



# 50 Year Club Newsletter

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## Class of '61 Reunion Memories

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**John Egan McAteer as Fr. Kennedy**

The reunion began with the class receiving its 50 Year Club diplomas. Moderators for the event were Dan Haller and Lee Flanagan (pictured to the right). Following dinner the class provided memories of their times at Wheeling College by transforming Troy Theater into a classroom. Lee Flanagan moderated the session and provided entertaining introductions of Father Kennedy History (played by John Egan McAteer), Professor Bruno Hartung Economics (voice by Dan Haller), Professor Wim van Eekeren (played by Jack Spittal) Father McGroarty (played by Dick Hanlon) and Professor Paul Orr (played by the man himself). Several members of the class portrayed themselves (50+ years ago) as members of the reconstituted class. Although their interaction with their teachers was a little more assertive than it would have been at that time. Several scenes brought back many good memories of our teachers style and sense of humor. Memories of Father Kennedy dismissing a student from his class for spelling Lenin as Lennon, Bruno

Hartung mispronouncing someone's name and of course the mystified students receiving the grade of C+--+ from Paul Orr.

Paul Orr playing himself was the hit of the evening offering, at long last, a spirited defense and convoluted explanation of his bizarre grading system to a reconstituted group of class of '61 students. [Please go to page 5 for a few of the hilarious insights he gave us about his grading system.](#)



### First (Annual) 50 Year Club Lecture

Father James Fleming provided us a very informative glimpse into the quality and values of WJU students of today. Some of his talk comparing WJU education today and in the past can be found on page 4. Professors Craig Ruby and Mark Drnach from the Department of Physical Therapy presented an exciting view of international service included in their curriculum. All PT students spend significant time in Mexico learning about the culture, themselves and provide needed health care. After the lecture Craig gave us a tour of the smart board classroom (gift from class of '60).

### 50 Year Club

All members of the class of 1961 became members of the 50 Year Club and received 50 year club diplomas from President Rick Beyer. The Club became official as the by-laws were approved and the first club officers were elected. President Beyer and his wife Cindy became honorary club members. *See page 14 for more information about the club and its other activities.*



**Sheila Gallagher Mozer receives her 50 Year Club diploma from President Beyer**

## President's Challenge

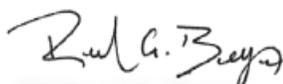
**Your *alma mater* urgently needs your support.** Wheeling Jesuit University is at the forefront of academic excellence in our region and ranked nationally by Forbes magazine in the top 10% of the nation's best colleges. Our innovative programs have been imitated by others and our graduates are sought after by employers. Moreover, in the 57 years since its founding, the alumni of WJU in the Jesuit tradition have compiled a distinguished history of service as "people for others." We all can take pride in these outcomes.

At the same time, Wheeling's endowment is among the lowest of its peers and has suffered even more in a recession economy. Our relatively modest tuition does not cover the full cost of instruction and services provided, but it is still a stretch for the large number of students who depend upon the university to supplement public sources of aid with institutional grants and scholarships. And to remain committed and effective teachers, guides and mentors, faculty and staff members must receive reasonable compensation and have access to appropriate resources and opportunities for professional development.

**The future is in your hands.** With a strong leadership team in place, President Rick Beyer has issued the 2011 President's Challenge: a six-month drive to raise \$1 million before December 31, 2011. To show their continued support for the institution, the Jesuit Community and the WJU Board of Directors have created a challenge gift of \$500,000. Every gift made between now and December 31 will be matched dollar for dollar from that resource, so that together we will have raised \$1 million for the university we love.



**You are more than one.** The alumni and friends of Wheeling Jesuit University have always been a devoted community of individuals willing to join together to bring about positive change in the world. That collective commitment is more important today than ever before. WJU has adopted a far-reaching, transformational strategic plan linked to steady enrollment growth. Fall 2011 enrollment is close to 1500 students and we expect to see as many as 1800 students next year, the result of a significantly expanded admissions effort. Increases in enrollment and in donations to the university are critical to sustaining the quality of our academic programs and student services over time. Together we will succeed. Please consider a gift to the 2011 President's Challenge. Remember that no gift is too small--it's the collective commitment of alumni and friends that matters. On behalf of Wheeling Jesuit University, **we thank you for your continuing prayers and support.**

  
Richard A. Beyer  
President

  
Rev. James J. Fleming S.J.  
Vice President and Chief of Staff

**Go on line at [www.wju.edu](http://www.wju.edu) and click on "make your gift today". You can also contact Joe Buch at [jbuch@wju.edu](mailto:jbuch@wju.edu) or call him at 304 243-8141. Now is the time to make your gift. Together we can continue our pursuit to prepare students for life, leadership and service.**

## Inauguration of Richard Beyer as President of Wheeling Jesuit University

Since arriving on campus in January of 2011 Rick's leadership has set the tone for future high expectations. His dedication to collaborating with faculty, staff, alumni and the local Wheeling community has created an environment of excitement and success. As the first lay president of WJU he understands his deep responsibility to the Jesuit Community and the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston.

The day began with Mass at the Chapel of Mary and Joseph. The celebrant Bishop Michael Bransfield, during his sermon, **challenged the University to become a regional and national leader in the health field.**

The official inauguration ceremony was conducted in the McDonough Center and reflected all that is great about Wheeling Jesuit. Music was provided by the Wheeling Jesuit University Festival Choir and the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra and included several inspirational songs. All seats in McDonough were full and attendees included several alumni, current students (all athletic teams wore their team jerseys), delegates from several colleges, universities, associations, local high schools, members of the board of directors, university faculty and past Presidents Frs. Haig, Currie and Acker. The invocation was given by Bishop George Murray of Youngstown and followed by remarks from Sean Weaver '12 Student Government President, Dick Riley '84 Alumni Council President and John Brumble Faculty Chair.

