

THE OCCASIONAL

A News-Letter issued every Now and Then from
THE ROSATI-KAIN H.S., 4389 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis

Editors: Members of the Costume Crew '15-'16.

R-K Occasional

Celebrating 100 Years

December 2015



The Occasional Celebrates 100 Years

From its beginning in 1911, Rosati-Kain High School has changed along with the world. Since 1914, when *The Occasional* began, what has remained unchanged, however, is the eclectic atmosphere of Rosati-Kain. The spirit of R-K has been alive and strong

all these years and is well-illustrated and well-documented through *The Occasional*. This issue is dedicated to showcasing the century-old tradition of the R-K Occasional and showing that some things never change.

— Katie Antrainer, 2016

St. Louis's trolleys, the 1904 World's Fair, and the completion of the new Cathedral were all fresh in the minds of R-K's Class of 1918. In fact, most students even took the trolley to R-K's Grand Boulevard location, across from today's Fox Theatre. As President Woodrow Wilson declared entry into the "Great War," so-called "R-Kers" aided the war effort as members of Rosati's Red Cross unit. The "W.S.S." referenced in article from 1918 stands for "war

savings stamps," used by the U.S. government to fund the war. The talk of the school was the possibility of getting a new building – this new school is, of course, our current building, constructed in 1920. Outside of school, vaudeville theatres and "moving pictures" were popular. The event of the year for R-K's society girls was the Veiled Prophet Ball, which was canceled in 1917 due to the war.

— Ellie Hoerner, 2016

THE SITUATION.

"The editors new, grasp their pens
and ink—

They stare and stare, they blink
and blink!

One says 'What avails a sea of ink

To him who has no thoughts to
think?'

All question: 'Haven't you?'

Not I, indeed, though I'd disguise

My sorry lack of Senior pride
Since my thoughts won't soar or
rhythmic rise—

No Pegasus can I bestride—
I'll just indulge in words.

Now, these will carry warning sage,

Keep to your journal's name and aim
'The Occasional' — felicitous phrase —
Be it not named in vain.

Let every Now — be a happy Then

And every Then a happy Now;
Thus, 'fellow Eds', let's make our bow;
Methinks I hear 'Amen'."

- R-K Occasional October 12, 1917



A New School — The Secret's Out!

THE W.S.S. CAMPAIGN.

"We're going to have a new school, a new school, a new school. We're going to have a new school, just ask Father D.'

So sang the Seniors on Thursday noon March twenty-first nineteen hundred eighteen. This proclaimed to the school that the campaign on the W.S.S. was 'on'. But as the Seniors started their march through the campus a few Freshmen, shocked at this undignified demonstration on the part of the Seniors, wished to know the cause of all this commotion. Poor Seniors, that their first campaign parade should be so rudely interrupted, but they are patient toilers so they continued:

'Come and buy a Thrift Stamp, a Thrift Stamp, a Thrift Stamp. Come and buy a Thrift Stamp, buy one every day.'

Now the secret was out. Father Dooley and Dame Rumor had whispered that Rosati-Kain was to have a new school, also that a big patri-

otic drive was to open and the money so raised was to be given to the decoration or equipment of one department of that new school; the pupils themselves were very much elated at being thus able to perform a two-fold duty, patriotic and likewise religious and educational but it was left to the Seniors to show the school that the drive had really begun.

The Seniors' enthusiasm was at white heat when a voice was heard: 'It is fifteen minutes of one, girls.' Chemistry awaited, so the W.S.S. banners had to be furled for the day while terror reigned in the hearts of the Seniors for the one o'clock gong struck before the Laboratory was reached. But someone had saved the day and we were greeted with a happy smile and given a commendation for starting our W.S.S. campaign. Although we met with a few difficulties on our first day, in the language of the poet, 'We will scorn delights and live laborious days' until our W.S.S. campaign is over."

— Mildred McCormick, '18

ABCDEFGH, HIR-K...

