

SPRING 2012

CONNECTION

CLEVELAND CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Catholic Students for Peace and Justice Join 'March for Life'



ROOTED IN GOSPEL VALUES AND CATHOLIC TRADITION,
CLEVELAND CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
EDUCATES AND PREPARES DIVERSE YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN
FOR THE FUTURE AND CHALLENGES THEM TO EXCEL
AND DEEPEN THEIR FAITH TO RESPONSIBLY SERVE GOD,
CHURCH AND COMMUNITY.



Vibrant in the City . . . Learning to Lead – Preparing to Serve



contents

SPRING 2012

Connection is published twice a year for Cleveland Central Catholic High School alumni, parents, faculty, administrators, and friends.

CO-EDITORS

Michele Fusco Scoccola
Director of Advancement

Ellen Fasko Howard '66 OLL
Faculty and Alumni Editor

DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Linda Schellentrager

PROOFREADING

Kathryn Mahon

CONTRIBUTORS / PHOTOGRAPHY

Faculty/Staff: Allen Clark; Ellen Howard; Adam Cottos; Rachel Parker;
Sr. Julie Smith, SND; Michael Yako; Carmella Reiger; Joe Kilburg
Other contributors: Sherry Chancey Clark '91, Unique Rember '13, Megan Creter '12
Bob Kloos; Art Thomas, William C. Rieter

Cleveland Central Catholic High School

Leo P. Hyland
President

Sister Allison Marie Gusdanovic, SND
Principal

Dr. Lanny Hollis
Associate Principal

Carmella Reiger
Admissions / Marketing Coordinator

Michele Fusco Scoccola
Director of Advancement

Grant Innocenzi
Athletic Director

Please send address changes and any other correspondence regarding this publication to:

Cleveland Central Catholic High School
Michele Fusco Scoccola, Director of Advancement
6550 Baxter Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44105
Email: mscoccola@centralcatholichs.org
www.centralcatholichs.org

IN REMEMBRANCE

Laurie Fumic
1958-2011

Our proofreader
extraordinaire
who read every
word and comma
with diligence.

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Cover photo: Michael Yako

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As with each generation before them, many students come to Central Catholic hoping they will be the first in their family to graduate from college.

Advancing the CCC Mission - Together

Clear Statement Articulates Who We Are

Last Spring, in a powerful and deliberate exercise, our Strategic Planning Committee and faculty reviewed, debated, and ultimately reaffirmed our school's mission statement:

Rooted in Gospel values and Catholic tradition, Cleveland Central Catholic High School educates and prepares diverse young men and women for the future and challenges them to excel and deepen their faith to responsibly serve God, church, and community.

The CCC Mission Statement articulates who we are as a Catholic community of faith and what we do to impact our world. Our mission is clear and focused, and I can attest to the many successes that our young people achieve through it. As our school's theme for the year states, our students are Learning to Lead – Preparing to Serve. It is inspiring to watch them grow in their spirituality.

A prime example of the power of this approach is CCC Senior Stephanie Simon. Stephanie's faith, hard work and perseverance have carried her through some turbulent times. Following the deaths of her father and grandmother (her role model) at the start of her junior year, Stephanie had to leave our school due to challenging family circumstances. Thankfully, Stephanie's strong desire to return to the Central Catholic family delivered her back to CCC later that school year. Stephanie sets high goals and has diligently worked her way to top academic honors, hundreds of community service hours and awards for her excellent leadership.



Stephanie Simon '12

In January, Stephanie was named the WOIO Channel 19 Student of the Month, and was featured for her outstanding service as a volunteer at Boys & Girls Club of Greater Cleveland. In February, Stephanie was honored as the 2012 Boys & Girls Club of Greater Cleveland Student of the Year. While gracious and humble in accepting her award, Stephanie explained to a full house how her faith and determination have carried her through many challenges in her young lifetime. (I also want to mention that three of the six finalists for this award were CCC seniors this year!) Her impressive story brought me to tears.

While Stephanie is exceptional in many ways, her experience of overcoming adversity is not uncommon among our students and graduates at Cleveland Central Catholic. But they cannot accomplish their goals without our love, guidance and support. Becoming firmly grounded in their faith is an essential element to our students' success – and one that determines who they become in a Christian life.

As with each generation before them, many students come to Central Catholic hoping they will be the first in their family to graduate from college. The academic tools and personal care that give them hope for their future (and ours) are instilled by our commitment to this mission of Catholic education.

It is obvious that our mission is vital to the success of our students, their families, the Slavic Village community, our city, and our Diocese. The real question facing us is, how do we advance this important mission – to ensure that Cleveland Central Catholic continues to make a powerful impact forever?

continued on next page

St. Stan's Class of 1961 Creates Endowed Scholarship at CCC

Generous Spirit of Class Earns Praise

As a part of their 50th class reunion extravaganza, the St. Stan's Class of 1961 funded an endowed scholarship at Cleveland Central Catholic. The class chose to endow the scholarship, so an award could be made every year from the interest generated by the funds (which are invested).

According to CCC President Leo Hyland, it is the first such endowed class scholarship at the school. "I am really impressed with the generous spirit of this class. They welcomed me warmly into their reunion fun and wanted to give back in a meaningful way. This is a very special group of friends," related Hyland.

The idea for creating the fund began during the summer of 2011, as the St. Stan's Class of '61 was planning their reunion activities. Classmates George Chase and Bob Sledz (and Bob's wife Ingrid) discussed the need at Central Catholic for scholarship funding with classmates and the drive began in late summer. By Christmas, the goal of \$10,000 had been achieved, thanks to the contributions of 17 donors to the cause. (All donors will be recognized in the next issue of the *Connection*.)

The funds were invested and the first scholarship award will be made this year to Katherine Lewicki, who will be a junior upon returning to CCC in August. "I am so excited (about receiving the scholarship), please thank the alumni for me," she exclaimed. Katherine graduated from St. Stan's Elementary School in 2010. "My education is a journey with bright roads ahead," she added, noting how grateful she is for all those who have supported her successes at St. Stan's and at Central Catholic.

"We are really pleased that Katherine will receive the first Class of '61 Scholarship Award," commented Bob Sledz. "We have known her for years and she is very deserving of this honor. She is a terrific young lady and very active in the parish." Katherine is also near the top of her class academically and she runs track and cross country for the Ironmen.

Mr. Hyland emphasized the need for CCC to grow its endowment funding. "It is critical for our future to continue to grow our endowment, and we are grateful to the Class of '61 for their leadership in these efforts." He invites other classes to follow suit and for individuals to consider giving to CCC in their estate planning.



"I am so excited (about receiving the scholarship), please thank the alumni for me. My education is a journey with bright roads ahead." Katherine Lewicki '14

Advancing the CCC Mission - Together

continued

Advancing our mission is a responsibility and a challenge that belongs to us all. You can help us advance the mission of CCC in the following meaningful ways:

- Refer prospective families
- Support our mission financially
- Get involved

Cleveland Central Catholic is an amazing school community that we can all celebrate. We are blessed to have the strong support of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, an outstanding advisory board that guides the strategic decisions and helps

generate many important resources for our school, a dedicated faculty who are committed to ensuring that all students can succeed in school and in life, caring staff members, parents, alumni, and corporate/foundation and community partners who provide critical financial support for our students. We are grateful for each and every person who helps advance our mission.

