



50 Year Club Newsletter

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Volume 4 Issue 2 June 2013

Class of 1963 Celebrates 50th Anniversary

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Members of the Class of 1963 invaded Wheeling Jesuit's campus June 21-23 to celebrate their 50th Anniversary during 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) worked hard and did a great job preparing for a memorable weekend.



They were assisted by Kelly & Janet in the Alumni Office. Roann and Terri were co-chairs for the committee. Don Powers prepared a PowerPoint/DVD presentation that brought back memories of their days at Wheeling College. Friday evening events began at 5 PM with the conferring of 50 Year Club diplomas to members of the Class of 1963, followed by an address by WJU President Rick Beyer. Moderators were Aimée Noonan and Jim Madl. Following the presentations, classmates socialized at the President's reception and then enjoy dinner in the Benedum Room. After dinner, they returned to Troy Theater for some fun traveling down memory lane. Ron, Aimée and Don planned entertainment that included historical events, setting and politics of their time. Although individuals had already stepped forward to share their memories, all were invited to share their thoughts as well. Don's presentation brought back many memories. Other special activities for the Class of 1963 included a special lunch at Wheeling Country Club on Saturday, and a Bon Voyage party Saturday evening at the Hampton Inn. (after all formal campus activities conclude)

Third Annual 50 Year Club Lecture/Discussion

Saturday, June 21—10:30 AM
Troy Theater

Panel Discussion Topic: WJU-Mission, Identity and Service (*see pages 2, 3, 4 for more information*)

Panel Discussion Participants:

Moderator - **Ed Shahady '60**

Fr. Jim Fleming, EVP, President Designate WJU

Adrienne Tharp '08, Director WJU Service for Social Action Center

James Mauck, M.S.W. '63, President/CEO Catholic Charities and Community Services Denver, CO (retired)

Questions: How does the Office of Mission and Identity influence curriculum at WJU? What are some examples of volunteer service by current students? How can a graduate of WJU commit to the goal of "Service" in their lifetime?

50 Year Club Diplomas

Members of the Class of 1963 joined the classes of '59, '60, '61 and '62 as members of the 50 Year Club. Each member received a 50 Year Club diploma from President Beyer in the fourth formal diploma ceremony. For information about the 50 Year Club, Senior Ambassadors and the Alumni Scholar in Residence Program, please **see page 12**. Also note that the bi-annual election of officers and board members occurred Saturday, June 22 prior to the 50 Year Club lecture.



Kathy Oliver Burgoyne '62 receives 50 Year Club diploma from President Beyer in 2012.

Office of Mission and Identity *Jamey Brogan, Director of Campus Ministry, Mission & Identity*

For most of the history of Jesuit education, no office existed devoted to promoting the Catholic Jesuit mission of the schools. It was taken for granted that the mere presence of a sufficient number of Jesuits on the campus, including Jesuits among the faculty and in key leadership positions like the presidency, ensured a school's Catholic Jesuit character. As the number of Jesuits available for assignment to higher education declined, the question arose: how do the schools maintain their Catholic Jesuit identity, and who is responsible for it? **To respond to this need, universities began creating positions, and eventually offices, with the primary responsibility of promoting the Catholic Jesuit mission and identity of the school. The specific functions of these offices differ according to the needs and resources of each institution.**

What is mission and identity at WJU and what do we do?

The Office of Mission and Identity is led by a Director who reports to the Executive Vice President. **Mission and Identity at WJU consists of the following University departments: the Office of Campus Ministry, which includes the Service for Social Action Center (SSAC), and the Appalachian Institute.** Mission and Identity **also includes the Jesuit Identity Team (JIT) whose task is to promote opportunities for employees to pray, reflect, serve and discuss our mission.** Last year our Board of Trustees formed a Mission and Identity Committee to promote the activities and purposes of the office at the board level and to provide a vehicle for the formation of board members in the Catholic Jesuit mission of the university.

Campus Ministry provides opportunities for students to deepen their faith through liturgies, sacraments, retreats, and small prayer groups. We make use of The Chapel of Mary and Joseph for worship and Lantz Farm in Wetzel County for retreats. The **SSAC** not only provides opportunities for our students to serve the poor, but also engages our students in reflection upon these experiences, to deepen their faith so that they might become advocates for "God's favored ones." The SSAC administers the Fr. Pedro Arrupe Scholars, students on scholarship who distinguish themselves as leaders in service. Over four years, these Arrupe Scholars participate in service experiences in East Wheeling, southern West Virginia, Camden or Chicago, and El Salvador. Finally, the Mother Jones House, overseen by the SSAC, is an intentional Christian community of upperclass students devoted to service to the poor, living simply, and building community in their East Wheeling neighborhood.

