

SPRING 2015

MOREOVER

Thomas More College

A photograph of a group of people, likely students and faculty, gathered around a poster session at a conference. They are standing on a blue carpeted floor, looking at and discussing various posters displayed on stands. The posters contain text and diagrams, some with titles like "Public figures in agenda setting" and "Your Ideas to Life". The people are dressed in a mix of casual and semi-formal attire, including jackets, blouses, and sweaters. The background shows more people and posters, suggesting a large event.

The Science of It All



THOMAS MORE COLLEGE



Dear Friends,

Greetings from the home of the 2015 NCAA DIII Women's Basketball Champions! Yes, that's right, in addition to a perfect season, our accomplished young women brought home the top basketball award. This is the first team in school history to bring home a National Championship. We, the Thomas More College community, are so proud of what this team was able to accomplish, but as talented as they are at basketball, the example they set off the court is 10 times more impressive as they live the mission of TMC. The National Championship is just one of the exciting developments since the last print issue of *Moreover* was welcomed into your home.

This issue demonstrates the College's strength in science and research. I have met many alumni throughout my first year as president and have been especially impressed with the success attained in the sciences. Learn more about two inspiring alumni who are on the cutting edge in their fields. Dr. Ken Billman '55 has an amazing career in laser technology and has made incredible breakthroughs while working at MIT and NASA ([page 4](#)). Also outstanding is the work of Dr. Jim Connor '75 who is performing groundbreaking neurological research, which hopefully leads to answers for those who suffer from brain-related illnesses ([page 20](#)).

TMC doesn't leave research to just our alumni. The most impactful day in my first year was witnessing the presentations by students in collaboration with faculty, at the 2014 Research Forum. The variety and quality of the projects called for enhancing the event. This year in addition to the morning program, an evening session was introduced which included an awards ceremony. [Pages 10-12](#) give a short history of the Forum, now in its sixth year, and special recognition to those students who earned top honors as winners of the Dean's Award of Research Excellence. Congratulations to the more than 65 student researchers, who presented 38 projects in 13 different fields of study. It was an amazing and special day to see TMC's academic excellence on display for the College and greater community.

A new living, breathing Strategic Plan was rolled out in February and will guide the College for the next five years with the rallying cry of "Value More, Engage More, Thrive More." We need you, our alumni, in order for the College to thrive in the future. Find out more about the goals of the Strategic Plan on [page 9](#).

Along the theme of thriving into the future, alumni Tony and Gerry Zembrodts bolstered the progress of the TMC Success Center initiative with a significant gift ([page 13](#)). This gift allows TMC to name a building in honor of the founding religious order, the Benedictine Sisters, who also happen to be the subject of this issue's history column. Enjoy as Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup '65, Sr. Christa Kreinbrink '71, and Sr. Deborah Harmeling '70 give us a whole different perspective on a VMC education ([page 2](#)).

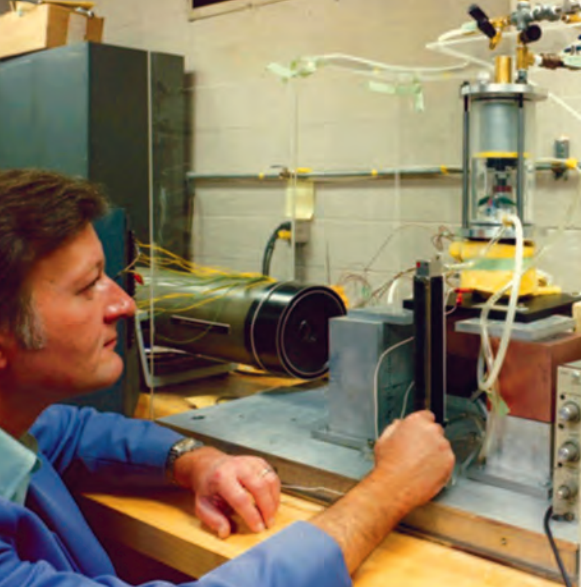
God Bless and Go Saints!

President David A. Armstrong, J.D.

Did you know...

President Armstrong wrote the foreword for *Commonsense Rules for Everyday Leaders* by Tony DeMeo. Published in December 2014 by Coaches Choice, this leadership book is based on simple rules that provide solutions to the land mines encountered by professionals in their leadership experience.





MOREOVER

SPRING 2015

FEATURES

*Ken Billman '55
operates a laser-driven
Stirling engine in this
photo from 1975.
Story on page 4.*

4 Edge of Technology

Ken Billman, Ph.D., '55 steered his laser-sharp focus toward exploring the field of laser technology, with amazing results

10 Spotlight on Student Research

Critical thinking is a hallmark of a TMC education, current students are continuing that tradition

17 Planting Seeds

A unique opportunity provided by TMC faculty enhances local high school biology curriculum

20 Hope for Millions

James Connor Jr., Ph.D., '75 pioneers new paths in brain research

SECTIONS

2 Classic VMC

8 Campus/Student News

13 Giving Back

16 Faculty Notes

18 Faculty Profile

23 Alumni News

25 Class Notes

28 Saints Sidelines

THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chancellor - The Most Reverend Roger J. Foy, D.D.

Chairperson - Mr. John F. Hodge III

Chair-Elect - Ms. Melissa A. Lueke

Past-Chair - Dr. Jeanne-Marie Tapke '91

Mr. David A. Armstrong, J.D.

Mr. Brent J. Messmer '94

Mr. Jerome R. Bahlmann '63

Ms. D. Lynn Meyers '77

Ms. Mary H. Brown

Mr. Marc J. Neltner '85

Dr. Joseph A. Caruso

Sr. Mary Ethel Parrott, SND '69

Ms. Sharon S. Elliston '86

Dr. Manish Sharma

Dr. Maria C. Garriga

Mr. Michael Stephens '15

Ms. Sarah T. Giolando

Mr. Thomas J. Stiens '65

Mr. Dale Henson

Mr. Gregory T. Stoffko '94

Dr. Daniel J. Hiltz '71

Mr. George J. Thelen '58

Mr. Thomas G. Hoffman

Mr. Christopher J. Wilson '88

Mr. Gary E. Holland '93

Ms. Marna M. Zalla

Mr. Jeffrey C. Mando '80

Dr. Anthony R. Zembrodt '65

Dr. Judith A. Marlowe '69

SENIOR OFFICERS

Mr. David A. Armstrong, J.D.

Ms. Cathy L. Silvers

President

Vice President for

Dr. John Wolper

Institutional Advancement

Interim Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Ms. Kristin Lehmer

Executive Director

for Enrollment Management

Editor: Tony Roderick

Designer: Judy Crist

Writers: Jill Hafner, Stacy Smith Rogers, Alex Valentine

Photography: Judy Crist, Greg Macke

Moreover is published in print two times per year and available online at thomasmore.edu/moreover, for alumni and friends of Thomas More College, by the Office of Institutional Advancement. *Moreover* is created to connect alumni and friends of Thomas More College to the events, programs and activities taking place within the College community. The opinions expressed in *Moreover* are not necessarily those of Thomas More College. *Moreover* makes every attempt to reflect the views of the entire campus community in a balanced and objective manner. Any comments or responses to articles, as well as story ideas, are welcome.

SEND COMMENTS, STORY IDEAS OR LETTERS TO:

Moreover

Thomas More College

333 Thomas More Parkway

Crestview Hills, KY 41017-3495

Phone: 859-344-3309

Email: moreover@thomasmore.edu



ON THE COVER

The Thomas More College Student Research Forum, in its sixth year, encourages students to pursue excellence in research. **Story on page 10.**

*If you see this graphic,
this content is being
presented in print
before being shared online.*





Don't miss these stories
available online at:

THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER

There is a lot that goes on at Thomas More College and many stories are shared via the online Moreover as they are happening. Read these stories, plus more, at **THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER**:

TWO MARCHING SAINTS EARN SELECTION TO KENTUCKY INTERCOLLEGIATE BAND

Marching Saints, Kristin Gibson and Brandon Shuey, were selected to join a state-wide honors band that performed at the 2015 Kentucky Music Educators Association conference in Louisville.

PASSION FOR WRITING INSPIRES TMC STUDENT TO SELF-PUBLISH

Senior Samantha Smith wrote and published her novella *Trapped in the Corner of a Round Room* as she pursues a writing career inspired by her experiences at TMC.

TMC STUDENT CALLS MARCH FOR LIFE A "JOYFUL ACT OF COURAGE"

Kristin Klocke and 13 other members of the campus club Saints for Life headed to Washington, D.C., to participate in the March for Life.

SUMMING-UP THE 2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNAE LEAGUE LEADERSHIP FORUM

Three outstanding female business leaders, including alumna Jennifer Schack '04 and Jeanne-Marie Tapke '91 spoke to TMC's female students about their personal journeys in the professional community.

Classic VMC

The Remarkable Sisters of St. Benedict

SUBMITTED BY JUDY CRIST, ART DIRECTOR
PHOTOS FROM THE THOMAS MORE COLLEGE ARCHIVES



Sr. M. Jane Wenstrup, OSB '65
English



Sr. M. Deborah Harmeling, OSB '70
History



Sr. M. Christa Kreinbrink, OSB '71
English

Founded by the Benedictine Order to train Catholic school teachers, Thomas More College and the Sisters have an intertwined history that began in 1921 in Covington and continues today in Crestview Hills, Kentucky. Three Benedictine Sisters arrived on the TMC campus in March 2015 in a fortuitous stroke of luck, and while on campus Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup, OSB '65 (formerly Sr. M. Jane Wenstrup), Sr. Deborah Harmeling, OSB '70, and Sr. Christa Kreinbrink, OSB '71, all of St. Walburg Monastery, graciously agreed to speak about their experiences as students at VMC/TMC.

All three sisters started their VMC careers having heard the call to pursue a religious vocation and agreed that their years at VMC/TMC reinforced their decision, giving them the confidence and preparation to finalize their commitment to a life in the community. With that said, their experience as students was entirely different from that of a layperson. There was no participation in clubs or campus organizations, as Sr. Mary Catherine expressed, "We were there to go to school. This was not about entertainment or recreation ... it was about getting as much as you could as fast as you could."

Sr. Mary Catherine's memories, as a young postulant, were of classes attended with mostly other religious community members. Sr. Deborah and Sr. Christa recalled classes that included a larger



Sr. Deborah, Sr. Christa, and Sr. Mary Catherine in the TMC library during their interview.



Left: Main entrance to Villa Madonna College circa 1965.

Top: Crestview Hills, Kentucky campus in 1971.

Below: All three sisters recall commuting to campus in a bus with other religious who were students and professors. They were to report back to the bus at a specific time in the afternoon, whether classes were finished or not.



mix of religious and lay students. All agreed that between classes they spent time in a separate study room located in the convent building attached to VMC that was provided for those who belonged to religious communities. All also agreed that they loved the education they received, which was rigorous. As members of the religious community, the decision to stay in college was not their own to make, and each found after their first full year, they were pulled out to serve as grade school teachers. The path to complete their degrees was different for each as Sr. Mary Catherine attended summer and weekend classes, Sr. Christa returned after two and a half years of teaching to full time status at TMC, and Sr. Deborah returned after one year of teaching to continue working on her degree.

Sr. Christa and Sr. Deborah began their college experience at VMC and finished after the move in 1968. Sr. Deborah recalled of her early years, "What I liked was the freedom to walk around Covington and go to different buildings for classes...I took a history of art class that was down past the Carnegie Building." The Crestview Hills location also provided freedom to move about campus and included the allure of its newness. Sr. Deborah remarked, "Anything new is exciting ... it was still the same thing though, we came out with people who either taught or were going to school."

Each of the sisters had their favorite instructors and enjoyed sharing tidbits of their interactions with these individuals. Sr. Mary Catherine expressed admiration for many members of the faculty and especially enjoyed classes with Sr. Agnes Margaret, CDP and Sr. Loretto Marie, CDP. Sr. Christa immediately named Joe Connelly as a favorite and had a special connection with

Sandra Cuni which began when they discovered a shared love of the writings of George Eliot. Other faculty members that hold a special place in her heart were Sr. Colleen Dillon, SND, Sr. Mary Joan Dohmen, CDP, and Sr. Mary Philip, SND. Sr. Deborah, as a history major, also expressed admiration for Sr. Mary Philip, followed closely by Nancy Bruns. Sr. Deborah especially enjoyed art history with Darrell Brothers, who "opened the world of art to me." She did avoid sociology with her aunt, Mary Harmeling, knowing that being the niece would not gain her any favors in that class!

As the interview wound down the three were loath to share one particular experience they had in common; an extreme dislike of biology lab. Sr. Mary Catherine refused to hold the frog that was to be killed for dissection or a cow's eye, which was part of another lab. Sr. Christa was honest in her assessment, "I just cut the class ... when we had to do a lab, I just didn't go." And Sr. Deborah refused to pith the frog. As all three laughed at this moral dilemma, Sr. Christa teasingly pointed out, "We were nuns. They couldn't fail us."

