

The Lasallian Spirit in Action at Saint Mary's College

By Linda U. Foley



Billie Jones (right) President of SMC Guild at Orinda Country Club Christmas luncheon (with Guild member Angie Veio)

Saint John Baptist De La Salle—whose precepts are the basis of Saint Mary's College—would be proud of the Saint Mary's Women's Guild whose mission is to raise scholarship funds to aid needy students.

De La Salle, born in Reims France in 1651, founded the Institute of the Christian Brothers, a teaching order whose tenet is to teach and provide affordable education to all within the framework of a Catholic education.

De La Salle dedicated himself completely to the education of young people, particularly the poor and needy. He was canonized in 1900 and proclaimed Patron of Christian Teachers in 1950. For more than 300 years, the Brothers have perpetuated the Lasallian teachings throughout the world.

In many ways, the

Women's Guild has assumed this dedication—committing itself to helping worthy students who need financial support—through various scholarship funding. The Guild—composed of alumni, College affiliates and friends of the College—was founded in 1939. Since its inception, the Guild has diligently focused on raising funds to aid thousands of students to achieve their academic goals and objectives.

The Guild has a current membership of 160 members who adheres to a busy schedule throughout the academic year. The standing calendar includes a spaghetti dinner, Bridge and Bunco, Christmas boutique and Annual Spring Fashion Show at the College campus, and the Christmas luncheon, usually off-site. In addition, upcoming events (such as bus outings to San Francisco or Napa) and

newsworthy items are parlayed through monthly newsletters.

The monies raised by the Guild are funneled into The Saint Mary's College Guild Annual Scholarship Fund and the Brother Albert Plotz Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund whose current market value has generated in excess of \$42,000 for this year, providing direct funding to needy and worthy students.

This year's fashion show "Swing into Spring" will be held on April 12th; fashions provided by Coldwater Creek. For more information, call Mary Power at 925-672-6761.

Membership to the Saint Mary's College Guild is available to everyone and one need not be College affiliated. For membership information, contact Patricia O'Connel at 376-4096 or Patricia McEnaney at 376-3306. The College website is www.stmarys-ca.edu. The Guild's website is under construction.

Editor's Note: Rumor has it that Linda U. Foley herself will be among the fabulous models in the April 12th Fashion Show!