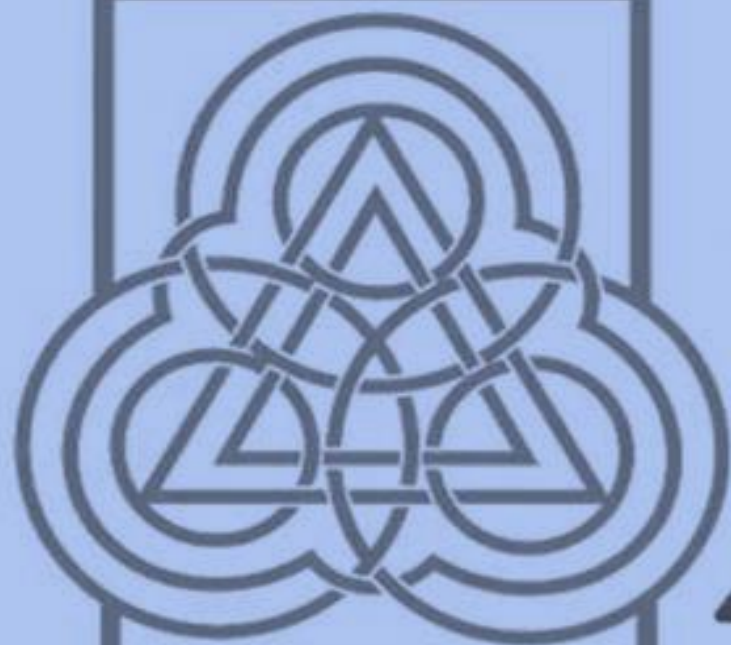


TRINITY
COLLEGE
OF VERMONT

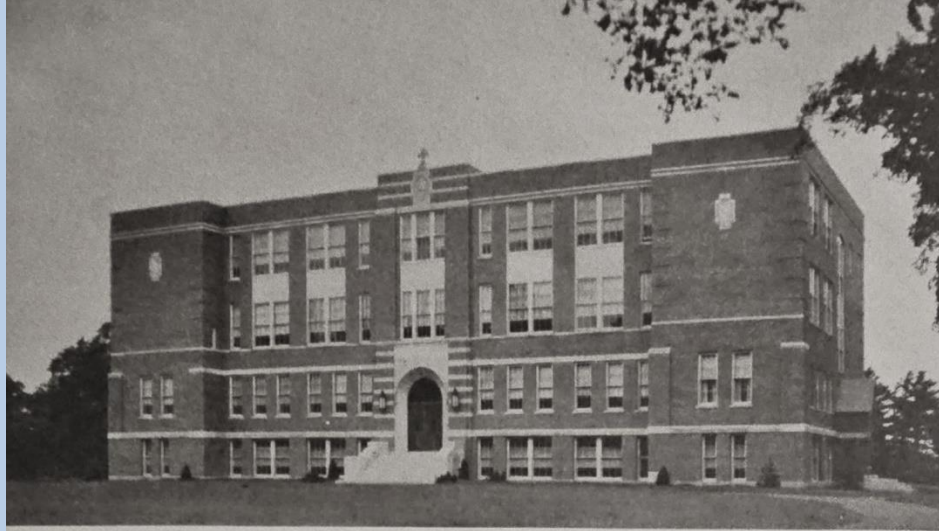


ASSOCIATION OF
ALUMNI
& FRIENDS

Celebrating

25 yrs

2001-2026



Tau Kappa 1941

OF WHAT ARE TRINITY ALUMNAE MADE?

Of what are Trinity Alumnae made—
Of mid-years and finals and passing grade,
Of classes and books and English themes?

No, Trinity girls are made of dreams,—
Dreams for the future, silly, and wise,
Memories of school days and school-day ties,
Leaving the grounds for our morning cokes,
Riddles and quips and the dumb moron jokes,
Standing in line for our Terminal snack
Or to Young's, with our own special booth at the back,
To the Flynn or the Strong on Sunday night,
The Villain's murderous water-gun fight,
The Bridge games we had and the subsequent feud,
French fries and all indigestible food,
Studying hard for our classes, at Rand's,
The social room vic and the latest dance bands,
Philosophic discussions we brought to the fore
And arguments, giggles, and laughs by the score.

