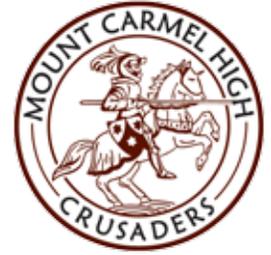


The Crusader

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Pray for us.



Published by the Mount Carmel Alumni Foundation

Mount Carmel Alma Mater

*On peaceful shores
'neath western skies our
hymn of praise we sing,*

*To thee our Alma Mater dear,
now let our voices ring!*

*All hail to thee
Mount Carmel High,
Crusaders Sons are we!
We love your ways,
your spirit bold!
We pledge ourselves to thee!*

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EpiCenters

Recently Newport resident, Pat Johnston, Loyola High '64, Dennis Murray, Mt. Carmel '64, and Newport resident, Jerry Kelly, Mt. Carmel '63 met at the Marist College reception for incoming freshman at Big Canyon Country Club and recalled foggy stories of their grid iron greatness.

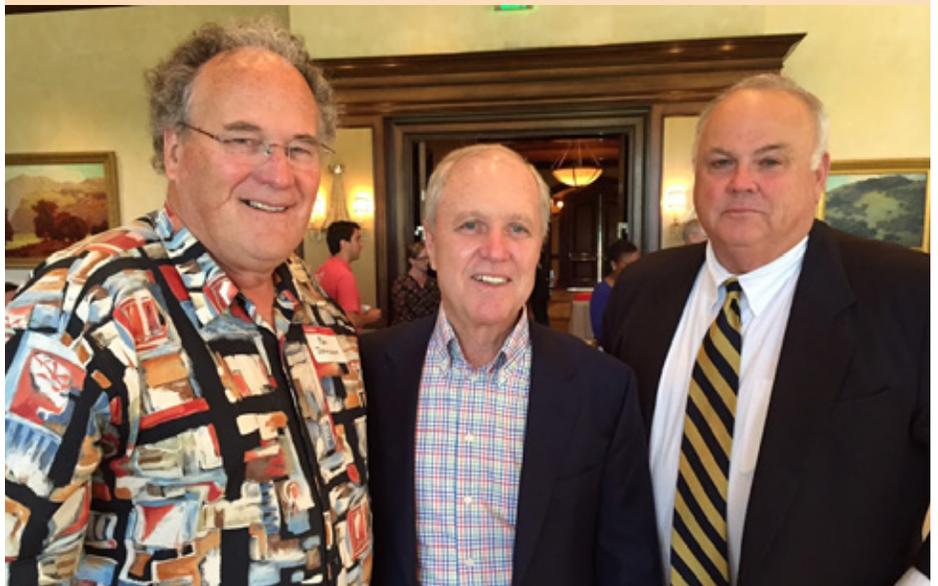
Two things they seemed to share in common - is that the older they get, the better they were – and their mutual interest in helping marginalized and under-served students who need a little extra support and encouragement.

Seriously - these three very special professionals continue to make a huge difference in the lives of young students from South-Central and the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Deanery 16 - through education.

In 2004, Pat Johnston introduced the MCAF to his brother Tom who was a Trustee and Board Member at Deanery 16's Verbum Dei High School in Watts. The MCAF then reached out to Dr. Dennis J. Murray, president of Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York. Murray will retire in June 2016, after serving as the Marist president since 1979, but not before the

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Former Offensive Centers and Scholars from the once famous and feared Catholic League.



(pictured L-R): Pat Johnston, JD; Dennis Murphy, PhD; and Jerry Kelly, CPA

The purpose of the Mount Carmel Alumni Foundation is to provide financial assistance to the Carmelite Community and to the Catholic elementary schools in South-Central Los Angeles that have provided our alumni with an excellent education. MCAF publishes the Crusader newsletter and assists in regular event planning for the information and fellowship of Mount Carmel Alumni.

“EPICENTERS” continued...

Princeton Review moved Marist College into the #3 “Best School” position in the state of New York. The Ivy League’s Columbia and Cornell are #1 and #2.

Dr. Murray selected Marcus Scroggins, Verbum Dei 2005 graduate as the “pathfinder” for what would in time become known as the Academic Enrichment Scholars Program (ACES). The third generation Nickerson Gardens resident graduated on-time from Marist in 2009. Jerry Kelly sponsored the Academic Middle School Decathlon Program in 2006 for Deanery 16 parish schools. The rest as they say - is history.

