THE CHALLENGE

St. Cyril Academy Alumnae Association

Danville, PA 17821-1699 Winter 2018

**FROM THE MODERATOR**

Dear Alumnae,

For many years, Sister Teresa Urda has been Moderator, teacher and friend to so many of you. She loved the Academy and all of you, and she will always be missed. Inspiring us now from Heaven, may she enjoy the peace and happiness she so well deserves.

Much gratitude extends to Maryann Kowalczyk for generously agreeing to write and edit our CHALLENGE. Please continue to send her your news. Everyone enjoys reading it.

We look ahead to our next Homecoming with great excitement. Be sure to save the date: October 20, 2018, on your calendar, and start contacting your classmates and friends to join us on that day. It’s so much fun to gather and share stories of the past and present, usually ending up laughing and remembering happy and sad events from former days at SCA. I look forward to seeing you all. Blessings!

Sister Donna Marie, SSCM (’52)

**FROM THE EDITOR**

Dear Alumnae,

Thanks for helping me to get *The Challenge* back on track. My special thanks go to Joanne Stahura (’59) who delved into the mysteries of password protected computing to retrieve as yet unpublished items collected by Sister Teresa Urda. Joanne also recreated the mailing list for The Challenge that went permanently astray. I look forward to receiving your news by whatever means is convenient (though I would appreciate any phone calls before 7:00 PM (East Coast Time)). There is no replacing Sister Teresa but I will strive to serve your reporting needs with energy and look forward to getting to know you and share a small piece of your lives.

Maryann (“Mercy”) Kowalczyk (’64)

**ALUMNAE NEWS**

Mary Jo Kudela Ostapovicz (’57) and her husband, Cas, are retired Federal government workers and live in Charlestown, WV. They are parents to two daughters and a son and enjoy spending time with their 12 grandchildren.

Gloria Musil Vadovic (’64) and her husband, Joe, spend their time between New Jersey and Florida. They especially enjoy spending time with their grandchildren who recently visited Gloria and Joe at their home in Smithville, NJ, near Atlantic City.

Deborah Brady Snyder (’70) and her husband, Earl, live in Shamokin Dam, PA. Both are now retired but Deborah is currently associated with the Susquehanna Valley Education Project.

Grace Zaretti Conti (’67) and her husband, Danny, proudly announced the birth of their second grandchild, Presley James Ault, born 5 September 17, to daughter Lisa and her husband, James.

On another note, Grace reported that she and a number of her classmates took a vacation trip to Las Vegas in October. These women have been traveling together annually for several years and extend an invitation to all alumnae, from any class, who wish to participate in future trips. Contact Grace directly via [gzconti@gmail.com](mailto:gzconti@gmail.com)..

**MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.**

Please remember in your prayers the deceased and their families.

Alumnae:

Sister M. Mercedes (Voytko), SSCM (’49)—8 September 16

Margaret Janosov Cammisa (’42)—10 November 16

Sister M. Karen (Wilson), SSCM (’54)—24 November 16

Jana Mokran Ruc (’77)—9 December 16

Maryann Balas Gordon (’67)—12 December 16

Maria Paula Yanachek (’64)—15 December 16

Sister M. Rosamund (Dupock), SSCM—14 January 17

Mary Frances Biederman Wallace (’81)—23 February 17

Margaret Rhoades Kmiecinski (’48)—12 March 17

Sister Teresa Urda, SSCM (’60)—2 April 17

Carol Gall (’58)—20 April 17

Bernardine M. Stahura (’51)—8 May 17

Sister M. Isadore (Tomascak), SSCM ( ’47)—9 May 17

Audrey Morrison Sexton (’56)—7 July 17

Mildred (“Nancy”) Stevenson Gerst (’57)—23 September 17

Bernice Zavada Kenderes (’58)—December 2017

Family Members:

Walter Shultz, husband of Rose Mary Nicholas Schultz (’56)—27 Janurary 17

Rudolph (“Rudy”) Ehritz, husband of Joan Fandl Ehritz (’60)

Julie, daughter of Kathleen Wintersteen McWilliams (’66)—24 February 17

Margie Pape, mother of Patricia Pape (’79)—29 June 17

Mary “Evelyn” Kuprevich, mother of Deborah Kuprevich Zimmerman (’77)—3August 17

Theodore Mika, husband of Sonya Zuzov (’57)—29 September 2017

Joseph James Mowad, MD, father of Christen Mowad, MD (’83)—7 November 17

Gertrude (“Trudy”) Marie Read, sister of Ida Johnson Cherasaro-Neal (’53) and Lucy Johnson (’62)21 November 17

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:**

The special intention of Lydia Gluvna Grohol (’64).

