

MSA

Blue & White

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2014



Principal's Message *by Sue Moench*

The 124th Annual Commencement Exercises at St. Theresa's Cathedral on Thursday, June 26th, concluded a very successful and fulfilling year at Mount Saint Agnes Academy, with twenty-five students participating. Congratulations to these bright young men and women!

Academically, our students achieved great results in the Grade 3, 6 and 9 Achievement Exams. The results met expectations and we are on track to achieve the learning outcomes of our new curriculum. This is a major accomplishment and we are proud of our students, faculty, staff, and parents.

The MSA spirit of camaraderie, a true mark of our close-knit environment, flourished this semester with Spirit Day and House games. Also, in keeping with our tradition of family values and inclusion, we held two prayer services to celebrate our mothers and fathers. Both were well-attended by enthusiastic parents.

We were also recognized at the Healthy Schools Awards for our efforts in consistently promoting health to our students and staff. We received a Gold award, the Family and Community Award, and a plaque for most improved school.

We look forward to the continued success of MSA and her students as we enter into our 125th year of offering Bermuda's only Catholic School education. God's blessings to you and yours for a blessed summer.

Kinda Bassett, *University of Salford*
Nathan Burgess, *Dalhousie University*
Anthony Cherrington, *Bermuda College*
Stephen Corrado, *Saint Leo Univeristy*
Luis Correia, *Bermuda College*
Michelle DeCosta, *University of Manchester*
Markus De Couto, *Bermuda College*
Allison Estis, *Niagara College*
Chelsea Goudge, *University of Bradford*
Amber Lopes, *Bermuda College*
Hamish McNiven, *Heriot Watt University*
Kennedy Middleton, *Spelman College*
Kaelah Ming, *Bermuda College*
Aaron Moniz, *Northern Michigan University*
Steven Moniz, *Workforce*
Roger Pacheco, *Workforce*
Christopher Peichoto, *Niagara College*
Ciara Rego, *Saint Leo University*
Amber Reid, *Rotary Exchange, Chile*
Kaela Skater, *University of the Arts*
Jonathan Smith, *Workforce*
Zuay Smith, *Gap Year*
Brandon Sousa, *King's University College*
Aaron Trimm, *Gap Year*
Nilson Vieira, *Bermuda College*

Chairman's Report

by Garry Madeiros, OBE, JP, FCA

This will be my last message as Chairman of the Board since I will be stepping down at the end of August in completion of my ninth year on the Board as well as Chairman for the same period. It has been an honour and privilege to have served in this capacity. I am humbled by the fact that my Board colleagues, on an annual basis, had the confidence and belief in my ability, commitment and passion to serve my alma mater in this role. I have enjoyed the challenges and opportunities of moving the school forward, and I have been blessed with Board members over these years who were as committed and passionate as I have been. This makes a tremendous difference when faced with difficult times since that is when you find out what you and others are really made of. I have also been privileged to work with a dedicated Administration, Faculty and Staff who truly want only the best for the students of MSA. As I reflect on the nine years of my leadership, it truly amazes me how extensive the accomplishments have been for all those involved. Of course I am also reminded of some of the disappointments, and areas that continue to need attention and work. The fact that the Board is focused on those items as they prepare for next year does provide me comfort. I extend my thanks and appreciation to all those who have supported me during my role.

This summer we again have a comprehensive plan of facility projects that include renovations, environmental and economic upgrades and a host of small projects and maintenance jobs. The largest renovation by far will be the complete upgrade of all the student restrooms throughout the school at a cost of just over \$300,000. The remaining funds from our Capital Campaign 2006-2013, *Investing Together For Tomorrow*, will be used to finance this project. The gym lighting will be changed out with LED fixtures which will provide a power consumption reduction of 43% and an expected lamp lifetime 3.5 times more than is presently being experienced. The simple payback for this investment is over 4 years on electrical savings alone.

Also this summer we have some exciting technology projects planned that include software upgrades, hardware replacements, new initiatives and classroom changes. We will be upgrading to Microsoft Office 365 and as part of that roll out will be an upgrade to Outlook 2013. The 90 desktop computers in the two media labs and the computer technology lab will be replaced. The computer lab will be moved to the current location of Media Lab B to allow more space for computer class activities. The School will also be investing in 60 "Learnpads" which are Android powered tablet devices that are being integrated into the teaching of the curriculum. All these items will be funded by the Asset Replacement Fund which has funds added to it each year by a small portion of tuition that is allocated to asset replacement.

