction on March 5th. As you can see, Mr. Mahoney is a very busy man.

Our plans for the future include the restructuring of our computer lab and curriculum, new lighting in Alumni Hall, and the establishment of both a scholarship program and an endowment fund.

Many of you have already come back to visit us. I have met scores of graduates from the 40’s and 50’s and have even heard from a few in the ‘30’s. O.L.P.H. has a long and storied history and I look forward to meeting or hearing from all of you who at one time called the “grand old lady at the top of the hill” your home.

1939 OLPH Church and School viewed from the hill. (Archives of Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange)

BACK TO THE TOP OF THE HILL
By Ed Mahoney, Development Director

Dear Alums and Friends of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School,

I feel extremely fortunate that OLPH Principal, Bill Kovacich, has asked me to take on the task of Development Director so soon after my retirement from Safeway. Over the years, many people have been amazed when I’ve told them that the majority of my closest friends today are the people I have known since my early days at OLPH. To be working where my formal education began, 52 years ago, is not only a pleasure for me, but also a real honor.

With that in mind, I would like to extend to all of you greetings from Our Lady of Perpetual Help School and a warm invitation to come back to “The Top of the Hill.” We have planned an Open House/Mass on January 29th and an Auction/Dinner Dance on March 5th of 2005. I hope that many of you will be able to come to one or both events. Details on these two gatherings are enclosed within this newsletter.

The hunt continues for addresses of past grads and friends of OLPH. I started with about 75 addresses in July and now I am up to about 500. I am hoping to double that number to at least 1000 by the time the Auction/Dinner Dance rolls around. Please help me by providing addresses for those with whom you are still in touch or ask them to send their info to me at the school.

Another major project for the Development Department has been the acquisition and duplication of all the graduation photos in OLPH’s history. Once duplicated, the class pictures are then mounted in OLPH’s “Alumni Hall.” I would now like to take the time to acknowledge the extreme devotion of our 8th grade teacher, Mary Lucett. It is mostly through her efforts, and those of Mr. Kovacich, that this daunting task is starting to look like it can and will be accomplished. However, we are still missing some graduation photos. Please read the “Alumni Hall” article and help us locate the missing photographs so that all classes will be represented.

You will notice that the focus of this newsletter revolves around OLPH history and human memories. Since the Development Department has only been in existence since August and there were precious few past efforts to build on, we are basically starting from scratch. The lion’s share of ink in this issue has been spent on the very early days—the 30’s, 40’s and 50’s. Future issues will focus on later decades, so I beg the indulgence of you later grads in the meantime.
MOTHERS’ CLUB PRESIDENTS 1939-1981

SOPIE KLINKLER 1939-40
SOPIE KLINKLER 1940-41
ELSIE THOMSON 1941-42
MARY MUSANTE 1942-43
VERA ROSS 1943-44
DOROTHEA BRUSH 1944-45
ESTHER NOLAN 1945-46
MARGARET SCHREIBER 1946-47
ISABELLE LIBERTI 1947-48
VALETTA ENNIS 1948-49
THERESA SULLIVAN 1949-50
MARY CALEGARI 1950-51
JEAN DENNING 1951-52
RUTH CRESTA 1952-53
MARY THEIBAULT 1953-54
CATHERINE RICCI 1954-55
DOROTHY CARRINGTON 1955-56
VIRGINIA STANLEY 1956-57
AUDREY SALLADE 1957-58
ROSE FAIR 1958-59
LOUISE LOFRANO 1959-60
ALICE GONZALES 1960-61
LORRAINE MIGNAULT 1961-62
RITA PERKOV 1962-63
GUSSIE MORGAN 1963-64
GLORIA HOLMBERG 1964-65
NATI DANIELE 1965-66
MADELINE DREW 1966-67
ROSEMARY VALENTE 1967-68
NANCY BATTAGLIA 1968-69
BARBARA CANDAU 1969-70
KATI TORRES 1970-71
LUELLA FLAHERTY 1971-72
LINDA MORALES 1972-73
LINDA MORALES 1973-74
EVA BALDWIN (CO-PRES) 1974-75
ROSEMARY VALENTE (CO) 1974-75
VERA SANS 1975-76
CAROL KLATT 1976-77
CATHY ROGER 1977-78
ROSE FODE 1978-79
JACKIE BAILEY 1979-80
CAROLYN CORDERO 1980-81

