

Exalting Education *A lesson for the ages*

In the backyard of their home in Solon, Jane and John Senderak and his daughter, Kerianne, with puppy, Molly, stand atop the bridge John built overlooking the ponds, waterfall, and gardens.



INSIDE:

Magis inducts 12 new members

Enrollment VP updates
Magis Advisory Group

Did You Know?

Faculty Spotlight

Magis (pronounced "màh-jis") is a Jesuit phrase that means "the more." It is taken from Ad majorem Dei gloriam, a Latin phrase meaning "for the greater glory of God." Magis refers to the philosophy of doing more, for Christ, and therefore for others.

Visit our website to learn more:
www.jcu.edu/plannedgiving

John Senderak '76, '08G, says his parents often talked to the family about the importance of education. Clearly, John was listening.

The John Carroll alumnus has been educating himself one way or another for nearly half a century. The multi-degreed student has earned a B.S. and an M.A. in biology from John Carroll, an M.B.A. from Baldwin-Wallace College, and an associate degree in accounting from Cuyahoga Community College, not to mention several professional certifications.

John started a new job in August as manager of cost accounting for The MetroHealth System in Cleveland. He was previously in accounting at Ben Venue Laboratories for 13 years. Prior to that, he held a variety of positions in sales, marketing, and inventory management for several different Northeast Ohio companies. John's career in sales began in 1978 when he went to work for a water treatment company. He also was newly married and decided to leave his graduate studies in biology and graduate assistantship at John Carroll. He never expected to return 30 years later to complete his degree. Nor did he plan to earn an M.B.A. and a degree in accounting along the way.

"I realized more and more over the years that your degree not only helps you find something that's more lucrative, but also more fulfilling. Your education affects your career and which direction you go," John says.

As a new member of the Magis Legacy Society, John says he designated his legacy gift to go toward scholarship funds that will ultimately help the careers of future students.

"I wanted to set aside money for John Carroll because it has been such a big influence in my life. I wouldn't be where I am without the education I received there.

"I wouldn't be where I am without the education I received there."

—John Senderak '76,'08G

—continued on page 3

Magis Legacy Society inducts 12 new members



More than 73 guests returned to John Carroll in June for the annual Magis Liturgy and Awards Brunch. John Carroll President Robert L. Niehoff, S.J., presented Magis Legacy Society medallions to four (of 12)

new members, who attended the event, including Aaron '00 and Stacy Marinelli, Dawn Pierce '07G, John '76, '08G and Jane Senderak (featured on p.1), and Eugene Wetzel '53. This year's keynote speaker was Andrew

Rafferty '09, first recipient of the NBC/John Carroll University *Meet the Press* Fellowship.

PHOTOS ABOVE:

Dawn Pierce '07G ; Aaron '00 and Stacy Marinelli and family; Eugene Wetzel '53 and JCU President Robert L. Niehoff, S.J.



Magis Advisory Group welcomes Enrollment VP

Members of the Magis Advisory Group met for their spring meeting in March at The Union Club in downtown Cleveland. Brian G. Williams, vice president for enrollment at John Carroll, was guest speaker and provided an overview of how the economy has changed college searches and discussed the value of a John Carroll education.

PHOTOS (clockwise from top left):

Brian Williams, John Carroll VP for Enrollment; Incoming MAG Chair Robert Hager '84, Brennan, Manna and Diamond LLC and JCU Board member, and outgoing MAG inaugural Chair Robert Valente '69, RAV Financial Services; Luigi Pecoraro '83, IIT, Stuart School of Business; Lisa Gasbarre Black '83, Cleveland Catholic Charities; and Alex Schmitt '98, Ernst & Young LLP

Exalting Education: A lesson for the ages

—continued from page 1

My hope is that my gift can help someone who may need financial aid, like I did. My father was a machinist and my mother was a housewife, so it was a struggle to send me to college.”

Raised Catholic, John attended public schools in Garfield Heights, Ohio, before he came to John Carroll in 1972. He recalls idolizing some of his biology professors, naming Ed Skoch, Andy White, and Bruce McLean, then adding John Carrabine from the chemistry department.

