



Many guests enjoy meeting the author

Sister Rose Alice Althoff happily greeted scores of guests at a program and reception Sun., June 26, to celebrate the publication of *Nuggets of Hope*, her volume of haiku poetry.

The event was held in the community room of St. Paul's Monastery and included remarks by Sister Rose Alice and Sister Carol Rennie, Prioress, and a display and sale of autographed copies of her book.

Among the guests was a caravan of 30 relatives of Sister Rose Alice from North Dakota.

A copy of *Nuggets of Hope* has been placed in the collection of works by Minnesota authors in the Minnesota History Center along with biographical information on Sister Rose Alice.

Nuggets of Hope is available for purchase at the three locations of St. Patrick's Guild Book Stores in the Twin Cities and The Cloister Shop at the Monastery.



S. Rose Alice unpacks first box of her books of poetry

Koopmann to give benefit concert

Father Robert Koopmann, O.S.B., Professor of Music at Saint John's University and the College of St. Benedict, will present a benefit concert for St. Paul's Monastery and its ministries at 3:00 p.m. Sun., Oct.9, at Our Lady of Grace Church in Edina. The program will include works by Mozart, Chopin, and Franck as well as a piano rag by Zez Confrey.

Father Koopmann has performed throughout the United States and in Europe and Africa. Critics have acclaimed him for his



“powerful, energetic style, “his fine musicianship,” and his “masterpieces of shading and color.”

Concert tickets are available at all three St. Patrick's Guild bookstore locations in the Twin Cities and at the monastery. For ticket information, please call 651-777-8181.



Reflections along the way

Carol Rennie, OSB, Prioress

We now have a cross entitled *Tree of Life* near our icon of Mother Benedicta Riepp, who was 24 years of age when she brought the Benedictine charism to the United States. She was a pioneer in every sense of the word, fearless, confident, and willing to pay any cost for the sake of mission.

The gift bearer of the cross wrote: "As you and the sisters continue your journey of discernment and decision-making, let this symbol of 'transition and hope' lead the way. Let it also be a reminder of the ancient wisdom that it is in letting go of the old that new growth appears." Mother Benedicta knew that lesson in her bones as she left behind family, family surroundings, predictability, and security.

Each time our community gathers to discuss yet another angle of what our future holds, we experience the confluence of fear and

confidence. We need to make decisions not fully knowing their impact and to reexamine our dearest assumptions about the way we exercise ministry.

At the same time, we take heart in our ability to ask difficult questions of one another and to listen carefully to the wisdom present in the room. We have no illusion that Mother Benedicta never experienced fear and doubt. We know she placed her trust totally in God and in the good thinking of her sisters. We do that as well.

Metaphors and symbols are helpful as we continue our pioneering journey into the future. When we look upon this new cross next to the portrait of Mother Benedicta in our



library lobby, we remember that the hard work demanded of us now will bear its fruit in God's own time. Mother Benedicta was a remarkable woman. It is reassuring in these days to have her as a forebear.

We know, as she would remind us forcefully, that she did not go to the wilds of the New World alone. She went with companions and support. And as we stay the course set before us, we are heartened knowing we have friends who support us in prayer and spirit.

Jubilarians—May 8



Before going into chapel for their celebration, this year's jubilarians gather with president Jerome Tupa, OSB and their community leadership.

(l-r) Sisters Leanne Maerz, Vivian Kovar, Rolaine Diethelm, Lois Hauwiler, Marie Rademacher, with Sisters Carol Rennie Prioress and Catherine Schoenecker Subprioress.

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Sister Lois marks 50 years of profession

Golden Jubilarian S. Lois Hauwiler celebrated her jubilee with her monastic community on May 8 and with her relatives and friends on Sun., Aug. 28.

Born in St. Bonifacius, MN, on March 25, 1936, she was baptized at the Church of St. Boniface four days later. When she was just two years old, her parents bought a farm five miles from St. Bonifacius near the neighboring small town of Victoria. S. Lois considers this her real home and even today speaks fondly of “going to the farm.”

S. Lois admired the small group of Benedictine Sisters who taught her at St. Victoria School so at the age of 16, she decided to join their community. She entered St. Paul’s Priory (later Monastery) and made her first monastic profession in 1954.