MOREOVER

View segments of the interview with Sr. Mary Catherine, Sr. Deborah, and Sr. Christa at THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER



On the Edge of Technology



With a laser-sharp focus on innovation, Ken Billman, Ph.D., '55 has unveiled a path toward new technologies

BY STACY SMITH ROGERS | PHOTOS PROVIDED

To say that alumnus Ken Billman, Ph.D., has set—and accomplished—goals that are out of this world isn't an exaggeration. The 1955 graduate of Villa Madonna College has been instrumental in pioneering the field of laser technology; he led the design of the first laser which demonstrated continuous operation in space and the design of a space-based system of reflectors that opened the doors to new ways of collecting solar energy on Earth. These are just a small sample of his accomplishments.

Billman's long resume includes impressive assignments at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), among others. With his roots firmly planted in the Northern Kentucky/Cincinnati area, Billman's career blossomed early in life, taking him all over the country. His sense of discovery isn't showing signs of slowing down anytime soon. With each new innovation, he has propelled American technology forward, achieving advances that many of us could only have imagined.

Born in the middle of the Great Depression, Billman said his parents, Robert Francis and Catherine Ann

Billman, encouraged a tenacious work ethic and curious spirit that have propelled him throughout his career. "When I was six years old, my parents told me to go to the local druggist and tell him I would work for nothing, just for experience. Soon thereafter, during the druggist shortage of World War II, I was helping fill prescriptions. I learned at an early age how to read scribbled doctor writing. That came in handy when I was teaching and grading papers later at Villa and then MIT," he said laughing.

Hearing him recall his childhood, it's obvious that, despite the international recognition he's received for his achievements, Billman attributes much of his success to his humble start in life. "My parents encouraged me. Both of them suffered through the Depression. I was born right in the middle of it, in 1933. They had lived on farms and moved to Cincinnati so my father could become a roofer, working on slate roofs. My mother was a nanny for wealthy families. They both knew that if you didn't work hard, you could starve."

Billman speaks with great respect and pride of his two sisters, Esther (Billman) Tombragel and Evelyn (Billman)

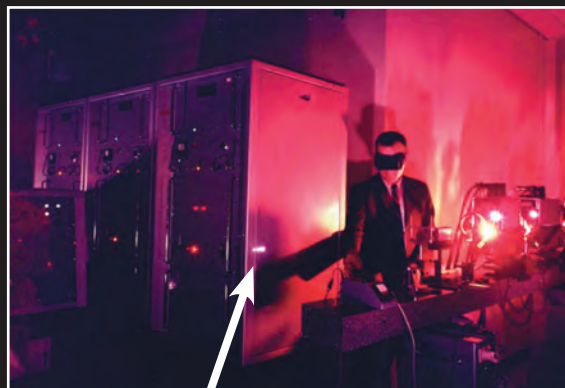
"Having been taught to be inquisitive and keep learning in my early years, I developed a strong desire not to leave any stone unturned."

Ludwig '59. All three went on to shoot for the stars in their own fields, advanced technology, medical research and teaching, respectively.

Billman reflected on his time as a student at Villa Madonna College, "The interesting part about going to Villa at that time was that a lot of teachers there had their Ph.D.s." Two professors, in particular, stood out in Billman's memory: Fr. John F. Schuler and Sr. Mary Casimira. Originally, his interest leaned toward chemistry until a physics course lured him toward a field of study where he knew he could anticipate the outcomes.

"Fr. Schuler was a remarkable person. We all had a love/hate relationship with him because of the homework. We would spend every weekend working on problems he assigned. At the end of the first semester, he told our class that he recommended that one third of us should stay and the others should pursue another field. I made the cut and continued on to a physics career.

My experiences at Villa were happy ones. It was a heck of a lot of hard work. When I went on to UC and pursued advanced degrees, I was far ahead of my classmates there,"



Billman operating his powerful laser at the NASA Electronics Research Center (ERC) in Cambridge, Mass. At that time, 1968, it was the most powerful pulsed laser in the U.S. Notice the bright mid-air sparks indicated by the arrow.

When asked what his favorite job has been through the years, Billman replied, "Every one. Leaving a job is a heartbreaking thing to do. However, I've always gone to the next job finding it as interesting as can be. I guess the happiest times are when I accomplish what I set out to do. Teaching at MIT was among my best experiences. I had the privilege to work with and teach a great number of brilliant individuals who became Nobel laureates and world leaders in many fields."

he recalled. While in graduate school at the University of Cincinnati, Billman also taught math courses at Villa Madonna College.

Even Those Who Love Predictability Have to Be Flexible

For Billman, resilience and flexibility have been traits he's had to rely on frequently as his work often has relied on government or sponsor support. "Life is filled with ups and downs, like the stock market. Every so often you have your feet ripped out from under you," he explained. Billman said he developed those traits at an early age. In high school he served as captain of his football team.

"Early on, I learned the importance of getting along with all types of people and how to interact with and learn

LASER CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

"Life is filled with ups and downs, like the stock market. Every so often you have your feet ripped out from under you."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

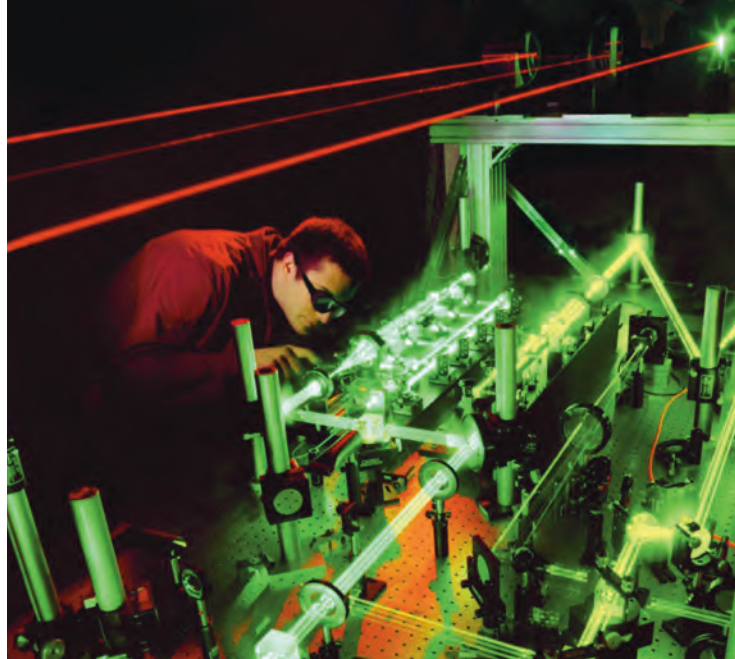
LASER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

from them. I also learned how to lose. Our team did a lot of losing, and we had to pick ourselves up the next day and start practicing again.”

Billman credits his family for supporting his journey of discovery. He met his wife, Phyllis, when he was in a play at Newport Catholic High School. They married while he was in college in 1953. They have three sons and one daughter: Gregory Alan, Craig William, Kenneth Joseph, and Karen Ann. Billman said that he’s never at a loss for projects, neither at work nor at home. “My wife and daughter seem to always have little things for me to do,” he joked.

Billman’s child-like zest for wanting to know how and why things work has served him well throughout his career. “Having been taught to be inquisitive and keep learning in my early years, I developed a strong desire not to leave any stone unturned,” he explained. Billman said he is inspired to keep learning and teaching others because of a desire to “accomplish new things for humanity.”

And that he has certainly done. “Every day is a new day. It’s unbelievable how many new developments there are coming along,” he added, with the same youthful wonder of a six-year-old boy in Cincinnati who was challenged to explore opportunities for a very bright future.



MOREOVER

BILLMAN’S JOURNEY

Billman graduated from Villa Madonna College in 1955 with a degree in physics and chemistry. He obtained his master’s degree and then his doctorate degree in physics and math from the University of Cincinnati. During two summers, he worked as an engineer for the GE Evendale Plant, first in the Aircraft Nuclear Propulsion Department and then in the Mathematics Department. As part of his work, Billman set up a novel analog computer system which helped garner GE dominance in the turbine engine field. Billman and his wife, Phyllis, had two children by then and during the school year he supported his family by teaching two math courses at VMC: Introduction to Calculus and Ordinary Differential Equations.

In 1959, the family moved to Cambridge, Mass., where Billman served as assistant professor at MIT. He was a member of the Physics Department which was ranked in the top five in the U.S., and staffed with 75 faculty members. As an experimentalist, Billman was appointed to direct the 35-graduate assistant member Undergraduate Physics Laboratory, a requirement for MIT students. He was honored by the American Physical Society for development of important undergraduate laboratory experiments during his time at MIT. He also directed undergraduate and graduate thesis

students, one who, after leaving MIT, was a co-inventor of X-ray tomography. Billman’s personal research included solid state physics, very low energy electron beams, and extremely sensitive experiments to determine if the proton and electron had a small difference in charge magnitude which would explain why the universe is expanding.

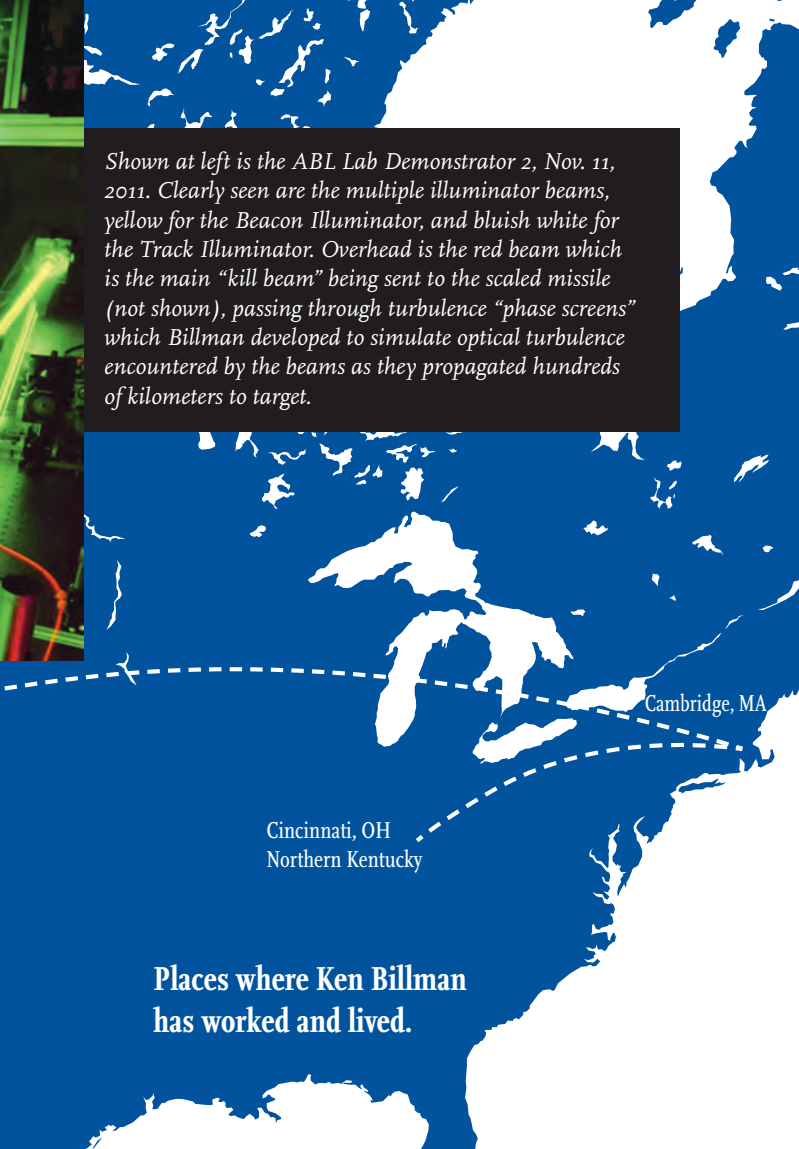
Billman moved on from MIT in 1967 to a non-teaching life, filled with developing science and advanced technology. He was focusing on laser technology at NASA, on the cusp of some of the most exciting times for the field. Billman said that in his early days at NASA, nearly everything his team did was innovative. “It was very exciting at that point.”

At the Electronics Research Center (ERC), he led a group to explore possible NASA uses for the new evolving laser technology. According to Billman, his single nanosecond pulse selection system, which he and a colleague developed at that time, is still in use today by the Department of Energy in its laser fusion systems. Interestingly, his white light laser, also developed then (and has been used in light shows and large-screen full color projection) was the first laser system that sent out multiple laser’s wavelengths on a single beam. Today, that is being done with the latest developments in fiber laser systems, which he has more recently assisted in developing.



