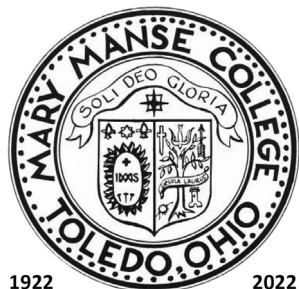


Mary Manse Alumni News

Volume LXXXVIII Issue 1

SPRING 2022



The 2022 MMC Alumni Mass and Luncheon

will be held on Sunday, October 9, 2022
at the Ursuline Center
4045 Indian Road, Toledo 43606

Mass at 11 a.m. in the Chapel

and

Luncheon at Noon in the Dining Room

Honor Classes ~ Classes which end in '2 and '7

"Remembering Mary Manse College," A PBS production, will be shown.

Menu for Our Future



Our world is in a sorry state.
Let us not count the ways.
Let us instead mark well our fate
With faith and hope-filled days.

Healing hate with love is most the need.
A good start, now let us proceed.
Accepting others with parity
Had lately become a rarity.

Making our laws to be just and fair
Is up to us – to stand up, to care.
Despairing not of our planet's demise,
By supporting solutions we can devise.

We do it best when we do it together.
We have heard that before.
Hear it now, once more.
It is up to us.
It has always been up to us.

~ by Susan Masztak '63



Dear Sheila, what a remarkable job you have done over all these years for the Mary Manse Alumni. Thank you for all of your efforts. You worked through changes and frustrations but never gave in. Remarkable. Your newsletter brought good news, sad news, and many wonderful memories to many. Rest on your laurels! Fondly, **Angie Barone Katz '70**

Dear Pat, My thanks to you and to all the women who serve on the Board of Directors of the MMC Alumni Association and, especially, to those who make the Mary Manse Alumni News possible. I do very much appreciate being able to keep the connection with my alma mater that your efforts allow me to have. Sincerely, **Annette Rawski DeVoe '65**

Dear Sheila and all who helped with the Fall Alumni News, I hope the alumni enjoyed reading the letters sent in by the seven of us. Thank you, **Mary Ellen Say '57**

MMC Honor Class Reps 2022

1942 – 80 Years

1947 – 75 Years

1952 – 70 Years

Nancy Fabier Miller
4347 Pacquin Ln
Toledo, OH 43614

1957 – 65 Years

Juanita Graber Sattler
13807 Frankfort Rd
Swanton, OH 43558-9650
419-826-7342
vjandjms@gmail.com

1962 – 60 Years

Jane Wolcott Steger
8655 Quail Hollow Ct
Holland, OH 43528-9247
419-868-8144
janews@bex.net

1967 – 55 Years

Mary Ann Wernimont Dudderar
2920 Isha Lay Way
Toledo, OH 43606
419-841-0884
momodud@gmail.com

1972 – 50 Years

Patty Geis Cafferty
4980 Cornerstone Trl
Yellow Springs, OH
45387-9758
937-767-7188
caffertyscorner@gmail.com

1977 – 45 Years

Teri Bercher Thourot
1729 Perth St
Toledo, OH 43607
419-535-1757
thourot@sbcglobal.net

Mary Manse College Alumni Board

Colette Kalisz Enger '72

Sheila Griffin Falkenberg '69

Sandra Avina Georgoff '69

Jane Traser Hunter '72

Linda Jones Jastrzemski '73

Angela Barone Katz '70

Sister Mary Jo Koudelka '65

Judy Biehler Miller '69

Nanci Talpos Murdock '68

Peg Palmer O'Hearn '61

Patty Dudley Pastorek '68

Teresa Kerul Richardson '70

Mary Beth Dibling Rumer '72

Mary Jean Dixon Schimmel '69

Pat O'Hearn Shaw '70

Mary Jim Sheets Stahl '67

Jan Swint Stickles '69

Amy Heilman Vanderhooven '59

Celebrating 50 years plus 1!

