



R-K Science Program:
THEN AND NOW
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*r-k*TODAY

SPRING 2016 | NO. 98

A publication for the alumnae, friends and benefactors of Rosati-Kain High School

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Cover Photo: Rosati-Kain: Then and Now

IN MEMORIAM

Please keep these and all those who have passed away in your thoughts and prayers. Memorial gifts may be made to Rosati-Kain by directing your gift along with the name of your family, friend or loved one to: Jackie Jones, Rosati-Kain High School, 4389 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

1933 Marie Foley	1951 Bernadine Hejna Wall
1937 Frances Bour Kelahan	1952 Juliana Marie Feld CSJ
1942 Mary Marcella Polizzi, ASCJ	1955 Carol L. Conley Collmann
1944 Helen Holmberg Knop	1957 Theresa Cova Szwabo
1947 Jennie Ruggeri	1962 Karen Ryan Strunk
1947 Mary Milligan Schildz	1962 Joan Margaret Whittemore CSJ
1948 Charleen Barta SSND	1974 Christina Giudici Croci*
1948 Rose Pasetti Hermanson	1988 Mary M. Lane
1951 Marilyn Preis Gattermann	
1951 Jane Zumsteg Morrow	

*Directed Memorials to R-K

Rosati-Kain High School

MISSION

Through a vibrant Catholic education, we cultivate the individuality, faith, talent, and aspirations of young women who will lead and serve the world.

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HIGH SCHOOL

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www.rosati-kain.org

Like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and find us on Instagram and LinkedIn! Search "Rosati-Kain."



IN ST. PAUL'S LETTER TO THE ROMANS WE ARE INSTRUCTED TO,

*“Let love be sincere...treasure what is good,
contribute to the needs of the holy ones,
exercise hospitality.”*

My dear friends,

Seeing these words put into action so often by the Rosati-Kain community over the years has been overwhelming. In this issue, you will read the story of Sherri Heim Reames and her commitment to Rosati-Kain. She is not atypical.

As I sign thank you letters to our faithful donors, many stories emerge. I love the notes that come with gifts. Whether from Connie Williams who so loved her 25 years as a teacher or a parent of a freshman so pleased that her daughter has blossomed at R-K, the stories always reflect treasuring what is good. Gifts of all sizes come in from our alumnae and friends and each gift is a contribution to the needs of the holy ones. High school girls have so many pressures from peers and society at large that each one needs the personal message of encouragement that comes from the Rosati-Kain community. Our mission statement lives each day as we cultivate the unique faith, talents and aspirations of our students.



We alumnae are keenly aware that Rosati-Kain gave us far more than our parents could afford. I know my parents wanted the best and were willing to do everything in their power to provide it. Only because their efforts were matched by the faculty, who were creative with their use of resources, and alumnae who were dedicated to supporting the school, could I receive the gift of R-K. Every day I dedicate my efforts to repay that gift. I am grateful to all those who join me by volunteering and sharing monetary resources. Rosati-Kain simply would not exist without you and your sacrificial gifts.

This issue of the *R-K Today* highlights our science programs yesterday, today and tomorrow. During the science revolution of the 1960s Rosati-Kain was on the cutting edge with curricula coming from BSCS Blue version Biology, Chem Study, and PSSC Physics. Little did we know we were standing on the shoulders of those before us who studied science at R-K long before the rest of society put women and science together. Today our students of Anatomy, Advanced Biology, Physics and Chemistry see classwork live through Robotics, Eco Act, and in the lives of alumnae and mentors.

I invite you to visit Rosati-Kain. Come on a school day when you can see not only science and math but the humanities, practical arts, fine arts and theology all coming together to assure our students that they are talented, precious gifts to our community and to instill in them the confidence to contribute boldly to the world they touch. In that way, they too will contribute to the needs of the holy ones.

In Notre Dame,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Sister Joan'.

Sister Joan Andert, SSND
President

*“As for me and my household,
we will serve the Lord.”*

—JOSHUA 24:15

Dear Rosati-Kain Community,



I am so grateful to be part of the Rosati-Kain community where each day I am blessed with the opportunity to be with young women who oftentimes model for me many of the characteristics that I want to integrate into my own life. Our students are excited about learning and I know that this excitement will ultimately translate into life-long successes. I see them persevere in their efforts to defeat opponents in both athletic and intellectual competition and I recognize that this determination will equip them to conquer the many challenges that lie in their future. I am encouraged by their eagerness to venture into new experiences, confident that their peers will support them.

