

CBA Alumni Newsletter

WINTER 2010

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CBA Alumni Newsletter

A publication of the CBA Development Office.

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this publication. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the CBA Development Office at:
(315) 446-5960 x1140 or development@cbasyracuse.org.

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Foundation!

St. John Baptist de La Salle, pray for us. Live Jesus in our hearts, forever.

If you ever find yourself in the presence of a group of CBA students, alumni, or faculty, recite the first half of each line and you can bet their response will be instinctive. This prayer, ingrained in the hearts and minds of our community, serves as an oath to continue to foster the principles and practices of Lasallian education and the Christian Brothers.

St. John Baptist de La Salle, the Patron Saint of Teachers, was born into a wealthy French family in the 17th century. He became a Catholic priest and spent his life and his fortune working to improve the education of children. In particular, he focused on the critical role of teachers. When he established his first school in Reims in 1679, he infused the teachers with faith and zeal. They became the first Christian Brothers. These Lasallians were committed to trying to, “See with the eyes of faith, to do all in view of God, and to attribute all to God.”

De La Salle implemented revolutionary educational ideas such as intensive teacher training; group and level-appropriate lessons; and instruction in the students’ native tongue, rather than in Latin. He made the lessons practical and effective and employed a group of dedicated, religious instructors, who exhibited an authentic love for their students and a true belief that teaching was their vocation. Today’s Lasallian educators continue to lead by example and embrace the notion that a truly effective teacher-student relationship must be based on practical affection and mutual respect.

The De La Salle Christian Brothers and their thousands of lay partners work tirelessly to provide values-based, exemplary education to students in more than 80 countries. These individuals reach over 900,000 students in more than 60 colleges and universities and 900 secondary and primary schools. The methods and tenets are uniquely similar in all of these institutions, as Lasallian educators are trained to practice twelve virtues in their teaching: gravity; silence; humility; prudence; wisdom; patience; reserve; gentleness; zeal; vigilance; piety; and generosity.

These virtues enhance the effectiveness of Christian Brothers Academy by enabling our faculty to be inspiring mentors who expand the classroom beyond four walls and into our community. In addition, the presence of the Brothers, whose lives are dedicated to education, contributes immeasurably to the CBA experience. As a result, our graduates – individuals of diverse backgrounds and experiences – are prepared to achieve excellence in all aspects of their lives and equipped to live as moral, responsible, and successful leaders of society.

St. John Baptist de La Salle, Founder of the Christian Brothers and Patron Saint of Teachers.



[St. John Baptist de La Salle with a student]

Formation!

Although the number of vowed religious Brothers continues to decline, the number of lay colleagues who have embraced the practices and values of St. John Baptist de La Salle continues to increase. The administration, board members, faculty, and staff at Christian Brothers Academy are dedicated to furthering the Lasallian mission. Therefore, CBA has maintained an on-going commitment to participate in Lasallian formation, a program developed to provide lay individuals with a historical perspective of the Brothers of the Christian Schools and a deeper understanding of the educational methods and spirituality of St. John Baptist de La Salle.

Two individuals from CBA volunteer for a 3-year commitment to attend the Lasallian Leadership Institute (LLI) for Lasallian formation. Mrs. Margaret (Peggy) Perkins, Campus Ministry Director; and math teacher, Mr. Matthew Keough are currently in their first year at the the 5th cohort of the LLI. As with the 8 faculty members before them, Peggy and Matt attend conferences during one week in the summer and 2 weekends during the academic year – one in October, and one in March. The focus of the topics for the presentations and workshops over the three years is as follows:

- Year 1 – The founding Story of St. John Baptist de La Salle
- Year 2 – Exploring Spiritual Leadership in Lasallian Ministries
- Year 3 – Lasallian Leadership in the Educational Community

LLI sessions include prayer, presentations, group discussions, hands-on exercises, and social receptions where attendees from Christian Brother's schools across the District of Eastern North America can share best practices and compare their experiences. Mrs. Perkins feels, "The Brothers do an outstanding job with formation materials" which allow Lasallian educators to, "Create an environment, not a curriculum. The students experience caring and nurturing in the way we treat them as individuals and meet their needs, as we are entrusted with their care." Mr. Keough agrees, adding that he feels St. John Baptist de La Salle's methods were much ahead of his time and, "Very practical and useful for today."

Lasallian formation is woven throughout the CBA curriculum, from grades 7-12. Seventh graders are taught about LaSalle's life. His spirituality, values, virtues, and dedication to service are modeled and stressed to students of all grade levels. As Peggy points out, "CBA Students are continually encouraged to find their vocation - what God is calling them to do. This is uniquely, Lasallian."



Dr. Richard Gray '73 on the football field at La Salle High School in Pasadena, CA where he is President.

Vocation!

For more than 4 decades, Dr. Richard Gray '73 has been involved exclusively with Catholic education - as a student, teacher, and administrator, and for the past 10 years, he has held the position of President of La Salle High School in Pasadena, CA. Dr. Gray firmly believes that, "Catholic education is the most effective way to produce good students and good people."