Since 2005 more than 70 Southern California students have followed the MCAF path to Marist College, most are Deanery 16 students from Verbum Dei and St. Mary’s Academy, many are ACES SCHOLARS. Several others headed east from Serra, St. Bernard’s, Bishop Conaty-Loretto, Crespi, St. Francis, LaSalle, Rosary, Mater Dei, Servite and St. John Bosco. Recently Marist student Caylin Moore, Verbum Dei 2012, was named a Fulbright Scholar. After completing his summer studies in England in 2014, he was offered full scholarships to attend Harvard, Princeton or Oxford universities for his Master’s Program when the time comes. Caylin also became the first Gogian Scholar at Verbum Dei. He was awarded a \$40,000 scholarship (over four years) for academic excellence by the Gogian Family Foundation (John Gogian, MC’47) De’ron Billups, Verbum Dei 2009 and Lizette Sanchez, St. Mary’s Academy, 2014 received full Marist/IBM scholarships to study Computer Science at Marist. The value of those scholarships is approximately \$200,000 and includes airfare. Lizette was one of Jerry’s first Academic Middle School Decathlon scholars from Deanery 16’s St. Odelia’s School.



Marist’s Freddie Garcia

Today Dr. Murray’s Academic Enrichment Scholars Program (ACES) at Marist College is managed by Freddimir “Freddie” Garcia, a Presidential Fellow who earned both his BA and MA degrees from Marist College.



INSTITUTION: Marist College

STUDENTS SERVED: Freshman-Seniors

FOCUS: Academic Support, social Support, Personal Support, Economic Hardship, Ethnic Minority, Single Parent Households

GOALS: The primary goal of the program is to eliminate any barriers to success and to ensure that students graduate within five years.

DESCRIPTION:

The Academic Enrichment Scholars Program (ACES) gives underrepresented (which include geographic, ethnic, racial) students from challenging backgrounds the opportunity to attend Marist College. The program provides financial, social, academic, and career development resources to create an environment in which students are able to graduate within five years. They also develop skills that prepare them for life post-graduation. The program began in 2005 with only one student, but within a few years it has grown, to approximately 25 students at a time working through the program from their freshmen through their senior year. ACES students are primarily from Southern California. In certain instances, however, Marist brings in students from the New York City area who do not meet the necessary criteria for the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), but do meet internal Marist academic and financial standards.



Catalina Salazar, Bishop Conaty-Lorretto’s Director of Development & Corinne Schell, Marist College West Coast Director of Admissions

WHY THE PROGRAM SUCCEEDS

- One-on-one student and staff interaction
- Bi-weekly meetings & development workshops
- Progress assessment and recommendations each semester
- Individualized plans for success, which are revisited each semester

Forever Young

The year 2015 began on a positive note for John Young '67, in January he was enrolled into Major League Baseball's "Scouting" Hall of Fame. John spent 25 years playing, coaching and scouting for Major League Baseball. However, for most of us, he is better known as the 1989 Founder and CEO of R.B.I., the acronym for his non-profit that stands for Reviving Baseball in Inner-cities. During his playing days it bothered him to return to the old neighborhood and see that the parks and playgrounds where he had spent so many care-free days in his youth had been taken over by gang bangers and drug dealers. Baseball had moved to the suburbs. These days for young athletes to be considered serious when they arrive at high schools they are expected to have already spent several years on Travel Teams, Elite Teams, and Club Teams. These cost the student athlete's parents thousands of dollars a year. This is simply not possible for kids from the inner-city. John's R.B.I. program requires students to sign contracts agreeing to tutoring, counseling and mentoring before they get to play baseball or softball in the afternoon funded by MLB/RBI.

After four years, R.B.I. was adopted by MLB. John is now retired from R.B.I., leaving behind over 200,000 youth in 45 states and 6 foreign countries.

Actually John is only semi-retired, he is still helping kids. In 2009 the "old scout" with an eye for talent, introduced the MCAF to Melissa Perez, an R.B.I. softball player from Garfield High School in East L.A. made famous by the great movie – Stand and Deliver starring Edward James Olmos. John did not think Melissa was a D1 college softball prospect but recognized her leadership ability and 100% commitment to her teams and - she was a very strong student. The MCAF sent her to President Murray and the R.B.I. helped her get there. Melissa knew from the beginning that she wanted to be a teacher and never wavered from her dream. She made The President's Honor Roll several times while at Marist.

While Melissa was away at Marist the MCAF bumped into a dear friend and fan at a cocktail party at Loyola Marymount University, Fr. Al Kopus, O.Carm. Fr. Al was once the principal at Crespi High School in Encino and



(pictured L-R) Marist/LMU's Melissa Perez with RBI's John Young, and proud mom Ester Perez

is one of the few Carmelites left in Southern California. The MCAF knew he had been at LMU for many years, but never knew what he officially did there. This fund raiser was supporting LMU's P.L.A.C.E. Corp – which stands for Partners in Los Angeles Catholic Education. Every year P.L.A.C.E Corp selects approximately 35 recent college graduates from around the country to teach in Los Angeles Catholic schools while earning their Master's Degree in Education as well as their California Teaching Credential. If selected, their tuition is free, they receive a modest monthly stipend and live in community while completing the two year program. It turned out that Fr. Al was the Co-Founder of P.L.A.C.E. Corp, and Melissa Perez would become his personal candidate from the MCAF. The MCAF hoped she would do well and make everyone at LMU & Marist proud.

