

Marycrest Campus Update

By Ann McGlynn, QUAD-CITY TIMES

A sunny porch on the historic Petersen Mansion will be perfect for a game of cards.

The ornate fireplaces will be good places to gather around for conversation.

And the upstairs of the mansion will be home to agencies that can assist the senior citizens who will be living just a few steps away at the new Marycrest Senior Campus.

The closed Marycrest International University campus – once a home to young adults – will open December 15, 2003 as what Quad-City developer Chris Ales hopes will be a comfortable home for senior citizens.

The affordable housing – units for low-to moderate-income seniors range from \$314 to \$95 a month – is trans-forming a college campus that closed in the spring of 2002.

Dorm rooms are now apartments with a view of the Mississippi River or the tree-lined campus. Administration offices and classrooms will be transformed, too. Petersen Hall will be devoted to assisted living. Petersen Mansion will be the community center, complete with a beauty salon and computer center.

The Sisters of Humility built the school. Some of the sisters will be the senior campus' first residents.

Sister Judith Carrara, a Marycrest alum, c'60, and longtime social worker in the Quad City community, has been hired as Senior Coordinator for Marycrest Housing.

"They built and formed this college," Ales said. "Now they get to retire here."

Marycrest's past

The last graduating class of Marycrest International University walked across the stage in 2002. The ceremony was the end of a long-standing school with a storied history.

Marycrest College opened in 1939 as a higher education institution for Catholic women. The school was founded by the sisters from the Congregation of the Humility of Mary.

Bishop Henry Rohlman asked Mother Mary Geraldine Upham and the sisters to establish the school.

Rohlman Hall will be the first to open its doors on the Marycrest Senior Campus.

Upham Hall – which served as the school's administration center – also will become an

apartment building. One of the best views of the river is on the third floor.

More than 60 years ago, the college acquired the 7½ - acre estate of Max D. Petersen for \$5,000.

Now, Petersen Mansion will be the community center for the seniors. Petersen Hall eventually will house assisted-living residents.

The college opened with 76 students and 21 teachers. The school became co-educational in 1969.

(Continued on page 3)

Thanks to our supporters

The Marycrest Alumni Association would like to thank all the alumni, faculty, staff, and friends who have offered us financial gifts through memberships, other donations, and by supporting our events.

Gifts

include

- **Sustaining Member,** \$25-\$49
- **Marycrest Spirit,** \$50-\$99
- **Patron,** \$100-\$249
- **The Crest Gift** \$250 and up

Membership in the association is open to all alums, former students, faculty, staff, and other friends of the college. We ask each member to consider paying a minimum donation of \$15 annually to cover dues. Proceeds are used to fund the association's operation including a monetary gift to Humility of Mary Housing, Inc.

To donate, please send your check to Bob Merchie, Treasurer, 2410 40th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201.

Again, thanks to all of those of you who already are supporting us. Here's a list of donors since our last newsletter:

Patron: Mary (Steckel) Foster* and Nancy Wright.

Marycrest Spirit: Lorraine Abel; Brenda Francis; Mary Lee Corrin,** and Maureen Naughtin.

Sustaining Member: Mary Wells; Ann Hunter; Mary Anne Ricketts; and Jane Schiltz.

Members: Sr. Ann Theresa Collins; Bonnie Walling; Sr. Leona Mary Manning, CHM; Mary Pence; Margaret Reidy-Smith; Doris Flaherty; Betty Dalton; Ragene Givin; Sr. Kathleen Henneberry, CHM; Sr. Pauline Tursi, CHM; Janet Rossmiller-Miller; Chris Currie, Bob Merchie, Suzanne (Suzi) Hartung; Judy Harding; Jennifer (Waddell) DeWitt; Genevive (Gabby) Rafferty; Cozie (Shultz) Dias; Erin Murphy; and Carla Meeke.

