

Viz Alumnae Association Meeting Minutes September 19, 2019

Spring Alumnae Meeting Thursday, February 6, 2020: Save the Date

- I. **Welcome:** Mary Anne Spruell
- II. **Opening Prayer:** Kathryn Snodgrass
- III. **Approval of Minutes from 2/7/19:** Approved
- IV. **Recap of Recent Events:** Christine Marino
 - A. Safari Dinner and Auction 2/23/19: – Very successful event and good alumnae turnout. Mark your calendars for next year- 2/29/20.
 - B. Alumnae Day of Service at Our Lady's Inn 4/6/19: This was a good event, with about 7 volunteers. Alumnae met at the city location and assisted with their monthly "mighty tidy," watching the children while their mothers do a deep clean of the facility.
 - C. Alumnae Induction and Maypole 5/23/19: This was the 10 year anniversary of the Maypole being back on campus. We welcomed graduating seniors to the alumnae and it was a nice event. All alumnae are always welcome to this event.
 - D. Alumnae Happy Hour 6/4/19: This event was hosted in past years at Hacienda, but this year we changed the location to Rosalita's Cantina in Des Peres. The event space was more conducive to the size of our group. This event was well attended and there was overwhelmingly positive feedback about the new location.
 - E. Visitation Archives Alumnae Day 7/17/19: Alumnae signed up in shifts with special help requested from classes of the '80s, '90s, and '00s to identify classmates in pictures from the archives. If you want to see the archives, reach out to Christine Marino and she will help facilitate your visit.
 - F. Matilda at the Muny 8/8/19: This was a huge success. We sold out and had to request additional tickets to accommodate the large volume of interest. The event included tours backstage, dinner and the show.
 - G. New Monthly get together trial programs: There were 2 dinners, 3 lunches, and 2 coffee events held and alumnae from a wide range of classes attended. The trials were successful and there is an interest in broadening the program.
- V. **Upcoming Events:** Christine Marino
 - A. Viz Golf Tournament 9.23.19: The Alumnae Association was a generous sponsor of this event.
 - B. Alumnae Reunion Luncheon, Mass and Reception 10/12/19: Please RSVP ASAP so that we have an accurate count. The luncheon will begin at 11:00. The Mass will begin at 5:00pm with a complimentary reception in DeChantal Hall immediately following the Mass, from 6:00pm-8:00pm.
 - C. Holiday Boutique- will be held 11/14/19

- D. Breakfast with Santa 12/7/19, 10:00am – 12:00pm: The planning committee will need help with the set up for the event this year. If you are available to help, please show up anytime between 8-11am.
- E. Pause for Paws 12/16/19, 11:30am – 1:30pm: This is a new event which will feature Lisa Studnicki's therapy dogs available to support students during final exams. Alumnae are invited to come and hand out candy and stress balls to students. We ask that you do NOT bring your own pets, even if they are certified therapy animals.
- F. Alumnae Basketball Reunion Game 2020: Details to come
- G. Young Alumnae Luncheon 1/7/20, 11:00am – 1:00pm: This is scheduled for the end of Christmas break for those who are in college and it is a great way for them to catch up. We usually have about 40-50 girls attend and ask alums from the last graduating class to speak at the event.
- H. International Crescent Day 1/24/20: Wear your crescents and join us for a special mass. There will be refreshments after.
- I. Spring Alumnae General Meeting 2/6/20: Jane's Place Viz -6:00 – 7:30pm. All alumnae are welcome to attend!
- J. Safari Dinner Auction 2/29/20, 5:00pm: Join us for Safari on Leap Day! More information to come.
- K. Alumnae Social Hour at Rosalita's Des Peres 6/4/19, 5:00 – 7:00pm: Join your fellow alumnae for a social hour at Rosalita's in Des Peres.

VI. Development/Advancement Update: Lisa Kohler, Director of Development
 The advancement department has grown to 7 total staff. With a larger staff the team has developed new goals for fundraising and branding that they will work to meet going forward, as well as a new alumnae relations plan to reignite the alumnae base.

VII. New Business

- A. Thank you Mary Anne Spruell for your last 2 years of service!
- B. Recap of Alumnae Day of Service: Christine Marino- there are too many limitations that organizations put on our volunteers for the day of service, so in the future we will have it at Viz to be able to accommodate more alumnae who would like to volunteer.
- C. Alumnae College Visits: Christine Marino- We are going to start a program wherein we will visit local college campuses that currently enroll our recent alumnae and have lunch with those alums. We will begin the program at SLU and WashU. Christine Marino, David Colon and Barb McMullin will attend the lunches with the Viz alums at these schools.
- D. City Visits: We will begin to host alumnae social events for alums that live in cities outside of St. Louis, such as Chicago and Kansas City. This will be open to alumnae from

all classes that live in the cities we visit and will be a great way to connect local alums that have moved outside of the St. Louis area. The idea was posed to connect with other Viz alumnae groups, such as alumnae groups from the Georgetown Visitation.

- E. Visitation Associates Program: Anyone in the Viz community can join the Visitation Associates Program, men and women. Associate groups form every other school year. For two years, they meet the first Tuesday of the month, September through May. They begin with Night Prayer from The Liturgy of Hours. Then, they gather to read and discuss the timeless book "Introduction to the Devout Life" by Francis de Sales. Following these two years, a person may wish to make a commitment to a devout life, in association with the Sisters and the entire Visitation community.

- VIII. Visitation Visit to France:** Sister Mary Grace recapped the Visitation group visit to France. From St. Louis, 6 administrators, 10 faculty and 16 friends of Viz attended. 20 people from St. Paul Visitation and 3 people from Georgetown Visitation attended as well. The group visited places where Francis and Jane lived and work, it was a great trip.

- IX. Pot of Gold:** In the past 50% of the pot would go to the winner and 50% back to Viz. Now, 40% will go to the winner and 60% will go back to Viz. The money from the pot of gold is contributed to the VAA for upfront costs of events as well as scholarship funds. Kathryn Snodgrass was our winner of \$27, which she donated to the Alumnae Association. Thank you, Kathryn. Additional cash donations were given, and \$209 was collected in total, between the Pot of Gold ticket purchases and these additional cash donations.

- X. Closing prayer:** Kathryn Snodgrass