Founded in response to the Appalachian bishops' call in their pastoral letter "This Land is Home to Me" (1975), the **Appalachian Institute** applies the principles of Catholic Social Thought to the challenges of the region through research, advocacy and experiential learning. This past year the Institute hosted over 20 high school and college groups from outside the region for service-immersion experiences in West Virginia. The Institute also celebrates the distinctive and beautiful culture of Appalachia, promoting a full program of meals, concerts and presentations on the region during Celebrate Appalachia Week held on campus in April. The Institute spearheaded the planting of a community garden at WJU which will provide fresh produce for our cafeteria and for local charities in Wheeling.

The **JIT** offers a variety of programs for employees to engage the University's Catholic Jesuit mission through reflection, discussion, prayer and service, including:

- **Luncheon Discussions** using articles often drawn from "Conversations in Jesuit Higher Education" and "America," the Jesuit national weekly magazine. Popular topics have included: "Are faith and science compatible?" "Being non-Catholic at WJU," "Praying through distraction," "Mother Teresa's Dark Night," "Green Theology."
- **Book Groups** meet through the semester or year. Recent selections have included *The Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything* by James Martin, S.J., and *The Limits of Hospitality*, by Dr. Jessica Wrobleksi, Assistant Professor of Theology & Religious Studies at WJU.
- **Small Prayer Groups** meet over a few weeks, a semester, or the year. Employees share experiences of prayer using resources based on Scripture, the liturgical season, and the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola.
- **Worship and liturgy:** The JIT collaborates with Campus Ministry to promote university liturgies and to offer prayer services for employee concerns.
- **Formation and Training:** In conjunction with Human Resources, members of the JIT offer professional development formation sessions on St. Ignatius of Loyola, *(continued on next page)*



Sister Ellen Prejean addresses WJU

Mission and Identity continued

- his worldview and spirituality, Jesuit education, and Ignatian discernment (decision-making).

- Paid leave for retreat or service:* through WJU's Catholic Jesuit Mission Benefits policy employees may take up to four days paid time off to attend a retreat or community service activity sponsored or endorsed by the University.

Mission and Identity also hosts speakers and forums. This past academic year was especially successful as we welcomed Sr. Helen Prejean, C.S.J., author of *Dead Man Walking*, Fr. Pat Conroy, S.J., Chaplain to the U.S. House, Fr. Jeff Putthoff, S.J., Executive Director of Hopeworks 'n Camden which provides computer training and other life skills to young adults at risk in America's most violent city. Sr. Helen Prejean's public lecture set a record for attendance at a non-commencement address, drawing over 650 students, employees and community members to Troy Theater and three other spill-over seating venues.

Who is responsible for maintaining our mission and identity?

Ideally all employees and students must understand their role in the mission of the institution and know their importance in carrying out that mission. Toward this end, Campus Ministry and Mission and Identity function like a "leaven in the loaf."

The best way to attract and engage students in spiritual matters is through other students. Campus Ministry, SSAC, and the Appalachian Institute provide such a wealth of programming by forming students to lead their peers in prayer, reflection and service. Nearly one-third of the Class of 2013 served as student leaders in liturgy, choir, retreats, and various service opportunities.

Likewise, the Jesuit Identity Team is successful in attracting employees to mission events through the competence, diversity, and enthusiasm of its membership. Fifteen Jesuits, faculty and employees serve on the Team. All share a commitment to our mission, even though several come from religious traditions that are not Catholic. By offering a variety of programming and topics we have attracted over a third of employees to mission-related events. These events also serve to build community among employees who get to know others outside their department through the meaningful and respectful conversation.

Obstacles to the work

The answer is the same for both students and employees: lack of time and misperceptions about our intent. Students and employees are overcommitted and over-scheduled; opportunities for prayer and reflection often lose out to activities with "measurable consequences" like a grade or performance review. Regarding the latter obstacle,

we sometimes meet a student who made a first retreat or first visit to the Chapel in senior year, only to say, "This was great! I wish I had done so sooner." When asked what kept them away, they often answer, "I didn't think I was religious enough (or I thought this was for Catholics only)." With both these obstacles, I am grateful for faculty and administrative colleagues from outside Campus Ministry who encourage students to make a Kairos Retreat or attend a Taize prayer service, or who encourage a new employee in their office to attend a luncheon discussion. Hearing the invitation from other mentors or peers often provides that extra nudge to take a leap into something unknown (and quite wonderful!).

How is our work funded?

The University funds the Director and most of the positions in Campus Ministry and SSAC. The personnel in the Appalachian Institute are funded partly by the University, partly by grants, and partly by income generated through the service-immersion trips sponsored by the Institute. Collections at Sunday liturgies in the Chapel of Mary and Joseph provide the bulk of the funding for retreats and service-immersion trips for students. Programming for employees is paid almost entirely by two funds: one supported by the Jesuit Community at WJU and one by alumni of the Class of 1963. These two funds also offset some programming costs for students. They also allow WJU to send senior administrators to national mission and identity formation programs sponsored by the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, and allow WJU employees to participate in national conferences on mission and identity, ecumenism, social justice and campus ministry.

