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The Cross Walk

Being up at the cross is like peering through a powerful looking glass through which I can see the entire history of Saint Mary’s. When I’m there, layers of history shared with me by generations of Gaels come to life. Somehow, the view is different every time—the aromas change, my imagination morphs—but there is a sense of continuity, too. I am grounded in the College’s heritage and the history of this land and the people who have passed this way over the many years. And I remember the groups of new students we used to assemble around the cross during orientation to teach them the old Will Stevens fight song. From that epic cross, standing as a sacred beacon in the sunset, we sang, “From Moraga’s hills sounds the call afar, In defeat or victory it’s ‘Hail, Saint Mary’s, Hail!’”
I was a “day dog.” Just got the magazine. Great job! The articles make me proud to be an SMC alumna. Your Summer 2013 issue prompted me to dig up my 1943 yearbook. The Gaels! I was surprised, having forgotten that I had contributed a story and a poem to the issue. What got me to SMC in 1937 was a visit from two cousins, John and Frank Soares, who were students there and persuaded me to apply. I took the admission test and passed, barely.

I hitchhiked to school, getting picked up at the train station. In my junior year the train stopped running and I had to take the Short-Line train from Oakland to Saint Mary’s. The train conductor got off there, and I was a “day dog,” not a boarder at the dormitory room. My job was to write news releases and edit The Collegian. One of the perks as editor was that I could have a dormitory room. A couple of years ago I attended a College in 1994. I have not served as editor myself, but consider myself a devout Catholic and have worked hard to raise children and now am sending my children to Catholic universities that adhere to the teachings of the Church. The picture of a young lady holding a sign and claiming to be Catholic and pro-choice has no place in a Catholic publicatio

I was appointed editor in my junior year, and continued as editor in my senior year. I joined the staff of The Collegian, the student weekly, in my freshman year. I contributed a story and a poem to the issue from the class of ’41 there were Brother Dominic Bong and me. I wonder how many are still living!

The “Roundtable” on immigration was embarrassing one-sided. The difference is not between the right of welcoming and the notion of deportation. The questions are:

- Should we have a policy of unlimited immigration?
- If not, what rules should determine who is admitted?

I expect a Roundtable to provide a balance of rational ideas. Of the ten people quoted, only two were not on your side of the table. Those two were not chosen from those most able to articulate another point of view.

Tom Kiley ’60

ROUNDTABLE WASN’T BALANCED

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- Should we have a policy of unlimited immigration?
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Y|Me Generation

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The Point Reyes Blues Sisters

I am fourth generation in the United States on my dad’s side. My great-grandfather came over from Italy and started a chicken farm in Petaluma. My grandfather moved out to Point Reyes, established a dairy farm and raised a family, which included my father, who studied agriculture at UC Davis. When he came home from college, he married my mom and purchased a dairy farm up the road from my grandfather’s. He ran a successful dairy operation selling liquid milk for 40 years. He and my mother had four daughters, none of us interested in agriculture. Our mother was a strong proponent of education, so we all went to college—Karen and I went to Saint Mary’s—and then went about our lives and careers.

Then in 1997, our father, who was 60 at the time, called us home to talk about the future of the farm. Dairying was becoming more difficult because of the cost of doing business, and like other farmers, he was looking for ways to keep the operation going. He didn’t want to sell, and neither did we.

Obviously, cheese was a product to consider. None of us knew how to make cheese, of course, but we dove right in anyway. I went to Cal Poly to take a short course on cheese making, and tried to get as much hands-on training as I could. My father and I remodeled an old barn and converted it to a creamery that’s only 25 yards away from the milking parlor. We pump the milk straight over into the vats every morning to make cheese for our Point Reyes Farmstead Cheese Company.

We decided to make blue cheese since no one in California was doing that at the time. Meanwhile, Cowgirl Creamery in Point Reyes, who were on the forefront of artisanal cheese production in the North Bay, really encouraged us. Through the distribution arm of their business, they were willing to sell our cheeses to Bay Area chefs. That’s where it began. In addition to the Original Blue cheese, we now make three other cheeses.

We are a farmstead, which means we only use our own organic source milk. We manage our own pastures, raise and feed our own cows, making sure that the land and the animals are healthy, so that we’ll get high-quality milk for our cheese maker to use to make great cheese. That’s really the heart of what we do. It’s all connected.

— Lynn Giacomini Stray
The Art of Chemistry

Senior Alexis Gonzales and 2013 graduate Jimmy Karnezis spent their summer working at the intersection of chemistry and art. Their summer research project, under the tutelage of Professor Michelle Shulman, was to analyze the chemical properties of a Russian icon fragment and develop a research protocol that could help future SMC students and, perhaps, students at other universities, as well. The three hope to publish a paper in the Journal of Chemical Education.

Shulman teaches a chemical instrumentation class in which her students analyze the icon for components that would reveal where it was made and roughly how old it is. “I give them this painting to examine, but I don’t tell them how to do it,” Shulman said. “They have to study the literature and settle on a method and design for their experiment before they can begin.” They often run out of time.

The biggest challenge Gonzales and Karnezis faced was the depth of existing knowledge they had to plumb. “It took a lot to condense what was out there and put it into something that is cost-effective and approachable for a lab setting,” said Karnezis, who was off to the University of Athens at the end of summer as a Fulbright Scholar, studying imaging techniques for cancer. “And since it was an art conservation project there is a historical aspect that goes along with the scientific procedure, so blending those two ways of thinking was difficult,” said Gonzales, who plans to go to medical school.

Both students felt challenged and rewarded by the independence they were given during the summer, and, with keys to the laboratory, felt completely trusted. “It’s nice that the professors trust us with these instruments,” Karnezis said. “We’re really fortunate.”

I dipped my hand into a tub of liquid and pulled out an amorphous mass of muscle and fat. I shook it thoroughly, till the last drops of the pungent fluid had left its chambers, and plopped it onto a tray. The only things that I knew for certain were that a) it was the heart of a sheep and b) it had a stench beyond compare. But what is a heart? I did not know what I was to examine, but I knew for certain were that a) it was the heart of a sheep and b) it had a stench beyond compare. But what is a heart? I did not know what its structure was or how it worked. But everything I needed was right in front of me. Our instructions were simple: “Prod around and see what you find.”

This could be the slogan for the entire Integral Studies Program. Unlike most traditional laboratory classes, in Integral, nothing is provided as a given. In other classes we may have learned what the heart does: pumps blood. But here, we weren’t concerned with the “what” so much as we were with diving deeper into the intrinsic questions of “why” and “how come?”

We discuss elements of existence on an anatomical and philosophical level, deeply seated in the theories of the Greek physician-philosophers Aristotle (384 BC) and Galen (129 AD) and the later works of Flemish anatomist Andreas Vesalius (1514 AD). Reading through their works we find answers to questions that many ask.

As humans, we try not to forget what we know, and Integral majors develop the ability to ignore their knowledge, freeing them to think differently, without constraint.
The Hero Returns

No, the world isn’t spinning backward. Superman is indeed back. Again. But if you checked out this past summer’s installment in the comic-turned-movie series, you might notice that the Man of Steel is a little different this time around.

“As a child, the kids don’t like him. Even as an adult, he seems like kind of a loner,” said Ellen Rigsby, associate professor of communication. She studies depictions of race, gender and society in comic books.

Rigsby thinks the flaws are exactly what make him more compelling to a current-day audience. Flaws that we have never seen in the Superman of the 80s, when the hero was basically perfect.

What has changed in the years between Christopher Reeve and Henry Cavill? Rigsby posits that 9/11 was a major turning point in the superhero narrative. As our view of America became more flawed and realistic, so did our heroes.

“9/11 was a really shocking event, so we had a very strong need for superheroes. But not the same unquestioned belief in the righteousness of our way of life. We need that [our hero] to be real, and the flaws kind of help us see that.”

