Greetings St. Col’s Alumni! We are delighted to present the Summer 2013 issue of the SPIRIT, written for you, by you. As we work to strengthen our alumni network, we invite you to become involved this fall. The Alumni Association is recruiting volunteers to help carry out a number of exciting new projects this year. Contact information can be found on page 5, so please reach out with your ideas and willingness to help.

To share news for the next issue of the SPIRIT, please call Mary Battles, Director of Community Outreach at 617.254.3110, ext. 105 or Kathrine Cecere, Director of Institutional Advancement at ext. 147. We look forward to hearing from you!

A Message from Alumni Association President Timothy Doyle ‘80

I’d like to begin by stating I am a proud alumnus of both St. Columbkille High School and Boston College (’84). I’m excited to take on the role of President of the Alumni Association while continuing to serve as a member of Saint Columbkille Partnership School (STCPS) Board of Trustees. In the latter capacity I’ve had the privilege of watching the School’s partnership with Boston College develop, resulting in the following noteworthy achievements:

• Growth in student enrollment in each of the last five years to approximately 350 students.
• An increase in the number of teaching staff who have achieved a Masters Degree to 98%.
• An increase in the number of acceptance of our 6th and 8th grade students to prestigious secondary schools such as Boston College High School, Boston Latin School, Buckingham Browne & Nichols, Catholic Memorial School and Mount Alvernia High School.

As we close in on the start of a new academic year, I’d like to share my goals for the Alumni Association for the next two years:

• Develop and implement a communications plan which will include the migration of the independent alumni website to the official school website under “Alumni”
• Support the growth of school into the former high school wing.

• Increase engagement with alumni through the work of the Reunion and Events Committee, increase numbers of alumni touring the school, and increase support for the Annual Fund for St. Columbkille Partnership School.
• Strengthen the bond between STCPS alumni and Boston College in our shared mission to maintain a vibrant, high quality Catholic learning environment for the Allston-Brighton community and surrounding neighborhoods.

For those of you who have not ventured over to Brighton in a while, I invite you to tour the school and experience the richness of the learning environment created under the leadership of Bill Gartside and his dedicated group of teachers and staff.

Please feel free to reach out to me at tdoyle@seas.harvard.edu or call Mary Battles at school at 617.254.3110 to arrange a visit.

In closing, I welcome your active participation in the Alumni Association this year and remind you that our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every other month at 7 PM at school, starting on September 10th.

Best wishes,

Tim Doyle
Remembering Walter Kupris ‘36

The Brighton community said good-bye to a lifelong friend in March. Walter Kuprevicius (changed to Kupris) was born in 1919 at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Brighton. Walter grew up on Vineland Street in Brighton with his sisters, Anne and Bernice.

When Walter was 12 years old, his father passed away and Walter became the man of the house. He was teased at St. Columbkille for speaking Lithuanian, his parents native language, but his determination to help his family made him study hard. He was a member of the first co-ed graduating class of St. Col’s in 1936. Fred Cusack, a well-known Boston Bruins sports commentator was also a member of this class.

Walter went on to Boston College, graduating in 1940. During World War II, he volunteered for the Air Force. After the war, Walter spent 40 years at Hanscom Air Force Base as a photographer. One of his most exciting assignments was photographing the moon rocks brought back by astronauts on the Apollo Space Mission.

Walter and his wife Helen settled in Brighton where they raised six children: Ann, Paul, Teri, John, Linda and the late David Kupris. All of whom attended Saint Columbkille School. During the 60’s, when the Mass Turnpike was built through his Brighton neighborhood, Walter photographed changes to the landscape. In the 1990’s, he donated the photographs to the Brighton Historical Society, where they still reside. For many years, Walter was also the official photographer of Brighton Baseball Little League and the Girl Scout troops that met at St. Col’s annex. –Teri Deodato ’78 & Linda Holahan ’84

STCPS is grateful to Walter’s family for their generous donation in memory of their father.

