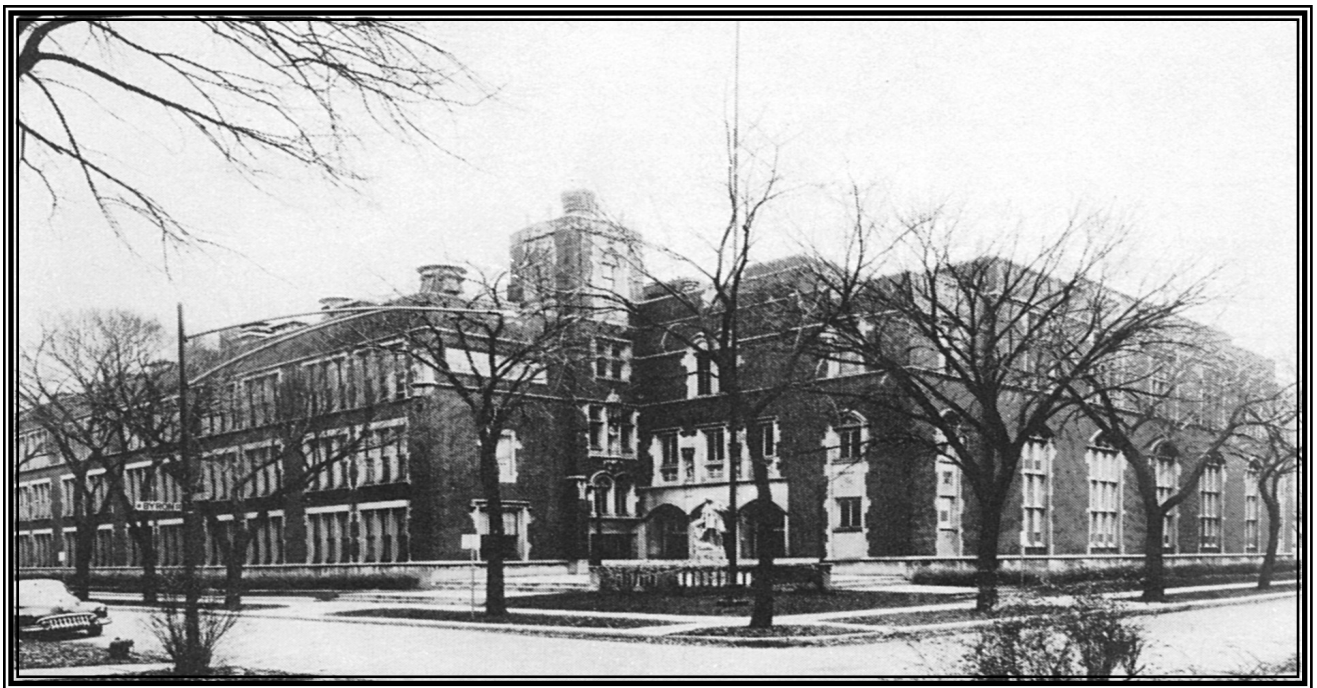


SUMMER-FALL 2026



"ALVERNIA ALIVE"



ALVERNIA HIGH SCHOOL
1924-1989

ALVERNIA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

Website: www.alverniaalumnae.org

PLEASE DIRECT YOUR MAIL TO THE ADDRESSES LISTED BELOW.

***Dues, Donations, Reservations-Pat Grimes**

***Change of address/ Class Reps- Judy Skotzko**

***Newsletter Items, Obits, Alumnae Misc -Barbara Annoreno**

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Sister Kate Brenner

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Greenfield, WI 53228-2100

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Barbara Mizera Petrowski '77

312-720-5032/bpetrow@ix.netcom.com

*Newsletter also available on our website
www.alverniaalumnae.org*

Membership Dues - \$25.00
January 1 – December 31, 2026



Please print:

Class of:	Last Name:	First Name:	Maiden Name:
Address		City	State/Zip
Phone:		Email Address:	

**Make check payable to the *Alvernia Alumnae Association* and mail with this form to:
Alvernia Alumnae Association c/o Pat Grimes, 3260 Rockwell Circle Mundelein, IL 60060 or pay by
Zelle at AlverniaHS@currently.com. Please indicate class, maiden name and dues payments in
notes.**

THE ALVERNIA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

CHANGES COMING IN 2027

This will be the **last printed newsletter**.

The Alvernia Alumnae Association will continue to exist but in a different format. All details are not yet complete but **your first electronic copy** of the newsletter in 2027 will have additional information.

Survey Results - Newsletter

- We are grateful to all who responded to our survey. The majority indicated that the newsletter was important as a form of communication. It will continue but will be sent via email.
- In order to receive the newsletter, we must have your current email address. For those who do not have a computer we suggest a family member or friend access for you.
- As always, it will also be available on our website **www.alverniaalumnae.org**.
- Many alumnae have not provided us previously with an email address. If you wish to receive the newsletters via email, please send your email address to **Judy Skotzko, jskotzko@outlook.com**. Please use the form in this newsletter on page 10. There will also be handouts at the luncheon to provide this information. **You will not receive the electronic copy without a current email address.** A test email will be sent out after the luncheon.
- **Judy Skotzko'71** will be preparing the content for the newsletters. All content should be sent to her via email or mail: **jskotzko@outlook.com or 5306 W. Carmen Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630-2224.**

Survey Results - Luncheon

- Many expressed a desire to continue the luncheons to keep the *Spirit of Alvernia Alive*. An annual Luncheon **will** take place in **2027** but in a simpler form and most likely at the Cotillion.

Other Changes

- Many of the current Board members are retiring from their positions after 30+ years of dedicated service so new Board members will be needed.
- Volunteers will be needed. **If you are interested in becoming more involved with the Association in order to continue its existence, please contact Lois Weiler DeFelice '68, 773-685-6553 or loisdefelice@gmail.com.**

*We urge you to continue to support the Retired Sisters
as well as their ministries.*

*They are very grateful for our support over the years
and the needs continue!*

Thank you so much!

