

HILL CHESTNUT

the magazine of chestnut hill college



Michael Majok Kuch
***A Journey of Survival
and Reconciliation***

FALL 09

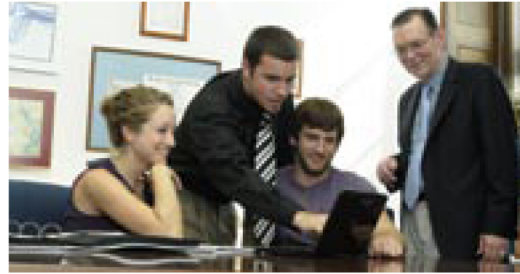
SNAPSHOT

Chestnut Hill College, here I come! First-year student Aimee Nemeth was among a record-breaking 350 new students to arrive on campus this fall, resulting in an exciting — if hectic — move-in day.



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By Ryan Dougherty

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Separated from his family at the age of five by civil war, Michael Majok Kuch '08 embarked on an epic journey of survival and reconciliation.

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ON THE COVER: *Michael Majok Kuch '08 is in the second year of a master's degree program in international peace and conflict resolution at Arcadia University.*

FALL 09

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Surrounded by New Life



Growth refers to an evolutionary development that results in change to an organism or an entity. Over the past decade, the College has experienced vast transformations in important aspects of its institutional life — from increases in enrollment to the acreage of the campus, from additional sports programs to innovative student life offerings, from new buildings to renovated structures. However, even as we have expanded and seen dramatic

increases in multiple areas of campus life, we have been mindful of the enduring importance of quality.

Within this context, I present the fall issue of *Chestnut Hill* — one filled with stories of growth that reflect the values integral to the College's mission. In "Around the Hill," you will become acquainted with the College's master plan, which architecturally, aesthetically, and conceptually unites our two beautiful hills located on either side of Germantown Avenue. You will also read about the 350 new students that the College welcomed to campus this fall. The presence of the largest first-year class in history testifies not only to the momentum gathering at the College but the extraordinary educational value we offer to students in today's challenging economy.

Our cover story chronicles the inspirational saga of Michael Majok Kuch '08, a "Lost Boy" from the Sudan, who was separated from his family at age five by a civil war and subsequently embarked on an arduous journey of survival and forgiveness. You will meet the talented student members of our *Phi Beta Lambda* business team, which raised the College's national profile as a business program of distinction while demonstrating its self-confidence and expertise. Finally, our new Director of Athletics, Lynn Tubman elucidates her vision for the growth of the athletics program, aligning her goals with the principles of NCAA Division II and the mission of the College.

As with every issue, our goal is to connect you to today's Chestnut Hill College. Knowing the stories associated with the institution will not only enliven your hearts but will stimulate your minds. The vibrancy of the campus and the plans for the future, coupled with the character and daring of our students, point to a College that is strong and growing.

Sincerely,

Carol Jean Vale, SSJ

Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D.
President

CHESTNUT HILL

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FALL 2009

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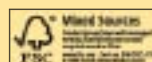
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The mission of Chestnut Hill College is to provide students with holistic education in an inclusive Catholic community marked by academic excellence, shared responsibility, personal and professional growth, service to one another and to the global community, and concern for the earth.

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AROUND THE HILL

Campus News



>> COLLEGE REVEALS MASTER PLAN FOR INTEGRATED CAMPUS



This artist's rendering depicts the integration of the College's two campuses as outlined in the master plan.

Seeking approval of a vision and not a specific building, the College went before the Development Review Committee (DRC) of the Chestnut Hill Community Association (CHCA) in mid-September to present its master plan for the integration of the SugarLoaf Hill and main College campuses.

The 2006 acquisition of the 32-acre SugarLoaf property from the Greenfield Foundation was viewed by the College as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that would transform the institution. Nearly doubling the size of the campus allowed for expansion to accommodate a growing student body that has grown dramatically since the College went coed in 2003. There are currently 906 undergraduate students in the School of Undergraduate Studies, with plans to increase enrollment over the next five years to 1,500 students. A second doctoral program and several other new programs are also planned.

Landlocked and with limited buildable acreage on the main campus, the College developed the master plan to fulfill its vision and its mission while creating a European city on two hills, reminiscent of Le Puy, France where the Sisters of Saint Joseph were founded. College President Sister Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., told the *Philadelphia Inquirer* that "the terra cotta roofs, gray stone buildings, open courtyards, and walkways would give the new campus the same feel as the current one — much like a French hillside town."

The plan could take as many as 25 years to complete and comes with an estimated price tag of \$350 to \$500 million. Plans for

the SugarLoaf property include several academic buildings and residence halls, a performing arts center, and a 600-car parking garage with a green roof. The College hopes to complete the construction of a new entrance to SugarLoaf at the intersection of Hillcrest Avenue and the building of the roads and parking garage in the next couple of years. Within five years, the College anticipates building a new student center and underground parking garage on the main campus.

The historic Greenfield mansion, currently undergoing a \$6 million restoration, will be preserved on the SugarLoaf property. Scheduled for completion in December 2009,

the comprehensive renovation includes the addition of a 160-seat dining room. During the academic year, the College plans on using the mansion for classrooms and meeting space and as a conference and event facility when students are not on campus.

The College also seeks to have the SugarLoaf Hill campus rezoned from its current R1/R2, residential status to an Institutional Development District (IDD). IDD status permits the College to construct new buildings as necessary without seeking a zoning variance each time, saving the College time and money. However, IDD status does not circumvent the Wissahickon Watershed District regulations. With each new construction project, the College would be required to obtain zoning approvals where environmental issues such as pervious/impervious coverage, steep slope development, storm water management, and floodway and floodplain development are involved.

The local community would also benefit from the College's IDD status. With an approved master plan, the College would be obligated to follow the specifics of the plan, thereby eliminating any surprises to the community as this multi-decade plan is developed. Many of the city's higher-ed institutions, such as Temple, Saint Joseph's, and Penn, are zoned as an IDD.

The College expects that the approval process could take up to several months at the local level. The master plan then moves to Philadelphia's City Planning Commission for review and a vote by City Council for approval of the IDD. 🦁

>> NEW DEAN EAGER TO RAISE PROFILE OF SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES



Steven Guerriero, Ph.D., brings to the College more than 20 years of experience in graduate education.

Steven Guerriero, Ph.D., recalls his decision to become dean of the College's School of Graduate Studies (SGS) as a leap of faith — in every sense.

"I wanted to go to a program with a successful foundation that was ready to take the next step, and I wanted to be in a place with a strong spiritual core," Guerriero said. "I've found it."

Bringing close to 20 years of experience in graduate education, Guerriero came to the College from Antioch University New England, where he was vice president for academic affairs, former department chair, and a member of the faculty. Here, Guerriero will oversee master's-level programs in human services, clinical and counseling psychology, education, holistic spirituality, and instructional technology, as well as the APA accredited Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology program (Psy.D.).

"That mix intrigues me," Guerriero said. "I'm looking forward to working with the

SGS staff, program chairs, and coordinators to enhance existing programs and develop new programs for the ever-changing graduate marketplace."

Guerriero will spend the next several months developing an operational plan for SGS, examining existing programs, assessing which can be expanded, and considering new programs. He expects SGS to grow by as much as 33 percent in the next several years, but stresses the importance of doing so carefully.

"It's about holistic development, not just student numbers," Guerriero said. "It's important to raise the visibility and credibility of [SGS] to the point that it's a significant part of what the College is all about. That's an exciting prospect."

Guerriero graduated *cum laude* from Seton Hall University with a bachelor of arts in history, and holds master's degrees in management and organization development from Antioch University New England and Fielding Graduate University. He received his Ph.D. in human and organizational systems from Fielding Graduate University. He began his career in social work, and went on to the hospitality industry as the owner and chef of two award-winning restaurants, Café Guerriero and Guerriero's Hampshire House, in Keene, New Hampshire. He began his career in higher education with teaching positions at Franklin Pierce University and New England College, becoming the director of graduate and continuing studies at New England. 🦁

>> BOARD MEMBER NAMED TO LIST OF LEADING EDUCATION FIGURES

Irish Voice recently named Carol McCullough Fitzgerald, a member of the College's board of directors, to its inaugural "Irish Education 100," the newspaper's list of the top figures in education across North America. All honorees are of Irish ancestry.

Fitzgerald, whose McCullough family roots are in Ireland's County Tyrone, is executive director of The Pennsylvania Society, a nonprofit founded in 1899 that annually honors the accomplishments of Pennsylvanians who bring distinction to the Commonwealth. She also serves on the Development Committee of the College's board and chairs its Membership Committee.

"I am deeply honored to receive this special award on behalf of my dear grandparents who were able to transcend extremely difficult hardships and challenges and begin a new life in America," Fitzgerald said. "They have been a great source of pride, strength, and inspiration for me throughout my life."



Carol McCullough Fitzgerald.

to all Pennsylvania public high school students in their junior year — the latest in her association with higher education of more than 25 years. She held senior-level positions in alumni relations and institutional advancement at the University of Pennsylvania and Drexel University, her undergraduate and graduate institutions respectively, while also serving as a volunteer for several schools, education- and youth-focused organizations, and alumni associations. Prior to becoming the first female executive director of The Pennsylvania Society, she produced and organized major programs and special

Among many initiatives, Fitzgerald oversees The Pennsylvania Society's annual Benjamin Franklin Scholar Award, a competitive college scholarship program open

events of regional and national interest in addition to managing political campaigns and devising successful fundraising strategies.

Fitzgerald, whose profile appears in *Irish Voice's* October 2009 edition, serves on various other boards and commissions, including Historic Philadelphia, Inc., Philadelphia Futures, the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, and the Trustees' Council of Penn Women. She is the second individual associated with the College to be named to a list of notable Americans of Irish descent. Last year, Patricia McHale O'Neill, Esq. '69 was selected for *Irish America* magazine's inaugural "Irish Legal 100" for her successful representation of children under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. O'Neill's profile appeared in the magazine's October/November 2008 edition, along with those of U.S. Supreme Court justices, partners at the nation's major law firms, corporate counsel, law deans, members of the judiciary, and others across the legal profession. 🦁

>> STATE-OF-THE-ART EQUIPMENT ADDED TO FITNESS CENTER

Fontbonne Residence Hall wasn't as quiet this summer as it normally is, as The Fitness Center, located on the lower floor, underwent a redesign. In an effort to modernize the space and provide state-of-the-art equipment to its community, the College invested in new exercise equipment. The new equipment became available for use in late August, drawing raves from its first wave of exercisers. Manufactured by Cybex, Octane, and Tuff Stuff, the equipment consists of:

- Two half-racks for incline, decline, and flat bench press, squats, dead lifts, pull-ups, and various other free weight exercises
- A functional trainer — dual cable columns that can be used to work any muscle in the body
- Dumbbells from 2.5 to 100 pounds
- Three treadmills with the ability to simulate downhill running
- Three elliptical machines
- One recumbent bike and one upright bike
- A variety of other plate-loaded and selectorized strength equipment 🦁



Members of the men's lacrosse team were among the first students to work out on the new equipment.

>> WATERCOLOR ILLUSTRATION OF THE COLLEGE PUBLISHED IN GERMANY

A watercolor illustration of the College will be published in December in a German book, "Amazing Rendering." Art & Design Studios, a Pennsylvania company run by Anna Loseva and Serge Losev, was one

of only 14 studios from around the world invited to submit art for the book. One of the studio's images of the College (below) was chosen for publication. Art & Design Studios created illustrations of campus

while working with the College on its strategic master plan. The architectural design of the buildings is by SaylorGregg Architects. 🦁



This watercolor illustration of the College, based on the development proposed in its master plan, will be published in a German book in December.