In 1969, Billman acquired and modified a laser which, for a short period, was the highest brightness laser system in the U.S. He also conducted laser-matter interaction studies, resulting in the earliest demonstrations of laser beam manipulations and later, after moving to the NASA Ames Research Center (ARC), demonstrated laser selective excitations of atoms and molecules. In 1977, the published molecular excitation work was the highest cited by other publications in the world in the field of atomic and molecular physics.

When the ERC closed in 1970, Billman joined former MIT colleague Hans Mark, Ph.D., the new director at ARC, in California, to become chief of the Laser and Gasdynamics branch. “We were allowed to bring out laser gear if we went to work for another government agency,” he explained. Billman led the NASA programs to explore laser power transmission and to convert it at reception to electricity, propulsion, chemistry or work. It was there that he developed his



Shown at left is the ABL Lab Demonstrator 2, Nov. 11, 2011. Clearly seen are the multiple illuminator beams, yellow for the Beacon Illuminator, and bluish white for the Track Illuminator. Overhead is the red beam which is the main "kill beam" being sent to the scaled missile (not shown), passing through turbulence "phase screens" which Billman developed to simulate optical turbulence encountered by the beams as they propagated hundreds of kilometers to target.



Ken with wife Phyllis on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Among the valuable lessons Billman has learned throughout his career is to always be prepared for change. "One minute you've got the world by the tail, then the sponsor of the project drops it, and there you are," he explained. That can be a cause for worry indeed, but Billman said the best preparation is to maintain a good network of trusted professionals and continually study to stay at the top of your field. "Then you can begin a new adventure that is usually even more exciting than the last one!"

SOLARES concept, a space-based system of reflectors that could reflect continuous solar energy to selected solar conversion farms operating 24/7 on the Earth. He briefed the NASA Council on this new "green" method of solar energy supply for the planet, which received worldwide attention. Unfortunately this program was ended by a presidential economic order.

In the early 1980's, Billman went to work for the Electric Power Research Institute in Palo Alto, Calif. There he managed the Inertial Fusion Program and its many system design projects within the Renewable Resources Department. In 1984, he accepted the position of Manager of Titan Systems in the San Francisco Bay area. There he led many programs for the DoE, DARPA, and NASA. For NASA Langley Research Center, Billman designed and led a program that later demonstrated the first operational laser in space. The launch of the laser system was delayed due to the Space Shuttle Challenger accident and did not take place until Billman was chief scientist at

Lockheed Martin in nearby Sunnyvale, Calif. His 25-year career at Lockheed produced incredible advances, specifically in airborne laser technology, laser defense weapon systems, and advanced adaptive optical beam control systems.

"Many of the techniques we worked on in the airborne laser program were later used in astronomy and in more recent laser defensive weapon systems. There were many success stories," he said. "Our successful first ever 2010

demonstration of shooting down a fast moving, very distant, slender, boosting missile with a megawatt-class laser beam settles the arguments we had heard for years by proving it could be done!"

After Lockheed in 2013, Billman worked as a consultant before starting his own company, Ken Billman Energy & Photon Systems in Mountain View, Calif. Presently, he's marketing a new patent that addresses novel methods to fight forest fires.

Billman has more than 100 publications and seven patents awarded to his name.

Patents

- Weapon system and method for beam containment and beamwalk, US Pat. 8,023,536, 20 Sep 2011
- Automatic control and system for electron bombarded charge coupled device sensor, US Pat. 7,283,166, 16 Oct 2007
- Method and system for wavefront compensation, US Pat. 7,002,127, 21 Feb 2006
- Multi-beam illuminator laser, US Pat. 5,734,504, 5 Dec 1996
- Infrared tunable laser, US Pat. 3,753,148, 6 Apr 1972
- Measurement of plasma temperature, US Pat. 3,817,622, 26 Dec 1972
- Alignment apparatus using a laser having a gravitationally sensitive cavity reflector, US Pat. 3,764,220, 30 July 1971

Campus/Student News

SEEK2015 CONFERENCE

Twenty TMC students, with Board of Trustees member Marc Neltner and Associate Professor Jack Rudnick, presented their findings from the SEEK2015 Conference, sponsored by the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, to Bishop Roger Foys and Diocesan staff. For more on their findings, visit THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.

BUKANG Y. KIM

The TMC Art Department invited established artist Bukang Kim to campus as artist-in-residence from Feb. 16 through March 6, 2015. Kim worked with students in a specially built studio on the north end of the Villa. Read more about this unique art experience at THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.



Bukang Y. Kim worked on a series of paintings with students that took advantage of the winter snowfall.



TMC students presented findings from SEEK2015 to Bishop Roger Foys and staff.

DIRECTOR OF CHOIRS

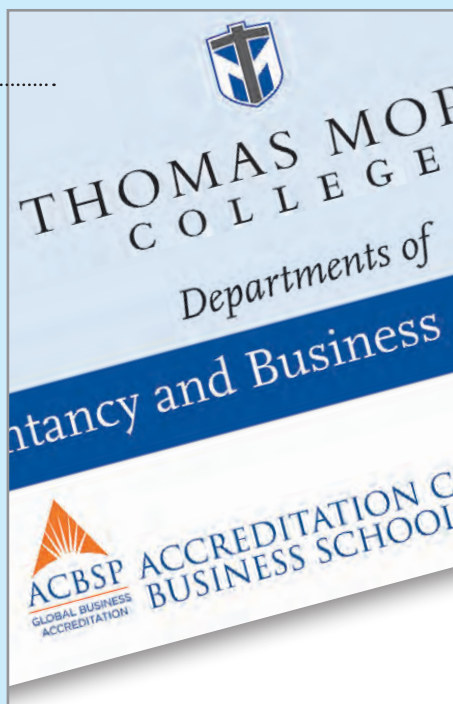
Professor Rebecca Schaffer Wells '83 has been named Director of Choirs at Thomas More College. This new position is responsible for current choirs, which include the TMC Singers (non-auditioned) and the Chelsea Chamber Choir (auditioned). Plans are underway to add additional choirs for jazz/rock, acapella, and liturgical/sacred music.



TMC Singers, joined by alumni, perform in the Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel.

BENEFITS OF ACBSP ACCREDITATION

The departments of accountancy and business administration received the nod in summer 2014 from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP). As a result, TMC inducted selected business and accountancy students into the newly initiated chapter of the business honor society Delta Mu Delta in February 2015. This honor society is exclusive to schools with ACBSP accreditation.



BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LAWS

Beginning fall 2015 TMC will offer a new major in the study of law. The program offers a foundation in both legal theory and practice. "Students pursuing this degree will engage in a comprehensive study of the law and will be uniquely positioned either to advance their career in a broad cross section of professional fields or to be an attractive candidate to any law school," said Bob Arnold, business professor.



For more great stories about campus and student happenings visit:
THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.

VALUE MORE ENGAGE MORE THRIVE MORE

Thomas More College Strategic Plan

2015-2020

“...IF ANY GOOD THING SHALL
GO FORWARD, SOMETHING
MUST BE ADVENTURED.”

—Thomas More
Philosopher, Scholar, Saint

President David A. Armstrong, J.D., unveiled Thomas More College's five-year strategic plan on Tuesday, Feb. 24 to a packed audience in Steigerwald Hall on the Thomas More College campus. The plan will guide the College's efforts through 2020 and rallies around the three elements: *Value More, Engage More, Thrive More.*

VALUE MORE highlights the meaning and relevance of a Thomas More College education to:

- Enhance appreciation of Thomas More College's Catholic liberal arts identity
- Develop and model the Thomas More College experience
- Deliver a core curriculum consistent with the Thomas More College mission and relevant to students within the current landscape of higher education

ENGAGE MORE strives to ensure successful completion of a Thomas More College education by building a culture of continuous improvement:

- Commit to continuous improvement through program evaluations and make decisions based on the results
- Explore and implement new curricular programs and expand on current programs
- Ensure pathways for students to complete programs and launch careers
- Increase and enhance co-curricular and extracurricular activities

THRIVE MORE demands a commitment to a long-range plan that positions the College to prosper:

- Increase resources through effective enrollment management to grow to ideal size and composition within the scope of our mission
- Diversify revenue streams beyond tuition
- Strengthen community partnerships
- Develop and implement long-range organizational, financial and master plans

VALUE MORE
for a meaningful education
ENGAGE MORE
for student success
THRIVE MORE
for a prosperous future

For more information visit
THOMASMORE.EDU/TMC2020



SIXTH ANNUAL STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM

THOMAS MORE COLLEGE Critical Thinking in Action

SUBMITTED BY WESLEY T. RYLE, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS

The Student Research Forum just completed its sixth year at Thomas More College and has become a signature event. The forum was held on Friday, March 27, and included undergraduate students presenting projects in a morning session and undergraduate and graduate students presenting in the evening. An award ceremony culminated the day with presentation of the Dean's Award for Research Excellence.

The Thomas More College Student Research Forum provides a means for students and faculty to share their work and knowledge with the broader college community. Bradley Bielski, Ph.D., former academic dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs, provided the main impetus for this initiative. As academic dean, Dr. Bielski was regularly informed of presentations performed by student researchers at regional and national conferences. However, it was rare for these students to share their work with fellow students and faculty at Thomas More College. The Student Research Forum was the solution. Housed within the halls of the College, it was possible to showcase the talent and expertise in our academic programs to a population who may have otherwise remained unaware.

From the beginning, the Student Research Forum has sought to be as inclusive as possible, encouraging participants from all disciplines represented by the College. Presentations are divided into four divisions: sciences, social sciences and professions, humanities, and graduate programs. In the past six years, the number of departments and programs represented in the Forum has expanded from nine in 2010, to 16 in 2013, and 13 in this year's Forum. Each year, the diversity of research topics is impressive, ranging from "Super Massive Black Holes" and "Bisphenol A (BPA) in prostate cancer"

FORUM CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



COMMENCEMENT CELEBRATION

Saturday | May 16, 2015

Shortly after this magazine arrives in your home, the 87th Commencement Celebration will take place. Once the mortar boards stop flying, visit THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER where we'll share a photo gallery of the day's events. On social media, look for #TMCGrad2015, as friends, family, and graduates share their take on this momentous occasion!



Above: Student presenters mingle with fellow students, faculty, alumni, and other attendees at the evening portion of the Student Research Forum.

Top right: Student researcher Ian O'Donnell makes his case with regards to his history research project during the morning session.

Right: Professors Wes Ryle, Maria McLean, and Bill Wetzels were key faculty members involved in the Forum.

Below: Several sets of researchers take a moment at the start of the evening session to pose for the camera.

For more coverage of the Student Research Forum, visit THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.



Euroscepticism in Europe

Political Parties

FORUM CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

to “homicidal somnambulism” and “Euroscepticism in Europe.”

One of the biggest and most pleasant surprises during the first forum was the vibrant and exuberant atmosphere created in the hallways from the moment the forum began. Traveling between classes, many students unexpectedly stumbled into a conference atmosphere staffed by their peers. Quickly, each presenter was surrounded by an eager crowd, waiting to hear about their

work and experience. Unique to an in-house forum, the presenters were able to describe their projects to friends and roommates instead of complete strangers. Additionally, due to the nature of the forum and its crowd, presenters were forced to explain their research to individuals outside of their discipline — a valuable skill for any researcher.

This year’s Student Research Forum provided an opportunity to expand the audience beyond the College itself. The

new evening portion of the forum drew attendance from alumni, Board of Trustee members, prospective students, and the local community. In many ways, the evening session has allowed us to bring together the past, present, and future of the College in one exceptional event. The Student Research Forum is quickly becoming a valued tradition for the College community and will continue to provide a vital link between generations for years to come.

MOREOVER

2015 WINNERS OF THE DEAN’S AWARDS FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE



HUMANITIES & FINE ARTS

Michael Matthew Orr (left)
presented by 2011 Recipient
Erica C. Deters '11



SCIENCES

Kevin Michael BurrIDGE (right)
presented by 2010 Recipient
Joshua M. Vogel '10



SOCIAL SCIENCES & PROFESSIONS

Sarah Danielle Healey (left)
presented by 2010 Recipient
Katrina R. Lenz '11



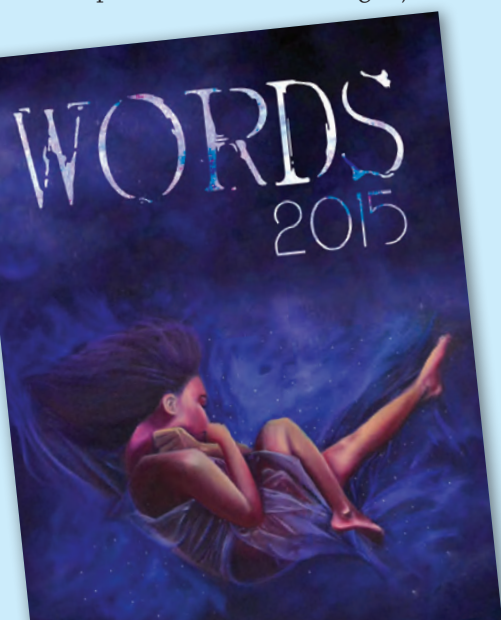
GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Cassandra Lee Murphy (right)
presented by 2013 Recipient
Mary Kathryn Blood '05, '13

LEFT BRAIN VERSUS RIGHT BRAIN? USE YOUR ENTIRE BRAIN AT TMC!

