

October 28, 2004

Dear Southern Region Friends,

What a joy it was to meet many alumnae at the Southern Regional Conference in Lafayette, Louisiana earlier this month. We experienced the breathtaking beauty of Grand Coteau and enjoyed warm southern hospitality. Jan Dunn RSCJ and Melanie Guste RSCJ shared their thoughts on “St. Madeleine Sophie’s Radical Vision of Education” and “Meeting the Challenges of Sacred Heart Education for the Future.” The sessions on nutrition and preventing heart disease in women—two significant medical “challenges to the heart”—were extremely informative. We toured the school and grounds, celebrated Mass in the historic Chapel, then savored Cajun specialties at Prejean’s. It was a wonderful conference rich in Sacred Heart spirit.

My sincere gratitude goes to conference co-chairs Linzee Evans and Shawn Rhymes along with their planning committee: Christina Cain, Carmen deMoya, Melanie Goudelocke, Cynthia Thompson and Candee Zaunbrecher. A special thank you to Mary Burns, Headmistress of Grand Coteau, and Diane Darling, Alumnae Director, for sharing their school with us. Look for photos as well as a copy of Sr. Jan Dunn’s remarks on www.aashnet.org soon.

Now on to other AASH news . . .

THE 35TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE in Chicago April 21–24, 2005 at the Drake Hotel is quickly approaching. The theme is “**St. Madeleine Sophie’s Vision of Service—Living Our Legacy.**” Look for details to be published in the next issue of *Esprit de Coeur*. Registration will be \$425 with an early bird price of \$400 and young alums/RSCJ will be \$375. Madeleine Ortman, Executive Director for the Network is planning to host a meeting for all alumnae/i presidents/directors on Thursday, April 21, so make plans to arrive on Wednesday and enjoy all that the city of Chicago has to offer.

The **AMASC WORLD CONGRESS** is set for April 23–28, 2006 in New Orleans. This is sure to be a spectacular world gathering and one that we are honored to be hosting in the United States—the first time since 1980! With this in mind, the Board of Directors of AASH has given a unique gift of \$20,000 to help fund this conference. Barbara Lopiccio, AASH President, presented the gift to AMASC President Olga Rome at our Southern Regional. The AASH Board hopes this gift brings other gifts to help realize a wonderful conference for all the AMASC associations.

Additionally, to prepare for this momentous occasion for sharing in the spirit of the Sacred Heart, Kathleen Simon, AMASC Study Plan coordinator, is compiling responses to the Study Plan question “***How would your life be different if you had not received the gift of your Sacred Heart education?***” She is in the process of collecting the responses from around the world and looks forward to great support from the United States. If your association has yet to respond, kindly do so as soon as possible.

I recommend that when you host your next Association Board meeting or Retreat you review the AMASC site. Visit the link for more information: <http://www.amasc-sacrecoeur.org/studyplan.shtml>

GREAT NEWS! THE APPEAL FROM THE SOCIETY OF THE SACRED HEART which AASH supported by a one-time use of our mailing list has produced a wonderful response of over \$335,000 from 1,920 alums! The AASH alumnae/i body response will enable the Society to receive the challenge grant of \$250,000 from the Barat Educational Foundation, Lake Forest, Illinois. This grant along with the \$2,500 lead gift from AASH will enable the Society of the Sacred Heart to help cover the deficit in their operating budget as well as to help build their endowment. As children of the Sacred Heart, our alumnae/i responded to this unique opportunity to give back to the women who gave so much to us. Thank you! Your gifts are a wonderful tribute to the life's work of our beloved RSCJ.

EAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE: The Greenwich Alumnae Association will host the Eastern Regional Conference, "The World of the Heart," November 12–14, 2004 on the beautiful Convent of the Sacred Heart campus in Greenwich. Cecile Meijer RSCJ the Society's first non-governmental representative to the United Nations, and Dr. Bonita Chamberlain who has spent 28 years helping the people of Afghanistan, will be our featured speakers. Log onto www.aashnet.org for registration information.

CHRISTMAS IS COMING: The AASH Gift Shop is a great place to do your Christmas shopping at www.aashnet.org! Currently items are available from St. Charles, Grand Coteau, Bloomfield Hills, Broadway in San Francisco, Villa Duchesne-City House, Barat College of DePaul University, the Shrine of St. Philippine Duchesne, Neighborhood Artisans as well as the AASH National Office.

This is an easy way to increase your opportunities to sell items that your alumnae/i association offers and a great way for alumnae/i around the country to purchase Sacred Heart memorabilia. If you do not have a presence on the AASH website, just call Jeanne O'Fallon at our national office toll free at 1.888.622.7421 and she will be happy to walk you through the process. And, for an easy way to purchase all your gifts, use your **MBNA CREDIT CARD** The MBNA credit card is a significant source of income for AASH. To apply for a credit card, visit www.aashnet.org. With every purchase you make, you'll be helping to support AASH.

STUART WELCOMES NEW ALUMNAE DIRECTOR Please extend a warm welcome to the new Alumnae Director at Stuart, Beth Brown DeClue '80.

HANDBOOK AND DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS: Below are a few changes/corrections to be made in your AASH Handbook and Directory:

- Pg. 2.21 Please note that Stuart's e-mail address has changed from @stuart.k12.nj.us to @stuartschool.org.
- Pg. 2.21 Beth Brown DeClue replaces Anne-Marie Campbell as Alumnae Director; her e-mail address is bdeclue@stuartschool.org

SEND ME YOUR ASSOCIATION NEWS! Feel free to send me any news, events or photos that you would like to share via the AASH website. Keep in mind that the

calendar is an easy way to publicize your alumnae/i events. Usage of our website is growing every day. It's a great resource for informing alumnae/i of events and to check for AASH events in our region. AASH is now also posting photos of our conferences and other events—log onto www.aashnet.org to enjoy. If you send photos, please identify the event and the date.

Also, please note that my work number has recently changed to 314.810.3529. As always, I enjoy hearing from you and look forward to seeing you in Chicago for our National Conference.

All the best,

Lisa Tebbe
Southern Regional Director