

NDNU

Notre Dame de Namur University MAGAZINE | Spring 2010



inside:

Bonner Leaders
Program at NDNU

NDNU Students Answer The Call on *Call To Action Day*



Hats Off

2010 NDNU President's Gala



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with the

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**For more information and tickets, call (650) 508-3549
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Cover and Lower Photographs: Call To Action Day

More than 200 NDNU students, faculty, and staff spread out through San Mateo County for NDNU's day of community service on March 18. Student Affairs and the Dorothy Stang Center for Social Justice and Community Engagement organized opportunities for NDNU students, staff, and faculty to assist over 15 San Mateo organizations, and over 200 answered the call. Some volunteered outdoors, weeding and planting gardens, while others painted, peeled potatoes, served meals, and sorted food and clothing.



INSIDE

President's Message 4	Faculty Spotlight.. 12
Trustee Highlights 5	Class Notes 14
Feature: Bonner Leaders . 6	Alumni Profile 16
Alumni Profile 11	Alumni Events.....18

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Special thanks to all who contributed to this magazine.



Welcome to our spring issue of the NDNU Magazine. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees and friends of the University for making NDNU a stronger community in 2010.

Community is at the heart of the mission of NDNU. We instill in our students the desire to work for change and strive for social justice. This semester has seen a surge of community engagement, student activism, and leadership.

In this issue, you will witness members of the NDNU community going above and beyond to create change in their communities. In March over 200 members of NDNU joined together for Call to Action Day, and in April, we learned about sustainability during Earth Week.

You will meet our Bonner leaders, and an alumna who continues to spread the values of NDNU by using art therapy to help the homeless. As a community, we are accomplishing great things, and I invite you to see what we are doing, and join in.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith Maxwell Greig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judith Maxwell Greig, Ph.D.
President
Notre Dame De Namur University

Marie Batton '37

Marie Batton: From Real Estate to the Kindle, Still Ahead of the Curve!

When Marie Batton '37 became a member of the NDNU Board of Trustees in 2002, she renewed a connection that had first been forged nearly 80 years earlier. In 1923, six-year-old Marie was among the first students to enter Notre Dame Elementary at its new location in Belmont after it, along with the middle and high schools, had been transplanted from San Jose. Marie remained in the Notre Dame school community through her graduation from College of Notre Dame in 1937. Two years later, while working in her parents' restaurant, she met and married her first husband, Harold Balzer, the brother of a friend.

Today, in her early 90s, Marie still drives herself to work three days a week at W.F. Batton Management Company, a commercial real estate management company which she co-founded with her late husband Wilbert "Bill" Batton. Marie was one of the first female commercial real estate brokers, a profession she entered after the death of her first husband, to whom she was married for 30 years. It was her oldest son, David, who convinced her that she should do something with her life after her first husband's death. After searching for a



while, she found two areas that interested her, real estate and travel. She chose real estate, in part, because she could get the training she needed at two schools—Menlo College and College of San Mateo—that were just five minutes from her home. She worked in residential real estate for a while but found that by the time her boss had taken out his commission, "There wasn't much left for me." So she tried her hand at commercial real estate and 40 years later is still at it.

"Commercial real estate was different because I got to work one-on-one with people and helped them figure out what they wanted to do," she recalls.

It was through her work that she met Bill Batton, when she sold him two parcels of land and later, a third, land that ultimately became part of the Marriott Industrial Park. In 2000, two years after Bill's death, she established the W.F. and Marie A. Batton Foundation, and the following year, the foundation established an endowed scholarship at NDNU. She has also been a major donor to the President's Gala, NDNU's premier fundraising event. Today, besides working three days a week, Marie enjoys painting, gardening, needlepoint and reading books on her Amazon Kindle. She's still ahead of the curve.

NDNU Welcomes Four New Trustees

Notre Dame de Namur University recently announced the election of four business and community leaders to the NDNU Board of Trustees.

"All of the new Board members have been active contributors to NDNU and the local community for years and I personally look forward to working with them in their new capacity as Trustees", said President Greig.



Charles Lynch of Atherton, CA



Joseph J. Heinen '78 of San Francisco, CA



Chester Fisher of Redwood City, CA



James McGovern of Belmont, CA.

THE BONNER LEADERS PROGRAM AT NDNU

The Bonner Leaders Program was started at NDNU in 2007 as a project of the Dorothy Stang Center for Social Justice and Community Engagement.

The program is funded by The Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, whose mission is “to improve the lives of individuals and communities by helping meet the basic needs of nutrition and educational opportunity.” NDNU’s Bonner Leaders Program is one of more than 80 programs on campuses across the nation supporting and mentoring its students into informed leaders and activists.

The Bonner Leaders are college and university students with a history of, and passion for, engaging with their community, and, as the NDNU Bonners strongly assert, who want an outlet to develop and implement those passions. Each works with a community organization, and each is expected to develop leadership skills and eventually organize other students on campus to participate in community or university projects.

Eli Latimerlo, who co-directs the Dorothy Stang Center, along with sociology professor Cheryl Joseph, heads the Bonner Leaders Program at NDNU. “NDNU’s Bonner Leaders are engaging with their community with the goal of becoming informed social activists. Each of them is working to better understand what they can do to manifest equality, while facilitating outcomes that are centered in the common good,” says Latimerlo. “Each of the Bonner Leaders has demonstrated a commitment to the values that we hold dear at NDNU. They reflect much of what we at NDNU are all about.”

LEARNING Bonner Love



NDNU Magazine sent staff writers Claire Karoly and Kaylee Nichols to meet with the current Bonner Leaders, to learn how the program has impacted their lives.