At the last Board meeting of the school year, which is usually in June, the Officer positions for the Board of Governors are voted on. The Officers elected for the next Academic year starting 1st September were William DeSilva, Chairman, Paul Fortuna, Deputy Chairman, Michael Smyth, Treasurer and Colleen Sinclair, Secretary. I applaud and thank them for accepting these roles and wish them and the Board all the best for the year ahead.

The Annual Giving Program is now fully operational and hopefully members of the MSA family who receive requests will look at the school favorably, have a desire to give back and provide it with financial support. No amount is too small nor is any amount too large. We really need your participation.



ANNUAL GIVING PROGRAM

The Annual Giving Program is finally in full swing as we enter into our 125th school year. One of the reasons why it's taken some time to get started is that we've had a real focus on reconnecting our Alumni with each other and with Mount Saint Agnes. We have done this through inviting Class Agents for each year to be involved. These individuals will essentially serve as class liaisons,

communicating items of interest with the Alumni on behalf of the School and Alumni Association, as well as helping us to update our contact records.

If you have not received anything regarding the Annual Giving Program, entitled "Making a Difference Today for Tomorrow," we'll soon be in touch! If you have received a letter and brochure

from one of your classmates, I encourage you to read both items fully. This contact inaugurates MSA's very first Annual Giving Program, which will provide a sustainable source of funds beyond tuition. And if you've received both items and subsequently contributed, we thank you for your unwavering support!

GRADUATION AWARDS

Nicholl Shield - Valedictorian: Hamish McNiven
Most Rev. Bishop Murphy Shield - Salutatorian: Ciara Rego
Robert Gullon Memorial Shield for Heart: Amber Lopes
Rev. Deacon Edward Outerbridge Shield for Outstanding Christian Values: Roger Pacheco
Jeffrey Castro Shield: Markus De Couto
Home and School Association Award for Outstanding School Spirit: Kinda Bassett
Outstanding Leadership: Brandon Sousa
Board of Governors Incentive Award: Steven Moniz
Bentley-Doyle Award for Excellence and Commitment to Sports: Amber Lopes, Ciara Rego and Brandon Sousa
Gail McCallum Kneisler Angel on Earth Award: Michelle DeCosta
Institute of Chartered Accountants of Bermuda Outstanding Student Award: Ciara Rego
HSBC Recruit Extraordinary People Program Award: Ciara Rego
Deloitte Award: Ciara Rego
PriceWaterhouseCoopers Bermuda Headstart Award of Excellence: Brandon Sousa
Ernst & Young Values Award: Amber Reid
BELCO Math Achievement Award: Ciara Rego
Outstanding Service to Glory Temple New Testament Church of God: Kaelah Ming
The Unsung Hero Shield: Luis Correia

YEAR-END AWARDS

General Excellence For The Year

Grade 6: Maya Leighton
Grade 7: Caroline Amaral
Grade 8 General Excellence & The Principal's Award: Colin McCue
Grade 9: Matthew Brady
Grade 10: Meagan Stecko
Grade 11: Sage Outerbridge
Grade 12: Ciara Rego

Incentive Award

Grade 7: Conor Sinclair
Grade 8: Kayla Mahoney
Grade 10: Victoria Medeiros
Grade 11: Cassandra Cordeiro
Grade 12: Markus De Couto

Joan McPhee/Susan McPhee-Rhind Award for Dedication: Shannon Mahoney

Jason McCoy Award for Music: Justice MacRonal-Marsh

John DaCosta Award Grade 7: Conor Sinclair

John DaCosta Award Grade 10: Meagan Stecko

Sandy Johnson Memorial Plaque for Improvement in Literacy: Amber Furtado

Sandy Johnson Memorial Shield for Excellence in a Foreign Language:

Vanessa Cardoza, Simon Cabral, and Matthew Brady – *Excellence in Spanish*

Stephanie Medeiros – *Excellence in French*

William DeSilva Sr. Award: Stephanie Medeiros

Rose E. Soares/Joseph S. Marirea Scholarship: Evin Mosley

Toby Colombe Sporting Excellence Scholarship: Evin Mosley



SAVE THE DATES

December 16, 17, 18, 2014 - Christmas Concert
(current students and Alumni*)

February 28, 2015 - Gala Event

March 3, 2015 - Birthday Celebration and Mass

**If you would like to participate in the Christmas Concert as either a choir or band member, please contact msa125years@gmail.com.*



Cocktail Party

The MSA Alumni Association's Annual Cocktail Party was held this year at the Mastworks Art Gallery, Botanical Gardens, on Friday, June 6th and was a great success! There were just over 100 people in attendance.

