

SCA/Maria High School Alumnae Association Meeting
Kaupas Kafe
August 22, 2013
6:00 PM

The following people were present at this meeting: Suzy Etsch '75; Therese Naddy McGee '69; Anna Belle O'Shea '74; Sr. Elizabeth Ann Yocius, '71; Sr. Immacula Wendt, SSC '54; Cheryl Tolish; Amy Eckhouse; Sr. Margaret Zalot, SSC; and Wendy Lynn

The meeting was preceded by dinner.

Wendy Lynn apologized for not sending minutes and reminding the larger group of the meeting.

Maria Kaupas Center

The meeting began with a discussion of the attendees involvement with the Maria Kaupas Center.

Amy Eckhouse talked about the progress of the Maria Kaupas Center teen programming that is going on currently. The teens have named the dining room the Kaupas Kafe and have taken steps to improve the environment by painting chairs and walls. A leadership team comprised of teens has led the effort and will be the drivers for attracting their classmates to the Center.

Suzy Etsch, who taught an art class last spring will be working with the afterschool programming this fall. The Center has applied for and is hoping to get funding from PNC for a healthy eating program which Suzy will be facilitating.

Therese McGee and the organization Performing Art Therapy have applied for funding to offer classes starting in November that will allow teens to express themselves through the performing arts.

Anna Belle O'Shea has scheduled a workshop for musicians who work in predominantly African American parishes in the Archdiocese to be held at the Maria Kaupas Center Saturdays in September and October.

Alumnae Communication

Discussion focused on getting others connected and attracting people to the group.

Consistent communication is important for connecting. Database and email addresses need to be researched and fixed. Sources of alumnae information are contained in several places.

There are two databases:

- 1) Results Plus is a database housed on the server shared with Catalyst (note: alumnae data is not shared with Catalyst). It has had many different users updating information and is known to have a number of errors. It contains name, address, telephone, email address, giving history, graduation year and many user-specific fields, some of which have no relevance to the current situation. It has report writing capabilities and an inquiry function.
- 2) Constant Contact is a web-based database which was created about three years ago using email addresses originally stored in Results Plus. It is specifically designed to send email out in such a manner that it doesn't bounce back as spam. When an email went out to ask alums to brainstorm for an association, about 4500 emails were sent out, but over 1800 bounced back as "bad addresses".

There is a hard copy book, the Harris Directory, which was compiled in 2010. The Harris Directory is compiled by an outside company, Harris Connect that tried to find current addresses for alums and print them in a book that is available for purchase. There was no way that Maria Staff could determine how to mechanically compare addresses in results Plus to the Harris Directory. So people who believed that they were updating their information with Maria may not have been successful in getting the Results Plus record updates.

Therese McGee and Sister Margaret have volunteered to meet with Wendy Lynn on Monday, August 26, to take a look at the various information sources and to develop a plan for tackling the information.

Reunion

A consensus of the group present was that a date should be selected for the Annual Reunion and that the group just work toward that date.

The date of May 3 was selected so that the Reunion would coincide with a Mass for Mother Maria's beatification (scheduled for 9:30 AM). Activities could involve a cookout at the Motherhouse, and also be spread between the Motherhouse and the Maria Kaupas Center.

The date will need to be confirmed so that it doesn't conflict with anything going on at the School. Sister Elizabeth Ann and Amy will check with the Catalyst principal, and Wendy Lynn will send out a Save the Date notice if the date is clear on Catalyst's calendar.

Homework:

Wendy Lynn will distribute minutes of this and the July 18 meetings.

SEA and Amy will check on the May 3 date with Catalyst
If clear, Wendy will send out a Save the Date via Constant Contact.

Cheryl will find the list of class reps developed in 2009.

Therese, Sister Margaret and Wendy will meet about the databases.

Next meeting is Tuesday, September 17 at 6:00 PM in the Kaupas Kafe.

Important Dates:

Tuesday, September 17 – Next Alumnae Association meeting. 6:00 PM. The Kaupas Kafe (Maria Kaupas Center Dining Room). DINNER WILL NOT BE PROVIDED.

Saturday, October 5 – Mass for the beatification of Servant of God Mother Maria Kaupas. 9:30 AM. Motherhouse Chapel, 2601 Marquette Road. “Coffee and” immediately following in the Motherhouse Dining Room

Saturday, November 2 – All Souls’ Celebration: 9:00 AM - Reading of the names of those remembered. 9:30 AM - Mass for All Souls and the beatification of Mother Maria. “Coffee and” immediately following in the Motherhouse Auditorium.