Richard's experiences at CBA molded and cemented this view. He feels the stringent educational standards and focus on discipline and Christian values, modeled by the Brothers and lay teachers, made him the teacher that he is. In the early seventies, there were 20 Christian Brothers at the school. Dr. Gray names Br. James Connors, his math teacher; and Br. Michael Kennedy, Principal as mentors who, by their example, inspired his dedication to Lasallian education. He also feels that the lay educators, most notably Gary Barnaba, Dr. Myron Kotch, and Frank Sacco, embodied and modeled the spirit of St. John Baptist de La Salle.

After graduating from CBA, Dr. Gray received his bachelor's degree in American studies from Fordham University. He taught American history and American literature at St. Raymond High School for Boys, a Lasallian school in the Bronx, NY. In 1981, he returned to CBA as a teacher and Vice Principal, and in 1985, received his doctorate degree in Education from Syracuse University. Richard accepted the position of Principal at a Benedictine boarding school in San Francisco, CA in 1988, and 4 years later, he became Assistant Headmaster at a Dominican K-12 school.

In 1999, Richard stepped onto the campus of La Salle High School, and felt like he was "back at home." The physical campus and demographic makeup of the school are very similar to CBA; but it is the underlying mission, practices, and tenets of the Lasallian educational model that promote the 'individual' first, and the 'student' second, that resounds with him. Dr. Gray stresses that although he has worked in a variety of Catholic schools, run by different religious orders, "it is the Lasallian model of education which is the most effective way to take care of students."

Dr. Gray had the opportunity last year to spend a month in Rome as part of a group to discuss and analyze the future of Lasallian education. The overriding message he brought back with him was one of consistency and sameness of values shared by Christian Brothers' schools around the world. In addition, he notes there is an enormous emphasis on 'association' between Lasallian and lay educators to work together to provide children of all backgrounds and means with superior academic, spiritual, and moral education. With the continued efforts of dedicated educators like Dr. Gray, the vision of St. John Baptist de La Salle, already in practice for over 300 years, will live on.



Heard in the Halls Winter '10

“The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon” cast:
(on ground): Madeline George. (1st Row
L-R): Molly Reff, Kyle Mooney, Brian Jordan,
Bridget Frontale, Katie Rivito. (2nd Row
L-R): Cole Speidel, Brian Schwab, Corinne
Gavigan, Colby Hollington, Jane Kallmerten.



The girls' soccer team:
Section III Class AA Champions!



Fall Play

Audiences were thoroughly entertained by two performances of Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon, a student-run comedy of fractured fairy tales, on December 4-5, 2009 in De La Salle Hall. Directed by Victoria Scalzo '10, the high-energy and talented members of the cast included:

- Corinne Gavigan '11 as Witch #1
- Madeline George '15 as Gretel
- Colby Hollington '11 as Walt
- Brian Jordan '14 as Hansel
- Jane Kallmerten '11 as Witch
- Kyle Mooney '10 as the Actor
- Molly Reff '15 as the Plant
- Katie Rivito '14 as Rapunzel
- Brian Schwab '10 as the Dwarf

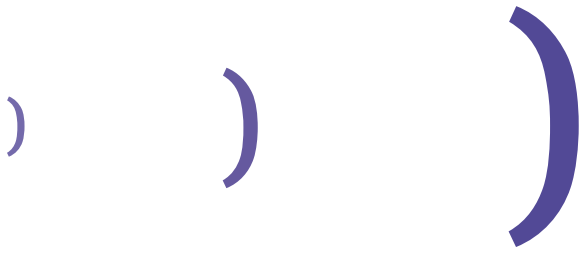
Bridget Frontale '15 and Cole Speidel '13 were narrators for this delightful and highly professional production.

Fall Sports Wind-up

This fall was another very successful season for our athletic program. Our teams won five league championships and three sectional championships. Katie Brislin '13 and Tom Voorheis '10 represented CBA in the state cross country championships held in Plattsburgh. Our girls' swim team won their league championship and second consecutive Class A Sectional title. Nine swimmers qualified for the NY State Championships held November 20-21 in Rochester: Seniors - Michele Damico, Aubrey Letourneau, Emily Wanamaker, and Juliette Wetzel; Juniors - Destiny Cerlanek, and Ruthie Speidel; and Freshmen - Kathryn Coughlin, Maggie Fletcher, and Summer Schmitt. For their efforts, our girls were ranked 1st in the state in the final NISCA poll.

The girls' tennis team won the Class B Championship and seniors, Emily Norkett and Julie Thomson-Basha qualified for the NY State Championships. The girls' soccer team won the program's first Section III Class AA Championship and advanced to the NY State Championship game before falling to John Jay 3-0. In the final National Polls, our girls were ranked 23rd, a tremendous accomplishment for the program. In all, six of our fall sports teams were ranked in the top twenty of the state rankings during the season.

Our athletes also performed well in the classroom, as each of our eight varsity teams were recognized as a NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete team, an award earned when a required number of varsity team members achieve a composite average of 90 or greater on report card grades earned during a sports season. Well done, everyone!



(L-R): Peer Minister Executive Board members and seniors Lianna Artessa, Maggie Fennell, Marissa Mosley, Kaitlin McIntyre, and Dan Welch spearheaded the Advent Drive benefitting Doctors Without Borders and Amaus Clinic.