THE LORRAINE EDNA MAHONEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

A scholarship fund has been established at OLPH in the memory of Lorraine Mahoney, who passed away on October 26, 2004. Her two sons, John and Ed, attended OLPH in the 1950’s and early ‘60’s. The fund has been registered with the Archdiocese of San Francisco in hopes of eventually reaching endowment. The proceeds from this fund will be used to assist OLPH students with tuition and fees.

Donations may also be made to the Fund in memory of a departed loved one who will be remembered in prayers in future masses at OLPH Church and whose name will be entered into a memorial album. Please make checks out to “OLPH Development Department” and mail to:

Lorraine Mahoney Scholarship Fund
80 Wellington Avenue
Daly City, CA 94014

OLD PHOTOGRAPHES GATHERING DUST?
SEND THEM TO US!!!
1948 Reunion @ Nick’s Rockaway Restaurant on April 9, 2003
Mike Casentini, Jim Reardon, Joe Cruz, Ed Aguirre, Mike Saunders, Jackie Frellson Castruita, Margaret Aguirre Malgarejo, Betty Curtin Cutietta, Joan Beecher Strazzullo (hidden), Aileen Greer Hogue, Liz Fenton Borg (back), Patsy Curley Craviotto, Janet Schreiber Cereghino, Shirley Milano Allen, Alice Aguirre Vargas, Marion Elliott Oakley.

1953 Reunion @ Licata’s (Cypress Hills Golf Course) on April 16, 1994
(Front) Jim Ferretti, Arleen Kordoules Russi, Colleen McCann Perry, Mike Ryan, (Back) Karen Savage Gleeson, Jim Russi, Arlene Storm, Jack Bautista

CLASS REUNIONS

Thanks to those individuals who have taken the time to send in pictures of their class reunions. You are encouraged to send in reunion pictures for future newsletters. Please provide the names of each classmate in the pictures sent.

If you are planning a reunion for your class, please let us know and we will help to publicize the event in our newsletter. While each class is responsible for planning and implementing its own reunion, the OLPH Development Department can be of assistance in providing known addresses of classmates and some of the other details, which may be of help to you. If you would like to hold your reunion at the school, please submit several possible dates and we will attempt to schedule one for you that does not conflict with other school or parish activities. Naturally, all set-up and clean-up, etc. are the responsibility of the hosting class.


1956 Reunion @ San Francisco Olympic Club in 1996.
1938 Don Menicucci was one of 11 Menicucci's
to attend OLPH from 1933 to 1948. A superior ath-
lete at OLPH, Don went on to make the All-City
football team at Balboa High School, earning a
scholarship to the University of San Francisco,
where he played football in 1942. After a stint in the
Coast Guard (where he also played service football), Don came back to The City to join the family electrical business, play-
ing professional football at the same time for the San Francisco Clippers. He currently resides in Vallejo with his wife of 56
years, Jean, where he stays active with his family (6 grandchildren!), playing golf and volunteering his services on the Board
for the Rancho Murieta Community Services District.

1940 Father Stanley Parmisano sends regards from Oakland, where he resides as a Dominican priest at Saint
Albert’s Priory.

1940 Eileen Mullen recalls that students attending OLPH, in her day, were taught in buildings that were owned by the
Smith Lumber Company of Daly City. “Regularly, rocks from the adjacent hillside would fall and block the only door to one
of the classrooms.” Nevertheless, Eileen has fond memories because “it’s not really the plant but the people who make a
good school.”

1941 Roderick Linhares recently retired after a long and devoted career in elementary education. His last post was as
school principal in the Laguna Salada (Pacific) School District.

