



50 Year Club Newsletter

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Class of 63 Plans Reunion

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Members of the Class of 1963 are busy preparing activities to celebrate their 50th reunion June 21-23, in conjunction with Alumni Weekend 2013. The planning committee—Roann Burris Wojcik, Terri Grammer Haid, Tony Kemper, Don Powers, Ron Vogrin, Charles Lloyd, Aimée Noonan, Mary Ellen Dyar Maybury and Steve Haid (pictured below from l-r) is busy planning for a memorable weekend.



They are assisted by Kelly & Janet in the Alumni Office. Roann and Terri are co-chairs for the committee. Don Powers is preparing a PowerPoint/DVD with pictures of the class, (send him any old photos at powers@frontiernet.net or 1 Wandering Trail, Pittsford NY 14534.

Friday evening events begin at 5 PM with the conferring of 50 Year Club diplomas and an address by WJU President Rick Beyer in Troy Theater. Moderators will be Aimée Noonan and Jim Madl. This will be followed by a chance to socialize at the President's reception and then enjoy dinner that will be served downstairs in the Benedum Room. After dinner get ready to have some fun with entertainment planned that will include historical events, setting and politics of our time. Ron, Aimée and Don are creating the entertainment and need volunteers from the class to tell a story about their memories from Wheeling College. You will be receiving calls from Ron, Don, Aimée to encourage your attendance and memory sharing—Ron said "he will come to your house to fetch you" if you do not show up. Send memories to Aimée at anoonan@ctcweb.net and Ron at vogrin1@aol.com. Mary Ellen is arranging for an appropriate recognition of deceased class members.

50 Year Club Diplomas

All members of the class of 1963 will join the classes of '59, '60, '61 and '62 as members of the 50 Year Club. Each member will receive a 50 Year Club diploma from WJU President Rick Beyer. This will be the fourth formal diploma ceremony. For a video of the ceremony go to www.wju.edu/alumni to see-50 Year Club video. For information about the 50 Year Club, Senior Ambassadors and the Alumni Scholar in Residence program see **page 10**.



Kathy Oliver Burgoyne '62 receives 50 year diploma from President Rick Beyer

Third Annual 50 Year Club Lecture/Discussion

50 Year Club lecture Sat., June 22—10:30 AM Discovery Center

Title: Panel Discussion WJU-Mission, Identity and Service

Panel Discussion Participants

Moderator - Ed Shahady '60

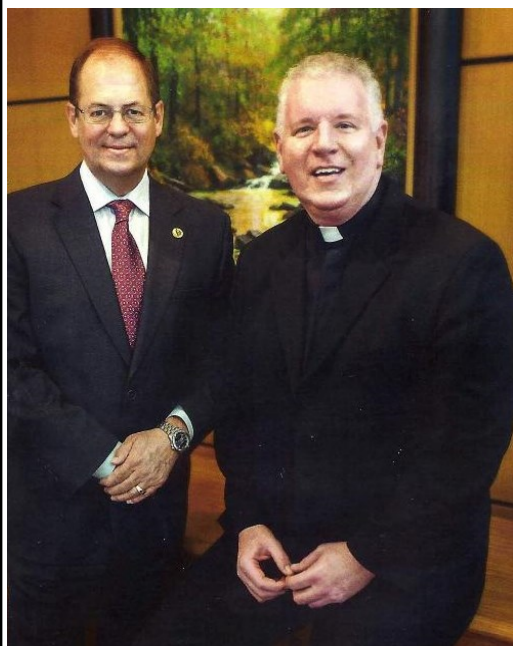
Jamie Brogan, Director Office of Mission and Identity

Fr. Jim Fleming, Executive VP

Jim Mauck Class of '63

Questions for the Panel

1. Brogan: What is the function of the Office of Mission and Identity?
2. Fleming: How does the function of this office influence the goals of a Jesuit Education?
3. Mauck: How can a graduate of WJU commit to the goal of "Service" in their lifetime?