In the verse above, Joshua refers to a household where members care for one another. Rosati-Kain is a community where each person is cherished for her own gifts. Frequently I see students from different grades laughing and communing together. There are no strangers in the building. It is a place where everyone feels at home.

Rosati-Kain is a living example of the household Joshua references. Our ladies proudly serve the Lord both within our walls and in our larger community. Each year during ROAR Week, our entire student body comes together to support a nonprofit. This year our penny wars raised \$3,300 for Whole Kids Outreach in Ellington, Missouri, a faith-based organization committed to the unmet health and developmental needs of children, youth, and pregnant women within their family structure. The girls also donated 3,190 diapers and 4,826 baby wipes to the cause. Throughout all the fun and festivities of ROAR Week, the need to support Whole Kids Outreach was never far from the minds of our students. They thrived in the fun-filled environment focused on giving and serving their community.

Our young ladies are equally cognizant of the need to serve the Lord within our school as well. I witness this daily when I watch our students be present for one another. As we are well aware, the life of a teenage girl can be challenging. It is so special to me when I see our student body accompany each other on their difficult journeys as well as their happy ones. I see girls from varied class years doing homework together, offering guidance and support when they recognize a peer struggling to understand coursework. I listen as students ask each other about their personal lives and offer to pray for a friends' hurt and frustration. I watch our young women hug each other and display compassion and concern for another's struggles. The household of Rosati-Kain is undoubtedly living proof that Joshua's words are alive and well in the world today.

Dr. Elizabeth Ann Goodwin

Dr. Elizabeth Ann Goodwin
Principal

UPCOMINGEVENTS!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TODAY! BE SURE TO CHECK FACEBOOK AND THE R-K WEBSITE FOR CHANGES AND UPDATES.

GIVE STL DAY May 3, 2016

R-K has participated in Give STL Day since its inception, and we're excited to make this our best year yet. Give STL Day is a 24-hour giving event, sponsored by the St. Louis Community Foundation. In 2015, 790 nonprofits around St. Louis received 20,260 gifts totalling \$2.1 million. The R-K community rallied to raise \$34,675 from 221 supporters. Mark your calendars and stay tuned to social media for this year's event.



KOUGAR KAMPS June & July, 2016

Rosati-Kain Kougar Kamps are back! Designed to offer your Kamper the ultimate summer experience, R-K is offering five weeks of full or half-day summer programs from Monday through Thursday in June and July, 2016. Our camps are designed to be fun and inspiring but also to engage your daughter in a new interest or sport. While the majority of our camps are geared towards sixth through eighth-grade girls and incoming R-K freshmen, **we have added sports camps for girls in third through fifth grade for soccer and volleyball.** Check the website for more information!

YOU'RE INVITED

ALUMNAE MASS & *Brunch* SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2016

ROSATI-KAIN HIGH SCHOOL

- Mass will be held at 8 a.m. at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis. R-K doors open at 9:15 a.m. and brunch is served at 10 a.m.
- A Charism Award presentation and spring concert preview will follow brunch. This year's Charism Award Recipient is Linda Shead, '64.
- Alumnae Senior Konnection (ASK) sponsors are encouraged to invite their seniors.
- Reservations are \$30. Please return the RSVP form below to R-K with payment or RSVP online at www.rosati-kain.org.

2016 ALUMNAE BRUNCH RSVP

PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 18, 2016

Name..... Maiden Name..... Class Year.....
Address..... City..... State..... ZIP.....
Preferred Phone..... Email.....

I plan to attend Mass at the Cathedral: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Reservations are \$30 per person. Reservations by credit card are available online at www.rosati-kain.org.

Please make your check payable to Rosati-Kain High School and send it with this form to:

Rosati-Kain High School, 4389 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108.

SCIENCE: *Then*

At its inception, the science curriculum at Rosati-Kain included Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Home Economics.

1912–1919

School located at Grand and Lucas



Physics and Chemistry, circa 1916



Sewing Machines, circa 1922

1919–1922

School located in Hayes Mansion on Lindell. Beginning in 1920, science classes occurred in the Science Hall behind the Hayes Mansion.



