



THOMAS AQUINAS COLLEGE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2003

– President of the Vatican’s Pontifical Council for the Laity J. Francis Cardinal Stafford to Preside over Commencement

His Eminence J. Francis Cardinal Stafford, President of the Pontifical Council for the Laity, will celebrate the Baccalaureate Mass and preside over Commencement at Thomas Aquinas College on May 17. He will also receive the St. Thomas Aquinas Medallion, established in 1975 by the Board of Governors to recognize and honor those who have demonstrated an extraordinary dedication to God and His Church.

Cardinal Stafford served as Archbishop of Denver from 1986 until 1996, when Pope John Paul II appointed him to the Roman Curia. He now assists the Holy Father in all matters concerning the contribution of the lay faithful to the life and mission of the Church. The many lay movements and associations that arose and are flourishing in the wake of the Second Vatican Council – Opus Dei, Regnum Christi, Focolare, Communion and Liberation, to name but a few – are among the organizations under his purview, as are matters ranging from lay catechetical formation to World Youth Day.

“We are honored to have Cardinal Stafford join us for our event,” said President Tom Dillon. “He has worked tirelessly to proclaim, support, and defend the teachings of the Church and to advance the mission of Christ on earth. We are deeply thankful to him for the great sacrifice he is making in coming all the way from Rome. It is but one measure of his good charity.”

Cardinal Stafford oversees the office that was inspired by the Decree on the Lay Apostolate of the Second Vatican Council (*Apostolicam Actuositatem*) in 1967. John Paul II, when serving as Archbishop of



Cardinal Stafford heads the office in Rome that promotes Pope John Paul II’s vision of the proper role of the laity in evangelization and liturgical affairs.

Krakow, was an advisor to that office for many years, and on becoming pope, approved a constitution establishing a Pontifical Council for the Laity which would oversee many important initiatives in which he took special interest.

As head of that Council, Cardinal Stafford directs an office that promotes the participation of lay people in the life and mission of the Church, fosters joint action among lay people in catechetical instruction and in liturgical and sacramental life, attends to international conferences and other lay projects, and approves international lay associations.

Since his appointment in 1996, Cardinal Stafford has done much to advance the proper role of the laity in evangelization and liturgical

affairs, particularly as described in the Holy Father’s Apostolic Constitution, *Christifideles Laici*. At the same time, Cardinal Stafford has endeavored to clarify the proper distinction between laity and clergy, producing a 1997 document answering questions on the collaboration of the laity in the sacred ministry of the priest.

A native of Baltimore, Maryland, Cardinal Stafford was ordained to the priesthood in 1957 and served in several Baltimore parishes before his ordination to the episcopate in 1976. He served as Bishop of Memphis, before his appointment as Archbishop of Denver in 1986. He held many posts for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, serving as chairman of the Bishop’s Committee on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, and the Committee on Marriage and Family Life. He also served on the governing boards of the Pontifical North American College and The Catholic University of America. Presently, he is a member of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, headed by Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger.

Cardinal Stafford will be the sixth cardinal to preside over the College’s Commencement ceremonies and to receive the St. Thomas Aquinas Medallion. Previous recipients from the College of Cardinals include Christoph Cardinal Schönborn (2002), Francis Cardinal George (2001), Jan Cardinal Schotte (1999), Anthony Cardinal Bevilacqua (1998), and John Cardinal O’Connor (1989).

Commencement ceremonies will begin with the Baccalaureate Mass at 9:00 a.m., followed by a continental breakfast and then Commencement at 11:00 a.m.

– New Chairman of the College’s Board of Governors

Maria O. Grant Accepts Gavel from William W. Smith

In January, Maria O. Grant was unanimously elected Chairman of the College’s Board of Governors, as Dr. William W. Smith stepped down to become Chairman *Emeritus*. “I have big shoes to fill,” said Grant, referring to the remarkable achievements of her predecessor who served as Chairman since 1991. (*See story, p. 3*). “I consider it an immense honor, privilege, and responsibility to follow in the footsteps of Dr. Smith and others before him, and to help lead our Governors in completing the building of the College.”

Grant comes to the position naturally, as she currently Co-Chairs, along with William P. Clark, the College’s \$75 million Comprehensive Campaign to finish building the campus and fully fund the scholarship endowment. Grant, who received her graduate and undergraduate degrees at Stanford University, is a long-time Docent and Overseer of the famed Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA. She has worn many hats at the Huntington, including that of a docent trainer and volunteer research assistant. Currently, she is Overseer Vice Chair and one of 60 Overseers who, along with five Trustees, have overall management responsibility of the library, museum, and garden complex.

“Maria is a dynamic leader, with proven effectiveness in philanthropy,” said President Tom Dillon. “We are deeply thankful to her for her commitment to our institution, given her many considerable interests.”

Maria Grant serves, along with husband, Richard, on the board of the Dan Murphy Foundation, which Daniel and Bernardine Donohue founded in 1957 to assist important Roman Catholic and other philanthropic causes. Sir Daniel Donohue continues to lead the Foundation today, while Richard Grant serves as Secretary-Treasurer. Mother of two grown daughters, Maria Grant was



Maria Grant draws the immense respect of her fellow Board members, including that of her predecessor, Dr. Smith.

involved in fundraising and development efforts at two of her daughters’ schools – Westridge School and Mayfield Senior School – and she currently serves on the board of Don Bosco Technical Institute. She has been a member of the College’s Board of Governors since 1998.

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Chapel Progress

Over the past few months, it has been a great pleasure to introduce the plans for Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity Chapel at Thomas Aquinas College to friends across the country. At President's Council receptions in San Francisco and Sacramento, St. Louis and Kansas City, old friends and new acquaintances alike have responded with enthusiasm to the drawings we have shared with them for what will be the crown jewel of our campus. And those who have seen articles and advertisements seem equally excited about the construction of this beautiful House of God.

Here on campus, we are eager to at last break ground on this most important of all our buildings. To date, we have made considerable progress, having –

- Concluded a Chapel design competition among three architects who specialize in sacred architecture and selected Duncan Stroik of the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture as our Design Architect;
- Formed a special Chapel Design Committee and a Faculty Campus Planning Committee which worked with Mr. Stroik to complete a schematic design of the Chapel;
- Relocated our main electrical and telephone lines away from the Chapel site;
- Submitted our Chapel design to our ordinary, Cardinal Roger Mahony, of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, who approved it;
- Obtained a preliminary cost estimate based on the schematic design, which, after some modifications were made, led our Board of Governors to approve a budget for it;
- Applied for and obtained a renewal of our Conditional Use Permit from the County of Ventura, as a prerequisite to the County approval process;
- Obtained requisite surveys and soil tests for the Chapel site; and
- Completed about 90% of our Design Development phase, in which Mr. Stroik

consults with the structural, mechanical, electrical, acoustical and civil engineers to develop architectural details.

As with every building, however, a long and hidden series of practical steps still awaits us. Once the Design Development phase is complete, a new cost estimate will be done, perhaps requiring alterations in the plan to bring the project into conformity with our budget. At that point, the "Project Architect" will begin the construction drawings, which could require as much as eight months to complete. It will then take several more months for the County to plan check before it issues a building permit and work can begin.

With keen anticipation, we await the construction of this most fitting home for Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, Who is the goal of our curriculum and the center of our community life.

As we finish these preliminary tasks, we ask Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity to intercede for us that Thomas Aquinas College will be blessed with benefactors who, sharing our love of traditional sacred architecture and Catholic iconography, will come forward with generous gifts and become our partners in building this beautiful House of God.



President Dillon and Dr. Smith came to their respective offices in the same year – 1991 – but, as Dillon says, "with me as student, and him as teacher. I can never thank him enough for all the generosity he has shown me these past dozen years."

President Dillon Appointed to 3rd Term

President Thomas E. Dillon was appointed to a third six-year term as president of Thomas Aquinas College at a meeting of the Board of Governors last October. The unanimous approval of the 29-member Board followed upon the recommendation of the College faculty.

Past-Board Chairman, Dr. William W. Smith, expressed the view shared by his fellow Board members that Dr. Dillon is essential to the on-going efforts to finish building the campus and funding its financial aid endowment. "He is such a phenomenally hard worker and has contributed so much that appointing Dr. Dillon to this post for another term is really the only sensible thing to do."

Echoing the same is current Chairman Maria Grant: "Dr. Dillon is the perfect person for this job at this critical time in the College's history."

"I'm deeply thankful to the Board for its vote of confidence," said Dillon, who was initially elected president in 1991. "I came to this College when I was 26 years-old and saw it then as a vocation. I see it the same way today. Given all the great good that this College is doing, it's a wonderful opportunity to serve Christ and the Church. I want to do everything in my power to lead the College well in carrying out its essential mission, as well as to finish the work of building out the campus."

Precious Chalice, Precious Award Fides et Ratio Grant Treasured

Encircling the cup of a chalice awarded to the College by the *Fides et Ratio* Committee, following a grant competition last year, are the opening words of Pope John Paul II's encyclical *Fides et Ratio*: "*Fides et ratio binae quasi pennae*" ("faith and reason are like two wings"). Commissioned by grant patrons Dr. Donald D'Amour and Mrs. Michele D'Amour, the chalice and patten are fine examples of the exquisite craftsmanship of Granda Liturgical Arts in Madrid, Spain.

