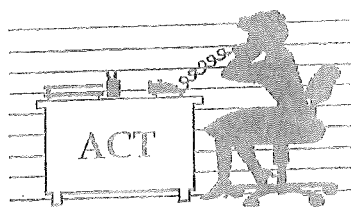


# THE

The Newspaper of Local 1776  
The Association of Catholic Teachers

# SPIRIT'76 OF

1700 SANSON STREET - SUITE 903 - PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 - 215-568-4175 - VOLUME XXXIII- NO. 6  
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## From The President's Desk

### **A LOOK BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD**

On April 21<sup>st</sup>, the Association held its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon for the high school teachers celebrating 25 and 50 years of service in the Secondary School System. ACT assumed the sponsorship of the event when the System dropped it. For the Association, it is so important to honor those who have given more than half their lives to Catholic education.

This year was especially significant for me, since I was one of the honorees. I would like to tell you that it was my 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, but I am proud to say that it is my 50<sup>th</sup>.

I began teaching in September 1963 at St. Hubert's High School. 1963 saw quite a number of lay teachers enter the Archdiocesan high school work force. At that time, we were told that we were a "necessary evil." Once vocations came back, we would be gone. And the rest, as they say, is history. This year, lay teachers comprise over 95% of the classroom teachers in the System.

In those early years of teaching, I was paid \$200.00 a year less than my male counterparts, I sometimes had over 50 students in a class and I subbed rather often and always on my prep period. Oh, and in case you couldn't guess, there was no Union.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

With the large influx of lay teachers during the 1960's, it wasn't long before the union idea took hold. It should be no surprise to anyone that I was involved in the formation of ACT from its earliest days. There were some pretty scary times back then, but we prevailed.

I loved every day that I spent in teaching. The most difficult decision I ever made was to leave "my girls" and become a full-time Staff person for ACT in 1975. I still think back fondly to my teaching days while knowing, in my heart, that I made the right decision.

During the festivities on April 21<sup>st</sup>, Irene, Ginny and my best friend, Chris DeNuccio, said some very nice things about me and my years in Catholic education. I have reprinted for you a little of what Ginny had to say:

*"Congratulations, Rita, on your 50 years in the System! What an amazing accomplishment! And, to think, 38 of those years have been spent in Labor. Wow! I know when I think of the word labor, the first thing that comes to my mind is pain. I am sure that when the Archdiocese thinks of the word pain, the first word that comes to their mind is Rita. Rita and labor pains! I guess it is all in the interpretation."*

*"Over the last thirty years, I have witnessed, first-hand, the strength, stamina and character of a woman whom I could only hope to emulate. Her tenacious spirit is endless when it comes to fighting for the rights of her members and for anyone in need of assistance. She fiercely protects the Labor-Management Agreement, also known as her "baby," and the source of her life's labor."*

*"I know that I and the members of ACT, as well as many others, wish you all the best on your 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the will to keep fighting the good fight!"*

I am looking forward with anticipation as I begin my second half-century of service to you and to Catholic education. I know there will always be challenges, but, I also know that with your determination and support, we will continue to prevail.

Congratulations to my fellow honorees:

25 YEARS: Sharon Cornwall, Mary Lou Metzger and Joe Murray

50 YEARS: Ed Griffith and Bill Hoy



## *Sabbaticals Awarded for 2013-2014*

Four ACT members have been granted a Sabbatical Leave for the 2013-2014 school year. Two full year sabbaticals are available. Four teachers are receiving one semester each. The Sabbatical Leave Committee members from ACT were Julie Teson (Fr. Judge) and Irene Tori (ACT Staff). Representing OCE were Theresa Ryan-Szott (Director of Secondary Personnel), Jason Budd (Deputy Secretary for Catholic Education – External Affairs) and Sr. Marie Esther Hart, IHM (Coordinator for Math and Science Initiatives).

