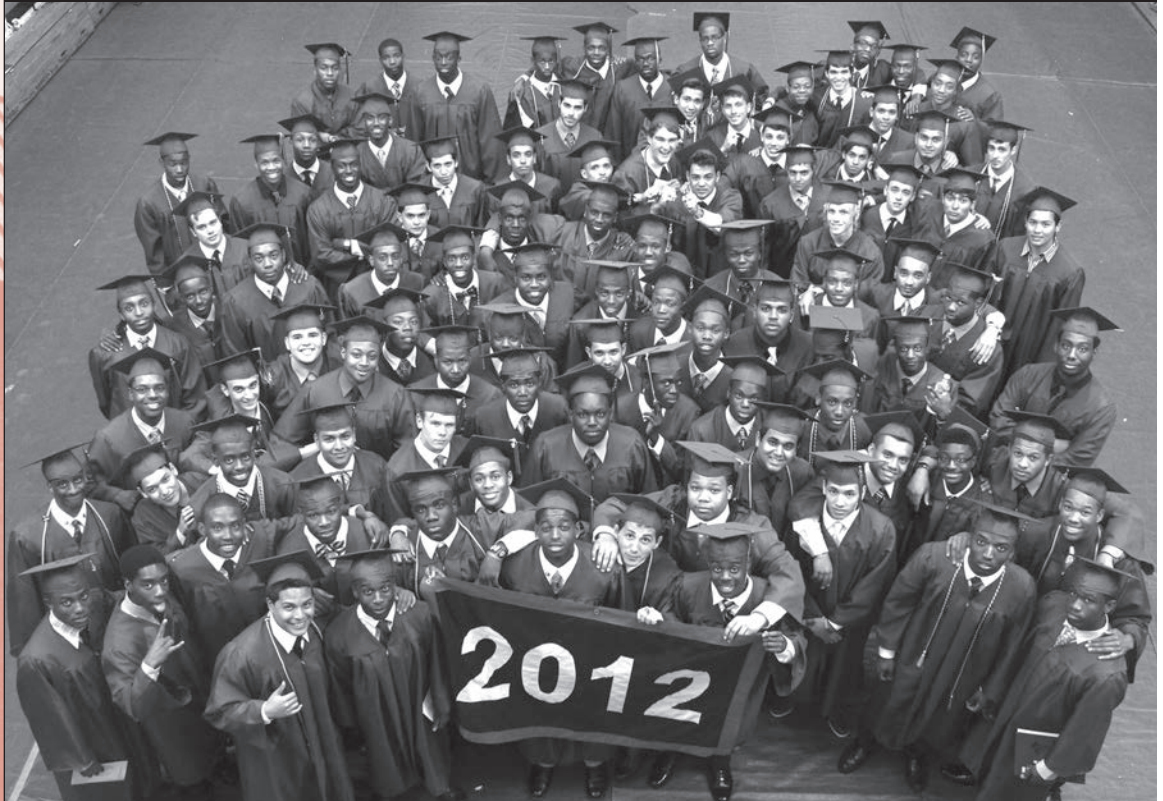


St. Benedict's Prep

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2012



Graduates Celebrate St. Benedict's

St. Benedict's Prep 138th Commencement exercises Sunday, June 3 featured an array of speakers who reflected the many talents that the school has become renowned for nurturing and the loyalty and support the graduates have for the school and each other.

Senior Group Leader Akeem Miller'12 spoke last as is the Benedict's tradition and thanked his classmates for all their help before telling them, "You have become my friends, my brothers and my family." This year, co-valedictorians Tom Bull'12 and Elliott McFarland'12 highlighted their somewhat unusual routes to St. Benedict's in their talks. Tom, a transfer from suburban New Jersey, became the starting goalkeeper for two years on the nationally recog-

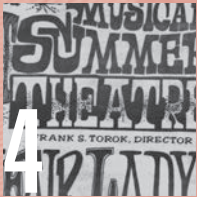
nized soccer team which earned its seventh National Championship this year. He told his classmates, "What we received here at St. Benedict's is truly special. I'm blessed to look at all of you and call you my brothers."

Elliott eloquently recapped his journey from rural Georgia to Newark's Central Ward. Of his subsequent stellar career at St. Benedict's, he added, "I've always said that I grew up in Georgia, but it's actually here at St. Benedict's that I became a man." He said Benedict's has taught him never to quit. "I know it's going to be difficult in college. But it's been difficult here some of the time and I really think this has prepared me mentally - and academically."

continued on page 5



3
DINNER HONORS
LONGTIME
COMMITMENT



4
DRAMA GUILD
50TH REUNION



8
CLASS OF '62
REUNION



12
THE NEW YORK
NETWORKING
EVENT

Notes



We wrapped up an unusually fine school year in great style at graduation on June 3. The 105 seniors receiving diplomas were joined by numerous representatives of the 50th and 25th reunion classes, who received special anniversary diplomas. I am especially proud of our graduating seniors who distinguished themselves with fine leadership in academics, in activities, and in the demanding day to day roles they serve in our group system. A measure of their wide-ranging accomplish-

ments is their strong college admissions results: 95% will go on to such colleges as Amherst, Bates, Boston College, Fairfield, Georgetown, Holy Cross, Johns Hopkins, Rensselaer, Swarthmore and United States Naval Academy along with Rutgers, St. Peter's and other New Jersey schools.

I am hard-pressed to remember another year when our sports teams enjoyed such notable success. Our soccer team in its second year under Jim Wandling '92 as head coach, attained the #1 national ranking, the seventh time our soccer teams have received that rank. Our track teams won major championships in all three seasons of competition and set several significant records. Nearly everyone we encountered, no matter where we were, knew of our distance running star, Edward Cheserek, who had a year of stunning victories from cross-country season through outdoor track. Our basketball team returned to prominence under new head coach Mark Taylor. And, thanks to persistent and determined prodding and focus, we set our first-ever crew team on the water this spring. They achieved their first victory on the Passaic, defeating novice-8 teams from St. Peter's and Don Bosco.

Thanks to our faculty's dedicated and energetic work in the classroom and beyond, our students accomplished a range of diverse achievements, including publications, theater performances, and another impressive exhibition of the study of the history and culture of the Himalayas presented in a "culminating event" at the Newark Museum.

