

# REFLECTIONS

*A Magazine for Graduates and Friends of Siena Heights University*

[www.sienahts.edu](http://www.sienahts.edu)

Winter 2005

## 2 Worlds Converge



**Siena students, faculty, staff, and Adrian Dominican Sisters travel to Fe y Algeira.**



## From The Editor

I am pleased to have the opportunity to join the Siena Heights community as Director of Communications and editor of Reflections. The Siena Heights staff and I hope to continue to compile publications that will allow you to connect with your university.

Inspired by the tradition of the Adrian Dominican Congregation and motivated by the mission of Siena Heights, I look forward to sharing with you the stories and life of Siena alumni, current students, faculty, and staff.

GIVING is a word that Siena Heights understands and embraces. Whether it be giving back to the university, their hometowns, or the greater global community, our students and alumni recognize the impact that they can and do have on our world. Throughout this issue of Reflections, we set out to highlight and honor the many ways SHU gives back.

I look forward to connecting with many of you over the next few months. Please keep in touch and let us know how we're doing.

Sara Bingham  
sbingham@sienahts.edu

## Reflections Staff

**Graphic Design**  
Jeff Masse

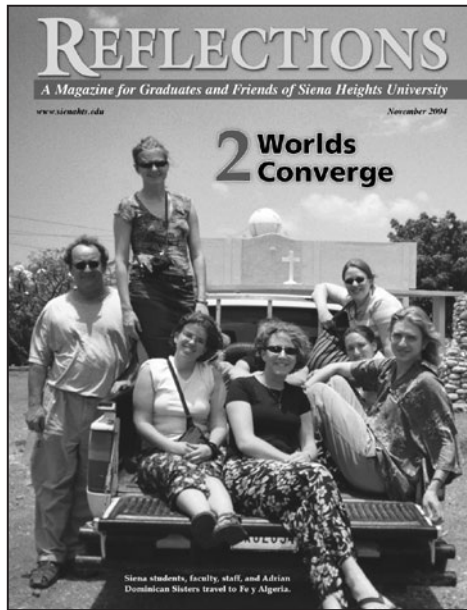
**Contributors**  
Deb Carter  
Gabrielle Clemons '03  
Holly Czupich '05  
Erin Fuller '05  
Jennifer Hamlin Church  
John MacNaughton  
Doug Miller  
Justin Myers '07  
Sr. Pat Schnapp, RSM  
Christen Sprenger '08

# REFLECTIONS

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## On The Cover

A group of Siena Heights University students, Faculty and Staff, and Adrian Dominican Sisters took part in a mission trip to the Dominican Republic this summer.

Those pictured are, from left; John MacNaughton, Christina Kreger, Ann Boyak, Emily Malleis, Chris Matthias, Ashley Incorvaia, and Lori Mackinder.

See the full story on the group's trip featured on Page 4.

## SHU Alumni Association Board of Directors

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Office of Alumni Relations  
Jennifer Hamlin Church,  
Associate VP for Advancement  
& Director of Alumni Relations  
(517) 264-7143

## The Mission of Siena Heights University

The mission of Siena Heights, a Catholic university founded and sponsored by the Adrian Dominican Sisters, is to assist people to become more competent, purposeful and ethical through a teaching and learning environment which respects the dignity of all.

# From the President

At the heart of a Catholic and Dominican university is a commitment to service.

At Siena Heights, we sincerely believe in the importance of giving back and we hope to instill that belief in our students as they journey with us. The importance of reflection and action is a deeply rooted tradition passed to us by our founders and sponsors, the Adrian Dominican Sisters. The sisters have taught us the four pillars of Dominican life – study, community, prayer and preaching and we have adopted a theme for the year, standing consciously on these pillars.

The recent campaign for the University so vividly demonstrated that you, our alumni and friends, generously gave back to Siena and we are deeply grateful for your support. In this edition of *Reflections* you'll read about other forms of giving back. You'll find a story about a group of students and faculty who gave back on an international scale during a mission trip to the Dominican Republic last spring. You'll read about Mary Griffin, a faculty member who for nearly a decade has worked to raise

Leader Dogs for the Blind in an attempt to give back and help others with vision disabilities. We also highlight our Social Work Program; students seeking a Social Work degree are truly altruistic individuals who focus fully on the importance of serving others, particularly the less fortunate of our society.

The citizens, corporations and foundations within Lenawee County also give generously to the University. In turn, you'll find many of our administrators, faculty, and staff serving in leadership roles on the boards of non-profit agencies and donating their time and expertise to our schools, community agencies and civic organizations. Student organizations and athletic teams contribute hundreds of hours of service to children, youth and seniors. We graciously offer the use of University facilities for many civic events.



I am acutely aware that Siena's commitment to service continues with our alumni. Each year we have nominations that exceed our few alumni awards. Testimonials abound with the stories of our graduates who volunteer their time and make a difference in their churches, schools, hospitals, and community centers. We are blessed to have alumni and friends throughout the world who, on a daily basis, live Dominican values – and who preach from the pulpit of their lives. We thank each of you who so generously give of your time, talent, and treasure.

We are reminded by the Scriptures that everything we have is a gift from God and should be shared selflessly with others. Thus we take seriously our stewardship responsibilities to serve others and we pledge our continued efforts to be good stewards of the University, of our Dominican heritage, and of our mission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rick Artman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

**Richard B. Artman**  
President,  
Siena Heights University



President Rick and Joan Artman with representatives from Kreighoff Lenawee at the 2004 President's Cabinet Dinner. From left: Jason Hess, Cindy and Scott Hill, and the Artmans.

The university's Annual Fund has a new name - the Siena Heights Fund. The Siena Heights Fund provides the dollars necessary to keep our university functioning.

"Tuition does not cover Siena Heights' operating budget. University expenses far outweigh tuition revenue. The Siena Heights Fund helps cover what tuition dollars can't," explains Tom Kavanagh, Vice President for Advancement.

Last year nearly 1,200 people generously gave to the Annual Fund. During the 2004-2005 fiscal year our goal has been raised to \$687,500 for the Siena Heights Fund. That figure represents a 10-percent increase due to mounting university needs.

Donations to the Siena Heights Fund have a direct impact on today's Siena students, both on our Adrian campus and at all eight of our off-campus centers. Annual fund dollars benefit traditional and non-traditional students.

# The Siena Heights Fund

The Siena Heights Fund allows our beautiful historic campus to undergo necessary renovations. Faculty and staff members are able to engage in further study and upgrade professional skills. Most importantly, SHU students benefit from financial aid, state-of-the-art technology, and an enriching academic environment.

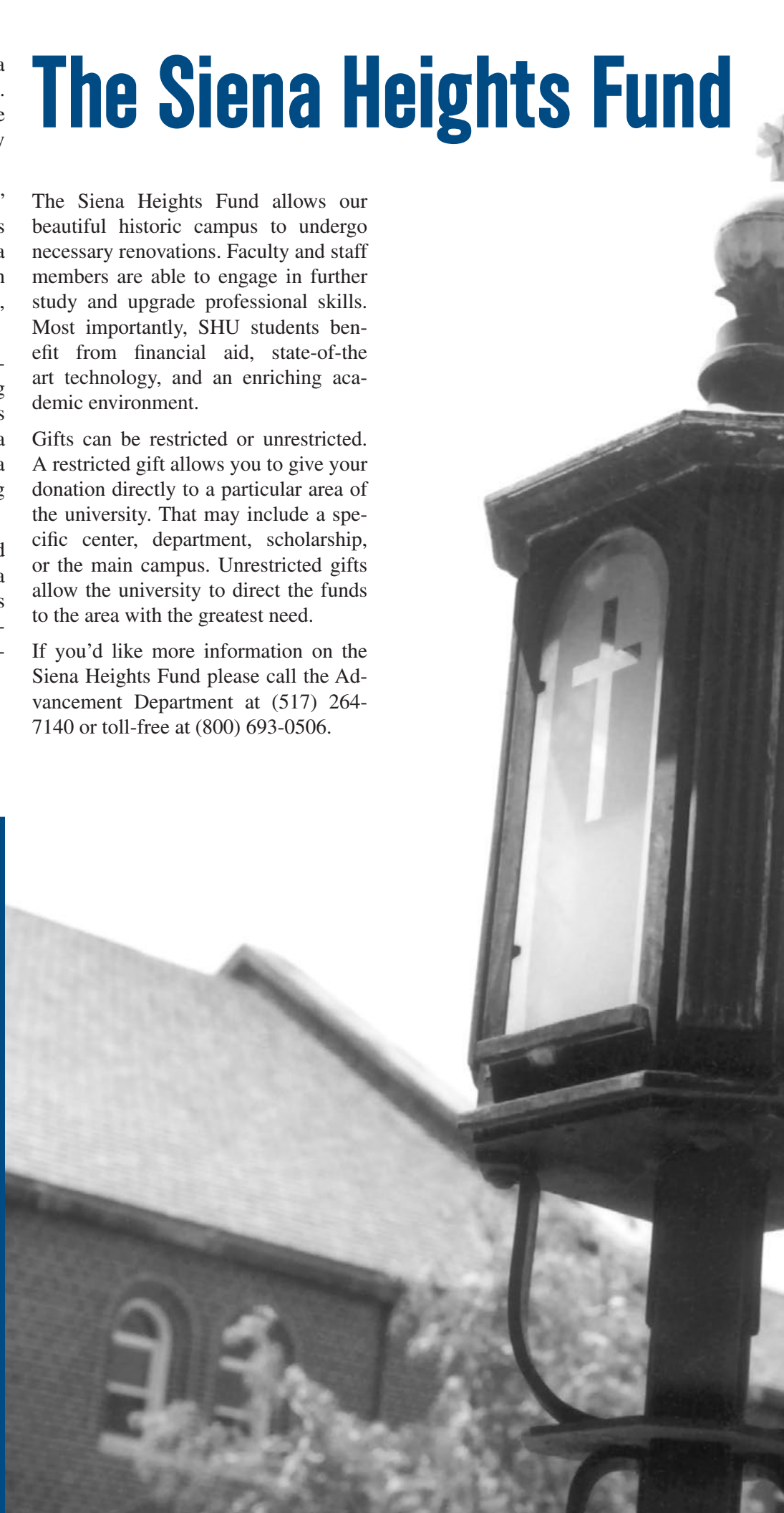
Gifts can be restricted or unrestricted. A restricted gift allows you to give your donation directly to a particular area of the university. That may include a specific center, department, scholarship, or the main campus. Unrestricted gifts allow the university to direct the funds to the area with the greatest need.

If you'd like more information on the Siena Heights Fund please call the Advancement Department at (517) 264-7140 or toll-free at (800) 693-0506.

## Bricks Are Still Available In The New Saints' Plaza!

An inscribed brick in the new Saints' Plaza area in front of the Fieldhouse is a great way to honor a student, coach or teacher, or remember your time as a Saint! A gift or pledge of \$1,000 payable through December 2006, qualifies you for an inscribed brick in our Saints' Plaza. This unique addition in front of our recently improved Fieldhouse looks great! Fill out the envelope included in this issue of Reflections, or contact Jere Righter in the SHU Advancement Office for more information (800) 693-0506.

SIENA HEIGHTS  
UNIVERSITY  
2003



# Award Established In Honor of Retired SHU Faculty Member, Jack Bologna

## Scholarships – Leaving a Legacy

This year, we will provide more than \$3,557,000 in financial aid funds to current students. With 91% of our students eligible for financial aid, scholarships are of vital importance at Siena Heights University. We are very grateful for the many individuals and businesses that have supported Siena through scholarships this year. Each year, we hold a Scholarship Luncheon to honor the donors and offer the opportunity for scholarship recipients to meet the scholarship providers. This year's luncheon will be held on February 5th, 2005.

Whether you want to make your own personal mark or honor someone else, creating a scholarship is a great way to do so! This year, we've been pleased to offer several new scholarships honoring a living legacy or the memory of some of Siena's well-known faculty members and alumni. Scholarships can be funded with a one-time gift, or an annual scholarship given every year.

