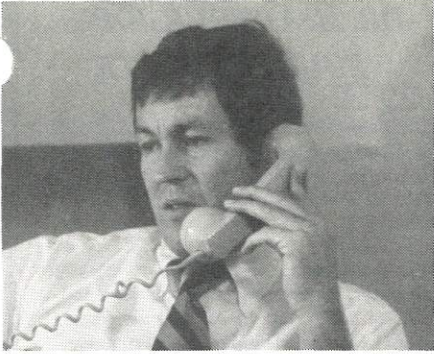


PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL SUSTAINS COLLEGE GROWTH



Dennis Koller, Assistant to the President, works with Council co-chairmen Alan Teague and Daniel Murray in coordinating its development.

Dennis Koller, Assistant to the President of Thomas Aquinas College, has announced the establishment of the President's Council to provide long-term support and a broader influence for the College.

Members and their guests will be invited to seminars sponsored by their local President's Council chapter. Meetings with editor/commentator M. Stanton Evans in Los Angeles and Ventura counties on December 11 are typical of the activity expected in other regions of the country as well.

The purpose of the Council is to help communicate the mission of the College to the wider community; to provide continuing financial support through annual gifts of at least one thousand dollars; to develop a knowledgeable group to provide advice and counsel to the developing College.

National co-chairmen of the Council are Alan Teague and Daniel Murray. Local chapters outside Ventura County are being formed by J. Edward Martin in Los Angeles, Joseph O'Connor in San Diego, John Schaeffer in the San Francisco Bay Area, and Francis Milligan in Chicago. Paid members joining the President's Council by January, 1979, are known as Founding Members. As of mid-November, 35 members had already been enrolled. Each has been presented with a framed certificate of appointment.

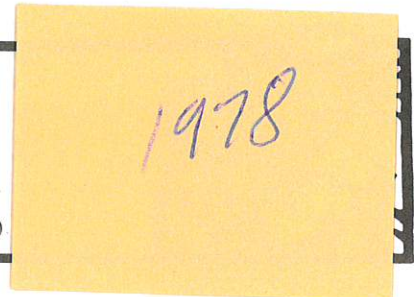
A President's Council brochure has been prepared to detail the Council's role for prospective members. Further information can be obtained from the national or local chairmen, or from the College.



Thomas Aquinas College NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER

10000 N. Ojai Rd., Santa Paula, California 93060



CLASSES, CONSTRUCTION CO-EXIST

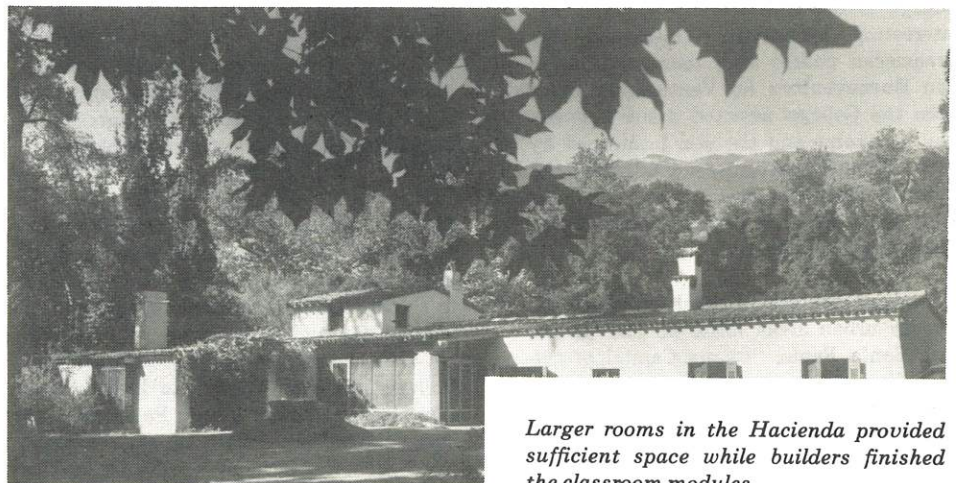
One year after learning that its lease on the Calabasas campus would not be renewed, Thomas Aquinas College opened for classes on the Ferndale Ranch. How do you move an entire established college? The answer seems to be through prayers, hard work, and perseverance. The co-operation of many elements of the College community, as well as Divine Providence, made this relocation possible.

