

The Perpetual Light

Presented to graduates, friends and supporters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School

A MATTER OF PRINCIPAL

By Bill Kovacich



It was a busy and exciting year for students, parents, staff and alumni of Our Lady of Perpetual Help School: 1) Our evaluation and accreditation by both the "Western Association of Schools and Colleges" and the "Western Catholic Education Association" culminated in full six-year accreditations for our school--a credit to staff as well as parents and students. 2) Thanks to money received from Title I federal programs, as well as grants solicited by our vice-principal, Sheila Ortega, and our eighth-grade teacher, Mary Lucett, we were able to purchase eighteen laptops and an "iBook" mobile cart to bring our upper grade computer program into the 21st century. (Our next goal--a similar set-up for the lower grades). 3) Our January Alumni "Open House" brought back many alums to the school and our first alumni auction/dinner social in March generated enough revenue for us to begin an endowment fund and to launch a modest scholarship program.

What does the future hold? Our plans for the coming year, besides the continued revamping of our computer program (\$18,000 estimated cost) include the repair of the leaking windows in the library and kindergarten (\$38,000), as well as the repair of resulting water damage to Alumni Hall and the eventual replacement of the Hall lighting.

Our student body enrollment is high, our kindergarten is full and our tuition remains the lowest in San Mateo County (\$3,400). But with rising costs, especially in the Bay Area, many of our families still struggle. We must continue to build our endowment and scholarship funds while maintaining our fundraising efforts both in school and through development department projects. When everyone--students, parents, parish and alumni--pitch in, we are confident that we can both maintain existing programs and continue to grow into the 21st century.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 28, 2006 Alumni Open House

Saturday, March 4, 2006 Auction/Dinner-Dance

BACK TO THE TOP OF THE HILL

By Ed Mahoney, Development Director

Dear Our Lady of Perpetual Help Family Members,

I can honestly say that the past year has been one of the most interesting years of my life. Little did I know, twelve months ago, that I would be beginning a task that is not only rewarding and challenging, but also a lot of fun. I want to sincerely thank the administration, staff and students of OLPH for making me feel most welcome back at my Alma Mater. Further, I want to thank the alums and friends of OLPH who have stepped up and shown that they still care about their old school and the memories and traditions which were established here over the last 70+ years.

My initial goals remain the same: 1) develop a comprehensive contact list (I'm nearing 1000 addresses now, up from less than 100); 2) gather all of the graduation photos and mount them in Alumni Hall (there are now only 5 classes missing--see article inside); 3) increase both the endowment and scholarship funds, which need to grow considerably to make a real difference; and, 4) actively seek donations and pledges to help in upgrading the school facilities.

On a social level, the 1st annual Alumni Open House and Auction/Dinner Dance Fundraiser were well attended and enjoyed by all who participated. Funds in excess of \$14,000 were raised through the auction and raffle; the Memorial Scholarship founded in

memory of my Mother, Lorraine Mahoney, has generated several thousand dollars to be used to aid future OLPH students. Individual contributions from alums and friends of OLPH have been gratefully received and placed into the scholarship/endowment kitty.

In all, the first year was a positive one upon which to build. Please make plans to attend one or more of the functions being planned for next year. Join in helping to build the endowment and scholarship funds. Contact me if you have creative ideas for fundraising and/or helping with the repair and upgrade of our beloved school.

And please remember —



OLPH CHURCH (1947) Marjorie Schreiber '40 weds Warren McHugh on November 2, 1947. Maid of honor is her sister, Kathleen '41 and altar boys John Madden '50 and George Schreiber '49



OLPH First Annual Open House January 29, 2005

Various OLPH alums going all the way back to the 1940's were on hand at the first annual Alumni Open House and Mass, held at the school on Saturday, January 29th. **Ed Mahoney '61** was assisted in planning the event by **Rhody (Sutherland '43) Valente**, with support from the rest of the OLPH faculty and staff. Tours of the school were conducted by 7th and 8th graders.

