



While the Archives won't put you on a pedestal, we'll certainly keep your memory alive for years to come.

LE MOYNE

SPiRiT. INQUIRY. LEADERSHIP. *Jesuit.*

Send all inquiries and materials to:

William J. Bosch, S.J.

Le Moyne College Archives

1419 Salt Springs Road, Syracuse, NY 13214

Archive Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - noon / 1 - 4:30 p.m.

Contact the Archives at: (315) 445-4732 Email: boschwj@lemoyne.edu

Archives on the Web: www.lemoyne.edu/archives

Editorial Board: Barbara Blaszak and Kathleen Hennigan

Copy Editor: Jennifer Reddy

The Archives is located on the second floor of the Noreen Redle Falcone Library.

LE MOYNE ARCHIVIST NEWS

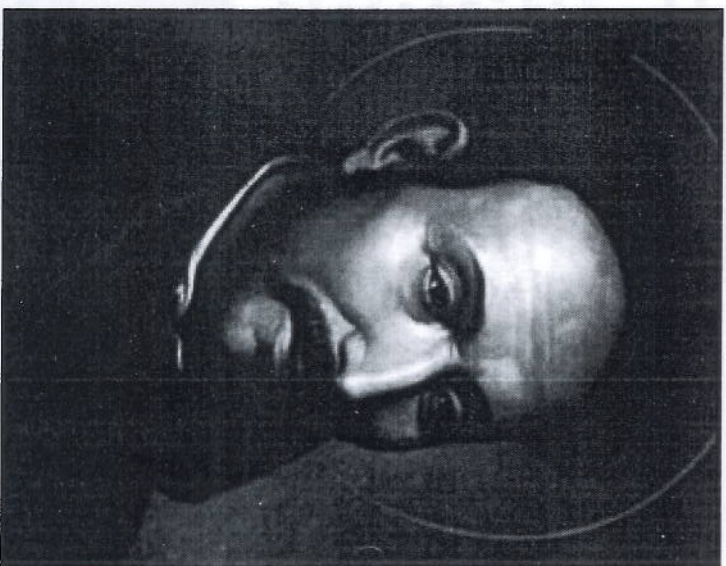
SPiRiT. INQUIRY. LEADERSHIP. *Jesuit.*
Spring/Summer 2014
Vol. 15, No. 3

THE ARCHIVIST'S CREED:

Preserve the Past, Enrich the Present, Protect the Future

His Arrival is Near!

A life-sized statue dedicated to St. Ignatius Loyola should arrive on campus within the year!



This issue of the Archive News was written and edited by Jennifer Barcomb '14 during her internship in the Archives.

THE QUARRELSOME THREE

Given Le Moyne's deep ties to the Jesuit mission of educating the whole person, chances are that the impending installation of a statue of Saint Ignatius Loyola will be uncontroversial. It is also unlikely that we will find his larger-than-life representation in a student's dorm room. This has not been the case for other works of art at Le Moyne, some of which have been the subject of controversy, and one of which did, indeed, see the inside of dorm rooms.

For more than 55 years, the entrance to Grewen Hall was graced with a mural titled "History In A Nutshell" by Lee Trimm. It portrays a meeting between Simon Le Moyne, S.J., and a group of Native Americans. In the mural, Father Le Moyne is depicted as larger than life. In one hand, he holds a giant walking staff; in the other, he appears to offer wampum belts, a sign of peace. There are various Iroquois people kneeling and standing beneath him; they are painted on a much smaller scale. The painting became the subject of controversy when members of the Iroquois nation found it to be degrading, arguing that it makes

them look inferior and subservient to the "great white" missionary. During an expansion of Grewen Hall, Interim President John Smarrelli, Ph.D., '75 donated the painting to a local Onondaga museum, St. Marie among the Iroquois, where it remains today.