Advent Drive

As health care has become a topic of intense debate in our country, CBA students focused their Advent Drive on helping those who suffer from lack of medical care. In choosing to raise money for the international organization, Doctors Without Borders (Medicin Sans Frontiere or MSF), students were made aware that MSF health personnel and volunteers assist people all

over the world who, because of conflict, natural disaster, or political unrest are left diseased and hurt. MSF works to bring aid and attempt to eradicate disease in countries that lack basic medical care.

In addition, in order to maintain a local connection, part of the money raised for the Advent Drive was earmarked for the local health clinic at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Syracuse. Started with the efforts of Msg. Neal Quartier of the Syracuse Diocese and Dr. Lynn Satterly of Upstate Medical Hospital, the Amaus clinic tends to the medical needs of the homeless, refugees, and those who simply have no access to basic health care. CBA students learned that lack of medical care and poverty exist close to home as well as internationally.

Through the efforts of all of the students, CBA was able to raise over \$5,000 for these worthwhile organizations.

Spring 2010 Calendar of Events

For more information, please call the school at (315) 446-5960.

March

- 6 Alumni Hockey Game - 7:45pm at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum
- 18 Honors Night
- 20 Lasallian Auction - 6pm
- 26-27 Spring Musical: No, No, Nanette
- 27 Syracuse Crunch Event

April

- 7 DC Alumni Reception
- 19-23 Spring Recess
- 30 Carsky Run
- 30 Junior Prom

May

- 2 Father/Daughter Mass
- 14 Senior Ball
- 21-23 Class of 1960 50th Jubilee Reunion Weekend
- 22 Baccalaureate Mass 7PM
- 23 Graduation
- 28 7th Grade Grandparent Luncheon

June

- 10 Boston Alumni Reception
- 26-27 All-Alumni Reunion Weekend: Classes ending in "0" and "5"
- 28 Alumni Golf Tournament

Alumni Notes and Quotes

1945

Bob Pietrucha, the ‘Silver Fox of Polkas,’ has been hosting a Polish radio show for 48 years. The show can be enjoyed on WVOA (103.9 FM) in the greater Syracuse area on Sundays from 2pm to 4pm.

1952

Peter Del Giorno is keeping in shape playing senior softball in Rochester in the summer and with the Pompano Senior League in the winter.

1955

Fr. Fred Mannara has been chosen by Catholic Charities of Onondaga County to receive The Bishop’s Medallion. This award honors individuals who are devoted to actively serving people of the Diocese of Syracuse and who have lived as a model of service to others. Fr. Mannara will receive his award at the annual House of Providence dinner scheduled for Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at the Nicholas J. Pirro Convention Center at OnCenter. For more information, contact the CBA Development Office at (315) 446-5960 x 1139 or pjcallahan@cbasyracuse.org.

1961

Joseph Felece retired from IBM after 43 years with the company. He received his Screen Actors Guild (SAG) card and is pursuing a second career in acting.

1963

John Sindoni, AFSC was selected by Onondaga County Catholic Charities to receive the Msgr. Charles J. Brady Award for his years of leadership as President of their board of directors. John was honored at a reception on October 7, 2009 in the Empire Room at the New York State Fairgrounds. The Brady awards are presented each year to individuals and parishes who improve the quality of their community through their work and dedication. John also serves on the boards of CBA, Franciscans in Collaborative Ministries, the Onondaga Community Foundation, and Woodlawn Cemetery. John and his wife, Cil, are the proud parents of Andrew '06, Joseph '92, Laura '01, Michael '98, Nicholas '10, and Valerie '95.



Cil and John Sindoni '63 proudly display John’s Charles J. Brady Award plaque.

John Hoag is very involved with parish activities for Our Lady of Hope Church in Port Orange, FL. He is in the choir, and is a member of the Parish Council, the Parish Finance Council, and the Knights of Columbus. John is also involved with the planning of the Port Orange Jazz Festival.

1968

Richard “Dick” Lee recently completed an 8 year assignment with the US Department of Defense and has launched a technical consulting business. He and his wife, Laura, live in Virginia.

1970

Dan Byrne sold his business, Byrne Specialty Gases, in Seattle WA and is pursuing new ventures in the field of solar powered refrigeration, or “global cooling.”

William Muench is a Senior Auditor with Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA), currently assigned to the Fraud Investigative Support division to assist agencies such as NCIS and the US Department of Justice with fraud allegations. He and his family live in Hopkinton, MA. Dan and Bill are excited about assisting with the planning of their upcoming 40th reunion in June.

1971

Ernie Linek, Senior Partner at Banner & Witcoff, Ltd. in Boston, MA, has been chosen as a New England “Super Lawyer” from 2005-2009. (Super Lawyers Magazine names attorneys in each state who received the highest point total as chosen by their peers and through independent research of Law & Politics.)

Richard Yule is a coach for quarterbacks and special teams at Curry College in Milton, MA. Richard is Vice President at MM Productions.

1972

John Fatti, MD is beginning his 25th year in practice in Syracuse in Orthopedic hand surgery.

1973

Gregory Bertolini, Project Manager III at Siemens IT Solutions & Services, is PMP certified by the Project Management Institute. He is the Director of Professional Development at the Syracuse chapter of the PMI and he is on the board of directors and serves as Web Master for the Greater Rome/Utica Chapter of the MOAA (the Military Officers Association.)