Performance Report 2012-2013

The University recently introduced a report that documents the completion of an 18-month Transition Phase over the last two years. Notable achievements include 1. Completion of an ambitious strategic plan, *Our Journey Forward*, an aspirational roadmap based solidly on our Catholic Jesuit identity, and framed through research-oriented academic programs. 2. Successful launch of an expanded enrollment management team, which produced record enrollment. Fall 2012 admissions reached record levels of 1,631 students, compared to 1,352 students at the start of our Transition Phase. WJU attracted students from 25 countries and 28 states across the Nation. Student distribution is as follows: 68% undergraduate, 24% graduate, 8% international.

President Rick Beyer and Executive Vice President Fr. Jim Fleming

The student-faculty ratio at WJU is 11:1, and the school has 72.9 percent of its classes with fewer than 20 students. The most popular majors at Wheeling Jesuit University include: Health Professions and Related

Programs; Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services; Psychology; Social Sciences; and Biological and Biomedical Sciences. The average freshman retention rate, an indicator of student satisfaction, is 75.8 percent, 67.0 percent of the students live in college-owned, -operated, or -affiliated housing and 33.0 percent of students live off campus.

WJU is a national leader in undergraduate research. Compared to the 20% of undergrad students who participate in research nationally, more than 50% of WJU undergrads participate in research.

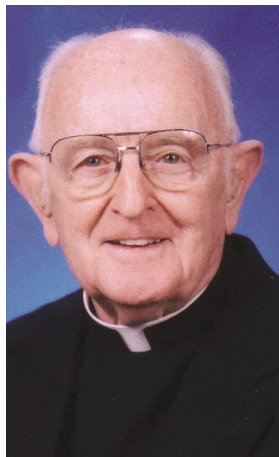
WJU was named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition an academic institution can achieve for its commitment to service learning and civic engagement. More students than the national average actively engage in regular and organized community service. WJU students don't just 'perform' community service; they integrate service experiences into formal classroom settings more than students at other universities. WJU students in 2012 provided 26,000 hours of service—the equivalent of operating a business with 13 full time employees in 2012.

At Wheeling Jesuit University, 77.6 percent of full-time undergraduates receive some kind of need-based financial aid and the average need-based scholarship or grant award is \$6,137. *U.S. News & World Report* once again recognized WJU as a top academic institution and *Forbes Magazine* ranked WJU among the best colleges in America.

A Jesuit education is different. It encourages students to see the world as it is and also as it might be. St. Ignatius used the term *Magis*, Latin for more. Jesuit educated students should not only know more, but should also be more. The bar is set high for the future of WJU. This will require new types of thinking and energy from WJU leadership and alumni. Please share your ideas as we work to achieve the very best for Wheeling Jesuit University.

The above information modified from the WJU Performance Report 2012/2013 and WJU Web site

Rev. William K. McGroarty, 93, died on November 26, 2012 at St. Claude La Colombiere Residence in Baltimore, MD. He was a Jesuit for 66 years and a priest for 57 years.



Father William K. McGroarty, son of Bernard McGroarty and Anne Marie Kelly, was born on June 3, 1919 in Norristown, PA. He graduated from Glenolden High in Glenolden, PA, pursued a year of study at St. Charles Pre-Seminary College in Baltimore, MD and served in the U.S Army

in World War II before entering the Society of Jesus on February 1, 1946 at the Novitiate of St. Isaac Jogues, Wernersville, PA. Here, he pronounced his first vows on February 2, 1948 and pursued College Studies in the humanities. He was then sent to study philosophy from 1948 to 1951 at Woodstock College in Maryland where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1950, Licentiate in Philosophy in 1951 and a Master of Arts degree in 1952.

As a Jesuit Scholastic, Father McGroarty taught sophomores at Gonzaga High School, Washington, D.C. from 1951 to 1952 before being sent to study theology at Woodstock College in Maryland from 1952 to 1956, where he was ordained to the priesthood by the Most Reverend Francis P. Keough, Archbishop of Baltimore, on June 19, 1955 and received a Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree in 1956. Father McGroarty completed Tertianship from 1956 to 1957 at the Jesuit Martyrs Shrine, Auriesville, NY and made his Final Profession in the Society of Jesus at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. on February 2, 1979.