Memories, dreams; some foolish, some wise,
Of laughing lips and smiling eyes,
Helping hands, hearts that are light,
Shoulders to weep on if things aren't right,
Tardy to blame, yet quick to praise,
Golden minutes and hours and days.

These are the things, the tiny and great,
That make a Trinity graduate.

"To me, coming here opened up a whole new world."

Diane Dudzinski, Bronxville, N.Y., Class of 1968

Alumni rally around Trinity College

By Brent Hallenbeck
Free Press Staff Writer

Like many of the 225 Trinity College alumni in Burlington this weekend, Monique Paquette Scharlotte sees this year's reunion as a pilgrimage.

At this time a year ago, the small Catholic women's college seemed doomed for extinction. Enrollment was down, debt was up and school officials said the campus would close unless something happened to improve the bottom line.

"I was just shocked," Schar-

lotte said. "Your alma mater is like your parents; you always expect them to be there."

Trinity is still here, thanks to a loan to help pay off a \$1.4 million debt and an arrangement with Fletcher Allen Health Care to lease unused space on the Colchester Avenue campus.

The Vermont Sisters of Mercy, the order of nuns that founded the school 75 years ago, donated \$300,000. Alumni gave \$155,000, a record at Trinity.

Scharlotte's class, the Class of 1985, was at the top of that

donation list. She increased her contribution this year and felt compelled to come from her home in Methuen, Mass., to see Trinity after its near-death experience.

"That's one reason I'm here," she said Saturday. "It's like, what if they're not here in a couple years?"

While Trinity has laid off almost one-quarter of its teaching staff, cut its majors from 28 to eight and enrollment from 1,300 to 900, officials say the school is in solid financial shape. Alumni hope that's the case, but

said the events of the past year made them flock back to appreciate what they have, and what they almost lost.

"It was a piece of my soul being cut out, a piece of my heart being cut away," Diane Dudzinski of Bronxville, N.Y., a member of the Class of 1968, said of Trinity's near-closure. "Who I am as an individual has a vested interest in this place. It gave me a lot of my sense of self-worth."

Dudzinski arrived in Burlington in the fall of 1964 from

See TRINITY, 4A



ROB SWANSON, Free Press

Diane Dudzinski of the Trinity College Class of 1968 received the Outstanding Alumni Service award at the Burlington college's 75th reunion Saturday.

Continued from Page 1A

Brooklyn. The city girl in short skirts and frizzy hair didn't look like the more prim New England girls who came to Trinity, but she said she quickly fit in.

The small population of women was supportive and nurturing, she said, and built a close community of students. The instructors told students they could become whatever they wanted to be. Dudzinski went on to become a teacher, and now runs an advertising agency in Westchester County, N.Y. The college gave her an outstanding alumni award Saturday.

"To me," she said, "coming here opened up a whole new world."

Jen Dodge of Burlington said the college changed her life, too. She came to Trinity as a shy, gawky girl, and said she graduated in 1997 knowing she was a good person who can succeed in life. She's planning to continue her studies toward a master's degree at the University of Vermont.

Her friend, Amy Feltt, said the threat that Trinity would forever lose the ability to change lives was devastating. "It's like losing your home," said

Feltt, a 1998 graduate now teaching first grade in Bristol, Conn.

"And your family," said Jennifer Major, a member of the Class of 1997 who's working as a veterinary assistant in Cheshire, Mass.

Alumni in town this weekend said they're using the rough past year as a way to rebuild Trinity.

"I think we're all feeling a little bit bruised by this, but there's a sense of rejuvenation," Dudzinski said. "What's happened over the past year has really been positive for the college. Alums like myself are rallying around the college."

Still, alumni know Trinity's future remains murky. The number of small women's colleges in the United States has plummeted in recent years, and Trinity's recent struggles show that the possibility of going under is always there.

I'm a little nervous," Scharlotte said as she considered the reduced number of majors and the rented-out space that has made Trinity a different campus than it was when she graduated 15 years ago. "These changes are kind of sad, but if it's a question of survival, you do what you have to do."

Burlington Free Press
June 4, 2000

NATION/VERMONT

Alumni try to carry on Trinity name

By Brent Hallenbeck
Free Press Staff Writer

A handful of Trinity College students will be on campus starting this week, checking in with the school's bare-bones staff for student-teaching assignments, social-work internships and the occasional seminar. Once those students are done in the spring and one more graduation ceremony is held, Trinity College of Vermont will fade into history.