On the base of the cup are enameled medallions of Pope John Paul II's coat of arms, an image of Christ the Teacher, and an eagle. In Christian iconography, the eagle is a symbol of the Resurrection, of Christ, and of the just, and it represents the virtues of generosity, courage, faith, and contemplation. The patten bears an image of Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom, after a well-known painting by Fra Angelico, and thus conveys the image of the Patroness of academic endeavors. The chalice and patten were personally blessed by the Holy Father.

The College was one of six finalists from among 14 Catholic colleges selected to participate in the grant competition and received \$300,000 over five years to aid its admissions recruitment efforts. Over the last year, the College has used the grant money

to produce and disseminate a new admissions video, to upgrade its web site, to republish a book by author Christopher Derrick about the unique nature of the College, and to supplement the College's student financial aid program which admits qualified students who lack the means to attend.

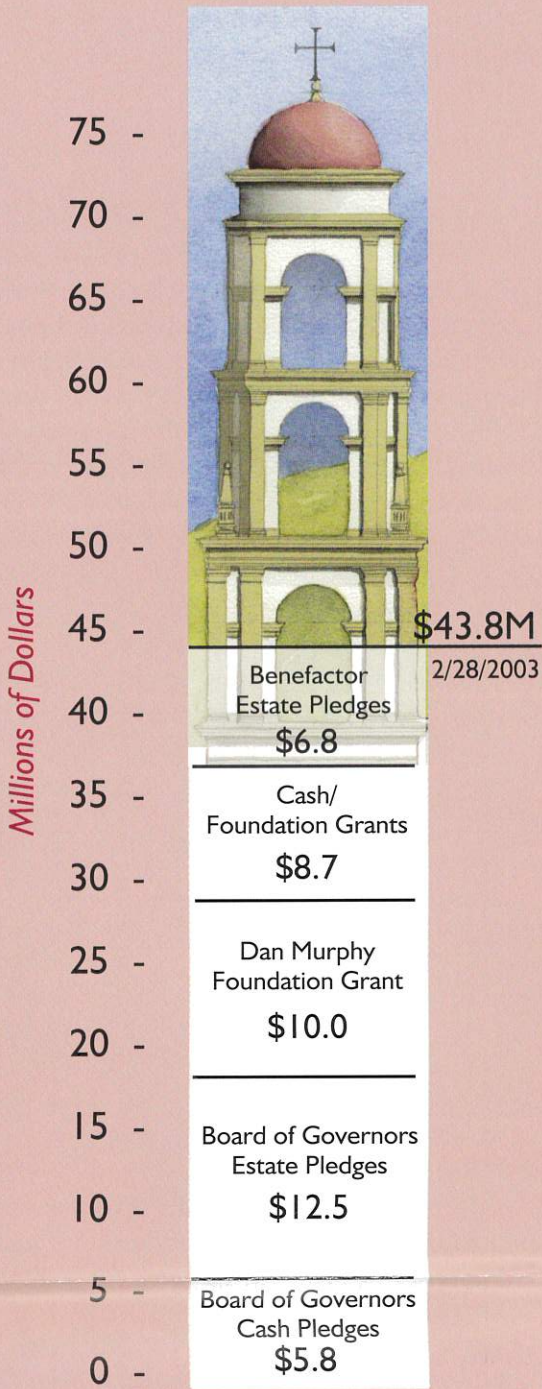
As a fitting companion gift to the grant award, the chalice reminds the recipients of the important role that faith has in academic pursuits. "This is a special treasure to us," said College Chaplain Fr. Michael Perea, O. Praem. "We take care to use it for our most important academic liturgical events, such as Commencement and Convocation inaugurating the academic year."

The Grant Committee included grant founders Dr. and Mrs. D'Amour, Dr. John Agresto (former president, St. John's College, Santa Fe), Dr. Patrick Powers (the Committee's Executive Director), Avery Cardinal Dulles, S.J. (Fordham University), Rev. James Schall, S.J. (Georgetown University), and Dr. Frederick Crosson (University of Notre Dame).

Other finalists in the Competition included DeSales University (PA), Franciscan University of Steubenville (OH), Magdalen College (NH), St. Mary's College (MI), and Thomas More College (NH).

Campaign Update

through February, 2003



William Weber Smith, M.D., Honored for Long, Productive Service

- Five Buildings During His Tenure as Board Chairman -

More than 140 friends of Dr. and Mrs. William Weber Smith attended an appreciation dinner in their honor at the Regent Beverly Wilshire Hotel in Beverly Hills on Sunday, March 30. Hosted by Thomas Aquinas College, the event was held to thank Dr. Smith for his dozen years of service as Chairman of the College's Board of Governors, during which time he helped add five buildings to the campus and augment dramatically the College's endowment fund.

It was Dr. Smith, however, who gave the thanks: "I can't thank Thomas Aquinas enough for all the gifts it's given to me through these years – the wonderful, wonderful students, the wonderful spirit that's been constant in the school – it's given me the greatest pleasure I've had in my life." His testimonial was all the more powerful in view of the many great things the Beverly Hills physician has done throughout his highly accomplished career.

Smith helped found the Beverly Hills Medical Clinic, where he was personal physician to some of the most famous individuals in the entertainment industry and financial world. Jimmy Stewart, Fred Astaire, Sam Goldwyn, Howard Hughes, and many others were among his devoted patients.

Long-time friend and patient Phyllis Diller, whose trademark laugh and style made her one of the most beloved comediennes for generations, attended the dinner and even stepped forward to say a few words and trigger some good laughs. "You know you're old," said the 85-year-old entertainer, "when your walker has an air bag." Her quick tag line: "And someone compliments you on your alligator shoes – and you're barefoot." There was a note of poignancy, though, when she said in reference to Dr. and Mrs. Smith: "I am only here for one reason – that I adore these two people."

Msr. George Parnassus, Pastor *Emeritus* of St. Victor's Church in West Hollywood, gave the Invocation, while Board member Andrew Zepeda (class of '79) served as Master of Ceremonies. Incoming Board Chairman Maria O. Grant welcomed the guests and thanked the Smiths, noting the "big shoes" that Dr. Smith has left her to fill. Tom Sullivan, who served as the Board's first Chairman, then announced the creation of an endowed scholarship fund in the names of Dr. and Mrs. Smith. (See inset.)

Several others rose to offer thanks to Dr. Smith, including fellow Board members, Dr. Henry Zeiter of Stockton, CA, and Dr. Harry Browne of Reno, NV, whose father co-founded the Beverly Hills Medical Clinic with Dr. Smith and others. Dr. Terry Schaack, one of Dr. Smith's associates, also expressed gratitude to Dr. Smith, as did the Smith's youngest son, Mark, who gave a moving tribute on behalf of family members.

President Tom Dillon thanked Dr. Smith on behalf of the College, remarking that "anyone who knows him, knows how congenial and friendly he is, and at the same time how humble he is, given his extraordinary accomplishments." He explained that Dr. Smith became Chairman at a critical time in the College's history. The College was gaining national acclaim for its rigorous academic program, yet it had few permanent buildings and ever-growing financial aid needs.

But during the time in which Dr. Smith was Chairman, the College's Endowment rose from \$320,000 to more than \$8 million. Moreover, with only four buildings completed of the fifteen called for by the Master Plan, the College, with Dr. Smith's help, was able to construct five additional buildings: St. Bernardine Library (1995), Bl. Junipero Serra Men's Residence Hall (1996), St. Therese of Lisieux Women's Residence Hall (1999), Albertus Magnus Science



Gerry & Bill Smith, 61 years of partnership in marriage.

Hall (2000), and Sts. Peter & Paul Men's Residence Hall (2002).

Dr. Smith was raised in San Diego and Los Angeles, where his father was a pharmacist and a rancher. He often spent summers on his grandparents' farm in Kansas, where he made rounds with his grandfather, a country doctor who made calls from farm to farm. "I wanted to be just like him," he once said. On graduating from high school, he was admitted to Stanford University, where he obtained his bachelor's and medical degrees. He returned to Los Angeles for his internship and residency and began practicing medicine in 1941.

He found that he liked teaching medicine as much as practicing it, and took teaching appointments at the University of Southern

California and at the Good Hope Clinic of the Hospital of the Good Samaritan. The need for him to be near an urban area precluded his assuming the life of a country doctor.

Early in his career, he was looking for some work on the side. A friend led him to MGM Studios, which needed a medical consultant for a new television show, "Dr. Kildare." Dr. Smith was engaged to advise actors about how to behave like doctors and nurses and other medical personnel. He also reviewed the sets and scripts and ensured that terminology was correct.

At the same time he won the respect of many in the entertainment industry who saw in him that spirit of the country doctor, always reachable, always with sound advice. He became the physician for the Motion Picture Health and Welfare Group, which led to many referrals. His practice grew, and by 1955 he helped establish the Beverly Hills Medical Clinic where he became a popular family doctor. He retired in 1991.