When you walk into the Dorothy Stang Center, situated in a little apartment on campus, you immediately get the sense that you've come home. An aura of calm fills the air, and yet, you know that exciting things are happening in here every day. As we prepared to pick the brains of the six Bonner Leaders sitting comfortably throughout the room, it was difficult not to observe that these were six very diverse individuals whom we'd never expect to see in the same room together.

But, as we learned in our conversation with them, they are united in their need and desire to engage with the world, and the thing that holds them together is something they call "Bonner Love." They all agree that Bonner Love is central to their experience, though its definition is sometimes elusive.

WHO ARE THE



Carrie-Ann Agag
Senior in Biology
Third Year Bonner (original recruit)
Community Organization:
Nesbit Elementary School



Kourosch Behnam
Senior in Political Science and History
First Year Bonner
Community Organization:
Shelter Network: First Step For Families



Mark Estigoy
Junior in Biochemistry
Second Year Bonner
Community Organization:
Shelter Network: First Step For Families

Each of the Bonners in the NDNU program (see sidebar about the Bonner program) takes responsibility for a specific project, usually in connection with a community partner such as Shelter Network. More importantly, each Bonner Leader is expected to do just that—lead—by getting other students on the NDNU campus involved either in their projects or in other community service projects.

“It means loving everybody no matter who you are and where you come from,” says junior Mel Go. Jesus Garcia, also a junior, adds, “It’s having respect for other people’s passions.” He explains that while each of the Bonners, as they call themselves, has his or her own projects and leadership styles, “Bonner love” means they show respect for the efforts of other

Bonners, even if it’s just by showing up at each other’s events.

Deja Kono, the senior Bonner intern, doesn’t like the terms “charity” and “doing service.” “Our focus is on community engagement, meaning we go back again and again and develop a relationship. It’s about getting involved and learning about your issue. It’s something you become a part of.” The leaders identify that change starts with each individual and emanates outward. The foundation is based on the importance of looking inward at each individual and discovering what is necessary to effect social change.

While our Bonner Leaders work to change others, we wondered if each had a moment that brought everything into focus for him or her. Bonners Mark Estigoy

and Carrie-Ann Agag work with children. “It’s great when you finally get a connection with the kids,” says Mark. “That’s when they start looking up to you.” Carrie-Ann had a moment with a particular student. “I have one student who would always talk back. I would always stay late with her and work on her math homework with her,” says Carrie-Ann. “Three weeks after I had been working with her she showed me that she got a 90 percent on her math test. She said, ‘Thank you.’ It was really heartfelt for me.”

Bonners even create change within their fellow leaders. “It’s interesting when you meet new people and know nothing about them, and then hear their stories and learn what drives them,” says Mel. “I love hearing why other Bonners do what

Bonners?



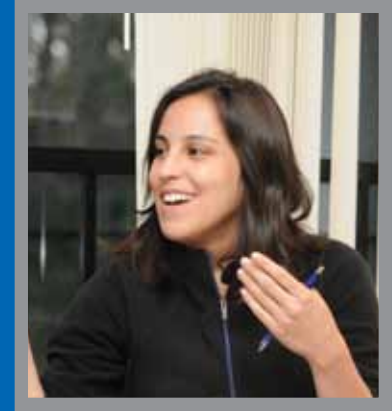
Jesus Garcia

Junior in Psychology
Second Year Bonner
Community Organizations:
Center for Independence of the
Disabled, Homeless Cat Network



Mel Go

Junior in Political Science,
Philosophy, and Religious
Studies
First Year Bonner
Community Organization:
Homeless Cat Network



Deja Kono

Senior in Biochemistry
Second Year Bonner
Bonner Senior Intern, DSC

they do. You can do all this stuff but it doesn't make a difference if you're the only one. That's what I love about the Bonner Program. It makes you stop and smile and say, 'Wow, I'm not the only one.'"

The Bonner Leaders Program is like a classroom outside of the classroom. The Bonners learn what are called the 5 Es: Expectation, Exploration, Experience, Example, and Excellence. This is the progressive framework for the students' ongoing growth as they move through the program. The goal is that by the time a Bonner has shown skill in each of these stages, he or she will have community engagement deeply ingrained in his or her being and doing.

Kourosh Behnam thinks they've

acquired real-life skills while in the program. "No offense to classrooms, but in the Bonner Program we've learned to interact, collaborate, and listen. You begin to understand what people are about." The Bonner Program gives these lessons new meaning. "In a classroom you can talk about poverty, but when you go work somewhere you become part of a family, and it affects you as well," says Jesus. Kourosh quips, "Yeah, like you can talk about poverty while you're in an air-conditioned room," to which Jesus replies, "Yeah, it doesn't have the same meaning or feeling, and that's something that the Bonner Program provides for you. We have all become very aware of what we do."

The key is not just saying, but doing.

"Congruency is something we learned," says Deja. "You have to walk what you talk. If you said you're going to commit, then commit. You learn that it impacts people if you don't show." It's in their commitments that they learn the greatest lessons. "When you read from a textbook, you're reading someone else's experience," says Carrie-Ann, "but the Bonner program is stepping out and making your own experiences."

In the end, it all boils down to Bonner Love, the Bonner Love that we sensed when we first walked into the tiny room and saw six very unique sets of eyes staring back at us. It's the love we heard as we listened to all of their stories, and the love that will enable six extraordinary students to change the world.

TOGETHER

NDNU has educated generation after generation of alumni and students to make a difference in the world, big or small.

Together, you and other NDNU alumni and friends have helped students walk through this campus and have provided them an education.

Together, we can provide the necessary tools and resources for our students.