Many students studying in the Noreen (Reale) Falcone Library today are oblivious to the famous Polish tapestries and paintings that surround them. In fact, some Polish people today want the tapestries returned to their country. However, Le Moyne claims ownership due to the process by which they landed in the hands of Stephan K. De Ropp. The Polish government commissioned the artistic Brotherhood of St. Luke to recreate prominent scenes from Polish history; the tapestries and paintings were to hang in the Hall of Honors of the Polish Pavilion at the 1939 World's Fair. The man behind the operation was Stephan K. De Ropp. When Poland fell to the Nazis and went bankrupt, the Polish government paid De Ropp with the pieces created by the Brotherhood. After being hired as a

history professor at Le Moyne, De Ropp donated the works of art to the College.

Until 1996, the Polish people were not aware of what happened to the tapestries and paintings. That year, a nephew of a member of the Brotherhood visited the College and the staff proudly showed off the school's efforts to preserve and display both paintings and tapestries. The Polish visitor expressed his desire for the pieces to tour Poland, but College officials, fearful of their non return, declined to loan them. It was then that drama ensued. Harsh words were spoken when certain Polish individuals claimed that the government in exile had no right to give away the pieces, thus making De Ropp's donation invalid. Today, the College is still in possession of these works of art, and Poland continues to clamor for their return.

Kateri Tekakwitha, the Lily of the Mohawks, was the first Native American to be canonized by the Catholic Church. She was converted to Christianity by



Current statue of Kateri Tekakwitha

Jesuit missionaries upon their arrival in the Mohawk territory during the 17th century. The statue of her that is now on campus is the result of controversy over the naming of the townhouses in the 1990s. When the announcement was made that the townhouses were to be named after six Jesuit martyrs, all of whom died at the hands of Iroquois tribesmen, many local tribe members were outraged. They objected to being stereotyped as savage murderers. In response, the College held a Study Day, during which local Iroquois leaders were invited to teach students, faculty and staff about the history of local Iroquois tribes. After learning about the study day, Carol Constantino, whose husband was a good friend of the College and a devotee of Kateri, donated a statue as a memorial of the two races coming together. Today, Kateri stands in the breezeway between Reilly and Grewen Halls.

Many people do not realize that this statue of Kateri is actually the second one in the College's history. A prominent regent donated the first in memory of a family member who held a deep devotion to Kateri. The statue never stayed put for long because, sadly, it became the target of student pranks. Students would remove it from its pedestal and hide it in various dormitories. To prevent future high jinks, the aforementioned regent took back the statue and placed it on the grave of the loved one who had been dedicated to Kateri. When President William O'Halloran, S.J., took office in the late 1970s, he asked that the statue be returned to campus; it was returned only to suffer the same prankster fate. The statue was then given back to the family and it remains with them today.

When St. Ignatius finally makes his arrival it will hopefully be to cries of joy, not quarrelling voices. ■



The Simon Le Moyne mural, formerly in Grewen foyer

SPIRIT, INQUIRY, LEADERSHIP, JESUIT

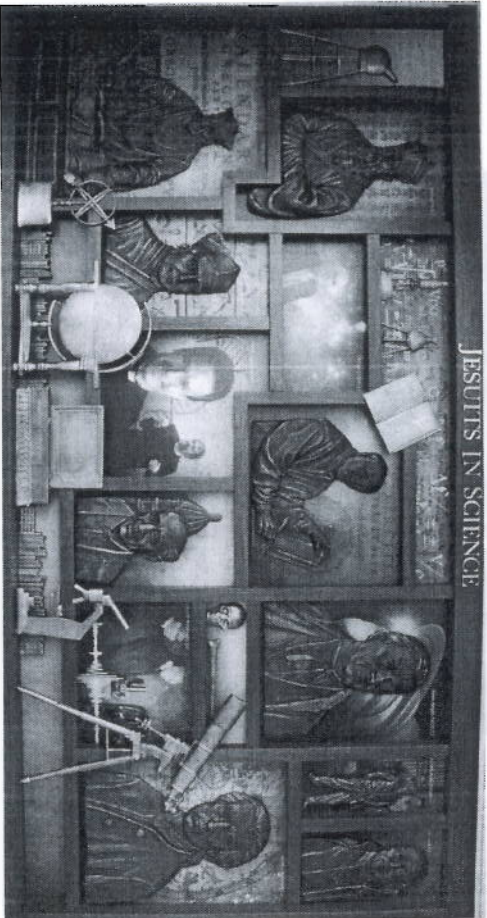
Look about and see! Walking around the campus you may have passed by plaques or statues without realizing their connection to the identity and history of the College. Yet they are visual reminders of Le Moyne's past, present and hope for the future.