Smooth Sailing for Class of 1959

The MSA graduating year of 1959 celebrated its 55th reunion on June 10th, 11th and 12th. We started our celebrations with a boat cruise to Somerset and surrounding areas on Tuesday. The skies were blue and the water calm, while the longtails were out in full force - a truly beautiful sight for one and all. On

Wednesday we had a cocktail party and dinner at the Mid-Ocean Club and on Friday we had a pool party. That night, we also gathered for drinks and a light dinner. The weather cooperated for the whole week and a grand time was enjoyed by all. We missed a number of our classmates who were unable to attend for one reason or another, but it was great to relive the past 55 years of friendship and adventures!



Class of 1964 Celebrates 50th Year!

On the 7th & 8th of June, 2014, Mount Saint Agnes Academy Class of 1964 gathered at the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club for dinner and boarded the Lady Tamara for a cruise to celebrate fifty years since graduation. Twenty of the original class of thirty-one attended. We all missed our deceased classmate, Andre Lamer. A few classmates who were with us through many years, but did not graduate with us, also attended. We were also joined by our spouses and a few friends.



Graduates: Constance (Connie) Marklew (Adderley), David Card, Albert Corday, Elizabeth Moore (Dearborn), James (Jimmy) DeCouto, David Hayward, Keith Jensen, Edward (Eddie) Kyme, Thomas (Tommy) Marshall, Victoria (Vicky) King (Martin), Margaret Mair (McKim),

ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to....

Andrea Moniz-DeSouza, '96, who has been appointed the Honorary Consul of Portugal for Bermuda.

Matthew Coelho, '10, who will be presenting his research at the 4th DEXA Workshop on Information Systems for Situation Awareness and Situation Management in Germany.

Matthew Madeiros, '07, for being called to the bar.

Chris Lopes, '06, for receiving his Chartered Accountant designation

Upcoming Reunions

The **Class of 1965** is planning a 50th Reunion in 2015! There are several '65 graduates for whom we do not have contact information, so if you know of any '65 graduates who might wish to attend or who might be willing to participate in the planning process, please contact Barbara (Holmes) Maguire on 441-297-1748 or at barbaramaguire@logic.bm.

The **Class of 1975** will be celebrating its 40th year reunion in 2015! Anyone interested in participating should contact Suzanne McKay (smckay@northrock.bm), Terry Chapman (Stewart@northrock.bm) or Lesley Archer (wmarcher@hotmail.com) for information. The organizing group is only in the planning stages and welcomes any input!



Beatrice (Bea) Massa, Michael Mello, Ralph Moniz, David Notman, Pam Oatway, Pat Thomson (Oatway), Ernest (Ernie) Roberts, Catherine (Katie) Booth (Soares) and Robert Reginald (Reggie) Swainson.

Old classmates: Dwight Baker, Dr. Edward (Eddie) Harris (not pictured), and Carol DeSilva (Mello).



Class of 1969 Reunion

The Class of '69 just celebrated its 45th year reunion the weekend of June 13th. The weekend of festivities started with a Friday evening cocktail and glow worm cruise, which was followed on Saturday by an interesting, informative and highly entertaining tour of the Maritime Museum, Commissioner's House and Casemates by Dr. Ed Harris. Rounding out the day was a buffet dinner and quiz at the Frog & Onion Pub in Dockyard.

Finally, our weekend ended with a gala dinner at Henry VIII Restaurant. Since graduation we have held our reunion weekend every five years and everyone agrees it is always fun to catch up on our lives and the different directions we are constantly exploring. Classmates who attended from abroad were Barbara (Scheuring) Homan, Robert Tatem, Sharon (Mullin) Adderley and Fiona (Campbell) Riddell.