(Also read pages 10&11)

2026 CLASS REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1951—75th Reunion— *Celebrating at the Alvernia Alumnae Luncheon on October 18, 2026.*
Caregivers are welcome! Class Rep: Ann Kerrigan Tuohy, 847-647-8309, anntuohy5050@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1956—70th Reunion—No information at this time. Class Rep: Sheila Duggan Dworak 847-674-4251, shebru7@comcast.net

CLASS OF 1961—65th Reunion—*Celebrating at the Alvernia Alumnae Luncheon on October 18, 2026.*
Class Rep: Peg Anderson Smykowski, 630-620-1777, pegamy@comcast.net

CLASS OF 1966—60th Reunion—*Celebrating at the Alvernia Alumnae Luncheon on October 18, 2026.*
Class Rep: Susan Mindak Ellinger 773-469-3015, sellinger9@aol.com. See Page 6

CLASS OF 1971—55th Reunion—*Celebrating at the Alvernia Alumnae Luncheon on October 18, 2026.*
Class Rep: Joanne Owens Leslie, 312-405-4566, joanneleslie@live.com

CLASS OF 1976—50th Reunion—*Celebrating weekend of October 17, 18, 2026.* See Page 6
Class Rep: Angela Diaz Kay, 708-456-4910, kay.angela@sbcglobal.net

CLASS OF 1981—45th Reunion—No information at this time.
Class Rep: Angela Kordik, 847-902-4434, angelakordik81@gmail.com

Don't Miss Out

CLASS OF 1986—40th Reunion—No information at this time.
Class Rep: Maria Balogh McElhome, 815-254-4075, dolly2502@hotmail.com



Reunion Class and Group Photography—2026 Luncheon

Tom Killoran Photography will be returning to take Reunion and Group Photos at the 2026 Luncheon.

Panoramic reunion class photos will be scheduled between 12:10 pm.—12:50 pm. Non-reunion classes or small groups, i.e. BFFS, clubs, families, etc. photos will be scheduled between 1:10-1:30 pm.

The **8x10 panoramic reunion** and non-reunion class photos can be purchased for **\$20.00**. The group photos (limit 5-6 folks) will be **5x7 photos** and will be priced at **\$10.00 per copy**.

Payment can be made with cash, check or credit card. **All photos are printed on site and available the same day.** If your class or group would like to schedule, in advance, a specific time for a photo at the luncheon, please contact **Barbara Annoreno at oneronna@comcast.net**. There will also be a sign up board at the luncheon in the foyer.

Upcoming Events In Milwaukee

Oktoberfest—Saturday, September 12, 11am—4pm
Brats, Craft Beer, Entertainment, Games, Crafts, Bakery Treats



Gala 2026—*An Evening of Gratitude and Grace*
Saint Kate-The Arts Hotel, Saturday, December 5, 5pm-11pm.

(The Alvernia Alumnae Assoc will be one of the honorees)

Gala tickets will be available to purchase this fall. To receive an invitation please contact Holly Danen, Director of Donor Engagement at hdanen@sssf.org.

For additional event details and updates please visit www.sssf.org.

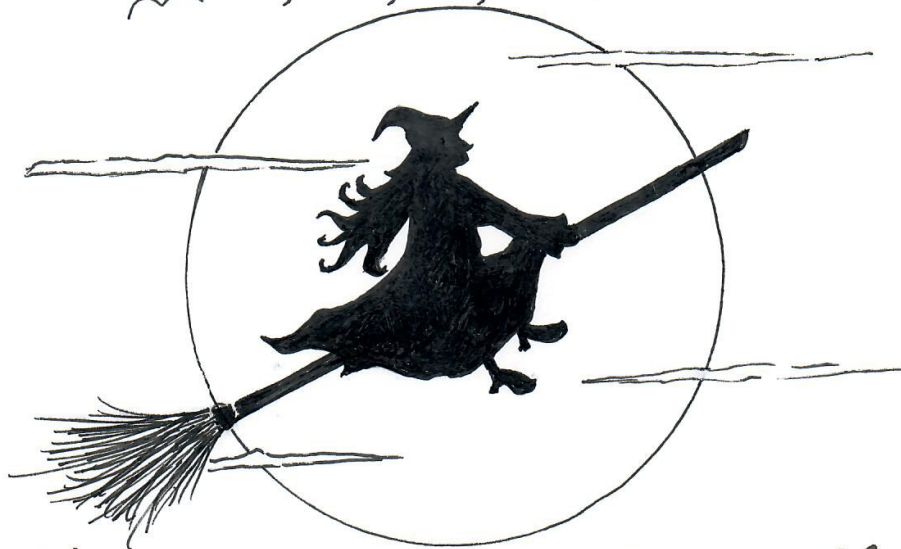
Alvernia Alumnae Association
32nd Annual Luncheon



Get out your flying broom and come join us

October 18th 2026

for a fun-filled



HALLOWEEN BASH

The Cotillion
360 South Creekside Drive
Palatine Illinois 60014



Costumes are optional!!

2026 CLASS REUNIONS

CLASS OF 1966 - 60th Anniversary

Let's Celebrate!!

Since our Freshman year in September 1962, we have learned that "Student Years Pass Quickly" and especially the years since we graduated 60 years ago in 1966! In the past years of our special/private 1966 Class reunions for our 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th and 30th, many of you filled out the surveys that we sent to you. In many ways they are like "little time capsules" and wouldn't it be great to compare those surveys to what our lives are now?

Well, we will not be doing that because our concentration is more important and that is to have as many of our 66ers attend the all school reunion on Sunday, October 18, 2026. All reservation information is on page 19 of this newsletter. There are, as far as we know, 287 remaining alums from the Class of 1966.

As of today we still have (if not more) at least 40 Guardian Angels from our Class of 1966. We also have at least 40 without current contact information. If you know someone who has not been receiving the newsletter please have them fill out the form on page 10 so they can begin receiving the newsletter electronically starting in 2027. Current email address is required to receive the newsletter in the future.

We really hope that many of you will join our Class of 1966 on Sunday, October 18, 2026 to celebrate our 60th Reunion at The Cotillion Banquets in Palatine, IL. Let's try to "Go Back to the Hallowed Halls" for our 60th. Many of us have said in attending 'It was as if we never left and as if time did not pass' when meeting up with our classmate friends. As of now no extra events for the weekend have been planned. However, if we start to receive more positive responses to attendance, we may add "some extra fun" for the weekend.