Class of 1987 Celebrates 25th Reunion

2012 marked the 25th anniversary for the Class of 1987. A small but faithful group of 15 alumni from a class of 50, gathered in October to reminisce and renew friendships. The class was delighted with special appearances by Sr. Maria Delaney, SNDdN, principal of the high school at the time we graduated, and former teacher Mary Battles! Attendees included: Laurie Baker, Marlene (Conroy) Calisi, Andrea (McNally) McElligott, Katie Clemente, Chrissy Villani, Jimmy Kenneally, Joanne (Walsh) McDonald, Peggy (DiBudo) Ronan, Garry Hannon, Kyren (Maguire) Carey, Andrea (Frawley) Whalen, Sharon (Bolger) Cummings, Kathleen Weiand, Bernadatte Lahey, Anna Marques. –Andrea Whalen ’87
Class of 1962 Celebrates 50th

Saint Columbkille High School, Class of 1962, held their 50th Reunion at the Newton Marriott October 27, 2012 —and it was our best reunion yet! We had 60 classmates attend with their spouses and friends. There were 36 classmates who could not attend, 14 classmates that we were unable to locate, and sadly, 22 classmates who are deceased.

The Class had a tour of the school to start the day and all who went had a wonderful time reminiscing. Some classmates reported that things had not changed but many of our classmates had updates of their lives. A Mass after the tour at Saint Columbkille Church was beautiful. Deceased members of our class were all remembered fondly. Finally, it was off to the Marriott for dinner and dancing and renewing old friendships and making new ones.

Collectively, we made a Class Gift to the school’s annual fund of $1,200 and we wish Saint Columbkille School the best in the coming academic year and beyond! —Virginia Cosgrove McCauley ’62

P.S. Please send new updates to Ginny McCauley ’62 at 781-862-2771.

Class of 1973 Invited All Graduates of 1970 through 1976 to Join their 40th Reunion Party

Graduates of Classes 1970 through 1976 gathered at Saint Columbkille School on Saturday June 8th to relive their high school years. More than 70 guests attended. Special guests included former teachers Tom Totten and Katherine Keefe. Alumni were also pleased to see Sr. Mary Black, CSJ, who served as the principal from 1971 to 1974. After touring the school, the group heard current school news from Head of School Bill Gartside. Following the reception at St. Col’s, the group adjourned to The Stockyard Restaurant for a buffet dinner.

—Louise Russell ’73
Class of 1963 Gets Ready for Back to School this Fall

On Saturday, October 19, 2013, the class of 1963 will hold its 50th reunion at the Norfolk Golf Club in Westwood, Massachusetts. Contact Bill Goode at WJGoode@WjGoodeCorp.com or 508-520-3494 for information. On Friday, October 18, 2013, the class will visit the school and be given a tour while the classes are in session. It will be an opportunity to see how teaching has changed over the last 50 years. The group will be impressed! On Saturday evening, October 19th there will be an alumni gathering at the Norfolk Golf Club in Westwood, MA at 7 PM. Finally, we ask you to offer a prayer and remembrance for the following classmates who have passed away during the last three years:

Paula Abbot Neville, November 2011
Patricia Aldonis Spellman, December 2012
Joseph M. McElaney, March 2012
John J. Ryan, January 2011

Calling All Graduates of the Class of 1964!

Are you interested in having a reunion event? Joanne Siegfriedt Powers ’64 is, and she is looking for input and suggestions from classmates. Give her a call at 617.783.3413 if you would like to help.

Plans to Re-occupy the Former Saint Columbkille High School Building are Underway

In order to meet the demands of STCPS’s growing student body, and to more efficiently address the educational needs of the middle school, STCPS is planning to reoccupy the former St. Col’s high school in the fall of 2014. Renovation plans include installing a new library/media center, a science lab, an art room and a music room.

Head of School Bill Gartside states, “the completion of this expansion project means the realization of Saint Columbkille Partnership School’s vision is to be a well-resourced, urban Catholic elementary school (Pre-K through 8) where students can complete their elementary education well prepared for the rigors of a demanding secondary school.” For more building project news, please visit www.stcps.org/alumni.

IN MEMORIAM

The following are names of alumni who the Alumni Association has learned have passed away recently. We apologize for any admissions and would be glad to include names in the next issue of SPIRIT. Please feel free to contact either Jim Jacobs ‘49, Alumni Association Secretary, at jgml@comcast.net or Mary Battles ’66 at 617.254.3110, if you would like to include a name in the next issue.

