Paying Tribute to an Inspiration

Lose Your Self
Find Yourself

Good Things Come in 3s
That would be wonderful news indeed, wouldn’t it? But the odds against it are pretty astronomical. However, it is possible for the Mount to receive the equivalent of a $2 million winning lotto ticket... and you can help make it happen!

In order to increase the number of bequests to the College, an anonymous friend and donor has offered a matching gift arrangement: for every four dollars of planned gifts to the College established via wills and trusts, she/he will donate one dollar. That means if the Mount receives $8 million in bequests, she/he will make a $2 million bequest. It’s that simple.

If you have been postponing the creation of your estate plan and you wish to leave a legacy to the College, we hope that this will motivate you to get this very important part of your life underway. If your estate plan needs updating due to changes in your life circumstances, this is a great opportunity to do it. Increasing your bequest to the Mount will count toward this challenge, too. You have to agree, the odds are a lot better than the lottery!

For more information about this exciting opportunity, please contact Milania Austin Henley ’54, planned giving officer at (213) 477-2740, mhenley@msmc.la.edu.
SPECIAL ISSUE

Lose Your Self
Find Yourself
Paulette Marshall Barry ’67 found herself in Africa.
PAGE 16

Paying Tribute to an Inspiration
Former Glamour Editor Margaret Thalken ’46 honors a mentor.
PAGE 18

Good Things Come in 3s
Commencement returns to campus—thrice!
PAGE 20

ON THE COVER: Margaret Thalken ’46 enjoys one of her books at home in her garden.
PHOTO BY RICK MENDOZA

The Good News · In the Classroom
------------------------ · ------------------------
My Turn · Alumnae News
---------------------- · -----------------------
Mount Scenes · Class Notes
---------------------- · -----------------------
Applause · The Mount in the Media
---------------------- · -----------------------
A Look Back
----------------------
Greetings once again from the Mount.

As I was preparing my address for the 2002 fall convocation for faculty and staff at the beginning of the semester, I reflected on a phrase we often use when speaking about the College: Mount St. Mary’s College is the only Catholic women’s college west of the Mississippi. That prompted me to ask myself what, in particular, is attractive about choosing and attending a Catholic college? And what are our own students, Catholic as well as those with other religious beliefs, receiving?

1. They are receiving a liberal arts education. The liberal arts tradition finds its roots in institutions of Catholic higher education. We have been in the business and doing it well since the Middle Ages. Catholic institutions still hold dear the values of liberal learning in a contemporary culture of pervasive disbelief about its relevance as preparation for the modern workplace. Yet, among corporate and community leaders, there remains a loud cry for graduates who can think, who can communicate accurately and clearly, and who can work collaboratively with people different from themselves.

2. Catholic colleges and universities are universal—they are everywhere on the globe. Any institution with such worldwide endorsement has to be doing something right.

3. Catholic institutions value the whole person—that is, the learning environments we offer span academic life and student development. We recognize, support, and promote the concept that learning takes place outside the classroom as well as in the classroom settings. We find learning taking place in the residence halls, in the college’s cultural, social, and spiritual life, in our city where our students serve. What many do not realize is that we work to structure this kind of learning by using the best of student development research as we plan programs that will enable student learning in all venues of the college experience.

4. There is in Catholic colleges an interest in educating for the public good of society as well as the private good of advancing individual development. The Catholic college attempts to model and to instill in students a sense of responsibility for others, to educate people who will look out for more than themselves, and who will think about and advance the common good. The Catholic college is interested in educating students who will devote themselves to improving the lot of all people. Someone once said, “Every human encounter is an eternal responsibility.” Our own mission states that we want our graduates to better themselves, their environments, and the world.

5. Catholic colleges are not neutral on values. We are explicitly promoting values of respect and dignity for every individual and the many ramifications involved in that concept. This is not to say we indoctrinate, impose, or force points of view or beliefs on people. Rather, we attempt to create an intellectual framework within the Catholic tradition, which gives students the tools to choose wisely and to commit passionately to the values that will govern their own lives. We do not dispense faith; faith is a gift. Where it is present, the Catholic college nourishes it.

6. One advantage of Catholic higher education we don’t often acknowledge and we ponder even less is the fact that the Church needs its colleges and universities to take a leading role in thinking about theology and its intersection with history, sociology, the sciences, and the humanities in a contemporary context. It needs its universities and colleges to help it interpret and re-interpret the Catholic intellectual life.

7. Finally, our particular brand of Catholic higher education is CSJ higher education—with all of the aforementioned aspects, and the added distinction at Mount St. Mary’s of a focus on enabling women to earn self-respect and to realize their potential through high achievement. The CSJ’s value social justice and the highest form of social justice at the college is a superior education for a diverse student body.

As the College celebrates its 77th year, I take great pride in my third year as president of this fine institution which continues to educate students as leaders and to view their professional lives as a means of service to others within our rich Catholic context.

We hope you enjoy this special issue, which highlights the ways the College is educating for service.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Powers Doud
President
“I suddenly was struck by an unexplainable knowing, ‘I could adopt!’”

I was not able to have children of my own. As a single woman I had come to terms with this many years earlier. I pursued my love of children through my work as a teacher, child care director, and marriage and family therapist. I felt fulfilled in many ways and grateful for the life that I had. However, there was a time in my life in 1998 when I felt an emptiness within me that I could not explain. I wanted to make an impact in this life and to know that my life made a difference.

One Sunday, I arrived at church late and sat in the back pew. I felt as if I was searching for something. I prayed for God to guide me in the right way. What was it that He wanted me to do? I suddenly was struck by an unexplainable knowing, “I could adopt!” It wasn’t just a thought in my head; it was as if a certainty had entered me and I could not shake it.

The beginning of my journey led me to think about adopting an older child. I considered domestic adoption and found this to be a very complex endeavor. I spoke with someone who told me that I was too old to adopt in China, and this irritated me.

As I was complaining to my personal trainer later that day, he quietly picked up the phone and introduced me to a family friend of his who had adopted a child from China. They invited me into their home and introduced me to a new world of intercultural adoption. My journey continued to expand and open with each new person I met.

I moved forward with the voluminous amount of paperwork. At times I was filled with doubts and fears, and then I would see a child with its mother and my heart would warm and expand. I knew that I was being led to my daughter.

In 1999, one year after my revelation in church, I flew to China to adopt a little girl. My daughter lived in an orphanage in Maoming County in Dianbi, China. She was 18 months old, weighed 16 pounds, and her name was Xiaoya (shoy-yə), which means “Little Elegance.” She was placed in my arms in a government office. She was scantily dressed, and I gave her Teletubbies sandals, a hat, and a rattle. She came to me easily. Later, on the two-hour bus trip to the hotel, she fell asleep in my arms. I watched her sleep and tears filled my eyes. This was my daughter. I couldn’t have loved her more in that moment if she had come from my own body. I knew God had brought me to this place. He had guided me to her. The Chinese people believe that a red thread connects people, and I believe that my daughter and I were connected long before we met. She lived in my heart long before I saw her face or held her in my arms. She is a gift from God.

My daughter, now named Mia, has changed my life. People tell me what a wonderful thing I have done. I don’t see it that way. I think I am the lucky one to have her in my life. I am so grateful to God for giving me the strength and the courage to open my heart and home to a small child. The emptiness I felt inside is gone. Instead, I have the wonderful opportunity of watching this amazing little girl grow up. We are not without our struggles, but with each challenge, Mia and I become stronger and closer as a family. The incredible journey that began in church on that Sunday is really just the beginning.

Reach Susan by e-mail at svt334@msn.com
On Campus

Angela Lansbury Returns to the Mount

President Jackie Doud chats with Angela Lansbury on the Doheny Campus during a break in the filming of “The Celtic Riddle,” a “Murder She Wrote” TV movie that will be aired in 2003. Lansbury last appeared at the Mount in her role as Jessica Fletcher, solver of mysteries, in the award-winning program, in 1992. Did she reveal the plot to the Mount’s president? Mum’s the word!

