

JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL A CATHOLIC COLLEGE PREPARATORY

TRADITIONS

A publication for THE ALUMNI, PARENTS & FRIENDS OF JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL



WINTER/SPRING 2010

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Serra is a place where each student is valued and knows that he belongs. I hear from parents every day how grateful they are to our teachers who help students explore their talents—in academics, the arts, athletics, clubs and service to others.

We are more than an outstanding college preparatory. We are a faith community where lifelong relationships are formed. This issue not only shows the diverse interests and achievements of our students, but of our alumni as well. Ask any Serra graduate and he will tell you that his connection to his Padre brothers transcends time, career paths and even generational boundaries.

We take great pride in our Padre students, parents and alumni who are making a difference in the lives of others. We were delighted this fall to welcome so many alums back to the Serra campus. Although they have chosen different career paths, the unity of the Serra brotherhood is unmistakable. Please stop by for a visit if you are in town.

Remember, you will always have a home here at Serra. Once a Padre, always a Padre!

Sincerely,

Lars Lund, *President*



Help Keep Padre Traditions Strong at Serra

Serra relies on the involvement and generosity of our parents, alumni and friends to assure that each new Padre generation can reach beyond its grasp to achieve its dreams. Support Serra today by making your donation online at: www.serrahs.com.

Gifts to Serra are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

FAITH • WISDOM • SERVICE



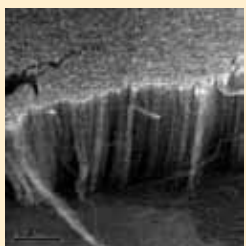
Yuzu Ishikawa '10 and Dr. Michael M. Oye from NASA Ames Research Center

Yuzo Ishikawa '10 Completes Program at NASA

When Yuzo Ishikawa has some extra time on his hands, he ponders quantum physics and new uses for carbon nanotubes.

The Serra senior recently participated in NASA's INSPIRE program, which stands for Interdisciplinary National Science Program Incorporating Research Education Experience. Through INSPIRE, students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The eight-week program is held at Ames Research Center in Mountain View.

"We are very proud of what Yuzo accomplished," said Jeffrey Cross, Education Specialist at NASA Ames Research Center. "While working in the Nanotechnology Division at Ames, Yuzo worked hard to regrow new multi-walled carbon nanotubes (CNTs) on an iron chromium aluminum substrate that was previously used to grow CNTs."



Carbon nanotubes are sheets of carbon atoms rolled up into a tube of interconnecting atoms. CNTs have unique electrical properties and an array of potential applications in solar cells, field emitters and miniaturized scanning electron microscopes. Yuzo's project focused on stimulating a carbon nanotube conveyor belt, which may be able to increase the production rate and lower manufacturing costs for the general public.

"They can be used for military purposes and solar panels," Yuzo said. "The program was very exciting and I met lots of scientists. I am very excited to pursue a career in quantum physics and hope to attend MIT."

At Serra, Yuzo is Senior Class President, a member of Serra's Robotics Club and a track athlete. Where does he see himself in 10 years? "Researching quantum physics at NASA," Yuzo said.



"Some kids are intimidated by science, but you need to get out of your comfort zone, get involved and apply for an internship," he added. "Science makes me connect with the world and the universe. We are the next generation that will make the world a better place by using technology."

"IT'S AMAZING THAT YOU CAN HELP PEOPLE IN THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES FROM YOUR OWN HOME THROUGH THE INTERNET."

SERRA SOPHOMORE AKASH DESAI

Life Lessons in Microfinancing



When Dorcas Ackon struggled to start a clothing business in Ghana, little did she know that a portion of her business loan would be funded by students in Joel Ferrando's sophomore Honors English class.

Working with the social justice website Kiva, Serra students are learning

about the positive effects of microfinancing. Kiva's mission is to alleviate poverty by connecting lenders and borrowers. The World Bank estimates that there are now more than 7,000 microfinance institutions serving 16 million people in developing countries.

"It's amazing that you can help people in third-world countries from your own home through the Internet," said student Akash Desai. "It was real for us because we learned about the individual rather than giving to a charity."

Grameen Bank is a pioneer in the world of microfinance. It reversed conventional banking practice by removing the need for collateral and created a banking system based on mutual trust and accountability. Kiva is the world's first person-to-person microlending website. Loans are effective immediately and are repaid within six to twelve months. Throughout the course of the loan, lenders receive email updates and track repayments. Kiva partners with microfinance institutions and creates an interpersonal connection at a low cost. According to Kiva's website, people in developing countries often manage money in unconventional

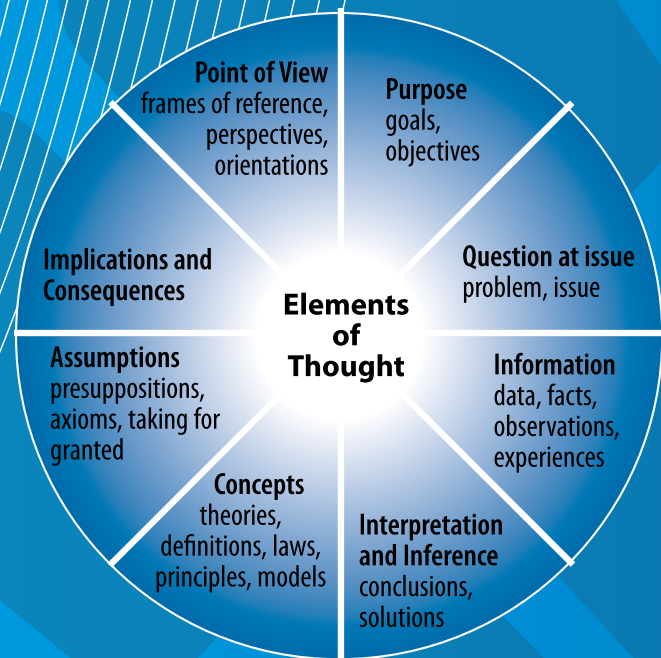
ways—investing in gold and domestic animals, paying cash collectors to keep it safe and even burying cash in their backyards. "The situation is real to the students and they see that they can make a difference," said Joel '90. "The draw is the personal connection—the chance to help a person you see in photos and get to know through his or her bio. I do not think microfinancing will end poverty, but it is one weapon of an arsenal that needs to grow."

Dorcas' loan was for \$275 to buy new dresses. Serra students' portion of the loan was \$50. The decision to contribute to the loan was optional for students. The remainder of the loan was funded by other field partners. Dorcas has paid back about 50 percent of the loan, which is due in full in April. The money will be returned to the students when the loan is repaid. Joel hopes to start a Kiva Club at Serra, where students could keep their money in the Kiva pool.

Students were asked to write a persuasive essay about people seeking loans on the Kiva website, to determine whom the class would fund. Brandon Council wrote about a pillow and mattress salesman from Uganda. Greg Suhr's essay featured a taxi driver in Africa battling the negative effects of drug lords. Dorcas was chosen for the project because she lives in Ghana, the country in which students wanted to make a difference.

"The process of researching the way Kiva works, navigating the site and choosing a person to support engaged my students in critical thought," Joel said. "I hope they will internalize giving in the way so many of our alums have internalized service as a result of their community service experiences here at Serra."

Theology teachers teach elements of critical thinking



AN EXPLANATION OF THE CRITICAL THINKING WHEEL

Eight basic structures are present in all thinking. Whenever we think, we think for a purpose within a point of view based on assumptions leading to implications and consequences. We use concepts, ideas and theories to interpret data, facts and experiences in order to answer questions, solve problems and resolve issues.

Imagine thinking about thinking while you're thinking to make your thinking better.

That's exactly what theology teachers Gary Meegan and Laura Ramey have been contemplating for the past three years as students of the Foundation for Critical Thinking.

In March, the duo will present a paper on how to use critical thinking in theology to the American Academy of Religion at Arizona State University. Gary and Laura are teaching elements of critical thinking in their theology classes. Simply put, they are asking their students to be more intentional and conscious about their thinking. In other words, asking questions and making decisions based on intellect, not emotion.

"Studying critical thinking has challenged me to think in a more objective way and has made me think about how I can be a better teacher," said Laura, a self-described lifelong learner. "My goal is to get my students to understand text and points of view better. I want them to learn how to ask better questions."

The Foundation for Critical Thinking was established by philosopher Dr. Richard Paul and psychologist Linda Elder. What exactly is critical thinking? According to Linda, "Critical thinking is self-guided, self-disciplined thinking that attempts to reason at the highest level of

quality in a fair-minded way. People who think critically consistently attempt to live rationally, reasonably and empathically."

Key concepts of the Critical Thinking Wheel (pictured above) include:

- Be clear—don't confuse people
- Be accurate—make sure it's true
- Be relevant—make sure you stay on track
- Be logical—make sure everything fits together

Critical thinkers question their assumptions, check their inferences and analyze possible implications. The critical thinking model is used throughout the world by schools, universities, corporations and governments.

"It has made my teaching much more intentional," Gary said. "You can use the wheel to make decisions about anything from going on a date to remodeling a kitchen. It makes you ask yourself, 'Was I clear? Was I accurate? Was I precise?' It makes the process much clearer."

Laura and Gary have attended the International Conference on Critical Thinking at Berkeley. Last summer, they presented a workshop at the conference on how they teach critical thinking at Serra. In December, they explained Richard Paul's Critical Thinking Wheel to the Serra faculty and staff.

In April, they will host a workshop on critical thinking at the National Catholic Educational Association's convention in Minneapolis for the second time.

"We identified critical thinking as a priority for the community through the school's self-evaluation process last year," noted Principal Barry Thornton. "Gary, Laura and the whole faculty have responded in a dynamic way to this challenge. Numerous faculty members have been trained to incorporate critical thinking strategies into the curriculum. The colleges and universities have made it clear that critical thinking is an essential skill for student success in their advanced curricula. Our country and our world need people who can engage the challenges of this century in a creative and thoughtful manner."



