

AOL REUNION: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

LONGWOOD UPDATE

AOLAlumnae.org

And a happy anniversary to you, 4's and 9's!



Photos by Barbara Brady Crotty '64

The memories come flooding back at Reunion 2018 for the class of '68.

The Academy of Our Lady Alumnae Association's All-School Reunion 2019 will be an hors d'oeuvres party (cash bar) from 5:30 to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, October 19, at the Hilton Oak Lawn Hotel, 93rd and Cicero Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL. All alumnae are invited. This year, graduation classes of years ending in 9 and 4 will sit together in the Grand Ballroom. A buffet of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, as well as dessert and coffee, will be served from 6 to 8 p.m.

REUNION RESERVATION FORM *Please fill in and mail with your check or money order, made payable to AOL Alumnae Association, to: AOL Alumnae Association, P.O. Box 558070, Chicago, IL 60655-8070.*

Name (include last name when at AOL)

Address

City

State ZIP +4

Phone (w/area code) E-mail

No. of reservations Amount enclosed Graduation year

A photo of each 5-year-anniversary class will be taken. AOL memorabilia, including shirts, caps and note cards, will be available for purchase, as will raffle prize tickets.

The Reunion price is \$55. Proceeds assist the Alumnae Office and the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

Advance reservations are necessary for the Reunion. Reservations may be made online using PayPal via our website, www.AOLAlumnae.org, or by mail. The Alumnae Office has sent invitation letters with reservation forms to 5-year-anniversary classes. Alumnae in other classes who wish to attend the Reunion may use the reservation form in this Update.

If reserving by mail, please complete the reservation form and send it with a check or money order, payable to the AOL Alumnae Association, to: AOL Alumnae Association, P.O. Box 558070, Chicago, IL 60655-8070. Reunion reservations received after October 14 will be \$60.

For alumnae who wish to stay overnight, the Hilton offers a group rate for guest rooms of \$135 (single or double) plus taxes. Guest room reserva-

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tions may be made online via a link from our website, or by calling 1-800-774-1500. Refer to the Academy of Our Lady Notre Dame Room Block (Group code Notre) for October 19. Group-rate reservations will be accepted until September 28, unless Reunion 2019's block of rooms is fully reserved before that date. The Hilton Oak Lawn's local phone number is 708-425-7800. Mention the Academy of Our Lady Alumnae Reunion October 19. The rooms go early, so reserve as soon as possible.

Campus visit: At 10:30 a.m. on the morning of the Reunion, alumnae and guests are invited to visit the former AOL campus. (Enter on Loomis Street, just

south of 95th Street.) Coffee in the foyer of the former Convent building will be followed by a short prayer service at the Lourdes Grotto and then a guided tour of the school buildings (now the Chicago International Charter School—Longwood campus). Free parking is available on the campus. Reservations are not necessary for the campus visit.

If you have a question, please e-mail **Marge Carroll** at mcarroll321@aol.com or call the Alumnae Office at 773-445-2300. When leaving a phone message, please include your current last name, your last name when at AOL, your graduation year and your phone number. On the phone, please speak slowly and clearly.



The class of '78 looking sharp.

Class Contacts hope to see you October 19

While updating their 5-year-anniversary class mailing lists, 2019 class contacts are encouraging classmates to attend the Reunion.

1944, 1989 and 1999: AOL Alumnae Office 773-445-2300

1949	Sister Miriam Patrick, SSND	miriampatrickcumplings@gmail.com	312-563-1855
1954	Marge Carroll	mcarroll321@aol.com	708-636-1588
	Kathleen "Mimi" Burke	2mandmgirls2@att.net	708-425-5022
1959	Charlene Molitor Oliver	Char4021@comcast.net	630-244-4195
1964	Ellen Hunt	ellenmhunt@rcn.com	773-370-1101
	Kris Kalnes Ross	educatorkris@gmail.com	630-406-9770
1969	Kay Humphries	kathleengrannum@aol.com	312-504-2918
1974	Georgette Thompson Collins	gqcbaby@sbcglobal.net	773-551-7169
1979	Nancy Banks	nbaka2@yahoo.com	773-981-8339
1984	Michel Linton Davis	MsMichellinton@gmail.com	773-853-1089
1994	Stephanie Snow	stephaniesnow77@outlook.com	312-714-3534