Mount Seeks Docents for Historic Doheny Mansion

The College is recruiting volunteer docents who will guide tours of the historic Doheny Mansion in downtown Los Angeles.

The Alumnae Relations Department seeks tour leaders and assistants, security and information workers, room specialists, clerical support, and technology assistants for the program.

Docents will receive training about the history, architecture, and furniture of the Mansion from Don Sloper, a Mount regent. Sloper serves as a docent for the Los Angeles Conservancy and heads docent training for Los Angelitas, a group that conducts tours of El Pueblo, the birthplace of Los Angeles.

Training will vary depending on the role docents play. “Our alums are the perfect choice for the program because of their love of the College and their commitment to it,” said Jeanne Ruiz ’63, director of alumnae relations.

Docents also may choose to volunteer to help The Da Camera Society at Doheny Mansion events or at traveling chamber music concerts. The society was founded at the Mount in 1973 to nurture the performance of chamber music in intimate environments.

“The Doheny Mansion is a museum-quality treasure—a noted historic landmark which has been left to the stewardship of the College,” said MaryAnn Bonino ’61, mansion curator and founding/artistic director of The Da Camera Society.

“The Mansion also is a visible and dramatic image of what the College represents: beauty, excellence and access, reverence for history plus participation in the dynamic future of the multicultural neighborhood in which it is located,” Bonino said.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the program is invited to a Winter Tea at the Mansion from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 4. Contact Jeanne Ruiz at (213) 477-2769 or by email at jruiz@msmc.la.edu.
Author Gurganus Shares Literature With Students

A author Allan Gurganus brought the Mount’s fall edition of the Writers Series to life for students in September by reading aloud from a novella packed with richly drawn characters. Gurganus shared passages from his newest work, a volume of four novellas called The Practical Heart, with an audience of about 100 at the Chalon Campus’s José Drudis-Biada Art Gallery.

In his native North Carolina drawl, Gurganus read passages from the novella “Saint Monster,” a story about a man who spends his life grappling with the impact of coming home as a boy to witness his mother’s infidelity. The boy’s father is an ugly man who compensates for his unfortunate looks with charm and delivers Bibles to motor motels.

“I want to create a story that is so real and so important to people that it can provide a new mythology,” Gurganus told students after the reading.

He said he tunes his work through constant rewriting and reading it aloud to himself. Gurganus, who has been at the craft for 35 years, also wrote Oldest Confederate Widow Tells All, Plays Well with Others, and the collection of short stories White People.

“What I want to leave you with is pure protein, like eating tuna out of a can,” he said. Cadence and rhythm drive his desire to create “gorgeous sentences,” Gurganus said.

“One of the elements left out of contemporary fiction is just the sheer music of a sentence,” he said. Many students attended the reading to get course credit in writing classes, but said they didn’t need a class assignment to go.

“He’s amazing but he makes you feel like you can someday really write like him,” said freshman Erica Carroll, whose majors are English and math. “I want to just write someday.”

Said junior Stephanie Sampson, “His style to me is just totally refreshing. The detail in his characterization is amazing.” She is studying English and business administration.

“It was exciting to actually hear the words from the author,” said student Thelma Medina, a sophomore whose major is liberal studies. “With his characters, it’s not a fake person. It’s someone you could actually see.”

Gurganus said his legacy will be the six or eight books he produces that will be on library shelves.

“I hope to leave my version of immortality, my version of absolute paradise,” he said.
State Commission Lauds Mount’s Teacher Education

The Mount recently became the first college in the state to gain full accreditation to prepare students to teach in classrooms under new standards.

The accreditation, unanimously approved by a committee of the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing last spring, places the College in a position to mentor other universities that are restructuring teacher education programs, according to the commission.

Teacher preparation programs now must meet higher expectations. Teacher candidates must know academic content that matches more rigorous standards and must understand classroom management, child development, and testing children based on the stronger standards. Candidates also must demonstrate teaching skills in the classroom before receiving a preliminary credential.

Altogether, 32 education schools in the state chose to adopt new credential program standards this fall or in early 2003. Education colleges have until the end of 2003 to meet new standards, the commission reported.

The Mount in the Media

The Christian Science Monitor—Quoted Maria Lyons, student activities director on the Doheny Campus, and students Irene Calbillo and Lillian Arias in a column about how the College’s annual father-daughter dance nurtures students’ relationships with their parents (Nov.).

KABC-TV (channel 7 in Los Angeles)—Featured Mount students Margarita Rivas and Raquel Zamora, and M. Veronica Martinez ’00, counselor and coordinator of the Institute for Student Academic Enrichment, in its program “Vista L.A.” on Sunday, Oct. 13. The program focused on Latinos and higher education, and the cultural and social barriers they confront, as described in a report recently released by the Tomás Rivera Policy Institute (Oct.).

The Tidings—The College was highlighted for hosting a panel discussion about Valley secession with speakers including former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan and former City Councilman Mike Feuer. Seven Mount students asked panelists questions that they prepared with the help of Political Science Assistant Professor Haco Hoang (Oct.).

Sunset—The magazine highlighted The Da Camera Society’s Chamber Music in Historic Sites series. The article featured photos of a performance in the Doheny Mansion’s Pompeian Room (Oct.).

KPCC 89.3 FM—Kitty Felde’s Talk of the City radio program featured Mount English Assistant Professor Matthew Brosamer as part of an ongoing series on sinful behavior. Brosamer, who teaches medieval and Renaissance literature, discussed gluttony and why some people seem to be gluttons for punishment (Sept.).

Los Angeles Times—Quoted Mount President Jacqueline Powers Doud in a story about economic worries causing some donors to reduce the amount of major donations or wait before following through on earlier pledges. Doud told the Times she does not expect a slowing economy to hurt Mount programs. (Aug.).

Los Angeles Times Magazine—Quoted Pam Haldeman ’86, chair of the College’s Sociology and Gerontology Department, and sociology Assistant Professor Sandra L. Harte ’86 in an article about the symbolism of the new Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels both as a place of worship and as a reminder of high moral standards that could help shape public policy. The professors told the Times that the physical structure of the cathedral is less important than the people who will give the building meaning (Aug.).

Shape—The magazine quoted Venetta Campbell, Mount psychology lecturer, in an article about women in their 20s fighting stress. Campbell offered anti-stress tips, including eating a balanced diet, exercising, and setting a vision for the future to avoid uncertainty (Aug.).

The Tidings—Quoted Bernadette Robert ’77, assistant vice president for student affairs at the College, in a story about college preparation for Latino students. Robert cited the college’s Student Ambassador Program as a hopeful project that sends college students back to their high schools as role models. The program is designed to encourage high schoolers to continue their education, Robert told The Tidings (July).

Los Angeles Times—Quoted Rev. George O’Brien, Mount professor and English Department chair, in an article about Southern California’s Roman Catholic priests urging bishops to promote healthier teachings on sexuality. O’Brien told the Times he hopes church leaders will affirm sex as “God’s great gift,” rather than presenting sexuality through a negative approach that may contribute to feelings of repression and denial (April).
New Trustees Named

Three new members took their places on the College's Board of Trustees at the first meeting of the 2002-03 academic year in October.

James R. Belardi

James R. Belardi, a member of the Board's Finance Committee, is executive vice president and chief investment officer of AIG SunAmerica Inc., and serves on its board of directors. He is also president of SunAmerica Life Insurance Company in Los Angeles. Prior to joining SunAmerica in 1986, Belardi was with Santa Fe International Corporation. He received his bachelor of arts degree in economics from Stanford University and his master of business administration from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Belardi competed in the 1976 and 1980 Olympic swimming trials, and was a world-ranked swimmer and four-year Stanford letterman. He continues to swim in masters competition where he is an eight-time world record holder and four-time world champion.

He serves on the Stanford University athletic board of directors, the board of directors for the Independent Colleges of Southern California, and for Southern California Aquatics. He is the son of alumna Georgia Maloney Belardi ’55.