One of my most important tasks is to be thankful on behalf of all of us here each day, for the support we get from all our alumni and friends who are not physically here, but whose constant encouragement and generous help enable us to continue to offer our students such outstanding opportunities. Again, for another year of your sustaining help, we are so very grateful.

Edward D. Dechy, Sr.

SAVE THE DATE

13th Annual Monkfest – Sunday, Aug. 19

The family festival will offer ethnic foods provided by guests, along with music, prayer, games and tours of the monastery and St. Benedict's Prep. Festivities begin at 2 p.m. and end at 6 p.m. with Vespers. RSVP at 973-792-5800 ext. 5751

Golf Outing – Friday, Sept. 14

11 a.m. Check-In

Sea Oaks Golf Club, Little Egg Harbor Township
Sea Oaks, N.J. Contact Mary Hauck in the Advancement Office at mhauck@sbp.org or 973-792-5776.

Shore Reunion – Saturday, Sept. 22

12-3p.m.

The Essex & Sussex, 700 Ocean Ave, Spring Lake, N.J.
Contact Candace Bradsher in the Advancement Office at candaceb@sbp.org or 973 792 5752.

Class of '97 15th Reunion – Oct. 6-7

• **Saturday, Oct. 6, 7p.m.-10p.m.** –THE MAIN EVENT– food and drinks at 27 Mix, 27 Halsey Street, Newark
Costs: \$20/person for food only and \$35/person for food and a two-hour open bar

• **Sunday, Oct. 7, 1p.m.-4p.m.** – family time at SBP – tours, open gym and pizza

• **Sunday, Oct. 7, 4:30p.m. until** – catch a football game and dinner at one of the sports bars by the Prudential Center. If you can help, contact Didier Jean-Baptiste '86 (Mr. J) at 973-792-5747 or djeanbaptiste@sbp.org

Class of '72 40th Reunion – Saturday, Nov. 3

7p.m. at St. Benedict's Prep

<https://sites.google.com/site/stbenedictsclassof1972/>

Drama Guild 50th Reunion – Saturday, Nov. 17.

7p.m. at St. Benedict's Prep. Contact Mary Hauck in the Advancement Office at mhauck@sbp.org or 973-792-5776.

St. Benedict's Prep

NEWSLETTER

is published twice a year by the Advancement Office.

James Thompson, *Assistant Headmaster for Institutional Advancement and Alumni*

Paul Thornton '63, *Associate Headmaster*

Didier Jean-Baptiste '86, *Director of Annual Giving*

Noreen Connolly H'11, *Managing Editor*

Ron Jandoli, *Contributor*

Matt Kaelin '98, *Photographer*

Michael Scanlan H'97, *Photographer*

Visit Our Website

All of our current publications and lots of other news are posted on our website. Make sure you check in with us on Facebook, our most frequently updated site. And if you have not seen our monthly E-Buzz, let us know your email address. There are many ways to stay in touch!

ST. BENEDICT'S PREP NEWARK ABBEY

<http://www.sbp.org>

<http://www.newarkabbey.org>

How do I get my Good News to my classmates?

Please send your information for Class Notes to:

The SBP Alumni Office
520 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.
Newark, New Jersey 07102
973-792-5752
or by email at
graybee@sbp.org

Dinner Honors LONG TIME Commitment

Rev. Boniface Treanor, O.S.B. '47, Rev. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69, and Bernard Greene '73 have given the better part of their lives to St. Benedict's, while Nicholas Colangelo '62 has been an invaluable confidant/advisor to much of the counseling staff at St. Benedict's.

All four were honored before a packed house in Dalton Gymnasium on May 10 at the annual St. Benedict's Dinner. Fr. "Bon," who has worn many hats since stepping on the grounds of St. Benedict's in 1944 as a student, Fr. Mark, known affectionately as "Big Bee" for founding the Backpacking Project and Group System in the mid 1970s, and Nick Colangelo, the Chief Executive Officer of Clearbrook Treatment Centers in Pennsylvania, were awarded the prestigious Medal of St. Benedict's - the school's highest honor.

Mr. Greene, who in 2003, received the Medal of St. Benedict's, was again honored this year - this time for Distinguished Service. The former Benedict's student was hand-picked by Headmaster Fr. Edwin to come back to The Hive as an employee two years after the school reopened in 1973. Mr. Greene stuck around for another 37 years, not only as the Dean of Discipline and Assistant Headmaster, but as a counselor, father figure and confidant for thousands of students. He retired this past winter.

The dinner is the main fundraising event of the year and this year contributed more than \$208,000 to the Annual Fund.

Annual Fund – Thank You

You mailed checks, wired funds, called with credit card information, and navigated web pages to make your donations to the Annual Fund.

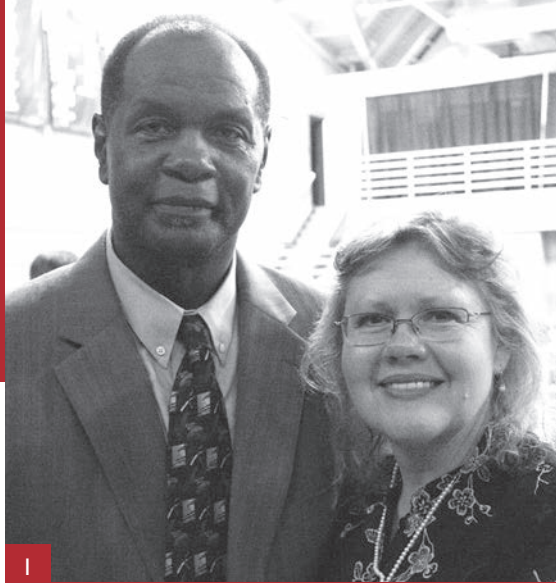
A preliminary look at our results indicates that all of your efforts have taken the Annual Fund beyond our \$4.2 million goal for fiscal year 2011-2012!

The class of 1962 kept the momentum of its reunion giving through its reunion weekend and beyond: by June 30 the class set a new record for 50th Reunion giving with a total of \$567,346.

Thank you to all of our alumni and friends for once again joining together to make our work possible!

