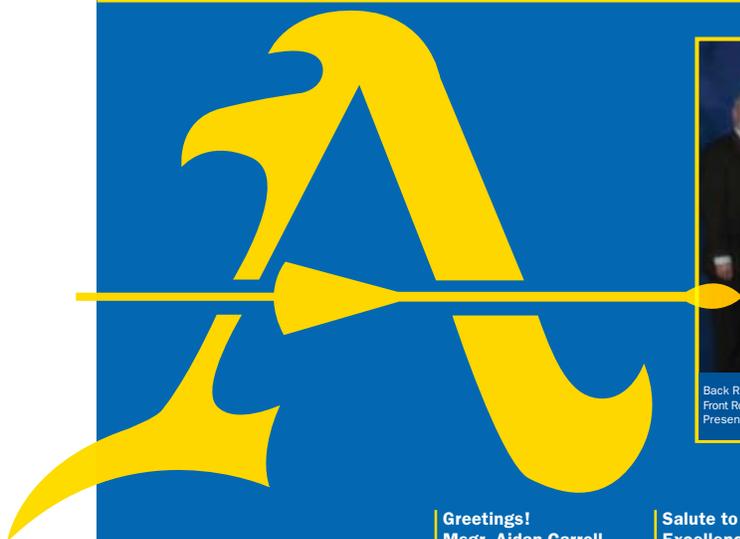


Bishop Amat Memorial High School

The Amat Tradition

Spring 2008 Alumni Newsletter Vol. 21, Issue 5



Back Row (L-R): Dr. Merritt Hemenway '64, Bryan Hayward, Tom Salter '79, Glenn Martinez, Patrick Holligan, Jim Patricio, Front Row (L-R): Mark Paredes, Richard Ward '82, Phil Cantwell, Ken Kendrena '88, Andy Nieto, Dennis McLaughlin, Msgr. Carroll
Present but not Pictured: Gary Marinovich, Phil Ryan, Ray Lokar, Tom Pierre

What's Inside...

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President
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A Telling Year...

Continuing Amat's celebration of 50 years

I recently had the opportunity to attend both the Salutes to Athletic and Academic Excellence. Reuniting with former colleagues and hearing the stories of championship coaches and players had a profound impact on my appreciation for the positive influence Amat has on people's lives.

As a former Lancer distance runner, it was especially fun to hear about the inspired legacy of Coach Phil Ryan and the achievements of the Ebner family. Since I only ran for one year at Amat (JV!), I didn't know to appreciate the long history of tradition and excellence that I was joining.

Last spring, the Tusitala yearbook staff chose to focus on "stories" for this year's 50th Anniversary book. They felt that to accurately depict the wide ranging influence of Bishop Amat,

they would have to tell the individual stories of passion, dedication, and faith of those associated with this school.

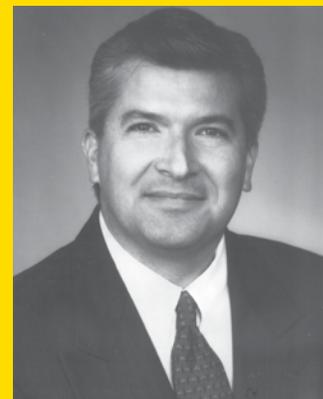
My students, as they often do, tend to remind me of what is important. The story of this school cannot be told without recognizing the thousands of individuals who have walked its halls and played on its fields.

I believe that storytelling is a basic human need. We, as communal creatures, yearn to both listen and tell. I've been blessed to hear so many of your stories, and I appreciate these chances to tell you mine. Hopefully I will see many of you at the upcoming 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Arts and the Lancer Classic Gala. The success of this year's events thus far promises even better times ahead.

Gabriel Escovar '98
Editor



Lancer Classic
Co-Alumnus of the Year Recipients
Mary Grace (Cavezza) Lima '69
and
Christopher Trujillo '74
For additional information,
please see page 4.



The President

Dear Bishop Amat Alumni:

My very best wishes to all of you as we make our way through our Golden Jubilee Year. The events to date, including the inaugural Mass, Homecoming, the Decade Socials, the Salute to Academic Excellence, and the Salute to Athletic Excellence have all been very successful. We can measure that success in various ways not least of which is that the celebrations encouraged many hundreds of you to return to the Bishop Amat campus. For some of you it was your very first visit since the day of your graduation!