Pictured above (l-r): Laura Ramey, Dr. Enoch Hale (Foundation for Critical Thinking), Gary Meegan

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS

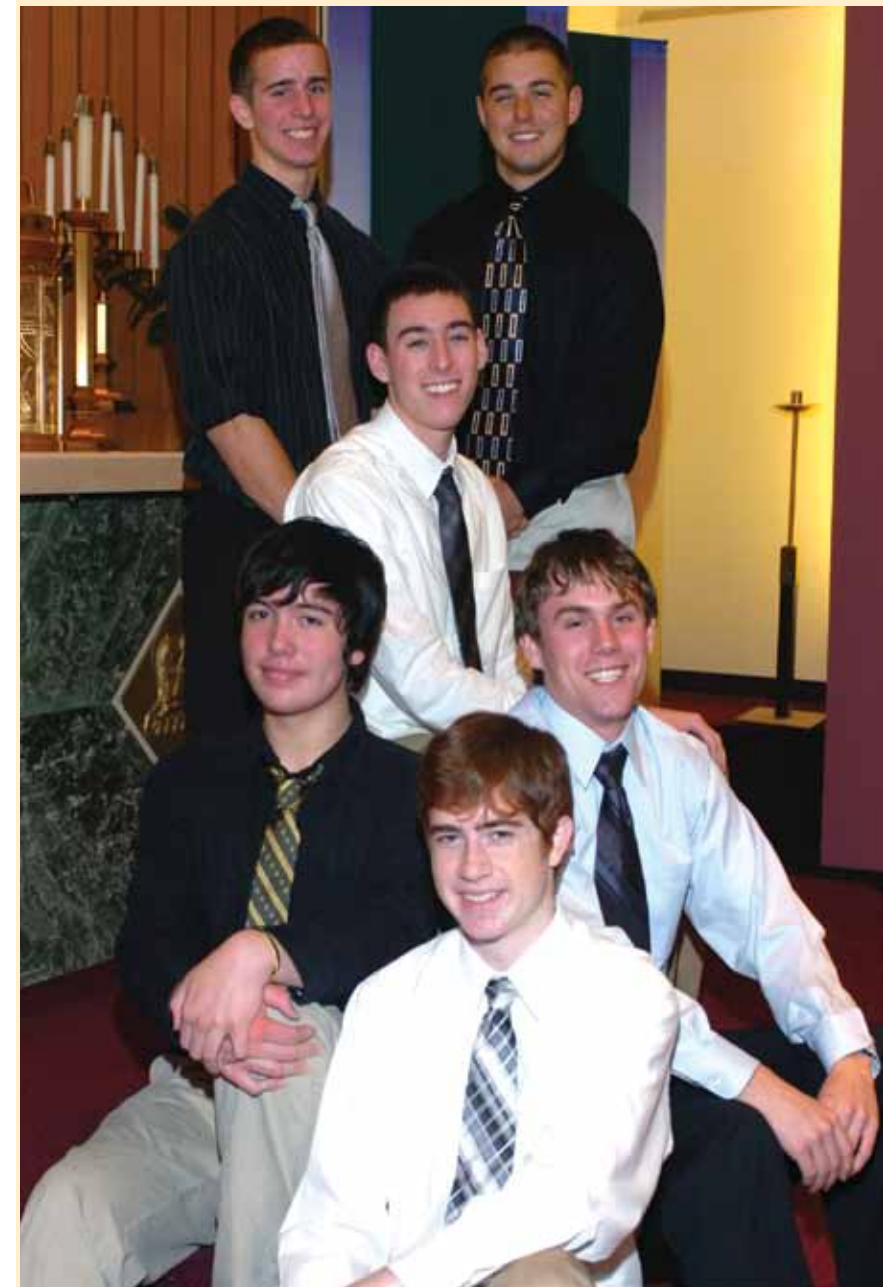
2010 Commended Students

ADAM BEA	DAVID MCKENNA
CORY LUSTIC	NOLAN MCPEEK-BECHTOLD
PHILLIP MALLERY	ANDREW WALWORTH

Six Serra students were named Commended Students in the 2010 National Merit Scholarship Program for academic excellence. Commended students are recognized for exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry. Only 34,000 students nationwide are deemed Commended Students.

"These students have taken full advantage of Serra's challenging academic program to excel on this nationally recognized test," said Principal Barry Thornton. "We could not be more proud of the work they have done and the recognition they are receiving. We look forward to these students' ongoing success and can only guess what great heights they will reach in the future."

Pictured below: Top (l-r): Andrew Walworth, Phillip Mallery; Middle: David McKenna; Bottom (l-r): Adam Bea, Cory Lustic, Nolan McPeek-Bechtold



Robotics Club Finds New Home on Campus



Robotics Club Members Yuzu Ishikawa '10 and Antonio Gonzalez '12

Robotics has enjoyed a surge in popularity in recent years. Serra Robotics Club members are enjoying a brand new, state-of-the-art workshop on campus in the old bus barn.

In 2009, the team worked from a garage owned by engineer mentor Michael Worry, who founded the team with the help of his nephew, Nolan McPeck-Bechtold '10. Today, the new Padre Robotics shop is stocked with quality tools. Robotics Club members found an old Rockwell drill on Craig's List with a true spindle and chuck. They hope someday to acquire a mill and metal lathe.

Under the direction of Serra teacher Michael Patterson, the Padres are committed to student-designed and student-built robots. For months, students have practiced design challenges to develop a collaborative process of identifying requirements, design features, performance features and the elements and dimensions of an engineered CAD design. Coach Patterson sees documentation, clearly defined student management roles and contributions by all team members as the hallmark of this year's team. Serra has partnered with Mercy as members of SWAT Robotics (Students Working to Advance Technology). SWAT team members will compete in the Sacramento Regional FRC FIRST Competition on March 31 and April 1 at UC Davis.

"What makes a great team isn't simply a matter of excellent coaching, hard work, talent, brains for the game and luck," Coach Patterson said. "Unpredictable variables come into play: the coherence of team personalities, the adherence to sound practices, the sense that each member has of his own meaningful contribution and the buzz of the crowd rooting for the team."

Last year, Serra's national competitive Robotics team, Team 3045, won the Rookie Inspiration Award at the Silicon Valley Regional Championship. David Whitney, Serra alumni parent and husband of Board of Regents President Lori Whitney, worked with the team on a seven-week robotics workshop in the fall. The Padres won first place in the Madtown Throw Down in Madera last November.

"There is a sense of healthy competition with Robotics," said senior Yuzo Ishikawa. "We're not just a bunch of nerds making random robots. We feel proud of our school when we win competitions. Science really can be fun!"

Robotics has become so popular that Serra has added a Robotics Camp for middle school students this summer. Check out the Serra website at www.serrahs.com for more information.

A Special Thank You to Our Robotics Club Sponsors

In December, retired mechanical engineer Reid Kowallis and Robotics students transformed the bus barn into a bustling workshop. Software engineer Mohan Krishnan (father of Vasanth Mohan '09) helped the team to switch software platforms from LabView to the student-friendly language of JAVA. Michael Worry, who has worked with the team on combat robots, is the founder of Nuvation Electronic Design Services of San Jose. He and his team recently made the final group of 48 companies in Google's Electric Car Challenge. Nuvation Electronic Design Services won the People's Choice Award for its Cold Fire Processor, which is featured on a YouTube clip with an air hockey playing robot. Additional Robotics Club sponsors are Intuitive Surgical Design and Zynga Game Network Inc.

Shakespeare Students Take the Stage



Serra junior Lucas Gust (Macbeth) and Notre Dame senior Hannah Ruwe (Lady Macbeth)

Witches, murder and intrigue—Tri-School students from Serra, Mercy and Notre Dame high schools delighted audiences last fall with their gripping rendition of *Macbeth*.



Junior Robert Cecchi (Malcolm) and Senior Owen McGinnis (Macduff)

The Shakespearean tragedy was filled with mystery, as Macbeth schemed to steal the throne from King Duncan.

"There were so many thrills and chills with this year's performance," said Director Joe Hudelson. "We had an outstanding ensemble of actors."

The tragedy starred Lucas Gust (Serra '11) as Macbeth, Hannah Ruwe (NDB '10) as Lady Macbeth, Peter Morrow (Serra '12) as Banquo and Owen McGinnis (Serra '12) as Macduff.

The Weird Sisters were played by Jade Garcia (NDB '10), Logan Carter (Mercy '12) and Jenise Spiteri (Mercy '10). "It was definitely Shakespeare at its best," said senior Hannah Ruwe, Lady Macbeth. "It was incredibly fun to be a part of this play, especially with the Elizabethan language."

Lucus Gust had a blast practicing for the lead role. "Macbeth was a fun character to play because one minute he's happy, the next he's going completely insane," he said. "To get into the part, I visualized it and felt it. Shakespeare was a genius and the play was so beautifully written."



Senior Corey Sullivan (injured soldier)



Behind the Mask

Art students reveal plaster masterpieces

Serra art students celebrated *Carnevale* on February 20 by making masks out of plaster-soaked gauze and acrylic paint. *Carnevale*, meaning “Meat go away,” and *Mardi Gras*, otherwise known as “Fat Tuesday,” are the same festival but are called different names in different places. Both celebrations are enjoyed the weekend before Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.

Carnevale masks have been made since medieval European and Incan times. Students had free range to create whatever mask they wanted to wear or hang on the wall as decorations. They began by making plaster masks of their partners, which were adorned with horns, bumps and nails using foam, their own fingers and other found objects. *Buon Carnevale!*



Move Over Michael Bublé!

Serra senior Johnny Villar isn’t your typical teen. Dressed in a dapper black suit, Johnny evokes old-Hollywood glamour as he belts out hits including Dean Martin’s “That’s Amore,” Frankie Valli’s “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You” and his all-time favorite, Frank Sinatra’s “My Way.”

“‘My Way’ is the greatest song ever written because it sums up everything about a man’s life and it’s very triumphant,” said Johnny, who caught the Rat Pack music bug at 14 when he stumbled across his mom’s Frank Sinatra CD.

“It just clicked for me,” he said. “The music is the best and it’s timeless. My parents have always supported me, and that’s very important for young people if they are serious about pursuing a music career.”

The teen crooner has been spotted at local restaurants. He recently inspired a wedding party at Acquapazza Restaurant in San Mateo. The bride and groom stood up for an impromptu dance to his rendition of “Can’t Take My Eyes Off You.”

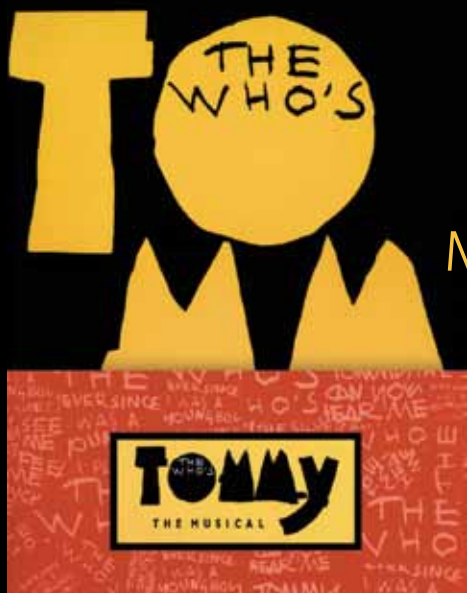
“Johnny has talent and confidence,” said Acquapazza owner Enzo Rosano. “People like him a lot.”

After five years as the lead singer of the popular rock band Billy the Kid, Johnny began a solo career this year performing jazz, oldies and swing hits at senior retirement centers. He enjoys singing to people of all ages.

“I just love that kind of music,” said Serra High School Admissions Director Randy Vogel. “I was amazed after seeing his work with Billy the Kid that he has such a range of musical talent. Johnny has a great future in music.”



Serra Senior Johnny Villar



Spring Musical

Mercy ♦ Notre Dame ♦ Serra

March 18 (Preview), 19, 20, 25, 26 7:30 PM
March 21 2:00 PM

Gellert Auditorium
Serra High School

"Rise up, gather 'round
Rock this place to the ground..."
- Def Leppard, *Rock of Ages*

Benefit Auction Rocks Campus



We are thrilled to report that our electrifying *Rock of Ages* benefit auction raised \$160,000! As parents and friends gathered 'round on November 7, they were transported back to their favorite eras—whether they were '60s flower children in beads and braids, '70s disco royalty in bell bottoms or '80s rockers with big hair and shoulder pads. The auction was a sold-out show, enhanced by giant canvas backdrops of Tina Turner, Bruce Springsteen, Jon Bon Jovi and Jim Morrison.