Her places of ministry in the next 50 years took her to Chanhassen, Fairfax, Litchfield, Robbinsdale,



North St. Paul, Maplewood, St. Paul and Minneapolis. Always a hard worker, S. Lois did domestic work in food service and laundry. She was also a dedicated nursing assistant both at the monastery and for ten years of night duty at the Maplewood Care Center.

On Christmas Eve, 2004, S. Lois underwent major surgery at Abbott Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis, that changed her life. Her surgeon,

David Polly, M.D., says that without that operation, she would have been paraplegic. He, assisted by a representative from Medtronic Inc. and a host of skilled medical staff, worked through the entire night, Christmas Eve into Christmas morning, performing a surgery that today allows S. Lois to walk.

Her doctor invited S. Lois to Miami, FL, to be present when he “told her story” at a July convention of Medtronic salespersons and then to walk arm in arm with him across the stage. They received a standing ovation. S. Lois’ companion on this exciting odyssey was S. Benita Gerold.

S. Lois’ amazing recovery enabled her to walk into the monastery chapel, confident and unassisted, to celebrate her 50th jubilee on August 28. Ad multos annos, Sister Lois!

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Sunday

Morning Praise	10:00 a.m.
Eucharist	11:00 a.m.
Evening Praise	5:00 p.m.

Monday — Friday

Morning Praise	7:30 a.m.
Noon Praise	11:45 a.m.
Eucharist	5:00 p.m.
Evening Praise	6:40 p.m.

Saturday

Morning Praise	8:30 a.m.
Noon Praise	11:45 a.m.
Vigil of Sunday	4:45 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Concert ~ Sun., Oct. 9

An Afternoon with the Masters

Pianist Father Bob Koopmann, OSB Our Lady of Grace Church Edina, MN

Conference ~ Friday, Oct. 14—Sat., Oct. 15

A “Faith Lift” for Moms

Weekend conference for mothers, St. Joseph the Worker Church, Maple Grove, MN

Recognition ~ Sun., Nov. 13

St. Paul’s Monastery Heritage Society

Eucharist, brunch for donors who have informed us of their will or planned gift
St. Paul’s Monastery, St. Paul, MN

Summer Happenings



Reviewing goals set at the July MOMS Regional Coordinators' Training and Conference: (-r) Collette Crowley (Boston, MA), Christine Jurisich (Sacramento, CA), S. Paula Hagen, National Director, Jennifer Winter (North Platte, NE)



At Evening Praise and with the sung blessing of all the sisters, these new Oblates made their Final Oblation on May 14. (l-r) Co-Directors Jacqueline Bush, Linda Manders, Cathy Rettger (Minneapolis), James Child (St. Paul), Monica Roy (Hastings), Beverly Vasseur (Roseville)

Volunteer

As regular as Morning and Evening Praise, volunteer Mary Jane Wold can be counted on to walk through our front door every Tuesday morning. Her usual smiling question is, "What can I do today?" The answer to her question usually comes from Subprioress S. Catherine Schoenecker or House Coordinator S. Rosella Schommer.

So what do they ask her to do? A good variety of tasks. One day's job was polishing the first chalice and paten used at the "old priory." It gets a bit tarnished in its place in the community history exhibit in the Gathering Room. Another day she polishes the good silverware used only on special feasts and holidays. Still another day Mary Jane can be found in the kitchen chopping vegetables for soups and salads.

But every Tuesday she goes to the health care center to "do" the sisters' nails. What a treat, they say, to have their nails filed and polished, their hands lotioned and massaged. And most of all, they enjoy Mary Jane's cheerful personality and lively conversation when she is with them.

At age 88, "Mrs. Wold" is blessed with robust health, still playing in an 18-hole golf league and only recently hanging up her

Spotlight

long-blade ice skates. She drives a red convertible! Mary Jane's husband, Bill, died 6 1/2 years ago, after a long marriage of 56 years. She has three sons, two daughters, sixteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

A life-long St. Paulite, Mary Jane has served as church organist, most recently at St. Louis King of France Church in St. Paul and Presentation Church in Maplewood, where she and Bill were charter members.