Together, we can help provide an NDNU education for those with potential but not the financial resources to earn a degree.

Together, we can make a difference and invest in our students to become great citizens in our world. We can't think of a better investment, or a better story to tell.


Together, we can tell our stories, and keep the stories coming...

Giving Matters

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Rachel Brunson, Class of 2011
English Major, Piano Minor and
Basketball Athlete

MEET JOHN VELCAMP...



In today's difficult job market, recent college grads need all the help they can get, and John Velcamp '99 is just the man to give it to them. After 22 years as an executive recruiter, running his own company, Velcamp decided to spend his retirement years putting the job market savvy he'd acquired as a recruiter to use helping recent college graduates find jobs in a very tight market. So tight, he says, that "there are seven or eight applicants for every entry level job."

One of the newest members of the 1851 Club (see sidebar) and the Cunningham Heritage Society, Velcamp is no stranger to NDNU. He went back to school in his 50s to earn a master's in English at then College of Notre Dame because he "missed school," and has served on the advisory Board for the School of Business and Management. A former high school English teacher, he once taught English to San Quentin inmates as part of a training program sponsored by his employer.

As a recruiter, Velcamp worked for corporations to find executives for a multitude of high-level positions. In his new role he is working the other end of the spectrum, both in terms of the job market—working with job seekers not employers—and corporate hierarchy—entry-level, not high-paying executive positions. He works with recent grads on a one-on-one basis, teaching them networking and interviewing skills and helping them polish their resumes, in part by examining their skills, and activities and accomplishments as students and finding ways of translating those activities into skills that would be valued by potential employers. That could include anything: projects done as class assignments, a thesis for a capstone class, personal blogs, hobbies, school clubs and organizations, volunteer work, whatever showcases a grad's skills and interest.

Velcamp identifies three issues that hamper today's recent grad: "lack of preparation; the attitudes the kids have; and the market itself." The market, he says, has been getting tighter.

"In 2008, fifty percent of all graduates were able to get jobs; by 2009, only twenty percent were able to find work. The rest went home to live with their parents," he says, noting that this is an increasing trend for many under 35.

The attitude of today's grad is another hurdle. "This is the 'Me' generation. They feel highly entitled, special. They expect great things and they want significant work. They don't understand that sometimes you have to man the phones," he says.

But, he adds, the good news is that the young people he's worked with do get over that and learn how to succeed. It's part of growing up, which, in some ways, is tougher these days than ever before.

The 1851 Society

At the October 2009 Annual Fund Reception, Susan and Richard Roche announced the establishment of an exciting new society of donors. Named in honor of the founding of the College of Notre Dame in 1851, The 1851 Society is comprised of donors of \$1,000 or more to the annual fund. Members enjoy special privileges and entry into exclusive NDNU events. In late February, the 1851 Society celebrated its premiere with a wine and hors d'oeuvres reception in Ralston Hall on the opening night of "Chicago." Members have also enjoyed a tour of Oakland's Cathedral of Light, other opening night receptions and most recently, a lecture on The American Musical by renowned, nationally recognized expert, Joe Marchi. Many more outings, trips and events are planned. In its founding year, the Society boasts over 60 members. For more information, please contact Kaia Eakin at 650 508 3757 or KEakin@ndnu.edu.

Jacqueline Berger

NDNU's Unofficial Poet Laureate



MOST aspiring novelists try the traditional route of sending their manuscripts to literary agents and publishing houses, in hopes of being the lucky one out of thousands whose work is chosen. But poets have to take a more unique approach and make their own luck. That's exactly what Jacqueline Berger, Director of NDNU's Master of Arts in English program, does, and it's paid off. Berger's third book, *The Gift That Arrives Broken*, a collection of poems, was published this February after winning the Autumn House poetry prize in 2009.

In fact, all three of Berger's books, which include *The Mythologies of Danger* (1997) and *Things That Burn* (2005), were published after winning contests, and she advocates that path for other potential poets, specifically citing *Poets & Writers* magazine as a good resource. "If you're a big name, you have an agent and don't have to go through contests, but everyone else largely goes that route," she says. "It's a lottery, it's crazy, but that's what you do." Each contest season, she goes through those listed in the maga-

zine and enters every one for which her work is eligible. Most of them, she loses. "The notices come back: didn't win, didn't win, didn't win. So I do some revisions and just keep submitting, and hope that eventually something will hit."

Berger, who had been teaching at the community college level, was hired at NDNU soon after her first book, *The Mythologies of Danger*, was published and subsequently won the 1998 Bay Area Book

Reviewers Award. Now, as well as directing the MAE program, Berger is an assistant professor and director of the NDNU Writing Center. She teaches Advanced Writing, Creative Writing, and Community-Based Pedagogy, a class that pairs MAE students with mentor teachers in the local community colleges.