Another option for leaving a perpetual legacy is to create an endowed scholarship. An endowed scholarship requires a minimum gift of \$10,000. Every year, the interest that is earned from the investment of the principal will be awarded to a selected student, while the principal amount will remain untouched. An example of a newly created endowed scholarship is in honor of Sister Therese Craig, OP, a longtime faculty member at Siena Heights. The lead donor, Lee Benish, a 1972 graduate, has welcomed others to contribute to this endowed scholarship as a way to honor the living legacy of Sister Therese. As with the Sister Therese Craig Scholarship, endowed scholarships may be funded by individual contributors or may be created by pooling contributions from several individuals.

Members of our Advancement staff will be happy to assist you and answer any questions you may have in this regard. The Advancement Department office can be reached at (800) 693-0506 or (517) 264-7140.

Jack Bologna is the embodiment of the cliché "a gentleman and scholar." That's according to his long-time colleague, Bill Blackerby, Coordinator of Business Education at Siena Heights University.

Recently, the university was given an anonymous gift in honor of Bologna. The gift will be used to fund an annual faculty development award in his name. The Bologna Award will be presented to a member of the SHU faculty who demonstrates the use of innovation in the teaching-learning process.

Mr. Bologna was a faculty member at Siena Heights for over a decade before health issues caused him to retire from the classroom in the mid-'90's. Jack did the bulk of his teaching at Siena's off-campus locations. The majority of his courses were held at SHU's Metro Detroit center. According to friends and colleagues, Bologna was proud to be associated with Siena Heights. He had been educated by the Adrian Dominican Sisters and, in fact, it was that connection that attracted him to the faculty position at Siena.

Bologna was a strategic planner and the SHU Business Department's "go-to" person for international business and business ethics fundamentals. He has also been recognized as an expert in forensic accounting and computer-based frauds, but those who worked and learned with him remember Jack first and foremost as a dedicated and innovative teacher. Bologna always held his students in the highest regard. He set the standard, kept current, and always remained open-minded.

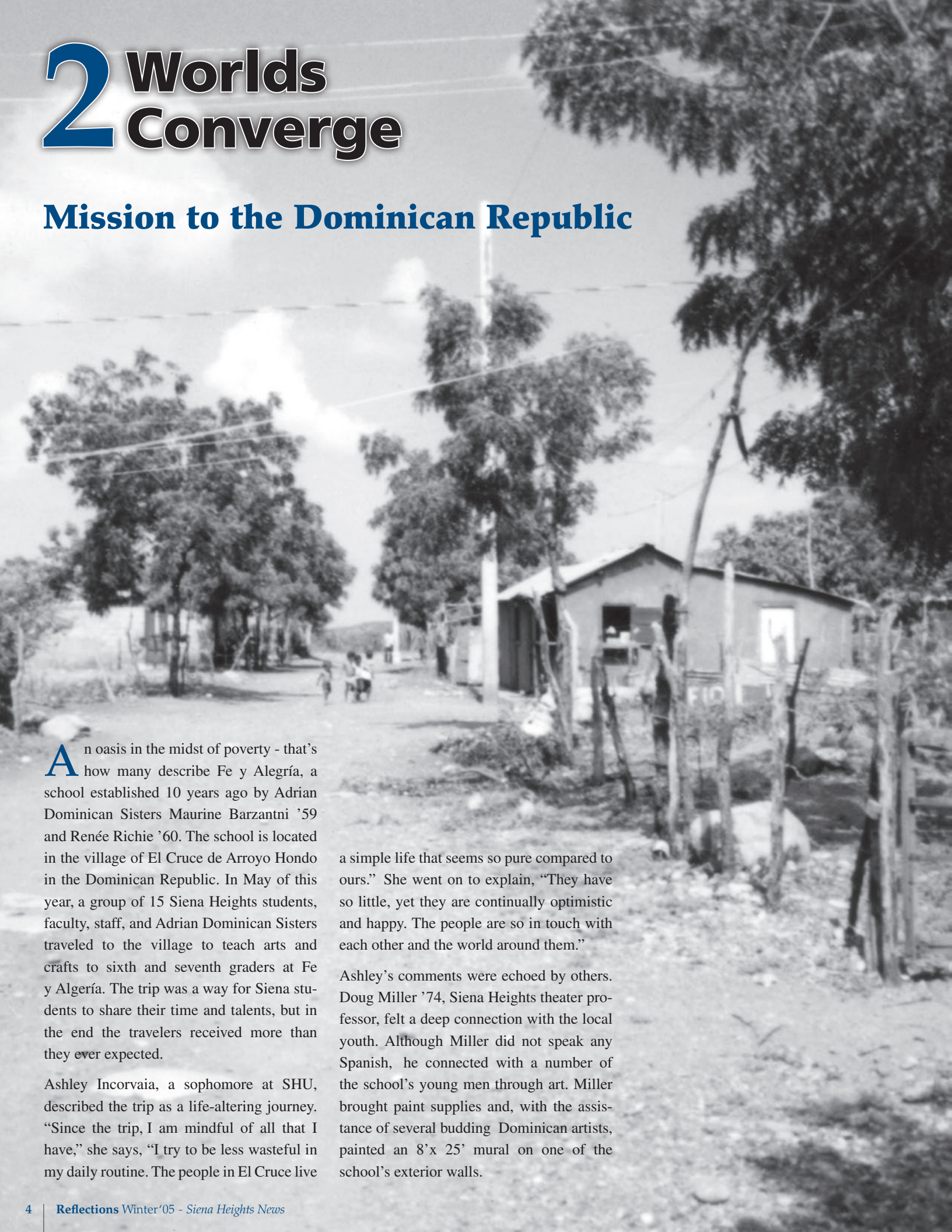
Our newly established faculty development award will ensure that the innovation and dedication modeled by Jack Bologna is encouraged and honored at Siena Heights.



Siena Heights' Metro-Detroit Center – Jack taught the majority of his courses at SHU's off campus sites in the Detroit area.

# 2 Worlds Converge

## Mission to the Dominican Republic



An oasis in the midst of poverty - that's how many describe Fe y Alegría, a school established 10 years ago by Adrian Dominican Sisters Maurine Barzantni '59 and Renée Richie '60. The school is located in the village of El Cruce de Arroyo Hondo in the Dominican Republic. In May of this year, a group of 15 Siena Heights students, faculty, staff, and Adrian Dominican Sisters traveled to the village to teach arts and crafts to sixth and seventh graders at Fe y Alegría. The trip was a way for Siena students to share their time and talents, but in the end the travelers received more than they ever expected.

Ashley Incorvaia, a sophomore at SHU, described the trip as a life-altering journey. "Since the trip, I am mindful of all that I have," she says, "I try to be less wasteful in my daily routine. The people in El Cruce live

a simple life that seems so pure compared to ours." She went on to explain, "They have so little, yet they are continually optimistic and happy. The people are so in touch with each other and the world around them."

Ashley's comments were echoed by others. Doug Miller '74, Siena Heights theater professor, felt a deep connection with the local youth. Although Miller did not speak any Spanish, he connected with a number of the school's young men through art. Miller brought paint supplies and, with the assistance of several budding Dominican artists, painted an 8'x 25' mural on one of the school's exterior walls.

Doug described the complete experience as a blessing. “I felt so fortunate to have this opportunity. It’s something you cannot fully describe. The children are so bright and talented...it’s so hard to understand how they function with the little that they have,” he explained.

Norma Dell, OP ’57, said she was amazed at the reaction the group got from the students at Fe y Alegría. “Children are often fearful of what they don’t know...the Siena group gained a greater understanding of the people and culture in the Dominican Republic and the villagers and students in El Cruce gained an even greater understanding of Americans.”

Renée Richie, OP ’60, returned to the Adrian area after having helped establish the school a decade ago. However, she accompanied the group as they traveled to the village and school she knows so well. She said it was a pleasure to watch two worlds come together, adding, “It was beautiful to see the transformation of people as they began to understand another world.”

Sister Renée explained that the people of El Cruce are always honored to have guests in their community. “They are proud of the school and medical clinic that have opened in their village. Maurine and I were there to help get the projects started, but it was the people’s commitment and hard work that brought the dreams to fruition,” she said.

Heather Hardcastle-Miller and Emily Malleis take a break with students after completing an art project.



A group of the school’s youngest students line up for “snack time”. For many of these youngsters the snack they receive at school may be their only meal of the day.

The school in El Cruce teaches 1,300 children the basics of reading, writing, and mathematics, but extras like art and music are not a part of the daily curriculum. That’s why the art-centered visit from Siena was extra special. SHU students planned and taught a variety of art-related classes. Ann Boyak, a SHU senior, taught students origami. She said that the children were so engaged in the process that they only needed to be shown the intricate paper folds once. Soon they were creating birds, hopping frogs, and inflatable boxes. Other student projects included tie-dyeing, rhythm and percussion classes, and team-building games. The group even organized a talent show for one of their final evenings in the community.

The trip is unique on many levels including the collaboration that it brings about between the SHU community and the Adrian Dominican Sisters. Students, staff, and sisters have the opportunity to work together to further mission and tradition. The four pillars of Dominican life – study, prayer, community, and preaching – are all evident in the project.

Emily Malleis, SHU associate campus minister, organized the trip. She worked for months with the group to develop lessons, fund-raising efforts, and travel plans. Malleis anticipates the trip will become an annual event. In fact, she is in the initial planning stages for a spring ‘05 journey.

Malleis says the planning is well worth it when she sees the smiles on the faces of the students at Fe y Alegría and witnesses the way in which the journey affects those in the SHU group. She went on, “Our day-to-day interactions and the power of the experience were beautiful. The emotions we all felt are almost indescribable.”

Jodie Screes, OP ’53 summed up the feelings of many on the trip: “We, as the travelers, were the beneficiaries of so much...our openness to learn from others truly led to the convergence of two worlds.”



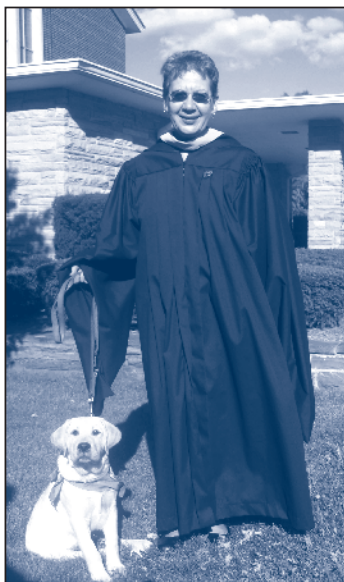
Some local boys smile for the camera; it was a treat for these young Dominicans to have their photo taken.

**To make a donation to, or for more information about, the Siena Heights University Dominican Republic Mission Trip or other Campus Ministry Programs, contact Emily Malleis at (517) 264-7197.**



## Faculty Focus: Mary Griffin

### PROFESSOR FINDS UNUSUAL WAY TO SERVE COMMUNITY



Professor Mary Griffin and Simba at Honors Convocation 2004.

By Christen Sprenger '08

Whenever Professor Mary Griffin brings a guest to class, her students beam and vie to be hospitable. Odd? Not when you know that her guest almost always has four legs.

Mary and her husband Ray are participants in the program "Leader Dogs for the Blind." Their involvement began in October of 1992 when a local woman donated a litter of Labrador pups to "Leader Dogs." Since then, the Griffins have trained nine. Their current "trainee" is Simba, who can be seen on campus from time to time.

The Griffins keep the puppy for one year, focusing chiefly on its socialization. They are responsible for taking the dog to as many diverse social settings as they can: the park, work, school, and even church. By the end of the first year, their mentoring should result in Simba's being able to respond to basic commands. At this point, she will go to the Leader Dog's main training facility in Rochester, Michigan, for more "formal" education.

Mary is particularly good at creating the trust and ability to bond needed by a leader dog. The resulting special connection with her adoptee, however, makes it difficult to give up the dog at the end of a year. In order to make this easier on both her and her canine guests, Mary takes them to Rochester often. There they can play with other dogs and get used to the facility and trainers. This familiarity helps in the transition from Mary's family to the next stage of training.

One main reason for Mary's involvement with the program stems from the fact that her entire family has some sort of vision impairment. She says that she and her family understand that someone really needs their dog, rather than simply wanting it as a pet.

The Leader Dogs program itself, initiated by the Lions Club in 1939, has resulted in the training of over 10,000 dogs. Several facilities like the one in Rochester exist across the country. Currently, 400 families like the Griffins are helping raise these special dogs. Asked what she'd recommend to anyone thinking about helping with the program, Mary explains that it's very time-consuming. "The dogs need a lot of attention," she says, "and since they are not supposed to spend time in a kennel unless sleeping, it is a big change in one's life."

