

**From:** Cathy Savery [csavery@awhs.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 04, 2009 8:42 AM  
**To:** Julie McCormack  
**Subject:** Fwd: Test Message - October Alumni C-mail

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dr. Carmen Mariano** <[cmariano@awhs.org](mailto:cmariano@awhs.org)>  
Date: Wed, Nov 4, 2009 at 8:19 AM  
Subject: Test Message - October Alumni C-mail  
To: [csavery@awhs.org](mailto:csavery@awhs.org)



Good afternoon!

Just a few updates:

### **Enrollment**

Is holding at 532. Many thanks go to our alumni (including some of you) who responded so generously to our tuition support appeal this summer and to the record breaking number of students who have transferred into AWHS since June!

### **STEM Breakfast**

Over thirty alums and friends visited us last Friday morning for two hours. They met in small groups with our seniors and discussed career choices in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Compliments came from our students about our guests and from our guests about our students! It was bigger and better than last year's effort, and last year's effort was big!

By the way, one of the many fascinating things I learned from one of the presenters was this: The United States produces 30,000 new engineers each year from our colleges. Not bad, you say? Try this; India produces 400,000 per year and China produces 800,000!

(If you are thinking of a career change, "engineering here you come!!")

### **Academic Hall of Fame**

Sunday, October 4th, was truly a special day in the life of our school. Twelve charter members were inducted into our newly established Academic Hall of Fame. Members of our current National Honor Society introduced them perfectly.

Our inductees offered words of equal perfection. What words? I thought you'd never ask! Excerpts from their remarks are below.

Mr. Bob O'Brien – History Teacher 1954-1992

"Every life has its good days and its bad days. But on any given day, it is not always clear whether in the long run that day will be rated as a good day or a bad day.

On April 11, 1945, a stray bullet from my squad leader's pistol brought an early end to my ambitions for an active military career. For some time, that day seemed destined to be rated one of the really bad days of my life. My military interests were forced into more academic channels.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those great students for making my 38

## **C-MAIL**

Carmen Mariano,  
Ed.D.  
President  
*Carmen Mariano, Ed.D.*

Archbishop Williams  
High School  
40 Independence Ave.  
Braintree, MA 02184  
781-843-3610



happy years at Archies so full of good days. And especially for making that day in April of 1945, my own 'bad-bullet day,' now seem like a pretty good day, after all!"

Dr. Margaret (Peg) Kenney – Class of 1953

"I feel just like Katherine Graham, longtime publisher of the Washington Post when she said, "To love what you do and feel that it matters, how could anything be more fun?" For all but the first five years of my life, I have been in school and loving what I do, whether it was as a student or as a teacher. I have always felt that teaching matters tremendously, that indeed it is one of the most important professions. For sure, I have been having fun. I loved every minute of my time at Archies, just being part of a brand new school was exhilarating and exciting. I am so grateful to AWHs for helping me choose the right path to follow on life's journey. Again many thanks and congratulations to the others being honored today."

Dr. Lu-Ann Papile – Class of 1961

"I owe this honor to my mother. Were it not for her, I would have not gone to Archies. On the day of the entrance exam, I was very sick. My mother called the school and asked if I could take the test at a different time. When the school said no, I told my mother I absolutely had to go. She said, 'OK, but I'll drive you and wait outside for you to finish. When you do, I will take you to the hospital!' She did just that, and there I stayed for a month with hepatitis. But I did get into Archies! Thank you mom!"

Paul Kelly - Class of 1962

"My first, and obviously lasting, impression of Archies was the statue in front of the building – the statue of Christ the Teacher.

Teachers have had a profound influence on me, on all of us, and on all of those we know and love. Therefore, I want to thank all my teachers and all teachers- for the invaluable work they do.

I often recall the adage: "If you give people some fish, they will not be hungry for a day; if you teach a people to fish, they will never be hungry again."

Teachers help us to help ourselves and help us to help others.

The knowledge they impart knows no bounds. In that regard, I am reminded of a saying, "Anyone can count the number of seeds in an apple, but only God can count the number of apples in a seed." Teachers plant and nurture the seeds of knowledge, and those seeds sustain our world."

Sister Eleanor Martin, SCN – Class of 1963

"Thank you for that wonderful introduction. Were you talking about me?! Let me date myself. Fifty years ago this September I darkened the doors of Archies to be greeted by Sr. Emily Ann, and what a welcome it was! For the next four years I experienced an adventure in learning and was challenged each day to do my best.

In my senior year, I answered the question posed by Mary Oliver in her poem 'The Summer Day'.

'Tell me, what is it you plan to do with one wild and precious life?'

After graduation, I left for Nazareth, Kentucky and many of my teachers became my sisters. These 46 years have been precious and at times certainly wild, beyond my imagining. I have had the pleasure and opportunity of serving on the Board of Trustees for Archbishop Williams. In that role I was chairperson of the Financial Aid Committee and came to know the stories of today's students and their families as they struggle to

obtain a quality education that may be their “ticket” to a college or university.

Therefore, alums I leave you with this plea; Be generous whenever Archbishop Williams calls! There are many other students at Archies who are discerning what to do with their one wild and precious life. May they, too, have the opportunity to excel.”