I was delighted to have an opportunity to greet you and receive your very positive comments about our modern facilities. Thank you for coming and for your ongoing support of our programs. I encourage those of you who have not yet attended a Jubilee event to check this newsletter for details of the remaining celebrations scheduled for our fiftieth anniversary. Noteworthy among these are the Gala Lancer Classic Dinner, the Celebration of the Arts, the Annual Golf Tournament and the Decade Social for the classes of 1990-'99 and 2000-'07.

I offer my sincere congratulations to Mary Grace (Cavezza) Lima, Class of 1969 and Chris Trujillo, Class of 1974 on being chosen as co-recipients of the Alumnus of the Year Award for 2008. Mary Grace returned to teach at Bishop Amat for several years and is the mother of Carly and Paul, Class of 1995, Catherine, Class of 2003 and Gregory who is set to join us in September. Chris, a Vice-President with the Watson Land Company of Carson is a founding member of the Bishop Amat Consultative School Council and the Chair of its Plant and Facilities Committee. He is married to Marjorie (Noland) Trujillo, Class of 1974. Both Chris and Mary Grace have given generously of their time, talent and treasure in support of Bishop Amat High School for many years and are richly deserving of this award.

I wish you and your families a very joyful Easter season.

Monsignor Aidan M. Carroll
President

The Principal

Dear Fellow Alums:

The celebration of our fiftieth year has been an amazing experience. The decade socials for me have been mini trips down memory lane. The earliest decade was primarily those with whom I attended Amat. The remaining events were filled with many students whom I taught in my earlier years. Each has been a unique experience of so many fond memories. We hope it has been the same for those who attended.



The "Salute to Academic Excellence" was a memory-filled afternoon. Those of us on the early faculty reflected on how special it might have been had Monsignor Kiefer been alive to attend. So many others who taught here for a while and then left recalled that these were the best years of their teaching careers. It was an amazing afternoon and evening of positive reflections and memories.

The "Salute to Fifty Years of Athletic Excellence" was the most amazing experience, yet. So many of the personalities that contributed to Bishop Amat's athletic reputation were able to be present. Thank you to all who made a special effort to attend. Even those who have passed on, Tate Duff, Bob Woods, Joe Rodger, "Stan" Stanzione, and "Sparky" O'Connor, just to name a few, were recalled fondly. The highly visual and multi-media part of the evening added sensory delight to the whirlwind of memories that I can only describe as "Magical."

There are more experiences to come with the Lancer Classic and plans for the future of Amat. Stay tuned, we have a great heritage about which we can be proud. We also have a bright future that we can continue being a part of making it happen. Thank you for your participation.

Merritt Hemenway, Ph.D. '64
Principal

In Memoriam

Please pray for the repose of the souls of following Amat family members:

Robert (Bob) Phillippe '69, husband of **Machelle (Thurston) Phillippe '70**, passed away on November 29, 2007. Bob was a member of the 1968 CIF Championship Baseball Team, and was drafted by the Los Angeles Dodgers. Bob went on to become a successful businessman and was deeply involved in his community as a softball and soccer coach.

Rose(Podesta) Weitkamp '74, wife of **Jim Weitkamp '75**, lost her long struggle with cancer in December 2007.

Carol Bielmeier, former longtime Bishop Amat faculty member, died peacefully in her sleep in December 2007.

Marc Ladwig '95 passed away January 21, 2008, after a lengthy battle with leukemia.

Moises De La Cerda '91, was killed on February 17, 2008, after being struck by a car while changing a tire on the side of the 210 Freeway.

Michele (Gustafson) Kish '76, wife of **Brian Kish '76**, passed away suddenly in February 2008.

Joseph J. Carroll, brother of **Monsignor Aidan M. Carroll**, entered eternal life on February 17, 2008, in Sligo, Ireland.

Salute to Academic Excellence - A Tribute to Teachers

In our 50th anniversary year, there is no group more deserving of a tribute than the 800 plus teachers who have served Bishop Amat during the past five decades. On January 12, 2008, under the direction of event chairperson, Assistant Principal Maria (Ramos) Gover '66, the school hosted a very special gathering for current/former faculty and the alumni whose lives have been touched by their presence.

Nearly 300 teachers and former students, many of whom had not been on campus since they left, mingled and reconnected while enjoying appetizers and beverages. Returning home for a visit were former teachers Bishop Edward Clark, Mark Paredes, Ivy Grashian and Kathleen Collins, just to name a few. Also attending were Lancers who were both alumni and faculty, including Patricia (Reilly) Groff '69, Steve Hagerty ('80), Susan (Holycross) Marquez '77, and Wendy (Smith) Nugent '86.