Science Hall



(cont. on page 6)

SCIENCE: *Now*

Today's required science courses are Integrated Chemistry and Physics, Biology and Chemistry. Electives include Physics, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Eco-Act and a number of AP courses. Students can also participate in our Science National Honor Society and Robotics.

AP Biology

On January 8–10th, 49 AP Biology students headed up to Chicago to explore more about the world they had been studying so far. Trudging through the sleet, we were able to have some remarkable times at the Field Museum and Shedd Aquarium. At the Field Museum, we were able to go behind the scenes to see how they really research. We were able to hold snakes, turtles, and different kinds of insects. At Shedd Aquarium we were able to look more closely at aquatic life and watch how they would act in the wild. All the hard work we have done so far this year paid off and we were able to see it put into action, rather than just

learning about it. On top of that, we had time to shop on Michigan Ave. and try deep-dish pizza. I think it's safe to say that a great time was had by all who went and we were able to further our curiosity about the world around us.

Rebecca Mulvaney, '16



AP Biology group taking in the sights of Chicago



What did the AP Biology trip to Chicago mean to me? Well, it meant becoming more in touch with not only our studies in this course, but also with my classmates, teachers and even myself. Throughout the trip, I was able to acquire new levels of knowledge about some of the topics that we had been discussing back home such as natural selection, lichens, DNA analysis, the age of the earth and so much more. Before boarding the train to head into the Windy City, I must admit that I was skeptical about whether or not I was going to understand everything we would be talking and learning about on our tour. However, as the trip went on, I realized just how beneficial our studies throughout this year have been, as I was able to keep up with every topic we discussed and every exhibit we visited. Besides furthering my knowledge about the subject of Biology, this trip to Chicago also allowed me to advance my own personal responsibility. On Saturday after we left the Field Museum, we were given the opportunity to roam Michigan Avenue on our own to shop for clothes, souvenirs, and to enjoy our teenage-selves in the great city of



The Wind City—January 2016

(cont. on page 7)

SCIENCE: *Then* (continued)

1922–2016

Rosati-Kain moved into its current location and science courses were held once again in the same building as all other academic offerings.

1941

The new gymnasium and cafeteria were built, providing much more space for science education. The chemistry and physics labs moved into the former cafeteria space and the home economics lab moved into the old gymnasium.



Home Economics lab, circa 1941

1959

Rosati-Kain stopped offering Home Economics (and converted the space into a language lab) and purchased science laboratory equipment. Additional science labs moved into the former Home Economics space in preparation for Rosati-Kain's first inductees into the National Honor Society in October of 1961.



National Honor Society

1970s

The biology lab moved into the space previously used for language labs.

(cont. on page 8)



“Where did you go to high school?”

by Ellen Hoerner, '16

This question is a common one in St. Louis, where the city's many public and private high schools have created unique cultures for themselves. *Where Did You Go to High School?*, an exhibit at the Missouri History Museum, examines the history of high school in St. Louis and the effects of this question on how St. Louisans see themselves and one another. Rosati-Kain is featured in the exhibit as one of the first real STEM schools for women.

R-K's place in this exhibit was the inspiration behind our ***Rosati-Kain: Science Then and Now*** focus in this issue of the *R-K Today*.

The exhibit, created entirely by area high school students, opened Saturday, March 12 and closes Sunday, July 17.

SCIENCE: *Now* (continued)

Chicago. The teachers were more than helpful by telling us just where to go, giving directions on how to get there, and by being reachable at all times.

I looked out on the skyline as we were leaving and understood that, though it was only two days, this trip will be something that I will never forget. It gave me newfound familiarity with my studies, my friends, teachers, and most importantly, myself.

Allie Kennebeck, '17



Departing Chicago

Touring Bissinger's

To prove that science can be tasty, the Science National Honor Society went on a tour of Bissinger's Chocolate Factory. Bissinger's has been a chocolatier since the 1600's. They learned about the history of chocolate and the production of Bissinger's Chocolate. And, of course, they tasted some of their candies—yum!!



Science National Honor Society students visiting Bissinger's.



Students learning forensic anthropology at Saint Louis University.



Forensic Anthropology

The Science National Honor Society took a trip to the forensic anthropology lab at SLU. The picture of the skulls shows the progression of change in hominids. The students met with Dr. Mary Vermilion, the head of the forensic anthropology department. She talked about how the skeleton of hominids changed over time. She also talked about how scientists use the knowledge they have of the human form to help in solving crimes.