>>BUCKING NATIONAL TRENDS, THE COLLEGE WELCOMES 350 NEW STUDENTS

At a time when enrollment is flat nationally, the College attracted 350 new students this fall — a 31 percent increase over last year.

That includes 280 first-year students — the College's largest first-year class ever — and 70 transfer students, according to the Office of Enrollment Management. Through September, total undergraduate enrollment was at 906 students, up 12 percent from last fall, and the Schools of Graduate Studies and Continuing & Professional Studies had increases of 14 and 22 percent, respectively.

In fall 2002, the last year before the College went coed, the College attracted 135 new students, and since then the number has risen steadily. But this year in particular, the growth is extraordinary.

According to a recent survey of 300 schools by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, enrollment across America rose by only 0.2% this year. Among explanations for why the College fared better are its strategic outreach to new students, its addition of a men's lacrosse program, and its competitive tuition in a depressed economy.

"Our scholarship programs and financial aid packages make it affordable for families,"



First-year student D.J. Lynch arrives on campus.

said Jodie King, dean of enrollment management. "It's a very good investment — a private education with plenty of personal attention at a very competitive cost."

The quantity of the new students did not, however, diminish quality. Their average grade point average (GPA) and Scholastic

Aptitude Test (SAT) scores are higher than last year's. Sixty-eight percent of deposited first-year students had SAT scores of more than 1000 and an average GPA of 3.36. The group also includes several national merit scholars and members of the academic honor society *Phi Beta Kappa*.

The students also bring an array of talents and a commitment to community service. Among them are a nationally ranked snowboarder, a virtuoso violinist, and a high school All-America lacrosse player, as well as the founder of Operation Bedding (which collects donations for troops in Iraq), a volunteer for Autism Speaks, and an organizer of a program that raises money for schools in Uganda.

Sixty percent of the new students are female, and 85 percent live on campus. In 2002, new students to the College represented eight states. This year, that number is 18. In addition to the tri-state area, students hail from states like California and Washington to the west, New Hampshire and Massachusetts to the north, and Georgia and Texas to the south. Students also came to the College from as far away as British Columbia, Scotland, and Australia. 🦁

LEAVING YOUR *Legacy*



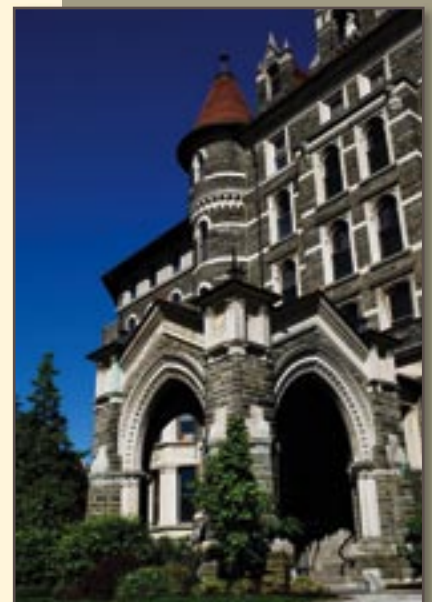
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>> CLASS OF 2009 BEGINS ITS NEW JOURNEY



The Class of 2009 proceeds to commencement.

The College celebrated its 82nd commencement on May 9 under sunny skies, awarding nearly 550 degrees and sending the Class of 2009 off to embark on its new journey.



Documentary filmmaker Gerald Straub received an honorary Doctor of Laws.

Karen Spencer Kelly, J.D., chief counsel to the Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania and Deputy State Treasurer and College board member, delivered the commencement address, urging graduates to “think about which ‘master’ you truly serve in your life.” A co-founder and partner in the Chestnut Hill law firm of Kelly, Monaco, and Naples, Kelly has practiced all aspects of civil litigation at the trial and appellate levels. Among her many achievements was being named the first African-American woman president of the Harvard Alumni Association.

Karen Spencer Kelly, J.D., delivered the commencement address.



Lakshmi Atchison, Ph.D., received the Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching.

In addition to awarding 288 bachelor degrees, 239 graduate degrees, and 21 doctoral degrees in clinical psychology, the College awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws to Gerald Straub, a documentary filmmaker and award-winning author. A successful television producer, Straub became inspired to make films documenting the plight of the world’s poor. He became a Secular Franciscan and founded The San Damiano Foundation, through which he has written and directed 13 documentary films.

College President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., presented The President’s Award for Outstanding Achievement to four graduates of the School of Undergraduate Studies in recognition of their academic excellence. Alexandra Scheirer, Samuel Little, Rachel Hildebrandt, and Anne Pearsall received

the award, graduating *summa cum laude* with a grade point average of 3.9 or better. Hildebrandt was also cited as the College’s first student to publish a book as an undergraduate with her recent publication of “The Philadelphia Area Architecture of Horace Trumbauer.”

Lakshmi Atchison, Ph.D., professor of biology, received The Christian R. and Mary F. Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, which honors a teacher who “is committed to the life of the mind and spirit, is intellectually stimulating, challenging and accessible, and devoted to the temporal and eternal well being of students.” The Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Award, determined from nominations from students, faculty, and staff, was received by Susan Magee, M.F.A., adjunct professor of communications, and Walter Ted Smith, Ph.D., instructor in the School of Continuing & Professional Studies. 🦁



>> COLLEGE'S FRESHWATER FISHING CLUB REACHES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Sophomores Adrian Avena and Troy Eikenberry spent the last weekend of their summer fishing at Lake Champlain — but it was all business.

“We might have looked relaxed, but after [Adrian] caught a good bass, we got really excited — he was yelling, and we did a fist bump,” Eikenberry said of their trip to the National Guard FLW College Fishing tournament in New York. “We’d been really nervous all day, but after that one, we knew we were in good shape.”

Indeed, they reached their goal of finishing in the top five, by mere ounces. They won \$2,000, half of which was donated to the College, and, more importantly, the chance to compete for \$50,000 at the northern regional championship in North Carolina, November 7-9.

“We were so relieved when we got the results,” Avena said, “and we’ve been on a high ever since.”

The students lived on the same floor at SugarLoaf last year and bonded over their passion for fishing. After Rick Malloy, S.J., Ph.D., assistant professor of cultural anthropology and sociology, helped

them form a College club, they set their sights on the summer 2009 FLW tournaments. They finished 17th out of 40 in Maryland in June, then 13th in New York in July. Earning fifth place at Lake Champlain put them in the company of powerhouses like North Carolina State and Virginia Tech, increasing the team’s confidence heading into the championships.



After fishing in a tournament on the Potomac River, sophomores Adrian Avena and Troy Eikenberry took to the weigh-in stage to see how they fared.

“It’ll be very tough competition, but we’re one of the better teams,” Avena said. “We just have to execute.”

Win or lose, Eikenberry and Avena are thrilled at the early success of the club, which they hope to parlay into increased membership.

“On top of helping us out with travel costs, more members would give us a chance to become a

stronger unit,” said Eikenberry, pointing out that FLW regulations allow for a school to send as many as four two-person teams to each tournament. “We want to get the word out about the club and get to the point where people come to us.”

For more information and coverage of the November championships, visit www.FLWoutdoors.com. 🦉

>> CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE HELPS STUDENTS NAVIGATE TOUGH JOB MARKET

This is a historically difficult time to be a recent college graduate.

A recent survey by the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) found that fewer than 20 percent of 2009 graduates had landed jobs by August, down from 26 percent in 2008 and 50 percent in 2007.

It’s gotten so bad that many graduates are skipping the employment search altogether.

“I know a lot of people who headed straight to graduate school,” said Andréa Fernandes, who graduated from the College in May and is searching for a job. “They didn’t want to deal with it.”

Recent and soon-to-be graduates needn’t navigate the market alone, however. They can turn to the Career Development

office of the College, which offers everything from job fairs and workshops to one-on-one coaching and counseling.

“We seek to keep their hopes up and keep them patient,” said Nancy Dachille, director of career development. “Ultimately it’s about helping them find job opportunities and articulate their abilities to employers.”

It can also be about opening students’ eyes to the difficulty of finding a job, according to Eileen Webb, manager of employer relations, and Ryan Murphy, assistant director of career development.

“Leading up to graduation, some students assume that the perfect job is out there waiting for them,” Murphy said. “It’s not until we see them come back after three

months or a year, when they’re not doing what they want to do, that the reality sets in,” he said.

In addition the tools and resources it offers, Career Development will once again host general and government job fairs, which saw their attendance jump last year and are open to students and alumni. And it will continue delivering the holistic approach and personal attention for which the College is known.

“We really get to know them here,” Dachille said. “If a student comes in to see us and the next day we hear about the perfect job for them, we’ll call to let them know. We take a personal interest. All they have to do is come see us.”

For more information about Career Development, visit www.chc.edu/careerdevelopment. 🦉



>> PROFESSOR EXPLORES FAIRNESS IN LOVE AND MARRIAGE

Karen Getzen, Ph.D., has published her second book on marriage — an area she deems “a fertile field” for research and writing. But don’t pigeonhole her just yet.

Indeed, the recently published “Try to See It My Way: Being Fair in Love and Marriage” was originally meant to explore fairness in general. But B. Janet Hibbs, Ph.D., primary author and family therapist, and Getzen decided to narrow its focus to marriage.

“Sometimes self-help books can be too simplistic, glossing over things,” Getzen said. “This one doesn’t. What we’ve heard is that it’s easy to understand and clearly written, offering valuable take-away lessons.”

The book examines how each of our own personal experiences shape our definition of what is fair, and outlines ways to address unfair situations and build stronger, more loving relationships.

“Fairness is the vital ingredient,” Getzen said. “And people need to know that they can learn to be more fair, but that it takes work.”

Getzen, assistant professor of English at the College, also wrote “Resilient Marriages,” which was published in 2000 under her maiden name, Karen Shirley.

“Try To See It My Way” came about when Hibbs, a friend, asked Getzen to contribute. After five years of collaborating, The Penguin Group published it in March 2009, with a paperback version available in March 2010.

“It was a long, long process,” Getzen said. “We e-mailed files back and forth, again and again. Most of the examples and vignettes came from Hibbs’s practice, and the writing was a joint effort.”

Through August, the book had received the maximum of five stars from all of its reviewers on Amazon.com, which jibes with the feedback Getzen has received personally.

“The response has been very strong,” she said. “People seem to be taking its themes to heart.” 🦋

Karen Getzen, Ph.D., collaborated with B. Janet Hibbs, Ph.D., on “Try to See it My Way: Being Fair in Love and Marriage.”



>> BE IN THE KNOW!

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THE

Journey

OF MICHAEL MAJOK KUCH

Separated from his family at the age of five by civil war, Michael Majok Kuch '08 embarked on an epic journey of survival and reconciliation.

THE LIFE-DEFINING JOURNEY

of Michael Majok Kuch '08 began with fire and chaos.

A quiet evening in his village gave way to sudden attack. Government-sponsored militia dropped bombs and fired bullets, devastating the village and separating its families. The boy, five years old, hid in the night, before running as far and fast as he could and joining a crowd full of people. With the group he walked, and walked, and walked, for three months, during the dry season of heat and wind. Barefoot and in rags, if anything, they walked at night to circumvent the sun and reduce thirst. But that made it more difficult to avoid wild animals. The boy watched lions and hyenas kill his people. He watched others die when the mud they ate stuck to their guts. The survivors reached a refugee camp in Ethiopia, where civil unrest forced another late-night escape. This time in the rainy season, with the Nile River flooded. Some sailed the river in hollowed tree trunks; others were pulled by attached rope. The boy saw many drown in the river, or get eaten by alligators. He would survive this trip, as well, but the same couldn't be said of his innocence. And as if these horrors weren't enough to process, a single question haunted him.