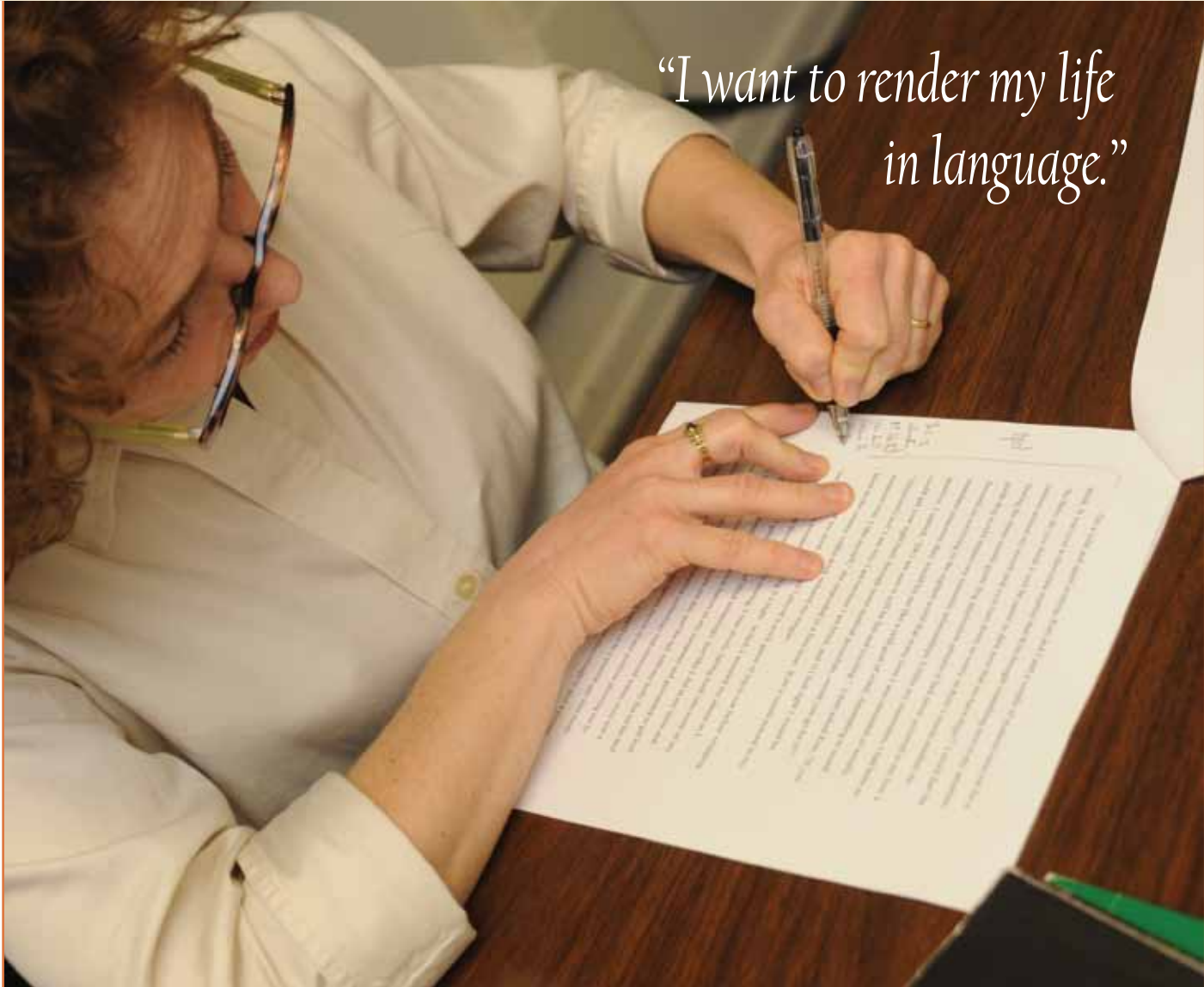
"There are so many things I love about working at Notre Dame," Berger says. "It's a small enough community that I can develop really close working relationships with students." One aspect she particularly loves, she says, is being a thesis reader for the MAE students. "I love the kind of in-depth work I can do with my students. That's a great pleasure."

Berger also enjoys the opportunity to work with a range of vastly different students. In the MAE program, she says, "there's a spread in terms of what people are getting the degree for." Many of the students aspire to be community college teachers and follow that route after graduation. Other students, she says, use the MAE for advancement within their own K-12 teaching, usually mid-

dle school or high school English Language Arts. Some people, though, are already well into their careers and are doing this for other reasons. "This semester I have at least two students who are established in the medical field," Berger says. "I doubt they're planning to drop their careers to become English teachers." She believes the MAE helps students like these, as well as all of the students in the program, to develop their own writing.

Berger's teaching isn't limited to NDNU by any means. She continues to teach in the community college system, and a few years ago, she taught literature and creative writing classes over two semesters at the San Mateo County Women's Correctional Facility in Redwood City. The classes were offered through a nonprofit program called Changing Lives Through Literature. "I have to say the women amazed me," she says. "They were completely open to writing about their lives, dedicated to doing their best work." At the end of each semester, Berger and the women put together a small collection of their writing. They called it *Bending the Bars*.

This project was especially enriching to Berger because she also writes about whatever is going on in her life at the time, in order to help her figure it out and understand it. In a sense, she says, the poems in her books are all concerned with "the only two themes there are to look at — desire and loss — just in different configurations." *The Gift That Arrives Broken* focuses a great deal on Berger's parents' illness and aging. The poems in her first collection, *The Mythologies of Danger*, written in her early thirties, she says, looked at the large questions of passion and comfort and making a



“I want to render my life
in language.”

life for herself, while *Things That Burn* dealt a lot with changing relationships in her life at the time. “I don’t write from a distance,” she explains. “I don’t write about childhood. I’m an impatient writer: it happens, boom, I write about it.”

When writing, Berger explains, she doesn’t set out to write a book. “I set out to write a poem,” she says. “Then a week later I write another poem. When I have enough, I put them together in a manuscript.” Berger says that while she is a narrative poet, she doesn’t want to be pegged as a purely narrative writer, that her “poetic impulse is largely issue-driven.” She really likes the story, but she writes into the story to get

into some sense of essential meaning, understanding. “And then, of course, language,” she adds. “I want to render my life in language.”

