



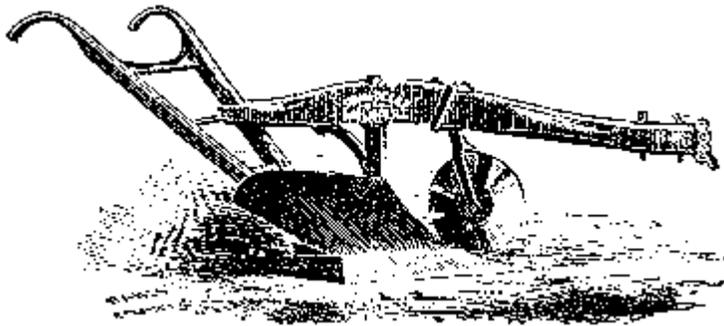
The Bells of Saint Mary

June 2013

With My Hand on the Plow:

What a wonderful world it would be
The Bells of St. Mary's June 2013

Part of why I love going to the Pine Ridge reservation so much is the break from the constant pressure of the internet, email, instant communication and the assumption that responses will be as instantaneous as the sender's email was. Sometimes my cell phone works and sometimes it does not. It is just that way. Deborah had sent along with me a clever device that provides a clear line for internet communication so that I could be able to talk with her



while I was gone. I had my Kindle reader with me, and I figured it was for that...I never figured out until I got back that I could have used it for my cell phone. After 37 years of being with Deborah I still marvel at her patience

with me!

I say all of this because in checking in and catching up with Facebook, email and the rest I discovered two big things...one, first and foremost, the world went right ahead without me and my contributions to the communication overload...and two, even more significant in my opinion...the world is every bit as ugly as it was before I left...and the fact that all of its ugliness is in-

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stantly communicated is even worse. Case in point: a Cheerios Ad. It is a perfectly beautiful advertisement. It features a mixed race couple and their child. The child asks mom, who is Caucasian, if Cheerios are good for the heart. The mom answers yes it is. The next shot has this adorable young girl grinning, taking the box and walking off camera. The next shot shows her father, who is African-American waking up from a nap with a big pile of Cheerios gathered above his heart poured out over his shirt. It is cute, heart-warming and terribly normal. But not to the haters out there.

So vicious have the comments been that the comments section of NPR, among many other sites where you can view the commercial, have been shut down...not before horrible hateful comments that included every foul and filthy word you can think of had been posted. And it made me wonder just what good we are managing to do if the world we witness to is still so filled with hate. If something so innocent as a couple and their child, expressing love and family values through the world of commercial advertising can cause this level of angry hyperbole, is it any wonder that we are so divided and polarized as a country? Is it any wonder that the KKK has seen the greatest resurgence of activity and membership since its heydays of the 1920's and 30's?

Christianity calls us to a life of justice and love. Jesus was very clear with us...we are to love one another as Jesus loves us. We are to love our neighbors as ourselves. There are no disclaimers or wiggle room offered. Jesus did not say ...except for...everybody but....Jesus said love our neighbors.

When Chester Talton was the Bishop Suffragan here in our diocese he said "Racism is the fundamental American sin." Having grown up in the south in the 1950's and 60's...I have never known a world that did not have active, tolerated hate speech in it. I have never known a world where Bishop Talton's words were not an absolute truth...but I continue to dream of that world...that day...that moment where all the world will live into the words of our Lord and Savior and embrace his teachings so that love will be the guiding principles of our lives and we will no longer tolerate a world where Cheerios can be the latest thing to cause hate to fill the air and fuel discussion about race relations in America.

Spending two weeks with young adults from all over the country and the

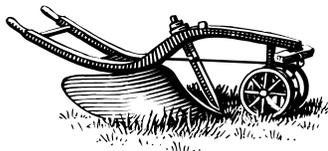
world who come together to pray and build a community will spoil a person into thinking that the Beloved Community can be a reality. For four days, I did not see a fight, a disagreement, a harsh word or a hateful look. I did not experience separation among the young adults gathered on any front. At the Saturday night gathering in the big tent, with Native American drums sounding, I watched 400 young adults, of all colors, shapes, sizes and nationalities join hands in a “snake dance” and dance together in a line so large it spilled out from the open side of the tent into the prairie and back in to the tent. All were laughing and cheering one another. It was worship of Jesus Christ that had brought them all together and it was the Spirit of love dancing with them that night. It gives me hope, it fires me up, and urges me to get back in the middle where the haters are and keep teaching and preaching and loving and believing that we can make a difference...we will make a difference...we ARE the difference.