I invite you to join us in advancing our mission – and help keep CCC *Vibrant in the City!*

See www.centralcatholic.org for complete article.

Cleveland Central Catholic – Kent State University *Kick Start College Summer Residency Program*

Fifteen Students Chosen for Program Supported by University Hospitals

Designed to connect talented Cleveland Central Catholic High School youth with the extensive resources and opportunities available at Kent State University, the KSU-CCC partnership goal is to increase the college readiness, enrollment and persistence of CCC students. This partnership links valuable resources with college readiness experts to provide meaningful relationships, advising, activities, programs, and structure so that Cleveland Central Catholic students benefit.

This summer, 15 rising juniors who have been selectively chosen for this experience will live in a residence hall on Kent State's campus for one week and be immersed in an academically-focused week designed to enable students to focus on co-curricular and social development/life skills areas, academics, college readiness and leadership. The curriculum will be taught by faculty, doctoral students and graduate students and focus primarily on Science, Technology, Education and Math (STEM) education.

The student's daily schedule will be packed with activities, beginning with an 8:15 a.m. breakfast, followed by academic STEM sessions, college and career sessions, personal development counseling, dinner, homework, recreational and social activities, with lights out at 11:00 p.m.

All participating students will show a PowerPoint presentation at the end of the week, synthesizing the academic, career/college and leadership components. The students will also give a presentation in the fall to their parents and CCC classmates.

We are very grateful to University Hospitals for providing full funding for the summer residency program. All students who participate in the program will also receive a scholarship that will assist in the students' continued enrollment and academic advancement at CCC.

SNAPSHOT



Key Club on CCC Campus

A Pledge to Build Home, School and Community
and to Serve God and Nation

The Southeast Cleveland Kiwanis Club has sponsored the Cleveland Central Catholic Key Club – offering both financial support and hands-on guidance in advising our students in identifying meaningful community service projects. Kiwanis Advisor Jerry Seppelt, working alongside CCC Faculty Advisor Rich Wojcik, has supported a number of initiatives of this service club, led by CCC senior and Key Club Chair Angel Poole. The club has participated in a variety of events, including providing assistance at City Concert's pre-show dinner event; working on UpStage Players (Builder's Club) set design for *West Side Story*; serving at a pancake breakfast at Holy Name and working to improve parks by cleaning debris along the Towpath Trail in the Slavic Village. This team of 16 students hopes to gain leadership experience, meet new people and make a difference in their community.



Commencement Speaker

Marlene Anielski '79 State Representative, Ohio 17th District



CCC graduate and Ohio State Representative Marlene (née Piszczor) Anielski will offer this year's commencement address for the graduating Class of 2012. Since graduating from Cleveland Central Catholic in 1979, Marlene had been active in business and real estate before entering politics as Mayor of Walton Hills, Ohio and is presently serving her first term as the State Representative for Ohio's 17th District.

Marlene recently created BluesNEO, which stands for Business Ladies United Economically and Socially in Northeast Ohio. This organization supports local, independent businesses and gets people engaged. The first event, held at Brielle's Coffee and Tea room, was a resounding success, giving a definite boost to business. According to Marlene, the focus of this group is to highlight small independent businesses and to create a culture of helping each other.

Expanding on the idea of creating a culture of helping each other, Marlene and her husband, Jonathan are involved in the non-profit group Cornerstone of Hope. This organization is a bereavement center for kids, teens, and adults. As a mother who lost a child suddenly and tragically, she has put together a program that allows for children to express themselves and receive help through the Ski Box Program. This program allows for the student to jot down notes about their issue, and with full anonymity, place their note in the box.

Central Catholic High School has received a box through this program and hopes that students who are experiencing problems or have concerns about their friends, now have a way to safely share these concerns with counselors and other Cleveland Central Catholic adults.

The class of 2012 is privileged to have Ohio State Representative Marlene (née Piszczor) Anielski '79 speak at graduation.

Check Out Our New Website!

www.centralcatholics.org

Alumni: To update your alumni information, click on the [Alumni](#) tab to find the alumni update form.

Parents: Click on [View School Calendar](#) to stay current with school activities.

Plus: It's easier than ever to support Cleveland Central Catholic, just click on the [Donate Now](#) button on the bottom of the home page. (Not shown.)



9th Annual Calcutta Auction Continues Strong Tradition

Tuition Assistance Fundraiser Helps More Youth Access a CCC Education



Over 250 guests lined up to purchase whistles, prom boutonnières, and silent auction items at the 9th Annual Calcutta Auction in support of Catholic education. The generosity of supporters helped Cleveland Central Catholic raise over \$115,000 for tuition assistance. The dedication of so many who attend ensures that Catholic education is available to all young men and women, who otherwise may not be able to afford a quality education.

Through dinner, catered by Pat Kander of Choice Catering, guests formed “syndicates” to plan strategy and bid on pairings of teams for the auction, led by celebrity auctioneer Dave Milo. “While the event is of great energy and fun, it is also an important fundraiser for Cleveland Central Catholic. We are blessed to have such generous support for our mission,” said John Simon ’72 and veteran Calcutta co-chair.

While focused on raising money to provide tuition assistance, the students also sold whistles to fund families in need of school uniforms, as well as raising \$1,500 to provide senior activities, which include prom. The dedicated committee, lead by co-chairs Mary Beth and John Simon ’72 have no time to rest. They have recently met to begin planning the 10th Anniversary Calcutta bash!