Spirit: One of the more recent additions is the statue of Eric Dolphy, famed jazz musician and saxophonist. Unveiled during the spring of 2010, the statue, along with a music scholarship in Dolphy's name, was the result of President Fred Pestello's efforts. As a jazz aficionado, Pestello believed it was time for the College honor a unique Le Moyne tradition, Dolphy Day. Today the statue, completed by artists Kyle and Kelly Phelps, stands as a reminder of the day each spring when the whole campus comes together to enjoy a break from the stresses of the academic year. Although the founding wizard and his co-conspirators argue that Eric Dolphy had nothing to do with the origination of the day, the Eric Dolphy myth lives on.

Inquiry: A large canvas titled "The Mural of Great Catholics Works" has graced the halls of Le Moyne since 1951. Originally on display in the old library in the administration building, it depicts great Catholic writers presenting their works to our Lady of Wisdom for her stamp of approval. Local artist Lee Trimm created the piece with an emphasis on the books being presented rather than the authors themselves. When the new Noreen (Reale) Falcone Library was constructed in 1981, the painting was moved; it is now displayed on the library's second floor.

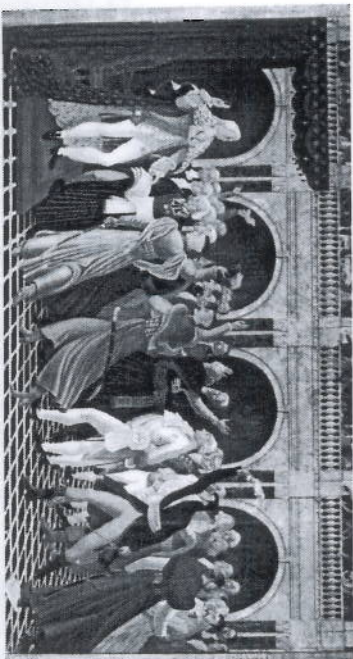
Leadership: The Jesuits in Science metal mural was unveiled this past fall in the atrium of the recent addition to the science center. With one of the newest buildings on campus being dedicated to science, and 35 percent of the members of the class of 2017 having a mathematics or science major, Le Moyne is riding the apparent wave of the future. When it came time to adorn the walls of the atrium, there was no better idea than

JESUITS IN SCIENCE



Jesuits in Science metal mural

LETTER OF NOTE



Below is a letter about the Polish paintings, pictured above, from a nephew of a member of the Brotherhood of St. Luke to Le Moyne.

Dear Robert A. Mitchell, Sr
I have returned to Paris where I have arrived from Kazimierz where your response has been impatiently awaited. My father and my friends were hoping that at the time of the President of the U.S.'s visit to Poland we would receive a message of fraternity from you.
Your response of 23 June 1997 is not sufficient for us. The time which is elapsing does not improve anything in this matter. I remind you of the terms of my letter of 20 April 1986 in which I responded affirmatively to your request of an exchange of information.

[Three paragraphs of English]

We have not received an answer from you in more than a year. We cannot wait any longer. It is a much too serious matter. If you cannot respond to our letter appropriately, we would expect at least that you send "all of [the] material relevant to the Polish works." We have been waiting for this material from you for a year.
Although our family and our country are infinitely poorer than the U.S., we were always allies and we do not find it right to be scorned in this matter.
We are suffering especially since this scorn is coming to us from a Catholic institution.

I ask you once again to reconsider your judgment on us and answer us at your convenience (by sending us as soon as possible "all of [the] material relevant to the Polish works" in your possession).
I will wait for your mail and fax in Paris for a week and I ask you to mail to Poland at this address "all of the material relevant to the Polish works" on exhibit at Le Moyne:
(address in Poland)

We also must especially study carefully all this material. The immediate shipment of this material is in our common interest and [lack of shipment] can thwart it irreparably.