Areas for growth

As our employees become more interested in prayer and reflection, we would like to be able to offer them overnight retreats and the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola in some form. We are also in need of additional funding to reduce the cost of service-immersion trips for students and employees.

In close, as Director I am blessed in several ways: First, I work with a great team of individuals responsible for promoting our Catholic Jesuit mission. Second I am able to witness students and employees become aware of and excited about our mission and identity. And, finally, I see the fruits of this awareness and excitement as these same students and employees offer their own talents and desires, and in so doing, attract others to our great purpose of seeking the greater glory of God!

For a survey of articles addressing the question of carrying on the Catholic Jesuit mission at Jesuit schools, see the Fall 2008 issue of "Conversations on Jesuit Higher Education" found online at: <http://epublications.marquette.edu/conversations/vol34/iss1/>

50 Year Club Lecture/Discussion Speakers

Rev. James Fleming, S.J., Ph.D., current WJU President, (E.V.P. at the time of the program)—received his Ph.D. in educational policy analysis from the University of California, Berkeley. He has served as a professor at several universities and his research and teaching focus on Family, School & Society; Culture, Community & Change; Principles of Outreach, and university-community partnerships and institutional change at American colleges and universities. Prior to joining Wheeling Jesuit, Fr. Fleming was on staff at Boston College for ten years. He entered the Jesuits in 1983 and was ordained a priest in 1995.

Adrienne Tharp BA Professional Communications, WJU 2008 is current Director of WJU's Service for Social Action Center. After graduation she served as a Street Outreach Worker and Case Manager for homeless, runaway and street youth in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps; Nashville, TN. She returned to WJU in 2009. Her responsibilities include community service placements, mentoring programs for at-risk middle school students, service learning projects and service immersions (domestic and international) for students, staff, and faculty. She also coordinates various service opportunities for the campus community including: Blood Drives, DISC Dance, Super Sunday, and Special Olympics.

James Mauck BA M.S.W., Sociology WJU 1963. M.S.W. Saint Louis University. After graduate school Jim worked for Catholic Charities Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston and was a part time instructor at WJU. He helped coordinate disaster relief for the Buffalo Creek Mine disaster that killed 128 and left 5000 homeless. He has held several positions in Denver including Vicar for Family Life and youth services Archdiocese of Denver and coordinator for Refugee Resettlement for the Archdiocese. In 2008 he retired as President and CEO for Catholic Charities and Community Services Archdiocese of Denver. He has served on boards of several volunteer and business organizations and is a current member of the Board for Centura Health Systems. He is the Recipient of the Cross pro Ecclesia et Pontifice from Pope John Paul II in 2000 (the highest award given to the laity by the Pope for distinguished service to the church)

History of the 50 Year Club Annual Lecture/Discussion

The 50 Year Club thought it would be appropriate to include intellectual stimulation in the 50 year reunion activities. We all remember the great lectures and discussions that we had as students with our professors and our fellow students. We also realize after 50 years many of us have now seen the world and have knowledge, experience and wisdom that would be worthwhile sharing with each other. The purpose of the lecture/discussion is to bring together a panel of current professors and a member of the 50 year class to present a topic of general interest. Interaction and discussion with the audience is an integral part of the discussion. The topic is chosen by the 50 Year Club in consultation with the current 50 year reunion class. The Class of 1963 has a long interest in the Office of Mission and Identity and their class gifts have been dedicated to this office.

My Wheeling College Family By Charlie Lloyd, '63



I graduated from Wheeling College in 1963 and joined the Navy. While in Vietnam, my swift boat was sunk by a Viet Cong mine on February 14, 1966. I spent two months in the 3rd Army Field Hospital Saigon. I was then transferred to Bethesda Naval for 13 months as an inpatient, and 3 months as an outpatient.

Fr. Troy wrote me a letter about the responsibilities of command, and that the people in charge have to make decisions that sometimes turn out to be bad ones. Father had somehow sensed that what was bothering me most in the field hospital was losing my men, and not all my mangled body parts.

I seem to remember that Fr. Troy contacted two alumni from the class of '59 who were in Saigon with the Embassy or USAID. They visited me in the field hospital. I'm unsure of their names. I was a little "fuzzy" at that time.

My first visitor to Bethesda Naval was Diane DiPiero Pappas. I was still in intensive care. Diane, Denny Weitzel, Jim King and John Mitchell visited me frequently. On one visit, Diane brought her high school class. They gave me a tape recorder as a gift. I was blessed by many friends, alumni and priests who took the time to visit me. Priests who visited me were Fathers Troy, Henderson, and O'Brien. Also visiting were Mike McGivern, Jim Hobbs, Bill McGeehan and J.B. with Crow, Maureen McCarthy, Vicki DiPiero and Franny Bieglemeier (Denny's friend who became my friend).