Is my family alive?

THE LOST BOYS

The Second Sudanese Civil War lasted from 1983 to 2005 and killed nearly two million people, most of them civilians, when government troops systematically attacked villages. Girls were typically raped, killed, and/or removed from their families, but boys often escaped the attacks by being away herding goats or by running into jungles. More than 27,000 of the boys were displaced or orphaned, and they undertook epic journeys, over the course of years, to international relief camps. It's estimated that one in four boys did not survive the journeys. If it wasn't starvation, thirst, insects, animals, or disease, it was the war itself.

Kuch was one of the survivors, walking 1,200 miles to safety, from south Sudan to Ethiopia, then back to south Sudan, then to Kenya. While at the refugee camp in Ethiopia established by the United Nations (UN) and the Red Cross, he was baptized with the Christian name Michael, and provided his first formal schooling along with food and medical attention. Civil unrest there forced his departure, but at that point he was too far from his native Bor to return, so he walked for 30 days to a refugee camp in Kenya, called Kakuma, which housed 6,000 refugees.

Kuch went from boy to man in the Kakuma camp, surviving despite limited food and water and a nearby tribe known for attacking refugees. The camp offered primary schooling, but it wasn't mandatory, and Kuch didn't always attend. He and the other boys played soccer and chess and looked out for one another, as they lived apart from camp elders. Kuch spent eight years at the camp, waiting patiently for the red tape of his permanent placement to unravel. During his time at Kakuma, however, he was reunited one by one with two of his brothers and a sister — partially restoring a connection to his family, and his sense of self.

By 2000, a variety of groups, including Catholic Charities, began resettling some of the refugees to the United States. Kuch and his brothers and sister were among them, receiving an offer from the State Department to come to Philadelphia in late November 2000.

"I really struggled with that decision, which meant leaving Africa, perhaps forever," Kuch said in a recent interview.

Together, Kuch and his siblings accepted the offer, and set out for a new world. Weighing on his mind, however, was his concern for his parents — whether they



were alive. He would soon receive word from family back in Kenya that his father was dead, but was left to wonder about his mother.

A LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

Kuch and his siblings were among nearly 4,000 refugees who arrived in America that year. They were all given the random birthday of January 1, Kuch the random age of 17.



“It was a big, big adjustment,” Kuch said with a wide smile. “A huge culture shock. Imagine if you came to live at my village in Sudan. Imagine getting used to a new environment and weather and culture and diet, and a much different pace.

“It was the complete opposite of the refugee camp, where I didn’t really do much,” he added. “Here, there were a million things going on each day.”

Kuch lived in an apartment with his siblings; they supported themselves with some help from new friends and mentors. He and his brothers enrolled at LaSalle College High School, and his sister attended Little Flower Catholic High School. Coming from a primary school at Kakuma that lacked basic learning tools and was based on the British educational system, Kuch said the adjustment to a collegiate prep school “took a lot of getting used to, and a lot of hard work.”

In addition to school, Kuch played sports and worked a part-time job to not only support himself and his siblings but send some money back to his extended family in Sudan.

(Kuch was one of 23 children to his father’s four wives, in the indigenous Dinka tribe.) He did this with no complaints, as the rewards — food and water, shelter, education, basic human rights, and the end to his daily fears of death — were immense.

“When you don’t have to worry about that stuff, you can think clearly about what you want to do with your life,” he said. “I have lived in both worlds, and in this one I can think about my future.”

Kuch traveled a much shorter distance to his next school, enrolling at the College in 2004 on an academic and soccer scholarship — a decision he reflects on fondly.

“[The College] was a unique experience,” Kuch said. “It really set the stage for me and helped me figure out what I wanted to do.”

In addition to starring on the inaugural men’s soccer team for four years, which included being chosen as the most valuable player of the 2006 North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC) championship and helping the team to reach the NCAA Division III Tournament, Kuch became active on campus and maintained a 3.5 grade point average. He was also struck by the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, who invited sisters from Africa to visit during Michael’s sophomore year. The wide variety of courses he took — in particular, a Global Studies course on human rights — helped to expand his interests and guide the outreach efforts he would later embark on. Kuch majored in political science and even taught a class on Swahili, one of several languages he speaks fluently. In all, he established the reputation of a committed student of the world, culminating in the speech he made to his class and the College community at his commencement.

“He always impressed me as being single-minded about getting his education,” said Anita Louise Bruno, SSJ, assistant director of international student services when Kuch attended the College. “He had some trying times in adjusting to things, but persevered through them and won everyone’s respect — not just for what he did here but for his devotion to his family and moving ahead in order to help the people back home who didn’t have the same opportunity.”

Kuch’s ties to the College remain strong. Last spring, he attended a speech by the international peace activist John Dear, S.J., which launched the College’s Institute for Forgiveness and Reconciliation. Afterward,



Among Kuch's highlights at the College were his four years of varsity soccer and his speech to his class at commencement.

Kuch spoke with College President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., and expressed interest in the program.

“The themes of forgiveness and reconciliation are instrumental to the Sisters of Saint Joseph,” he said, “and they resonate with me and the things that I’m interested in doing.”

“It wasn’t so much about sharing my personal experiences but what I thought could be done if more people knew about what was happening,” Kuch said. “The civil war went on for two decades, but few knew about it until we came to America and began talking about it.”

“He’s always had more of a comfort level in telling his story than many of the other Lost Boys,” said Wayne Jacoby, president of GEM, who has now worked with Kuch on hundreds of presentations. “But the passion has grown — you can see the empowerment that he’s feeling now related to getting his

“The themes of forgiveness and reconciliation are instrumental to the Sisters of Saint Joseph, and they resonate with me and the things that I’m interested in doing.”

SHARING HIS STORY

Among the many hurdles Kuch cleared in America was his dilemma about whether to tell his story. While the values of modesty and privacy were instilled in him in at a young age, he felt compelled to bring attention to what was going on in the Sudan in the hopes of provoking action.

A key step in that process came when Kuch began working with Global Education Motivators (GEM), an organization based at the College that brings learning programs into classrooms around the world. While in high school, he participated in video conferences broadcasted to classrooms of students, and he spoke with passion and command in front of the United Nations in a room full of 700 people.

message out and having people listening and getting involved. And he always finds ways to connect.”

Now in his second year of a master’s program in international peace and conflict resolution at Arcadia University, Kuch continues to share his story across the world. Combining his master’s studies, a Fulbright-

Hays scholarship, his work for GEM, and a personal vacation, Kuch spent this summer visiting Costa Rica, Ethiopia, and Kenya as well as his home village of Bor in south Sudan. In the fall, he'll take classes in international law, organizations, and security at the Nyerere Center for Peace Research and the International Tribunal Court for Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania. The master's program, which Kuch expects

students, and his first-hand experiences shed light on what's discussed in the classroom, which is invaluable."

REFLECTING ON THE PAST

Looking back on his experience as a war-affected child, Kuch says he sometimes regrets not having a typical childhood — benefits others tend to take for granted, like family and safety. But he's not angry.

"The Islamic government of Sudan marginalized its people and treated them like second-class citizens," Kuch said. "The people were really angry because they had minerals and oils, these valuable resources, which the government extracted and used the revenues to develop the north instead of the south. Then you have religious factors there — if you're not a Muslim, you're not seen as equal.



In Costa Rica this summer for his master's program, Kuch visited Boruca Village with classmates (above) and addressed the Inter-American Court of Human Rights (top of next page).

to complete this spring, is an ideal fit for him, and he for it, said Sherry Levin, manager of the International Peace and Conflict Resolution program at Arcadia.

"He has tremendous interest in the responsibility of the UN, international law, and the causes of international conflict," she said. "What seems to drive him is his interest in understanding how the world works. He embraces opportunities in a way that I haven't seen from many other

"My experiences strengthened me in ways that helped me overcome the many obstacles that came my way," he said, "things that I might not have been able to overcome otherwise."

Kuch's experiences also put him on the path of studying conflict resolution, which helped him to understand why his village and family were torn apart.

Once I understood those root causes, I understood better what caused the conflict. I understand how it can happen and how it can be resolved."

That understanding intensified his long-held wish to return to Bor this summer. Before leaving on his trip, Kuch said he was eager to assess the shape his village was in and see what was needed to rebuild its basic infrastructure.



Once he graduates from his master's program, Kuch plans to work for a year or two to pay back student loans. He'll consider staying in America for further studies, but expects to feel a pull back to Sudan.

"Those thoughts are unclear right now," he said. "Is the U.S. a great place for me at this point? Absolutely. But it's not home. I will always feel called to go back," he said. "I will always want to go back and do more."

A NEW BEGINNING

At the heart of Kuch's journey has been love for his mother and the uncertainty of what became of her. As it turns out, the separate paths they took out of Sudan almost crossed.

Soon after Kuch and his brothers and sister left the Kakuma camp for America, his mother Adior arrived there with other siblings of his. She lived there for several years before one of her brothers helped to place the family in Brisbane, Australia. Kuch soon received word of their safety, experiencing relief and joy. He sent them money when he could, and they exchanged correspondence and photos. They yearned for reunion.

"I hadn't seen them for two decades — you almost don't even remember them," Kuch said. "But I knew that seeing them in person would change my life."

Last summer, Kuch flew to Australia and reunited with his mother, sister, and brother — a reunion nearly 20 years in the making.

The next hurdle to clear was arranging the reunion, given the logistics and cost of international travel. But Kuch and his family were patient, and their reunion became a reality thanks to some new friends.

After meeting with Kuch and hearing his story, Harriton Senior High School student Josh Millan and a teacher, Dr. Terry O'Connor, founded the Lost Boys of Sudan Reunion Project, which raised \$3,600 to reunite Kuch with his mother. The reunion was set for July 2008, giving Kuch time to reflect on what it would mean him.

Viewers of a YouTube video taken of his trip from Brisbane Airport to the house his family was staying in share in the gravity of the moment.

"I can't really explain how I'm feeling," he said, moments before their reunion, his expression equal parts wonder and joy. "I'm almost speechless."

By the time he exits the van, he's beaming. He approaches the house, calls to

let them know he's there, and knocks on a wooden fence. After a few moments, the door swings open, and his sister collapses into his arms, then his mother, and brother. The family members lean into one another's arms, as if to express that they'll never again be apart. It would be the beginning of regular correspondence between the family, of planned visits and talk of one day living together again.

A new beginning.

The end of a journey. 🦁



CALIFORNIA Dreaming

*Small in stature but long on determination and talent,
the College's business leadership team shines on the national stage.*

IT WASN'T THE EVENT ITSELF BUT

its competitors who intimidated senior Ryan Donahue.

Representing the College at the *Phi Beta Lambda* National Leadership Conference in California, Donahue competed with students from schools such as Florida State, Stanford, and UCLA. Big schools. Schools with top-rated computer science programs. Schools that rejected his college application.

After presenting on his complex program for enhancing the utility of a personal computer, Donahue walked out and told teammates that he didn't have much of a chance. Later, in a packed auditorium, he waited as nine of the 10 finalists in his event were called to the stage. Then, much to his surprise, he heard his name.

"I was the last one called," Donahue said. "Then they started running down the finalist's names [in descending order]. Seventh place, sixth, fifth, and I still hadn't heard my name. I thought, 'No way. I'm top five.' Then fourth place, third, second. My teammates and students from the other Pennsylvania schools were standing and cheering, and I thought, 'This isn't happening.' Then it did — first place. It was surreal.

"I wanted to jump," he said, "but I thought, 'Not in a suit.'"



