

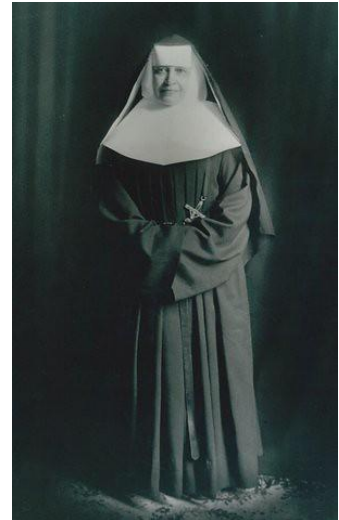
CNR Alumni Connections

As we launch our new feature, CNR Connections, it seemed appropriate that the first article go back to Mother Irene Gill, OSU, founder of the College.

- Pat Keegan Abels SAS '73
CNR Alumni Communications Committee

I called my lifelong friend Trudy Kendrew in Stamford, CT, (Gertrude Zawacki, SAS '54), and told her I got to my 70th Reunion from CNR last June. Although our college no longer exists physically, Mercy College carries on the CNR Legacy. My '52 classmates Claire Carolan Burnell and Maureen Costello Durkin also attended. Our daughters drove us to Dobbs Ferry and got a kick out of hearing our stories. After a champagne lunch, we toured Moller House, the building reserved for CNR memorabilia and get-togethers.

Trudy had married Joseph Califano, who served in the administrations of President Lyndon Johnson and President Jimmy Carter. In 1904, Joseph Califano's aunt, Mother Irene Gill, OSU, had founded the College of St. Angela, which became the College of New Rochelle. The CNR Library bore her name. On the call, Trudy and I talked about our teacher, Sister Michael Joseph, at St. Mary's High in Taunton, MA, who would have liked to see us go to Harvard or Yale, but those universities were not for girls then. A Jesuit cousin of mine had recommended the Ursulines in New Rochelle, NY and so off to CNR went Trudy, my younger sister and myself.



Mary Lee Jones Waldron, SAS '52



THE LIBRARY

*"Knowledge to our eyes her ample page,
Rich with the spoils of time, doth here unroll."*

On the way home from a weekend trip to the Adirondacks this summer, we stopped at an antiques center in Queensbury. It was a huge place overflowing with all sorts of merchandise. As I headed upstairs alongside a wall lined with mirrors and pictures, my son beckoned to me to come see what he spotted near the bottom of the stairs – a College of New Rochelle mirror. Surprised but happy over our reaction, after asking if I was familiar with “the place,” the owner of the shop told us an elderly gentleman who seemed especially fond of the mirror had brought it into her shop. I posted the story, along with some photos, on our Class of '75 Facebook page and among the many reactions I got was that of a classmate who has a summer house in the area. Days later that same classmate went into the shop, purchased the mirror, and now has it hanging in her upstate home! Serendipity!!



Rosa Puleo Napoleone, SAS '75

Mary Ellen Roche Fagan, SAS '52 and I had been in a writing group in Bridgewater, NJ, for at least 10 years before she asked me if I had gone to CNR. Her husband had recognized my name among the list of annual donors in Quarterly!

Mary Ellen and I were already fabulous friends, and as our 40+year relationship matured, we morphed into family. I owe Mary Ellen my everlasting gratitude for all the strength, warmth and courage she showered on me during difficult times in my adult life when I needed mothering. Because of her, I am a much better person. Plus, it is always great to have a friend to discuss two big topics from CNR - Philosophy and Theology!

Thank you, Mary Ellen, for recognizing our CNR connection!
Kathy (Kathleen) Bieger Roche, SAS '67

My husband and I have been active in our Jesuit parish for 30 years. Recently I learned that a parishioner participating with me in a small Faith and Racial Equity group is a CNR alum. She was a freshman when I was senior. At a parish retreat a week ago, we had an opportunity to spend some time together and compare notes on our CNR days as well as recent updates on CNR at Mercy College.

Mary Supple Daily, SAS '66

My husband and I enjoyed traveling, including winter trips to sunny San Miguel de Allende in Mexico. One year, while in San Miguel one of my husband's acquaintances, Howard Walsh, suggested lunch with the wives. (Howard and my husband, Tom, met spending early mornings reading the English language newspaper at the town center park, the Jardin.) The four of us went to one of our favorite San Miguel restaurants, Hecho en Mexico, and during coffee, I had the thought, ...mmm New Rochelle...I bet Howard's wife, Clare, is a graduate of CNR. When asked, she was speechless, but not for long. She graduated in 1956 while I graduated in 1958. We spent future winters in San Miguel and continued getting together in Mexico and in Massachusetts where we both lived. We are now of the age where we stay at home and enjoy the wonderful memories of San Miguel.

Submitted by Ann Mulligan O'Brien, SAS '58
CNR friend is Clare Keefe Walsh, SAS '56

This past May, on the *second* day of a 21-day monumental Road Scholar journey up and down the coast of the Adriatic, my husband and I met a fascinating woman, Sandra Smith Gangle, who graduated from the College of New Rochelle in 1964. Since I had graduated five years earlier an instant friendship was spawned! However, on the *third* day a "*triumvirate*" was formed when Sandra and I met Kimberly Gulik, a vivacious woman considerably younger than we AND a Mercy College graduate of 1985. Over cocktails in the Odyssey Lounge we shared the love of our mutual Alma Maters and how our education impacted our diverse career paths. Our chance meeting reiterated the notion that all people are six or fewer social connections away from each other!

Mary Ann Marriott, SAS '59



From left:
Sandra Gangle, Mary Ann Marriott, and Kimberly Gulik