The Eucharist was concelebrated by OLPH Pastor, Father Antonio Petilla, **Father Joe Gordon '59** and **Deacon Bill Bruening '59**. Readers at the mass included **Elsie (Belli '40) Tonelli**, **Marjorie (Schreiber '40) McHugh**, **Anne (Nolan '51) Dowd**, **Arleen (Kordoules '53) Russi**, **Pat (Ricci '56) Casey**, **Andy Serrano '74** and **Rosemarie (Vergara '93) Fontela**. The Offertory gifts were presented by **Marion (Elliott '48) Oakley**, **Aileen (Greer '48) Hogue**, **Betty (Curtin '48) Cutietta**

In addition to numerous individual alums, visiting guests included three "sister acts": the **Schreiber** sisters from the 40's (**Marjorie '40**, **Kathleen '41**, **Nancy '45** and **Janet '48**), the **Ricci** girls (**Pat '56**, **Judy '59** and **Donna '62**) and the **Sanchez** sisters from the 80's (**Ana**, **Veronica** and **Cecilia**).

In all, about 100 former OLPH students came back to tour the school, socialize and celebrate Mass together, establishing a tradition that will be repeated annually. "2006 Open House" will be Saturday, January 28, 2006!



MARCH 5TH DINNER: Alice (Aguirre '48) Vargas, Diana (Gordon '48) Shipley, Helen Aguirre '49, Joe Piazza, Joe Vargas, Roger Gordon '51



MARCH 5TH DINNER: OLPH Pastor Antonio Petilla, Principal Bill Kovachich, Ed Mahoney '61

First Annual Auction-Dinner Dance

– a Huge Success

"Homecoming 2005" was the theme of a very successful fundraiser held in OLPH "Alumni Hall" on Saturday, March 5, 2005. The combined efforts of the OLPH Development Department, school administration, faculty and staff, and various alums and OLPH parent volunteers, produced a healthy \$14,000 profit for scholarships and building upgrades.

The event was a sell-out, with a combination of past grads, friends and supporters of OLPH enjoying the delightful cuisine of **Mazzafarro's Catering**. Music was provided by **Gypsy Ensemble**, with strolling violinist **Tibor Horvath** providing melodic dining music with his partner on keyboard, **Yelena Savchenko**. After dinner, the music evolved into a disc jockey format, with all types of tunes available in Tibor's vast repertoire. Dancing continued until midnight.

After the close of the silent auction, a very spirited live auction ensued, called by volunteer **Dr. Joseph Awender, DC**, of South SF. The good doctor kept 'em bidding on the ten featured items, which included a limo tour for 10 to the wine country, four seats in the SF Giants' owners' box (thank you **Larry and Kathy (Carroll '59) Nibbi**), and a one-week time share (choice of numerous locations) donated by Kindergarten teacher **Venus Canizal** and her family.

High bidders for the night included **Mimi and Mike Shea '61**, the **Parodi Family**, and a contingent of the class of '64: **Ken and Noelle (Clarke) Bianchi**, **Kathy (Harrison)** and **Tom Duffy** and **Rich and Barbara (Senkir) Hall**. Lucky winners of the cash raffle were: \$1000--**Eva Aiello** (good friend of **Elsie (Belli '40) Tonelli**); \$500--**Marina Chiappelone**; \$250 **Mary (Schubert '44) Pakulak**; \$100--past OLPH parent **Andrew Ferrari**; and \$50--3rd-grader, **Arslan Rashid**.

Make plans now to attend next year's 2nd auction-dinner/dance in March, 2006. More details in the Winter newsletter.