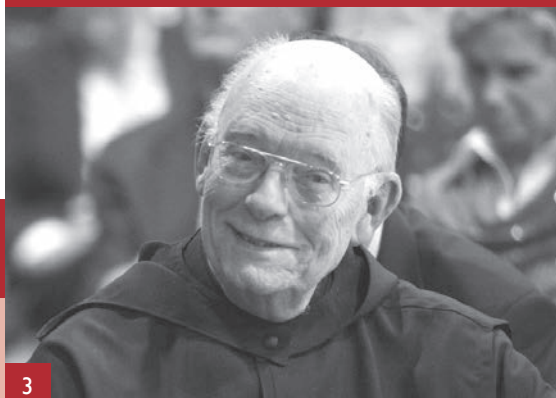
Didier Jean-Baptiste '86

Director of Annual Giving



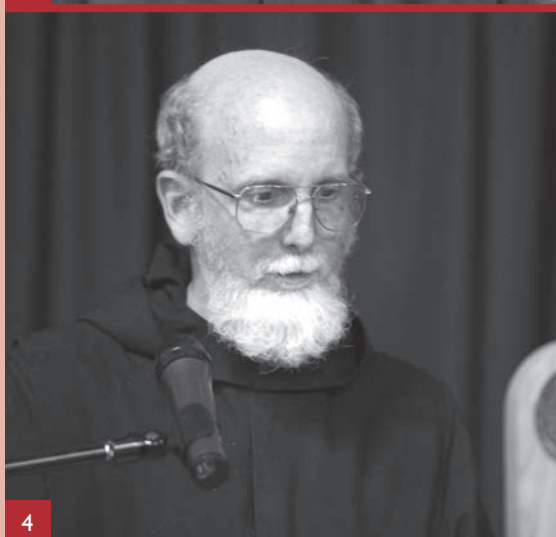
1. Bernard Greene '73 with Pat Flynn H'95.

2. Abbot Melvin Valvano, O.S.B. presents the Medal of St. Benedict's to Nicholas Colangelo.



3. Fr. Boniface Treanor, O.S.B. '47

4. Fr. Mark Payne, O.S.B. '69 receives the Medal of St. Benedict's from Fr. Edwin Leahy, O.S.B. '63



Drama Guild 50 Years to Celebrate

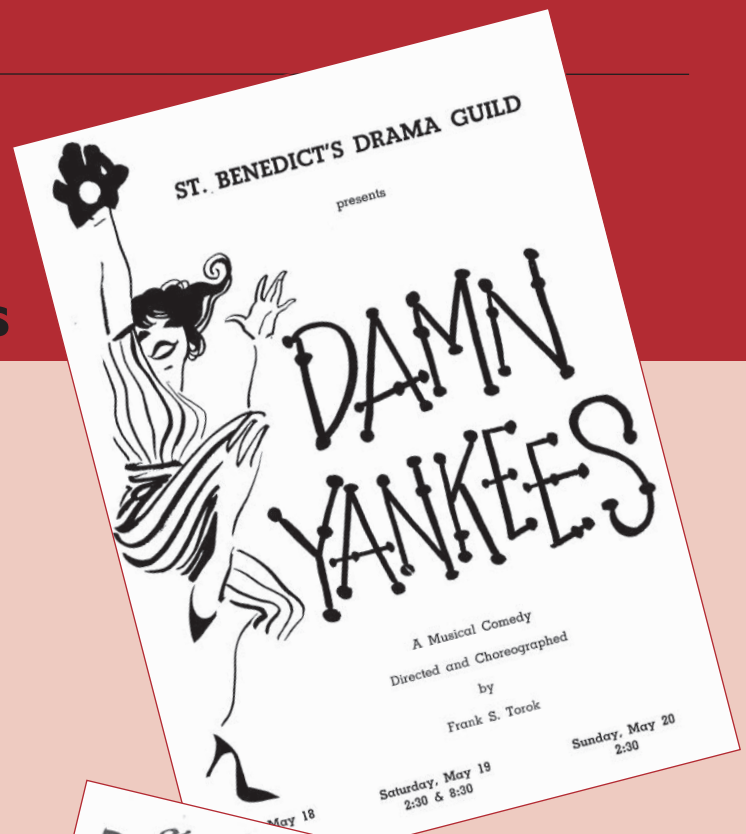
Do you remember a time when you spent more hours in the Conlin Auditorium than in your own home? If so, then save the date of Nov. 17, 2012, when present and former Drama Guild members will gather for a reunion to celebrate 50 years of theatrical productions, following a matinee of the Benedict's fall production.

Founding Director and Producer, Frank Torok has promised to come, which should entice all of you Summer Theatre folks from the '60s. Some of us gathered in 2009 for a memorable afternoon with Frank, and were treated to a slide show of the productions he directed here.

This time, we hope to have a hefty representation from all the periods of the Drama Guild - those who worked with Frank, Kevin Hanily, Jan Kelik, Michael Waldron, Br. Joshua and me.

There have been many changes since 1961 - but one thing I think all of us have in common is that we called Conlin home. So, if you know where Drama Guild alumni are hiding - reach out to them! We need help in tracking them down. And speaking not just as the director, but as a former actress here at the Hive, don't forget the ladies! If you are still in touch with any of the women who helped to make our productions possible, please spread the word. Don't miss out on this chance to reminisce, share outrageous theatre stories of triumph and disaster, and laugh with old friends. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Pat Flynn H'95



Drama Guild Director Frank Torok Rates Praise For Outstanding Work

A little over a year and a half ago, the hierarchy of St. Benedict's Prep selected Mr. Frank S. Torok of the Phoenix Theater in New York City, to head the institution's new extracurricular activity: a drama society. Mr. Torok joined the faculty in February of 1961, gathering around him in the next few weeks a group of dedicated students interested in the theater. They started out as a general theater group, with sessions devoted to acting, directing, and stage writing. Soon however, the group became known as the Drama Guild, devoted to the development of acting talent.

The young thespians, starting with almost nothing, and working with what tools they had, were able to present a one act play, "The Parade at Devil's Bridge." The applause that greeted the final curtain was an indication of the rollicking success that was due the Guild in its first half. Encouraged by their success among the students and a half, they were prompted to undertake their first Broadway play "No Time for Sergeants." The pleasantly surprised theater-going audience was more than just an- activities Broadway mta-

ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS

Giving Back through serving

For the second year, we were able to attract three young alumni just out of college to spend a year as volunteer “graduate assistants” with us. For Matthew Achariam '07, a 2011 Holy Cross graduate, it was a chance to offer a new elective, Asian Studies, to upperclassmen (he was a Chinese Language major) as well as to help Craig White '04 train the first-ever St. Benedict's crew team. Matt, like Craig, had taken up crew in college and relished the chance to help the team get started here. When he could, he also managed to help Noreen Connolly with her student journalists putting out the Benedict News.