There were numerous others, but these are the people that readily come to mind. The point is that all of these visits from fellow Wheeling College students and professors would not have happened had I attended some other college or university. Wheeling College was more like an extended family to me. And, all those people were there to check on and support a fellow alum who was in very bad shape. Their visits very much helped me get through those 15 months.

Jim Dissen '63 (Previously published in the newsletter Vol 2 issue 1 2011) In 2013 the great Class of '63 will celebrate its 50th! We graduated from Wheeling College, married, went to war (separate from the marriage), raised families, put our children through school, paid off the house and now we are looking forward to the "golden years"; spoiling the grandchildren, cruises, golf or just kicking back. After all we have been through those boring Classes of '60, '61 and '62, who "hazed" us in 1959, made us wear "dinks" (I still have mine), dated our girls, would not help us with metaphysics, have issued another challenge—that their classes' can raise more money than the Class of '63. Are they serious—they forget we are "**BACCHANAL'S and BACCHANTE'S**"! (I could be wrong on that last word). In any event, we did survive and since most of us will be in our 7th decade when it's our reunion in 2013, it is time that we give back to "our school", the place where we lived, learned, loved, cried, worried and stressed, but it is also the place that laid the foundation to

Class of 1963 Memories

Jim Dissen (continued from pg 4)

Many of us attended other fine institutions of higher learning after WC and they also ask for donations, but there is only one "first" and that will always be WC/WJU in all our lives; however long or short it will be. As a new Board Member of Wheeling Jesuit University—yea I know what you are thinking—"Dissen on the Board"—what is happening at Wheeling! There is a lot happening at WJU. With our new President, Rick Beyer I see a bright future for the University. But "our" school needs our help and a great way to do it is for us, as a Class, to beat those upstart "pioneer" classes and begin planning for our "50th year Class of '63 gift". You will be receiving more information through the 50 Year Club Newsletter and from our new Class Representative, Aimee Noonan. Aimee will be creating a committee to determine the amount and designation of our gift. Renovations of Whelan Hall and other worthy projects (**no new suit for Steve Haid**) will be reviewed by the committee.

So let's get geared up, Class of 1963, and get ready to "rock and roll" one more time.

The History of the Bacchanals, By Norm Koehler '63

In the mid 1970's, I took a trip through Bavaria with Father Gordon Henderson, S.J., and his nephew. Throughout the trip, Wheeling College came up in the conversation more than a couple of times. "Gordo" told me how he came to be our floor proctor in Whelan Hall. Father related how he enjoyed the stimulating dinner conversations the Jesuits had at Whelan Hall. It seemed that every evening there was a different incident involving the sophomore men. One of the Jesuits mentioned that Wheeling College could be the first Jesuit school to graduate an "all female class". When asked why, the response was that all the sophomore men would have flunked out by then. After the chuckling died down, Gordo said he asked what was being done to try to turn them around. The response was something like "Oh, Gordon, you don't know those guys. They're hopeless. There isn't anything you can do with them. They don't study, and all they want to do is party and drink."

Wanting to take a shot at doing something, but not wanting to step on anybody's toes, he asked the Jesuit proctor on the hall if he would mind if he (Gordo) worked with us. The response was not only favorable, but enthusiastic. The proctor said "I'd be glad if you worked with them. In fact, if you think it would help, I'd be glad to switch rooms with you so you could live on the hall."

Once on the hall, Gordo realized he had to find a way to develop a mechanism to identify who was having trouble and who was most at risk so he could figure out a strategy. Since the males in the Class of '63 were identified by their desire to party and drink, he decided to form a group of the sopho-



more men that would give them an identity that they would be proud of. Hence, his meeting with us to present the concept of forming our own club, similar to a fraternity. Since we were the exemplary group on campus, we should have our own identity. We were enthusiastic to say the least. When we discussed potential names for the group, he suggested BAKX01, the Bacchanals, paralleling the names adopted by fraternities. **Thus, the Bacchanals were born.**

Logic By Steve Haid '63

First semester, sophomore year, we were required to take our first philosophy course, Logic. I had some vague sense of the meaning of the words 'logic' and 'logical,' but I wrongly assumed that philosophy and its many derivatives were intended only for great minds. And so it was, with that very sophomoric thought, that the class began.



A tall, bespectacled Jesuit, John Coll, began our class peering down at us from a high platform in Donahue Hall. What thereafter unfolded was a dazzling new vocabulary -- syllogisms, fallacies, including the famed post hoc, ergo propter hoc, not to mention inductive and deductive reasoning and the square of contradictions. Still, I was inwardly resentful of this 'stuff.' Wasn't I there to study history and political theory?

By mid semester, the answer became obvious, even to a lesser light. We were learning how to think critically, stretch our minds, question old and new assumptions, and hopefully, become a logically thinking, reasoning being.

My brilliant and analytical roommate, Paul Drewitz, loved these courses and over a three year period discussed and analyzed them as my personal tutor. He was frequently critiqued by Norm Koehler, Charlie Lloyd and Joe Mossa. These were the best of times!