The Leader Dog program even impacts Mary's teaching, since her sleek and gentle wards are often in the classroom with her. She says her students all seem quite happy about the puppies and the program itself. In fact, they frequently stop by her office just to say "Hello" to Simba.

Mary is always pleased to share her passion for Leader Dog training with the Siena community. She explains, "It's a great way to involve the dog with the social settings it needs, and also an easy way to promote awareness of the visually impaired and the Leader Dog program itself."

More information on the Leader Dog Program is available online at [www.leaderdog.org](http://www.leaderdog.org), or those interested may contact Leader Dogs for the Blind: PO Box 5000, Rochester, MI, 48308-5000; 1-888-777-5332.

# Prioress Donna Markham: Leadership and Vision



## Adrian Dominican Sisters Vision 2004

We Dominican Preachers of Adrian  
impelled by the Gospel and  
outraged by the injustices of our day  
seek truth;  
make peace;  
reverence life.

Stirred by the Wisdom of God and rooted  
in our contemplative prayer, communal study  
and life in community, we challenge heresies of  
local and global domination, exploitation,  
and greed, that privilege some, dehumanize  
others, and ravage Earth.

We confront our racist attitudes and root  
out racist practices in our lives and systems.

We confront systems where women are  
denied freedom, equality and full personhood.

We walk in solidarity with people who are poor  
and challenge structures that impoverish them.

We practice non-violent peacemaking.

We promote lay leadership and shared  
decision-making for a renewed Church.

We live right relationships with Earth Community.

We claim the communal authority and  
responsibility of our Dominican heritage.

We commit ourselves to live this vision.

2004 was a year of transition for the Adrian Dominican Sisters. As a result of their successful General Chapter, the sisters elected a new General Council and adopted an updated Vision. Sister Donna Markham, a 1970 graduate of Siena Heights University, was elected Prioress of the congregation—she will lead the General Council during their six year term. As Prioress, Sister Donna will work with the other members of the General Council and the congregation’s sponsored institutions to be sure that the Sisters’ new Vision becomes a reality.

During an interview this fall, Sister Donna defined the role of Prioress as a sister, not above the others, but among her sisters and first for a time. Markham says she looks forward to leading the congregation over the next six years with energy and enthusiasm. Sister Donna knows what it takes to be a successful leader. She earned her doctorate in clinical psychology and has focused much professional and intellectual energy toward the tenets of organizational leadership. Sister Donna describes the role of leader, “The obligation of a leader is to promote the unity of the group... to animate, inspire and call people forward to be their very best selves.”

Markham served as President and CEO of the Southdown Institute, as a member of the Adrian Dominicans’ General Council from 1986-1992, and has worked in various other leadership positions for non-profit and social service organizations.

Sister Donna’s focus for the next six years will be the congregation’s ten stanza Vision 2004. The vision calls the Adrian Dominicans to follow the Gospel and speak out in response to modern day injustices. Sister Donna acknowledges that the journey will not be easy. She said, “We know that the Gospel leads us to situations that are likely to be extremely challenging and will call for

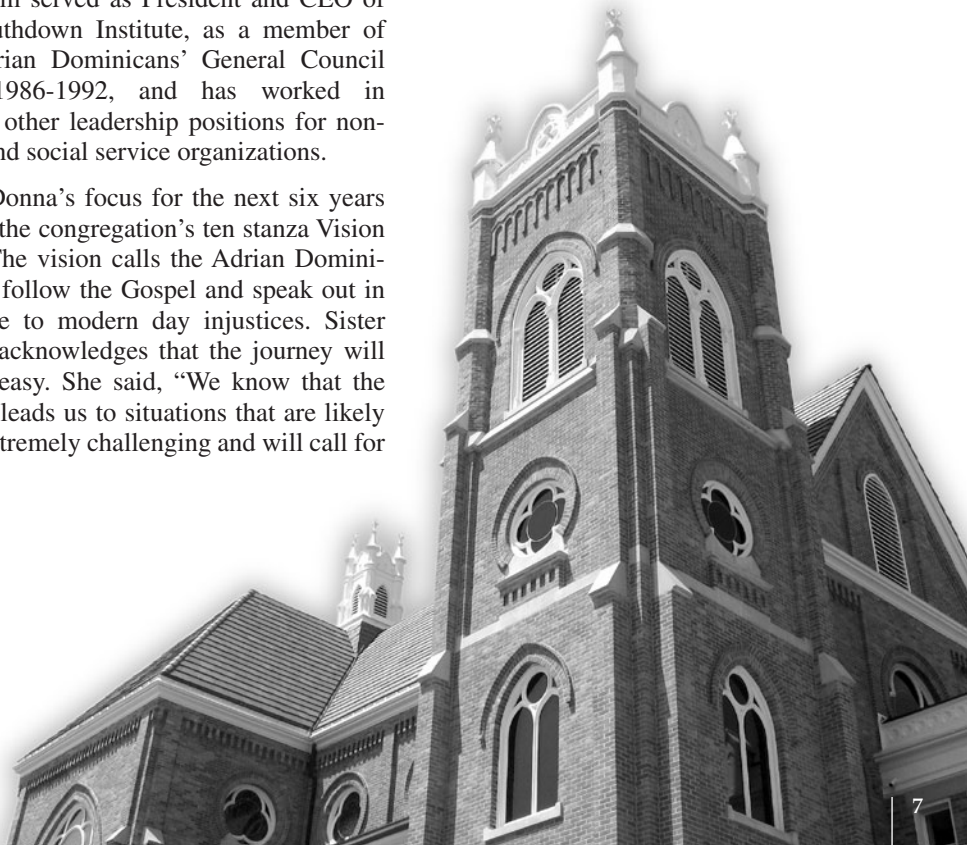
an enormous amount of risk-taking. Today we see the pain and anguish of a world that has been torn apart...we must call for healing and invite others to join us to help make a difference.”

However uncomfortable the situation may be, Sister Donna says that the congregation will work toward transformative action—action to express the Vision.

Markham sees Siena Heights University and the congregation’s other sponsored institutions as the channels that will bring the Vision to life. “Our institutions walk with us and help in their specific areas of expertise...they are very necessary conduits for the mission. Hopefully, all of the people connected with our institutions act as agents for transformative change and give hope to the world.”

Siena Heights and the Adrian Dominican Sisters remain closely connected both literally and figuratively. Our campuses connect and our goals for the future also connect. The University hopes to create competent, purposeful, and ethical leaders for our 21st century world.

Sister Donna says she wants SHU students to leave the university with a sense of empowerment. She explained, “I hope students at Siena deeply feel a sense of inspiration...that they capture a true sense of power to be women and men who will walk into our world and make a difference. If that happens we have done our job as Dominicans.”



## Reaching Out and Giving Back



**I** want to give back to my community – I want to make a difference – I want to help people in need . . .

Comments like these are often shared when students are asked why they choose to major in social work. According to Ann Lauderdale, associate professor and coordinator of Siena’s social work program, many students see it as a way to help those in need, “Our students strive to be advocates for those without a voice. It is truly an honor to teach individuals with that level of commitment.”

Working for the common good and helping those most in need of assistance is a mission that fits in well with the vision and mission of Siena Heights University and our founders, the Adrian Dominican Sisters. The Siena Heights social work program is dedicated to educating social work majors to become competent, skillful, ethical, and purposeful social work practitioners. The program also strives to prepare students to be successful in graduate school. According to Lauderdale, our graduates say they are well-informed and prepared for post baccalaureate work. She explains, “Over the past decade, every student who has applied to graduate school has been accepted into a program.”



SHU’s social work program builds upon a strong liberal arts curriculum while providing professional development education. Lauderdale says one of the things that truly sets Siena apart from other programs is the inclusion of 400 hours of hands-on experience at the undergraduate level. That, coupled with the one-on-one support students receive from Siena’s faculty, makes the program an easy sell. Many of our social work professors are adjunct faculty members with outstanding real world experience. That experience helps social work students understand how and where they can practically apply their knowledge after graduation.

The field of social work is broad and ever growing. Our students are prepared to act as general social work practitioners. That means that our students have learned how to apply social work knowledge and skills to develop intervention strategies and implement change within

communities, organizations, families, and with individuals. Our graduates work in a variety of roles for many types of institutions. Some alumni work in hospitals and nursing homes, others in community mental health programs, the criminal justice system as parole and probation officers, others focus on residential treatment settings, and some have even become policy researchers for legislators.

Tom MacNaughton, Director of the Lenawee County Department on Aging, echoes the feelings of many employers. “We like to hire Siena Heights graduates because we can be certain that they come to us with a lot of practical field experience and are almost immediately up to speed.”

The social work program is in the midst of a five-year accreditation process with the National Council on Social Work Education. The program has completed its second year of candidacy and is now waiting for a site visit; this is the final step in the five-year accreditation process. During the site visit, representatives from the council will look closely at all aspects of the program to be certain that SHU meets all required standards. The accreditation will publicly acknowledge the quality of Siena’s program and will enhance employment opportunities for graduates. Accreditation would also ensure that our students will be put into advanced placement if they pursue graduate school.

As the field of social work grows, so does the number of social work majors. The university currently has nearly 50 declared social work majors. They come from all walks of life and are of many age groups but they all have one thing in common, a dedication to people and a need to give back.



# Vision for the Future



The successful completion of the “Campaign for Siena Heights University: Education with a Mission” capped the many plans and projects that emerged from our strategic plan of the late 1990s. It is thus time to embark upon a new strategic plan.

Since February 2004, a committed group of University constituents (faculty, staff, students, alumni, trustees) have been working to develop and begin implementing a new University Strategic Plan. The process began with an affirmation of our mission statement and the development of SHU’s new Vision and Values Statement (right). Steeped in the tradition of our Adrian Dominican founders and consistent with the mission of Siena Heights, our vision statement focuses on student success and the new strategic plan maps out Siena’s course for the next five years.

The University will focus on six strategic priorities: program quality and value, the promotion of teaching and learning excellence, expanded awareness and understanding of SHU’s identity and impact, expanding and enhancing resources for long-term sustainability, strengthening of organizational effectiveness, and comprehensive professional development for our employees. Each priority has defined objectives and three have been selected for implementation in the current academic year.

In 2004-05, SHU will focus on the development and implementation of a resource allocation process to assure that our strengths are identified and adequately supported. Because the university is tuition dependent, our second goal for the year is to make recruitment and retention everyone’s responsibility. And finally we will look to improve operating performance and our financial position.

The strategic plan also looks to strengthen Siena Heights’ distinctiveness and impact. That requires University resources to be focused on core programs that provide quality and enduring value to our students. Deciding where to focus limited resources is always a challenge. Every academic and administrative unit will be involved in this process. Each unit has outlined a vision for its future.

Recruitment and retention are essential to making Siena a successful academic institution now and into the future. Recruitment and retention task forces for each of our three colleges have been created. These groups are working to develop enrollment plans with specific recruitment and retention goals. They will also make recommendations to the University regarding policies and practices that could have short and long-term recruitment and retention implications.

A strong fiscal base is essential to sustain quality and to respond to opportunities. A financial improvement task force will develop a five year financial plan and focus on improving specific financial ratios and benchmarks.

Concurrent with these three priority goals for this year, the University has engaged a consultant to identify a group of peer institutions which will provide benchmarks. An aspiration group of colleges and universities in the Midwest will also be identified within this project.

Planning can be boring and a chore to some. Involving many people in the process takes time – a valuable commodity on any campus. However, effective planning that starts with mission, vision and values can yield significant results. The Siena Heights community looks forward to keeping you informed as we implement our new strategic plan.

## Vision and Values

Siena Heights University, standing consciously in our Dominican tradition, commits itself, above all, to the success of each student, preparing all to realize their potential and serve the common good.

Accordingly, consistent with Siena’s Dominican tradition of creating a teaching and learning environment that is reflective and active, we dedicate ourselves to...

# Truth

Seek truth for tomorrow, informed by the wisdom of the past.

# Respect

Embrace the uniqueness and the dignity of every person.

# Community

Build community by providing caring attention to individuals, sharing experiences and responsibilities, and celebrating achievements.