Tim Hall '06, a new Caldwell College grad, divided his time between assisting with the counseling office and organizing the readings done in Group meetings as part of the Lectio Divina (spiritual reading) that has become a routine practice several days a week in group. As the year went on, Tim was also becoming acquainted with the monastic routine as he could in preparation for entering the novitiate for Newark Abbey this July.

Richard Molina '06, a Notre Dame grad, came expecting he would also provide meaningful service through the counseling program, which he did for the first part of the year, and then was drafted to be a key house parent and tutor in Leahy House. A former Senior Group Leader, Rich was also available as a mentor for this year's senior leadership core.

We are very grateful for their superb service.

Faculty and Staff Notes

- Fr. Maynard G. Nagengast, O.S.B. H'94, longtime head of the St. Benedict's Art Department, celebrated his Golden Jubilee of ordination with festive gatherings at Newark Abbey/St. Mary's Church and at St. Mark's in Sea Girt, where he has assisted on weekends for 39 years.
- English teacher and baseball coach Justin Ross and his wife Graciela welcomed their first child, Adelai Elise Ross, in March
- Josh Thompson, who worked in the Advancement office last year, is moving on from Washington D.C. where he was an assistant to De'Shawn Wright, Deputy Mayor of Education there for the last several months. He has been appointed as the Director of Youth and Education (Deputy Mayor) for the city of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Graduation continued from page 1

Ghiiehti Christian, a current Midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, who spent his internship at St. Benedict's during the Backpacking Project last year, gave the Commencement Address. Sounding like a Benedict's man himself – he told the graduates to “take advantage” of their education, to “keep the faith” and “maintain balance” as they head into the future.

The 105 graduates in the Class of 2012 were joined by members of the 50th reunion Class of 1962, who were awarded special Golden Anniversary Diplomas during Commencement, while the 25th Reunion Class of '87 was presented with its Silver Anniversary Diplomas.

Fiftieth Reunion celebrant, Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio '62, Ph.D., Bishop of Brooklyn, also spoke to the graduates, while a highlight of the Commencement Ceremony came when a special recognition was given to Henry F. Lubben '32, one of our oldest alumni, marking his 80th anniversary of graduation.



Henry Lubben '32

Henry was singled out for special recognition by his fellow alumni at the annual Senior Luncheon at the Breakers in Spring Lake. Thanks to his local alumni “chauffeur” from Glen Ridge, John Meehan '45, Henry, now 97, has made it to the luncheon in recent years.

In addition to his many years of service in the N.J. Department of Labor, Henry kept up a long avocation as a baseball umpire throughout the state, chiefly in Essex County, including both high school and college games and the Essex County League. Somehow he never umpired a St. Benedict's game.

Henry retired a year ago as a daily server at Mass at St. Thomas the Apostle in Bloomfield. He remains an active member of the local “ROMEOS” (Retired Old Men (who) Eat Out). He now assists at the regular Masses offered at St. Vincent Nursing Home in Cedar Grove, where he moved after a fall last September.

1945

Nick Salerno '45 wrote that his son, **Rear Admiral Brian M. Salerno '72** has been named the Deputy Commandant for Operations, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C. as of May 2010. He "oversees the strategic integration of operational missions and the optimization of policy development and mission execution consistent with the Service's national priorities."

1956

James R. Kelly '56 included this note with his generous annual donation: "I noticed that in 'Miracle on High Street,' Tom McCabe introduces Fr. Dunstan with 'the Duke' knocking down a 'string of seniors in the class of '56.' Tell me how many of our class are willing to admit they were so boring that Dunstan never even bothered to punch them?"

1959

Pete Prunkl '59 publishes a **Class of 1959** newsletter throughout the year and it can be found on the Benedict's website, www.sbp.org. Click Alumni, then click Publications on the left and click Class of 1959 Newsletter. There's lots there! Pete will publish your news and photos if you email or mail them to prunkl@fibrant.com or Pete Prunkl, 421 South Ellis St., Salisbury, N.C. 28144

1960

Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60 is looking forward to the September 2012 appearance of a revised edition of "Downtown Monks," originally published in 2000. The new edition, timed to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the

reopening of St. Benedict's Prep, will be published by Morehouse Publishers, who have published his three most recent books.

Charlie Villano '60 stopped by to drop off a bottle of fine wine and cheese as a treat for the monks in recognition of the Feast of St. Benedict.

1963

Bob Braun '63 was awarded first place in the Associated Press Managing Editors contest for his columns on the Haitian earthquake in January 2010. The award, presented in October 2010, came in the International Perspective category. Bob's articles were praised for "the personal tone in the heartbreaking stories he found."

1964

Mike Bertelli '64 recently exhibited four of his latest sculptures at the exhibit "Men of Art: Fathers, Brothers, Sons and Husbands" Art Exhibit at the Clifton Arts Center and Sculpture Park.

Brian Froelich '64 wrote "I have thrown my hat into the Democratic ring to run for US Congress in the New Jersey 4th District-most of Monmouth County and some of Ocean and Mercer.

"The District is currently represented by US Congressman Chris Smith (R). He has been in congress for 32 years and has been elected (or re-elected) 16 times. The odds of beating such an incumbent are astronomical. (Which may explain why almost no one else is running!) BUT, people are not happy with Congress and, because of the redistricting resulting from the last census, he is now competing in a much differ-

ent geographical area- more of Monmouth County and less of Ocean and Mercer. So he has to introduce himself to a lot of new people."

The Dameron Hospital in Stockton, California has presented the 2011 Heart of Gold Award to **William R. "Bill" Trezza '64**. The award is a special recognition to individuals who have served Dameron Hospital through philanthropic acts and gifts. Bill is past president of the hospital's foundation and now serves on the Dameron Association Board of Directors

Jay Cawley '69 and **Jack Baurerle '69** send class notes from their Class of '69 newsletter. **Mike Kelly** recently retired after a long and successful career as the editor for a large number of community newspapers throughout North and Central New Jersey. **Ron Felber's** book "Il Dottore: The Double Life of a Mafia Doctor" has been made into a new Fox TV series called "The Mob Doctor" premiering this Fall. He has also written a new book series, "The Jack Madson" with the first edition to be published in April 2013. The series is based on a fictional character who attended St. Benedict's Prep. **Gerry Tobin Esq.** is practicing law in New York City. He lives in Cranford with his wife and kids.