The 1920s were centered on moving past the effects of WWI. Employment levels were through the roof, making jobs easier for teenagers to find. Stripped-down Model T's were available at reasonable prices, giving teens new levels of mobility. High school was not a requirement and jobs could be found without a diploma. Women were freed of the shackles of corsetry and long skirts, and the simple rules to a happy life could easily be explained through the alphabet.

— Rachel Bundstein, 2016

The Alphabet of Our High School Life

Act Ladylike.

Be courteous

Come early.

Don't talk during study hours.

Excel in all subjects.

Forgive and forget.

Grasp opportunities.

Have an excuse for absence or tardiness.

Interest yourself in your work.

Jollily perform duties of school life.

Knock nobody.

Linger never after 3 P.M.

Mind your own business.

Never race to the cafeteria.

Own no pony.

Play occasionally.

Quote the renowned authors.

Read the required readings.

Say little.

Take corrections pleasantly.

Use discretion.

Violate no rules.

Work diligently.

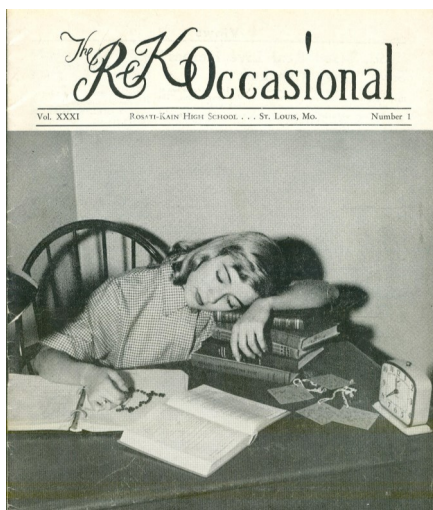
Xert no pressure on desks.

Yield to your superiors.

Zealously preserve the honor of R-K."

— Pauline Schmechebier, '25





“Midnight Oil”

Students at R-K today face just as many challenges as those in the 1930s. The Great Depression still lingered, and the practical arts were an important part of any girl’s education. In addition to academics R-K girls were expected to take classes in the Clothing, Food, and Commercial Departments. The Commercial Department was proud of their “forty-two typewriters, a new process duplicating machine, a steel file cabinet, and an electric clock.”

One thing about being a R-K student never seems to change, as illustrated in this 1939 poem:

— Gaby McIntosh, 2019

“Overworked”

“I’ve often wondered how it would feel
If early to bed some night I’d steal,
Instead of burning the midnight oil
To continue this life of burdensome toil.

How great it would be to be in bed
With good warm covers over my head,
And to dream of many beautiful things
Instead of the nightmare late study brings.

Enough of this talk!

I must get back to work;
Not a single duty dare I shirk.
But as soon as this history map is drawn,
I’m off to bed, for here comes the dawn!”

—Johanna Kollar, ‘40

Helpful Hints Make Healthy Habits

The year 1948 was an important one for America, which, under the guidance of President Harry S. Truman, was experiencing a post-war boom. Having been racially integrated the year before, R-K was prospering as well— the school had nearly 700 students and clubs ranging from Student Librarians to Horse-

back Riding. When the average R-K girl wasn’t at school, she was at home listening to her family’s radio (Bing Crosby was a favorite) or on her way to the movies. The article below details the “proper manners” of the time.

— Ellie Hoerner, 2016

“Hints Help Courtesy”

“Have you ever stopped to think that your personal appearance goes under the heading of courtesy? Well, it does and everyone should take note of it. If a girl does not have cleanliness to her credit, it shows that she has no consideration for her companions. The family should be considered too; don’t go around your home looking like a Cinderella before the fairy godmother, but don’t go around looking like Cinderella after the fairy godmother either.

Nearly everyone knows the rules of telephoning, but few apply them. Try to put those rules into use the next time your phone rings.”

“This next paragraph will come

up sooner or later, probably sooner, at the December prom. Have consideration for the Chaperones. Without them we would have no prom, so be polite to them.