The Red Shirt Project is coming up in six weeks. July 14th I will go back to Red Shirt with young people from across the country and continue the work of reconciliation and witness that I have been doing for 14 years now. As of this writing, I have lots of grown-ups and about 9 kids. There will be another 4 or 5 kids who join the ranks in the next month and we will continue our work of loving our neighbors as ourselves...of building enduring relationships that last...and changing lives, one person at a time. Please join me in supporting this work of our church by giving generously to the Red Shirt Project.

We are expanding the baseball field this summer, building a corral in the village, and finishing the coffee shop that we worked so hard on last summer. Along the way, the continuing legacy of St. Mary's will grow...as we worship with our sister church of Christ Church, Red Shirt Table, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota, USA and continue to be the church that helps others...regardless of who they are, what they look like, or how they came to be in need. We are St. Mary's. And that is what we do.

What a great thing that is to say and be.

With my hand on the plow, Fr. Michael+



St Mary's Historic Guild and Anniversary Festival

The first meeting to organize the Guild of St Mary was held in Lompoc in 1891. Seven women were present and officers were elected as follows:

President – Emma Ann Morton

Vice President – V. Ellen Low

Secretary – Mary Ann Perry

Treasurer – Alice Jane Nichols

Also present were: Alice Maria Richards, Rachel Cauntlay and Carrie Louise Bacon.

Organization of the **Guild of St Mary** seems to have been the first step in establishing a community of Episcopalians in Lompoc who would first celebrate the Holy Sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion there in 1892. In that same year, the *Festival of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin* (also known as *Candlemas* or *Presentation of Jesus at the Temple* and celebrated on February 2) was adopted as the Anniversary Festival of St Mary's Guild.

By the summer of 1892, the Right Rev Assistant Bishop, William F Nicholls, held the first confirmations in Lompoc on St Peter's Day, June 29. Sixteen were confirmed.

By 1893, St Mary's mission along with other congregations in Santa Maria and Los Alamos were being served by mission priest the Rev Selwyn Charles Freer, MA Trinity College, Oxford, a Church of England priest. Over the next couple of years Holy Communion was celebrated, Holy Baptisms were performed and additional communicants were confirmed.

On July 10, 1895 the *Herald* of Los Angeles reported the corner stone of St Mary's Episcopal Church was laid in a "grand and impressive" service with a large crowd witnessing the proceedings. Interestingly, the article goes on to say that the local Masonic Lodge 262 (still in existence today) was in charge of the services.



*The original St Mary's Episcopal Church was located on the corner of H Street & Chestnut Avenue.
(Photographer unknown)*

So, who were these early founding “mothers” of the Guild of St Mary? Interestingly, almost all of them had left Lompoc by the turn of the century; but here’s a bit of what our research has discovered:

Emma Ann Morton – Mrs. Morton, President

Emma Ann FORD was born in Ohio in 1832 where she married Lovett Stimpson MORTON, a watchmaker and jeweler and had two daughters, Alice Jane and Carrie Louise. The extended family apparently moved to Lompoc by 1891 where Lovett farmed. Both daughters were present at the formation of St Mary’s Guild in 1891. Emma apparently died before 1900.

V Ellen Low - Mrs. P Low, Vice President

Ellen (or Virinda Ellen) was born in Missouri about 1851 and married Peter Low a Scottish immigrant who was farming in Lompoc in 1880 with another Scottish immigrant, William Cantlay (see below). They had one daughter, and one son. By 1896, however, the family had moved to the Los Angeles area where Ellen died in 1919.

Mary Ann Perry – Mrs. Perry, Secretary

Mary Ann CARR (1848-1940) was born in Massachusetts to an old Bostonian family. She married Thomas Longworth Perry, a nephew of the famous Commodore Oliver H Perry, in 1865 in Boston. Thomas Perry had quite a colorful career in the US Navy, including in the Civil War, but after an injury the couple moved to California in 1868 and Thomas worked for the Lighthouse Service as the principal lightkeeper at Pt Conception near Lompoc for over 20 years. Thomas lived to the age of 104. It is safe to say that Mary Ann shared in most of his adventures during their 69+ years of marriage. He died in Vallejo in 1934. She died in 1940. They had one daughter, Ethel Harwood Perry, born in Lompoc in 1883.

