



These students who work in The Eberl Call Center are among the first to donate \$100 each and receive their bricks in Koessler Plaza. Pictured above, bottom row (l-r): Shannon Lyons '07, B. John Harris '06, Melissa Bushey '06; top row (l-r): Nikki Totten '06 and Lyndsy Kron '06.

Men and Women for Others

STUDENT2STUDENT FUND ENABLES CANISIUS STUDENTS TO SUPPORT ONE ANOTHER

The Student2Student Fund is one more way that the Jesuit tradition of men and women for others is demonstrated at Canisius. A college-directed philanthropy project, the fund was introduced in fall 2005 by the Annual Fund Office as a way to address the growing needs of Canisius students, who experience serious financial hardships or personal losses. Funds raised are administered through the coordination of the Student Retention, Financial Aid and Student Affairs offices.

"In the wake of such recent disasters as Hurricane Katrina, the sense of benevolence and philanthropy among Canisius students has increased substantially," explains **Kirsten L. Reppert**, assistant director of the annual fund. "As their awareness has increased, so has their desire to participate in programs that would have an impact on the world and people around them."

This renewed sense of community among classmates has inspired many students, including **Michael Kochczynski '08**, to make gifts to the Student2Student Fund.

"The money and effort contributed to the fund is going to help a fellow classmate or roommate, even a best friend," says Kochczynski. "It is extremely worthwhile and gratifying to take part."

"I contributed because I know what it is like to worry about money instead of your classes," adds **Nikki Totten '06**. "Now students don't need to feel confused or ashamed because they know they have help."

The Student2Student Fund replaces the Senior Challenge. And in addition to seeing their gifts at work, students who donate at least \$100 to the Student2Student Fund before graduation receive a brick in the Koessler Plaza, complete with their name and class year.

"As Canisius College students we feel a deep desire and obligation to be men and women for others, to lead as well as to serve," says **B. John Harris '06**. "The Student2Student Fund allows us to reach out in ways we never could before."

Canisius Rolls Out Red Carpet for 40th Regents Ball

The Canisius College Board of Regents will mark the 40th anniversary of its annual Regents Scholarship Ball on Saturday, May 13 at the Statler Towers in Buffalo. Proceeds from the ball provide financial support to promising young students, who otherwise would not be able to take advantage of a Canisius education.

The evening will feature entertainment by Sinatra-crooner Jack Civiletto, as well as Joyride with the Hit Man Horns.

"The ruby gemstone signifies 40 years so the evening will feature rubies and the color red," says **Acce Mosey-Pawlowski '92**, chair of this year's Regents Ball. "We will literally roll out the red carpet and encourage guests to wear red dresses and red ties."



ROBERT E. SADLER JR., 2006 RECIPIENT OF THE DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN AWARD

The highlight of the evening is the presentation of the Distinguished Citizen Award. **Robert E. Sadler Jr.**, president and CEO of M&T Bank Corporation and CEO of the M&T's principal banking subsidiary, M&T Bank, is this year's recipient. Sadler will be recognized for his civic, cultural and economic contributions to Western New York.

For more information on sponsorships or tickets to the Regents Scholarship Ball, contact Marion Mittler, director of endowed scholarships, at 716-888-8217 or visit the Web site at www.canisius.edu/regentsball.



On October 21, Canisius hosted a reception for Anne Steffan Gunderman, a local artist who generously contributed a collection of her works, entitled "Stars and Sun," to Canisius. The art is on exhibit in the Bowhuis Library.

Pictured at the reception (l-r) are: Anne Steffan Gunderman, with family members, Norma Steffan, Suzanne Elsaesser (top), Leah Elsaesser, Jenna Elsaesser, Kimberly Kull, Karen Kull '87, Lani Gunderman and Cassandra Kull.

Donor Profile

Blue & Gold Club

The Blue & Gold Club of Canisius tipped off its first-ever fund drive in February. Canisius coaches, athletic staff, student-athletes and Blue & Gold volunteers are contacting former Golden Griffins and club fans to ask for their support. Funds raised will benefit several aspects of the college's athletics program including capital improvements and recruiting initiatives. Donors may direct their gifts to a specific sport or to the unrestricted athletic fund.

The Blue & Gold Club is the official fund-raising arm of the college's Athletics Department. For more information, contact John Maddock, associate director of athletics, at 716-888-2977.



CORRECTION: In its fall 2005 issue, *Canisius College Magazine* erroneously omitted Col. Patrick J. Cunningham '59 from its list of annual fund class gift chairs. He and David G. Male '59 work together to strengthen the relationships between their classmates and the college.

PICTURED (RIGHT) ARE JOAN AND HAROLD S. HACKER '37, HON. '75



Opening Doors to a Jesuit Education

Harold S. Hacker '37, HON. '75 believes in miracles. Why? Personal experience. At the age of 89, Hacker says his life was shaped by the unmistakable hand of divine intervention. It all began in 1929 when a priest, whom Hacker never met before, opened the doors to a Jesuit education.

Just two days into his first year at a public high school, Hacker's mother, Henrietta, received a call from Rev. Robert E. Holland, S.J., then principal of Canisius High School. Father Holland said Hacker belonged at Canisius and that "He would take care of the tuition problem." Thus began Hacker's eight-year journey with the Jesuit order.

It turns out Father Holland not only arranged a four-year scholarship for Hacker at Canisius High School but a freshman

scholarship at Canisius, as well. To pay for his remaining three years at Canisius, Hacker worked as a page at the Buffalo Public Library. He later studied library services at the University of Buffalo. During his first semester, however, he was stricken with an epileptic seizure that rendered him unconscious. For the next two years, Hacker suffered frequent repeat attacks.

"Despite the best medical care, I never did learn what caused my epilepsy or why it finally left me after two and half years," he says. "I do know that many people were praying for me."

Hacker continued with graduate school and over the next 40 years went on to lead a successful career as a librarian. At age 30, he was elected president of the New York State Librarian Association and by 37, he became

director of the Rochester and Monroe Public Library Systems. Hacker attributes his professional successes to his Jesuit education, which he says "taught him to think."

Professionally, he was fulfilled. Personally, something was missing. Hacker's life-changing bout with epilepsy compelled him not to marry. The possibility of passing the disorder on to a child was unthinkable to him. For 60 years he kept his vow not to marry until, he says, "God stepped in." He met Joan Smett in 1987 at St. Mary's Parish in Rochester, NY. Hacker admired Smett for the loving care she provided to her mother, who suffered from Alzheimer's. After her mother passed away, Hacker and Smett began a courtship. They were married in fall 1997 in what Hacker calls "the wedding of the century."

This year, the couple will celebrate their nine year anniversary and in July, Hacker will mark his 90th birthday.

His appreciation for life's miracles and his time at Canisius is why Harold and Joan support the college. He has been a loyal contributor to Canisius, including annual fund gifts, for 26 straight years. As a member of the Rev. James M. Demske, S.J., Society, Hacker has included the college in his estate plans with the hope that his gift will one day open the door to a Jesuit education for future students.

Hacker says, "I will always be indebted to the Jesuits for their care and concern for us as students at Canisius. I want to ensure that future generations have the same opportunities that I did."