Karl H. Loring

Karl H. Loring is a member of the Board's Finance Committee, the Regents Council since 1999, and a life member of the Mount Associates since 1995. He received a BBA from Pace College (now Pace University), then attended Columbia University Graduate School of Business where he earned his master's degree. After working at accounting firms in New York for ten years, he went to Teheran, Iran, in 1956 for two years as controller for an American engineering firm, and spent three additional years as an audit advisor to the Iranian Development Ministry. He joined the accounting firm of Ernst & Ernst (now Ernst & Young) in Los Angeles in 1961, became a partner in 1969, and retired in 1983. During his career with the firm, he served as regional director of tax for 11 western states as well as partner in charge of the Los Angeles office tax department. He continues to consult with several long-time clients in the area of international tax.

Loring serves on the board of directors for Reliance Steel and Aluminum Company, and is a member of the California CPA Society and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In his leisure time, he enjoys traveling, photography, and playing tennis.

Monica Spillane Luechtefeld ’71

A member of the Regents Council and a Mount Associate since 1985, and chair of the College's Corporate Partners, Monica Spillane Luechtefeld has been named to the Board's Student Life and Educational Affairs committees. Executive vice president of e-commerce for Office Depot, she is responsible for managing the company's highly successful Internet commerce systems. She received her bachelor's degree in biological sciences and chemistry from Mount St. Mary's College in 1971, and began her career in the College's admissions office as a recruiter. In 1978, she became a sales representative for an office supply chain and joined the Office Depot team in 1993.

She serves as a member of the advisory boards for Internet Retailer Magazine, CommerceNet, and President Strategies. Most recently, she was profiled in Businessweek’s "e.biz.25" pages and she speaks regularly at e-commerce industry conferences. In 2001, she was given the "Unstoppable Woman" award by Business Women's Network for her ability and insight in breaking down business barriers.

A Los Angeles native, she currently lives in Boca Raton, Florida. In her leisure time, she enjoys skiing, snorkeling, and reading.
Fritz B. Burns Health Education Building Rededicated

Gathering on the Doheny Campus to rededicate the Fritz B. Burns Health Education Building are (seated left to right) Sister Kieran Vaughan, CSJ ’64 and Margaret Vaughan; standing, from left to right are Carol Clem Enright ’63, W.K. (Ken) Skinner, executive vice president, Fritz B. Burns Foundation, Joyce Skinner, Jacqueline Powers Doud, Elaine Rawlinson, Joseph E. Rawlinson, president of the Fritz B. Burns Foundation, and Michael Enright, MSMC trustee. A new photo of Fritz B. Burns and a plaque describing his lifetime accomplishments hang in the foyer of the building which bears his name. The Fritz B. Burns Foundation has supported the College throughout the years through scholarships, a capital campaign, and most recently, the award of an endowed faculty chair in education.

Promotions and Appointments

Pat Ash was appointed chair of the History and Political Science Department in May. Ash, who previously taught at Whittier College, specializes in 19th-century American women’s history and American intellectual and cultural history. Many department courses integrate history with literature, psychology and sociology, among other disciplines. Ash holds a law degree as well as a doctorate in history.

Stephanie Cubba was appointed executive director of Institutional Advancement in July. Cubba joined the Mount in 1991 and served as director of Institutional Research and Assessment. She spent two years in industry market research and returned to the Mount three years ago as director of the Women’s Leadership Program. She has a bachelor’s degree in law and society, a master’s degree in sociology, and is currently working on a doctorate in public administration. Her duties include coordinating the College’s fundraising and alumni relations and boosting the visibility of the campus.

Sr. Joseph Adele Edwards, CSJ ’58 was appointed in August as interim dean of the associate in arts program at the Doheny Campus. She started at the Mount in 1963 and is beginning her 40th year of service on campus. Through the years, she has served as director of admissions, director of financial aid, director of residence at the Doheny Campus, coordinator for student activities at Doheny, and director of the Strides Toward Educational Proficiency outreach program to high schools. She teaches in the English department.

Carol Garrett is new to the Mount and takes over as chair of the business administration department. Her July appointment brings her to the Mount from Hsi Lai University in Rosemead. She oversees a staff of six full-time faculty members and several part-time instructors in the department, and directs the program at both the Chalon and Doheny Campuses as well as at Weekend College. Garrett, who teaches business law, has a law degree and a doctorate in business.

The Mount welcomes back Lawrence J. Ryan, who was appointed in August as the College’s graduate dean and associate academic vice president. Ryan oversees graduate programs, including master’s programs in education, psychology, religious studies, and the doctoral program in physical therapy. He also develops new graduate programs. Ryan previously worked at the Mount from 1977 to 1991 as a faculty member in the psychology and education departments. Between 1991 and 2002, he served as dean of the graduate school at Union Institute and University in Ohio, and as academic vice president and dean at St. John’s Seminary College in Camarillo. His wife, Sharon Ryan ’91, earned her master’s degree at the College.

Larry Smith was promoted in July to vice president of Information Support Services. He came to the College in 1995, and previously served as registrar and associate provost for Information Support Services. He oversees networking of computers for academic and administrative purposes, as well as telecommunications and on-line databases for the libraries. He also oversees a five-year federal Title V grant designed to create high technology student labs in hopes of improving retention and graduate rates. He chairs the Academic Technology Committee and is a liaison to the Mount’s Board of Trustees Facilities and Technology Committee.
It's a class assignment with a conscience. For four years students in Assistant Professor Sande Harte's Sociology of the Family course have spent a day at a Los Angeles-area low-income housing development helping families lead healthier lives as part of a campaign to fight drugs.

The Red Ribbon Fair—named for the nationally recognized Red Ribbon Week with the same focus—is organized by students to highlight the importance of such tasks as taking youngsters to the dentist, learning basic first aid, and keeping dangerous household items out of children's reach.

This year, the fair soared to a new level. Many of the 39 students in the class are bilingual and speak Spanish to residents of Mar Vista Gardens, where 96 percent of the population is Hispanic. The potential for outreach is extensive, with 2,200 people living in the development.

Students also distributed used but well-preserved clothing and handed out lollipops to children to engage them in friendly conversation about their family life.

Mount senior Stephanie Fields, a child development major, said the fair is a practical way of helping people. Fields teaches preschool in East Los Angeles and has noticed that poverty often places stress on families.

“I see first hand that a lot of the parents either don't know or aren't educated to know what to do for their children,” Fields said.

The fair is an important tool to prepare Mar Vista residents to improve their lives, said Irene Welker, drug elimination program manager for the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, which owns the development.

“We have found that just simply providing housing to low-income individuals and families is not sufficient,” Welker said. “We have to provide a whole range of social services to get them the experience and the background to get better paying jobs.”

Mar Vista residents must meet income requirements to live in the complex, which receives funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Residents earn an average of $1,316 a month, and pay a portion of their incomes for rent.

Students find creative ways to relate to the residents, using whatever tools are handy.

Since Ivana Berrios' father is an orthodontist, it made sense that she participated on the dental hygiene committee. The junior sociology major brought tiny tubes of toothpaste from her father's office to the fair.

Sophomore Karen Orellana, who is majoring in psychology and sociology, said covering the basics with the residents is a must.

"It's important for us to realize that there are a lot of people out there who don't know it's important to read to your kids or take them to the dentist,” she said.

Added Carmen Vargas, a senior child development major who speaks fluent Spanish: "A lot of these people don't have the education or the resources to manage things like stress in their lives.”

A New SAGA Begins

Alumnae who graduated from the Sociology and Gerontology Department are invited to join a new association that aims to promote networking, advise students pursuing a related education, and reconnect with the department and the Mount.

The Sociology and Gerontology Association, SAGA, will meet once a year at a dinner and expects to hold its first session in February, said Pam Haldeman ’86, chair of the Sociology and Gerontology Department.

Professions likely to be represented in SAGA include social workers, probation officers, marriage and family therapists, nonprofit workers, and case managers, Haldeman said.

About 300 alums graduated at the baccalaureate level from the department in the last five years, she said.

Information: Contact Haldeman by e-mail at phaldeman@msmc.la.edu, or by phone, (213) 477-4366. Please provide contact information to receive an invitation.
Mount Grads Honored as Foreign Affairs Fellows

Two graduates of the Mount have been awarded prestigious fellowships from the State Department to study diplomacy and eventually spread the message of democracy around the world.