PLEASE PUT AOL ALUMNAE ON YOUR TO-DUES LIST

Do you and your AOL/Longwood friends still get together now and then? It's great, isn't it, to share your stories about your job promotions . . . about your children's—and eventually your grandchildren's—first steps . . . and, occasionally, sad news, too, because you know your AOL friends care. You attend Longwood Reunions when it's your 5-year anniversary—or more often.

The Reunion and this newsletter exist through the efforts of the all-volunteer Alumnae Board, whose members work to keep AOL's spirit alive. Our postage and mailing fees run more than \$8,000 a year. The website costs \$500 to maintain. And, through the generosity of our alumnae, the Alumnae Board donated \$8,100 last year to support the local ministries of the School Sisters of Notre Dame.

To maintain our current level of service to our alumnae and the Sisters, we ask that you support the AOL Alumnae Association by paying your annual \$20 dues. Please make it a habit to pay when you receive your Update.

Longwood Ladies: Positively Impacting Public Health using Faith and Science

Three AOL alumnae, **Diana McCullough May '74** (and an Alumnae Board Member), **Regina Greer-Smith '71** and **Gina Curry '87**, presented their community-based research at an international conference in San Diego last November. The meeting was sponsored by the American Public Health Association. Theme of the annual meeting and expo conference was “Creating the Healthiest Nation: Health Equity Now.”

Diana and Regina reported on their training program work with Pastors4PCOR, a grassroots partnership of faith-based communities, public health researchers, community advocates and health service providers. Pastors4PCOR aims to inform, inspire and engage congregations by increasing awareness of health disparities and promoting equity in research partnerships with academia and health care providers.

Pastors4PCOR has received two contracts from The Patient-



In-depth researchers, left to right: Regina Greer-Smith '71, Gina Curry '87 and Diana McCullough May '74

Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), a national non-profit, non-governmental organization funded under the Affordable Care Act. Pastors4PCOR now serves as a national model to engage faith-based communities in patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR).

A program developed by Pastors4PCOR with research facilitation teams trains and prepares faith-based community members for research collaboration. Research Ministry Ambassadors conducted more than 800 community health surveys on health condi-

tions and health-related factors in Chicago and Little Rock, AR, among predominately African-American residents. Chicago residents prioritized high blood pressure, diabetes and cancers, hoping for improved behavioral information and education, support for mental health, access to health care and insurance. Arkansas respondents chose high blood pressure, diabetes and obesity as

target conditions for prioritized action. The Research Ministry Ambassadors met with church leaders to address those concerns.

At the conference, Gina facilitated several presentations on her work, focusing on research and health interventions promoting diversity in medical clinical trials. One presentation, “Order Our Steps,” covered her workplace walking program for Chicago church employees presented for the Caucus of Occupational Health

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AOL/Longwood values accompany

Among AOL/Longwood alumnae are many sisters—siblings—who in their student days may have walked to school together or shared a bus ride to the campus. Two bright examples of this share the name Snow—Stephanie '94 and Erika '98. Their lives after high school have gone in different directions, but—as these profiles make clear—both have taken their AOL/Longwood lessons to heart.

When Erika graduated in 1998, she received the Mother Caroline Award named for AOL's founder. The award's wording stated: "[Erika] it is our hope that you will follow the example of Mother Caroline, listening with your heart to the voices of humanity and using the gifts God has given you, to love and serve God's people in the future, as you have already done at Longwood Academy."

And where has life taken her since 1998? Not exactly along the path she thought it might, but routed toward success and satisfaction.

After AOL, Erika enrolled at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she studied for a year and a half. Then an internship at CNA Insurance in Chicago turned into a full-time job: "I was asked to work on a Y2K project to create coding for new programs supporting all of CNA's data in the event of a system crash when the year turned 2000."