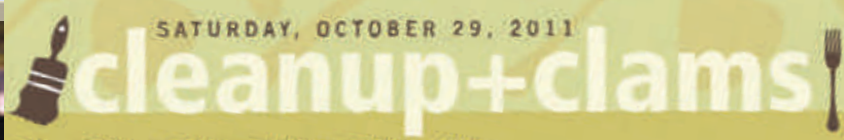


Photos on left, courtesy of Art Thomas





Photo courtesy of Art Thomas



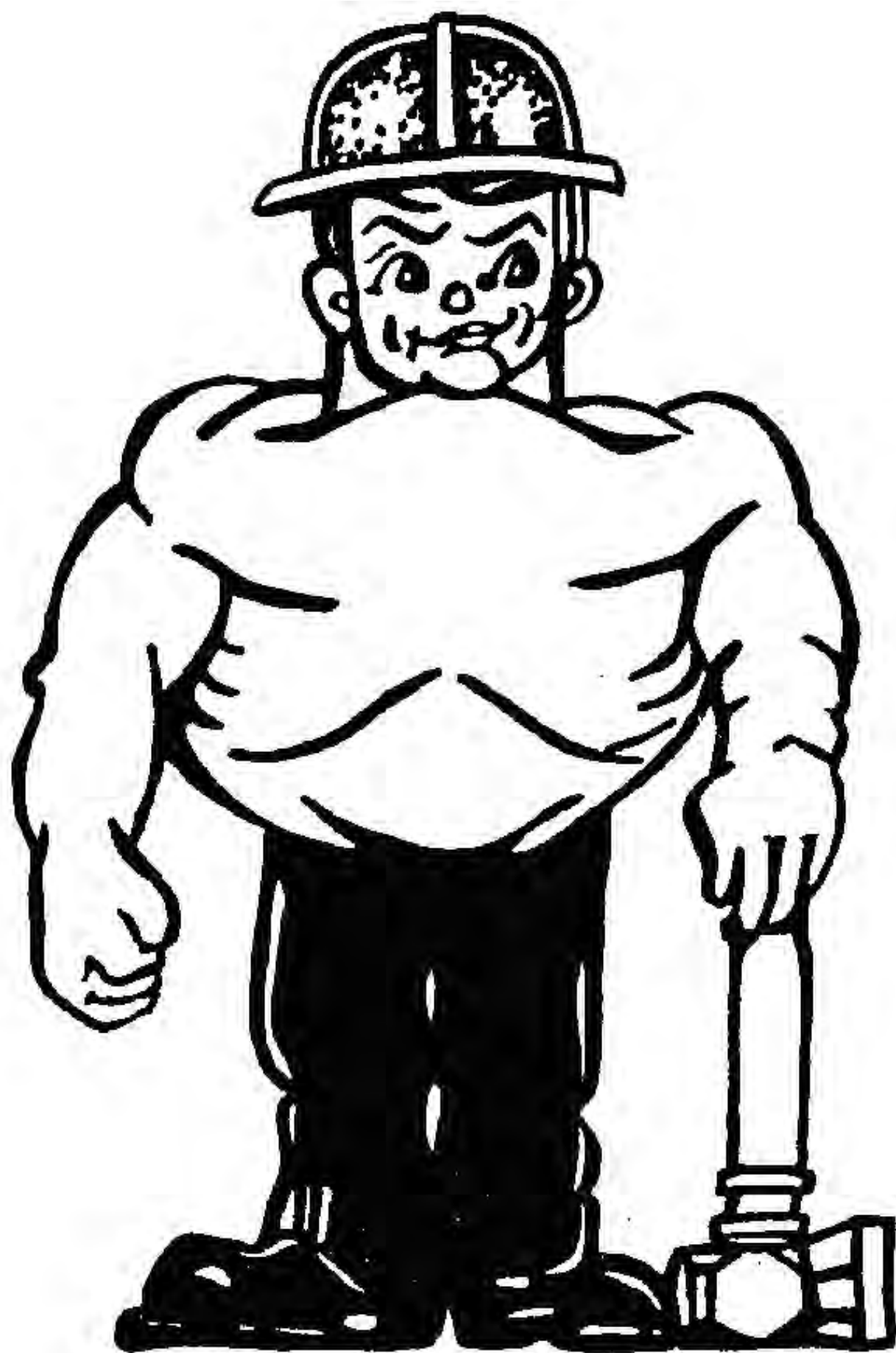
Community Building Event Brings Students, Friends and Neighborhood Together, Raises Nearly \$40,000 for Tuition Assistance

Cleveland Central Catholic is grateful to the following sponsors for their support of CleanUp+Clams:

Aon, Cutting Dynamics, Durel Corporation, Galaxy Balloons, Forest City Enterprises, Giant Eagle, Industrial Manufacturing Co., Jones Day, Materion, Medical Mutual, Merrymeeting, Inc., Musca Family Foundation, Swagelok, and University Hospitals

Corporate sponsorship allows CCC to thank our families and friends who volunteer their time to help us beautify our campus with a

complimentary clambake. Most importantly, corporate support provides tuition assistance for our deserving young men and women. One of the outdoor activities included planting 100 daffodil bulbs alongside the 67th Street entrance to CCC. A volunteer planting a tree near the Stefanski Stadium said, "I just enjoy being outdoors and working. It's nice to point to this tree and tell people that I planted it."





Senior Akilah Sullins joins Dean of Students Lori Sandel in reviewing student Celebration Cards on first floor display for March.

New Dean Combines Celebration with Discipline

Before joining the Cleveland Central Catholic team for the second semester, Mrs. Lori S. Sandel spent 10 years in Akron Public Schools as a teacher and an administrator. Then she served two years in South Euclid-Lyndhurst as principal of Memorial Junior High. She has earned a Masters in Curriculum and Instruction as well as Educational Administration. With a husband and four children, she spends most of her non-school time being a mom.

Along with streamlined disciplinary procedures and a user-friendly office with warm tones, Mrs. Sandel has initiated the Celebration Cards. Teachers use them to acknowledge any student accomplishment or advancement. The cards become a display outside the school offices, and then parents receive them in the mail. The familiar Ironman embellishes each of the bright yellow cards. "No matter how old you are you're never too old for a pat on the back. Even high school students appreciate being recognized for doing the right thing. Our Celebration Cards give all of us the opportunity to tell our students that we appreciate them," says Mrs. Sandel.

Travel with the Ironman!

Cut out the adjacent page and take a vacation scene or other photo opportunity in our community or around the world, with our beloved Ironman mascot. Then email it to us and we'll post some on our new website: www.centralcatholics.org
Email to: alumni@centralcatholics.org

Sr. Melannie Cultivates Sense of Wonder at Faculty Retreat



Faculty enjoys natural setting of Metroparks Canalways for retreat.



Above: Sr. Melannie Svoboda, SND, author and former teacher and provincial team leader, helps faculty focus at Holy Thursday retreat.



Above: In one of many duties as a Sister of Notre Dame, Sr. Melannie, pictured left, served as Novice Director when Sr. Allison Marie was in the novitiate.

A Couple of Lions Take Pride in Central Careers

Fred Badar and Joe Kilburg Look Back on Decades at CCC

Halfway through year 42 as Catholic educators, veteran teachers Fred Badar and Joe Kilburg gave expansive answers when asked about their teaching careers. First acquainted as part of the Class of 1966 at the former Cathedral Latin High School, in 2003 they landed back together at the consolidated CCC in its Slavic Village location. What follows is an attempt to package their stories into this compact space.

How many years have you been at CCC? Fred Badar joined the staff in year two of the school. Joe Kilburg started at CCC in 1979. Before that, he “worked at St. Michael junior high since 1970, and it was attached to the Scranton Campus in those days” so both have been around CCC for their entire career. Kilburg has also coached at Bay Village High School, Baldwin-Wallace and CMSD summer school.

How did you come to be employed at CCC? Badar: “My brother-in-law Larry Soeder, CCC’s first head football coach, was able to get me an interview with Fr. Fiala, the founder of the school. The rest is history.” Larry and Fred were married to Blaszak sisters Jeannie and Mary respectively, both St. Stans graduates whose family home still stands on Forman Avenue. Kilburg: “I started at St. Michael parish where my uncle was a church leader. After eight years I interviewed with Ralph Wroblewski, Sr. for a position that came open at Central. My wife Judy, who will retire this year from the Cleveland Public School System, also taught at St. Mike’s at the time.”

At which of Central’s four campuses did you teach? Badar taught at all the original campuses.

Before it was remodeled, room 207 at the Forman Campus was a memorable space. “I had a computer class with very large, heavy, first generation computer equipment and IBM keypunch machines,” he recalls. Kilburg: “For most of my first six years I taught at all three campuses. Broadway had been closed; however, we had girls basketball practice there for several years. At Tremont I taught science and history. One unique class took place when I had a science course taught in the baseball locker room! There were 15 students and we sat in the ‘meeting’ area. At Forman, the most unique classroom was created when we had Julie Tucholski, who was in a wheel chair. In order for her to stay on the first floor, we built a room out of the coat room of the old 207. I taught out of my car the first three years, working at all three campuses. Then I worked out of the bus; my schedule was set around the midday bus schedule.”