Nichols Market in Liverpool, owned by **Mike Hennigan**, celebrated its 50th year in business in October, 2009. Mike, a third generation owner, is extremely proud of the outstanding customer service, personal attention to consumer needs, high quality and large variety of products offered at Nichols. Mike has been a generous supporter of CBA, donating food and beverages for the Alumni Homecoming Tailgate for several years, and recently, in his role as emcee for the Lasallian Auction.



Mike Hennigan '73 receives a certificate from the Syracuse Chamber of Commerce ambassadors to commemorate Nichols Market's 50th anniversary.

1977

Richard J. Lighton, Jr. opened Turning Point Land Surveying in February 2009. He also coaches the Auburn High School women's varsity lacrosse team, and is the founder and coach of the Star-Riders lacrosse club, which offers female athletes in CNY an opportunity for tournament and highly competitive play.

1978

A. Michael Penizotto has transferred from the Buffalo office of PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP to the Cleveland, OH office. He and his family reside in East Amherst, NY.

1986

Olivia Rae arrived on December 21, 2009 to join her parents, Carol and **Marc Jones**, and her big brother, Julian. The newly expanded Jones clan lives in Syracuse.

AJ Storinge and his wife, Marissa, welcomed their first child, Hannah Grace, on December 20, 2009. The family resides in Forest Hills, NY.

1987

Dr. Anthony S. Oliva and his wife, Debra, welcomed their daughter, Gianna Marie, on September 28, 2009. She joins her siblings: Anthony Jonathan; Gabriella; Maria; and Mary Grace. Tony is currently VP of the CBA Alumni Association. The family resides in Manlius, NY.

1989

Dr. Suzi Mookherjee was the Keynote Speaker at the "Go Red for Women" luncheon hosted by the American Heart Association on October 22, 2009 at the Oncenter in Syracuse. Suzi is a cardiology fellow at Albany Medical Center and a passionate proponent of heart health.

1994

Richard Masterpol and his wife, Kasia, welcomed their son, Richard "Richie" Konrad Masterpol, on January 5, 2010. The newly extended family reside in Winchester, MA.

1995

James Grady ran into married classmates, **Jennifer (Evans) and Matt Hennessy** at the 2009 Kentucky Derby.

1996

Jennifer Borreggine and her husband, Gabe Agnello, welcomed their son, Nicolas, on March 25, 2009. Nicolas joins his big brother, Dante, who is 2 ½. The family lives in Milford, CT.

Laurie Bellucci Nolan has embarked on a new career as a realtor with Hunt Real Estate in Cicero, NY.

1999

Caithlin Lopes and her husband, Peter, are expecting their second child (a girl), in mid-April. Their daughter will be carefully watched over by her 2 year-old brother, Peter. The family currently resides in Cumberland, RI.

2000

Greg Leone and his wife, Tricia, welcomed their first baby, Taelyn Rose, on December 14, 2009. The Leones live in Minoa, NY.

2002

In November 2009, the Glen Loch Mill in Jamesville, NY welcomed **Callie Barr** as their new proprietor. Callie represents the fourth generation of the Barr family to run the restaurant since their association with the establishment in 1972. To celebrate, the Glen Loch hosted a sampling from a new menu on November 7, 2009.

Grazi Zazzara and his father have entered into a partnership in a new venture called the Paradise Market. This 'weekend marketplace,' which opened February 26th, is located in the 80,000 sq. ft. building formerly occupied by Hechingers on Erie Blvd in Dewitt, NY. The market offers indoor space for local businesses and vendors to sell and showcase their products, menus, and services. The Paradise Market features winery and food sections as well as discounted retail items.

Alumni Notes and Quotes

2004

Matt Rayo (Republican) was elected in November, 2009 as a Syracuse common councilor in the 1st District, beating incumbent Michael Heagerty. Upon graduating magna cum laude with a Bachelor's Degree in 2008 from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF), Matt, along with two friends, began collecting used vegetable oil from local restaurants and processing it into biodiesel fuel. With his educational background, Matt understands the importance of green energy and maintaining a healthy environment.

2005

LT Paul Kearney has been reminiscing about high school days with fellow 'Brother,' Steve Astemborski, a 2005 graduate of CBA Albany. Paul and Steve competed against each other in speech and debate for the rival schools, before attending the US Military Academy at West Point together.



Debate rivals LT Paul Kearney '05, perched on top of a Stryker vehicle near Ft. Knox, and Steve Astemborski (CBA Albany '05) in the machine gunner's turret.

Andrew Tormey graduated from the US Naval Academy in May, 2009. Andrew is currently an Ensign in the US Navy, assigned to the USS Carter Hall.

2006

Mark Callahan, a senior offensive lineman at center for the Brown University football team, earned several honors at the conclusion of the 2009 season: Mark was named First Team All Ivy; Academic All Ivy; and to the ECAC (Eastern College Athletic Conference) All-Star team. He will graduate in May with a concentration in Commerce, Organizations, and Entrepreneurship.

Leslie Finlay is a club chair of the Penn State THON, the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. Leslie helps design and distribute marketing materials and coordinates fundraising efforts, which include 'can drives' all over Pennsylvania, and an alumni campaign. THON raises money for children's cancer research, equipment, and financial support for families. Penn State sponsored a carnival in November 2009 and has 'adopted' Tessa, who has Down's syndrome and Leukemia. Leslie and her group will be dancing in THON in March 2010 to raise money for Tessa. Last year, THON raised over \$6 million dollars!