She did not return to the university, but has over the years earned insurance designations of Associate in General Insurance and Associate in Insurance Services



Erika Snow '98

through the American Institute for Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriters.

Today Erika is an assistant vice-president of General Reinsurance Corporation ("Gen Re"), a corporate reinsurer in Chicago.

"My current role," she explains, "involves evaluating policy and contract language and jurisdictional statutes written many years ago against present day claims made by corporations and institutions. A great deal of my role is educating the current policy/contract holder on what their coverage was intended for."

In her private life, Erika is the proud mother of a son, Seth Snow, 13, and she directs the Children's Ministry at Woodlands Community Church in Homewood, IL. The ministry serves children through 5th grade: "I absolutely LOVE sharing and showing the love of God to these little people. A part of my life's purpose is revealed so clearly in this role."

And she teaches Zumba on weekends: "It is so much FUN."

Although Erika concentrated

on schoolwork more than fun at Longwood, she was young, after all, and one memorable morning—well, her funny side bubbled up without warning.

"My high school best friend was **Rhonda Russell '98**. (We're still close friends.) Every morning someone would lead the entire school in prayer over the PA system. On this particular morning, it was my turn, and I convinced Rhonda to lead the prayer with me. I clicked the switch, glanced at Rhonda, and suddenly got the worst case of GIGGLES—all projected over the PA system. I could not make myself stop laughing, UNTIL Ms. Trudy Hunter, the principal, came out of her office and gave me a look. At that moment the laughing ceased, and I went off-script and began praying about forgiveness, grace and mercy."

Just "a look" might sometimes correct the temporarily wayward, but in the long run, patient teaching built a student's solid educational foundation. Erika remembers several AOL teachers who gave her special guidance.

"Mrs. Joseph: I think of her often. Because of her, I know (and make sure that others know that I know) what 'i.e.' stands for. Best literature teacher, EVER.

"Mrs. Woods: I loved being in her dance class. My love of dance led me to get my certification to teach Zumba. (Much of what) I learned from Mrs. Woods I now infuse into my choreography.

"Ms. Charrier: The best mentor/guidance counselor/cool-young teacher EVER. She was a listening ear and a FIXER, whatever the problem.

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sisters on their separate life journeys

Stephanie's decision

Anyone wondering if it's ever too late to change direction in life might look to **Stephanie Snow '94** for inspiration. For the last two years, having graduated from John Marshall Law School with a Juris Doctor degree in 2017, she has worked as a staff attorney in the U.S. Court of Appeals in St. Louis, MO. But her journey to the courthouse was far from direct.

Stephanie worked in clerical and administrative jobs in the legal community for a number of years. But then, in 2010, she made a move that she hoped might increase her opportunities in the years ahead. She would return to school.

"I decided to take one class at Prairie State College," Stephanie said in an article in a law school publication while she was a student. She earned an Associate's Degree at the community college, but, she said, "I had no long-term plans. Then I went to Governors State, where I got a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, with the focus on history and international relations. It may sound corny, but I started thinking, 'Hey, I'm going to change the world somehow.'" And when she took the LSAT test for law school admission in a courtroom, she thought, "I could see myself here."

At first, Stephanie worried that she might not be able to cope with rigorous law study, but she graduat-



Stephanie Snow '94

ed *cum laude*. And law school gave her a long-term goal—"to litigate in international courts. A dream position for me would be prosecuting war crimes at the International Criminal Court. I'm passionate about justice. With all the time and money I have invested in law school, if I'm not an advocate for people whose voices are never heard, then what's the point?"

To pay her tuition, Stephanie borrowed money, earned scholarships and worked full time, attending law school classes at night. Accepted for the federal Court of Appeals position in her final year of law school, she has spent the two years of her appointment researching legal issues in the appeals pending before the court and summarizing her work in memorandums—including recommendations for the disposition of the appeals—for

three-judge panels. Now she is looking forward to a new job in the fall—as a judicial law clerk for a federal judge in Chicago.