The Class of 1970 celebrated their 50th class reunion plus 1 more year on October 9 and 10, 2021. A get-together was held at the Staybridge Inn, Maumee, OH on the evening of the 9th. What a fun loving group of gals came, along with memories galore! It was amazing how everyone could talk and laugh as if we were still in those college years! Photos of those Mary Manse years brought back many stories of faculty, classmates and places frequented!

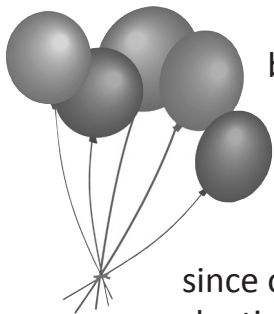
On Sunday, October 10, we gathered for the Alumni Mass and Luncheon. The organized event brought together our class members attending and many other alumni. Our class was represented by **Janie Gerdeman Seggerson** who paid tribute to the Ursuline Sisters, along with **Tes Gervasi Zannoi** who wrote a song about our days at Mary Manse and then sang it



for everyone to enjoy! Many members of our class were unable to attend but sent messages and greetings. These added to our special weekend! Thank you to the Mary Manse College Alumni Board for keeping us together after all these years!!

~ submitted by Marie Rellinger Miller '70

To the Class of 1972 –



Can you believe it??? Not only are we celebrating 50 years since our graduation but we get to be a part of history by celebrating 100 years since MMC was founded!!! The celebration for our class will not be the same without you! Come and join us for this gala event. We will first join to celebrate Mass and our many blessings on Sunday, October 9th at 11:00 a.m. at the Ursuline Center followed

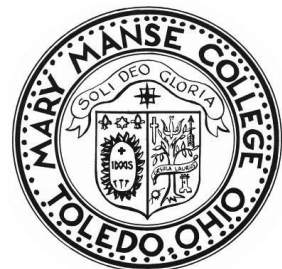
by the traditional luncheon, recognition and speeches by the honor classes. So when you receive your next MMC newsletter announcing the banquet please RSVP and join us for this grand celebration. Try to arrive by 10:30 a.m. for a little class 'meet and greet' plus a special class surprise before we all go to Mass. The celebration won't be the same without you!!

On behalf of your class officers: myself, President; **Mary Beth Dibling Rumer**, Vice President; **Jane Traser Hunter**, Treasurer; and **Colette Kalisz Egner**, Secretary; we

hope to see you there.

Any questions, please feel free to contact me at 937-767-7188 or email: caffertyscorner@gmail.com.

*~ submitted by
Patty Geis Cafferty '72*



50 years

A Story of Courage and Strength

A small pile of letters with a snapshot snug between its pages tell of a career woman in the 1930's, my mother, **Gertrude Miller Schwab**. These letters along with other souvenirs trace the beginning and development of an adventuresome and successful career woman, when while the Great Depression was well underway.

After having graduated at the top of her class at Ottoville High School in 1925, she followed her sister, Emma, to St. Vincent Hospital School of Nursing in Toledo, graduating in 1929. After that, Gertrude received her diploma with a Bachelor in Science, printed in Latin, from Mary Manse College in 1931 – “Collegii ad Mansionem Marianam in MCMXXXI with a Scientiae Baccalaureus.” The graduation ceremony joined together 21 men from St. John's College and 19 women from Mary Manse College, five with a BS in nursing.

Gertrude kept in contact with St. Vincent friends and faculty through the decade. Letters from Sister Decary notes that everything about Toledo was “very quiet,” meaning that there were few jobs for nurses. Shifts there had been 12 hours. Eight hour shifts were tried to share the limited work, still many nurses were unemployed – one of many unfortunate results of the Depression.

September of 1931 found the new graduate in Dorchester, Massachusetts at St. Margaret's Hospital, having accepted a position as nursing instructor. In a letter from St. Margaret's Hospital, Sister Philomena wrote, “God has given you intelligence and ability to be a very good teacher” and “You really edified me many times by your sweet submission to dictates which I knew were not always to your taste, and yet the smile always managed to get on top.” Affirmation was important to Gertrude and encouraging, which may be why she saved the letters.

