

# Seton Associate Newsletter

Vol. 8 No. 3

July 2017

## Catholic Press Association Presents Highest Award to Seton Associate Matt Schiller

The Catholic Press Association of the United States and Canada presented its 2017 St. Francis de Sales Award to Seton Associate Matt Schiller during its Catholic Media Conference June 23 in Quebec City. It is the association's highest honor.

The award is named for St. Francis de Sales, the patron saint of Catholic writers, Catholic press, and journalists.

Matt, who steps down this year as CPA president, is advertising and business manager at Catholic New York, a publication of the New York Archdiocese, and the largest Catholic newspaper in the United States. He accepted the award with honor and described his work in CPA "as a passion, not a job." He was quick to thank his mentors in CPA and to urge others to mentor each other the field.

"Teach them, support them, learn from them," Matt said in his acceptance remarks. He said multi-generational mentoring is needed—not just the old helping the young but also young people helping those who are older.



Matt began his Catholic press career in 1973 at *The Tablet* newspaper of the Diocese of Brooklyn, where he rose from advertising account executive to associate publisher.

Prior to being named advertising and business manager for Catholic New York in 2006, Matt worked 13 years in business, development and marketing for Holy Family Interparochial School in Norwood, NJ. While working at Holy Family School, he met Sister Elizabeth Holler, SC., who invited him to become a Seton Associate. Matt made his Commitment in 2004 and a Lifetime Commitment in 2017. Sister Elizabeth is Matt's Sponsor (and biggest cheerleader!).

Last January, Matt eagerly agreed to plan a tour of New York for our new Seton Associates from the Navajo Nation. He arranged a guided tour of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and joined our Navajo members on a visit to the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine in the Battery and to lunch at a local restaurant.

In an editorial "Above and Beyond the Call," Catholic New York wrote: "Schiller has worked for more than 30 years in the Catholic Press. It's a rare occurrence that an employee on the business side of operations wins the St. Francis de Sales honor, but he is a rare talent. His nomination spoke about how he generously shares his expertise with those in the Catholic Press Association. That thought holds doubly true on the home front, both at Catholic New York and in the archdiocesan structure in New York. He frequently pitches in when we're shorthanded, with no task too small for his assistance, and always can be counted on to find creative solutions when problems crop up. At an awards breakfast in the office, he said he has never been about pointing fingers at the cause of a problem, but more about lending a hand to get things back on track as quickly as possible. We would add that he does it all in a humble, team-first way that is the very definition of servant leadership...They could not have picked a better recipient of the St. Francis de Sales Award, and we could not be prouder of Schiller."

The Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth and the Seton Associates also could not be prouder of Matt! Congrats from us all! (Photograph by Chaz Muth/CNS)

## Four Join Seton Associate Advisory Board

General Superior Sister Rosemary Moynihan, SC, and the Council have appointed Sister Patricia Beaumont, SC, Sister Maureen Sullivan, SC, and Seton Associates Jo

Lynn Krempecki and Theresa Nolan to a three-year term on the Seton Associate Advisory Board effective July 1, 2017.

They succeed Sister Marion Scranton, SC and Seton Associate Mary Ann Motiuk, each of whom served six years, and Sister Anne Haarer, SC, and Seton Associate Leslie Penny who served one year and stepped off the Board for personal reasons.

The new appointees offer important insight and voice to enrich our program:

1. Sister Pat is held in high esteem for her work with Sisters and Seton Associates in various ministries, especially at St. Vincent Academy and Josephine's Place.
2. Sister Maureen is highly respected for her service to the poor as Director of Ministry Services and Volunteers for Catholic Family and Community Services in Paterson.
3. Jo Lynn garnered impressive professional accomplishments in lay ministry formation in both the Trenton and Camden Diocese.
4. Theresa grew up at St. Vincent Academy, distinguished herself at the College of Saint Elizabeth, and presently works at St. Vincent Academy. She represents our younger members, an age group that is rapidly growing.

Their combined talents will help to advance new initiatives to benefit our ministries, the goals of the Seton Associates and the mission of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. Other members of the Advisory Board include: Joan Schildwachter, chairperson; also Jacqueline Crane, Sister Mary Fallon, SC, Anne Marie Gardiner, Sister Mary Pauline Hogan, SC, Coleen Ognissanti, Judith Rosenberg, and Rosemary Carroll, Director. Sister Maureen Dunne, SC serves as our Council Connector.

We are grateful to Sister Pat, Sister Maureen, Jo Lynn and Theresa for their willingness to serve on our Advisory Board, to Sister Rosemary and the Council for their wise appointments, and to the Holy Spirit for her influence that made all this possible. Special thanks to Sister Marion, Mary Ann, Sister Anne and Leslie for their time and service.