“They fostered my interest in environmental science and were kind of my heroes while I was there. I looked up to them,” John says. “I really enjoyed their classes and going on field trips. I just loved the subject matter. People thought I was crazy, but I even enjoyed preparing for finals. I looked at it as a real challenge.”

John says he enjoyed Carroll life outside the classroom as well. He played the drums in the school band and fondly recalls performing in Toronto and Washington, D.C., during spring breaks. And, he says with a smile, “Who can forget the Rathskeller on Friday afternoons?”

But the greatest joy during his time at John Carroll was his newly found passion for environmental science, which remains strong to this day. “The environment is his life’s hobby,” says his wife, Jane.

John frequently takes trips with the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, where he recently completed the museum’s Naturalist Certificate Program, requiring 150 hours of classroom study and field work.

He shares his education with others in a variety of ways. He has served as a volunteer for the Geauga Country Park District by assisting with

stream surveys and field trips. He offers his accounting expertise through a program sponsored by Benefit Ohio, where he and other members of the Institute of Management Accountants help people with their tax returns.

Like his parents, John has passed on the value of education to the next generation. His daughter, Kerianne ’12G, is pursuing her master’s in communications management at John Carroll, and recently received a highly selective graduate assistantship in the communications department, which only offers two such posts. Kerianne, 24, received her B.A. in English from Ursuline College in December and started at Carroll in January.

“I always dreamed of going to John Carroll,” Kerianne says. “I wanted to impress myself and my family, so I applied for graduate school and got in! I love the campus – I think it’s beautiful,” she adds. “All of my graduate classes have 20 to 25 students. I’ve always needed that student-teacher relationship. And I get that at John Carroll.”

John’s wife, Jane, adds her diplomas to the family’s stack of degrees. She received a B.S. in comprehensive business education from Bowling Green State University in 1972, and an M.B.A. from Baldwin-Wallace in 2000. Jane works as a document control specialist for Talascend/Bechtel Communications and has served as an adjunct professor of economics for several years, teaching courses online.

In their spare time, the Senderaks enjoy gardening and Jane, who shares John’s love of the outdoors, volunteers at The Lavender Farm in nearby Streetsboro.

Did you know?



Pacelli Hall named for former Pope

A nod from Pope Pius XII, blessings from the apostolic delegate to the United States, and colorful ceremonies on John Carroll’s campus were just some of the highlights of the 1952 dedication of Pacelli Hall.

The University’s third residence hall (after Rodman and Bernet Halls) was reportedly the first American college building named after a reigning Pontiff, who was formerly Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli.

A *Catholic Universe Bulletin* reporter who had an audience with the Pope wrote in 1952: “Pope Pius XII smiled happily and said ‘yes, yes, I know about it,’ when I mentioned the dedication of Pacelli Hall.”

The Cleveland Press reported: Construction of the building was made possible by contributions from John Carroll alumni and faculty, Cleveland business and industry, and by a special Italian-American committee (mostly Carroll alumni) which conducted a campaign of its own.

A plaque celebrating the Italian-American benefactors includes many names that are familiar to Clevelanders and beyond: Alesci (Alesci Foods), Boiardi (Chef Boyardee), Ippolito (Ideal Macaroni), Visconsi, and more.



The Pacelli Plaque

Faculty Spotlight

David La Guardia

Full Circle

David La Guardia, Ph.D., '65, '67G, celebrates his 42nd year in 2010 as a faculty member at John Carroll University. He has worn many hats ranging from English instructor (1968) to academic vice president (2002-2008) and received many John Carroll accolades, including a Culicchia Award for Excellence in Teaching, a Distinguished Faculty Award, and *Carroll News* Person of the Year. In 2008, he returned to teaching from his administrative duties. Originally from Pittsburgh, Prof. La Guardia is one of four siblings who all became educators. *Magis* Editor Marcia Aghajanian caught up with him in his office recently.

Who or what inspired you to go into teaching?