In addition to his work in private practice, Dr. Smith devoted many years of his life to two of Los Angeles' most renowned hospitals: Good Samaritan and St. John's. For many years, he served on the staff and the Board of Trustees of St. John's, becoming Chairman in 1987. Throughout this time, he also served as a volunteer teacher at UCLA's emergency center, as an officer of the Los Angeles Public Health Service, and as an examiner for the Federal Aviation Administration, certifying pilots and airline industry personnel. He served for two years in World War II as a lieutenant in the medical corps on an Admiral's staff.

Dr. Smith is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, a Fellow of the British Royal Society of Health, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine. He is also a member of the California Medical Association, the Los Angeles County Medical Association, the Los Angeles Academy of Medicine, the American, California, and Los Angeles Heart Associations, and the American Science Film Association.

Dr. Smith's wife Gerry has been beside him, supporting him in all his endeavors. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last year. Raised in Los Angeles, Gerry attended Marymount and Marlborough before studying at Westover, in Connecticut. Bill and Gerry have raised six children and have nine grandchildren.

At the close of the appreciation dinner, Gerry was presented with a large bouquet of roses and Bill with an engraved miniature Foucault pendulum, similar to the one featured in Albertus Magnus Science Hall on our campus. The dinner included entertainment by a Thomas Aquinas College barbershop quartet, and dinner music by student and pianist Matt Henry.

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The Bill and Gerry Smith Endowed Scholarship Fund

To honor Dr. and Mrs. William Weber Smith for their generosity to the College over the years, and in recognition of Dr. Smith's leadership as Chairman of the College's Board of Governors since 1991, Thomas Aquinas College has set aside \$100,000 in their names to inaugurate a scholarship endowment fund which will generate in perpetuity funds for student financial aid.

The Bill and Gerry Smith Endowed Scholarship Fund will further the long-standing policy of the College to not turn away qualified students for financial reasons. Through the College's financial aid program, many students have been enabled to attend Thomas Aquinas College who might not otherwise have been able to do so.

The Smith Endowed Scholarship Fund will be part of the College's current program which provides over \$2 million student financial aid each year. Every \$100,000 in the Endowment will generate \$6,000 in student financial aid each year in perpetuity.

Anyone interested in contributing to The Bill and Gerry Smith Endowed Scholarship Fund should contact John Quincy Masteller, the College's Vice President for Development, at (800) 634-9797 or jqmasteller@thomasaquinas.edu.



Long-time friend of Dr. and Mrs. Smith, comedienne Phyllis Diller posed with the barbershop quartet of (l to r) Stephan McCarty ('05), Koert Halpin ('06), Mike Grimm ('06), and Daniel Lendman ('06); guests included (l to r) Bill and Maureen Fimpler, Vicki and Mark Smith, Eva and Ted Elkin, and Lisa Bailey; choked by sentiment, Dr. Smith has daughter, Hillary, read his remarks of appreciation.

In Memoriam: Richard Lloyd Noble

- Long-time Member of Board of Governors -

Richard Lloyd Noble, a brilliant securities lawyer and an active member of the Board of Governors of Thomas Aquinas College since 1977, died December 10, 2002, in Los Angeles. He was 63. Funeral and interment services were held on January 15, 2003, in Ardmore, Okla., where he was interred next to his father Lloyd Noble, a legend in the oil production industry.

Born October 11, 1939, in Oklahoma City, Noble lived most of his adult life in Los Angeles. A graduate of both Stanford University and Stanford University Law School, he passed the California State Bar in April 1965, remaining a member until his death. Twice published in the *Stanford Law Review*, Noble received the rare honor of being published for the first time in this review as an undergraduate.

"He was a very fine man, a very smart man, an excellent help to me in several cases, an extremely sharp lawyer, and a good friend through the years," says lawyer and fellow Board member John E. Schaeffer. Schaeffer helped recruit Noble from Stanford Law School to his San Francisco law firm of Cooper, White & Cooper. In 1967, Noble returned to Los Angeles, where he became a partner with Voegelin, Barton, Harris & Callister. In 1970, he established his own firm, Noble & Campbell.

A lifelong Republican and generous benefactor to conservative causes, Noble's passion for politics was fostered at Stanford, during which time he served as president of the Young Republicans. He



Richard Lloyd Noble (1939 - 2002)

Administration Peter DeLuca, whose friendship with Noble was forged 40 years ago when each was president of his respective college chapter of Young Republicans. "He was a brilliant man. We very much appreciated his friendship and his longtime involvement with the College. I believe he felt a kinship with fellow Board members."

"Thomas Aquinas College was one of his chief

"He was a steadfast friend through some lean and difficult times."

interests," echoes Fred Ruopp, chairman and CEO of Chelsea Management Company, an investment counseling firm in Los Angeles. Ruopp knew Noble for 25 years and served with him on the College's Board of Governors. "Richard believed that people should investigate ideas and facts for themselves. He thought that played out in the scholarship and educational methods of the College."

"He was very competent and precise, a man of broad interests and very articulate," adds Ruopp. "He had a great command of names, dates, history and events. He was very bright, interested in politics and history, and had many aesthetic interests. We had many long and interesting conversations."

As a young child often accompanying his

mother to estate sales, Noble developed an eye for, and eventually became a collector of, among other things, antiques, oriental rugs, jade snuff boxes, and art, including an extensive collection of nautical paintings.

"He often referred to himself as a man of the 17th century," recalls Willins. "He was a gentleman – very proper with a wry wit."

"The loss of Dick Noble is a great loss to us," said President Dillon. "Dick had so much to offer and was always an active participant at our Board meetings. His length of service on our Board – 25 years – is just one measure of his commitment to us, particularly in view of the many struggles we faced early in his tenure to maintain the very existence of our College. He was a steadfast friend through some lean and difficult times."

Noble is preceded in death by his beloved mother, Eloise Noble, father, Lloyd Noble, and half-brother, Sam Noble. He is survived by half-sister, Ann Noble Brown, half-brother, Ed Noble, by nieces and nephews, Lloyd Noble, Nicholas Noble, Russell Noble, Shelley Noble Dru, David Brown, Susan Brown, Marianne Brown Rooney, and Vivian Noble DuBose, and by numerous grandnieces and nephews.



A Renaissance man with broad interests, Noble made the College one of his chief interests, serving on the Board of Governors for 25 years. Above, Noble is shown with Australian economist Colin Clark at a reception for the College in Los Angeles in 1980.



Peter L. DeLuca (l.) one of the College's founders, who now serves as Vice-President for Finance and Administration, first befriended Noble in the 1960s when each was president of his respective college chapter of Young Republicans – DeLuca at St. Mary's College, Moraga, (CA), and Noble, at Stanford University.

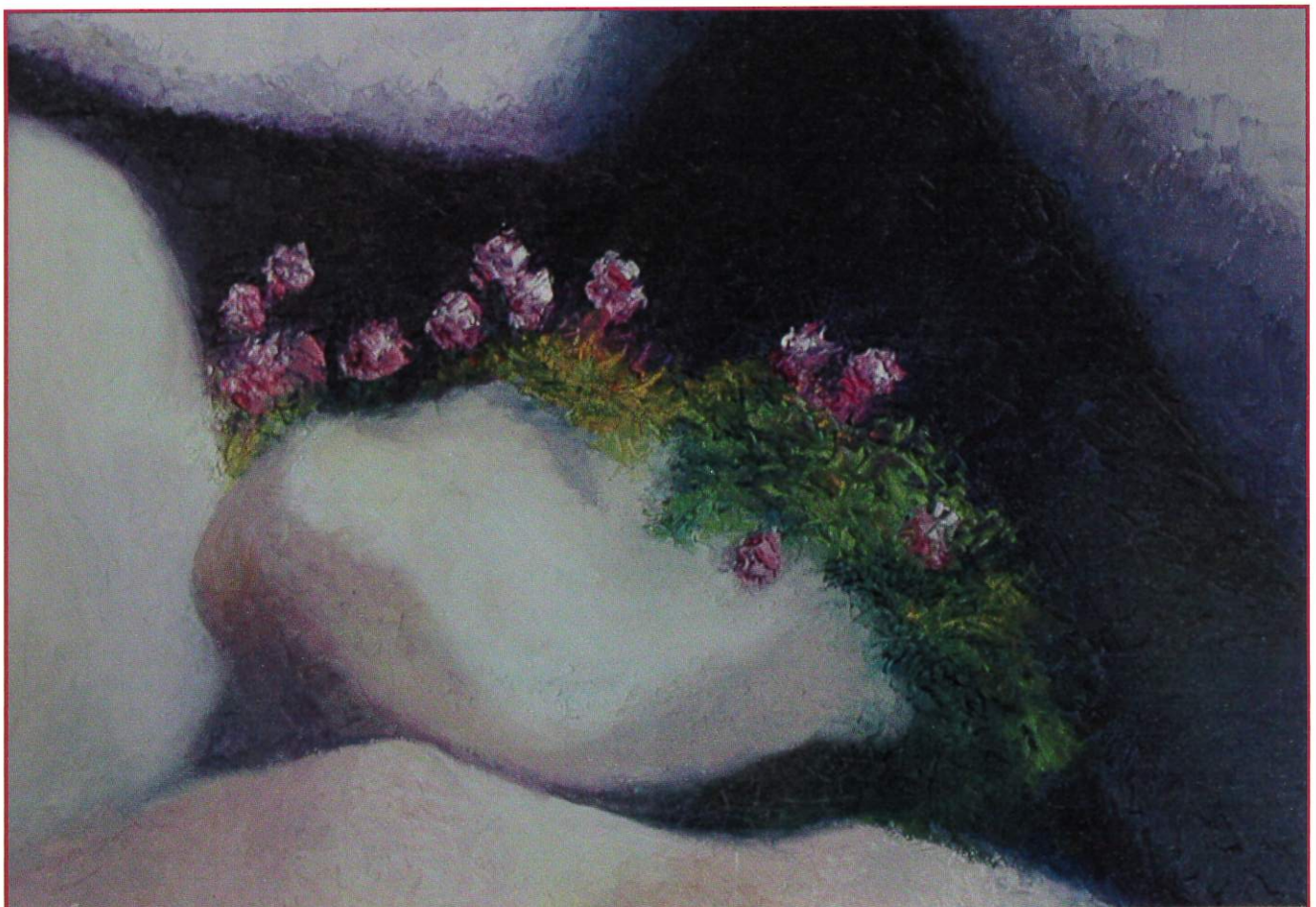
was later appointed by former California Governor Deukmejian to serve on the Colorado River Board, a post for which he was singularly well-qualified due to the depth of his understanding of water rights law.