AUMNI OPEN HOUSE, JANUARY 29: (l-r) Ana Sanchez '78, Javier Duarte '05, Veronica Sanchez '83, Blanca Cortez '09, Adriana Sanchez and Cecilia (Sanchez '81) Cortez

Dinner and Open House



Father Joe Gordon '59 and Lanty Molloy '47 share a moment at MARCH 5 AUCTION/DINNER



MARCH 5 AUCTION/DINNER: Strolling violinist Tibor Horvath entertains a table of OLPH grads from the 40's



MARCH 5 AUCTION/DINNER: Parodi Family



ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE: Anne Nolan '51 Dowd, Carol Donofrio '50 Luhrs, Patsy McGraw '50



ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE: Pat (Ricci '56) Casey, Lois (Lagomarsino '56) Erasmy and Ronnel Datlag '05



Liz (Fenton '48) Borg, Marion (Elliott '48) Oakley, Betty (Curtin '48) Cutietta and Mike Shea '61 converse at the MARCH 5 AUCTION/DINNER



ALUMNI OPEN HOUSE: Mabel Cristobal '05, Diane (Linhares '51) Wood, Aida Gochez '51, Diana (Laun '51) Whereat, Janet (Cirimele '51) Bosma, and Veronica Aguilar '05

Notes from past grads...

1960 OLPH CHEERLEADERS (l-r) Marianne Lewis Hill, Dona Pesino Edlund, Judy Pearlman Shelver, Ann Reyes Robertson, Linda Molini Parini and "Tiger" Janey Pesino '65 Urmini



1955 Jack Lewis sends greetings from Riverton, Utah. His class was the "first to graduate at the beginning of the Rock and Roll era." Jack shared numerous memories of his days at OLPH, where his two sisters, Kathleen '58 and Marianne '61, also attended. The Lewis Family were also cousins to the Kennedy, Curtin and Kordoules clans.

1959 Kathy (Carroll) Nibbi became a grandmother for the first time on March 3, 2005. Her grandson's name is Daniel and his parents are Kathy and Larry's daughter, Amy and her husband, Dan.

1959 Father Joe Gordon has completed a revision of his "History/Essay" on OLPH and would be happy to mail interested parties a copy if you contact him by e-mail at "Revjaag@aol.com". It is about 12-13 pages and represents a true "labor of love."

1961 Diane (Gugino) Ross had a recent conversation with "JV," formerly Sr. John Vianney, who taught the class of 1961 in the 5th, 6th and 8th grades! Diane is the office manager at Callan Realty on Junipero Serra Boulevard in Daly City and served as volunteer chairperson for the March 5th Development fundraiser. "JV" remembers well her days at OLPH and she and Diane traded memories for over an hour-and-a-half.

1961 Jerry Senkir retired from the San Francisco Police Department in 2003, but continues in a "part-time" capacity as an adviser. Jerry and his wife, Darlene, currently reside in Burlingame.

1961 Judy (Pearlman) Shelver is living in Washington and was recently wed to Bill Shelver who, although not an OLPH grad, grew up in Daly City and was a star pitcher for San Pedro Lunch and other memorable baseball teams, including Jefferson High School. They connected at a Jeff reunion.

1961 Mike Shea recently retired from the Daly City Fire Department after 40 years of service. He operates a firefighting equipment company with his sons and lives with his wife, Mimi (Calcagno), in San Jose.

1961 Margie Muela has realized a life-long dream and is performing as a Latin singer at Don Pico's in San Bruno on Wednesday and Thursday nights from 6pm to 9pm. Margie's stage name is Margarita de Jesus, her baptismal name.

1961 Gerry Nolan retired from the US Army as a full-bird colonel after 30+ years of service. He was recently wed to his wife, Carolyn, and the two have moved from Texas back out to California--Rio Vista, to be exact.

1963 Mike Calegari writes from his home in Alameda to tell us that, after 23 years with P.G. & E., he entered the educational field, and now serves as the Controller for the San Jose/Evergreen Community College District. Mike has three sons: Tony, the oldest, assigned with the US Marine Corps and currently serving embassy duty in Paris; Chris, currently a student at Fordham University; and, Michael, a recent graduate of Archbishop Riordan High School.

1963 Alan Stanley is the owner and operator of two funeral homes--Crippen & Flynn Woodside Chapel and Carlmont Chapel--and bowled professionally for 20 years. His wife, Diane, is an RN at Mills Hospital and they have three daughters.