1970

Daniel Quinn '70 remains active in the arts community and his 30 years Off-Broadway and beyond was celebrated with ArtsPRunlimited's annual benefit in April 2012 at the Landmark Tavern in New York.

1972

Jose Luis Mosquera M.D. '72 is a leading figure in integrative healthcare, health promotion and prevention awareness to his community. His website, www.drmosquera.com features information on integrative medicine which he defines as "healing oriented medicine that takes account of the whole person - body, mind and spirit." He also serves as a medical and health expert with Univision Spanish Media, CNN and Consumer Reports in both Spanish and English.

1979

Marc Riley '79 teaches American history at the Hive and also runs a successful Karate program here and at the Stelton Dojo. At the recent 2012 Shorinjiryu Spring Regional Karate Tournament in Brooklyn his student, **Jean Lespinasse '08**, earned a 1st place in Shiai (Combat) and 3rd place in Kata (Forms) among Intermediate Adults.

1981

A few members of the **Class of 1981** got together at Loft 47 near the Prudential Center in Newark for an informal 30th reunion in December 2011. See photo below.

1982

The DiPianos-Mike Sr. H'82, Mike Jr. '95 and Frank '01 - are making their marks in the high school wrestling community, the sons now as coaches rather than wrestlers. Frank coached Nutley High School's wrestlers to their first Essex county Tournament championship in January and Mike Jr., is first-year coach at Demarest High School. The whole family participated in Nutley's annual Gift of Life dual matches in January. The Gift of Life Foundation matches are among Mike Sr.'s many efforts to bring awareness to organ donation - the gift of life.

1984

John "Century" Steeber '84 wrote: "Well you missed the BIG SBP EVENT. Something that has not taken place in 28 years!!! THAT'S RIGHT 28 YEARS!! What was it? WELL...It was the fact that Harold Burke Sivers and I were in the same room. LOCATION? PORTLAND OREGON. Applebee's to be exact. For more see each of our Facebook timelines circa October 2011."

1985

John Matthews '85 wrote that **Kevin O'Connor '86** of "This Old House has a new book about the show -



Todd Dickey, Alphonso Simon, Winston Murray, Wade Woodson, Fernard Williams, Peter Quick - all of the class of 1981.

"Best of This Old House," which, as of September 2011, was on the Boston Globe's best seller list

1986

Kevin Booker '86 is working on an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at Clark Atlanta University "literally right next door to Morehouse."

1989

Bill Lafond '89, formerly managing director of business development at Wilmington Trust's Family Wealth Group, has been named to head the company's Wealth Advisory business in the Washington D.C. and Richmond regions.

1992

Jim Wandling '92 announces the birth of his and Diana's fourth child and third daughter, Haley James Wandling on April 10, 2012. Brother Baden and sisters Mya and Gabriella are the proud siblings.

1993

A profile of **A.J. Calloway '93** was the cover story of the Spring 2012 issue of "Black Villages," a quarterly magazine focused on African-Americans in New Jersey. The introduction to the profile was, "NJ's own interviewer to the stars talks about his journey to higher learning."

1994

Rashied McCreary Ph.D. '94 was elected to the Newark Public Schools Advisory Board as part of the Education Matters Team. Rashied also teaches middle school history at Newark's Rise Academy, a TEAM School which is Kipp's New Jersey group of schools.

1995

John Ramos '95 wrote that he was hired to play in a movie, "Why I Don't Date." "I got the part.

Yepeeee! Now comes the work! My first movie. I'm psyched."

1996

Jeff Austin '96 and Pavithra Austin welcomed Eli Joseph Austin on Jan. 17, 2012. Eli weighed in at 8lbs 6oz. Jeff coaches fencing and is an IT assistant at the Hive.

Damian '96 and *Ima Richburg* welcomed *Dia Imayen Richburg* on Nov. 15, 2011. She was 7 lbs 12 oz, and is a very cute kid! The whole family is doing well. *Ima* teaches math at SBP.

Jose Lopez '96, assistant professor of physics at Seton Hall University, was named one of the "20 Brainiest People in New Jersey" by the *Star Ledger's* special magazine, "Inside New Jersey." Jose is a widely recognized international expert in plasma physics and especially the subfield of microplasmas.

Serge Negri '96 continues to DJ and produce music. In March, he and vocalist *Kendra Foster* released the underground house song "Step to Reality," which Serge produced, recorded and mixed.

1997

Jamiel Rollins '97 wrote that he and his wife recently welcomed their first child, *Jacie Lane Rollins*. "Unfortunately she will never be able to attend St. Benedict's, but I will tell her stories when she gets older," *Jamiel* said

1998

Poet and Assistant Professor in the Department of Literature at American University in Washington D.C. **Kyle Dargan '98** is the author of three collections of poetry, most recently "Logorrhea Dementia"

Jason Glasgow '98 presented the 3rd annual Gospel Poetry Jam, "Year of the Women," at St. Benedict's in December 2011.

1999

Dr. Torian Easterling '99 was featured on ABC Nightline in November 2011 for the medical work he has been doing in Liberia. Torian completed his residency at Mt. Sinai Medical Center in New York.

2000

Alexis Corchado '00 was one of the primary photographers for a fashion spread in the winter issue of a new iPad-only magazine "Citizen NY."

Tyris E. Henry III '00 has published his book, "My Midnight Therapist: Journal of Dreams & Case Studies."

Klemote McClean '00 and his mom spent a significant amount of time in Kenya and Tanzania in the fall of 2011, both taking in the natural beauty and meeting the people of the countries. They took particular interest in a school in Nairobi that they hope to continue to help in the future. Klemote's movie documenting their trip can be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jCqAoolRUOs>

Theo Perkins '00 film "CHARLENE" was recently featured in a trailer screening and live reading of a portion of the screenplay at Solo(s) Project House in Newark. Theo and **Omar Scroggins '99** are among the four producers. More information is at <http://whoischarlene.tumblr.cin/>. Also involved with the production and present at the screening were **Brian Beckwith '97** and **Dubois Ashong '04**.