He had researched the issue extensively and co-authored an article with Charles J. Meyers, which appeared in the 1967 issue of the *Stanford Law Review*. He served on the Colorado River Board from his appointment on June 29, 1983, through 1994.

"Not only did we work together, he was also a personal friend," recalls Dennis Underwood, former executive secretary and executive director of the Colorado River Board during much of Noble's tenure. "Richard added a dimension to the Board that was extremely helpful because of his long involvement in the political arena and his personal involvement with Governor Deukmejian and then-Senator Pete Wilson. He was a tremendous help at a time when we especially needed assistance."

"Richard was an avid reader, an accomplished writer and speaker, and a friend to many," notes Paula Willins, who worked with Noble for 18 years. "Many people have called to express condolences and talk about fond memories."

Noble had a special affection for Thomas Aquinas College. "He was a good and generous man," said Vice President for Finance and



Grace Under Pressure, oil on canvas, by Wendy-Marie Teichert (Class of '81), 2000

Alumni Profile

Christine Hidley (Class of '92): "Now My Job is to be Sick"

I have cancer, she thought. Her doctor hadn't said anything, but she knew by the tone of his message on her answering machine.

On Friday she had gone in for an exam because she hadn't been feeling well – weak. *Just like my last two pregnancies*. But there was that lump on her neck. *Better have it checked*. The nurse practitioner said it looked fine but took a blood sample to be sure. *The blood work must have come in*. It was early Tuesday, and her doctor wanted her to come in for more tests.

When she met him, he was nervous. "We've had some unexpected results with your blood tests, and I want some more to be sure."

Over to the hospital and then back the same day. "You have some blood disorder," he said. "Cancer?," she asked. He didn't want to say the word – leukemia – but he had said enough.

She called her husband, Josh, at work: "The doctor thinks I have leukemia." He drove to the office immediately. They both talked to the doctor. *I think I'm pregnant. Did they check for that?* "No, let me check."

The hospital called back shortly after. "Yes, you're pregnant, too." The doctor was silent. "This is going to be very difficult for you."

Chris Kjolsrud and Josh Hidley are both graduates of Thomas Aquinas College and never anticipated this test of faith. They were friends, but never dated while at College. Two years older than Josh, Chris was graduated in 1992 and moved to Arizona to teach elementary school. But missing her friends from the College, she returned to Ojai two years later where she worked as a writer/editor at Behavioral Science Technology, Inc., a safety consulting firm which employed a number of her fellow graduates. BST's founders, Tom and Cathryn Krause and John and Leslie ('86) Hidley, were related by marriage and each had children who attended the College: Christel Krause Kelsey ('91), and her Hidley cousins, Cathryn ('87), Jack ('88), Theo ('92), and Josh ('94).

Chris renewed acquaintance with Josh, who was working there, too. Later, they carpooled. Then they dated. By August, 1996, they were married.

The following year, she delivered daughter Abby and stopped work to care for her full-time. Next came daughter Mercy in 1998. By this time Josh was working as a software programmer for Advanced Information Management in Santa Barbara. Now with two small children and another on the way, Chris and Josh were staring chronic myelogenous leukemia in the face. "We were terrified for the baby, because we had no idea what our treatment options were," said Chris.

She met with an oncologist who told her this was a life or death situation. Since she was pregnant, she should terminate "it." She was so nauseated by the encounter, she said nothing and requested another oncologist. The second was more accommodating and told her she might be able to forgoe treatment until after she delivered the baby, but that she had to be treated if she had any hope of surviving. The treatment would, in any case, render her infertile.

They went home to ponder their options. Two days later, she miscarried. "It was very hard on us, but it simplified our options with regard to treatment." At least temporarily.

Tom Krause and John Hidley acted with vigor to help solve her other problem, exhausting all their contacts to find her the best treatment. They were led to City of Hope Hospital in Duarte, CA, which has a leading bone marrow transplant facility. There, Chris met her "great blessing," Dr. Margaret O'Donnell. Dr. O'Donnell explained that Chris' leukemia would start out slowly – maybe 4-5 years with no symptoms – before turning bad. She said given her age, education, and family background, Chris stood a 98% chance of cure with a bone marrow transplant. She scheduled her transplant for January.

But in November, Chris had another surprise. She was pregnant again. "We had just started taking a course in NFP, but hadn't quite learned



Mother of two, expecting a third, Chris was inspired by family and friends – and her faith – in facing chronic leukemia.

it yet. On the other hand, we were heartbroken over the prospect of infertility and looked on this as a special gift. This was our last chance to have another baby."

"Call me after the baby is born," said Dr. O'Donnell. "You won't be able to have the transplant until then." Chris went to a high risk pregnancy doctor who gave her the line she heard before: "you should terminate your pregnancy." Chris balked. She said she was Catholic, that she thought abortion was wrong, and that she would not murder her baby. The doctor responded: "Oh, no, I have a friend who is a Catholic priest, and he says it's OK." Chris stopped talking and never went back to him.

'We, as the living Church, can make up for what is lacking in Christ's sufferings through our own sacrifices.'

She returned to Dr. O'Donnell who prescribed an alternative procedure – apheresis – that would protect the baby until after the first trimester when she could resume her medication. A tube was thus inserted through her chest to her heart so that surplus white blood cells could be removed periodically – uncomfortable, but effective.

After three months, her baby was able to handle the medication. As she approached her due date, her next question was, *What about breastfeeding?* Her doctor said, "No, harmful to the baby." *What about going off medication altogether?* The doctor paused. "Well, OK, but once your white cells reach a certain level, you'll have to stop breastfeeding and resume the medication."

In August, she delivered baby Joseph – perfectly healthy. Dr. O'Donnell scheduled Chris for the bone marrow transplant in January, now one year after the previous appointment, and permitted her to discontinue medication and breastfeed for the next five months – "a tremendous gift," Chris says.

The transplant was her next ordeal. The procedure is fatal if the body rejects the graft or an infection develops. Eight days of chemotherapy, followed by a blood and bone marrow transfusion, would render her quarantined in the hospital for two months. She would then have to live less than 15 minutes away from the hospital for six more months.

In December, Chris and Josh found a house to rent in nearby Arcadia. Each of their parents came to stay with them. In an extraordinary act of generosity, Josh's company granted him paid leave for the duration of their move. At Christmas, they had a huge family gathering, hedging bets against a last visit. Her brother Mark (class of '01) donated marrow through thirty or so straw-sized punctures in his hip. They worked out a schedule to keep life as normal as possible for the children. "Mom's

sick," they said. Abbie, now 4, was precocious and understood. "There are bad guys in mom's blood who are trying to hurt the good guys there. She might die, but that would be OK, since she would be with Jesus."

Her treatment progressed well. She got positive reports daily. She lost all her hair. For 62 days, she was mostly unable to see her children, but was blessed with other family and friends daily. Josh was posted by her bed through the day; her father, all through the night. Cards and notes flowed from all over. Her friends from BST sewed her a quilt. Her mother's friend gave her name to Pope John Paul II, who added her to his private prayer booklet.

"I had remembered that we, as the living Church, can make up for what is lacking in Christ's sufferings through our own sacrifices. Christ allows us to participate in his Agony and Passion for the conversion of souls and the repair of sin. When I found out I was sick, I thought, *This is my job*."

"I read in the hospital an account of the sufferings of St. Therese of Lisieux. Here she writes all these sweet things to people, and yet she was undergoing enormous physical suffering. It gave me great strength. I felt such an inflowing of grace – as if it were Jesus acting from the bed and I was outside of myself, watching. I was doing my best to prepare for death, and yet I've never had so much consolation in my life."