# Collaboration

Promote collaboration and partnerships within and across communities.

# Leadership

Develop leaders who serve, model, preach, and inspire.

# Service

Foster peace, justice and service to others, especially those in need.

## The Soul of DNA

Dr. Jun Tsuji, SHU associate professor of Biology, has recently published his first book, *The Soul of DNA: The True Story of a Catholic Sister and Her Role in the Greatest Scientific Discovery of the Twentieth Century*. The book tells the story of the late Sister Miriam Michael Stimson, O.P. Sister Miriam Michael, an Adrian Dominican Sister, played a significant role in the discovery of the DNA double helix. Tsuji's book recounts, for the first time, her role in this important scientific discovery.

For most of human history, understanding the basis of cancer posed a grave scientific challenge. For lack of knowledge of the DNA double helix, scientists were unable to understand the genetic roots of cancer, and subsequently they were unable to develop effective methods of treatment.

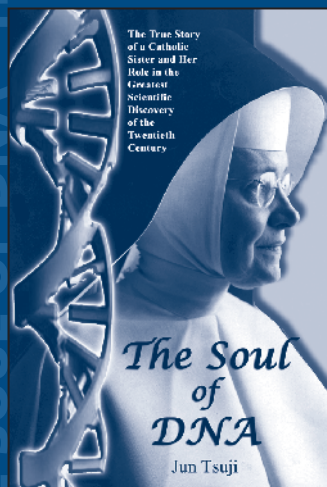
In the early 1950s, scientists were on the verge of discovering the DNA double helix and unveiling cancer as a genetic disease. Stumped by the uncertainty regarding the shape of the DNA bases, the structural and functional "soul" of DNA, the male-dominated scientific establishment – from James Watson and Francis Crick to Linus Pauling – proposed models of DNA that were, in effect, inside out. In contrast, a woman, Sister Miriam Michael Stimson, OP, a religious sister and chemist, dared to imagine a solution to the DNA base problem. Using potassium bromide (KBr) to prepare the DNA bases for analysis by infrared spectroscopy, Sister Miriam Michael successfully developed a chemical method that affirmed the structure of the DNA bases and of the double helix itself. Her true story is recounted anew in *The Soul of DNA*.

Dr. Jun Tsuji earned his Ph. D. in genetics from Michigan State University and has authored numerous scientific papers. He lives in the Irish Hills and is a parishioner of St. Joseph Shrine.

*The Soul of DNA*  
(ISBN 1-59526-206-7)

Llumina Press  
(866) 229-9244

<http://www.llumina.com/store/thesoulofdna.htm>



# SIENA HEIGHTS NEWS

## National Honors for Gillenwater

Siena Heights junior Kerri Gillenwater has been recognized by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM).

Gillenwater was awarded a one-time \$1,500 scholarship from the Michigan Council of Teachers of Mathematics this summer. She was also one of two students from around the country presented with this year's NCTM Texas Instruments *Demana-Waits Scholarship*. That scholarship is worth \$10,000 over the next two years.

Gillenwater said the process for the NCTM scholarship was extensive. She filled out an application, received several letters of recommendation from SHU math faculty, and wrote an essay describing why she wants to teach math at the secondary level. Kerri says she has a passion for math: "I've loved math from a young age...I see the need for high school teachers who will work to connect mathematics to the real world – that's what I hope to do for my students."

Math faculty member Tim Husband says that Kerri is a very committed and proficient student who is quite deserving of the national honor. As a part of the NCTM award Gillenwater will travel, free of charge, to the group's national conference in California this spring.

## PowerDsine Helps SHU Update Technology

PowerDsine, Ltd. presented SHU a grant in the form of 5 powered design units. The units helped SHU further integrate our wireless internet technology in several areas on the main campus.

Siena was one of just two dozen schools nationwide to receive the product grant. PowerDsine launched the grants process in early April with the goal of dispersing \$100,000 worth of equipment to educational institutions in the United States and Canada. Alan Ballenberger, SHU's Network Manager, explained that the new units allow much of the wiring used in Siena's internet system to be plugged into one main access point. That makes organization and maintenance of the system simpler.

## Siena Heights Board Welcomes New Officers And Trustees

During our fall Board of Trustees meeting, new officers of the board were elected: Fr. Pat Murphy, CM of DePaul University will serve as chairperson, alumna Margaret Noe '75, an attorney from Adrian was elected as vice-chairperson, and Allan Brittain, retired banker and community leader was re-elected as secretary.

The SHU community applauds the 19-year tenure of Doug Kapnick who relinquished his 5-year role as chairperson but will continue to serve as a trustee in the capacity as past-chairperson. The board went on to elect seven new trustees: alumnus Lee Benish '72 of Chicago, attorney Jay Hughes of Ann Arbor, retired business executive Dave Maxwell of Adrian, clinical psychologist Patricia Muldary of Adrian, alumna Mary Jo Potter '71, a management consultant in San Francisco, business executive Ignacio Salazar of Dallas/Detroit, and theologian Sr. Annelise Sinnott, OP '63 of Detroit.





## From The Alumni Office

Over the past year, the Siena Heights Alumni Office experimented successfully with a number of new activities. Unfortunately, if you don't live somewhere near Adrian, you might not know about such things as:

- Alumni Cabaret, a dinner-theater event last March that attracted 100 alumni and friends for a festive reception, fine meal, 1930s jazz performed by Siena's jazz band, insights into 1930s Germany from Professor Emeritus Spencer Bennett, and comments from Doug Miller '74, director of the Theatre Siena production of "Cabaret" which was the culmination of the evening.
- Tea & Trumpets, an afternoon "garden party" gathering in April that delighted about 50 alumni and friends with an English tea, the sharing of favorite poems about spring, and a concert by the Siena Heights Chamber Ensemble.
- Take SHU Out to the Ball Game!, a rousing August event at Toledo's Fifth Third Field, cosponsored and hosted by Bruce Lee '85, president and CEO of Fifth Third Bank. On this summer evening, 175 alumni and friends enjoyed a picnic supper and cheering for the Toledo Mud Hens.

These were terrific events which we hope to repeat, in some form or other, in the future. But those of you who live beyond southeast Michigan and northwest Ohio—most of you, in other words—probably had no knowledge of the events nor any opportunity to attend.

More recently, of course, we welcomed lots of alumni to campus for "Vintage Years! Alumni Weekend '04." We hope everyone knew about that event—though, again, sometimes our distant alumni are less informed than we'd like, due to delays in the mail.

As Alumni Board President Keith Rusie says in his column, we are looking for new ways to engage and serve our alumni—not just here, where WE are...but also out there, where YOU are. But we could use your help. We're looking for interesting ways to bring Siena Heights alumni together for learning...service...fun...friendship...connections. Any and all of these can be the foundation of a successful and rewarding alumni gathering.

If you have ideas or would like to help us bring Siena Heights to YOUR area, I hope you'll be in touch. Send a note, make a call, tap an email. Saying hello is the first step.

On a personal note, I would like to tell you something I hope you already know: Siena Heights University is a deeply caring community. I have said that many times in the past. But I believe that, until you are the one in need of caring, you don't fully understand the warmth and support that flows so freely from our students, staff, faculty, alumni, friends and Adrian Dominican sponsors. I know now, and I will always be grateful.

With thanks and best wishes,

Jennifer A. Hamlin Church

Associate VP for Advancement &  
Director of Alumni Relations

# Graduate Focus: Mary Fairweather

## THEOLOGICAL STUDIES GRADUATE 2001



Mary enrolled in the Flint program. She chose to take one class at a time and eventually completed the requirements for certification from the Diocese as a Lay Minister and received a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Siena Heights. Mary says the program changed the way she looks at her life and her work. She now sees her job as a pharmacist as a true ministry. "It is often overwhelming and always humbling to hear the stories of people who bare their souls to me ...they trust me, as a pharmacist, with their story. I am continually striving to see each patient as Christ who has walked into my workplace in need of a kind word, a helping hand, and service," she explained.

After raising a family and working for over 20 years as a pharmacist, Mary Fairweather (Davison, MI) began asking herself, "Where do I find myself building the Kingdom of God in my world?"

Mary decided to explore that question at Siena Heights. She earned her bachelor's degree in Theological Studies from Siena in 2001. Mary's time at Siena was a turning point in her life. "I was looking for a way to study and learn more about the Catholic Church," she says.

Her husband, Dan, was ordained a Deacon in 1995 and Mary realized she wanted the education and formation that her husband had received. With her busy work schedule and two children, Mary says that she didn't see a way to make it happen until Siena Heights, in conjunction with the Diocese of Lansing, began offering the program in Theological Studies in her area.

Mary says she has realized that what most people need is a listening ear and the gift of time. Mary expanded, "The most precious commodity any of us can share is our time."

When asked what part of the formal learning process most affected her life, Mary says it was learning the common language of the Church. She explains, "Through my studies at Siena, I was given the language of the church...this helps me share in collaborative ministry in my parish and the diocese. I have found the ability to be in conversation life-giving. I am very grateful to Siena for giving me this gift. I know it's important to give that gift to others by being inclusive when I speak to those outside the theological community."

Mary Fairweather's giving heart is truly reflective of the four Dominican Pillars of prayer, study, community, and preaching/ministry. Although the entire Siena Heights community is aware of and striving to focus on these pillars, no program is more reflective of that tradition than our program in Theological Studies.

More information on SHU's Program in Theological Studies is available by calling: Marilyn Barnett, OP at (517) 264-7690.



## From The Alumni Association

Greetings Fellow Alumni Association Members,

It's a pleasure to provide you with an update from your Alumni Association Board of Directors. At our retreat last May, we outlined the following goals for 2004-2005:

1. Promote the Alumni Association to current and prospective alumni and the Siena community.
2. Support and promote the University's fundraising efforts.
3. Explore enrichment and service opportunities for alumni and for the Alumni Board.
4. Increase the breadth and diversity of Alumni Board membership.
5. Begin planning now—in all committees and all areas—so that we have new ideas on the schedule by next spring.

With a successful Alumni Weekend concluded, many of you had the opportunity to experience some of the new and different ways we are working to accomplish our goals. This year, we hosted several new Alumni Weekend events including the Show and Shine Car Show, the Alumni Brew-Off, and our Savvy Seminars. We also expanded on last year's successful first-try efforts, with another rousing Alumni v. Faculty/Staff Softball Game and a wonderful and well-attended Prayer Brunch. Our partners in the athletic department also added a Saturday morning road race and fun-run to the schedule, so it was a very busy weekend!

As President of the Alumni Board, I have the honor of leading a truly dedicated and diverse group of individuals, who are united in their love for our university and its alumni. We are also blessed to have a talented and capable Alumni Relations Director in Jennifer Hamlin Church. It is truly a great time to serve on the Alumni Board! I encourage you to contact Jennifer or myself if you are interested in working with the Board on behalf of your alma mater—or if you would like to nominate a fellow alum for Board membership.

If you are looking for other ways to reconnect with Siena, here are a few options I might suggest:

- Host an informal gathering of SHU alumni in your local area. (Contact the alumni office for ideas and assistance. It is also a good idea to solicit the help of a few of your fellow SHU alums to work on such an event.)
- Nominate a deserving fellow graduate for one of our four Alumni Awards: The St. Dominic Award, the Sister Ann Joachim Award, the Recent Graduate Award and the Outstanding Alumni Award. (Contact the alumni office or visit the web site for guidelines.)
- Serve as a Saints Career Guide. (Contact the Career Center on campus.)
- Consider how Siena's programs and locations may assist in your professional and/or personal development plan.

Of course, your financial support is always appreciated and is critical to advancing the university toward its future goals.

Your suggestions on how we can enhance the relationship between Siena Heights and its alumni are always welcome. I encourage you to contact either Jennifer Hamlin Church (jchurch@sienahs.edu) or myself (kjrusic@yahoo.com). You may also reach the alumni office by phone at (517) 264-7143.

In service to Siena,

Keith Jay Rusie '99

President  
SHU Alumni Association Board of Directors

## Staff, Faculty and Friends Visit Siena

In the next issue of Reflections we'll take you to Siena, Italy...

President Artman and others will share their "reflections" on the Board of Trustees' recent trip to the birthplace of our patroness, Saint Catherine.