In addition to the Research Forum, talented TMC students have an outlet for creative competition by participating in the student-managed *Words* publication. Not only do the authors and artists benefit from being published, but the writing is juried blindly by a panel of

seven faculty/author/alumni judges and the art is juried by expert judges. Congratulations to the following students who took home top prizes. For a copy of 2015 *Words*, please email ALUMNI@THOMASMORE.EDU or send a note in the envelope at the center of this magazine.



Sandra L. Cuni Award in Creative Writing
“Bon Jellico” by Tony Otten

Appalachia Award for Poetry
“Coming Out” by Kallie Crawford

Appalachia Award in Prose
“I Feared the Basement” by Courtney Neltner

RUCA Award
“Epoch” by Tony Otten

Honorable Mentions in Writing
“Because” by Tony Otten
“The Night Before Calvary” by Tony Otten
“Wolf Song” by Emily Vail
“Flowers in the Air” by Andrew Jensen
“Taste” by Maria Syfert

The Art Department Choice Award
“Abstraction of Jenny” by Ben Kleier

Kate Bilbo Aspiring Writer Award
“Tell Me a Story” by Megan Caldwell

Kate Bilbo Aspiring Artist Award
“Micropterus Dolomieu” by Mitchell Kriege

Words Cover Art Selection
“Soul Comfort Study” by Karen Cress

Words Cover Design
Sarah Brandt

Giving Back

Building Upon a Love for Education

\$1 Million Gift Boosts Success Center Initiative

SUBMITTED BY JILL HAFNER

Anthony R. Zembrodt, Ph.D., '65 (BA, Chemistry), and his wife, Geraldine '66 (BA, English), have many passions, but their love for education just might be at the top. These alumni have embraced education with every aspect of their lives, and now they are giving back to the root of their success—Thomas More College.

In February the Zembrodts made a generous \$1 million gift to establish The Dr. Anthony R. and Geraldine Zembrodt Institute for Academic Support within the newly created Thomas More College Success Center.

"Gerry and I have been blessed by the education we received at Thomas More College, and we are happy to be able to give



THOMAS MORE COLLEGE SUCCESS CENTER

back to our alma mater in a way that will directly impact student success," says Dr. Zembrodt. "Thomas More gave us not only the formal education, but also the ability to develop people skills through clubs, seminars and social activities. When you look around, it's those people who are well rounded that are successful and interesting. Villa or Thomas More offered all of that to us, and fortunately, we grew from that experience. We want to show our gratitude for those gifts in the gift we are giving."

The Zembrodt Institute for Academic Support will provide students with tutoring, academic counseling and persistence counseling, which includes intensive monitoring of at-risk students. These services are hailed as some of the most critical

Funding secured to date: **\$1,503,150**

Balance remaining to meet goal: **\$2,496,850**

1ST
IN
PRINT

Tony and Gerry Zembrodt sign their commitment to the TMC Success Center.



support services for student success, making the namesake institute a perfect match for the Zembrodts.

"Gerry and I have held the position that it's education that allows anyone to open doors and look to see what's inside or to recognize opportunities when they are presented to you," says Dr. Zembrodt.

"We both think that one of the best foundations we have in education came from Villa or Thomas More," he adds. "When I am mentoring I tell folks that they have received 'keys' through their education that will allow them to evaluate opportunities because of the skills and knowledge they have received."

With the Zembrodt's gift, the College has secured more than \$1.5 million in just eight months of campaigning to match the \$4 million gift it received from an anonymous donor in May 2014. When completed, the gift match will bring the Benedictine Endowment of the Thomas More College Success Center to \$8 million. The college has four years to complete the goal.

The Thomas More College Success Center will have three major components, focusing on peer-to-peer tutoring, academic counseling and advising, and retention services. In addition to the Zembrodt Institute for Academic Support, two other institutes will be created with naming rights available—the Institute for Learning Differences and the Institute for Career Development and Graduate School Planning.

MOREOVER

LIBRARY RENAMED IN HONOR OF BENEDICTINE SISTERS

Thanks to the generosity of the Zembrodts, Thomas More College has now obtained the required resources to name a building on campus in honor of the Benedictine Sisters, the religious order that founded VMC/TMC in 1921. Naming the building is just one part of the over-all agreement between TMC and the anonymous benefactor who partnered with the College in 2014 to initiate the Success Center campaign. "The Board of Trustees is thankful to Tony and Gerry for their investment and congratulate President Armstrong on his success in securing financial support," said John Hodge, TMC Board Chair.

President David A. Armstrong meets with (l-r): Sr. Mary Catherine Wenstrup, OSB '65 (Prioress, St. Walburg Monastery), Sr. Deborah Harmeling, OSB '70 (Development Director; Formation Team member, St. Walburg Monastery), and Sr. Christa Kreinbrink, OSB '71 (Sub-Prioress, St. Walburg Monastery) to discuss details of the naming on March 26, 2015. The date for a formal ceremony will soon be determined. Sr. Mary Catherine, Sr. Deborah, and Sr. Christa are featured in the VMC history column on **PAGE 2**.





Giving Back

2015

Scholarship recipients joined their benefactors and thanked them for their generosity at an informal lunch on campus, Tuesday, April 7.

ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON



For a photo gallery and complete list of Thomas More College endowed scholarships, visit THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER



Above: Scholarship recipient Megan Dixon explains how her Thomas More College experience would not be possible without the help of scholarship funds. Top right: Benefactors and student recipients enjoy lunch and conversation. Bottom Right: Sr. Margaret Stallmeyer, CDP, chats with recipients of the Sr. Margaret Stallmeyer President's Access Grant.



SAVE THE DATE

FRIDAY | JULY 31, 2015

TMC carries on many traditions. One tradition that will make a transition in 2015 is The President's Society Recognition Dinner. Started in the 1990s as a way to thank donors who had given gifts of \$1000 or more to the College, this year the event will move from fall to summer and instead of a formal dinner affair, President Armstrong will welcome these individuals and other friends of the College into his home for an open house/summer party. This invitation-only event takes place on Friday, July 31, and will feature a fun and festive, informal summer-time atmosphere. To become a President's Society member, please contact Tony Roderick at 859-344-3530 or TONY.RODERICK@THOMASMORE.EDU. Additional information about Giving Societies can be found at THOMASMORE.EDU/GIVING.



WHY I GIVE TO TMC...

“I attribute much of my success to the experiences and foundation that I was given at Thomas More College. I began my career as an educator feeling confident, prepared, and excited about my future. As I continued my education and moved into administrative roles, I realized how beneficial the many leadership opportunities that I had during my time at TMC were to my career path. I am very grateful for the education that I was given at Thomas More College and am happy to give back so that others can have those same great opportunities and more. Besides monetary contributions, I have also stayed closely connected to the College through serving on a variety of committees, such as the Young Alumni (I think I’ve “graduated” out of that one!), the Alumni Association Board of Directors, and the Distinguished Alumnae League. I’m proud of the many new initiatives and excited about the future of Thomas More College and its graduates.”



Photo provided

– Amity Yeager Kukla '01

CLASSROOM NAMED FOR CLASS OF '64

SUBMITTED BY TONY RODERICK,
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

The Class of 1964 enjoyed their 50th reunion festivities during Homecoming Weekend on October 17 and 18, 2014. As part of their 50th Graduation Anniversary, the class held a year-long challenge to collect contributions in order to leave a “thank you gift” to the College. Almost 30 percent of the class responded with a contribution and the funds collected were sufficient to permanently name a classroom honoring the Class of 1964. This gift of appreciation, while continuing to “give back” for the outstanding education they received 50 years ago, will serve as a very visible and constant reminder to current students of the ongoing support from alumni.



Two class of '64 reunion committee members, Deacon Jerry Franzen and Elaine Kohlhepp pictured with the newly installed classroom plaque.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

the fund
for THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

The 2014-2015 Annual Fund results continue to progress well. All components of the

Fund (Trustees, Alumni, Friends, Faculty & Staff and Corporations) are up as compared to last year at this time. Overall, the gifts and pledges received have increased by 44 percent year-over-year.

These “unrestricted” Annual Fund gifts are critically important to supporting scholarships and other significant needs of the college allowing us to carry out our mission to provide a values-based education.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to make an investment to this year’s Annual Fund (our fiscal year concludes on May 31), please consider doing so by returning the enclosed envelope with your gift/pledge or by visiting THOMASMORE.EDU/GIVING.

Thank you for your continued and generous support.

– Tony Roderick,
Director of Development

Thanks to you...



“I landed a career before graduation as a Therapeutic Behavior Specialist. I am able to carry out the mission of TMC by using my knowledge to help shape children’s lives.”

Rodney Holder II '15
Sociology

Faculty Notes

KUDOS TO TMC FACULTY ON THEIR ACCOLADES, PRESENTATIONS & PUBLISHED WORKS



Dr. R. Steven Flynn, professor and chair, accountancy, published his article "Does a Financial Expert's Audit Committee Presence Enhance American Nonprofit Financial Reporting Quality? Donors Decide," in the *Universal Journal of Accounting and Finance*, Vol. 1 (3), 2013.

Ms. Pauletta Hansel, writer in residence, and **Dr. Sherry Cook Stanforth**, professor, English, presented new books of poetry in April 2015 as part of Creative Writing Vision's Visiting Author's Series in collaboration with the Crestview Hills Joseph Beth Booksellers. Stanforth read from *Drone String* and Hansel read from *Tangle*.



Rev. Ronald M. Ketteler, STL, professor and chair, theology, participated in the 2014 Annual Assembly of the Kentucky Council, as Diocesan Director of Ecumenism of Churches, on Oct. 14.

The theme of the assembly was "Restorative Justice." On Jan. 14 and 21, Fr. Ketteler served on a discussion panel in the initial training classes for infectious disease response teams sponsored by St. Elizabeth Healthcare. He addressed concern over the ethical issues faced by patients and health care professionals.

Dr. Jodie N. Mader, assistant professor, history, published two book reviews for *H-Net* (online) and *Teaching History: A Journal of Methods*. The two books were titled *Slave Revolution in the Caribbean 1789-1804* and *Understanding the Victorians: Politics, Culture, and Society in Nineteenth-Century Britain*.



Dr. John T. Spence, AICP, associate professor, political science, was re-elected to serve another term as chairman of the Covington Neighborhood Collaborative (CNC), by representatives of each of the sixteen neighborhood groups that form this council in the city of Covington, Ky. The CNC's latest projects

included the development of a bicentennial calendar and neighborhood banners in conjunction with Covington's celebration of its 200th anniversary in 2015.

Dr. Sherry Cook Stanforth, professor, English, shared that her poem "American Girl Doll, Kit, Rides the Ohio," was published in the January 2015 issue of a new literary magazine *Waypoints*. Two of the publication's editors, Karen George '74 and Will Eifert '10, are TMC alumni-writers who actively publish in the literary community. Dr. Stanforth also announced that her book, *Drone String*, is due out from Wind Publications in April 2015. The poetry collection is inspired in part by generational voices and her Appalachian music heritage. Dr. Stanforth presented "Drone String" and performed traditional music at the 38th Annual Appalachian Studies Association conference in Johnson City, Tenn., in March.



Biology Field Station Update

SUBMITTED BY CHRIS LORENTZ, PH.D., PROFESSOR, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
AND DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR OHIO RIVER RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Thomas More College has its first certified green building! The Education Lodge at the Biology Field Station has recently received L.E.E.D. certification from the U.S. Green Building Council and the U.S. Department of Energy. L.E.E.D. stands for Leadership in

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE →

Energy & Environmental Design and is a green building certification program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices. The Lodge showcases examples of sustainable design and demonstrates the College's leadership in transforming the building industry.

The Lodge is a state-of-the-art multipurpose facility that was completed in fall 2012 and is located across from the Biology Field Station in California, Ky. In addition to TMC related educational purposes, the Lodge has been utilized by outside groups of all kinds. Businesses, churches, schools, non-profit organizations, governmental agencies and private families have reserved the facility for a wide variety of events.