1942 Dolores Sutherland resides in Petaluma and serves as an assistant at St. James Church with Father
Michael Culligan.

1943 Rosemary (Sutherland) Valente serves as the Chief Financial Officer (bookkeeper) at Our Lady of Perpetual Help
School. She has volunteered to be a co-organizer of the OLPH Alums and Friends Open House and Eucharist on Saturday,
January 29, 2005.

1943 Evelyn (Mullen) Castleberry sends greetings from Petaluma, California. “In my day (’35-’43) families were generally
very small (1-2 children). There were three children in my family, but I remember the Menicucci and Zarcone families were
very large.” Evelyn’s “best friend forever--first grade at OLPH through Mercy High, through life” is none other than Patricia
(Tallon) Brooks ’43, who now lives in Palm Springs, California.

1944 Leslie Linhares, sister of Roderick, was not only an early graduate of OLPH, but also taught there in the 50’s
and 60’s.

1945 Allen Menicucci has visited OLPH twice in the last few months, on the first occasion bringing with him the original
copy of the Class of 1945 photo. A total of 11 Menicucci brothers and sisters populated OLPH in the early days and, at one
time, there were Menicucci’s in every grade level! Al is a retired electrician who keeps busy with the Elks and other social
contact groups.

1945 Sister Adele Marie Korhummel serves as the archivist at the Mother House of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange.
She responded to the initial mailing of the Development Department by sending back a package of beautiful photographs
from the early years at OLPH, some of which are printed in this newsletter.

1947 Joan (Romiquiere) Clavien informs us that she is the proud Mom of Robert and Michelle and the grandmother of
Sara and Ashley. She provided the Development Department with the addresses of her cousins—the Reardon’s and the
Parmisano’s—who were ubiquitous at OLPH in the 1940’s.

1947 Dr. Robert Gross retired in 1994 as superintendent of the Jefferson Union High School District and now serves on the
SF Archdiocesan School Board. Bob remembers that his class was promised to be the first to graduate from the new
building. Since the building was not quite finished when the Class of 1947 matriculated, the students were treated instead to
a graduation breakfast in the new hall.

1947 Sister Lauren Boyle is a Dominican nun currently residing in San Jose.

1948 Janet (Schreiber) Cereghino is proud to have been a member of the first class to graduate from the new building.
Her folks, Margaret and Dean Schreiber, sent all six of their children to OLPH—Dean (deceased), Marjorie, Kathleen, Nancy,
Janet and George (deceased). She is the mother of five kids, 3 of whom attended OLPH until the family moved from Daly
City in 1964.

1948 Marion (Elliott) Oakley has been the prime mover in annual reunions of their class. Their last reunion at Nick’s in
Rockaway Beach in 2003 was attended by 16 grads of the class of ’48.
1948 Jackie (Frellison) Castruita has a special memory at OLPH of being the first one in her class to learn the poem “Daffodil.” Acknowledging her special talents with poetry, Sister Grace Marie dropped by her home during the summer to present Jackie with a collection of poems, writings and notes she had collected over the years. Although Jackie was away at Catholic girls’ Camp Imelda in Monte Rio at the time, she was given the book when she got home and treasures it to this day.

1949 Diane (Furger) Ross writes from Greenville, Pennsylvania, “far from California, which I call God’s country, since the weather is so much better than what I have here.” Diane has 10 living children and recently became a grandmother for the 18th time. She currently raises cows for beef (“a very small herd of 15 right now”) after 30 years of running a dairy farm with her husband, who passed away 16 years ago.

1951 Ann (Nolan) Dowd retired recently from a long career in the finance department at City College. She is currently planning the reunion of the Immaculate Conception Academy (I.C.A.) class of 1955, which includes many OLPH grads (Carole (Menicucci) Baxter, Janet (Cirimele) Bosma, Aida (Gochez) Smith and Diane (Linhares) Wood, to name a few.)