The journey to Italy was undertaken at no expense to the University. The travelers included board members, alumni, faculty, staff, a student and friends of SHU. President Artman said that the engagement of our trustees with each other and their exposure to our Dominican and Catholic traditions have, in his opinion, further strengthened SHU's board.

The group visited many sites including the Benincasa home in Siena where Catherine and her 24 siblings lived. They were privileged to see the tiny room where Catherine prayed in solitude for three years of her life. The 39 visitors from Siena Heights found much to be proud of our patroness.

*Photo: The Torre del Mangia in the Piazza del Campo in the heart of Siena.*



# Class Notes

## Battle Creek

SHU @ KCC & Kalamazoo

Thomas Martin '95 is deputy chief of police for South Haven.

Richard Ives '97, a veteran Kalamazoo police officer who rose through the ranks to captain, is the new director of the police academy at Kalamazoo Valley Community College. The Kalamazoo Law Enforcement Training Center, or police academy, trains about 50 officers and prospective officers each year. "Law enforcement is a very demanding and complex profession requiring highly trained personnel," he told the Kalamazoo Gazette. "I am looking forward to delivering officers with the highest degree of integrity, ethics and skills to their communities." Richard is past commander of the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety's service division, and has been an instructor of vehicle and occupant control, civil disorder, and tactical operations in KVCC's police academy since 1996.

Timothy Bourgeois '98 is chief of police for Kalamazoo Township.

Mark Honeysett '98 is chief of police for Constantine.

Ronald Ivey '98 is assistant director of the Criminal Justice Program at Kellogg Community College.

Kassie Hamaker '02 is a licensed insurance agent with Mindy Deno's State Farm Agency. She also owns and operates Happy Tails Training Center.

David C. Northrop II '02 was named chief of police in Sturgis in July. A veteran of 16 years with the Sturgis Police Department, he is a five-time winner of meritorious service and unit awards, and was Sturgis Officer of the Year in 1993. He also has experience on St. Joseph County raid and narcotics teams.

Amanda Miller '04 of East Leroy is a full-time registered dental hygienist in Hastings.

Zachary Schurig '04 works with Systex Products Corporation in Battle Creek. He lives in Marshall.

Tiffany Wilson '04 is a cost engineer in Battle Creek.

## Benton Harbor

SHU @ LMC

Kimberly Powers '03 is a registered therapist at Pulmonary Partners in St. Joseph.

Andrea Rose O'Brien '04 works at Lakeland Hospital in Niles.

## Jackson

SHU @ JCC

Sandra Walker Dandrow '04 of Grass Lake earned her Siena Heights degree this spring through Siena's Jackson Community College center 31 years after she came to the main campus as a freshman, fresh out of Cody High School in Detroit. She completed three semesters at Siena in the early 1970s before leaving her studies for family reasons. The journey to her degree ultimately took her to six different colleges and two states, and included marriage, raising a family and assorted part-time jobs. While her new bachelor's degree offers her the opportunity to move up at Republic Bank, Sandra already is considering going on for a master's degree. "I almost think this was destined to happen," she told the Jackson Citizen Patriot.

## Monroe

SHU@MCCC

Mark Durivage '98 of Oregon, OH, is the new dean of the Industrial and Engineering Technologies Division at Owens Community College (OCC) in Toledo; he previously served as interim dean. In the position, he oversees all academic programs and activities within the division, as well as course evaluation and development of new curricula. Mark joined the OCC administration in 1998 as chair of Manufacturing and Industrial Operations Technology. He is a senior member of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and holds professional membership with the National Association of Industrial Technology, the National Council of Instructional Administrators and the American Society for Quality. He recently received OCC's Exemplary Administrator Award for outstanding dedication and service to higher education.

Right: Jim Raetzke '05 is a Clarkston resident who attends the Metro Detroit campus and works for the Bloomfield Twp. Fire Dept.

## Monroe (continued)

SHU@MCCC

Jason McCarty '98 was promoted to the rank of captain in the Air Force this past spring. He is stationed at Robins Air Force Base in Georgia where he is a pilot on the E-8C Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS) aircraft. In the course of flying 250 combat hours in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, Jason has earned both the Air Medal and the Aerial Achievement Medal.

Kay Sisung '02 of Monroe, previously deputy treasurer of Monroe County, now serves as Monroe County treasurer.

Michelle DeNardo Bodenmiller '03 and Roman Bodenmiller were married June 14, 2003. Michelle is a landlord/business owner. Roman is also a business owner and is in skilled trades at Ford Motor Company. They live in Monroe.

Wendy Timmins '03 was promoted recently to assistant vice president, commercial loan officer at Monroe Bank and Trust. She joined MBT in 1998 as a loan review/credit analyst with 10 years of retail and financial customer service experience.

Adrian Suzanne Brown '04 of Temperance works for Hylant Health Strategies as a health and wellness administrator. She also is a member of the National Women's Health Network. Future plans include pursuing certified personal trainer certification and earning a master's degree in exercise physiology. She already is certified as a nutrition specialist.



## From the Sites

## Southfield

SHU Metro Detroit Program

Antony Martin '83 lives in Canton Township and writes: "I thoroughly enjoyed my Siena Heights educational experience. My professors and coursework prepared me well for a rewarding career in education and training." Antony is an information technology trainer for TLM Technical Services.

Francine Parker '88 of St. Clair Shores is the new president and CEO of Health Alliance Plan in Detroit. She assumed the position in March, after two decades working for the health maintenance organization. She also serves as senior vice president of insurance and purchaser relations. Francine had served as interim president and CEO for several months prior to her appointment to the top job. "To say I'm thrilled is an understatement," she told the media. "When I started at HAP 26 years ago, there were only 14 of us. To go from an organization of 14 to over 900 people serving 540,000 members is remarkable." Her accomplishments to date include developing performance strategies for all corporate divisions, improving the health of members and the community through innovative programs and customer service, and improving access to doctors and hospitals.

Diane Lundquist Philpot '90 is president of Michigan Concerns of Police Survivors; she is the widow of Detroit police officer Jerry Philpot II. Diane ran in the primary to be the Democratic candidate for Brownstown Township treasurer. She is the mother of a nine-year-old daughter.

Linda Holley Woolwine '90 of Dearborn is the new president and chief operating officer of AAA Michigan. She joined AAA Michigan in 1973 and most recently was vice president in charge of processing and installing a new membership system for clubs. Linda is a graduate of the American Management Association's Executive Leadership Development Program.

Frances Wing-Ka Cheung '02 is living in Clarkston.

# Class Notes

## Main Campus

### 1940s

Blanche Lampke Benton '43 lives in Bloomfield Hills. She celebrated her 80th birthday in August and is "happy to report I had a hole-in-one in February!"



Above: Students Jeff Beyer, Student Senate president, and Amy Beyer entertained guests at the Alumni Weekend prayer brunch.

### 1950s

Joan Chopp Scheuermann '53 lives in Pleasant Ridge with her husband, Robert.

Elsa Verneau Lodholz '54 writes from St. Clair Shores: "During this past summer, my life took an unexpected turn when my husband of 50 years passed away. So many plans have changed." Although unable to attend the 50th reunion, Else sent greetings to all in the Class of '54 and added, "I also want to thank all those great women who were the spirit of Siena. They liberated us long before society decided we were capable creatures. I remember well Mother Gerald's challenge to us: 'Be valiant women.' I hope we have lived up to her expectations. Thanks to Siena for a lifetime of good memories."

Virginia Kelbley Smith '54 traveled from her Puget Sound home in Silverdale, WA, on Bremerton Island, to attend Alumni Weekend and her 50th reunion. Joining her for the festivities was Jeannine (Frances) Gunn Martin '55 of Cleveland.

Rose Marie Campbell Freeman '56 is a retired teacher living in Garden City. She sends the sad news that her husband, Bert, died in December 2003 after a long battle with Alzheimers.

### 1960s

Janet Wright, OP '62 and Grace Dennis, OP '66 showed their artwork last spring in a joint exhibition, "Watercolor and Wood," at the Lenawee County Visual Arts Gallery in Adrian. Janet, a full-time studio painter, creates close-up portraits of flowers, plants and trees that reflect her love of the fleeting beauty of nature. Grace, a professional wood carver, specializes in Old World Santas and clown figures, carved in basswood, then painted and stained by hand.

Janet Vorst Dyer '67 of Springfield, OH, was appointed clerk of Moorefield Township in September 2003. She then ran for the office two months later in the November election and won a full four-year term. "We have a very large township with an almost \$3 million budget of which I am in charge. I never thought I would be in politics!" Janet and her husband Terry have four children and four grandchildren.

Dr. Pat Hoffman Kostell '67 of Rock Hill, SC, was elected in April to a three-year term as a member-at-large of the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI). An educational consultant who is known as a strong advocate for children's issues, Pat will chair ACEI's "Week of the Classroom Teacher Committee" that encourages local communities worldwide to sponsor events annually in May to recognize the contributions of outstanding teachers. Pat, who began her career as a kindergarten and elementary teacher, has authored publications, presented at professional forums and served on numerous educational groups and international committees.

Kathy Smith Hartley '68 of Tecumseh retired June 30 after 29 years as athletic department secretary at Adrian High School. Following her husband John's retirement this fall from the Adrian Post Office, the Hartleys hope to travel a bit, including continuing a tradition of annual treks to Mexico. Kathy also looks forward to volunteering at the public library. Kathy and John have three grown children, twins John and Kelly and daughter Jennifer.

Patricia Malane Gakstatter '69, a fourth grade teacher in Armada, was named Macomb County Teacher of the Week in March by the Detroit News. "Working with kids has always been a blessing," Patricia said in response. An elementary teacher in the Armada School District for 17 years, Patricia holds a master's degree from EMU. The Detroit News described her as "a dedicated teacher who strives to make sure that each child fully understands each lesson" and someone who "comes up with new and creative lesson plans that help draw students into the lessons. She is kind and polite to everyone and well respected by students and staff alike."

Kathleen Steiner Griffiths '69 is president and CEO of Chelsea Community Hospital. She also serves on the Huron Valley Ambulance board of trustees.

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It's simple and FREE! Just send us your business card and we will return it in the form of a customized luggage tag!

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Alumni Relations  
Siena Heights University  
1247 E. Siena Heights Drive  
Adrian, MI 49221

## Send us your news!

We look forward to publishing your news. The Class Notes section of Reflections includes updates about all Siena Heights graduates, those from the main campus in Adrian as well as alumni of all SHU degree-completion centers. Please note: We do not announce engagements or pregnancies, but will gladly publish wedding and birth announcements after those events have occurred. News received after October 1, 2004 will be included in the next issue of Reflections.

Send your news by snail mail:  
Siena Heights Alumni Office, 1247 E. Siena Heights Drive, Adrian, MI 49221;  
by email ([jhchurch@sienahts.edu](mailto:jhchurch@sienahts.edu));  
or via the web ([www.sienahts.edu](http://www.sienahts.edu)).  
Or pick up the phone and call:  
(517) 264-7143 or (800) 693-0506.

One way or the other, stay in touch!

# Class Notes

## Continued

### 1970s

Trudy McSorley '70, associate professor of theatre and speech, and director of the Child Drama Program, began a new career at Siena Heights this fall as Dean of Students. In the new position, Trudy—who has worked with Siena students in the classroom and on stage for 30 years—oversees a variety of programming for students, working with athletics, campus ministry, residence life, counseling, campus wellness, and student activities. Trudy sees the job as an expansion of her role as teacher. "I hope to reach a much larger number of students and to explore how Siena students can be a positive presence in this community in a much greater way."

Margaret Scholz Noe '75 recently was elected to the board of directors of Pavilion Bancorp, Inc., the parent company of Bank of Lenawee and Bank of Washtenaw. Margaret, an attorney in Adrian, has served on the Bank of Lenawee's board since 2000, serving on the trust and asset/liability committees. Margaret also serves on Siena's Board of Trustees. She and her husband, Bill, live in Adrian.

Albert Swindle '76 of Adrian, who works as an auditor and inventory specialist in Ann Arbor, recently completed mediator training at SE Dispute Resolution Services.

