



ALUMNI E-NEWS

Students Four Years
Brothers & Sisters for Life

MAY 2024

MARIST HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Alma Mater- means nourishing Mother.....

Happy May to all of our Alums and friends. This month, we are so grateful for ALL of our protectors! Mary, our Good Mother, our own good mothers, and those who serve in all branches of the Military on Memorial day. Thank you all for your dedication and protection. In this edition of our Alumni E-News, we catch up with some amazing alums, a stunning contestant, a fast fact, and a lovely bride. We say job well done to a Marist legend and pray for the souls of two alumni who have passed away. Also, we catch a glimpse of just a few of our military alumni and would love, love, LOVE to be updated by all of our alums who have served. Almost 400 more alumni will be joining your ranks as grads this month- we wish them well in their future endeavors. There is a LOT going on as our spring sports wrap up. Check out www.marist.net as to where and when. Our Lady of Victory- Pray for us....Go REDHAWKS!

Sincerely,

Marist High School Alumni Office

ALUMNI UPDATES



Michael Distasio, Jr. '04

Mike was recently appointed as Treasurer for the Chicago Police Foundation. The Foundation's mission is To Help Our Heroes.

The Chicago Police Foundation is a nonprofit organization led by various Chicago business leaders. Mike initially became a Chicago Police Foundation board member in 2021 through his company, Valor Advisers, which specializes in helping Police Officers and Firefighters with their investments and taxes.

The Foundation helps to improve the city of Chicago's public safety by supporting and funding programs that supplement resources and equipment available to the Chicago Police Department (CPD).

The Foundation believes that the availability of additional resources and equipment is vital to providing superior service for the citizens of the city, and fostering healthy relationships between members of the CPD and the communities they serve.

Notable programs include the Officer Ella French Scholarship program which are awarded annually to children of current or retired employees of the Chicago Police Department, and other youth actively involved in police programming.

The Foundation's Emergency First Aid Kit Program has helped save hundreds of citizens' lives. The Law Enforcement Medical and Rescue Training (LEMART) teaches combat care and the proper uses of a specialized first aid kit. Given that police are often the first responders, these kits are vital for our heroes. When the Chicago Police Foundation discovered that officers had to purchase the kits with their own money, they stepped in. Since 2016, the Chicago Police Foundation has donated over 3000 kits to officers of the Chicago Police Department. Their goal is for every one of our Chicago Police Officers to own a LEMART kit. Noble work Mike - You help serve and protect those who serve and protect.

Ron Lorenzo '69

Ron Lorenzo, Class of 1969, recently retired after 45 seasons as an IHSA basketball referee. Ron was selected to work the Girls State Finals in 2014, 2016 and 2017. He worked the 4A Championship game in 2016, and the 3A Championship game in 2017.

Ron received the Lifetime Member Award from the Northern Officials Association in 2020. He was inducted into the Lake County Sports Hall of Fame in 2024.

Ron currently resides in Huntley, and has been married to his wife

Jeanne for 47 years. They have three married sons and five grandchildren.

Congrats to Ron and Jeanne - That's a winning record—we wish you the very best that retirement brings!

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Keith O'Neill '94



Keith O'Neill, class of '94, was recently promoted to the position of Dean of Students and Title IX Coordinator at neighboring Saint Xavier University! All RedHawks are welcome to visit and consider higher education right up the street at SXU!

Erik Eastman '89

Erik Eastman, class of 1989, Assistant Athletic Director and Assistant Girls & Boys Volleyball Coach at St. Ignatius, will be inducted into the GCAC Hall of Fame, along with eleven other individuals, and two teams from GCAC member schools. Erik Eastman joined the Saint Ignatius Athletics Department in the Spring of 2005, while still acting as the boys' volleyball head coach at Marist High School, and helping start the girls' volleyball program in 2003. In the fall of 2005, Coach Eastman took over as head coach of the Saint Ignatius girls' volleyball program, where he has been a part of the varsity program for 18 years, acting as head coach for 16 of those seasons. During his tenure, he helped lead the Wolfpack to a 2012 GCAC Red Championship, 11 IHSA Regional Championships, four IHSA Sweet 16 appearances, an IHSA Sectional Championship, an IHSA Super Sectional Championship and a 3rd Place finish at the IHSA State Finals. Coach Eastman has recorded 353 wins as Head Coach, making him the winningest coach in program history, and placing amongst the winningest coaches in school history. Coach Eastman's teams have also produced thirty student-athletes that went on to play at the collegiate and collegiate club levels with two

girls earning GCAC Player of the Year honors, and three girls earning Saint Ignatius Female Athlete of the Year. He was named Sports Town Chicago Coach of the Year in 2012, and named to the American Volleyball Coaches Association 300-win club.