She is fortunate, she says, that the people in her life understand books, understand that she’s creating something, and enjoy being in her books. Jeffrey Erickson, whom Berger married in 2004, has a Ph.D. in English but gave up the academic life to become a tech writer. Berger appreciates that he is dedicated to writing and is a great reader of her writing. “Jeff is the ideal husband to have if you’re a poet. He really understands art and greater cause. He lets himself appear in the poems and understands that that’s how it is, that’s how it has to be.”

Berger gave her parents a copy of *The Gift That Arrives Broken* and was relieved to find that they didn’t feel overexposed or that she shouldn’t have written about them. There are the rare exceptions, of course. “There was one poem in the book about my mother’s refrigerator, and she was a little embarrassed about that.”

Well, even Jackie Berger can’t win ‘em all.

Creative Writers’ Series

Several times a year well-known local creative writers read from their work and discuss the art of writing.

For more info: www.ndnu.edu

We Want Your Class Notes

57

Clara Mossi Morrissey BA English has been a Fine Arts Museum docent for over 30 years and recently joined a team of Community Speakers who reach out into the community by giving presentations on various museum subjects, such as upcoming exhibitions or other subject matter relating to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco – deYoung – Legion of Honor.

60

Diane Lovegrove Bader, BA Music and Michelle Hogan, are looking forward to their golden anniversary

Keep your fellow alums up-to-date! Send your news to the Alumni Office, jjgianinni@ndnu.edu. Please include your name at graduation, your graduation year, your degree, and your phone number. You can also help us keep our records current by including your occupation and title, your work and home street addresses, and your work and home e-mail addresses.

luncheon on campus with many of their classmates, following Commencement ceremonies on the Koret Field in May. As is tradition, the 50th anniversary grads march in front of the Class of 2010 and take their place in the VIP section of the audience.

66

Patricia (Penhollow) Greenwood BA has long retired from teaching. She and husband James “Wes” are proud first-time grandparents of a baby boy. Charlie is the light of their lives, Patricia writes.

68

Barbara Southworth BA would like to share the arrival of her new grandson, Ryland Southworth, born February 1. Ryland’s parents - Dan and Erica Southworth - and big brother Tyler - are delighted to have a new addition to the family!

69

Christina Igoa BA hosted one of our upcoming Faculty Speaker Series at her home in Mill Valley. Professor Emerita of English Shirley Linden Morrison spoke on “Women and the Mosaics of Marriage.”

Campus Happenings



A barrage of rain and wind battered our campus in January, and it seemed that every day our surroundings looked a little bit different. One minute, the rumbling vocalizations of a music student echoed through the halls of Ralston Mansion, the next a wild crack, and the 200- to 300-year-old oak tree between the music department and Cuvilly was down. Within the next few weeks, the campus watched as some 50 trees were removed to prevent any accidents that could happen as additional storms struck. The removal shut down portions of campus, including Laxague Drive, for weeks. The storms cleared, the roads reopened, and while the campus felt naked without many of its iconic trees, it was a little bit safer.



NDNU is going up! – the elevator, that is. Workers installed a new elevator during the summer in St. Mary’s Hall as part of ongoing renovations and dedicated in March. These changes and additions were made possible by a \$1.5 million grant that NDNU received from the Kalmanovitz Foundation of California in December 2008. Construction conducted over summer 2009 included, in addition to the elevator, updating of classrooms and laboratories. The elevator is especially helpful in the transportation of lab supplies, which previously had to be lugged up and down stairs. Renovation will continue this summer.

70

Carol M. Pizzo BA English, MAT/Teaching '74 recently attended the wedding of classmate Elizabeth Sziebert '70. Fellow classmate Biagini Aquilina '70 was Sziebert's matron of honor. Carol is organizing her 40th Class Reunion this spring at NDNU's annual President's Gala on May 22. The event will be held on campus and more information can be found in this magazine and online: www.ndnu.edu/gala.

73

Jeanette (Stringham) Vonier BA Art writes: "After my graduation I began to work as a freelance artist. One of my first jobs was to illustrate the book *'DNA Replication'*. Later I worked on the book *'Genes and Genomes'*. Not only have I been dedicated to painting, but also I decided to contribute in the way of education to help anybody that needed to learn or improve their knowledge of the Castilian (Spanish) language. I think that education is the sure route towards progress in the search of peace and love for humanity. Among other things, I am working on the second edition of my book *'Castilian /Spanish Basic Grammatical Rules.'* As you see, my life has been going all those years in a very low key, but always as a secular Franciscan missionary, trying to leave small seeds of peace and kindness along my journey."

74

Denise (Abbot) Winkelstein BS has been working in Ralston Hall Mansion for the past eight years as one of the event coordinators and is thrilled to be on campus. Denise has six grandchildren!

Dennis Mills BS is Chief Human Resources Officer at San Ramon Regional Medical Center. Dennis has fond memories of Dr. Dorothy Stanford, retired professor. He writes: "For those of us in Economics and Business in the 70s she was our star professor, and a wonderful person."

82

Debra LaCour Bellow BA English updated us recently on her family. She and husband Dwayne have been married for 24 years. Son Justin is a graduate of Dominican University and is now attending

the LA Film School to further his education in cinema. Son Jordan attends Chapman University, daughter Noelle attends Loyola Marymount University and, last but not least, "baby" Nolan attends St. Catherine of Siena Parish School in Laguna Beach.

David Starr-Glass MBA writes from his home in Jerusalem, Israel: "I am an adjunct faculty member with the European Division of the University of Maryland College and had the honor of winning the Provost Award for Best Research in Online Education in May 2009. This was the first time that the award has been presented. The paper deals with instructor authenticity in creating a sense of community in online learning contexts." www.umuc.edu/distance/odell/ctla/starrglasspaper.pdf David is also an adjunct faculty member with the Center for International Programs of Empire State College, NY. Having been elected "Scholar Across the College," he will be able to conduct workshops throughout Europe in areas of international education.