Laura Cansicio ’99 and Tia Gonzalez ’02 received Thomas R. Pickering Graduate Foreign Affairs Fellowships this year to enroll in master’s degree programs, gain internship experience at home and overseas, and spend three years as foreign service officers.

The program, funded by the State Department and administered by the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, pays students’ tuition, room and board, and covers the cost of books. Cansicio and Gonzalez are the first alumnae of the Mount to receive the competitive fellowships, according to the foundation.

Fellowships also provide stipends to fellows as they spend the summer of 2003 at an internship in the United States and a second internship overseas in 2004. Fellows are obligated to serve as foreign service officers when they finish graduate school.

Cansicio is pursuing her master’s degree in public administration at Columbia University’s Department of International and Public Affairs in New York. She aspires to establish an international consulting business to help women set up businesses worldwide. She said she also wants to become a political consultant working on election campaigns in the United States.

“It’s been said that there’s no higher service than government service, and it’s true because it challenges you on so many levels and it impacts so many different types of people,” said Cansicio. She majored in English and history-political science at the Mount.

Gonzalez is enrolled in a master’s program in the Department of Public Administration at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C. She said she wasn’t sure she wanted to pursue a career in the foreign service until she started interviewing for the fellowship with ambassadors in the nation’s capital.

“They told so many exciting stories, about how sometimes you’re sent to places that don’t have fresh running water or don’t have electricity,” said Gonzalez, who majored in business administration and political science at the Mount.

“You get to build relationships with people and places where no one ever goes,” she said. “It adds meaning to your life. You’re helping a country understand democracy.”

Gonzalez said she has not decided which aspect of the foreign service she wants to pursue after school. She said the Mount gave her tools to succeed wherever her career goes.

“People there really knew what was going on with me,” Gonzalez said. “If I didn’t have this confidence and foundation from Mount St. Mary’s I wouldn’t be doing as well as I am here.”

Broadcasting Live From The Mount

The College’s Mind and Spirit Committee presented award-winning public radio journalist Kitty Felde of KPCC 89.3 FM (fourth from left) who brought her Talk of the City program to the Chalon Campus in October to moderate a debate on Valley secession. A group of Mount students and Haco Hoang, assistant professor, MSMC department of history and political science (third from left) addressed questions to a panel of dignitaries representing both sides of the issue.

Mount students meet and greet Michael Feuer, former Los Angeles City Councilman (second from left) and former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, who answered questions on behalf of L.A. United. The panel also included Richard Close, chair, Valley VOTE and Laurette Healey, co-chair, San Fernando Valley Independence Committee. Sophomore Lauren Arce, the Mount’s own “Susan B. Anthony,” reminded students to register to vote.
Remembering September 11

When sophomore Lauren Arce discussed the tragic events of Sept. 11 with students on the Doheny Campus, she realized there was little understanding as to numbers of victims, and decided to create a banner listing the name of each person who died during the attacks.

“I wanted to bring home to students what 2,801 names would look like if they were all visible at one time,” says Arce (kneeling in photo). “Everyone who saw the banner couldn’t believe how many names there were. It had a powerful and emotional impact on the Mount community.”

Arce started the banner on Sept. 4 and spent more than 30 hours single-handedly listing the names. “I used up seven red markers for the World Trade Center list, two blue markers for the names of people on the airplanes, and one black marker for the Pentagon names,” she says.

The 30-foot banner was used during a memorial service and later displayed in front of Ahmanson Commons on the Doheny Campus.

Homeless Program Continues Despite Legal Challenge

Two laws adopted in October aiming to curb the homeless presence in Santa Monica probably won’t limit a long-standing Mount food distribution program in the city.

Coordinators of the weekly College program that sends students to the Third Street Promenade with backpacks of food say the actions by the Santa Monica City Council invigorated their efforts to comfort the homeless.

“I don’t think we should change or discontinue our program,” says program co-coordinator Veronica Leon of Chalon Campus Ministry. “That would be a waste. It’s one of the greatest programs we offer.”

One of the new laws requires groups serving 150 or more people to adhere to community event laws and county health standards. The Mount won’t need to change its routine because it reaches fewer than 150 people in its weekly outreach and does not set up tables for distribution.

The second new law makes it illegal to sit or lie in downtown doorways from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. if the business owner posts a sign to that effect.

The laws raise questions anew about why people become homeless and what society should do to reach out to the population, according to Gail Gresser, director of Campus Ministry.

“The program is good for our students, and educates them about the extent of the problem and the humanity of those who are homeless,” Gresser says. “Many of them learned as children to avert their eyes and stay away from homeless people. We help our students to—while being careful—understand each homeless person as a person inherently deserving of respect and care. This is a basic part of Catholic education.”

Supporters of the laws including some business owners and residents argue that Santa Monica is attracting an increasing number of homeless people. Rather than encourage the homeless to wait for the next food giveaway, those who favor the laws hope to encourage the homeless to seek better lives through city-funded social services, such as centers for job training and mental health treatment.

The council asked city staff to continue working on new, regional solutions to homeless issues.

Gresser said she understands frustrations expressed about homeless people in Santa Monica.

“However, the solution is for all cities and the entire state to take up their responsibility, rather than to target the homeless who most often have no place to go,” Gresser says. “There are not nearly sufficient services provided by various agencies in the area—not enough safe beds, bathrooms, or food for people.”

Gresser said the state’s closure of hospitals devoted to caring for the mentally ill is to blame for some of the homeless street presence.

Nercy Piñeda, also with Campus Ministry, said the 12-year-old Mount food giveaway program isn’t attracting more homeless to the city.

“It’s a simple meal on weekend nights, and it’s usually cold and they don’t usually have anywhere to turn,” Piñeda said.
Attention Alumnae!

Career Center
Updating FANS Database

The Career Center is updating contact information for a database of alums and friends of the College designed to provide students with contacts for career advice.

Participants in the Friends and Alumnae Networking Systems, or FANS, database may serve on alumnae career panels, attend career-related events, or meet with students one-on-one.

The center would like current participants to update contact information either on-line or by phone. Alums wishing to join the database may go online to the Mount’s Web page, www.msmc.la.edu, click on the Current Students section, and then on Career Planning. Then click on For Alumnae and follow the directions to become a member. For further information, call the center, (310) 954-4070.

Cultural Fluency Award Presented to Local Muslim Leader

Mount St. Mary’s College presented its annual Cultural Fluency Award to Dafer M. Dakhil, director of community development and external affairs at Omar Ibn Al Khattab Foundation of Los Angeles, in August.

The award, given by the College’s Center for Cultural Fluency, was presented to Dakhil for his work as a bridge between local Muslims and the rest of the community and for his assistance in the creation of Muslim Awareness Week at the Mount in November 2001 in response to the events of Sept. 11. Dakhil arranged for the creation of a panel of local Muslim women to address the college community and explain the true (and peaceful) nature of the Islamic faith.

The award was given during a dinner program at the foundation’s headquarters that raised $50,000 for the reconstruction of Bilal Islamic School in South Central Los Angeles and to honor Imam Adbul Karim Hasan for his contributions to the Los Angeles Muslim community.

The Cultural Fluency Award is given each year to a member (or members) of the community who have made outstanding contributions to cross-cultural understanding in Los Angeles. Past award winners include muralist Judith Baca, founder and artistic director of the Social and Public Art Resource Center, and Ruben and Christina Rodriguez, founders of Homeboys Silkscreen, a business that employs gang members.

Debbie Giunta, director of the Center for Cultural Fluency, said in giving the award, “Dafer sees his job as breaking down walls within the Muslim community and between the Muslim community and the rest of society. He believes the best way to break down barriers is to be open, welcoming, and to work together on projects.”

Joining Giunta in presenting the award was Maria Lyons, director of student activities and community liaison at Mount St. Mary’s College’s Doheny Campus (left), and Debbie Giunta, director of the College’s Center for Cultural Fluency (right), present the Cultural Fluency Award to Dafer M. Dakhil, director, community development and external affairs at Omar Ibn Al Khattab Foundation (center).