1963 Nadine (Mignault) Goyhenetche works as a psych rehab counselor for Caminar at Eucalyptus House, located just above Daly City's Garwood Drive (off Hillside) where she played as an OLPH kid. She and her husband, Gracian, have three children--James '77, Joe '80 and Aimee '83. She still wears a "beautiful sterling silver medal of the Annunciation with the engraving on the back 'Lorraine Mignault, President OLPH Mothers' Club 1961-62'".

1965 Janet Calegari was a court reporter for 20 years and moved to Arizona in 2003, where she currently sells new homes. Her son, known as Jeff Wolfe, is a professional stuntman who appeared in "Scorpion King", "Pirates of the Caribbean" and most of the van Damme movies, not to mention doubling for Pierce Brosnan in "After the Sunset." Janet's Mom, Mary Calegari, was OLPH school secretary in the 50's and 60's.

1965 Denise (Parodi) Allen is the mother of two and has been employed for 19 years as the school secretary at St. Timothy's School in San Mateo. Both of her children will be marrying in the coming months. Her son John is assistant football coach at San Mateo High School and her daughter Colleen is teaching dentistry at several junior colleges in the Bay Area.

1965 Barbara (Johnson) Kirby has been married to Steve Kirby for 30 years and has three boys--Ken, Tim and Luke. She currently works at the Sequoia Hospital lab.

Where Are They Now???

1965 John Shea was one of three Shea's (Ruth '58, Mike '61 are his siblings) who enjoyed themselves at the auction-dinner dance in March. He is anxious to attend a reunion of the Class of 1965.

1967 Barry Clark is in his 29th year of teaching. "After spending so much time in the school office, it might be a surprise to some of you that I became a teacher." Twenty-one years have been spent teaching at the high school "continuation" level. "The challenges are immense but I wouldn't trade it for anything. I see a lot of myself in my students and try to make a difference." Barry is married and has two daughters, 16 and 13.

1968 Noelle (Clark) Bianchi lives in Hillsborough and works with her husband, Ken, in their dental practice on Ocean Avenue in San Francisco. She has been a great help in locating OLPH siblings and classmates and was a major player in the March 5th live auction.

1969 Suzanne (Coleman) Duran produces children theatre programs in Sonoma, Napa and Marin. She has volunteered to help develop a theatre arts program at OLPH. Both of Suzanne's parents attended OLPH and remained involved with the school for many years.

1970 Janine (Mignault) Greenwald and her husband, Ralph, have been married for 23 years and currently reside in South City. They have two boys--Gary, who attends Sonoma State University, and Raymond, who just graduated from All Souls. Janine's best friend for the past 40 years has been Cathy (Ferrari) Lagomarsino '70.

1971 Laura Zaro lives in Hayward and teaches English as a Second Language to adults. She and her husband Omar have a 15-year old daughter and a 12-year old son, both of whom attend Catholic schools in Hayward.

1971 Tony Serrano lives in South San Francisco with his wife of 25 years, Jeanett, and their two children. Tony works for a Credit Union in Redwood Shores and enjoys playing the saxophone for various groups in the Bay Area.

1973 Rob Zaro lives in Vacaville and is the father of two daughters, 20 and 16 years old.

1974 Andy Serrano serves as vice-president of the Daly City Host Lion's Club and works as a community caseworker for the Daly City Community Service Center. Besides teaching early on, Andy also served as a basketball coach at Jefferson High, Sacred Heart Cathedral and Notre Dame de Namur in Belmont. He and several of his classmates, including Yvonne Degroot '74 and Tony's sister, Christine (Serrano '77) Maille, put a table together for the March 5th dinner. Also dining with Tony at the 3/5 dinner was none other than Daly City Mayor, the Honorable Carol Klatt, herself the mother of two OLPH grads. Mayor Klatt presented OLPH with an official proclamation from the City of Daly City at the dinner. She served as OLPH Mothers' Club President from 1976-77.

