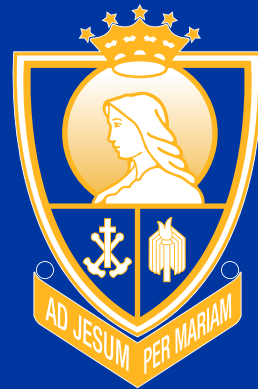


Marian Catholic ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



JUNE 2023



51 GRADUATES ARE OUR NEWEST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Fifty-one graduates from the Class of 2023 officially became members of the Marian Catholic Alumni Association following the commencement ceremony on June 2 in the John P. "Jack" Malarkey Gymnasium at the school in Hometown.

During the commencement, valedictorian Angela Pan and her brother, Addison, who was the salutatorian, presented the traditional messages. The siblings are believed to be the first valedictorian-salutatorian combo in school history.

Angela implored to her classmates, "Never be over- or under-confident, be consistent, always have each other's back, and live everyday like it's the last."

Her brother urged the class members to remember their roots, saying, "Both at home and at school, we have had a family to support us. Whether it be our direct relations or our Marian Catholic family, they have always supported us.":

Michael Brennan, Head of School, and Jean Susko, Director of Studies, conferred diplomas. Brennan described the class as "persistent, frustrating, loyal and unique."

Officers for the Class of 2023 include Frank Valente, President; Matthew Martin, Vice President; and Kerrigan Digris, Secretary/Treasurer.

MARIAN CATHOLIC RAISES OVER \$50,000 IN ANNUAL “DAY OF CARING”

Marian Catholic’s third annual Day of Caring on April 26-27 saw significant success. Led by Director of Advancement, Dr. Erin Marek, with collaborative effort represented across the school community – including members of the Board of Directors, parents, alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends – the campaign broke records again and is contributing to another historical year of philanthropic giving at Marian Catholic.

This year our Day of Caring exceeded its goal of 200 donors and raised over \$50,700 from more than 219 enthusiastic Colts and Fillies across 23 states in

30 hours. These results make this year the highest in terms of dollars raised and number of donors since the inception of Giving Day in 2021, and combining these donors with Marian Catholic High School’s year to date total, philanthropic support of the school this year is near 1,000 supporters.

“The Marian Catholic community has demonstrated continued devotion, making these extraordinary results possible,” said Michael Brennan ’06, Head of School.

“It is truly a team effort. The commitment of our benefactors nationwide made this goal achievable and demonstrated

what we’ve known all along: how impactful the Marian Catholic community is when we come together.”

“The immense support of our alumni on Day of Caring truly exemplifies how loyal and engaged our alumni community is. Their generosity will have an impact on current and future generations of Marian Catholic students,” said Bill O’Gurek ’73, chairman of the Alumni Association.

“The proceeds will have a transformative ripple effect on the student experience with current and future Marian Catholic students and their parents’ provided with resources for need-based scholarships.”

CLASS OF ’71 SET THE STANDARD IN GIVING

Members of the Marian Catholic Class of 1971 have laid claim to the title “best MCHS class ever,” and, after the recently-completed Day of Caring, few can argue with them. The class members have the statistics to support that distinction because they had the “most donors” during the campaign. Gratitude goes to 1971 class rep Maryellen (Dalinsky) Boyle, who rallied her classmates. Maryellen was instrumental in the Class of ’71 coming through for our Alma Mater. They were the highest participating class with 24 members contributing to the success of the campaign.

Class member Marcia Boyle pointed out, “Maryellen, who is currently fighting cancer, rallied the troops. Our class has a Facebook page and Maryellen asked us to donate and prove once again that we are the best MCHS class ever.”

She added, “When Maryellen asked us to donate, we donated. She reminds us that we are the best class and everyone of us believes that we are. There is not

much we wouldn’t do for Maryellen.”

As for Maryellen, she pointed out the Class of ’71 “is an extraordinary class,” adding, “Our classmates always come through to help a worthy cause. I just posted it on our Facebook page and they followed through. I said I know our class could be number 1. They responded and we did it.”

The class has reunions every five years, holds monthly luncheons, celebrated class members’ 65th birthdays, and will gather again on Sept. 16 to celebrate class members’ 70th birthdays.