Maria Lyons, director of student activities and community liaison at Mount St. Mary’s College’s Doheny Campus (left), and Debbie Giunta, director of the College’s Center for Cultural Fluency (right), present the Cultural Fluency Award to Dafer M. Dakhil, director, community development and external affairs at Omar Ibn Al Khattab Foundation (center).

Sister Judy Molosky, CSJ ’70, former director of the College’s Center for Urban Partnership, was this year’s award co-recipient for her work with community partners and in organizing the Urban Internship Program, the Voces Latinas campus organization, the Youth Summit on Peace, and the Peace Makers Retreat. She received the award in a separate ceremony at the College earlier in the year.

The Center for Cultural Fluency was founded in 1994 to develop the cultural fluency of teachers and students in Los Angeles. The center houses a large collection of books, videos, audiotapes, and posters for K-12 teachers to use in their classrooms. The center also provides professional development workshops and supports the ongoing personal development of the Mount community to embrace the ever-evolving city of Los Angeles.
Sister Teresita Espinosa Named Music Educator of the Year

Sister Teresita Espinosa, professor and chair of the Mount's music department, recently was named the 2002 Region III Music Educator of the Year by the board of directors of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians' (NPM) Music Educator Division (ME).

Selected for her outstanding service to music education and to the continuing formation of music educators for Catholic communities, Sister Teresita is regarded as an exemplary leader in the field and in NPM. She has previously been awarded the Presidential Citation from NPM, and special recognition from the National Association for Music Education. She has also been awarded the Mount's Outstanding Faculty Award for her quality work and dedication to her students.

"I am most honored and humbled," said Sister Teresita about receiving the award. "Particularly because this nomination comes from such distinguished and top-notch music educators who are such generous and untiring leaders in the promotion of quality music education. I have enjoyed and continue to have a passion for music education, and have been enriched by all for whom and with whom I have been privileged to work. I am deeply grateful for such distinction."

Sister Teresita holds a baccalaureate degree in English and French at The College of St. Catherine, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa. She received her master's and doctorate degrees in English and American literature at Stanford University. She did post-doctoral work at Oxford University and at Stratford-on-Avon in England.

She has served on the boards of St. Mary's Academy and Daniel Freeman Hospital, and currently is a member of the board of the Academy of Our Lady of Peace High School.

Doud praised Sister Mary's commitment to improving the College. "She embodies the values that we all aspire to and seek to instill in our students," Doud said.

The College has begun a nationwide search for a new provost and academic vice president with the firm Morris & Berger of Pasadena. For more information or to nominate a candidate, visit www.morrisberger.com, or call (626) 795-0522.
The all-new 2002 Homecoming celebration brought more than 200 alums to the College to revel in festivities and friendship. Beginning with the alumnae concert in the Doheny Mansion on Friday, October 11, and throughout the next day on the Chalon Campus, alums enjoyed enrichment workshops, a spiritual mini-retreat, a nursing lecture to honor the 50th anniversary of the nursing program, the 10th anniversary celebration of the Weekend College, Founders Day Mass, class reunions, and a gala dinner. Alumnae were seen hugging classmates, chatting, and displaying family photos as they were warmly welcomed back to the Mount.
Inaugural Nursing Class Includes CSJ

Sr. Mary Frances Rebel, CSJ ’52 trained at the same clinics as her classmates in the Mount’s first baccalaureate nursing program 50 years ago. But while her classmates wore nurses’ uniforms and graduated at the Chalon Campus Circle, she wore a white habit and took part in a separate ceremony for sisters in Coe Memorial Library.

“We saw each other in classes but lived in separate buildings,” said Sr. Mary Frances, who was known as Sr. Albert Mary Rebel when she graduated from the Mount. “I even had to go to a different dining room.”

The insulated world of sisters back then may help explain why Rebel was inadvertently left out of a magazine cover story about the 50th anniversary of the nursing program. The edition of The Mount, sent out in June, celebrated five graduates in the first class but failed to mention Rebel’s accomplishment.

Sisters often were separated from other classmates before the Vatican II Council of the 1960s encouraged more interaction between nuns and the laity, according to Sr. Joseph Adele Edwards, CSJ ’58, interim dean of the associate in arts program.

After graduating from the Mount, Sister Mary Frances taught medical-surgical nursing at the college from 1953 to 1960, and received her master’s degree in nursing from UCLA.

Beginning in 1960, she spent 22 years as administrator and chief executive officer at several CSJ hospitals. Most recently, she worked as a spiritual counselor at rehabilitation centers for alcoholics and drug addicts.

She retired in June, but continues to work occasionally at the Hazelden/Springbrook rehabilitation center in Oregon.

Sister Mary Frances said the College formed an important foundation in her nursing career, and she is especially proud of the seven years she taught at the Mount.

Student Holds Post on Statewide Panel

Senior Margarita Rivas is adding trips to Sacramento to her Mount routine to represent the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities on a statewide student aid board.

Rivas, a senior majoring in political science, was selected earlier this year by the association to serve as its student representative to the Grant Advisory Committee of the California Student Aid Commission. Her post began in July and continues for two years.

She is one of 20 members of the advisory committee selected in a competitive process. Students are chosen based on their commitment to college, extra-curricular activities, and strong recommendation from the campus.

The Student Aid Commission is the principal state agency responsible for administering financial aid programs for students attending public and private universities, colleges, and vocational schools. The grant committee advises the commission on state-funded awards to students.

Rivas also is an ex-officio member of the commission’s Outreach Advisory Committee, which ensures students are aware of grant awards.

Rivas said that since her first committee meeting in May she has been fascinated with the experience. Professional members of the committees look to student representatives for advice, she said.

“They look to me when it comes to different decisions,” Rivas said. “I felt so special when I joined the committee and I had to sign an oath of office. I thought it was kind of like the president being inaugurated or something.”

After the Mount, Rivas said she plans to apply to law school and seek a joint master’s degree program in public policy. She aspires to be a city councilwoman and eventually a United States senator.
I knew I would return to Africa; it had entered me through her smells, her people, her grace and contrasting scenes. When I left Kenya and Tanzania after a visit a year ago, I knew I would be back. I returned to Africa this June after I read about a Habitat for Humanity project to build 1,000 homes there. Every year former President Jimmy Carter and his wife Roselyn sponsor a weeklong event where they help build houses in South Africa. It was clear to me that this was what I needed to do. This was my chance to give back to a country I fell in love with.

I arrived in Durban, which is on the east side of Africa, on the Indian Ocean. The other volunteers and I were billeted in hotel rooms by the ocean, which was scenic and tropical. It also was dangerous. When the concierge in your hotel tells you not to travel down side streets, not to wear a camera in plain sight, you listen. We set our alarms for 4:30 a.m., showered, dressed, and went down to the street in front of the lobby where buses picked us up and brought us to the building site. It was dark when we took the 5 a.m. or 5:15 a.m. buses. It was winter in South Africa. It stayed dark until almost 6:30 a.m., but the sunrises made up for the darkness. They were rosy warm.

On the bus ride we saw people in native dress, people wearing suits, and in the midst of all of this, a McDonald’s, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Ford and Mercedes car dealerships. Poverty exists with affluence. Progress blends with the past. It looks a great deal like any major city in the United States.

We exited the buses dream-like, still in the darkness, and hiked about a half mile to the breakfast areas.

By the third day I figured out where the Carters sat for breakfast and made a point to be there. It was wonderful to see the president. Each morning about 6:45 a.m., two South African motorcycle police would pull up in front of a white van. Out would step four Secret Service persons. The Carters would come out, and they would always walk hand-in-hand to the table to eat and listen to worship. After worship, like the rest of us, they would walk to their site. You could see them, like young lovers, strolling down the main street. It lifted all our spirits to see them, and the South African people adore him.

One day President Carter came to our house and hammered some nails. Evidently he puts a nail or two in every house during his weeklong Jimmy Carter Build. It was so good to see him at our house.