Alice Jane Nichols – Mrs. A. J. Nichols, Treasurer

Alice Jane MORTON (1852-1947) was the daughter of Emma and Lovett Morton. She was born in Ohio and married Andrew Jackson Nichols (1849-1895) there in 1874. In 1883, Andrew opened a jewelry store in Lompoc on Ocean Avenue where it is said he carried a “*fine selection of watches, clocks, jewelry, musical instruments and sewing machines*”. The couple had two children, a son and a daughter. Tragically, Mr Nichols was killed instantly when thrown from a buggy on a Sunday morning in May 1895. One has to wonder if he was taking his family to church at St Mary’s.

Alice Maria Richards– Mrs. Guy Richards

Alice Maria CHEAL (1862-1906) married Guy MacLeod Richards, a Lompoc farmer, in Santa Barbara in June of 1891. Alice was born in England in 1862. Her father, the Rev James Cheal of Brighton, immigrated with his family to America in 1885. In the fall of 1888, Rev Cheal had founded Chediston House, a boarding and day school for young ladies in Lompoc to teach languages, music and drawing not taught in public schools. Alice taught music, French and drawing. Her father went on to become of rector at St Stephen's in San Luis Obispo. One of her brothers was a prominent rancher and stockman in Lompoc. Alice was certainly a newlywed in 1891 when St Mary's Guild was formed. It appears the couple did not stay long in Lompoc after the birth of their first daughter in 1893. A second daughter was born in Yakima, WA in 1895. Guy became a veterinary surgeon; and Alice continued to teach music. She died there in 1906.

Rachel Cauntlay – Mrs. W. Cantlay

Rachel PACE (1852-1927) was born in Missouri and married William Cantlay (1849-1898), a Scottish immigrant farming in Lompoc, sometime around 1881. William operated a lumber business in Lompoc, but moved his family including 2 daughters and 4 sons to Los Angeles shortly after 1892 where William developed a livery (trucking) service that his sons later developed into two of the largest trucking operations in California, Western Gillette, Inc and Cantlay & Tanzola, Inc. William liked to search for gold in the desert and contracted dysentery on one such trip in 1898, which is what caused his death. Rachel died in southern California in 1927.

Carrie Louise Bacon – Mrs. J. D. Bacon

Carrie Louise MORTON (1859-1953) was another daughter of Emma Ann and Lovett Morton. Born in Ohio, she married James Dalton Clark Bacon (1855-1946) in 1879 probably in Colusa County where their two sons were born. He was a commercial traveler. Carrie is shown as also present at the first meeting of St Mary's Guild but whether she was just visiting her parents and sister here in Lompoc is unclear. By 1900, her family is back in northern California (Alameda) and her widowed father, Lovett, is living with them.

So, there you have it. That's how it all began and a little bit about our founding families. In the next issue of the Bells, I will share photos of some of these women (and men) and take a look at what could have been the first Sunday School class...and maybe, just maybe the first group of animals blessed on St Francis Day!

Louise Larson,
Communications Ministry Development Team

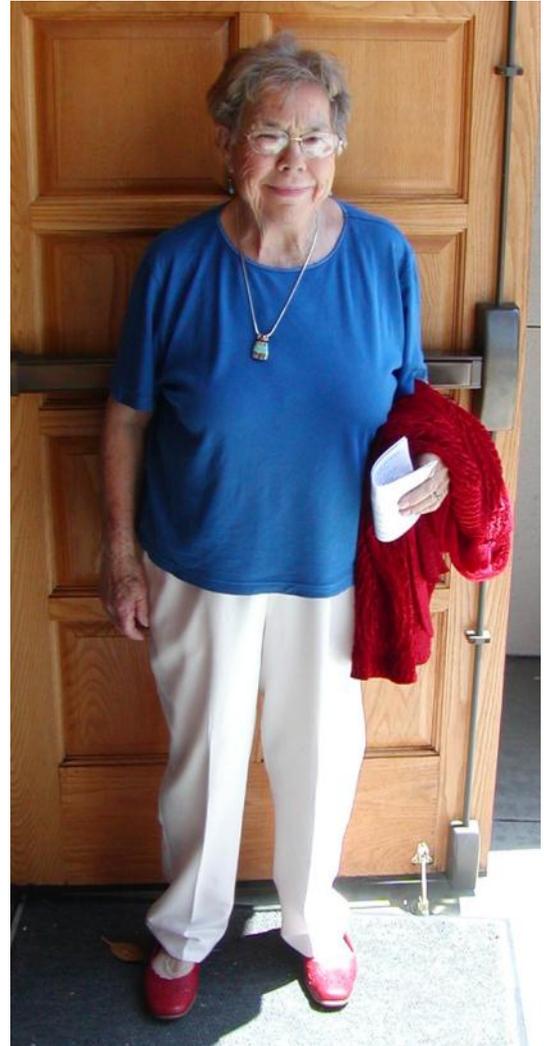
St. Mary's Parish: An Interview With our Elder Members

Louise Kirchman Hodges: As told to Glen Newcomb

At only 89 years old, Lou Hodges is not one of our eldest members of St. Mary's , but she is one who really interested your editor. At one time certain body shaped women were called "Earth Mothers". Lou would more properly be called a "Mother of the Earth". Having raised 7 children and more grandchildren, and Great-grandchildren than she wanted to take the time to remember the total count. Lou has two Great -grandchildren graduating from college this year and she now has TWO Great-great -grandchildren. Now that's a feat of epic proportions.