Your 1966 Class Needs You—I am here if you need more information. Let's celebrate together our 60th reunion on October 18, 2026!! Hope to see you!

Susan Mindak Ellinger '66 Class Representative, Selling9@aol.com (Subject Line: Alvernia 1966)

Cell: 773-469-3015 (Leave a message please)

6116 N. Nettleton Ave, Chicago, IL 60631

Save the Date !!

1976 Alvernia High School Bicentennial Graduates to Celebrate 50th Reunion



The Alvernia Class of 1976, proudly known as the Bicentennial Graduates, will gather to celebrate our 50th Class reunion. This golden milestone marks five decades since we crossed the graduation stage during America's Bicentennial year, embarking on journeys that have spanned careers, families, communities and countless life experiences.

Our 50th reunion will take place on Saturday, October 17 and Sunday, October 18, 2026 and will include a Saturday social gathering as well as participation in the Alvernia Alumnae Luncheon at the Cotillion Banquets in Palatine, IL. I expect that this reunion weekend will provide an opportunity for us to reconnect with longtime friends, renew cherished friendships, and reflect on the memories that made our years at Alvernia so special.

Communication of our reunion is important so please make sure I have your information. We have an **Alvernia 1976 Facebook** group and my email is kay.angela@sbcglobal.net. You can also direct message me through Facebook.

I encourage all members of the Class of 1976 to spread the news; do their best to attend and help make our reunion a memorable occasion.

Graduation in 1976 made our class part of a historic year for our class and our nation. This reunion is more than a celebration of the past—it's a tribute to the friendships, values, and experiences that continue to unite us today.

The Class of 1976 looks forward to celebrating this extraordinary milestone and honoring the enduring spirit of the Alvernia High School Bicentennial Graduates.

Additional details will be shared with classmates as plans are finalized. **Angie Diaz-Kay, 1976 Class Rep.**

SNIPPETS AND MUCH MORE...

Late Jay (Geraldine) Heuer Diemer Corr, '43, Indianapolis, IN. Jay's best days were serving others. In the 90's she and her husband, Michael started "The Closet" at Chicago read Mental Health Center, a place where residents could 'shop' cost-free for clothes, shoes, toiletries and other necessities. They ensured that every Read patient received a birthday card with money on their special day.

Jay's other volunteer work included comforting/holding babies born with cocaine in their body, serving meals two nights per week at the Catholic Charities bread line, fundraising for the Alliance of the Mentally Ill, and as a founding member of Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church in Rosemont. Jay continued volunteering into her mid 90's. She received numerous awards and recognition for her charitable efforts.

Many may remember Heuer's farm/stable and restaurant in Rosemont which was owned by Jay's family. Her father was also one of the founders of Meister Brau Brewing.

Betty Beierle Hefferin '46, Bensenville, IL "I entered Alvernia September 1942 and graduated June 1946. Best teenage years anyone could ever have plus being a student of the Alvernia Conservatory of Music where I received my Bachelor's Degree in Piano, Collagist Degrees in Voice and Cello—all thanks to Sisters Leonella, Cecilia and Vestina. God bless each one of them. Each year at Alvernia found me seeking more knowledge, no matter what class it was. I'm sure it was due to the excellent teaching nuns we had. God bless them too for their dedication and patience with us all."

Late Rita Rabus Trebus '46, MO, Mother of 8 children, she loved to talk and tell stories of her high school days with her children, and held fond memories of her time at Alvernia High School. She gained an interest and appreciation for musical theater while attending productions at Alvernia and later was a patron of the arts spending summers attending productions at St. Louis Muny Theatre. She worked as a Nurse Aide for Christian Hospital M.D. and was a member of the BJC Healthcare network until retirement at age 70.

Jan Cosmos '58, Sturgeon Bay, WI, "I have been an Associate of the Community (SSSF) for 10 years and make my donations directly to the Community. I feel blessed to be an Associate and want to support the sisters as often as possible."



Mary Heinen Prindiville '60, Park Ridge, IL thanked Pat Grimes '69 for "finding" classmate **Rita Cullen Frazee '60 of San Diego, CA.** Mary contacted Pat because the information the Alumnae Association had was not current. Pat did some searching and was able to locate her. Mary and Rita enjoyed a catch up lengthy phone call. Not long after Mary was notified that Rita passed away of pancreatic cancer.

"I'm so glad that Rita and I had that time, though very short, to enjoy each other's company."

Marian Zedelmaier McGowan '60, Mount Prospect, IL 'Long overdue but I want to thank you and the board members for your years of hard work for the Alvernia graduates."

Noreen Hanlon Gayford '61, Park Ridge, IL Alvernia was a wonderful place, and is fondly remembered.

Kathleen Stoll '70, Phoenix, AZ If there are any Alvernia Alumnae in Arizona, I'd consider arranging a lunch for those in the Phoenix Metro Area. Contact me at azepress@gmail.com or 602-616-9467.

Jeanine Herzeg '81 IL was recently honored by the Law Firm that hired her 40 years ago. They started out as a small property tax law firm. Jeanine, their first hire was an ambitious young law student, who worked out of a closet in their tiny Loop office.

Since 1986 they have grown tremendously and gathered together many from the past who contributed to their growth. They shared many stories on their extraordinary journey together. Jeanine was surprised with her dream trip to Italy to trace her family roots.

From the Managing Principal "Jeanine's story is a reminder that great firms are not built overnight. They are built by great people who show up, care deeply, and dedicate themselves to something bigger than themselves. Congratulations, Jeanine, and thank you for 40 remarkable years. We are incredibly lucky to have you."

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY, THERESE (TERRY) SWEENEY '44

Laura Dominick Sobel '71 made a Facebook request for birthday cards for friend and alum Terry. Here is her Thank you note:

"Dear Alumnae,

I'm an Alvernia Alumna, Class of 1944. I turned 100 years old on July 5, 2026. I assumed the day would be no big deal. I was overwhelmed when the flood of birthday cards started coming in. I received more than 40 cards from graduates in classes ranging from 1960-1978, and a card from Sister Barbara Kraemer, '59, Moderator of the Alumnae Association.

I also received a card signed by many of the classmates of 1966. Happy 60th Reunion! The messages in each card were so heart-warming, uplifting and filled with gratitude for their years at Alvernia. Many thanks to all who took the time and effort to send cards via snail mail. I appreciate it so much. You've made my birthday the happiest one ever!