The Association extends best wishes to the following recipients:

*James Atkinson (44 years) – Archbishop Ryan (one semester)*

*Cara Marino (44 years) – Bishop McDevitt (one semester)*

*Walter Weinrich (43 years) – Archbishop Carroll (one semester)*

*Gerri Garofalo (40 years) – Archbishop Wood (one semester)*

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## *Congratulations!*

On Sunday, April 21, 2013, ACT sponsored a luncheon for those teachers who were celebrating 25 or 50 years of service to the Secondary School System of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The honorees are (from left to right)

Joe Murray (Fr. Judge, 25 years), Ed Griffith (Bonner- Prendergast, 50 years), Bill Hoy (West Catholic, 50 years), Rita C. Schwartz (ACT President, 50 years), Sharon Cornwall (Little Flower, 25 years), Mary Lou Metzger (Abp. Ryan, 25 years).

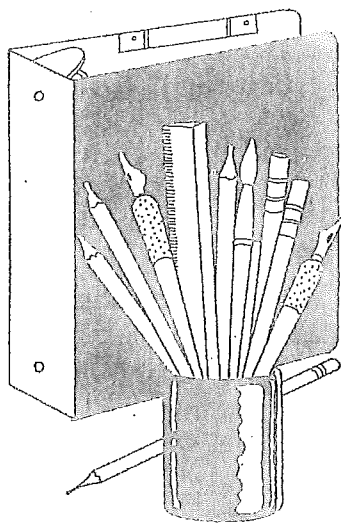
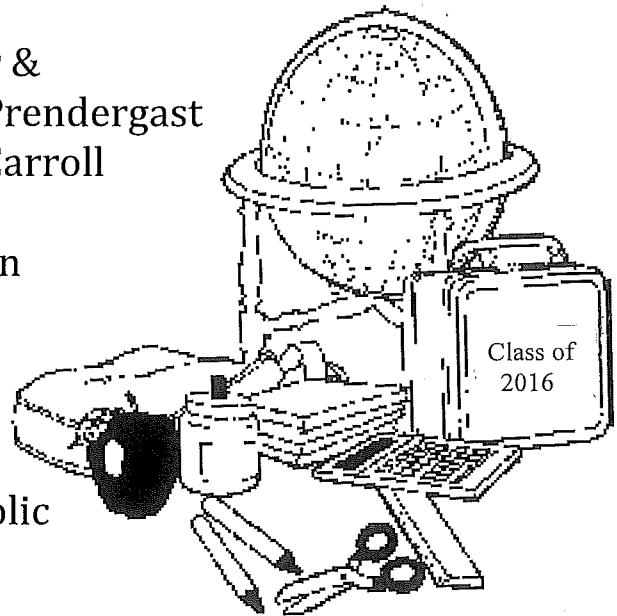


*2013 Association of Catholic Teachers*  
*John J. Reilly*  
*\$500.00 Scholarship Awards*

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Our 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Scholars

Emma Killian – Monsignor Bonner &  
Archbishop Prendergast  
Breda Marie Brady – Archbishop Carroll  
Jake Hofmann – Conwell-Egan  
Juliette Palermo – John W. Hallahan  
Francis Ochman - Holy Cross  
Carmeron Wasson - Holy Cross  
Allison Hooven – Saint Hubert  
Henry Garant – Father Judge  
Laura Lindmeier – Lansdale Catholic  
Tracy Glova – Little Flower



Maria Estampa – Bishop McDevitt  
Aileen Small – Sts. John Neumann  
& Maria Goretti  
Jacqueline Rooney – Cardinal O'Hara  
Molly Culbert – Cardinal O'Hara  
Jodi Graf – Pope John Paul II  
Vincent Capitolo – Roman Catholic  
Marissa Rivera – Archbishop Ryan  
Gabrielle Gilbertson – Bishop Shanahan  
Julian Hart – West Catholic  
Jacob Mayer – Archbishop Wood

# Lancer's Local

## Issues or contractual items of interest to Holy Cross H. S. (Delran, NJ)

The 2012-2016 Labor-Management Agreement  
was signed on April 17, 2013.  
The contract should be printed very soon.



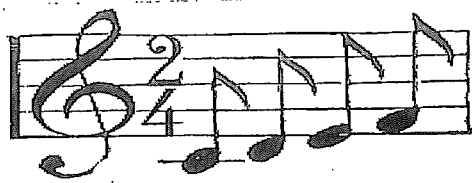
### *A Note of Thanks!*

*From: John J. Reilly Scholarship Award Winner at Holy Cross High School*

Dear Ms. Schwartz,

Hello. Recently, I got a letter in the mail about a reward for being number one in my freshman class at Holy Cross High School. The letter said that because I was ranked number one, that I was awarded a \$500 scholarship to attend Holy Cross. I would like to say thank you for sending me the money and it will go to great use.