LMU has about 70 students in the program at a given time and every year they vote for "P.L.A.C.E.R of the Year". Melissa Perez was voted Co-P.L.A.C.E.R of the Year by her peers. After teaching for two years at Puis X parish school in Santa Fe Springs she graduated from LMU in May 2015. She decided to return to Puis X to become their permanent sixth grade teacher as well as their new vice principal.

John Young is presently sponsoring/mentoring another student from Roosevelt High School in East LA, Yumiko Chavez. She is a senior this year at Marist College and has never wavered from her dream of going to Law School. The MCAF has no doubt she will go – we will just have to wait and see which one she will attend. Yu-

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(pictured L-R) Dodgers Tommy Davis, Dodgers Al Downing, Tigers Chuck Stone '67, Tigers John Young '67 and Dodgers Derrel Thomas

“FOEVER YOUNG” continued...

miko is a “Dreamer” from the “Dream Act”. The MCAF found her story very compelling. Once shared with Marist and John Young, as well as MCAF friends at the South Central Scholars Foundation she took off for New York.

John is ending the year on another positive note – John and his lovely wife Sheryl celebrated the marriage of their daughter Tori and her husband Dario at a reception on November 22 in Orange, California. The bride and groom live in Spain.

1964 was a Presidential Year



Dr. Thomas M. Fallo '64

Back in 1964 I doubt if any of us on Carmel’s campus realized just how seriously the Student Body President and the Senior Class President took their jobs and enjoyed their titles. Poughkeepsie does not have the only Crusader who would become a college president. Dr. Thomas M. Fallo '64 was named the fifth President of EL Camino College in July 1995. His presidency has focused on the College’s fiscal future while guiding

the Torrance-area campus through a period of unprecedented growth and progress. Before becoming President at El Camino College, Dr. Fallo served as Vice President, Administrative Services. He held a similar position at Glendale Community College, and also served as Vice Chancellor, Business Services, and as Interim Chancellor for the Los Angeles Community College District before joining the ECC administrative team.

Dr. Fallo holds a Doctorate in Educational Administration from Pepperdine University; honed his defensive back skills playing touch football on the “original” Pepperdine University’s manicured lawns in the old neighborhood on 78th and Vermont, preparing him to one day become a WR/DB at Mt. Carmel and later receive a scholarship to play at UC Santa Barbara; an M.B.A. in Business Management from UCLA; and a Bachelor’s degree in Economics, also from UCLA.

Tom is president of California Manufacturing Technology Consulting, the Statewide Association of Community Colleges, JPA, the Schools Association for Excess Risk, and Intelcom, and is a past president of the Association

of California Community College Administrators and the Association of Chief Business Officers. As Superintendent/President of one of the largest single-campus, two-year colleges in the nation, Dr. Fallo oversees 1,300 employees, more the 25,000 students, and an annual general fund unrestricted budget of services to nearly 533,000 district residents in nine communities.

Tom will also retire in June 2016 after serving as El Camino’s president for 20 years. Tom met his best friend and the love of his life, Paula Carabelli, and married her in 2000. They enjoyed a wonderful life together that ended much too soon when she lost a short, courageous battle with cancer in 2006.

Today, Tom lives in St. Lawrence Parish, Torrance, and whenever he gets a chance, he loves to beat Paul Bognner’65 and Roland Dexter’64 at a friendly game of Bridge.

Full S.T.E.A.M. Ahead at St. Odelia’s

After a experiencing the STEAM:CODERS program first hand at Grace Hopper STEM Academy adjacent to St. Mary’s Academy, the MCAF invited Ray Ealy, the STEAM:CODERS Executive Director and Founder to bring his program to middle school students at Deanery 16’s St. Odelia’s. Ray is a former board member at Verbum Dei High School and long-time friend of the MCAF. The STEAM: CODERS program consist of eight Saturday morning “hands-on” workshops that actually teach middle school students how to code. The classes begin at 8:30am and end at noon. The program wraps-up with student tours to Google and JPL.