And special thanks to Laura Dominick Sobel '71 for starting it all. May God bless you all and hold you in the palm of His hand.,"
Therese (Terry) Sweeney '44



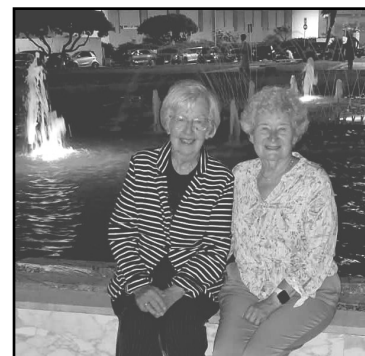
Terry is seated in lower right corner.



FOREVER FRIENDS



Arleene & Mary Ann



Friends since first grade at St. Viator's Catholic School, **Mary Ann Bertini Nottoli '58** and **Arleene Gibisch Wajda '57**, reunited in Viareggio, Italy following Arleene's Switzerland June 2026 vacation. Mary Ann had met Enrico Nottoli, a handsome Army officer, during one of her many family visits to Italy while growing up. By age 20, they were in love and married, having one daughter, Monica. In the meantime, Arleene met and married Robert Wajda and they had two children, Jim and Lynn.

Arleene and Mary Ann continued their friendship by writing several times each year. In 1999, Arleene and Bob toured Italy for two weeks; Enrico and Mary Ann made sure their friends saw a lot of Italy.

In the meantime, Arleene had retired from health care and became a certified tour guide. Arleene sent Mary Ann a Mayflower catalog, and they chose a tour to West Virginia to see the secret hidden bunkers built during the cold war beneath the Greenbrier Hotel. Arleene conducted the tour and Enrico loved seeing this part of history and also the highlights of Chicago. Mary and Arleene visited their grade school and Alvernia again which brought back wonderful memories.

During the June visit to Italy, friends Mary Ann and Arleene sunbathed and swam in the Tyrrhenian Sea, ate delicious food, swapped family stories and reconnected.

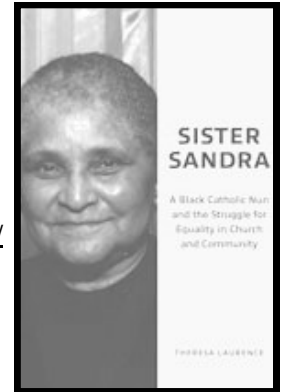
Sister Sandra—A Black Catholic Nun and the Struggle for Equality in Church and Community
By Theresa Laurence

A new book about Sister Sandra Smithson (Sister Maria Crucis) was recently released. In this book is an account of Sister's expansive life and legacy. It is interesting and inspiring reading.

Sister Sandra taught at Alvernia High School from 1956 to 1963. Those fortunate to have had her in class will definitely enjoy this book.

Follow the link listed for a preview of the book. <https://utpress.org/9781621908692/sister-sandra/>

You can purchase the book from Project Reflect (1-615-618-2032) for \$20 plus postage. The Project receives more of the proceeds if you get the book from them. It is also available from Amazon.



A LEGACY OF GRATITUDE

Barbara Splitt Kummerer '51 first met the School Sisters of St. Francis in grammar school at St. Philomena, followed by Alvernia High School and Alverno College where she earned her sociology degree. She felt Alvernia was way ahead of its time in the late 1940's and early 50's. She was mentored at Alvernia and later Alverno by Sister Rebecca, who was very much into social justice.

Barbara put her education to work for Catholic Charities in Chicago for more than 20 years and then got a counseling degree and worked as a support counselor in a veterinary practice. "I worked with families who had seriously ill pets, and with people who were grieving the loss of their pet", Barbara explained. "It was a little unusual at the time, but very much appreciated by the clients."

Barbara is very grateful to the sisters for all the opportunities she was given at Alvernia; for all the Sisters that taught her. Because of that gratitude, Barbara has decided to make a **legacy gift** to the School Sisters of St. Francis. A charitable bequest, sometimes called a **legacy gift**, usually comes after a person passes. These gifts are most often distributed through a person's will, trust, or an IRA beneficiary designation. (The entire article is in the Spring 2026 ALIVE, Volume 16 Issue 2)

Other options are the qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) and Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) See below.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

If you are **age 70½ or older**, making a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) can be a powerful and tax-smart way to support the School Sisters of St. Francis.

If you are **age 73 or older**, by directing your **Required Minimum Distribution (RMD)** to our community, you can satisfy your RMD without increasing your taxable income. This allows you to make a meaningful gift while potentially reducing your overall tax burden.

A QCD is a simple, direct way to give back—and enjoy valuable tax advantages at the same time.

To get started, contact your IRA provider to request a Qualified Charitable Distribution payable to the **School Sisters of St. Francis**.

Please contact either **Kim Peterson**, the community's **Director of Planned Giving**, 414-944-6019, kpeterson@SSSF.com or **Amanda Ferguson**, 414-385-5340, aferguson@sssf.org, **Director of Mission Advancement** if you have questions or need additional information.

**Congratulations to our School Sisters of St. Francis Jubilarians
Celebrating special anniversaries this year:**



75 years—Sister Nancy Hansen '52

70 years—Sister Bernadette Luecker ' 55, Music Teacher

70 years—Sister Jo Ann (Andrina) Miller, History Teacher

60 years—Sister Karen Marie Ramey '61

31st Luncheon Photos—Celebrating 100 Years of Alvernia— October 19, 2025

Linda DuPlantis '65 brought her "Sister Doll" dressed in the habit worn before Vatican II.



Sr. Mary C. Schneider & Linda Sisters Barbara, Mary, Nirmila & Elizabeth

UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION FORM

Starting in 2027, *Alvernia Alive* will be delivered to you only via email; we will no longer be sending a printed version. If you wish to continue receiving the newsletter, please provide us with a current email address using the form below. We also ask that you provide us with a current postal address and phone number since our class reps will occasionally want to contact their classmates for special events.

✂-----

Class year:	Maiden name:	
First name:	Last name:	
Email address:	@	
Street address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone number:		

Please email your info to Judy Skotzko '71 at jskotzko@outlook.com or mail it to 5306 W. Carmen Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630-2224.

