



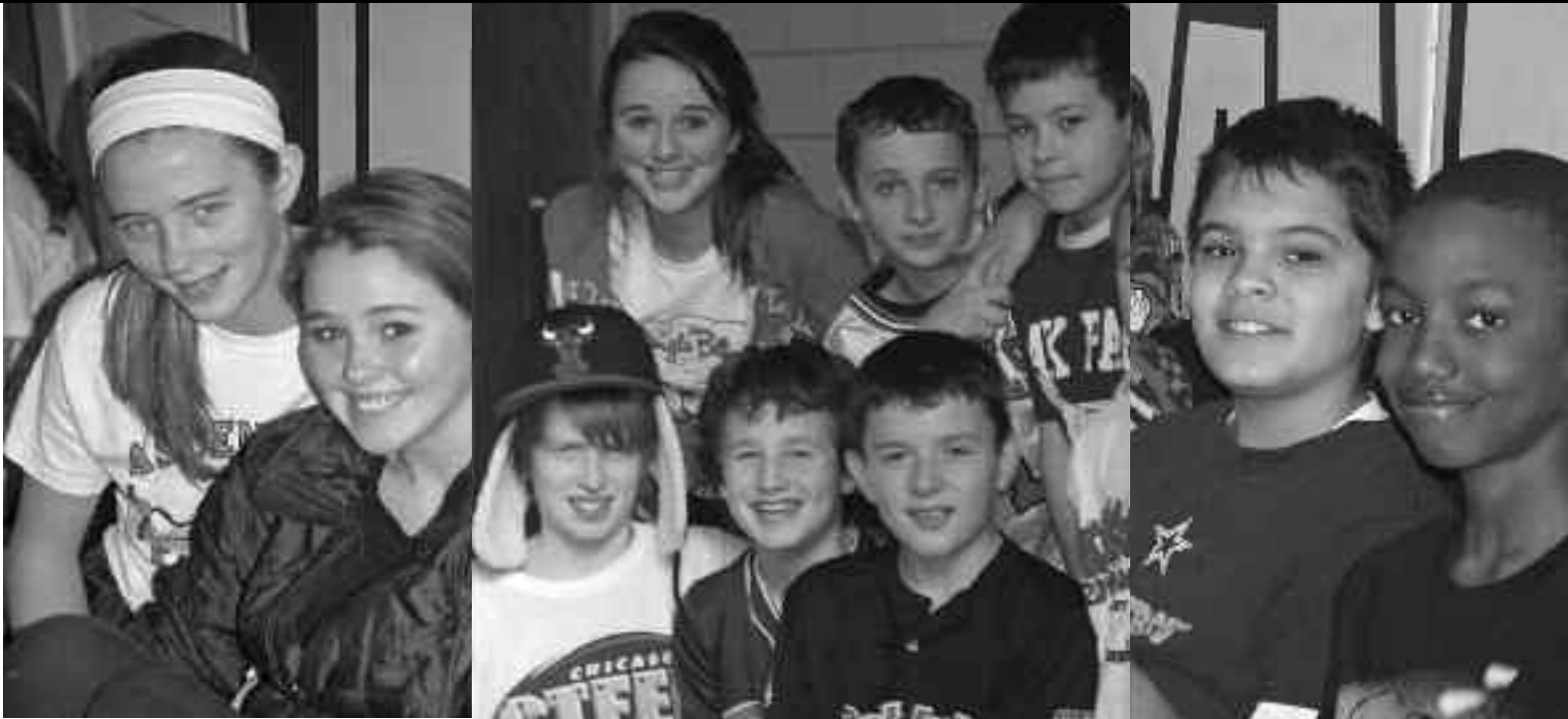
ASCENSION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Three on Three: 2012



One of the highlights of Christmas vacation at Ascension School is the Three-on-Three basketball tournament, an event that teams up fourth through eighth graders for three days in the gym. The Three on Three was the brainchild of Patrick Geselbracht, Class of 1996, when he was on the Student Council. In January, we played the seventeenth annual tournament. Hundreds of Ascension students say "Thanks, Patrick! What a great idea!"



Ascension School News

"Lord, how good
that we are here."