Fr. Jim Shea, Provincial of the Maryland Province provided the mission and direction for the President and Margaret (Mimie) Helm '84 University Board Chair gave the introduction and investiture of President Beyer. President Beyer then began his presentation with a tribute to his family and close friends. His introduction of his mother brought tears to his eyes and many of us in the audience.

Other family members in attendance included his wife Cindy, son Chris, and daughter in law Misty. He also recognized many of his past friends and mentors. He then inspired us with his vision for the future of Wheeling Jesuit. It was a beautiful demonstration of our President's humanity and his brilliance. The choir then led us with the singing of our Alma Mater and Bishop Bransfield gave the benediction. As all the dignitaries and faculty marched out in their Academic Regalia, I felt a deep sense of pride that I was a member of the WJU family.

### The Presidential Chain of Office

The Beyer Chain, a gift to the University from the Beyer family, showcases the symbols of the Institution's mission and identity, as well as the community of which the University is a part. Designed by Cindy Beyer, the president's wife, along with James Fleming, S.J., University vice president and chief of staff, the chain was crafted and manufactured by Northwest Territorial Mint LLC of Dayton, Nevada and features hand-enameled emblems on antique bronze. It symbolizes both the authority given to the president and the responsibility that accompanies the office.



**The main component of the Beyer Chain is the University seal, which is set in a tulip bezel.** The tulip's regal cup-shaped petals represent resurrection and rebirth. Above the seal is the banner bearing the current president's name, followed by banners with the names of the previous presidents. Next are the seals of the Society of Jesus and the Catholic Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston. Above these are representations of the various programs of study offered by the University including the arts, the sciences, professional education, the health sciences, business and theological studies. Additionally, two civic symbols are included, one for the state of West Virginia, the other for the city of Wheeling.

**(From Left to right) Sean Weaver Student Body President, Bishop George Murray of Youngstown, Steve Stahl Dean of the Faculty and President Beyer on the podium at the inauguration.**



## Has the Jesuit Educational Experience at Wheeling Jesuit University changed over the last 50 years.

Edited from the 50 year club annual lecture June 25<sup>th</sup> 2011 during reunion weekend

*Rev. James Fleming, S.J. University Vice President & Chief of Staff*



**Fr. Fleming**

Alumni often comment - sometimes in a worrisome way - that "Wheeling College isn't like it was back in the day." They are correct ... It's not. If it were, we'd still be playing in the old gym, fewer students would be engaged in research with faculty, and residence halls would not have AC. Although there are several differences between the Wheeling College some alums remember and the Wheeling Jesuit University of this new millennium, one aspect of the Jesuit educational experience has not changed. **Today, as in the past, WJU offers its students intellectually informed serious conversations about important topics in a moral context.**

There are several different and equally worthy ways to describe the Jesuit educational experience. Think of what this four part description outlines as an educational experience.

**Intellectually informed:** "This is a university, my dears," I heard a Jesuit remind his students last fall as I passed his classroom, "you're supposed to be confused." The 450-year tradition of Jesuit education flourishes in these rolling hills of Appalachia. Discussions, wherever they take place, are aimed at uncovering new knowledge as the inquiry continues. **Serious conversations:** We've all

been involved in late-night discussions among friends. Meaningless banter can unexpectedly grow into tense exchanges about a surprising array of topics as new knowledge and reflection-on-experience combine to reveal the possible consequences of holding this or that

opinion. We polish our repartee. We test-out a new argument with a teammate. We speak a long-known-but-as-yet-unrevealed truth to a roommate who will be a friend for life.

**Important topics:** A Jesuit university is oriented toward the uncompromising and unrestricted pursuit of truth and excellence in all disciplines. At Jesuit universities knowledge gained through inquiry brings with it the responsibility to act justly, to deepen one's faith, to prepare oneself for active participation in service in one's church and one's civic community, and to understand global political, social, and economic interdependence. **A moral context:** How many of us think we've exhausted all possibilities on certain topic - feeling

sure we will be viewed with awe and admiration, only to be stopped dead in our rhetorical tracks by an ethical incongruity raised by a faculty member or friend. **These four distinctive aspects of the Jesuit educational experience have remained constant at WJU.** A 2010 survey of WJU seniors indicates the impact of educational experience here at WJU. In the spring 2010, 68 percent of the seniors responded to a 30-item questionnaire. Nationally 3,200 seniors from five Jesuit universities also participated in the same survey. Eighty-three percent identified a faculty member as a mentor and 98% of seniors reported that they had conversations outside of class with their faculty. **Forty percent took part in research with faculty.** On average at U.S. colleges and universities, only 19 percent take part in faculty research. The survey also **highlighted a culture of service.** Community service was the most common co-curricular activity. Seventy two percent reported participating in volunteer community service at some point during their undergraduate years - compared to the national average of 60 percent. This service included domestic and international experiences during their Spring Break. Students reported a strong **culture of religious and spiritual reflection.** This culture of reflection can be seen in their participation in regular prayer/meditation (87 percent reported praying or meditating on a regular basis), conversations about their beliefs with friends and faculty,

and a surprisingly high rate of participation in retreats. Ninety four percent of the WJU seniors reported that "compared with when they entered Wheeling Jesuit their ability to reflect on their own life and life choices was stronger or much stronger." Students identified the following activities as "very important or essential" to



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their religious/spiritual growth. Predictable 63% grew through praying/meditating, and 53% grew through conversations about faith with peers. Unexpected influences included 51 % who grew through participating in community service, and 47% who grew through reflecting on topics brought up in class. A more surprising activity was that 82% of the undergraduates reported that "building strong friendships" was the activity that had the greatest single impact on their spiritual/religious growth during their undergraduate years. **WJU undergrads are acting very much like those who have walked before them through these hills of West Virginia and that journey has changed their thinking.**