Coach Eastman has also been a part of the Saint Ignatius boys volleyball program for 16 years, serving as head coach for five years from 2016-2020, with the 2020 season being canceled due to the COVID 19 pandemic. In his eight seasons at the varsity level, he helped the Wolfpack win four Chicago Catholic League titles (including the first in school history in 2017), 10 IHSA Regional titles, four IHSA Sweet 16 appearances, an IHSA Sectional title, and an Elite Eight appearance at the 2022 IHSA State Finals. Coach Eastman recorded 126 wins as head coach of the boys program, making him the winningest coach in program history.

In total, Coach Eastman has amassed 479 victories as a volleyball head coach at Saint Ignatius College Prep. Congrats Coach!!



Thomas Leonard '20



Thomas Leonard, class of 2020, was Top Scholar in the Graduating Class of 2024 for Biomedical Engineering, and the Ralph H Metcafe Outstanding Senior Male Scholar Athlete for Marquette University. Congratulations to Thomas and his

parents, Thomas '79 & Marian, and sisters, Annemarie '14 & MaryClare '17. Keep us posted- Good things on your horizon!!

Courtney Collins '11

Courtney Collins was a beautiful bride when she married Daniel Jarva on September 23, 2023!

Best wishes to you both!!



Fun Fact:

We have our first student Kayla Rogers '27, who is the daughter of a *FEMALE ALUM*, Lauren Rogers '07.

One for the record books for sure - Thanks for that heads up, Lauren!

Benefit for Steve Walsh '06

Friends of Steve are putting on the 2nd annual Big Steve Day!

All proceeds from Big Steve Day will be donated to the EHE Foundation. We lost Steve to EHE on September 22, 2023, but the battle is far from over. We will continue to raise funds in Steve's honor to assist others that are fighting this terrible disease.

BIG STEVE DAY GOLF OUTING

Stony Creek Golf Course | Saturday June 29th 2024



[Learn More](#)

Brien Maloney '09 & Brendan Maloney '14

The brothers Maloney are moving and shaking at TransLoop - one of the fastest growing companies in America, two years running. (Literally running!) Brendan '14 serves as Mid-Market Carrier Executive, while Brien '09 is Director, Safety and Compliance.

TransLoop is a modern freight brokerage offering transparent, reliable and collaborative freight solutions, nationwide.

TransLoop has created a one of a kind logistics experience for both shipper and carrier partners. Their systems operate in real time using artificial intelligence-powered algorithms, offering a collaborative network platform allowing all parties involved in a shipment to avoid chaos. TransLoop offers industry-experienced team members who provide dedicated around the clock customer service, capacity and support, meeting your supply chain or drivers' needs. TransLoop is the first fully transparent logistics provider that is truly technology-driven and people-centric.

What started as a genuine want to transform the industry into a more ethical and transparent space, has now grown into a rapidly growing team that shares the same vision and hunger to succeed, in 5 different offices across the US.

Since opening, TransLoop has:

- Welcomed nearly 30 people to our Chicago HQ.
- Tripled in size in nearly all offices.
- Moved into a brand-new Birmingham, AL office.
- Added premier tech to our already dynamic arsenal.
- Became one of the most awarded 3PLs.
- Was named #12 on Inc. Magazine's Fastest-Growing Private Companies List
- Selling Power's Top 50 Companies to Sell For
- Crain's Chicago Business Largest Privately Held Companies List
- Supply & Demand Chain Executive: Top Supply Chain Projects
- FourKites, Inc. Premier Carrier Award

Love that these two are working together! Congrats to your parents on a job well done! You are *Very Marist* and We are VERY PROUD!!!



Brian Lichtenberger '95

Brian is a two-time Founder and CEO with expertise leading growth-stage data analytics and technology companies.

Brian is the CEO & Founder of Markerr, a data analytics company serving institutional investors, owners and operators of commercial real estate. Markerr investors include RET Ventures, Pretium and Bridge Investment Group.

Brian was previously Co Founder & CEO of 7Park Data, founded in 2012 in NYC. After experiencing six years of growth, in December 2018, 7Park was acquired by Vista Equity Partners. After two years as a Vista portfolio company, 7Park was acquired by Apptio in January 2021.

Brian has held senior leadership roles at MasterCard, Majestic Research, and HyperFeed Technologies. His career began at BDO Seidman during which he earned his CPA designation.

Brian received his BA in accounting from North Central College where he was also Captain and four-year letter winner in the Baseball program. Alrighty then! Very impressive-....Home runs all around!



Much Memorial Day Love

And Thanks to all of our Boldest & Bravest Marist Military

Lieutenant Colonel Edward J. O'Connell '99

Ed is an active-duty Marine Corps Lieutenant Colonel. He is pursuing a PhD at Notre Dame as a Commandant of the Marine Corps PhD Strategist fellow.

Research interests include grand strategy, military strategy, military innovation, and weapons proliferation.