Serra was transformed into a rock oasis, thanks to the hard work of Auction Co-Chairs, Robin Strombom and Janine Regina and their extraordinary committees. They made it possible for parents, faculty and friends of Serra to channel their inner rock stars as they strolled through Studio 54 and showed their Padre spirit at the *Day on the Green*.

All *Rock of Ages* proceeds benefit the talented young men of Serra High School. A Grammy goes to all those who participated in our Fund-a-Need request for eight hi-tech microphones for assemblies, Masses, theatrical performances, concerts and presentations. This new system is already up and running—with our gratitude.



Save the Date!

SUNDAY, APRIL 18TH



2010 JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL FASHION SHOW
Marriott Hotel, Burlingame

For more information about the Mothers' Auxiliary Annual Fashion Show,
visit us online at www.serrahs.com



Students Find Peace, Serenity at Kairos Retreat

Surrounded by towering trees, lush gardens and peaceful pathways, Serra juniors participated in a four-day, three-night Kairos retreat in January. “Kairos” is Greek for “God’s time,” where students are encouraged to live in the present moment and spend time in silence reflecting on their relationship with God.

“Kairos gives each student a unique experience that allows them to explore, deepen and strengthen their spirituality,” said junior Andre Mercurio. “It gave me an opportunity to find out who I truly am and discover my gifts through the power of silence and God. The peaceful silence created an atmosphere that allowed us to open up and trust others around us.”

The retreat was held at the beautiful Vallombrosa Center in Menlo Park. Seven Serra students joined 40 seniors from St. Ignatius High School.

“Kairos changed my life in many ways,” said junior Greg Grogan. “I reconnected with God. I became close friends with members in my group. Kairos was the highlight of my three years at Serra—it will be very hard to beat.”

Kairos is a student-led retreat, with adults acting as support. The first Serra Kairos retreats will be offered during the 2010-2011 school year for juniors and seniors.

“Many graduating students describe it as one of the most powerful experiences of their high school career,” said Director of Campus Ministry Kyle Lierk. “Serra’s Campus Ministry department is extremely excited to be launching this opportunity for our community.”

“IT GAVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO FIND
OUT WHO I TRULY AM AND DISCOVER
MY GIFTS THROUGH THE POWER OF
SILENCE AND GOD.”

ANDRE MERCURIO ‘11



Junior Retreat Explores Catholic Faith

Serra juniors explored their faith near the rustic Russian River during a two-day retreat. Led by Campus Ministry’s Kyle Lierk, Kim Bohnert and Rick Boesen, the theme of the retreat was “Trusting Yourself and Trusting the Community.”

“We talked about what it means to be a Catholic adolescent male,” Retreat Coordinator Rick Boesen explained. “In addition to learning about faith and leadership, this was an opportunity for them to be challenged in a genuine way to live their faith.”

Students kayaked, participated in outdoor trust-building activities (pictured left) and enjoyed conversations around a campfire.

“I got more in touch with my spiritual side and closer to my faith,” said junior Connor Goodin.

The junior retreat provided a comfortable environment for discussion and discovery. Topics included truth, respect, honesty and healthy relationships.

“I learned to trust in a way more than I thought,” said junior Justin Greco. “Everything was confidential and people shared so much.”

Season of Giving



Students Bring Smiles to Children Through A Very Special Toy Box

For the eleventh consecutive year, Serra students collected toys and money during the holidays to benefit A Very Special Toy Box, a nonprofit program that supplies hospitals with toys for children undergoing cancer treatment.

The toy drive was led by Ed Taylor, Bruce Anthony and Randy Vogel. Art teachers Peg Farrell and Sr. Celeste also supported the toy box with a generous cash donation from the proceeds of the Winter Art Show. More than 250 toys plus cash contributions were collected and presented to Nancy Torres, who established the Toy Box program 31 years ago when the first Toy Box, built by her husband, was placed in the oncology ward at Kaiser

Hospital in Redwood City. Pediatric cancer patients receiving bone marrow, chemotherapy, radiation and spinal treatments unlock the Toy Box and choose new toys. The program has expanded over the years, with Toy Boxes added to 13 hospitals.

Some toys were too large to be placed into Toy Boxes, so they were donated to the Belmont-San Carlos Fire Department’s toy drive program. Students who brought toys to the fire department with Randy Vogel were surprised to run into firefighter Don Gile ’74, one of Randy’s former students whom he had not seen in more than 35 years. Coincidentally, freshman Joey Berriatua discovered that Gile and his father, Joe, attended Serra at the same time.

“It was wonderful to see Don after all those years,” Randy said. “The Serra brotherhood continues to pop up everywhere you go.”

Serra’s Adopt-a-Family Program Supports 19 Families in Need

The young woman peeked through a broken screen as Serra High School volunteers knocked on her door. A warm smile suddenly broke across her face—at that moment she realized that her three small children would have a happy Christmas after all.

The lady was one of 19 families supported by the Serra High School community’s Adopt-a-Family program. Led by Serra’s Big Brothers Club, the school raised \$9,000 for local families in need. Students shopped for toys, electronics, clothing, food and gift cards, which were delivered on December 14.

“This is the most we have ever raised,” said Serra Campus Ministry Director Kyle Lierk. “In this time of economic hardship, it is very impressive. I’m really proud of our community. It’s tough for them this year but it’s even tougher for those in need. The reason we do this is because of our faith. This recognizes the sacred in humanity. All families deserve to have a special time during the Christmas season.”

The Big Brothers Club is coordinated by Lierk and science teacher Kimberly Bohnert.

“Jesus taught us to help the less fortunate,” said junior Brad Robbins. “At Serra, we help as much as we can.”

Serra’s Adopt-a-Family program began in 1996 with just one family. Of the \$9,000 raised this year, \$3,500 was from ticket sales to the Winter Semi Formal. An additional \$3,000

came from student homeroom collections. Two parent gifts of \$1,000 each added to the pot, as well as faculty and staff department contributions.

“We shopped, organized and delivered,” said junior Andre Mercurio. “Giving to others is much more rewarding than receiving. A smile lasts forever.”

“When you see smiling faces, that’s the most rewarding part,” agreed senior Peter Dowden.

One Serra staff member asked his family to adopt a family this year instead of receiving gifts. A Serra parent convinced her firm to adopt an additional 14 families from Samaritan House.

The 20-something mother of three at the beginning of the article is a fresh-faced, petite woman with glossy hair pulled into a bun. She loves her children. She cooks, cleans and helps them with their homework. Like many other mothers in San Mateo, she endures the regular ups and downs of everyday parenting. But the dark circles under her eyes tell a silent story – she is overwhelmed by financial stress and worried about her children’s future. She is barely making it.

“It is really wonderful that Serra students adopted so many families this year,” said Samaritan House Public Relations Coordinator Nancy Carothers. “The effects of their kindness may last throughout the lives of these families.”

Serra Senior Spreads Holiday Cheer

Colma Fire Chief Geoff Balton and Andrew Comstock ’10 spread holiday cheer by distributing 100 teddy bears to preschoolers and kindergartners in low-income areas. Andrew founded Teddy Bears for First Responders three years ago. Teddy bears are distributed by police and fire officials in Colma and Daly City.

“In times of trauma, both police officers and firefighters use the teddy bears as a tool to calm small children and comfort disoriented adults,” Andrew said. “Due to the recent economy, it’s important that they have this resource.”

Andrew is the Serra Student Body President and Editor of *The Friar*. He also volunteers at Seton Medical Center and the Daly City Police Athletic League. The Daly City-Colma Chamber of Commerce sponsored the teddy bear drive and considers Andrew to be a Goodwill Ambassador.





Bonjour, Serra!

Twenty French exchange students from Grenoble said “bonjour” and “au revoir” to Serra High School students and their 22 host families last fall.

Bubbling with energy and excitement, French and American teens discussed plans ranging from a cultural day in San Francisco to a lazy afternoon at the beach.

“It’s a once in a lifetime experience,” said sophomore Erik Michaelian.

French students Lauriane Martinez and Julie Pourroy were excited to be in California and had big plans for their two-week stay. In addition to visiting various Bay Area hot spots, they hoped to improve their English language skills.

“It’s really fun to have them here,” said junior Jordan Ginsberg. “I did the exchange program last year in Grenoble and we learned a lot about what life is like in Europe.”

Jordan’s dad, Nate Ginsberg, participated in a similar program in Germany when he was a teen. He said

hosting exchange students is an invaluable experience because it opens cultural doors and broadens American teens’ understanding of the world.

Grenoble is a picturesque city in Southeastern France, located at the base of the beautiful French Alps. Life in Grenoble is very different from life on the Peninsula.

“On the Peninsula, you’re in your car all the time,” said Serra French teacher Mary Dowden. “In Grenoble, life revolves around the ‘centre ville’ – the downtown area. The cafes and shops are all located within a mile. Once you’re in centre ville, you walk everywhere. It’s all about seeing people and spending time in the cafes.”

The French girls made Mary smile when they walked into Hillsdale Shopping Center and were absolutely mesmerized by Nordstrom.

“They thought it was enormous and couldn’t believe it had three floors,” she said. “They also loved Bebe and Abercrombie & Fitch, which they think is very California.”

The French students crossed the Golden Gate Bridge on bikes, visited Chinatown, enjoyed a campfire on the beach, toured the Haight Ashbury District and visited the King Tut exhibit at the De Young Museum. They also attended a Padre football game and served the homeless at St. Vincent de Paul.

During the grand finale event on November 1 at Draeger’s Cooking School in San Mateo, students attended a cooking class while host parents compared wines from France and California. Serra students hope to visit their French amis next year.

“Through learning another language and culture, you come to understand different perspectives and yourself better,” Mary said. “It’s the key to the world. We are building cultural bridges of peace. These kids will be the leaders of our international economy and global society. The exchange students are going to become Padres over the next two weeks. When you come into the Serra community, you become a part of our family.”

French teacher Mary Dowden and host parents enjoy a delicious meal at Viognier Restaurant, while students learn to cook. (Draeger Padres include: John ’67, Anthony ’70, Daniel ’13, Frank and Richard.)



Serra Junior Signs Hockey Contract



Serra junior Mattia Bortolotto recently signed a five-year hockey contract with the semi-pro Prince George Cougars in British Columbia.

“This has been a dream of mine to play in the Western Hockey League,” Mattia said. “I’m really glad to join the organization. After being in Prince George and hanging out with some of the players, I feel like I’ll fit in perfectly with the team.”

Mattia, a current member of the San Jose Junior Sharks 18 AAA hockey team, will leave in June to start a new life in Prince George. While most students his age are studying, attending dances and hanging out with their friends on the weekend, hockey will become a full-time job for this local superstar.

“The hardest thing about all of this will be leaving my friends at Serra High School,” he said. “Serra is so great – there is such a brotherhood here. It really has taught me a lot of things about becoming a man and about reality.”

Mattia will live with a host family in Prince George and will attend coed high school in the small Canadian town.