A half century has flown by since those days of inquiry and innocence. Some assurance abides that we were privileged to a most valuable experience and one that has very likely served us all well. We became just a small part of the Aristotelian tradition of that wonderful word, 'reason.' Standing in the long shadow of Thomas Aquinas, we were better suited to let logic and reason guide us, and not be herded by allegiance to conformity.

On a much larger scale, we became legates of the persistent questioning and the rigorous application of reason that overwhelmed the rigid orthodoxy of the medieval world and led to the Renaissance, the Enlightenment, and the revolutions of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

On the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of our graduation, our thoughts drift back to those richly rewarding, formative years, to John Coll, S.J., Edward Gannon, S.J., and G. Gordon Henderson, S.J. They were men of faith, but guided by reason and logic. What I wouldn't give to do it all over again.

Class of 1963 Memories and a Tribute to Fr. James Muldowney

Tony Kemper '63

The Class of '63 benefitted from a relatively stable and greatly supportive environment. By 1968, when I attended our five year reunion, there had been a dramatic build-up in Vietnam (Charlie remembers) and a number of horrific assassinations had occurred. Even WC had changed, with students in sweat shirts and sandals, liberal dorm hours, coed dorms, and priests being called by their first names.

If I had called Fr. O'Brien "Jim" or Fr. Coll "John", I would have been damned to hell for all eternity.

But, back in the 1959-1963 era, things were pretty calm. We arrived in Wheeling to find new buildings, spirited classmates, and an impressive collection of professors. The Jesuit community had gone all-out to staff and support this fledgling College. The number of advanced degrees among the faculty could have sunk a battleship (almost as many as Jim Dissen).

Each of us had our favorite teacher, and although there were a number of close seconds (who could forget Fr. Laut's English class, Fr. Gannon's Gambol directions, or Fr. Troy's dynamic personality), my favorite was Fr. Muldowney. And not because we had the same birth date (what are the chances?). Since I was a Sociology major, he taught many of my classes and I had ample opportunity to watch him in action.

I don't know what his I.Q. was, but I think it was in the brilliant category. A voracious reader and thinker, he constantly challenged himself and his students to a higher level. He once told me that when he had 15 or 20 minute breaks at the seminary, he would use the time to read the encyclopedia. He started at A and was almost finished with the entire set when he was ordained.

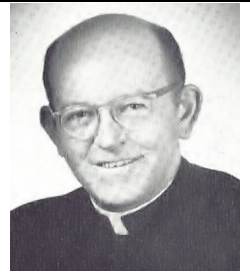
Along with an excellent memory, he also had a good sense of humor. On a number of occasions, after giving me a question and then hearing me ramble on attempting to answer, he would ask me at what point would I admit I didn't know what I was talking about. That used to give Aimee quite a chuckle.

Dick Fitzgerald and I were roommates in Senior year, and an early Soc. course was on the agenda. Somehow, we always were running across campus and barely getting to class on time. A few times we missed by a minute or two. Fr. Muldowney got even. One day, he switched classrooms. Dick and I stormed across campus, and arrived (late as usual) at a closed and locked room. We aged about ten years until we located the group a couple of rooms away. Needless to say, we were not late again.

Although he was an excellent teacher, he was made Dean and asked to work on the College's accreditation. By throwing himself into the project (and, obviously, with the help of others), the College received full accreditation the first year it

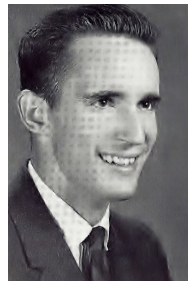


was eligible, a rare feat for an institution so young. It was another example of his work ethic. Unfortunately, his drive and tenacity probably contributed to a too-early heart attack and death. I suspect that he inherited some defective genes, but that didn't stop him from pushing himself to the limit. He left his mark.



Fr. Muldowney

James Mauck '63



Have 50 years really elapsed! This can't be! This has to be someone's joke or maybe a dream. I don't feel different and I don't look that different. My weight and height are the same....almost. Well maybe I am a little different at least in the morning as I gingerly take that first step and stretch a back that frequently aches. In the mirror I see someone whose hair has turned a grayish white. Must be too much of the Colorado sun. The memory now has some gaps as it is difficult for a Wheeling College "day hop" to remember what Wheeling was like, having now lived 40 years in Denver. My days at Wheeling College, now Wheeling Jesuit University, seem so long ago and yet feel like yesterday.

Those first months on the campus were traumatic. I was almost certain that I would not survive. I started as a sophomore and consequently never certain who were my classmates because everyone was new. There were exceptions. I knew Jerome Matuska '63 and John McMakin '63. We had spent 8 years together in grade school. I also knew Tom Bunting '63, as we played baseball in Little League and I knew Roger Jackson '63, since he lived next to an aunt. I had attended a small grade school and an even smaller high school. My senior graduating class totaled 5 students. WJU was a new and intimidating world, for it was the largest school I had ever attended with each class filled with as many as 30 aggressively dynamic individuals with experiences that I could only imagine. They seemed to know something about every tv show, every rock n roll performer and were vociferous on current events and school issues.