One group, however, hopes to keep the name alive.

The Trinity College Alumni Association Board will meet next month and could decide to continue the association on its own. The board's executive committee met last weekend to discuss ways the association could exist after the college is no more.

"A lot of alums contacted me

after the announcement that Trinity was going to close and said, 'What can I do? I don't want to see our connections being lost,'" said Sarah Conlon, president of the alumni board and a 1992 Trinity graduate. "Our challenge is to capitalize on the emotional swell right now."

If the association continues, it will have to do so without the college staff that now oversees it, and without the campus that hosts Trinity's reunions. The new association would also have to incorporate and set up new bylaws, according to Kathryn Lorraine, Trinity's director of alumni affairs and a 1982 Trinity graduate.

A new association could look much different than the current one. Instead of being based on campus, Conlon said it could be based on the Internet, where announcements of upcoming events

would be posted and alumni could contact each other by e-mail. Instead of having a full-time staff, it could be run by volunteers or a part-time worker who would maintain the Web site.

Conlon said the association could approach St. Michael's College in Colchester about sharing a Trinity/St. Michael's reunion. St. Michael's is talking with Trinity about handling student transcripts for Trinity alumni.

Trinity alumni will have at least one more chance to reunite on campus. The Alumni Board will meet Sept. 15-17, and will host a social hour from 4-6 p.m. Sept. 16 at The Villa.

An alumni association is important for keeping graduates' personal and professional connections, said Jennifer Letourneau of Williston, a 1994 Trinity graduate.

"It's a way to keep Trinity alive in a sense," said Letourneau, an English teacher at Essex High School. "It's meant so much to so many people, and it has literally changed so many people's lives."

Conlon, manager of external relations for a Cambridge, Mass., software firm, said Trinity has changed lives through its mission of serving others. That mission has been spurred by the Sisters of Mercy, the order of nuns that founded Trinity 75 years ago.

Lorraine said a new alumni association could try to carry on Trinity's mission of helping others, though just how that would be done remains to be seen.

"The alums of Trinity are the living legacy of the college," she said. "We are the product of Trinity. Trinity did a lot of wonderful things that can live on."

Trinity College alumni, friends organize new association

A social and organizational meeting for **friends and alumni of Trinity College of Vermont** is at 4-6 p.m. today at St. Joseph's Village on the college's campus in Burlington.

The goal of the gathering is to organize an independent association of alumni and friends to replace the existing college association that will cease when the college closes June 30, 2001.

The gathering is hosted by the college alumni board and the college's president, Sister Jacqueline Marie Kieslich. 846-7199.

Trinity alumni group lives on

Association will continue after college closes

By Brent Hallenbeck
Free Press Staff Writer

The reality that Trinity College is closing hit Sarah Conlon as she arrived at her alma mater this weekend.

"It was a very challenging experience to drive up the driveway," said Conlon, a member of the Class of 1992. "Even when you have been informed of the business decisions at the college, it's very emotional to come back here."

Education

Conlon and about 65 other alumni came back to the Burlington college not to mourn its end but to keep a piece of it alive. The Trinity College Alumni Association board, of which Conlon is president, announced Saturday that the association will continue as an entity separate from the college.

The new group, to be

called the Trinity College of Vermont Association of Alumni and Friends, will start from ground zero. With Trinity having let most of its staff go this month in preparation for the closure of the college in the spring, there are no resources for the association to draw upon.

Conlon said the alumni board will continue its meeting today to iron out details, but expects to oper-

ate on a first-year budget of about \$35,000. The money would be raised through membership dues. Trinity previously covered alumni expenses.

The nonprofit association will be open not just to graduates but to family of Trinity graduates as well as staff, faculty and students who took classes but did not graduate from Trinity.

"It's important for the social ties to continue, even

though the college itself is closing," said Susan Neill-Coolidge, a member of the Class of 1998 who lives in South Burlington.

The Catholic college for women, founded by the Sisters of Mercy, graduated about 5,000 students in its 75 years but is closing after years of mounting debt and declining enrollment. While most activity on the Colchester Avenue campus has ceased, students who would have been seniors at Trinity are continuing their studies at other schools and can earn Trinity degrees. The college's final graduation

will be held in early June, in conjunction with an alumni reunion.