Mr. and Mrs. Mzobe worked hard with us to build their home, part of the Habitat’s deal called “sweat equity.” I got to know Edith (Mrs. Mzobe) as the days went on. The last day of the building, Edith showed me a bag with lace that she had made as gifts. She said, “I made the lace as presents but I wanted you to be the first one to choose.” How can you top an honor like that?

I liked the black South African ladies. They were always ready to smile and laugh. I liked the ladies’ songs. Sometimes they sang Christian hymns and sometimes Zulu ones. I could tell the Zulu ones because there would be a guttural, tongue-slashing sound made throughout—almost like the sound a loon makes on a lake. The best song was the one they made up in English when they were given the keys to the house on the last day. They repeated the line, “Happy the day we work on our house.” Then they changed the verse to sing, “Happy the day we live in our house.” Their bodies were swinging when they sang and so were ours, as it was impossible to stand and not move when those songs came out of those bodies.

On the day of our group photograph, four seats were saved in the middle for the Carters and Millard Fuller, founder of Habitat for Humanity.
Paulette Marshall Barry ‘67 spent a week in South Africa building houses with former President Jimmy Carter and his wife Roselyn as part of Habitat for Humanity. The Carters are shown walking together (bottom right corner).

Habitat for Humanity, and his wife Linda. After a short wait, President Carter and the rest of the group came and we posed. Carter said a few words about the program and presented homeowners with a Bible—one he signed with a quotation from scripture.

Saturday morning came and I wanted a moment alone. I wanted a moment to think. As I sat there, I found that the inside of me was full. I cannot describe the feeling any other way. I was filled with what I had done—and happy, very serene. I let it bathe over me so I could remember the feeling forever.

I realized I had spent an entire week with my self out of the way—a week where I never gave myself a thought, never recalled worries I usually carry with me. No time for self when you are building, when you are giving. As I left, I saw some people I met during the week and I spoke to them and they all felt that same fullness. They had the same look on their faces. A week without your self in it is the perfect way to find yourself again.

Paulette Marshall Barry ‘67 owns the human resources consulting firm PMB Associates of San Francisco, and has been the director of religious education at her church. She also has been a vocational high school teacher and is the mother of two children, Paula and John. At her 1967 Mount commencement, she was honored with the Estelle Doheny Award as the associate in arts graduate who most personified “the characteristics of graciousness and concern, showing great potential and making a significant contribution in her time.”
Paying Tribute to an

Margaret Thalken’s 36-year career at Glamour and Vogue magazines carried her to the top ranks of Condé Nast Publications. Her journey began with a Mount professor’s advice to enter a literary contest.

That professor, Sister Ste. Helene Guthrie, was the English teacher every young woman at the Mount in the 1940s hoped to study with, says Thalken ’46.

Thalken demonstrated her service to the College this year by creating an endowed scholarship program in honor of Sister Ste. Helene’s enthusiasm for literature. The Celebrity Authors Series brought the first in a series of high-profile writers to campus this July in hopes of raising $30,000 in the next two years to help English majors pay tuition.

Sister Ste. Helene captivated students with tales about her travels to Europe and Asia. She impressed them by keeping company with Hollywood producers and other artist-types, including poet and playwright Edna St. Vincent Millay. Her tenure at the Mount lasted 10 years.

The sister’s legacy beats strong in Thalken.

“She would say, ‘Oh, you’ve got to travel,’ and she just was so encouraging,” remembered Thalken. “The whole class would erupt in applause when she entered the room.”

The first visitor at the Mount for the Celebrity Authors Series was Stephen Birmingham, author of The Grandees: America’s Sephardic Elite, Our Crowd: The Great Jewish Families of New York, and Real Lace.

The Mount welcomed veteran Los Angeles newsman Stan Chambers in October, and has lined up Tommy Lasorda, the legendary Los Angeles Dodger’s manager and author, for a visit in January. Acclaimed writer Mary Higgins Clark also has committed to an evening at the College.

“The scholarship will help continue a tradition of excellence in the English Department that began decades ago,” says Milania Henley ’54, planned giving officer at the Mount.

Henley, also an English major, said she learned to love literature with guidance from superb teachers.

Thalken said her interest in the scholarship is nurtured by memories of Sister Ste. Helene encouraging her to apply to a Vogue contest in the 1940s. The contest required applicants to critique two magazine articles and describe a wardrobe for a trip to Mexico. Thalken finished in the top 10, and decided to make a career of fashion and travel.

Thalken moved to the East Coast after graduating from the Mount, but maintained a relationship with Sister Ste. Helene. The sister even visited her former student in New York.

Thalken started in the industry in 1954 and retired in 1990 from Condé Nast Publications, the publishing empire responsible for Vogue, Glamour, and Vanity Fair, among other magazines.

She excelled in her work and was executive editor of Glamour from 1965 to 1969 before moving to Vogue, where she became merchandising editor and director of travel and shoes.

Sister Ste. Helene did not live to see Thalken’s success. The sister died in 1949, two years after leaving the Mount to return to The College of St. Catherine in Minnesota where she previously had been dean.

“She was a legend, and any of the women who knew her in the forties should be planning to give something in her memory,” Thalken said.

For more information or to attend upcoming events, please contact Special Events Manager Heather Schraeder at (213) 477-2761.
Inspiration

Margaret Thalken ’46 Honors Sister With Scholarship Fund

BY JOANNA BANKS
Exuberance abounded throughout the Mount community May 10 to 13 when commencement exercises returned to the College’s two campuses with three distinct ceremonies. From 1998 to 2001, a single ceremony was held at the Shrine Auditorium.

Festivities began in the late afternoon on Friday, May 10 on the Doheny Campus, when 120 associate in arts graduates heard Catalina Gonzalez Sanchez ’87, recipient of her associate, baccalaureate, and graduate degrees from the Mount, and Candy Corral ’00, who received her associate degree in nursing at Doheny, inspire graduates by relating their personal success stories.

Clear, warm skies welcomed the 316 graduates for the 73rd baccalaureate commencement on the Chalon Campus on Saturday. Former trustee Norma Gonzales served as presider of the ceremony and welcomed the crowd of more than 3,000. Cheers were given to Vivian Burgess ’52 when she received the Carondelet Medal, the College’s most prestigious award for exceptional service. Commencement speaker Leon Panetta, former White House chief of staff during the Clinton administration, encouraged the class of 2002 to “get involved in public life and give back to this country,” he said. “Your willingness and courage to fight for what you believe in will make you the next ‘greatest generation.’”

The class tribute was given by Angelica Maria Dueñas who urged her fellow graduates to consider their college educations as a “gift for a lifetime,” and to reflect upon their days at the Mount with great appreciation in future years.

Commencement garb was donned again for the conferring of graduate degrees Monday evening, May 13, in the Lecture Hall on the Doheny Campus. Sister Cecilia Louise Moore, CSJ ’53, former chancellor of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, and former president of the College, gave the address to the 59 master’s degree candidates, and Susan Martha Georgino offered the class tribute. “The college community can take pride in our accomplishment in bringing graduation back to campus,” said Provost Sister Mary Williams, CSJ. “It is wonderful to celebrate our traditions together in ways that are more meaningful for each of our graduating programs.”

Opposite Page: Top row, left to right: President Jackie Doud with Doheny ASB President Alysia Passero; Candy Corral ’00 and Catalina Gonzalez Sanchez ’87; Sister Daniel Therese Flynn with associate in arts graduates. Middle Row left to right: President Doud, Leon Panetta, and Sister Jill Napier ’71; Angelica Maria Dueñas; soon-to-be-grads; Sister Jill Napier awards Carondelet medal to Vivian Burgess ’52. Bottom row, left to right: President Doud and Sister Cecilia Louise Moore ’53; Terri Mendoza M’84, middle row, left, with master’s degree in education graduates.
Alumnae News

Class Notes

Phyllis Kirby Jones and her husband have celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary. They have 27 grandchildren, and attend the Cedar City Shakespearean Festival in August annually.

Patricia Spain Lorick has, for the past four years, been the director of a free clinic for anyone with insufficient or no insurance.