My first day in the Soc. Class (Sociology was my intended major), Fr. Muldowney, the only instructor in the Soc. dept., introduced the course by reading parts of the college catalogue while encouraging us to consider alternative majors. He concluded his remarks by assuring the 15 or so of us in attendance that the purpose of this major was not to train sociologists. That goal was left to a graduate school. The task of this course and the purpose of WJU was to teach us how to think. Concluding his remarks he held up the course textbook and announcing that since we could all read English there was no need to discuss the contents. We were responsible for the entire text. *(continued on next page)*

Class of 63 Memories continued

Mauck (continued from pg 6) At that moment my mother's offer to purchase me a truck so I could start my own construction company seemed to offer a brighter and more promising future.

For some reason I stayed, whether it was stubbornness or a challenge I remain uncertain. I do know that no other professor had such an impact on my ultimate career. He, along with Fathers Gannon, Curran and Henderson, stirred the academic curiosity that kept me in the game. There was a force in how they saw and interacted with the world.

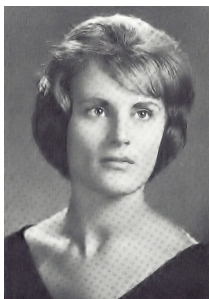
On a subliminal level, I was also haunted by the dream of a father, with an 8th grade education, whose sons would receive a college education. He rejoiced when the announcement was made that the Jesuits were establishing a college in the valley. (Unfortunately he passed away the year Wheeling College accepted its first class.)

And now it has been 50 years. Fifty years of wearing a class ring that is now scratched and worn; fifty years of the challenging school motto, "Luceat Lux Vestra" and; fifty years of memories of classmates who were diligent in their pursuit of excellence. They would be matched by the dedication and personal investment of a very talented WC faculty. It was the incubation of Wheeling Jesuit University. Its ultimate success rested on our success as graduates. We needed to create a legacy of meaningful investment in our communities and a tradition of excellence. Now WJU stands as a testament of that early investment many made so long ago.

As for myself, upon graduation I went to work for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Wheeling/Charleston. My first assignment was to work with 50 plus children who called St. Vincent Home their home. Twenty-eight were Cuban children, ages 6-13, airlifted out of Cuba in the midst of the Cuban Crisis. In October of 1968 I was appointed diocesan director of Catholic Charities and the first lay person to hold such a position. In the fall of 1974 I was hired by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Denver and retired in 2008 as the President and CEO. What will remain as an affirmation of my success is not the number of programs and services developed, not the size of our staff, nor the size of our budget, but rather that I was always able to act justly and affirm the dignity of each person. My Wheeling College education anchored me in a reasoned philosophy that valued each person as made in the image of our Creator... And it still doesn't seem like 50 years.

Caroline Gornik McLaughlin '63

My memories of Wheeling College are very positive. Wheeling College's mission was to educate men and women in the Wheeling area, and I was a local Wheeling girl in need of an education. From birth, I wanted to go to college; but if it weren't for Wheeling College, I may not have realized my dream. I didn't have the money or a car to go away



to school. No one on either side of my family had ever attended college. Having a Jesuit college within an hour of my home was everything to me. I was ecstatic that a loan from my parents and savings from my jobs were just enough to cover the tuition for one year. I decided that even one year at Wheeling College would be better than nothing.

I have happy memories of being a day hop. I didn't mind walking a mile from home every day to get to the bus stop. I remember singing as I walked. I didn't mind getting off the bus on National Road and walking up to the college. I remember playing bridge in the cafeteria and missing Mr. Stemple's class once or twice. I loved the cafeteria food. I was happy, and people were friendly. I learned about student loans, and was offered jobs at the switchboard and in the library. After only one year of Wheeling College, I felt supported in so many ways and knew that I would continue and graduate.

The people I met there were very special. I remember Father Bill Troy who was kind, but justifiably irritated when I disconnected him at the switchboard. I remember my roommate Tina who let me wear her clothes my senior year when I lived in the dorm. I remember and miss terribly Kathy Whelan who befriended me, shared her family with me, and insisted I accompany her on her vacation to Cape Cod. I still love Father Laut who always asked about my family, gave me high marks on my literature tests, and wrote such long encouraging comments on my work that I decided I would be a teacher like him. I will never forget Linda McAlarney who drove me home my senior year and took my mother to the hospital to have her 8th and last baby. Even after graduating, what a surprise it was for Julie Smith and me to be invited to dinner with Father Gannon. I still remember the chateaubriand and the conversation about how we were doing in Philadelphia. I will never forget him. He lives on in my thoughts.