She had planned to return to St. Margaret's Hospital the following year, but a letter explains that there would be no class the next year due to no jobs for nurses in 1932. The same as in Toledo. One-third of the country's work force was unemployed. Gertrude was intent on following her calling to help the sick in need.



Gertrude Miller's St. Vincent nursing graduation photo

An offer came in August. She received a mailgram from Hughes Professional Exchange of Kansas City, Missouri with information that Santa Rosa Hospital in San Antonio, Texas had a position as “instructress” for her that paid \$100 per month “plus maintenance.” She secured that job and arrived there a week later, defying the Depression's impact.

A newsy letter from her mother addressed to Gertrude Miller BS RN (acknowledging Gertrude's accomplishments with pride) fills us in on the farm community happenings in German-Catholic Ottoville during September 1932: her older brother was renting a farm from an old widow, her younger brother was going to college in Ft. Wayne, a neighbor was

getting married, there was a dance in town every Wednesday evening, a guy got too much booze, was fined, and got stuck in the calaboose, another neighbor had breast cancer, cousin Bertha was nursing a woman with bursted appendix, her older sister, Nora, harvested clover seed that sold for \$5 a bushel, eggs were 18 cents, six hogs were sold for \$52.54. The bottom of the second page was signed, “Mother.” This letter is important to me not only for news of the time, but it is written in pencil by my grandmother, who at the time of writing was 65 years old, a widow for 15 years, as Gertrude's father had died when she was 13.

Gertrude was the youngest daughter in a family of eight and grew up in a farm community. Grandmother was hardy and very much a part of

-continued on next page 5

A Story of Courage and Strength, continued from page 4

her community while raising her family, a model for Gertrude to emulate.

Her two older brothers did the farm work. There was always work to be done, weeds to hoe, eggs to gather, cows to be milked, and gardens to tend. Surely, Gertrude's work ethic was set and developing early in her life, along with the formation of her aspirations.

A May 29, 1933 plane ticket issued by Bowen Air Lines shows Gertrude flew home to Ohio by way of Chicago to spend the summer. Passenger flight was in its infancy in 1933. The return flight was 10 hours at an altitude of 1500 feet. She proves not only to be both a determined, daring woman...but charming, too, as she got and kept the flight notes of the pilot, Claude Seaton. Airfare was a whopping \$65.03, nearly a month's pay. In today's purchasing power that is equivalent to about \$1,371.55.

Before her return to Santa Rosa, she was sent a letter stating that there would be a pay reduction – from \$100 to \$75 per month. This was during the peak of the Great Depression, nonetheless, Gertrude would have none of that. She rejected this insult made to her and to the value of her contribution to the hospital. Her rejection was no mistake. Her confidence and resolve paid off. No short-sightedness here. A follow-up telegram informed her that her pay was reinstated. In addition, she was offered an extension to May, 1935. The ever patient but steadfast Gertrude prevailed and returned to Texas.

After her extension time came to a close, Helen Wilke, Mary Manse classmate, wrote to her that the Hospital of St. Raphael in New Haven, Connecticut was offering \$125 per month for a practical nursing instructor which also involved improving conditions at the nursing school – a job challenge! How could Gertrude resist? Again, she obtained a coveted position and she stayed in New Haven until 1937, when she also bought her first car, a sporty Hudson Terraplane. There is no doubt that it suited her style and delighted her nieces with rides in the rumble seat. The car remained with her as a family car until 1948.

After setting St. Raphael nursing school on the right track, Gertrude returned to Ohio, closer to

home, and worked at Mercy Hospital in Toledo from 1938 to 1939, as the country was beginning to see hope for the end of the Depression.