1951 Carole (Menicucci) Baxter responded to the original inquiry and sent addresses of her surviving siblings and several other grads to us, after copying the letter and sending it out to all of them on her own. Along with some great pictures of the class of ’51, Carole also included a copy of “The Last Will and Testament of the Class of 1950”, leaving behind personal “possessions” to the soon-to-be 8th graders. A copy of the “will” is reprinted for your enjoyment in another section of this newsletter.

1953 Arleen (Kordoules) Russi has been the enthusiastic organizer of five reunions of her class. In 1993 Arleen spearheaded an OLPH “General Reunion” (all years—1933-1993) providing a reception for all grads, followed by the 40th-year reunion for the class of 1953. Ten years later she sponsored the 50th reunion of the class of ’53 at the school.

1954 Raymond Wille recently dropped by the school with a cd that held a copy of the long-lost graduation photo of the Class of 1954. All of the original photos from 1949 through 1960 had been stored in the library for many years but, for some reason, the ‘54 photo was missing. Thanks for filling in the missing piece, Ray!

1956 Pat (Ricci) Casey has put together record-breaking reunions. The 40th-year reunion in 1996 was attended by 32 of the original 50 graduates. Outstanding work, Pat!

1956 Mike Nolan recently moved from Novato to Hawaii. Mike had a lengthy teaching career and was also a long-time employee of Safeway Stores. He and his brother Gerry (OLPH 1961) have been organizing canoe trip reunions down the Russian River since the 1950’s. The orginal trip in 1957 included Mike and Gerry’s dad, Ed Nolan (manager of the Daly City Bank of America), Bill Holman ’56 and his father, George, who was a member of the first Daly City Police Department in 1924.

1956 Joanna (McCarthy) Gernetzek writes that she now resides in Novato, CA and will be celebrating her 40th wedding anniversary in 2005. She and her husband are the bearers of parents of 4 children and 3 grandchildren.

1956 John Mahoney has been practicing law for 34 years. He and his wife, Tita, live in Alameda, where he they operate a private practice. A large part of John and Tita’s time these days is spent caring for and playing with their four grandchildren.

1956 Pat (Kennedy) McDonough wrote from Coronado California and mentioned what a nice time she had at their 40-year reunion in 1996. Pat’s three brothers also attended OLPH—Larry ’52, Jerry ’55 and Michael ’58.

1958 Mike Stanley has been responsible for planning and implementing three reunions for his class. Thanks to Mike, the Development Department has been able to contact many of the 58 grads. He and Terry Irwin ’58 dropped by recently for a tour of the school and a viewing of the class photographs mounted in OLPH “Alumni Hall”.

1958 Charleen (Maschinot) Hurton recently hosted a get-together for 9 of her classmatates at her home in Chico. Sharing food, drink and memories were: Charleen, Mike Stanley, Terry Irwin, Chris Brown, Ruth (Shea) Schroeder, Bill Kane, Olivia Fontana, Rita (Reyes) Progder and Bob DeGroot. While the class of 58 has had three general reunions since graduation, there is also a smaller group which meets annually.

1959 Father Joe Gordon has joined the priesthood upon graduation from OLPH and is currently affiliated with St. Catherine’s Parish in Morgan Hill. Father Joe has stepped up to help in getting the OLPH Development program up and running. Over the years Joe has presided over numerous baptisms, weddings and funerals of OLPH grads and family members and has a genuine affection for his Alma Mater and all those who have been connected to it.

1959 Patti (Weeden) Lawler is living in Oregon with her husband, Patrick, and has four daughters—MaryPat, Katie, Maureen and Carrie. She began her nursing career in the Navy Nurse Corps and was stationed for a long time at the Naval Hospital in Oakland. A grandmother of five, Patti recently “retired after our last college tuition payment,” but continues to work “on call” as a nursing supervisor at an ER in Portland.

**1945 Graduating Class (Thanks to Allen Menicucci ‘45 and Sister Adele Marie Korhummel ‘45)**

**NEXT ISSUE: 1960’S AND BEYOND...**
OLPH WANTS YOU!!

We are asking for your help in providing information, pictures and memorable thoughts and photographs for the next issue of the “Perpetual Light” newsletter. Where do or did you work? How long have you been with your significant other? Any kids? Grandkids? Memories of OLPH (good ones preferred, but we’re not too picky!). Most importantly, the names and addresses of anyone who does not receive this newsletter and whom you think might enjoy being on the mailing list.