**In Our Fondest Memories, Alvernia is Most Dear
The Alvernia Alumnae Association and Changing Times**

The mission of the Alvernia Alumnae Association is to establish a community with the women who attended Alvernia High School and all the men and women who taught at, worked for or were otherwise associated with Alvernia High School. The Association offers members of this community the opportunity to support the School Sisters of St. Francis in their ministries through fundraising events.

WHERE WE CAME FROM

The Alumnae Association had ended with the closing of Alvernia in 1989. However, the late Terri Kehoe Bonner learned that Immaculata High School also closed. They were always our rival and had an active alumnae association, so she reached out to Sister Vitalis in 1991. The first board members were: Regina Moran Ganey '40, Jo Wunderlich '40, Joan Clair Schorsch '46, Pat Feeney Kimberley '55, Mary Ann Ulm Rosso '55, Teri Kehoe Bonner '55 and Barbara Stefan Annoreno '60. Many others were recruited by Sister and within a few years, the current Association was born with its first luncheon in 1993.

There are so many who have contributed time and talent over the years. For example, our 2000 luncheon identified 33 individuals who volunteered. They served as Chairpersons and assisted not only for the luncheons but also the memorial Masses, theater outings and other alumnae activities. They are:

Board Members

Barbara Stefan Annoreno '60, Director
Late Marlene Krezmer Tucker '50
Late Teri Kehoe Bonner '55
Barbara Voss Dowling '55
Mary Ann Ulm Rosso '55
Pat Feeney Kimberley '55
Carol Carson Di Leonardi '59
Joan Gielarowski DuBrock '60

Volunteers

Fran Novello Aiello '50
Late Margaret Mary Campbell '44
Late Bernadette Cole '55
Cathy Biedron Eckart '60
Regina Moran Ganey '40
Cindy Pontoriero Grimaldi '60
Patricia Grimes '69
Late Virginia Ernst Kaczynski '50

Volunteers

Joann Piskoran Macaluso '60
Barbara McHale Meilinger '69
Late Elizabeth O'Leary '50
Judy Skotzko '71
Eileen Lowery '71
Mary Grimes '65
Kathy Bunce '75
Late Dorothy Campbell '46
Kathleen Duggan '50
Pat Kapp Geraghty '50
Marge Clark Stancy '60
Kathy McGrath McDermott '60
Mary McVerry Rubino '60
Late Arlene Fahr Estok '49
Late Beverly Nygren Herbig '60
Late Mary Jane Hildebrand Ruckauf '50
Pat Sandke O'Dowd '60

IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE!

Continued on page 12

Very recently four of our long-time dedicated members have left the board: Barbara Voss Dowling '55, Finance Director from 1993-2012 for illness; Mary Ann Ulm Rosso '55, Secretary 1993-2022 for illness; Sharon Watt Scesniak '60 for illness and Alberta Matulis '60 who passed away in 2025. Our gratitude and prayers are with them.

There are so many who deserve our thanks but it would be impossible to list all of them. We are particularly grateful to all the class reps and hope you will continue to stay in touch with your classes.

TODAY AND THE FUTURE

As 2026 comes to a close, Barbara Stefan Annoreno '60, Pat Grimes '69, Mary Grimes '65, Cathy Biedron Eckart '60 and Jacqueline Brennan '63 will be retiring. We are all proud of what the Alvernia Alumnae Association has contributed to the School Sisters of St Francis through our luncheons, bequests, memorials and direct donations. We have had fun, frustration, creative moments, crafted centerpieces, wrapped prizes, laughed, socialized and became dear friends. But it's time for some of us to step down.

A new chapter for the Association will begin. Many will be happy with the changes. With administrative and technical assistance from the Sisters, the annual luncheons will continue and the newsletter will become electronic, transmitting by email. New, as well as some 'old timers' will become the new board and volunteers. Sister Barbara Kraemer '59 will continue to be the Association's Moderator.

STAY IN TOUCH

The Winter newsletter will give you more information about the changes. To stay in touch, we must have your current email address. Complete the form on page 10 and send to Judy Skotzko.

We think the future offers many new opportunities for Alumnae to connect with other alumnae from the school as a whole and their classmates from their past. Many of you offered suggestions with the recent questionnaire responses. Your continued input to Judy or your class reps will be helpful and appreciated.

HAIL ALVERNIA!

Student years pass quickly, Our school days soon are through
But they will live as we remember the happiest days we knew.



In our fondest memories, Alvernia is most dear
Forever our inspiration, Guiding us year by year.

We pledge our strength, love and our loyalty,
Hearts filled with sincerity

Cherished our whole life through,
Hail, Alvernia, grand and true.



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

ALUMNAE

Betty Cunningham Koujourian '43
Geraldine Heuer Diemer Corr '43
Dolores Powers Grow '46
Sister Joan Kaepplinger OSF '47
Ursula Liptrot Schnetzer '51
Mary Walley Evensen '51
Marilyn Gable Jacobs '52
Carol Ulbert Schafer '52 (2021)
Lorraine Kofler Frost '53
Ann Preschern Elliott '53
Dolores Gable Miller '55
Marianne Mount Diesem '56
Dolores Muresan Popescu '56 (2024)
Patricia Ulbert Sweeney '56
Jeanne Friedrichs Roller '57
Barbara Pfaller Marchok '57
Virginia Rowland Schoeb '57
Carol Leyden Michael '57
Margaret (Marge) Sullivan Stanley '59
Rita Cullen Frazee '60
Anna Mae Babiarz Murch '60
Anne Mirgain Langford '60
Judy Pokorni '60
Joan Irwin Schwertfeger '60
Susan Carcagno Baugh '61
Mary Lou O'Neill Kukula '61
Irene Rubulis Strods '61
Kathleen Rowland McGovern '61
Jean Chopp '62
Mary Ann Pecan Lira '63
Rose Wolff Bonk '66
Theresa James Kolanowski '67
Maureen McCarthy Cnota '68
Rita Laskowski Gulik '68
Evelyn Hayden Colella '68
Mary Louise Komos Rzepecki '71

Lynne A. Behles Curran '72
Cynthia Huss-Bathke '72
Donna Hanlon Kudlik '73
Pamela Bulka Stosur '73
Cynthia Mulcare '75