Fresh off of their success in California, Leslie Zemnick '11, Richard Abram '11, Ryan Donahue '10, and Associate Professor of Business Robert Durney, M.B.A. (from left) met in September to discuss the Phi Beta Lambda team's plans for the upcoming year.

A STEADY RISE TO PROMINENCE

The success the College's *Phi Beta Lambda* team, which reached the finals of five events at the national conference in June, is the latest in its steady progression, said Robert

Durney, M.B.A., associate professor of business and advisor of the student-run team. The team was dormant at the College for a few years before being re-started in 2005. After one year of not qualifying for nationals, it has now done so four years in a row, improving its performance each time. This year, the team achieved Durney's goal of finishing in the top three of one event — and raising the College's national profile.

“For such a small school, this is unheard of,” Durney said.

Indeed, the more than 300 colleges at nationals included fewer than five as small as the College. And to even get there, the team had to place first or second in events at the state competition, against much larger schools such as Pittsburgh and Penn State and Drexel.

“It was nerve-wracking,” said junior Richard Abram, a finalist in public speaking at nationals. “All these big names against little Chestnut Hill College. But once we got in the room and began to compete, we went into auto-pilot.”



The competition itself requires preparation, focus, and thinking on one's feet. Some events are objective, like answering 100 questions on a computer. Others are more spur of the moment, assigning a random case to competitors, who are sequestered for 15 to 30 minutes to build an argument that's then presented to a panel of judges. The human resources management competition, in which junior Leslie Zemnick and recent graduate Michael O'Hara placed fifth at nationals, blended both.

“When we finished the computer testing round, we checked the list of names on the wall to see if we had made it to the next round, and were shocked to see that we had,” Zemnick said. “Then they gave us our topic — what do with a worker who is close to retirement and unable to handle group tasks and newer technology. We were on a time limit, quickly running through all of the possible ways you could handle that case. It was a real rush.”

PREPARING FOR THE COMPETITION — AND LIFE

Also excelling at nationals, placing seventh in management analysis and decision making, were senior Megan Smith and recent graduate Daniel Washington. Rounding out the College's awardees was Donahue, who also placed fifth in Web site development. Without exception, team members will tell you they felt calm and in control during the competition — coolness under pressure made possible by months of preparation and the hands-on learning environment of the College.

Under Durney's guidance, the students practiced and refined their plans and presentations for four months leading up to the state competition. Thanks to support from the administration, they also received tutoring and mock judging from faculty members with expertise in specific competition topics, giving them a taste of what they'd encounter at nationals. They also benefited from small class sizes, which allowed some competition topics to be woven in to the curriculum and teachers to assess the students' weaknesses. Last but not least, they benefitted from Durney's steady hand.

“You can feel his encouragement, almost like a parent's,” Zemnick said. “He's always there for us, way above and beyond office hours. And what we heard from some of the students we competed against is they didn't always have that.”



Phi Beta Lambda students from the colleges and universities of Pennsylvania, posing together here with their awards, developed a camaraderie at the national competition in California.


Durney, who was named state *Phi Beta Lambda* Advisor of the Year after the team wrote a letter to support him, deflects that credit.

“The X factor is the students’ enthusiasm and willingness to learn,” he said. “Most of them have to work outside the classroom to help pay their education, and the competition requires tons more of their time. I’m really proud of the commitment they made to the team.”

In September, the team and Durney met to discuss their plans for the coming competition year. Key to their success will be recruiting new members to replace the 16 students from last year’s team who graduated or will in December.

“Most of our recruiting is the students speaking one on one with kids they know here,” Durney said. “What helps is that we’re diverse, with students from many disciplines who complement the team. And we’re open to all students, not just business majors.”

The strong possibility of a trip to Nashville, Tennessee, site of next year’s national conference, is sure to attract some students. As is the way the words *Phi Beta Lambda* look on a resume. But the real reward is less tangible, Durney said.

“This gives them a feeling of really having accomplished something important,” he said. “Some of our students are here because they would have a tough time making it elsewhere, and some were written off in high school. But by the time they leave here, thanks to everyone here at the College and their experience [with *Phi Beta Lambda*], they’ll think, ‘I can do this.’ And that’s a great thing.” 

Six of the College’s students became finalists in events at the 2009 *Phi Beta Lambda* National Leadership Conference, competing against more than 1,776 students from 46 state and 300 colleges.

First Place in Desktop Application Programming
Ryan Donahue '10

Fifth Place in Human Resources Management
Leslie Zernick '11 and Michael O'Hara '09

Fifth Place in Web Site Development
Ryan Donahue '10

Seventh Place in Management Analysis and Decision Making
Daniel Washington '09 and Megan Smith '10

National Finalist in Public Speaking
Richard Abram '11

Engaging THE COMMUNITY

The new Director of Athletics explains how sports can reflect and promote the growth of the College.



Lynn Tubman (center), the College's new director of athletics, speaks with student-athletes Maurice Blanton '11 and Nicole Corrado '11.

WHEN ONE THINKS ABOUT COLLEGE ATHLETICS, the phrase “community engagement” probably doesn’t spring to mind. But it’s integral to the missions of both NCAA Division II and the College, which make both a great fit for Lynn Tubman.

“The right balance is struck between academics and athletics at this level,” said Tubman, the College’s new director of athletics, “and there’s a commitment to community engagement that I appreciate. We’ll reach out to Chestnut Hill and the surrounding community and bring them to campus to be a part of the experience.”

Tubman is no stranger to Division II or the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference (CACC), after spending the previous five years as associate athletic director of Philadelphia University. That familiarity with the conference, its people and schools, should ease her transition to the College and accelerate its success.

“Looking at the division and conference, I believe we’re a good fit and that we can be successful,” Tubman said. “We’re still in our infancy in Division II, competing against established programs, and we can expect some growing pains. But we’re committed to being successful.”

While the short-term goal is to be competitive in the CACC, Tubman has her long-term sights set on making an impact regionally, and then nationally.

“We can be a top school not only athletically but academically, and a leader in the areas of community engagement and sportsmanship. I think we can have the full package.”

A PATH TO THE HILL

Tubman’s life in college athletics began at Allentown College (now DeSales University), where she was an All-American basketball player; she’s still the school’s all-time leading scorer with 2,193 points. Her career in athletic administration began as an assistant athletic director and resident director at the Mont Alto campus of Penn State, followed by six years as the athletics director for LaRoche College in western Pennsylvania. She then returned to her roots in the Philadelphia area to serve as associate athletic director for Drexel, before joining Philadelphia University.

expectations for the athletic program and instill the values and ideals of NCAA Division II.”

A VISION FOR SUCCESS

Tubman’s over-arching goal is to raise the profile of the athletic program, intertwining it to the overall growth of the College. Among bright spots to build on are the men’s basketball team becoming the College’s first to reach the CACC playoffs after two seasons as members of NCAA Division II last winter; the women’s lacrosse team reaching the CACC playoffs in its first year in the conference; the growth in popularity of the baseball and women’s volleyball teams; and the new men’s lacrosse team, which is set to debut this spring and attracted nearly 40 players.

“The demand is here,” Tubman said, hinting at the possible introduction of more varsity sports in the near future, “and having a visible and vibrant program will help the College grow.”

“We’re a part of this community, not a separate entity. We can add value across the campus, but to do that we need to be out there and visible and getting everyone involved.”

Living in the Philadelphia area (with her husband, John, and daughters Hannah, 11, and Lilly, 9), Tubman became familiar with and heard good things about the College. Its growth and prosperity in recent years — relatively difficult times for many other schools — impressed her. But it wasn’t until she stepped on campus for the job interview that she got a real fee for the school.

“Throughout the interview process, it struck me that it’s an exciting time to be a part of things here,” Tubman said. “And I noticed an appreciation for athletics and what we can do to be a part of the College family — for our role in building school spirit and community.

“There’s a real sense of community,” she added. “I’m looking forward to working closely with the other members of the department and meeting people all across campus. I’ve been very impressed so far.”


It appears that the feeling is mutual.

“Members of our community who interviewed Lynn recognized in her the qualifications, experience, and values required to be a sound administrator, advocate for athletes, and motivational leader,” said College President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D. “Her style, demeanor, and values are congruent with our mission. I expect that she’ll inculcate in coaches and athletes alike a deep understanding of our

Her ideas for engaging the community include the development of a Hall of Fame area on campus to recognize and celebrate the history of the College’s athletics and the creation of a booster club for alumni interested in participating in the growth of the College. She also extols the virtues of sportsmanship and a spirited but respectful crowd environment at games, which align with the missions of both Division II and the College.

“To us, the sportsmanship and character of athletes exceeds in importance any other expectations we have of them,” Sister Carol said. “It may be a cliché to say ‘It’s not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game that matters,’ but the words are nonetheless true.”

Tubman is also focused on adding a recreation and intramural program to the College, to engage the students who enjoy athletics but might not have the time or inclination to join a team. And she’s eager to build relationships with faculty and staff, to not only help athletes excel academically but let the rest of the College community know what they’re doing on and off the field.

“We’re a part of this community, not a separate entity,” Tubman said. “We can add value across the campus, but to do that we need to be out there and visible and getting everyone involved.” 

*Key to the missions of
Division II and the
College is a spirited,
respectful crowd
environment at games.*





GRIFFINS SPORTS

www.CHC.edu/Athletics

NEW MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM BOASTS DEEP, TALENTED ROSTER

Although Richard Carrington is new to the College, his work to build its first men's lacrosse team began well before he stepped onto the campus.

As a recruiting coordinator and coach at two previous schools, Carrington built a large database of players and contacts, giving him a leg up on the process here. But while the basics of recruiting are the same anywhere, Carrington faced the additional challenge of putting the College on the map of the lacrosse world.

"I had to do a lot of educating [at first]," Carrington said. "But once people got here to campus and saw all we have to offer here, it made it much easier. Lately, more and more recruits are finding us."



Head coach Richard Carrington (center) guides the new men's lacrosse team at a fall practice.

The result is a "talented and hungry" roster of 37 players, representing 10 states and Canadian provinces and balancing experienced junior-college transfers with first-year standouts, said Carrington. Among its expected leaders are defenders Chris Green and Zack Hiller, midfielders Dan Bohon and Junji Wiener, and attackers Ryan Maloney and Shane Morlock. Competing for first-string goalkeeper are first-year students David Cutler, Andrew D'Addona, and Dakota Maurer.


As soon as the team reached campus, it began a weight-lifting program and fall practice. It will compete in scrimmages this winter before ramping up its practice schedule to prepare for its February 27 home opener against Neumann University.

Carrington has already seen all of his recruits play but is eager to watch them on the same field together to see "who will step up and take ownership" of the team. He recognizes the challenge of the recruits forming a cohesive unit but is confident that the program will make an immediate impact.

"I'll measure our success not in terms of wins and losses but whether we come out and establish a positive identity for the program," he said, citing the impression that would make on future recruits. "But I'm also a competitive guy," he said, smiling. "If we're only winning a

couple of games, I won't be a happy customer.

"Once people got here to campus and saw all we have to offer here, it made [recruiting] much easier. Lately, more and more recruits are finding us."

"Normally you're looking at an eight-to-ten year plan with a new program," he added. "But I'm on a three-to-four year plan. I expect us to make waves this season. In year two, we want to compete in our conference, and by year four, push for that top-ten ranking." 

FIRST-YEAR DUO FROM CALIFORNIA ENLIVENS WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM



Cassie Benson (left) and Bobbie Chukuntarod are key cogs in the volleyball team's dynamic class of first-year students.

Chukuntarod said. "We're not typical [first-year students] sitting in the background. We're proactively making an impact."

This duo joins four sophomores and two juniors in what amounts to a youth movement for second-year head coach Kim Feeny, whose team finished 2-22 last season.

