



From the **Director**  
By Ann Comstock, Oblate

*"We'll always come to thee again,  
when Alma Mater calls"*



As we near the end of 2019, I would like to share with you why this was a good year for us.

We currently have 2,917 alums on our mailing list with which we share information and invitations to various events. Even as our list of SBA alumnae who have passed into eternity grows, the Alumnae Association remains strong with members who are alive and well and want to attend our many events that support the Benedictine Sisters of Erie and their many ministries.

Three new members have been added to the SBA Alumnae Executive Board and we chose a new board president. These are the SBA Alumnae Executive Board members: Darlene Kerstetter, President, Katie Young, Sue Chase, Valerie Purzycki, Cheryl Zinglewicz, Sue Zill, Sheila Warner, Rosanne Loneck OSB, Mary Ellen Plumb OSB, and Ann Comstock.

We initiated SBA Bingos at the Polish Falcons Club in Erie this year. The success of this new social event made it possible for us to increase the number of our Catholic Schools \$250 Scholarships from 20 to 25.

We have encouraged alums attending the Christmas Party to bring a non-alum guest or two because attendance has decreased in each of the last five years. Why not share a good time with friends and family? It is our largest fundraiser of the year and always an outstanding event. Increasing attendance allows us to maintain our financial commitment to the Benedictine Sisters and their ministries and provide for Alumnae Association expenses.

To all who have helped our Alumnae organization to remain alive and well this past year, a big THANK YOU.

Count your blessings, sing your Christmas carols, open your gifts, and make a wish under the Christmas tree. May you have a Merry Christmas!



## Save these 2020 BINGO Dates

**January 12, March 22, July 12, September 20, November 8**

Polish Falcons, 431 East 3rd Street, Erie

Doors open at noon.

Come with your friends and have some fun!



**Notice of Cancellation:** We are sorry to announce that due to scheduling difficulties we will not be holding a Spring Luncheon in 2020. We will resume the Spring Luncheon in 2021.

### PLEASE NOTE:

Attention anyone who attended St. Benedict Academy between the years 1983 to 1988. If you are interested in a 1987 or 1988 Yearbook, a limited number of these books are available. Please contact Sr. Rosanne Loneck at 899-0614 or srrosanne@mtstbenedict.org. Arrangements can be made to pick up the yearbook at Mount St. Benedict Monastery (6101 East Lake Road) or St. Benedict Education Center, formerly St. Benedict Academy (330 East 10<sup>th</sup> Street).

## Let us pray...

For our SBA alumnae who passed into eternity—

Lucille M. Gorny Murawski .....	41
Patricia Josephine Grugin Smith .....	42
Rose Mary Hess Kozirowski .....	44
Frances Grygo Somolani .....	47
Irene Hedwig Helminski Mizikowski .....	48
Patricia Forrester Trejchel .....	50
Rita A. Cote Burick .....	51
Carolyn Gutowski DiMattio .....	53
Marian Louise Hershelman Lafferty .....	53
Audrey Ferrick Thomas .....	54
Sister Justina Gutowski .....	56
Mary Ann Minno Abramczyk .....	57
Joan Jendrasiak Grzybowski .....	58
Roberta C. Roach Rose .....	58
Caroline A. Mattis Swanson .....	58
Nancy Jean Weiser .....	58
Geraldine Dombrowski Marshall .....	59
Carolyn E. Osinski Mikołajczyk .....	59
Mary Patricia McCallion Helsel .....	63
Rita A. Kennerknecht .....	64
Mary B. Shauberger Fiolek .....	65
Patricia Lorence Paparelli Guthrie .....	67
Patricia Bowden Hazlett .....	68
Rita A. Przepierski .....	68
Kathleen M. Kowalski Herman .....	82
Theresa Margaret Guzowski Ignasiak .....	