HUSBAND OF

Betty Beierle Hefferin '46
Barbara Kerak Pagor-Besler '58
Mary Ann Nottoli Bertini '58
Jeanette Sterner Sonier '59
Barbara Griggs Czahor '70
Edith Biegler Vandervoort '75

MOTHER OF

Kristine Howe Ligammari '67
Pat Scanlon Litberg '68
Elizabeth Kacen Bohac '68
Kathy Howe Mayere '68
Kathy Karen '69
Mary Kathleen Kacen '69
Kolleen Howe Klein '70
Kaureen Howe Duffy '71
Nancy Schorsch King '71
Margaret Kacen Fertaly '72
Karen Howe Markowski '72
Kathleen Green Seiwert '72
Linda Green Hrobsky '73
Late Kimberly Howe Gulczynski '77
Sharon Besterfeldt '87
Michele Grandsart Anderson '89

SISTER OF

Late Mary Cunningham Dupee '38
Late Lorraine Cunningham Bernson '41
Late Lois Cunningham Madden '45
Late Beatrice Cunningham Loescher '47
Late Margaret Cunningham Lacerra '49
Kathryn Power Leeds '52
Sister Marilyn Kofler S.P. '52

Late Donna Cunningham Baggio '53
Late Sister Madelyn Sullivan '54
Rosemarie Powers Becker '54
Late Virginia Rowland Schoeb '57
Late Kathleen Rowland McGovern '61
Noreen Hanlon Gayford '61
Ellen Irwin McCue '64
Late Mary Clare Wodniakowski Foertsch '64
Edie Rubulis Mazurek '65
Kathleen O'Neill Hansen '65
Janet Wodniakowski Helgason '67
Peggy O'Neill Waller '69
Donna de Silva '80

BROTHER OF

Mary Ann Kamaryt Lindblad '59
Pamela Czahor Batorski '70

BROTHER IN LAW

Teresa O'Shea Bordes '79

DAUGHTER OF

Esther Plomin O'Neill '30
Late Janet LaRocca Robertson '71

SON OF

Mary Ann Kamaryt Lindblad '59
(2 Sons)
Pat Weber Dziedzic '61

COUSIN OF

Winifred Fuller Fifels '51
Rachel Duebner Bodziochh '68

FACULTY

Aimee Vazquez Simpson
Sister Joan Kaepplinger OSF '47



ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD

MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

In Memory of **Rita Cottorlis '49**, a donation of \$20.00 by Margaret Cirignani Duda '49

In Memory of **Arlene Fahr Estok '49**, a donation of \$300.00 by Lyn Estok Deneen '73

In Memory of **Marilyn Gable Jacobs '52** and **Dolores Gable Miller '55**, a donation of \$100.00 by Elizabeth Jacobs.

In Memory of my Husband, **Norman Then**, a donation of \$50.00 by Janet Ann Mehle Then '53

In Memory of **Ann Boshart Schulze '53**, a donation of \$1000.00 by Rose Marie Barranco Carlson '53

In Memory of my **Husband, Fred A. Kees**, a donation of \$100.00 by Rose Marie Feit Kees '53

In Memory of **Patricia Foley Moran '59**, a donation of \$70.00 by Terrance Foley.

In Memory of **Carol Wissemes Foley '59** a donation of \$50.00 by Kathleen Wissemes McNamara '63

In Memory of **Shurland MacKenzie Zapka '60**, a donation of \$25.00 by Patricia Murphy Bielick '60

In Memory of **Marilyn Kalb Dudacek '61**, a donation of \$25.00 by Dorthea Hahn Kubica '61

In Memory of **Irene Rubulis Strods '61** a donation of \$100.00 by Edie Rubulis Mazurek '65

In Memory of my **Granddaughter, Liliana Faith Borrett**, a donation of \$500.00 by Andrea Zwierzyna Gagliani '65.

Continued on page 14

MEMORIALS AND DONATIONS

In Memory of **Michael and Marian Parise** and **Joan Stroner**, a donation of \$100.00 by Michelle Parise Spanos '66

In **HONOR** of my **Alvernia Sisters**, a donation of \$50.00 by Barbara Kuhn '77.

In Memory of my brother, **Stanley Czahor Jr.** a donation of \$200.00 by Pam Czahor Bartorski '70

In Memory of **Loreto & Rosalia Lo Bosco**, a donation of \$100.00 by Antonette Lo Bosco Tyre '77

In Memory of **Sister Francis Borgia**, a donation of \$250.00 by Debbie Zwierzyna Cravatta '71

In Memory of **Aixa T. Diaz '81 and Cheri Hennelly '81**, a donation of \$200.00 by Teresita T. Diaz '80

In Memory of **Donna Hanlon Kudlik, '73**, a donation of \$100.00 by Noreen Hanlon Gayford '61

Donations to Retirement Fund, SSSF Ministries and Alumnae Association by the following totaling \$3905.00

Joanne Kula Sandrock '46
Betty Schiffli Murphy '51
Rose Marie Barranco Carlson '53
Mary Ann Prosniewski Michels '54
Elsa Maestranzi '55
Jeanette Sterner Sonier '59
Diane Jenkinson Gavin '60
Cheryl Duplantis '62

Jean M. Vargas '64
Sharon Werling '64
Pamela J. Trent '64
Judy Grzeskowiak Glass '65
Gloria Kehl Kearney '65
Kathleen Hintz '66
Patricia Ryan Nelson '68
Mary Hough O'Malley '72

When notifying us of a deceased alumna or relative, please provide the names of all alums who are related to the deceased and class years whenever possible; maiden name and married names if applicable.
Judy Skotzko, jskotzo@outlook.com

School Sisters of St Francis Donation Form

Please Print

Your Full Name _____ Your class year _____

Your Address _____

City, State, Zip: _____ Phone _____

Please apply my donation to: SSSF Ministries \$_____ Retirement Fund \$_____

This donation is "In Honor of" (Live person) _____ "In Memory of" (Deceased person) _____

Full Name of Honored or Memorialized Person(s): _____

_____ Class Year (if Alvernia alum) _____

Check payable to: **School Sisters of St Francis**

Mail to: **School Sisters of St Francis**

International Office of Mission Advancement

1501 S Layton Blvd

Milwaukee, WI 53215



LUNCHEON 2026—HALLOWEEN BASH!