Fred



Joe

Joe recalls the later years. "The multi-campus concept was terrific and I enjoyed moving around. The Scranton Campus was heaven for a long time. I enjoyed working there every day. I started in history but we needed a biology teacher so I volunteered, went back to school and got a degree. My wife, Chuck Pagan and I moved the bio lab from the fourth floor to the Scranton basement, taking over the old library when the grade school moved out. That was a great locale with access to the whole basement for lab and science experiments. Mrs. Lottig (gym teacher on that floor) and I enjoyed controlling that area of the school and had many great times together."

What subjects have you taught? Mr. Badar continues to teach business and computer classes, and many alumni will remember accounting. His tenure goes back to "old manual typewriters" and computer equipment. Over the years, Mr. Kilburg has taught physical education, health, American history, government, current affairs, physical science, integrated science I & II, biology, and even English study skills.

Coaching duties and highlights? Check the column marked "beyond expectations" for the stories on this topic. Fred coached football on all levels: varsity, JV and freshman. For decades, he coached on the freshman level with Dean Kinley. "We would flip a coin each year to see who would be the head coach that year," says Badar. He also coached JV baseball in the late 1970s.

Joe coached soccer briefly, and kept the clock and the book for volleyball for a few years, helping Assistant A.D. Chris Lottig to close up the gym as well. With Dave Boris, he coached a golf team as well. He helped with football on the freshman and JV levels at one time. "My favorite years

were with Fred and Dean on the freshman level. I was the camera man mostly...right on the field...inside the huddle...next to the line and captured whatever action I could. I think Dean and Fred took bets on when I would get hit or knocked down.

These games were at the old Tremont field. What a great time," says Joe.

Most alumni will associate Kilburg with basketball, baseball or bowling. Lady Ironmen basketball, circa 1980s: "I was asked to try and make the team competitive by Joe LaBella, who had gotten the boys (head coaching) job. We knew each other from CYO. The girls had never won more than six games previously. Within two years, we became competitive. We were one of the first 'running' teams in girls basketball and had three different types of presses to go along with the regular offense. The Lady Ironmen got me a league Coach of the Year award three times with their efforts. In the last six years I coached, we were ranked in the top 10 of the city each year and four times the top five of all area teams. There were many



Fred



Teacher Impact

A Couple of Lions *continued*

great players: Donna Wertz, Joyce Lockhart, Cheri Dzuro, Denise Zerucha, Cele Rodriguez, Tracy Jess and Kim Walden. It was great fun but I left to coach my own sons in hockey at Bay High for 10 years. I remember the girls worked so hard. We would scrimmage the freshman boys – the boys were always shocked when they lost. Dick McPhie loved it because it helped with the guys attitudes. I will always consider that a special time in my life.”

Kilburg’s baseball stories could fill a book. “My beginning years were with Jerry Chase. Other great people to work with were Dave Boris, Mike Sokolowski, Ron Hodakievic, Chris O’Brien and Ron Stepka. I had the JVs and Jerry let me experiment with players and positions. When Jerry left I got the head job. We won our first game ever against St. Ignatius and Mike Buddy, a talented pitcher for them. Years later I beat my friend Tom Lanning at Olmsted Falls for my 100th win. There are a million stories, from kids rolling tires down the hill at Tremont and trying to hit the outfielders to the cops running down criminals across the fields. We once dragged the field with my Toyota and Joe LaBella riding the drag while Jerry Chase watched and smiled.”

Coach Kilburg has coached bowling for 17 years now. “We have had the top bowler in the league several time in the likes of Mike King, Radames Rivera, Pastor Johnson and the Allen brothers (also our top average players) and won league and division titles in 2003, 2004 and nearly three in a row in 2005. Our top girls go back to Rosie ‘The Bowler’ Hefflin who still holds the second highest female average ever; the highest belongs to Liz Premo.”

Joe



Other extracurriculars and assignments? Fred Badar has spent many years as senior class moderator, and he adds, “I drove the bus in my earlier years at CCC.” Joe Kilburg can consider driving the school bus as a second job. “I belonged to the CTS – Central Transit System of George Gackowski and the intercampus system,” states Kilburg. The CTS included the morning and afternoon runs to pick up and drop off students (between the Scranton and Forman campuses). On the last intercampus run in 2003, he drove a historical route, passing all the former campuses. Now he has a regular run to bring students to and from school daily as part of a student transportation option, and serves as chairperson of the science department.

Memories of Cathedral Latin days? Fred remembers well, “Our two homerooms were very competitive in intramural sports. It always came down to the championship game.” Joe adds that their two homerooms had “...most of the leaders and ‘characters’ of the class...so we did things together and were in competition with each other. In football my homeroom lost, due to the ‘baby bull’ – yes, Fred. He was tough to stop.” Back to Fred: “We are looking forward to our 50th reunion in 2016, which will be the 100th anniversary of Cathedral Latin School’s founding.”

Joe expands the Latin connections, noting, “When I first came to CCC another classmate, Dave

Fred and Joe



Joe



Hallal, taught here. As you may know, Dean (Kinley) and George (Gackowski) (both founding fathers of CCC) were Latin men. It was like old home week for me.” The Lions had invaded Central. Fred and Joe also share hockey as a link, since both had sons who played and shared experiences.

What about your ongoing career at CCC?

Mr. Badar makes it clear, “The students, through their actions and words, have made CCC very rewarding for me.” Mr. Kilburg talks about choices. “Central has always been family – the people (staff) have been great to work with over the years. Twice I was offered other positions and my main influence to stay was the people here.” Family man Fred married Mary Blaszak '68 St. Stans in 1970, and his in-laws bear Latin, Saints, and Central connections. The next generation of Badars includes daughter Allison,

married to Ken Leeds, who reside in Scottsdale, Arizona with son Colin, age 6. Son Jeff Badar, whose wife JoAnn served as athletic trainer here in the early 2000s, have two daughters, Abby and Anna.

Joe and Judy Kilburg have two sons. Son Joe and wife Pon live in Florida, while Jim and Leather have recently welcomed baby Isaac to their Columbus home.

Editor's note: The “cherished friendships formed” at CCC apply to teachers as well as students. Fred and I were among a host of young teachers hired the second year, in the heyday of the four campus school. Back at Scranton, it was enjoyable to sub for Joe and sit at his desk, covered with newspaper clippings about athletics, including son Joe's minor league baseball career. Having these two “Lions” as peers has made Central a great place to work. Ellen Fasko Howard '66 OLL



Badars



Kilburgs



Holy Land Sites Inspire CCC Pilgrim

Sister Julie Smith's Life Changing Journey



Sr. Julie Smith, SND, center, visits Mt. Carmel with Barb Bennett and Bill Bennett, siblings and fellow pilgrims.

In her pilgrimage to the Holy Land, Director of Technology Sr. Julie Smith, SND, connected CCC to the earthly places where Christianity began. Sister describes her experience: "I had the opportunity to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land in February with Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Dunedin, Florida, where I used to live. This turned out to be a life-changing journey for me. While in Israel, I prayed for the entire Central Catholic Community, at each of the Holy Places, carrying you in my heart. The most important place for me was the Church of

the Holy Sepulcher. Just being at the very place where Jesus rose from the dead touched me deeply! I very much felt His Presence with me everywhere I went in Israel, whether I was praying along the Sea of Galilee, one of the most beautiful places on earth, or walking in the Judean Desert, or celebrating Easter liturgy at the place of Jesus' Resurrection!"



Sea of Galilee



Metal detectors greet visitors to Western Wall, where Sr. Julie later prayed and inserted a paper remembering the CCC community into one of the cracks of the wall.