Mary Clare O’Brien Pettit and her husband celebrated their 50th anniversary with their entire family (18 people) in one big house for a week in Kailua, Oahu, Hawaii, and had a ball!

Barbara Terpening McCourtney toured southern Spain, Portugal, and Morocco last November with her husband. Highlights of the trip included experiencing village life firsthand in Morocco, and a return trip to the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

Eileen Micklish Hempling has been elected fourth chair of the Model A Ford Club of Colorado for 2002. She never dreamed she would be the proud owner of a 1929 Model A Cabriolet—a yellow convertible with orange wheels.

Gloria Arias Hampton is involved in the bereavement ministry at St. Didacus Parish in Sylmar. She is also the coordinator of a peer support group called Rainbows for God’s Children, for children who have experienced losses.

Jean Call Plinch has made several trips every year to visit her daughter-in-law and four boys in Minneapolis since her 38-year-old son died in 2000.

Barbara (Bobby) Walsh Hughes retired in June 2000. She traveled to Spain and Portugal just after 9/11 with her 83-year-old sister and her daughter.

Rosemary Czuleger Rea celebrated a Czuleger family reunion in Redondo Beach in August. Of the 140 people in attendance, 26 were Reas’ children and grandchildren.

Peggyann Campbell Reed is currently managing the St. Vincent de Paul Society at her parish and is involved with the children’s summer reading program at her local library in Vallecito, Calif.

Lydia Alvidrez Falce and her husband have celebrated 35 years of a blessed marriage. Lydia is still working—36 years as a teacher.

Phyllis Kiney Hall is retired from teaching in Clark County, Nev. She has two daughters and a son and four grandchildren. She and her husband travel to Canada, the Virgin Islands, Hawaii, and Mexico.

Alice Osbi Carriere has four grandchildren scattered up and down the west coast, so she and her husband are on the road in their motor home during the summer. They celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in August.

Kathleen Flynn Vernon retired in 2001. She has been the eucharistic minister for a local convalescent home and is still a lector at St. James Church in Solana Beach.

Katherine Bondan Gross extended her education by completing her second teaching credential in special education and is currently teaching a community-based instruction class at Canoga Park High School.

Mary Ellen Antoniak Braun and her husband were gifted with a European cruise by their children. She retired in July from the LAUSD, is still the pro-life chairman at St. Bede’s and sings in the choir.

Mary Pat McClurg Paddock recently cruised by their children. She retired in June 2000, after 37 years with the LAUSD. She has traveled to Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Alaska since retiring.

Mary Lou Poloni Weidlich is loving retirement in Santa Barbara. She is involved with the Santa Barbara Rose Society, the Italian Catholic Federation, the Italian Club, the Rental Property Association, and travels as often as possible.

Anne Marie Rieger Boenisch retired in June and traveled to Turkey in September.

Bessie (Bobbi) Dummel Brunner loves retirement in Flagstaff, Ariz., and is the class notes editor for this magazine. She recently traveled to Cape Fear, N.C., for a reunion of her and her husband’s fellow graduate students, most of whom they haven’t seen in 36 years.

Joan M. Kays is still traveling on AMTRAK to visit relatives in South Carolina and is writing for the Sierra Nevada foothills newspapers.

Cathy Nichols Giedraits has six children and 12 grandchildren. She has had the good fortune to have enjoyed a good deal of foreign travel and does lots of volunteering, mostly within the church.

Betsy Dickerson Azariah has worked for the County of Los Angeles for 34 years. She is a regional administrator for the Department of Children and Family Services. Her son recently graduated from USC with a master’s degree in journalism.

MaryAnn Arnd Cameron has been working at Simi Valley Hospital for 25 years, and currently works as a psychiatric nurse. She has no plans to retire and still enjoys being a nurse. She and her husband are in the 36th year of growing Christmas trees and in the 20th year of timber management on the quarter section they own.

Alene Finn Griffin has been elected national first vice president of Kappa Gamma Pi, the national Catholic college graduate honor society.

MaryClare Gorman Wazie is a freshman counselor and AP U.S. history teacher at Bishop Alemany High School. She and her husband just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. They have four granddaughters.

Kathleen Villar jacinto is currently a specialist with the LAUSD. She oversees the implementation of...
services for students learning English in 70 K–12 schools.

Pamela Williams Lieb celebrated 20 years working as a real estate broker in the South Bay area of California. She’s happy to see the number of alumnae in the South Bay growing, and has worked for the granddaughter of an alumna.

Marie Van Blaricom Maireppiere became a grandmother in June when her daughter in London had a baby son. She travels often to London, to see her middle son in Germany, and her youngest in Colorado. She still teaches ESL and French, all levels, and sings in the church choir. She says that remembering 9/11 is bittersweet as former classmate Martha Stevens perished, but it was an opportunity to reunite with classmate Sheila Dale from Oregon who came for Martha’s memorial.

Barbara Kingman Chesney’s son graduated in May with a B.A. in English from the University of Wisconsin. Jean Briggs Peterson-Miller married Stephen Miller in November of 2000 and is a resource specialist for LAUSD.

Eleanor Safarik Zeliff has been named pastoral intern at St. Augustine Parish in Culver City, Calif., as field work for her master of divinity degree.

Patricia Edge Dale is a grandmother of two.

Donna Veilleux Koeppel is vice president, human resources, at the University of Colorado Hospital.

Kathleen Curran Love is post-operative nurse in charge of the operating rooms of the ambulatory surgery center at Marin General Hospital.

Barbarann Smith returned to teaching third grade after having been retired for two years. She has worked with the T.V. Teacher program where she lives in the Virgin Islands.

Johanna Smith moved to the U.S. Virgin Islands after retiring from teaching in the Clark County School District in Las Vegas. She is working with the Gabriel Project in her parish.

Suzanne Plummer Kilingsworth has been teaching art for 25 years, and also teaches junior high CCD and sings in her parish choir.

Dorothy Matlick Caruso-Herman is semi-retired and continues to teach about the hospice heart. Bill Hamilton published the book Fighting For Your Life: How to Survive a Life-Threatening Illness by Jerome Wolfe in 2001. He also founded and is president of the non-profit The Friends of San Francisco Animal Care and Control. He works as a senior editor, Web content and market research, for CollegeData.com.

Rosa L. Fernandez volunteers for the Right to Life—Central Fresno/Madera chapter.

Tracey Adams’ art works were presented in an exhibition at the Kathryn Markel Fine Arts Gallery in New York City in October.

Katina Zaninovich Etsell is using her considerable talents as an at-home mom to her two children. Her volunteer activities include school, church, and serving as a board member of Cottage Hospital and Casa Dorinda.

Cecilia Sustaya Salazar is the recipient of the 2002 Archdiocesan Bronze Pelican Award for persons who have contributed to Scouting and have experienced significant development in their own spiritual lives.

Charlotte Garrison Escobedo has three teenage boys, and currently works part-time as a clinical nursing instructor at Cerritos College. She also works part-time in LTD at Kaiser.

April Hazard Vallerand is an assistant professor of nursing at Wayne State University College of Nursing. The eighth edition of her book Davis’s Drug Guide for Nurses was published last July. She is conducting research on cancer pain funded by the National Cancer Institute.

Linda Laird Parsons is a lactation specialist at a postpartum clinic.

Ellen Eccleston Sletten loves raising her two children with her husband of 19 years. They all ride and show hunter/jumper horses. She is also active in neighborhood charities and church committees and loves to travel.

Lynette Dahman is enjoying her new job at Huntington Hospital in Pasadena, Calif., as a clinical education specialist.

Sheili Weekes released her first CD, “Round Midnight” and is handling the distribution herself. It has been played on Los Angeles station Kلون, and WEAA in Baltimore.

Anne Kristin Bishop completed a year-long teacher exchange in Australia. She saw heaps of animals and cultural sights. She highly recommends a visit down under!

Luanne Santrach Csonka has one child, has been self-employed for 14 years, and volunteers with the Boys & Girls Club of Escondido, Calif.

Colleen Schroff Crusinberry is an at-home mom to her three children. She does volunteer work at a horse stable.

Fredrick Dalton’s book on Cesar Chavez was published by Orbis Press this fall.