“I will miss my family,” he said. “My parents (Sandra and Gary Bortolotto) are so excited. They have sacrificed a lot for me. I remember getting up at 4 a.m. when I was 5 and 6 years old to play hockey. It will be hard to leave my little brother, Nicholas, and my girlfriend, Alexis.”

Living expenses and college tuition are covered by the five-year contract. Bortolotto expects to travel extensively. He will play 80-plus games per season.

“This is a very exciting day for the Cougars organization to get a player of Mattia Bortolotto’s caliber,” said Cougars Assistant General Manager Wade Klippenstein. “Mattia is one of the best young defensemen in the State of California. We can’t wait to see him in a Cougars uniform.”

Mattia hopes to play pro-hockey one day, possibly for the New York Rangers or Islanders.

“I just love it and I’d do anything for this sport,” he said.

Serra High School Principal Barry Thornton is extremely proud of Mattia’s athletic success.

“We couldn’t be more thrilled for Mattia,” he said. “We will miss him during his senior year but fully support the wonderful opportunity that he is embracing. Mattia is an outstanding young man and we know that he will bring the Padre spirit of dedication to his professional team.”

“We want Mattia to know that in our minds, he will always be a part of the Serra Community,” Serra President Lars Lund added. “He is a great Padre and we wish him the best of luck.”

Padre Families Host Mexican Wrestlers



Seven wrestlers from Mexico City visited Serra in November and lived with students’ families. During their two-week stay, they chatted about their favorite sport over pot roast and hamburgers.

“This experience really goes with our school’s goal of developing cultured students,” said Wrestling Head Varsity Coach Ricardo Garcia. “We are developing the citizens of tomorrow who see the world in more diverse, global terms rather than just athletes.”

“It was a lot of fun,” said junior Lumiere Hayes, whose family hosted two Mexican wrestlers. “We were able to improve our own wrestling techniques while learning about their culture.”

Even though the two groups of teens live worlds apart, they have similar interests. While visiting California, the Mexican exchange students looked for iPods, Hollister clothing and Converse shoes.

“They think we all have a 90210 (Beverly Hills) life,” Ricardo noted. “Some of them even asked, ‘Can I come to Serra?’”

Junior T.J. San Diego said his guests were crazy about Chinese food and In-N-Out burgers. The Mexican students toured the Golden Gate Bridge, Lombard Street and Fisherman’s Wharf. Each day was a difference experience, as they explored life in the San Francisco Bay Area.

“It was such an incredible experience,” said parent Doris Rudolph, whose family hosted two students. “When it comes to wrestling and X-Box video games, there is no language barrier. I would do it again in a heartbeat. The team was so appreciative of the hospitality they received from the wrestling community, and our own students learned about different customs.”



Mexican wrestlers enjoy Padre football with Serra Madre Doris Rudolph.

Serra students have traveled to Spain and Peru for wrestling. Last year, four members of the Serra wrestling team and two faculty members competed in Mexico City. They lived with Mexican families and donated 18 duffel bags of new sports equipment to the Mexican community.

“We were able to reciprocate that visit by giving them a taste of our community,” Ricardo said. “Our families truly enjoyed hosting and helping them to learn about American life.”

Improv Club

Young Comedians
Think Fast on Their Feet



It was all about laughs on January 22, as Improv Club members entertained their families and friends at the Improv Show. Two teams—Red and Blue—were on a mission to outsmart each other while trying to guess Disney movies and devise spur-of-the-moment skits based on simple shout-outs from the audience.

“It’s fun because the students get to explore their funny and creative sides,” said Improv Club moderator Gary Meegan. “The big rule in Improv is ‘never say no.’ This means that whatever the other person says, you have to agree and run with it. This has led to some crazy situations onstage. In our club, we have Improv members who are new to comedy and the ComedySportz team made up of seasoned veterans.”

The Serra Improv Club was formed in 2003. The club became an immediate hit with more than 30 active members from Serra, Notre Dame and Mercy.

“People ask what it’s like and we tell them it’s similar to the TV show, *Whose Line is it Anyway?*,” Gary noted. “We use the ComedySportz rules and games that are used throughout the United States and Canada both with the high school and the professional leagues. In our club, we have the Improv members who are new to comedy and the ComedySportz team made up of seasoned veterans.”

“It gets really fun and crazy,” said senior Owen McInnis. “You can say whatever you want. People will laugh or not say anything, but usually it’s the former.”

Senior Peter Morrow agreed. “Improv is a step away from everything,” he explained. “You don’t have to prepare—it’s just you and the art on stage having a great time.”

Eagle Scout Project Helps Environment

Introduces Organic Solution to
Bay Area Rodent Problem



The town of Hillsborough has a new form of pest control—rustic owl houses built by senior Corey Sullivan.

Corey became an Eagle Scout in January. He is the son of Serra English teacher Tom ’81 and Yvonne Sullivan. Using plans from the Marin-based Hungry Owl Project, Corey spent long hours hammering and sawing wood to build 21 owl houses for his Eagle Scout project. Joined by a crew of 20 friends, the group cut out the wooden parts in just two days. Serra seniors Casey Schwenk and Loren Anderson were two of the volunteers.

Fifteen owl houses are scattered throughout Hillsborough on town-owned property such as tank sites and pump stations. The remaining owl houses are nestled in Pacifica, Morgan Hill and Menlo Park. Once they have been colonized by nesting barn owls, the owl houses will be an effective rodent deterrent.

Rats chew through wires and fences, burrow holes in the ground and damage vegetable gardens. A single family of barn owls can consume about 1,300 rats per year.

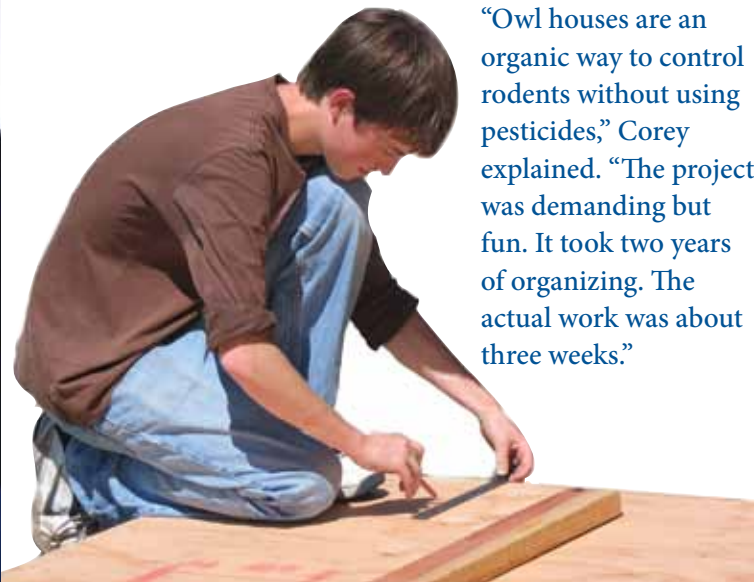
According to Public Works Supervisor Dave Ballestrasse, “It was great working with Corey. He gave a Powerpoint presentation to the City Council a few weeks ago and did an incredible job. He is very responsible and mature for his age.”

Corey hopes to major in game design next year in college. A member of Troop 42 in San Mateo, he is excited about becoming an Eagle Scout.

“They say that one in every 100 Scouts becomes an Eagle Scout,” Corey noted. “It demonstrates you have an ability to lead. This is my fifth year involved my troop. I have learned the basics of teamwork, survival skills and camaraderie. The Eagle Scout award is a huge honor.”

Senior Awarded Prestigious U.S. Marine Corps. Scholarship

Senior Michael Henry Tauskey (M.H.) recently was awarded a full four-year scholarship by the U.S. Marine Corps. He also has been accepted by the Virginia Military Institute and the U.S. Naval Academy. M.H. plans to have a career as a U.S. Marine Corps officer. He has participated in numerous leadership opportunities at Serra and maintains excellent grades. He is a member of the National Honor Society and the Varsity Football Team.



“Owl houses are an organic way to control rodents without using pesticides,” Corey explained. “The project was demanding but fun. It took two years of organizing. The actual work was about three weeks.”

Another Padre Joins Eagle Scout Rank

Senior Brian Healey, a member of both Foster City Boy Scout Troop 175 and the Order of the Arrow, has attained the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts. Brian’s Eagle Court of Honor was held at the Foster City Community Center in October.



Brian’s Eagle project entailed refurbishing and repainting seven picnic tables at Foster City Elementary School, where he attended grades K-5 and began his road to Eagle as a Tiger Cub. At Serra, Brian is an honor student and varsity track athlete. His proud parents, Michael and Karen Healey, live in Foster City.



“MOST GREAT STORIES ARE ABOUT PEOPLE WHO LEAVE THEIR COMFORT ZONES TO LIVE LIFE TO THE FULLEST.”

After graduation, he was hired as a reporter at *The Los Angeles Times*—a dream job for most journalists but a confusing time for Bob.

“I come from a family of compulsive overachievers,” he explained lightheartedly. “It was just expected that you go on to get an advanced degree.”

Following in his siblings’ footsteps, Bob put his journalism dreams on hold to attend law school at UCLA. Before he knew it, he was fighting battles in the courtroom.

“At 25 years old, I was a civil litigator but it wasn’t my passion,” he remembered. “I never felt fulfilled.”

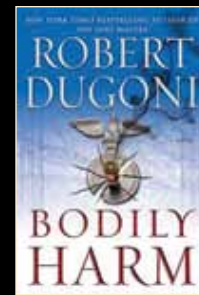
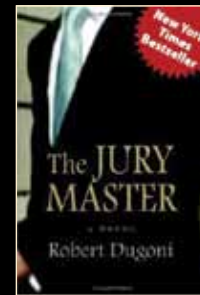
Not too many people would give up a lucrative career to pursue a dream. But on one cold, foggy San Francisco morning, Bob had an epiphany: “I said to my wife, Cristina, ‘I can’t do this anymore.’ She said, ‘Then we won’t.’ She’s a remarkable lady.”

Pursuing His Passion

The Dugonis packed up and moved to Kirkland, Washington—Cristina’s hometown. They agreed to give it three years. Cristina worked as an attorney while Bob rented a tiny, windowless office in downtown Seattle. Despite winning the Pacific Northwest Writers Association Literary Contest two years in a row, he struggled to find an agent.

According to Bob, everything suddenly fell into place when he finally let go and told himself, “This is in God’s hands.” A twist of fate occurred a short time later when he met an environmental lawyer at a party he almost did not attend. Joseph Hildorfer, a special agent for the Environmental Protection Agency, shared a gripping story about a 19-year-old man who was exposed to lethal levels of cyanide. Joseph and his team reported the owner of the company for direct violations of employee safety. Bob was so intrigued by the case that he decided to partner with Joseph and write a book. And so *The Cyanide Canary* was born.

Bob sent query letters to 10 agents, all of whom wanted to work with him on the exciting project. After finding an agent, he signed a contract with Simon and Schuster.



Bob’s nonfiction exposé, *The Cyanide Canary*, was published in 2004 and was named a Washington Post’s Best Book of the Year and the Idaho Library Association’s Book of the Year. His proudest moment was when his son, Joe, woke him up in the middle of the night to tell him, “It’s a really good book, Dad.”