Visit THOMASMORE.EDU/FIELDSTATION or email FIELDSTATION@THOMASMORE.EDU to request reservations at the Lodge or to arrange a tour.

.....

This summer promises to be another busy season at the Biology Field Station with several research projects, grade school field trips, teacher workshops and a STEM camp for high school students already on the schedule. Look for a recap of summer events this fall online at THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER. A few spots are still available for the high school STEM camp. Interested students can apply to attend the camp at: THOMASMORE.EDU/FIELDSTATION/SUMMER_CAMP.CFM. Children of TMC alumni are eligible for discounts. Contact Chris Lorentz, Ph.D., for more information.



“Planting Seeds” *in* Boone County



SUBMITTED BY SHANNON GALBRAITH-KENT, PH.D.,
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Thomas More College's experiential learning initiative in the STEM disciplines continues to extend beyond the College's students. This past year, faculty from several departments (biological sciences, chemistry, and education) began a new collaboration with Boone County Schools for hands-on professional development through the “Planting Seeds” program. Funded generously by a competitive grant from the American Society of Plant Biologists, science faculty led multiple Saturday workshops for 14 high school teachers, who were all selected as leaders and innovators in their field.

During each workshop, Thomas More College faculty facilitated and collaborated on plant-based projects with the high school teachers. Workshop topics varied from photosynthesis and invasive species to plant decomposition dynamics, plant chemistry and discussions on how to integrate inquiry-based activities.

The goal of the workshops was to provide teachers with innovative ideas and procedures that could be applied in their high school classrooms. As the principal investigator of the project, it was pleasing that these workshops were able to present new and exciting topics to complement the high school curriculum. By basing these workshops on the “5E” inquiry-based model, supplying the teachers with ample resources (e.g., plant research data sets), and ways to adapt sessions for

SEEDS CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

Follow The Bank of Kentucky Observatory and TMC Biology Field Station on social media:



[Facebook.com/TheBankOfKentuckyObservatory](https://www.facebook.com/TheBankOfKentuckyObservatory)



[Facebook.com/TMCFieldStation](https://www.facebook.com/TMCFieldStation)

twitter.com/tmcbio

WESLEY T. RYLE, PH.D.

Associate Professor, Mathematics and Physics



Q. How long have you worked at TMC?

A. I started at Thomas More College in the fall of 2008, fresh out of graduate school.

Q. Where did you obtain your degree?

A. I graduated from Conner High School in Hebron, Ky., and went to Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, as an undergraduate, double majoring in physics and mathematics. I received a master's degree in physics and a Ph.D. in astronomy from Georgia State University in downtown Atlanta. While I didn't adapt well to life in a large city, I did enjoy numerous trips to Flagstaff, Ariz., for observing and one trip to Cerro Tololo, Chile.

Q. Where was your last vacation and why did you choose that destination?

A. Most of the time, the answer to this question will be Sanibel Island, Fla. My family has been going to the island every year for 28 years. In many ways, Sanibel feels more like a second home, instead of a vacation.

Q. Who is your role model and why?

A. The biggest inspiration for both my life and my career came from a middle school math and science teacher. Under his guidance, I really came to know myself and gain a self-confidence I never had before that time. The main reason I wanted to become a teacher is that I hoped I could have the same positive influence on my students' lives, not just academically, but in an all-encompassing, life-changing manner. I have stayed in communication with this teacher through letters and email in high school, college, graduate school, and beyond. He was even the best man in my wedding!

Q. Why is astronomy important to learn?

A. With any science, I believe it is important for individuals to learn how to explore and explain the world around them. However, I believe astronomy has some advantages in appeal over some of the other sciences. Astronomy is a great subject for teaching people humility in the face of the immense size and grandeur of the cosmos. It's also a field that is, in many ways, tied to the hopes and possibilities of the future of the human race. Who hasn't dreamed of a future when we've spread throughout the Solar System and maybe even traveled the stars?

Q. What do you love the most about offering observatory events?

A. I am both proud and grateful that the crowd has grown over my years at Thomas More College. Many of the attendees to recent open houses were also in attendance during my first talks many years ago. I guess if they are coming back, I'm doing something right. It also makes me happy to know that there are so many people in the community that have an interest and curiosity in these topics. Nationally, it sometimes seems as if science is getting a bad reputation. Locally, at least, we have a healthy group of individuals who appreciate the value of learning just a little bit more in their free time.

Q. What has teaching at TMC taught you?

A. My wife will be the first to tell you that I am not a patient person. In traffic or waiting in line, I have a tendency to get a bit anxious and angry. However, I've noticed that as an instructor, I appear to have an endless supply of patience. A lot of characteristics are important for anyone wanting to be a teacher, but I think patience is definitely one of the most valuable.

Q. What is an interesting fact about astronomy that many don't know?

A. Today, professional astronomers could easily go through their entire careers without ever putting their eye to a telescope. Modern cameras and technology make it so that a typical observing run has the astronomer staring at multiple computer screens and spending little time at the telescope itself. This fact helps astronomers stay warm in the winters and cool in the summers, but also creates a bit of a disconnect between the observer and the sky, it's even becoming common for astronomers to not even travel to an observatory in order to collect their data. Telescope facilities are automated such that you can simply put in a request and have the data shipped to the computer in your office. It's a big step forward for efficiency, but also removes a bit of the romanticism associated with being at the telescope.

Q. What do you do when you are not teaching at TMC?

A. Three years ago, this question may have been difficult to answer. However, with the birth of my son, Eli, the answer is easy—I like spending time with him. In the summer, we spend a lot of time at his grandparents,



Dr. Ryle leads a series of lectures and night sky viewings at The Bank of Kentucky Observatory during the academic year. The 2015-16 schedule will be announced soon at THOMASMORE.EDU/OBSERVATORY.

walking in the woods and swimming in the pool. In the winter, we've been able to have some lengthy visits to Cincinnati Museum Center at Union Terminal.

Q. What song or artist do you listen to when you need to get motivated?

A. My favorite artist is The Dave Matthews Band. Love for the band was one of the things my wife and I had in common when we first met at Western Kentucky University. We still try to go to one of their concerts in the summer.

Q. What book is on your nightstand?

A. Next book on my list is *The Martian* by Andy Weir. Both my sister and my father read it and recommended it for its scientific accuracy. I've also been working on a copy of *The Best American Science and Nature Writing* from 2009. (Yes, I'm a bit out of date.)

Q. As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A. I had many interests when I was young. Very early, I liked space and dinosaurs with equal excitement. In high school, I enjoyed writing as much as I enjoyed science. I still miss creative writing and wish I did more of it. Overall, I never spent too much time worrying about a career.

SEEDS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

their specific classrooms, we are hopefully impacting thousands of students in one of the fastest growing school systems in the state.

All participants (faculty and teachers) kept in communication with each other throughout the spring of 2014 on a forum-based website, which allowed for discussion and interaction between workshops. During the final workshop, the high school teachers gave presentations on inquiry-based plant activities, as well as their most effective method of teaching with regard to the high school curriculum.

Feedback from "Planting Seeds" was overwhelmingly positive. Post-workshop data revealed that the participating high school teachers felt more comfortable with plant biology content, as well as their ability to lead an inquiry-based discussion. According to an external evaluator, 100 percent of participating teachers found the information useful and applicable in their classrooms, a higher figure than most professional development programs. Learning with Thomas More College faculty and their peers, two of the participating teachers shared, "I started this journey not being a 'plant person.' Today, I understand the importance of teaching plants and how they can easily be integrated into my classroom" and "this program was a true partnership."

The collaboration that the Thomas More College faculty has built with these incredibly talented teachers is strong and we hope to provide another similar opportunity in the future. As the required high school curriculum shifts toward inquiry-based activities and new standards, hands-on training for teachers will be essential for the next generation of students.

MOREOVER

High school teachers test each other on identifying plant-derived scents with Bill Wetzel, Ph.D., associate professor, chemistry, lower right.

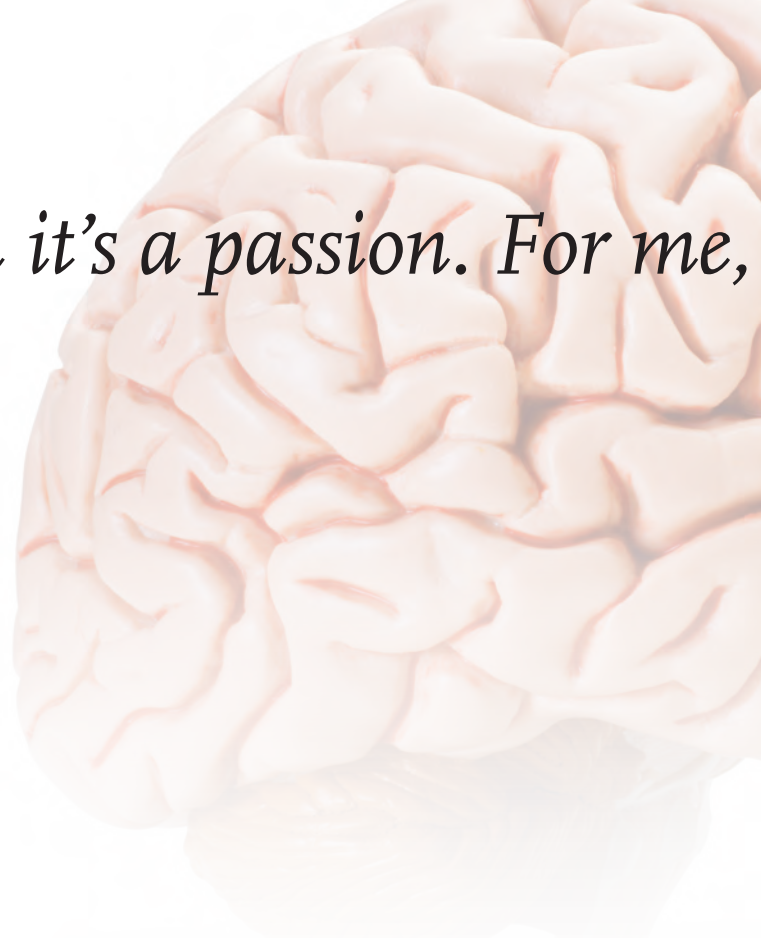




Alumni Profile

“You work harder when it’s a passion. For me,

Passion for Learning Offers Hope for Millions



James Connor Jr., Ph.D., '75 Pioneers a New Path in Brain Research



BY STACY SMITH ROGERS | PHOTOS PROVIDED

TMC students are challenged to use their experience in college to move toward finding their place in the world, where they can use their gifts and make a difference. For alumnus James Connor Jr., Ph.D., that “place” has covered thousands of miles and numerous laboratories as he’s made a living out of simply doing what he loves. Not everyone can call internationally regarded, ground-breaking neurological research a hobby, but for Connor it’s a labor of love.

Since graduating from TMC in 1975 with a bachelor’s degree in psychology, Connor has pioneered the field of iron in neurobiology, initiating a whole new area of investigation in brain research. He has worked in labs on both coasts of the United States, discovering that the cross-country path that led him to where he is today was paved with a passionate desire to keep learning and meeting people along the way who could point him in the right direction.

Embracing his role as a lifelong learner, Connor has embarked on a journey of continuous discovery that has put his work on the map in the international medical community and beyond. His research is primarily focused on understanding the mechanisms for regulation of iron

in the brain. More specifically, he has identified iron mismanagement in the brain as a possible contributor to numerous neurological diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s, restless legs syndrome, multiple sclerosis and others. He’s continuing to push forward to help prevent and manage those illnesses with ongoing research and trials that could make a huge difference in the lives of patients around the world. Currently, he holds many titles: Distinguished Professor, Vice Chair of Neurosurgery, Director of the Center for Aging and Neurodegenerative Diseases and Co-Director of the program in Neuro-oncology at Penn State M.S. Hershey Medical Center. However, his role as a student of science is one that fits him best.

I get to make a living at doing my hobby."

Judy and Jim Connor (top) with their family (l-r): Lauren (daughter-in-law), Ryan (son-in-law), Jennifer (daughter), Jonathan (son), and the two grandchildren (twins) Teagan and Grant.



CONNOR'S FAMILY HISTORY HAS PLAYED A BIG ROLE AT TMC

Connor's father, James "Jim" R. Connor Sr., '50 served as both head baseball and basketball coach as well as athletic director at Thomas More College from 1979-90. Connor Convocation Center was named after the elder Connor, whose influence on the TMC community as a coach and administrator is widely respected throughout the community. "My father had a big influence on me. I had always thought I would follow in his footsteps in teaching and coaching," he said, noting that his father's advice is what led him toward pursuing a career in research.