# CLASS REUNIONS

This phrase from our school song: "...with friends we never can forget..." explains why so many classes hold reunions every five years. Alums are proud of their Class, and it is important for them to identify with their classmates and regularly renew their ties with those friends they never can forget. Whether it is 30, 40, 50 or, in my case, 55 years since graduating, our classmates are friends we never can forget.

## Class of 1955 Reunion

SBA class of 1955 celebrated their 64<sup>th</sup> class reunion on September 15 at the Colony Inn and Pub. Nineteen classmates from an original class of 94 attended and shared a lot of chatter and memories. The unanimous report: "We all look pretty good and it was wonderful to get together even though we missed the out of town gals who can no longer make the trip," from Barb Mattis, '



## Class of 1964 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion

Twenty-seven members of the Class of 1964 met at the Colony Pub and Grill for their 55<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion. Stories from past and present were center stage along with memories of classmates no longer with us. Though we may have grown older, we can still giggle and laugh as we did 55 years ago! Plans were made to meet again at the Christmas Party and to not wait another five years to get together again.

## Class of 1967 Picnic

Members of the Class of '67 met at Glenwood Park for their annual picnic on August 14. A large group attended to celebrate the majority of "girls" entering another decade of their lives this past year, (not mentioning which one, but do the math!). Despite the aches, pains and health issues, they had their usual good time catching up and reminiscing. The highlight was a loud rendition of the SBA school song, caught on video by Cindi Swoger Ruf, that would have made Sister Mary David very proud. It was especially nice to have a few new attendees who promised this event would be on their summer schedule next year. We look forward to our next year's picnic, Wednesday, August 12, 2020.





## Class of 1969 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion

Thirty-five girls attended the reunion at McGarrey's Oakwood Banquet Room which was decorated with pictures and memorabilia from our high school days and previous reunions. A Memorial Board recognized classmates who are no longer with us and we read emails from those who were unable to attend. Everyone received a personalized note caddy, SBA Alumnae Association letter opener and a Kevin John print of St. Benedict Academy. Besides a 50-50 and a wine/chocolate gift basket giveaway, we collected donations for our SBA Christmas Party basket.

We meet once a month at The Breakfast Place on East 38<sup>th</sup> and we also plan activities and outings that include the Presque Isle Casino, SBA Bingo, SBA Christmas Party and even bus trips. We'd love to keep in touch and keep your information updated - email Pat Causgrove Wheeler at [pwhels@gmail.com](mailto:pwhels@gmail.com) or Sue Lackovic Koprowski at [suzzymari@yahoo.com](mailto:suzzymari@yahoo.com) or call Pat Stull D'Annibale at 814-825-6790 or Kathy Anysz at 814-866-0802 with changes or additions.

## Class of 1979 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion

The Class of 1979 held their 40-year reunion on August 31 at the Plymouth Tavern in Erie, PA. Want proof that it was a great time? Just look at those smiling faces!



*"Spirit of SBA" is alive and well.*

## Keep in Touch...

We want to hear from you! Class reunions every five years are a tradition with SBA alumnae. We will gladly include information regarding your reunion on our website. Send us the facts and we'll post them as soon as we get them. Please provide us with any follow up stories and photos (digital, please) you might wish to share, and we will post them on our website ([ErieBenedictines.org/sba-alum](http://ErieBenedictines.org/sba-alum)). Call Ann Comstock at 814-899-0614 ext. 2573 or contact by email: [sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org](mailto:sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org).

## Please visit our Website

Visit [ErieBenedictines.org/sba-alum](http://ErieBenedictines.org/sba-alum) for event updates and to download sign-up forms, or send your email address to Alumnae Director Ann Comstock at [sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org](mailto:sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org) to receive electronic reminders and sign-ups. If you don't use email, write to Ann at Mount St. Benedict Monastery, 6101 East Lake Road, Erie, PA, 16511. Whenever you see or hear about SBA alumnae being honored or highlighted for their achievements, let us know. Clip an article or jot down the details then call, write or email us the information so we can share the news with all our members.