“I was elated,” Bob remembered. “Since I had spent three years not making a penny, I felt relief. Beyond that, I was very humbled. I knew the struggle of getting published and I felt very blessed and fortunate to be among that group.”

Bob’s first novel, *The Jury Master*, was published in 2006 and made *The New York Times* Bestseller List. His popular protagonist, David Sloane, was based on an attorney Bob worked for in college.

“He was incredibly skilled and would read Shakespeare before giving his closing to get the rhythm of the words,” he recounted.

“At the closing, there was this amazing phenomenon where you could literally see from the expression on people’s faces that they were changing their minds. He was that good. I took it one step further and made David Sloane capable of changing jurors’ minds.”

Bob’s second novel, *Damage Control*, was published in 2007. This time, the protagonist was an attorney and a breast cancer patient named Dana Hill. Bob’s mother is a breast cancer survivor, so a portion of *Damage Control* sales benefitted the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

Bob’s next novel was the second in the David Sloane series. *Wrongful Death* hit the shelves in 2009. Reviewers compared Bob to John Grisham. The third book in the David Sloane series, *Bodily Harm*, will be released on May 25. This one deals with the toy industry and how corporate greed often trumps ethical responsibility to consumers.

“I’m still so excited each time I sit down to begin a new adventure,” he said. “Each time one of my books is published, it’s an incredible experience. I hope I never tire of the feeling. If I do, it will be time to stop.”

Bob loves to write about injustice, which tugs at the heartstrings of his readers. He weaves intricate plots, creates colorful characters and keeps his fans on the edge of their seats.

“I love to create characters and worlds and watch them become real,” Bob said. “It empowers you because we don’t have that kind of control over our real lives. People who believe the rules of society don’t apply to them really tick me off. Injustice is the central theme of the novels I write. David Sloane has honesty, integrity and compassion. People want to read about heroes – people whom they admire and respect. That’s David Sloane.”

Bob inspires writers at workshops all over the country, encouraging them to follow their dreams. He also speaks to students at elementary and high schools, stressing the importance of reading and writing.

“It’s important to give back,” he said. “I can’t always do that financially so I try to give my time. I want to be respected by my peers. I have never been in this for the money or the fame. I just want people who read my work to be moved emotionally and say, ‘He’s a good writer.’ If I can write novels until I decide to retire, I’ll be happy. If I can use writing as a platform to help others, that’s even better.”

Bob, Cristina and their two children, Catherine and Joe, are surrounded by the rustic beauty of the Pacific Northwest.



“The Northwest isn’t as crowded as the Bay Area or as expensive,” Bob noted. “Up here, I have the ability to do things like write novels and give my children things I might not be able to in the Bay Area. I also enjoy all the rain—just ask my brothers!” Four of Bob’s brothers attended Serra—Bill ’76, Tom ’82, Lawrence ’86 and Sean ’89, who currently teaches and coaches at Serra.

Bob is grateful for the opportunity to live his dream—to pursue what truly makes him happy.

“I liken life to good books,” he said. “Most great stories are about people who leave their comfort zones to live life to the fullest. We are so programmed to pursue the dollar, get a job and be successful. A family friend, Mike Collopy ’76, gave me great advice when I was deciding whether to leave the law field to pursue writing novels. He said, ‘Follow your dreams and the money will come. Follow the money and you’ll lose your dreams.’ I really believe that.”

Padre Bench



FOOTBALL

Varsity: 6-6 (3-4 WCAL) CCS
Semi Finals Open Division
JV: 7-3 (5-2 WCAL)
Frosh: 8-1 (7-0 WCAL)
WCAL Champions

Varsity Head Coach:
Patrick Walsh

Varsity Assistants:
Dean Ayoob '92
John Kirby '95
Brian Callahan

Jason Hardee
Lyndon McGee
Eric Morin

JV Staff
Co-Head Coach: Bob Vinal
Co-Head Coach: Perry Carter
Assistant: Ed Berry

Freshman Staff
Head Coach: Imani Stewart
Assistant: Bill Ahern
Assistant: Ray Baldonado

Varsity Football Awards

WCAL Defensive Back of the Year:
Matt Viñal

WCAL Wide Receiver of the Year:
DonAndré Clark

WCAL First Team All League:
Adonis Smith
Eric Tuipulotu
Matt Viñal
DonAndré Clark
Chris Giotinis

WCAL Second Team All League:
Nick Hackworth
Alex Bravo
Jamal Shouman

WCAL Honorable Mention All League:
Michael Tatola
Paul Bevilacqua
Parker Toms

MVP: Eric Tuipulotu
MVP Offensiver Player: DonAndré Clark
MVP Defensive Player: Matt Viñal
MVP Offensve Lineman: Paul Bevilacqua
MVP Defensive Lineman: Chris Giotinis
MVP Offensive Back: Adonis Smith
MVP Defensive Back: Alex Bravo
MVP Special Teams Player: Parker Toms
Scott Award: Kevin Murphy
Dan Nightingale Memorial
Award: Michael Henry Tauskey



“The Padres had two very successful seasons of fall and winter sports. All six teams earned the status of CCS Scholastic Achievement Teams, earning a cumulative team GPA of 3.0 or higher. This accomplishment is a direct result of the hard work of the student athletes and teachers. Thank you for your help and support.”

Kevin Donahue
Athletic Director

“Although the season was filled with many close games and disappointing losses, this team continued to fight. I was proud to be a part of a group that never quits. I know that this group, especially our seniors, created friendships that will last a lifetime. To me, this is what team building is all about.”

Varsity Head Coach Patrick Walsh



CROSS COUNTRY

Varsity: 3rd WCAL
Head Coach: Will McCarthy
Assistants: Ron DiMaggio and John Wise

Cross Country Awards:

Most Outstanding Runner: Carsten Stann
Outstanding Senior Runner: Brandon Norwood
Outstanding Junior Runner: Danny Colom
Coaches Award: Avery Turzanski
Most Improved Runner: Jamie Suhr
Outstanding Freshman Runner: Joey Berriatua

WCAL Second Team All League:
Carsten Stann
Ford Milligan

The varsity cross country team finished its season with a solid performance at the CCS Championships at Crystal Springs. Six out of seven runners set personal bests, as the Padre harriers placed a respectable 4th in the Division 1 race. Sophomore Carsten Stann finished 14th with an outstanding time of sixteen minutes six seconds. Juniors Danny Colom and Ford Milligan, senior Brandon Norwood and sophomore Avery Turzanski rounded out the team scoring. Also running at CCS were seniors Casey Schwenk and Andrew Gaddis. The team placed an impressive 8th overall in the CCS. The coaching staff wishes to congratulate all runners who participated during the 2009 season.



“This has been one of our most successful years to date,” said Head Water Polo Coach Bob Greene. “Our water polo program is finally at the highest level. We won a WCAL championship and participated in the

state’s elite tournaments. Our participation is higher than it has ever been, and many of our players are moving onto the next level in college. It doesn’t get much better. The boys have come a long way and I am really proud of them.”



WATERPOLO

Varsity 15-12 (3-3 WCAL) CCS Quarter
Finals and State Qualifier
JV: 16-7-1 (5-1 WCAL)
Frosh: 17-3 (6-0 WCAL) WCAL Champs

Varsity Head Coach: Bob Greene '85
Frosh/Soph Head Coach: Josh Oren
Assistant & Goalie Coach : Matt Fox
Freshman Staff: Stavros Lee

Waterpolo Awards:

CA/HI All American:
Max Murphy

Varsity ALL CCS:
Matt Pritchett
Max Murphy
Quinn Curl

All WCAL: Matt Pritchett, Max Murphy
Marco Buljan, Quinn Curl

MVP: Matt Pritchett
Most Improved: Ian Williams
Coaches Choice: Quinn Curl

JV
MVP – Tim Vivarius
Most Improved – Brennan Jaeb
Coaches Choice – Brendan Moriarty

Freshman
MVP – Brandon Yee
Most Improved – Jack Gordon
Coaches Choice – Kevin Villar

SOCCER ➤

Varsity Head Coach: Jeff Panos JV Head Coach: Renan Pineda
Assistant: Matt Angell '80 JV Assistant: Enzo Rosano
Goalkeeper Coach: Andy Moore Freshman Coach: Corey Edden

The Serra Varsity Soccer team captured the WCAL Round Robin Championship with a 5-0 win over Archbishop Riordon on the last day of the regular season. Serra finished with an 11-2-1 league record and an overall record of 15-3-2. The Padre defense tied a WCAL record of 10 shutouts led by goalie Matt Grosey. This is the Padres' first soccer championship since 2001, when they were co-champions. Serra has won four WCAL titles, with the Padres winning sole championships in 1980 and 1991.



➤ BASKETBALL

Varsity Head Coach: Chuck Rapp '86 JV Head Coach: Rob Ruis
Varsity Assistants: JV Assistant: Tim Egan
Brian Carson Freshman A Coach: Mark Massey '83
Sean Dugoni '89 Freshman B Coach: Brian Morton '83

Coach Rapp led his Padre basketball team to a second place finish in the WCAL and another 20 win season. The Padres won the De La Salle and Pioneer Tournaments on their way to a 9-1 non-league record and a top five Bay Area ranking in the pre-season. The team continued their success in league play going 6-1 in the first half and are currently 11-2 with one game to play as we go to press. The Padres are ranked in the top 10 in the Bay Area by the SF Chronicle and have been ranked as the number one team in San Mateo County all season long. The trademarks of the team are tenacious defense, quick passing and cutting offense involving all five players on the court.



WRESTLING ➤

Varsity Head Coach: Dan Vogl Mike Klobuchar '90
Assistants: Hal Lorber
Ricard Garcia Bob Marshall
Steve Heimuli

The wrestling team has been very competitive again this season and currently stands in third place in the WCAL. The Padres are a very young team, with only three seniors competing at the varsity level. These strong, young wrestlers are gaining valuable experience to ensure a bright future for the program. The freshman team finished the WCAL dual meet season undefeated and as league champions.



PETE JENSEN
NAMED NATIONAL COACH OF THE YEAR



Congratulations to Pete Jensen for being named the National Coach of the Year by the American Baseball Coaches Association. Pete was one of eight ABCA Regional Coaches of the Year for High School Division III baseball. The National Coach of the Year was chosen from that select elite group.

“It was pretty overwhelming,” Pete said. “I give all the credit to the kids and the other coaches. Without them, it wouldn’t have happened. I wish I could split the award into thirds—for Joe Kmak, Rich Jefferies and myself.”

On January 8, Pete was recognized at the American Baseball Coaches Association’s Hall of Fame/Coach of the Year Banquet in Dallas. A few weeks later, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award for Northern California by the Santa Clara Hot Stove Baseball Association.

“It was a great way to cap off my career,” said Pete, who currently teaches architecture and P.E. at Serra. “I’ve spent more than half my life coaching and teaching at Serra. I’m extremely grateful for the time spent with my students, athletes and colleagues.”



THE ALUMNI GAMES
PADRE ATHLETES RETURN TO CAMPUS

The Alumni Games held in November were one of the most successful in school history. More than 100 Padre athletes participated in the events. Competitions were held in basketball, crew, soccer and waterpolo.