He explained that the most important thing his father did for him and all of his siblings was to encourage them to choose a job that they loved to do, where money wasn't a factor. "He told us to find the one thing that got us out of bed in the morning and to be driven by a passion for what we are doing. I've been fortunate to follow those guidelines. You work harder when it's a passion. For me, I get to make a living at doing my hobby."

One of Connor's younger brothers, Terry Connor '92, found his passion closer to home and in familiar territory. He is in his 15th year serving as athletic director for TMC. He also served as the men's basketball coach for eight seasons. "Terry has done a superb job there," his brother said. "Even though I have a lot of pressure with my job, he reminded me one day, saying, 'At least you don't walk into a building every day with your dad's name on it. Now, that's pressure.' And, I had to agree with him," Connor said.

"When you look at everything Jim has accomplished, it's pretty impressive," Terry said. "We didn't have much growing up and how he forged his way to get to where he is today is amazing. It just shows how hard he has worked." In addition to Terry and Jim, two additional siblings, Nancy (Connor) Kelly '85 and Dr. Ed Connor '89 graduated from TMC. Along with their father, their late mother Mary (Meinken) Connor '93 also received her degree from TMC.

A 10-Minute Conversation Changed His Life

Connor said there were many influential people at Thomas More College who shaped his outlook on the world and helped expand his vision of the possibilities available to him. "I took a psychology course from Dr. Jim Becker. It was one of those courses where you just couldn't get enough," Connor explained.

As a psychology major, he took on a practicum working in a nursing home near the college. "Many of those patients there were already on the path to cognitive decline. Some of them just needed someone to talk to and interact with. That was a part of my role there as a student. But, I realized that if I was going to do anything more than be a supporter, I needed to know more about how the brain worked," he said. At the same time, Connor took a biology course from Dr. Wallace "Fred" Humphreys doing physical research on the brain and was fascinated. "He was the first person to tell me that I could find a job doing research. I thought that was the coolest thing I had ever heard. That 10-minute conversation on one afternoon made a huge impact on my life. I started applying to grad schools and was accepted into Wright State University's research-based program. The work was fabulous. It became all-consuming. I was able to get into (University of California) Berkeley based on the strength of the research I did at Wright," he said.

Connor was accepted into the Ph.D. program at UC Berkeley and credits the education he received at TMC for preparing him for that experience. "I appreciate how Thomas More prepared me. Here I was, in a hard core biology program in the

PASSION CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



Connor in his senior picture from the 1975 Triskele.

Connor encourages new graduates not to underestimate the quality of education they have received at TMC and the networking opportunities available to them. "I'm not unique to Thomas More. We should all appreciate the wonderful education we received there and the networking opportunities outside of the Cincinnati area. I would advise new graduates to find their passion and do what makes them wonder."

PASSION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

top-ranked graduate school in the country at the time and I was holding my own. Thomas More taught me how to think and be prepared," he said.

At UC Berkeley, Connor continued his focus on the areas of understanding the aging brain and obtained his Ph.D. in just three years. He still couldn't get enough of the world of research and learning about how the brain works and the factors that affect it. From Berkeley, he went to Boston University School of Medicine for two years for postdoctoral training. As he finished the program there, a colleague approached him about a new technique in science that Connor was using and asked for some help in researching nerve cells in the brain. As they went about their work, they discovered a protein responsible for transporting iron in a select cell type in the brain. His colleague was more focused on nerve cells, however, while Connor was fascinated with the finding and wanted to pursue more research on it. His friend went on to discover additional findings related to nerve cells, but Connor pursued his study on the transport of iron in the brain.

That discovery, and the work he has performed since, has garnered him international recognition and support from a variety of well-respected organizations, including the National Institutes of Health, which deemed his research as worthy of starting a new area of investigation in brain research. "A lot of people understood that iron was important and its role in helping the body generate energy, but no one realized it was in the brain. This research launched a whole new area of study," he explained.

About His Research

Connor's research since this initial discovery has offered excitement within the research community, but it's offered hope for many who are suffering from brain-related illnesses. He explained that while iron is essential for normal function, too much iron can be toxic. Cells, however, have an exquisite system for regulating iron levels, but when those regulating mechanisms become damaged the cells can't do their job. With much of his research team's work focused on mechanisms

responsible for regulating iron in the brain, they've discovered a variety of ways that iron plays a role in diseases for people of all ages. Connor's research has uncovered that too little iron during perinatal development will result in hypomyelination in children and is possibly linked to ADHD. In addition, his team has provided evidence that too much iron in the brain contributes to a number of neurological disorders, including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Lou Gehrig's diseases, while too little iron in the brain plays an important role in restless legs syndrome. Connor's research supports the idea that optimal brain function requires a tightly regulated iron supply and that the iron must be delivered in a timely manner.

Anyone who knows him will realize that Connor is not stopping with a few groundbreaking discoveries in his travel log. He's working toward the path of finding solutions to correct them. He has a patent on a medical food that involves a protein that is enriched in breast milk and using traditional yeast as a delivery agent.

"We took a protein that we've found is very good at delivering iron and combined it with a traditional strain of nutritional yeast and have started human studies on it. This is an exciting avenue in which to take our research because iron deficiency is the number one nutritional disorder in the world. Between 10-25 percent of women of reproductive age in the U.S. alone are iron deficient," he said.

Connor is chief executive officer of CHYNA, LLC, a company that has been established to transition the product from research to the market. He hopes to get the product launched this year. For Connor, a solid educational background and a passion for learning more has fueled a career driven by a desire to make a difference. This next step could mean a big difference in the lives of patients all around the world.

Connor lives in Hershey, Penn., and has been married to wife Judy for 41 years. They met while working at Levi's in Florence during the summer after his freshmen year at TMC. They have two children, Jennifer and Jonathan.

MOREOVER

Alumni News

TMC Alumni Calendar of Events

Join the Crowds!

Alumni events are a great way to reconnect, network and socialize, so mark your calendars to join us at these events in the coming year!

MAY

Saturday | May 30
FOOTBALL GOLF OUTING

JUNE

Friday | June 5
YOUNG ALUMNI NETWORKING

AUGUST

Saturday | August 1
ATHLETICS GOLF OUTING

SEPTEMBER

Friday-Sunday | September 18
HOMECOMING WEEKEND
Sept. 18 | Class of 1965 50th Anniversary Reception
Sept. 19 | Homecoming Game Day
Sept. 20 | Alumni Awards Mass and Brunch

OCTOBER

Saturday | October 24
TMC ALUMNI DAY AT KEENELAND



Photo by Bruce Crippen




Get Connected!

Has your contact information changed? Update your contact records by completing the alumni update form online at **THOMASMORE.EDU/ALUMNI** or drop a note in the business reply envelope located in the center of this *Moreover*.

Receive up-to-date information for alumni events, send your email address to **alumni@thomasmore.edu** to subscribe to the alumni e-newsletter sent twice a month.

If you are active on social media, connect with fellow TMC alumni :

 ThomasMoreAlumni

 @TMCAlumni

 join group: Thomas More College Alumni Association

Alumni Gatherings

UNIVERSAL ADG NIGHT

Approximately 80 ADG fraternity alumni and active student members celebrated their annual Universal Night on Dec. 5, 2014.



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNAE LEAGUE

The 2015 "Leadership Forum" featured alumni panelists Jennifer Schack '04 and Jeanne-Marie Tapke '91, as well as Board of Trustee member Sarah Giolando. The panelists shared career highlights, lessons learned, best mentor advice and what they would do differently if they were college students today. Student attendees learned much including the importance of professional networking, perseverance, enthusiasm and confidence. Read more about this event by visiting THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.



PRESIDENTIAL ROAD SHOW

President David A. Armstrong, J.D. enjoys meeting with alumni in the cities he visits for higher education conferences and meetings. His travels in December took him to Houston, Texas, where alumnus Tyler Thomas '13 enjoyed dinner with the President and wife, Leslie, at Perry & Sons Market & Grille, and attended the Texas Bowl game afterward. January found the President in San Diego, Calif., where eight alumni and family members joined him for dinner at Ocean 1500 inside the beautiful Hotel del Coronado. Later in January, five alumni joined President Armstrong for dinner at the Old Hickory Steakhouse near Washington, D.C. His February travels took him to Orlando, Fla., where a handful of alumni and spouses enjoyed a cocktail reception with President Armstrong at The University Club.



As *Moreover* went to press, the Thomas More College community prepared to welcome the newest set of alumni on Saturday, May 16. For a photo gallery of Commencement coverage visit THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.

Class Notes

1950s



Early 1950s VMC classmates gathered for lunch in fall 2014 at Greyhound Tavern in Fort Mitchell, Ky. Pictured l to r: **Carol (Walsh) Jansen '51**, **Jeanne (Baskett) Jacobs '51**, **Marian "Pud" (Buchert) Vogt '51**, **Marg (Maloney) Middendorf '52**, **Tom Ginney '52**, **Joyce (Martin) Ginney '54**, **Lou Walther '51**, **Marianne (Riesser) Walther '51**, **GINNY (Molloy) Murphy '53** and **John Murphy '52**.

Justice Donald C. Wintersheimer '53 will be honored on May 21 as the 2015 recipient of the Covington Award by the Friends of Covington, the organization's highest honor.



Members of the Class of 1956 gathered at the Marianist Community on Governor's Island in Ohio in fall 2014. Pictured l to r: **Nancy (Black) Kuchle '56**, **Marilyn (Wiedeman) Sullivan '56**, **Brother Don Smith '56**, **Patricia (Rott) Lemon '56**, and **Dottie (Tillman) Kennedy '56**.

1960s

Dr. Bill Rauckhorst '62 continues to write articles relating to energy and environmental ethics and recently received a personal response from President Barack Obama for one of his articles on sustainability. He is a physics professor at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Dr. Judith Marlowe '69 was chosen as the first recipient of the University of Cincinnati Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni for the College of Allied Health Sciences for her work in infant audiology, mandatory hearing screening for all newborns, and her work with clinicians and audiologists throughout the world.

1970s

Diane M. (Bacon) Donnermeyer '70 retired seven years ago from St. Agatha School in Columbus, Ohio. Her husband, **Joe Donnermeyer '71**, retired from The Ohio State University in May 2014. Diane now volunteers at her grandchildren's school, substitute teaches, and aids her oldest grandson who has Asperger Syndrome. She and Joe travel whenever possible and are both enjoying retirement.

Barbara (Teufel) Jacobson '71 has four children and four grandchildren. She remarried a couple years ago, retired from teaching and recently moved back to Northern Kentucky.

Ken Rosemeyer '72 is very proud of his daughters and sons-in-law who followed in his footsteps as TMC alumni. His oldest daughter, **Tara (Rosemeyer) Blessing '14**, graduated in December from the TAP program with her bachelor's degree in business administration and her husband, **Richard Blessing '95**, also obtained his TMC bachelor's degree in business administration. Ken's youngest daughter, **Brynne (Rosemeyer) Wesselman '06** and her husband, **Brian Wesselman '06**, both obtained their bachelor degrees in biology.

Stephen Sandberg '74 recently joined Allegiance Home Care in Columbus, Ohio, to assess and monitor Humana insurance clients recently discharged from hospitals.

Class Notes continued next page



Send Us Your Photos!

We love to include your photos as part of Class Notes. For maximum quality in print, send digital, high-resolution files of clean, clear, sharp images in JPEG or TIFF formats. Attach to an email message with your class note and send to alumni@thomasmore.edu.

Class Notes

Terry Zinser '78 recently retired after eight years as Chief of Police in Union Township in Cincinnati, Ohio.

1980s



Clay Elfert '85 received the University of Notre Dame Club of Greater Cincinnati's 2015 Exemplar Award. This award was established in 2002 to

promote the achievements of individuals who have provided exemplary, life-long service to humanity in a manner consistent with the ideals of the University of Notre Dame.

1990s

Nick Shipley '97 is now the Assurance Manager at the recently-merged accounting firm of Elliott Davis Decosimo in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Jeff Thomas '97 and his wife, Brittany, welcomed twin girls Samantha Marie and Alexis Mae on Dec. 16, 2014.

2000s



Mike Strassel '02 was recently a featured contestant on the long-running television game show "The Price is Right" and won the Showcase Showdown!



Stephanie Tieman '02 opened her own fitness facility called CoreStrong in Covington, Ky., in October 2014.

Nick Lowry '03/'07 was recently hired as a Client Manager within the Client Solutions Division in the Cincinnati office of dunhumbyUSA.



Nick Partin '04 and his wife, Lindsay, welcomed their first daughter, Reese Catharine, on Nov. 6, 2014.



Allison (Byars) Pieczonka '05/'10 and **Nick Pieczonka '05** welcomed their third child, Maxwell Nicholas, on Dec. 29, 2014. Big sister Audrey and big brother Austin both enjoy him!

Brian Sheeley '05 and **Molly Bush '12** were married on June 28, 2014, in TMC's Mary, Seat of Wisdom Chapel.