Wedding bells rang for Miss Gertrude Miller in July 1939 when she became Mrs. Schwab, after having known John for six months. She settled in farm life again with John, a farmer from Deshler, Ohio, where they lived and raised Tom, Jack, and me, Margaret. She was active, of course, in parish, community, and school events. She put on her nurse's cap occasionally to help neighbors in need and Red Cross services. When her children were in college she went back to nursing as a private duty nurse and later on the night shift at the local nursing home.

All the people in this story are women: nuns at the hospitals, teachers and college friends from Mary Manse, the nursing students that Gertrude taught, the nurses with whom she worked, her sister, Emma, and her mother. They had survived the 1930's, and did that well, by supporting each other, activating the collective strength of women.

After my husband had died, my mother assured me that I would be okay. She knew that she had taught me the art of stick-to-itiveness. For twenty years I owned and operated a quilt shop with three other women. My mother was an exemplar and an invaluable influence on my success.

Education was important. All her daughters are college graduates and I am a proud graduate of Mary Manse College. I am proud of my undaunted mother, a Mary Manse graduate, who made a difference to every person and to every community that she had served as nurse, and teacher, but most important of all to me, as my mother, my guide.

Gertrude was a woman certain about what she wanted to contribute during her career and what she sought to bring into her personal life. She wasted no time putting every effort into getting her heart's desires in both. Not even the Depression of the 1930's was great enough to halt her drive or to crush her spirit.

*~ submitted by Margaret Schwab Okuley '63
with the aid of Susan Masztak '63*

ALUMNI

May They Rest in Peace



Marie Haas Brannan '42
Constance "Connie" Lindecker Tighe '43
Joan Fitz Hughes '48
Laetitia Parker Kaiser '49
Dolores McManus Meyer '49
Mary Ann Zender '58

Kathleen Klippel Roesner '59
Aerielle Hackley Williams '61
Joyce Gibson Brown '64
Sharon Neuhausel FitzGerald '66
Diane Hitchings Okorowski '66
Norene Drewicz '67
Helen Degnan Flynn '67
Elizabeth "BL" Seaman-Dollar '69

Nicholas Szabo '71
Mary "Cathy" Birsen '73
Joanne C. Moore, Assoc.
(formerly Sr. Mary Gilbert, RSM)
Alice Patricia "Pat" Heaphy Howard, Assoc.
Dr. Clarice M. Hug, Assoc.
Sharon Raubenolt Chudzinski Wurzel, Assoc.
Edna Brown, Assoc.
Betty Jean Schumacher Schaetzke, Assoc.
Sr. Mary Brigid Kelly, SND
Sr. Mary Regeen Ulrich, SND

FACULTY
Donna Flory '54

HUSBAND of:

Louise Poch Henahan '53
Linda Recker Coleman '67
Ruth Tekuelve Scott '70
Betty Lieb Schuster '72

MOTHER of:

Maureen Tighe Socha '68
Kathleen "Kitty" Tighe Coriden '68
Colleen "Bunny" Tighe Humphrey '71
Colette Kalisz Egner '72
Maria Ensign Sulewski '73

FATHER of:

Patricia Geis Cafferty '72
Deborah Yenrick '73

DAUGHTER of:

Patricia Edwina Leonard Meyer '62

SISTER of:

Druscilla Gibson Griffin '55
Equilla Gibson Roach '55
Judith Reid Aubry '70

BROTHER of:

Rosemary Lehner Sieve '65
Joan Lehner Connors '67

Mary Manse Nuggets

The first class, twelve women, were the pioneer students who opened the doors of Mary Manse on September 25, 1922. Our Lady's Hall was the heart of the college with the office of the first dean, Mother Margaret, the biology lab, and THE classroom. The residents lived in Mount Carmel Hall, and in that building was the library with books carefully housed in the pantry cupboards.