John Magro '79 is co-owner of Magro's, Inc., an orthopedic shop specializing in regular and corrective footwear as well as orthopedic bracing, located in Michigan City, IN. He lives across the Michigan border in Three Oaks with Kim, his wife of 19 years, daughter Kaylee (17) and sons Jay (14) and Conner and Cameron (12-year-old twins). All four kids play baseball (or softball) and basketball, as well as other sports and activities. John reports: "We spend most of our vacations doing travel baseball and basketball with the kids. Kim is an elementary special education teacher, so summers are free to have lots of fun. I'm looking forward to seeing some of my teammates from my SHU years in basketball, baseball, cross country and tennis."

Mary Ann Linehan McRobert '79 of Adrian writes: "I am sorry that I won't be able to join in the Alumni Weekend festivities. I will be in Chicago with my daughter, Michele, and her family. She is expecting twins in August and already has 18 month old twin girls. Retirement has been great after 20 years as a social worker and another 20 years as a registered nurse. My husband, Roger, died two years ago. I am blessed with a wonderful family and friends who have been so supportive. I enjoy volunteer work and my winters in Florida."

Rachel DeLine Tobar '79 met her husband, Carlos, while teaching school in Quito, Ecuador. "Returned to Michigan in 1985. Started a custom printing and graphic design company called Good Impressions Graphics here in Adrian in 1989. We have many good clients in the Adrian area. I have two children, Ben, who just completed his freshman year at Kendall College of Art and Design, and Lydia, who is in her freshman year at Spring Arbor University as an elementary education major."

Lucia Westgate '79/MA writes: "I've been the teacher and program director at Blissfield Preschool Cooperative Nursery for 16 years. Those classes are in the morning and the afternoons I substitute at various Lenawee County Schools."

Below: SHU Vice President for Advancement Tom Kavanagh monitors balls and strikes during the Alumni Weekend softball game which pitted the faculty-staff against the alumni.



### 1980s

Marla Sordino Benschoter '85 and her husband Nick celebrated the birth in November 2003 of twin girls, Amaris Cecile and Jaden Heaven. The twins join older brother Zach, who turns 12 this fall. The Benschoters live in Morenci.

Dennis Kiel '86 was named vice president of business banking for the northwest region of Huntington Bank in July. Previously, he was vice president/community relationship officer for Sky Bank. In his 17-year banking career, Dennis also has worked for 1st Source Bank, Mid American National Bank and Trust Company, and Manufacturers National Bank of Detroit. He holds a master's in finance from Indiana University.

Scott McClure '86 and his wife Michelle Hellner McClure '86 of Lawrence, Kansas, are the proud parents of the national winner of the Edy's Grand Ice Cream "A Scoop of the USA" contest, which challenged youngsters across the country to come up with an ice cream flavor representing the heritage of their home state. Daughter Kalli, who entered 9th grade this fall, won the national title for her creation, "We're not in Kansas anySmore." According to the Lawrence Journal-World, "Kalli's creation combines 'The Wizard of Oz' with her love for the weather. She describes her flavor as vanilla ice cream with clouds of marshmallows, a vortex of chocolate swirls, and graham cracker debris." The whole McClure family shared Kalli's victory, enjoying a trip to Houston, TX, complete with limo service and photo opportunities—not to mention a year's supply of free ice cream! "It was just pure fun," said Michelle.

Dee Crane '87/MA, head of the undergraduate teacher education program at Siena Heights, resigned her position at the university to accept her "dream job" as principal of the Blissfield Elementary School—the school she and her children attended and where she began her teaching career in a first grade classroom many years ago. "We are grateful to Dee for the many ways in which she served Siena and its teacher education students," said Sharon Weber, OP, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "Dee worked indefatigably to take the reins of the undergraduate teacher education program from Eileen Rice and she has fostered the growth of that program while maintaining its reputation for quality. In addition to shepherding the program through two rounds of state reviews, she has been a model of excellent teaching practice in the classroom."

Jamie Richardson '87, director of marketing for White Castle in Columbus, OH, was quoted in the July 28 Wall Street Journal when the hamburger chain moved into the media spotlight with the opening of the New Line Cinema movie, "Harold and Kumar Go to White Castle." Describing the movie as something of "a love letter to White Castle," Jamie noted. "There was something authentic in the way the script described how people feel about our distinctive taste and the lengths they'll go to find the famous mini-burgers. "We might not endorse some of the behaviors in the film," Jamie added, but "we approve of the spirit of the film: There are a lot of good messages in it." He reported, later, that the product placement prompted record sales at White Castle when the film opened.

Darlene Elwartowski '87/AA married George Dutton Feb. 21. Husband and wife both work in Indianapolis, IN, Darlene at Bank One and George at Cross Electric. They live in nearby Pendleton.

Darwin Parks '88, city manager of Richmond, recently completed a master's degree in public administration from Golden Gate University in San Francisco.

# Class Notes

## Continued

### 1990s

Mary Helen Kloeckner Halley '89 and her husband Sid of Hillsdale welcomed their first child, Margaret Grace, into the world March 15. Mary, who received the Recent Graduate Award from the Siena Heights Alumni Association in 2000, wrote in August: "Maggie turned five months this week and it has been just bliss. I go back to work this week and I know she will be fine at daycare but I will be a mess. I am sure that, in time, I will learn to understand that Maggie doesn't need me 24 hours a day!" Mary is an English teacher and coach at North Adams-Jerome High School.

Aimee Nemeckay '89, '91/MA of Chicago began a new career in March, joining the award-winning residential and commercial design firm of Susan Fredman & Associates, LTD. Several years ago, Aimee made a conscious decision to "pursue my passion for creating interior environments" by enrolling at The Harrington Institute of Design in Chicago. Her new employer, SF&A, is a nationally recognized firm with three decades of experience and a reputation for innovative design in projects ranging from urban dwellings to beachfront retreats. "I consider myself absurdly fortunate to be in the company of more than 20 design professionals who make up the SF&A family," Aimee writes. "Their collective experience and dedication to excellence and design innovation are inspiring."



Above: Judy Lavelle '58 and Jeanne Whitlow Mosley '59 had a chance to reconnect and reminisce during Alumni Weekend.

Rob Gordon '90 of Dearborn received his doctorate in labor history from Wayne State University this spring. Congratulations, Rob!

Kimberly Newell Morgan '90 writes: "I live and work in the Milwaukee area with my daughter Kaitlyn. I still perform with various professional theatre companies and I am working on starting my own business in event planning." She lives in Franklin, WI, and is a marketing assistant for Rockwell Automation.

Peggy Kerr '91 recently was named festival and gallery shop director at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center, one of the largest community art centers in the Midwest, serving over 60 communities in southeastern Michigan with over 4,000 students in 500 classes annually. Previously, Peggy was on the staff at The Community House in Birmingham, where she held several positions including program director and youth program director. An active community member, Peggy is also involved with the Franklin Council for the Visual and Performing Arts, Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition, and Project DAYDREAM, Detroit, among other affiliations.

Angela Sheely Moore '92 lives in El Paso, TX, and writes: "We recently relocated from Germany back to Texas. Staying at home with three kids under six is challenging work but very rewarding. But I can't wait to finish my Bachelor of Science in Nursing this fall. We are looking forward to buying our first house and spending quite a few years in El Paso. Who knows after that—the Army is funny that way." She and her husband Tom enjoy life with daughter Emma and sons Aidan and Ross.

Jeffrey Curth '93 has been named superintendent of the Mackinaw City Public Schools, where he has been an elementary school principal for the past six years. Before that, he was an elementary at-risk reading teacher and multi-age classroom teacher in Memphis, MI, and a first grade teacher in Alma. Jeff holds a master's degree from MSU. He and his wife Patricia have a 15-year-old son and a 4-year-old daughter.

Tracey Ladd '93 of Toledo exhibited a collection of recent work, including felt wall hangings, painted jewelry and cast art glass, at the Paula Brown Gallery in Toledo's downtown this past fall.

Mechelle Moralez '93 of New Baltimore is assistant manager for Gordon Food Service in Chesterfield Township.

Theresa Wenzel Giberson '94 of Lake Orion is teaching a second/third grade split class at Lakeville Elementary School in Oxford. She was a long-term substitute teacher for the Oxford Schools for the past two years and previously taught fourth, fifth, kindergarten and preschool. Theresa and her husband Tom have two sons, Rolly (8) and Keaton (5).

Mark Ouimet '95 married Kelli Bailey in June. Kelli is an elementary art teacher in Jackson; Mark works as a consultant. They live in Ann Arbor.



Timothy Griffin '96 and his wife Angela celebrated the birth of Joshua Timothy (photo above) on Jan.12. The Griffins live in Haslett.

Donna Cannon Holubik '96 of Adrian joined the national marketing team for Edamerica, the 11th largest provider of educational loans in the U.S. Donna began the new position in August, after 12 years in the Siena Heights financial aid office, where she managed financial aid for the main campus and Siena's degree-completion centers. With Edamerica, Donna works with schools throughout Michigan and portions of Ohio, promoting student loan products and borrower benefits.

Seyed Jalal Hosseini '96 has worked for the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston for the past three-and-a-half years. After several years as education coordinator for the school's Institutional Review Board, working on programs in Botswana, Kuwait and Nigeria, Jalal accepted a new position early in 2004 as associate director of educational programs for the AIDS Prevention Initiative in Nigeria (APIN), which is funded with a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. "My office is based in Boston," Jalal writes, "but I travel frequently to Nigeria." In the effort to stop the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Nigeria, APIN works in a variety of ways with medical personnel, educators, journalists, counselors and youth. Jalal's job involves "organizing, budgeting and hosting a number of workshops, symposia and short courses in Nigeria and in Boston. In addition, my office is in charge of communications and responsible for the print and electronic materials regarding the program." Jalal has been married for four years to Michelle, an aspiring vocalist. Jalal recently completed his master's degree in international relations. And in his spare time, he manages an Italian restaurant on Saturday nights!

Amanda Adams '97 married Jeff Chin in June in a wedding ceremony held on The Henry Ford Estate in Dearborn. Amanda is a veterinary territory manager for Hill's Pet Nutrition. Jeff, a graduate of the University of Rochester, is a project manager for the Robert Boesch Corp.

Matt Geha '97 began a new job this fall as principal of the Springfield (OH) Middle School. A master's graduate of the University of Toledo, Matt spent the past six years as a middle school teacher in Sylvania. "Middle-school-aged children have the energy that allows them to absorb everything in their environment," Matt said. "Learning can and should be an ever changing process that challenges each participant to take their new ideas and turn them into positive results." Matt and his wife Bridget Nesbit-Geha '98 live in West Toledo with their son Kouri.

# Class Notes

## Continued

### 2000s

Mark '97/MA and Mary Miller Murray '79, '97/MA of Adrian, proprietors of the Image Center including Fabricare Cleaners and Coin Laundry, XPress Car Wash, and Fabulous Tanning Systems, have added a new element to their business brew—and a new brew for coffee lovers in town. With the opening of their Beaner's Gourmet Coffee franchise, the Murrays are offering coffee, cappuccino, latte and the like from their location on the north side of town. "Stop in and join us or drive through for a delicious hot or cold gourmet beverage."



Krista Purvis Forys '98 and her husband Jim of Tecumseh announce the birth of a son, Zachary John (photo above), born Aug. 19: "A very healthy baby," reports Krista.

Tara Severhof Pinski '98 sent this update: "I got married Aug. 17 in 2002 to Nicholas Pinski (after 8 years of dating). We just recently sold our home in Toledo and bought a new home in Perrysburg, Ohio. I am currently working for the State of Ohio at Toledo Correctional Institution as a correction officer. I have been with the state for 4 years and am currently being considered for a promotion as a case manager."

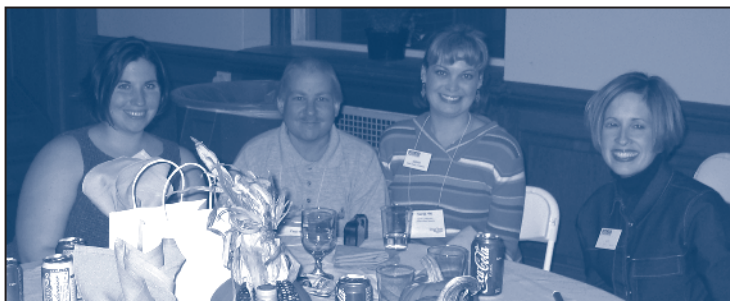
Lisa Bocskay Raleigh '98 lives in Adrian and is a manager in sales administration for Silbond Corporation. She and her husband James have two daughters, Mahala, who turns 5 on Christmas Eve, and Chloe, who had her first birthday in June.

