From the Director
“We’ll always come to thee again, when Alma Mater calls”

By Ann Comstock, Oblate

Save the Dates
Contact Ann Comstock at (814) 899-0614, ext. 2573 for details on these great events.

2018 SBA Fundraiser
Wednesday, June 27
(11:00 am – 10:00 pm)
Hoss’s Steak & Sea House
3302 West 26th St. • Erie, PA
No ticket needed. Mention SBA so the Association will receive credit.

Saturday, August 18, 2018
SBA Purse Bingo
(6:00 to 10:00 pm)
Harborcreek Social Hall
Harborcreek, PA

Tuesday, December 4, 2018
SBA Christmas Party
(6:00 to 9:00 pm)
Ambassador Conference Center
7794 Peach Street
Erie, PA

***We Need Your Help***

For the past two years, the Alumnae Association has been spending association money to create many of the Gift Baskets for the party. This cuts into the money we raise for the Benedictine ministry we are supporting. Please consider as a class, a group of alum friends, or as an individual making a donation for the Gift Baskets. Gift baskets, cash or gift cards and gift certificates will help. We greatly appreciate all the classes and individuals who have donated in the past and hope that you will be able to help this year. Please contact Ann Comstock at 899-0614 ext 2573 or at sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org if you wish to help. THANK YOU!

SBA ALUM SHARE THEIR MEMORIES

SBA has been one of the most important influences of my life. At SBA I learned that there were no restrictions on what I might choose to do with my life. There was no requirement to take one of the socially acceptable jobs: secretary, nurse, teacher, cosmetologist, etc. I was encouraged to explore the types of careers that appealed to me: commercial pilot, marine biologist, research scientist, stockbroker, etc. There were many possibilities out there that I didn’t know about or was afraid to try because of my female gender. This was a bit before the mid-sixties with Gloria Steinem and Betty Friedan. Being at SBA with the Benedictines encouraged me to spread my wings and fly. I could do anything. — Susan Mehalko Roehrl ’64

The sisters made a difference in so many ways but to this day I constantly refer to the World Religions class at SBA. Learning about other religions and belief systems in high school has been so important in understanding other cultural religious beliefs in today’s world. — Denise Bunce Garcia ’82

My mother graduated from St. Benedict Academy in 1928 and was pleased to have me follow in her footsteps. My four years at SBA were growing years for me, having arrived as a shy, anxious 9th grader. An atmosphere of nurture and acceptance provided by the Benedictine Sisters and lay teachers surrounded me and I welcomed all that was offered to me wholeheartedly. I am especially grateful for the commercial background I received: shorthand and typing provided me with a grasp of vocabulary, spelling, grammar, punctuation and writing-things that I used in my work as a legal secretary and in the publications sector, and that I continue to use every day. Many wonderful friendships were formed with girls who came from all parts of the city, friends I never can forget. Those four years are among the best of my life. — Judy Lynch Allison ’61
SBA ALUM SHARE THEIR MEMORIES

I was fortunate to have had the role model of Sister Mary David during my 4 years as a student at St. Benedict Academy. She was and still is an avid part of my daily routine as I am still influenced by the love of music that took root 60 years ago. She would be delighted with the fact that I do 3 singalongs monthly at local nursing home, sing in the Resurrection Choir at Church, and am also a part of the Symphonic Singer Group in Erie. Yes, she made a difference that I will always cherish and remember. Thank you, Sister Mary David (d. 2005). — Judy Pregler Gido ’56

The SBA community has made a difference in my life by allowing for me to share my time, talent and treasure with others. As a 1983 graduate we learned from the sisters to give back to the community and how the simplest things in our lives are often the most beautiful. I have embraced the SBA mission and made it a part of my everyday living. I currently volunteer at the Emmaus Soup Kitchen and sit on the Neighborhood Art House Marketing Committee. We come back to our roots at some point in our lives and commit to our Lord through small acts of kindness. I remember the many wonderful ways the sisters educated us as students. They prepared us for the world in a variety of ways. They helped to make us strong women with deep faith and a willingness to help others. Thirty four years later I remain in close contact with my classmates of 1983. We all have embarked upon the world sharing our gifts with others. Presently I am serving in my new role as the Executive Director of Mercy Center for Women. Their mission is helping women and children that have been victims of domestic violence. I credit the Benedictine Sisters for opening my eyes at age 15. We learn by example. The endless ways the sisters have helped the community to respect, work, pray and be instrumental people of God is an inspiration. — Jennie Buffalari Hagerty ’83