Plenty of parking for your brooms! Costumes are optional! So do join us for an afternoon filled with the Alvernia Spirit, good food, catch-up conversations, laughter & prizes.

Reunion classes needing display tables or easels for memorabilia, have questions or want to schedule group photographs please contact **Barbara Annoreno**, oneronna@comcast.net **prior to the luncheon**. Questions regarding your reservation should be directed to **Pat Grimes**, grimes.pat@att.net. or 847-337-0815.

Please send in your reservation by the October 5 deadline! Payments can be made by check or Zelle. The reservation form has all the information on page 19. Everyone attending the luncheon must be registered and wear the name tag issued at the registration table. We cannot accept reservations at the door nor change seating the day of the luncheon.

*****Please use caution at the main entrance steps. We urge those with canes, walkers or wheel chairs to use the ramp on the east side of the building for safer and easier access into the banquet hall. We plan to have alums at both entrances to assist.**

Tom Killoran Photographers will be taking the group pictures with pictures available the same day. See the details on page 4. Poster with scheduled times available will be on an easel in the foyer.

A Memorial Display will be in the foyer with names of alumnae deceased in the past year. Thank you to Jackie Brennan '63 for arranging the Memorial. Memorial Mass cards will be available at no charge.

The General Raffle will remain at 15 tickets for \$10.00 and Pot O Gold Raffle at \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Thanks to all for your generosity. We greatly appreciate your cash donations toward the purchase of prizes/ gift cards for this event. Looking forward to seeing **YOU** at the Halloween Bash!!!

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED!

We can't have a Luncheon without Volunteers!
We are asking for just ONE hour of your time and you can work with a friend!

Set up of Prizes and Décor at 9:15 AM
(8) Door Greeters
Registration, Dues & Donations Table
Raffle Ticket Sellers, Distributors of Raffle Baskets
Clean up and Loading Cars at Conclusion of Luncheon

Please call or email Joann Lewandowski if you would like to volunteer
or have questions

708-386-1681/lewjoann@hotmail.com

A GOOD NEWS STORY

AN EXAMPLE OF THE FRANCISCAN COMMITMENT TO PEACE

Sister Barbara Kraemer '59, Director of Chapel Ministry at St. Joseph Convent in Milwaukee, WI., Moderator of the Alvernia Alumnae Association



Due to the violence in the City of Milwaukee, the School Sisters of St. Francis felt called to respond and offer a place of refuge and consolation.

Sisters and associates were invited to brainstorm and consider how, as Franciscan peacemakers, they could respond to victims of violence. It was decided to establish St. Joseph Chapel as a Franciscan center of peace and nonviolence based on the Beatitudes and their Franciscan tradition of peacemaking.”

They want to be a source of support for victims of violence and promote ways of reducing divisiveness in the community. They hope to offer these teachings and principles through in-person events and online.

To accomplish this, the School Sisters of St. Francis Committee for Nonviolence offers education programs about nonviolent living, and shares resources on peace and nonviolence at in-person events and through social media.

In February, Archbishop Jeffrey Grob announced that St. Joseph Chapel has been designated as a site for pilgrimages during this Franciscan Jubilee Year. There will be presentations, prayer, and other programs sponsored by the Franciscan Federation and other organizations.

Recently they hosted a forum on non violent communication—how divisive language leads to violence.

Another example: a Pieta bimonthly prayer service got its start when a group of women who attended a chapel mini-pilgrimage in 2022 talked with a sister about their stories of grief and loss. One of the women came to the chapel to pray and receive comfort. Now they come together regularly to pray at the Pieta statue, asking Mary, Mother of Nonviolence, to bring inner peace to victims of violence.

Sister Barbara said the congregation hopes to continue to expand the partnerships it has already established with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and other groups.

“One of the ways our Franciscan spirituality is expressed in action is by welcoming one another as sisters and brothers, creating the ‘beloved community’ envisioned by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr,” she said. “Our hope is that our Franciscan center for peace and nonviolence will help counteract violence by opening avenues for building inclusive and peaceful communities.”

The full article is in the Spring 2026 *ALIVE*. To learn more about this program visit the website’s Media Room: www.sssf.org.

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE

At different times some of these thoughts, reflections and humor were included in the newsletter. Some were sent by Arlene Plash Muench '52 during the Pandemic. There is even one from an Insight. One of these might be just what you need today! Many alums are dealing with grief, illness and other losses so let us remember to pray for each other.



Thoughts for the Day

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything. If you really want to do something, you'll find a way. If you don't, you'll find an excuse. The pessimist may be right in the long run, but the optimist has a better time during the trip.

Gifts of God



He sends you flowers every spring. He sends you a sunrise every morning. He walks with you through your day and paints a glorious sunset for you in the evening.

He treats you to the songs of birds, the laughter of children, the joy of friends. Whenever you want to talk, He listens. He can live anywhere in the universe but He chose...your heart. Face it friend, He loves you!

God didn't promise days without pain, laughter without sorrow, sun without rain, but He did promise strength for the day, comfort for the tears, and light for the way.

Quote for the Week

And yet when I look up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will change for the better. That this cruelty too shall end. That peace and tranquility will return once more. **Anne Frank, July 15, 1944**

Mother Theresa

Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier. Be the living expression of God's kindness: Kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile.

A Prayer for Those Growing Older

Lord, thou knowest I am growing older. Keep me from becoming talkative and possessed with the idea that I must express myself on every subject.

Release me from the craving to straighten out everyone's affairs.

Keep me from the recital of endless detail. Give me wings to get to the point.

Seal my lips when I am inclined to tell of my aches and pains.

They are increasing with the years and my love to speak of them grows sweeter as time goes by.

Teach me the glorious lesson that occasionally I may be wrong. Make me thoughtful but not noseey.

With my vast store of wisdom and experience it does seem a pity not to use it all. But thou knowest, Lord, that I want a few friends at the end. Amen.

An embrace

An embrace is a gift we give, and it's a gift we receive.

An embrace often requires presence and calls us to pull up a chair, to lean in close, to be completely in the moment.

An embrace is the knowing look when sorrow is heavy and words are not enough, and it's seeing someone for who they really are with all the grace in the world, and it's seeing yourself for who you really are with all the grace in the world.