## Class of '61 Reunion Memories

(continued from page 1) Virg Fragale expressed her feelings about her grade of C +\_ and asked "Did you even read my essay or just give it the famous 'Gentleman's C' .. and maybe just stick on a Minus because I am *not* a gentleman." Dr Orr responded: "Gentleman's 'C', eh? That grade at places like Harvard is for rich young playboys and apprentice alcoholics. Let's get this settled right now. Students at Wheeling College, eh, are taught, not catered to! A C from me means 'Satisfactory work' A C plus means 'good' almost *superior*. Remember what Saint Alphonsus Gonzaga or maybe Jack Benny said, 'Most of life is just showing up.' In that world, people with C plusses or B's are leaders." He further explained his decision making process: "The first time through the essay I judge its basic level; then I read it at least twice more to see if there are any particular strengths or weaknesses. As you know, five separate mistakes in spelling or five separate mistakes in basic grammar, F. Three or four of each will be D, okay? Nobody earned F or D this last time or perhaps I should say 'deserved'. You have all mastered those difficulties or else found a competent friend to weed them out of your compositions."



**Paul Orr explaining his grading system**

"A 'C' means 'satisfactory' but not impressive, like a bowl of Campbell's tomato soup made with water; that is, not much substance. It will take the edge off your appetite but not offer much nourishment. A Minus means too much water. The second time through your 'model' Mr. Wolfe, I noticed two or three strong sentences .... sort of like croutons floating on the top of a bowl of watery tomato soup. I acknowledged them: 'Plus' and 'Plus' Then I realized that one of those sentences had a feeble verb in it ... sort of as if one of the croutons were a bit crumbly. So, that merits a minus. The grade of C plus means more substance, soup with 2 percent milk instead of water (mildly nourishing). In other words, C grade on your paper means it has no significant error; the sentences make sense most of the time but are rather flat, ho-hum, and maybe awkward or wordy. The thought content is slight. .. say like the string of predictable truisms you read in a thank-you letter, like: 'Thank you for the nice, handkerchiefs with my initial on them. If I ever have to blow my nose they will come in handy.'" Mike and Andrea Santer and Pat Ryan were also objects of similar convoluted observations. It was vintage Paul Orr and brought down the house.

### Letter from Professor Bill Fette

Hello! Or should I say "Welcome to Wheeling College"-oops- "Wheeling Jesuit University" for your 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. Of course, it's my 50<sup>th</sup> too. 50 years of teaching at the college and university level. Since last I saw you, I taught courses at Carnegie Mellon University, Penn State University, and the University of Pittsburgh.

Of all the students, you are the only class I truly remember. Why? Because we were a unit - it was something like they have in our armed forces - we were Wheeling College's Scientific Seals- THE BEST! Many students have graduated since your class, but none held a candle to you. John Yasinsky was at the top of the list, but like all lists of successful people, it is made up of not one individual but many.

As I explained to Sam, I can't come and join you. I recently fell and can't get around without a walker-just my luck. I was breaking in a new pair of roller skates. I'm the only 80 year old on the block who can skate to the local bar for a Bud Light and this happens!

So tonight when you reminisce, if you get the feeling there is a ghost in the room, there is - it's just me!

Your Friend, Comrade & Teacher

### More Class of '61 Memories (edited by Sheila Gallagher Mozer)

Last June at the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of the class of '61, after the Saturday evening dinner, a group of us gathered out on the veranda to chat. Like telling stories around a campfire, we sat in a circle around several candles borrowed from the tables (along with some leftover wine also gathered from the tables) to reminisce about the good old days at WC. We took turns going around the circle sharing memories that we all enjoyed so much that it was suggested that we include some of those memories, along with others since collected, for the enjoyment of all of you. Let's start with some kind words from Leo Flanagan, before we walk back in time down memory lane.



#### LEO FLANAGAN:

"I was very happy to find that everyone had survived after 50 years in such good condition as to be instantly recognizable. I didn't blunder, or even need to hesitate in greeting anyone. Even more impressive, much more impressive, everyone seemed to have retained good humor, even temper, positive outlook after all these years, and in some cases, after much adversity. May God preserve as many of the class of '61 as possible for the 55th reunion." (see next page for more memories)

## More Class of '61 Memories

### PAT ELDER:

My story is "One of a Kind". I don't think anyone ever matched it, nor will anyone ever match it again. About five or six of us freshmen from the south end of Swint Hall decided to go ice skating on the old coal mine pond over toward Mt. DeChantel at dusk. I couldn't ice skate very well, although I could roller skate quite well, so I said, "Count me in." I got started wobbly across the pond to the deep side & proceeded to fall through the ice. The others found a limb, which they extended to me and successfully pulled me out. I was freezing and ran all the way back to Swint to hop right into a hot shower. So I not only set the speed record for falling in, but was the only one ever to fall through the coal mine pond ice. Later, they bulldozed the pond over, so no one could ever do it again. So that was the unique record set at Wheeling by Pat Elder.

Other fond memories from Pat Elder were:

I had a job working in the cafeteria in the evening. They fired me because I ate too much. They told me I was a great worker there, but they just couldn't afford me. Looking back, I guess I probably did over do it a little with all those extra Dagwood sandwiches & double power milk shakes loaded with ice cream & of course, I had to bring one to my faithful roomie, Joe Trichtinger. Maybe it was a good thing I was in pre-engineering & could only spend two years there lest I wear out my welcome. John McCurry & I were on the bottom of the pile when we set the Guinness Record of stuffing 35 people in a phone booth. I don't know about John, but if our record had been any higher, I think my lungs would have collapsed. We all had a great time with that one!!

### TONNIANN NAGLES GOEBEL:

There was the time when Mary Skewes was close to the deadline with her papers. She would sneak out of the dorm with a raincoat over her pajamas and sneak into the class room building to deliver her paper. One or two of us would wait by the door to let her in. Thank goodness there were no alarms on the doors back at that time.