If you are interested in joining Mary Jane and our other volunteers, please contact our Director of Volunteers, S. Mary Lou Dummer at 651-777-8181.



S. Luella Nies (l) enjoys a manicure from Mary Jane Wold

Friends of the Monastery ~ Fall 2005

Dear Friends,

As summer turns into fall and God continues to bless us with all of nature's beauty, our hearts dance with gratitude. We are grateful as well for your enthusiasm, interest, and participation in our many endeavors here at St. Paul's Monastery. Your graciousness and generosity are signs of God's love for us. Know that we remember you and your family in our daily prayers.

We are excited about several upcoming events. On Oct. 9, pianist Father Bob Koopmann from St. John's University is presenting a benefit concert for our community at 3:00 p.m. at the Church of Our Lady of Grace, Edina.

On Oct. 14-15 the monastery is sponsoring "A Faith Lift" for moms of all ages. Please consider giving yourself or perhaps your mother these days of spiritual enrichment and renewal. For more information and registration, see our website www.stpaulsmonastery.org/momsconference.

And a first for us! The newly formed St. Paul's Monastery Legacy Society will celebrate with its charter members this fall. You are invited to become a member by naming St. Paul's Monastery in your will.

Thank you for notifying us of your complete name and address if you have already named us in your will or intend to do so in the near future.

We have also recently established an Endowment Fund with



the Catholic Community Foundation. This Endowment will be a support to us and an opportunity for you, our donors, to establish charitable annuities or trusts which ensure you a steady, life-long income, as well as enabling you to gift us at a later date to sustain our ministries of service. As fall turns into winter, there are sure to be challenging times.

Together let us accept these challenges with an eager heart, for God promises love to those who follow him.

With grateful prayer,

**Sister Lucia Schwickerath, OSB
Development Director**

So . . . You need added Income?

Find out more about a Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Trust. Call S. Lucia Schwickerath 651-777-8181

S. Agnetta Legatt dies during June retreat

S. Agnetta (Agnes) Legatt died in the health care center early June 13, 2005, during the community retreat. She was 94 years old and living the 69th year of her monastic profession.

Agnes was the second child of Andrew and Agnes (Bicek) Legatt who farmed outside of St. Stephen, MN. Of the nine children born into their family, five lived. Agnes grew up with three brothers, now deceased, and her sister Mary who was able to come to the monastery for the funeral.

Before entering the scholasticate at St. Benedict's Convent, Agnes worked for a few years, including spending some time in the big kitchen there. There she came to



know the sisters and made the decision to enter the community. Having completed her postulancy and novitiate, she professed first vows in 1936.

Many of her years in ministry were spent in childcare, primarily with boys, first at Altoona, WI, then at St. Joseph's Orphanage and Children's Home, in both St. Paul and Minneapolis. She enjoyed telling about the first day she was assigned to the old

St. Joseph's Orphanage on Randolph Avenue in St. Paul—ten boys ran away!

Before retiring to the monastery, S. Agnetta worked very hard in the laundry at St. Therese Care Center in New Hope. In addition to the large

volume of work she did personally, she was the congenial supervisor of many employees, again many boys.

Increasingly poorer health brought her home to the monastery at the age of 80. Retirement meant activity and service. She peeled vegetables (potatoes were her speciality) and made countless items for the Cloister Shop, including her popular monkeys. She was always busy, whether in the kitchen, the sewing room or in the later months of her life in her bedroom.

S. Agnetta's fidelity to private prayer, her quiet presence at the back of the chapel for the Liturgy of the Hours and Eucharist when she could no longer serve as a lector, the sight of her praying the rosary, these were always an inspiration. The sisters miss her devotion, her ready smile and her droll sense of humor. Rest in God's peace, S. Agnetta!

iLLUMINARE: Called For Service, Formed in Christ The Lay Ecclesial Ministry Project of St. Paul' Monastery

What is iLLUMINARE?

iLLUMINARE, a ministry of The Benedictine Center at St. Paul's Monastery, provides 'ministry to ministers.' The focus of iLLUMINARE is ongoing formation and spiritual renewal for experienced ecclesial ministers. Currently, there are two facets to the Project: quarterly days of reflection for both lay and ordained persons involved in full or part-time, professional or volunteer ministry; and an eight-session

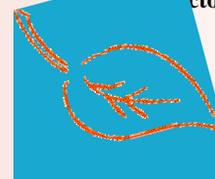
cohort-based process of sustained formation for experienced full-time lay ecclesial ministers.