Mt. 17:4

Impact Award 2011-12: Lynn Fredrick

By Mary Jo Burns, Principal

Appropriately, Lynn Fredrick, Director of Institutional Advancement, has been chosen for this year's Impact Award for outstanding achievement in advancing Ascension School and Parish. The Impact Award is sponsored by the Archdiocesan Development Council and recognizes persons who have had positive results in building and promoting the Catholic educational mission in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

Lynn is unquestionably THE person who has most significantly reached out to build lasting relationships, especially with our alumni. She has strengthened the school's connection to our parish community and engaged others in our extended family who now have a positive regard for Ascension and its mission. She has expanded our base of support, by inviting others to become involved as donors, volunteers, advisors and more.



Lynn's love of history played a role in her work at Ascension. She searched archives, met with Ursulines sisters who taught at Ascension, and initiated the gathering of alumni memories. She speaks passionately about Ascension history and warmly about the alumni who are so proud of their wonderful Ascension education, friendships and memories.

Former School Board member, Bill Wallace said, "Lynn was a school parent and volunteer who said 'Yes' to a position that had never existed before at Ascension. The School Board knew that the school had to develop new sources of income so school families could continue to afford the tuition here. Lynn jumped into the job with enthusiasm and drive. She defined the position of development director first and then built the Office of Institutional Advancement for Ascension Parish, knowing that the mission of the school was aligned to the Parish as a whole."

Lynn has never stopped improving her skills and expanding her contributions to Ascension. She is the talented photographer whose pictures often appear in publications and on the website. She mastered specialized computer programs that allow Institutional Advancement to do in-house publications, accept online gifts, communicate electronically and keep track of the ever-

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Ascension's 2012 Calendar

Catholic Schools Week
January 29–February 4

Mission Day
Friday, February 17, 2012

Kathy Adams Run-a-thon
Friday, March 23

Grandparents' Day
Friday, May 4, 2012

Centennial Weekend
Friday, June 22 - Sunday, June 24

Golf Outing, Friday June 22
5K Run/Walk, Saturday, June 23
All-Class Reunion, Saturday, June 23
Block Party, Sunday, June 24

expanding alumni group. As a development professional, she is an officer of the Archdiocesan Development Council and generously consults with other development people, particularly those new to their positions.

She leaves her mark in many ways: in specific improvements funded through development, like laptops for teachers and air-conditioned classrooms; in the alumni-dedicated website; in the concept of brand for communication and marketing materials. Her work stays behind with the teachers who received Professional Development grants allowing them to continue their education, and achieve masters' degrees; with student Ambassadors, taught to welcome visitors to our community; and with the students who are encouraged to

see themselves as members of one graduating class in a line of more than a hundred.

Pastor Fr. McNally says, "Lynn always has a fresh insight, a different way of looking at things, a way to enhance a program or idea. So much good will has come from 'friend making' events like the Lenten Fish Fry to Trivia Night that Lynn has had key roles in. The outstandingly successful Blue Tie Auction, which doubled the previous year's income, is a testament to her ability to bring out the talent and generosity of others. She leaves so much behind here – from the named brick walks along Clarence Avenue to the named endowments which help to guarantee the future strength of the school. The Lynn Fredrick brand is on Ascension."



Ascension's eighteenth annual auction, The BLUE Tie, held on November 19 was a spectacular success, raising over \$150,000 for the school's operating budget. Some happy auction bidders, from top: Jessica and Tony Roche ;('87) Rosemarie Nowicki, Principal Mary Jo Burns, Father Bill Burke; Don and Celine Woznica. It's not too soon to mark your calendars: The BLUE Tie II is on ours for Saturday, November 17, 2012.

The BLUE Tie

Many thanks to *everyone* who had a hand (or a bid number) in making The BLUE Tie such a tremendous success: the co-chairs, Kate Seavey and Jill Pollard and the dedicated auction committee; the honorary chairs, Laura & Pat Allen, Bill & Jean ('63) Divane, Sandy & Bill Masterson, Frank ('42) & Eileen Muriello, Mary & John Planek; the wonderful catering crew from Phil Stefani Signature Events led by Daniel Vogel; and the great crowd that turned out to honor Jack & Rosemarie Nowicki.