In her free time, Stephanie enjoys traveling and working on justice and reconciliation projects. She is active in her church community. And some evenings she might just curl up at home with her cat and another Alexander Hamilton biography. Stephanie admires Hamilton for overcoming the traumas of his early life to become the young U.S.A.'s first Secretary of the Treasury and enduring criticism for his belief in a strong national government. She has seen the musical, "Hamilton," three times: "I'm obsessed with it!"

Of her AOL years, she said: "I have fond memories of my time at AOL, so many that it is hard to pinpoint one that stands out in contrast to the others. However, I can confidently say that my time at AOL strengthened my Christian faith, my work for justice and reconciliation, my sense of community and my appreciation of sisterhood. Longwood's teachers fed my love of reading, which continues to this day. Our small class sizes ensured that we got to know each other well and provided us opportunities (many, many of them!) to really grow up together. I look forward to seeing the Class of '94 at our 25-year anniversary reunion in October!"

ERIKA SNOW Continued from previous page

"Mrs. Beigeske: She encouraged me to major in mathematics. After every advanced calculus quiz or test, I would stalk her classroom until she graded my paper. Whenever I received an A-minus or B (rather than an A), she gently showed me that it was because of simple errors caused by going too fast and cutting corners. That is a life lesson I now apply to everything."

Class Notes



The Chicago Reporter

Laura Washington '73, Chicago Sun-Times columnist and ABC-7 political analyst, was among five notable women named last year as the first honorees in the new Chicago Women's Journalism Hall of Fame. Laura, also seen often on "Chicago Week in Review" on WTTW-Ch. 11, is former editor and publisher of the Chicago Reporter and former Ida B. Wells-Barnett Professor at DePaul University. She was deputy press secretary to the late Mayor Harold Washington (no

relation). The Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Association for Women Journalists Chicago. Ms. Wells-Barnett, a crusading civil rights journalist who died in 1931, was also among the inductees, along with three other women "who have made outstanding career contributions to Chicago journalism in areas which uplift and support women."



Left: A sample of one of Michelle's beautiful handbags.

After many years in the business world, **Michelle McCullough '77** is enjoying her "second act" as a leather artist—participating, for example, in the recent Ridge Park Art Fair and Festival June 22 in the park at 96th and Longwood Drive in Chicago. Creations by artists from the Beverly neighborhood and surrounding areas were featured in this juried show presented by the Vanderpoel Art Association and the Ridge Park Advisory Council. Michelle featured her hand-crafted leather bags at this event. And she plans to donate a special item to the raffle at the Alumnae Association's Reunion 2019 on October 19.



Alumnae Board members from left: Liz Hamer O'Connor '67, Kathy Gallagher Sedlack '55 and Faith Kilburg McNamara '48 visit Michelle McCullough '77 at the Ridge Park Art Fair and Festival.

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and Safety. Other topics: a men's cancer survivor fashion show that included education and encouragement; research engaging African-American Females with Lupus in community focus groups; a review of Northwestern University's 10-year community research seed grant programs; and a high school summer program exploring the social determinants of health through community gardening.

All three researchers hold advanced degrees in public health. Gina recently became Director of Community Outreach at the University of Chicago Comprehensive Cancer Center Office of Community Engagement and Cancer Health Equity. Regina and Diana, though retired from their public-health careers, remain active. They are among co-founders and continuing advisory board members of Pastors4PCOR.



OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU

EDITOR'S NOTE: Because of the large number of alumnae listed, some family members are listed on our website: www.AOLAlumnae.org. Some alumnae listed here have been deceased for some time, but only recently has the Alumnae Association learned of their deaths.

CORRECTION: In the last issue of the *Longwood Update*, **Colleen Wheeler Stein '74** was erroneously listed as deceased. *The Longwood Update* regrets the error.

Friends: Sister Mary Bruce

Wright, SSND, died of cancer on March 1. Sister Bruce was the last SSND principal of St. Margaret of Scotland School.