If our need for these characters is tied to anxiety, will that need disappear when, God willing, Americans have nothing to be anxious about? Rigsby doubts it.

“When things are going very well, people get a little less interested in superheroes. But I would be surprised if they ever died out completely.” – Sara LaFassett

Sara LaFassett and Jon Shatzer had high school students from Cleveland, Ohio, create the Superman character in 2013. The man of steel has fought for “truth, justice and the American way” in comic books. In the comic-turned-movie series, you might notice that the Man of Steel is a little different this time around.

“9/11 was a really shocking event, so we had a very strong need for superheroes. But not the same unquestioned belief in the righteousness of our way of life. We need that [our hero] to be real, and the flaws kind of help us see that.” – Sara LaFassett

You’ve lived a pretty adventurous life so far? Yes, much to my surprise I never expected to leave California when I was young. People just didn’t do that then. But Brother Alfred Broussard asked me to go to study at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. I thought I’d come back to California and that’s the end of that. When I was asked to go to the second novitiate in Rome in 1955–56 I had a wonderful time traveling all over Europe and the Near East. That sort of started me off.

What would you say is the secret to a successful traveling life? I always plan, but not too precisely. People will arrange every detail of their trip with every minute accounted for. But I think you should go to the start and stay there. When you get into a place, you sort of have to feel it in some way, get comfortable with it. You meet people, things happen. Then you plan your next move. It’s better to travel to a lot of places, but do less travel in a place.

You’ve done a lot of travel on freighters. What is life like on those ships? It’s wonderful. They don’t do anything for you except give you room and board. There are usually 8–12 passengers, in a confined space. You eat with the officers, but your time is your own. That’s what I like. But you’d better have something very interesting to do or think about. I was always writing or working or taking some project. I remember one person who brought along a piano and learned to play it. You get together with people who want to, but don’t have to. A nice little social life develops among the passengers and after 40 days, it’s so friendly and just feels like home. I hate to say goodbye.

Did you ever get seasick? Very little, except for the time when the ship, the President, Polk, hit the edge of a typhoon. The captain ordered us to go to bed, strap ourselves in and stay put until it was over. That ship went every which way you could imagine. It rolled back and forth and when it went over it went very slowly, creeping, trembling, stretched out and itself went over to the other side, creeping. I think that the one time I was really scared.

I’ll bet you develop a different relationship with the ocean? In one sense, it’s just there. It goes on and on, is vast, it’s very-present, huge. You don’t really have to think about it. But it is a kind of spiritual or mystical experience—a wonderful metaphor for eternity.

You’re pretty fearless, aren’t you? I sort of like the ‘What’s Next?’ in life. What’s the next adventure? Then it just goes to my subconscious. It’s never a conscious thought. After all, I’m 95 years old. I think it’s going to be a great adventure. I want nothing to do with fear.

Brother Dominic Ragusa is a classics scholar and archivist. He has written a book, Tales of a Brother Errant, about a lifetime of travel, adventure and archalogy.
About 670 miles off the east coast of the U.S. lies the island of Bermuda, ringed by a treacherous coral reef that has sent at least 150 ships to a watery grave.

Every year, a dozen daring students travel to this speck in the Atlantic to take part in a course at the Summer Field School in Maritime Archaeology, run by Saint Mary’s Professor James Allan ’70 and Rod Mather of the University of Rhode Island.

Professor James Allan ’70 is the executive director of the Institute for Western Maritime Archaeology and a sort of underwater Indiana Jones who finds buried treasures both at sea and on land. Beneath the streets of San Francisco, for example, his teams have discovered part of a Gold Rush-era ship and an intact whale-ship. For him the allure is the illusion of excitement when centuries dissolve in a moment of discovery and history becomes heart-stoppingly palpable.

“You’re working underwater—that’s already a little eerie—and you’re working with something that’s old, and there are moments when you have this absolute, positive, direct connection with the past,” he said. “You touch something that you know has never been touched in the last 400 years. It’s a very powerful thing.”

IT’S A CHALLENGING THING TO DO. THEY’RE REALLY NERVOUS IN THE BEGINNING. AND YOU CAN SEE THE PROGRESSION OVER THREE WEEKS. WHEN THEY LEAVE, THEY’RE DIFFERENT PEOPLE—MORE CONFIDENT, MORE SELF-ASSURED.”

—Teresa Castle

Diving Into Discovery

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“Almost without exception, they come away from it different people,” said Allan. “It’s a challenging thing to do. They’re really nervous in the beginning. And you can see the progression over three weeks. When they leave, they’re different people—much more confident, more self-assured.”

—Teresa Castle

During the four-week field school, students get a crash course in maritime archaeology, carrying out underwater research, conserving artifacts, digging into the archives of the National Museum of Bermuda, and prospecting for other sunken ships. They also come away with a formal certification as a scientific diver.

One of the students in this year’s summer class was senior Don La Barre. He had been dreaming of Bermuda since his senior year in high school, when he took Allan’s evening class in “Conservation of Underwater Artifacts” and caught ship-wreck fever.

“I started falling in love with the idea more and more and more,” he said. “It’s so rare to come to a small liberal arts college, which is an amazing school, and find a hidden maritime archaeology program.”

For some students, Allan said, the field school has been “truly a life-changing experience.” Several years ago, those students returned from Bermuda to pursue graduate degrees in maritime archaeology. Others find a different kind of buried treasure.

CELEBRATING SCHOLARSHIP

This summer recipients of the Joe Crane Endowed Scholarship gathered in Lodi for a reception celebrating this fund that has supported 18 Saint Mary’s students over the past 10 years. The event was hosted by Crane’s widow, Helen, at the滚动 Winery.

Joe Crane ‘53 established the scholarship for students from Saint Mary’s High School in Stockton, creating a permanent link between his alma mater and the Central Valley.

Stockton residents have raised more than $550,000 for the endowment. This summer’s event raised $17,000, including a check for $1,000 sent from Japan by the first scholarship recipient, Tito Han ’98.

FREEDOM RINGS

New Gael Rachel Harley ’17—with her parents Russell and Linda and Brother Dominic Bearadelli—rang the Korth Tower bell to commemorate Martin Luther King’s “I have a dream” speech. They joined hundreds of others across the nation on the anniversary of King’s landmark 1963 address in Washington, D.C.
Saint Mary’s Writes!

On a campus where student-centered education is paramount, the focus is on teaching. Nevertheless, Saint Mary’s faculty are quite active in research and publishing, as these highlights of the publications list illustrate.

In the MFA program, Brenda Hillman recently published Seasonal Works with Letters on Fire, the fourth in her tetralogy about the elements. A new member of the MFA faculty, Matthew Zapruder, has a fourth collection of poems, Sun Bear, forthcoming, and poet and MFA program manager Sara Mumolo’s first book of poetry, Mortar, comes out soon.

Lecturer Kenneth Worthy published Invisible Nature: Healing the Destructive Divide between People and the Environment; Art Professor Peter Freund edited a new anthology titled Trauma Desire Otherness; Dan Leopard, associate professor of communication, published Teaching with the Screen: Pedagogy, Agency, and Media Culture; Biology Professor Michael Marchetti, with J.L. Lockwood and M.F. Hoopes provided the second edition of Invasion Ecology.

Kathleen Taylor and Dean Elias in the Kalmanovitz School of Education contributed “Transformative Learning: A Developmental Perspective,” to The Handbook of Transformative Learning Theory.

Saint Mary’s sophomores Suzanne Denson and Mitchell Woodrow think big. And this year, they learned how to think even bigger when they represented Saint Mary’s at the Lasallian Summer Program on Leadership and Global Understanding in Philadelphia. Their experience was one of several opportunities this summer for Saint Mary’s people to immerse themselves in the thinking of Saint John Baptist de La Salle and take those teachings home to enrich their work.