- credit: Sr. Mary Rose Krupp, OSU

Mary Manse Alumni Address Changes

Louise Poch Henahan '53
117 Jaycroft Ct.
Thousand Oaks, CA 91361

Anne Wenzler Nagel '56
594 Notre Dame St.
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230-1523

Mary Ellen Say '57
5001 South Ave. Lot 177
Toledo, OH 43615-6453

Sr. Margaret Ann Babione '59
Sunset House
4020 Indian Rd.
Harmony Ln., Room 55
Toledo, OH 43606

Annette Graham Faisant '59
1305 Greendale Ave.
Findlay, OH 45840-6355

Barbara Boudrie Niehm '61
3319 E 57th Ave., Apt. 204
Spokane, WA 99223-7045

Patricia Leonard Meyer '62
1278 Wilshire Ct.
Circleville, OH 43113-1389

Margaret Donohue Bonkowski '63
St. Clare Commons
12469 Five Point Rd.
Perrysburg, OH 43551

Annette Rawski DeVoe '65
3537 57th Ave. Cir. W
Bradenton, FL 34210

Patricia Hipp Kwiatkowski '67
16151 Fish Rd.
Pemberville, OH 43450-9614

Diane Saholski '67
3422 Maher St.
Toledo, OH 43608-1657

Karen Ward Packard '68
25 Centaurus
Irvine, CA 92603

Mary Geiger Ott '68
8323 Long Shore Dr.
Monclova, OH 43542-9809

Charlotte Klima Ellis '68 –
winter address
843 Cape Haze Ln.
Naples, FL 34104

Catherine Doniere Fredrickson '69
1072 S. Annie Ln.
Gilbert, AZ 85296

Judie Reid Aubry '70
4030 Indian Rd. #209
Toledo, OH 43606



PBS Toledo Stories **Remembering Mary Manse College**

contact Cathy Kamenca at:
cathy_kamenca@wgte.org or call 419-380-4613 to order a DVD.

DVDs ordered through the station are \$20 if picking up in person, or \$24 if mailed.



OVER HILL... OVER DALE... HERE IS WHAT WAS IN THE MAIL

Sheila Downey Sarkisian '63 writes that her interests include being a member of an Evangelization group, and an Associate with the Sisters of Charity. She has been married to Sam for 55 years; they have 3 children, Peter, Amy and Ara and have 1 granddaughter.

Joan Lehner Connors '67 writes that she has retired from St. Vincent Hospital as a nurse and now loves to travel. Divorced, Joan met fiancé Dan Burns at a Mary Manse dance. She has 3 grown children and 6 grandchildren. She has "a very fond memory of Sister Lelia, OSU, who was Dean in 1965-66, and welcomed me to Mary Manse with open arms. Very welcoming!"

Sorry I won't be at our 70th reunion. At age 92 I don't drive to Toledo anymore and family all live out of town/state. I did, however, get a new/used car as a gift for my 90th birthday. It's safe and reliable and I still drive. Enjoy life, **Fran Fitz Hipp, Class of '50**.

Now taking daily walks under sunny skies in California; **Louise Poch Henahan '53** writes that she is being well cared for by her family. She surprises her taste buds with something new every day. Louise taught for 33 years with the training she received from the Ursuline Sisters and "owes it all to them."

Linda Jones Jastrzemski '73 was pictured in the Perrysburg Messenger for having accepted first vice president of Towne Club. Towne Club is a women's club dedicated to friendship and philanthropy. It is an outgrowth of the welcome wagon. Members are volunteers in politics, health, education, and welfare.

After 35 years of teaching science in Toledo Public Schools, **Cecelia Adams '73** was elected in 2011 to the Board of Education. After being appointed to Toledo City Council, she later won special election in 2015. Cecelia is stepping down after holding office for 6 years. Congratulations Cecelia!!

Carol A. Sheibley '58 was presented the "Distinguished Educator" award from the Gowanda Booster Club. She has lived in Gowanda, NY for 63-plus years. Sent by **Jeanne Sheibley '62**, who is very proud of her sister's accomplishments!