## Seton Associate Katherine June Sullivan Dies

Seton Associate Katherine June Sullivan, a mainstay teacher at Mother Seton Regional High School for 23 years, died on July 8 at age 60. She lived in Mountainside, NJ.

Katherine became a Seton Associate in 2001. Her Sponsor was Sister Catherine Maurice Reilley, who is deceased. Katherine grew up in Bloomfield and attended St. Thomas the Apostle School there, and went to Immaculate Conception High School in Montclair. She obtained her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering and her Master's degree in engineering management from New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark. She worked for a time at Bell Atlantic, married, and moved to Mountainside where she reared her two children, Ken and Katie. During that time she was active in her parish, a Boy Scout Leader and then a Girl Scout Leader.

Katherine joined the teaching staff at MSRHS in 1994. Over her 23 years there, she taught physics, algebra, and chemistry. This past year, she helped develop the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) program and created a new course titled Engineering Design Process, one of only 11 offered in the Archdiocese of Newark. She was totally dedicated to the MSRHS students, with their Science League and maintaining the scorebook and stats for the school softball team. She was a volunteer cook for AIDS patients, also enjoyed gardening, concerts, and summer trips to Ireland with her family.

In her application to become a Seton Associate, Katherine wrote: "For the past seven years, I have been back with the Sisters of Charity as a teacher at Mother Seton. I feel like I am back home with my family. During a difficult time, the Sisters showed me faith, strength and comfort, just by being there. The Sisters have been an important influence on me and I hope to "give back" to the students in my care all of the things the Sisters of Charity taught me over the years."

Recommending her, Sister Jacquelyn Balasia, SC wrote: "Katherine is familiar with the Spirit of the Sisters of Charity from both sides of the desk! She is a very good role model for our girls not only as a woman scientist but also of someone who cares about them." Fellow teacher and Seton Associate John Uriarte wrote: "I think Katherine Sullivan is already a Seton Associate in heart. She has a great love for the Sisters, and is always doing her best for the students and the people she works with."

Katherine was blessed with grace and gifts that she shared with her family, our Sisters, her students, and us. We are enriched because of her and we believe she grew in spiritual friendship with the Divine because of us. May she rest now in Divine embrace and be a source of influence for us in all matters engineering, science, technology and math!

## Sister Margaret O’Neill Will Address Vincentian Confab in Rome

Twenty sisters and one Seton Associate will participate in the International Vincentian Family Symposium in Rome from Thursday, October 12 to Sunday, October 15, 2017. Sister Margaret “Peggy” O’Neill, SC. will address the confab on the Vincentian Jubilee Theme of “Welcome the Stranger” and place focus on the meeting’s goal to define new initiatives to serve the world’s poor. Sister Peggy serves the people in Suchitoto, El Salvador as Community Animator and Professor.

Pope Francis will join the confab on Saturday, October 14, and the reliquary with the actual Heart of St. Vincent de Paul, which is traveling throughout the world this 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, will be present throughout the gathering.

The entire Vincentian Family – congregations and religious who cite St. Vincent as founder – will come together from all parts of the globe for this historic meeting to celebrate their Vincentian heritage, to give thanks for all that has been accomplished through the charism to date, and to develop creative ideas and plans for our future.

Our Sisters will participate with attendees to consider the changing demographics and social contexts in our world, the pressing needs of the poor, and our ability to best respond to these as a Family.

Seton Associate Director Rosemary Carroll has been invited to work at the conference as a synthesizer. She will cover Day One of the conference, recording what is presented, comments, and recommendations, and submit a succinct written summary that will become part of the confab’s recommendations.

## Father Richard Rento Will Lead Annual Retreat

Father Richard G. Rento, STL, author of the highly acclaimed book *It’s Not Necessarily So*, will address the theme of “Transformation in the Spirit” during the Annual Seton Associate Retreat set for **October 20-22, 2017** at Maris Stella on Long Beach Island.

In his book, Father Dick strives to separate faith from fiction and make sense of belief. He will apply his down-to-earth theology to help us to identify and treasure our own spiritual transformations.

Father Dick, as he is called, grew up in Clifton, NJ, and graduated from St. Paul’s Elementary School and Clifton High School. He went on to Seton Hall University,

Immaculate Conception Seminary, and the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, where he obtained his Licentiate in Sacred Theology.

He has been a priest of the Paterson Diocese for 58 years. During that time he has ministered as pastor, administrator educator, hospital chaplain, radio broadcaster, lecturer, and retreat-giver. For 20 years he was diocesan director of religious education and director of continuing education for priests; for the next 20 years he served as pastoral team coordinator at St. Brendan Church in Clifton. In 1998, he retired and lives now in Lavallette, NJ. He presently serves as Catholic chaplain at Seabrook Retirement Community in Tinton Falls, presides at the weekly WPAT Radio Mass in Paterson, lectures and gives retreats and days of recollection.