BOOSTER CLUB ➤
CRAB CIOPPINO DINNER & DANCE

The Booster Club’s annual Crab Cioppino Dinner and Dance was held on January 23. The sold-out event was a great success, with more than 500 people in attendance! Booster Club members would like to thank all those who attended the dinner, especially all of the volunteers who made the event possible. A special thanks to the freshman basketball team for setting up the gym, the freshman, junior varsity and varsity soccer teams for serving, the crew team for working the kitchen and the wrestling team for clean-up duties.



Junípero Serra Medal Awarded to Local Hero Dave Peruzzaro '90



San Mateo Police Sgt. Dave Peruzzaro was presented with the 2009 Junípero Serra Award in October for exemplifying the goals and ideals of the Serra school philosophy. Dave rescued two small children in a tragic hostage situation last winter.

On September 10, 2009, Dave received the 2008 Governor's Public Safety Medal of Valor, presented to him in person by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Despite the recognition for his heroic action, he remains humble and is quick to note that the rescue was a collaborative effort.

"It was a S.W.A.T. Team effort that saved those children, but the true hero was the mother who lost her life," he said.

Padre Spirit

Dave was joined during the ceremony by San Mateo Police Department Captain Kevin Raffaelli '75 and Colma Police Commander Greg Hart '76.

San Mateo Deputy Chief Mike Callagy '80 pointed out that 15 members of the San Mateo Police Department are Serra Padres.

"You leave Serra with the tools and courage to become a hero," he said. "Serra gives you the values, morals and character to step up when fate calls your number. If you have the opportunity to become a hero, you have an obligation to be a hero. Seize that moment!"

While addressing the student body, Dave said his time at Serra taught him to be involved with his local community. He also shared other important Padre values: Be a man of principle. Keep your word. Live with integrity. Be brave. Give something back to society. Be a good friend. Appreciate your family and

friends. Be a leader, not a follower. Believe in something bigger than yourself.

"The one thing I would like to impress upon you is to not underestimate how important your time at Serra will be," Dave said to current students, "not just in your student life, but in your personal and professional lives to come."

Family Pride

Dave was joined by his wife, Jennifer; children, Kaitlyn and Tyler; mom and dad, Pauline and Dave Sr. '63; uncles, Italo '57 and Rudy '66; and cousin, Mark, a current Serra High junior.

"His family is so proud of him and we're so fortunate to be here today to support him," said Dave's wife, Jennifer.

Dan Lieberman, District Representative for Senator Leland Yee's office, presented Dave with a certificate of recognition.

"We could not be more proud of Dave—he is such a great Padre," said Serra High School Principal Barry Thornton. "He has distinguished himself with this award, which honors the service he has given to Serra and the community for so many years."

Pictured below (l-r): The Peruzzaro Family—Mark '10, Italo '57, Dave '90, Dave Sr. '63, Rudy '66 and Dave's son, Tyler.



2010 ALUMNI AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

The Alumni Award of Merit was established by the Alumni Association Board of Directors in 2002 and first awarded in September of 2003. It was created to honor alumni who have distinguished themselves in their professional fields and who have brought honor and distinction to Junípero Serra High School. Awards are given in the areas of the arts, business, public service and science and technology. This year's Alumni Merit Award ceremony will be held on March 18 on the Serra campus.

PUBLIC SERVICE

MICHAEL GENEVRO '66



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

JAMES KEENAN '82



BUSINESS

PHILIP BONA '68



THE ARTS

GREG VISTICA '72



Fall Speaker Series

Stresses Importance of Academics,
Brotherhood, Healthy Relationships



Gary Hughes '59

“I COME BACK TO SERRA EVERY CHANCE I GET.
THE BOND IS STILL THERE—BRAVE AND BOLD.”

GARY HUGHES '59
ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER, CHICAGO CUBS

What do a deputy police chief, a university head coach and a Campus Ministry director have in common? They were all motivational speakers at the Serra Fall Speaker Series.

Baseball Head Coach Craig Gianinno lined up the speaker series this fall to show how the school's mission, *“Men of Faith, Wisdom and Service,”* pertains to being an athlete. Gianinno strives to help his players achieve a sense of balance between academics, athletics and their relationships with coaches, friends and family members.

“We have to find a balance between our personal lives and our lives playing sports,” said senior Matt Nichol.

“These talks were open to all students, whether or not they play sports,” noted Serra Athletic Director Kevin Donahue. “The speaker series provided an opportunity for our entire student body to hear what it takes to be successful both in the classroom and on the athletic field.”

Serra Theology teacher Ed Taylor spoke about the importance of brotherhood. Director of Campus Ministry Kyle Lierk talked to students about overcoming challenges and setbacks.

University of San Francisco Head Baseball Coach Nino Giarratano shared some hard-hitting advice about academics. He said working hard both on and off the field is

the key to being chosen to play sports at the Division 1 level. Students said Coach Giarratano's talk made them realize today's college athlete needs to be well-rounded.

University of San Francisco Assistant Head Baseball Coach Jonathan Norfolk discussed the importance of maintaining balance and self-control, setting specific daily goals and controlling one's thoughts.

“Mental toughness is more important than physical skill,” said junior Brendan Galindo.

Other guest speakers included former San Francisco Giants Major League Baseball Pitcher Bill Laskey, current College of San Mateo Head Baseball Coach Doug Williams and former College of San Mateo Head Baseball Coach Jon Noce.

Alum Shares Baseball Journey

Gary Hughes '59, Special Assistant to the General Manager of the Chicago Cubs, shared his lifelong passion for baseball.

“I come back to Serra every chance I get,” Gary said. “The bond is still there—brave and bold.”

Gary began with his journey as a young Padre and ended with revealing how his experience at Serra influenced his life and career.

“I learned that the guys around me are my brothers and we will stay together,” said senior Josh Scerri. “We will never forget each other. These years are monumental in our lives.”

Amazingly, Gary pointed out baseball players from the Serra 1959 championship team picture. He remembered every single player—even the bat boy and the score-keeper! Gary has kept in touch with them all—50 years later—and spoke about their current careers and successes.

One player became a doctor of microbiology. Another founded the Institute for Peace and Justice. Others included a bank president, attorney and three baseball professionals.

Last year, Gary was inducted into the Professional Baseball Scouts Hall of Fame.

Deputy Chief Shares Wisdom

San Mateo Police Deputy Chief Mike Callagy '80 spoke to students about the importance of teamwork. Returning to his Alma Mater, Callagy compared playing sports to the game of life.

“By playing sports, you learn how to support each other,” he said. “You learn how to win and how to lose. It's a lot like life. I have learned more about myself from my failures than from my victories.”

“I enjoyed the fact that he is a Padre and could relate to us,” said junior Wes Starr. “He made us think about the bigger picture.”

Mike Callagy said it was an incredible experience for him to speak to today's young Padres.

“I got to return to a place that's very special in my heart,” he said. “I see the future when I look into the eyes of these young men and I'm encouraged. They have the right values. I see today's Padres as future leaders.”



Mike Callagy '80

Do you have an exciting story to share?

We would love to hear from you! If you know of an interesting alum or current student who is making a difference or who has achieved something special, please contact Communications Manager Antonia Ehlers at 650-345-8207 ext. 183 or send an email to aehlers@serrahs.com.



Future Padres Tommy Barrett and Liam Ehlers

Homecoming Weekend

Celebrates Padre Spirit



Old friends reunited in October at the homecoming barbecue. Although our alums have chosen different career paths, they have an unbroken bond—the lifelong Padre brotherhood.

The Barrett brothers—John ’69, Mike ’76, Pat ’86 and Steve ’74 (pictured below)—attended the barbecue and reminisced about their Serra days. Their brother, Eric ’83, was unable to attend.



“Even though my brothers and I see each other often, being a Padre is something we have all in common,” Pat Barrett noted. “The Serra Padre family is an extension of our own family. It’s nice when we visit our high school together because it enhances our family bond as brothers.”

The bleachers were packed at the homecoming game against Bellarmine, and the crowd went wild for the Serra football team.

Class Reunions

The room was filled with laughter and cherished stories as Serra classes of ’49, ’59, ’69 ’79, ’84, ’89 and ’99 reunited on October 17 at the Hilton SFO in Burlingame.

“It feels good to be back,” said Nicholas Ferraro ’99, who flashed an ear-to-ear grin with his fiancée, Rebecca Watkins. “I have a lot of pride and respect for Serra.”

Some remembered high jinx around the halls of their alma mater. Others reminisced about dances, sporting events, concerts and parties. Yes, the Padre spirit was alive and well, as 250 Padres swapped their favorite blue and gold tales.

“The camaraderie is unbelievable,” said Dennis Calonico ’69, a Para Olympic athlete and member of Serra’s Athletic Hall of Fame. “Serra has outstanding academics, athletics and community service. My classmates are my heroes.”

There was the radio personality, the commercial realtor, the novelist and the winemaker. The dot-comer, the police officer, the scientist and the teacher. Although they chose different paths, they made lifelong friendships at Serra and share a common belief: Once a Padre, always a Padre.

“What a wonderful evening,” said Father Tom Madden, a Serra faculty member from 1954 to 1970. “I came home with some very intense feelings, just at the joy of seeing so many of you guys.”

Archbishop Francis T. Hurley, a Serra faculty member and Athletic Director from 1954 to 1957, said grace before dinner. Music was provided by Carl Hilsz ’89. Serra President Lars Lund, Principal Barry Thornton and Alumni Director Bob Greene awarded Golden Diplomas and 50-year pins to members of the Class of ’59. The Class of ’49 received Platinum Diplomas for 60 years.

Former faculty members present were Nick Carboni ’59, Rick Fambrini ’59 and Ken Houle.

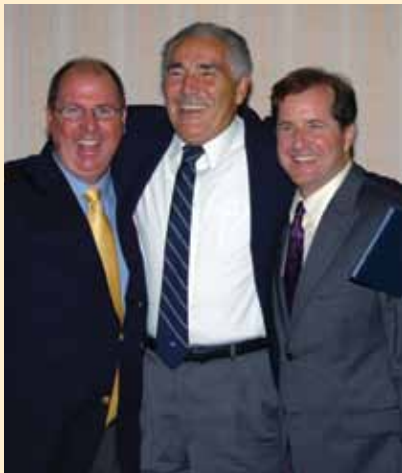


Roger Krieger ’59 drove from Dixon with his wife, Marty. The couple will celebrate 50 years of marriage in January. “Serra was a lot of fun,” Roger said. “In fact, I would like to go back and do it all over again.”



Class of '59 Receives Gold Diplomas

Members of the Class of '59 shared Padre spirit as they caught up on five decades. As they swapped life stories and reminisced about their fondest Serra memories, new friends were made and old bonds remained unbroken. Each Class of '59 Padre received a Gold Diploma during a special reunion ceremony. In the true Padre tradition, a good time was had by all!



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COMING SOON

Sixth Annual

FUND A DREAM SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Alumnus Peter Barsocchini '70, renowned creator and screenwriter of the *Disney High School Musical* series, will be returning to Serra as the keynote speaker for the Sixth Annual Fund A Dream Scholarship Luncheon being held at the Peninsula Golf & Country Club on March 24, 2010.