This event was designed to raise money for the school operating budget and was remarkably successful. It will help us hold tuition down without sacrificing any building or program enhancements; it will cover the ever-increasing costs of health insurance for our faculty; it will allow us to purchase textbooks and computers. It supports all that we do in our mission to provide an excellent Catholic education.

Thank you!

The Ascension School Board



Honor a classmate, a loved one, a teacher or coach, or commemorate your own days of glory in the Ascension gym by purchasing an engraved brick to be planted forever on our campus. Ascension has launched Phase One of the new program with the newly bricked and landscaped gym entrance on Clarence Avenue. The installed "regimental red" bricks will be replaced with engraved bricks in lots of approximately fifty at a time. Is this a gift? We will send you a dandy certificate for presentation!

For more information, please call our Advancement Office at 708-434-1558.

4 x 8" brick: \$125 *(three lines, twenty characters per line)*

8 x 8" brick: \$250 *(six lines, twenty characters per line)*

Ascension Memorial Brick Order Form

Name _____ Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____ Class of _____ (if applicable)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ Please charge my order of \$ _____

Credit Card Number _____ exp. date _____ signature _____

4 x 8" brick \$125 | *three lines of text* 8 x 8" brick \$250 | *six lines of text*

Single brick orders only. If ordering two or more bricks, please use a separate form for each brick.

Please return your order and payment to: Ascension Advancement Office, 808 S. East Avenue, Oak Park, IL, 60304

This month Lynn Fredrick will leave Ascension School to take a position with the Chicago Archdiocese Office of Catholic Schools. Lynn shares some thoughts as she moves on.

In 2000 I was a school mom with about two years of Ascension experience and not an impressive volunteer resume. I had helped with Tea with Santa and the book fair. I think that was it. So it is understandable that when I told a member of the School Board that I could co-chair the auction he was pretty skeptical; no one beat a path to my door to take me up on the offer. I felt called but there wasn't anyone else who was privy to what I was hearing. Linda Loftus had offered to lead if a co-chair could be found. When no other candidate surfaced, it was determined that I would do.

If only I could report that the event went swimmingly; it didn't. What success we had was due to Linda's experience and vision. But it was more successful than the auction of the previous year and sometimes that is the only benchmark that matters. Linda moved on to other volunteer pastures, but before she did she told me that what Ascension needed was a development director. Then she explained to me what a development director does. And then she told me that she thought I could do it. And I felt called.

I've never enjoyed work as much as I have in my time at Ascension. I find the history thrilling and the

personal stories incredibly moving. It has been a great honor to be the conduit through which our alumni have reconnected to their first school—and then with the friends with whom they shared that experience. Their affection for their alma mater is impressive.

In the past ten years I've made friends I'll hold dear for the rest of my life; I bow to the volunteers who work tirelessly and cheerfully working on special events; and to the faculty and staff whose commitment to Ascension make it what it is. I take pride in having been a part of it, in having "advanced the institution" among current students and their families with things as simple as "Ascension wear" and the student Ambassadors.

It is difficult to leave but I am called again to something new, pleased to be in a position to use what I've learned at Ascension to help other schools. It is a blessing to be able to stay involved with Ascension while planning the Centennial. I look forward to celebrating this great milestone with all of you—the friends I have met through school, at class reunions, at auctions, at Grandparents' Days—and to meeting the friends I've come to know only via the mail and telephone.

Thank you for welcoming me into your midst and helping to make these years so wonderful.



Ascension School is a ministry of the faith community of Ascension Parish, committed to providing an excellent education in the spirit, tradition and value system of the Catholic Church. Essential to this ministry is the active partnership among students, parents, faculty, staff and parishioners.

Ascension School provides a curriculum that meets the present needs of its students and prepares them for high school, for higher education and for a lifetime of learning.

Ascension School helps each child to grow in awareness of the child's individual talents and unique place within the family of God.

Ascension School's mission is to strengthen its students' understanding and practice of their faith; to allow them to grow in faith; and to work towards creating, through their service, a compassionate and just community. This mission is guided by a philosophy of love, kindness and respect for each individual, while celebrating our bond in gospel values.

Upcoming Events

Mission Day

Get out the goldfish bowls, have some fish food ready, do what is necessary to give those Mission Day goldfish a fighting chance! They'll be coming home on Friday, February 17.