Sabrina Rivera and T'Shawn Sanders see D.C. with CSPJ.

Campus Minister Mike Yako and freshman Kaitlin Cline



March for Life

Catholic Students for Peace and Justice Attend Right to Life March in Washington, D.C.

Fifteen strong, the CCC contingent of Catholic Students for Peace and Justice (CSPJ) braved winter weather to join the Right to Life March in Washington, D.C. on January 23. Traveling with CSPJ students from Lake Catholic, St. Ignatius and St. Martin de Porres High Schools to help represent the Cleveland diocese, the Central Catholic group was organized by Campus Minister Michael Yako. Parent and alumna Angela Cline '93 assisted.



CCC's presence impacts Washington, D.C. march.

Talents Soar with Motown Sound

Adding a third program to the concert schedule, Music Director Mrs. Traci Jones energized musical performances at CCC for the 2011-2012 school year. Utilizing the “extra” day of February 29 and the two chorus classes, the sounds of familiar Motown tunes came to life in the Ironman Center. The chorus classes sang in groups, with other numbers performed by five soloists.



Faculty member John Zito shares the musical skills he honed on his own.

Junior Veronica Williford's rendition of "Who's Loving You" enhances the Motown program.



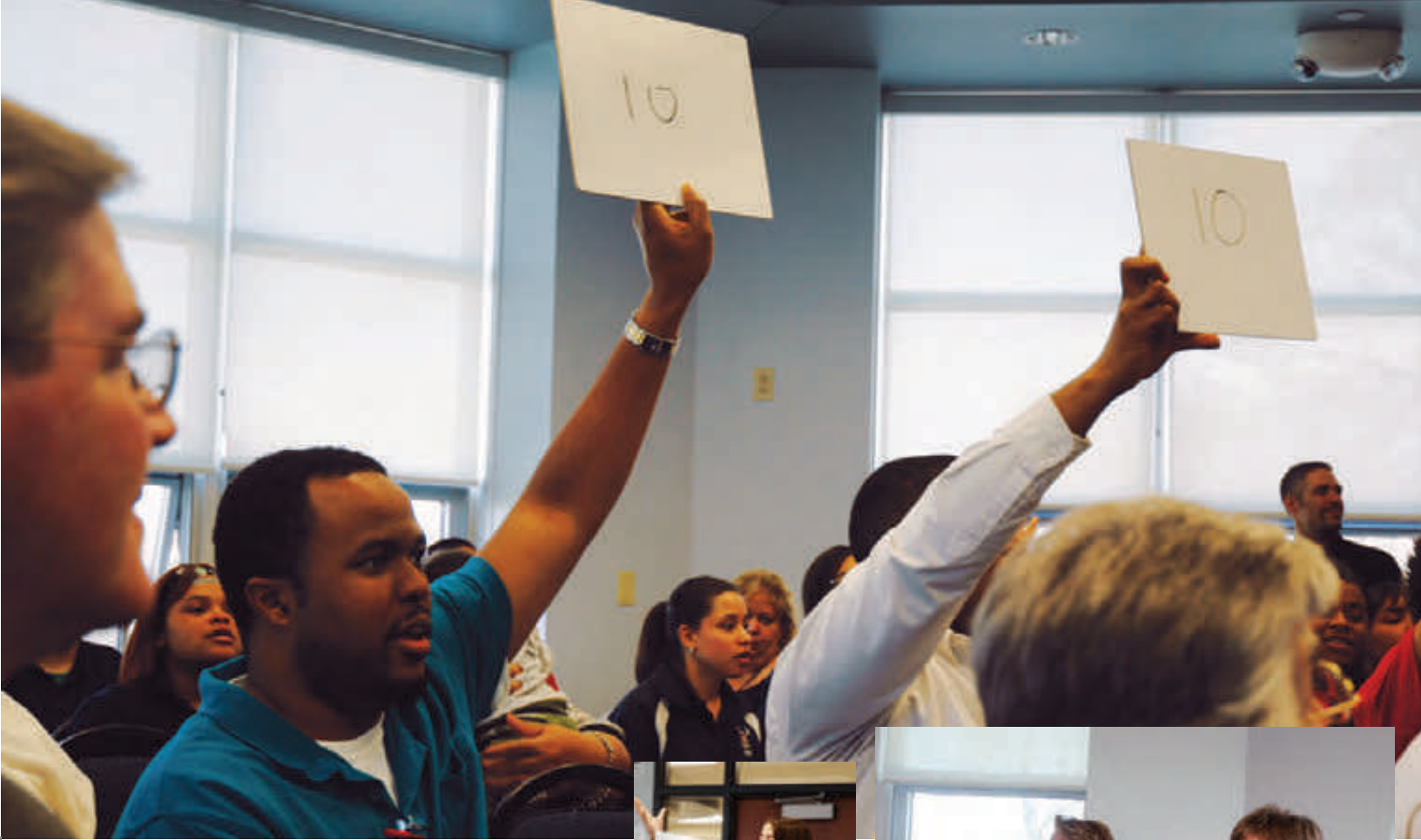
The Men of CCC inspired the crowd with Temptations songs, while the Ladies of CCC graced the stage with a tribute to Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul.



Senior soloist Shekinah Smith highlights another choral concert.

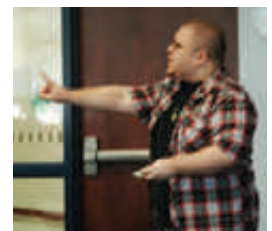
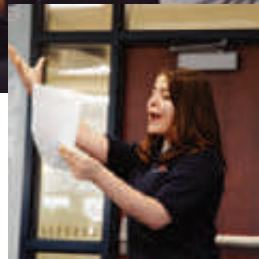


The Men of CCC perform on stage with Temptations songs.



Poets Bloom with Partnership, Slam U at PlayhouseSquare

Senior Terron Allen took top honors at CCC's Poetry Slam, as Central's poets performed for family, friends and judges in the Fr. Fiala room on March 28. His original work captivated the entire student body later that week at a school assembly. On April 27, a busload of fans supported him at the 2012 Poetry Slam Finals at the Ohio Theatre. CCCHS, the only Catholic school of six Slam U partner schools in the area, participated in the year-long program with workshops and field trips that gave teens the opportunity to share fresh ideas and have a voice through poems. The competition sends a team to represent Cleveland at the Brave New Voices International Youth Poetry Slam Festival each year. Librarian Martha Benek Croll '77 moderates the Central poets.



CCC Poetry Slam winner Terron Allen receives award from Mrs. Croll. Visible between them: sophomore Marisa Foulkrod and junior Marty Kurtz, two honored participating poets.

CCC Classes Embrace the Past with GLTF, Aid the Future through Catholic Relief

Great Lakes Theatre Festival Residency

Shakespeare came alive for English classes at Central Catholic, thanks to the Great Lakes Theatre Festival residency. Pairs of actors enlivened the study of *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar*, *Hamlet* and *Macbeth* for grades 9 to 12 respectively, engaging students in acting out scenes during week-long visits twice during the year. A grant ensures continuation of this program.