Another time when we were freshmen in Avila Hall, Duane Horning '60 would get water for me that came out of a fresh mountain side stream. I would place these jugs in the attic. We (Mary Skewes, Pat May, I and a number of other Avila Hall freshmen) decided to dress up a classmate, Fran Morrison, who looked a bit older, and had her go into the state liquor store where she purchased a bottle of vodka. We put the vodka in the water jug in the attic until a weekend night when we partied

(Goebel Continued) in our room. All I can say is I had one drink with the vodka mixed in orange juice and went to sleep. I don't really know what followed but it seemed that a few were hung over the next morning.

Then related to this (but in our senior year) Pat Ryan and I kept whiskey or some such alcoholic beverage in a bottle on our window sill with other bottles containing tea. We would then party in someone's room. I remember one of the times it was Jane Straub's room. We needed ice and some of us went to the housemother's quarters and asked her for the ice. She questioned why and we actually told her the truth which she of course didn't believe. With all of these stories about alcohol it is a wonder we didn't turn into alcoholics!



### JACK SPITTAL:

In the fall of our second year, several (12) guys were cam-pused (by you know who) for missing curfew by 30 minutes. There was a function, hayride, put on by the ladies living on Washington Avenue. Their "house mothers" set a time of 11:30 PM to be home. Our "house father's" time was 11:00. The 12 decided to become the 12 Apostles. There were Baptisms in the Whelan Hall showers, passing of bread and sharing of milk at the evening meal, followed by readings from the Bible across from the cafeteria. They also tried to grow beards to look like the original 12. The Fireball was coming up and the 12 decided to go as the Apostles. With the dance being off campus at Oglebay Park, the WC hierarchy thought that would be in very bad taste and put a stop to it.

Since most of the 12 had tried to grow beards with varying degrees of success, the decision was made to go to the dance as beatniks. After getting well fortified on "purple passion" produced by Tucker Cruzan in Mac's basement, a colony was formed on the dance floor and the 12 read poetry and pages from "On the Road", by Jack Kerouac. At the end of the dance, prizes were given for best costumes, most original, etc. Lee Flanagan, who was the only one not able to grow much facial hair, won one of the prizes.



Left to right-  
Jack Spittal  
Joe Urbanski

## More Class of '61 Memories

### SAM CARCIONE:

In 1960, John F. Kennedy was running against Hubert H. Humphrey for the Democratic nomination for President. I was a big fan of JFK, even though at that time, I wouldn't be able to vote. You had to be 21 in the ancient days to have that right.

Kennedy came through Wheeling campaigning but unfortunately it was during our Spring Break. I borrowed a 4 x 5 Graphlex camera from Gruber Studios for the occasion. That night, his charter plane touched down at Wheeling airport, and he stepped off the plane wearing a trench coat. I raised the camera to shoot a picture and he asked that I wait a minute. He took off the coat, draped it over his arm, and I pressed the shutter, --- but the flash didn't go off. It was one of the old flash bulb units that are also now extinct. What I didn't realize was that when the flash unit was attached, you had to trip the shutter with a button on the back of the flash unit.

I tried a couple of more times to get a picture. Each time, JFK dutifully removed his coat with the same result. It came time for him to head to the McLure Hotel but nobody seemed to know what was happening or what to do. I told him I'd be glad to give him a ride to the hotel. It almost happened but an official finally came forward to usher him to a car. That night I finally learned the secret to using the flash attachment, --- not an easy chore without Google to help. The next day, I joined the press corps and spent the day touring the city, including a couple of factories. At one point, we were walking up the street and I noticed that the workers for the sanitation department were looking at what was happening. I pointed them out to JFK and he immediately crossed the street to shake their hands and chat for a couple of minutes. Senator Kennedy was scheduled to be interviewed live on the evening news on WTRF-TV, which at the time was located on Market Street in downtown near 14th Street. I went to the studio to await the interview, carrying my impressive press camera. It turned out I was the only member of the "press", the Wheeling College Spokesman, to show up. After the interview, he had to go back to the McLure Hotel and then on to another venue, since demolished, for an evening press conference/reception. He and I were the only ones in the studio other than WTRF employees, so I walked him back to the hotel and offered to walk him to the next event as well. Interestingly, though I was carrying the large press camera, nobody recognized him until he was crossing the street by the McLure! When we arrived there, we met Jackie, who asked me if there was anywhere she could do some shopping. I laughed heartily, explaining that at that hour,



(Carcione continued) downtown Wheeling stores were closed. Otherwise, I'd have had to accompany her, something nobody in their right mind would turn down even if, like me, they hate shopping. That night, after events had concluded, it was back to the darkroom in Donahue Hall to develop the pictures. The next morning I took two 8 x 10 pictures to the campaign office in Wheeling. One of the traveling staff took the pictures and promised to have the candidate sign one for me, which I felt, would be a distraction. Sure enough, I got a letter from Senator Kennedy accompanying an autograph on the picture I had taken. I also got a letter from Jackie thanking me for sending a picture of her.

About two weeks later, Senator Humphrey paid a visit to Wheeling College. He was not my favorite and I took only one picture of him during his visit. You can see that picture on the bottom left of page 116 of *the Manifest* of 1961. The pictures of and letters from the Kennedys were burned in a Florida wildfire in 1998 shortly after I had them laminated to protect them. The negatives were lost long before that. But the memories persist.

### BARBARA BRADEN:

My daily commute as a "Day Hop" proved to be a memorable experience. Riding with Jim "Doc" Campbell, Art Granda, Wilson "Willy" Oldaker and Don Benson, my 4 big brothers, was one filled with pranks and good times. Their favorite pastime was goading me into lighting a cigarette and watching me turn green. Also the sweet innocent convent school graduate received quite an education from these guys. These are memories I will cherish forever. Thanks, guys!!

Given the state of the world in which we live today, I found it refreshing that the "spirit of family" and the Ignatian values which existed on the WC campus 50 years ago are still alive and well at WJU today. These values prepared us as we ventured out into the world as I am sure they do for current graduates.