The Fund A Dream Scholarship Luncheon has provided more than \$461,000 in the past five years for deserving students who would be unable to attend Serra without support from our Tuition Assistance Program.

For more information, contact the Serra Development Office (650) 573-9935 or e-mail: tstoye@serrahs.com

Keynote Speaker Peter Barsocchini '70



Pursuing his Passion

Matt Ferretti '02 Enjoys Life as a Stage Actor In New York



The lights dim and a hush falls over the audience. Music fills the air and Matt Ferretti '02 glides across the stage as Don in *A Chorus Line*. Matt is pursuing his passion as a stage actor in New York. He vividly remembers the day he was offered the coveted role in the timeless musical.

“All the blood from my head fell to my toes,” he said. “I thought I was going to be cut so I felt like I was going to pass out.”

The Gateway Playhouse production of *A Chorus Line* had a two-month run last fall in Long Island. Matt’s character, Don, is complicated—an unhappy, struggling father in the 1970s who dances to pay for his children’s school tuition.

“Don is 26 and considered old in 1975,” Matt noted. “He deals with realism as a performer and as a human being. It was an amazing experience to play him. *A Chorus Line* is something I’ll hold dear to my heart forever.”

Growing up in a musical household, Matt remembers at-home productions of *Peter Pan* and *The Wizard of Oz*. At Serra, Matt performed in *Oklahoma*, *Grease*, *Somewhere Together*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Pippin*. His aunt, Gennine Harrington, is the director and choreographer of the Tri-School musicals. She was a major influence on Matt’s acting career.

“Serra molded me in becoming who I am,” Matt said. “I come back a lot and keep in touch with people from the musicals.”

After high school graduation, Matt attended San Francisco State University. He majored in theater and studied the Meisner

technique (actors are taught to be as real as they can in imaginary circumstances). Two days after his college graduation in 2007, he packed three large suitcases “with my whole life in them” and moved to the Big Apple. He checked into a youth hostel and was disenchanted by the white walls, white sheets and dismal surroundings. For a split second, he wondered if he should move back to California.

“I called my mom (Patti Ferretti, Serra’s Student Activities Director) and she said, ‘If you move home, I’ll never forgive you.’ My mom and dad are a huge inspiration to me and they are the reason I stayed in New York.”

Eventually, Matt settled in Astoria. He loves the quiet neighborhood dotted with quaint shops and restaurants, but braces himself for long walks in 19-degree weather. Soon after moving to Astoria, Matt landed a role in “*A Wonderful Life*.” After that, he toured the country in *Dr. Doolittle*.

“Touring put me through a test of how much I really love to perform,” he said. “We would be in the snow one week and hot weather the next.”

Next came an opportunity to teach theater to children at Camp Broadway. “It was a bittersweet experience,” he admitted. “I loved being able to give something back. I wanted to share acting with kids, spark their interest and say, ‘Hold onto this dream!’ However, I’m not ready to teach quite yet.”

Matt continues to work as an actor. Before *A Chorus Line*, he appeared in *Babes in Toyland* at Lincoln Center. One of his most embarrassing moments happened when another actor accidentally knocked a football out of Matt’s hands and into the audience.

“Lincoln Center was such a huge stage and we were taught in rehearsal how not to fall off the stage,” he explained. “I played a football player toy. I had never dropped the football in rehearsal, but on opening night it went flying into the audience! Someone threw it back a few minutes later. All I could think at the time was, ‘My dad (Bob Ferretti, Serra’s Dean of Students) would be laughing so hard!’”

Matt’s favorite productions to date are *Floyd Collins*, *Assassins* and *Joseph and the Technicolor Dream Coat*. When he’s not performing, he has a day job at a gym. One of Matt’s most exciting jobs was playing a SoHo fashion show attendant on the popular TV show *Gossip Girl* in January.

“People don’t realize how long the shooting takes,” he said. “We worked from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 a.m.”

This spring, he will appear on the HBO show *How to Make it in America*. Does he prefer TV or the stage?

“I don’t ever want to pigeonhole myself,” he said. “I would love to be on a sitcom one day. I classify myself as an actor who sings and dances. I’m not looking to be rich and famous; I’m hoping to be well off and recognized for my talent. I truly am the happiest when I perform. If I could give other actors advice, it would be ‘Believe in yourself and persevere.’”

The Sky’s the Limit

Not too many people can say they have mined for diamonds, dined on a swamp or camped in a teepee. Steve Krystofiak '00 is one of those brave souls who can actually say he has “been there, done that.” For one year, he flew over the country in a blimp. Steve is the youngest of only 40 blimp pilots in the world, and he swears traveling by blimp is the safest form of transportation. Steve participated in all sorts of unusual activities while on his wild adventure – such as eating chicken in Kentucky next to Col. Sanders’ grave. In Tennessee, locals offered him guns from the back of a truck. In Pennsylvania, he asked a waitress where to go for fun and was told, “Walmart is open 24 hours.”



Steve received his private pilot’s license when he was only 17. In 2008, he was hired by a blimp company, which gave him an opportunity to travel around the country. He flew over football games by day and checked out various towns by night with his ground crew of 15.

“I missed the Bay Area so much, especially my friends and family,” Steve said. “However, I really enjoyed my time in the blimp because I got to do what most people wait to do in an RV when they’re 50 or 60.”

While at Serra, Steve remembers flying to Clearlake, Yosemite and Monterey with Ben Bowman '00, a Chinook first lieutenant helicopter pilot in the California Army Guard.

“I love the lifestyle, the freedom and the thrill of flying,” said Steve, who grew up in Redwood Shores with his parents, Charlie and Margie, and brother, Kevin '95.

After graduating from college with a degree in real estate and a flight instructor’s license, Steve thought he might become an airline pilot. Those dreams were put on hold a month later when the horrific 911 tragedy sent the airline industry into a tailspin.

“Instead, I took a job flying over water for a swordfish company,” he noted. “It was an interesting job – I looked for fish ranging from 90 to 400 pounds.”

Steve recently started a soaring new business called Head Start College Services. He is an independent college counselor, who helps high school students prepare for college.

“Although I don’t fly very much anymore, there is still a passion there,” Steve said. “I still look up into the sky every time I hear a plane flying overhead.

Laughs for Bryan



When Bryan Bishop '96 was diagnosed with an inoperable brain tumor last spring, he was newly engaged and had just appeared on *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire*. Sadly, life has its fair share of twists and turns and, often, terrible timing.

Yet Bryan is extraordinary. He handles life's challenges with grace and humor. On November 17, comedians Adam Carolla, Jimmy Kimmel and Joel McHale "roasted" Bryan's tumor at *Laughs for Bald Bryan*. The action-packed night of unedited comedy was held at the Wilshire Ebell Theatre in Hollywood.

"A worse thing couldn't have happened to a better guy," said comedian Adam Carolla. "It's really heartwarming to see everyone step up, jump in and rise to the occasion."

Bryan was an on-air member of the Adam Carolla radio show. He was diagnosed with the tumor in April and married the love of his life, Christie Clough, in June. Doctors told Bryan he had six months to a year to live.



"This can happen to anybody," Bryan noted. "I would like to offer some humble advice: Get tested for this stuff. An MRI or a Pet-CT scan may seem scary, but they're nothing compared to the scariness of cancer treatment—especially if you wait until it's too late."

Bryan has been treated with radiation and continues chemotherapy. The Bishops are overwhelmed by the support and love they have

received from complete strangers. Christie's blog has 250,000 readers from all over the world.

"We are hopeful that this road to recovery leads us to a place where we can offer our support and love to everyone else," she said.

Bryan grew up in San Carlos and has fond memories of high school.

"I loved my years at Serra," he said. "Those years taught me the importance of having and keeping a tight group of friends; a community that surrounds and supports you."

Bryan keeps in touch with fellow Padres Greg Magni '96 and Jon Chapman '96. Brian Affrunti '96 and Jim DeMartini '97 attended the comedy show, as well as Bryan's younger brother, Adam Bishop '00.

Event Producer Deborah Barge remarked on the newlyweds' unwavering commitment to each other.

"Christie and Bryan seem like they have been together for 20 years," she said. "They have a great rapport. Even at a young age, they know what's important in a marriage. The two of them are old souls."

Serra President Lars Lund remembers Bryan well and said he will never forget his great sense of humor.

"Bryan was so much fun to have in class," Lars said. "He is inspiring others in his fight against cancer. We want Bryan to know that the Serra community is keeping him and Christie its prayers."

Oh baby!

Serra faculty and staff are hearing the patter of tiny feet—we are thrilled to announce the arrival of brand new bundles of joy for several of our Padre faculty and staff families.



Mercy and Justis
(Vivian & Micahel Byun)



Twins Timothy and Ellie
(Jeff & Polly Panos)



Milan
(Renan & Marla Pineda)



Simon
(Sory and Jared Gallo)



Twins Isabella and Marco
(Sheila & Mark Scafina)

We're looking for **A FEW GOOD MEN!**

Get involved at Serra.

Stay connected with your classmates.

Become a Padre Class Rep.



Three generations of Peruzzaros (Mark '83, Mark, Jr. '11, and Italo '57)

Contact Bob Greene, Alumni Director to learn more
650.573.9935, ext. 191, or email bgreene@serrahs.com

1950

YOUR 60-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

1959

JOHN NEIL CHICHIZOLA was named 2009 San Carlos Citizen of the Year by the San Carlos Chamber of Commerce. Neil served as Chamber President from 1993-1994 and 1998-1999. He has been a member of the Art & Wine Faire for 19 years and currently serves as the Museum of San Carlos History Board President.

1960

YOUR 50-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

You may also contact Padre classmates Michael Calegari at michelcalegari@gmail.com; Pete Cocconi at pcocconi@aol.com; or John Horgan at jhorg@hotmail.com for updates and help with finding lost class members

1968

DAN McVEIGH received the St. Thomas More Award for his integrity in the practice of law, leadership in the community and faithfulness to Gospel values. Dan lives in Sacramento and is a partner in the Downey Brand law firm.

1970

YOUR 40-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

1975

CAPTAIN KEVIN RAFFAELLI received a Medal of Honor for responding to a report of possible gunshots fired at Hillsdale High School in August. Kevin and three other police officers arrested the suspect, who was armed with pipe bombs, after he had been tackled and detained by teachers. Kevin recently retired from the San Mateo Police Force after 31 years of service. He hopes to teach law enforcement classes in the future.



1980

YOUR 30-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

1982

STEVEN CARSON and his wife, Sara, welcomed Kathryn Mary on July 29, 2009.

1983

FRED BERTETTA III and wife Jennifer welcomed a baby boy, Spencer James Bertetta, on July 27, 2009. Spencer will be a proud graduate of Serra High School in 2027. He will join his older brother Freddie IV (class of 2025), his dad, grandfather **FRED BERTETTA JR. '54** and **UNCLE BRAD '89** as Padre Alums.



1984

EDDIE TURDICI and his wife, Teri, are thrilled to announce the finalization of the adoption of their daughter, Serra Esther Turdici. Pictured left to right: Lori, Eric, Teri, Eddie (holding Serra) and **TYLER TURDICI '08**.