Information and pictures can be sent by mail, e-mail (EMah1965@aol.com) or fax at (650) 755-7366. Please put “Ed Mahoney” or “Development Department” on all submissions. Original photos and documents will be returned in the same condition as they are received.

Former students of OLPH submitted all of the pictures included in this newsletter. I am very grateful to them for their contributions. Please take the time to go through your old boxes and files and see what you can provide for us for the next newsletter. Every item is important!!!

1960 Knights of the Altar

ALUMNI HALL
Can you get the picture?

Whether you called it the parish hall, the meeting room or the cafeteria, it’s still there—the big room on the first floor with the kitchen and the stage. It now has an official name—ALUMNI HALL.

In the foyer, the names of all the graduates of the 1930’s line the short entryway to the hall and above the entrance doors large green letters spelling out “ALUMNI HALL” now greet one and all. Inside, the walls are lined with the photographs and/or names of every student from the seventy (70) graduating classes of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School...almost.

We are still searching for graduation photos, group or composite, for the following grad years: 1942, 1943, 1946, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978 and 1981. Please help us fill in the missing pictures. If you have access to one of these class photos, please send it, e-mail it, bring it by or call and we’ll pick it up. All original items will be treated with the same respect that you have for all these years. The pictures will be duplicated and sent back to you ASAP.

ALUMNI AND FRIENDS’ OPEN HOUSE AND MASS
You are cordially invited and encouraged to attend the OLPH “Back to the Top of the Hill” Open House and Mass on Saturday, January 29, 2005 at 2:00pm. Come and see your old elementary school and enjoy revisiting the classrooms, office, library and especially the vaunted “Alumni Hall.” Locate your class picture in Alumni Hall and stir up your memories a bit. Light refreshments will be provided. A Celebration of the Eucharist will follow in OLPH Church. There is no charge for this event.

- Yes, I plan on attending the Open House and Mass
- Name
- Graduation year
- Address
- Phone
- E-Mail
- Number of people attending
- Yes, I will bring memorabilia

Please cut out and mail this form to the OLPH Development Department

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From the Class of 1950 to the Class of 1951