"We're working hard this season to develop a rhythm that can be carried into next season," Feeny said after the team won two of its first four games. "The younger players bring a lot of

Coming from California to the College, Bobbie Chukuntarod and Cassie Benson were prepared for an adjustment period. The weather, not so much.

"The humidity is brutal," said Benson, a week into the semester. "As soon as [Bobbie and I] run outside, we're drained. That's new and weird."

Fortunately, their adjustment to college volleyball has gone much more smoothly. Along with four other first-year students, Chukuntarod and Benson quickly established roles for themselves, enlivening the Griffins and helping the team to match last year's win total in the first week of this season.


"Our class brings a brand new energy and dynamic to the team,"

personality and skill to the team. It feels like a fresh start."

Benson (Rosamond, Calif.), who was recruited to the College for volleyball and softball, says she sought an "East Coast experience" for college. Chukuntarod (San Francisco, Calif.), who played two years of high school and six years of club volleyball, applied to the College sight unseen — which Feeny deems "a miraculous gift."

"This is a new world for me," Chukuntarod said of the College and Philadelphia, already bracing in September for her first East Coast winter. "I didn't know what I was jumping into, but was eager for a new adventure."

Attracting talented student-athletes who are willing to move across the country bodes well for the team's future, Feeny said.

"It reflects the growth of the College — that we're not just a local school," she said. "It makes us more versatile, diverse in terms of geography and experience, and appealing to potential recruits. That's exciting for all of us." 


ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT INTRODUCES INTRAMURALS PROGRAM

Expect student life to get a little livelier this fall. Appealing to students who enjoy athletics but don't want the commitment of joining a varsity team, the College is introducing an intramurals program.

"Participating in intramurals will give our students the chance to step on the field in a fun and competitive situation, without having to devote so much time to daily practices and traveling," said Richard Carrington, head men's lacrosse coach and coordinator of intramurals and recreation. "This is another exciting thing happening here on campus."

To get the word out about the program and assess student interest, the athletics department in late September held an event modeled after the popular CBS reality television show, "The Amazing Race," in which two-person teams competed at various stations across campus. The teams received a sneak preview of activities that will be offered this year — including Ultimate Frisbee, relay races in the pool, volleyball, three-on-three basketball, and dodgeball.

A handful of similar events will be held later this year "to get students out and motivated," said Carrington, who will solicit feedback on not only the types of activities they want but preferred times of day.

"Depending on what they tell us and considering our facilities restrictions, we might have to be creative in establishing start times," he said. "If that means starting a basketball game at 9 or 10 at night, that's what we'll do. We really want to make this program work for our students." 

*Plan to support the
Griffins at home or away!
Visit the athletics site at
www.chc.edu/athletics for
game schedules and results.*



>>NEWS & NOTES FROM THE ALUMNI DIRECTOR'S DESK

Alumni activity closed out the 2008-2009 academic year with the introduction of what we hope will become a treasured tradition — one that joins two of the oldest in the College's history.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors welcomed the School of Undergraduate Studies (SUS) Class of 2009 into the alumni ranks during a reception in the Rotunda immediately following Baccalaureate Mass on the evening preceding Commencement. Board members Stephanie Rendine Morris '04 and Elaine Bennett Davey '65 joined vice-president Kathy O'Boyle '88, '97 SGS in offering good wishes and a commemorative pen and T-shirt — rolled as diploma, sporting the class year and "A Griffin Forever" in strong scarlet, and tied with ribbon in the College colors — to each graduating senior. This new twist on **Senior Induction** preceded the official induction of graduates of all Schools of the College by association president Patricia Cholewinski Nicholson '70 at the conclusion of the commencement exercises on May 9.



Kathy O'Boyle '88, '97 SGS welcomes one very happy graduating senior to the Alumni Association during the new Senior Induction reception.

Kathy O'Boyle also offered the association's congratulations to the new graduates of the School of Continuing & Professional Studies (SCPS) during its annual graduation dinner several days earlier.

One month later, the **Reunion of the Stars 2009** welcomed alumnae from traditional undergraduate class years ending in 4 and 9 to a festive 62nd annual reunion weekend. Once again, the Friday education/personal enrichment sessions wowed the crowd,

as did Friday's CHC Idol Night on the Hill (karaoke), Saturday morning's Annual Memorial Mass, Saturday evening's Casino Royale — which added live entertainment for the first time — and Sunday's annual Golden Griffins Mass and Brunch for graduates of the Class of 1959 and earlier.

Reunion weekend's keystone event — Annual Reunion Luncheon — set the stage for the presentation of the **Eleanore Dolan Egan '28 Award for Outstanding Service to Chestnut Hill College** to Margaret Jackson Quinn '64, and the **Distinguished Achievement Award** to businesswoman Young-Shin Chang '59, who could not attend. (*Visit www.CHCgriffinonline.com/Awards for profiles of 2009 awardees.*)

The final alumni board meeting of the 2008-2009 year completed the election process of new members. Those elected to a two-year term, serving July 1, 2009-June 30, 2011, include Joan Gerard Larkin '52 (Verona, N.J.), Margaret Moran '67 (Lawrenceville, N.J.), Mary Ann Stahl Patton '87 (Yardley, Pa.), Jo Marie Victor '05 SCPS (Plymouth Meeting, Pa.), and George Roitzsch '07, '09 SGS (Philadelphia, Pa.), the board's first male. They succeed Marylou Delizia '78 SCPS, Marianne Valvardi Dwyer '76, Anne Duffy Mirsch '52, Sandra Moore '90 SGS, and at-large member Elaine Bennett Davey '65. (*Visit www.CHCgriffinonline.com/AlumniBoard for profiles of the 2009-2010 Alumni Association Board of Directors.*)

COMING UP

Planners of the **2009 Fall Conference for Alumni Volunteers** anticipate a spirited session when class officers, association committee members, alumni board members, Libris Society members, and other College ambassadors gather in the Fournier Hall Social Room on October 25 to discuss measurable, outcomes-driven activities that support the College's growth. Specific attention focuses on the organization and structure of the alumni association, its board, terms of office, and committees, as well as on alumni programming, communications, affinity groups, chapters, virtual chapters, and other timely alumni engagement topics.

Deceased classmates, faculty, and staff may be remembered during All Souls Month through a new feature on *Griffins Online*. Alumni are

REUNION OF THE *Stars* 2009

Visit www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/Reunion for the weekend recap, alumnae comments, and the photo gallery.



Treasured by all who attend, Saturday's Annual Memorial Mass is celebrated in the Main Chapel, whose design is inspired by Saint-Chapelle in Paris.



Peggy Jackson Quinn '64 (left) accepts the Eleanore Dolan Egan '28 Award for Outstanding Service to the College from Patricia Cholewinski Nicholson '70, alumni association president.

College President Carol Jean Vale, SSJ, Ph.D., hosted the Milestones Cocktail Reception for the 50th and 25th reunion classes.



High spirits, cheery enthusiasm, and good sportsmanship were the watchwords for Friday's "CHC Idol Night on the Hill."



invited to post remembrances of the departed throughout November in "We Remember" at www.CHCgriffinsonline.com.

The fourth consecutive **Christmas Decorating Night** collaboration between alumni and first-year students will take place on Thursday evening, December 3, in the Dining Room. Alumni will lend a hand in passing down the sights and sounds of past Christmas decorations to today's students. The College's oldest continuous tradition began in December 1927 as a Senior Class activity in the form of a Christmas tree and gifts to the faculty — the Sisters of Saint Joseph, primarily — but changed over time to a presentation of elaborate and sophisticated theme-based displays and tableaus staged in designated areas of the College. In more recent years, however, classes presented more modest decorations. The collaboration emerged from the College's desire to revitalize this tradition to its glory days. Alumni in the area are invited to stop in for an hour or so to hammer, staple, and otherwise deck the halls. All alumni are welcome to donate no-longer-used ornaments or other decorations. Are you outside the area but interested in reliving this tradition along with first-year students? Log in to www.CHCgriffinsonline.com, **Message Boards**, to post your best Christmas Decorating Night memory or offer your Christmas Decorating Night good wishes to the Class of 2013. (*Visit www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/ChristmasDecorations for photo galleries of Christmas Decorating Night 2008.*)

The second **School of Continuing & Professional Studies Reunion Evening** is slated for Saturday, March 6, in the Social Room. Invitations will be mailed in late January. Plans are underway, and volunteers are invited to join the organizing committee for this night of good cheer, great fun, and lots of laughs. The first SCPS reunion evening in 2006 attracted more than 75 alumni.

The 63rd annual reunion weekend, for traditional undergraduate class years ending in 5 and 0, will take place on June 4-5-6.

Reunion of the Stars 2010 also ushers a new decade into the Golden Griffins, when the Class of 1960 joins those who graduated 50 or more years ago. ("5" and "0" alums are encouraged to visit www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/Reunion for news, reunion FAQs, and other information.)

WANT TO BE HERE FOR CHC?

Interested in spreading the good word about Chestnut Hill College...volunteering for the College in your neck of the woods...introducing the College to a high school student...connecting with classmates...offering a student internship or summer employment...or voicing an opinion on what we can do for you on any alumni or other College matter? Contact Patricia M. Canning '70, director of alumni relations, at canningp@chc.edu or 215.248.7144.

The class notes beginning on page 26 reveal the dimension of achievement and service so characteristic of our Chestnut Hill College alumni. Enjoy!

>>IN MEMORIAM

- Margaret Gould McVeigh '38
Jane MacDermott '45
Maria Meissinger Breitinger '50
Joan Ritterbeck Venino '50
Joan Amelia Ferruggiaro, SSJ '52
Pauline Vinchur Lichman '52
Carol Enright Bell '54
Barbara Hayes Callahan '56
Nancy Schelble Stinson '57
Rosemarie Walsh Taima '57
Carolyn Giblin Webb '57
Anne Butler Wigmore '58
Barbara Folsom Murch '61
Elizabeth Ann Brown '76
Margaret Higgins
(Peggy) Schmitt '92 SGS
Frances Lutz '98 SCPS

>>MARRIAGES

- Cathy Lockyer '92 to
Sean Moulton
Lynna McLeod '99 to
Gregory A. Wilson
Danielle Conlen '03 to
Michael Sabato
Alicia Smith '03 to
James Armstrong
Miranda Kirn '08 to
Sam Crescenzo

>>BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

- David Joseph Amabile to
Mary Valle '93 & Daniel Amabile
William (Liam) James Pinkstone to
Stacy Schiele Pinkstone '00
and Bill Pinkstone
Ava Paulina to
Caitlin Wilshe Domanico '05
and JP Domanico

>>CLASS NOTES

'40s

"Mom always felt Chestnut Hill College was a very special place," wrote Patricia O'C.B. Farley, Esq. of her mother, the late **Mary Patricia O'Connor Farley '47** (*psychology*). Mrs. Farley served as student class president for all four years, and until her death in Baltimore in May 2008, Patricia notes, "stayed in touch with many classmates and treasured the friendships" and was pleased to remember the College in her estate plans.

Patricia Tully Bannan '49 reports from West Chester, Pa., that she's active in Democratic Party and community activities. She's rereading "old books in my library"; however, she recently purchased Maeve Binchy's "Whitethorn Woods" and Dick Francis' "Silks."

Doris M. Byrnes '49 (*mathematics*) retired as a teacher for the Philadelphia public schools and for CORA Services. Current activities include serving as secretary for the Catholic Daughters of America, Court St. Matthew, and editor of "Sodality News" for the Philadelphia archdiocese.

Irene Smith Gillespie '49 (*psychology*) wrote to say that she would have loved to be with her class at last June's reunion, but would miss it because of grandchildren's graduations. "We have eight grandchildren — four finished college (none married), two still in college, and two in high school." In fact, she said, she missed the 55th reunion for the same reason. "Paul and I are in good health, if you ignore all the aches and pains."