Leslie Finlay '06 (3rd from left) and fellow Penn State THON volunteers with Tessa, their 'adopted' daughter.

The 4th annual Class of 2006 Turkey Bowl was played on Friday, November 27th. After the game, the players gathered at **Greg Khanzadian's** home for a great meal prepared by moms and dads of the crew. Participants included: **Justin Banks, Mark Callahan, Tom DiStasio, Adam Drescher, Greg Hadley, Greg Khanzadian, Matt Kinnan, Steve Kuhns, Joe Nicoletti, Kevin Robinson, Mike Schoeneck, Mike Suits, and Bill Urciuoli.**



Class of 2006 football alums gather at the Khanzadian's home after the 4th annual Turkey Bowl game: (Front L-R): Kevin Robinson, Greg Hadley, Greg Khanzadian, Matt Kinnan, Tom DiStasio. (2nd Row L-R): Mike Suits, Bill Urciuoli, Adam Drescher, Joe Nicoletti, Justin Banks. (Back row L-R): Steve Kuhns, Mike Schoeneck, Mark Callahan.

2007

Nathan Wayne, a seminarian with the Legionnaires of Christ, took his second vows in August 2009. Nathan returned to CBA on November 23, 2009 to speak to Br. Ken Kalinowski's 7th grade religion classes about his vocation.



Friends and family members: Fr. Edward Hopkins '75, Doug Wayne, Deb Wayne, Sean Wayne '10, and Nathan Wayne '07 gather in late August when Nathan took 2nd vows for the Legionnaires of Christ.

Weddings

1984

Joseph Fazio married Rhoda Dishon in Newport Beach, CA on November 7, 2009. The couple had a second ceremony on December 12, 2009 at the Osteria Del Chianti restaurant in Karen, (Nairobi) Kenya. They spent their honeymoon relaxing in Diani Beach, followed by a safari in Masai Mara National Reserve in Kenya. Nairobi is home base for the couple.

1993

David Tindall and Kathleen Jones were married on August 22, 2009 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse. Kathleen is a registered nurse at Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY and David is a funeral director at Tindall Funeral Home, Inc. The couple lives in Syracuse.

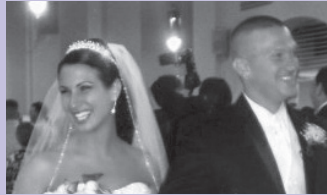
1998

Leonard DeStefano wed Jessie Billings on August 15, 2009 at St. Bridget's Roman Catholic Church in Rutland, VT. Leonard's sister, **Jennifer '95** was a bridesmaid, and groomsmen included: **Matthew Blackshear '98, Anthony Lampuri '97, Salvatore Lampuri '98, Jon Law '98, John Massaro '98, Patrick Nesci '97, David Pilger '97, and Trevor White '99.** Jessie is a pediatric occupational therapist. Leonard is continuing his education at the University of Central Florida. They reside in Orlando, FL.

Notice: We are now accepting nominations for the next class of inductees into the Christian Brothers Academy Lasallian Athletic Hall of Fame. A reception and ceremony will take place in November 2010. Please visit our website: cbasyracuse.org and click on the Athletics link for more information regarding award criteria and nomination process.

1999

Brian Metz and **Christina Fragola '03** were married on September 26, 2009 at our Lady of Pompei Church in Syracuse. **Kristin Raineri '03** was Maid of Honor and **Marissa Mulder '03** was the soloist during the ceremony. Christina's 2003 classmates, **Alana Kulb** and **Robin Michalak** were in attendance. Brian is an Account Executive at WSYR Channel 9 News, and Christina is the Recruiting Coordinator for O'Brien & Gere. The couple lives in Liverpool.



Christina (Fragola) Metz '03 and Brian Metz '99.

Erica Osuchowski married Timothy J. Thomas of North Syracuse on September 19, 2009 at Wagner Vineyards on Seneca Lake. Erica is a 2003 graduate of the University of Scranton and is employed by OPR Developers. Timothy works at TetraTech Architects and Engineers. The couple resides in North Syracuse.



Erica (Osuchowski) Thomas '99 and her husband, Timothy Thomas.

2000

Tracy Humpleby and James Zappola were married on August 29, 2009 at Holy Cross Church in DeWitt. Msgr. J. Robert Yeazel '59 officiated. Classmates **Lindsay Walker** and **Ashley Rossi** were bridesmaids. Tracy graduated from Syracuse University and is employed at Syracuse University Abroad. They reside in Syracuse.

Jennifer Walpole wed Paul Elia on October 3, 2009 at the Canfield Casino in Saratoga Springs, NY. Jennifer is in corporate sales and is working on her MBA at the University of Akron in Ohio. Jennifer and Paul live in Hudson, OH.

2003

Ross Ascenzo married Alyssa Gorman on August 1, 2009 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Syracuse, NY. Ross' brother, **John Ascenzo '99**, was Best Man. 2003 Classmate, **Joseph Kribs** was a groomsman. Ross received a bachelor's degree in computer engineering from L.C. Smith College of Engineering at Syracuse University and he is a hardware engineer at Lockheed Martin. The couple resides in Syracuse, NY.