Lastly there is Terri Haid. I have many memories of her good deeds and what I learned from her. When I was home babysitting, I missed some classes and my finals. Terri graciously offered to let me copy her notes. I remember those notes. They were neat, organized, and in her very special outline form that I have used for the last 50 years and passed on to my students. She is also the student who kept me connected to the college over the years. No matter where I was, I always received a Christmas card and a note to call her.

All these people and others demonstrated what Wheeling College is about – not only about educational excellence, but about service to others. I am grateful to Wheeling College for a wonderful education and for making a dream come true, but also for reminding me that acts of kindness might never be forgotten. I haven't forgotten...

Mount de Chantal Conservatory of Music at Wheeling Jesuit University by Sister Joanne Gonter '59

By now, many of you have heard the wonderful news – that our beloved alma mater has committed to an initiative that will greatly enhance the University's Department of Fine Arts and continue the legacy of Mount de Chantal Visitation Academy in Wheeling: the establishment of the "Mount de Chantal Conservatory of Music at Wheeling Jesuit University," which is slated to be ready for use late this fall. Georgetown Visitation Sister Mary Berchmans Hannan and I traveled to Wheeling in October and made the announcement jointly with WJU officials.

The new space, taking shape on the first floor of the CET Building, will provide a much-needed home for Wheeling Jesuit students' musical activity, which has expanded under the presidency of Rick Beyer and will continue to grow under Fr. James Fleming.

Some 30 instrumentalists now make up the two-year-old WJU Symphonic Band, and they perform with Pittsburgh's River City Brass to a full house in Troy Theater! A grant from a Wheeling-based foundation made it possible for the University to hire the River City Brass's music director, James Gourlay, to be WJU's Director of Instrumental Music & University Bands. You can see a wonderful video on YouTube about the Symphonic Band, with comments by some of the students along with Maestro Gourlay.



Rick Beyer and Sr. Joanne

The Conservatory itself will include a lovely recital hall, with space for 112 audience members; a lobby and parlor; office and practice space; and something we Mount de Chantal Sisters are especially excited about – the Sisters of the Visitation Gallery, where the University will display Mount de Chantal art, artifacts and archival material. We Mount Sisters and many Mount alumnae who have toured the space feel as if the Mount is returning to Wheeling!

Because the Visitation Sisters believe so completely in this initiative, we contributed a leadership gift of \$250,000, plus another \$50,000 toward scholarships. We were very pleased when a Wheeling foundation matched our gift with another \$250,000, a Wheeling individual contributed \$100,000, and many Mount de Chantal and WJU graduates have sent very generous donations.

We believe the scholarship fund that we established is one of the most important elements of this initiative. A \$10,000 Mount de Chantal Scholarship will be awarded annually to one incoming female freshman who is committed to participation in at least one conducted ensemble and meets other academic requirements. We would like the support to continue so that the University can meet its goal of \$3 million. Aside from construction, personnel and scholarships, the University has additional hopes, including establishing an endowment for the Chair of Fine Arts. For information about donations and naming opportunities see the next column.

Building on a friendship that has flourished for centuries between the Sisters of the Visitation and the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), Wheeling Jesuit University is *establishing the Mount de Chantal Conservatory of Music at Wheeling Jesuit University*. "With this addition to its campus, the University will honor the legacy of the Sisters and continue their education mission by providing a central space for music performance, practice and instruction. Construction of the Conservatory will take place in the summer of 2013, with dedication of the space in late fall.

You Can Play A Part!

The Sisters of the Visitation, several area foundations and many individual donors have contributed close to \$1 million toward the Conservatory. But your support is needed as Wheeling Jesuit moves toward its \$3 million goal. In addition to creating and furnishing the space, funds are enabling acquisition and restoration of art and other objects, the addition of faculty/staff, the Mount de Chantal Music Scholarship endowment and an endowed Chair of Fine Arts.

Wheeling Jesuit University is deeply grateful for contributions of any amount toward the Conservatory, and gifts are acknowledged promptly for contributors' tax purposes.

"Buy A Chair"

Donors of \$250 and \$500 who so desire will have their gifts acknowledged with a tag on the back of a chair in the Recital Hall, with their name inscribed. This opportunity is available until all chairs are taken. Gifts of \$500 will be acknowledged on chairs in the Dress Circle, and gifts of \$250 on Orchestra seats.

Other acknowledgement options and naming opportunities are available for gifts of \$25,000 and more. If interested go to <http://www.wju.edu/conservatory/donation.asp>

More information is available from Kathryn Kelly in the WJU Advancement Office at 304-243-8160, or kkelly@wju.edu.