Four years and graduation from SBA were the basis of one of the most prolific and valuable formative parts of my life. The lessons learned in Sister Leonarda’s Bookkeeping class brought me several profitable positions while attending college classes in my early years of marriage. Sister Barbara Ann and Sister Mary Jude inspired my lifelong love of reading. Sister Teresita is responsible for my values as a citizen. Many of my fellow students became wonderful friends who are still close and part of my life today. But most of all my experiences at SBA helped to form and strengthen the faith that has seen me through the vagaries that befall everyone’s lives. I hope that in some small way I can live up to the SBA motto drawn from the Biblical description of “a valiant woman.” — Mary Jane Waldo Adamszek, ’60

I am grateful that my father was willing to pay for a parochial education. I am also grateful to all of the sisters that made it their mission to make sure his money was well spent. I enjoyed much academic success after graduating from SBA interwoven with a satisfying career. My retirement opened up new opportunities and now I am the parish nurse at St. James Church. — Sheila Warner, ’73 SBA

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). Call Ann Comstock at 814-899-0614 ext. 2573 or contact by email: sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org

Please visit our Website

Visit 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 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.
**REUNIONS**

Classes planning reunions next year are eligible to receive a $35 check to help defray mailing costs. Also provided will be an updated class list from our database as well as a set of labels. Please provide us with any information regarding your reunion that you would like posted on our website. We would also appreciate any follow-up stories and photos you might wish to share. All we ask is that you provide us with new or updated addresses for the database. It is one of the best ways we have to keep in touch with friends and classmates. Please contact Ann Comstock at 814-899-0614 ext. 2573 or sbaalum@mtstbenedict.org.

**Class of 1958**

The SBA Class of 1958 is planning a 60th Class Reunion on Saturday, September 1, 2018 at the Erie Yacht Club. An early dinner is planned. For further information, contact Dolly Kowalski Corsi at 814-453-3796. Watch your mail for further details.

**SBA Spring Luncheon**

The SBA Spring Luncheon was held on May 26. At the luncheon 20 scholarships of $250 were awarded to relatives of alumnae members who will be attending Catholic grade or high schools for the 2018-2019 school year. Scholarship checks will be sent directly to the schools prior to the opening of the school year.

**2018 Scholarship Winners**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Alumnae Member</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethan Taraski</td>
<td>Judith Burke</td>
<td>Grandson</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isabella Bruni</td>
<td>Pat D’Annibale</td>
<td>Great Niece</td>
<td>St James School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evelyn Logan</td>
<td>Dorothy Abate</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>St Luke School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mario Corder</td>
<td>Carol Cannarozzi</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McKenzie Richardson</td>
<td>Katherine Ore</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Our Lady of Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molly Sawdey</td>
<td>Linda Milton</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Mercyhurst Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Fracassi</td>
<td>Marlene Squegia</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Mercyhurst Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bentley Vereb</td>
<td>Virginia Vereb</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Our Lady of Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ryan Sweny</td>
<td>Judy Walczak</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quinlan Cullen</td>
<td>Margie Tracy</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>St George School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isaac C. Mendes</td>
<td>Mary Dallas</td>
<td>Grandson</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Heidt</td>
<td>Joan Heidt</td>
<td>Grandson</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Slater</td>
<td>Arlene Slater</td>
<td>Grandson</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond Ferritto</td>
<td>Janet York</td>
<td>Great Niece</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madi Bamberger</td>
<td>Nikki Borgia</td>
<td>Grandson</td>
<td>Cathedral Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Padalino</td>
<td>Kathleen Polito</td>
<td>Daughters</td>
<td>Our Lady of Peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel &amp; Holly Ciotti</td>
<td>Jennifer Polito</td>
<td></td>
<td>Blessed Sacramento</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morgan Eastman</td>
<td>Mary Ida Eastman</td>
<td>Cousin</td>
<td>St Luke School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Applebee</td>
<td>Cindy Tabolt</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>Mercyhurst Prep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gwendolyn M. Cerula</td>
<td>Pauline Kowalski</td>
<td>Granddaughter</td>
<td>St Gregory School</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Snoopy once said...**

“Everyone brings something special to the party”

We have **25,932** days of our lives to celebrate and that’s very special!

Join the Class of 1966 for a

**Sensational 70th Birthday Party**

**Friday, June 29, 2018**

6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Erie Yacht Club
1 Ravine Drive
Plentiful Hors D’Oeuvres
Sangria Punch
Cash Bar
$35 per person

Contact Mary Margaret Joswig at mezjoswig@aol.com to make last minute reservations.