Christopher Casciano and Chelsea Rodriguez were married at Boldt Castle in the Thousand Islands on September 13, 2009. Christopher's brother, **Anthony '08** was best man. Class of 1971 graduates, **Pete Carocci** and **Tom Jackson** joined father-of-the-groom, **Ron Casciano**, for the festivities. Chris is a free-lance illustrator and a personal fitness trainer and Chelsea is pursuing her education in the area of Human Rights. The couple call New York City their home.



Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Casciano '03.

Sidra Monreal married Jon St. Louis on October 31, 2009 at the Hotel Syracuse. The ceremony was held in the Persian Terrace with a Masquerade Ball reception in the Grand Ballroom. The bride's sister, **Gretel Monreal '94**, was Maid of Honor, and bridesmaids included **Nicole Casamento '03, Meghan DaRin '03, and Elizabeth Kad '99.** CBA alumni guests were: **Marley DelDuchetto '03, Christina El Bayadi '04, Michael Grudner '03, Kevin Kleis '02, Benjamin Monreal '95, and Andrea Nave '03.** Sidra is a graduate of Emory University and is currently working on her master's degree in special education at Xavier University. Jon is an air traffic controller at the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. The couple lives in Northern Kentucky.

In Memoriam

Clement J. Colucci, Jr. '47
George W. Cregg, Sr. '34
John G. Cuddy, Jr. '51
Christopher M. Fotheringham '92
John J. Nash '42
Gary Santorelli '66
Louis F. Troendle '74
Timothy R. Welter '71
Carl J. Zeller '43

Florie "Chick" Checocola (Grandfather of Andrea '01; Christina Ciereck '06, former teacher; and Joseph '06)
Miriam Domres (Mother of Martin '65)
Sandra Giamartino O'Brien (Aunt of Maria Stanton '91, John Paul Giamartino '89, David A. Giamartino '94, David J. Giamartino '97 & Daniel Giamartino '99)
Kelly Glisson (Wife of James '67)
Br. Kevin Hargadon, FSC (President of CBA 2002-2004)
Darleen A. Johnson (Grandmother of Shaun McGraw '10 and Colin '14)
Joseph LaClair (Grandfather of Tom LaClair '04, Colin LaClair '07, Adam Drescher '06, Anna Drescher '08, Andy Drescher '11 & Alex '14)
Hannah "Anne" Markert (Mother of John '65)
Margaret Mathews Nier (Sister of Rev. James Mathews '54)

Benny Mattucci (Father of Robert '67 & Mark '69)
Eleanor McCarthy (Wife of William '46; Mother-in-law of Joseph Assaf, Teacher & Grandmother of Julie Assaf '14)
Francis (Buddy) S. McNally (Nephew of Cheryl Barredo, Teacher)
Josephine Sindoni Nicoletti (Relative of Sindoni, Vavonese & Pitonzo Families)
James Patell (Son of Dr. James and Colleen (Ehle) Patell '66)
Mary Drescher Quigley (Sister of William Drescher '40; Grandmother of Michael Quigley '07 & Julia Quigley '10)
Bernard F. Quilty (Father of Theresa Quilty, Guidance Counselor, Daniel '63, Marc '67, Stephen '69 & Peter '74; Grandfather to Erik '97)
Dominick Riccardi (Father of Donald '63)

Alumni Annual Fund Phonathon

Callers from the Class of 1997 hit the phones hard (L-R): Joseph Bergovec, Brad O'Connor, and Ivan Drazek.



Fifty dedicated and hard-working alums from 22 classes participated in phonathon sessions during the weeks of October 26th-29th and November 9th-12th to solicit their classmates for the 2009-2010 Annual Fund. This annual event is an integral fundraising endeavor for Christian Brothers Academy, as the money earned is earmarked for operating costs such as financial aid, teachers' salaries, and facilities maintenance. The Annual Fund serves to bridge the gap between tuition and the actual costs of educating students, keeping tuition increases at a minimum and thus, easing the economic burden for CBA families.

Agents representing 25 classes signed close to 2100 letters to their classmates, in advance of the phonathon, to ask for support for the Annual Fund. These individuals then arranged for volunteers from their class to join them at CBA during a 2-3 hour evening session to call their classmates for donations. Over 870 phone calls were made during the 7 nights, garnering nearly \$20,000 in gifts and pledges for the Annual Fund. Follow-up letters were sent to all alums, whether contact was made or not. It is our hope that as many individuals as possible will contribute, at all levels, as alumni participation in the Annual Fund is crucial to the sustainability and success of CBA.