Since the Project began in 2003, eleven iLLUMINARE cohorts have begun.

The next Ministry Renewal Day is entitled, Firmly Established in Jesus Christ: Authority for Ministry and is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2005 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Register with Sam Rahberg at srahberg@stpaulsmonastery.org or 651-777-5271.

To request application materials for an upcoming iLLUMINARE cohort, contact Jackie Witter at jw@benedictctr.org or 651-777-6850.

Jackie Witter Ed.D.
Lector, iLLUMINARE



Changing the Guard, *Maintaining the Tradition*



Five years ago after a successful career with Northwest Airlines, **Alma Robinson** retired and joined the Benedictine Center as Administrative Assistant. On June 1, she retired a second time having decided that there were things in her life that needed doing—like a trip to Japan this fall and mentoring her grandchildren.

We are delighted for Alma but will miss her presence and good service. She said recently that her work at the Center was more than a way to fill time and that her

association with the monastic community brought richness to her own life she had not anticipated.

In the Center, Alma made every guest feel welcome and at home. So much of what we are about is creating space for people to think and pray and attend to the important questions of life. Alma was our ambassador to those seeking such space. She intends to continue her association with the monastery and to cultivate the friendships with the sisters she values so much.

The values and attitudes represented in Alma's work in the Center live on in **Sam Rahberg** who took over her responsibilities plus some additional duties as program administrator. Sam recently completed five years as Christian Education Director at a Lutheran parish in St. Paul. During that time he also earned a master's degree in spirituality at Saint John's School of Theology, Collegeville.

Sam brings energy and commitment to his work, knowing

already that much of what we do begins as soon as we answer the phone or greet a guest. Sam will work closely with Vic Klimoski as the Center seeks to expand its audiences and determine future directions that advance the ministry of the monastic community. He will also put his graduate study to work as he leads some retreats and facilitates discussions. Sam and his wife Beth have a young daughter, Zoe, who has won every heart in the place.

In this transition period, we also said farewell to Patricia Melody who managed the front desk of the Center one day a week. Pat has been helpful in sharpening our need to "get the word out" and continues as a volunteer.



**Victor Klimoski Director,
Benedictine Center**

"He already contemplates the invisible"

The sisters, oblates and friends of St. Paul's Monastery were grieved to learn of the recent violent death of Brother Roger Schutz, the founder of the Taize community in France. The sisters have long hosted Taize prayer on the third Friday of each month and feel a spiritual connection with the Taize community. The Taize cross which has traveled around the world is venerated in the middle of the chapel during this monthly prayer.

Please join in praying: "Christ of compassion, you enable us to be in communion with those who have gone before us and who can remain so close to us. We confide into your hands our Brother Roger. He already contemplates the invisible. In his footsteps, you are preparing us to welcome the radiance of your brightness."

Feel welcome to join us in Taize prayer at 7:00 p.m. the third Friday of each month in the monastery chapel.





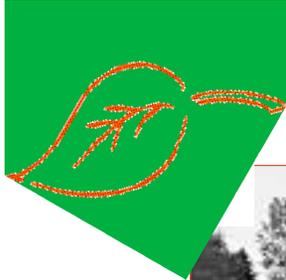
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Maplewood Fire Chief Dave Thomalla visits with one of his former teachers from St. Bernard's High School, S. Jeron Osterfeld. In addition to the Chief, a fire rig was part of the celebration.

National Night Out

★ August 2, 2005 ★



(top) Musician Frank Asenbrenner and S. Mary White lead the crowd in singing Happy Birthday to one of their new little friends.



Smiling between splashes, S. Jackie Leither was a good sport about climbing into the dunk tank, not once, not twice, but three times. Her wet comment: "It was actually quite fun.!"



The breeze was just right! Neighbors Kaylee and Lisa fly their kites on the front lawn of the monastery before having root beer floats.