She kept a poster of the Crucifixion at the foot of her bed, a statue of the Holy Family by her side, a scapular around her neck. Not a day would go by without some nurse, some cleaning lady, commenting on those items and being drawn into fruitful discussion. *Oh, yes, I used to go to Mass, but . . . No, they only wear scapulars in Mexico . . . We started using birth control because . . .*

"I had been to so many hospitals, so many doctor appointments. I was always waiting for the next thing. So, I'd sit and pray. And for some reason, people would always come up to me and start talking."

She was released on Ash Wednesday – with orders not to fast. Confined to the rental home for the next six months, and then returning home to Ventura after that, she was not allowed to so much as change a diaper. Friends would come by four times a day to do her housework.

"It was extraordinarily humbling. There I was, a wife and mother, and these were the only roles I couldn't perform. All I could think was, like St. Bernadette Soubirous, 'Now my job is to be sick.'"

Last May, she attended City of Hope's annual bone marrow recipients reunion for all leukemia survivors. She saw Dr. O'Donnell, anxious to hear her prognosis. "Tell your friends you're cured," she said. "You're my poster child for recovery."

"I would run into people I didn't know who would say, 'Are you the girl we've all been praying for?' There are so many thank yous to say, and even then, one would be insufficient. I often think of what St. Theresa of Avila told her fellow nuns who were complaining about not adequately thanking their many benefactors: 'We rely on God for everything, even their generosity; God will reward them.' That's how I feel. I can never begin to thank people for all they've done. May God reward them all."

✙ ✙ ✙



At City of Hope's annual survivors' picnic last May, Chris and Josh counted their many blessings – such as Dr. Margaret O'Donnell.

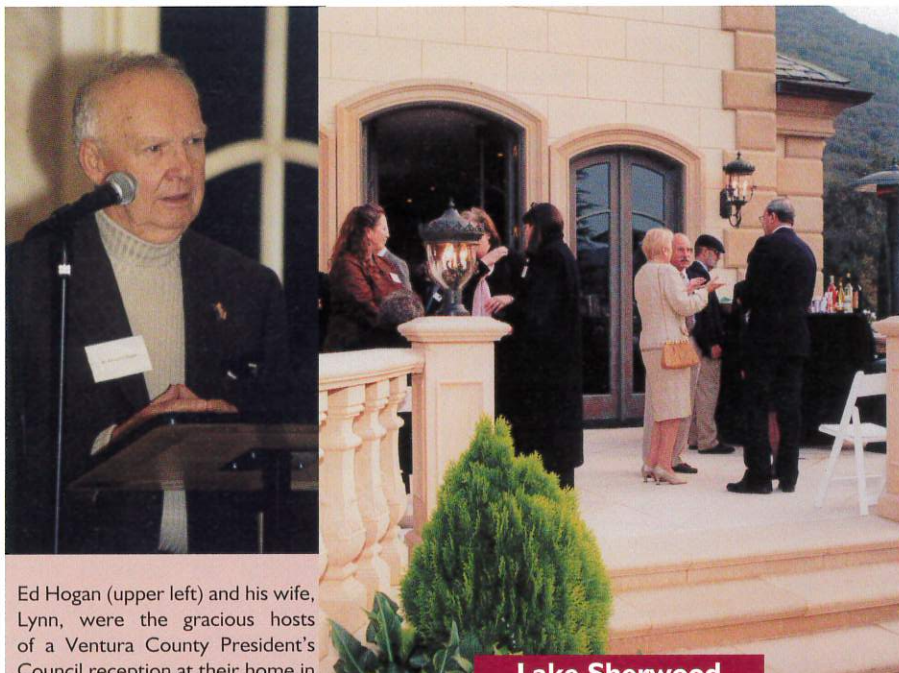
College Takes Campaign On the Road

Anaheim
Lake Sherwood

San Francisco
Santa Barbara

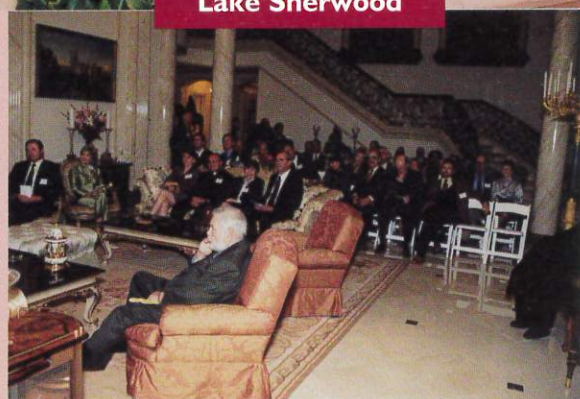
Kansas City

SACRAMENTO
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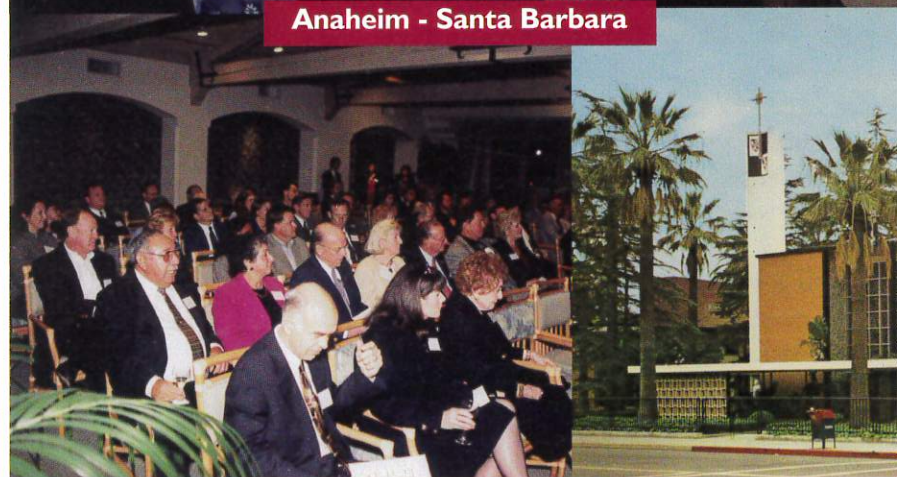


Lake Sherwood

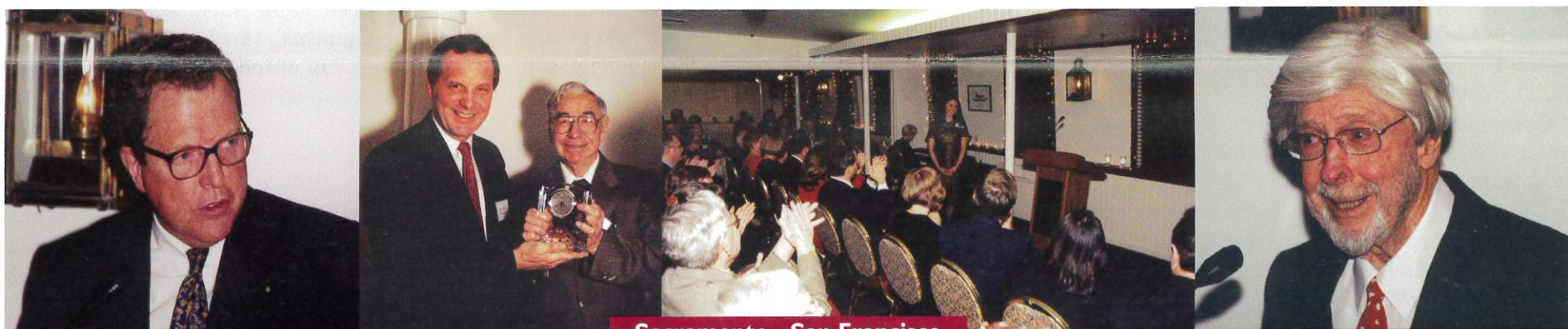
Ed Hogan (upper left) and his wife, Lynn, were the gracious hosts of a Ventura County President's Council reception at their home in Lake Sherwood, CA, (upper right), which was modeled after a French chateaux in the Loire Valley. Founder of Pleasant Holidays LLC, the nation's largest tour packager to Hawaii, Hogan announced at the event a gift of five week-long vacation packages for the College to raffle off, a gift then matched by guest, Dieter Huckestein, Executive Vice-President of Hilton Hotels.



Anaheim - Santa Barbara



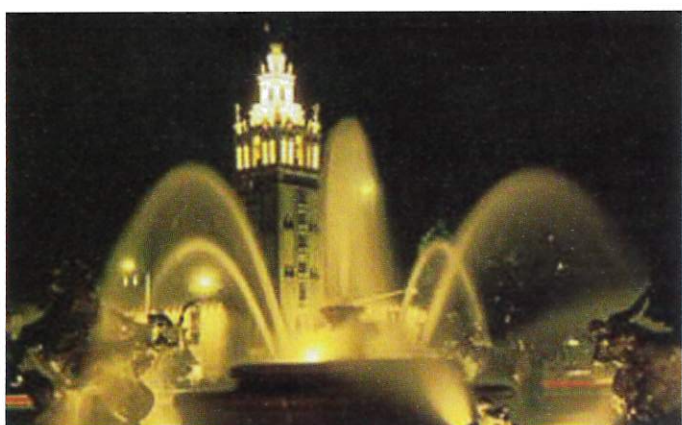
David P. Schippers (upper left), Chief Prosecutor for the House Managers in the Impeachment Proceedings against President Clinton, recounted some of his personal experiences in the highly-charged proceedings and extolled the virtues of the College at three back-to-back President's Council receptions in October, 2003 – at the Hogan's home in Lake Sherwood, at St. Catherine's Military Academy in Anaheim, CA, (lower right) and at LaCumbra Country Club in Santa Barbara (lower left), where guests were also treated to a viewing of the drawings of the new Chapel.