Helene Harlovic will chair Mission Day for the third year, but it takes a lot of volunteers to produce this, one of the most beloved days of any Ascension School year. Please contact her at rharlovic@aol.com if you can help with planning, with scheduling volunteers, with any particular volunteer project—or if you can donate items for the very popular “white elephant” sale or prizes for the even more popular raffle.

Mission Day is a day of great tradition and joy, and a reminder of our baptismal call to mission. The proceeds fund a major gift to the Ursuline Sisters in addition to the contribution to the Lenten project, this year, help for the Noel Orphanage in Rwanda.

Grandparents' Day

Ascension's favorite guests are invited to come visit on Friday, May 4. Grandparents (or aunts, or uncles, or very special friends) will enjoy an open house during which they are welcome to spend time in classrooms, followed by a reception in the Pine Room and then a beautiful liturgy. The Pine Room and the church are handicapped accessible but the classrooms are not. If we have written permission from parents, students are allowed to go out to lunch with their guests.

Grandparents, mark your calendar now and watch for more information about the event in your mail and email boxes. School parents, please check with the Advancement Office to be sure we have addresses for the guests you'd like to have us invite. Volunteers, call Marybeth Granholm if you'd like to help with the logistics of this event.

Reunions

Class of 1952:
Sunday, June 3
Bill Kernan at 708-447-8340

Class of 1962:
Saturday, October 13
Contact Maureen Roche via
Alumni Office 708-434-1541

If you would like to help your classmates get together but are afraid that it will be a tremendous amount of work, be assured it does not have to be. We can provide all kinds of support for your event along with a rent-free Pine Room and school tours. Call us!

If you would like to be sure your class has a good turn-out for the All-Class Reunion on Saturday, June 23, call us. We will provide you with a class list to get started! For more about the reunion, check out the Centennial News insert.



The Class of 1971 celebrated the fortieth anniversary of their graduation with a reunion on Thanksgiving weekend, 2011. They had a great turnout (as you can see), a great time, and did a great job of helping the alumni office update their class records. Many thanks to Mike Cullen, Judy D'Onofrio and Tim Gillespie for their work on behalf of the Class of '71.

Ascension's Golden Thread

In September 2011 Marian Garrigan told us the story of the five generations (so far) of Brandstraders in Ascension Parish. This is the story of the other side of the family, the side that begins with the Golden.

In the early 1920s Robert and Mary Golden moved from their congested Southwest Side neighborhood in the city to the 300 block of South Humphrey Avenue in Oak Park. The Village offered so much for their growing family: a roomy new home, space for the kids to play outside, and St. Catherine of Siena Church just around the corner, on Washington Boulevard. By the end of the '20s they would have nine children, John, Dorothy, Agnes, twins Joseph and Therese, James, Grace, Francis William and Mary.

Four of the Golden children stayed in Oak Park to raise their families, Agnes, who married Fred Brandstrader; Therese (known to all as TC), who married Sal Trankina; Francis William (Bill), who married Barbara Horne; and Mary, who married George Hefner.

The Baby Boom

In 1950 Robert Golden passed away, and Mary moved in with TC and Sal Trankina, who had just bought a home at 530 Gunderson. The shift to Ascension had begun. They would eventually have eight children, all of whom would attend Ascension School: Mary Frances ('62), Ann ('63), Carla ('64), Liz ('67), Vincent ('68), Jean ('70), Grace ('72), and Bob ('75).

Not long afterward, Bill and Barbara Golden moved in just a half a block down the street from TC and Sal. Their family grew to include eleven children who attended Ascension: Twins Margaret and Catherine ('61), F. William, Jr. ('63), Barbara ('64), James ('65), Ann ('66), Thomas ('67), and MaryEllen ('70) graduated from Ascension. John ('72), Joan ('74), and



Mary Golden in 1953 with her grandchildren. She would eventually have 64 of them.

Michael ('76) started at Ascension and graduated from Longfellow.

Mary and George Hefner lived at 1139 Clarence Avenue for a couple of years. Daughter Mary Hefner Kolovitz, who went to Ascension for kindergarten in the mid '50s, remembers traversing the construction of the Eisenhower expressway. The Hefners soon moved to 911 N. Grove and sent their twelve kids to St. Giles School.