Born Louise Kirchman on May 18, 1924 in Silver City New Mexico, Lou spend most of her young years there where her family owned a store. Lou's love story is one of dramatic proportions as well. At age 9 she had a crush on a family friend, Jim Hodges, who was 15 years older than she. In fact Jim used to claim that he helped raise the young lady who would eventually become his bride of 57 years. But, of course, the relationship was purely one of a young girl and an older "brother" At graduation from High School, Lou married her high school sweetheart Bud Collins But then came World War II. Bud went into the army as a pilot. As Lou said: "You married young during the war because you didn't know if your man was going to come back to you." And Bud did not. Bud was killed, and never had the chance to meet his little daughter, Margo. As The Lord would have it, Jim Hodges, also an engineer and pilot, came back from the war and began to court Lou as an adult. Their marriage lasted, happily for 57 years, and three more daughters, Ruth, Patty, and Jody.

But God was not finished with Jim and Lou. As a young couple, they drew up wills and made an agreement with Lou's Brother Bob and his wife that if anything happened to either couple, the surviving couple would raise the nephews and nieces. Sadly, only two months after the papers were draw up, Bob and Jo were killed in a private airplane crash. Without hesitation Jim and Lou brought Bob Jr. Bill and Peggy into their home to raise them. At that point they had Margo and Ruth in College, They had children 18, 17, 17, 15, and 13 in the home. Now THAT's a super Mom!



The family spent 18 years in Palos Verdes California when Jim was an engineer and Company Trouble Shooter for several petroleum companies. Lou says that Jim was a “tough” Daddy because of his military training, but all the children loved him most dearly.

When asked when she and Jim moved to Lompoc and St. Mary’s, Lou shared that was after the kids were all gone and retired Jim and she moved to be near daughter Patty & husband Jeff, who lived in Santa Ynez. I asked how it was to be fairly young herself when Jim retired from the Dupont Company. Her response was that it was great because then he helped more around the house. Jim, the children, and their home were Lou’s life work, and she loved it. Not surprisingly Lou shared that she and Jim never lived alone until they finally moved to Lompoc. There was always some child or relative living with them. Jim would just say: “Oh sure, come live with us while you study for you Masters degree at USC,” or things like that.

What Lou loves the most about St. Mary’s and the Episcopal church is the liturgy and the pageantry of our services. When St. Mary’s had our problems several years ago and some people were leaving, Lou says she just felt: “This is MY church, and I love it, I’m not going to let this conflict or these people make me leave it”. Her only sadness about the church is that she is not able to participate as much as she used to or as much as she would like to. She is sad that the issues that have torn our church have even separated her family to some degree. Some are more liberal while others hold a less welcoming feeling to people who are different from them.

When asked what she was most proud in her life, she actually blushed. “Well, it is only through God’s work that my family are all good people who are contributing members of society”. She really loved her time as a House Church leader. (note: The house church that met as the church and was led mostly by Lou, was the longest running one we had.)

When asked about the significant changes she has seen in the world and society and the church in her life, Lou responded that she is more excited about all the wonderful things that are to come. She loves the changes that have developed (particularly in medicine) and sees them as joyous possibilities.

Lou Hodges is a wonderful addition to our St. Mary’s family. We rejoice in what God has done through her, and hope for many more years.



JOYFUL RADICAL HOSPITALITY

One of the happiest times for the Church is when a couple decides to wed and invite Christ into their relationship...the Sacrament of Marriage. It is a time when people we may not know come to our church for the first time...and it's to celebrate!

The Wedding Guild is here to assist the Couple in their planning, help them rehearse so they will have a focused wedding day, and of course help them get down the aisle on THE DAY! Members also receive everyone as Christ's family and welcome the guests to St. Mary's.

This is a truly joyous ministry. Who else in the world gets to "fluff" the bride's train as she steps off? Not even "The Mother of the Bride"!

