



# The Michaelight (July 2011)

Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association (SMAAA)

*"Round his flag we'll rally ever. Nothing can our union sever."*



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## REUNION 2011



Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association  
cordially invites you to

### REUNION 2011

**Saturday, October 8, 2011**

1:00 - 5:00 PM

Cathedral High School, 350 East 56th St., NYC

Please join us for a hot buffet luncheon complete with open bar serving wine, beer and soda

**\*Reservations: \$65 per person  
(Members of the Classes of  
2011, 2012 and 2013 only: \$35 per person)  
Guests of all alumnae are \$65 per person  
All tickets purchased at the door will be \$75**

RSVP by September 15, 2011

Please make your check payable to "SMAAA" and send (together with your contact information and class year) to:

Sharon Durity-Spocinski  
3451 Colony Drive  
Baldwin Harbor, NY 11510

For more information, email [SMAAANYC@aol.com](mailto:SMAAANYC@aol.com)

### Saint Michael Academy Mission Statement

Rooted in the Catholic tradition and Spirit of the Presentation Sisters, the mission of Saint Michael Academy was to educate young women in a loving and caring community, assisting each to develop her unique gifts and talents to live a fully Christian life.

### New York Times Article

After more than a century on the West Side of Manhattan, St. Michael Academy had assumed the traits of some of its best students: cash poor, underestimated by peers, capable of defying expectations with breathtaking regularity...[\(read more\)](#)

\*Physical tickets will not be issued. Your name will be held at the door.

## SMAAA Board of Directors

Jeanne Boyd Billings '74  
(Secretary - Association and Charitable Foundation)

Blanca Camacho '74  
(VP - Association)

Sr. Kathleen Cusack, PVBM '54

Sharon Duritzo '72

Mary Krulis '49

Jessica Libroia '87  
(VP - Charitable Foundation)

Mary O'Hara '62  
(VP - Charitable Foundation)

Genevieve O'Hare '47

Roberta Olgiati '74

Maria Pani '74  
(Treasurer - Association and Charitable Foundation)

Lorraine Pogan Shef '64  
(President - Association and Charitable Foundation)

Patti Wu '70

## Join Our Mailing List

## Be An Angel



In order to make it more affordable to attend the October reunion for those alumnae who will not get the opportunity to graduate from Saint Michael Academy (namely, the Classes of 2011, 2012 and 2013), the SMAAA has discounted their tickets by \$30. In order to cover our costs, we are putting out a call for SMA "Angels" to subsidize one (or more) of these girls.

Won't you "Be An Angel" and send an additional check for \$30, \$60, \$90 or more to:

Sharon Duritzo-Spocinski  
3451 Colony Drive  
Baldwin Harbor, NY 11510

Make your check payable to "SMAAA" with "Angel" in the memo line. It will do your heart good!

## Update Your Contact Info



Our outreach efforts can only be as good as our contact information, which is outdated. In order to be a successful entity, our alumnae association needs to have the correct contact information for all of us. Please send your full name (maiden and married), address, phone number, email address and year of graduation (or, in the case of the displaced Michaelites, the year they *would have* graduated from SMA) to [SMAAANYC@aol.com](mailto:SMAAANYC@aol.com). We will not share your information with, or sell your information to, anyone.

*(Please know that our definition of an SMA alum is anyone who ever attended, or was on staff at, Saint Michael Academy. Sisters, brothers, teachers, administrative staff...we invite you all to join our mailing list by clicking on the "Join Our Mailing List" link to the left.)*

## News from the Class of 1947

Mary E. Marshall (nee McCloskey) writes us this update on herself...

"I received a B.S. in Dietetics from Georgian Court College (now University) in June 1953. I worked in New York until Feb. 1964, when I joined the USAF. I served until retirement in July 1985, as a Lieutenant Colonel. I received an MBA in June 1987 from National U. I married Robert W. Marshall, who is a retired Chief Master Sgt. from the USAF. We have 8 children, 18 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. We are both totally retired and enjoy our life in Las Vegas."

## News from the Class of 1950

Anna Susan Loiacano Barrasso writes to us...

"I am so pleased that you and others started the association to keep St. Michael's alive. My husband's name is Pat. We have been married 57 years and have 2 sons, Frank and Anthony. After graduation, I became employed at McGraw-Hill Book Publishing Company in New York. I was married in 1954 and moved to Long Island."