1985

YOUR 25-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

1988

MICHAEL TRUCCO married Swiss actress Sandra Hess on July 11, 2009 in Cabo San Lucas. Both are actors living in Hollywood. Michael has just completed three years on the SciFi show, *Battlestar Gallactica*. Sandra is currently filming an episode of a new show, *Psych*. They plan to live near Hollywood.



1990

YOUR 20-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

1991

Inspired by Michael J. Fox, **CHRIS SFARZO** recently wrote a song with his parents, Maryann and Ron Sfarzo, called “I’m an Optimist.” The song was produced by Robert Berry at Soundtek Studios. The song is available on CD Baby and on iTunes for download. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinsons.

1993

PAUL FITZGERALD and his wife, Tracee, welcomed a daughter, Audrey Kate, on October 28, 2008. Paul is the Manager of Business Services for Qualcomm Incorporated, based in San Diego.



KEEP US POSTED!

IF YOU’VE RECENTLY GRADUATED, MARRIED, CELEBRATED THE BIRTH OF A NEW BABY, STARTED A NEW JOB, RETIRED, OR JUST HAVE SOMETHING YOU’D LIKE TO SHARE, WE’D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT IT.

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IMAGES SHOULD BE HIGH RESOLUTION (*at least 300 dpi*) IN EITHER .JPG OR .TIF FORMAT.

EMAIL: [MWILKINSON@SERRAHS.COM](mailto:mwilkinson@serrahs.com)

1995

DAN FRISELLA is the Vice Principal of Natomas High School in Sacramento. Dan recently received a Master’s Degree in Special Education. He served as the chair of the Special Education Department until he was promoted to Vice Principal.

TIM KENNEDY and his wife, Maria, welcomed Sofia Angelique on October 19, 2009.



1997

JOHN BUNJE and his wife, Francesca, welcomed Audrienne Elizabeth on September 29, 2009. The Bunjes live in San Diego, where John is a Project Manager for Rudolph and Sletten.

1998

JASON KARCHER married Jannae Marie Severs in December of 2006. They welcomed their first and his wife, Jannae, welcomed Nathan Alexander on July 7, 2009.



JUSTIN PERRY and his wife, Becky, welcomed Luke Justin on November 24, 2009. Justin lives and works in Stockton. He graduated from University of the Pacific and works for Bank of America. Justin recently launched a website for swimmers and swim/tri-athlete coaches.



2000

YOUR 10-YEAR REUNION will be held on Saturday, October 23, at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel in Burlingame. Look for more news in upcoming mailings, or visit the Serra website at www.serrahs.com *(Click on Alumni)*.

MICHAEL KARCHER married Heather Nowak on February 9, 2009.

RYAN NOWAKOWSKI married Maria Esther on October 3, 2009 in San Mateo. Ryan is the General Sales Manager at Golden Gate Cycles in San Francisco and said he is “loving life!”

Class Notes

2002

ERIC PETERSEN married Kristina Dennison on April 26, 2008. Padre groomsmen were the groom’s brother, BRIAN HEALEY ’10, Best Man ROB BOSETTI ’02 and BRIAN POGGETTI ’02. Eric graduated from San Jose State University in 2007 with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is employed by Bloom Energy. The newlyweds live in San Jose.



2004

JOAQUIN GUERRERO married Rachel Tetreault on September 12, 2009 at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in San Francisco. Groomsmen included ERICK HERNANDEZ ’04 and PAUL VILLALOBOS ’04. The Guerreros both attended San Francisco State University and they currently reside in South San Francisco.



2005

Stanford University linebacker WILL POWERS earned a spot on the Pacific-10 Conference’s All-Academic Team. He is a Classics Major at Stanford.



2006

MATT CHIRICHILLO has been traveling the world as an Assistant Production Manager for the band *Playing for Change*. The band is famous for world music—featuring songs from Sam Cook, the Beatles and Bob Marley—as well as their own original hits. Matt said seeing so many different countries gave him a fresh perspective on life. Next up? The band plans to travel to South America.



2007

NICK POGGETTI received ALL WHPA League honors for water polo. Nick plays for Santa Clara University and is ranked fifth in the nation for scoring. This past September, the Broncos competed against the University of Redlands where Nick met up with Padre alum and Serra ’09 water polo standout ZAC CHIERICI. Led by Nick’s four goals, Santa Clara defeated Redlands 13-9.



2009

PATRICK DUNLEAVY recently earned the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. Patrick is a freshman at U.C. Davis. His grandfather, Frank Cianciolo, became an Eagle Scout in 1945.

FREDDIE MENZEL is currently diving for the University of Hawaii. His team is ranked #24 in the nation. Freddie is one of the top three divers at the University of Hawaii.



Three Serra alums—PAT MORAN ’80 San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office; MARK CLIFFORD ’83 San Leandro Police Department; and BRIAN PHILIP ’91 Palo Alto Police Department—recently participated in an intense S.W.A.T. training session in Dublin called Urban Shield.

Sponsored by the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office, Urban Shield is a 50-plus hour non-stop exercise that incorporates 25 real-life scenarios that address emerging future threats. It is designed to strengthen elite S.W.A.T. teams’ preparedness to respond to threats, terrorist attacks, major disasters, hostage rescues and other emergencies.



In Memoriam

ANTHONY COSTA ’72 passed away on December 7.

Kathleen Dunleavy, the mother of Brian Dunleavy, KEVIN DUNLEAVY ’80 and Cathy Rosaia, passed away on December 12.

Peter Fadelli, the father of Mike FADELLI ’88 and the grandfather of CHRIS HOULE ’92 and BRIAN HOULE ’97, passed away on December 18.

Henry A. Gogarty, the father of JIM GOGARTY ’73, SEAN GOGARTY ’76 and DONALD GOGARTY ’78, passed away on April 11.

After a battle with cancer, MIKE KING ’62, brother of ALLAN KING ’63, died on October 16 in San Francisco .

Lawrence MacKenzie, the brother of Serra Counselor Tom MacKenzie, passed away on December 23.

Sabina Martin, the mother of JAMES MARTIN ’57, passed away.

JOHN O’BRIEN M.D. ’55 passed away on October 21. Dr. O’Brien was an internist who specialized in cardiology.

MAURICE “BO” PELTIER ’56 passed away on January 31.

Joanne Renda, the grandmother of TONY RENDA ’09, passed away on December 5.

Marjorie Woodley, the mother in law of Michael Peterson and the grandmother of CARL PETERSON ’93, passed away on December 31.

In Memory of Brandy Orge

Brandy Orge, the beloved fiancée of Serra staff member Rob Morris, passed away on December 20, after battling cancer. Brandy was born in San Francisco and lived in the Bay Area her entire life. She loved traveling, cooking, coffee in the morning, caring for her daughter, Chanel, her dog, Coco, and life in general. Brandy’s laugh was contagious and she saved many lives working in the NICU at Stanford. She will always be in the hearts of Rob, Chanel, her family and many friends.



MAKE YOUR GIFT ONLINE!

Supporting Serra is now easier than ever. Simply log on to: www.serrahs.com and click on “Giving to Serra” from the Alumni or Development home page.

You can then choose where you would like your donation to go. Your choices include gifts to the:

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Fr. John Zoph Endowed Scholarship Fund

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General Scholarship Fund

All gifts to Serra High School make a tremendous difference.

Thank you to all who continue to support our programs.

For more information, please contact Serra’s Development Office at (650) 573-9935.

SUPPORTING SERRA IS JUST A “CLICK AWAY!”



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Father Jack Kavanaugh Celebrates 85th Birthday

Congratulations to former Serra faculty member Father Jack Kavanaugh, who celebrated his 85th birthday on December 23. Joining him in the celebration were his nieces (l-r) Nan Monticelli, Sue Mangel, Joan Radsliff, Jean DePartini; his sister, Mary Jane Anderson; and his niece, Pat Montgomery.

Father Kavanaugh taught at Serra from September of 1954 to June of 1963 and returned to teach for one year in 1987. He is the retired pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Redwood City and resides at the Serra Clergy House adjacent to the Serra campus.

SUPPORTING SERRA WAYS TO GIVE

A Junípero Serra High School education provides unique opportunities for young men to develop lifelong habits of learning that prepare them to become leaders throughout their lives. An unrestricted gift to Serra helps support the annual activities of the school and enables the school to direct funds to where they are most needed.

OUTRIGHT GIFTS

Outright gifts can include cash, Visa or MasterCard. Gifts can be made online. All cash gifts are fully tax deductible, up to the maximum of 50 percent of your adjusted gross income. Any excess can be carried over and deducted over as many as five subsequent years.

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GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE

Real property, either in entirety or in part, can be deeded to Serra. It is even possible to arrange a sizable tax deduction by deeding a home or farm to the school now, while continuing to occupy the property for life. All real estate transactions are subject to inspection and final approval by the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many employers participate in a matching gifts program. This is a tremendous benefit that can double or sometimes even triple your gift to Serra. Check with your human resources department for matching gift forms. Visit the Serra website to see if your employer participates in a matching gifts program.

MEMORIAL AND HONORARY TRIBUTE GIFTS

A gift to the Memorial Endowment Fund perpetuates the values and ideals that guided a loved one's life. Gifts provide a tribute in memory of a loved one's passing and honor a person during his/her lifetime. All contributions to the memorial program help fund financial aid for deserving families, assuring the continuance of Serra's legacy of inclusiveness and diversity.

THE FATHER SERRA HERITAGE SOCIETY

Members of this society have thoughtfully included Serra in their estate plans or wills. These gifts of forethought and generosity take many forms: bequests, living trusts or life income plans, which name Junipero Serra High School as beneficiaries in their estate plans or wills. If you would like more information about making a planned gift, contact the Director of Advancement at 650.573.9935, ext. 188.

TRADITIONS

A publication for the alumni, parents & friends of Junipero Serra High School

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Join the hundreds of Padre alums that have already registered for Serra's Online Alumni Community. Once a member, you will be able to update your personal profile, post class notes and family pictures, reconnect with your classmates and friends, and see what events are being planned on and off campus.

JUST FOLLOW THE FOUR EASY STEPS BELOW TO BEGIN CATCHING UP!

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4. CLICK ON REGISTER HERE. YOU WILL NEED TO ENTER YOUR LAST NAME, CHOOSE YOUR CLASS, AND ENTER YOUR LOG-IN ID. (YOUR LOG-IN ID IS THE NUMBER LOCATED DIRECTLY ABOVE YOUR NAME ON THE ADDRESS LABEL OF THIS EDITION OF TRADITIONS.)

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ALUMNI UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2010

24TH Fund A Dream Luncheon

APRIL 2010

3RD Alumni Volleyball Game

18TH Annual Fashion Show

MAY 2010

29TH Sixty-Fourth Annual Commencement

JUNE 2010

21ST Serra Alumni Golf Classic

OCTOBER 2010

15TH Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner

22ND Homecoming Football Game

23RD Alumni Reunions
(Classes of '50, '60, '70, '80, '85, '90, '00)

SEPTEMBER 2010

3RD Alumni Father & Son Mass

Questions? Contact:
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or visit Serra's website at www.serrahs.com