Genevieve Siegel '98 of Pittsford exhibited several dozen of her barn paintings at the Stair Public Library in September, as a prelude to the Smithsonian Institution's "Barn Again!" exhibition which will include her work. A feature story about Genevieve and her work in the State Line Observer noted that "her works include barns from Lenawee and Hillsdale counties in Michigan and Fulton and Williams counties in Ohio." Before returning to Siena to earn her BFA at age 77, Genevieve and her husband raised three children on a family farm near Prativille, so she takes a personal interest in barns. "Barns are rapidly disappearing from our rural landscape since they no longer fill the needs of modern farming," she says. "To keep them alive, I go out with my camera, take photos, write a few notes, return to my studio and paint them on canvas."

Ben Judson '99 is a trained opera singer who continues to sing and teach voice while working as assistant manager at Wal-Mart in Jackson. "Every time he runs the (hand forklift) in the back room, you hear him singing opera," a department manager at Wal-Mart told the Jackson Citizen Patriot in its Aug. 8 feature profile of Ben. "Singing for me is very spiritual," Ben told the paper.

Destani Shadrick '99 participated in an International Group Study Exchange to Rotary District 3690 in Incheon, South Korea from April 4-29, 2004. While in Korea, she "shadowed" a Korean counterpart who shares her particular field and documented her experience through photography, drawing and journaling. Destani is a membership executive with the Girl Scouts of the South Huron Valley Council. She lives in Ann Arbor.

Below: Wendy Kirkbride '99, Paul Flowers '94, Sarah Lyons Cooke '96 and Amy Cousino '96 enjoy beer and brats during Alumni Weekend '04.



Michael Cole '00 married Leann Mason April 10 in Blissfield. Michael teaches at Dundee Middle School; Leann is a payroll clerk/administrator for David Walters, CPA, in Blissfield. The Coles honeymooned in New York City.

Brooke Hine '00 graduated in May with a master of fine arts degree from Virginia Commonwealth University. She is pursuing a career as a ceramic sculptor in Philadelphia.

Erin Kurowicki '00 is an attorney for The Galvin Law Firm in Jackson, NJ.

Mike Minghine '00 lives in Scottsdale, AZ and writes: "The friends that I made at Siena Heights are among the best friends that anyone could ask for and I miss them dearly. Hope to see you all soon!" Mike is a human resource recruiter for EZRecruiter.

Sarah Richardson '01 married Joseph Avis July 30 in Michigan Center. Sarah is an elementary teacher for the Jackson Area Catholic Schools; her husband is a sergeant with the Army National Guard.



Jamie Johnson '01 married James Crane (photo above) in September at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Wyandotte. Jamie is a graphic artist with Perry Johnson, Inc. Her husband is an automotive development engineer at Ricardo, Inc.

Leslie Keane '01, a fulltime police officer with the Adrian Police Department and a part-time member of Siena's campus security staff, has another job this fall: football player. Leslie, who played four sports as a Saint, is a member of the Toledo Reign women's professional football team. She is a starter at wide receiver and cornerback, is listed as a back-up at running back, tight end and punter, and also will return kicks. Her favorite position is cornerback. "I've always like defense," she told the Monroe Evening News. "It's more of a challenge. You have to be quick and see things."

Dan Pena '01 and Amber Karl '04 were married June 5 in Lumen Ecclesiae Chapel on the Siena Heights campus. Among many SHU friends in attendance were maid of honor Tracy Disbrow '03, bridesmaid Melissa Radoy '02, and groomsmen Kenny Janczarek '02, Jason Bollinger '00, Dan Morris '04 and Jake Pifer '03. After a honeymoon in Cozumel, Mexico, Dan and Amber settled in Adrian where he is a manager at Garfield's Restaurant and Pub and she works at Applebee's Grill and Bar.

Joy Powell '02 lives in upstate New York and works for Alfred University, where she recently received her MFA in sculpture. She is a gallery assistant in Alfred's Fosdick-Nelson Art Gallery, weekend fabrication and foundry supervisor, and a part-time assistant in the art department office. The work, she says, is "great and the diversity keeps me from getting bored."

Carly Jo Riegsecker Donelson '03 is a teacher aide for Lakota Local Schools in Risingsun, OH. She and her husband, Nathan Donelson '01, live in Bowling Green.

Jessica Harrison '03 married Bret Flower Sept. 27, 2003. The Flowers are living in Nashville, MI.

Jason Miller '03 of Jackson is teaching math and business at Dexter High School. Previously, he was a substitute teacher for the Lenawee Intermediate School District.

# Class Notes

## Continued

### Deaths

Michelle Pavlowski '03 married Glen Bowman May 29 in Springville. Michelle teaches at Stony Creek Preschool in Milan. Glen works for the Lenawee Intermediate School District. After a Florida honeymoon, the Bowmans settled in Adrian.

Kristen Propst '03 recently moved to Fayetteville, NC, to teach kindergarten at Sandy Grove Elementary School. A North Carolina "school of distinction," Sandy Grove is a year-round elementary school located in Lumber Bridge in the Hoke County School District.

Troy Butler '04/MA, a graduate of Siena's graduate program in Rochester, wants to "let everyone know that, since graduation, I am enjoying some much-needed traveling time with my mother. We recently have traveled to some different parts of the country in a motor home."

Karen Gowan '04 married Derek Hively Sept. 18 in Tecumseh. Karen works for Game of Your Life Foundation (GOLF) in Coldwater as a tour assistant for junior golf tournaments. Derek works for the State of Michigan.

Jonathan Hepner '04/MA married Jill McMurray June 26 in Monroe. Jon, who worked in Siena's computer systems and services division for several years, now works for Maritz, Inc. in the Toledo area. Jill, a third grade teacher, also is a graduate student at Siena Heights. They honeymooned in Mexico and now live in Adrian.

Ellen O'Connell Schroeder '31 died Jan. 10, 2004, at the age of 96 at her home in Fenton. Survivors include her husband, Irvin, 8 children, 16 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

Marie Agnes McCall, OP '39 died Aug. 12 at the Dominican Life Center at the age of 90. A graduate of Chicago's Aquinas High School, she decided to become a nun while just in eighth grade, according to her sister, Lucille McCall Canzona '41 of Evergreen Park, IL, who survives. Sister McCall ministered in education for 53 years at locations around the country. She was coordinator of religious education in Calumet City, IL, in the 1970s and director of religious education at St. Mary Star of the Sea in Oceanside, CA, in the 1980s.

Norma Hackett Amos '40 of Jackson died Aug. 3 at the age of 86. She served in World War II as a special service club director for the American Red Cross in Stuttgart, Germany; and later was a department store buyer in Detroit, Washington D.C., and Cleveland. A member of Queen of the Miraculous Medal Catholic Church, she enjoyed playing golf and bridge. One of 14 children, Norma is survived by two sisters and a stepdaughter.

Marguerite Michael Hamamey, OP '40 died March 25 at the Dominican Life Center at age 90. In addition to 48 years working in elementary education in Illinois, Michigan and Ohio, she spent most of the 1980s ministering to the elderly in Cleveland.

Mary Jane Figel Murray '40 died August 28, 2003, in Bloomingdale, IL, after a brief battle with lymphoma. The oldest of 10 children and a graduate of Chicago's Aquinas High School, she flew with American Airlines after graduating from Siena Heights, until her marriage in 1947. She raised four children in Wheaton, IL, and was very active until shortly before her death, as a proficient bridge player and a volunteer for the Wise Penny thrift shop. Mary Jane is survived by three children, six grandchildren and five brothers.



Catherine Innes, OP '41 passed away May 18 at the age of 93 at the Dominican Life Center. After graduating from St. Joseph Academy in Adrian, she enrolled at St. Joseph College—which had become Siena Heights by the time she graduated. After 10 years working in education, she spent the next 51 years ministering in domestic services in Michigan, Illinois and Ohio.

Catherine Mary Ovnik, OP '43, died Sept. 13 at the Dominican Life Center at age 89. She came to Siena Heights after graduating from St. Joseph Academy. She held a master's degree in education and spent 50 years ministering in schools in Detroit, Jackson and Utica, MI; and in Cleveland, Marblehead, Wickliffe and Medina, OH.

Ann Judith Provancher, OP '43 died April 5 at the Dominican Life Center at age 87. A graduate of Bishop Muldoon High School in Rockford, IL, she worked for many years in education in Illinois and Michigan, including six years as principal of St. Paul High School in Grosse Pointe Farms. Her ministry then turned to social work in Adrian and Toledo. She taught at Siena Heights in 1953-54 and again from 1969 to 1972. She was assistant director of the Juvenile Court of Lenawee County from 1975 to 1985.

Marie Joyce Smith, OP '43 passed away March 24 at the age of 87 at the Dominican Life Center. For 38 years, she ministered in education at schools in Illinois, Florida, Michigan, California and Arizona. She also worked as a lab technician at St. Rose de Lima Hospital in Henderson, NV, and served as an office clerk at several locations including eight years at Our Lady of Westside in Chicago. In 1988, she was pastoral minister at Our Lady of Las Vegas in Nevada.

Margaret Gleason Flanagan '44 of Milwaukee, WI, a passionate advocate for social justice and human rights, died June 21 at the age of 81. After growing up in Rockford, IL, Margi studied social work at Siena Heights, returning to Rockford to work for Catholic Charities. She moved to Whitefish Bay, WI, after her marriage, raising four sons and becoming an active volunteer leader in civic, ecumenical and philanthropic endeavors. She founded the Milwaukee Chapter of Women in Community Service, an anti-poverty program, and was active in Milwaukee's Benedict Center Jail Ministry, Birthright, Horizon House, Meta House, and the Pregnancy Aftermath Helpline. She was a member of many community and religious organizations including the Catholic Jewish Conference, Churchwomen United, the Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women, the Association for Interfaith Relations, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. She was the 1980 recipient of Siena Heights' Outstanding Alumni Award; and was honored by many community organizations including B'nai B'rith. In 1993, she received the Vatican II Award for Ecumenism from Archbishop Rembert Weakland. "Every time you speak up for human rights, it makes a difference," Margi once said. "You can't predict the effect if you don't speak up." Survivors include her four sons, husband Joseph, and sister Patricia Gleason Waller '45 of Rockford.

Carolyn Ott Heffron '45, '75/MA died on April 20 at the age of 81. A lifelong resident of Adrian, she taught at Lincoln Elementary School for 17 years. After retiring in 1985, she served for several years as a volunteer tutor for Project LEAD, an adult literacy program. A member of First United Methodist Church, she was active in Kappa Kappa Gamma Alumnae Association, the P.E.O. Sisterhood, the Monday Literary Club and Tau Delta Sorority. She was preceded in death by her husband, Hugh, and daughter, Anne Elizabeth.



# Class Notes

## Continued

Barbara Ann Stiglitz, OP '45 died July 4 at the Dominican Life Center. She was 88 years old. She spent 48 years teaching elementary school and music, including 23 years—1955-81—at locations throughout Michigan, including St. Joseph Academy in Adrian and schools in the Thumb area, the Upper Peninsula, and southern Michigan. She also taught in Illinois, Ohio and Puerto Rico. She retired in 1981 at St. Alphonsus in Dearborn, where she had graduated from high school, and came to the DLC in 1998.

M. Charlotte Becker, OP '46, a sister with the Akron Dominicans, died May 7 at the age of 86. Born in Berlin, Germany, and raised in Ohio, she taught at Catholic schools throughout Ohio, serving as a principal in Fairlawn and Youngstown. She was educational director at Our Lady of the Elms School in Akron from 1990 to 1994, and then was an active volunteer until 2001. She enjoyed traveling, cooking, reading, and Notre Dame football.

Marie Jutte, OP '46 died May 14 at the Dominican Life Center. She was 87 years old. During her 50 year career in education, she ministered at schools in Michigan and Ohio. She served as principal at Holy Angels School in Sturgis, MI, from 1956 to 1962, and at St. Alexis School in Ypsilanti from 1962 to 1983. She retired in 1988 in Maybee where she continued to volunteer for 10 years.