Agnes and Fred Brandstrader moved to the 600 block of Scoville in the mid-60's. Their children attended the public schools, and their youngest child, Jim, attended Religious Education classes at Ascension.

Robert and Mary Golden's grandchildren recall their Ascension days:

The teacher who influenced me the most was Mrs. Cannon. She made diagramming sentences seem like fun. She would give us long complicated sentences and it was a challenge trying to be the first to correctly diagram the sentence. It was like a puzzle you were trying to fit together—a great way to learn grammar and correct sentence structure. Each month a poem was presented for us to memorize and recite in front of the class. I still know most of those poems. Barbara Golden Vana ('64).

We all remember the day JFK was shot, but

I was an 8th grader at the time and was home for lunch. I ran out of the house after lunch to head back to school, got as far as the Bill Golden's when they came running out to tell us of the radio report. We ran back home and sat on the porch with all the Golden aunts who were in because Grandma Golden had just had a stroke. Carla Trankina Thorton ('64)

The Baby Boom Aftershock

Seven of the Golden grandchildren raised their families in Ascension Parish.

Bill Golden, Jr. ('63), raised his sons, Bill III ('88) and Ryan ('91), on the 700 block of Scoville. Bill III was the first of the great-grandchildren to attend Ascension.

Mary Ellen Golden ('70) and her husband, Marty Eggersdorf, sent their four kids from their home on the 900 block of Grove: Andrew ('98), Carla ('99), Marty ('06) and Katie ('09). Katie found out her classmate Sam Brandstrader was not just a friend, but also her relative (they are second cousins, once removed).

Georgia Hefner married Ascensionite Kevin Keleher ('66); they raised their seven kids on the 1100 block of Harvey. Karrie ('89), Abby ('91),

The Golden Cast of Characters

Kevin ('93), Meghan ('95), and James ('97) graduated from Ascension; the youngest boys, John ('99) and Michael ('01), started there but graduated from St. Giles.

Terry Hefner and his wife, Gina, sent five kids to Ascension from their home on the 1100 block of Clinton: Simone ('92), Terrence Jr. (TJ) ('93), Melissa ('95), Rachel ('97), and George ('99).

Jeanne Trankina ('70) and her husband, Jimmy Mammoser, raised their five kids on the 1100 block of Elmwood. Gregory ('92), Vincent ('95), Anne ('97), Phil ('99), and Sally ('01) all graduated from their mother's alma mater.

Bob Trankina and his wife, Katie, settled on the 600 block of Kenilworth and sent their three kids to the school; Lucy ('06), Bridget ('07), and Daniel ('12), who will be the last of the great-grandchildren of Robert and Mary Golden to graduate from Ascension.

Down the street on the 700 block of Kenilworth, Marian Brandstrader Garrigan and her husband, Tom, raised four girls who attended CCD at Ascension: Marie ('90), Elizabeth ('91), Rosemary ('95), and Kathleen ('97).

But the Golden tradition continues. Three great-great-grandchildren of Robert and Mary Golden are future graduates: Lucy ('13), Fred ('14), and Thomas ('16) Brandstrader.

Some of Robert and Mary Golden's great-grandchildren recall their Ascension days:

I can thank Mary Ann Feeney for turning me into an obnoxious grammarian/diction snob! I tutor at a program in Bucktown (Midtown Center) now and I always seem to stress the same things for my students that she did with me. I gained an appreciation for the English language, in spoken and written form. Bill Golden, ('88)

I remember my first day of kindergarten like it was yesterday. My mom walked me up to

Golden

Margaret '61
Catherine '61
F. William '63
Barbara '64
James '65
Ann '66
Thomas '67
MaryEllen '70
John '72*
Joan '74*
Michael '76*
F. William III '88
Ryan '91

Mammoser

Gregory '92
Vincent '95
Anne '97
Phil '99
Sally '01

Trankina

Mary Frances 62
Ann '63
Carla '64
Elizabeth '67
Vincent '68
Jeanne '70
Grace '72
Robert '75
Lucy '06
Bridget '07
Daniel '12