CONFIDENCE IN OUR FUTURE

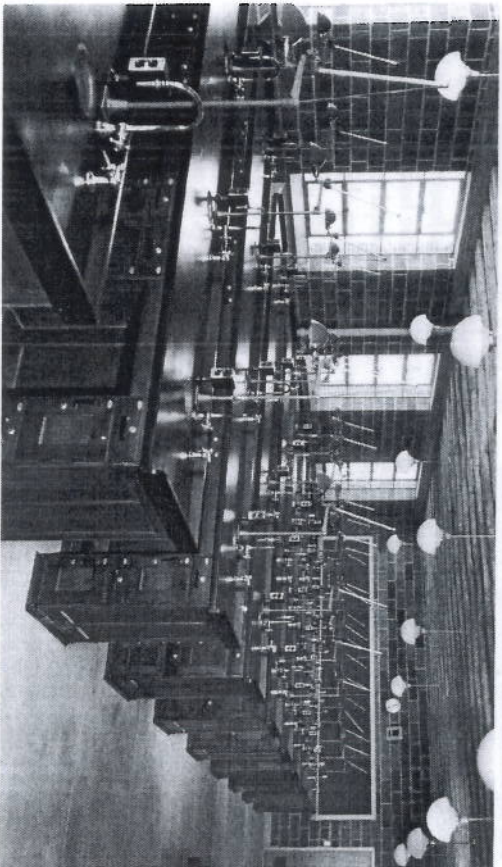
Sincerely,

Krzysztof T. Pruszkowski

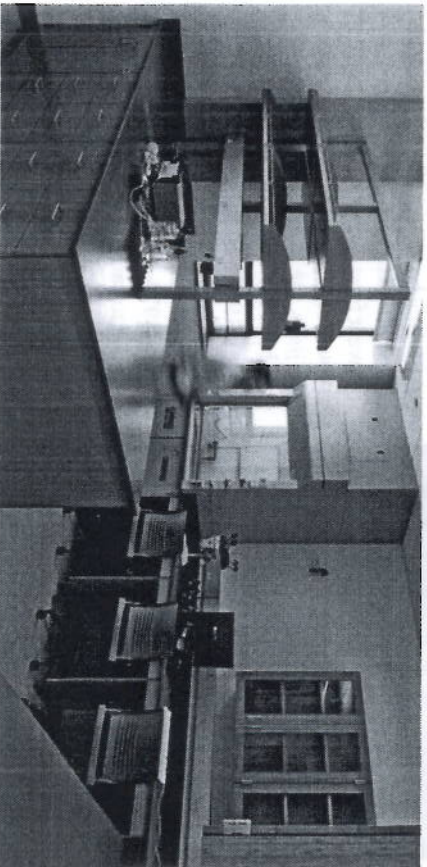
[translated by Leonard Marsh, FSC 21 July 1997]

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

The old science labs looked like this:



In 2012, Le Moyne built a new science addition; this is what the science labs look like now.



The Annunciation plaque

to have something that blended two of Le Moyne's prominent features: the new science center addition and our Jesuit heritage of leadership in science. This display forcefully states that faith and science do not need to be in conflict. An interactive piece done by artist Brian Hanlon, Jesuits in Science allows the observer to not only admire the pieces, but also learn about the backgrounds of each of the 13 Jesuits represented. The honorees stretch across centuries of time, and contributed to various fields of science and technology.

Jesuit: In the entranceway of each dormitory is a dedication plaque. One of the most unique, The Annunciation, is on the exterior St. Mary's Hall. Italian-American artist Aldo Tambellini donated casts of religious scenes to the College in its early years. The Annunciation depicts the Archangel Gabriel revealing to the Virgin Mary that she will give birth to the



Statue of Eric Doherty

son of God. After the casts were donated, the College could not afford to have them poured until Mr. and Mrs. Sylvan Oesreicher volunteered to cover expenses. It was then decided that the new bronze plaque should be appropriately placed in the entranceway to Saint Mary's Hall, which was then an all-women's residence.

When the proposed statue of St. Ignatius is finally erected, it will be another symbol of the College's dedication to spirit, inquiry, leadership, and Jesuit values. ■