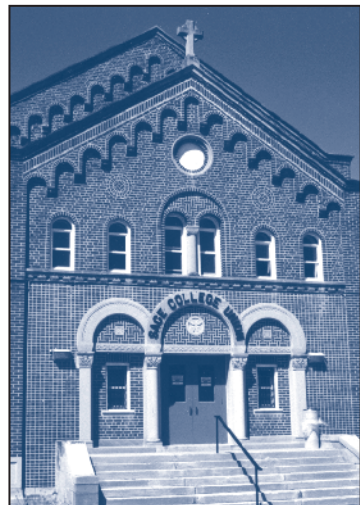
Norita Marie Barrett, OP '47 died April 14 at the Dominican Life Center at age 90. A graduate of St. Joseph Academy, she worked in education for 32 years in Detroit and Chelsea, MI; Chicago, IL, and Cincinnati, OH, where she was principal at St. Antoninus from 1954 to 1960. She also served as librarian assistant at Rosary High School in Detroit (1971-75) and was a clerk, driver and office assistant at St. Alphonsus Parish in Dearborn for 15 years. She volunteered for seven years at St Rose Dominican Hospital in Henderson, NV, before coming to the DLC in 1998.

M. Pierre Bisheimer O.P. '49, a sister with the Akron Dominicans, died May 1. She was 85. She began teaching in 1938 at Immaculate Conception School in Ravenna, OH, and continued ministering in education at various Ohio schools until 1991, when she retired for health reasons. She enjoyed needlework, music and reading.

Elizabeth Campean DeLisle '53 died Oct. 18, 2003, at her home in Prudenville. She was 71 years old. She and her husband, Don, were married on Mackinaw Island in 1986. She was a member of the Harrison Moose and the Houghton Lake Eagles. She is survived by her husband, Don, five children, three step-children, and 15 grandchildren.

Helen Jean Earles '57 died Sept. 14 at the age of 85. She taught fourth grade and kindergarten at Madison Elementary School in Adrian for 25 years, retiring in 1976. An active member of the Grange, at the local, state and national level, she also was a member of Eastern Star, the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls, and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Ralph "Bud" Leonard '74 of Adrian died July 7 at the age of 80. A World War II veteran who owned a service station for 19 years, he became a teacher after earning his Siena Heights degree. He taught at Michener Elementary School for 16 years, then retired and taught at Gus Harrison Correctional Facility until earlier this year. He umpired softball and baseball at the local and state level for more than 50 years. He is survived by his wife, Hazel, and many extended family and friends.



Nancy McCarty '74 died March 12 at her home in Hudson after a courageous battle with cancer. She was 65. She taught math for 14 years in Kissimmee, FL, where she was a member of the Osceola Classroom Teachers Association. She spent summers and holidays at home in Michigan, enjoying gardening, garage sales and birdwatching, as well as reading and playing with grandchildren. Survivors include four children and eight grandchildren.

Deborah Borton King '76 of Adrian died July 21.

Word has been received of the death of Frank Siwek '87, a graduate of Siena's Metropolitan Detroit Program in Southfield.

Kathleen Donnelly '89 died June 27 at the age of 56 after a brave battle with cancer. Kathy had worked at Siena Heights' Lake Michigan Center in Benton Harbor, before becoming assistant director of Siena's Metropolitan Detroit Program in Southfield. Survivors include her two sons, one of whom, Scott Hakeem, also is a former employee of the Southfield Center.

Tracy Church '93 (photo right) of Petersburg died Aug. 30 after an extended battle with pneumonia. He was 56. An enthusiastic non-traditional student at Siena, he was well into a successful business career when he completed his business administration degree. Several years later, he established his own company, APEC, which he operated for five years in Temperance and Toledo, designing and manufacturing transmission test stands and custom hydraulic equipment. He also taught hydraulics for several years at Monroe County Community College. He was a voracious reader, a life-long learner and an active outdoorsman who especially enjoyed shotgun sports. He also was an enthusiastic proponent of organ donation, having benefited from two kidney transplants and a pancreas transplant. Tracy is survived by his wife, Siena Heights alumni director and former Reflections editor Jennifer Hamlin Church; three daughters including Siena Heights campus security director Cindy Birdwell; and seven grandchildren.

Sandra Adams Love '98 of Battle Creek passed away Aug. 4 at the age of 56. A graduate of Siena's Battle Creek center at Kellogg Community College, she worked as a counselor with Strive of Greater Michigan. A great fan of the support and encouragement provided by Siena Heights, she volunteered for several years with Siena's kente stole presentation program in Battle Creek. She was active in several community organizations and was co-founder and head of the Battle Creek Sickle Cell Anemia Support Group. Her daughter and four grandchildren survive.

Robert Vatter '02 of Lansing died Aug. 2 at the age of 46. A graduate of Siena's Theological Studies Program, he earned his bachelor's degree in religious studies. He was currently studying as a Deacon Candidate with the Diocese of Lansing and was a member of St. Casimir Catholic Church, where he served on many parish committees and commissions. Most recently, he was coordinator of "The Twins" Habitat for Humanity project in Lansing. His wife, two sons, his parents and many family members survive.



## Class Notes Continued

### Deaths of Friends

Charlotte Howard of St. Joseph, long-time friend of Siena Heights, died Aug. 14 at the age of 72. Charlotte's late husband, Bob Howard, was chief financial officer at Siena Heights for 20 years until his retirement in 1994. Charlotte worked in Siena's advancement office in the 1970s. An active member of St. Joseph Catholic Church, she enjoyed gardening, spending time with family and friends, and cheering for the University of Notre Dame. Charlotte is survived by her three children and 10 grandchildren.

Kenneth Herrick of Tecumseh, friend of Siena Heights and chairman emeritus of Tecumseh Products, died July 25 at the age of 83. He first began working for Tecumseh Products, the company founded by his father Ray Herrick, in 1934. Following service in World War II, he held several management positions culminating in his election as chairman of the board and chief executive officer in 1970. He remained chairman until his resignation from the board in 2003. He was active in the business community and served as president of the Herrick Foundation, one of the largest charitable foundations in Michigan, until his death. "Ken Herrick was a fine man who cared deeply about the people of Lenawee County and worked to make our community a better place," SHU President Rick Artman said. "Siena's relationship with Ken began three decades ago when the university's first lay president, Hugh Thompson, approached the Herrick family for support of the university. That first gift began a tradition of support and friendship that has lasted generously for 35 years. Ken was always willing to help us in times of need." Ken is survived by his wife, Shirley, a son and daughter, three grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

# Vintage Years!

Alumni Weekend 2004  
September 24–26

# 85

## What a weekend!

There were special guests: Fr. Ray Jarboe '76 who presided at liturgy, Lois Hueneman Chazaud '49 who enlightened many with her insights into Russian icon painting and women's role in the church, and Sister Maura Phillips, who brought tears to many eyes with her spontaneous conducting of our ad hoc student-alumni singers as they performed the *alma mater*.

There were many opportunities to eat, meet and greet—indoors and outdoors, at special events and casual rendezvous. The classes of '49, '59 and '64 enjoyed particularly lively reunions. And the Athletic Hall of Fame welcomed a standing-room-only crowd of Saints and their families, friends and fans.

It was a great weekend—and we plan to do it again, even better, next fall. Be here!

**Alumni Weekend '05**  
September 30 – October 2, 2005

**Mark your calendar!**

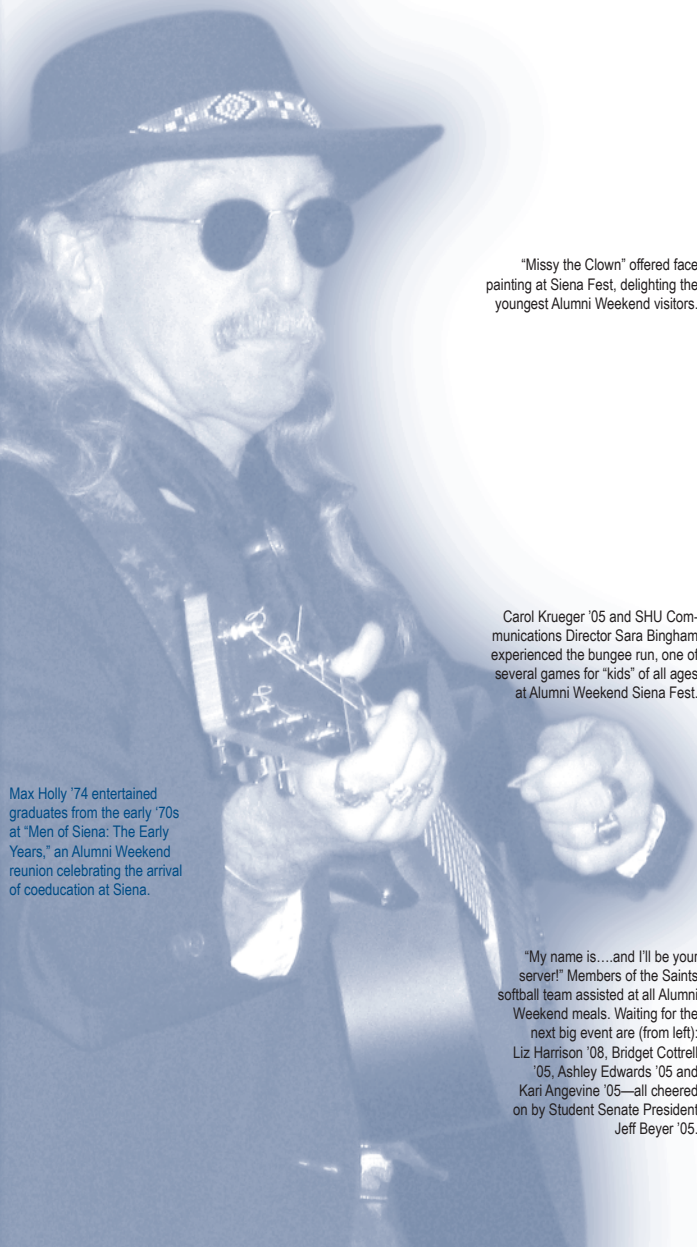
Alumni Board President  
Keith Rusie '99 on the  
dance floor for "YMCA"  
at Septemberfest.



Lee Benish '72 proudly displays the gift basket he won at Alumni Weekend.



Students and alumni "hung around"—literally!—on the "Velcro wall" that was part of Alumni Weekend entertainment at Siena Fest.



Max Holly '74 entertained graduates from the early '70s at "Men of Siena: The Early Years," an Alumni Weekend reunion celebrating the arrival of coeducation at Siena.

Special Alumni Weekend guest Father Ray Jarboe '76 reconnected with Rob Stranges '74 and his wife, Susan Fucinari-Stranges, after celebrating mass.



Beautiful weather made Alumni Weekend a good time to explore campus. From left: Marjory Thompson Iott '49, Virginia Kelbley Smith '54, Jeanne Whitlow Mosley '59, Helen Simon '59, Joyce Brighton Moynihan '49, Mary "Parl" Solem '49, Lois Hueneman Chazaud '49, and Alice Wolski, OP '49.



Lois Hueneman Chazaud '49 earned enthusiastic applause at the Alumni Weekend prayer brunch for her inspiring presentation on the history of discrimination against women in the church.



"Missy the Clown" offered face painting at Siena Fest, delighting the youngest Alumni Weekend visitors.



Carol Krueger '05 and SHU Communications Director Sara Bingham experienced the bungee run, one of several games for "kids" of all ages at Alumni Weekend Siena Fest.



"My name is... and I'll be your server!" Members of the Saints softball team assisted at all Alumni Weekend meals. Waiting for the next big event are (from left): Liz Harrison '08, Bridget Cottrell '05, Ashley Edwards '05 and Kari Angevine '05—all cheered on by Student Senate President Jeff Beyer '05.





About 175 alumni and friends came together for an evening of baseball and good times this past Aug. 5 at Fifth Third Field in downtown Toledo. Siena alumnus Bruce Lee '85, president and CEO of Fifth Third Bank, was honorary host of the evening, which included a picnic supper, the Toledo Mud Hens contest with the Charlotte Knights, special entertainment by the Blues Brothers, and lots of reconnecting among SHU graduates and their families and friends. A good time was had by all (except maybe the Mud Hens, who lost in extra innings).



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