1977 Wayne Gross is an Assistant United States Attorney in Orange County. He has two children, Mario 10 and Antonia 6 years old.

1996 Sara Quinto will be starting at UC Hastings School of Law in August, 2005 She graduated from UC Berkeley in 2004.

1997 Audrey Abar graduated this year from Santa Clara University, "SUMMA CUM LAUDE." Congratulations, Audrey!



Class of 1963 Graduation photo w/ Principal Sister Rita Marie, Asst. Pastor Matthew Sullivan and 8th grade teacher Sister John Vianney

1999 Alejandro Quinto attended Westmoor High School, class of 2003, after graduating from OLPH. He then spent a year at Skyline College and went on to the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA) where he is currently enrolled as an underclassman.

2000 Lauralyne Dahlz graduated from Mercy High School, SF, in 2004. She is about to begin her 2nd year as a psychology major at UC Berkeley.

2002 John Castillo was recently elected Student Body Vice-President at Archbishop Riordan High School and will be a member of the graduating class of 2006.

2004 Steven Garaspe just finished his freshman year at Sacred Heart Cathedral in the City with "FIRST HONORS." Congratulations, Steven!

Reunions...

ATTENTION CLASSES OF '42, '60, '66, '74 AND '75!!

We need your graduation photo!

Seventy-one classes have graduated from Our Lady of Perpetual Help School. Except for the 1930's, where we only have the graduates' names, all the other class graduation pictures hang in Alumni Hall--all, that is, except for five. Where are the graduates of 1942, 1960, 1966, 1974 and 1975? Please help us by providing us with your eighth grade graduation picture. We will return it to you in the same condition. Contact us by phone, mail or e-mail. We know you are out there. Help!!!



"1964" WINERY LIMO TOUR, SAT., APRIL 9 (MARCH 5 AUCTION/DINNER prize) (l-r) Kathy (Harrison '64) and Tom Duffy, Noelle (Clark '64) and Ken Bianchi, Barbara (Senkir '64) Hall, Judy Crudo '64, Rich Hall '64, Roxanne and Bill Kovacich



CLASS OF 1951 REUNION, MAY 14, 2005, Chevy's in Foster City: (l-r) Jerome Ennis, Diana Laun, Anne Nolan, Aida Gochez, Diane Linhares, Larry Kennedy, Carol Garibaldi, Vern Waligora, Frank Cirimele, Janet Cirimele, Roger Gordon, Charlene Smith, James Larkin, Maureen Powers



CLASS OF 1961, MARCH 5 AUCTION/DINNER: (back) Jerry Senkir, Jim Kearney, Gerry Nolan, Dave Dempsey, Mike Shea; (front) Edy Howell Ternullo, Judy Pearlman Shelver, Diane Gugino Ross, Dona Pesino Edlund, Maureen Maschinot Gonzales, John Quezada, Marianne Lewis Hill, Ed Mahoney



CLASS OF 1958 REUNION at Mike Stanley's home in Concord: (back) Terry Irwin, Charleen (Maschinot) Hurton. (middle) Chris Brown, Ruth (Shea) Schroeder, Bill Kane, Olivia (Fontana) Aquino, Mike Stanley. (front) Rita (Reyes) Prodger, Bob DeGroot

Upcoming REUNIONS

CLASS of 1948 Reunion organizer Marion (Elliott '48) Oakley announces that the OLPH Class of '48 Annual Lunch Reunion will take place at Nick's Rockaway in Pacifica in Spring, 2006.

CONTACT Marion for details at (707) 425-7945.

CLASS of 1958 - 50 years Being planned for summer of 2008 in OLPH Alumni Hall.

CONTACT Mike Stanley at XSTEAMERX@aol.com.

CLASS of 1959 Father Joe Gordon is putting out feelers for a reunion. Father Joe is in touch, and can facilitate reconnects, with the following nuns: Sisters Alexis, Rita Marie, Annette, Anna Louise, Agnes Marie, Madeleva, Mary James, Rita Trudell, Jeanne (Mary Stephen) Fallon. CONTACT Father Joe at revjaag@aol.com.