There were a couple of particularly fine professors in the English department; one was Joe Cotter and another was Jim Magner. Joe was a stern taskmaster, but also was tremendously witty, telling jokes that became legend. Jim was a sensitive poet. Both were great influences, as were a couple of high school teachers.

As I was about to graduate, I thought I would teach high school English, but I applied for graduate assistantships and accepted one at John Carroll. That's when I found my voice and realized 'this is it.'

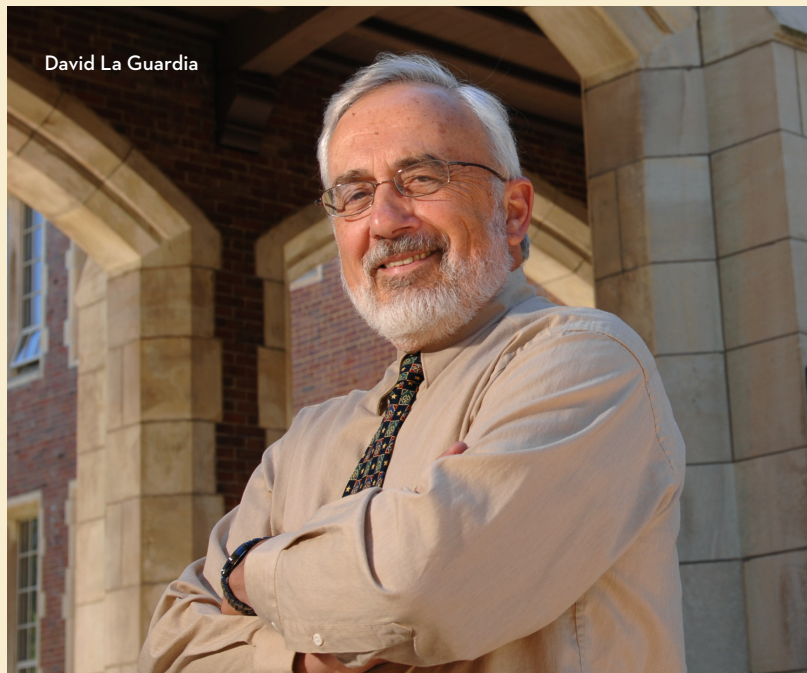
Most memorable students?

When I was a student, we had social fraternities—the University Club and the IXYS. I was a member of the University Club and then became faculty moderator. I would often have students over to the house; I had young children at the time. One of those students was Tim Russert, already a leader. I can see him in my living room with my son on his knee.

How have teaching methods changed over the years?

As I was returning to the department after years in administration, I wondered about the changes I might see. People had told me that student attention spans were shorter and that some didn't like to read much ... of course, in literature that's a big problem! But I have not found this at all among our majors.

What I *have* found is that accessibility to the professor has changed due to e-mail. This means that students can reach out to you at any time. That's a fine thing, because you can also use that media for many positive reasons, whether for more elaborate explanations or bringing students together online.



David La Guardia

Moments of joy?

I was really blessed at an early time. I had delayed finishing my Ph.D., and one day I was informed that an anonymous benefactor had contributed funds so that I could take a year off to complete the degree. It was a wonderful moment in my career.

The other moment was before I published a book on Wallace Stevens. Art Noetzel, the AVP at the time, had read the manuscript and sent me a flyer about the Brown University Press first-book prize, which I ultimately received. He started the process.

Family, hobbies, and favorite pursuits?

I'm married with two stepsons and two adult children. My wife, Lisa, is chief of staff to the dean of medicine at Case. My daughter is a lawyer in Bellingham, Washington, with two children. My son lives south of San Francisco with his wife and two children. My two stepsons are 24 and 20, and the younger one plays football for Carroll.

I love cycling. During the summer, I try to ride 15-20 miles a day. I also enjoy nature—I kayak, fish, and, of course, do a lot of reading.

Magis

Summer 2010

For more information on Planned Giving opportunities at John Carroll University, please contact us.



Patrick J. Ertle
Interim Executive Director
of Development
perle@jcu.edu
216.397.1977



Peter Bernardo
Director of
Planned Giving
pbernardo@jcu.edu
216.397.4217