Attention to the Sisters in class is always required. New let her catch you napping or reading a library book slipped inside your text book. Give your instructor your best, and she will give you her best in return.

‘Eat at your own table as you would at the table of a king.’ Need Emerson say more about table etiquette?

If you have only read the heading and the last sentence of this, take heed of these seven words — ‘A low lowbrow chews gum before everyone.’”

— Occasional December 1948



“You’re not worried about exams, are you?”

Under Eisenhower, the economy prospered in the 1950s. With that grew the opportunity to become a Rosati girl. With the dawn of the Cold War and World War II fresh in their minds, the ladies of Rosati-Kain were a new generation of women: independent, wildly intelligent, and incredibly funny. But they still complained as the modern Rosati girl does.

— Alena Chulick, ‘16



Les Modes de Femmes

Les Modes des Femmes, the R-K benefit for Dr. Thomas A. Dooley, was a miniature Parisian fashion show. The Eiffel Tower in the background, a sidewalk cafe, and the strains of I Love Paris set the scene for 22 R-K models, as chic and distinguée as any mannequins anywhere.

In the sunny sportswear, Gabrielle Jacquet showed a color conspiracy of patchwork whimsically named Mad Pants. Completing the outfit were a deep blue blouse and red scarf.

Fetchingly feminine was Kay Catlow as she fairly danced out onto the ramp, in a soft, pink-striped cotton with pouf sleeves.

That striking senior, Kathy Booth, caused a sensation as, with a

“Mascara”

“You’re not worried about exams, are you? Just be like the seniors. Do the maximum amount of work with the minimum of fuss and worry. Of course, that doesn’t go for all of us.

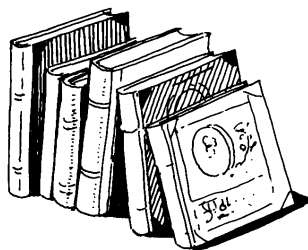
Written exams
Are not what I’m best in;
I think of the answers
After handing the test in.

It must be kind of fun to be a teacher at exam time.

‘Karl Marx was one of the Marx Brothers.’

‘Alma Mater was an opera singer.’”

— Occasional 1957



fashionable swagger stick she swung white, water-repellent full-length coat with a flame-colored draped dramatically across her shoulders.

Calculated simplicity describes the sheath worn by Mary Boelhauf, sophomore. Her accessories – a tiny flowered hat, purse, and gloves.

Young and flamboyant, Jo Anne Villani appeared in a checked black and white dress, topped and set off by a shirred bodice and a gently gathered cumberbund.

Freshman Sue Russell drew an audible sigh from her audience as she pivoted in in a shirt-waist dress with a bright broad stripes and skirt with unpressed pleats. Sue is a professional model at Sak’s Fifth Avenue on Maryland.

On the Catwalk

The 1960s were years of significant change in the United States, especially for women. The President of the United States in 1960 was Dwight D. Eisenhower; however, John F. Kennedy was elected in November to be president the following year. In fact, the presidential election of 1960 was the first televised presidential election ever and was viewed by 70 million people. Over one hundred million televisions were sold worldwide in the year 1960, and the Flintstones premiered on September 30, 1960. The United States held the Summer Olympics in Squaw Valley, California. Popular celebrities included people like Marilyn Monroe, Doris Day, and Elvis Presley. Popular fads for young women were miniskirts, knee high boots, and oversized “Jackie O” sunglasses.

— Sarah Nolte, 2016

Ellen Perry, sophomore, was the ultimate in cool, calm elegance in her rhapsode-in-blue cocktail dress featured an embroidered waist and scoop neck.

Guest of honor, Mrs. Thomas Dooley, received an exquisite bouquet of American Beauty roses as did Mrs. Helen Pritchard, the show’s lively commentator. Miss Peggy McCarthy and Mrs. Dorothy Glover did an excellent job as co-chairmen. Franklin Simons of Clayton provided the fashions.