Hefner

Simone '92
Terrance '93
Melissa '95
Rachel '97
George '99

Eggersdorf

Andrew '98
Carla '99
Marty '06
Katie '09

Keleher

Kevin Sr. '66
(married to Georgja Hefner)
Kerry '89
Abby '91
Kevin '93
Meghan '95
James '97
John '99*
Michael '01*

Brandstrader

Sam '09
Lucy '13
Fred '14
Thomas '16



Five of Mary Golden's great-grandchildren celebrated their First Communion together in 1991. From left: Emily Thornton, Anne Mammoser, Kathy Garrigan, Rachel Hefner, James Keleher.

a table where Rachel Hefner and James Keleher were playing and told me they were my cousins and to stick with them. They would soon be my accomplices for the rest of my time spent there and to this day. We stirred up a lot of shenanigans in that building.

I have great memories of spending time with my second cousins and classmates, James Keleher, Rachel Hefner and Kathy Garrigan who went to public school. We went to all of the sacrament prep classes together and received out First Holy Communion at the same Mass. Anne Mammoser Parker ('97)

Lucy Brandstrader ('13) sums up the feeling of community at Ascension. *Everyone knows each other. Teachers care about their students and they want them to do well. They'll help you out if you have a problem. It's like a family.*

It's safe to say that the great majority of her fifty Golden relatives who attended Ascension School would agree.

Be Part of the Centennial Cookbook

In honor of the Centennial Celebration, we will put together a collection of recipes dear to those who have called Ascension School home. Generations have passed through our halls, each student nourished by varied culinary heritages. Food is about more than eating -- it is about shared experiences, passing on traditions and feeding our future.

From the spaghetti and meatballs that you ate before the big game to Sunday pot roast, from bake sale goodies to favorite after-school snacks -- we'd love to have you share your recipes and memories with us. Include stories, and photos if you have them.

Everyone is invited to participate in this special way to commemorate our involvement in the Ascension family: alumni families, current school families, parishioners, friends and neighbors. Please send your recipes, or questions, to triciadoherthy@me.com by June 1.



Some of the volunteers who helped with the fifth grade cookie bake in December. We bet they'll all have recipes for the Centennial cookbook!

And the Centennial House Project

You're invited to be part of another cool project, too: an Ascension community walking tour. Walking to school at Ascension figures large in the memories of many of our alumni -- and it will probably stand out for many current students as well. We are looking for houses that have been home to more than one generation of Ascension families and then doing research on those homes.

In particular, we're looking at the 500 to 800 blocks of Elmwood, Gunderson, Scoville, East and Clarence. (If we get more people involved, we could go west a little farther.) Do you live in that area? Do you know who lived in your house before you? Our goal is to collect all sorts of interesting history about the houses that have long been part of our story and have a house walk as part of the events of our second Centennial weekend (June 2013.) We need photos, too. Contact GERALYN MAGRADY if you'd like to be involved in the house project: gmagrady97@aol.com.



The 800 block of Gunderson has been home to many Ascension students; Are you one of them?

Easy Ways for You to Get Involved with the Centennial

Alumni

1. Send a recipe for the cookbook.
2. Check the alumni website for the "missing" list for your era and be sure your friends, neighbors and siblings are not among lost. If they are, call us at 208-434-1541.
3. Join the conversation on the Ascension Alumni facebook page. And join other alumni pages from there.
4. Plan to come to an event. Or two. Golf with us!
5. Buy a brick for our brick walkway on Clarence.
6. Use the Centennial as an excuse to review your history: local, family or otherwise.
7. Watch for the new line of Centennial Ascension Wear and proudly proclaim your Ascension heritage.
8. Has your family been around Ascension forever? Tell us about them!

Parents & Grandparents

1. Help students research what life was like in 1912.
2. Ask them about what Centennial programs they're talking about in their classroom.
3. Send a recipe for the cookbook.
4. Buy a brick for the brick walkway on Clarence.
5. Brush up on your Ascension history.
6. Volunteer! You don't have to be an alumnus to help with any of the Centennial events.
7. Golf at the outing; run or walk at the 5K.
8. Bring the whole family to march in the July 4th parade.
9. Watch for the new line of Centennial Ascension Wear and proudly proclaim your Ascension connection.
10. Has your family been around Ascension forever? Tell us about them!