STEAM: CODERS has introduced hundreds of middle school students to STEAM, specifically, computer science. These fields represent a tremendous number of academic and career opportunities. Interest in STEAM: CODERS has resulted in requests to add locations to accommodate demand. In addition, more courses will be added to incorporate all of the STEAM elements into the curriculum (robotics, film, art and life sciences). Southern California is a diverse and culturally rich environment for STEAM education. The combination of hands-on activities, field trips and classroom instruction will spur imagination and innovation and help the students develop an appreciation for STEAM and future opportunities.

MISSION

STEAM: CODERS is a nonprofit organization that teaches underrepresented and under-served students of color

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“FULL S.T.E.A.M. AHEAD” continued...

the fundamentals of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM).

HISTORY

STEAM: CODERS, based in Pasadena, CA, to meet the demands of students who are interested in STEAM. After hosting a series of one-day workshops and receiving positive feedback from parents and students, it was determined that there are limited resources and opportunities for students to learn more about STEAM. Due to the increasing importance of computer science (i.e., coding) and the growth of educational and career opportunities in STEAM, it is crucial that students get on the computer science and math track, early in their academic tenures.

STEAM: CODERS Activities

- Over 550 students served, since inception (July 2014)
- Classes in Pasadena, Altadena, Claremont/Pomona, Inglewood and Los Angeles
- Tours: Google Venice and JPL Tour
- Established Partnerships: *Art Center College of Design, Harvey Mudd College, Pasadena City College, USC Rossier School of Education, University of La Verne, Idealab, Innovate Pasadena, Pasadena Unified School District, CodeSpark and the Black Data Processing Associates.*



Spreading Good Will & Holiday Cheer 35 Years!

The Christmas Luncheon was first celebrated in Torrance on the second Tuesday of December in 1980. Several restaurants have been tried over the 35 years, but The San Franciscan in Torrance on Sepulveda just west of Crenshaw has been used for the last several years because of the quality of the food, service, price, plenty of free parking and easy access. This Mt. Carmel Holiday tradition has gone on “uninterrupted” since 1980.

The original founders of the event are Lee Vollmer, Jim Haire and Bill Linehan (R.I.P.), all members of the class of 1948. All Mt. Carmel grads are welcome along with grammar school-mates and those who wished that



Lee Vollmer '48 and Jim Haire '48

they could have been Crusaders. Wives and girlfriends are always welcome and several graduates from Serra, Washington and even a few from Loyola have attended. Several went to St. Anselm and St. Michael’s together.

You should try to attend and help keep the tradition going. Meet new and old friends, share a few stories, enjoy the meal and have a drink or two. You may meet John Gogian '47, Lee & Jim '48, Louis Aquistapace '49, Al Dugard '50 or maybe Jim Powers '51. John Martin '65 has entered his RSVP.

Mt. Carmel 35th Annual Christmas Luncheon

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 | 11:30 AM

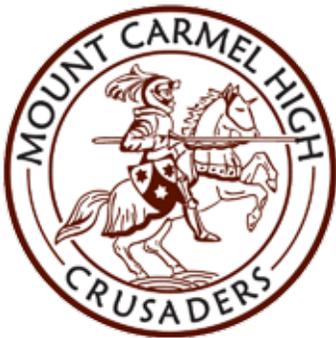
The San Franciscan Restaurant
2520 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, CA | 310-325-5231

The price is right, \$13.00 per person for a full holiday meal with all the trimmings. Cocktails and beer are extra. **Call Jim Haire at 310-541-3688** to RSVP or e-mail him at wildhare3@verizon.net.



Mount Carmel Alumni Foundation
P.O. Box 69
Whittier, California 90608

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE



(pictured above)
MCAF's annual donation of
used children's books delivered
to (left) Kenneth E. Sparks II, M.
Ed., Program Director of Verbum
Dei's Urban Compass

*St. Mary's Academy freshman,
recent graduates of MCAF inspired
Grace Hopper STEM Academy, officially
became "Red Ties" on December 8, 2015*

*(pictured below L- R)
Jensi Ortiz, Tierra Latham, Kennedy Dotson,
Kimberly Rodriguez, Elisa Beltran, Yesmin
Ortiz, Director of Operations at GHSA,
Maritza Guzman, Itzel Zavala, Janiece
Williams, Kimberly Casarez*



OFFICERS

Richard Monteilh '76
CHAIRMAN

Raymond F. Wolfe, NDHS '59
FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN

Glen Constantino '68
SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN

Diane Martin-DeAnda, SMHS '63
SECRETARY

Janine Hydel
TREASURER

Greg Williams '65
PARLIAMENTARIAN

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Marilee Alessandra
Bernard Alex '76

Kermit Alexander '59

George Guzman '63

Christopher P. Herrera '66

John B. Martin '65

Ralph Walker '76

Lance A. Williams, PhD. '65

John T. Young '67