There was a tribute display to those faculty members no longer

with us, as well as numerous photographs and memorabilia on display to remind guests of their time at Bishop Amat.

A good time was had by all. Nicely done Mrs. Gover!



Maggie Gover '00, Alicia Gover '87, Mr. Chuck Gover '66, Mrs. Maria (Ramos) Gover '66, Mrs. Sandi Roberts

Salute to Athletic Excellence

Walking into the Student Activity Center on the evening of the Salute to Athletic Excellence, it would be difficult not to be impressed with Bishop Amat's rich athletic history. There were 3' x 5' photographs of the 22 CIF championship teams hanging from the ceiling and each of the 55 dining tables had translucent, glowing photographic centerpieces depicting many of the fine athletes of the past fifty years. All of the pictorial history was thanks to Mauricio Zavala '88 and his company, Orbit Printing.

Following a delicious dinner provided by Bob La Rue '76 of Geezer's Restaurant, KABC7 Eyewitness News Sports Anchor Rob Fukuzaki delivered his opening remarks to kick off the program portion of the night. The audience of over 500 coaches, athletes, faculty, parents and boosters was treated to a video walk down Amat's sports history memory lane, narrated by Dr. Merritt Hemenway '64.

The Salute paid special tribute to the following sixteen CIF Championship coaches (fourteen of whom were present): Phil Cantwell, Patrick Holligan, Gary Marinovich, Dennis McLaughlin, Phil Ryan, Jim Patricio, Mike Munoz, Mark Paredes, Bryan Hayward, Tom Salter, Glenn Martinez, Tom Pierre, Richard Wiard, Ken Kendrena, Ray Lokar and Andy Nieto.

Heartfelt words of praise for the school and for its administration, faculty, coaching staff and athletes of the past five decades were delivered both by alumni award presenters and championship coach award recipients. It was clear that the affection and lifelong impact of Amat athletics was shared by coach and athlete alike.

A beautiful video of the evening (including all speakers as well as the 50 year pictorial history of Amat Athletics), filmed and edited by Charley Joyce '04, is available for purchase in the Development Office. (Cost is \$20 plus \$5 shipping/handling.) Please contact: Darleen Adamek at (626) 962-2495, x1-7456 or dadamek@bishopamat.org.



Award Presenters

Back Row (L-R): Mark Verti '96, Abel Montanez '96, Mike Smith '93, Johnathon Haywood '02, John Sciarra '72

Front Row (L-R): Msgr. Carroll, Steve Carter '71, Pernel Taylor '83, Malinali Martinez '96, Frank O'Connor '70, Dr. Merritt Hemenway '64

Present but not Pictured: Adrian Young '64, Mike Ebiner '74, Kiana (Webb) Severloh '96, Mike Lange '02



Jim LaBuff '75, Nick Corso '77, Juan Martinez '77, Raul Caro '75

Decade Socials

Spend an afternoon at Amat with the Lancers of your decade. No reunion committees to form, no dinners to plan, no money to pay -- let us handle all the details. The last Decade Social will be held from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday, May 18, 2008.

May 18, 2008 - Classes of 1990 - 2007

Alumni Teacher Spotlight

In this issue, we introduce the first in a series of features on alumni faculty. The hundreds of Amat graduates who have returned as faculty and staff have been cornerstones in the school's continued traditions of excellence.

Steve Hagerty '80



Degrees: BA Liberal Arts/Philosophy, M.Ed. Physical Education

Currently Teaching: Physical Conditioning & Weight Training, Head Football Coach

Best part of your experience as an Amat student: Athletics were a big part . . . as well as my Christian service class . . . but the very best part were the relationships . . . The very best people I have known throughout my life were the ones I was connected to while at Amat, in particular, my wife of almost 22 years, Maria Aparicio Hagerty '80.

Why did you return to Amat as a teacher? My first six years as a teacher were at Amat. I've spent the next 15 years attempting to duplicate that experience in various other schools. I've returned to Amat longing to be once again a part of that daily Catholic educational experience that has proven to be an advantage throughout my life.

What do you hope to contribute to current Amat students? My biggest contribution will be to model a work ethic that will help restore the luster to our championship football program. I am completely committed to this task.