Ascension School Centennial News

In 1912, at the end of the summer, Mother Raphael Armstrong and four of her Ursuline sisters moved from the mother house in downstate Illinois to Oak Park where they took up residence in the rooms designated as their convent home on the second floor of the new school building. Within days, they had registered 240 students, some of them of high school age, and opened the doors of Ascension School.

So began the community that now begins to celebrate one hundred years of Catholic education in South Oak Park. The Ursulines had been given a directive by their foundress, St. Angela Merici, to “build community” wherever they are; our celebration is testament to the success of their mission.

This four-page insert is the first of our Centennial News alerts, intended to help you stay informed about Centennial events and discern ways that you can get involved. We hope that you will find a way to honor your association with Ascension—one that is meaningful for you and connects you to other Ascensionites.

The Centennial belongs to all of us: to students and their families, to faculty and staff, to parishioners and neighbors and alumni. Primary among our goals is that during the course of our year-long celebration, we will have programs or events that include each branch of our extended family. Some events are alumni-focused, some student-focused, some for adults and some for children. Read the calendar on the next page and see how you’d like to celebrate.



†The first graduating class of Ascension School.

If you think of other activities that you think should be part of the Centennial, please contact us. The great thing about a year-long celebration is that we can continue to plan as more people become involved and the excitement grows.

In early conversations two things became clear: some people wanted a big, casual, family-friendly event and others wanted something more formal, a dinner-dance, off-campus. We have decided to do both, using two weekends, one in June 2012 and one in June 2013, to bookend the Centennial Year.

We have set-aside Thanksgiving weekend for young alumni events and are inviting the twenty-some-things to step forward and work with us to build a program that will be fun for them.

Working with the talented art and music ministry staff at Ascension Parish and School we are planning an arts festival, dates to be determined. The school faculty and staff are working on projects to enhance

student awareness of the Centennial within the curriculum; and on activities that will benefit from the additional celebratory “lens”—Catholic Schools Week, Mission Day, the Kathy Adams Run-a-thon, etc.

When we talk about community, we’re talking, too, about the neighborhoods we come from, the many blocks that have been populated by Ascension children over many generations. Local historian Geralyn Magrady is working on an ongoing study of those homes, gathering information that we’ll share in a house-walk late in the year.

We’ll bring alumni in to the classrooms to talk about the Ascension they knew; we’ll talk about one hundred years of Catholic education; we’ll talk about the history of Charger sports.

And we’ll need some help to make all this available. Think about how you’d like to be involved—we always have big jobs and little jobs. We hope to hear from you!

Ascension School Centennial Committee

June, 2012 — Centennial Weekend

Reservations are required for the 5K and the All-Class Reunion. Please make your reservations online or by responding to the invitation in the mail. Then check-in at the registration tent on the parish green (just south of church) on Friday, June 22, from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm; Saturday from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. Please plan to register early.

Friday, June 22: Golf Outing

Big Run Golf Club, Lockport, Illinois

Tee times beginning at 8:30.

\$85 per person includes a barbecue when you come off the course.

Online Registration is open at www.Ascension-SchoolAlumni.com/golf

Saturday, June 23:

5K run / walk; Alumni, faculty, current families: All are welcome to take a run (or walk) around the Ascension neighborhood.

Run/walk starts at 8:00 am. \$25 per person includes t-shirt.

Online registration is open at www.Ascension-Schoolalumni.com/run

Centennial Mass 5:00 pm, celebrated by alumni clergy.

All-Class Reunion in the evening following Mass.

\$45 per person includes buffet dinner; cash bar.

Sunday, June 24:

Memorial Brick Blessing: 12:00 noon; Clarence Avenue gym entrance

Block Party for all ages: 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm This party is for everyone!

Games, music, food—everything a block party should be!

Wednesday, July 4th: All-Ascension group marching in Oak Park Independence

Day parade. Bring your family & friends; let's show Oak Park what Ascension School means to us!

Sunday, August 26

Back-to-School Celebration. The focus here is on current students and their families, but all are welcome to join us!

Saturday, November 17:

Centennial Auction: 6:00 pm in the Ascension gym

November 25 - 27, 2012: Young Alumni Weekend (see article at right)

Other events during the year will include an arts festival, music performances, guest speakers and special events. Watch the Ascension websites for details.