1936 Walter J. Kupris
1941 Mary Agnes Dobbratz
1946 Irene Loh DiRocco
1949 Robert M. Fitzgerald
1952 Richard H. Fitzpatrick
1954 Rev. Edward P. Geary
1957 Helen Margaret Corkery
1963 Paula Abbot Neville
1963 Patricia Aldonis Spellman
1963 Joseph M. McElaney
1963 John J. Ryan
1965 Bonnie White Rose
1974 Michael G. Pothier

Friends
Dick O’Brien, beloved husband of Margaret Molloy O’Brien ’53
Helena Tobin, beloved wife of Jim Tobin ’53
Alumni Association Revitalizes Committees

The summer of 2013 has been a busy one for the Association. The Executive Committee has met several times and is recruiting leadership for the newly renamed Reunions and Events Committee, whose goals will be to assist classes with reunion planning and class gift programs. The Communications Committee is also being re-focused toward creating a more dynamic web presence and increasing email communications for and about alumni.

We are looking for volunteers to join a number of committees. If you are interested, please attend the next meeting of the Alumni Association on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 7 PM at the School.

Many thanks to Colleen Salmon for her service as Alumni Association Vice President and President in 2012/13 and Bill Goode for his leadership on the Advancement Council these past two years. The 2013/14 Alumni Association officers are:

President: Timothy Doyle ’80, tdoyle@seas.harvard.edu
Vice President: Jerry Mee ’76E, jmee@suffolk.edu
Treasurer: Maureen McGrail ’69, purell321@aol.com
Secretary: Jim Jacobs ’49E, jgml@comcast.net

Do you have news that you would like to share? Please email us at kcecer@stcps.org or visit the alumni webpage at www.stcps.org/alumni to submit your news.

60th Reunion Events held by Class of ’52

The Class of ’52 celebrated its 60th reunion on November 1, 2012. The day began with classmates attending the 9 AM Mass at St. Columbkille Church along with parishioners and St. Columbkille Partnership School students. Following Mass all were invited to have coffee and pastries in the teacher’s lounge. Greetings and lively conversation were exchanged with faculty and staff. Smaller groups then formed for guided tours of the classrooms. Everyone commented on the warm friendly atmosphere created by the faculty and staff. They were also thrilled to see the educational opportunities given the students within the various classrooms. Of course, the highlight of the tour was chatting with the students!

Luncheon at the Green Briar was at noon. We gathered in the Kinvarra Room, the same room where our 40th reunion was held. Pictures of that reunion were on display. A remembrance poster with pictures of our 37 classmates who are deceased brought back many memories.

To keep in touch with those unable to attend due to illness or prior commitments there were cards available for guests to write a few words. The cards and a reunion program were sent to each absent classmate.

Thirty-two attended the luncheon. Twenty-eight were graduates of the Class of ’52. Our reunion was a joyful, happy occasion….times remembered…friendships renewed…classmates even more dear. We were delighted to donate from our class $1,425 to St. Columbkille Partnership School. The Green Briar Restaurant also donated $100 to support the School.

–Fran Sullivan ’52
Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER 10, 2013
Alumni Association Meeting
7 PM at St. Columbkille Partnership School

SEPTEMBER 29, 2013
Opening of School Mass
9:30 AM at Saint Columbkille Church
followed by a reception to celebrate
the School’s Accreditation

OCTOBER 18, 2013
Class of ’63 50th Reunion Celebration
11:30 AM • Visit to Saint Columbkille School

OCTOBER 19, 2013
Alumni Gathering
7 PM at Norfolk Country Club, Westwood, MA

NOVEMBER 12, 2013
Alumni Association Meeting
7 PM at St. Columbkille Partnership School

A Message from William Gartside, Head of School

I am always excited to have alumni connecting our past to the present and the future. It is vitally important to the success of our beloved school and I invite all alumni to visit us soon.

I am pleased to announce that Saint Columbkille Partnership School is now accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. This distinction is the result of the hard work, dedication, and professionalism demonstrated every day in our school, as well as the successful completion of a self-study. Congratulations teachers, staff, trustees, and alumni leaders for a job well done!

Your Gift is Important
Alumni giving is a key factor in our success. In addition to enabling the School to enhance its offerings, it allows us to continue providing financial aid to families in need. Please consider using the enclosed envelope to show your support today.

Spirit is a publication of Saint Columbkille Partnership School. Please contact us at 617-254-3110 or alumni@stcps.org if you wish to get involved, submit news or simply reconnect with former classmates. We apologize for any errors included in this newsletter, and encourage you to let us know if you spot any incorrect information.