Catherine Lima '03

Degrees: BA in Teaching Mathematics

Currently Teaching: Algebra II, Honors Algebra II/Trig, IB Math HL, Head Swim Coach

Best part of your experience as an Amat student: I loved the wide variety of activities. . . I was able to do swimming before school and track after school, and still manage difficult AP classes. I felt very well prepared for college, especially in the area of writing.

Why did you return to Amat as a teacher? I like the religious aspect of the school, the rich history and tradition, including family tradition. Amat is a down to earth school. . . Because of our economic make-up, sacrifices are made to send us here and, as a result, I think our graduates are more grateful for the experience

Amat's most significant contribution to community: Service Opportunities – Del Haven, Lanterman, and other Christian service opportunities. Also, the example we set for other children in the community for high achievement in sports and academics.

Ronald Woolsey '67



Degrees: BA, MA

Currently Teaching: AP US History, Honors US History, Honors Government, IB History of Americas, JSA Moderator, "We the People" Coordinator

Teacher/administrator who made greatest impact on you as Amat student: Reverend Martin O'Loughlin taught me goodness, discipline and knowledge.

Best part of your experience as an Amat student: In a generation that believed in hope and that we could make a difference, the faculty and student body always provided a positive atmosphere for students to live their dreams.

Compare the 1967 Lancers with the Class of 2008? In many ways, the early and mid-Sixties was a time of innocence, although the era allowed students to become involved in movements larger than themselves – civil rights, the anti-war movement, ecology and feminism to name a few. Students today are far more literate because of technology, and they integrate information at a higher rate than earlier generations. Their change will be to use that knowledge and their skills for the benefit of others.

Lancer Classic

The Annual Lancer Classic Dinner will take place on Saturday, April 12, 2008, at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles. The reception will begin at 6:00 p.m. and awards to follow at 7:00 p.m.

In keeping with the spirit of our Jubilee celebration, we will present the Monsignor Thomas A. Kiefer Humanitarian Award, not to a particular individual, but collectively, to all the members of the Religious Orders who have served Bishop Amat as teachers and administrators during the past half century. We owe them an enormous debt of gratitude for the contributions they have made to the educational well-being of our students. Representatives of each of the Orders will accept the Award on behalf of their brothers and sisters in religious life.

We will present the 2008 Alumnus of the Year award to co-recipients Mary Grace (Cavezza) Lima '69 and Christopher Trujillo '74. Mary Grace is a former Bishop Amat teacher and mother of three alumni with a fourth child set to join us in September.

Chris is a Vice President with the Watson Land Company of Carson, and is a founding member of the Bishop Amat Consultative School Council. Both Chris and Mary Grace have given generously of their time, talent and treasure in support of Bishop Amat High school for many years and are richly deserving of this award.

Please join us in honoring our awardees and celebrating our Golden Jubilee. For information regarding attending the Lancer Classic, submitting a personal message or ad, or becoming an event sponsor, please contact Lucy Rios at Irios@bishopamat.org or (626) 962-2495, ext. 1-7401.

2008

LANCER
CLASSIC

22ND ANNUAL DINNER & AWARDS
50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Photos from 50th Anniversary Events

Salute to Academic Excellence



Msgr. Carroll, Sister Margaret Fitzer, SSL '66,
Mrs. Ivy Grashian



Mrs. Patricia (Herrera) Hatfield '90, Mrs. Wendy
(Smith) Nugent '86

Salute to Athletic Excellence



Msgr. Zimmerman, Mark Cazares '82, Pernell Taylor '83,
Coach Jim Patricio, William Alcantara '82, Bryan Judson '81
Front Row: Richard Parker '83, John Martinez '83



John McKay '71, Nick Corso '77, Larry Carter '73,
John Salter '72, John Sciarra '72

50th Anniversary Events

Saturday, April 12, 2008
50th Anniversary Lancer
Classic Gala (Biltmore
Hotel)

Friday, May 9, 2008
Saturday, May 10, 2008
Celebration of the Arts
(Band, Choir, Dance) -
Alumni Art Exhibit

Sunday, May 18, 2008
Decade Social (recognizing
the Classes of 1990-2007)
(Brutocao Library)
4-7 p.m.

