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ACWR NEWS

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November 1997

ACWR "AT HOME" IN TRINITY COLLEGE

The national office of ACWR proudly calls Trinity College home as the trappings of a busy administrative office slowly but surely consume the space generously offered by the college President, Dr. Patricia McGuire. Its address on Michigan Avenue NE in Washington DC is no doubt familiar to many who strode Trinity's halls for undergraduate studies and traversed the avenues surrounding Catholic University during graduate and post-graduate days.

ACWR feels especially privileged to set up shop at Trinity in the 100th year of its illustrious existence. It was founded -- and still serves -- as a college for women by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in 1897 on 26 acres of wooded campus just over two miles from the U.S. Capitol. Today, Trinity enrolls women from 30 states and 12 foreign countries. While the main building (pictured here) is well known for its stately, imposing architecture, the college facilities also include a 180,000-volume library building, an art gallery and studios, residence halls, fitness center, and the beautifully restored Notre Dame Chapel.

The style of Notre Dame Chapel has been described as a simplified modern rendering of the Byzantine style. Construction was begun in 1920 and completed in 1924. Executed in Kentucky limestone, its red tile roof links its design with that of the main building and Alumnae Hall. The stained glass windows are by Connick, and the mosaic is by Bancel and Thomas LaFarge. The pipe organ by Ernest M. Skinner represents the best of the style of this historic American organ builder.

Besides the offerings of its own liberal arts curriculum, students at Trinity College are able to access nearly 20,000 courses at area college and universities. A weekend undergraduate program,

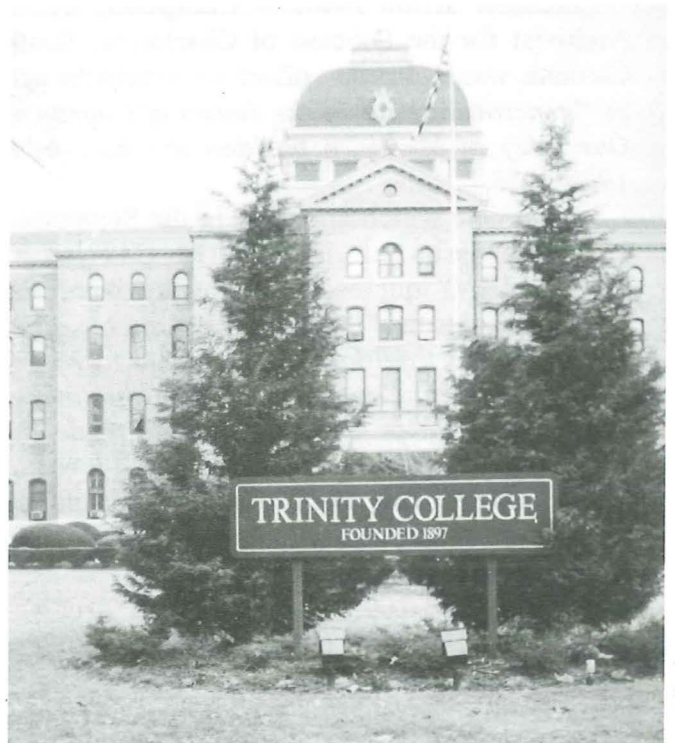
a post-baccalaureate pre-medical certificate program, and coeducational graduate programs round out the academic fare at Trinity. As an institution dedicated to teaching women to develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to be leaders in the 21st century, Trinity College provides an academic and spiritual environment of "service" and "savvy" that enhances the life and work of ACWR. Whenever you are in the D.C. area, be sure to give a call to the national office or come by for a visit!

New National Office Address:

ACWR National Office
Trinity College
125 Michigan Avenue, N.E.
Washington, DC 20017
Phone: 202.884.9441
FAX: 202.884.9229



Rosalie McQuaide, CSJP
Executive Secretary, ACWR



MESSAGE FROM ACWR PRESIDENT, RITA KING, S.C.:



Rita King, SC
President, ACWR

"The theme of our ACWR 2nd National Conference -- *"To the 21st Century: Service and Savvy"* helped our membership to focus on our commonly held goals and objectives. I would like to call your attention to and seek your cooperation with the U.S. Catholic Documentary Heritage Project (described elsewhere in this issue). As this year progresses, we shall be sending more information for your consideration. Please try, also, to read the Vatican release "The Pastoral Function of Church Archives." The future focus of ACWR's mission must be to use all our senses to provide common sense and balance, with our feet in the present 20th century, our eyes on our work, and our ears and minds open to the 21st century and its challenges."

DID YOU KNOW THAT . . . ?

Member **Anne Francis Campbell, OLM**, Archivist for the Diocese of Charleston, South Carolina, was returned to office some months ago as *"general superior of the Sisters of Charity of Our Lady of Mercy, a position she held from 1980-1988."*

An article which appeared in the September 26, 1996 issue of *THE NEW CATHOLIC MISCELLANY* quotes the following words of Bishop Thompson: *"Because of her appreciation of history and tradition . . . Sister Anne Francis will, as General Superior, continue the loving, caring apostolates that have always made the OLM Sisters so very much admired and loved in the Church of Charleston."* Thanks to S. Andrew Ray for sending us the above information.