All volunteers agreed their participation in the phonathon engendered a deep satisfaction as a result of 'giving back' to their alma mater – but it is the reminiscing and reconnecting with fellow 'Brothers' that is the true gift of the time spent during these sessions. We would like to extend our deepest appreciation to the following alums who assisted with this year's phonathon by signing letters and/or making calls to their classmates:

Joseph Albino '55*	Mark Grenga '74*	W. Dennis Owen, AFSC '44*
George Alessio '72	Tom Grooms '62	Beth Owens '98*
John Baichi '63	David Hayes '61*	Ron Pelligra '72*
Joseph Bergovec '97	Mark Hettler '73*	Skip Pfohl '77
Francis Bersani '44*	Jim Hopkins '71*	Mark Pitonzo '76
Msgr. Ronald Bill '49*	Marc Jones '86*	John Potega '71
Bill Byrne '66	Richard Jones '66	Dave Scrano '83*
Michael Byrne '66	Jay Kianka '73	Richard Senecal '49*
Mark Carroll '74*	Joe Leone '68*	Karen Simbari '02*
Tom Coleman '68	Michael Loftus '63*	John Sindoni '63
Jim Corapi '86	Jerry Manganiello '77	Vincent Sportelli '71
Tom Dadey '87*	John Marshall '67*	Jim Terrinoni '70*
Don DeKay '72	John Marzocchi '77*	Mike Vavonese '76*
Dean Dellas '03*	R. Daniel McCarthy '66	Robert Waters '66
Ivan Drazek '97	Ed Moses '61*	
Ernie Etoll '53*	Brad O'Connor '97*	
Ted Florczyk '62*	Mike O'Connor '66*	
Chuck Giarrusso '73	John O'Gavaghan '63	

*Class Agent

For those who made a pledge during this event, we truly appreciate your support. If you have not sent a gift to the Annual Fund, please consider adding Christian Brothers Academy to your list of charitable priorities. If you would like to learn more about the Annual Fund or other giving opportunities at the school, please contact Helen Kelley, Coordinator for Alumni and Annual Giving at (315) 446-5960 ext. 1122 or hkelley@cbasyracuse.org.

Alumni Events

2009 Men's alumni basketball players (Front Row L-R): Mark Pitonzo '76, Matt Paulus '00, TJ Niland '00, Greg Leone '00, John DeFrancisco '64, Larry Stirpe '73, and Tom Niland '65. (2nd Row L-R): Greg Paulus '05, Joe Leone '97, Sean Anderson '97, JD Delmonico '99, Erik Estabrook '05. (3rd Row L-R): Buddy Wleklinski '75, Tom Robb '86, Matt Harrigan '04, Mike Anderson '04, Carl Hummel '86. (4th Row L-R): Tim Giarrusso '77, David Fine '04, Griffin Chase '05, RJ Mosley '04, Robert Romeo '77. (5th Row L-R): Bill Kearney '03, Jon Wolf '98, Tom Anderson '02, Joe Leone '68. (Back Row L-R): Leo Massaro '91, Jeff Brown '04, Ed Leone '74, Chris Paulus '03.



2009 Alumni Basketball Game/Ed Leone Tribute

This year's annual Alumni Basketball games took on a special spin, as the evening's goings-on were enhanced by a ceremony and reception honoring long-time hardwood fixture, Ed Leone '74, recipient of a 2009 Alumni Association Purple & Gold Award. The festivities were tipped off with a spirited shooting contest by 4 women alumni players: Brittany Aungier '04, Meredith Mosley '07, Christina Sutphen '05, and winner, Christina West '07.

Immediately following the contest, close to thirty male alums hit the floor for an exhilarating game (especially for the older players), with traditional sardonic play-by-play commentary offered by Tom Niland '65. Leo Massaro '91 had a particularly strong first quarter, thus clinching an early MVP nod. Standout performances were also turned in by Erik Estabrook '05, Sen. John DeFrancisco '64, Dave Fine '04, Matt Harrigan '04, and TJ Niland '00, ensuring a fast-paced, highly competitive contest.

Several CBA legacy families were well represented on the court such as: the Andersons with 2 members – Mike '04, and Tom '02; the Leones with 4 members - Ed '74, Greg '00, Joe '68, and Joe '97; and the Paulus clan with 4 members – Chris '03, Greg '00, Matt '00 and sister, Sarah '09, on the sidelines with an injury. This annual holiday event continues to grow and bring 'Brothers' together with spirited competition and jovial camaraderie.

After the game, a crowd of close to 100 alums, friends, students, and members of the CBA community gathered in the Callahan gym to honor Ed Leone. The group enjoyed a delicious feast of Italian specialties from the Emerald City restaurant, co-sponsored by the Alumni Association and the Booster Club. Board members Paul Drescher, Kevin Harrigan '65, Ed Moses '61, John Sindoni, AFSC '63, and Bob Waters '66 joined in the festivities.

Just prior to the CBA Syracuse vs. CBA Albany game, the group assembled in the John Lynch gym, along with players and fans from both schools, for the Purple & Gold Award ceremony. Buddy Wleklinski '75, fellow coach and long-time friend of Ed's, read the award citation. Ed's humble acceptance speech belied how honored he felt, referring to himself as the 'luckiest guy in the world' to be able to continue be a part of the proud CBA tradition, both on and off the court.

Ed Leone '74 delivers a gracious acceptance speech for the Purple & Gold Award.



Alumni Events



Alumni Ski Event

David Marshall '02 relaxes with fiancée, Andrea Nicoletti '01, after his first-ever run down the slopes.

About a dozen alums, former chaperones, and friends gathered in the 'mini lodge' at Labrador Mountain on Saturday, January 9, 2010 for the 1st Annual Alumni Ski Event. Despite intense cold from an Arctic blast that gripped the area, several skiers braved the elements and hit the slopes. A warm lodge, delicious assortment of food, and spirited conversation welcomed the skiers during their numerous breaks from the frigid air.

