

WAGNER COLLEGE GUILD

Founded in 1918

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Winter 2022

An Update Letter from President Aletta Diamond

Greetings from the Hill,

I am thrilled to wish all a very Happy New Year! As you will see much of my joy comes from the success of our December Guild luncheon. This was the first time in 18 long months that we have been able to gather in-person. Robert Soltmann, Director of Dining Services and Chef Michael Purpura went out of their way to welcome us back with a beautiful plated lunch. Wagner's IT department "rolled up their sleeves" to give us Zoom accessibility so those from afar might join us. Our attendance was just shy of 50 participants. A special thank you goes to our executive committee who generously donated the raffle prizes. Our guest speaker was Angelo Araimo, Interim President. You also had the opportunity to meet his lovely wife, Mary. Thank you to all who made Mary feel welcome and I know she will be a wonderful ambassador for the Guild. I'd like to give special "shout outs" to former Borough President Ralph Lamberti and his wife Susan, along with former Trustee Mike Manzulli and his daughter Alison for taking time from their busy schedules to attend. Mike's granddaughter presently attends Wagner. Yet another reason for my joy comes from the Reynolds House staff who informed me that our membership has eclipsed the 50 member mark. If you remember, I challenged us to have 100 members to take us into the second century of the Guild. All of this, of course, is a testament to the dedication you all bring to the Guild and its mission of supporting the students of Wagner College. Please continue to invite family and friends to join us in that quest. Please continue to stay safe and healthy. Looking forward to seeing you at the April event!

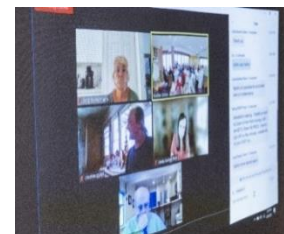


Fondly,

Aletta Kipp Diamond '65 H'15

The Guild Hosts Holiday Luncheon

The Guild's Holiday Luncheon in December was a particularly joyous one! The afternoon was filled with lots of laughter, catching up with old friends and making new ones, delicious food and of course plenty of fabulous raffles! We even had virtual guests "Zoom" in from Florida, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland and upstate New York! The Guild was pleased to welcome Wagner College's Interim President Angelo Araimo as the guest speaker and enjoyed welcoming his wife Mary to the event. A good time was had by all and all proceeds raised by the event went to the *Make a Difference Fund*, which provides immediate emergency financial assistance to students in need so that they may continue their education without interruption. Thank you for your support!



Member Spotlight: Ann Taranto Giordano '69 M'70

By Michael Muccino '73, First Vice President



Readers of this newsletter have long appreciated how large a role Wagner College has played in the lives of our profiled friends. Ann Giordano's experience is a classic example. Although she was the first in her family to attend college, a steady stream of relatives soon followed her to Wagner. The list includes her sister, son and several others. A basketball player on Wagner's women's squad, Ann also became a leading force in the school's Alpha Delta Pi sorority. She was 1968 Homecoming Chairperson and helped build ADPi's float that featured the celebrated big pink frog which made the New York Times front page. This was in addition to her studies in education, for which she credits Dr. Calhoun and Dr. Sippo for their guidance in her Bachelors and Masters pursuits. As a Teaching

Assistant Ann helped develop a curriculum and performed other duties for the Education Department. But she didn't stop there.

Her commitment to Wagner continued after her education. It took shape in the form of her work in initiating two important scholarships. The Barney Taranto Memorial Scholarship, honoring her father, provides valuable assistance for Staten Island residents pursuing a teaching career. It has so far raised \$100,000 through various golf outings. Ann has also initiated the Alpha Delta Pi Scholarship for ADPi sisters who combine a high grade point average with outstanding citizenship. She has worked with Aletta Kipp Diamond '65 H'15 and Donna New '68 in raising \$100,000 in this endeavor. Ann's other alumni service includes 2019 "Golden Seahawk" Reunion committee member, Alumni Board member, Guild member and most recently Guild Executive Committee member. She is a regular at many Wagner events here on campus, and has even attended several Florida alumni functions. It's a pretty safe bet that she's not even close to being done!



Save The Date – Spring Luncheon!

Our next event will be the **Spring Luncheon** which will be held on **Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. (EST)** in the Faculty Dining Room. We look forward to welcoming Walt Hameline, Director of Athletics who will give an update on Wagner's athletics program. He'll be bringing a surprise guest too! Please bring a friend to enjoy a delicious lunch and good company. Tickets are \$45, which includes a \$10 donation to the *Make a Difference Fund*. In keeping with Guild tradition we will have raffles too! We will offer a Zoom option as well for those who wish to join us virtually. Registration is required by April 6, 2022. To register please visit alumconnect.wagner.edu/spring2022 or contact Karen Kennedy at 718-420-4530 for assistance. We hope that you will join us!

For more information about the Guild, please contact Dave Martin at 718.420.4341 or dmartin@wagner.edu