Father McGroarty **began his priestly ministry at Wheeling College as Dean of Students from 1957 to 1970.** His next assignments took him to Georgetown University, Washington, D.C where he was Minister of the Jesuit Community and house treasurer from 1970 to 1980 and then to the Novitiate of St. Isaac Jogues, Wernersville, PA as Minister of the Jesuit Community from 1980 to 1988. In both of these assignments, he was especially noted for his concern for the health and well-being of community members and his great knowledge and competent management of temporalities.

During this period, Father McGroarty also attended the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD, where he received a Certificate in Alcoholic Counseling in 1974.

In residence at Loyola University Maryland, Fr. McGroarty served as Assistant Province treasurer in care of Jesuit properties in Southern Maryland and Retreat Director from 1988 to 2003. Remaining at Loyola University, he continued to engage in retreat ministry, spiritual direction and counseling especially to alcoholics until 2011, when transferred to the Colombiere Jesuit Community in Baltimore, MD, he served as a Pastoral Minister until his death at the age of 93.

Memories of Fr. McGroarty by Mary Ellen Dyar Maybury '63

Fr. McGroarty's first assignment after ordination in 1955 was to Wheeling College as Dean of Students. I wonder if his job description at this new coeducational college included half the events he would face in his new position, such as 2 a.m. fire alarms, reverse camping, snowball battles, shower parties, peeping toms, and accidents. He was indeed, *in loco parentis*, to his new charges. Like any good and wise parent, he was ever-watchful, but noninterfering, unless necessary to protect and guide us, and unfailingly fair (at least to the women). He always seemed to be nearby at so many of our unannounced and unplanned "happenings." His presence gave me a feeling of security and acted as a curb to many rash actions.



Wheeling College women moved into their new dorm, Sara Tracy Hall, at the beginning of the spring semester of 1960. Within the first month we experienced a middle-of-the-night fire alarm. By the time we found our robes and slippers, Fr. McGroarty had arrived to organize our evacuation. Then he entered the dorm with the firemen, and helped to conclude that there was no fire, just a glitch in the electrical system. Fr. McGroarty to the rescue! (*Continued on next page*)

Tribute to Fr. McGroarty Continued from pg 3

Freshman year was one of adjustment for many of us. One of our classmates never caught on to what was expected for Mrs. Kah's room inspections. Her (the girl's) room was so bad that Fr. McGroarty gave her a reverse camping – she had to be out of her room by 8 a.m., and couldn't return until 9 p.m. The girl never returned for her sophomore year, but she inspired us to keep neat rooms.

The winter of 1959-1960 gave us major snowstorms, that is, ammunition for major snowball battles. After the big snow, the women of Sara Tracy Hall marched on McHugh to challenge them to a snowball battle. We arrived in front of McHugh and began to fire snowballs at the windows. There was no response, so we went to the back of the dorm. We should have retreated when we saw that all the lights were out. We continued our barrage of snowballs and taunts, and when the men counter-attacked, we were literally bowled over. Bodies came flying out the windows led by the likes of Mike McGivern. Our faces were rubbed in the snow, hats were stolen, and we engaged in a free-for-all. I don't recall any serious injuries other than to our pride. When asked why he didn't stop us, Fr. McGroarty is said to have mentioned something about a harmless anecdote to the "rise of sap in the spring." This anecdote is to remind us of the days when the "sap still rose."

During our sophomore or junior year, we had an unplanned "shower party" as the result of a silly KNOCK-KNOCK joke. I was in my room one evening around 8 p.m. when I heard a knock on the door. I called out: "Who's there?" A female voice answered: "John." I opened the door, saying: "John who?" only to be hit in the face with a cup of water, as my good friend Jeannie Santer yelled: "John the Baptist!" Always one to retaliate, I threw her into the shower, fully clothed, soaking both of us. Meg Tucker came to investigate the noise and so we gave her a shower, too. Once a showeree, a girl became a showerer. Eventually, almost everyone in the dorm got wet. Someone observed Fr. McGroarty pacing back and forth in front of the dorm, shaking his head. We all helped clean up the water and the mess, so all was well.