“We have always truly cared about each other and we like one another,” Maryellen stressed. “We are there for all our highs and lows.”

She credited Marcy Boyle and Ron Blickley as “our dedicated leaders,” saying Boyle keeps everyone abreast of class activities and Blickley is the one who started the luncheons.

Meanwhile, Marcy called upon all alumni to keep Maryellen in their prayers, as



Members of the Class of 1971 recently gathered at Basile’s Restaurant, Hometown, for lunch and their routine get-together. Shown are, starting the upper left top of the table: Ron Blickley, Susan Evans Baddick, Judy Kupec Jacobs, Dan Plesniarski, John Boyle, Maryellen Dalinsky Boyle, Donna Mc Neal Hisney, Joanna Camaioni Everett, Maureen Williams Hirochek, Rosemary Plesniarski, Linda Ormsby Barnisky, Leo O’Donnell, Mike Maletta and Jackson O’Donnell.

she underwent surgery and has been on a continuing chemotherapy program. Marcy said, “Maryellen has held a positive attitude through it. She updates us on her fight in a manner that leaves us laughing and smiling.” Marcy added, “Maryellen was voted most humorous in our class. She has kept that sense of humor throughout the years.”



MARIAN NAMES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI, HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Over 130 family and friends gathered at Marian Catholic High School on Saturday evening, May 20, for the first ever “Distinguished Alumnus Award” and “Hall of Fame” Celebration in the John P. Malarkey ‘51 Gymnasium.

The inaugural recipients of the “Distinguished Alumnus Award” were John P. Malarkey, Class of 1951 from Saint Jerome’s High School from Tamaqua and William “Bill” Bonenberger, Class of 1976 from Marian Catholic High School from

North Wales. With them are Patrick Reilly, chairman of the board of directors, and Michael Brennan, Head of School.

Hall of Fame Inductees for 2023 –

First Row: Sister Lisa Valentini, MSC ‘74, Margaret Bonner Dolan ‘55, Denise Bonner Wall ‘54, Terri Svetz Shickora ‘77. Second Row: Patrick Reilly, Board of Directors Chairman, Jim Sauka ‘66, Lee Schilling ‘57, Rev. Msgr. John J. Martin ‘64, Bill O’Gurek ‘73 and Michael Brennen ‘06, Head of School. Also inducted into the Marian

Catholic High School Hall of Fame but unable to attend the event were Sr. Anne Crampsie, RSM ‘69 and Jerome and Joan Palko, GP ‘08, ‘08.

Hall of Fame Inductees for 2023 –

The Baddick Family of Tamaqua: Patrick Reilly, Board of Directors Chairman, Joe Baddick ‘70, Victor Baddick, JoAnn Paslawsky ‘69, Jean Paslawsky ‘75, Michael Brennen ‘06, Head of School.



‘78 GRAD’S COACHING CAREER ACKNOWLEDGED

Bob Byatt, Class of 1978, was presented the Carino Memorial President’s Award for “Outstanding Service to South Jersey Basketball” at the

Carino Basketball Club of South Jersey’s Awards Banquet on March 30.

Bob tells us, “When receiving this award and throughout the teaching/coaching career, I always mentioned the great impact Marian Catholic and its great teachers and coaches had on me. Still do. I am very grateful and lucky to be a Marian Catholic alumnus. Please keep up the great work that you do.” Congratulations Bob!

SON OF ‘94 GRAD’S GREAT DIAMOND SEASON

Quinten Perilli, son of Michael ‘94 and Ali Perilli of Media, had an exceptional baseball season this spring as a freshman on the Elizabethtown College Blue Jays. ‘Q’ is the grandson of Joanne (Soley) Perilli ‘62, and the late Anthony Perilli ‘62.



Quinten, a 6-1, 210-pound pitcher and utility player, was named to the Third Team ABCA/Rawlings All Region, D3baseball.com All Region Rookie of the Year, D3baseball.com All Region Second Team, Landmark Conference Rookie of the Year, Landmark All-Conference First Team, D3baseball.com Team of the Week and Landmark’s Athlete of the Week.