## News from the Class of 1958

My path of God's will in my life led to a lifetime mission in the field of addiction with a terrific partner, friend and husband...ironically... James Cusack (an indirect relative of Sr. Kathleen Cusack) .. if we can be of service to anyone out there...we are here for you.  
[www.villaveritas.org](http://www.villaveritas.org)



Suzanne Boylston Cusack class of SMA 1958

## News from the Class of 1963

Hello to All:

Here is my latest school yearbook photo - only now I'm one of the teachers- chosen as Math Teacher of the Year at my school by my colleagues this year.

After 25 years of working in the business world in NY....I moved to Florida in 1990 with my retired math teacher husband, Donal (he has since passed away in 2007) and I finally went to college...earned three degrees - have an AA in Computere Info Systemsa, a BS in Business Education and an MS in



Computing Technology in Education ( all 4.0, of course, Sister Mary Michael :)



I am now a Middle School Math Teacher - 6,7,8 grades and work in a Title I school, and consider it my "ministry"....one of the "tough girls" who I straightened out all year, kissed and hugged me goodbye last Friday and said she'd miss me this summer and another student left me a note, thanking me for pushing her all year to become an "A" student....makes it all worthwhile..

Now, looking forward to 10 weeks off and I'll be dancing to rock and roll at Ballys in Vegas next week...and then enjoying the NC Mountains in late July with a teacher friend....

My Best to All the Michaelites...looking forward to our 50th in 2013...

Best Regards,  
Roberta Martin Hennessy

## Letters to the Editor

*In our June issue of The Michaelight we ran an excerpt from a book written by St. Michael's Grammar School graduate (1944) Louis Le Jacq entitled "Our Time". Here is a response we received from one of our readers...*



Thanks for the down memory lane story "Our Time". I was there for the moment. That is exactly how I remember the school and church. And Bickfords was our place to go after 9AM Mass on Sunday. Loved their English muffins. I hope one day I can come back and walk up both 34th and 33rd Streets to reminisce. I miss it very much. I used to live on 10th & 34th St. Again thank you.

Rosemarie Iacovelli

## Forward March!

**Forward, facebook, twitter, do whatever it takes to get the word out about the SMAAA!**



**Class Chairs - please forward this to your email groups. Use the icons at the top of this newsletter to post onto your facebook page. And don't forget to add [SMAAANYC@aol.com](mailto:SMAAANYC@aol.com) to your address book. Get on your marks, get set... **TWEET, TWEET!****

## Support the Presentation Sisters

### *Might We Suggest...*

that those of you who would like to ensure the legacy of Saint Michael Academy do so by giving a donation to the Presentation Sisters. Please send your contribution directly to the Sisters' motherhouse, and note in the memo line that it is an SMA Donation:



Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Administration Office  
84 Presentation Way  
New Windsor, NY 12553-4949

### ***Whassup???***

OK, we've said our piece, for the moment. Now it's *your* turn to tell us what's going on in *your* life...with *your* family...with *your* classmates. Or just send us some of your pictures (.jpg format, please) from when you went to SMA, so that we can all have some fun with that!

Email the news (and any pix that go with it) to [SMAAANYC@aol.com](mailto:SMAAANYC@aol.com). Include your name and year of your graduation. Look for it in our next issue.

**SMA Alumnae Association**  
[SMAAANYC@aol.com](mailto:SMAAANYC@aol.com)

### ***Annual Dues***

If you have already paid your 2011 annual dues to the SMAAA, Thank You! We appreciate your support! We have set this year's dues at a reasonable \$25, just to cover our start-up costs (which are mounting quickly!!!) At the moment, we are emailing this publication to just over 1,000 people. We have an "open rate" of approximately 40%, which means that only 400 of the alumnae are aware of our existence! We need your help to do better than that.

Please make out your check for \$25 (or more?) payable to "SMAAA", and mail it to Jeanne Billings (SMAAA), 6 Greenacres Avenue, Scarsdale, NY10583. **Be sure to include your updated contact information - name, maiden name, address, email address, phone number, year of graduation** - and please encourage your classmates to do the same. (*Hand in hand we'll work together!*)