CLASS of 1961- 45 years Saturday, June 24, 2006 Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco.

CONTACT Diane (Gugino '61) Ross at (650) 992-7039.

2005 ~ A Banner Year for OLPH

“Survival Island” – 2005 School Play a Smash!

Forty-five junior high (6th -8th grade) students participated in this year's school comedy/drama called "Survival Island." An original play, written and directed by principal, Bill Kovacich, this two-hour production tells the story of a group of characters who, while on their way to a "Survivor"-style TV show, are actually shipwrecked and must survive for real. The high drama, crazy characters and surprise twist ending all contributed to a most amusing evening for audiences during the three-night run. Fans unanimously agreed that the high quality acting, professional lighting and polished production make OLPH's performances unique in the world of junior high drama.



2005 SPECIAL AWARDS: Principal Bill Kovacich, Mary Lucett, Rhody (Sutherland '43) Valente, and Past Principal James Costello. Ms. Lucett was presented with the "James Costello Service to Students" award and Ms. Valente received the "OLPH School Community Service" award.

Goodbye, Class of 2005

On June 2nd, thirty-two eighth grade students walked up the aisle of OLPH church to receive their diplomas from Pastor Fr. Antonio Petilla and Principal William Kovacich. Two thirds of them had been in the school since kindergarten. Almost half of the class received academic awards; many others were given scholarships of honor from local high schools and businesses, or given awards for effort and social or religious service. We are proud of all of them and know that they will go on with accomplishments to equal or surpass the seventy graduating classes before them.

OLPH Students Carry On Sacred Tradition

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School sponsored its fifteenth annual dramatization of the Stations of the Cross, by seventy 7th and 8th grade students, at St. Mary of the Assumption Cathedral, in San Francisco. The students offer a meditation and prayer at each station, applying the mystery of the Station to their life in today's world. Students are dressed in white robes and other garb to depict the various characters. The same cross and crown of thorns has been used each of the fifteen years. The cross carries with it the fifteen signatures of each boy who has taken the role of Jesus. Joan Martin, an OLPH parent and a primary aide who has since retired, made the Crown of Thorns from a vine she had growing in her garden. Today, the Crown shows its age and is lovingly held together with fresh vine. Quite impressive to onlookers who attend Good Friday services at the Cathedral.

The dramatization has been under the leadership of 8th grade teacher Mary Lucett and Sheila Ortega, Vice-Principal and 7th grade teacher. Many faithful from the parish and surrounding business offices come to the Cathedral for this prayerful conclusion of Lent.

OLPH Icons Retire

Two longtime fixtures at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Daly City, Rosemary "Rhody" Valente and Betty O'Connor, decided to call it quits at the end of the 2005 school year. Together they contributed almost 100 years of service to OLPH.

Since 1976, Betty, the Kindergarten teacher, was not only a faculty member for almost 30 years, but also an OLPH parent. Ellen and Dymphna, her two daughters, attended OLPH in the 80's.

Rhody, who served as the school's bookkeeper for many years, was also an OLPH alumna, graduating as Rosemary Sutherland in 1943. She wed her grammar school sweetheart, her late husband, George Valente, also an OLPH '43 grad. They had four kids--Joe, Jeff, Jim and Jolene--who likewise spent their elementary school years at OLPH. The remarkable devotion of these two ladies was recognized at their retirement dinner on Friday, June 10th, at the Basque Cultural Center.



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 PHOTOGRAPHS GATHERING DUST? SEND THEM TO US!!!



OLPH SEWING CLUB (1960) (back) Elsie Thomson, Hattie Watt, Marie Marinakes, Esther Nolan, Mary Hanley, Margaret Schreiber, Hedy Spillane (front) Sophie Klingler, Marion Schubert, Cleo Rodriguez. Taken at Hedy's house in Sebastopol

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