David Joseph joins big sisters Jessica-Marie and Catherine Grace Amabile.

Dorothea McEvoy Jordan '49 (*economics*), a retired psychiatric social worker, enjoys life in North Carolina and contributing time as a food pantry volunteer, an advocate for the Marriage Tribunal at St. Jude's Church, and a greeter to new parishioners at Sunday Mass. Recent books read include "The Shack" and "Three Cups of Tea." Dorothy serves as the Class of 1949 president.

Florence Jurewica Korzinski '49 (*biology*) volunteers in her Oakland, N.J., community and teaches classes in movement and the mind-body connection. She's recently read several John Grishman and James Patterson mysteries as well as books on Tai chi, particularly the Alexander technique.

Agnes Butsko Leonard '49 (*home economics*) retired from a career in interior design, most recently as the 13-year owner of a design business and a designer for various decorating establishments. No longer running a business, Agnes says she "plans to keep moving!!!" Now living in a retirement community, where she serves as a board member of its home association, Agnes also volunteers at a new hospital in her area, serves on the fundraising board of a new art center situated on the George Mason University campus, assists at the voting polls, performs in a choral group, and belongs to an investment club. She recently enjoyed reading the late Randy Pausch's "The Last Lecture."

Helene Popper '49 (*mathematics*) retired from a career at Central High School in Philadelphia as well as from the College, where she was a part-time instructor. She lives at Foulkeways, a Quaker-run retirement community in Lower Gwynedd, Pa.,

where she plays the harp for other residents and at memorials. Other interests include hawk watching, hand work, and a book club. In fact, she recommends a recent read, "Quaker Silence" by Irene Allen.

'50s

Mary Wiesner Edell '54 wrote from her Rockville Centre, N.Y., home to wish her classmates "good weather for reunion weekend," as she was unable to join them in June for their 55th.

M. Elizabeth (Liz) Logan '54 (*history*), a retired teacher, substitutes when needed and acts as a host family for foreign students who attend Widener University. Current interests include a French club, gardening for the Caleb Pusey House in Upland, Pa., which is the oldest continuously standing house (1683) in southeastern Pennsylvania, and jewelry sales and collecting, while also volunteering for the American Heart Association. Her reading interests cover mysteries by Anne Perry, Elizabeth Peters, and Dick Francis. Right now Liz is reading "The Shack" and re-reading Charles Dickens.

Janice Arleth Reilly '54 (*history*) reports that genealogy has been her hobby since 1989. She also noted that daughter **Caroline Reilly Dignan, M.D. '89** (*chemistry*) has appeared in the last three seasons of the A&E television program "Crime 360," which features detectives and their murder investigations. The program has filmed homicides in Richmond and Little Rock, with mid-August entries featuring crimes in Cleveland and Rochester. Caroline's role as a medical examiner is to present the autopsy findings, usually in three minutes. The Fairport, N.Y., resident graduated from the University of Virginia School of Medicine in 1993, completed her pathology residency at the University of Michigan Hospitals, and is the medical examiner for Onondaga County, New York.

Charlotte Branagan Farley '56 (*fashion design*) proudly reports that her son, Robert Farley, was part of a seven-member team at the *St. Petersburg Times* awarded the Pulitzer Prize in national reporting for PolitiFact, a Web site, and its "Truth-O-Meter," which tests the validity of political statements. The Pulitzer announcement cites the origin of "PolitiFact" in the 2008 presidential campaign, which used "probing reporters and the power of the World Wide Web to examine more than 750

political claims, separating rhetoric from truth to enlighten voters.” The newspaper noted that its award “reflected the growing influence of online media in public affairs.” The award-winning Web site continues to fact-check statements by legislators, political party officials, and talk-radio and cable TV political pundits, while its Obameter tracks and rates the progress of more than 500 of President Barack Obama’s campaign promises.

Joan Neumann Lowrey ’57 (*mathematics*) was profiled in the genealogy blog “Genea-Musings” for a workshop that she planned to present to the Chula Vista Genealogical Society in late June. Joan has been researching her family since 1957 and has been a professional genealogist since 1990, specializing in Germany and the U.S. Following graduation, Joan worked with analog and digital computers as an engineer in the guided missile department at RCA in New Jersey. She minored in German and is a charter member and past officer of the German Research Association. In 1988 she founded the Computer Genealogy Society of San Diego, with posts as president and editor of its quarterly newsletter. She is the author of two books and co-author on two others, including the “Guide to Genealogy Software.” Joan, who lives in La Jolla, Calif., is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Ann Bailey Ambrogi ’59 (*biology*) has been retired for nine years and cites golf as her current hobby, but she also enjoys visiting her grandchildren in Chicago and her siblings in Texas as well as swimming and genealogy. Ann earned a master’s degree in religious education and a certificate in catechetics from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas

Aquinas in Rome. Her current favorite read is “True Devotion to Mary” by St. Louis De Montfort.

After **Anne Harvie Howard ’59** (*speech*) retired from the Morristown Hospital (N.J.) in 2002, she promptly went to work as director of communications for the Sturge-Weber Foundation in Randolph, N.J., a nonprofit focusing on rare neurological disorders. Anne edits the foundation’s newsletter, which is distributed three times a year, and its monthly Web-driven communications. Current interests include participating as a Revolutionary War reenactor and volunteering at Morristown National Historical Park. Even with these activities, she reads a book every two weeks, most recently “People of the Book.” As a result of reconnecting with other English majors during reunion weekend, Anne volunteered to run an e-mail book discussion group of ’59ers.

Jean Peters Kinney ’59 (*Spanish*) teaches Spanish two days a week to students in every grade at St. Michael the Archangel Parish School in Union, N.J. Jean “loves the students,” she writes, but travel is her passion. “I was in Egypt in 2004, and the trip included a Nile cruise. I was in China in 2007, and the trip included a Yangtze River cruise. So, I’ve traveled on two of the world’s longest rivers.” Jean sings in her parish (Holy Trinity) choir and belongs to the New Jersey Lighthouse Society, which is dedicated to lighthouse preservation. An avid reader, Jean recommends David Grann’s “The Lost City of Z.”

Mary Rose Gallagher O’Neill ’59 (*chemistry*) is not sure when she will retire, as she enjoys her work as a management consultant to Tulane University’s A.B. Freeman School of Business, where she trains students on career search strategies.

Travel for pleasure last year included trips to Florida, Philadelphia, and Los Angeles, while business matters sent her to New York, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. She volunteers for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Recent good books include Jodi Picoult’s “My Sister’s Keeper” and Barbara Walters’ “Audition: A Memoir.”

’60s

Isabel (Dolly) Porreca Johnson ’63 (*history*) is volunteering at the Daylesford Abbey in Paoli, Pa., in the Stephen Ministry, a nationwide Christian companioning program for people experiencing life-changing challenges or events such as hospitalization, terminal illness, and loss due to death, divorce, and unemployment. She conducts an intensive 50-hour training program for those who become Stephen Ministers, one-to-one lay caregivers, in their communities. The program originated in St. Louis in 1975 and takes its name from St. Stephen, the first layperson commissioned by the Apostles to provide a caring ministry to those in need. Dolly’s husband, Robert, passed away in early May following a long illness. Dolly served on the Villanova University faculty from 1989 to 2005.

Barbara Cruse ’64 (*mathematics*) was a systems engineer for Telcordia Technologies in Piscataway, N.J., when she retired in 2003. Gardening, bridge, handbells, and volunteering for several organizations occupy her time now. Barbara enjoyed and recommends “Musicophilia: Tales of Music and the Brain” by Oliver Sachs.

Lorraine Cajano Minecci ’64 (*biology*) retired from Wyeth Research as a clinical writing expert, preparing dossiers for submission to international regulatory agencies for approval of new pharmaceutical and biological products. She continues in the field as a consultant medical writer. Lorraine enjoys travel, recently visiting Italy and Peru and planning a trip to Bhutan. She loves spending time with her grandchildren and reading, recommending Jack Whyte’s “Camulod” series about the Arthurian



Danielle Conlen Sabato ’03 and Michael, Holy Saviour Church, Norristown, Pa.

Age and Barbara Kingsolver’s essays and her book “Animal, Vegetable, Miracle.”

Alice Reilly Paduch ’64 (*art history*) is a law firm office manager in northern New Jersey but is about to relocate, so retirement could be a possibility. Gardening, music, and reading are key interests now, with Sy Montgomery’s “The Good, Good Pig” a top choice.

Women’s heart health advocate **Nancy Loving ’68** (*history*) co-presented a session with cardiothoracic surgeon **Kathleen W. McNicholas, M.D. ’69** (*biology*) during the “Nourish Your Mind, Body, Spirit” program on the opening afternoon of the **Reunion of the Stars 2009**. “Where Do You Go Between the Obstetrician and the Geriatrician?” offered a no-holds-barred discussion of threats and risks to women’s cardiovascular health and was specifically directed at alumnae in their 40s. Kathleen had a busy day, as three hours earlier she addressed participants in a luncheon sponsored by the Philadelphia Chapter of the Widener Women’s Network and hosted by the Philadelphia law firm of Anapol, Schwartz, Weiss, Cohan, Feldman & Smalley. Kathleen, who also is a graduate of the Widener University School of Law (2006) and is completing a master’s degree in health law there, spoke to the topic “Lawyering in a Recession: Stress Management Tips.”



Alicia Smith Armstrong ’03 and James, St. Aloysius Church, Pottstown, Pa.

Living THE COLLEGE MOTTO:

Marilyn Leonard MacMaster '49
(home economics)

“To be perfectly honest, I didn’t like college when I was in it, but I’ve loved the College since I’ve been out.” Hardly a rosy memory of student life at Chestnut Hill in the ’40s, but Marilyn Leonard MacMaster’s opinion of the College 60 years later is certainly music to the ears of an alumni relations director.

Especially when one considers the College motto — *Fides, Caritas, Scientia* — and the layers to the life that Marilyn continues to lead: one of strong faith, of meaningful service, of lifelong learning.

“Believe, trust in what the Lord has in store for you,” she counsels her 10 grandchildren. “I always found it to be the case. I always seemed to land in the right place, doing what was right and needed at the time.”

A degree in a major long gone from the College’s roster rests at the core of Marilyn’s accomplishments. Home economics, specifically nutrition studies, coupled with a master’s degree in education from Drexel in the early ’70s, informs a career marked by 17 years of teaching and five years of writing about food and nutrition principles, more than 15 years of owning the fabled Cuttalossa Inn (New Hope, Pa.), and sharing a lifetime of knowledge about healthy food preparation with the poorest of the poor. A stretch with Gulf Oil also falls into Marilyn’s experience mix.

From the ’40s through the ’60s, Marilyn traveled to Europe and Asia for courses in local cuisine and each region’s food preparation practices. “I was often the only person speaking English in these classes, but I knew French pretty well, and I knew Spanish, enough to get the gist of what was happening.” Her studies prompted an interest that continues to the present — young children, especially those in need, as evidenced by her participation in a recent College-sponsored two-day workshop on autism for Montessori teachers. Marilyn is in her third year of teaching pre-school and grades one and two at a Montessori school run by her daughter in Buckingham, Pa. It’s merely a complement to those years of overseas studies, where she immersed herself in the local culture and inquired about the living and learning conditions of the youngsters, often not liking what she saw and heard.