Eric Busener '06 recently joined the TMC Athletics staff as the new Men's Head Soccer Coach.

Brian Knarr '06 has been promoted to Associate Director of Solutions in the Cincinnati office of dunhumbyUSA.

2010s

Perry Corbett '10 is currently working toward obtaining his Ph.D. in Experimental Physics from Ohio University in Athens, Ohio and recently completed an X-ray Diffraction project where he was able to apply what he learned at TMC.

Michael Renauer '10 was recently promoted to Director of Recruitment and Mission Integration for the Eastern Region of St. Vincent de Paul Society in Detroit, Mich. He will continue his duties as Youth and Young Adult Ministries Coordinator and was additionally appointed to St. Vincent de Paul's National Youth Advisory Board. He is engaged to Allison Taunt of Grand Rapids, Mich., their wedding is scheduled for May 2015.

Adam Bertke '11 received his CPA designation from the Kentucky Board of Accountancy. He is employed by Anneken, Huey & Moser PLLC in Fort Wright, Ky.



Cordario "Monty" Collier '11 and **Jason Matheny '11**, have been gaining professional notoriety as the founders of Misfit Genius, a clothing

store company they built around the premise of community-building. "The clothes are there to remind us of the values we live by.... it's the misfit in you that makes you who you are—you have to embrace that."



Dawne Gardner-Davis '11 was named the Comprehensive Children's Injury Center's Injury Free Coalition for Kids Program Coordinator of the Year in December 2014.



Megan Markgraf '11 married Sam Brooks on Aug. 23, 2014. The couple resides in Florence, Ky.

Maggie Perrino '13 was recently named Theatre Director for The Carnegie's Otto M. Budig Theatre in Covington, Ky.

Mike Bianchi '14 is the Director of Safety and Security at U.S. Bank Arena in Cincinnati, Ohio. He thanks TMC for playing a huge part in this exciting venture since retiring from the Erlanger Police Department.

John Wood '14 joined Rudler & Associates in Fort Wright, Ky., this past fall.



In Memoriam

"Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen."

Shirley (Esselman) Bast '66, Dec. 18, 2014

Michael J. Bischoff '87, Jan. 19, 2015

Stephen J. Brewer '71, Jan. 24, 2015

Sr. Betty Cahill, OSB '74, Oct. 23, 2014

Mildred Penny Carr '67, Nov. 27, 2014

Jed K. Deters '84, March 2, 2015

Thomas W. Dooley '52, March 10, 2015

Frank Emmerich '64, Feb. 15, 2014

Eileen (Denzer) Hils '52, Nov. 17, 2014

Jack M. Hoerlein '69, Jan. 11, 2015

Dr. John Huesing '51, Dec. 9, 2014

Margo Ann Huesing '65, Aug. 22, 2014

Carolyn (Krell) Keith '64, April 13, 2014

Frank Music '52, Oct. 17, 2014

Sr. Mary Renee Nienaber, SND '73, Feb. 1, 2015

Dr. George Renaker '55, March 19, 2014

M. Brent Rouse '62, March 18, 2014

Elma Trunnell '64, Aug. 1, 2014

Thomas Vonderbrink '71, July 5, 2014

Frank Wermeling '71, Feb. 16, 2014

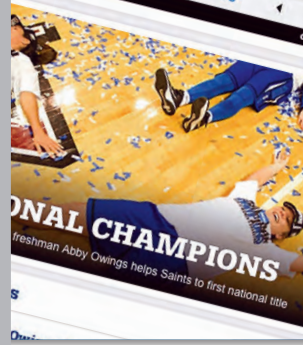
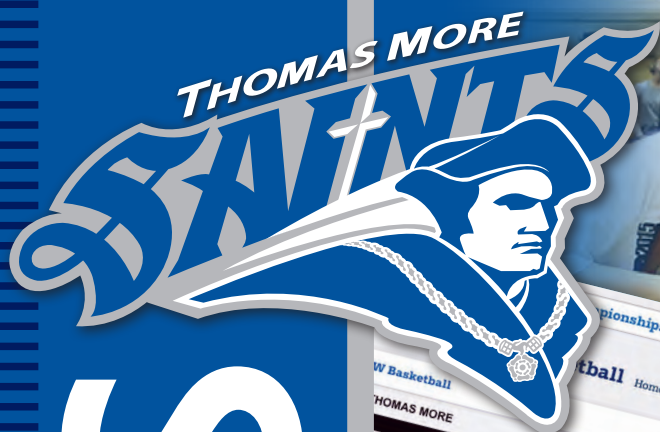
Dennis P. Whitehead '66, Oct. 20, 2014

Helen (Rittinger) Ziegler '69, Feb. 15, 2014

SHOW YOUR TMC PRIDE AROUND TOWN

A re-designed Thomas More College license plate is now available for Kentucky residents at vehicle registration renewal. Current TMC license plate holders can exchange their "old" plate when renewing at their local county clerk's office. Individuals who do not currently have a Thomas More College license plate may purchase one at their normal registration renewal. Each plate costs \$44 upon initial issue. The price includes \$10 for student scholarships and is returned to the College. Renewal is \$31 in subsequent years. Find more information at THOMASMORE.EDU/LICENSE.





2015 NCAA DIII Champs!



Abby Owings used her speed and ball handling skill to break the press.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

The Thomas More College women's basketball team capped off an undefeated season with an 83-63 thumping of previously undefeated George Fox University (Newberg, Ore.) in the NCAA DIII National Championship Game in Grand Rapids, Mich., on Saturday, March 21, 2015. The Lady Saints final season record stands at 33-0.

After a back-and-forth first 10 minutes, Thomas More held a double-digit lead for the majority of the final 30 minutes. Junior forward **Sydney Moss** (St. Albans, W.Va./Boone County) recorded her first collegiate triple-double in the National Championship, notching 19 points, 16 rebounds, and 11 assists. Freshman guard **Abby Owings** (Independence, Ky./Simon Kenton) also scored 17 points for the Lady Saints' balanced offensive attack. Freshman forward **Nikki Kiernan** (Cold Spring, Ky./Newport Central Catholic) and junior forward **Alexa Santamaria** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Mount Notre Dame) chipped in 16 and 14 points, respectively.

"What this means to the community is amazing—not just the women's basketball program, but all of Thomas More College and the

[SCHEDULES >> STANDINGS >> CALENDAR >>](#)
[NEWS >> SHOP >> AND MORE](#)

THOMASMORE.EDU/ATHLETICS

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

Follow the Saints on social media #tmc saints



ThomasMoreSaints



@tmc saints

SCHEDULES

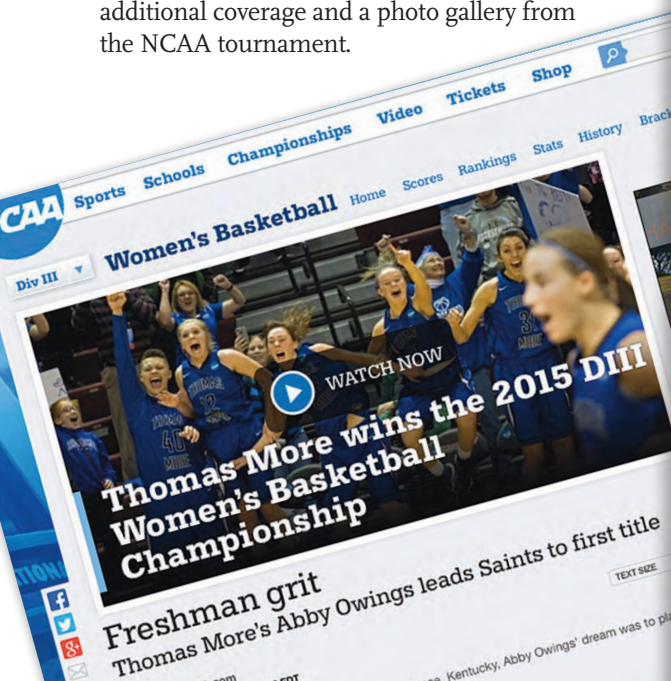


Happy members of the Saints team pose with their hardware after the championship game. Photos by Steve Frommell

whole Northern Kentucky community,” said Athletic Director **Terry Connor**. “The ‘Final Four’ is on a different level. We had never been there before, and now to win a National Championship; I don’t think you can put that impact into words.”

Since taking over the helm in 2011, Head Coach **Jeff Hans** has amassed an incredible record of 116-8, which translates into winning 94 percent of all games at Thomas More College. This season marks the first “Final Four” appearance and National Championship in school history. Congratulations to the women’s basketball team on a historic season, and bringing a National Championship to Crestview Hills!

Visit **THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER** for additional coverage and a photo gallery from the NCAA tournament.



The Presidents’ Athletic Conference (PAC) is celebrating its 60th anniversary throughout the 2014-15 academic year. To celebrate this milestone, the PAC is recognizing 60 outstanding student-athletes who have competed in 19 championship sports with the creation of 60th anniversary celebratory teams. Thomas More College joined the PAC in 2005 and is proud that the following former student-athletes were selected to participate in the yearlong celebration project. For more information on criteria and a full list of those student-athletes selected visit pacathletics.org. ***Congratulations Saints!***

BASEBALL

Chris Fishburn	2007-10	Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder
Andrew Thole	2009-12	Cincinnati, Ohio/McNicholas
Brad Thoma	2003-06	West Carrollton, Ohio/West Carrollton
Paul Uhl	2009-13	Cincinnati, Ohio/McNicholas

SOFTBALL

Dana Bors	2008-11	Lebanon, Ohio/Lebanon
Ronni Burns	2011-14	Dayton, Ohio/Carroll
Alex Walter	2011-14	Lebanon, Ohio/Lebanon
Brittany Wegman	2009-12	West Harrison, Ind./East Central

BASKETBALL

MEN'S

D'Carlo Hayes	2010-14	Louisville, Ky./Male
Daniel McKeenan	2008-10	Maineville, Ohio/Little Miami

WOMEN'S

Devin Beasley	2010-14	Burlington, Ky./Conner
Nicole Dickman	2007-11	Park Hills, Ky./Notre Dame Academy
Katie Kitchen	2009-14	Alexandria, Ky./Campbell County
Allison Long	2009-13	Hebron, Ky./Conner
Jayne Thiem	2007-09	Cold Springs, Ky./Newport Central Catholic
Brooke Warner	2003-07	Maineville, Ohio/Kings

CROSS COUNTRY

MEN'S

Matt Wurtzler	2010-13	Cincinnati, Ohio/Roger Bacon
---------------	---------	------------------------------

WOMEN'S

Celia Arlinghaus	2009-12	Edgewood, Ky./Holy Cross
------------------	---------	--------------------------

FOOTBALL

Zach Autenrieb - DB	2009-12	Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder
Mark Carlisle - LB	2003-06	Canal Winchester, Ohio/Bloom Carroll

SOCCER

MEN'S

Dan Miller	2007-10	Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder
Alex Oeswein	2010-11	Louisville, Ky./DuPont Manual
Aaron Osborne	2007-10	Cincinnati, Ohio/LaSalle

WOMEN'S

Katie Burger	2008-11	Cincinnati, Ohio/Mother of Mercy
Courtney Clark	2010-13	Burlington, Ky./Notre Dame Academy
Abby Gindling	2009-12	Cincinnati, Ohio/Seton
Megan Hobbs	2007-10	Cincinnati, Ohio/Seton
Jenna Kramer	2008-09	Cincinnati, Ohio/Seton
Cathy Santillo	2002-06	Harrison, Ohio/Harrison
Chrissy Sonderman	2009-12	Independence, Ky./Holy Cross
Lauren Weitmarchen	2008-12	Cincinnati, Ohio/McAuley

TENNIS

WOMEN'S

Lindsey Burns	2008-11	Cincinnati, Ohio/Seton
Lauren Race	2008-11	Cortland Manor, N.Y./John F. Kennedy
Whitney Reis	2003-06	Taylor Mill, Ky./Holy Cross
Emily Wessleman	2009-12	Union, Ky./St. Henry

VOLLEYBALL

Emily Bohman	2008-10	Yorkshire, Ohio/Versailles
Michelle Clifford	2008-11	Cincinnati, Ohio/McAuley
Brandi Corbello	2009-10	Florence, Ky./Boone County
Valeri Kuhn	2004-07	Cincinnati, Ohio/Oak Hills
Katie Sullivan	2008-11	Cincinnati, Ohio/Seton
Tori Verville	2010-12	Edgewood, Ky./Holy Cross



Mamee Salzer is one of the Saints leading hitters. Photo by Joe Humphries.



Josie Perrino (3) and Christy Smith (10) pursue the action during the first Lacrosse home game. Photo by Joe Humphries.

