



The Michaelight (October 2014)

Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association (SMAAA)

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



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Reunion Photos

Best Reunion EVER!



The "Golden Girls" of '64, the teachers we all knew and loved, the best friends on earth...It's all right here!

Sisters of the PBVM

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...[\(read more\)](#)

SMAAA Board of Directors

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

Blanca Camacho '74
(*VP - Association*)

Kathy Seyfried '74
(*VP - Charitable
Foundation*)

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

Maria Pani '74
(*Treasurer -
Association & Charitable
Foundation*)

Just follow [this link](#) and
enter the password "**Reunion2014**"
(no space, please note)

to see 141 pictures from our wonderful reunion on September 27th at Moran's Restaurant. Please join us next year!

If you'd rather type in the link, it's...

<http://s40.photobucket.com/user/SMAAANYC/library/>

Photographer



Our wonderful photographer, Marianne Smith (daughter of Joan Smith, Class of '49), was unable to be with us for the reunion this year because her mother suffered a serious back injury at the end of September. We missed our lovely SMA sister, Joan, and we missed her vivacious, talented and generous daughter, Marianne, just as much.

As you look through our "amateur" photos of the reunion, please keep Joan and Marianne in your prayers and, with luck, we will see them both at next year's reunion (September 26, 2015). Hope to see you there too!

Editorial

Sharon Duritzo '72
Genevieve O'Hare '47
Noreen White Rogan,
'60
Blanca Vasquez, '93
Patti Wu '70

Join Our Mailing List

 JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Tax Information

Contributions made (including any dues paid) to the Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association, Inc. are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

Questions? Comments?

Write to us at...

SMAAANYC@gmail.com



And a wonderful time was had by all!

On Saturday, September 27, 130 Michaelites and friends of Saint Michael Academy came together at Moran's for an afternoon of fun, friendship, and food. Sixteen classes were represented, including 22 members of the Golden Anniversary class of 1964 and a whopping 48 members of the always populous class of 1974. We were also graced by the presence of some very special guests - present and former Sisters of the Presentation and teachers of Saint Michael Academy! Former principals, Sr. Kathleen Cusack and Noreen White Rogan, attended, as well as Sr. Kathleen Harrington and Maryanne Raynor. Former teachers who shared in the festivities included Ms. Martha (Muth) Pritchard, Tom Witko, Richard Opresso, and Lou Santos. Alumni asked us, and we responded by doing our best, to locate past teachers. Some of our former educators who could not attend, and even some who did, sent lovely messages expressing their sentiments. I'm sure you can understand the excitement shared by so many who could finally say a long overdue *thank you* to a favorite teacher.





We always let our alumni know that, although we celebrate five year anniversaries, EVERY AND ANY CLASS is always welcome to gather a group of friends together and join us, and such was the case with the class of 1975, who took advantage of this open invitation. What was wonderful about that is that two classes, whose paths would otherwise never cross but were with each other on 33rd St. every day for three years, got a chance to reunite: '75 and '74.



The buffet lunch was delicious, and a variety of beverages were available at the bar. A wonderful video slide presentation was presented throughout the afternoon, and a 50-50 raffle was held, the proceeds of which will go to our scholarship fund which has, this year, chosen its first recipient! The afternoon ended for many with a walk from 19th St. to 34th St. via the picturesque Highline, with the final stop being St. Michael's Church, where mass was celebrated in honor of all alumni, living and deceased. The celebrant even gave a special blessing to "the old girls from St. Michael's."



The SMAAA board of directors has already met and started looking ahead to the reunion for 2015. We are certain it will be an even bigger success! We invite you all to share in the fun and memories, old and new, and to be a part of the planning process. We are enthusiastically open to your ideas, suggestions, input, and especially, hands-on help. Any special talents or connections? We could probably use you on our team! If there are teachers you would like at the reunion, please let us know and we will try to find them. If you have any teacher contact information, please let us know and we will follow up. Make sure we have your current contact information and spread the word among your classmates: **"Save the date - September 26, 2015. Be there or be square!"**

Blanca Camacho
Class of '74
Vice President SMAAA

Sr. Maria Goretti

Sr. Maria Goretti, who wanted so much to come to our reunion this year, left this lovely phone message for us...

"Unfortunately, I am not able to come to the wonderful dinner and activities that you are going to have. I'm sorry about that.

Please tell everyone, if you can, that St. Michael's was THE best school that I ever taught in (and I taught in MANY, for over 63 years) because of the relationships between the students and the teachers and the authorities, etc. The Presentation Sisters were marvelous. The way the school was run was THE best of all the schools I ever taught in.

So, God bless everyone that comes (or doesn't come) to the festivities. Love you all. God bless."



Sr. Maria Goretti
Science

Teacher Appreciation

Sr. Anne Marie Collins



Sr. Anne Marie Collins
Art

1968



Sr. Anne Marie Collins

1974

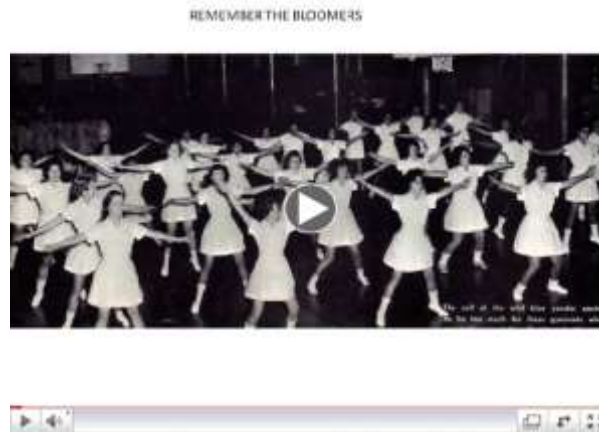


2014 SMAAA reunion Teacher Appreciation

To read more testimonials from our teachers, and to see the "Teacher Appreciation" slide presentation which ran during the 2014 reunion, please click on the above YouTube link or go to...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qTLgQvmyY28&feature=youtu.be>

This Year's Golden Girls...the Class of 1964!