Building Responsible Leaders

Jim Guyette ’67, the president and CEO of Rolls-Royce North America, and his wife, Kay, have provided a generous donation to the School of Economics and Business Administration to establish the school’s first endowed professorship in responsible leadership.

“The world requires wise, experienced and responsible leaders in every facet of society,” Guyette said. “What better place than Saint Mary’s to identify and develop them.”

The endowment supports a professor to lead a fellows program for promising students who will develop their leadership skills through service-learning and other experiences.

Lasallian Lessons

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Absolutely Avocados!

I’ve been obsessed with avocados for as long as I can remember. You can literally use avocados in almost anything! Even as a butter replacement in dessert. They are my favorite thing to do while I was still working as a private chef in Beverly Hills, running my food blog and planning my wedding at the same time. My husband, Thomas Dawson ’07, is my chief taste tester, website developer, plus full-time ad executive—a big job. I think he even eats over 500 avocados during the recipe testing and photography for the book and probably dozens more during my book tour.

To be honest, I just stumbled into the food world. I’ve always been obsessed with food, cooking for my friends in college was my favorite thing to do. I absolutely did not like my first job out of college, so I left and went to culinary arts school. I also applied to be a private chef for a family in Malibu. That’s where everything started. I worked with a few amazing celebrity clients in L.A. over the years as a private chef and now I just work full time for myself. My blog—“What’s Gaby Cooking?”—is my life!

AN APP FOR THE WILDLIFE

Think you have wild neighbors? Actually, we all have a lot more wild neighbors than we realize—creatures like owls and coyotes and bald eagles—and soon we may be able to use our smartphones to find out just who and where they are, thanks to Saint Mary’s faculty and students.

Through a project called “Facing the Future: Sharing Habitats with Wildlife,” SMC students and professors will collaborate with the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek to digitally map local wildlife and then develop a mobile app that will help people learn more about the complex web of life that surrounds them in the East Bay. The project, funded by a $50,000 grant from the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement and overseen by Professor Steve Bachofer, “gives students real-life hands-on experience in designing for a client and working in the real world,” said Math and Computer Science Professor Weiwei Pan, whose students will develop the mobile app in consultation with the museum.

The overall goal is to increase awareness of urban wildlife habitats among adults and children.

Women in Tech

Get the Thumbs Up

Saint Mary’s has something to offer Silicon Valley. Technology companies are excited about a proposed curriculum model that weeds technology and liberal arts, according to Mark Chiarelli, a major gifts officer at the College.

“They see it as an opportunity to have an impact on what learning is going to look like in the 21st century,” he said.

A recent gift from Facebook illustrates that interest. The $25,000 donation from the social media giant kicks off a scholarship fund for women interested in pursuing careers in technology. The Facebook Women in Technology Scholarship will support female digital media minors at Saint Mary’s.

Christina Reinhardt, associate director of development for individual giving, said the goal is to address the disparity between the number of women and men pursuing technology careers. The scholarship is an offshoot of a larger technology and learning initiative spearheaded by Communication Department Chair Ed Tywoniak, who noted that Facebook “values diversity” and is working to improve the pipeline of talent from U.S. colleges and universities.

Down to Earth in the Mile-High City

While some students use summer to take extra classes or relax, Magaly Garcia ’15 took a plunge that sent her over a thousand miles east and a mile above sea level.

As part of CILSA’s Alumni Summer Fellowship, Garcia spent her summer in Denver, Colo., working with the Sisters at the Loretto Community and helping at the Catholic Worker home, a community founded by the famed activist Dorothy Day.

At the Catholic Worker, she worked with the “guests”—homeless people who had been taken in by the Catholic Worker community—cooking for them and helping in the office. Through her interactions, Garcia learned about the issues facing the homeless in Denver and felt a sense of solidarity.

“We work together to make things happen,” she wrote in a blog she kept during her experience.

Garcia also learned about living simply, a part of the Catholic Workers experience.

“People didn’t really own a lot of things,” she said of the people she worked with. “They didn’t spend a lot of money on anything.” She even went dumpster diving to find food for the guests, and witnessed firsthand how much is wasted in our country.

Her most rewarding experience came from the connections she made and the stories she heard. Learning about the lives of the Loretto Sisters, the Catholic Workers, and those living at the home helped her realize, she said, that “you can have something in common with everyone.” —Jano Moser ’13
ROUNDTABLE

Like other social, cultural and political values, the meaning and perceived importance of privacy has evolved to respond to changes in institutions, practices and technology. For example, today's attitudes about privacy would have seemed bizarre to the Puritans. We are experiencing just such an evolutionary shift as technology and other developments redefine privacy and its importance. As with most social change, the process is advanced before people notice it. Efforts to return to some previous idea of privacy may delay but will not prevent change. Privacy as we once imagined it is gone and we'll better get use to it.

JASON SHELLEN ‘96
Aristotle helped define modern thought on privacy by making a clear distinction between one's public and political life, politics, and the private or domestic life, oikos. The introduction of technical means of communication has blurred these clear-cut lines for many governments. I've told friends and family for years that in the digital age privacy is an illusion. I am dismayed to see this observation confirmed so boldly by recent leaks and admissions. I welcome the public discussion about the right use of technology to ensure safety as well as the reintroduction of our domestic right to privacy.

LISA N. DOUGLASS ’99
general, Douglas & Associates
Our dependence on technology brings greater opportunities as well as risks. As we increasingly rely upon the digital world, we must be vigilant about all the tradeoffs. Our posts on social media, our web browsing and online photo albums, for example, all provide a rich source of data about who we are for marketers and the government. As individuals, we must keep aware of how our dependence upon the speed, convenience and connectivity of technology has closed the quiet lines for many governments. I've told friends and family for years that in the digital age privacy is an illusion. I am dismayed to see this observation confirmed so boldly by recent leaks and admissions. I welcome the public discussion about the right use of technology to ensure safety as well as the reintroduction of our domestic right to privacy.

PATTY BISHOP
SMC director of career development
A student's right to privacy may be at risk, despite new privacy laws, since recruiters have discovered in social media like Facebook a treasure trove of personal information about potential job applicants. Such information can have a negative impact on the student's ability to be hired. Often employers check to see if the person they interviewed on campus resembles that person on a Facebook page. To be safe, students should follow this advice: If you feel comfortable showing your Facebook page to your grandparents, you're in good shape. If not, you still have work to do.

RAND MORIMOTO MBA ’93
SMC trustee and former cyber security advisor to the White House
I run into people all the time who complain about government snooping, employers watching over them, that they have no privacy. But then I go online and the same people have posted everything about themselves on Facebook, Instagram, etc.—like personal pictures, home address, date of birth, the works. In this day and age, you need to think carefully about what YOU choose to share. Once it's out on the Internet, it'll always be out on the Internet.

HEATHER RODRIGUEZ
president of Security Innovation Network, member of SMC board of regents
I treasure my privacy, but I also want my family, community and nation to feel safe and secure. Balancing privacy and security has always been difficult, but the speed of cyberspace, global affairs and today's threats make this symmetry even more challenging. Responsible, ethical leadership from both the private and public sectors is necessary if we citizens are to trust that our judicial, executive and legislative branches of government are in check and will protect us from harm.

SAMEER BHALOTRA
COO of Imperiump and former White House senior director for cybersecurity
We value technology that makes our lives easier, more productive and more fulfilling. As cloud availability, mobility and wearable technology become part of the way we live and work, we increasingly value control over our own data and take a leading role in defining privacy. As a result, tech companies—particularly those built on very large amounts of user data—will place a higher priority on data protection, transparency of their data handling processes, and progressive thinking to meet consumer demand. We should embrace the desire for stronger privacy protections, which history tells us are essential elements of our society.

