



A Newsletter for Serra Catholic & SHA Alumni



Annual Benefit Auction

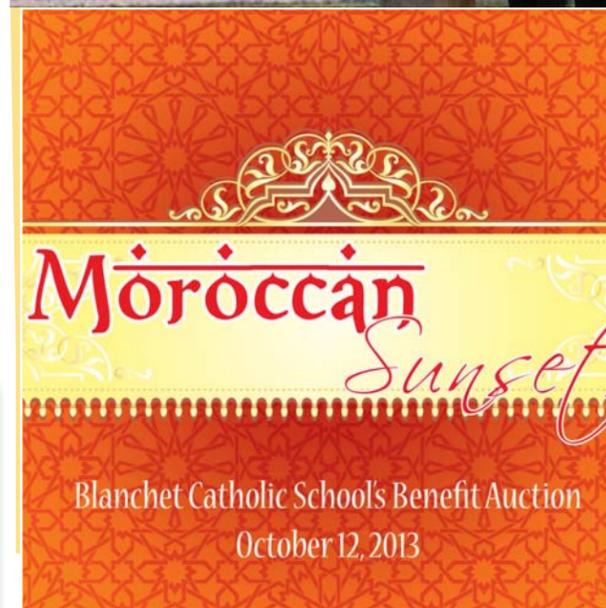
October 12th

Reserve your table by Oct 4

Blanchet Catholic School is pleased to announce their 17th Annual Benefit Auction, "Moroccan Sunset." Both the silent and oral auctions and catered dinner will be held on one evening, Saturday, October 12, 2013. Wild Pear will be catering a delicious meal and auctioneer Steve Talbot will be joined by Tom Hewitt who will be serving as emcee for the evening. **All Serra and Sacred Heart alumni are invited** and encouraged to attend. *Alumni tickets are only \$25 per person.*

You can register on-line at www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/auction or contact Blanchet's Development Coordinator, Toni Nanneman at 503.391.2639 x240. **Reservations please by October 4, 2013.**

Opportunities to sponsor a table and/or advertise in the catalog are also still available. Contact Toni Nanneman if you are interested.



Next Alumni Social

January 18th

Blanchet vs Salem Academy

Pre-Game Social:
5:00
Game Begins:
6:00

RSVP to Toni Nanneman by Jan 10th for front row seating at the game.



About Connections

This newsletter and our webpage are supported by volunteers and Blanchet. We welcome your suggestions. We also accept donations online or by mail. You may contact us at the following:

Email:
LASC@blanchetcatholicschool.com

Phone:
Toni Nanneman, Development Coordinator, 503.391.2639 x240

Fax:
503.399.1259

Website:
www.blanchetcatholicschool.com/legacyalumni

Mailing Address:
Blanchet Catholic School
LASC Steering Committee
4373 Market Street NE
Salem, OR 97301



Blanchet Catholic School

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, November 3
2:00 p.m.

Families of all Faiths Welcome
Tuition Assistance Available

4373 Market St. NE • Salem

www.blanchetcatholicschool.com

DON'T MISS IT! A wonderful opportunity to learn more about Blanchet's successful college prep program for grades 6 -12.

Aug 9th **countdown**
"The Gathering" 2014!
Details coming in our next issue.

reunion UPDATES



The centennial SHA Class of '63 and the Serra Class of '63 celebrated their 50th Class Reunion with a return to the fabulous 50's on August 17th.

The new Blanchet School commons was transformed into a 50's 'Soda Shop' complete with a surprise guest appearance by "Elvis," a fellow Serra student Ron Hopfer. A video "The Way We Were" took classmates back in time with a montage of pictures from grade school through high school and the reunions after. Classmates were seen pointing and crying as they remembered the good ol' days.

Over 85 guests were in attendance and enjoyed a prime rib dinner. Father Gary Zerr from St. Edward Church gave the blessing and Blanchet President, Charles Lee, was the guest speaker. The 2-day event ended the next day with a BBQ lunch at the home of Robert & Pam Zielinski. The response was overwhelming with classmates saying it was the BEST ever and how they were able to connect as never before. A huge success!

A special thank you goes to Evelyn Thrush Zeller for serving as Chair. Also to Bryan Zielinski for producing the video and to everyone that contributed photos for it. Additional thanks to the Sacred Heart class of '60 & '62 volunteers who served dinner, Elaine (Nelke) Swyt for creating the "Menu" program, Megan Johnston for taking pictures and helping with setup and cleanup, and Blanchet for giving the Class of '63 the perfect venue to celebrate 50 years of friendship and memories. §



Top Left: Ron "Elvis" Hopfer; **Top Right:** Tony DeSantis and Joan Polinski Berg; **Middle Left:** Linda Stebner Ahlers, Barbara Herberger Southern and Dolores Koch Thomas; **Middle Right:** Denny Hanel, Mike Yeager and Elaine Anderson; **Bottom Left:** The "Soda Shop," like back in the day; **Bottom Right:** Servers for the evening; L-R - Roberta Thrush Carney, Charlotte Detrick, Shirley Huntley, Norma Rupp Bernardy and Margie Wilson Moorman. *Not shown:* Adelle Nash Groudon.