(cont. on page 9)

SCIENCE: *Then* (continued)

1992

Rosati-Kain removed all typewriters and introduced computers schoolwide. Typing class evolved into Computer Applications.



1996–1997

Science labs were updated. Chemistry, Biology and Physics labs moved into new homes. Human Anatomy and Physiology was first offered to upperclasswomen.



2012–2015

Construction plans were made, and for the first time since 1941, Rosati-Kain undertook a massive expansion resulting in, among other things, new and modern space for Chemistry, Physics and Robotics. Construction also provided an incubator space for evolving programs.



SCIENCE: *Now* (continued)

Robotics



R-K SistamatiK Team

When we started our SistamatiK robotics team last year, every girl on the team was inexperienced in technology and engineering. We are very lucky to have such a great team of teachers and mentors from different sponsor companies such as Boeing, Centene and Rockwell Automation to guide us in designing, building, wiring and

programming our robot. Last season we successfully made a functioning robot named “Guilly” that competed in the FIRST robotics FRC competition held at Chaifetz Arena. The process of creating this robot led to priceless experiences including learning to use large tools like the bandsaw and our advanced 3D printer provided by 3D Systems and Coca-Cola. Through countless hours of building the robot, writing essays, and working under the pressure of our short six-week build period, we became so close to our teammates while building skills for our futures. Part of what makes robotics special is how much commitment and teamwork each person puts into the final product in order to make something of which we can all be proud.

*Rachel Porter, '17, and Elizabeth Nickrent, '17
(members of the administrative team for SistamatiK)*



*Touring the tunnels
at the Missouri
Botanical Gardens*

Service Projects

The Science National Honor Society members are required to participate in service projects.

On November 14, 2015, the girls worked to clean the alley behind R-K. They swept, raked, trimmed and picked up trash to make the alley look beautiful to all who use it.

The girls also helped the St. Louis Audubon Society with their Habitat Restoration project in Creve Coeur Park by The Bakehouse. The girls helped plant 200 trees and worked on a honeysuckle hack. In the spring the SNHS girls will return to help plant a butterfly garden and help in the prairie part of the restoration.



Hard at work for our community

Tunnel Touring

Science National Honor Society girls toured the tunnels beneath the Missouri Botanical Gardens. The tunnels are needed to move hot water to heat the greenhouses and the Climatron. The buildings used to be heated with steam, but that was impractical and expensive. The tunnels also carry the fiber optics and electrical cables for the Gardens. The tunnels have been around for

much of the Gardens existence. The blue round thing behind the girls is one of the boilers for the Garden.



WHY I GIVE

“Everything we have is a gift from God.”

Sherri Heim Reames, '95

All my life, my parents raised me to be generous, teaching me that everything we have is a gift from God. Whenever my siblings or I received money, we were expected to give at least the first 10 percent away. As a result, from a very young age, giving became a part of who I am. When God blesses me, I get to share those blessings with others. Even in the lean times, I have stayed true to that calling and God has always provided for my family. For many reasons, when choosing where to give, Rosati-Kain rises to the top of my list every year.

Being able to attend R-K was an opportunity I only had because of the kindness and generosity of others. The financial support my family received allowed me to attend. Without that support, I never would have been able to afford such an amazing education. Part of my motivation for giving is to pay forward that generosity and perhaps allow another young woman to have the experience I cherish so much from my time at Rosati-Kain.

When I think about the woman I've become and my experiences in life, R-K was instrumental in helping to

shape me into this woman. While at R-K, I gained confidence by being an active participant in the R-K community. Being surrounded by other intelligent women, I learned to accept that being an intelligent woman is a blessing. Through the rigorous curriculum, the staff and administration continually challenged me to think critically and to articulate my thoughts more clearly, which served me well in college and continues to serve me well both personally and professionally. All in all, the education at R-K sparked a curiosity in me that still drives me to grow mentally, physically and spiritually every day.

Outside of my family, my education from Rosati-Kain High School inspired more growth in my life than any other influence. It planted seeds that took root and continue to bear fruit even today. Having had such a profound impact on me, it seems natural for me to want to give back to the institution that gave so much to me.