Operation Rice Bowl Engages Students

The students at Cleveland Central Catholic High School collected money during Lent for the Catholic Relief Services "Operation Rice Bowl" project. The money was put into piggy banks, envelopes and/or "Operation Rice Bowl" boxes. Collected in religion classes and sometimes after school in the hallways, the call for spare change is reminiscent of Sr. Mary DeXavier, SND ("DeX") and her Mission Club of the early 1970s along with pre-CCC era at Our Lady of Lourdes. DeX would say, "I hear change in your pocket," and students would give it up for the worthy cause. Ending appropriately during Holy Week, this year's efforts of the combined theology classes totaled \$660 by April 4.

Left: Theology teacher **Kathy Modic** keeps all the piggy banks in a row to calculate daily "Operation Rice Bowl" contributions, verifying that pennies add up.



Above: Sophomore **Isaiah Pritchard** adds drama to sword fight for Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. Left: Stefanski Field provides ideal setting for sophomores to practice sword fighting under GLTF tutelage.

Marc'A Bickerstaff '12, Student Senate President, Honored with an Archbishop James P. Lyke African-American Male Image Award

Being Involved in His School and Community Just Comes Naturally



In addition to serving as president of student senate, Marc'A assists with campus ministry and participates in drama club. He uses his creativity to write for the school newspaper and the school yearbook. In the fall, he plans to attend Bowling Green State University.

Like many students, Marc'A also balances a part-time job and volunteer work in the community including participating in the youth development program My Com (My Community) which brings students together from Catholic and public schools to have a positive impact on their communities. Among the many community activities, the students involved in this program talk to elementary school kids about their future.

"We work together to bring all the schools together," Marc'A said. "The kids are the future. So many kids grow up learning bad behaviors. This is our chance to be a positive force in people's lives."

This positive "can do" attitude may be one reason that he was honored with an Archbishop James P. Lyke African-American Male Image Award.

The award honors students who excel in Christian leadership, community service and academics. The award is presented by the Knights of Peter Claver and the Ladies Auxiliary Louis Hertzog and Court 227.

Marc'A is proud to win the award and encourages other young people to pursue activities that enrich them academically, socially and spiritually. "I really wasn't a big believer in prayer," he said. "But when I came to Central Catholic, I learned better ways to pray and feel closer to God. I would always encourage other kids to get involved in things that are positive."

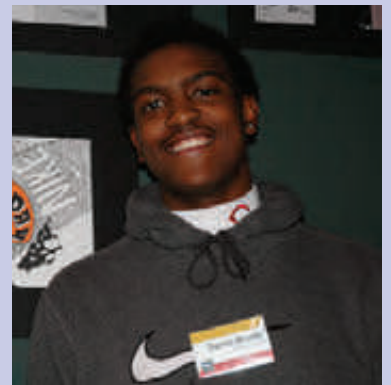
Used with permission from Catholic Universe Bulletin Publishing Co.

Art Students Garner GAC Awards

Three CCC student artists were honored by the Graphic Arts Council (GAC) at the Joint Vocational Center display for GAC's Print Week in January.

Pictured top down: Senior Joseph Ryzdinski's print won its third award, an Honorable Mention. Senior Darrian Bruster was CCC's Outstanding Graphic Arts Student. Junior Quinn

Shannon merited a place for a computer design, a first for Central's Graphic Design class taught by Mrs. Tammy Cline Sparks '90.



Marc'A Bickerstaff, far left, conducts Student Senate elections during lunch periods this spring, remarking that this concludes his official duties after years as a senate officer.

Khairi Dickson Signs Intent for St. Francis University

All-Stars Feature Coach, Two Ironmen

On March 9, senior Khairi Dickson (6 ft., 185 lbs.) signed his National Letter of Intent to attend St. Francis University (the oldest Franciscan institution of higher learning in the United States), located in Loretto, Pennsylvania. Continuing his stellar Ironman athletic performance, Khairi will take the field as running back at St. Francis on a Division 1AA, Northeast Conference team. Receiving an athletic scholarship, Khairi is undecided as to a major but intends to explore coursework in both engineering and education. Family and friends, along with CCC staff, assembled to congratulate Khairi. One of his teachers, Maryhelen Bednarchik '77, an alumna of St. Francis as well, looks forward to Khairi's impact on her other alma mater.



Above right: Family and friends assemble to congratulate **Khairi Dickson**. Above: Khairi's signature makes it official. Right: Dr. Joann "Mama" Hynes and Rachel Parker surround Khairi, representing the support they and other staff have provided him at CCC.

Right: Dacia Love with her son **Kentrell Richard**.



Above: CCC Head Football Coach John Lundy will be on the coaching staff for the West squad of the 40th Annual Cleveland Clinic Sports Health Cuyahoga County East-West All-Star Scholarship Football Game. Seniors Kentrell Richard (#7) and Khairi Dickson (#1) will play on that team. See the kickoff at 7:00 pm on Friday, June 15 at JCU's Wasmer Field in Don Shula Stadium.



Sports Sampling

Division Champs



Varsity bowling girls won their division championship, the first ever for a girls only team. Eight of the 14 players were on the honor roll.

See more sports and school photography by Allen Clark, on:

www.ironmanfilmworks.org

For all team schedules, go to:

www.centralcatholics.org



Grid Ironmen attend ESPN Combine.



Alumni & Sports

'Night at the Races' Aids Sports

Sports Boosters Host Event in Ironman Center

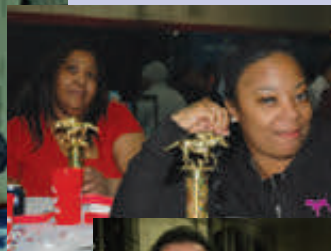
The Ironman Center, site of the 4th Annual "A Night at the Races," came alive for 10 races, plus the Breeder's Cup and auction race for sports fans, parents and alumni. Horse "owners" tagged their charges with colorful names, then hoped for a winning trophy and spot in the Breeder's Cup. The evening started with a famed video of Whitney Houston singing the national anthem, followed by races on the big screen. Bets, bidding, food and fun followed.



Perennial sports boosters and organizers Deb and Bill Svoboda hold down the fort.



Above: Dan Busher, CCC teacher from 1979-1986, claims his prize. Below, L-R: Keith Obojski and John Malcolm, both '82; races # 6 & 7 winners; sibs Robert Gonzalez '81 and Linda Gonzalez Thompson '94; Janette Pellas and Sandy Stelbasky Scott, both '78; Sandy Vodvarka and Judy Hinton Mackey, both '85.



Grady Earns Accolades All Around at CSU

Discipline On and Off Court

Size, talent and performance off the bench added up to great press for Anton Grady '11 (right) in his freshman year with the Cleveland State Vikings. Besides great stats earned for time on the court, coach Gary Waters noted his work ethic, discipline and study habits as Anton was featured in the *Plain Dealer* articles throughout the season. Becoming a factor in CSU's success, by January 20 he averaged 10 points and six rebounds in Horizon League play.



Anton Grady '11

Right: Now in the Big Ten at Illinois, Jeremy Whitlow '11 carries the flag for the Fighting Illini.



2012 CCC Golf Outing: June 9

Golfers: "Scramble" format at Valleaire Golf Course, Hinckley Ohio with lunch, drinks, steak dinner, gifts, and prizes: Registration \$90. Tee times from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Spread the word among your classmates. Last year we had a record 116 golfers and expect more this year! Try to assemble your own foursome of CCC alum/friends. To reserve a spot contact Tim Myslenski at 216-789-1216 or email myslenski@att.net

Volunteers: We need help with door prize and/or sponsor solicitation, outing setup, food prep, or serving. If you can help, contact Jerry Fasko at 440-829-8827 or email jfasko@yahoo.com.