SOFTBALL

The softball team plans to build on last season's successful campaign, in which they won the PAC regular season championship and received an at-large bid to the NCAA Division III tournament. The Saints' offense is led by returning NFCA All-American and PAC Player of the Year **Ana Walter** (Lebanon, Ohio/Lebanon). The Saints' pitching staff is led by junior **Mamee Salzer** (Erlanger, Ky./St. Henry) and sophomore **Jamie Ertel** (Mt. Healthy, Ohio/McAuley). Salzer, who also plays third base, will be relied upon as one of the Saints' leading hitters as well.

LACROSSE

TMC welcomed a new sport to campus in spring 2015 as women's Lacrosse kicked off its inaugural season. Lacrosse is the 19th varsity sport at TMC. Head Coach Jon Durham currently has a roster of 20 women, all of whom are underclassmen. The Lacrosse Saints are members of the Ohio River Lacrosse Conference and have 10 games on their schedule this year, nine of which are conference games.

BECOME A BOOSTER TODAY:

SAINTS FOR ALL SEASONS



Calling all Rebels, Blue Rebels, and Saints! Help continue the VMC/TMC tradition of athletic excellence. Join the Saints booster club and support our student-athletes in their pursuit of academic and athletic success. Alumni, parents, and friends are all welcome. Sign up at THOMASMORE.EDU/ATHLETICS or contact Karel Jelinek at JELINEK@THOMASMORE.EDU or 859-344-3541.

MORE

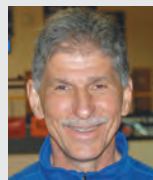


Brad Popham at the plate. Photo by Joe Humphries.

BASEBALL

Thomas More College's baseball program also looks to build on last year's PAC Championship and Regional Semifinal appearance. Tabled as the preseason PAC favorite, the Saints offense is led by senior first baseman **Nick Connor** (Cincinnati, Ohio/Elder), senior catcher **Brad Popham** (Edgewood, Ky./Dixie Heights), and junior designated hitter **Donavon Pogue** (Sharonville, Ohio/St. Xavier). Popham earned second-team All-PAC honors last season, while Pogue earned All-PAC honorable mention. Juniors **Logan Miller** (Cincinnati, Ohio/La Salle) and **Brandon Humphrey** (Cincinnati, Ohio/La Salle) bolster the Saints' young pitching staff. Miller pitched his way to a 7-2 record and first-team All-PAC honors last season.

REGIS SCAFE NAMED HEAD FOOTBALL COACH



Thomas More College welcomes **Regis Scafe** as the fifth head football coach in program history.

Scafe has over 30 years of coaching experience at the high school and college levels, including 14 successful years as the head

coach at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. He compiled a record of 88-56 (.611) from 1998-2012 at John Carroll. His 88 victories are the second-most in the program's history.

Scafe led the Blue Streaks to nine winning seasons and the NCAA Division III semifinals in 2002, earning Ohio Athletic Conference Co-Coach of the Year honors. During Scafe's tenure at John Carroll, he also helped 20 student-athletes earn All-American accolades and 75 earn All-Conference honors in the Ohio Athletic Conference.

Prior to his time at John Carroll, Scafe was the head coach at his alma mater and current Presidents' Athletic Conference affiliate member Case Western Reserve University from 1994-98.

Scafe makes his TMC coaching debut on Saturday, Sept. 5, 2015 when the Saints host St. John Fisher College. Kickoff is scheduled for 12 p.m.

MEET ERIC BUSENER: NEW MEN'S SOCCER HEAD COACH



Thomas More College welcomes **Eric Busener**

'06 as the new men's soccer head coach. Busener has been an assistant coach on the TMC men's and women's soccer staffs the past three seasons. He replaces Jeff Cummings, who will concentrate

on his role as head women's soccer coach.

Busener, as assistant coach to both men's and women's teams, helped lead the Saints to a combined record of 108-15-11, six PAC Championships, and six NCAA Tournament appearances, capped by an Elite 8 appearance for the women's team in 2014.

Between his two stints with the Saints, Busener served as assistant men's soccer coach at Northern Kentucky University (NKU) from 2008-2011. The Norse went 65-16-9 during his time at NKU and the team went to four NCAA Division II Tournaments. They were National Semifinalists in 2008 and National Champions in 2010.

Busener is a 2006 graduate of Thomas More College, where he was twice named the team's most valuable player. He was a two-year team captain for the Saints and served on the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

COMING FALL 2015



THE SAINTS WILL BE BOWLING!

Men's and women's teams will compete in the United States Bowling Congress collegiate division, which has members from all three divisions of the NCAA and the two divisions of the NAIA. Each season will conclude with the XBowling Intercollegiate Team Championship. Details available soon! Visit THOMASMORE.EDU/ATHLETICS.



Where in the World is Flat Tommy?

Accompanied by alumni or friends of Thomas More College, Flat Tommy made his way to destinations along the west coast of the U.S., south of the border in Mexico, the Kingdom of Bhutan in south Asia, and the UK. Tommy had some fun adventures, just take a look!

Tommy makes a friend while in Progreso, Mexico, with Sandy Barry '06



Tommy with Wayne Wycoff '97 and Devan Tucker '98 at Canterbury Cathedral in England.



Joe Fisher '62 and wife Cathy welcome Tommy to San Francisco, Calif.



Tommy hiking in Bhutan with Jim Dahmann '73 and wife Rosemary.



Help us add stars to the map. Take Flat Tommy on your travels with you!



Minute Spiritual Break...

with Bob Shearn,
Director of Campus Ministry

SPACE FOR LISTENING TO GOD

When we pray, how often do we say: "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening"? More often, I think, we (mean): "Listen, Lord, for your servant is speaking!"
- Robert Wicks

Every part of our life has something to offer us for our growth because God is there in the midst of it. When I give myself to attentiveness and deep listening, I find that I discover God everywhere. When I listen, I begin to "hear" (perceive) deeper connections, in nature, in music, in the people I meet, in what I read and touch and taste, and in the insights and emotions that arise within me.

Try the following to hone your deep listening skills:

BREATH PRAYER:

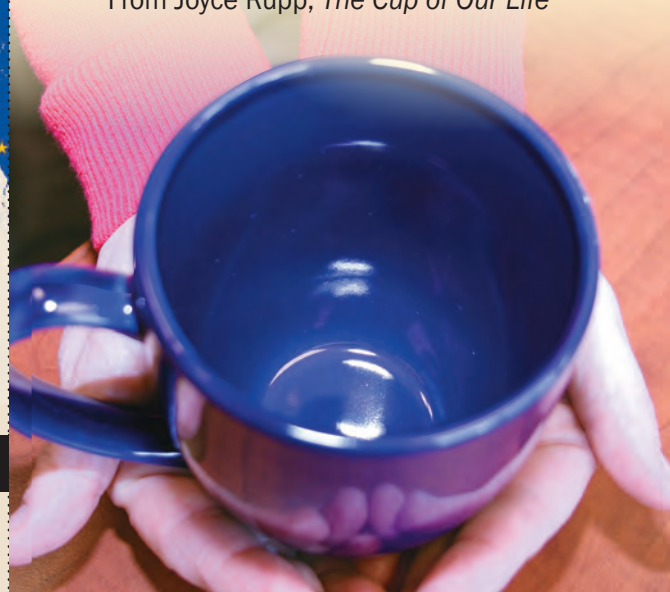
Breathing in: I listen...

Breathing out: ... You are here

REFLECTION

Hold a cup in your open hands.
Notice how the cup sits there quietly.
Picture yourself in the Divine One's hands.
Go to the stillness deep within yourself.
Allow yourself to be attentive.
Just "be" with God.
Listen.

From Joyce Rupp, *The Cup of Our Life*



For more pictures of Flat Tommy with TMC alumni visit THOMASMORE.EDU/MOREOVER.

Send your request for a Flat Tommy to ALUMNI@THOMASMORE.EDU.

*"The greatest danger for most of us is not
that our aim is too high and we miss it;
but that it is too low and we reach it."*

– Michelangelo

*A gorgeous sunrise from the the banks of the
Ohio River at the TMC Biology Field Station.
Photo by Emily Imhoff, Laboratory Manager BFS*

Know a Prospective Student?

Tell us about a prospective student:

Prospective Student Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ Email Address _____

High School _____ Graduation Year of Student _____

Special Interest of the Student _____

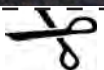
Referred by: _____

Name _____ Graduation year (if applicable) _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ Email Address _____

Affiliation with Thomas More College _____

*Please return in the business reply envelope included in the center of this issue or submit online at **THOMASMORE.EDU/PROSPECT**. Thank you!*





THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

Office of Institutional Advancement
333 Thomas More Parkway
Crestview Hills, KY 41017-3495

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cincinnati, OH
Permit No. 9984

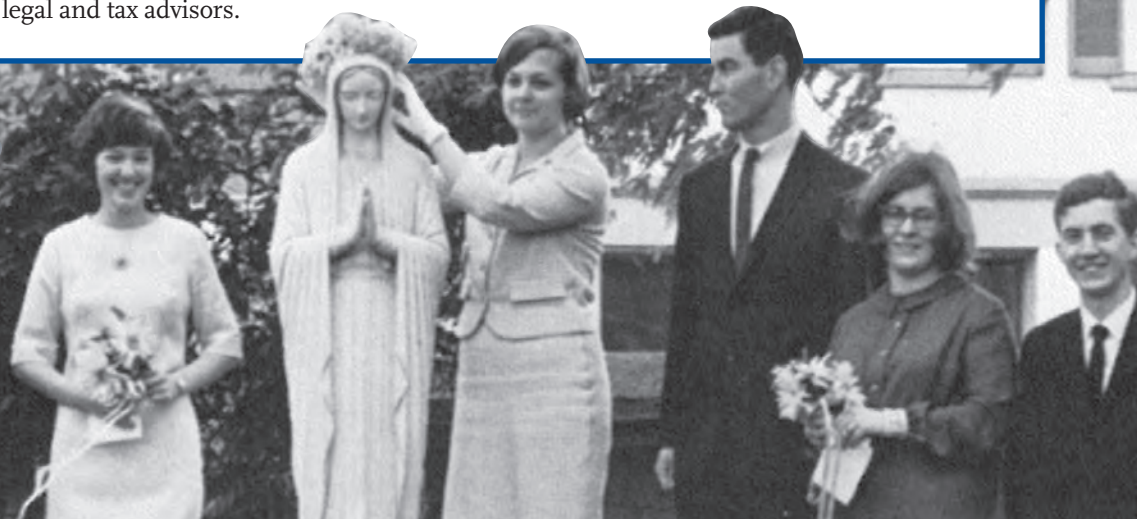
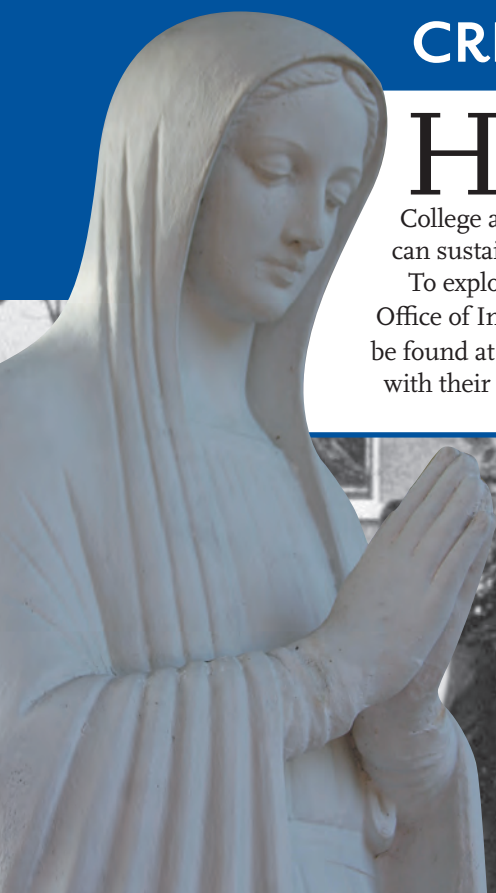
Address Service Requested



CREATE YOUR LEGACY AT TMC

Help continue the mission of VMC/TMC by including Thomas More College in your charitable planning. **THANK YOU** to all members of the Monsignor Murphy Legacy Society — we encourage all alumni and friends of the College to consider naming Thomas More College as a beneficiary in your will or other estate planning document. With your help the College can sustain its mission and continue to provide a quality education to future generations of students.

To explore the opportunity of a planned gift or to notify the College of your intent, please contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at **859-344-3344**. Additional information about planned giving can be found at **THOMASMORE.EDU/PLANNEDGIVING**. All prospective donors are encouraged to consult with their legal and tax advisors.



Follow Thomas More College on social media



ThomasMoreCollegeKY @ThomasMoreKY