Dr. Richard (Dick) Yanikoski – Class of 1964

“Not everything I did at Archbishop Williams met with immediate success. I was too small for football, so was told to try track. I wasn’t much good at that, either. But I’ll always remember something the coach told me: ‘Your resolve will weaken before your legs will.’ I have taken that counsel with me ever since; in all things. At work and in life, I will never let my resolve weaken.

I wasn’t much better in Spanish than I was at track, but I recall that the first sentence I learned was ‘What is your name?’ The next was ‘Where is the library?’ I wasn’t sure how valuable that second question would be to me. I have had the good fortune to visit libraries around the world and to amass a large personal library as well. I love to read! Even better, my wife is a librarian, as is our daughter.

Last but not least, I couldn’t sing in school. When we assembled to practice singing before commencement, the choir director told me to mouth the words. When I asked him why, he said, ‘Because people tend to follow you and if they follow the way you sing, I’ll be fired!’ That lesson also had a big impact in my life. I became a leader, not a singer.”

Mark O’Connor – Class of 1967

“‘What we have loved, others will love; and we will teach them how.’” Archbishop Williams High School taught me what to love and how. My parents taught me why. I thank Jordan McCormack and all of the National Honor Society presenters. I wish I had been able to meet each of them. It’s great just to be associated with such an institution, but to be honored by it is quite a thrill. At the end of ‘The Brother Karamazov’, Dostoevsky has his hero tell us that, ‘good memories protect us from harm.’ Thanks to you folks, I’m feeling well insulated right now.”

Christine Driscoll -Class of 1993

"I would like to focus my remarks on 'Thank You' both to my family and to the AWHHS community. To my family, thank you for supporting me always and prioritizing academics. To the AWHHS community, I am thankful for the three parts which I see as comprising the whole: 1) students; 2) teachers, and 3) the Catholic backdrop which ties us all together. To the students, thank you for keeping the classroom dynamic, challenging and competitive, and creating an environment where everyone wants to do well academically. To the teachers, thank you for teaching us critical thinking and respect for the other students in our classes as well as for academics in general. And for the Catholic backdrop, thank you for propelling me on a career path where I focused, not only on how my career affected my life, but also how it could have a greater social impact on society and the environment, which enabled me to work at EDUN and now at INSEAD in social innovation."

Sister Miriam Corcoran, SCN (Sister Mary Andrea) English and Drama Teacher 1961-1966

*Margie Ryan Henderson – Class of 1962 accepting*

I told Sister Miriam that since I am speaking for her today she would have to give me a few words to say from her and this is what she sent me to say to you, “Gratitude, as the saying goes, is the heart’s memory, and my heart is filled with gratitude. I thank God whose Providence sent me to Archbishop Williams High School and the fine people whose lives I shared there.”

“As I reflect on the significance of this occasion, I pray that all of us who love Archbishop Williams may live and share the Gospel of our Inspiration, Christ the Teacher. Thank you and God bless you!”

Dr. William (Bill) Fitzsimmons – Class of 1963

*Mrs. Rita Fitzsimmons accepting for her son*

“Bill wishes he could be here but is off in some far away land recruiting students for Harvard University. He wanted me to tell you how honored he is by his induction and by this ceremony!”

Mother Noella Marcellino, OSB (Martha A. Marcellino) – Class of 1969

(in a letter to Dr. Mariano)

“Thank you for the honor of having been chosen to be inducted into the Archbishop Williams High School Academic Hall of Fame. I am sorry to have missed the induction ceremony on October 4th and am looking forward to the celebration of the school’s 60th anniversary in November.

I thought you and perhaps some of the students would enjoy this PBS documentary ('The Cheese Nun; Sister Noella’s Voyage of Discovery') about my research and adventures as a Fulbright Scholar in France. What pleases me about the film is that it shows my community and people tell me that it’s very educational regarding the science involved in cheese making. The film took four years to make. It was filmed in France and the United States, and editing is seamless. My hope is that in seeing it young students may know that anything is possible in life – at any age!”

Prologue:

Because God has a sense of humor, our perfect day was challenged by a brief (though at the time it was seemingly endless) loss of power to the dining room at The Lantana, which hosted our festivities. All in attendance smiled through it. Dennis Duggan '70, who so kindly joined us to bring the greetings of our Board of Trustees, quipped, “It was a wonderful event from start to finish; made even more memorable by the lighting issue. I guess there was just too much brain power in that room for us to have remained in the dark for long!”

Our School has a tradition of excellence in all of its forms. Together, our Academic Hall of Fame and Athletic Hall of Fame allow us to celebrate all forms of our excellence. Be proud. I am!

C

This message was sent from Dr. Carmen Mariano to [csavery@awhs.org](mailto:csavery@awhs.org). It was sent from: Archbishop Williams High School, 80 Independence Ave., Braintree, MA 02184. You can modify/update your subscription via the link below.

Email Marketing by



[Manage your subscription](#)



--

Cathleen O'Connor Savery  
 Development Officer  
 Archbishop Williams High School  
 40 Independence Ave.  
 Braintree, MA 02184

(781) 535-6484