A tribute to Rick and Cindy Beyer



The 50 Year Club wishes to thank Rick and Cindy for their many contributions to our beloved University. Your support of the 50 Year Club has enabled us to grow and become more effective in the last two years. Both of you have made the diploma ceremony a significant event. The memento of WJU given at the ceremony adds a special touch that is much appreciated. As noted by Mimie O'Hara Helm '84, Chair of the WJU Board of Trustees "The Board is deeply grateful to you for your significant contributions to the university. Under your leadership, WJU has achieved record enrollment, tremendous growth in alumni giving and new academic programs in fine arts, engineering and health sciences." Your greatest gift to the University is training your replacement. Loss of leadership at the top is usually followed by some level of chaos but you have had the foresight to prevent that from happening. Fr. Fleming at your side for all your decisions and planning has assured a smooth transition and a continued growth in our beloved University. We wish you and your family the best. And thanks again Cindy for being a great first lady. We will miss both of you and wish you much success in your future.

Rick & Cindy Beyer

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. 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.

Other accomplishments during Rick's tenure include: 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

Message from President Beyer

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.

Welcome Fr. Jim Fleming 10th President of WJU



James Fleming, S.J., Ph.D., Executive Vice President at Wheeling Jesuit University, was appointed the institution's tenth president by the Board of Trustees, effective July 1, 2013. At Wheeling Jesuit, he has overseen the university's operations; focused on strategic leadership for program development, implementation and assessment; and led university-wide collaboration on the development of a strategic plan and master plan along with other new initiatives.

He is the author of numerous articles and publications, and holds a doctorate in educational policy, organization, measurement and evaluation from the University of California, Berkeley. As a research associate at Cal, he worked at the Institute for Urban and Regional Development and served as project director of the Design Study for an Evaluation Methodology of the Community Outreach Partnership Centers.

Before joining the leadership team at WJU, Fleming worked at Boston College as a faculty member in the Lynch School of Education and as Director of Mission Assessment and Planning where

Fr. Jim Fleming he lead a national research project related to the spiritual development of college students through the design and administration of the *Boston College Questionnaire about the Undergraduate Experience (BCQ)*.

His responsibilities since his arrival at WJU include:

President, Wheeling Jesuit University

July 1, 2013

Executive Vice President, Wheeling Jesuit University

2012 to June 30, 2013

- In close cooperation with the President and the Chief Financial Officer, oversees the University's operations and functioning.
- Fosters collaboration across the University to manage changes in policies and practices that affect the life of the University as a whole.
- Provides high-level vision and strategic leadership for program development, implementation and assessment.
- Leads the University-wide conversation about, and drives ways to facilitate, innovation and collaboration.
- Has as direct reports the Vice President for Enrollment Management, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Dean of Student Development, the Associate Vice President for Administration, and the Director of Campus Ministry, Mission, and Identity.

University Vice President & Chief of Staff, Wheeling Jesuit University

2010 to 2012



- Works directly with the President to foster collaboration across the university to manage changes in policies and practices that affect the life of the university as a whole.
- Assists the Academic Vice President in fostering intellectual interactions across the University and fostering interdisciplinary collaboration.
- Assists the President and the Chief Financial Officer in tailoring ideas and plans based on knowledge of internal operational and financial conditions as well as external relationships.
- Fosters external relations as a way of soliciting major gifts and foundation/corporate grants.

Fr. Fleming has been a strong supporter of the 50 Year Club and its activities. He was very instrumental in the first Alumni Scholar in Residence project and has been a constant advisor and mentor to Ed Shahady '60, the President of the Club. His resume tells the story of his many academic accomplishments, but does not tell you about his kindness and humility as a human being. Ed Shahady said "Being with him reminds me of my days as student at WJU and the feeling of how lucky I am to be educated by such great men as the Jesuits."

Welcome aboard Fr. Jim. You have the admiration and support of the 50 Year Club members and all alumni.

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

50 Year Club WJU

[Home](#)
[Club Newsletters](#)
[Class of 60 Reunion](#)
[Class of 61 Reunion](#)
[Class of 62 Reunion](#)
[Class Gift](#)
[more...](#)

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.

Go to this site to review the many activities of the50 Year Club
<http://www.50yearclubwju.org>

50 Year Club

The following were nominated for Club officers and board members to serve June 2013-June 2015. President-Dan Haller '61, 1st Vice President-Al Reed '60, 2nd Vice President-Don Mercer '60, Secretary-Carolyn Cannon '60, Past President-Ed Shahady '60, Members at Large - Barbara Creamer Yeager '59, John Eagan McAteer '61, Fr. John DiBacco '62, Terri Haid '63.

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 54 individuals who have volunteered from the classes of 59 through 63. The group meets yearly at the time of the reunion and then by conference call during the year.

Alumni Scholar in Residence: This program, initiated by the 50 Year Club in 2011, represents a partnership with the university faculty and administration. A committee representing all three groups selects the scholar and coordinates the campus visit. **The scholar will be a visiting professor to the University for up to one week and all expenses will be donated by the scholar.** 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. The third scholar is Dick Riley, Ph. D. and he will be on Campus in the Fall of 2013.



Cindy Beyer receiving her honorary 50 Year Club diploma from Dan Haller.