83

Eleanor Janson BA and MAT '91 Religious Studies has recently published a book of poetry entitled *When Silence Speaks: Dreams of Sorrow, Visions of Joy*, co-authored with Joy Shieman and Professor Emerita Shirley Linden Morrison. As a financial aid officer at her alma mater, Eleanor realized the healing power of poetry when a beautiful but sad poem about a young man's dying mother landed on her desk one day. She has been writing and reviewing poems ever since. Her book is available on www.amazon.com.

84

Mike Callagy BA History, MPA '00 is currently the Deputy Chief of Police for the City of San Mateo, Support Services Division, and was recently accepted into the Naval Post Graduate School for Homeland Security and Defense. Congratulations to Mike for succeeding in the fiercely competitive application process and being awarded one of the few spaces available in this renowned national program. Mike met his wife Lisa while both were students at NDNU, and they are now the proud parents of 4 children. Mike

credits his experience at NDNU as changing his life in a positive way. "I never realized my potential until attending NDNU. Frankly, I would have been lost at a larger school." Mike is also active on several community boards and spends most of his free time coaching his kids in various sports.

89

Maki Nibayashi BA History covered her sixth Olympic Games this past Winter in Vancouver. Maki, who is an at-large member of the Alumni Board of Directors works with a Japanese newspaper as an interpreter, translator and coordinator for major sporting events like the Olympics. Her favorite Olympic moments were the torch relay and Shaun White doing the double McTwist!

90

Patricia Wooding BA Communication and Gail Barklow BA Communication are working on their 20 Year Class Reunion during Alumni Weekend, September 24-26. If you would like to become part of the planning committee, they would love to hear from you! The alumni office recently sent out a mailing to all known classmates, with a survey attached. If you have not received your copy yet, please email the alumni office: alumni@ndnu.edu or call (650) 508-3515 and we will be glad to help.

92

Alexander Agopovich BS Biology is planning the 2010 Alumni Student Leadership Reunion, to take place over Alumni Weekend – September 24-26. If you were a member of ASCND/ASNDNU, an RA or Club Officer, an Orientation Team member, from 1985 to present, please send an email to: LeadershipReunion2010@yahoo.com

Lee Sher BS Business Administration is married to **Jennifer Staveley '01 BS Business Psychology**, whom he met at NDNU! Jennifer and Lee have two children, Mia and Finnian (Finn). Lee works in the network security industry and Jennifer, after getting her doctorate, is a psychologist.

94

Pamela Ann Cronin BS Intensive

Human Services, MCP '96, recently published a chapter in a new book on aging, entitled *"Awakening to Aging: Glimpsing the Gifts of Aging,"* edited by Bay Area psychotherapists and educators Myrtle Heery, Ph.D. and Greg Richardson, Ph.D. According to the book's publishers, this work "puts the oftendreaded topic of aging in a refreshing, sometimes humorous light without softening the realities." Ms. Cronin is a licensed marriage and family therapist in private practice in Burlingame. After writing her master's thesis on "Life Satisfaction and the Aging Population," she developed a special interest in assisting those coping with grief, loss, death and dying. She continues to research, write, and develop ways for families to nurture mutually beneficial relationships with an awareness of the dying process.

Dale M. Weatherspoon BS Human Services writes: "After serving as pastor of the First United Methodist Church in downtown Redwood City, I am back in San Jose. The Bishop appointed me to Alum Rock United Methodist Church on San Jose's East Side. I continue my work in cultural competency and cultural intelligence by mentoring others and leading workshops."

95

Linda Garcia BA Psychology writes: "Fifteen years ago I graduated from CND as I began a new chapter in my life - working, single parent/college student. This spring I returned to the Ralston Hall Mansion to marry my best friend, Cary Hedman. (After graduating, I continued my education toward a master's degree and a new career with the San Mateo-Foster City School District as a school psychologist.) Cary and I met five years ago, after my youngest son graduated from SFSU. It was a wonderful experience to share the beauty and serenity of the Ralston Hall Mansion setting with our family and friends and to begin a new chapter in our lives together."

97

Tezra Cummins BS Business Marketing, MBA 01 writes: "I got married to my high school sweetheart, Gearailt Cummins, in July 1999. We recently had our 3rd son, Dylan Thomas.

A Conversation With.....Yvette Duarte '99

When Yvette Duarte received an MFT in Art Therapy from then College of Notre Dame in 1999, her plan was to use art therapy to help the mentally ill and homeless. She wanted to teach them how to express themselves and communicate in individual and group settings. She never imagined that one day the work she did with her clients would lead to an art show that would give them a chance to shine in the spotlight, and fill them – and her – with pride. She works as a clinician at Momentum for Mental Health in San Jose, where she supervises interns and signs off on case managers' paperwork as well as doing therapy. Her clients are chronically homeless, mentally ill, and sometimes incarcerated. A 1991 graduate of San Jose State with a B.A. in Clinical Psychology and a minor in Art History, Duarte has been married for 13 years to Alex Pearson, a park ranger supervisor for the City of San Jose.



Duarte in front of a watercolor done by one of her homeless clients.

You also work part-time at an organization called Inn Vision. What kind of program is it?