Our senior year, a back wing opened at Sara Tracy Hall. It was out of sight, and hidden by the major part of the dorm in the front of the building, making it a perfect setting for a peeping tom. To make matters worse, the first floor of that wing was occupied by a group of nervous freshman girls, with me as their proc-

tor. We reported each sighting of the prowler, and Fr. McGroarty endeavored to catch him. He carried a spotlight flashlight as he patrolled the grounds. One evening, I was walking down our hall when shrieking girls erupted from a room. They rushed at me and one small girl literally leaped into my arms and wrapped her legs around my waist, nearly choking me with her arms around my neck. They finally calmed down enough to tell me about a bright light shining in the window of the room. They thought it was the prowler, but it was only Fr. McGroarty and his flashlight. He thought he had spotted the prowler, but due to the girls' shrieks, the prowler was alerted and fled. No luck that evening. Eventually, he was captured by the police as he stood outside my room watching me at my desk with my hair up in curlers! Mrs. Kah's suite was on a diagonal from my room, and she was able to watch the prowler watching me. She called Fr. McGroarty, and he alerted the police, who arrived in time to capture him.

In November of our senior year, a group of junior and senior English majors had a chance to drive to Ohio University, in Athens, Ohio, to see a performance of Twelfth Night, presented by the Canadian Shakespeare theatre group, one of the best in the world. After the play, we were invited to a party at the apartment of Andrea DiPiero, who was a graduate student at OU. We didn't stay long, because we knew we had a long trip home in the pouring rain. There were six in our car, Joe Wittig, Maryann Mangi, Mary Kelley, Terri Grammer, Kathy Snider and me. We arrived back in Wheeling about 4 a.m., and we were so relieved to be almost back to campus that we all relaxed and fell asleep. I awakened when we crashed into a lamp post less than two miles from campus. I was the only one conscious, so I got out of the car to see if I could get some help. Eventually an off-duty fireman stopped and radioed for help. Two ambulances came and transported three of us to Wheeling Hospital and three of us to Ohio Valley General. We were all covered in blood and we looked gruesome. At Wheeling Hospital, the admittance team tried to get information -- parents' names, insurance, etc., from me. I told them to call Fr. McGroarty and, before we knew it, he was there and we received treatment. Once again, he was present for us.

It was not until his recent death that I learned more about Fr. McGroarty from a copy of the homily given at his funeral Nov. 30, 2012. He was described by the homilist, Fr. Jim O'Connor, S.J., a close friend of his, as the embodiment of the Jesuit ideal, to live as "Men for Others." "Fr. Bill McGroarty was just such a person: 'A Man Thoroughly and Totally FOR OTHERS.'"

Class of 1963 Memories

Ron Vogrin

I would like to break my memories into two categories, those I have and those I wish I did have. When I arrived on campus in September of 1959, I felt like a “fish out of water”. A lot of my classmate’s parents were professional types, doctors, scientists, accountants, etc. I came from a small parochial school in the suburbs of Pittsburgh and even Wheeling College to me at the time was big. My grandfather worked for George Westinghouse for \$.16 an hour, yes cents, and lost his job before Social Security was approved in 1935, so my background, blue collar Western Pennsylvania. My first memory when I arrived on Campus was, I was overwhelmed. 1st of all I had never roomed with anyone before and now I had Dan “Dogs” Duerr blasting his radio and taking the best side of the room. I was hoping to room with Joe Niedenberger, but Fr. McGroaty would not allow it.

After we settled in for a day or two, Jim King, who was older and wiser than the rest of us, introduced us to Mac’s. There you could get a quart of 3.2 beer for .50 cents and a chili dog for .25 cents. Wow and we were only 18 years old! This was the beginning of the Bacchanals.

Now back to Campus and the dining experience we had at Swint Hall. The dress code for the cafeteria was coat and tie 6 days a week for breakfast, lunch and dinner. We got a break on Saturdays when it was casual.