### BETTY JO BARNES KINZLER:

When thinking back on our college days, I just remembered something funny. Several Wheeling College students worked part-time at Wheeling Hospital to help pay college expenses. We were trained in the laboratory to perform various blood tests, to do venipunctures, to set up blood transfusions, etc. One Saturday afternoon, a band of WC Jesuits appeared for blood work as part of their annual physicals. Among them were Fathers Troy, Kerns, Lewis, and Gannon. I had the dubious privilege of drawing their blood, one by one. Suddenly, a voice at the end of the line said, "I'll be back in a minute." It was Father Gannon. He skipped out of the lab, never to return, --- at least while I was on duty! I still smile when I think of this.

## More Class of '61 Memories

### PAT RYAN CASEY:

Often during our years at Wheeling we became restless and looked for something different to do.

..Mac's, Moxies, the Alpha and Tom's got a little old and it was time for a new adventure. Unfortunately, most of the time we would come up with some hare-brained idea that always got us campused!! I remember the weekend of March 19th, 1959. Doug Aigner (my best buddy and often my partner in crime) and I decided to take in the Saturday Night West Virginia Jamboree. We rounded up a few more folk: Mike Santer, Alice Ann Croney, John Egan McAteer and Roann Burris.

Normally a night out in town would mean donning the usual WC clothing for young ladies and young men (skirts, blouses and high heels---ties and jackets). BUT...we decided to get into character with jeans, country scarves and shirts, sneakers, straw hats, braids and some darkened teeth. We all had long raincoats so we could get out and back into the dorms unnoticed. We really got into the country music, giving our selves good W.Va. names...hooting and hollering and being very silly and noisy. I often wondered if the local folk believed we were part of the show as they were laughing at us and our antics. I cannot remember, during my college career, ever laughing so hard. We just had a ball!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

### MIKELL LYNNE SCHLOTTER HEDLEY :

My fond memories of WJU are many. I remember many fun class and school picnics at Olgebay Park as well as a few more formal affairs at the lodge. I remember the many clubs we had that enabled us in a special way to pursue our interests. The Daedalian Space Society was one of my favorites. Perhaps one of the things I remember the most was the beautiful liturgies we had each morning in the chapel of the classroom building as well as special ones we had for our classes and special events. We were very blessed to have so many Jesuit priests and brothers on our campus to interact with on a daily basis. I count myself truly lucky to be an individual who could be schooled from kindergarten through a master's degree in a Catholic school environment.

### MARY SKEWES PATTERSON:

From Avila Hall on Washington Ave, I remember:

- \* Ordering McFadden's hamburgers and onion rings at 11pm ---no wonder I gained 15 lbs. my freshman year.
- \* One "early in the semester" laundry session in the basement of Avila, a person (to remain unnamed)



(Mary Skewes Paterson continued) dumped into the washing machine (hot water, of course ) all the clothes accumulated for weeks. Horrors! Everything turned pink. It turns out that the load of washing contained a pair of red wool knee socks. This young lady had never done a load of laundry--never sorted clothes into darks and lights and those to be hand washed. College wasn't all book learning.

\* Purdah, on the second floor of Donahue Hall, with a cot and a curtain where the women could lie down if not feeling well, or if one had been up all night studying before a big exam.

\* The Dean of Women, Miss Anne Barry (there weren't that many women, but we needed to be cared for) and her Karmann Ghia. Coming from the hills, I had never seen one of these cars before.

\* Living on campus in Sara Tracy Hall, with its huge elegant living room, where we greeted our dates,

\* Our housemother entertaining us, tea and yummy cheese and crackers. I learned that Velveeta wasn't the only cheese out there!

\* The night time flood in Sara Tracy, where some pipes in the ceiling burst and water was gushing out of the ceiling light fixtures, and I remember feeling scared that someone was going to be electrocuted running up and down the halls in bare feet with water sloshing everywhere. Everyone was OK, luckily!

\* Doing many washing machine loads of laundry, --- hours worth--while having stories and poems read aloud to me.

I worked in the library with Miss Savaro and Miss Carpino. This turned out to be one of life's turning points for me. I became a librarian! When the College was being evaluated for accreditation, one of the requests was for the number of books in the library--I counted every book in the library, one book at a time, a finger touching each book! We had over 50,000 books and that was excellent for the review, and for me. I got a real education by seeing all those books. Another one of my jobs was to mark the spines of the books with their call numbers - the number was on a slip of paper sticking out of the top of each book. I somehow got out of kilter and put the wrong number on probably 200 books. I was mortified but Miss Savaro just had me paint over the number with black paint, and mark them correctly. I wonder if some of those books, with the black paint at the bottom of the spine, are still in the library. I received such a wonderful, wide-ranging education at Wheeling College. I look back in thanks and amazement!



## More Class of '61 Memories

### DAN HALLER:

The story I told at our reunion was about the bachelor party for Jim Kern in the late summer of '62, a year after our graduation. Jim and I had been roommates during our first year of grad school at Notre Dame. Deede Powers was pursuing a masters in English at Loyola of Chicago about 90 miles away. They were engaged at that time and the wedding was planned for that summer. Fr Kernan was to be the priest to marry them. Deede was a fan of Fr Kernan and he of her. She was famous for lapsing into that low southern drawl as she pronounced his name, "Faatha Kernaannn." In any event, I was invited to the wedding in Huntington. John Egan McAteer who had been Jim's roomie at Wheeling was to be best man. Deede's Aunt Farley, the matriarch of her mother's Richmond clan, was introduced to John Egan earlier in the day. John Egan appeared sporting a nice full beard. According to John Egan, the introduction went something like this. Miss Farley: "Why Jawn Egan, how nise to meet youw, and my what a lovlee beard you have. **When ya gonna shave it off?**" And indeed, as Jim later reported, when they went to bed later that night, John Egan had the beard. But the next morning John Egan had already shaved it off.