Darius Stewart '00 is an architect working on large-scale, multi-use developments in Tianjin, China about an hour and a half southeast of Beijing.

2001

Ivan Learmont '01 got married in Washington D.C. over the Memorial Day weekend. His best man was classmate **Julius Scott '01**, and also in the wedding party were **David LuSane '01** and **Robert Azubuike '01**

2003

Bashir Mason '03 has been named the new head basketball coach at Wagner University in Staten Island following in the footsteps of his former coach, *Danny Hurley*, who has moved on to become head coach at University of Rhode Island. *Bashir*, at 28, is the youngest Division I head coach.

Matthew Jenifer '03 wrote that he, **Bashir Pearson '03** and **Kyle Haynes '03** attended the Occupy Wall Street protests last Fall and have posted photos at believeinbash.tumblr.com

Derrick Smith '03 is the new Assistant Director in Alumni Relations at Dartmouth, his other Alma Mater. He does Alumni Class and Student programming nationally.

2004

Tyrone Webb '04 graduated from Kean University with a Global MBA degree on May 15, 2012. He was hired at SAP (Systems, Applications, in Data Processing) for their MBA Rotational Program and will be moving to Atlanta in July.

2006

Alex Guevarez '06 will teach English at Delbarton in the Fall.

Tim Hall '06 has joined Newark Abbey and begins his novitiate as a Benedictine monk in July

2007

Dashaun Gasque '07, who arrived in China one year ago to teach English as a Foreign Language, lives in Shenzhen, China and continues to teach. Starting next year he is adding a Spanish elective to his courses. He wrote, "I also got a promotion ... so now I am an Assistant Coordinator. Besides that, I'm just studying for the GRE and preparing to apply to grad school in psychology for the following year."

2008

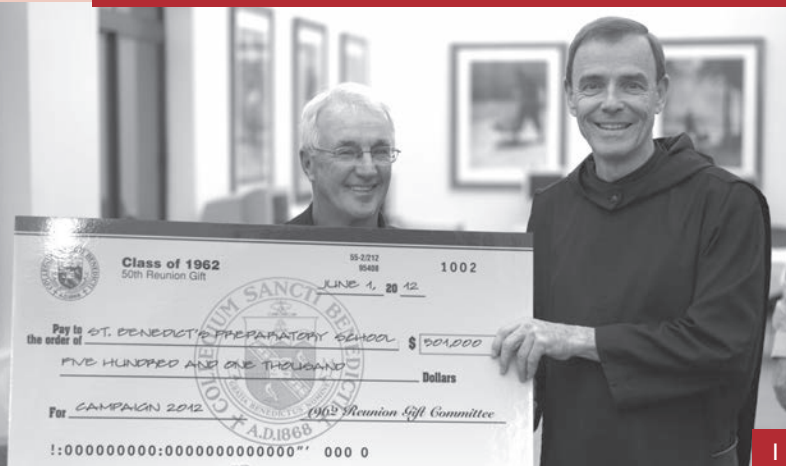
Kwasi Agyemang '08 had published a magazine at George Washington University from which he graduated this spring.

Kevin Hall '08 will pursue a Master of Arts in English at Rutgers Newark this Fall. Kevin graduated from Boston College in May. He wrote to his former English teacher *Lorraine Elias*: "I got selected to give an academic lecture on April 3. It's for a program that just started up here called BCTalks, a student-run lecture series where we are allowed to talk about anything we want. I will be giving a 12-minute lecture entitled "Medieval Murder and Mayhem: Attitudes Towards Violence in the Middle Ages."

2010

Former College Guidance Director, **Tony Carnahan H'10** and his wife *Megan* welcomed their second child, a daughter, *Sunny Jane*, July 6.

REUNIONS | CLASS OF '62



1. Bill Jamieson and Fr. Edwin with check symbolizing the record-setting Class Gift of \$567,000.

2. Fr. Boniface with Bob Vinegra.



3. Mike Coker, Paul Hetzel, and Eammon O'Reilly, with current distance running phenom, Edward Cheserek.

4. Frank Delany and Joe Robertson get acquainted with James Thompson, Assistant Headmaster for Institutional Advancement and Alumni.



5. Some of the '62 reunion committee with former teacher-coach, John Allen '54 (2nd from right, front).

6. Those from '62 attending June 3 graduation. In foreground, Fr. Boniface, Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio, Dr. Paul Ahr, Bill Jamieson.



REUNIONS | CLASS OF '87



- 1. Members of the Class of '87 with Fr. Mark, Fr. Augustine, former teacher Mark Jackson, and Fr. Ed.**
- 2. David Morgan '87 and Jacques Senise '87.**
- 3. Kevon Chisholm '87 and Tom Hollins '87.**



REUNIONS | PICNIC



1. Frank Reciniello '48, Joe Gorski '48, Ralph Confessore '48 and Fr. John Gorski '54



2. Sylvers Owusu '03, Omar Crespo '05 and Jonathan Bilbao '05



3. Mark Comesanas '98 and his sons



4. Conschiel McPleasant '93 with his wife and daughter

5. The picnic brought together water-polo and swim team alumni.



REUNIONS | SENIOR LUNCHEON



1. Men from 1960 and 1961.



2. Fr. Edwin comments on the state of the school.



3. Class of 1957 marks their 55th reunion: Gene Mulvaney, Joe Lane, Dave O'Connor, Joe Principe, Joe Belas, Pete Brogan, Tom White.



4. Charles Manger '31 (L) and Henry Lubben '32 (R) with Senior Leaders from 2013.

5. Wayne Letwink (L) and Fr. Maynard with group from '53 and '54

THE NEW YORK NETWORKING EVENT



1. Herb Brooks '91 with members of the LaFond family: David, Paul '92, Gerard '98

2. James Thompson with Marty Teevan '59, Steve Fox '88 and Justen Byrne '87

3. Seth Morgan '93, Brian Keenan '91, Herb Brooks '91 and Michael Flounoy '93

4. Kevin Jefferson '96 and Rommel Guadalupe '96

5. Brian Innis '99 and Joe Donohue '61

6. John Huss '81, Peter Quick '81, Greg Ebert '81 and Mike DiPiano H'82

7. Peter Elias '90, Vernon Gatling '90 and Cedric Hill '90



New York City Networking

More than 40 alumni and friends attended a gathering at the Full Shilling in the financial district for New York City Networking event on June 21. Steve Fox '88 coordinated the event at the restaurant owned by fellow Gray Bee, Marty Teevan '59.