1937

Dite, Geraldine (Jerry) Garvey, sister of **Jeanne Garvey Flyke '42**

1939

Ahern, Virginia Shell

Moran, Rosemary McLaughlin

1940

Deiters, Patricia Fox, mother of **Jayne Deiters '70** and **Kathleen Deiters Troller '69**, sister of the late **Marie Fox O'Connor '40**, and the late **Sally Fox Shannon '44**; sister-in-law of the late **Doris Deiters Goes '35**, the late **Lorraine Deiters Schlicklin '40** and the late **Lorraine Whalen Fox '45**

1941

Larkin, Audrey McAleer

1942

Michet, Marian McKenna

1943

Hopp, Mary Jane Biltgen, mother of **Barbara Morrey Woodard '67** and **Marilyn Morrey Mikkelsen '71**

Waterstraat, Joan Nyhan, mother of **Denise Waterstraat Schaller '72**

1944

Blake, Dorothy Cole, mother of **Kathleen Blake Cuthbert '69** and **Maureen R. Blake '70**

Cunningham, Lillian DeSitter, sister of the late **Muriel DeSitter Courtney '39**

King, Agnes Kamper

Pollock, (Mary) Colette O'Malley

Vesecky, Virginia Butzow

1946

Madden, Margaret M.

Rusch, Dorothy (Dottie) Dooley, mother of **Christine Rusch Suellentrop '70** and sister of **Geraldine Dooley Drahnak '61**

1948

Clay, Marie Wren

Johnson, Mary Ann Sullivan

McGowan, Eleanor Plein

Vyhanek, Beverly Altman

1949

Berry, O.P., Sister Mary Ann (Nancy)

Quebbeman, Patricia Collins

1950

Earley, Mary Delaney

Hermann, Theresa Lancor

Continued on next page

OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU

1951

Goodman, Elizabeth Miley

Gorman, Marelyn Flynn

Torczyński, M.D., Elise, sister of
Bonnie Torczyński Galanti '54

1952

Carlson, Mary Kay Kreteck,
sister of Carol Kreteck
Ballweber '50

Meyer, Frances Lawler, sister-in-
law of Jean Oliver Lawler '47

Nowlan, Marie Weber, sister of
Margaret Weber Parker '48,
sister-in-law of Elizabeth Nowlan
Maloney '54 and Patricia
Nowlan Bialecke '59

Tuite, Audrey Hilger, cousin
of Nancy Grace Lyne '52 and
Marylin Grace '53

1953

Ezrow, Dorothy Biondi, sister of
the late Carole Biondi Hennessy '52

Lambur, Nancy Huston

Schultz, Mary McGraw

1954

Gilbride, Mary Patricia

Holmes, Jane Murphy, sister
of the late Mary Rita Murphy
Stump '47 and the late Sister
Carol Murphy, RSM '52

Kollenberg, Shirley Veselik

Madsen, Kathryn Tearney

1955

Geis, Mary Joan

1957

Cullen, Margaret T. Ryan, sister
of the late Rosemary Ryan Powell
'53

Ferrill, Jane Sue Skelly

Jarrett, Jacqueline

Nagle, Christine Lawler, sister of
Rosemary Lawler '59

1958

Moran, Cecilia Tansey, sister of
the late Judy Tansey O'Connor
'60

1959

Flynn, Mary Ellen

George, Marion Brosnan, sister
of Patricia Brosnan Christensen
'67, Betty Brosnan O'Brien '65
and Carol Brosnan Mackay '63,
and sister-in-law of Sue George
Lawler '57

1959

Schejbal, Geraldine (Jeri)

Roddewig McMahan, sister of
Joan Roddewig Geary '58

1960

Seidel, Joyce, sister of Vicki
Seidel Simental '65

Vasil, Margaret (Peggy) Halper,
sister of Pamela Halper Robinson
'68

1963

Lynch, Patricia Barlow

1964

Kuglich, Carol Sanders, twin
of the late Mary Ann Sanders
Wrenn '64

Newton-Coates, Selma Allen

Ortiz, Charlotte Brucato, sister
of Rosemary Brucato Bossert
'68

Wrenn, Mary Ann Sanders, twin
of the late Carol Sanders Kuglich
'64

1965

Carey, Kathleen Barry

Kelly, Alice (Kitty)