We apologize for the following errors in the Fall 2003 Newsletter:

**Used the wrong last name for Mary (Steckel) Foster.*

***Mary Lee Corrin should have been listed for a Marycrest Spirit gift in the Fall 2003 and again in this issue.*

Board contact information

Janet Rossmiller-Miller c'99, President;
P.O. Box 793, LeClaire,
IA 52753; 563-289-4236;
janet@sycamorecreekdesign.com

Chris Currie c'97, Vice President;
1626 McCormick Place, Davenport, IA
52807; 563-388-7300;
chris@chriscurrie.com

Bob Merchie c2000, Treasurer;
2410 40th St., Rock Island, IL 61201;
309-793-7754; merchieandassoc@aol.com

**Suzanne Marie ("Suzy") Hartung c'68,
Secretary;** 324 N. Main St., #517,
Davenport, IA 52801-1427;
563-355-9447; shartung50@msn.com

**Judy Harding c'99, Communications
Officer;** 2380 W. Dale Ct, Bettendorf, IA
52722; 563-332-8906;
jharding@netexpress.net

Jennifer Waddell DeWitt c'87, Archivist;
2212 11th Ave., Moline, IL 61265;
309-764-0660; jdewitt@qctimes.com

**Genevieve "Gabby" Rafferty c'42,
Immediate Past President;**
2201 25th Ave., Rock Island, IL 61201;
309-786-8372; gkr1922@Juno.com

Cozie Shultz Dias c'44;
2506 Harrison St., E-3, Davenport, IA
52803; 563-324-4439;
board@marycrestalumni.com

Erin Murphy c'97;
1626 McCormick Place, Davenport, IA
52807; 563-388-7300;
erinmurphy@aerialink.net

Carla Meeke c'98;
2047 Wyoming Hill, Muscatine, IA 52761;
563-264-5262; meekcec@earthlink.net

Benita Moore c'52;
3660 Devils Glenn Rd., Bettendorf, IA
52722; 563-332-6238;
bmoore3660@mchsi.com

S. Leona Mary Manning, CHM c'53
820 W. Central Park, Davenport, IA 52804
563-322-1834 x 343
board@marycrestalumni.com

**S. Annette Gallagher, CHM c'48,
Honorary Lifetime Member;**
820 W. Central Park Ave., Davenport,
IA 52804; 563-322-1834 Ext. 172;
board@marycrestalumni.com

Class Notes – Look for updated Class Notes at www.marycrestalumni.com

Engagements: **Paula Stricker**, Davenport, is engaged to Kevin Schneckloth, Davenport.

A June 28, 2004 wedding is planned.

-**Erin Murphy**, c'97, is engaged to **Chris Currie**, c'97. They are both from Davenport.

Weddings: **Cecilia Duong Do**, c'99, and Phong Dang were married Jan. 4, 2003, in Vietnam. They reside in Bettendorf.

-**Arlene Lorscheider**, Davenport, and Brian Anderson, Newark, IL, were married April 26, 2003. They reside in Yorkville, IL.

-**Debra VanDenBerghe**, c'90, of Blue Grass, Iowa, was married Aug. 16, 2003, to Bill Sandry, Blue Grass, Iowa. Deb is both a Marycrest graduate and a former alumni director.

-**Jerry McLaughlin II** married Crystal Wood, Oct. 23, 2003, in Reno, Nev., where they reside.

Anniversaries: Maurice and **Betty Albrecht**, Davenport, celebrated their 50th anniversary on Sept. 5, 2003. Betty was employed for 20 years at Marycrest, retiring in 1993.

-Shirley and **Frank McClurg**, of Bettendorf, celebrated their 50th anniversary on Dec. 6, 2003. He was employed as Development Officer at Marycrest after working 32 years at Deere & Co.

Births: **Brian Olsen**, c'97, and **Amanda (Smith) Olsen**, c'97, of Minneapolis, MN had twins.

Deaths: **Dorothy (Lister) Ocker**, c'51, died Nov. 2002.

-**Elinor (Rutt) Case**, 88, c'56, died Jan. 24, 2003. She also taught classes at Marycrest.

-**Mary Sue Jackson**, c'62, died Feb. 10, 2003.

-**Loretta (Bonte) Owens**, 78, died April 12, 2003 in Abilene, TX.

-Bill Meegan, 85, husband of **Elizabeth "Liz" (McCarthy) Meegan**, c'53, died May 24, 2003.