I, Billy Beecher, will my brains to James Jastrumski.
I, Madeline Bauer, will my big blue eyes to Betty Ross, so that she may cry more often.
Since I will not be using it,
I, Josephine Aguire, leave my math book to Phyllis Bigazzi, which I know she can use.
I, Richard McArdle, leave my height to Frank Cirimele. He can use it.
I will my big athletic toe to Vernon Waligora. Signed Raymond Rosa.
I see graduation day is approaching, so
I, Beverly Bernardi, will to Carol Martin my streamlined nose.
Since I find my time is drawing near,
I, Doris Varni, will to Diane Linhares my history book, which is in perfect condition.
I, Maureen Scheuszler, will my braids to Donald Ricci.
I, Gerry Dowdle, will to Pat Boyle all my talking checks and gum fines.
I, Francine Vaznaugh, will my bad temper to Richard Gonzales.
I, Larry Lepadura, will my brute strength to Edwin Larson.
I, Dortha Salisbury, will my enormous height and starvition diet to Joseph Machado.
I, Thomas Molloy, will my freckles to Maureen Powers.
I, Don Wilkes, leave to Gilbert Fontana my love for girls.
I, Cecilia Amado, leave my tedious job of cutting the “Laugh Parade” out of the Catholic Messenger, to Jewel Patton.
I, Jean Chamberlain, feeling that my time is drawing near, do hereby bequeath to Laverne Novelli the arithmetic answers I have this year copied from Doris Varni and Thomas Molloy.
I, Claudia Bricker, will my old school uniform to Ronald Angelot. He will probably need it.
I, Dee Fenn, hereby will my nose to Joanne Balestreri.
I, Billy Boyle, will my scholarship that I did not accept to Betty Murphy.
I, Gerda Grech, since it is coming to the close of the year, hereby will my 31-inch waist to Vicky Schroeder.
I, Carol Donofrio, being of unsound mind and body, do this ninth day of June in the year of one thousand nine hundred and fifty, will my slim hips and cute figure to Sheila Sullivan.
I, Adrienne Heaney, will my hate for horses to Lois Jensen.
I, Beverly Reid, hereby will my extra poundage to Mary Store.
I, Judy Liberti, will my manly art of self-defense to Diana Laun.
I, Gerald Molino, will my salt and pepper pants to Andrew Stagnaro.
I, Sally Traynor, with a tear in my eye, and a lump in my throat, leave to Carole Menicucci my big ears (especially for secrets).
I, Angelo Squeri, will my sense of study to Billy (Pumps) Brandt.
I, Al Hicks, hereby leave to Margie Kemnitz my mop (hair, that is).
I, Edwin Reynolds, being of sound body and unsound mind, will my lovely clear voice to Paula Kaufman.
I, Danny Savage, feeling Graduation drawing near, will my slim figure to Larry Bradley.
I, Mary Fitzgerald, will my freckles to Daniel O’Brien.
I, Joan DeWitt, leave my used lipstick to Janet Cirimele.
I, Raymond Marchi, will my flashy bright red shirt to Jerry Fortman.
As the clock ticks closer to graduation,
I, Ray O’Leary, feel that I should leave something, so I leave my hair grease to Aldo Bacigalupi.
I, Donald Kay, leave to James Larkin my hole in the sleeve of my right arm in my school sweater.
I, Phillip Reid, leave my well kept hair to Roger Gordon.
I, Leroy Storm, will my cartoons about Stan Richards to Darryl Carbone.
I, Gene Devlin, leave my marks in deportment to Kenneth Gottwald.
I, Gerald Garlow, leave my right angle patch in my old school pants to Tommy Ryan.
I, Patsy McGraw, leave my voice to Johnny Murphy.
I, Mary Gonzales, leave my aqua blue sweater to Larry Kennedy.
I, Myra Gray, leave my curvy figure to Walter McArdle.
I, John Robinson, will my afternoon naps to Audrey Wheeler.
I, Eugene Baccioco, will my voice to Johnny Schwaniger.
I, Billy Brush, with a tear in my eye, will to Aida Gochez my desk.
I, Raymond Carrol, will my used report cards to Jerome Ennis.
I, Gerard Dreyfus, will my hole in the toe of my left sock of my checkered pair of sox to Charleen Smith.
I, Mike Laramie, as I hear old Father Time calling, will all the bats I broke to Carol Garibaldi.
I, John Madden, with a lump in my throat will my dirty baseball sox to Joyce Sutherland.
I, Judy Liberti, will my ability to wrestle to Mirella Paradela.
I, Sandra Whaley, will the rip in my old loafers to Anne Nolan.
“OLPH HOMECOMING 2005”

The Development Department of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School cordially invites you to join us for an evening of dining and dancing, along with live and silent auctions in OLPH Alumni Hall.

Saturday, March 5, 2005
6:30pm-Silent Auction with hors d’oeuvres and No-Host Cocktail Bar
8:00pm-Dinner
Live Auction After Dinner
Tickets: $55 per person, $100 per couple

Dinner prepared by Mazzaferro Catering and live music played by Gypsy Ensemble. Tables of 10 may be reserved. Cash raffle prizes will be announced during dinner. (Need not be present to win)

Name ______________________________________________________________
(Women please include maiden name)

Address ______________________________________________________________

Telephone __________________________ E-mail __________________________

Number in your party __________ Amount enclosed __________ Graduation year __________

Make checks payable to “OLPH Development”. Checks must be received no later than February 22, 2005. No tickets will be mailed. Reservation list will be at the door.

Please detach and mail this portion to OLPH.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 29, 2005
Open House followed by Mass on page 3

Saturday, March 5, 2005
Homecoming Auction/Dinner-Dance on this page