



RECONNECT

Clinton Franciscans

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Former Sisters



The 'Tau' cross is a traditional Franciscan symbol whose origin is in the Old Testament. It has meant many things in many cultures. For St Francis of Assisi it was a sign of belonging to Christ.

We have heard from 40 percent of you to-date. Hopefully this second issue will serve as a reminder to send us your information and permission to use your name in the Directory. We need to get to an 80-90 percent response before we put together the Directory. In this issue we will begin to print the information you send us generally in the order we received it. Some of you did not send anything about yourself but we hope you will do so in the future.

Many of you have said you plan to attend the September 29th Reunion as well as the Peace Conference. Registration information for the conference will be in the next ONLINE issue and information about the Reunion will be in the next issue of this newsletter, RECONNECT. We look forward to seeing you on the 29th.

REST IN PEACE

We were saddened in March with the deaths of Sisters Aloise Kevane, Mary Louise Higdon and Margaretha Weber. All had been residing at the Alverno. Family, friends and former students came to be with us during the funeral services. These were wonderful dedicated women and we will miss them greatly.

OTHER OSF NEWS

Last month we installed a beautiful one-of-a-kind mosaic at the Canticle created by Linda Willaredt, the same artist who did the chapel stained glass window. The mosaic lists all who helped us build The Canticle; donor names are engraved on a variety of colored tile and glass. It is quite unique & beautiful.

WORKSHOP: If you live near Chino, California, you may want to take part in our workshop on 'nonviolent communications'. Mary Wenska focuses on learning "*how to talk about hot topics without getting overheated!*". This is the fourth workshop that our Center for Active Nonviolence has sponsored. **Saturday, April 29th. Call Sr Kathleen Cleary at 909-628-0697.**

NEWS FROM YOU

Pat Donahue Knabel, '67 (Sr. Patricia) is a Learning Support teacher at Radio Park Elementary School in State College, PA.

Teri Kunavich '63 (Sr. Sharon) "I am working at Viterbo University in LaCrosse, Wis. as a professor in the School of Nursing. I have been there for 26 years. Presently I am on sabbatical with a very enjoyable and fun project doing pet therapy with one of my dogs who is a Certified Pet Therapy Dog. A big title for a little 4 1/2 pound Yorkshire Terrier. He continues to amaze me with his dealings with the elderly residents in the nursing homes we visit. I will be doing the pet therapy all this semester and will continue with some of the places when I start back working in the fall."

Eleanor Buehler Tolman '52 (Sr. Julie) "I have lived in Las Vegas for 32 years and have been married 30 years this year!"

Kay McCarten (Sr. Marijane) “Life Is good. I am still working full-time as an attorney at the Mueller Law Offices in Austin. We specialize in birth-injury medical malpractice. It is a challenging and rewarding practice and I value what we can do for these terrible injured children and their parents. It is hard to believe that my oldest child, Anne, is 30 years old. She, too, is an attorney and about to be married in July of this year to a delightful young man whose family moved to Austin from Mexico City when Andrew was eight years old. In a wonderful twist of fate, my daughter, Jean, now lives in Mexico City with her husband and two children...several blocks from where Andrew’s father grew up. Jean and Francois-Xavier were married in the little city of Bourges, France. He grew up there and we were blessed to have their wedding in the beautiful Cathedral of St. Etienne. Xavier and Jean have two incredible children who are the light of my life. Marie is 4 years old and Maxim is 7 months. Marie attends the French school in Mexico City and Jean teaches there on a part-time basis. My son, Richard, graduated from college in California with a degree inscreenwriting and, to my delight, has moved back to Austin to pursue a career in real estate/screenwriting.”

Judy Rickertsen LeRoy ‘65 (Sr. Frances Marie) lives in Nashville, TN. “I’ve been here since 1980, married, no children. My family still resides near Clinton, in Bryant and Camanche, and we’re up there visiting 2-3 times a year, but it seems those times are at birthdays and holidays. Bob and I own a Super Wash car wash here. Other than that, we’re retired, love golfing, and my biggest hobby of all in the last couple years: playing the pipe organ at my congregation, St. Edward in Nashville. It’s a large church, and school and has a beautiful Music Ministry program. It’s keeping me busy, but I have never had this much satisfaction from anything I’ve ever done. Amazing what comes back, once one is willing to give!”

Audrey Steinbach Kuhlman ‘63 (Sr Lenore) “I have been married for 32 years. We have three daughters, Michelle & Amanda live in Des Moines, and Angie and her husband, Luke, in Minnesota. They are expecting our first grandchild around Mothers Day. I work for the disabled in a home right in Milford, IA where I live.”

Kay Socha Holzmeister ‘52 (Sr. Raymond) “In the summers of 2003 & 2004 I joined a small group of the laity of the Archdiocese of Chicago on a two-week Education Mission to Cochabamba, Bolivia, to teach school children English and provide their teachers with a two-day workshop. God willing, we’ll be returning to Cochabamba in June of 2006. If any teacher is interested, visit Solidaritybridge.org.”

Susan Hansen McKenzie ‘59 (Sr. Lloyd) “Jack and I are loving retirement. We travel as often as we can; Italy being our favorite destination. Both of us do hospital volunteer work and I work at a scrapbook store a couple of times a week (primarily to help support my scrap booking habit). I am also very active in our parish’s bereavement ministry. My mother and youngest brother, Dave, lost their battles with cancer in 2004.”

Joan Ruebush Frohne ‘60 (Sr. Miriam) “I recently retired after 24 years at Western Ill University. I have also been choir director at St. Paul’s Church in Macomb for 20 years and I’ve been married for 19 years to Vincent, who is the organist. My daughter, Ellie, is a counselor in Macomb.”

Regina Ledwell Dinges ‘50 (Sr. Alphonsa) lives in Weymouth, MA with husband, Tom. “Just before Christmas we had a wonderful trip to Germany and Austria where we spent four days in Vienna and four in Munich. While in Vienna we went to five concerts. Then we took an eight-day boat trip from Vienna to Nuremburg on the Danube.”

Mary Jane O’Malley Owens ‘61 (Sr. Winifride) “I enjoyed seeing Sister Blanche’s picture with the others at The Canticle. Please tell her that I still use her cookbook that she gave me when I visited Sr Joan Holland and her in Riverside, California.”

Deborah Brown Jacobsen ‘65 “Thank you for reaching out to us. When I see tv and movies portraying sisters as mean I always point out to anyone I’m with, my happy, loving experiences with the Clinton Franciscans. My ‘convent’ years were very happy memories. You are all in my prayers.”

Please Send us copies of photos of your family and/or your ‘sister’ days that we can use in this newsletter. And, of course, notes that you would like published here as well.

DIRECTORY PERMISSION
Clip & return in enclosed envelope.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Yes, you may use my name in the Directory.
 Year I entered Sisters of St. Francis, Clinton, Iowa.
 Yes, I would like to continue to receive this newsletter.

CLINTON FRANCISCANS

*Committed to Active Nonviolence
and Peacemaking*

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