Time moves on and Thanksgiving arrives and we needed transportation to get back home to Pittsburgh so we made some signs and walked out to Route 40 and stuck out thumbs. Yes we hitched hiked. Would not advise that today.

The most memorable time for me as a freshman was in Fr. O’Malley’s English Class, when he introduced us, as required reading, to “Catcher in the Rye”. I can remember telling my parents when I went home and said “Guess what I am reading”? I cannot visualize the Nuns in High School recommending this book.

Another favorite of mine was October 13 of 1960, when the Pirates and Yankees were playing the final game of the World Series. There we gathered in the recreation room of McHugh Hall when Hal Smith hit the 3 run homer in the 8th to tie the game 7-7. Then Mazoroski won it in the 10th with his leadoff homer. Off we went to Pittsburgh to celebrate and Barsock ended up on a telephone pole in downtown Pittsburgh.



Another favorite is when Kevin Kerrane, who was a year ahead of us, went to his Philosophy Oral finals. The first question for him was “prove free will”. Without saying a word, Kevin got up and quickly left the room. He got all A’s and this was so brilliant of him but also, it could only be used once. We had to give verbal responses for our orals. There were so many more memories, playing basketball in the new gym with Tiger Lyle and Pizza Sabol, while Johnny Mathist playing in the background “The 12th of Never”. Watching Jack Parr with Brisley Bear on the third floor of Whelen Hall when we had no lights out. Playing touch football with Al Carter in the Mud. Talking with Jaime Dissen about the Space Shuttle in our dorm room. I will stop there.

Then there were the memories I wish I had, if I had it to do over again. I would have signed up for the Gambol. As I hear others talk about it, I know I would have loved it. Also, I would have run for Student Council. It would have been a great addition to my resume. 3rd, I would have spent more time in the Cafeteria, socializing and playing Bridge.

Finally I want to say how sadden I was when I heard of the passing of Fr. McGroaty. The last time I saw him was 20 years ago at my son’s graduation in May of 1993 at Loyola University in Baltimore. Ironically he came to my son’s room as he was packing up his stuff, just like the good old days. It had been 30 years, almost to the day, since I had seen Father and he remembered me, but this time he did not have his flashlight. God bless him.

That’s it. See you all at the Reunion in June!

Aimée Noonan

From the moment we stepped onto campus in 1959, upperclassmen took pleasure in warning us about philosophy orals. Orals loomed over us as we got to know each other, as we attended classes, as we enjoyed extracurricular activities.

The undercurrent of fear never left us. From the first day of our junior year, we knew that this was it. We would succeed or fail. As fall turned to winter and winter to spring, it was not unusual to see two or three of our classmates poring over philosophy texts with a haunted look in their eyes. The day came. It was clear that many of us had spent sleepless nights reading notes, reviewing texts, quizzing each other. I can see the classroom and my questioners as clearly as if it were this morning, Father Coll and Mr. Cordes. Trauma leaves such a clear imprint. One by one as our grilling ended, we gathered nervously in the cafeteria. There was great relief that it was over.



Continued on next page

Class of 63 Memories Continued

(Aimée Noonan—continued) It was an unexpected bonus to learn that our class had done very, very well. In the years since then, whenever something difficult or even impossible looms before me, I take a deep breath and review what I have to do and measure it against philosophy orals: is it as scary? as difficult? In most cases, the answers are no. In a perverse way, then, I am grateful to have had the orals ordeal and grateful, too, that I endured one of life's most difficult challenges so young.