Sincerely,  
Cameron Wasson



## A Few Notes of Thanks!

**From: John J. Reilly Scholarship Award Winners**

**"Each year, the Association's Executive Board awards a \$500 Scholarship to the 9<sup>th</sup> grader in each Archdiocesan high school and at Holy Cross High School, Delran, New Jersey who has the highest general average as of the end of the first semester. If that student is already on scholarship, it is given to the highest student not receiving financial assistance. The \$500 Scholarship is sent to each school to be applied to the student's 10<sup>th</sup> grade tuition."**

Dear Rita and Irene,

Thank you once again for sponsoring the ACT Scholarship Award. It is my hope, once the award is confirmed, to have a picture of the winner on our web site.

In these tough economic times, we are grateful for your continued sponsorship of this award.

God bless,  
*Sr. Maureen McDermott*  
Principal  
Bishop Shanahan High School

Ms. Schwartz:

Thank you so much for this most generous support of Catholic Education.

Sincerely  
*Robert P. O'Neill*  
Principal  
Roman Catholic HS

Dear Ms. Schwartz,

I am writing today to respond to your letter that I received recently regarding the \$500 scholarship that your organization has awarded me for ranking number one in my freshman class at Conwell-Egan Catholic High School.

My family and I greatly appreciate your generosity. I myself appreciate the recognition as well.

Sincerely,  
*Jake Hofmann*

My parents and I would like to express our gratitude to the Association of Catholic Teachers for awarding me a \$500.00 scholarship. I appreciate your generosity and recognition in giving me this award. The money will be used as payment towards my tuition next year as I enter 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Neumann-Goretti Catholic High School.

This scholarship will help me to continue with my Catholic high school education. I will strive to work hard and do my best to earn this recognition.

Sincerely,  
*Aileen Regina Small*



## I See A Future Where, More Than Ever Before

### **... Teachers Need An Advocate**

Do you have what it takes to be a Senior Delegate?

If Social Justice in action, teacher dignity and respect are issues that you find important, and, if you would like to work with these issues, then consider running for Senior Delegate at your school.

## **SENIOR DELEGATE ELECTIONS (MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> – JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>)**

Senior Delegates received a stipend of  
\$500 for the 2012-2013 school year.

### **Responsibilities Include:**

1. Act as a liaison between your members and administration.
2. Provide representation for your members in situations where any member reasonably feels that disciplinary action may occur.
3. File grievances to settle issues of opposing interpretations of the contract.
4. Encourage members to become familiar with and support the contract.
5. Conduct meetings at the local level.
6. Attend all meetings to represent your school.
7. Encourage your members to attend all general membership meetings.
8. Keep the Executive Board informed of local issues.
9. Be responsible for conducting all union elections in the school.
10. Be responsible for the ACT Bulletin Board.
11. Distribute information from the ACT Office to the teachers.
12. Perform duties assigned to you by the Executive Board.
13. Be responsible for signing up new members and maintaining the good standing of present members.

This is a good time to, once again, thank all of the Senior Delegates who have served the Union and their own school members so well this year. The ACT Office and the Executive Board need and appreciate your work.



# Retirement Seminar for Teachers

There will be two retirement seminars for teachers who plan to retire either this year or sometime in the near future.

Patricia Richmond, administrator of the pension plan, will be the guest speaker. These seminars have been very well received in previous years, so it is well worth your time to attend. Representatives from the Office of Catholic Education, Educational Financial Services and the Association of Catholic Teachers will also be on hand to answer any of your questions.

The seminars will be held at 3:30 PM on

**Tuesday, May 7, 2013**

**at Cardinal O'Hara High School**

in Room 239

1701 S. Sproul Road, Springfield, PA 19064

**Tuesday, May 14, 2013**

**at Archbishop Ryan High School**

in the North Lecture Hall located on the second floor, rear hallway

11201 Academy Road; Philadelphia, PA 19154