'63 Class of



Special thanks to all who were able to attend our "Les Miserables" Spring Social on May 3rd. The food and company were excellent. The Blanchet school photographer captured the evening with a photo gallery, viewable on our alumni pages. **Above:** Displayed is a gift to our alumni memorabilia, the treasured Sacred Heart letter sweater, donated by Carol Hamstreet Shores, SHA '61.

Joe Endres, SC'57 stopped by Blanchet recently for a tour and donated this great photo of his class (the first Serra class), that hung in Serra's hallways. He got the photo from John Wolf, SC'67, who found it in the Knights of Columbus hall. Thank you Joe and John!



Farewell: Chuck & Brandy

After many years helping us build a home at Blanchet for Serra Catholic & Sacred Heart alumni, Charles "Chuck" Lee, President and Brandy O'Bannon, Director Development, have moved on to new opportunities. It is unfortunate for us, but exciting for them. Their contribution and support have been essential to our re-building connections between the past and present, benefitting our alumni in so many ways and helping us appreciate even more how important a quality Catholic education is in our world today. We look forward to working now with Tony Guevara as the new President/Principal and Brandy's replacements, Cathy McClaughry, Marketing Manager and Toni Nannerman, Development Coordinator. All our best to you both, Chuck and Brandy! You are appreciated!!!



"You could hear them saying as they waved goodbye –
'When is the next one?'"



in memoriam:

† **Helen Florence Martsfield Down, SHA '41.** Died in Astoria on Jul 11, '13. She married Alfred in '44, living also in Valsetz, working for Boise Cascade and then 20 years with the State. She was a member of St. Joseph's parish for over 50 years. † **Josephine E. (Stadler) Cople, SHA '43.** Died on Jan 6, '13 in Mt. Angel. She married "Bud" in '43, who survives her. She loved quilting, family and church functions. † **Robert "Dick" E. Meier, SHA '43.** Died in Mt. Angel on Sept 13, '13. Following the Army, he married Rosemary, raised his family and ran his family's plaster contracting business until his retirement. Dick was a fourth degree Knight of Columbus, an avid gardener and fisherman. Dick and Rosemary were married 68 years and lived in Mt. Angel Towers. † **Melvin Stabb, SHA '50.** Died on Jun 18, '13 in Salem with Kay, his wife of 60 years at his side. Originally from Kansas, Melvin was the 11th of 12 children. After high school he worked as a cannery mechanic, joined the Army and served in Europe as a small arms expert. Melvin was considered a master craftsman in custom sheet metal. He and Kay owned and operated K&M Nursery. † **David L. Timm, SHA '56.** Passed away peacefully in Salem on May 26, '13 with his family by his side. After SHA, he enlisted in the USMC and then married Evelyn Thrush in 1970, raised 2 boys, Shannon and Aric. He was a long time salesman who loved sports, dancing and thoroughly enjoyed walking and coffee with friends at Lancaster Mall. † **Dorothy Tharalson, SHA '58.** Died on Sept 4, '12 in Mt. Angel. † **John Jay Schmitz, Serra '59.** Died on Apr 16, '13 in Salem of natural causes. John received a degree from OSU in '64 and after serving in Viet Nam, an MS Journalism in '68. He worked in his field, produced a nationally syndicated comic strip called "Adornment" along with his sister, Susie Valentine. He returned to Salem in '81 and worked as a freelance writer and news writer until his death. He is survived by his pet squirrels and several ducks. His last wish: "Make sure the oven is off." † **Janet Marie (Foster) Hornschuch, SHA '60.** Passed away on May 8, '13 in Las Vegas. She worked as a tax preparer, bookkeeper and PBX operator. She was married to Chris until his death. † **Patricia "Pat" Gruchalla, SHA '63.** Died peacefully in Mesa, Arizona on Jul 11, '12 after a lengthy illness. Born in San Francisco, orphaned in '69, Pat moved to Salem to live with her aunt and uncle, Grace and Francis Douglas. She received her degree in practical nursing and was licensed as an LPN. She married Bob in 1968, raised her family and worked at State of Oregon TB Hospital, Fairview Hospital and Salem Hospital. † **Brenda M. Etzel, Serra '67.** Died on Jun 22, '13 in Keizer. Brenda worked 43 years in the insurance field and will be long remembered as a strong and independent woman. † **Kenneth Matthew Brodic, Serra '68.** Died on Jun 12, '13. He served in the US Coast Guard and then received his degrees. Kenneth loved the outdoors, entering into the forestry service as a fishery biologist. He was an avid skier. His fitness was legendary. He and Clare were married for 34 years. §