

November 14, 2005

Dear Western Region Friends,

I hope you have had a wonderful summer and that you have had a great beginning to what is usually a busy fall.

We have all been overwhelmed by the devastation of New Orleans and the amazing generosity and inclusion shown toward the students and families of **"The Rosary"** by the network of Sacred Heart Schools. Over 400 children as well as about 60 faculty and staff have been welcomed by other Network Schools. What a Family we are !!

Here are updates on Alumnae/i functions taking place in the Western Region:

The Arizona Alumnae/i: Held a very successful **"Be in the pink at the Salad Extravaganza and Meeting"** on **Mater's Feast** October 20th. **St. Philippine's Feast**, November 19th will bring **"Christmas Shopping in Wickenburg"** including lunch. The year's Fundraiser, **"Carols and Canapés Christmas Party"** will take place on December 11th. Great success with all your events !!

The Atherton Alumnae/i: The Sacred Heart Reunion Weekend October 1 & 2, was a tremendous success. The **Class of 1955** enjoyed two full days of events and activities on and off campus. One of the best memories was when Sunday brunch ended in the Parlor and the class walked over to Oakwood to visit a former teacher, **Sr. Welch**, now 92, who certainly enjoyed all of the fuss. The **Gingerbread House Decorating Party** takes place on Saturday, December 3. The **Collegiate Young Alumni "Home for the Holidays" Party** will be on December 19, while the **Young Alumni Christmas Cocktail Party** will be on December 22. Have fun at your events ! Good luck with preparations for **St. Joseph's Centennial** on May 20, 2006.

The Broadway Alumnae/i: On November 19th, the **Skate Party** for students, Parents, Alumnae etc, will be enjoyed. The next day the **Rent Benefit Screening** will take place and Broadway will be hosting their now famous **Gingerbread House Workshops** at both 11 am and 2 pm on Sunday, December 04. December 11th all will enjoy the **Festive Alumnae Noels**. Have a wonderful Holiday Season everyone.

The Forest Ridge Alumnae/i: On October 20th, **The Feast of Mater** was celebrated with an all-school liturgy in the afternoon which the students planned. They all wore pink shirts! The Children of Mary Sodality members joined them as well, followed by tea. November, 18th will bring the **Feast of St. Philippine Duchesne Loyalty**

Luncheon and Liturgy. The **Gingerbread House Workshop** will be held on December 3rd and the **Middle School 2002 – 2005 Reunion** will take place on December 19th. Good Luck with all of your events !

The Vancouver Point Grey Alumnae: On November 12th, the Alumnae had the great privilege of showing visitors around our old Convent Chapel, now St. George's, as the Chapel was in **The Vancouver Heritage Foundation Sacred Sites Tour**. We are looking forward to our regular meeting as close to **St. Philippine's Feast** as possible, November 19th. **Sr. Mary B. Flaherty, rscj** and other **Forest Ridge** friends are going to make the trip North to be with us. There will be a **special surprise guest** in attendance as well, thanks to an anonymous Alum. How lucky we are to be able to use our old school for gatherings!

I am sorry that I cannot report on the other groups in the Western Region as they have not responded with information. I hope that you have enjoyed any functions you have hosted or are going to host.

Now, on to other AASH news and updates . . .

AMASC WORLD CONGRESS APRIL 23-26 2006 – NEW ORLEANS, LA

Olga Rome appreciates the prayerful support from alumnae/i throughout the World as many residents of New Orleans are now faced with the devastating aftermath of both hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As stated on the back cover of the recent *Esprit de Coeur*, a decision regarding the upcoming Congress will be made at the end of November when the President's Team meets in New Orleans. Please continue to visit the website for further information and updates www.amasc-sacrecoeur.org and www.aashnet.org

AN UPDATE ON THE ROSARY AND THE HURICANE RELIEF EFFORT

The good news is that the Rosary in New Orleans will open its doors on Monday, November 7th and begin the process of having all of their students return to school. Thanks to the many Sacred Heart alums who offered their assistance to those in need during this most stressful period of adjustment. And a special thanks to the many who sent in donations for the two-pronged hurricane relief effort that was set up by the RSCJ, Network of Sacred Heart Schools, and AASH to assist in the transition of students from the Academy of the Sacred Heart ("the Rosary") in New Orleans and to help the thousands of people left homeless and jobless in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. For further updates and info please go to www.sofie.org and www.aashnet.org

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - Adele O'Grady Botticelli,

President of AASH has been asked to be a member of the National Leadership Development Committee along with Madeleine Ortman, head of Network of Schools, Sr. Kathleen Conan, rscj provincial and other people throughout the country. Lay men and women, who support the work of the Society, will get people together to centralize fundraising information. They will build on the fundraising effort of the Society and the Network of Schools and have consistent communication to our Sacred Heart family. They plan to meet the end of November.

TRINITÀ DEI MONTI - ROME ITALY - Since we just celebrated the Feast of Mater in the month of October, I thought that this would be a good time to remind you that beginning in summer 2006, the Society of the Sacred Heart will no longer staff the Trinita, due to stringent

personnel requirements of the French (not Italian) government who own the Trinita. It will be operated by the *Fraternités Monastiques de Jérusalem*, a congregation of monks, nuns and laity founded in 1975 with a vocation to live “in the heart of the city, in the heart of God” and to provide welcome to all, including citizens and visitors to the city, outcasts, children, and the poor. The congregation’s members have a special devotion to Mary and are willing to embrace the spirit and practice of Sacred Heart education in running the school. They are committed to welcoming all who wish to see Mater, the fresco of the Blessed Virgin Mary so dear to all of the extended family of the Society, particularly alumnae/i of Sacred Heart schools. For further info: www.rscjinternational.org

MBNA CREDIT CARD - The MBNA credit card is a significant source of income for AASH. Last year we earned more than \$22,000! As you start your holiday shopping, please remember to use your MBNA credit card. To apply for a credit card, visit www.aashnet.org. Remember with every purchase you make, you’ll be helping to support AASH!

GIFT SHOP - Please take a look at your associations gift shop site and contact our webmaster mary@argas.com with changes, corrections, additions, etc. This is a great time of year to have your site loaded with unique Sacred Heart items available for sale.

AASH CALENDAR – Note to Alum Directors, Association Presidents, AASH Reps
When planning events, please keep the AASH web site calendar in mind. It’s a great resource to keep everyone informed. Please send me your calendar of events, association meeting dates and any other news and I will gladly add them to the National Calendar for you.

HANDBOOK AND DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS: The Member Association Handbook and Directory (aka the “RED BOOK”) is going to press soon and AASH Reps and alumnae/i directors should have received a letter from our Corresponding Secretary, **Diane Tymick**, requesting any updates. Please be sure to send this info back to her, via the AASH National Office even if you have no changes. The updated AASH Handbook and Directory is a wonderful resource and will be updated and distributed this fall.

With much love to all for a Joyous Christmas Season which is fast approaching,



Airlie Ogilvie
AASH Western Regional Director