June, 2013 — Centennial Weekend II

Friday, June 21: Golf Outing during the day; roller-skating in the gym, beer garden & music on the green in the evening

Saturday, June 22: Dinner dance off campus; details to be announced.

Sunday, June 23: Pancake breakfast, Open House; closing Centennial liturgy with Cardinal George at 11:00 am



What Else Would You Like?

Would you like to help plan or participate in an arts festival? We would like to showcase Ascension artists and musicians during the year; we have also talked about involving current students and high school alumni in a dramatization of some of the stories of Ascensionites that we have heard over the years. Can you help?

We are looking for a group of young alums (college age and twenty- some-things) to help plan special events for their cohort for Thanksgiving weekend, 2012. We have been in touch with a few Ascension-connected bands who are interested in performing; there is interest in a three-on-three basketball tournament and a private party at Molly Malone's in Forest Park.

Please contact the Alumni Office at 708-434-1541 if you are interested in contributing ideas, or maybe even time and talent, for these, or any other Centennial events or programs.

How to Register for Events

We want to be sure that you join us, so we are offering several ways for you to get in touch! Invitations for the June 2012 events will be mailed in March with a reply card that will include the golf outing, the 5K, and the All-Class Reunion. In addition to the print reply, you have the option of making reservations online for each of these events; the online pages are available now at the alumni website: www.ascension-schoolalumni.com.

Reservations will be necessary for these three events. Don't wait until the last minute to make your decision; we anticipate having to cut reservations off by early in June to have the information necessary to plan the event.

We will have a check-in tent available from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm on Friday and from 7:00 am until 5:00 pm on Saturday. We encourage you to stop by at any time to check in and pick up your event materials and avoid a long line at the beginning of the reunion.

How to Volunteer



Watch the Ascension websites and Centennial e-letters for more information about ways that you can help. Subcommittees (listed below) will be forming in the next weeks and should be in place by mid-February. Some of these committees are specific to one event and some are ongoing, with projects that will include more than one program. If there is a job for which you feel a particular calling, please call the Advancement Office, 708-434-1541 and let us know.

Golf outing

5K Run/Walk

All-Class Reunion

Block Party

Per event set-up/clean-up

Per event catering

Publicity

Volunteers

Retail

Registration

Fundraising

July 4 Parade

Back to School event

Arts festival

Young alum weekend

Programs for students

How to Connect with Classmates

An All-Class Reunion gives us the chance to celebrate as one big family, and for alumni to see neighborhood friends, the classmates of siblings, etc. If you'd like to be sure that your own class gets together as well, please let us know and we'll do what we can to help. We have contacted local restaurants that are interested in hosting casual gatherings on Friday evening or Sunday morning; call soon and we will put you in touch with the appropriate people.

We will use classrooms as decade "headquarters" for the duration of the reunion and will have message boards and online opportunities for you to touch base with long-lost classmates while you're on campus.

We will have photographers on hand to take class pictures and will publicize the picture-taking schedule in advance so you don't miss the opportunity to be part of your class "shoot."

If you have any questions about spending time with your classmates during the reunion, please contact the Alumni Office as soon as possible: 708-434-1541. And if you'd like to be sure that your class has a good turnout for the event, please contact us to help gather them. As we do for all reunions, we will provide whatever support we can to help engage alumni in Centennial events.

Hotel Reservations

If you are coming into town for Centennial activities and will need housing we encourage you to make reservations early. Here is some contact information for area hotels, motels and inns.

Chicago Hillside Best Western
4400 Frontage Road, Hillside
708-544-9300 • www.chicagohillsidehotel.com

Holiday Inn Express & Suites
200 S. Mannheim Road
708-240-8556 • www.holidayinnexpress.com/chi-westohare

Carleton Hotel
1110 Pleasant, Oak Park; 708-848-5000
www.carletonhotel.com

Under the Gingko Tree Bed & Breakfast
300 N. Kenilworth, Oak Park; 708-524-2327
www.underthegingkotreebb.com

The Write Inn
211 N. Oak Park Avenue; 708-383-4800
www.writeinn.com

Longwell Hall Bed & Breakfast
301 N. Scoville, Oak Park • 708-386-5043