The Ventura County Star-Free Press dubbed Thomas Aquinas "Dream College" because its permanent establishment on the new site is the realization of so many dreams. Dr. Ronald McArthur, in reflecting upon the worries and delays which are inevitable in such an undertaking, credits the dream of fulfilling Catholic liberal education for sustaining the whole effort. "You couldn't get us to do this for money!" he exclaimed more than once.

The Mass of the Holy Spirit gave witness to the gratitude and confidence with which the College begins this special academic year. Monsignor Gallagher cited the motto in the Hacienda Chapel, "Spes et Constantia" as a guide to completing the task now begun. Hope and constancy are thus far apparent in every aspect of campus life.

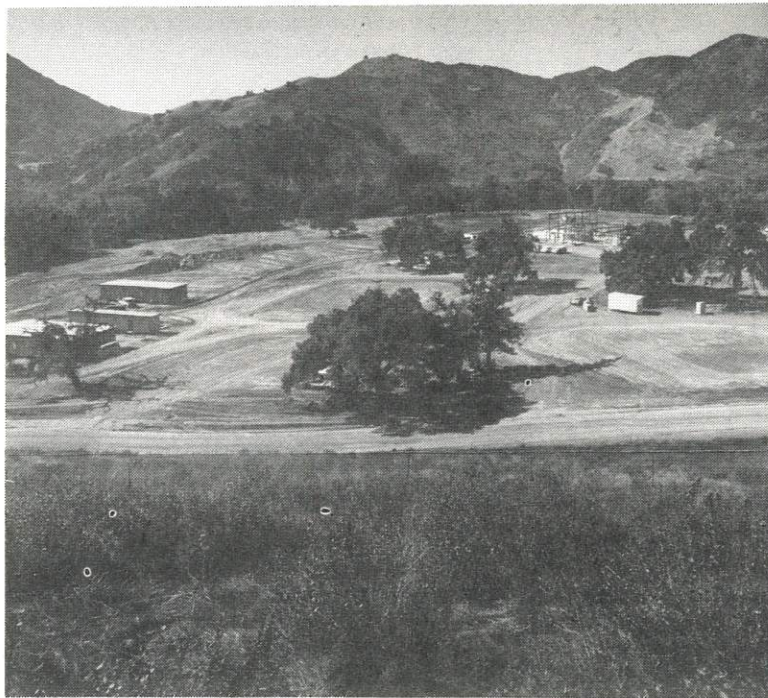
The inconveniences were borne by the students not only patiently, but positively. Many volunteers assisted in moving furniture and rescuing packing crates from the first rains of the season. Senior prefect Dave Halpin remarked that the rigors of adapting to the construction site seemed to produce an immediate sense of unity and determination. A gala post-Halloween costume party on November 4 successfully concluded the opening week.

Several adjustments to construction activity had to be made in order to settle everyone properly in dorms, offices, classrooms, and an academic routine. Classes began as scheduled on October 31, utilizing some of the large Hacienda rooms to supplement classrooms already in service. "It is our policy not to cancel a class if that can be avoided," pointed out College Vice-President Peter DeLuca.



Larger rooms in the Hacienda provided sufficient space while builders finished the classroom modules.

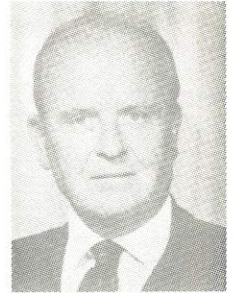
COLLEGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION



*The Ferndale Ranch site, sheltered by the foothills of the Topas, as it appeared in early fall
"Ah, fortunate you are, whose town is already building!" —The Aeneid*

J. PETER GRACE JOINS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

President Ronald P. McArthur has announced the election of J. Peter Grace to the Board of Governors of Thomas Aquinas College. Mr. Grace is President and Chief Officer of W. R. Grace and Company, one of the world's largest corporations.



*J. Peter Grace,
New York City*

A graduate of Yale, Mr. Grace has received honorary degrees from numerous institutions, but is on the Board of only two -- the University of Notre Dame and Thomas Aquinas College.