Now as more folks get married at St. Mary's, this is a *call to help*.

We need to gather, learn and share in the work of helping. A meeting will be scheduled soon. Will you join us? Men and women are needed to work with Kay, Mary, Glen, Jan and Howard.

Please contact Kay Rowland (733-3383) or Mary Newcomb (733-3811).

A BAFFLING NOISE

"Boy it's loud in here!" Haven't you heard that often as we gather in Fitch Hall to eat, meet, learn? It really is hard to hear...but we think there is a solution. Father Michael has offered us the chance to hang large banners high near the ceiling to baffle the sound and make the noise (not the people!) less "lively". Courtney Tan is willing to head up the effort, along with Mary Newcomb.

We need any and all quilters, sewers, applique-ers, and anyone else willing to help. **We want to have a Creativi-Tea to talk about ideas, designs and how to's.** Won't you please call Courtney at 408-431-6810 or Mary at 733-3811? We are really excited to gather with like-minded folks and raid Courtney's fabric stash!

Many Thanks

I wish to thank everyone who gave their time for me in moving. Names known and unknown, I give thanks and pray for our Lord to bring you peace and treasure throughout your lives

Love you, Isla Mae Hill



Dear St. Marian's,

The Red Shirt Project is coming up! July 14th to July 31st, I will once again be taking a large group of young people from around the country and our diocese to Red Shirt village in South Dakota. I have received, for the third year in a row, a grant from the Stevens Foundation to assist us in our fund-raising efforts. The grant is for \$8000 and so I need to raise a lot more than in years past when the grant was higher. Will you help me take kids to the Pine Ridge Reservation? Any amount will help us...make checks out to St. Mary's and put RSP on the memo line so our counters know where to direct the funds to go.

Thanks for thinking of the Red Shirt Project and for helping us make the pilgrimage go again.

Fr. Michael+

Mwamba Children's Choir toured the Central Coast last month and one of their stops was St. Mary's on May 8th... The choir consisted of 15 children ranging from the ages of 7-13 years.



*The drummers for the Mwamba Children's Choir.
(above)*

The Mwamba, Uganda Children's (below)



Both pictures taken by Louise Larson

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8:00 AM and 10:00AM

Church Office Hours
Monday - Thursday 10 AM - 4 PM

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Sharon LeRoy	06/02
Annja MacPherson	06/02
Charlotte Hayes	06/03
Brian Ostrander	06/03
Heather Kleinhammer	06/06
Jeanne Kendall	06/07
Ron Fairbanks	06/09
Theodore Muha	06/09
Jonathan Muha	06/09
Neiko Pagaling	06/14
Declan Kazianka	06/15
Alicia Hamilton	06/17
Kira Munson	06/19
Stan Sheldon	06/19
Sheryl Murray	06/22

**Many Hands Make
Light Work**

**Please join us for a Work
Party on Saturday, June
8th, at 8:30 AM.** You can
help with the gardening, vac-
uuming the sanctuary,
changing lightbulbs, or many
other things that help keep
the church going!



Bede the Bat

Hi everyone! I've begun my flight to Red Shirt. . .
I'll report from there next month. .

Financial Statement

As of 4/30/2013

Undesignated checking & savings \$68,871
Designated checking \$27,578

	Actual Apr '13	Actual Jan - Apr '13	Budget Jan - Apr '13
Income	\$25,320	\$100,337	\$104,064
Expenses	\$27,470	\$99,656	\$106,371
Net income/(loss)	(\$2,151)	\$681	(\$2,307)

Prayers of the People

We ask that you hold these persons in your Daily Prayers.

Lord, open our hearts to your perfect will, that we may faithfully intercede on behalf of those we bring to you now in prayer:

**George Bowman, Gisele Boyd-Snee, Don and Irene Cunningham,
Ray Down, Sr., Isla Hill, Sheila Holley, Shelie Jackson, Stan Sheldon,
Rachel Williams, and Keith Wright,**

And those serving in the armed forces remembered by our parishioners:

**Allan, Bill, Carl, Carlos, James, Jason, Juliana, Kevin, Kimberly,
Paige, Patrick, Robert, Simon, Ryan and Whitney.**

AMEN.

Please Note:

Prayers of the People will be updated monthly. If you would like to add or continue a name to the POP, please fill out a Prayer Request slip or Pew card, submit via our website www.stmaryslompoc.org call any of our Prayer Ring members, or email Stephanie Bastian at jeffnsteph95@msn.com. Thank you!

*“Whenever two of you on earth agree in prayer,
it will be done by My Father in Heaven.”*
Matthew 18:19