Meanwhile, the bachelor party was held at one of the local hotels. The scene I recalled was of Fr Kernan and Deede's father telling stories while the rest of sat around and listened, greatly entertained. Deede's father had a passing resemblance to William Faulkner and something of a dramatic flair, as of course, did Fr. Kernan. There was an ample supply of the usual elixirs to fuel both the story tellers and the listeners. I was perched near Fr. Kernan who was in the midst of an involved tale while waving an almost empty water glass of Scotch. Endeavoring to help out, I grabbed the nearby bottle of Scotch and began pouring as Fr. continued with his story. As I poured, I said, "Say when, Father." As the Scotch approached the 3/4 full portion of the glass, I pulled up. Not missing a beat, Fr. Kernan thrust the glass back in my direction with the instruction, "A little more when!" At the end of the party, Fr. Kernan and Mr. Powers, both of whom were still going strong, headed off together. The next morning, neither one appeared at the appointed hour. However, they were eventually found and the wedding did take place. That fall, Jim and Deede were back in South Bend enjoying domestic life as Jim continued his grad studies in Sociology. They soon purchased a dog, an ample basset hound christened "Agamemnon." The following summer, their first child arrived, a daughter whom they named Farley after Deede's formidable dowager aunt, Miss Farley. At last report, Farley was working in Jacksonville for Chessie System, the same company where Jim had spent his working career.

### SHEILA GALLAGHER MOZER:

One of the requirements for passing Biology 101 was the successful completion of a lab where we had to dissect critters, --- well, former critters, --- first a segmented worm, then a frog. The Lab Instructor for our group was Tom Ritz in the class of '59. The week before we were to begin, he brought out a large jar and pulled up a huge worm while saying, "Next week you will get your worms to dissect." Many of the girls in our class went "EEEUW!" at the sight of the huge worm dangling there over the jar. I went to pieces, however, crying that I just couldn't do that! At the end of class, Tom asked me to remain. He told me that I had to do it to pass and, if I was willing, he would work with me to get over my squeamishness. So over the next few days, I met with him in the lab and started the process of gaining mastery over that worm. By the next lab when he asked, "Who would like to take the first worm?" I put up my hand and volunteered. The rest of the gals in class must have figured if Sheila can do it, we can too. There were no more "EEEUWs" and the class dissections went smoothly. Tom was a kind, patient, and understanding man who, I understand from Bettyann, was a wonderful doctor. He is gone now but the memory of his kindness remains.

And, for our final words, we hear again from:

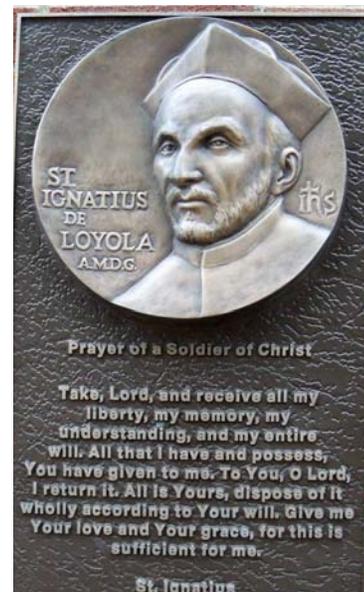
### LEO FLANAGAN:

#### *LADLING THE LATIN*

Remember the Latin lurking round every corner at Wheeling College in the fabulous fifties? Not just in the Sunday Latin Mass. At the top of the chart was the motto of the Jesuits, AMDG, "Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam". Most students even then could not say exactly what AMDG stood for, and the 20% who could were not certain of the precise translation, "For the greater glory of God." What was for the greater glory of God, the Jesuits, a Jesuit education, better study habits, the college itself?

Runner-up to AMDG was "Luceat Lux Vestra", the school motto and the advice of St. Paul, "Let your light shine before men" (which continued, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in Heaven). Most students knew the school motto and its meaning well enough to know it did not refer to

(continued next page)



## More Class of '61 Memories

(Leo Flanagan continued from page 9) Dean William McGroarty and the beam of his six cell flashlight seeking out sophomore miscreants terrorizing co-eds after curfew. Then there was the "Ratio Studiorum". No, that didn't refer to the distorted ratio of the many hours spent partying to the miniscule time spent in study. Student athletes couldn't escape "Mens Sana in Corpore Sano: that in no way indicates the existence of a men's sauna. There were the class rings and the yearbooks, the Manifest, with Latin designations on the cover or on the title page for each of the early classes, designations assigned by EG,SJ! Only the first class, called the Co-founders, appeared to have no Latin name. Eventually EG,SJ decided all of the first four classes were Co-founders. The second class, 1960, was "Alteri" (the others). Members of the class of 61 were "Tertii", the third ones (no, not the turds - God in his mercy did not inspire underclassmen to think of that). When did the Latin designations for classes end? 1962 proudly called themselves "Quarti" 1963, "Quinti" 1964, "Sexti" (not sexy) 1965, "Septi" 1966. Was the 10th class as proud, did it have the distinct identity of the earlier classes that named themselves resoundingly in Latin? Finally, may the last words that you hear before you depart this earthly life be the Latin words that you so frequently heard in Confession, after confessing your Saturday night student sins with "mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa," --- may those last words be "Ego te absolvo".



Chapel of Mary and Joseph  
WJU campus

## Aging Well-Providing Meaning and Purpose in Our Lives

Ed Shahady

Being a member of the 50 Year Club means you are in your 70's and facing many of the challenges of aging. This challenge can be viewed as a **burden or an opportunity and a gift**. Our bodies may not be up to the physical demands we met with ease in our early years but the experiences, wisdom and knowledge we have gained over these years is a priceless gift. As we age, retire and begin to slow down, finding purpose and meaning in our lives may be difficult. In our early years the path seemed clearer. Obtain an education; find a good paying job, marriage and a family. Our purpose and meaning in life during those early years was probably associated with our jobs, roles and other responsibilities. We thought of ourselves as parents, professors, lawyers, physicians, stay at home moms, business men or women, engineers, bankers, teachers, etc. Early in our lives these titles or roles probably defined our meaning or purpose. But as these roles change or diminish, aging, retiring and slowing down could mean a loss of meaning and purpose. So what can we do to find a new meaning or purpose with our lives?