Assignments spanning an over 19-year career include: command at the platoon, company, and battalion levels; instructor at the US Naval Academy; lead operational planner at Marine Forces Southern Command; operations and plans officer for hurricane relief operations; and various other staff positions. He is a 2003 Graduate of the University of Notre Dame and received his commission via the NROTC program. He is a graduate of the Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course, a distinguished graduate of the Marine Expeditionary Warfare School, a distinguished graduate of the Marine Corps Command and Staff College (Master of Military Studies), a graduate of the School of Advanced Warfighting (Master of Operational Studies). He also holds a master's degree with distinction from the University of Maryland as part of the Marine Corps' Leadership, Education and Development program. Semper Fi & Oorah!!!



Father / Son Alumni

Michael J. Steurer '67

USAF. 1969-1973. Sgt

Stationed overseas from March '71- April '72

Kunsan AB. Kunsan, South Korea

Avionics Maintenance Squadrons

HONOR GUARD AND AF DRILL TEAM Travis AFB Sept 1969 - March '71

Michael T Steurer '91

USMC. 1993-1999 Basic Training. Paris Island, South Carolina

Scout Sniper training Quantico, VA. 1997

Fire Team Leader

Final Rank. Corporal. Sniper





There are so many more of you - but it is not reflected in our records! If you served, please update us. You deserve to be fussed over!!! Please send us your Military branch and rank - (active or retired), so we can update your file.

THANK YOU FOR PROTECTING US

Happy Memorial Day!

CURRENT SCHOOL NEWS



YOU MAKE US PROUD
Red Hawk Support

MARIST.NET

GOOD NEWS

Aliyah Glass '27

Marist's own stunning Aliyah Glass '27 is competing in the Miss Illinois Teen Pageant on the weekend of May 24th. Good luck, Aliyah - we are rooting for you!

Brother Rich "Retires"



Brother Rich Grenier's daily goal has been to get at least three students to laugh. "And the kids, when they see me coming, they laugh like hell," Br. Rich said. It could be the hats, for which he is known, but... he is funny.

When Brother came to Marist, Richard Nixon was president — and cannot fathom how quickly the years have flown by.

Brother has hit the five-decade mark, and is ready to retire, but not in the traditional sense. He said he'll continue to stay active in the community, working at least three hours a day, going places and doing things - like rooting for RedHawks in every sport and season.

"Watching TV six hours a day, that's not my idea of retirement," he said.

Asked how he feels about his life at the same school, Brother rich stated succinctly that he was "blessed."

"I consider myself very, very fortunate," Brother Rich said. "I'm very blessed to have all these years at Marist."

Brother Rich is simply *Very Marist*.

We have been blessed to have had this treasure as a member of this family. God Bless Brother Richard Grenier! WELL DONE!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Marist / White Sox Night

Buy Your Tickets!



06.26.24

MARIST HIGH SCHOOL NIGHT

Dodgers vs. White Sox | 7:10pm

Guaranteed Rate Field
333 W 35th St, Chicago, IL 60616

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
marist.net

3rd Annual Southside Summer Festival

Presented by Marist

Tickets are on sale now for Southside Summer Festival presented by Marist...and they are going fast! This years' lineup includes The BoDeans, The Push Stars, and Soul 2 the Bone. Click here for details and to purchase your tickets

now: <https://www.marist.net/southside-summer-festival/>

#SouthsideSummerFestival

3rd Annual **SOUTHSIDE** **3 BANDS + Lou Malnati's PIZZERIA + DRINKS**

SUMMER FESTIVAL
Presented by Marist

7.20.24

MUSIC FROM 4:00PM-10:00PM

THE BODEANS
THE PUSH STARS
SOUL 2 THE BONE

Advance Admission - \$35
General Admission - \$40
VIP Admission - \$150
(includes VIP area on field with Lou Malnati's catering & drinks)
*Limited VIP tix available



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Get Your Tickets Now!

Get Your Foursome set for The Marist Masters:

Introducing The Marist Masters



*Join us at the inaugural
Marist Masters
in support of financial aid.*

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

MIDLOTHIAN COUNTRY CLUB
5000 W. 147TH STREET



Register Today!

KEEP IN TOUCH

Have you moved? Do you have a new job? Did you get married? Is there a new addition to your family? Let us know! We want to hear your news!

Class notes may be used in [The Point Magazine](#), which is published twice a year. They may also be used on Marist's social media, including [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Update us

Rest In Peace

It is with great sadness that we share with the Marist community the passing of Alyssa Nicole Sierzega, from the Marist class of 2011, and Dr. Kevin Wysocki '80.

Kevin's wife posted this beautiful message: "Death is not extinguishing the light; it is putting out the lamp because the dawn has come."

-Rabindranath Tagore, poet, philosopher, author, songwriter, painter, educator, composer, Nobel laureate



IN LOVING MEMORY

Alyssa Nicole Sierzega '11
\Dr. Kevin Wysocki '80

"I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where will my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth." In times of trial and challenge – in times of grief and loss – we are called to lift our eyes to God – for He is our help; our hope, and our strength.
Psalm 121



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