No idle dilettante, here, pontificating on the plight of the poor from the comfort of her Doylestown, Pa., home. For the last 20 years, Marilyn has participated with the Discovery Service Project, a church-sponsored all-volunteer organization of physicians, attorneys, teachers, and other professionals that identify Central American areas in need of basic human services. The volunteers provide six- to eight-week labor, instruction, and guidance to the local population. Marilyn focuses on women and children, which she’ll do again in January in Mexico, but most recently in Honduras, a country she’s visited three times.

“From only one mile outside the capital, these families live in poverty that you cannot believe. They still sometimes sleep on the floors. There’s no electricity, there are no bathrooms, the children often don’t wear clothes until the age of three, the nearest water supply is more than a mile away — and until our group installed four wells, which need to be locked every day — and available only by having the children walk that distance every day with jugs of water on their shoulders.”


Marilyn’s mission is to find ways to help these families prepare meals “that won’t make them sick,” as many do. She identifies nutritious, local food staples that can be converted into proper daily meals and then teaches their preparation to the families. She’s frustrated with recent events in Honduras, however, where corn is just such a staple. “Families tell me they’ve seen the price of corn increase since other countries are using it for ethanol as a fuel source. One man’s passion for energy conservation is another man’s simple daily meal.”

This woman of decided political opinion virtually inhales information on national issues, taking courses at local colleges and universities, attending workshops on the economy, health care, public education, and other pressing topics, and expresses her views to local legislators through direct political activity and the all-powerful personal computer. “That’s why the liberal arts are so important in our lives and why I appreciate how I was taught and what I was taught. College should be an introduction to life, to the constant search for knowledge and information that carries us through the rest of the way.

It shouldn’t be slanted one way or the other — liberal or conservative. We need to reemphasize ethics, moral values, solid thinking.”

Marilyn has always been interested in politics. “It’s part of who I am,” she says. “I write to any Pennsylvania congressman, our two Senators, our governor. I go to the news every day, making my way through lots of online sources. I send them a message, and they respond, but I don’t settle for the auto reply of ‘Congressman so-and-so appreciates your comments.’ I push a question until I get an answer directly from them. I can tell you that [former Senator] Rick Santorum always responded, and quickly, and he answered the question. No form letter from him.”

She shares her week’s activities during “family dinner” every Tuesday, when one can find from 10 to 15 children and grandchildren at her table catching up on current events, debating the latest news from Washington, or enjoying one another’s company. She’s particularly proud of grandson Ian, a 2008 Boston University graduate now serving in Iraq, who told Marilyn, “I’ll give five years to my country, then come back for med school.” One granddaughter has taught English in several foreign countries, including Rwanda, and all have accompanied her on her annual missionary trips to Central America. A nine-year-old is on board for this January’s work in Mexico. “Each grandchild,” she says, “has truly been moved by the experience and understands how much their help is needed.”

Perhaps it’s time to take a breather, settle back, and enjoy more hours in her stunning garden? “Not possible,” Marilyn dismisses. “Too much more to learn, too much work left to do.” 



Reunion 2009 celebrant Marilyn Leonard MacMaster '49 in her enviable perennial garden.



Cardiothoracic surgeon Kathleen W. McNicholas, M.D. '69 discusses women's heart health during reunion weekend's educational/personal enrichment sessions

Kathleen Nugent O'Driscoll '69 (*classical civilization*) received the Award for Academic Excellence in the Associate in Commercial Underwriting (AU) Program from the Insurance Institute of America in June. Kathy is a commercial lines customer support representative in the home office of Harleysville Insurance. The award is given annually to those who earn the highest grade averages for the national examinations in the Institute program. Kathy earned a master's degree in classical languages in 1971 from Villanova University. Okay, no jokes about Greek, Latin, and the ability to decipher an insurance policy.

'70s

Mary Elizabeth ("Biz") Blaise McMahon '72 (*elementary education*) writes that she is now **Biz Blaise Burnett**, officially taking her nickname as her first name and announcing her marriage to Doug Burnett in August 1997. Biz is an infant assistant teacher at a childcare center in the Raleigh, N.C., area.

Mary Lenore Gricoski Keszler, M.D. '74 (*biology*) is a neonatology physician at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, Md. She was an invited lecturer for the National Youth Leadership Program on Medicine in Washington, D.C., in June and July 2008. Free time finds her power walking, jogging, growing orchids and African violets, and reading. Her current favorite is Carol Cassella's "Oxygen," "a novel that is an excellent treatise in a fictional way of the recent trends in medicine."

Lynn Martin Trocky '74 (*elementary education*), '88 SGS (*counseling psychology*) responded to the blast e-mail sent by the alumni

office to alumnae from undergraduate classes ending in 4 and 9 who did not attend the June Reunion Weekend. The "tell us why" e-mail asked the reason for not registering for the three-day event: schedule conflict, nothing interesting in the program, price too high for the entire weekend, price too high for Saturday's reunion luncheon, or the alumna is just not that into us — either the College or her class. The e-mail also asked for other reasons not suggested. Lynn wrote back that she was not part of a "regular" class. She participated in the College Teaching program sponsored by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, in which she completed only one full-time year with those who entered as freshmen in 1970 but completed her degree on a part-time basis while teaching in the diocesan system full time. "I do not have the connection to the Class of '74 that others have, as I did not have the same experiences. I was not able to make the relationships that others of my class were able to enjoy." Memories can be vivid, she found. "As I think of my year at CHC, I do remember it fondly. I had to wear a skirt. I was there for the big civil disobedience as a result of the mock ashes in the Rotunda caper — our big sit-in. I had a Big Sister — I can see her face but don't remember her name. I made some new friends and stayed friends with my Cecilian Academy posse. I 'hung out' in the Red Lounge." Lynn did complete her studies within four years "by going to school full time in the evenings and summers. I even student taught in my own classroom." Her graduation, though, was not with the students who entered with her in 1970. "My big graduation was Sister — not sure if it was Sister Helen Veronica [academic dean] or Sister William Marguerite [Margaret Fleming, SSJ '56, dean

of students] — getting my diploma out of the safe and handing it to me. Sister Grace Margaret [registrar] was very special to me, as I shared all of my teenage angst with her. I remember she never discounted my feelings and listened intently to my lamentations. What a good woman. My favorite teacher was Sister Sheila [Rosemary Scheirer, SSJ, Ed.D. '58]. I worked hard for her. Thank heavens she never found out that my lab partner was the frog dissector, as I did not have the stomach for it. The one thing that I have never done at CHC, besides seeing a dorm room, is to go to the astronomy lab [observatory]. I always wanted to see the stars. Even when I was working in the counseling department, I wanted to sneak up to try to look." Lynn has stayed close to CHC, "earning my master's in '88, teaching from 2001 to the present, and a short stint working in the counseling center." As a result of the particulars of her undergraduate education, she says, "the reunion would not have been for me. As much as I missed out on the 'normal' college experience, I would never change the one I had."

Kim Ocasio Cabrera '79, D.M.D. (*biology*) is a practicing dentist in Caguas, Puerto Rico, who enjoys sailing, social/civic work, volunteerism for the Puerto Rico dental association, and travel, most recently to Panama and the Dominican Republic. Her current favorite book? "Sail," a James Patterson novel.

Bonita Jones '79 (*psychology*), has created Bonita Jones & Associates LLC, a consulting firm specializing in banking compliance risk management and regulatory relations. She recently retired from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco after more than 28 years in the banking system, most recently as a principal and senior manager and responsible for implementing a compliance risk supervision program for large and complex banking organizations. Bonita received the Fed's "Excellence in Bank Supervision" Award in 1994.

Theresa Boyle Miller '79 (*political science*) writes from Farmingville, N.Y., that she enjoys her work as operations director for The Camry Group, Inc., managing the third-party EDI service bureau. She recommends "The Snowball," the autobiography of Warren Buffet.

Stephanie Smith '79 (*elementary education*) teaches private piano

lessons and is a private music student, herself, of Associate Professor of Music Edward Strauman. Stephanie's interests include Russian culture, pinnipeds (seals, sea lions, and walrus), and the environment, with particular support for the Ocean Conservancy and the Marine Mammal Center.

'80s

Celeste La Bella Morello '80 (*classical civilization and art history*) was named to "Who's Who in the World" for the eleventh time for her work as a historian and criminologist. She earned a master's degree in criminology at St. Joseph's University and a master of arts in history at Villanova. The former history and social sciences teacher is responsible for 30 historical marker sites in Philadelphia through the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Historical Marker Program. Her five books on local and regional history, local parish history, criminal and Mafia history, and Philadelphia's Italian foods are available throughout the U.S. Celeste has appeared on a variety of cable TV programs and has been interviewed by the Associated Press, national magazines, and Philadelphia regional media.

Gillian Horna Dezzutto '84 (*political science*) is an account executive with Dell Computer, Inc., responsible for education and state and local government middle market accounts throughout Alaska. Gillian develops and plans strategies and activities for all public sector accounts. The Anchorage resident recently enjoyed "The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie" by Alan Bradley.

Jean Marie Koch Williams '84 (*biology*) recently moved to Tucson, Az., for health reasons and enjoys gardening, reading, and sustainability advocacy. Volunteer activities include her daughter's high school, the Humane Society of Southern Arizona, and Arizona Greyhound Rescue. Reading favorites cover "any Oprah Winfrey book list and vampire, magic, and historical fiction."

Christine Stoffer Goulet '85 (*chemistry*) stopped in the College admissions office with daughter Lauren this summer while visiting her sister, **Deborah Stoffer Gealey '88** (*biology*), who lives in nearby Collegeville. "Our family enjoyed our visit to CHC. It brought back many fond memories!" Christine left the

Philadelphia area for graduate school in Wisconsin, where she earned a master's degree in paper chemistry and met her husband, Michael. There she stayed, working for Kimberly-Clark as a scientist/engineer for seven years until the birth of their first child and her life as a stay-at-home mom. She took that time to establish her own art business, painting murals. In January she became a substitute teacher in her school district and enjoys it so much that she returns to school this fall to earn teacher certification for grades one to eight.

Karen Reddington-Hughes '85 (*psychology*), owner of Abrash Galleries Rugs and Antiques in Woodbury, Conn., displayed a collection of antique oriental rugs to residents of The Watermark at East Hill, a 45-acre lifecare community located in Southbury. Karen's mid-May seminar addressed the "ins and outs of collecting" while advising the residents of the intricacies and patterns to look for in prized rugs and other antique treasures. She also led a tour of several luxury Watermark apartments containing "fantastic rugs for viewing."

Audra Meckler Wallis '89 (*business administration*) is the chief financial officer at Sacred Heart Senior Living in Northampton, Pa. Travel, movies, and reading occupy Audra's free time. She writes that a recent run at "Moby Dick" was a "much harder read than I had anticipated."

'90s

Raffaele Tudisco '91 SCPS (*English*) is the founder and stage director of the Amici Opera Company, which has performed 69 different operas in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware over the last 10 years. Ralph, a baritone, reports that he is



Cathy Lockyer Moulton '92 and Sean, Loews Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa.

the "first singer in history to have sung the lead in all 26 Verdi operas and Verdi's *Requiem*." He comes to opera naturally, as his father ran an opera company in Brooklyn. The native Philadelphian has studied with celebrated artists in Italy, has sung more than 100 leading roles, and was awarded the coveted Mario Lanza Scholarship twice. The Amici Opera Company's recent season included works by Donizetti, Verdi, Leoncavallo, Puccini, Carlos Gomes, Massenet, and Mascagni performed in community venues in Philadelphia, Lansdowne (Pa.), Lansdale (Pa.), and Yorklyn (Del.).