If we think of some of the most satisfying moments in our careers-what was it that brought joy to our hearts, tears to our eyes and a smile to our faces? Was it the big bonus check, the promotion, the award, the publication or was it something more meaningful? Was it finding ways to help others, sharing your time, your concerns, your love, your knowledge and **doing what you could to make the world a better place?**

Being of service and helping others gives meaning and purpose to our lives. We now have more time to give back or as commonly said **"pay it forward"**. There are multiple ways to do this. Keep up your interest in your community, your church and all other organizations that are important to you. You may now have time to assume a leadership role in one of these organizations. Another way to give back is teaching at a local school or college. All health care facilities need volunteers. Spending time with grandchildren makes up for some of the time we wish we had with our children. The activities we choose should be challenging enough to prevent boredom, promote self-esteem, and provide a sense of creativity and accomplishment. We need to feel needed and giving back creates that feeling. Doing all of this also keeps you in motion and **motion is lotion** for all the organs of your body.

As you think about the above I would like to share a few medical facts with you. Alzheimer disease or dementia can be delayed or even prevented with continued use of our minds and bodies. Depression is more common when we are not actively using our brains. Physical and mental activity delays many other of the degenerative processes that accompany aging. Sometimes we think others quit listening to us because we are old. I feel the opposite. Our experience and wisdom is a treasure that cannot be replaced. Be proud that you have made it this far in life and share what you know and feel. Remember our motto "Luceat Lux Vestra"-Let Your Light Shine. **This is a time in our lives when we can shine our light brighter and further.**

## Don Mercer '60 Leads Effort for Wheeling Jesuit's Brass and Pep Band

During our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion Don talked about how he missed the pep band at WJU athletic events. He felt the band added excitement and may have energized teams. Although Don is a distinguished scientist and a former star basketball player at WJU he has always found time for music. During the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of the class of '60, Don entertained all of us with several songs on his clarinet. With a new administration on board Don approached President Beyer about reviving interest in music at WJU. Rick an accomplished musician himself was enthusiastic about the idea. Don (with the support of his wife Beth) introduced Rick and others to James Gourlay, maestro for the River City Brass Band RCB of Pittsburgh. This quickly led to a partnership with the RCB. As part of the partnership, (RCB) will assist in the organization as well as directing of WJU's brass ensemble and pep band. The WJU brass band will be an ensemble in residence and perform with the RCB on campus and at other Wheeling events. James Gourlay, director of the well-known touring band, will be the conductor of Wheeling Jesuit's brass and pep band. **Performances will include athletic events and University special occasions.**



**Don and Beth Mercer**

Wheeling Jesuit music director Robert Troeger looks forward to the future when these ensembles and the choral ensembles already in place will become curricular and help form a bona fide, high-functioning music department. Don also looks forward to a music department. His father, Loran Mercer, was a band director in the Wheeling area for 30 years and led the Warwood High School marching and concert band programs to state and national recognition for Ohio County schools. Don hopes to start a music scholarship in his father's name.

Dr. Christine Ohl-Gigliotti, dean of student development, is working with RCB coordinating the band members and has received positive responses from many students, faculty and staff, as well as local alumni and friends of the University, all who are interested in performing. Wheeling Jesuit also plans to introduce a summer youth brass band camp on campus and will provide instrumental music scholarships for students starting the fall of 2012. "Musical opportunities like a brass band and pep band will enhance our campus life not just at athletic events but across the campus and community. What makes our band unique is that RCB musicians, employees, alumni and Wheeling area community members will be playing alongside our students," said Ohl-Gigliotti. "We thank President Beyer, James Gourlay, Don Mercer and all responsible for providing the enthusiasm and resources to make this happen."

## Four Brothers Return for Class of '62 Reunion

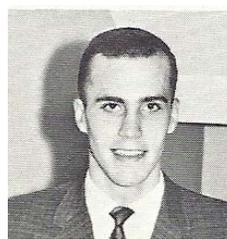
Remember the large room on the third floor of Whelan Hall? In the fall of 1958 that was the official room of the famous 4 brothers. Perhaps at no other time in the history of Wheeling Jesuit University, AKA Wheeling College, did 4 younger brothers of current upper classman attend WC. **The famous pairs included** Tom Basil (brother Tony '60), Kevin Kerrane (brother Barry '60), Tom Santer (brother Mike '61), and Tom Shahady (brother Ed '60). It of course was Fr. Gannon's idea to put them all in the same room. This arrangement provided ample opportunity for the older brothers to harass them from their rooms on the same floor. It will be special to see all the brothers reunite again. Rumor has it that the older brothers will all return to celebrate with their younger brothers. Look for more information about the class of '62 reunion as it becomes available.



**Tom Basil**



**Kevin Kerrane**



**Tom Santer**



**Tom Shahady**

## A Tribute to Jim Friday

**Excerpts From the Eulogy by Jim's Brother Bob-**In an effort to eulogize, or praise with "good words", one focuses on the things the person most loved in life. My brother Jim was a great lover -- not in a sentimental, touchy-feely sense, but in his love and appreciation for persons, things, and experiences -- and life itself. Jim spent three years on active duty in the Marine Corps after being commissioned at graduation along with Denny Keogh and Pete May. Among his minor loves were tennis; fishing and fishing boats; the beach; "handyman" chores; an occasional Old Fashioned; politics. He loved the Marines, the Wall Street Journal, other forms of media, especially materials downloaded to his Kindle **for filling the time while receiving dialysis.** As important as some of these were for Jim, the major, central love of his life was his family. **Jim loved Jane as much as he loved his own life.** The fruits of their love -- and the loves of Jim's life -- live on in Colleen, Monica, Jimmy, Eric, and Bill. Oh, how Jim loved them and was so proud of them from day one.