Sacramento - San Francisco



John M. Klink (upper left), a former Vatican diplomat to the United Nations who currently serves as Special Senior Private Sector Advisor to the White House, was the keynote speaker at two receptions in February, 2003. The first was in Sacramento where about 90 guests gathered at the riverboat hotel, The Delta King, (top center), for a reception hosted by long-time President's Council Members Henry (top right) and Wendy Teichert, and where, among other things, Mr. J. Isaac Barron (top center) received a Legacy Society award from Vice-President for Development Quincy Masteller. A second reception was held in San Francisco for about 100 guests at the Olympic Club (bottom center), hosted by member of the College's Board of Governors, Jim Conn, and wife, Joelle, (bottom left). San Francisco County Supervisor Tony Hall (bottom right) presented President Dillon with a Certificate of Honor from the City and County Board of Supervisors to the College "in appreciative public recognition of distinction and merit for outstanding service to a significant portion of the people of the City and County of San Francisco," noting that the College was initially founded in the Bay Area and had many founders who hailed from there.



Kansas City - St. Louis

The "Show Me" State was the site of two President's Council receptions in March, 2003, as 50 guests gathered at the Fiorella's Private Dining Facility in suburban Kansas City. Thanks to host Betsy Mullins, nearly the same number gathered at the St. Louis Club in St. Louis to hear, among other things, testimonials from Dr. Bernard Pegis (Class of '94), a physician in residency at local St. John's Mercy Center, and from Fr. Edward Hopkins, L.C. (Class of '80), a priest with the Legionaries of Christ assigned to Gateway Academy in suburban St. Louis.



Bill Simon, Jr. Extols Role of Religion in Public Life

- In Delivering College-wide Presidents' Day Address

Bill Simon, Jr., the 2002 California Republican Gubernatorial candidate, delivered the annual Presidents' Day Address at the College before a packed St. Joseph Commons on February 17, 2003. Among other endeavors, Simon is Co-Chairman of the William E. Simon Foundation, founded by his deceased father to engage in a wide-variety of philanthropic interests. Like his father, Simon has been a loyal friend of the College, which he calls, "a sanctified island in a secular sea." He is a graduate of William's College and Boston College Law School. A Knight of Malta, he and his wife, Cynthia, have four children. Following is an abridged version of his remarks.

Tonight I want to talk to you about a subject that is near and dear to my heart: Does America really need religion? Let me begin by focusing on the role for religion as embraced by the framers of our Constitution, because to them freedom and religion are indissolubly linked in a way that is critical to the welfare and the endurance of our country.

Our founders wanted the American republic to be the first great republic since the fall of Rome. It was to be what they referred to as "the new order" of the ages. But they wanted not only to win and to order freedom, but also, to sustain freedom.

What was their solution to ensuring freedom? It was certainly not, as I was amazed to learn, a belief in the superiority of democracy. As John Adams had said, "There never was a democracy yet that did not commit suicide."

Nor was their solution simply in the separation of powers in our system of checks and balances, as most Americans today, including many scholars and university students, seem to think. As the founders realized, a strong constitution is not enough to sustain freedom, because human nature, left to its own devices, would eventually subvert the Constitution.

Rather, their solution was based on what they saw as the eternal set of first principles – a set of three

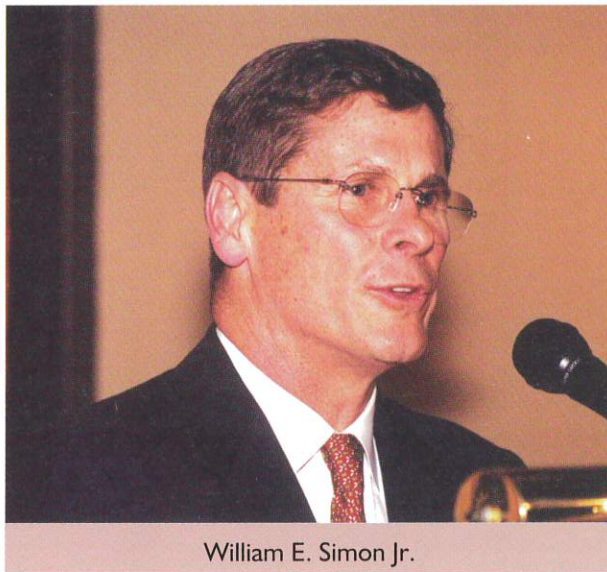
interlocking and independent ideas – like three legs of a triangle – that were viewed as absolutely foundational: liberty, virtue, and religion.

The first leg of the triangle is that liberty requires virtue. For the framers, liberty was not a form of negative freedom – not a 'freedom from' something – but a positive freedom, a 'freedom to be.' In

Lord Acton's famous formulation, "Freedom is not a permission to do what we like, but the power to do what we ought." In a similar vein, Benjamin Franklin once said, "Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom."

And as James Madison queried, "Is there no virtue amongst us? If there be not, we are in a wretched situation. No theoretical checks, no form of government can render us secure. To suppose any form of government will secure liberty or happiness without virtue in the people is a chimerical idea." John Adams was equally blunt: "We have no government armed with powers capable of competing with human passions, unbridled, without morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry would break the strongest chords of our constitution, as a whale goes through a net."

The second leg of this eternal triangle is the principle that virtue requires religion. For the Framers, virtue was more all-encompassing than the way many view virtue today. For one thing, the concept of virtue included features such as excellence and courage. And for another, it had to be grounded in something real. Religion provided virtue with its content, its inspiration, and its sanction. As George Washington said in his farewell address, "of all the dispositions and habits which



William E. Simon Jr.

lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are the indispensable supports."

The third leg of the triangle is the principle that religion requires liberty. Here, and not in the separation of powers, is where our Framers were perhaps the most original and perhaps the most daring, offering the most distinctive part of the entire American ordering of public life – an unprecedented break from fifteen hundred years of political history since Constantine. As Madison argued so powerfully in his book, *Memorial and Remonstrances*, "Torrents of blood have been spilt in the name of established religion in the old world. But we now have the true remedy in the separation of church and state."

But what is the principle underlying that notion of separation of church and state? As Madison

says, "That religion, or the duty which we owe to our Creator, and the manner of discharging it, can only be directed by reason and conviction, not by force or violence." Madison further argued that the establishment of a specific religion would be unnecessary because it flourishes best on its own merits and not when it is oppressive and coercive.

What is all too plain today is that many Americans have abandoned, or are unmindful of, the Framers' position. What has caused this? One factor is exploding pluralism. The story of America is indeed a story of a steadily expanding pluralism. The expansion of the last fifty years now includes most of the world's religions and has put a new strain on the traditional ordering of religion in public life. One obvious example, though an unfortunate example, is our public schools. In Los Angeles, where our family lives, there are over ninety different religions in our schools. A politically correct holiday program, as my wife pointed out to me, probably would take at least a month.

Another factor is what I refer to as "expanding Statism." When the 1st Amendment was passed in 1791, religion was central and powerful in most people's lives, while the federal government was distant. Today, that situation is reversed. The federal government is strong and central, whereas religion for too many is marginal and weak.

And another factor emerging is Separationism. This is the view pushed openly by groups like the ACLU – that the separation of church and state must be strict and absolute. Religious freedom, under their construct, becomes freedom from religion, not freedom for religion. Public life then, becomes a religion-free zone, so that religion is considered exclusively private, and public life exclusively secular.

I wonder now what would be on our currency if that were a subject of discussion. I highly doubt that "In God We Trust" would pass muster. Similarly, I wonder whether the pledge of Allegiance would include the phrase, "One nation under God." Aiming for

a religion-free zone is a radical departure from the greater part of our history. Great leaders, such as Teddy Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, and Ronald Reagan, following in the footsteps of the Framers, continually reminded us that faith and religion are not just important to the character of the people of the nation, but also, to repeat Washington's words, "indispensable to the preservation of our democratic institutions."

It would be easy tonight to lament the present situation. We have gone from an animating vision which safeguards religion, to one which systematically sabotages religion and undermines its revered traditions, honored place, and acknowledged importance in American society. We have reached a point where the civil rights of those who preach and practice the most radical lifestyles, and who insist that all public places must be a naked public square, trump the religious liberties of anyone who disagrees.

When Michael Novak addressed the Library of Congress in 1998, he was asked, "Can an atheist be a good American?" His answer was, "Yes. That has been done many times. But," he continued, "Can American liberties survive if most of our nation is atheist?" The most common, almost universal judgement of the Founders was that it could not.