JOHN LOCKE (1632–1704)
British philosopher, Oxford academic and medical researcher,
The Second Treatise of Civil Government, 1690
To understand political power right, and derive it from its original, we must consider, what state all men are naturally in, and that is, a state of perfect freedom to order their actions, and dispose of their possessions and persons, as they think fit, within the bounds of the law of nature, without asking leave, or depending upon the will of any other man.

JANINE OGANDO ’89
attorney and former adjunct professor
Although we are generally a Lockean society, we continue to move away from it, giving up freedoms in the name of terrorism. The imperceptible shifts away from Lockean principles are due to a general desire for instant gratification, complacency and perhaps naiveté in our younger generations. Terrorism is scary, but it is not a top killer in our society. The failure by the government to explain to us the nature of any threats gives us nothing to weigh regarding whether we should be giving up our privacy rights, to what extent and for how long.
TECHNOLOGY NECESSITATES CONDENSATION. Elevator pitches are getting even shorter. We squeeze ourselves into dossiers, taglines and boxes as discomfiting as corsets. It makes the sweep of modern history more digestible, as the labels speak for themselves: the Greatest Generation begat Baby Boomers. Boomers begat Generation X. X begat Y; the Echo Boomers, the Millennials. And Z, the latest iteration, is safely packed in front of Grand Theft Auto V.

Except that “Greatest Generation” is rarely used as a pejorative and “Baby Boomer” has an alliterative oomph to it. Yet a number of professional and armchair sociologists—many of them Boomers—seethe at the very mention of Millennials. Among them is Dr. Keith Ablow, a FoxNews.com pundit for whom anyone between age 18 and 31 is “higher on drugs than ever, drunker than ever, smoking more, tattooed more, pierced more and having more and more and more sex, earlier and earlier and earlier.”

Dr. Ablow’s sentiments are supported by this year’s American Freshman Survey, a barometer of generational retrograde which revealed that Millennials’ collective self-image is at an all-time high—concurrent with significant decreases in aptitude scoring. Time magazine dubbed it the “Me Me Me Generation.” News items excoriating—and the few that exonerate—Millennials are run as cartoons, mocking this much-maligned demographic’s fondness for animation. In numberless op-eds they are classed as the Cut-and-Paste Generation, the Status Update Generation, the Unlucky Generation. Homeownership is down among Millennials. They are postponing marriage, starting families later.

The kicker? They are more unemployed than any other age group—but more optimistic and charitable, according to the Boston Consulting Group, which last year surveyed 4,000 Millennials between 16 and 34.
“Many of us will graduate with enough student debt to buy a house,” said Saint Mary’s student Josi Bailey, “yet we still stay positive. I think our high opinions are a coping mechanism we’ve developed so we don’t have to truly feel the weight of the world we are just starting to come into.”

If you’re a Boomer who’s confounded by Millennials, join the club. General confusion around Millennial-speak abounds. Who are these fauxchemians who open artisanal mayonnaise shops, snapping Instagrams of their dinner? Is it possible they think they can save the world by sourcing foods locally, in lieu of a ten-cent tax on grocery bags? How is it that they can populate an Excel spreadsheet in such skinny jeans?

Like every generation, Millennials are without precedent: confident, change-oriented and connected on one hand; disengaged, impatient and hyper-informal on the other. They’re in abundance at Saint Mary’s, which appeals to students because it is didely not—as some universities are—an extension of high school. Through campuswide service initiatives such as this year’s Great Bay Area Service Day for Schools—which drew nearly 800 volunteers helping out 21 area schools—Millennial Gaels find that they don’t crave validation as much as a chance to disprove their reputation for narcissism. “I think we’re trying to make the best of the world we’re currently living in,” said graduate student Chase Manning. “We still think we can save the world, and older generations don’t mean it is

Redefining the Generational Right-of-Way

Bailey and Manning are among those Millennial Gaels who are redefining the right-of-way. Last year, after volunteering in a soup kitchen, Bailey organized a rent strike to improve living conditions in an apartment complex in San Francisco’s Tenderloin district. And Manning, who translated sensitive North Korean military communications for the United States Army, elected to use his G.I. Bill to write moral young-adult literature.

Like many Millennials who tune out the Dr. Phils and Time cover stories—a means of self-preservation that many Boomers interpret as apathy—Manning finds the ad nauseum portrayals of the Millennial generation, in shows like 2011’s “Arab Spring” and “Kony 2012,” a double-edged sword: slacktivism entered the lexicon after it became apparent that clicking “thumbs-up” on a Facebook profile and donating $10 to a cause via one’s mobile phone, while conscience-clearing, were insufficient salves to the world’s ills. It doesn’t help that the hyped-up sexting phenomenon—a dangerous and exploitative epidemic to some, a blase aspect of modern dating to others—has obscured Millennials’ many worthwhile (albeit not uncontroversial) applications of technology, including 2011’s “Arab Spring” and “Kony 2012.”

To Manning, the vast potentialities of social media are linked to—but don’t necessarily inform—young people’s personal and professional goals. “Millennials have a strong desire to make their lives worthwhile,” Manning said. “The problem is that they don’t always have the means or knowhow to do it. So they are stuck in jobs that they don’t really want to be in, stuck in a stagnant state of longing.”

Generational Gaps: Real or Conjured?

Scant attention is paid to the elasticity—as in, the range of differences in technological comprehension, “gamer” intensity and aesthetic sensibilities—among Millennials as a whole. Anyone born in 1983 can recall the anguish of dial-up Internet speeds, while a current Saint Mary’s sophomore might be appalled that at one time cell phones were confiscated in high schools. Thirty-years-old today likely wrote their college admission essays on their families’ first desktop, while 19-year-olds might have done so on one (or several) iPhones. These gaps—especially with respect to technological usage across gender, racial and socioeconomic groups—have warranted emerging research into how an entire generation can be not only so difficult to define—the consensus is that a Millennial is anyone conceived during the Reagan and Bush (H.W.) administrations, though even this is up for debate—but also so dissimilar.

The unlikelihoods among Millennials pale in comparison to the generational tensions reported in the workforce. Millennials, when surveyed, say they crave mentorship but perceive the urgency of their motivation as intimidating to Boomers. According to Price-waterhouseCooper’s Managing Tomorrow’s People survey, Millennials also feel that older people insufficiently attempt to relate to the young, and are confused by their use of technology to create a personal brand—a strategy that Millennials use less to bolster their ego than to advance professionally.

Ultimately, the measure of the greatness of a generation is no longer obliterating technology to create a personal brand—a strategy that Millennials use less to bolster their ego than to advance professionally.

“I can see how my generation can come off as having undeservedly high opinions of ourselves.”

“I think that we are a product of the society that past generations have created for us.”

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so surprising that Millennial is not only an -ism but that it's apparently measurable. The Pew Research Center quiz, “How Millennial Are You?” yields individualized scores based on a 14-question cultural aptitude test, asking test-takers questions like:

• How important is living a very religious life to you personally?
• Were your parents married during most of the time you were growing up, or not?
• In the past 24 hours, did you play video games, or not?
• Do you have a tattoo, or not?
• Do you have a piercing in a place other than your earlobe, or not?

What one’s “Millennial Quotient” doesn’t help delineate are the fissures between the generations and their causes. One such difference Millennial Gaels identify between someone born in 1955 and 1985 is the way information is communicated—and this has resulted in several farcical efficiencies. For instance, we don’t retrieve our mail anymore: it retrieves us. Source code is the new poetry. Companies—such as San Francisco-based DODOcase—are disguising e-readers to look more like books.

Manners are also a concern, as many Boomers report feeling disrespected by Millennials.

“My generation tends to have a hard time saying ‘please’ and ‘thank you’ and ‘excuse me,’” said Bailey, “We don’t write thank you notes, and we don’t call each other. [We don’t] know how to send a professional email much less use phone etiquette, and that makes us sound rude when really we just weren’t taught how.”

“We are a generation of communicating in 140 characters or less via Twitter,” she adds. “It shows.”