Inn Vision has two locations in San Jose. The Julian Street Inn site has about 70 male and female residents, referred from mental health providers, who are homeless and/or have mental disabilities. The Montgomery Street Inn site is a men's shelter. They have about 90 clients who live there, and, during the day, it's a drop-in site for people in the community, so that they can shower and get meals. I started an art therapy group at JSI that went well. At MSI it was a different story. They're not mental health clients and don't want to talk about mental health. People come in and out, and many of them are used to living on the street and want a lot of space, so I couldn't get any close, regular groups going. I decided to change tactics. Between mealtimes, when the cafeteria wasn't being used, the staff and I laid out huge pieces of butcher paper and paint on the tables, and allowed the residents and drop-ins to "express themselves." No pressure, no restrictions. I'd stop by a table periodically to give directives or offer encouragement. At first we'd have just one or two people, but it started to catch on. Core groups started coming, some homeless, some residents. All of a sudden each week, we had tons of butcher paper full.

How did the art show come about?

Some of the staff suggested we have an art show. My co-therapist, Chris Lum, reached out to the community and sent out a press release which the San Jose Mercury News got hold of. That's when we knew it was going to be big, and decided to make it special. We had it catered and got frames for the artwork. The clients totally started getting into it. For a little while, they got to be celebrities, to have the spotlight on them, even in the midst of dealing with these rough life situations. It was really exciting to watch. The first two winners were homeless people. They were all so proud.

There was an incident a few years ago involving a client of yours who was trying to commit suicide. Tell us about that.

She wasn't a client at the time although I had seen her once or twice. I was called to assist a crisis intervention officer who was dealing with a woman who was threatening to jump off a bridge over Highway 87. We spent several hours talking to her, trying to convince her to let us help her. We had to strike a very fine balance. We had to keep her engaged because when she got angry she fought to live, but we didn't want her so angry she'd do something drastic. Finally the officers were able to grab her and bring her in. I treated her for a couple of years after that and she completely turned her life around. She's clean, got her kids back and is in a relationship. Now she now works with CIC officers helping other people.

How did NDNU prepare you for your career?

It was the whole idea of the "cart and pony" show: do research and do presentations. I remember them telling me, "This is going to prepare you to do things out in the community, how to talk about art therapy and clients." Every course, whether development or sexuality or assessment, was paired with art therapy and working with clients. I got an idea of what it's like to go through the process and it helps to empathize. We had practice sessions in which we took turns being the client. It helped set the template for doing art therapy and the clinical piece. We had to be in the hot seat of getting assessments done and having people interpreting them. We practiced being both therapist and client, learning to think, "I need to know the client as a person." I learned never to assume and label. Putting the research together with presentations, the two together are amazing. It made me a better researcher, thinking clinically, and it helped me do presentations on what art therapy was about. The group experiences that I had helped me relate to and have compassion and empathy for the people I work with. It was just an awesome program.

Annie (Aossentjuk) Chmielewski BS Biology, MPA '00 recently organized a student-alumni mixer during Career Week here on campus. As President of the Alumni Board, Annie works to raise the profile of the Alumni Association amongst NDNU students, especially those who are about to become alums themselves. She also posts events and messages of interest to alumni on our Facebook page: NDNU (CND) Alumni. In addition, we now have over 1,000 members on our LinkedIn site: Notre Dame de Namur Alumni Association.

Mary (Nejat) Cravalho MA (LMFT): "After graduation I finished my internship for Suicide Prevention where I ran groups for survivors of suicide of a loved one, and counseled suicidal and at risk students in San Mateo County schools. I later held a staff position for both the Redwood City Youth Health Center where I worked with teenagers and their families and Healthy Homes, a domestic violence home visiting program for families with young children who have experienced domestic violence. I sat on the Human Resources Committee to merge the cultures of Youth and Family Assistance and Family and Community Enrichment Services, which now is Youth and Family Enrichment Services. Six years ago, I opened a private practice in downtown San Mateo. I serve children, teens, couples and families struggling with relationship problems; my passion is working with teenage girls. I served the San Mateo County Service League as a jail minister on Sundays, providing the incarcerated with Catholic Services. My husband Jamie and I had our third child, who is the grandchild of Jamie's mom Mary (Manast) Cravalho '54. I appreciate the great practical education I got at NDNU in the area of Marriage, Family and Child Counseling. I hold fond memories of my teacher, John Carr, who increased my interest in family systems therapy."

Rick Reed BS Human Services
"Since graduating, I've moved into Corporate Issue and Crisis Management at the Intel Corporation. I've also earned a Masters in Technology Management from Pepperdine University (2001), and another Masters in Psychology (with an

emphasis in media psychology) from Fielding Graduate University (2009) where I've just begun my dissertation for my PhD in Psychology (with the same emphasis)."

01

Jill Ferguson MA English, author and lecturer in Communications at NDNU, recently won first prize in the international Out of the Blue Films ENVY Contest at Red Ravine. The story behind Jill's poem, entitled "Like Paul," involves students and their parents that she has known through her work at the (San Francisco) Conservatory. Quoted in NDNU's Argonaut Newspaper, Jill wrote: "Most people think envy only poisons the person who is envious but they never stop to think about its effect on the object of the envy." You can read the poem at <http://redravine.wordpress.com/2009/10/01/like-paul>. Congratulations Jill!

Manuel Nungaray BS Business/ Finance, MBA 05 plans on participating in the annual AIDS/Life Cycle event this summer. It's a 7-day, 545-mile bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles that raises money and awareness for the HIV and AIDS services of the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. This marks the ninth year for AIDS/LifeCycle and the seventeenth for the event overall, and during the week of June 6-12, 2010, thousands of cyclists and volunteer roadies come together to do something incredible.