Class of 1979 Reunion

The Class of 1979 (affectionately referred to by Sister Judith as her "favorite class") held its 35th year reunion at the Bermuda Aquarium, Museum & Zoo on Saturday June 21st. Many fond memories were recounted during dinner. Afterwards, there was a wonderful rendition of Nil Sine Deo sung with the assistance of a Karaoke machine microphone.

From left to right: Michelle (Robinson) Lansing, Janel (Nelmes) DeSilva, Mariae Dixon, William DeSilva, Jr., Cathy (Bothello) King, Deborah (Furtado) Davis, Michael Antonition, Michael Barnes, Julie (Watts) Rocha, Betty (Soares) Thomas, Kevin Ingham, Benjamin Botelho, Faith (Hamilton) McCullough, Joanne (Coelho) Chisnall, Melanie (Vaucrosson) Claude, Pamela (Harris) Mahoney, David Railton, David Faries.



MSA HAPPENINGS

BRING BACK OUR GIRLS PRAYER SERVICE

A Middle and High School prayer service was held on Friday, 16th May in support of the 276 Nigerian school girls who were kidnapped. In support of the #BringBackOurGirls campaign, each of the students



received a red ribbon as a reminder to think of and pray for the girls,

and 276 candles were lit, one for each of the kidnapped students. The school has continued to pray for the safe return of the girls with three Hail Mary prayers each morning.

MSA SAINTS RELAY FOR LIFE

In a show of solidarity for two members of staff who have battled and survived cancer, and to raise money for local cancer programs, the MSA Saints braved the pouring rain and scorching heat to participate in Bermuda's inaugural Relay for Life event on May 30th and 31st. Hosted by the Bermuda Cancer and Health Centre, the event at the National Sports Centre raised over \$300,000 as organizations Island-wide converged for a 24-hour relay, which started at 6:00 pm Friday and ended the following evening.



More than 40 students and 15 staff members from Mount Saint Agnes Academy participated, raising over \$4,000. Leading the first lap for the school were Karen Wicks and Principal Sue Moench, both of whom are cancer survivors.

CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to the following students who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, June 8th: Kristen Bean, Hunter Squire, Luis Vieira, Tyler Sousa, Michelle Araujo, Nathan Bridges, Simon Cabral, Vanessa Cardoza, Catarina Correia, Felicia deSa, Andrew Henderson, Cassy McPhee, Stephanie Medeiros, and Ryan Smith.



MSA NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTION

On Friday, 13th June, three Mount Saint Agnes Academy high school students were inducted into the Elizabeth Seton Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) at the Thirty-Second Annual Induction Ceremony. Lyndsey Arorash, Alyssa Cardoso and Meagan Stecko were selected for membership by a Faculty Council based on their outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. These students join current members Hamish McNiven, Ciara Rego and Brandon Sousa



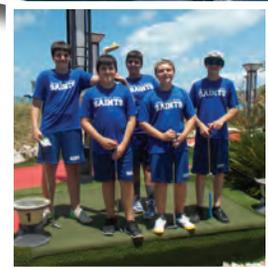
RYLA

Congratulations to tenth grader, Corey Simas, for being selected to represent MSA at the three-day Rotary Youth Leadership Award Program in Alpine, New Jersey in April.



MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS OUTING

On Wednesday afternoon, May 28th students in Grades 6 – 8 participated in various sporting activities, such as bowling at Warwick Lanes, tennis at the National Tennis Stadium, golf at the Golf Academy, kayaking at Somerset Bridge Water Sports and Blue Hole Water Sports, and sailing at the RHADC. This was a fun afternoon for all students and Middle School staff as we promoted healthy living and the importance of life-long activity.



HIGH SCHOOL HOUSE GAMES

Camaraderie and school spirit abounded on Friday, May 30th, on the Mount Saint Agnes Academy field as the entire high school descended for House Games for an exciting afternoon of school spirit and competition. Students competed in individual/partner events: 50 meter, sack, 3 legged, bean bag pick-up, and ball/spoon as well as team events including: relay, balloon pop, water relay, and tug of war. Points were also awarded for best house attire, most enthusiasm and participation. Students



received ribbons for first, second and third place. Makai Joell was Champion Boy and Kenyari Ingham was Champion Girl. Yellow House finished the day in fourth place, while Green House captured third. It was a close race between Blue and Red House, but Red House trumped, taking home first and leaving Blue House to accept second.

