

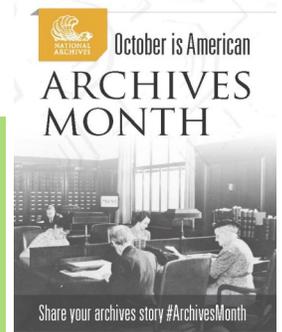


Heritage Happenings

Archives Office
November 2020

Lest We Forget...

October NATIONAL ARCHIVES MONTH!



Although this is officially the November HH, Heritage Happenings did not get done in October due to intensive work on the College Archives. Back in March when COVID struck and the college was closed, the question kept being asked: What about the College Archives? What's going to happen to them? Where will they go? This issue of Heritage Happenings hopes to answer questions and honor Holy Family College Archives.



Sister Helen Marie Paul relates: The College Archives (post 1960) began around 2010. I began working on them when I didn't have enough to keep me busy in the library. The archives gave me a new perspective on the beginnings of the community's educating young women for their future especially in educating the young. The archives were non-existent unless you consider file cabinets with photos and a few folders with materials from individual Sisters. Someone before me did do some organizing of pictures into categories. I also had a few boxes from the Public Relations office to go through (dumped the boxes out and found notes that were written on sticky notes, letters, and material from meetings that were held). I worked with the archivist from Lakeland College to get some ideas about organizing, attended a workshop and researched online regarding College archives.



Sister Ritarose Stahl recounts that In 2015 Dr. Domes, then College President, called when I was at West Point and asked me to take over the archives. Sister Helen Marie had started them the year before and worked on Wednesdays. She was trained so we used the numbers etc. that she started. I began in August 2015. Later we had volunteers helping and Sister Mary Gabriel was the other archivist. Sister Rosita did any typing we needed. We began with 12 boxes that Sister Helen Marie had organized and ended with over 80 boxes loaded with photos, folders, history, meeting minutes, brochures, etc. etc. We did the best we could and we loved it. Here you see us on our last day finishing up newspaper collection review. Now the collection rests at the convent.



Sister Mariella Erdmann began bringing pottery, paintings, mosaics over from an art storage room. In 1962 Sister Victoria Masil created 26 pieces of pottery to enhance the college environment. Along with other pieces, they are on display in the North Parlor.

Figure by Sr. Mariella



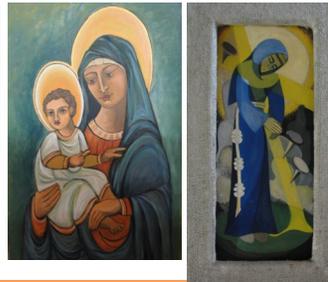
Sister Mary John Woods kept up these newspaper albums. They range from 1943 until 2015.



If you ever completed a thesis, dissertation or other bound publication, all were brought over from the college and added to the archives. Duplicates will be returned to authors. Sister Carmen Marie Diaz is now updating the cataloging of such.



Sr. Linda Brandes, during college cleanup, found these three pieces of silver, marked Holy Family Hospital on the bottom and numbered with "2" or "4" indicating Floor they belonged to. Two other such pieces in archives were dispatched to Sr. Conception for "shining". The difference is amazing!!



Archive



Sr. Caritas begins....



These mosaics and paintings were added to the Community Archives. Sr. Mariella did the Last Supper, Mary with Christ Child and Sr. Victoria did the "Vocation of St. Francis."



The College Archives were located at the very farthest west end of the First Floor on the left. Start at the Art Door Entrance and keep on going... This was the arrangement of the archives...left side first.



On August 11, this is what archives looked like: Four 4-drawer file cabinets loaded with floppy discs, CD's, DVD's, and newspaper clippings tied together in bundles; two files packed with photos; Newspaper albums from the Library dating back to 1964; numerous binders of meeting minutes, and more photos and newspaper clippings; 61 large Hollinger boxes, 15 gray boxes; 22 binders that no one knew how to deal with; and then..SURPRISE! the President took me down to the "Storage Room" in the basement where he had a table



loaded with boxes labeled 1 thru 22, plus several more Hollinger boxes that were designated by him as "Mine" meaning ME! A huge bin for shredding, another for recycling, and a smaller can for trash waited expectantly in the center of the room. They would be replaced often. On September 25, with the Liquidator's sale starting the next week, the decision was made to pack up everything that was left and bring it to new archives. All now resides in the Motherhouse Archives...somewhere, everywhere! The old room now

looks rather empty...a job well done. Here's what the collection now looks like. Throughout all this work I continually asked: Why am I saving this? As I questioned, I faced the understanding of the uniqueness of this college, what it stood for in our Franciscan history of education, and what needed to be saved that would be historically significant and a lasting legacy to our role as educators. I kept wanting to save "more" and had to face doing with "less". But once you think about it, the legacy continues...we will always be educators, just in new, adventurous, more challenging ways. Just think about it!!