2014 SMAAA reunion 1964

To view the slide presentation tribute to the Class of 1964 which ran during the 2014 reunion, please click on the above YouTube link, or go to...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tPeP1CIuviY&feature=youtu.be>

In Memoriam

This is to let you know (at Rose's request) that Paul, the husband of Rose DePaola van Heest, SMA 1956, died on October 18. Obituary at legacy.com. Rose would like the sisters who are from her class at St. Michael's to be notified, if possible.
Thank you,
Her classmate, Carolyn Tudisco McNamara.

Rose van Heest
Nine Tulip Crescent
Little Falls, NJ 07424

973-785-1871



Facebook



See that little blue facebook icon at the top of this newsletter? (It's waaaay up there, on the left, above the header.) Please click on it and "send" us to your facebook page, so that your SMA friends can know we exist. Odds are that they will want to join the SMAAA, read all the news about their classmates, and plan for an upcoming reunion. One little click is all it takes. Thanks!



SMA Charitable Foundation

**BIG
NEWS**

We are just *bursting* to tell you about the SMA Charitable Foundation and its first scholarship recipient! Be on the lookout for our next email, which will be devoted entirely to filling you in on this exciting news.

Dues are Due!



*Don't be Scared...
It's just time to Renew Your
SMAAA Membership!*

Your annual dues enable us to keep the spirit of SMA alive through our newsletter, our website, our reunions and our charitable outreach. Your dues go toward covering our operating expenses. This emailed newsletter costs money (approximately \$400/year), mailings cost money (last year's reunion mailing cost us close to \$1,000), just being in existence costs money (filing fees, website fees, etc.)

To remain a voting member of the SMAAA you must renew your membership annually. **Please become a member of the SMAAA, or renew your existing membership, by [clicking on this link](#) to fill out a "dues payment" form, and sending it along with your check for \$25 to:**

Maria Pani
99 South Street
Highland, NY 12528-2418

Please make your check payable to "SMAAA."

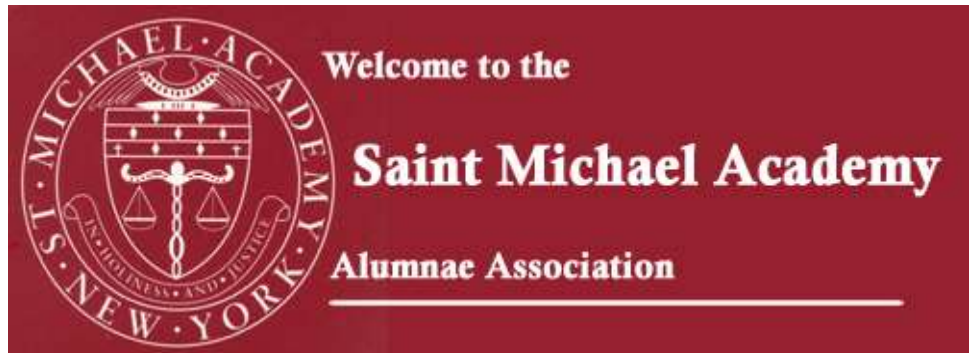
We would appreciate it if you would forward this email to all of your SMA classmates and/or post it to your Facebook page. ("Nothing can our union sever!")

Dues paid to the Saint Michael Academy Alumnae Association (SMAAA). are not deductible for Federal income tax purposes.

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the *Saint Michael Academy Charitable Foundation*, please make a separate check payable to **SMA Charitable Foundation** and mail to Maria Pani, 99 South Street, Highland, NY 12528-2418.

The **SMA Charitable Foundation's** mission is to provide scholarships to low income girls to attend Catholic high schools in the New York metropolitan area.

Website



Visit us at

www.SaintMichaelAcademy.com

or

www.SaintMichaelAcademy.nyc

and let the good times roll!

Make sure to register, so that you can begin to connect with your classmates. Read past newsletters and keep current with all of the SMAAA news.

.NYC



Have you

heard?

We picked up another web address!

We're all familiar with .com, .net, and .org, but now there's a new class of domains. A select number of city, country, and regional domains are a part of this expansion; which includes offering New Yorkers one of the first citywide domains: .nyc

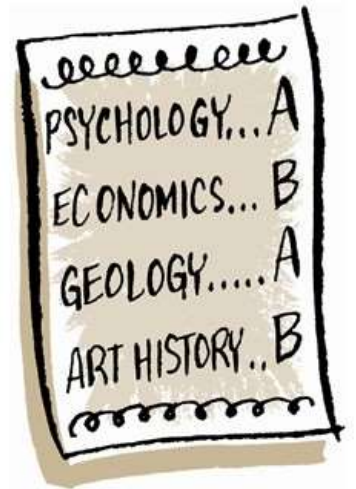
www.SaintMichaelAcademy.nyc

(Because, if you can make it there,
you'll make it anywhere, baby!)

Archived Newsletters

Are you new to "The Michaelight"? If you are interested in reading past editions, please visit our website (www.saintmichaelacademy.com), click on "Newsletters" and catch up on what you've missed! While you're there, please register. By doing that, you can start to connect with your classmates. "See" you there!

Need your school transcript?
Please call Kenya in the
St. Michael Parish Office
(212-563-2547)
and she will help you!



Sisters of the PBVM

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*