Barbara Kehaya is hosting one of those students, Morgan Pulitzer, who is continuing her studies at St. Michael's College near Kehaya's home in Winooski. Kehaya, a member of the Class of 1956, said she was "distraught" upon learning in July of Trinity's planned closure. That announcement came a year after Trinity first announced it faced closure, but only a few months after college officials said

See TRINITY, 6B

TRINITY: Alumni gather

Continued from Page 1B

they thought the school would be able to stay open.

Kehaya attended Saturday's announcement on campus at The Villa and said she's glad to see that the Trinity College name will continue. "I hope it's not just a social club," said Kehaya, who served eight years in the Vermont House of Representatives. "I hope it continues as an educational entity."

That could happen. Instead of being based in a building on campus, the alumni group will be based primarily on the World Wide Web, where lists of alumni will be kept and e-mail accounts will be established. Conlon said that computer presence could lead to a distance-learning program, which would fit the educational mission of the Sisters of Mercy.

"This is a very sad turn of events," Conlon said of Trinity's closing. "However, there is an opportunity for something wonderful."

*Become a **HEARTHKEEPER** and Keep the Home Fires of Trinity College Burning!*

Hearthkeepers are the life blood of the Alumni Association. Donors who contribute annually to TCVTAAF help pay for the costs of our website, Constant Contact (e-newsletters), Post Office box, and our annual reunion. Our Hearthkeepers keep this Alumni Association going. Without their donations we have no support. Won't you please consider making a tax deductible Hearthkeeper donation of \$25.00 annually, or an amount to honor your graduation anniversary (\$30.00 for those celebrating 30 years or \$75.00 if you graduated in 1975)?



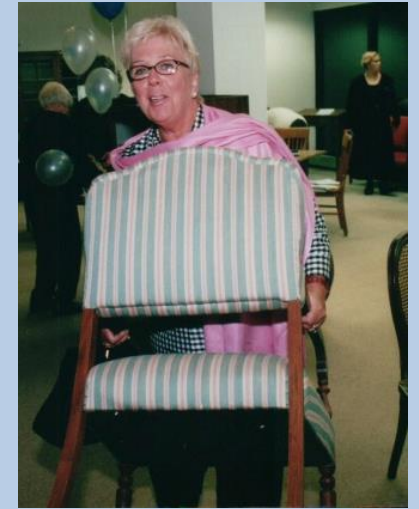
*Visit **tcvt.net/donate** for ways to be a Hearthkeeper.*

Reunion 2001

Trinity Campus







Reunion 2003

Vermont Teddy Bear Factory





Reunion 2004

ECHO Center





Trinity community lives on through nonprofit Web site

Trinity College, the Burlington school that closed in June 2001, maintains a Web site and an association to help former faculty, staff and students stay in touch with one another.

The Trinity College of Vermont Association of Alumni and Friends was established through the volunteer efforts of alumni and donations from the Sisters of Mercy.

The association, a nonprofit organization, has set up a Web site at www.tcv.org and has an e-mail contact: infor@tcvt.org. The Web site contains information about alumni, explains how to obtain transcripts, and lists reunion activities.

The association is planning Reunion 2005 for June 10 and 11 in Burlington. Details are posted on the Web site.