David Marshall '02, who had never been on skis, took his inaugural run thanks to the gentle coaching and coaxing of his fiancée, Andrea Nicoletti '01. Afterwards, he even returned to the hill for more! They were joined on the slopes by alums Mike Bongiovanni '72; Joey Nicoletti '06; Ron Pelligra '72; Maria (Lazipone) Podbelski '01; Dave Venditti '78; and former moderator, Joe Nicoletti. The skiers were treated to great ski conditions, and all attendees enjoyed the company and camaraderie of fellow Nordic 'Brothers.'

The event was a great bargain for participants, thanks to the special rate for passes and equipment rentals offered by Labrador Mountain. The refreshments, sponsored by the Alumni Association and by former chaperones, Joe and Rita Nicoletti C'74 and Dave and Julie Venditti, were bountiful and tasty – in the true tradition of the CBA ski club.

Mark your calendars for early January 2011 for the 2nd annual Alumni Ski Event!

Planned Giving Corner:



A Gift of Life Insurance Can Maximize Your Planned Gift

Life insurance is an excellent tool for making charitable gifts for several reasons. Life insurance provides an “amplified” gift that enables you to create a meaningful legacy over time, with manageable payments. Through a relatively small annual cost (the premium), a benefit far in excess of what would otherwise be possible can be provided for charity. This sizeable gift can be made without impairing or diluting your ability to earmark assets for members of your family.

Life insurance policies can be tools to help you make a tremendous impact on an institution like Christian Brothers Academy. If you want to make sure that the Lasallian mission continues, life insurance might be an avenue for you to consider. If you think that it is important for schools to teach morality, integrity, honor, and discipline, then perhaps it is time to explore how a small payment now can enable you to support that at CBA – and at a level you might not have dreamt possible.

The following are a couple of ways to use life insurance policies to make a planned gift. Each method has its associated tax benefits.

Name CBA as a beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy

Maybe the people whom you support are cared for generously through other planned giving provisions. You may have real estate income for your spouse. You may have a trust for your children or grandchildren. There may be other sources of income, too: stock portfolios, IRAs, or 401(k) plans. Maybe your heirs are totally self-sufficient and would prefer that you support an organization whose priorities you embrace. Consider, then, giving your fully amortized life insurance policy to CBA.

If you already have a policy that is fully paid and you irrevocably assign ownership of the policy to the school, then you may be able to get an income tax deduction for the cash surrender value.

Name CBA as a beneficiary of a new life insurance policy

If you purchase a new policy, there may be positive tax consequence for you as well. To get a deduction, you need to transfer ownership of the policy to CBA and name the school as the beneficiary. When the payments on the premium are due each year, you pay those premiums to CBA and then CBA elects to pay the premium directly to the insurance company. You get the deduction for the charitable gift. This arrangement also enables CBA to recognize your investment. Wouldn't you like to give the school a chance to say thank you? And, wouldn't you like to inspire others to make a similar investment?

Interestingly, the purchase of a \$1 million guaranteed universal whole life policy might have an annual premium as low as \$7,000 for a male in his 40's or as low as \$4,000 for a couple with the benefit paid upon the last person's death. Premiums will vary, depending upon age, health, gender, and tobacco use, but this will give you an idea of the impact that you or you and your spouse may be able to have. If paying these kind of representative premiums were within your reach, your \$1 million gift to endowment would support about 13 students every single year with a half-tuition scholarship – in perpetuity. That's impact. That's a legacy.

There are many benefits to donating life insurance. It's easy to make changes to an existing policy – just change the name of the beneficiary using a simple form. It's private because life insurance policies are not public records. It's economical because the size of the gift is substantially larger than the costs.

Please check with your financial advisor about the best ways for you to take advantage of these opportunities. Individual circumstances and state and federal tax laws may affect your plans.

If you are interested in more information about planned giving, please call Patti Callahan, Director of Development and Alumni at (315) 446-5960 ext. 1139.



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To Be The Best: Campaign Update

To Be The Best was formally announced in September 2008. CBA graduates, parents, staff, and friends of the school have been working diligently to complete the objectives outlined in the campaign case statement:

The plan for the campaign has three key components:

- First, to maintain and improve diversity and keep a CBA education accessible to qualified middle and low income families, the school must grow its endowment to offer more financial aid.
- Second, to attract a sufficient number and quality of students, the school must upgrade its facilities – both athletic and academic.
- Third, to minimize tuition escalations and maintain depth and breadth of programs and offerings, the Annual Fund must increase.

Thus far, there have been many successes associated with the campaign. At least nine new perpetual scholarships have been established as a result, including the first ever fully funded tuition scholarship. Many existing funds were augmented by generous donors. The result is significant endowment growth, which allows the school to provide access to the CBA experience for more students.

Facilities upgrades completed include upgrades to the Markert Library: furniture, flooring, and paint; plus technology improvements and an expansion to the materials and services available at the library were all a result of generous campaign donations.

Phase I of the athletics facilities project was completed in the fall of 2009. Field turf was installed on Cappelletti Field in Alibrandi Stadium; a second turf field was installed at the site of the practice field; and the softball field was totally renovated. The west side of the school building includes new landscaping and signage as part of the project as well.

Additional work remains and we look forward to accomplishing the goals set for this exceptional project. Thank you for your support!



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