Charlie Lloyd

Shortly after exams for the first semester Steve Haid, Norm Koehler, Paul Drewitz and I embarked on a veritable expedition to the Capitol of the free world to attend John F. Kennedy's inauguration. Roann Wojcik (nee Burris) and Mary Haugh (nee Daly) rode along with us in my mother's 1960 Ford Falcon. The trip was made in a serious snowstorm but we made it to Northern Virginia where we dropped the ladies off at Roann's aunt's house sometime in the middle of the night. We then proceeded to a house where a friend of Steve's lived and spent what was left of the night there. The following day was spent getting lost in Arlington trying to find the house of another classmate, Patty Proctor. Once there we got an address and name of a place to stay and it was definitely not the Hilton, but rather a group of cabins on Hains Point on the Potomac. We never saw the parade except on TV and spent the next few days touring the big city including a visit to the National Art Gallery. While viewing the art I ran into my Spanish teacher, Dr. Angel Medina, and told him how much I liked the Spanish painters—a little brown nosing. It did not do any good since I flunked the course any way. After leaving the gallery we met outside but the car was missing! Steve Haid initially thought we had deserted him but we found out the car had been towed to the impound lot for illegal parking. When we arrived at the lot the manager said it would cost \$50 to get it out of hock, but we did not have that much between us so he took pity on us hicks from the sticks and turned the car over.

On the day we were scheduled to leave while cleaning up the mess of bottles and cans outside the cabin I seriously cut my hand and we had to find an emergency room to get it sewed up. After running around in circles we found George Washington hospital and entered the emergency room. The doctor in charge said he could not treat the cut without a parent's signature on some form. On hearing this, Paul Drewitz took his six foot seven frame and walked over and said "I will sign it".

The doctor, feeling a bit intimidated, said OK and decided to sew up the cut. I think the scar from that encounter and a sign that said "no parking here for inauguration" were the only souvenirs from that trip. We were all greatly relieved to leave the fair city of Washington, DC and return to the comfy and secure confines of Wheeling College.

Sara (Tomlinson) Shipman

Here are some of my memories of my days at WJU.



I was watching a movie in Swint Hall when one of my friends came to say that my parents had called the dorm and that I should come over to the dorm. I was very upset as my parents never called unless there was something really wrong at home. When I got to my room to find out about the message, I found my room was full of wadded up newspapers. The call was only a rouse to get me to come to the dorm. I was so relieved that I cried and then I was ready to get even with all of them. They felt very bad not realizing that I would be that upset. They cleaned out the room.

Even funnier is my recollection of an event with the "boys" when we were Sophomores. I have mentioned this to them, but they don't seem to remember this. Anyway, the boys were housed in Whelan Hall that fall and they found a duck down at Wheeling Creek and brought it into the dorm. Several Jesuits in the downstairs thought they heard it, but could never find it. Finally they did and demanded that the duck be returned to the creek. I remember the parade from Whelan down to the creek. They carried a sign that read: "Deduckion without representation is tyranny."



1963 Senior Class Officers—(Seated) Mary Daly, Standing (r—l) Charles Lloyd, James King, Jim Dissen

Hekima Place, A Place of Hope & of Love by Jim DiPiero 67'

My involvement with Hekima Place began when our dear friend, Kate Fletcher, asked Sue and I to support her as she embarked on a life changing experience of selling all that she owned to start an orphanage for young girls in Karen, Kenya. She invited me to be part of the board of directors and I said 'yes' hoping to offer some IT support and some practical business experience to her mission. Sue joined the board a few years later.



After two years of serving on the board, Kate asked me to become the president of the organization and again I said 'yes' thinking that it would be a temporary assignment until a qualified candidate came along. I'm still honored to be the president of the US Board of Directors although Kate is the executive director, our chief fundraiser, and Mum Kate to our 65 girls.

The story of Hekima Place is the remarkable story of Kate Fletcher and how she lives out her deep faith and love of the gospel by serving the poor and orphaned of this world.

Kate started with 10 girls and a rented home in Karen, Kenya outside of Nairobi. Our rented property was on the land owned by Karen Blixen of 'Out of Africa' fame. We grew from occupying one building to four buildings in no time at all. More important, we grew from 10 girls to 65 girls who range in age from toddlers to young adults. Only one or two of our girls are HIV positive. Most of our girls have been orphaned by the HIV virus.