During the intermission, Jo Anne Kleba, voice student of Sister Madeleine Sophie at Fontbonne Collge, song the lovely Un Bel Di and Madame Butterfly by Puccini and the haunting Swedish folk song, When I Was Seventeen.

—Mary Pat Holtgrave, Occasional 1960



A Yearly Tradition

The 1970s was a busy decade not only for Rosati-Kain, but also for the country and the world. In 1970, the revolutionary rock band, The Beatles, came to an end. In August of 1974, President Nixon resigned from office and Gerald Ford was installed as president. The Vietnam War was slowing, and would formally end in 1975. During this time, the whole R-K community was affected by these events. Rosati found ways to cope with these hard times and help improve them. This article was written by former Rosati principal Mrs. Mohan in August of 1974 and is about October Day, an R-K tradition still celebrated today.

— Logan Hendrix, 2018

“It Was The Best of Times...”

During the 1980's, Rosati was celebrating the past and looking forward to the future. R-K was getting ready for a new look in the library, and students were looking forward to the preparations that would go underway over the summer. They were also celebrating the past, with students honoring the 75 years Rosati-Kain students had shared. This article from May, 1987, highlights Rosati's Spring Concert and describes the type of music that will be presented.

— Ellie Prost, 2017

The Occasional Staff

Katie Antrainer, 2016

Rachel Bundstein, 2016

Alena Chulick, 2016

Logan Hendrix, 2018

Ellie Hoerner, 2016

Gaby McIntosh, 2019

Sarah Nolte, 2016

Ellie Prost, 2017

Rebecca Sommer, 2016

Ms. Govero-Yann, Moderator

“Best of Times Celebrates Past, Present”

“The Best of Times”—the theme for the 1987 Spring Concert—will celebrate in a festival of music, dancing, and art 75 years of good times that Rosati-Kain students have shared...

Ms. Elaine Fassi, instrumental director, supports the theme by performing different styles of music. She states, “We try to get a sampling of the best songs of the times from Glen Miller to present-day music. . . .”

Performing Ensemble will play “A Salute to Glenn Miller,” “Highlights from ‘Godspell,’” “The Gremlin Rag,” “Say Say Say,” and the theme from the “Cosby Show. . . .”

The New R-K Dance Chorus, directed by Father Gene Robertson, has set up three numbers. Tap dancers will present “In The Mood.” Jazz dancers plan to offer “God I Hope I Get It” from “Chorus Line” and “Julie’s Theme” from “American Anthem. . . .”

— Peggy Dickmann, ‘88

“Come Together, Come Alive”

Traditionally October Day has been an opportunity for the school to look beyond its immediate concerns and to focus its attention upon some aspect of the world’s problems. The past few have included peace and justice seminar and a day concentrating on poverty around the world. October Day was an incentive for action, an effort to spur the study body to involvement.

This year the format of the day has been altered. Instead of inviting other people into our school, the school

going to try to look inward in an effort to promote some spirit and unity. To embody this idea, the theme of day will be, “Come together, Come Alive.” This is close conjunction with the Church’s liturgical theme this year, “Reconciliation, Resurrection.”

The students and the faculty will be engaged in discussion groups in an effort to come up with ideas to unite the school. The organizational committee envisioned these groups as think tanks where the members of the group will discuss possibilities for a project each month that the entire school can

work towards. Representatives will be elected to combine the ideas of the discussion groups into plausible possibilities.

After lunch the representatives will relay the consolidated plans to the rest of the school and mass will be celebrated as the culmination of the day’s activities. Ann Lumetta, a member of the planning committee, enthused about the day, “I think the idea for the day is good. There has been something missing in the school lately. This is our chance to look at the situation and remedy it.”

— Judy Peteraff, ‘74

The World Wide Web

The nineties were an exciting time to be a high school student. Clin-ton performed the sax on The Arsenio Hall Show, rap and hip-hop were coming of age, and the U.S was making itself a presence in the Middle East. O.J. got off clean and Mandela was released from prison. Almost more important than any of these things, however, was the introduction of the World Wide Web, which occurred in 1991. The internet, as it would soon be known, sparked an information revolution, and has influenced the lives of every single person who has lived since. Back in 1996, however, it was new and shiny, and no one had any idea of the power that it would hold in the future.