Mujwid, Donna Kisieleski

Schultz, Charlene Chochola

1966

Allert, Susan Ciera

1967

Herman, Nancy Melcarek

Mannion, Paula Horvatic

McCaffrey, Roberta Harper

Naughten, Nancy Bogue, sister of
Marsha Bogue Dugan '61

Warwick, Mary Jane Chicoine

1968

Parsons, Maureen Mitchell,
sister of Kathy Mitchell Kowal
'64 and Lynn Mitchell Jesse '62

Rinehart, Kathleen Kelly

1969

Kruger, Winifred "Wink," sister
of Cathy Kruger '70

Malone, Joan Cook, daughter
of the late Joan Matthews Cook
'38, former AOL Alumnae
Association president; sister
of Kathleen Cook Starnicky
'67, Carol Cook Tobin '73 and
Marian Cook.

Walker, Linda McCann, sister of
Cynthia McCann Fitzgerald '68
and Diane McCann Pigott '72

1970

Knysz, Mary Schuett

1973

Anderson, Kathleen Boyle, sister
of Colleen Boyle Wirry '75

Favia, Gina

Handler, Susan McCotter

AWARD SALUTES SISTER MIRIAM PATRICK AS A “SERVANT OF GOD”

Sister Miriam Patrick Cummings, SSND (Patricia Cummings '49), was honored with an award from Catholic Charities' South Suburban Regional Advisory Board at a fund-raising dinner on February 23 at Idlewild Country Club in Flossmoor.

At the “Compassion in Action” dinner, **Sister Miriam Patrick** received the Servant of God, Father Augustus Tolton Award, which honors Catholic sisters, priests and religious organizations that help support Catholic Charities' faith-based social service mission in Chicago's south suburbs. A former AOL principal, Sister Miriam Patrick is executive director of **Corazon a Corazon**, an SSND-sponsored program in Blue Island that provides English as a Second Language study for members of the Latino community, as well as after-school tutoring and a summer enrichment program for school-age children.

Sister Miriam Patrick said she was honored to receive the award named for Father Tolton,



S. Miriam Patrick

“especially because there is a connection between Father Tolton and the SSND's. As an African-American boy in western Illinois during Civil War times, Father Tolton was often excluded from school, and when he could attend was ill-treated by his school-mates and their families. But the School Sisters of Notre Dame who taught him gave him extra help, providing the foundation of his education. I am delighted that to this day SSND is doing its best to ‘transform the world, one person at

a time’ through education. That truly is our goal at *Corazon a Corazon*.”

To assist *Corazon a Corazon*, sacred music composer Dan Schutte performed a variety of his hymns in a fundraising concert, “Love & Grace, A Lenten Reflection,” in March at St. Barnabas Church in Chicago's Beverly neighborhood. Schutte has fond memories of his SSND teachers at St. Mary's Elementary School in Elm Grove, WI. **Sister Jean Phelan, SSND**, later an AOL teacher, was his music teacher in 7th and 8th grade.

UPDATING INFORMATION

The AOL Alumnae Office appreciates receiving corrected contact information for all alumnae. We would be especially grateful to receive cell phone numbers, especially from alumnae who have given up their land lines. These updates should be forwarded to **Irene Burke**, Alumnae database manager, at EyBurke@aol.com. Corrected contact information also may be sent by U.S. mail to: Irene Burke, c/o Academy of Our Lady Alumnae Office, P.O. Box 558070, Chicago IL 60655-8070.

Longwood Update is circulated to alumnae. Changes in addresses, corrections, correspondence and materials for publication should be addressed to: Academy of Our Lady Alumnae Association, P.O. Box 558070, Chicago, IL 60655-8070 Phone: 773-445-2300 E-mail: EyBurke@aol.com

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