Just a little over two years ago we bought 10 acres of land and built 6 homes and a dining facility so that the girls could have a permanent home, a place to call their own. Each home has a 'mum', and we do all that we can to present the girls with a loving home environment where they are loved and given the opportunity for an education. In addition, we have a 4 acre farm, a chicken coup, a bore hole for drinking water, a bio-box for recycling grey water to water the farm, goats, cows, and generators as backup for our electricity. This is an unbelievable accomplishment for a 74 year old woman in just two years' time.

Two years ago, Sue and I attended the dedication of our new unfinished homes at the foot of the Gngong Hills in

Kiseria, Kenya. It was one of the most memorable and satisfying experiences of our lives. The highlight of the festivities attended by over 250 neighbors, friends of Hekima Place, staff, and workers was the tribal dance by the Maasai warriors. During their performance, we were asked to come up on stage and participate in their dance. I never thought in my wildest dreams that one day I would be in Africa dancing with a Maasai tribe.

As president of the board of directors, I have been involved in many activities; promoting Hekima Place, helping to fund raise, seeking talented people to serve on the board, and presiding over board meetings. One of my initiatives in April of this year was to bring Kate and Wheeling Jesuit together to discuss the possibilities that these two organizations, could find some ways to work together. The result of the visit exceeded my expectations.

A team from Wheeling Jesuit is visiting Hekima Place in November. The team, led by Mark Drnach from Physical Therapy was there to perform a needs assessment in the communities surrounding Hekima Place. Hekima will become a site for Wheeling Jesuit students, faculty and volunteers. Other programs involved are Occupational **Therapy**, Nursing and Education. These are just the initial plans as a result of this first visit. I am hopeful that other programs will be developed for the benefit of both organizations



My involvement has made me much more sensitive to the plight of women around the world as well as the growing orphan population as a result of disease, poverty and war. As Kate says, 'if you think about the enormity of the problems in the world you become paralyzed, but if you become involved you can make a significant difference for some in need'.

There is so much more to the remarkable story of Hekima Place and Kate Fletcher. I invite you to visit our web site at www.hekimaplace.org to learn more about it, and I invite you to get involved. As the girls of Hekima Place say, Be Blessed.



50 Year Club Web Site created. Go to <http://www.50yearclubwju.org>

50 Year Club WJU



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50 Year Club Wheeling Jesuit University

The idea for the Club was created by Al Reed during the class of 60 reunion planning. The other members of the planning committee composed of Phyllis Faber Kelly, John Mensore, Carolyn Cannon, Sandy Piper Sonneborn, and Ed Shahady enthusiastically endorsed the idea. Al did all the research and provided the structure for the first [diploma](#) ceremony that was conducted in June of 2010 during the 50 year reunion of the class of 60.

The Club is an adjunct organization of the Alumni Council. It's functions include honoring the 50 year [graduates](#), conducting an annual lecture during the 50 year reunion, creating and assisting with the senior ambassador, group, creating and assisting with the Alumni Scholar in Residence program, assisting 50 year classes with planning their reunion and encouraging a class gift from each graduating class. A copy of the by laws is available by clicking [here](#).

The Club conducts a [yearly ceremony](#) at the time of the reunion to honor the 50 year graduates. The President of the University provides certificates to each member of the class. The banners above will lead you to the prior newsletters and great memories of recent [reunions from the classes of 60 and 61. 62](#)

Members of the class who are unable to attend will receive a certificate by mail. The **50 Year Club** lecture provides an opportunity for alumni to hear from faculty and a alumni member about a topic of general interest. The 2011 topics were "What's new about [educational programs](#) at WJU" and "Jesuit values at WJU- are they still here?" The topic for 2012 was "Value of a liberal arts education-is it important".

Being a **senior ambassador** is an honor and a responsibility. Ambassadors volunteer to aid the university with fundraising, enrollment and student mentoring.

The **Alumni Scholar in Residence** is a visiting professor program where an alumnus/a spends a week on campus teaching [classes](#) in his/her discipline. Seven [newsletters](#) have been published. These newsletter contain some excellent stories from alumni about their time at WJU (Wheeling College). Some are serious and many contain some very humorous memories. Take a look at the newsletters to bring back many of these memories.