He started all 44 games for the Jays and led the team with 11 home runs, scored 42 runs, had 64 hits (including 19 doubles and two triples) and drove in 51 runs. On the field, he had a .995 fielding percentage.

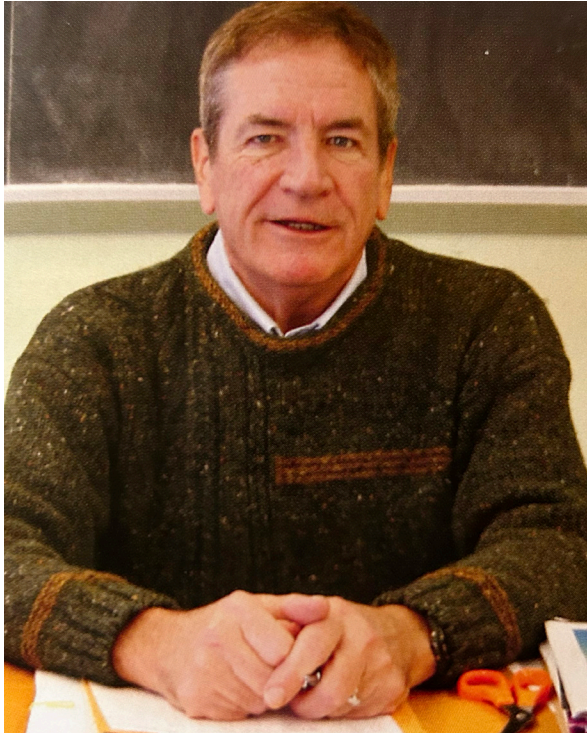
CLASS OF 1998 UNEARTH'S TIME CAPSULE

Class of 1998 alumni celebrated their 25-year reunion and unearthed a time capsule they buried on the school campus upon their graduation. The capsule included yearbooks, photos, a cassette tape, resumes the future grads had written to themselves, and a quilt banner the grads each decorated a square to represent themselves. Assisting at the unearthing were Karen (Smith) Pugh '98 (yellow shirt), Diane (Phillips) DellaVella '98 (black shirt), Brandon Pugh (spouse of Karen), and Mason Marek, son of Erin Marek, Director of Advancement. Also included is a photo of the Class of 1998 with their unearthed banner at their reunion on May 20, 2023.



SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH US

Our alumni are important to us – we want to know how you are doing! Share any important news or updates from our Marian Catholic alumni that occurred throughout the year by emailing us at alumni@mariancatholic.org.



FORMER MARIAN CATHOLIC TEACHER AND GRAD PASSES AWAY

Joe Dougherty, MCHS Class of 1966, who completed a 13-year teaching career in Colt County upon his retirement in 2020, passed away on Feb. 27 of this year. Joe joined our faculty in 2007 after being a 12-year member of the faculty at Bishop Hafey in Hazleton.

After graduating from Marian Catholic, he enrolled at Mt. St. Mary's College in Emmitsburg, MD, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in history in 1970. He earned a master's degree in special education from American University in Washington, D.C., and did post graduate work in school administration, receiving his administrator's certificate.

Joe taught at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, an all-African American parish and school in the southeast section of D.C. from 1970-77. He moved on to Pleasantville Jr. High School, Pleasantville, N.J. (1977-79). At Incarnation School in New York City (1979-94), he was a teacher and an Assistant Principal for a student body of 689 students, of whom 95 percent were children of recent immigrants from the Dominican Republic.

IN MEMORIAM...

Marian Catholic alumni and friends are asked to keep in their thoughts and prayers the families of the following:

John Longhi, 75, of Hometown, passed away on May 11, 2023. The husband of Juliann (Oravec) Longhi, he was a 1965 graduate of Marian Catholic High School.

Mrs. Christine Joan (Yusella) Huegel, 66, of Tamaqua, passed away on April 29, 2023. She was the wife of Stanley I. Huegel Jr. and the mother of Justin L. Huegel, head coach of our track and field/cross country teams. She was a 1974 graduate of Marian Catholic High School.

Blayke Didgen McGuire, 22, of Barnesville, passed away on April 22, 2023, as a result of a motor vehicle accident. A son of Jessica Didgen and Brett McGuire, he was a 2019 graduate of Marian Catholic High School.