-**Mary Gertrude "Gert" (McGinn) Weise**, 80, c'48, of Orlando, FL, died June 20, 2003.

-Jeanne Masse, mother of **Marilynn (Masse) Torri**, c'66, died July 31, 2003.

-**Janice Kruse**, 45, c'80, of DeWitt, Iowa, died Aug. 6, 2003, of pancreatic cancer.

-**Mary "Chris" Marks**, 81, of Davenport, died Aug. 12, 2003, after a six-year battle with cancer.

-**Elizabeth (Morris) Kretschmar**, 75, of Tipton, Iowa, died Aug. 30, 2003. She received her BA in 1970 and her master's in 1981 from Marycrest.

-**Nancy Dowsett Tragarz**, 60, c'65, of East Moline, died Sept. 21, 2003.

-**Joanne Ruppenkamp's** (attended Marycrest) husband, Ralph E. Hobt, died Sept. 28, 2003. Joanne is a sister of deceased Sister Catherine Ann Ruppenkamp, CHM.

-**Jacqueline (Thuenen) Grady** c'47, died in Nov. 2003. She was a retired teacher.

-**Alice Ann "Terri" (Maher) Ryan**, 77, c'49, of Davenport, died Nov. 25, 2003.

-Donald Bradley, husband of **Ruth (Durand) Bradley**, c'50, died in late 2003.

-**Emmett Pratt**, c'55, died Dec. 6, 2003 in Louisiana.

-Carl Spaeth, 86, husband of **Rosmary (Lane) Spaeth** c'48, died Dec. 9, 2003.

-**Rita Kearns**, 80, of Davenport, died Jan. 8, 2004. Rita was Marycrest's student health coordinator for 18 years. Her children include **Mary Kearns**, c'85, **Michelle (Kearns) Robnett**, c'79, **Patricia Kearns-Michaelsen**, c'81, Theresa Kearns, **Pauline (Kearns) Shorter**, c'86, Michael Kearns, **Rita (Kearns) Goerling**, c'82, and **Catherine "Katie" Kearns**, c'91.

-**Jone (Fanning) Knapton**, 46, c'88, of East Moline.

-**Mary (Brennan) Costello**, 73, c'52, died Jan. 13, 2004. She was a former Marycrest student and sister-in-law of Sr. Marcia Costello, CHM. **Mary** and her husband, Don, of Davenport, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August 2003.

-Catherine Kealey, mother of **Kathryn Jansen**, c'58, died January 2004.

-The mother of **Frances (Bour) Mickelright**, c'70, died January 2004.

-The mother of **S. Mary Rocca**, CHM, c'64, died January 2004.

-**Maxine Conway**, c'60, died Jan. 15, 2004.

-**Hanae Wiese**, c'68, died February 2004.

-**Peggy (McSheehy) Vendel**, c'64, died Feb. 18, 2004. Her husband, Edward Vendel, survives.

-Forrest Ashcraft father of **Jeff Ashcraft**, c'86, and father-in-law of **Christa (Dettman) Ashcraft**, c'86, died Feb. 19, 2004.

-**Patricia (Costello) Cooney**, c'48, died March 9, 2004. Two of her sisters are Marycrest grads.

-**Sr. Christine Conway**, CHM, c'52, died March 4, 2004.

In The News: **Carol Schmitz**, c'82, was recently promoted to art director of Vacuum and Sewing Dealers Trade Association, Des Moines, IA.

-**Kathleen (Strohman) Grady**, who attended Marycrest, and her husband suffered a house fire in their Peoria, IL home in August 2003.

-**Jane Straw**, c'99, was featured in a Quad-City Times article on Aug. 19, 2003, about her plight as a single mom and the support role her church plays in her life.

-**Catherine M. Skarbek**, c'69, retired from Lancia County, NC, government on Sept. 16, 2003.

-**Ralph Iaccarino**, c' 73, and former Marycrest art teacher, was profiled in a Quad-City Times article on Sept. 7, 2003. The story chronicled his "Art with Mr. I" program on public television and his latest television project profiling other artist creators, "Quad-City Life and Times."