03

Erica Sunshine Lee BA Business/ Marketing just released her new Road To Recovery album, and is touring all over the USA. Sunshine is a Nashville Country Singer/Songwriter who is already back at work hitting Funhouse Studios in Nashville to work on her next album. Touring through Hawaii, California, Oregon, Georgia, Florida, New York, Texas, Connecticut, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and even internationally, this ray of Sunshine has no end in sight. Her new single "You Won't Get to Me" is quickly gaining radio play on the east and west coast, and everyone is becoming a fan of "Grandpa's Whiskey." NDNU classmates may remember Erica as "Sunshine," "Georgia Peach," "Belle," "GP," or

"Peaches," but anyone who knows her knows she wholeheartedly loves music. She is out sharing her music around the world, allowing others to see a glimpse into her life, or those who have inspired her. Through her songs, she hopes that people are not only able to relate, but also to "see that we all go through similar situations, it's just how we deal with them that separates us." Erica Sunshine Lee loves to travel around the world, singing, playing music, and living quite spontaneously. She says, "I have been tremendously blessed with my family and my amazing friends, and want to give as much as I can to show my gratefulness. As a musician, I have aspired to challenge myself with a variety of genres, including classic rock, country, R&B, blues, alternative, gospel and folk."

04

Eric Shapira MA Clinical Gerontology is a clinical gerontologist with Self-Aging Mentor Services Inc. based in Montara. Eric just published a book on health aging entitled *A New Wrinkle: What I have learned from older people who never act their age*. Eric writes that we can find a copy of the book in the NDNU library.

06

Claire Spencer MM Piano Pedagogy plans to host a "mini concert" at her home on June 6, between 2 and 4:30 p.m. Together with NDNU's Director of Piano Studies, Michael Schmitz '87, '88, Claire will present "The Meaning Behind the Music." For more information and RSVP, call (650) 508-4161, or email the alumni office: alumni@ndnu.edu.

08

David Littlefield reports that he got married in August of 2009 to the lovely Carmina Littlefield. "I am currently teaching preschool in a Young Fives program in Atherton, CA and have a soon-to-be-5-year-old daughter, Natalia.

In Memoriam

Carol S. Adler '89
Nancy J. Backstrom '88
Joseph and Nancy Ciatti
Ranulfo R. Costa
Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Darbey
Yolanda Grace Dean (Cataldi) '48
Helen R. Fannon (Barrett) '42
Margaret M. Franke
Frank and Agnes Gabriele
Dolores Goicoechea
Mia Goldstein-Shamia
June Grainger
Norma Grant (Maun) '57
Dorothy W. Harris '75
Mary E. Heitkamp (Stearns) '78
Melvin Henson
Helen Hogan '65
Ida Kattenburg
Sr. Ann Maureen King '29
Mr. and Mrs. Berchman La Cour, Sr.
Wayne Leonard
Tonya G. Lewis '92
Marie A. Light
Abe Maennle
Brian J. Maw '95
Thomas P. McCarthy '87
Beth McDonough
Helen McQuaid (Lemon) '28
Mary F. Michelony (Bartol) '73
June Morrall
Fr. Stanley Parmisano, O.P.
Grace Patterson
M. Joy Peters (Smith) '46
Winifred Quilty (Ooghe) '46
Linda Sharp '99
Adalyn G. Skogerson
Beverly Stancil
Richard T. Sullivan
Lola Louise Tanouye '95
Shirley M. Theis
Robert Thompson
Catherine C. Traeger '61

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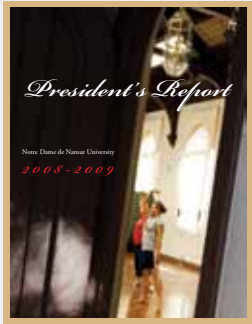
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CORRECTIONS: PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2008-2009

We regret that the following names were inadvertently excluded from the lists below.



The Cunningham Heritage Society, page 12

In the listing of all Cunningham Heritage Society members:
Richard '82 & Susan Roche.

2009 NDNU Gala, page 13

In the listing of all 2009 NDNU Gala Sponsors: Laura Lou & Raymond P. Tolles, II and Carla '70,'71,'73 & Robert Webster.

In the listing of all Silent & Live Auction and Raffle Donors:

Pacific Athletic Club, Peet's Coffee and Tea (Belmont Location), Peninsula Golf & Country Club, Pet Camp, Physicians' YOUthful Resolutions & Barbie J. Barrett, M.D., F.A.C.E.P, Piacere Restaurant, Pier 39, Theresa Plut '92, Richard '82 & Susan Roche, Sam's Chowder House, Yvonne Sangiacomo, Karen Schornstein '04, Silicon Valley Auto Group, Sodini's Restaurant, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, Claire '70,'75,'03,'06 & William Spencer, Sr. Jean Stoner, SNDdeN '66, Studio Kristen/Kristen McDonnell '00, Sr. Barbara Thiella, SNDdeN '64, Laura & Raymond P. Tolles II, Lisa '03 & Paul Tonelli, Trio Salon, Vivace Ristorante/Mr. Mike Gunn, Carla '70,'71,'73 & Robert Webster, Westin Hotel, San Francisco Airport, Westin St. Francis, Lois White '00, Denise '74 & Charles Winklestein, and Emily Wu '83.

Endowed Scholarships, page 14

Mary N. DeMartini Endowed Scholarship is the correct fund name.

Omission: Kathleen '55 and Mark Sullivan Endowed Scholarship in memory of Lisa Sullivan.

Honor Roll, page 16

In the Honor Roll list of names: Frank Wentholt, who should have been listed as a Benefactor donor giving at \$10,000.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude for your support to our students, faculty, and staff.



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