**Jim Friday at 50th reunion**

His girls, Colleen and Monica, were so special in his eyes -- and deservedly so. He reveled in and often marveled at their uniqueness, each of them capturing something of Jane and something of him. Over the years, Jim was often content to simply sit quietly observing his girls as they moved toward and into adulthood. But he was ever vigilant as they dated and moved toward finding their soulmates (both of whom passed muster). Jimmy, Eric, and Bill formed another dimension in Jim's life. He loved them. He loved especially the "boys' fishing weekends" and excursions, whether here in Pennsylvania, in the waters of the Chesapeake, or the rushing streams in Montana and Yellowstone. **The boys know that for Jim the fishing wasn't the real interest on these occasions. It was simply being there with his boys.** Whether they caught fish or not, ate well or not (usually they did!) the banter and joking lifted Jim's spirits every time. And he provided them many humorous memories in their multicolored tent, an anomaly to the other campers. Jim loved "home improvement" or repair projects. Jim's children, girls and boys alike, were brought up to imitate his example in fixing things. They learned from a man who could be something of drill sergeant at times, whose axiom was "Do it right the first time". In more recent months Bill and Stacy's "home improvement" projects gave Pops the opportunity to hone his carpentry and plumbing skills. His interest level remained high, even when his energy was ebbing. These manual labor experiences tired him -- but also enlivened and lifted him up. Jim has eighteen diamonds in his halo, one for each of the grandchildren. **Talk about proud!** If he marveled at the uniqueness of his own five children, he marveled even more at that among the eighteen. They called him "Pops," and he loved that. He was ever faithful to each of them when they played T-ball, soccer, baseball, football, basketball, or were engaged in dance or stage performances. Eulogizers are expected to applaud, even embellish, the great accomplishments of the one being eulogized by pointing to publications, awards received, battlefield honors, discoveries made that change the course of history, etc. I prefer to eulogize my brother, Jim, for his greatest personal accomplishment -- **loving and caring for and about his family -- and you, his many friends who have gathered to mourn his passing and celebrate his life.** Jim touched all of our lives, and we are the better for it. Thank you, Lord, for the gift he was to us. Be gentle with him, but don't hesitate to kid him. He can take it. He always could. We love you, Jim. Be at peace.

# 50 Year Club Clothing

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**50 Year Club logo and class year available on each shirt for additional small fee.**



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20% of all sales donated to the 50 Year Club**

## 50 Year Club Annual Report to Alumni Council

The club elected its **first officers and passed its by-laws on June 24<sup>th</sup>**--the following officers were elected. President Ed Shahady, 1st Vice President Al Reed, 2nd Vice President Dan Haller, Secretary Carolyn Cannon, Members at Large Don Mercer, Leo Flanagan

**By-Laws:** Active Membership: (1) All graduates of Wheeling Jesuit University upon the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the graduation of his or her class. (2) All former members of the class who have attended at least one semester. Charter Membership: indicating the original or founding members shall be open to all members of Classes of 1959 and 1960 who are qualified for Active membership. Honorary Membership: shall be extended to the President of Wheeling Jesuit University and to any other friend of the university. Posthumous Membership: shall be open to those who were otherwise eligible for active membership but are deceased prior to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the class.

**Annual meeting** will be conducted at the time of the 50 year reunion.

**Elected leadership** of the 50 Year Club--There will be four officers and two members at large of the club elected by majority vote of the 50 Year Club at their annual meeting. Officers and members at large will have a term of two years. The officers of the club are President, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2nd Vice Presidents, and Secretary.

**By-Law changes:** Recommended by the executive committee and approved by the members at the annual meeting

An Executive committee consisting of all four officers, members at large, and the immediate past president, the alumni director and a representative of the Alumni Council will serve as the governing body of the organization. The president of the organization will serve as chair of the committee. The executive committee shall meet periodically by conference call or in person if needed. These meetings will be called by the Chair. The committee will meet in person at least one time a year at the time of the 50<sup>th</sup> reunion.

**Committees:** Committees and task forces can be appointed by the President and/or Executive committee as needed.

### Senior Ambassadors

Senior Ambassadors are part of the WJU 50 Year Club. Inaugural nominees will be graduates from the classes of 1959 through 1968 who have distinguished themselves through one or more of the following: volunteer community service, humanitarian efforts, academic accomplishments and a successful career. **Being a WJU Senior Ambassador is both an honor and a responsibility.** Ambassadors are asked to commit their time, dedication and expertise to the school that helped lay the foundation for their successful careers. This **commitment will include one or more of the following: Recruit potential students to WJU, Aid current students with career advice, Cultivate interest in WJU and its projects, Encourage fellow alumni and others to support WJU fund raising activities.** The first Senior Ambassadors group met June 24, 2011 to discuss their future activities. There are 36 individuals who have volunteered for the first group of senior ambassadors. The next meeting of the group will be by conference call in October.

### Alumni Scholar in Residence

This program was initiated by the 50 Year Club as the Senior Scholar Program. The University Faculty with the leadership of Academic Vice President Steve Stahl and Father Fleming suggested a change of name to Alumni Scholar in Residence in order to not limit the choices to senior alumni. **The scholar will be a visiting professor to the University for up to one week and all expenses will be donated by the scholar.** A committee composed of alumni and faculty will make recommendations to the WJU administration of the individuals who will be considered as future Alumni Scholars. The initial scholar will be Ed Shahady and he will be on campus Oct 30 thru Nov 4<sup>th</sup>. This year will serve as the pilot project and what is learned from this year will guide future Scholar activities.



**Cindy Beyer receiving her honorary 50 year club diploma from Club 2nd Vice President Dan Haller**