The event at the Full Shilling follows on the heels of the gathering organized by Sharif Muhammad '92 in Central Jersey in March and another successful event on May 24 at Jersey City's Zeppelin Hall. Special thanks to Pete Mocco '60 for his hospitality and to George Miller '83 for planning the more recent evening.



CHESEREK CAPS AN INCREDIBLE SEASON WITH ANOTHER NATIONAL CROWN

Edward Cheserek capped his spring campaign just like he did his fall and winter seasons - as a National Champion.

Cheserek wrapped up his junior year at St. Benedict's as the 2-mile outdoor champion in the New Balance Nationals in North Carolina.

"What a nice way to end an incredible year," said St. Benedict's coach Mary Hannon. "Edward has done everything we have asked of him all year and we couldn't be prouder."

Cheserek posted a winning time of 8:55.12 in the 2-mile race, waiting until the final 200 meters to out-kick the rest of the field. The victory wrapped up his 7th overall National title - both individually and with his team, including his 5th this school year to go along with a Championship of America title at the Penn Relays.

Cheserek's first two National crowns came at the same meet last year at North Carolina A&T when he won the 5-k and joined his teammates for a victory in the Distance Medley Relay.

"No one can remember any school in the history of the country winning this many National Championships within a year's time," explained Hannon. "What a special time it's been being associated with the Gray Bees track team over the last year."

Cheserek nearly pulled off a double earlier in the day at the New Balance Nationals. After being given the baton in the middle of the pack in the Sprint Medley Relay (Tyler Cooper, Aziz Smith and Naija Omari ran the first three legs) Cheserek had the stick kicked out of his hand just as he was ready to make a final break for the lead. He was holding steady in second-place coming down the back stretch with only 200 meters to go in that race.

"That was tough, but things like that happen all the time. It was just an accident," said Hannon. "Edward redeemed the day and ended a really remarkable season with the victory in the 2-mile championship."

Cheserek's year included National titles as the cross country champion in the fall; the Sprint Medley, Distance Medley and the 2-mile titleholder in the winter during the indoor campaign; and the DMR champion at the Penn Relays and 2-mile claimant at nationals during the outdoor season.

A NEW "CREW" AT THE HIVE

St. Benedict's spring season featured first-ever Crew Team

St. Benedict's has taken to the Passaic River, where a fledgling rowing program dipped its oars in the water for the first time. Craig White '04, who oversees Leahy House, and Matt Achariam '07, a first-year graduate assistant teacher at SBP, began the program this spring with the generous support of alumnus Tom Quinn '62, whose donation made this dream a reality for St. Benedict's rowers. Although White and Achariam, who each rowed in college at William & Mary and Holy Cross, respectively, are just getting the program underway, they even secured a couple of regattas for the crew to compete in this past spring.

The "Rowing Bees" finished fourth in their first competition of the season on the Cooper River in Camden County before their first-ever victory in the Passaic River Sprint on May 12. The Gray Bees team, which consists of coxswain Eric Lombeyda and rowers Eric Rivera, Erick Navarro, Esteban Perez, Ryan Ferreira, Malachi Hunter, Yuell Ramnath, Guillermo Cruz and Jesus Cruz won by over three boat lengths against St. Peter's Prep and Don Bosco in the Novice Men's-8 race.

OLYMPIC HOPEFUL

Cullen Jones '02, who already has one Olympic Gold Medal, finished second in the 100m freestyle in Omaha recently and then finished first in the 50m freestyle at the U.S. Team trials. He has qualified to represent the U.S. in these two individual events this summer in London and will also likely be asked to participate in the relays.



ACADEMIC SUCCESSES A B O U N D

Benedict's students were well represented at the fourth annual Newark High School Writing Contest awards ceremony May 3, 2012. The contest, is sponsored by the Rutgers Newark M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing and coordinated by St. Benedict's English Department Chairman David Wolf. The brain-child of Dr. Wolf and the Rutgers M.F.A. in Creative Writing Program Director Jayne Anne Phillips, the contest is intended to stimulate the study and writing of fiction, poetry, and personal essays by students in high schools citywide.

From those forty-three entries from Benedict's students, St. Benedict's faculty picked the best five in each contest category (short story, poetry, personal essay). Rutgers Newark faculty then judged the best entries from all participating high schools.

St. Benedict's winners included Daniel T. Lyle '12 who enjoyed a double triumph, winning first place in both the Short Story category and in the Essay category.

Indeed, it proved to be a spring full of literary triumphs for Dan as he also served as editor of *Kayrix*, which was published at the end of May.

Other St. Benedict's winners included David Philemon '13, who won third place in the Poetry category; Obina Nwosu '12, who took third place in the Essay category.

Two stalwarts of *The Benedict News*, Josdanson Exume '12 and Telmo De Morais '12, also took home honors, each winning honorable mention in the essay category, while UDI Jose Marques '14 earned honorable mention in the poetry category.

"The contest is a beautiful way to bring students from different Newark high schools together [at the awards ceremony], and to have them share their creativity with each other and with the greater Newark community," said Dr. Wolf. Students from St. Vincent's Academy, Arts High School and University High School also submitted entries to the contest.

Former Teacher Initiates Essay Contest

Winners of the Essay Contest on Ethics and Morality were announced at the Eighth Grade Advancement Ceremony on May 17. Seventh-grader Charles Findlay and eighth-grader Chandler Gordon each received



the \$750 award, funded by the Chynn Family Foundation towards an educational enrichment program of their choice.

The awards were presented by Dr. York Chynn, founder of the foundation, and his son, Dr. Emil Chynn, a former biology teacher at St. Benedict's, who shared his father's vision and interest in expanding the essay contest into an annual program.

Students Excel at "Stand and Deliver"

Stand & Deliver, a public speaking program that teaches students how to be leaders and use their voices as a tool to command attention from their audiences, enrolled eight Benedict's students this year. All participated at the All Star Symposium at Rutgers University in front of paneled judges:

Joshua DeSousa, with a perfect score, for his performance at Rutgers University moved on to the Night of Eloquence at Nanina's in the Park May 8. At the Night of Eloquence students present their performance pieces in front of family and friends.