The College was well represented at the May 30 wedding of **Cathy Lockyer '92** (*political science*) to Sean Moulton at the Loews Hotel in Philadelphia. Guests Kathy O'Boyle '84, Donna Smith, Cathy Quinn, and Maryanne Walsh '98, '02 SGS were on hand to toast the happy couple. "Sister Carol Jean Vale did one of the readings and Sister Kathryn Miller said the blessing before dinner. Joanne Fink '76 was one of my bridesmaids." Sean is a policy analyst in Washington, D.C., with the non-profit group OMBWatch. "We first met in band camp when we were freshmen in high school 25 years ago!" Cathy is operations manager for an apartment complex management firm (Jericho Manor, Thomas Wynne, Merloc Partners) located in suburban Philadelphia. She received the Alumni Association Eleanore Dolan Egan '28 Award for Outstanding Service to Chestnut Hill College in 2008 and returns to the College's Board of Directors this fall for a three-year term.

Carol Nash Purcell, Esq. '94 (*political science*) is an attorney with Alpha Systems.

Jennifer Horihan Staples '97 (*sociology/criminal justice*) recently joined Century 21 Alliance's Manayunk office as a sales associate. Jennifer concentrates on transactions in Philadelphia, Montgomery County, and their surrounding communities. The five-year real estate veteran is also an experienced fundraiser and event manager for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, the American Heart Association, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Lynna McLeod Wilson '99 (*early childhood education*) is a Head Start teacher at the Philadelphia Parent Child Center.

'00s

Alicia Smith Armstrong '03 (*communications and technology*) specializes in foreign annuities as a foreign patent paralegal with Caesar, Rivise, Bernstein, Cohen & Pokotilow, Ltd. Alicia has assisted in trademark prosecutions with the Philadelphia intellectual property law firm.

Elizabeth Pomidor Santos '04 (*business administration*) is a social worker with Milestories Community Health Care. She earned a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and recently married Gerardo Santos, a graduate of the University of the Philippines and a senior systems analyst with Independence Blue Cross, Valley Forge, Pa.

Caitlin Wilshe Domanico '05 (*elementary education*), '07 SGS (*education, with special education certification*) has been concentrating on Photography by Caitlin Domanico LLC, a business she founded two years ago with no formal photography training. Even so, the Philadelphia Sketch Club — formed in 1860, America's oldest continuing artist organization — chose two of her works for its PHOTOgraphy 2007 Exhibition and selected her "Momento Dolce" for an award. Caitlin is on maternity leave until January from her fourth year of special education teaching with the Bucks County (Pa.) Intermediate Unit. She previously taught at Norwood-Fontbonne Academy in Philadelphia.



Ava Paulina Domanico, photographed by mother Caitlin Wilshe Domanico '05.

Julia Dressler '05 (*communications and technology*) earned a master's degree in business administration, *summa cum laude*, in June from DeSales University, located in Center Valley, Pa. Julie joined Prudential Insurance four years ago and is now a client consultant with the Group Life division. "I basically act as an account manager or liaison of sorts between mid-market-sized clients and Pru. It's my job to on-board new clients as well as maintain and improve current partnerships with existing group clients."

Andrew Komorowsky '09 SGS (*clinical and counseling psychology*) has been accepted to the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine program that leads to the degree of education specialist (Ed.S.). Andrew looks forward to continuing his studies in the field of school psychology. 🦁

Nominations Open for 2010 Alumni Association Awards

The Alumni Association invites nominations for its two annual awards: the **Eleanore Dolan Egan '28 Award for Outstanding Service to Chestnut Hill College** and the **Distinguished Achievement Award**.

Profiles of award recipients, nomination criteria, and nomination forms are accessible at www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/Awards.

Nominations may be submitted online or printed from the Web site and postmarked by **January 15** to: **Alumni Honors & Awards Committee, c/o Office of Alumni Relations, Chestnut Hill College, 9601 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118**. For information, contact canningp@chc.edu or 215.248.7144.

Join the Crowd— VISIT CHC GRIFFINS ONLINE!



If you're a Chestnut Hill College graduate and have not yet registered on **CHC Griffins Online** — your free alumni online community — contact canningp@chc.edu for your personal ID number to log in for the first time.

Visit www.CHCgriffinsonline.com to:

- Send e-mail and instant notes to friends and classmates
- Search the alumni directory
- Register for alumni and other College events
- Post wedding, baby, and other family photos
- Display your résumé
- Receive instant news from the College
- View job opportunities and classifieds
- Voice your opinion on the message board
- Join the 1,017 alumni already on board

We're also on **Facebook** — become a fan by typing in **Chestnut Hill College**.



>> WE'RE HERE FOR YOU...HOWEVER YOU WANT TO REACH US

Keep in touch with your friends and classmates! Career news, advanced degrees, births, marriages, deaths — whatever your news, share it with us. Submit items by January 15, 2010 for print consideration in the next issue of *Chestnut Hill*.

1. E-mail: canningp@chc.edu Name: _____
2. Fax: 215.248.7196 Maiden Name (if SUS): _____
3. Mail: Patricia Canning Class Year: ____ SUS ____ SCPS ____ SGS ____
Director of Alumni Relations
Chestnut Hill College
9601 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118
4. Online: www.CHCgriffinsonline.com



Alumni Relations Office
Chestnut Hill College
9601 Germantown Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19118

LAST WORD

Crossing the Generational Divide

by Susan Magee, M.F.A.



They are self-centered, indulged, spoiled, helpless without technology, overloaded with information, materialistic, and have no attention span. These are some of the generational qualities attributed to the Millennials (a.k.a. Gen Y) by the experts.

The Millennials are the children of the Boomers and the Gen Xers, born roughly between 1982 and 2002, though generational divisions do vary. And when I'm around them, I sometimes feel as culturally relevant as Aunt Bea and the Roadrunner. After all, I only have 44 songs, all paid for, on my iPod, and it takes me four minutes to send

but teaching a different generation with different reference points who have never known life without the Internet is a challenge. Our job is to teach today's students to read and write and think — really think. Our mission is to guide them, nourish them spiritually, and make them employable — all while trying to prevent them from texting during class. (I was in a meeting once, during which we argued about what was the best way to handle a chronic texter — stopping class until they looked up and noticed, taking the phone, a quiet chat after class, or a constant circumambulation around the room.)

executive interviewing a young job candidate who showed up in flip flops. (Sigh.)

But before they get into the prickly landscape of the real world, about 900 of them are here with us, in our care. What, then, is the most important thing we can teach them?

Critical thinking skills? Communication skills? Compassion? I really don't have an answer. But my gut tells me it's compassion. Knowing how to write a dynamite research paper would be my close second. Though opinions vary and cultural attitudes shift,

“How did that happen? How did I become the one shaking the dry eraser marker and saying: ‘You don’t know what it was like...we actually had to go to the library to get articles, sometimes even at other schools, and sometimes the articles were on microfiche!’”

a 6-word text message to my babysitter: R u free sat @ 7. (I still don't know how to insert a question mark.)


That I don't share the same cultural references with my students was at first a shock. Then it was a revelation. The humbling kind. Yep, it happened. I'm an unhip, middle-aged college instructor in a long floral skirt going on and on about how doomed they are if they can't critically evaluate Web-based sources. How did that happen? How did I become the one shaking the dry eraser marker and saying: “You don't know what it was like...we actually had to go to the library to get articles, sometimes even at other schools, and sometimes the articles were on microfiche!”

Not quite a baked potato in my coat pocket for the three-mile trek to school,

That enormously important job description at a time when the joblessness rate for college graduates is at an all-time high, plus the chronic texters, would snap my spirit like a dry twig if it were not for the other side of the generational moon: the Millennials are also open minded and tolerant. According to historians Strauss and Howe, this generation's members are tolerant, value volunteer work, adapt quickly, worry about the environment, and work well in teams. Even more surprising — these acquisitive, blinged-out young people want more out of a job than just a paycheck. They want meaning.

Right now the twenty-somethings are marking the workplace and keeping the generational consultants busy. Imagine being a Boomer getting her expense sheet rejected by a Millennial? (Ouch.) Imagine being a 45-year old Gen X human resources

though it's tricky to generalize by generation, two things are inarguable about the Millennials. They are the largest and they are the most diverse generation ever in American history. One day, they will run the world, and let us not forget this includes assisted living facilities, where many of us will eventually be headed if the market bounces back, while mumbling, “How did that happen?”

Susan Magee, M.F.A., adjunct instructor, teaches the ILA seminar “Generation M?” She is the co-author/author of seven books, including “The Pregnancy Countdown Book.” 

We invite all members of the College community to submit articles to be considered for the “Last Word” column. If you'd like to contribute, please send your idea to magazine@chc.edu.

85th Anniversary Calendar of Events

FAIR TRADE EVENT

Wednesday, November 18, 12 to 4 p.m.
Music Corridor, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7044

11TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWL DINNER

Thursday, November 19, 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Sorgenti Arena, Martino Hall
Information: 215.248.7095

CAROL NIGHT

Friday, December 4, 7:30 p.m.
Rotunda, St. Joseph Hall
Information: 215.248.7194

4TH ANNUAL ALUMNI HOLIDAY CHEER

Friday, December 4, immediately following Carol Night
Brittingham's Irish Pub, Lafayette Hill, Pa.
Reservations: 215.753.3666
All alumni welcome

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING & PROFESSIONAL STUDIES REUNION EVENING

Saturday, March 6, 2010, 7 p.m.
Information: 215.248.7144

AN EMERALD EVENING CASINO NIGHT & AUCTION FUNDRAISER

Saturday, March 13, 2010
Sorgenti Arena, Martino Hall
Information: www.chc.edu/casino or 215.753.3688

COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 15, 2010

63RD ANNUAL REUNION: REUNION OF THE STARS 2010

June 4-5-6
School of Undergraduate Studies classes ending in "5" and "0"
Information: 215.248.7144

2010 GOLDEN GRIFFINS MASS & BRUNCH

Sunday, June 6
School of Undergraduate Studies Class of 1959 and earlier
Reservations: 215.753.3666

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE DONOR RECOGNITION CELEBRATION

Sunday, September 19, 2010

28TH ANNUAL GOLF INVITATIONAL

Monday, October 11, 2010
Whitemarsh Valley Country Club
Reservations: 215.753.3666

For the latest event information, visit www.chc.edu

Travel the World with Alumni and Friends

JANUARY 2010

7-Night Western Caribbean Cruise, aboard Holland America's *ms Westerdam* — Turks and Caicos Islands, Grand Cayman, Cozumel. January 10-17.

FEBRUARY 2010

12-Day South America Passage Cruise, sailing from Buenos Aires to Santiago on Holland America's *ms Veendam*; price includes air from Philadelphia and one pre-cruise night in Buenos Aires — Patagonia, Cape Horn, Antarctica, Machu Picchu, Rio, Santiago; onboard speaker series; shop for wine, lapis, amber, leather galore! February 9-24.

JUNE 2010

11-Day Yacht Havens of the Mediterranean, aboard Oceania's *Insignia* — Rome to Barcelona, visiting Bonifacio, Corsica, Cinque Terre, Marseille, Provence, Cannes, Portofino, Sardinia, Saint-Tropez, Sanary-Sur-Mer, and more. June 16-27.

JULY 2010

11-Day Alpine Explorer with the "Glacier Express" & Oberammergau Passion Play. It's all here: Italy, Switzerland, Austria, and Germany, capped by the world-renowned Passion Play performed only once every 10 years since 1634. July 6-16.

Visit www.alumnivacations.com and select **Chestnut Hill College** from the drop-down menu. Enjoy video previews of each trip. Special pricing is available for selected trips, subject to space availability. For information and/or reservations, contact Craig (ext. 103) or Christie (ext. 107) at 610.341.1979 or 800.506.7447.





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THE CLASSES OF
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1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000 & 2005.

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For more information: www.CHCgriffinsonline.com/Reunion