Lisa M. Tapia is working as a judicial law clerk in the Superior Court of New Jersey. Upon completion of her clerkship, she will be a trial lawyer focusing on civil liberties in Chicago.

Sharon Kirk Gorman is the physical therapist assistant program director at Ohlone College, and has begun the inaugural doctor of physical therapy science postprofessional program at UCSF/SFSU.

Nancy Marcello Burns is president of the California Chapter of the National Federation for the Blind. The chapter recently opened its permanent home in the downtown district of Burbank, Calif.

Lisa Vincent Hardimon, an MPT grad, is currently in the dissertation phase of a doctoral program in education at UCLA.

Rob Maffucci is an orthopedic clinical specialist in private practice in Santa Monica.

Tine Fischer Moran is working full time as a teacher, mother and wife.

Maria Seager moved back to Los Angeles County from San Diego last March. She is a manager with the Community Builders Group.

Kimberly Lewis Gladfelter and Steve Liao passed the examination and were certified as orthopedic clinical specialists. She is employed at Quinn Physical Therapy in Cupertino, Calif., while Steve is employed at Kaiser in Baldwin Park, Calif.
Chris Pogson also passed the examination and was certified as an orthopedic clinical specialist. He is employed at Peak Performance Consulting while teaching part time in the physical therapy program at the Mount.

Justine Wright has been invited to play on a women’s full-tackle football team, the Sacramento Sirens. She is playing left halfback, and the team won their first game, 45–0.

Francesca Campos is in her second year as a graduate student at USC. She is in the master of social work program, which she will complete next year.

Marie Anne Legaspis is an RN at the USC University Hospital, specializing in orthopedics. She is also a graduate student at Azusa Pacific University working on a master’s in nursing/family nurse practitioner. In her spare time she is pursuing a secondary career in acting.

Lorena Triana-Pena is a residential counselor at McKinley’s Children Center, has been married for six years, and has a one-year-old daughter.

Kristina Dam recently returned to California to accept a position as a toxicologist with Rohr Pharmaceutical. Sarah Decke has a new job as coordinator for leadership development for the Kansas State University Housing and Dining.

Lisa Crowder is enrolled in the master’s in nursing program at Cal State Dominguez Hills, and also works full time.

Thomas Stull is teaching world religions at the University of Phoenix in addition to being involved in his parish.

Tracy Akins passed the examination and has been certified as an orthopedic clinical specialist and is employed at Schlink-La.

Brenda Canales passed the Pennsylvania State Bar in April and was officially sworn in as a member of the State Bar Association in June. She is currently practicing civil, employment, and immigration law in Philadelphia.

Dianne Stewart Hamlin was delighted that James Delahanty and immigration law in Philadelphia. She is also passed the state Bar Association in June. She is married next summer.

Michelle Perry is the director of TAG, The Artist’s Gallery in Santa Monica, and is biding her time until she can move back to Italy.

Deborah Wertz received a full tuition, three-year merit scholarship to attend the Claremont School of Theology in the master of divinity program.

The Alumnae Association extends congratulations to the following alumnae and their children:

- Samuel Elijah to Sheryl Baggs Brison, 1st child
- Lourna to Sontra Stilwell Brauwalder, 4th child, 3rd daughter
- Braedon Eldon to Desiree Ettle Ritter, 2nd child, 1st son
- Ian Christopher Maclean to Edith Arguelles Dewart, 2nd child, 1st son
- Ian Bradley to Danielle Fischer McOuat, 1st child
- Erikaht Katryna Kalaeoaanlane to Mary K. Foo Sum Dowells, 3rd child
- Maxwell Fitzhugh to Jenny Chen Lee, 2nd child, 2nd son
- Seamus Patrick to Wendy Nobles Meehan, 3rd child, 1st son
- Sydney Elizabeth McGheehey (Wallace) to Leslie Wallace, 2nd child

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the souls of:

- Inez De Herre Lasich
- Hazel Champion Masculine
- Anastasia Hayes Ley
- husband and brother of Lucille McCallagh Jacobs
- husband of Yvonne McDonald Schaper

- brother of Joan Cunningham
- husband of Rita McLoone Reilly
- Edalyn Ewel Pfost

- husband of Jane Donnelly Melanson
- Jennifer Doxer Best
- sister of Barbara Darling Mancuso
- mother of Dr. Kristin Cholewa, CSJ

- husband and son of Loretta Vonderhae Dorsett, brother-in-law and nephew of Sr. Margaret Anne Vonderhehe, CSJ

- husband of Pierangelic Figuri Castanedo

- Mary M. Hunt

- father of Kathleen Delaney Bertram
- mother of Teresa Inbarren Talbott

- Carole Cook Molny
- mother of Collette Boland Quinn

- Sharon Currin Flynn
- brother of Sr. Margaret Fopp, CSJ

- director of TAG Volunteer Program in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

- Adrianna Salazar is working on her master’s degree in Chicano studies at Cal State Northridge, and recently began a job at MSMC as alumna relations coordinator.

- Jordan Pearl to Elizabeth Guevara Kelemen, 1st child
- Lucy Chan Martinez to Suanne San, 1st child

The Alumnae Association congratulates the following alums on their successful pursuit of intellectual achievement:

- 1st Liz Swet Newman, MFA in creative writing from Cal State University, Dominguez Hills, 2001
- Diana Garske Matthews, M.A. in ministry from Ursuline College, 2002
- Lisa M. Tapia, J.D. from St. Louis University, School of Law, 2002
- Mary K. Foo Sum Dowells, M.S. in special education from the University of Phoenix, 2002
- Michelle Johnstone Marks, M.S. in biomechanics from San Diego State University, 2002

Note—We are proud of all our alumns and are happy to showcase your academic achievements. Please let us know when you receive an advanced degree and include the date and the name of the institution granting the degree. In order to keep this feature current, please do not go back any further than three years or send information that has already appeared in Alumnae Class Notes.
Mount students in the 1940s serve the community by preparing Christmas baskets for the needy with canned food, clothing, and seasonal goodies.
January

Saturday, Jan. 4 • 2 to 4 p.m.
**Winter Tea for the Doheny Docent Program**
Doheny Mansion

The College invites anyone interested to learn more about the new Doheny Docent Program. Docents will guide public and private tours of the Doheny Mansion, and assist with hospitality, information, communications, and organization. RSVP to Jeanne Ruiz, director of alumnae relations, at (213) 477-2769.

Saturday, Jan. 25 • 9 a.m. to noon
**An Interfaith Conversation: Suffering from a Woman's Perspective**
Donohue Center, Doheny Campus

The Graduate Religious Studies Program extends an invitation to a discussion about the burdens that various cultures place on women. A panel will discuss the paradox of how religious beliefs cause suffering and relieve pain. Panelists include Laila Al-Mayarati of the Muslim faith, Rhoda Blecker, who is Jewish, Karuna Dharma, a Buddhist, and Ann Karner, a Catholic. Admission is $8 for seniors and students and $10 for the general audience. Call (213) 477-2640 for information.

March

Saturday, March 8 • Time TBA
**Lenten Labyrinth Retreat**
Doheny Campus

Prepare yourself spiritually to experience the joys of Easter. Reflect and be attentive to where God may lead you on your life's journey. Information: Contact Alumnae Relations, at (213) 477-2767.

April

Saturday, April 12 • 1 p.m.
**Easter Egg Hunt**
Doheny Campus

The Alumnae Association invites its members and their families to enjoy this annual afternoon of fun and frolic. Contact Alumnae Relations, at (213) 477-2767 for registration information.

June

Saturday, June 28 • 6 p.m.
**Une Soirée Elégante**
Entertainment by Cirque du Monde
Doheny Mansion

Join the College for an evening of spectacle, comedy, dance, music, and magic honoring the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Entertainment will be provided by Cirque du Monde. Proceeds will benefit the Sisters of St. Joseph Endowed Scholarship Fund for deserving undergraduates, many of whom are first-generation college students. Call Institutional Advancement Special Events Manager Heather Schraeder at (213) 477-2761 for additional information.