— Rebecca Sommer, 2016

“Let’s Go Web Surfin’”

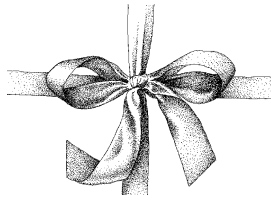
Where’s the one place you can speak to someone from California, get a bibliography for a history paper, and stop to check out local band listings without leaving your seat? The Internet, of course. If you have a modem and a computer, you have a connection to thousands of databases world wide and to anyone else who has access to the Internet whether it be your neighbor across the street or a kayak enthusiast overseas.

The Internet is a network of computer databases through modems, giving people a way to access all sorts of information in a fairly simple manner. (I say “fairly simple” because if you aren’t familiar with computers, few things are simple. It’s all relative.) With Internet access, you are privy to any and all information available. Online you can access dictionaries, encyclopedias, magazine backlogs, newspapers, book reviews, horoscopes, audio and visual clips, and the latest news about anyone or anything you can think of. Internet

“All I Want for Christmas is...”

The 2000s was time of revolution. It was the new millennium, and technology was making rapid advancements. R-K girls were, of course, completely up-to-date on all the technology of the day. The items on their 2004 Christmas lists included digital cameras, computers, and cell phones. The *Occasionals* of the day included polls and interviews, and the results of the Christmas 2004 poll, complied by alumna Kaylen Hoffman, are at the right.

— Ellie Hoerner, 2016



access becomes unbelievably handy in writing papers and articles. I’ve even used it to help me in my college search.

The Internet isn’t just a place for business and complicated computer jargon. With e-mail (electronic mail) you can correspond with pen pals from all over the world. E-mail eliminates the long wait for the postal service, so it’s good for those of you who are into instant gratification. If you have the time, “web surfing” is another Internet activity. The World Wide Web is a network of home pages which you can search at random, or go to specific sites if you know the address (those <http://www> type things). One of the more interesting pages is one dedicated to cockroaches (<http://www.nj.com/yucky>). If you surf around awhile, you can find some pretty weird stuff.

The Internet is not a wave of the future, it’s here now and it’s huge. If you aren’t already, you should get yourself connected and explore the endless possibilities.

— Sarah M. Dalton, YEAR

Christmas Top Tens

Top 10 Christmas Songs

1. ‘O Holy Night’ suggested by Junior Kadee Gross
2. ‘Let it Snow’ (the R-K Voices version) suggested by sophomore Sarah Hardy
3. ‘The Christmas Song’ suggested by Mrs. Propst
4. ‘Oh Santa Claus, Why Are You So Fat’ suggested by Grace Barcheck
5. Junior Angie DeLaria recommends anything by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra
6. ‘I Want a Hippo for Christmas’ suggested by junior Kerry Nolan
7. ‘Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer’ suggested by Meredith Hoog
8. ‘All I Want for Christmas’ (Mariah Carey version) suggested by sophomore Ashlee Badgett
9. ‘Last Christmas’ (Jimmy Eat World version) suggested by junior Lizzie Ward

Top 10 Things You Should Do Over Christmas Break

1. Go sledding (FYI: You can do this without snow. Ever heard of a cardboard box and a steep hill?)
2. Drink hot chocolate.
3. Throw a snowball at a friend.
4. Kiss someone under mistletoe.
5. Go for a walk with your family at night.
6. Go to the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows (it’s free) and drive through the Christmas light exhibition at night.
7. Sit and stare at your Christmas tree for ten minutes.
8. Visit with your family and exchange funny stories.
9. Make lots of wishes for 2005 on New Year’s Eve.
10. Do homework.

— Kaylen Hoffman, 2006