The Kids Are All Right

If there has been any decline over the years in students’ curiosity or engagement at Saint Mary’s, it isn’t apparent to theology professor Michael Barram. “Across the College there is a faculty and staff committed to engaging students in a way that will encourage them to ask big questions about life and their place in it,” he recently told the National Catholic Reporter. In agreement are the 93 percent of Saint Mary’s students who reported discussing their career plans with a faculty member in 2012, according to the National Survey on Student Engagement.

If Millennial Gaels are not anomalous, they still comprise an imperfect demographic. Millennials’ unconsciousness of intellectual property—evidenced by music piracy and plagiarism—and cursory understanding of American history—relative to Boomers’ and Xers’ grasp—does little to reassure older people today. Yet, if seen as a continuum, our present culture closely mirrors the culture(s) of yester(s). George Clooney is an inverse of Ronald Reagan; Destiny’s Child is a scantily-clad Andrews Sisters; New Direction is The Osmonds, sans Marie. It is also likely that Millennials’ ritualization of sex—much bemoaned and maligned by Dr. Ablow—derivated in part from the pin-ups distributed to WWII servicemen under the guise that Betty Grable was the girl next door.

In this context it is likely that the “Average American” or “Main Streeter” in 1923 might have uploaded Gangnam-style parodies of themselves doing the Charleston on Vimeo; that Fitzgerald assuredly might have unfriended Hemingway on Facebook for the “poor Scott” reference in The Snows of Kilimanjaro; that Churchill would have rocked a Q&A on MTV.

So what really sets Millennials apart? It’s their immutable aplomb as impending custodians of households, industries, institutions. But this will only come to pass if they—if we—have a robust cheering section.

“We aren’t all selfish, arrogant, naive fools. Many of us haven’t given up on a brighter tomorrow. I know I haven’t.”

The Pew Research Center quiz: pewresearch.org/quiz/how-millennial-are-you/
The tiny clanging of 3,000 B.C. China, the ancient Roman tintinnabula, rounding peaks from medieval church towers, lonely campanillas on El Camino Real, and calls to supper on California ranchos. For thousands of years, human history has been punctuated by the rhythm of bells. So it is for the Saint Mary’s story.

**The Curious Case of the Missing Bell**

Saint Mary’s bells, like bells everywhere, tell stories—of lives lived, great adventures and deep belief. But like most bells, they tend to become part of the architecture and the ambient surroundings. On rare occasions we ring them; we sing the College anthem, “The Bells of Saint Mary’s,” and the recorded carillon in the Chapel belfry marks the hours. Otherwise, we give little thought to their provenance and storied journeys.

By GLORIA EIVE

**THE MISSING BELL**

San Francisco Mission Dolores, founded in 1776. Could one of Saint Mary’s bells have started here?

THE MUSICA DEPARTMENT OF LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY MUS-148, COURTESY OF THE LARSON COLLECTION, 97-01-17 (574), CALIFORNIA STATE ARCHIVES, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, SACRAMENTO, CA
Six bells are noted in Saint Mary's history, and four of them are on campus today. Each has its own unique narrative in College chronicles, but the most intriguing is the saga of the oldest bell of all—an elegant bronze mission bell, cast in Mexico in 1792, that mysteriously vanished one night from its quiet corner behind Assumption Hall.

It was first acquired by Brother “Bull” Andrew White, who marketed the Christian Brothers sacramental wine to ranchers in Sonoma Valley. The bell was a gift from one of Brother Andrew’s customers, a rancher who had used it for years to call his ranch hands to meals. The bell’s origins are uncertain, but it may have been the first bell acquired by the Franciscan mission in Sonoma, established in 1823—San Francisco de Solano de Sonoma.

However, the bell’s journey to the Sonoma Mission may have included residence at the San Francisco Mission as early as the 1790s. Three of the San Francisco Mission’s bells still hang in the special openings in its front wall and are still in use.

Currently the bell was acquired from the mission sometime before 1825 and used for a time by the San Francisco Presidio. Then, in answer to an urgent plea from Fray José Altamirat to Governor Luis Argüello, the bell was transferred to the Sonoma Mission in 1826. (Altamirat had received some Russian bells, made in China, as gifts from the Russians at Fort Ross. But what we now think of as the missing Saint Mary’s bell seems to have been the first authentic mission bell Altamirat had acquired for his Sonoma Mission.)

Delivery of the bell destined for the Sonoma Mission was entrusted to a British sailor named William Richardson—who had resigned, or was discharged by his captain or jumped ship; it’s not entirely clear which—neglecting his duties in order to dance all night at a fiesta in the Presidio. The journey from the Presidio to Sonoma to deliver the bell was Richardson’s honeymoon “cruise” with his new bride, the daughter of the Presidio commandant.

When the Sonoma Mission property was dispersed between 1834 and the mid-1850s—after the missions were secularized and General Mariano Vallejo had assumed administrative control of Sonoma and the surrounding region—the bell was likely acquired by a local resident, and ultimately, by the rancher who eventually gave it to the Christian Brothers in the 1930s.

The bell was installed at the Christian Brothers Novitiate and was used initially for ringing “strokes” announcing various religious exercises, and later temporarily for ringing “strokes” announcing the Christian Brothers sacramental wine to tomers, a rancher who had used it for years to call his ranch hands to meals. The bell’s origins are uncertain, but it may have been the first bell acquired by the Franciscan mission in Sonoma, established in 1823—San Francisco de Solano de Sonoma.

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IT’S NOT OFTEN THAT A PERSON HAS THE OPPORTUNITY to stay in one place for more than three decades and continue to move forward. The storied career of De La Salle High School’s former head football coach and teacher Bob Ladouceur tells such a tale. With a mix of grace, humility and record-smashing success, Ladouceur has embraced his Lasallian calling to become one of the most notable names in American athletics.

Ladouceur has been widely hailed for his feats as a football coach. From 1979 until his retirement as head coach this year, he compiled a record of 399 wins, 25 losses and 3 ties, 28 North Coast Section titles and multiple state titles, establishing the Spartans as a perennial powerhouse. After such a remarkable career, Ladouceur is often asked how he has been able to achieve success for so long.

“The only analogy I can make is like cooking up a killer stew,” he said. “There’s a ton of ingredients that go into it to make it taste good and make it work.”

Assembling winning teams for 34 straight years might seem like a tall order, but you have to look beyond touchdowns and victories to see the true story behind the legacy of Bob Ladouceur.

Part of that story goes back to Saint Mary’s College. In his early 20s while he was working at Contra Costa County Juvenile Hall, Ladouceur decided to enroll in continuing education classes in Theology and Religious Studies at Saint Mary’s, mainly to stay busy, as he put it.

“Saint Mary's own Brother Michael Meister, the high school’s head principal at the time, fondly remembers hiring a young Ladouceur.

“We were looking for someone who would bring the spirit and the mission of the Brothers to everything, including athletics,” said Meister.

Ladouceur knew from day one that De La Salle would be the perfect fit.

“When I finished my last interview with Brother Michael Meister, he didn’t ask me one football question; he asked me about my professors at Saint Mary’s,” Ladouceur explained. “The irony of being hired at De La Salle was I don’t think the Brothers were interested in me as a football coach that much.”

Meister knew Ladouceur would bring more than just a fresh face to the Spartans. “He right away brought a new spirit to the team,” said Meister. “It was amazing how he just took off.”

Brother Robert Wickman, De La Salle’s current principal, who also served in the same position from 1994 to 1998, has seen Ladouceur’s character shine through over the years.

“He really zeroes in on what’s unique and precious in each person he works with,” said Wickman. “It’s a very rare gift.”

Before reaching high school coaching fame, Ladouceur had some learning to do himself.

“I was in the religious studies department full time and had never been in the classroom before. It was really difficult for the first four or five years,” said Ladouceur. “It taught me how to learn. That’s what helped me get my foot in the door at De La Salle.”