The time has come for men and women to build a new consensus about religion's proper place in the public square. But the answer to the folly of the naked public square is not a reassertion of the

sacred public square, such as the domination of Protestantism in the nineteenth century. Those of us who are

Catholics or Jews know too much about that. In the pluralistic society of today, neither the naked, nor the sacred, public square is workable. But, rather, I believe we should begin working towards what some have referred to as a civil public square, in which citizens of all faiths, and none, are free to enter in and engage in public life, within Constitutional first principles and the common vision of the common good.

At a time when morality and virtue are in such short supply, religion must play a greater, not lesser, role in our national life. If it does, the future for America is as bright as it was when the Founders drafted all those wonderful documents. If it does not, the consequences might be summed up in three words, as familiar to the framers as they were to the ancients: "decline and fall."

Religious liberty is far more than just liberty for the religious. It is vital for all citizens to put religion back where the Framers intended it. And it is not just a policy item on the same order of tax cuts, health care, and missile defense. It is taking care of our foundation. Religion in America is far from an inviolably private issue. Essentially, religion is a national issue.

So, I repeat the question, does America really need religion? I believe that it is not too much to say, that as faith goes in America, so goes freedom. Long may faith and freedom march hand-in-hand in America, and long may Thomas Aquinas College be champions of both.

'Liberty, virtue, and religion were the three interlocking ideas on which our Constitutional order was based.'



Introducing Simon was William P. Clark, a long-time friend of Simon's father, William E. Simon.



Presidents' Day festivities included a formal banquet dinner, patriotic songs led by the Choir, Bill Simon's address, and awards to long-time faculty members.

David Young, New Member Board of Governors

David P. Young was elected to the College's Board of Governors in January. Young is the Chief Technology Officer for manageStar, the leading vendor of service-chain management software, where he is responsible for creating and managing the unique suite of technology tools used by manageStar's partners and customers.

Before joining the Walnut Creek-based company, Young was Vice President and Managing Director of the Digital Media Group, a part of Moody's Investors Service, the world's leading bond-rating firm. There he led numerous technical teams responsible for the acquisition, enhancement, and re-sell of software properties in the print and electronic publishing industries, portable and wireless data products, broadband media, and embedded SQL systems with a total average valuation of \$30 million per year.



David P. Young

He earned his bachelor's degree in Greek and Antiquities at Indiana University, where he had converted to Catholicism at age 19. He then spent several years on Wall Street. "When I was first introduced to Thomas Aquinas College several years ago, I was impressed not just by the great work of the College, but by the caliber of students being formed there. I had wanted to be involved with the College, but at first didn't see how I could be because of my career. Fortunately, I'm now in a position to be able to help think strategically on behalf of the College."

The Board had previously named Young Chairman of a newly-formed Executive Council to cultivate a group of young, energetic benefactors who can offer special assistance to the College during the course of its \$75 million Comprehensive Campaign. "I think there are all sorts of people like me who, once they hear about the College's program and the impact it's having on the Church and society, will step forward and commit to secure funding to construct the remainder of the College's buildings and to increase its financial aid scholarship endowment," said Young. "I'm very grateful to the Board for placing its confidence in me and for giving me the opportunity to help the College."

"David is a dynamic young businessman who shares our zeal for the mission of the College," said President Tom Dillon. "He has some terrific ideas about how to spread the message of the College to more young professionals like himself, who can do a great deal of good for the College."

The youngest member of the Board of Governors, Young, 36, was married in February to Maria Coulson. They reside in Marin County, CA.

Padre Pio's Rosary – New Library Treasure –

A rosary that once belonged to St. Pio of Pietrelcina, the beloved saint whom many know as Padre Pio, is now at home in the College's rare book room. It will be used on special occasions, such as on September 23, the date of his proclaimed feast and the anniversary of his death in 1968.

The special gift comes by way of Capuchin monk, Fr. Thomas Pontolillo, O.F.M. Cap., who wanted Thomas Aquinas College to be the home for this precious relic. Currently in retirement in the San Diego area, Fr. Pontolillo spent 30 years in Australia, where in the mid-1970s a fellow Capuchin friend, Fr. Boniface Zurli, O.F.M. Cap., gave the rosary to him as a gift.

Fr. Zurli had received it from the hands of Capuchin Padre Pio during a visit to San Giovanni Rotondo, where the Saint spent much of his life. According to a long-established custom in Italy of exchanging rosaries or other personal items with a friend after a visit (such as gloves or a skull cap), Fr. Zurli gave Padre Pio his rosary, and Padre Pio gave him his in return. "Fr. Zurli got a good deal," said Fr. Pontolillo.

Fr. Pontolillo knows little about the origin of this rosary or the length the saint possessed it. "The beads look like they're carved from the horn of an animal, which was frequently done in Italy, and which makes that more fitting to Padre Pio, since he was the son of a farmer. The bottom line is that the rosary can still be a wonderful instrument of grace because of the connection to the Saint."



Eight Faculty Members Honored for Thirty Years of Service

Four founders of Thomas Aquinas College, President Tom Dillon, and three additional faculty members were honored for 30 years of service to the College at a campus-wide Presidents' Day Dinner on February 17. R. Glen Coughlin, Dean of the College, presented them with specially-engraved Bulova clocks etched with the seal of the College as a small token of appreciation for their exemplary service.

Founding president Ronald McArthur, and founding tutors, John Neumayr, Marc Berquist, and Peter DeLuca received awards, as did tutors Molly Gustin and Larry Shields, and Head Librarian, Viltis Jatulis.

McArthur, Neumayr, and Berquist taught together at St. Mary's College, Moraga, in the 1960s, when they, and others, conceived of establishing a college based on the Catholic intellectual tradition. They collaborated in producing *A Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education*, which became the founding document of Thomas Aquinas College.

Serving as catalyst for their groundbreaking idea was DeLuca, who in 1969 became the College's first administrator when the College incorporated and had offices on the campus of the Dominican College of San Rafael. When the College opened in 1971 at Claretville, the former novitiate and college seminary of the Claretian order in Malibu Canyon outside Calabasas, CA, McArthur, Neumayr, Berquist, and DeLuca constituted four of the original five tutors.

Joining them the following year were Dillon and Shields, who, like DeLuca, had been students of McArthur and Neumayr at St. Mary's. Dillon had concluded his doctoral studies at the University of Notre Dame and was working on his dissertation; Shields had obtained his master's degree from Princeton University and was teaching in New Jersey.

Also joining them that second year were Molly Gustin and Viltis Jatulis. Gustin had been an Associate Professor of Music at Portland State University, having first taught at St. John's College in Annapolis and Santa Fe, and having received her Ph.D. at Indiana University. Her background in music theory enabled her to help form the College's music tutorial.

Jatulis had obtained her master's degree in library science from Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois. The College's first Librarian, Jatulis has helped cultivate a library which began on a few shelves in a make-shift room and has grown to a 52,000-volume majestic library, replete with a hermetically-controlled rare book room.

Vice President for Development and Secretary to the Board, John Quincy Masteller, on behalf of the Board, also presented President Dillon with a miniature pendulum – as a memento of the Foucault pendulum in Albertus Magnus Science Hall. The gift was made for his exemplary service to the College during two full six-year terms as president.



Molly Gustin, Ronald McArthur, Peter DeLuca, John Neumayr



Marcus Berquist, Viltis Jatulis, Tom Dillon; not shown, Larry Shields

College Choir Gains Wider Recognition



The Thomas Aquinas College Choir, shown above performing with orchestral accompaniment at the annual Spring concert in April, is gaining acclaim for its performances of traditional polyphonic choral music and Gregorian chant. In February, the Choir, under the direction of Dan Grimm ('76), was honored to perform at the national Legatus convention in Los Angeles to the thunderous applause of some 400 attendees. In addition to twice-yearly performances – at Advent and in the Spring – the Choir sings at the 9 a.m. Sunday Mass on campus, and, occasionally, off campus at other liturgical or ceremonial events. Choir CDs may be obtained by contacting Amanda Atkinson at the College, (800) 634-9797, ext. 337, or by email at aatkinson@thomasaquinas.edu.

Catholic Writers' Conference Inspires Attendees



Matt Pinto, Author/Publisher



Luncheon Keynote: Matt Pinto

— one on fiction writing by author Bernardine Connelly Clark (*Follow the Drinking Gourd*, Simon & Schuster), one on screenwriting by Matt Sommer (*Murder, She Wrote*, *The Man from Snowy River*), and one on free-lance writing by writer/publicist Karen Walker (Catholic Press Association).

The luncheon keynote speaker, best-selling author Matt Pinto, received the Saint Augustine Award for Excellence in Writing, an award given each year by the Ventura-based Catholic Writer's Guild. Pinto is founder of Ascension Press, co-founder of Catholic Exchange, and author of *Do Adam and Eve Have Belly Buttons?*, which has sold more than 100,000 copies. A self-confessed advertising man, Pinto addressed the pros and cons of self-publishing, in his talk, "Self-Publishing 101: the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly."

Other speakers included San Diego-based author and business consultant Dick Lyles (*Winning Ways – Four Secrets for Getting Great Results by Working Well with People*), who spoke on "Bridging Over – Writing for Secular Appeal." Lyles is perhaps best known as the president and CEO of The Ken Blanchard Companies and founder, with his wife Martha, of Maric College, a nurse-training institution in San Diego.