CLASS REPS

Our Alumnae Association has a two-fold purpose: to keep the Spirit of Alvernia alive within its members and to raise funds for the Sisters who guided us in our earlier years. A Class Rep helps to accomplish these goals by:

1. Keeping an accurate class list, establishing a network within the class to contact members.
2. Contacting classmates to:
 - a) Gather items for the newsletter.
 - b) Promote enthusiasm and class representation at the various functions.

Class Reps are NOT responsible for organizing reunions.

50. Kathy Duggan	847-698-3564	
51. Ann Kerrigan Tuohy	847-647-8309	anntuohy5050@gmail.com
52. Arlene Plash Muench	773-282-9639	rgmuench@sbcglobal.net
53. <i>Help! Your class needs you!</i> ~		
54. Kitty Palcer Campe	847-439-6358	Kittycampe@comcast.net
55. Pat Feeney Kimberley	773-889-8985	rkimberley@prodigy.net
56. Sheila Duggan Dworak	847-674-4251	shebru7@comcast.net
57. <i>Help! Your class needs you!</i> ~		
58. Kay Severa Merkle	708-457-1483	marykmerkle@gmail.com
59. Susan Schell Cargill	630-530-4050	smcargill@comcast.net
60. Rita Kouba Drake	773-286-1174	ritamdrake@icloud.com
Jane Wyzgoski Kunath		jkunath@astound.net
61. Peg Anderson Smykowski	630-620-1777	pegsmysmy@comcast.net
62. Marcy Hammes Mueller	847-209-1391	mommules@aol.com
63. Marianne Aiken	773-625-5774	maiken1945@comcast.net
64. Nancy Dobrocki Peistrup	815-335-4067	nancnrich@yahoo.com
Corrine Herforth Stone	847-347-7440	corrstone@gmail.com
65. Janet Borghesi Starr	847-895-8129	jbstarr@astound.net
66. Susan Mindak Ellinger	773-469-3015	selling9@aol.com
67. Cheryl Gielarowski Lange Thomson		CherylThomsonAZ@aol.com
68. Lois Weiler DeFelice	773-865-6553	loisdefelice@gmail.com
Darlene Dionne	630-859-3667	darlene.dionne@att.net
69. Peggy Heinrich Arvanites	224-406-2530	ph3832@comcast.net
70. Judy Fidkowski	773-844-3764	Judyfidkowski@gmail.com
71. Joanne Owens Leslie	312 405-4566	joanneleslie@live.com
72. Linda Herbes India	847-778-5342	lindaindia@comcast.net
73. Marie Nachman	210-859-7905	Nachman4@protonmail.com
74. <i>Help! Your class needs you!</i> ~		
75. Kathy Bunce		alverniah75@gmail.com
76. Angela Diaz Kay	708-456-4910	kay.angela@sbcglobal.net
77. Barb Mizera Petrowski	312-720-5032	bpetrow@ix.netcom.com
78. Colleen Ahearn		cahearn219@att.net
79. Maureen Hogen McMullen	773-817-8462	reenmcmullen@comcast.net
80. Andrea Sullivan Jervier	773-732-9838	ajervier007@yahoo.com
81. Angela Kordik	847-902-4434	angelakordik81@gmail.com
82. Yvonne Dionne Mundorf	630-213-0183	Ydmbxotop@sbcglobal.net
83. Jeanette Gonzalez Burgos		jburgos1017@yahoo.com
84. Rose Kelleher Rinker	630-307-0411	roserinker@comcast.net
85. Barbara Mannion McDonagh	773-251-0625	bgrmcd@comcast.net
86. Maria Balogh McElhone	815-254-4075	dolly2502@hotmail.com
87. Michelle Bourrillion Frait	773-478-4071	frait@sbcglobal.net
88. Kristin Barker Munin	773-315-9310	Kristin.munin@gmail.com
89. Carla Pastorelli	773-736-1145	carla.3@sbcglobal.net
90. Kim Howard Houk	630-671-9097	kimhouk@gmail.com

Names in **bold** are on Facebook.

The Class Rep Coordinator is Judy Skotzko '71, 5306 W. Carmen Ave., Chicago, IL 60630-2224
(773) 685-3672 jskotzko@outlook.com

Alvernia Alumnae Association
32nd Annual Luncheon
Sunday, October 18, 2026

The Cotillion

360 S Creekside Drive, Palatine, IL
 Northwest Highway and Route 53
 11:30 AM Cocktail Reception - 1:00 PM Lunch

Reservation Deadline: October 5, 2026
Advance Reservations ONLY! No walk-ins.

Mail to:

Alvernia Alumnae Association
C/O PAT GRIMES
3260 ROCKWELL CIRCLE
MUNDELEIN, IL 60060

Please complete ALL fields below:

Last (Married) Name

First

Maiden

Class of: _____ **Phone Number in case we need to reach you:** _____

Email Address: _____ @ _____

		How Many?	Total
Membership Dues for: January 1 – December 31, 2026	\$25.00 per year		\$
Luncheon Tickets:	\$65.00 per person		\$
I am a member of a religious order.	\$55.00 per person		\$
I am a former faculty member.	\$55.00 per person		\$
I would like to sponsor a religious to attend.	\$55.00 per person		\$
I would like to make a monetary donation.			\$
Total			\$

Checks made payable to the **ALVERNIA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION**

OR

Payments can be made by **Zelle** to **AlverniaHS@currently.com** – Please complete and mail this form. Mark 'Zelle' on form. Please enter maiden name and class number in the notes in Zelle.

All attendees will be seated with their class. If you are paying for someone other than yourself, please indicate their names and class year.

If you have the following dietary needs please indicate below:

Gluten Free _____ Vegetarian _____ I have an allergy to: _____

**ALVERNIA ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
C/O SCHOOL SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS
P.O. Box 568
Mount Prospect, IL 60056**

**DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY**

NEWSLETTER DIRECTORY

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Class Rep Directory	Pages 18
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Deceased	Page 13
Donations	Page 14
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Dues Form	Page 2
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Luncheon Reservation	Page 19
Form	
Memorials	Page 13,14

**Visit our website:
www.alverniaalumnae.org**



**32nd Annual Alvernia Alumnae
Luncheon
October 18, 2026
The Cotillion Banquets
Palatine, IL**