Assisting the 50 year class with their [reunion and planning of their class gift](#) is available if desired by the reunion planning committee.

Please view the site to see the many activities of the 50 Year Club

Rick Beyer to Step Down as President of WJU

Mimie Helm '84, Chair of the WJU Board of Trustees announced that President Rick Beyer planned to step down as president of Wheeling Jesuit University later this year, when his regular term ends. The Board is deeply grateful to him for his significant contributions to the university. Under his leadership, WJU has achieved record enrollment, tremendous growth in alumni giving and new academic programs in fine arts, engineering and health sciences. She also announced that the Board of Trustees is pleased to appoint Reverend James Fleming, S.J., Ph.D., currently the executive vice president of WJU, as the tenth president of Wheeling Jesuit University, effective July 1, 2013. Fr. Fleming is ideally suited to serve as president of the university. He is a dynamic and visionary leader who possesses a keen knowledge of the university and, obviously, the Jesuit values on which it was founded and continues to operate. Fr. Fleming is distinctly qualified to build upon the momentum generated in recent years and to lead the university's continued growth as one of the nation's best liberal arts institutions.

Message from Rick Beyer to the Wheeling Jesuit University Community

I write to you with great appreciation for Wheeling Jesuit University, and especially each of you. As many of you know, I joined WJU from the business world in October 2010, when I began working closely with Fr. Fleming who has served as University vice president and chief of staff before being named to executive vice president last year. With the collective engagement and work of our community, we built our strategic plan. We are at record enrollment, our alumni are showing growing support and several new capital initiatives that will add to the luster of campus are underway.

No organization can succeed without a team. Our enrollment growth and successful fundraising are the results of great collaboration. Our expanded Engineering Science, Environmental Science, and Health Science programs are a direct result of the innovation present in our faculty. Our Music, Rugby, Starbucks, and many other initiatives also have come about because of the innovation of others. The experience here at WJU has been tremendous and I am grateful for the opportunity to work with such outstanding people.

People in the Wheeling community are among the most genuine in the country, the students are engaged actively in preparing for their futures and there is no bigger fan of the WJU faculty than me. I truly have enjoyed the working relationship and credit the faculty with keeping our program quality at its highest level. The appointment of Fr. Fleming, who already has worked with so many of you, will allow all that we've built to continue growing. I look forward to working with him on our transition. Thank you for all that you do and for your support for me as president. Let's continue our great momentum to attract outstanding students to WJU and to make our WJU alumni proud.

Message of Fr. Jim Fleming, S.J., Ph.D., to the Wheeling Jesuit University Community

It is an honor to be appointed president. I thank the Board of Trustees for its confidence in me and for the opportunity to lead WJU into the future.

Wheeling Jesuit University is a great institution possessing even greater potential. It has been an enormous privilege to be a part of this community for the past three years. I'm excited to work with our exceptional faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends for many years to come to realize our full potential.

I also wish to thank Rick Beyer for his leadership. Rick and Cindy Beyer have become dear friends of mine - they are friends of WJU - and Rick has done a tremendous job leading our community forward during his tenure. It has been an honor to work side by side with him.

WJU has a tremendous future that we will build together. Please pray for me as I take on this new role and for our entire WJU community.

For more information go to <http://www.wju.edu/transition/>

50 Year Club

The Club officers were elected June 2011 for a two-year term: President - Ed Shahady, 1st Vice President - Al Reed, 2nd Vice President - Dan Haller, Secretary - Carolyn Cannon, and Members at Large - Don Mercer and Leo Flanagan.

By-Laws: Active Membership: (1) All graduates of Wheeling Jesuit University upon the 50th 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 50th anniversary of the class.

Annual Meeting: Conducted at the time of the 50 year reunion.

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

Executive Committee: Consists 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 50th 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 Fr. Jim 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 was Ed Shahady, M.D. '60, and he was on campus in the fall of 2011. Joan Davison Ph.D. '78 served as the second scholar and was on campus in the fall of 2012.



Cindy Beyer receiving her honorary 50 Year Club diploma from Club 2nd Vice President Dan Haller