Mr. Grace has a remarkable record of achievement in business and public service. He is a director of ten corporations, including Citibank, Ingersoll-Rand, Kennecott Copper, Centennial Insurance, and Omega Fund. He is an authority on Latin-American relations and has been decorated by the governments of Columbia, Chile, Ecuador, Panama, and Peru. Mr. Grace has given generously of his time and personal resources to the Catholic Youth Organization, Boy's Club, Boy Scouts, St. Vincent's Hospital (NYC), Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, National Catholic Community Service, National Jewish Hospital (Denver), and the New York Foundling Hospital.

He has been honored as a Knight of the Grand Cross, Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; and is on the Board of Founders of the American Chapter of the Knights of Malta.

RECENT ADDITIONS TO COLLEGE STAFF

College Vice-President Peter L. DeLuca, III has announced four additions to the campus staff. Two fill vacancies created by changes in the office and two are essentially new positions created to serve a larger campus and growing constituency.

Kelly Brink has been working as receptionist and secretary since July. A graduate of Santa Paula High School, she also attended Sawyer Business College, Ventura.

Jack McClenahan was appointed Director of College Relations in September. With a B.A. from St. Mary's College, Moraga and an M.A. in English from Holy Names College, Oakland, he is producing all Thomas Aquinas College publications as well as assisting in development and recruiting.

Jane McClenahan has the unenviable task of replacing Dee Forgette as Business Manager. Jane studied business at Holy Names High School in Oakland and Armstrong Business College, Berkeley. She holds a Qualified Collection Manager's certificate.

Roy Hayes has been appointed Facilities Manager. Recently retired from 24 years of service to the City of Fillmore, Roy has held the post of Director of Public Works and holds State certificates in water and waste water management, building codes, and public works inspection (streets, landscaping, etc.).

Freshman Profile

This fall's registration saw the largest freshman class in the College's eight year history. Forty-two students from 14 states, Canada, and Africa are enrolled.

While S.A.T. scores have declined nationally, the freshman average is above 1125, which is comparable to that of the most prestigious universities. It is encouraging to see that as the number of applicants to the College increases, the quality remains excellent.

Director of Admissions Anne Wynne is busy helping freshman make the challenging adjustment to new surroundings. Aside from the usual demands of a difficult curriculum, this year's class has had to adapt to the building program. They do have the advantage of "growing in age and wisdom" as the College grows too.

Applications for next September's entering class are already being received. College representatives will attempt to contact each of the schools and/or students recommended to us by our friends around the nation. Those with an interest in attending or who know of students with good potential, should contact Anne Wynne at the College as soon as possible.

The lovely and distinctive recordings of The Grimm Family Choir are available from the College for \$6.75 including postage and handling. The album, "Medieval and Renaissance Choral Music", includes Gregorian Chant, works of Palestrina, and Renaissance songs.

FAREWELL DINNER PAYS TRIBUTE TO "DEE"



Deanne Forgette

Friday, November 3, 1978 marked the end of an era for Thomas Aquinas College. Deanne Forgette, who served the College from its founding as Business Manager and Registrar, was compelled by circumstances to resign. A 140 mile daily commute to the new location made it impossible for her to remain with the institution she did so much to help build.

A formal dinner was the occasion for honoring Dee after her last day on the job. The entire faculty and student body took the opportunity to applaud, toast, and thank her.

Dr. McArthur particularly praised her constancy and attention to the minute details of the College operation: "Even though she knew that after the move she would have to leave and would not see the fruits of her labors realized as a member of the staff, she remained steadfast in her devotion."

Peter DeLuca stated that "we all owe Dee a tremendous debt of gratitude." Dee's husband Jimmy Forgette held his hands to form a halo above her head as the well-deserved plaudits continued.

The faculty presented Dee with a lovely diamond and emerald pendant and the students had her open a variety of thoughtful gifts.

Dee's response was touched with nostalgic humor and a poignant wave goodbye. The tearful gathering was fittingly memorable as she will be long remembered.

College and Community

An Introduction to Ventura County

Thomas Aquinas College serves many communities, both nationally and locally, at several levels of interest and responsibility. This overview of the College's new locality is the first of a series.