Columnist and freelance writer James Bemis (*Los Angeles Daily News*, *CatholicExchange.com*, *California Political Review*) spoke on the "ABCs of Good Writing," while Chris Weinkopf, editorial editor of the *Los Angeles Daily News*, spoke on "Inside the Editorial Room."

"This was our third Catholic Writer's Conference, and the feedback I've received has been quite positive," said Shaneyfelt. "As always, the College was very pleased with the enthusiasm of both Conference participants and speakers. It's a wonderful opportunity to provide a forum for so many good Catholic writers."

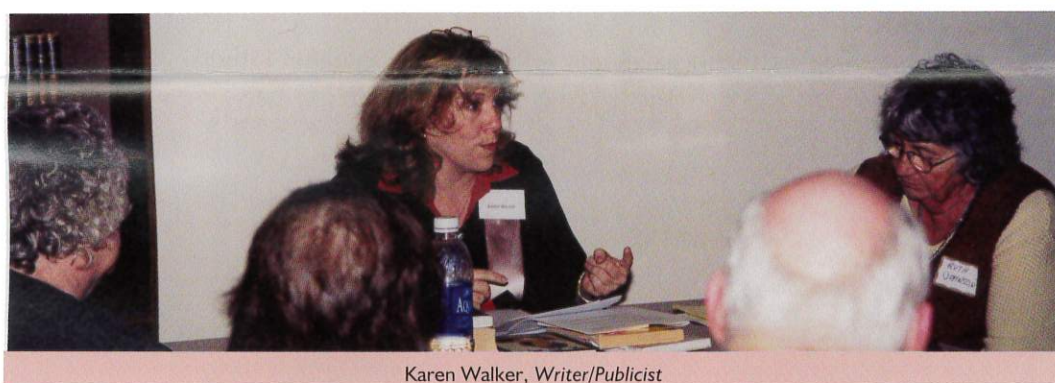
(Cassette tapes of the entire Conference or of individual speakers are available from the College. For more information call Amanda Atkinson at 805/525-4418, extension 337.)



Bernardine Clark, Fiction Writer



Jim Bemis, Columnist



Karen Walker, Writer/Publicist



Dick Lyles, Author



Chris Weinkopf, Editorial Editor



Matt Sommer, Screenwriter

Picture Yourself Here! - Sign up Now for High School Summer Seminars -

"I have found as a tutor in English Literature that if the average student wants to find out something about Platonism, the very last thing he thinks of doing is to take a translation of Plato off the library shelf and read the *Symposium* . . . The error is rather an amiable one, for it springs from humility. The student is half afraid to meet one of the philosophers face-to-face."

C.S. Lewis penned these words in England during the bleak days of World War II. Could he have imagined that one day, high school seniors would take two weeks out of their summer holidays for the express purpose of meeting Plato "face-to-face" and for testing their minds against Plato's original works and those of other great minds of Western Civilization?

For the seventh successive summer, young men and women from across the nation will meet on the campus of Thomas Aquinas College to do this very thing. With the guidance of Thomas Aquinas College tutors, they'll join a conversation which has been underway among thoughtful men and women since before Plato wrote his famous *Dialogues*. They'll read, discuss and enjoy some of Civilization's most important literature, philosophy, theology, political theory and mathematics. For these two weeks at least, their teachers will be Plato, Sophocles, Euclid, Pascal, Kierkegaard, Shakespeare, St. Thomas Aquinas, and C.S. Lewis himself.

Somewhere else, Lewis must have said, "All philosophy and no play makes for an enlightening but sober day." So after discussing weighty matters in daily tutorials, the young scholars put down the tools of learning to refresh themselves with a wide variety of recreational activities both on and off campus.

Basketball, sand-court volleyball, hiking trips into the national forest which borders the College, swimming in the chilly-but-invigorating spring-fed pools



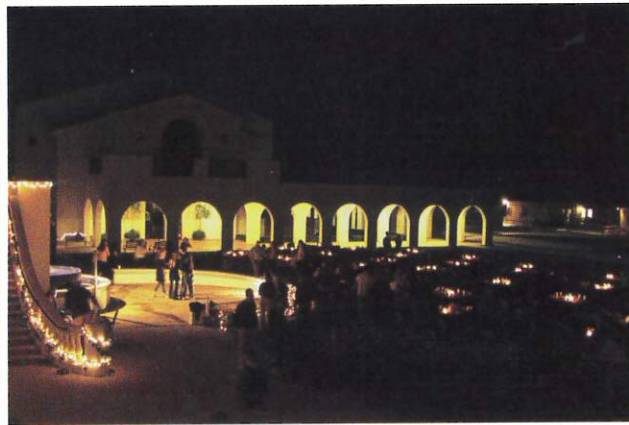
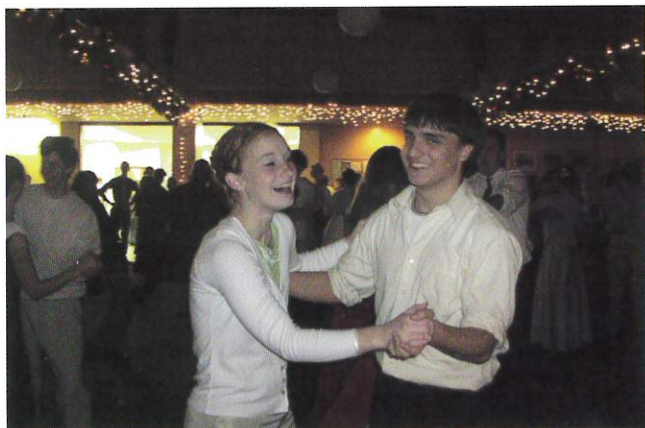
on campus, and "Ultimate Frisbee" keep the blood circulating and the mind clear. They are also an arena for forging the deep and lasting friendships which have become a beautiful hallmark of the Summer Program community. An afternoon at a museum of fine art and a concert under the stars at the Hollywood Bowl, a barbeque on a Pacific Ocean beach, coffee at one of the secluded Moorish-style fountain patios in beautiful downtown Santa Barbara – these make for vivid, enduring memories.

Former participants laud the Summer Program for delivering on its promise to awaken and foster the intellectual life. Said one who later enrolled in the College, "I thoroughly enjoyed every second in class. I was overjoyed with the atmosphere created by people seeking the truth and nurturing their intellects. Never before have I stretched my mind so far, learned so much, and had such a great time to boot."

It has more than met the high expectations of the College, too. Many participants have discovered that liberal education is a prize worth striving for and that they are well suited to the unique academic program and community life of Thomas Aquinas College. In fact, over 40% of the 2001 Summer Program class enrolled in the 2002 Freshman class. Graduates are notable leaders in their freshman classes because they have already met the great philosophers face-to-face; returning to the College as freshmen, they continue conversations begun during the Summer Program with Plato, Sophocles, and Euclid.

Cost of the two-week program, which runs from July 27 to August 8, is \$750. For more information, contact the Admissions Office at (800) 634-9797, or visit our website at www.thomasaquinas.edu.

Campus Life In Review



Seasonal dances and parties, such as at Christmas and Mardi Gras, offer well-deserved breaks from study, as attested by dancers (top left) Johanna Hassink (Tulsa, OK) and Justin Blum (Dallas, TX), and by (top right, l. to r.) Sophomore girls Erin Sale (Red Bluff, CA), Rosienna Kretschmer (New Paltz, NY), Rosemarie Marotti (Kalamazoo, MI), Therese McCarthy (Gallup, NM), and Kathleen Stanton (Jenkintown, PA). Chez Martin (bottom row), the annual spring talent show and musical revue, offers another enjoyable respite: (lower left) Stephan McCarty (La Crescenta, CA), Steve Barker (Shelby, NC), and Koert Halpin (Altadena, CA) perform one set, while (bottom right) Chiara Schoen (White Bear Lake, MN) and Shane Dowell (Bellevue, WA) perform another.

Photos by Mike Martin (Class of '05)



Antigone
presented by
The St. Genesius
Players

Nonprofit
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Santa Paula, CA
Permit 222

In April, the St. Genesius Players, under the direction of Mary Ann McGrath ('05), presented *Antigone*, the ancient Greek tragedy by Sophocles, about a young woman who willingly defies, under penalty of death, the King's prohibition against giving proper burial to her dead brother. Antonia Yacklin played "Antigone" (top center), Daniel Lendman played "King Creon," (bottom left), Koert Halpin played her betrothed, the King's son, "Haemon," (upper right), Steve Barker and Jonathan Monnereau played the "Chorus" (upper left), Hope LoCicero played Antigone's sister, "Ismene," (top center kneeling), and Robin Ekeya played "Tiresias," the blind prophet (bottom right).

Calendar of Events

Senior Finals	May 1-7
Baccalaureate Mass and Commencement	May 17
Alumni Day.....	June 21
Great Books Summer Seminar I	July 18-20
Great Books Summer Seminar II.....	July 25-27
High School Summer Program	July 27-Aug 8

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