Catherine Sopko, RSM, has served as a volunteer since 1995 at the National Archives managing American Indian documents. She recently concluded that work to serve as a Archivist for her Ohio-based Mercy community.

Anne Diehl, CSJ, is our *only* member who serves as archivist for an all-male religious community. In applying for ACWR membership, Anne expressed her firm belief in the value of "networking" with other professionals like herself. Right on!

Dorothy Dawes, OP, of New Orleans reports that *"you can find us on WWW"*---World Wide Web. *VERITAS*, November 1996 issue, states: *"The Dominican Sisters, Congregation of Saint Mary, are 'early birds' among congregations to arrive on the World Wide Web."* To be found on WWW are Saint Mary's mission statement, criteria for membership, *"Our Story,"* and contact information for archives and retreat centers, council members, etc. The next issue of ACWR DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS will include the "dot com" codes.

Carm Ternes, OSB, from Cottonwood, Idaho, reports that *ON THE WAY: JOURNEY OF THE IDAHO BENEDICTINE SISTERS* by Mary Lucille Nachtsheim, OSB, was published recently. Congratulations! The marketing brochure invites the reader "to walk with us through joy and sorrow, success and failure, in putting down roots and growing through unexpected changes, living and dying but always in hope and love . . .". A sincere tribute to the history of many Benedictine women religious.

In January, 1997, then ACWR President **Marjorie Buttner, OP**, collaborated with the Executive Secretary in Pittsburgh, sending out to 470 LCWR member communities c/o Major Superior/President or Provincial a well phrased letter encouraging congregational administrators to support their archivists or to appoint archivists when necessary.

LAST CALL !

This is the last call for ACWR renewal forms and dues. If we don't hear from you by December 31, you won't hear from us in 1998-99!

ACWR NEWS:
 GENERAL EDITOR Rita King, SC
 CONTENT EDITOR Rosalie McQuaide, CSJP
 PRODUCTION EDITOR Rose Matthew Mangini, IHM
 Related correspondence may be sent to:
 ACWR National Office, Trinity College
 125 Michigan Ave NE, Washington DC 20017.
 Phone: 202.884.9441. FAX: 202.884.9229

ACWR OFFICERS FOR 1997-1998:

PRESIDENT:

Rita King, SC
6301 Riverdale Avenue
Bronx NY 10471-1093
718-549-9200, ext. 213

VICE-PRESIDENT (President-elect)

Dolores Liptak, RSM
1700 Hampshire Green Lane, #21
Silver Spring MD 20903
301-439-1719

SECRETARY

Edna McKeever, CSJ
1725 Brentwood Road
Brentwood NY 11717-5587
516-273-4531, ext. 326

TREASURER

Joann Kessler, OSU
2600 Lander Road
Pepper Pike OH 44124-4396
216-449-1200

PAST PRESIDENT

Marjorie Buttner, OP
General Delivery
Sinsinawa WI 53824-9999
608-748-4411, ext. 277

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Rosalie McQuaide, CSJP
ACWR National Office
Trinity College
125 Michigan Ave NE
Washington DC 20017
202-884-9441

ACWR NEWS WANTS NEWS!

With the conference at Sinsinawa behind us--pushing us forward in so many ways--ACWR NEWS invites communication. What things have you tried? What problems have you resolved? Are you pondering a question and would like some input on it? ACWR NEWS is about *you* and your work. Please share your discoveries and send them in--maybe with a photo or two--to the ACWR National Office. Next publication date is **April, 1998** but articles are due by February.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Sister Joan Marie Fagerskog, RSM, who entered new life on August 3, 1997 in her 27th year as a Sister of Mercy. Joan was a member of ACWR until 1996.

Sister Damian Schreiner, OP was Secretary General and Archivist for four years, then continued as Archivist until 1996. A charter member of ACWR, her life ministry was completed June 16, 1997 when she died of cancer.

Sister Mary Sigharda Nuss, OSB from Norfolk, Nebraska, died in April, 1997.

THANKS!

Many thanks
to all the ACWR members
who included a *donation* to the organization
when they sent in their dues.
As you know, your investment
is much appreciated
and is put to good use.

Thanks, also,
to those who have sent copies of
their *congregational histories*
to the national office.
A complete listing of the books
now at the ACWR national office
will be forthcoming.

PRAYER FOR ARCHIVISTS

by Anne Courtney, S.C.

Lord,
let us remember that the trailblazers of
yesterday
are our traditions today.
Boxed and labeled and catalogued
they leap from our shelves
Our forebears who fashioned new stories to tell.
Their spirit escapes in new patterns, new plans,
our website of findings that links and expands
to whatever the future is waiting to give.
Lord, let your spirit spur us
to tell the pulse of our work
in our quest for the best. Amen.

SISTERS IHM
610 West Elm Avenue
Monroe, Michigan 48162-7909

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*The past cannot be discarded.
The present has to be reconciled to the past
since the past is never entirely past.*

from, "*The Absence of Empire*" by William Pfaff in the New Yorker, 10.8.92