In Ventura County, Thomas Aquinas College is blessed with one of the most interesting locales in America. The Franciscan padres who founded Mission San Buenaventura (in Ventura, 14 miles from the College) selected a site between the mountains and the sea, influenced by both climatic patterns. The beautiful Ventura State Beaches are only an hour away from the snow capped Topas in Los Padres National Forest.

A healthy mixture of rural and medium-density urban areas make up the county with Santa Paula, "Citrus Capital of the World", near its geographical center. The ranchlands of the upper Ojai Valley are west of the College, as is the lovely town of Ojai.

Nearby are the growth areas of Ventura, the Oxnard plain, Thousand Oaks, and the Simi Valley. The local economy is primarily agricultural, with important commercial and light-industrial centers. Oil is a key natural resource as some of the first wells in California were drilled on Sulphur Mountain.

Politically more conservative than other parts of California, Ventura County is represented by Republican Congressmen Robert Lagomarsino and Barry Goldwater, Jr.

Thomas Aquinas College has the distinction of being the second four-year college in the county. The College was welcomed to the area in ground-breaking ceremonies last spring and in a series of meetings between community organizations and College officials. The Santa Paula *News Chronicle* headlined, "Santa Paula jubilant over College."

DR. McARTHUR JOINS FOURTH ESTATE

Dr. Ronald McArthur, President of Thomas Aquinas College, became a national columnist on Sunday, October 22, with the first of a series of articles on the modern Church.

Published weekly in the National Catholic Register, his commentaries address fundamental issues and speak with the forceful clarity for which Dr. McArthur is noted.

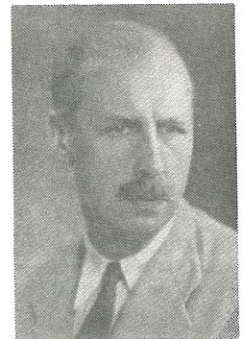
The series began with an argument reaffirming St. Thomas as the "master of the intellectual life," proposed by the Church "as her principal doctor". It demonstrates the dilemma of modernist theology: "If we accept it seriously while knowing that it is only for our time, we give up the life of reason altogether . . . with no concern whatever for the truth [for all time]."

Subsequent articles have examined the current content (or lack of content) in Christian teaching and Solzhenitsyn's insistence that we confront basic truths even if they involve unpleasant demands on the life of the Christian.

The series continues each Sunday in the National Catholic Register.

FRIDAY LECTURES

The bi-monthly campus lecture series continues as an integral part of the Thomas Aquinas College curriculum. Speakers thus far have been Dr. Marcus Berquist of the College; Eric Ritter von Kuehnelt-Leddihn of Lans, Tyrol, Austria; and the Reverend Peter Royal, S. J. of St. Thomas University, Houston.

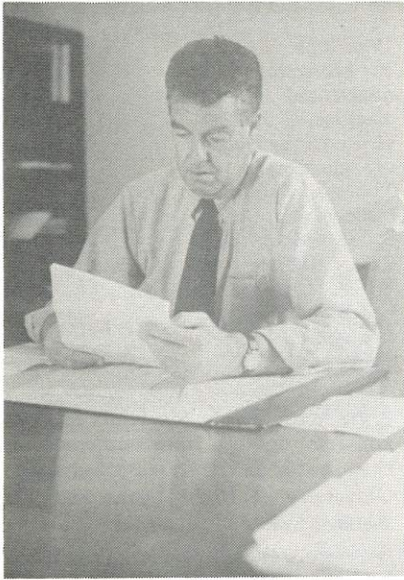


Eric Ritter von Kuehnelt-Leddihn

Dr. Berquist, tutor and member of the Board of Governors, began this year's series in early November by elucidating "The Importance of the Inferior Disciplines". He explained the fundamental role of the liberal arts, properly called, to liberal education.

Eric Ritter von Kuehnelt-Leddihn has traveled, studied, and written worldwide on an equally wide range of subjects. His topic on December 1st was "The Crisis in Christianity." An accomplished linguist and lecturer, he is a member of the Board of Visitors of Thomas Aquinas College. Father Royal spoke on "Becoming and Time in Plato."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



President Ronald P. McArthur

Thomas Aquinas College is now in session on its permanent site. We have been able to make the move, involving as it did the planning and implementation of a new campus, because so many of our friends have prayed for us, and because they have been so generous in every way.