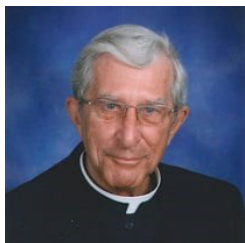
Barbara Feyedelem Donnelly '73, who lives in St. Clair Shores, MI, is now retired from substitute teaching and enjoys card-making and reading. She has been married to **Jerry '74** and they have a grandson in the Army in Florida who married in 2020.

Char Gleckler Kreuz '55 reports: I thought I would share with you the successes I had at our Fulton County Fair this past Labor Day weekend with 7 days of entering in the various competitions of vegetables, canned goods, floral (twice for two shows), antiques, and culinary. (Once a 4Her and 4-H advisor for 30 years, it's in your blood to be a fair supporter!)

In addition to earning lots of blue, red, and white ribbons in each of these categories, the exciting accomplishment was winning "OVERALL BEST OF SHOW" in the Agriculture Building with the vegetable display. I'll cherish this ribbon, for sure, and am grateful for my "farm" background...as well as proud of my Mary Manse education AND alumni friends!

Dear Pat, Enjoyed the recent MMC newsletter. Our class '53 circle grows smaller. I try to keep in touch with mates. **Margaret Friedrich Fischer** resides in assisted living, Delphos. She still corresponds with **Mary Kassman Fromme**, living in Manitou Beach, MI. **Louise Poch Henahan** has moved to Thousand Oaks, CA to live with her son and wife, following the death of her beloved Jim this past September. She is living not that far from **Pat Ryan Kay**, in Brea, CA. I am told **Sr. Jane Mary Sorosiak**, noted artist, is still active in the art field. I also hear from **Nancy Savage Coyle**, Crawfordsville, IN and she is a very busy lady. I welcome all class news, and am happy to pass it on. Everyone says the MMC newsletter means so much...the ties that bind! (We have reached the distinguished milestone of age 90!) Stay safe and well. Yours truly, **Mary C. Guyton Phillips '53**

THANK
YOU



Thank you to
Suzie Stapleton who
wrote the beautiful
tribute to Rev. Robert
Wilhelm in the Fall 2021
issue of the Mary Manse
Alumni News.
Rest in Peace,
Fr. Wilhelm
~ March 11, 2021 ~



Thank you to all those
who sent in a
“little extra”
with your dues!

Mary Manse Alumni News *Now On-line* on the Ursuline Website!

Go to the website:
www.toledoursulines.org

click on “Publications,”
then on the
Mary Manse Newsletter

LOST ALUMNI Rose Van Brandt Brehm '71

Stay tuned to the Fall 2022
Mary Manse Alumni News
to read an interesting story
of how **Flora Wang '41**
and her older sister, **Jessie
Wang '41**, came to the
United States to study at
Mary Manse College!

For All Physical Address Changes

Please contact:

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4045 Indian Road
Toledo, OH 43606

419-536-9587 or
vmyers@ursulinecenter.org



Mary Manse Alumni News Published twice a year

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4045 Indian Road
Toledo, OH 43606 OR
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Happy Birthday to **Midge Johnson Cowell '43**, who turned 100 years
old in July 2021! Midge, her daughter Tina (left) and Rep. Marcy Kaptur
attended the 2021 Mary Manse Alumni Mass and Luncheon.

Mary Manse Alumni Association
4045 Indian Road
Toledo, OH 43606

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SPRING 2022

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Send information for the next issue of the Mary Manse Alumni News. We love to hear all the news.

NAME: _____
First Maiden Last Class Year

ADDRESS: _____
Please check here if address is NEW ☐

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____
Please print legibly

Work, hobbies, interests: _____

Married, grandchildren, etc.: _____

Death - family, fellow alumnus: _____

Send all correspondence to:

Val Myers
Ursuline Convent Offices
4045 Indian Road
Toledo, OH 43606

or vmyers@ursulinecenter.org (please put "Mary Manse" in the subject field.)

Please always include your maiden name and your year of graduation. Thank you!