

Colorado Alumnae of the Sacred Heart Report

Our calendar year 2006-07 began in September with the publication of our semi-annual newsletter. In addition to keeping us up-to-date on births, weddings, deaths and pertinent alumnae news, our editor, Barbara Kelly always features an alum interview as well as an aspect of spiritual growth.

This fall's newsletter related details of the AMASC "call to action". This "call to action" asks us to reflect about and identify the many gifts and qualities that we each possess as a result of our Sacred Heart education. It is easy to see how our responses from our introspection will give a clear picture of how we are living our legacy of love and learning.

In response to a request from the National Office, our Board authorized the donation of \$1,000 to be sent to the schools helping the students of Rosary after the hurricane disaster in New Orleans.

The Scholarship Committee continues its work, notifying schools of our application process and encouraging students to apply for the available funds. We have been able to fund at least one scholarship per year to a Sacred Heart college or an affiliated school for over 30 years. This year, in addition to the scholarships, the committee is initiating a program of estate planning for the alums, as the corpus of our funding has remained static for a number of years, while expenses continue to escalate.

Our October luncheon featured the same Barbara Kelly who is also a volunteer with an agency that provides services to Denver's homeless population. She gave us an overview of the issues that impact these service providers. Of course there is a trickle down effect to the homeless population itself.

Our meetings always include a home Mass, luncheon and a business meeting.

The December meeting featured our annual Christmas card correspondence to the retired nuns at Oakwood and Kenwood. We consider them as loved members of our families, to be remembered at least once a year, with holiday greetings. They always assure us, in their thanks, that we are in their prayers all year long, which is their wonderful gift to us.

January brought in the winter newsletter, with news of the cancellation of the AMASC World Conference in New Orleans, as well as the news that the Trinita will no longer be staffed by the Sacred Heart nuns. Our February speaker was a local nun involved in bettering the lives of a group of inner-city women, who have been involved with drugs and prostitution and have served jail time. Learning a skill is a path out of their former lives and they are instructed in sewing skills while making a "get-well-bunny" named Flossie. Our alum group voted to help fund materials needed to create the little dresses and bloomers for the bunnies, as the program is beginning to show encouraging progress and just needs a little boost to be truly successful. We've also donated gently-used clothing so these women can feel good about their appearances while interviewing for jobs.

Our May luncheon consisted of fruit kebabs, shrimp casserole and fancy desserts, all preceded by a welcome round of mimosas - just for fun. Past president Sue Kruse gave an overview of recommended summer reading and an introduction of our new president, Ruth Tomlinson and her Board. Needless to say, our May meeting is much appreciated and is a fun way to wrap up a busy, productive year.

This summer, volunteers are calling our roster of current members, preparatory to publishing a statewide directory, under the watchful care of Sandy Madigan, who has been our computerized membership guru for several years. Plans for the upcoming year will be firmed up at a July Board meeting. And, as always, we continue to collect those precious stamps!

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Cronan