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The Lasallian lessons he learned helped, too. Ladouceur walked across his office and picked up a framed copy of an 18th century Christian Brothers document, the “Twelve Virtues of a Good Teacher.” These twelve qualities—gravity, silence, humility, prudence, wisdom, patience, reserve, gentleness, zeal, vigilance, piety and generosity—have remained close to his heart on the gridiron and in the classroom.

Though he was routinely tested throughout his career, Ladouceur never seemed fazed by the pressure. “Nobody could put any more pressure on me than I could put on myself,” he said. “I already demanded and expected a lot from myself right from the first day I got here, and that never changed.”

The stakes were never higher than in 1998, when Northern California was pitted against Southern California. De La Salle was set to square off with powerhouse Mater Dei in Anaheim, and the players were ready to prove what Ladouceur preached.

“Nobody had any respect for Northern California football or for us. It was just expected that we were going to go down there and just get spanked and sent home,” said Ladouceur. “When we won there and just got spanked and sent home,” said Ladouceur. “When we won that game, it established us as legitimate and we got respect. We became California’s team and it stayed that way. I am very proud of that.”

It was only one win, but it was a critical turning point. Over 12 perfect seasons, De La Salle won 151 consecutive football games under Ladouceur, earning a place in high school football folklore. Reaching such a record fueled a media craze, but Ladouceur kept his sense of perspective. “I really felt like I didn’t have to win or lose here. My success at the school wasn’t going to be based on my coaching record. I liked that.”

Ladouceur’s humility had a profound impact not only on his career, but in the hearts of the many young men under his leadership. Garrett Abel ’09 said that “Coach Lad,” as he is affectionately known to his players, “led by example” both as a coach and a person. “His humility after all of his success made us feel that we were not playing to break records or win championships but carrying on a long tradition of brotherhood and hard work.”

Brotherhood has become a defining term for the program, something that Blair Wishom ’09 has carried with him to college football at Northern Arizona University. “As a coach he pushed us to strive to achieve our potential every practice and game,” Wishom said. “He had a way of making young adults hold themselves, along with their teammates, accountable for their actions on and off the field.”

Although Ladouceur will no longer be the head football coach at De La Salle, he will continue to guide all Spartans in the right direction. Brother Robert Wickman expects nothing less. “His pursuit of excellence in how he teaches and how he coaches is rooted in an image he has that God gives everyone grace and gifts.”

**Weekend of Welcome Introduces new students to Saint Mary’s, with a slate of events—a BBQ, a carnival, Saturday of Service, and the gloriously messy “Paint the SMC” experience. But the thing that really gets wows from families is the lightning quick move-in strategy.**

“I don’t know any other school that does it the way we do,” said Director of New Student and Family Programs Jennifer Herzog. “Volunteers do all the work of moving students into their rooms.” She compares it to a NASCAR pit crew: The family pulls up front of the residence hall to cheer as waiting volunteers who descend upon the car, empty it out and move the boxes at lightning speed. The entire process, from driving onto campus to being totally moved in, takes about 15 minutes, Herzog said. “The students think it’s cool, for sure, but it’s the parents who are saying WOW!”

As the heart of the whole thing are the Wowees, a cadre of 71 students who trained for two intensive weeks to get ready. “We learned leadership skills, icebreakers and how to use inclusive language, like not calling freshmen ‘kids,’” Mitchell Woodrow, a sophomore, said with a smile. Another 44 student volunteers pitched in.

And the enthusiasm was contagious. New students turned out in force for everything. They and their families filled the Chapel to overflowing for the Sunday mass; 200 participated in Saturday of Service at various locations in the area; the farewell BBQ drew 1,000 attendes, while turnout for painting the SMC was so big that they had to divide the painters into two groups. All new freshmen, along with President James A. Donahue, participated in a discussion of the common reading assignment, The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot.

“It was a great weekend. Maybe the best way to describe it is wow!”
Inspired

In January 2007, Saint Mary’s alumnus Bryan Navarro ’10 lived on a bus in the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans while helping with relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city. In the process, he learned not only about how to help people in need but also about how to tell a compelling story.

Navarro’s path since has taken him to Oregon and Arizona to work as a multimedia journalist, but it all started with January Term helping to rebuild New Orleans communities with Professor Shavney Anderson, where he could see the impact of such work.

“You could see the difference in the residents’ faces,” he said. In later classes, wanting to do more, he returned to New Orleans and went to the Brazilian Amazon, each time documenting the experience through video.

Back at Saint Mary’s, Navarro followed his new passion, taking courses in screenwriting and video production and working at Gael-Vision. In December 2009, he made a big splash with a memorable video of a rare snowfall at Saint Mary’s that quickly went viral. By then, he was on a roll, shooting the West Coast Conference basketball tournament and the Gaels’ NCAA Sweet Sixteen run in his senior year. At the WCC tournament, a mentor said, “We gotta get you doing news.”

So Navarro jumped into journalism after graduation, working as a reporter for an ABC affiliate in Medford, Ore., and then as a multimedia journalist in Tucson, Ariz. He became a one-stop shop for journalism—writing, shooting and editing—fueled by his passion for telling stories. Now he has come full circle, recently taking a job shooting video for Saint Mary’s.

And while Jan Term is now a memory, Navarro recognizes all that he learned—not only journalism skills but also unforgettable life lessons.

“I had this opportunity to go somewhere, embed myself, and try to convey that experience and let people know what was going on,” Navarro said. “The story was never about us being there, or what we were doing—the story was about what needs to be done.” —Jaae Moises ’13

LEARN AND SERVE IN RWANDA

Are you a lifelong learner? Do you love to travel? You are invited to join CILSA for an amazing international learning and service trip to Rwanda, Africa, in March 2014. Register by January 31, 2014.

A Lamorinda GEM

RYAN ’97 AND KIM THOMPSON ECR ’96, ’97

It was during our years at Saint Mary’s that students discovered Diamond Dave, leading to what we call the ‘integration’ at Peter’s, where students began dancing and singing with people who were anywhere from 40 to 80 years old or more. What other entertainer, in a ten-minute span, could get a 70-year-old to shake their rump to Sir-Mix-A-Lot and a 22-year-old to waltz to Frank Sinatra?

TONY GALLETTI ’97

What I love about Diamond Dave besides his amazing performances, is that he creates these mini-reunions once you graduate. Wherever he is, you can count on running into someone you knew from college.

CHRIS CARTER ’97 MA ’02

I first met Diamond Dave around 1996. He was developing a good reputation as a local performer at Peter’s in Lafayette. I was told that he knew every song ever written so I had to go check him out. I invited him by requesting a random song by the band Dire Straits. He didn’t know it, but the next night I was there again. I saw him in the crowd and said, ‘This one is dedicated to the Dire Straits fan in the audience.’ And he played it. From that point on, I was a fan.

ROBYN (TAYLOR) HEISE ’05

Right after college, around 2002, my then boyfriend and I went to Peter’s every Wednesday night for a few months. Because there weren’t that many people on Wednesday nights, I got to talk with and get to know Dave fairly well. One night, around 2 a.m. as the bar closed, my then boyfriend ditched me and left with his friends. It was pouring rain and I was alone, cold, tired and waiting for my cab outside when Dave came out. He was heading to his car and saw what a pitiful mess I was and offered to give me a ride home. I accepted. He dropped me off at home and never mentioned it again. He was a blessing that night.

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Sweet Music

Two alumni—Dr. William Feaster MBA ’93 and Sandra Feaster MBA ’89 of Half Moon Bay—donated a Steinway grand piano to Saint Mary’s in June. It was the star attraction in a concert in the Chapel in September featuring faculty and student performances. The concert was a fundraiser for SMC choirs featuring faculty and student performances. The concert was a fundraiser for SMC choirs traveling to Latvia for the summer 2014 World Choir Games.
Baby on Campus

Not many people can say that they started out in college before they graduated from high school—or even grade school—but one-year-old Owen Jones can, because he has lived at Saint Mary’s since birth. Owen is the first child of Math Professor Chris Jones and his wife, Mary Volmer ’01 MFA ’05, a novelist, SMC instructor and former director of the Honors Program.