Sponsors: Sponsor a Hole (\$100), donate a door prize, or provide gifts for participants: such as, your company's logo on golf balls, towels or other accessories.

For more information: Jerry Fasko at 440-829-8827 or email jfasko@yahoo.com or John Simon at 216-687-7659 or email simon1549@sbcglobal.net

CCC Alumni Organization - Golf Committee

SNAPSHOT



Save the date! Saturday, September 1, 2012

Welcome Back Day Rocks at CCC! Join us for the Annual Welcome Back Day

All alumni, friends, and CCC families are invited to attend the 2nd Annual Welcome Back Day on Saturday, September 1, 2012 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm held at the Stefanski Stadium. Sponsored by Third Federal Savings, Welcome Back Day was created to open up

our Slavic Village campus to our students, families, alumni and the broader community. Arrive by 12:30 p.m. and receive a complimentary meal of hot dogs, soft drink and chips – courtesy of Third Federal Savings. At 1:00 pm, the Ironmen will open their season against Euclid High School. Mark your calendars now and join us for this new CCC tradition!

Alumni

Dedicated Alumni Activate Association

President Leo Hyland formalized the efforts of alumni to organize in support of the school. Active and interested alumni gathered in November to agree to by-laws and officially elect officers, a leadership team with a commitment to serve until June 30, 2014. In the next key step, an alumni council was created to provide advice, support and personal connections to better engage other CCC and founding school graduates.

Executive Council

John Simon '72 - President
Reggi (Mack) Tomek '77 - Vice President
Jerry Fasko '65 OLL - Treasurer
Willie Kennedy '79 - Secretary
Tom Olschlager '79
Mike Sokolowski '79

Alumni Council

Anthony Bien '99
Gene Bernhard '68 SJC
Ted Bizon '80
Derrick Fellows '80
Tom Frisco '83
Diane Ginley-Thomas '73
John Malcolm '82
Lori Meinhart '58 St. Stans
Keith Obojski '82
Janette Pellas '78
Rick Rembielak '78



Left: President Leo Hyland, Jerry Fasko '65 OLL



Rick Rembielak '78, Willie Kennedy '79



Reggi Mack Tomek '77, Rembielak, John Simon '72



Diane Thomas Ginley '73, Linda Ziska '86, Gene Bernhard '68 SJC



Derrick Fellows '80, Bernhard, Ted Bizon '80, John Malcolm '82



Alumni Challenge

Attn. All Cleveland Central Catholic, St. John Cantius High School, St. Michael High School, Our Lady of Lourdes High School and St. Stanislaus High School Alumni

The Alumni Association is trying to contact you to keep in touch for reunions and other events. Let us know what you are up to. Go to www.centralcatholic.org and click on the alumni update link: **Alumni Information Form** – Or fax us at 216-441-8353 – Or mail us at Cleveland Central Catholic, Alumni Office, 6550 Baxter Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44105

Name _____

(Name in high school) _____

Current Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Email _____

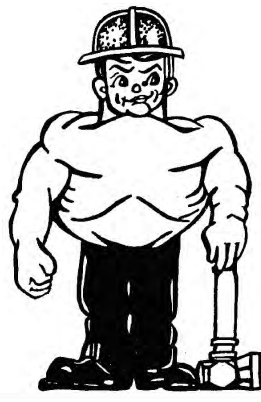
Year graduated _____ Or Years attended _____

Has your class had a reunion? _____ Who is the class contact? _____

Tell us about what you are doing now (ex., family, work, interests etc.)

Are you interested in attending or learning more about any of the following events that other alumni currently participate in:

- ___ Welcome back day at the new football field
- ___ Tailgating before football home games
- ___ Turkey Bowl
- ___ Calcutta benefit
- ___ Alumni nights at basketball games
- ___ Golf outing
- ___ Alumni Hall of Fame events
- ___ Nights at the Races
- ___ Reunions
- ___ Career Days
- ___ Mentoring Students



Alumni

Annual Turkey Bowl

Stefanski Stadium became a field of dreams, once again allowing Ironmen of all ages and experience to play football at the Home of the Ironmen. The November event was the 2nd Annual Turkey Bowl.



Alumni Gather to Celebrate and Say Farewell



Marilyn Mosinski '83 helped organize the farewell for former St. Stanislaus pastor Fr. Michael Surufka, OFM, held at the Polish Cultural Center on Lansing. Fr. Mike, in friar's garb, has been a familiar figure at CCC, celebrating many liturgies with students and serving as a team chaplain. City officials, including Mayor Frank Jackson, cited Fr. Mike's contributions to Slavic Village at the January 6 event. Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hyland, **Ashley Butch '10**, Sr. Allison Marie Gusdanovic, SND, Fr. Mike and Marilyn Mosinski '83 share in the St. Stans and CCC connection.



Class of 1991 Celebrates 20 Years

Reuniting for a weekend of events, the Class of 1991 used the CCC campus to celebrate 20 years since graduation. Chris Morley noted a number of classmates' occupations, remarking, "All the things we're doing now – it's because of what we learned (in high school)." The tailgating food and fun accompanied the football game before the late October evening's activities.



Every December, a few devoted alumni of Our Lady of Lourdes plan a wonderful gathering for an ever-growing circle of graduates from Our Lady of Lourdes School. At the 2011 event, one table included OLL and CCC connections.

Front: Family friend and classmate Jean Soukup Bzdaska '52 OLL, Lawrence Janka '52 OLL, whose children and their spouses attended CCC; Back: Karen Armstrong Janka '77, Susan Janka Kordan '77, Jeffrey Janka '75, and Susan's son, Jacob Kordan.



Our Lady of Lourdes

Ironmen



1950s SJC

Married into the Sparks family, Janeen Mazzeo Sparks attended St. John Cantius High School during the late 1950s. She enjoyed making connections at a family gathering attended by many CCC staff members, including Bev Jarrett '58 SJC, who swapped names and tales from the good old days at Cantius.



1973

Bernie Sokolowski, co-owner of Sokolowski's University Inn, helped feed The Boss, Bruce

Springsteen, when the E Street Band played at The Q on April 17. "They told us that Bruce loves Polish food," Bernie was quoted in the *Plain Dealer*, so they packed kielbasa, stuffed cabbage and pierogi for Springsteen's departure from Burke Lakefront Airport. The restaurant, a Tremont landmark, was contacted earlier to prepare the Polish takeout feast. Bernie had seen Springsteen back at the Cleveland Agora in the 1970s. The family of CCC alumni (**Mary Balbier '76**, **Michael '79**) continues to support the school, as seen in the Calcutta silent auction item pictured.

1977

Mark Berger is an applications engineer at Dynamic Fluid Components. He majored in mechanical engineering at Cuyahoga Community College and graduated in 1982. Family includes wife Sophia and daughter Tiffany whose husband is David. Mark is now living in South Carolina in the beautiful upstate area near Clemson University. "If any alumni are ever in the area let me know and we can get together." Contact him at mark50252@aol.com.



1979

John Giangrande and family enjoy the day at Stefanski Stadium, sporting colors for NCL opponent Trinity.

1988

Dennis DeLuca majored in accounting at Bryant & Stratton Business College, graduating in 2006. A director of operations for Inventus of Oklahoma, he and wife Wendy have seven children.