Burlington Free Press
June 4, 2005

Reunion 2005
Trader Duke's
Wyndam Hotel





Reunion 2006
Trader Duke's
Wyndam Hotel





Reunion 2007
Wyndam Hotel





Reunion 2009

Vermont National Country Club

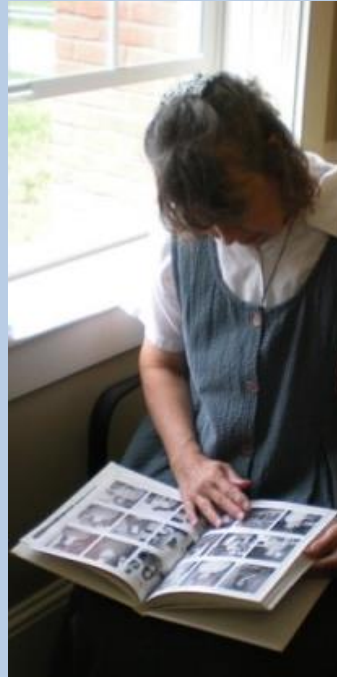




Reunion 2010

Shelburne Winery

Essex Culinary Resort and Spa



Reunion 2011
Burlington City Arts
The Inn at Essex



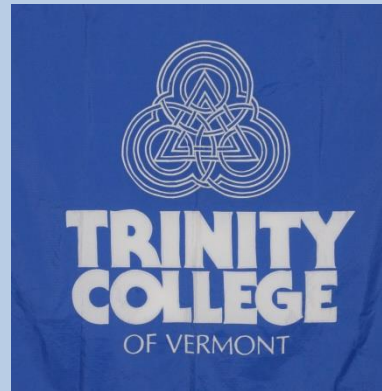


Reunion 2012

Trinity College Campus

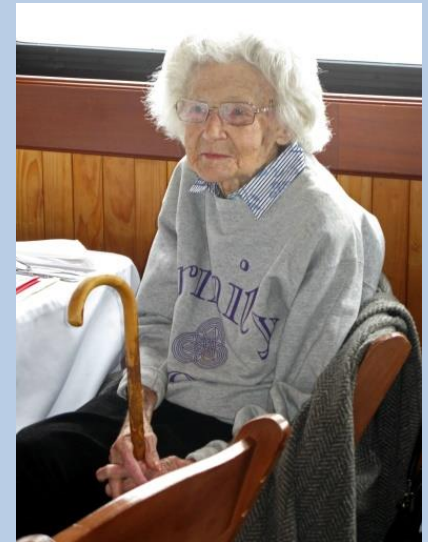
UVM Waterman Building







Reunion 2013
Trader Duke's
Northern Lights Cruise





Reunion 2014
Trader Duke's
Northern Lights Cruise







Reunion 2015

Trader Duke's

Eagles Club, South Burlington, VT







www.tcv.t.net



Reunion 2016

15th Anniversary of TCVTAAF

Trader Duke's

Eagles Club, South Burlington, VT







Reunion 2017
Trader Duke's
The Doubletree Hotel







Reunion 2018
Trader Duke's
The Doubletree Hotel







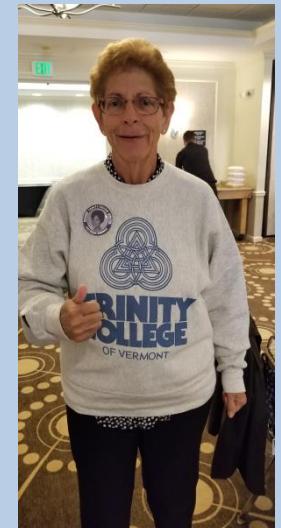
Reunion 2019

Duke's Public House

The Hampton Inn







Reunion 2021

The Delta Hotel





Reunion 2022

The Delta Hotel





“When Trinity closed, like many of you, I felt the pain of absence, as though a warm, gentle hand had forever slipped out of mine. But last night, sitting with amazing alumnae, I felt the profound presence of Trinity – her soul, the grasp of her hand.

A small gathering amassed a formidable presence, despite the absence. Each of us carry the presence of that absence within us – You are witnesses – we are all witnesses to that place of connectivity, mercy and ways of knowing.

What a lesson it was: the absence of a place, yet its very presence! Nothing is wiped away, but everything is held differently, more gently like a priceless heirloom. Where there once was a vibrant community of learning and learning to be, there now is an inspiring association of individuals who carry her legacy and pass it on to those whose lives they have touched and will continue to touch. It's such a palpable thing. A gift that never stops giving.”

Rowshan Nemazee



**TRINITY
COLLEGE**
OF VERMONT

Reunion 2023

Duke's Public House

The Delta Hotel

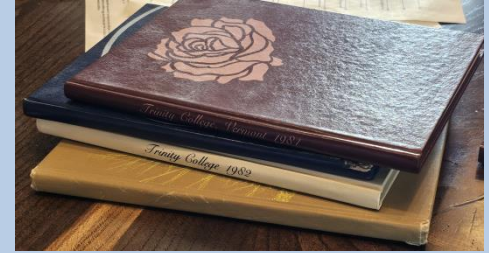




Reunion 2024

Duke's Public House

The Delta Hotel







Reunion 2025

The Tavern

The Doubletree Hotel









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