Mary Ellen Murphy, '59

DYNAMICS OF BACKBONE

At Rosati-Kain, Mary Ellen Murphy, '59, enjoyed the opportunity to take both chemistry and physics classes, but she was even more appreciative of the woman she learned to be. She enrolled in Fontbonne after graduating from R-K, and soon found herself in more chemistry and physics courses. Mary Ellen quickly saw how easy it was for females in science courses to be silenced by men, but her time at R-K taught her to be comfortable in her own skin, whether she was arguing an alternative perspective or coming up with ideas of her own. She developed what she calls the "dynamics of backbone," and it took her far in life.

Mary Ellen believes that science and math make you a viable candidate, whether in school or in a career field. More than anything, studying science and math gives you a language outside

found herself discounted in meetings and struggling to find a mentor. In fields dominated by men, women only succeed when they are confident, persistent and unafraid to believe in themselves. Women can be denied access to jobs and opportunities to advance within their chosen field. It can be a battle to find support from the rest of your team if your idea or proposal is groundbreaking or even just a bit different from the way things have always been done. The dynamics of backbone Mary Ellen began to develop at R-K not only kept her in challenging career fields but made her successful and respected.

So, what is this dynamics of backbone, and how can R-K students develop it themselves? It's rather simple, really. Mary Ellen lays it out in four rules. Even better? While they helped Mary Ellen define herself in math and

Secondly, sing, dance or play an instrument. Music is a universal language and, whether you sing, dance or make music, you will be able to communicate around the world and in every culture. This gives you a second strength. Life after R-K could send you into a world very different from the one you now occupy. Music will help you relate and give you the chance to fit in, whether you are singing karaoke in Japan, dancing in Germany or playing the piano on a Friday night with coworkers in Argentina.

Third, learn how to smile and then do it. Often. Smiling, more than most things, will get you far in life.

Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, communicate and open up to people. We live in a world where everything is at the tip of our fingers. While this has many benefits, make a habit of stepping away from the digital world and enjoying physical human interactions. In Mary Ellen's family, her nieces and nephews refer to "living like Mary Ellen." These are the times they cancel their cable, sit down to a quiet family meal or go technology-free on Sundays. Couldn't we all benefit from living like Mary Ellen?



Couldn't we all benefit from living like Mary Ellen?

of women's language and can help level the playing field. Combined with the dynamics of backbone, this language can take you far in life.

Mary Ellen has had a number of careers in her life. She began as a high school geometry teacher, transitioned into running two of her own businesses, and finally found herself working for McDonnell Douglas and then the Boeing Corporation. While she loved each of her careers, she often

science heavy careers, they hold true for you no matter what you want to study and who you want to become in life.

First and foremost, learn how to play. Joke with your friends. Take time to enjoy yourself. Develop yourself as a creative person. If you want to succeed in life—all of life: work and personal—you have to be creative and know how to have fun.

WHO'S DOING WHAT?

Do you have some news you'd like to share with the R-K community? Please send a short announcement along with a digital photo (from your phone is fine!) of 600 pixels or greater to rkdevelopment@rosati-kain.org.

ALUMNAE

Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center hired **Leslie Pinkston Gill, '95**, as their CEO in January. Leslie also currently serves on Rosati-Kain's President's Council.



Rose Newport, '01, was appointed to the Tower Grove Park Board of Commissioners where she will serve as the Development and Marketing Committee Chair.

Sarah Billing Hart, '02, performed with the United States Marine Band on the *Today Show* in January.



The **Class of 1995** had a lively 20th reunion in the Central West End this past fall.



**Annie Hafner
Haarmann, '02,**

received a fundraising
award from Siteman
Cancer Center. She
has been selling her
own custom
handmade jewelry
on her website,

www.JewelryRevisited.com, as a way to raise funds for
cancer research. 100% of all sales goes to the Siteman
Discovery Fund for cancer research. Annie started
making and selling unique jewelry as a way to honor
her mother, who has been battling cancer since 2013.



Dr. Maya Warren, '03,
joined the Kahala Brands
team as the new Global
Tastemaster and food
scientist for portfolio
brands Cold Stone
Creamery and Pinkberry.



Morgan DeBaun, '08,
is the cofounder of Blavity
and was recently named
one of *Forbes* 30 Under 30
in the media sector.

What does Rosati-Kain mean to you? We'd love to
share your thoughts with the R-K community. Send
your response (50 words or less please) via email to
rkdevelopment@rosati-kain.org. If you want to include
your photo, please send a digital photo (from your
phone is fine) of 600 pixels or greater.

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Together we can make
a difference!





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