Mark your calendar now for this year's retreat on October 20-22, and next year's 2018 retreat set for October 12-14, also at Maris Stella.

### Maris Stella Needs New Equipment

Sister Mary Morley, SC, administrator of Maris Stella Retreat and Conference Center, requests funds to purchase a new commercial dishwasher for St. Vincent House, and a new clothes dryer. If you wish to participate in this effort, please send your tax-deductible contribution to her at Maris Stella, 7201 Long Beach Boulevard, P.O. Box 3135, Harvey Cedars, New Jersey 08008.

### Federation Associates in New England Will Meet in October

Associates in the Sisters of Charity Federation who live in New England are invited to a gathering at 11 a.m. on Saturday, October 28 at St. Peter's Parish Center on Memorial Drive in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The meeting will include prayer, discussion and lobster rolls for lunch. A plan for the group to continue meeting will be set up.

Associate Directors Jo Paulin of the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth, Kentucky, and Rosemary Carroll of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth are hosting the event to reach out to Associates who live too afar of their congregations to participate in annual activities. Individually, such members may feel isolated, but joining with other Associates within the Federation, all of whom share the same charism, creates a "local group" for meeting and sustaining their involvement. The Associate Directors in the

Federation will host similar regional meetings for Associates around the country. They held a gathering in the Denver area last year.

## Our Area Groups Growing

Traditionally, Seton Associates living in certain geographic areas, gather together for monthly meetings. The area meetings are designed to sustain our members through prayer, discussion and camaraderie.

Our present groups include: In New Jersey, Convent Daytime Group led by Mary Ann Motiuk; Morristown Evening Group, led by Jeanne Nicholls; Paterson Area, led by Judy Rosenberg; Trenton Area, led by Jacqueline Crane; Jersey Shore Group, led by John Oppici, Carol Thrunk and Beverly Farano; and Jersey City Group led by Patricia Lynch; also, New Haven, Connecticut, led by Peter and Barbara Rzasas; Amory, Mississippi led by Carlos Ann Sanders; and Navaho, New Mexico, led by Amanda Milford-Joe.

We have many members living and/or working in Union Country, NJ and we hope to launch an official group there by September. We also have several of our younger members living and/or working in south-western New Jersey or in or around Philadelphia and have talked to several about establishing an official group there. We have members who have settled in Florida, although they are separated by many miles. We would like to arrange a luncheon meeting there in a central location during our next calendar year.

Members receive the annual Membership Directory and those who live afar are encouraged to see who lives nearby and to arrange to meet now and then.

Coming together is important. We are a membership organization and, while we may engage in ministry alone, we are part of a larger movement of Associates committed to a charism that impels us to reach out and serve those in need. Prayer, ministry, and camaraderie help to sustain our commitment and our abiding association with the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth.

*QUOTE* "You should take to the sick two kinds of food: corporal food and spiritual food; that is to say, some little word from your meditation, were it only five or six words, to help them to acquit themselves of their duty as Christians or to bear their sufferings patiently. God has called you to this."  
~~ Saint Vincent de Paul

**And in the end...**

## Affirmation

By Rosemary Lalevée Carroll

Sometimes it isn't the grand gesture. Or the trumpet blare.  
Or citation in Who's Who. Or even the Noble Prize  
for excellence in a given field.

Sometimes, achievement goes unnoticed, slipping by,  
like ordinary days, so many in a row, you forget what happened  
on any one of them. Until there it is: real, unmistakable, awesome.

Awesome achievement, the kind that inspires and is in itself its own reward,  
comes with the belief that the next step will land safely in front  
and carry you forward.

It is the steadfast, unswerving commitment to a promise, idea or goal,  
the endurance of riding the crest of the oncoming wave,  
or tenacity of emerging from the foam, tumbled and breathless,  
when pounded by the next. Endurance and tenacity give hope.

It is unshakable faith in Divine participation that calls, guides, sustains,  
and lays claim to all good.

It is a depth and breadth of love that diminishes hurt, ego and fear,  
and sheds light on forgiveness, compassion, tenderness and encouragement.

It is the grace that gives force to life, dynamism to relationships, meaning to work  
in service to others.

Seton Associates embody those attributes. The stories of our lives in charity,  
unfolding day by day, in faith, hope, love and grace,  
affirm indisputably that love is patient, kind, rejoices with truth, never fails.  
It perseveres.

July 2017 – Rosemary Lalevée Carroll, Editor and Director