



Saint Raphael Academy Alumni Newsletter Winter 2016

We are so excited to bring more news and updates to you about the events and alumni happenings of Saint Raphael Academy! The mission of Saint John Baptist de LaSalle is alive and thriving in the heart of campus as well as living on in the lives and hearts of our alumni. If you have not been back to Walcott Street recently, we would love to welcome you back to see all the new updates and improvements, as well as reminisce about days of old. Make sure to visit our website at www.saintrays.org and "like" our page on [Facebook](#).

Live Jesus in Our Hearts... Forever!

Upcoming Alumni Events



Saint Raphael Academy 'Meet Me at the Bucket' Alumni Gathering:

Friday, April 15, 2016, 6:00pm- 9:00pm
Bucket Brewery
100 Carver Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Click [here](#) to buy tickets!

Saint Raphael Academy Alumni Golf Tournament:

Friday, May 13, 2016,
Pawtucket Country Club,
7:00 AM Breakfast, 8:00 AM Shotgun Start

Saint Raphael Academy Alumni Pint Night at Sullivan's Publick House:

Wednesday, May 25, 2016, **Sullivan's Publick House,**
572 Armistice Boulevard
Pawtucket, RI 02861

Visit the Alumni events page for more information:
<http://www.saintrays.org/alumni/events/>

Alumni Updates!

In the last Alumni Newsletter we requested Alumni to send updates about what has been going on in their lives. Below are the updates that we received in the office. Have an exciting event happen in your life? Recently get married or have a baby? Start a new job? Share your news with the Alumni Office. Send your updates to aamodie@saintrays.org

Class of 1954

The Class of 1954 meets every Fall for a luncheon and meeting.



Class of 1973

Michael S. Nassaney, professor of anthropology at Western Michigan University, is coeditor of Interpretations of Native North American Life. He recently published a book entitled "The Archaeology of the North American Fur Trade".

Class of 1995

TJ Feeley retired from the Air Force after 21 years of service on November 8, 2015.



Class of 2002

Christopher Clegg married Jenna Maieli October 24, 2015 The wedding was at St. Teresa's church in Pawtucket, RI with the reception at Kirkbrae Country Club. The Best Man was SRA classmate Benjamin Chabot '02 and the photographer was Mel Colvin '02.



Alumni Merchandise

There are several Saint Raphael Academy merchandise items available for purchase on the Alumni page of the Saints website. To order your gear visit the Alumni page at [Alumni Merchandise](#)

Alumni Board

Ron Dalton '79- Chairman
Kelly Kerwin '05
Shannon Bracken '95
Mark McMahon '79
Dave Sousa '89
Shawn Tremblay '07
Josean Vega '01
AJ Kizekai '05

Annual Fund Appeal

You are where you are today because someone, somewhere along the way, believed in you. Consider donating to the Annual Fund Appeal to help a student gain the same great experience that you had as a student at Saints! Click [here](#) for more information and to donate today! Thank you in advance for supporting Saint Raphael Academy!

Thank you for coming Home!

This past Fall was a busy time for Saints Alumni. Several classes came together to celebrate milestone anniversaries, and many started off their time back on Walcott Street for campus tours to see what has changed and reminisce in the halls of their Alma Mater. This year we will be celebrating reunions ending in 1 and 6. If you graduated during one of these years and would like to help start planning your reunion, please contact Allison Amodie at aamodie@saintrays.org

The Class of 1975 celebrates 40 years!



The class of 1975, the first SRA co-ed graduating class, held its 40th reunion on November 27, 2015 in the Joseph and Blanche Coutu Theater reception area. The approximately 30 alumni who arrived at what they fondly recalled as their gymnasium/ assembly area/theater felt right at home again. The group shared embraces, old stories and a few bits of sad news on fellow classmates and their families while poring over old yearbooks and newspaper clippings provided by the SRA alumni office. The evening included a tribute to fallen SRA '75 classmates by its own Class of '75 bag piper, Steve Small and a tour of the current SRA campus. It was a great evening for all who attended! -John Thompson '75

Alumni Spotlight: Ajaynie Kizekai '05



After Saint Raphael Academy I spent a post graduate year at Blair Academy in Blairstown, New Jersey before making my way to Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. I decided to attend Bucknell University because it was well recognized as a strong academic institution. I left Saints with aspirations of playing football and running

track at an institution well regarded for its strong academic curriculum that complimented a strong athletic program. I did not run track my first year of college.

My time at Bucknell was marked by a number of accolades both on and off the field. My junior year would mark the first of a two year stint as team captain. I was a two time member of the All-Academic Team, 4 time All-Patriot League Selection and led the nation in a number of categories on the Football Field. I am extremely grateful for the recognition I received over the years. However, the two accolades I will always hold closest are my Bucknell University Degree and the Bucknell University Bryan-Humphreys Award which is presented to one male and one female athlete for their versatility in their sport and their leadership.

My Bucknell degree is extremely important to me because it is further validation of what big dreams, hard work and God can do.

Post Bucknell I returned to Blair Academy where I worked as an Assistant Athletic Director, Assistant Football Coach and Strength Coach. However, I was also training in hopes of making an NFL roster. In my final semester of college I was fortunate to work out for a few NFL teams and engage in meaningful conversations. I

enrolled into Georgetown University's Sports Management graduate program. During my time at Georgetown I interned in the athletic departments at the University of Rhode Island and George Washington University in order to prepare myself for a career in college athletics. Post Georgetown I was hired by Brown University as an Athletic Marketing Intern, a role I held for about a year before handing over the reins to fellow Saints alum and stand out student athlete Jean Roussel, and being hired full time as the Athletic Facilities and Operations Coordinator at Brown University. About a year and a half ago I bought my first DJ set, taught myself and I've been DJ'ing in my free time. Since then, I have started a side DJ business and go by the name DJ Konskript. My journey since leaving Saint Raphael Academy has not been the most smooth, as it is very seldom that life after high school is smooth sailing. However, the many trials I've been forced to endure have only built character and gumption for the next obstacle life will throw my way. Saints as an institution and as a family has played a major role in where I am today due to the many Saints that have paved the way and reached back to offer me a hand. I will also pay it forward and do the same as a Saints Alum.

1996 Basketball State Champs Celebrate 20 Years!



So many changes over the course of 20 years, yet so many things stayed the same. Friendships picked up right where they left off and the stories of athletic prowess became more exaggerated as the night went on. The 1996 Boys Basketball State Champions broke an almost 50 year drought when we cut down the nets at the Providence Civic Center. The team was filled with big personalities and multi-dimensional athletes. All-State baseball and football stars mixed in with a superb senior class led by Jason Bennett and Luis Galagarza would not be denied on that cold March night 20 years ago.

More important than the memories of that championship that we shared on *February 12th*, was the reminder of how special a place Saints is to all of us. Coach Saar and Mac coached us as boys, and many of us returned to the Academy in February with children of our own. After all these years, the Hail Mary in the locker room and the out of bounds plays are still the same (they both still work).

A lot of great teams and players came before us, and many more will come after. Our team was truly special to us, and the few guys who could not make it were missed. All the more reason to get back together in another 10 years.

Thank you to everyone at Saints who made the gift possible, and thank you to the 2015-16 Saints for getting a win over Cranston West. As a show of appreciation and support, the 1996 players and their families made a contribution to the Dennis M. Lynch Scholarship Fund.

-Patrick Nee '97