STROKES OF GENIUS FOR VISUAL ARTS DEPARTMENT

– Update from Ms. Cristina Capelo

MSA has had a very busy and successful year in art with the most recent accomplishment in the Audubon Society's Bird Competition, which saw Tyler Sousa's Green Heron painting win the category prize and Kenyari Ingham's Kiskadee win for the



lower senior school group. Michelle Araujo, Jasmin Simons, Tahnaesha Astwood and Bryanna Furtado finished as runners-up in their respective categories. MSA students Brandon Sousa, Grade 12, Jasmin Simons and Justice MacDonald-Marsa, Grade 11, and Hunter Squire, Grade 9, were selected to be part of a group of 12 students Island-wide to complete a workshop with the Bermuda National Trust and Masterworks galleries. Presently, their artwork is on display at Masterworks. Brandon Sousa was also the recipient of the Outstanding Teen Award in Visual Arts!

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

– update from Mrs. Lisa Stevens

It's been a busy year in the Comm. Tech. program at MSA. We have been working on everything from Stop Animation to Microsoft Office, from winning TV Commercials and Poster Designs for the KEMH Acute Care Wing Competition (Meagan Stecko and Luke Pimentel) to producing the 2014 Yearbook. Level 20 and 30 students created this year's MSA Yearbook. They did everything from group and event

photos to designing and producing the pages of the Yearbook.

We have had wonderful compliments on the design and I am so proud of those who worked on it, as it was a new software program with challenges.



THANK YOU AND FAREWELL, MISS MURRAY!

It was a bittersweet occasion that saw us bid farewell to the beloved Miss Murray, who began her tenure at MSA as the Kindergarten teacher in 1994, on Friday, 20th June. On hand to reminisce and say "thank you" for her countless years of dedication were Miss Murray's first students from the Class of 2007.



Student Spotlight



Amber Reid

A desire to expand her worldview has led one of our most recent Alumni on an adventure that will find her on the World Cup-crazed continent of South America. In a few short months Amber Reid will be in San Antonio, Chile, honing her Spanish, meeting new people, and having the time of her life as she enters the next phase of her life. Before leaving the Island, she shared some thoughts and expectations about her upcoming experience.

Why Chile specifically? Did you choose that location?

Although Chile was not my first choice, it was a great destination for me – just enough familiarity and differences for a good exchange experience. Plus, the country is beautiful!

How did you get involved with Rotary? How does one get involved?

Funnily enough, my interest in Rotary was sparked in Grade 10, when we had an exchange student from Brazil at Mount Saint Agnes. If anyone is interested, I highly encourage them to stop by Ms. Exell's office, where she'll be happy to help you get started.

What are you most excited about?

It's hard to say....I'm excited to learn more about myself and others, and to become a more mature traveler and world citizen. I am also excited to learn a new language and make new friends and lifelong connections.

What are you most nervous about?

One of my biggest fears is getting lost – in the airport or at school or just in the town. I am also nervous about getting along with my host family and classmates.

What are you hoping to gain from the experience?

I'm hoping to mature and become more independent. I want to have a better worldview and more independence. Hopefully, I will learn and see unforgettable things and will be even more prepared to enter the world as a young adult.

What are your plans after the Rotary Exchange?

After Rotary Exchange I will be attending university, where I plan to study Biology. Hopefully I will do some more travelling during university so I can keep learning about the world around me.

We wish Amber well in her adventure!

NEWS FROM THE BAZAAR

Dr. Seuss will be on the loose at MSA for the 2014 Bazaar! This year's event is being held on October 17th and 18th from 10 am – 10 pm and promises to be filled with seusstacular surprises for everyone.



Raffle sales will begin early this year, July 25th to be exact, to promote the pre-Bazaar draws that are being held leading up to the main draw in October. There will be three draws and some great prizes, including a People One 125cc bike, so encourage friends and family to get their tickets early. The first draw is being held on September 15th.

LET US KNOW

The goal of the Blue & White is to keep you apprised of the happenings of the Mount Saint Agnes Academy family. While much of it is focused on the here and now within our school, we still want to be able to share with others what you've been up to.

Did you just celebrate a milestone or accomplish a major achievement? Have you just had a class reunion? We WANT to know and share the news with the rest of the MSA Family – let us know by contacting msinclair@msa.bm.



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