-**Gladys Hitchings**, 102, a former Marycrest student, was profiled in the Quad-City Times on May 3, 2003.

-**Terry Lane**, c'86, treasurer and senior financial executive, Royal Neighbors of America, Rock Island, retired on Jan. 1, 2004. She began her career with RNA in 1972.

Letter From the President

Greetings, Alumni Members!

May the new year bring everyone health, prosperity, and peace.

Please take a moment and look through the accomplishments of the past year and enjoy photos of the most recent Homecoming events, along with other yearly events on the back of the insert and online.

View the updated Class Notes. They will be updated online throughout the year at www.marycrestalumni.com.

Visit our online "Gallery" of events section and view the photos from the last few years since we became an independent association.

And please take time to remember the Sisters of Humility, faculty, and staff who continue to think about us as alumni of the school. They are the ones who help make it possible for us to have the careers we have today.

We on the Marycrest Alumni Board look forward to a prosperous New Year for 2004 and are confident that the Alumni Board will continue to provide new growth and expansion for the Marycrest Alumni Association. As always, we thank all those who have contributed to help make us shine!

Please mark you calendars for Homecoming, October 2-3, 2004. Stay tuned for additional details.

As always, we look forward to hearing from you. Please drop us a note: Marycrest Alumni board, c/o Janet Rossmiller-Miller, P.O. Box 793, Le Claire, Iowa 52753; or send us a message via e-mail at board@marycrestalumni.com.

Thank you for your support!
Janet Rossmiller-Miller, c'99
President, Marycrest Alumni Association.

Marycrest Campus Update *(continued from page 1)*

Marycrest affiliated with Teikyo in 1990. Its name changed to Teikyo Marycrest University and then became Marycrest International University.

The school closed its doors under that name after its second accreditation probation in seven years.

The name on the sign at the entrance now is Marycrest Senior Campus.

It was important to keep Marycrest in the name, Ales said.

Marycrest's future

The alumni have a homecoming celebration, a newsletter and a Web site – www.marycrestalumni.com – said Janet Miller, the president of the alumni association. A \$500 scholarship for an eligible student volunteer was presented to the Sisters of Humility housing program at the 2003 homecoming celebration.

The campus eventually will be available for the school's alumni board meetings, she said.

"Who would have thought that the Marycrest community would have the option to go back to the campus eventually and live throughout our retirement years?" she said.

Eighty-one units will be finished in the first phase, Ales said. He has received 91 applications for those apartments so far. The majority of the units have income restrictions, but not all.

Each apartment has a kitchen, bathroom and a clothes washer and dryer. Studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom units are available. Each apartment takes up the space of four to five dorm rooms.

A second phase of apartments is planned. Walsh Hall will house independent living units. Petersen Hall will have 50 assisted-living units for less than \$1,000 a month.

The recreation center has been leased to an organization that hosts sporting events, Ales said. The nursing building will become office space. Plans for the library are not yet set, he said.

Clifton Manor, the other mansion on campus, will be made into a single-family home, he said. Who will live there? Ales smiled. Probably him and his wife.

A sister from the Sisters of Humility is helping him coordinate the efforts for this and his other senior housing units. Ales' most recent historic project in the Quad-Cities was the renovation of the old St. Katharine's School into senior housing.

Ales had just finished with St. Katharine's Living Center when he heard the announcement of Marycrest's closure. Almost exactly two years after that, the transformation is complete.

The campus logo uses the Marycrest motto: "Bonitas. Veritas. Pulchritas."

"It fit into what we do: develop decent affordable housing," he said while sitting on the east porch of Petersen Mansion. "We have a penchant for historic properties."

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Sister Judith Carrara, c'60, Senior Coordinator for Marycrest Housing

Donation to Humility of Mary Housing, Inc.

In 2003, the Alumni Association Board decided to assist the Sisters of Humility by donating to Humility of Mary Housing, Inc., a program for women in need. Sandy Walters, c'92, executive director, accepted our first \$500 donation at Homecoming 2003. The money is an Education Award to assist one or two eligible women to further her education and as a result, enhance her career possibilities. The size of the award will vary each year depending on donations to the Alumni Association and/or designated to Humility of Mary Housing, Inc.