Since 2005, Jones has also been the resident director of Assumption Hall, the freshman honors and science dorm. He and Volmer have setup house in Assumption since 2007, and they never considered having it any other way. “The thought entered my head, ‘Are we crazy?’” said Jones, “but not in any serious way.”

Owen, who was born last October, has fit right into dorm life, attending soccer games, campus barbeques and math department events. “Wrap him up and go,” laughed Volmer. “Pretty much all the girls were excited about him,” Jones recalled.

Young Owen, strapped onto his daddy’s or mommy’s chest, has been a happy, frequent sight on campus.

During his tenure at Assumption, “Jonesy,” as he is affectionately known, has changed the residence hall into a distinct SMC subculture. Residents refer to themselves as “Assumptionites,” and members of the dorm speak fondly of their experience.

The addition of Owen has only increased the sense of community. Residents feel comfortable talking to me as the resident director, they might be able to speak to me as the mom of Owen,” said Volmer.

And the students can’t resist the allure of a baby in the dorm. “He would always be out in the hallway with Mary, playing, and all the students would come say ‘hi,’” recalled Sasha Worth ’15, who has known Owen since birth.

Over the years, residents have recognized both Jones and Volmer in ways that under-score their affection and admiration. When the couple announced their engagement in 2006, Assumptionites hosted a surprise party, and last year, Megan Haliski ’11 and Cristin Seppa ’11 planned a surprise baby shower. They invited current and former Assumptionites through Facebook, and more than 70 people returned to honor the newest addition to the Assumption family.

“Want to celebrate that they are going to be such awesome parents, just as they were mentors to us,” Haliski said. “We wanted to congratulate them both for the next stage in their lives.”

The class dinners were held outside on the Chapel lawn for the first time. “The view of the Chapel is something that so many alumni connect with,” said Courtney Lohmann, associate director of alumni and volunteer engagement. “We thought, what could be more special than dinner under the stars in front of the Chapel?”

It is Tuesday

From room to room after you left I wandered a while in the hours I have cooked the mushroom soup as instructed picked up a paperback I once read but forgot had some coffee it is quiet I don’t know why all afternoon I think of you in the traffic the rain peacefully falling like some plastic beads from the ‘70s when they took all the doors off the closets and our parents smoked all night downstairs and laughed too loud we couldn’t hear what they were and what they knew if you hate me it must be for ancient reasons

Saint Mary’s alumni celebrated family in its many forms at the annual alumni reunion. More than 700 alumni returned to campus from July 19 to 21 to reminisce and reconnect.

“It’s like a family: once you’re in the family, it’s your community,” explained Dick Claeys ’63. His father, Reder S. Claeys ’32, and daughter, Carla Rodriguez ’93, also attended Saint Mary’s. “She likes to remember she is the only one in the family who graduated magna cum laude,” Claeys laughed.

For Claeys and other members of the class of ‘63, SMC’s 150th anniversary brought back memories of the College’s centennial, which was marked during their senior year. Claeys was on the centennial planning committee and remembered listening to the main speaker, then-Vice President Lyndon B. Johnson, and dancing to “Les Brown and His Band of Renown.” Fifty class of ‘63 members returned for their 50th reunion and to mark the occasion, they held a nostalgic seminar on the Seminar—and how it shaped their lives.” —Caitlin Graveson ’11

THE PROPOSAL

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2013
Lori S. Gentles EMBA, associate vice president, human resources, safety and risk management at San Francisco State University, has been appointed vice president for human resources/ diversity and inclusion at California State University Fullerton. This summer, she stepped into her new role at the most populous of the Cal State system’s 23 campuses.

In announcing the appointment, Cal State Fullerton President Mildred Garcia characterized Gentles as a change agent in her field. “She has been on the forefront of shifting the focus of human resources from operational and transactional to strategic and transformational, empowering HR staff to be creative in delivering value-added services and innovative solutions.”

At Cal State Fullerton, Gentles will lead a newly created division for the university, overseeing an expanded unit that has been part of the Division of Administration and Finance. The vice president will report directly to the president and is responsible for the development of university-wide human resource strategies for the areas of academic personnel, diversity and equity, recruitment/employment, payroll, compensation/classification, benefits, employee/union relations, risk management, and environmental health and safety.

Mariah Miller heads to Pacific University for a three-year Doctorate of Physical Therapy program in Hillsboro. Oh, you fall?

2011
A former student photographer for College Communications Icons, Gabrielle B. Diaz was married to Joshua de los Reyes July 5, 2013. Since getting her B.S. in Biochemistry, Gabrielle has finally finished her first year at UCSF School of Dentistry. She will begin her second year late in the fall. In the meantime, she has vacationed at Disney World.

Carolyn Nixaman and Lieutenant Paul Baker United States Army, were married on October 20, 2012 at the Saint Mary’s Chapel.

2009
1. Eileen Eldridge MS and Adam Mills ’06 wed this past May at Hans Fahden Winery in Calistoga, Calif. They were surrounded by many fellow Gaels, Nicole McMahon ’05, maid of honor, Ann Zinskie ’06, best man, and groomsmen. Schon Measurer ’06 MBA ’08 and Larry Todd ’06 MBA ’08 Eleanore and Adam are pictured at their wedding party.

2008
1. Former student photographer for College Communications Icons, Jonita Braid returned to her hometown of Down Valley, Calif. in 2009. Catriona has worked in a group home serving severely emotionally disturbed teens since November 2010. Most recently as a therapeutic behavioral services specialist. The job is trying but also has its rewards, and Catriona recently celebrated the transition of one of her long-term students into a lower level of care. The job has led her to a passion for work with this population and she plans to apply to master’s programs for social work beginning in fall 2014. Catriona lives the East Bay to visit alumni, friends and former students whenever possible.

2. After teaching for two years at a bilingual Chinese school, Claudia Hawkins left for a yearlong adventure in Japan. She’ll teach English and exploring and will live in the countryside in a city called Matsumoto.

3. David Reed married Shannon Shaw on April 20, 2013. They met in their Media Law class during senior year and held their ceremony in the Saint Mary’s Chapel, back where it all began. Their wedding party included Jennifer Carey, Joel Woods ’05, Ian Cook, Crec Thompson and Craig Thompson. David and Shannon live in Sacramento, Calif.

4. Mary Vrableis MBA published a book last December with co-author [and faculty member] Jyoti Bachani. Strategy in Nonprofit Organizations: A Model and Case Studies grew out of what she learned in the Executive MBA Program and continued scholarship with Professor Bachani. They hope readers will share their book with anyone who works with or volunteers for nonprofits and wishes to apply business principles to such activity. They are pictured celebrating the publication of their book.

5. Elizabeth Morales was proposed to by Jaime Zapata on July 13, 2012, at the spot in the quad where they met. She said yes! Then they celebrated with family and friends with a picnic on the Chapal lawn. Jaime and Elizabeth toasted their engagement with fellow alumni Rebecca Almanza, Hugo Leon and Juan Zaragoza.

2006
Catherine Dogan has published a book, The Lost Laws of Ireland, offering an intriguing glimpse into early Irish society. Known as Brehon Law, this legal system reveals a complex society in which learning was revered, social mobility was expected, women had certain property rights, such as divorcing and inheriting property, and fairness and harmony were social goals. With laws the customs of the people, written by judges, 7th-century Ireland was a highly developed society that marked contrast to practices in feudal Europe.