1990

Classmates **Georgia Sideris Zambataro**, **Tammy Cline Sparks** and **Wendy Sucku** reminisce about CCC and St. Michael's grade school while celebrating a significant birthday.

1991

Danny Vega shares examples of his



professional work in an impromptu visit to one of the CCC photography classes last fall. Having gotten his start in the field in this same course, he emphasized the continued importance of the wet darkroom in professional training.

1996

Liberty Del Rosario serves on the athletic staff at Eastern Michigan University, reported by her former basketball coach Mike Puky.



1999

Anthony Bien welcomes **Jayce Bailey '06** to the teaching staff. In social studies and math departments respectively, these Ironmen augment the growing number of alumni who serve on faculty and office staff positions.

Thirty-six years after his last turn on a Cleveland Central Catholic stage (as Professor Harold Hill in *The Music Man*), *Saturday Night Live* and Practical Theatre Company veteran **Paul Barrosse '76** and his very funny wife Victoria will be performing their hit improvisational comedy revue "The Vic & Paul Show" from July 12-15 at The 14th Street Theatre in Cleveland's Playhouse Square. The *Chicago Tribune* calls Paul's classic show "Old school sketch comedy done right" – so go to the Cleveland Playhouse Square website to purchase tickets for an unforgettable evening that Vic & Paul call "An Evening of Comedy, Music, Marriage and Martinis."

The Vic & Paul Show

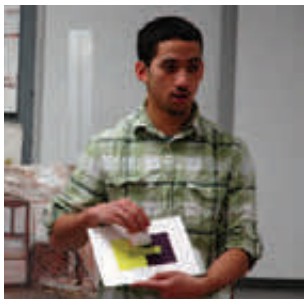


2004

Rachel Ritenour-Bartley began a position as program services specialist with Girl Scouts of Western Ohio in February 2012.

2008

Emmanuel Kiddola studies at Tri-C and stopped in to get free advice and assistance from his former art teachers before Christmas. While at CCC, he had an extended conversation in Swahili with **Jacques Butoyi '13**, who was thrilled to chat in one of his native African languages.



William Vazquez '08 shares insights with art

classes in January, during his final year of industrial design at the Cleveland Institute of Art. Each winter during his term at CIA, Will has spent a week assisting and inspiring Central Catholic's art students.

2011



Nathan Bryson enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and completed boot camp. He is going to North Carolina for MCT, then job school for motor transportation. During a recent visit home, he describes boot camp as "a life-changing event"

that he will never forget. In April Nathan saw classmate Billy Pecek and all of the staff at CCC.

Dana Barnes participated in Ohio State's BuckeyeThon, a 12-hour dance marathon in late February at the Ohio Union Archie M. Griffin Ballroom. Along with the event to help kids fighting cancer at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Dana spent all year raising money for this cause.

Marcel Philpotts visited his alma mater during the school year. He looks forward to becoming a firefighter and personal trainer, beginning studies this year at Tri-C.

In Memoriam

Judy Benda Houska '61 passed away at home in Athens, OH in October after a courageous battle with cancer. She is survived by husband Harry, daughters, and grandson; sister, **Janice '66 OLL (Walter '65 OLL)** Romansky and brother, Carl (Jeanette) Benda. Her service to education was recognized through honors such as Outstanding Science Teacher, National Science Teacher and being a Jennings Scholar. Judy was instrumental in establishing the Southeastern Ohio Breast Cancer Survivor Network.

Ken Uhler '65, OLL entered into rest on April 22. After graduating from Lourdes, Ken served in the U.S. Navy. He spent most of his career as a buyer for Mr. Coffee and TRW. Ken's uncle Carl Uhler was the first Athletic Director at OLL. Ken is lovingly remembered by fiancé Anita M. Buhaley '65 OLL, many Our Lady of Lourdes classmates, and family.

Dennis J. Hospodar '66 OLL entered eternal life on May 2. He is survived by Marc (fiancee Sherry) and Deanna Marincek (Frank) and grandchildren Matthew, Michael and Julie. Many classmates recalled his company at socials and reunions, where Hos enjoyed reminiscing about high school days.

Timothy M. Pruchnicki '67 OLL passed away suddenly in January. He is lovingly remembered by his wife, **Christine Kaminski Pruchnicki**, children and grandchildren. His sibs attended OLL as well: **Robert '64** and **Monica '69**.

Upcoming Reunions

HOLD YOUR REUNION AT THE SCHOOL:

Let it coincide with a school event. Your reunions don't have to be expensive extravaganzas. Let us help you organize and get your group going. Contact the Alumni Office at 216-441-4700, ext. 261.

Class of 1963 – Lourdes

50th Class reunion planned for the weekend of August 9, 2013. A weekend of activities include Saturday mass, school tour, followed by dinner. Please contact Joan Miano (Zvolensky) at 419-798-4397 joanemiano@yahoo.com or Janice Evans (Sindelar) at 440-227-3264 cevans5420@windstream.net if you are interested.

65th Birthday Party for the Class of 1965.

Mavis Winkles Restaurant on Rockside Road September 15, 2012 6-10 pm Private Room. Limited menu (four choices) around \$25 per person. Individual checks. A formal invitation will be mailed in June. If you have any questions email wjrs@yahoo.com or call 440 263-2250.

Class of 1972

40th Class reunion planned for the weekend of October 12, 2012. The Friday night get-together will be followed by a reunion held at Toscana Party Center. Please contact Marguerite (Timko) Gudat at (216) 883-2541 or email at elaughinglady@gmail.com or marge.gudat@gmail.com. Announcement post-cards being

mailed to alumni by June 1, 2012. If you do not receive a post-card, please contact Marguerite ASAP.

Class of 1982

SAVE THE DATE! Join classmates on August 4, 2012 at Toscana Party Center, starting at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$40/per person. For more information, contact Cindi at 216-937-5137. For more details, including payment information, check out www.central-catholics.org, click on News under the Alumni tab.

ATTENTION EVERYONE: I am creating a '82 SOUVENIR BOOK. If you would like to purchase a page to advertise your COMPANY or give a SHOUT OUT to the Class of '82 on our 30-year reunion, contact Cyndi Carswell immediately. (216) 937-5137.

Class of 1997

A 15-year reunion is being planned for July 21, 2012. Please email Kelly Wamser (Gordon) at gordonkellya@gmail.com if interested so that we can start looking for accommodations and pricing. Looking forward to hearing from you!



Cleveland Central Catholic High School

6550 Baxter Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44105

216-441-4700
www.centralcatholicshs.org

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Calendar of Events

Saturday, June 9

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – lunch included
Registration time: 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
6th, 7th and 8th graders
For further information contact Coach Lundy at 216-441-4700, x266 or email jlundy@centralcatholicshs.org.

YOUTH FOOTBALL CAMP

CCCHS Stefansky Stadium

Saturday, June 9

(Information on page 25)

CCC GOLF OUTING

Valleaire Golf Course, Hinckley, Ohio

Saturday, July 14

5:00 to 7:00 pm

CLEVELAND CENTRAL CATHOLIC RECOGNITION AWARDS DINNER

Home Games

(all home games begin at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday)

September 1 vs. Euclid High School

September 15 vs. Gilmour Academy

September 22 vs. Benedictine High School

October 6 vs. Saint Peter Chanel High School

October 27 vs. Warren John F. Kennedy High School

VARSITY FOOTBALL

Save the Date

Saturday, September 1
11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WELCOME BACK DAY

HOME OF THE IRONMEN