Make a Bid on Silent Auction Items

We had an excellent committee working hard over the last few months to make this silent auction for the Marycrest Alumni dinner a success. We sincerely appreciate these donations of items that came from very generous and talented people in our own Quad-City area.

Make a bid on any of these items by mailing your contact information and bid to Carla Meeke, 2047 Wyoming Hill, Muscatine, IA 52761, or e-mail board@marycrestalumni.com. All proceeds will benefit the Marycrest Alumni Association and the Humility of Mary Housing, Inc. The winners will be announced this fall.

Photos of silent auction items can be seen online.

Item	Bid to Date
• Bruce Walters signed print	–
• J. Rossmiller-Miller print #1	\$20
• J. Rossmiller-Miller print #2	\$15
• Ralph Iaccarino print	\$35
• Mary Costello Book #1	\$22
• Mary Costello Book #2	\$20

Join Marycrest Friends at Pig Roast May 1, 2004

Place: Circle Tap, 1345 W. Locust St., Davenport, IA – outdoor garden

Date: Saturday, May 1, 2004

Time: 6 til ? p.m.

Gather at the Circle Tap to visit with Marycrest alums, staff, and friends in the outdoor garden. There will be a cash bar to eliminate ticket sales and reservations. Food can be ordered from the menu if desired. For more information, e-mail board@marycrestalumni.com or check the Web site, www.marycrestalumni.com.

The Marycrest Alumni Association carries the Flags of Marycrest in Quad-City area parades. Please call Jan Lutton, 563-355-3756, and volunteer to help keep the spirit of Marycrest alive.



Marycrest Alumni Association

Executive Board

P.O. Box 793

Le Claire, Iowa 52753



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Insert



INVOICE

It's time to renew your membership (October 2003 through October 2004) in the Marycrest Alumni Association. To do so, please complete and return this invoice with your dues payment below. Gift memberships and memorials are always welcome.

Name _____ Class _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Country _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

___ Alumni membership (*\$15 per year*) ___ Gift membership/sign up a friend

___ Donation only ___ Other _____

(circle one and fill in contact information below)

___ Memorial – In memory of _____ Class _____

Contact information for gift membership or sign up a friend.

Name _____ Class/Relationship _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Country _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

___ My check for \$_____ is enclosed. Make checks payable to **Marycrest Alumni Association** and send to Bob Merchie, Treasurer, 2410 40th Street, Rock Island, IL 61201. E-mail: board@marycrestalumni.com with questions or fill out the following section.

Comments or suggestions? _____

Benefits of your generous support:

- Help fund our semi-annual Marycrest Alumni Newsletter and Web site, which includes photos, activity information, and bios of the current class notes.
- Provide future scholarship programs.
- Support leadership within the Association and its mission to inspire leaders to become more involved in their community.
- Support the Sisters of Humility.

Membership to the association is being expanded to not only include all graduates of Marycrest, but also all honorary alums, former students, faculty, staff, administration, family, and friends of Marycrest.

Membership Categories:

Memorial	\$ _____
Alumni Member	\$15
Sustaining Member	\$25-\$49
Marycrest Spirit	\$50-\$99
Patron	\$100-\$249
The Crest Gift	\$250 and up

Thank you
for your generous donation!
Marycrest Alumni Association Board

Homecoming Oct. 4-5, 2003



Pictured on the left, in recognition of Betty Dalton's, c'42, multiple contributions to society through education, church and community, and her embodiment of the Marycrest ideal of service and active community involvement, the Marycrest Alumni Association conferred upon Betty, the second "Spirit of Marycrest" award at its Homecoming Alumni Reunion on October 4, 2003.



**St. Patrick's Day Parade
March 13, 2004**



Homecoming brunch Oct. 5, 2003



**Festival of Trees Parade
November 22, 2003**



**St. Nicholas Day open house at the Sisters of Humility Center, Davenport
Dec. 7, 2003**



Alumni Board presented a stone to the Sisters of Humility as part of the Board's annual summer retreat held at Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat in 2003.