Babara Weniger (’54), on the death of her brother in 2016.

**SPECIAL:** Those who would like to receive a copy of the Remarks of Remembrance of Sister Teresa Urda by Sister Michael Ann Orlik (’67), General Superior of the Sisters of Saint Cyril and Methodius, please contact Mercy Kowalczyk and she will mail them directly to you as they are too lengthy to reproduce here.

**HOMECOMING:**

**Please mark your calendar: 20 October 18**

This year the following Jubilee Classes will be celebrated:

1938-1939 80 Years 1958-1959 60 Years

1942-1943 75 Years 1967-1968 50 Years

1948-1949 70 Years 1992-1993 25 Years

1953-1953 65 Years

Please take the initiative to contact your classmates if you are in a Jubilee class. Homecoming invitations will be mailed in August. If you don’t receive an invitation, or you know of a friend or classmate who would like to receive one, please contact Joanne ([joannestahura1@verizon.net](mailto:joannestahura1@verizon.net)). The schedule of events may change this year so watch for this important mailing and future announcements.

**DUES:**

Alumnae Association dues remain at $10 per year. If you’ve skipped paying for a few years, the good news is that you do not have to pay any dues in arrears (though any such amount would be gratefully received); just start again with 2018. Please send your dues directly to Joanne Stahura, 1504 Poolside Drive, Hazle Township, PA 18202. Your check should be made out to: *SCA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION*. In the memo portion of the check please write: “ Dues” and the year.

**ADDRESSES OF THE 2016-2018 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

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**Treasurer:** Joanne Stahura ‘59 1504 Poolside DR, Hazle Township PA 18202

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Dues are welcome at any time. Please write the check to:

SCA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION and mail to:

Joanne Stahura 1504 Poolside DR, Hazle Township PA 18202.

**NEW ADDRESSES:**

The **Motherhouse** address now is: 1002 Railroad Street, Danville, PA 17821.

The new address for **Maria Hall** is: 190 Maria Hall Drive, Danville, PA 17821.

These new addresses are a great help in reaching the Sisters, particularly if a delivery of more than a first-class letter is involved.

**THE WEBSITE:**

Alumnae are encouraged to participate in the Academy website. The site is well maintained and contains information about alumnae, activities, photos, announcements, and recordings of the Magnificat and other music that raises our spirits. You can also post messages to classmates.

The site address is: [www.stcyrilacademy.org](http://www.stcyrilacademy.org). Sign in and select a password.

**MEMORIES OF SCA:**

This feature has been discontinued. Over the years, the favorites have been repeated countless times (though it was interesting to see how many alumnae remembered Regina Coeli and Mater Mea dorms, and how popular those donuts were during retreats!).

I hope we will be able to publish more about what alumnae are doing now and what they do/have done in their careers. You all have accomplishments to share, have raised prodigies, are nurturing children/grandchildren into future leaders. Some of you practice/have practiced professions in education, the arts, law, medicine, government, business, etc. It would be great to get to know more about each other as grown women, even as we share the roots of our success at SCA.

**SUBMITTING NEWS:**

Please include your full name, mailing address, phone, and e-mail (we will use this to keep mailing lists current as well as confirm receipt of your item and contact you with any questions/clarifications).

If you are reporting a death, please give the full name of the individual, their connection to you or other alumnae, the date of death, and any other salient information. We are interested in the births of children/grandchildren and their educational and other major achievements. If you travel, we’d like to hear about your adventures.

Please submit all items to:

Mercy Kowalczyk, 441 Twin Streams Drive, Warminster, PA 18974

[mercykowal@aol.com](mailto:mercykowal@aol.com) 215.880.2972 (phone or text)