2008
Veronica Chung is back home after teaching for two years with JET (Japanese Exchange and Teaching Program). She brought to her teaching creative and effective ways to motivate her students to learn to speak English. A major accomplishment was teaching and mentoring students for a national speech contest in Tokyo. For the first time in Awaji Island’s history, two students, under Veronica’s leadership, won first and second place for the prefectural contest. She was also able to embrace the culture and learn some of the language by being involved in the community, teaching adult English conversation classes, for example. This opportunity allowed her to not only travel throughout Japan but also visit the Philippines, Taiwan and India. These many life experiences changed her life and benefited her students.

To read more about her many adventures, see her blog at Joeleer.wordpress.com. She is pictured with anyone who has her students.
On July 2012, Annie (Begar) and Todd Callahan ’05 were married in the Saint Mary’s College of California Chapel by Monagnor Cardelli. A beautiful outdoor reception was held at the Grove. The wedding party included other SMC alumni: Sally (Gee) Savigton ’05, cousin of the bride, Brooke (Sommerhalder) Beck, and Cameron Thompson ’03. Since graduating, Annie has earned her Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies and Master of Public Health. She works as a dermatology physician’s assistant in San Ramon. Todd works in the home building industry. They live in Pleasanton with their pup, Ellie.

2004 10 Joe Legas (right) and Chris Gargano ’90 (left) received San Francisco Giants World Series rings during a ceremony at SMC on May 2. The two have worked together in the Gaeta marketing department since 2008.

Mary (Hudson) Luros was recently named to the 2013 Northern California Super Lawyers Rising Stars list by the San Francisco Top Women Attorneys in Northern California list. Mary is a partner and business attorney at Hudzon & Luros, LLP in Napa, California.

11 Jeanne (Morgan) Lovel and her husband, Philip, welcomed their first child and future Gaels, Cooper Egan, on June 26, 2012. Cooper weighed 8 pounds and was 21 inches at birth. Jeanne also received her M.A. in History from Cal State East Bay in March 2012. The Lovels live in San Ramon, Calif.

2003 12 Dr. Corinne Devin was crowned Ms. United States last year, serving through this July, when she turned over her crown at the pageant in Washington, D.C. Currently she is deployed in Japan where she proudly serves the military on active duty and their families at United States Naval Hospital Yokosuka. Corinne will work with Smiles Changes Lives, the American Cancer Society and local community organizations as she serves in Asia ambassador for the Miss United States organization.

2012 13 Kyle Moshrefi has begun a custom suitting and shirting business start-up in San Francisco called Kipper Clothiers. Kyle and his co-founders provide custom, premium craftsmanship, and reliable customer service to the LGBT community.

2001 14 Michael Murphy graduated from the James Graduate School of Business at Rice University in May 2013. He received an MBA with a concentration in Healthcare Administration. He is pictured receiving his MBA at Rice.

2019 15 Ryan Whitney and his wife, Jessica, were honored at the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco by San Francisco Police Chief Greg Suhr. Captain Greg McGaeham from Northern Station, Supervisor London Breed (DS) and San Francisco Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White. Ryan is a special agent for the federal government’s Homeland Security Investigations for the San Francisco Police Department.

2000 16 Lauren (Lovett) Illingworth and her husband, Brendan, welcomed their son Holt Russell II. Illingworth on May 2, 2013, and bought their first home in Livermore, Calif., in July.

1998 17 Stephen Maloney received the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s 2013 Phil N. Knutson Award for Creativity and Risk-taking in Ministry, for his advocacy for the homeless, collaborating with students and community leaders to address homelessness in Palo Alto, Calif.

2003 18 Catherine Stefani of Moss & Hough, a law firm specializing in labor and employment law. He received his law degree at Golden Gate University School of Law in 2011.
1989
Colonel Marie (Reyes) Eoff was awarded the Legion of Merit at the completion of her assignment at the U.S. Army Materiel Com-
mand at Redstone Ar-
senal, Ala. She attends the National Defense University’s Dwight D. Eisenhower School for National Security and Re-
source Strategy at Fort McNair, Wash-
ington, D.C. during this 2013–2014 aca-
demic year. The school pre-
pared selecte.

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C.C. Charney was recently appointed strategic alliance as-
 sociate for VSP Global in Rehoboth, Del. She and her part-
nner, Kim Hall, moved to the Sacramento area in 2011 to be
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1984
She and her new family are developing a new home in the
country. After being married to Tom in October 2012. They celebrated their marriage on a trip to Portugal and Paris
in June 2013. She is the executive director of Calypso Domestic Violence Services.

1972
Mark Barclay is a retired California De-
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with his wife, Veronica
(Loped) ’74. They
welcome contact with past SMC friends at
vlandemb@cox.com

1971
Glenn Willems-
ken, of New Haven, Conn.
and (foot shown) 
Rosie Westbrook is proud to announce
that he has won the
annual Palm Springs Pie-eating contest. He
has been training hard for
this event.

1983
Louis Lotorto, Jr.,
Manager of Theatre
and Visual Culture is a
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1968
24 White attending Saint Mary’s College from 1964–1968. Joe Manfreto worked part time at Jory
Motors in Oakland, selling cars with his
dad, Joe C. Manfreto. Joe says he once saw
his dad die for 14 days on one Saturday.
In June 1968, after graduating with a B.A. in business,
Joe went to work a week later at Cochran
and Celli in Oakland. He
told cars there until
1972 and then
moved to Good Chevy-
rolt in Alameda. In
1979 he became the
general sales manager
at the Chevorlet deal-
ership. He managed the sales team for 30
years until the store
closed in winter 2008
due to the economic

1979
22 Jose Valera wanted to inform us of a
wonderful accomplish-
ment of a classmate
of his. Susan Beall
won the Women’s 55–59 year-old age
group gold medal in
the 100 meters in the
2013 National Senior Games competi-
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Susan looks anything
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1966
Raymond S. Yosi
and his wife, Veronica,
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The Privacy Gap

TWO RECENT EVENTS underscore how advances in technology create new threats to the government, and, at the same time, increase the government’s capacity to intrude into the private lives of its citizens:

First, a secretive branch of the Chinese military conducted cyber-attacks on the nation’s largest media companies, including the New York Times and the Washington Post. Second, citing the threat of terrorism, the Justice Department secretly obtained two months of telephone records of reporters and editors for the Associated Press, and, under a top-secret court order, collected the phone records of millions of Verizon customers in the United States.

Our society faces novel questions: How can basic privacy principles be applied to internet search engines that, by their very nature, gather information automatically without our consent for unknown future purposes? When anyone with a mobile phone and access to social media can be considered a “journalist,” how should we consider our graduates’ capacity to participate in the deliberations of civic life?

In responding to these challenges, leadership and learning are indispensable to each other. Today’s young people must inform themselves about these issues, since they must face them as citizens.

In today’s technological environment, can our government guard both national security and the privacy of its citizens? On the one hand, governmental power must be commensurate with the power of the external forces that threaten it. Otherwise its survival is at risk. Predictably, therefore, the government tends to give “interests of state” priority over the interests of the individuals on whose behalf it governs. It is that so, who guards the guardians? In our system it is the law, particularly our foundational law, the Constitution, that limits governmental power. Heraclitus, the law seeks to “keep pace with the times” by adapting past rules to contemporary disputes. Reasoning by analogy, prior rulings are extended to novel circumstances. For example, DNA swabs are akin to fingerprints; the internet is similar to broadcast media.

In practice, however, the law always lags behind technology. Four types of problems arise as the law struggles to keep pace with technological change: The need for laws to ban, restrict, or encourage new technology; uncertainty in applying existing legal rules to new practices; the danger of over-inclusiveness or under-inclusiveness of existing legal rules as applied to new practices; and the potential obsolescence of existing legal rules. The gap between our rapidly changing technological environment and our capacity to create laws continues to widen.

To conclude, let me return to Thomas Jefferson: “I know of no safe repository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to increase their discretion by education.”

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Blue Sky Time
An important part of the learning experience is taking time to chill.