ACE Mentor Program Awards Scholarship

At the Annual 2011/2012 ACE Scholarship Breakfast Adebayo Eisape '12 and Erich Romain '12 received awards to assist them in moving closer to their goals of careers in the fields of Architecture, Construction and Engineering.

Adebayo, who will be attending Johns Hopkins University and studying engineering, was awarded \$2000; Erich was awarded \$500.

The ACE Mentor Program of New Jersey began in June, 2000 and SBP has been involved since then. Every year students attend after school sessions at the Port Authority and at Parsons Brinckerhoff to study under seasoned professionals in the fields of architecture, construction and engineering. Twelve Benedict's students participated in the program this year.

Gift for the Science Department

Elizabethtown Gas representatives, Brian MacLean, Vice President of Operations for, and Kevin Lynott, Director of Government Relations, visited St. Benedict's on June 1 and presented Fr. Edwin a check in the amount of \$10,000 from the AGL Resources Private Foundation



Students admire the work of a participant in a program of the year-long Asia Project, an interdisciplinary venture among art, music, science, drama and martial arts teachers. The project, which culminated in an event at the Newark Museum, was initiated and led by Art Department chair, Pamela Wye-Hunsinger



(Elizabethtown Gas is an AGL Resources company). The grant will fund the acquisition of 25 microscopes for our science classrooms. During the previous two years, the foundation has provided funding for the school's hand-held computer units and whiteboards for classroom use.

Journalism Teacher Wins Award

Journalism and Benedict News adviser Noreen Connolly received the Excellence in Education Award from the New York City Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalist, "The Deadline Club."

Connolly, who has been teaching journalism at St. Benedict's for the past 15 years, was honored before a large gathering at The Deadline Club's 2012 Annual Awards Dinner on June 4 at New York City's Waldorf Astoria.

"I had loved being a student journalist and I wanted the Benedict's kids to have the rich experience of doing a newspaper," she said in her acceptance speech. "Teaching journalism to high school boys has been my passion and my joy."

Six Students Participate in "NETWORK"

This May six students took advantage of one of the most interesting programs available to St. Benedict's students: "The Network," or more formally "The Network of Complementary Schools." This group of about 20 public and independent schools offers students and faculty opportunities to experience learning through varied programs at its member schools. Our school is a long-standing member, having joined in 1977, a year after the organization's founding.

Eric Enriquez '13 went to the Academy at Charlemont near Springfield, MA; Jon Gonzalez spent two weeks at Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia; Alain Guerrier was at the Bentley School near Oakland, CA; Kalani Mubarak enjoyed two weeks attending classes at the Kinkaid School in Houston while Mark Ramos was a boarder at the tiny Putney School in the woods of Vermont (ask him to tell you about shoveling out the barn). Finally Nakim Williamson had a great time at Rutgers Prep in Somerset where he made friends who he plans to visit this summer.

Faculty member Marc Riley '79 spent a few weeks learning film-making at Beverly Hills High School on a Network trip when he was a student here. Since that time dozens of our students have attended schools all over the United States, from Seattle to San Francisco, from Massachusetts to Alabama, from Michigan to Florida, and from Kansas and Colorado to Ontario, Canada.

The organization's official literature explains the Network's purpose: "Exposure to academic, cultural, and geographic diversity helps participants to develop new competencies, enhance confidence, broaden perspectives, and grow as individuals."

The only financial cost to the participant is transportation, but if there is financial need the Network will provide a travel grant to cover half of that cost as well.

Network advisors Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. and Cari Martinez will be attending the annual Network Conference July 17-20, 2012 in Charlemont, MA.

Father Albert says "For some of our students their Network experience has changed their whole way of looking at themselves or the world. We hope to have at least ten students out on Network trips in May of 2013."

Fr. Albert Holtz, O.S.B. '60



Saint Benedict's Prep

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In Memoriam

*We have received word that these alumni,
family members and friends of alumni
have died.*

Edward M. Salley '34
James F. Carolan '40
Charles W. Miller '40
Joseph P. Vetrini '40
Richard D. Town '41
Joseph B. Sutter, Sr. '43
Joseph O'Leary '45
Robert H. Bishop, Jr. '46
Raymond J. Cervenka '46
Joseph C. Schleck, Sr. '46
John A. Moran '47
Charles Helmstaedter '49
William F. Fitzgerald '50
John J. McGrath '52
Jules P. Augsdorfer '53
James T. Cosgrave '53
George H. Small '53
William J. McGee '54
James R. Waldron, Jr. '54
Richard V. Koenig '55
David B. Ford '57
Lee W. Jacobi '57
George J. Landers '58
James T. Whelan '58
Thomas A. Kelly, Jr. '61

Marshall D'Aloia '62
Martin J. Duffy '63
Dennis J. Murtha '64
Gregory T. Frese '70
Stephen Hazelwood '73

Nancy Jane Bendokas
Widow of John '45 (R.I.P.)

Britney Bonilla
Sister of Gio '08 and Christopher '13

Mary Clanton
Grandmother of Michael '11

Rev. David J. Conway
Former St. Benedict's Prep. Librarian

Catherine M. "Kay" Desch
Mother of Jack '67, Bob '70

Phyllis Gagliardi
Mother of Gary '67

John A. Holle, Sr.
Father of Joan, Former Faculty

Frances Malinowski
Mother of Michael '04,
Faculty, St. Benedict's Prep.

Maureen Nielsen
Mother of Niels Nielsen '61

Hon. Donald M. Payne, Sr.
Friend of Newark Abbey/
St. Benedict's Preparatory School

Claudine Pierre-Louis
Sister of Stephen '03

Jack Reyna
Son of Claudio '91

Wally J. Sokolewicz
Brother of Joseph H'12

Florence Stoeckel
Mother of James '91

Beatrice Weidman
Mother-in-law of Mitchell Kirschbaum H'06,
Grandmother of Brian '00

Barry Wolf
Father of David,
Faculty, St. Benedict's Prep.

*A sympathy card has been sent to each
bereaved family in the name of the
St. Benedict's family-alumni, students,
faculty, staff and monks - promising
our prayers and a special remembrance
at the monks' daily conventual mass.*