Friday, June 13, 2008
Golf Tournament
(California Country Club)

Announcements

Class of 1968 - 40th Reunion
August 23, 2008

Double Tree Hotel
Saturday, August 23, 2008
Price: \$89.00 per person
For further information, please contact
Reunion Committee Chairperson,
Ron Corrigan, at pyneap1@verizon.net

Class of 1971/1970
Championship Football Team
If you are interested in being on
Committee, please contact Don Caropino,
at (626) 918-6562.

Class of 1978 Reunion
Committee is being formed; please
contact mlabouff@bishopamat.org if you
are interested in helping.

Class of 1983 - 25th Reunion
August 23, 2008
Location & Price to be
determined For more info., contact:
Renee Belgarde Linder at rbelgarde@insurancespecialtygroup.com

Class of 1988 - 20th Reunion
October 2008
Sheraton Park Hotel - Anaheim
Price: \$86.00 per person
Committee: Emma Luna, Nancy Nicololor,
Tina (Celestina Rios) Curtis, Gloria
(Aguilar) Aguilar-Torres, Hope Stanley,
Jessica (Jacquez) Duran, Erika (Sanchez)
Lovelace, Julie (Calzada) Gonzalez, Diane
(Garcia) Alcazar

Class of 1998 Reunion
Committee is being formed; please
contact mlabouff@bishopamat.org if you
are interested in helping.

San Gabriel Valley Region
Catholic Charities Recognition
Dinner, May 19, 2008
Quiet Cannon Montebello
Honorees:
Monsignor Aidan M. Carroll
and Dr. Merritt V. Hemenway
For additional info, contact: Mary
Romero at (323) 266-3130 or rmromero@ccharities.org

50th Anniversary Celebration of the Arts May 9 and 10, 2008 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM BAHS Student Activity Center

Performances by Student & Alumni Musicians, Dancers and Actors
Showcase of Professional Alumni in the Performing & Visual Arts
Student & Alumni Art Exhibition

"If you are one of our MANY talented amateur or professional artists (dancer, actor, singer, painter, sculptor, etc.), come home to Amat and share your talents with your Lancer Family. If you are interested in performing with the band, choir, dance or theatre arts, direct inquires to sroberts@bishopamat.org or ext. 7426. Alumni and student artists are invited to submit works for consideration; direct inquiries to Ms. Syroboyarsky at ksyroboyarsky@bishopamat.org or ext 5856. Please help us gather contact information for graduates who have become professional artists, singers, dancers, actors, photographers, architects, designers, and performers. A variety of artists will be spotlighted in our showcase. Direct information to Mrs. Fortner at rfortner@bishopamat.org or ext 5821. PLEASE RESPOND PRIOR TO APRIL 14, 2008.

If you are not so strong in the talent department, but make a GREAT audience member, please come cheer on old friends. This is certain to be a fun evening. For additional information regarding this event, please contact Event Chairperson, Rita Fortner, at (626) 962-2495, x1-5821 or rfortner@bishopamat.org.





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Alumni Newsletter Editor

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ALUMNI PORTAL

Register today at alumni.bishopamat.org. It is our goal to use this website to keep in touch with our graduates. We will be posting alumni news, school event information, and sending out e-newsletters and e-announcements from this portal. Help us better serve the Amat Family by signing up today!

Dear alumni, friends and family,

"Tonight, it feels good to be a Lancer!" were my husband Jim's first words as we left a memorable and moving Salute to Athletic Excellence. The evening was a feel good event at which Amat coaches and athletes of the past 50 years celebrated the impact each group had made upon the other.

This Golden Jubilee year has afforded me many moments of similar sentiment. It felt "good to be a Lancer" as I took in the many Amat alumni sisters and priests who joyfully participated in our Mass of the Holy Spirit in September. At the Salute to Academic Excellence, it was heartwarming to witness hundreds of current and former teachers and students, co-workers and mentors reconnect like members of an old fraternity.

At Homecoming weekend festivities, reunions and Decade Socials, as I watched classmates slip with ease into comfortable conversations, laughter and reminiscing, I was reminded of the blessings of my high school friends who long ago moved to the status of family.

Thirty years after becoming an Amat Alumni and six months into my position as Alumni Relations Coordinator, I believe it is indeed "good to be a Lancer." The piece of Amat history each of us owns is unique, but our good fortune to be a part of this school is shared. As we celebrate our school's first fifty years, I encourage you to take some time to reflect on the impact your alma mater has had in your life, and to consider what it is you can do to help the tradition of excellence continue for future generations of Lancers.

Take care, and please keep in touch,
Marie La Bouff