Our continued existence means that some of our young will be able to study from the great original texts, and that they will have the chance to begin the most laboring pursuit towards wisdom, towards a wisdom without which they, and we with them, will surely lose our way.

The modern world provides us with more and better means to achieve our purposes as we become less and less able to define them; and modern education would have us become adept in manipulating these means as students become more and more barbarous with respect to the ends for which we were made.

Our refinements, then, if they are separated from the genuine life of the mind, become our downfall, and our only hope lies with the traditional education which has formed our own civilization.

Thanks to the good will, the generosity, and the prayers of so many of you who read these lines, we, and you with us, are able to achieve a good which, though benefiting only a small number, is yet significant in that it maintains and preserves the life of learning until, God willing, there is the dawn of a better day.

M. STANTON EVANS ADDRESSES PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL



M. Stanton Evans

Scholarships Announced

College Awarded Grants

Dennis Koller, Assistant to the President, has announced that Thomas Aquinas College received four foundation grants during the month of October.

An unrestricted grant of \$5,000 was awarded by the Drum Foundation. A building fund gift of \$25,000 came from a Ventura County source which prefers no publicity. The Louisa Watson Trust granted the College \$30,000 for scholarships. Another scholarship gift of \$8,000 was awarded by the Homeland Foundation.

Mr. Koller emphasized that since the College neither solicits nor accepts federal aid, it depends on contributions from private foundations and individuals to support its development.

In reference to the scholarship grant, it is the College's policy to accept (or reject) an application for admission based on other criteria than finances. Mr. Koller added, "No student has been turned away for financial reasons."

The following students are the recipients of scholarships thanks to the Louisa Watson Trust:

Freshmen Christina Andres of Florida, Daniel Danquah of Ghana, Nicholas Schmitt and Tracy Smith both of Ventura County; Sophomore Mike Dolson of Montana; Juniors Kristin Kazyak of Maryland, Bill Short of Connecticut, and Jerry Stets of Ohio; Seniors Molly DeTar of Nevada, Don Harrahill of Orange County, and Andy Zepeda of Washington State.

Recipients of the Homeland Foundation scholarships are all freshmen: Jocelyne Carney of Winnepeg, Canada; Tony Montanaro of New York; and Carole Schabow of Los Angeles County.

Further scholarship awards await the response to the fund appeal of November 30th. The College's increased enrollment has resulted in more financial aid requests as well. Initial response to the fund drive has been generous, with half the total goal reached in the first two weeks.

M. Stanton Evans, syndicated columnist and CBS radio commentator spoke to two President's Council chapters on December 11. His topic, "The Future of American Education" is naturally of central concern to all Thomas Aquinas College supporters. His first presentation was a luncheon occasion at the Oxnard Hilton Inn in Ventura County. This gathering was hosted by Mr. Alan Teague, National Co-Chairman; Mr. Evans was introduced by Fred Hall, veteran Ventura County broadcaster. Later that afternoon was a reception hosted by Mr. Felix McGinnis at the California Club in Los Angeles. Assemblyman Mike Antonovich of Glendale and Board of Governors Chairman Thomas Sullivan conducted the meeting.

Mr. Evans is the former editor of the Indianapolis *News*, has served on the editorial staff of *The Freeman and Human Events*, and writes regularly for *National Review*. He is the author of several books, including *The Liberal Establishment* and *Revolt on the Campus*. He may currently be heard twice weekly on CBS radio "Spectrum". A trustee of the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, Mr. Evans has long been concerned with the content and quality of American education. He is a member of the Board of Visitors of Thomas Aquinas College.

December 28, 1978

Dear Friend,

This Newsletter contains heartening news of the continuing progress of Thomas Aquinas College: A successful move to the permanent campus; the continuity of the academic and spiritual life of the College; and increasing support from many sources. More than four thousand families and individuals are in touch with these developments through the Newsletter.

But think of the people all over the country who would be grateful to know more about what M. Stanton Evans says is, "bar none, my favorite educational institution in the country."

You undoubtedly know families, educators, clergy, students, and other individuals who would thank you for information that either you can pass along yourself or ask the College Relations office to send them.

A variety of materials are available to help you give your community a complete and accurate account of Thomas Aquinas College:

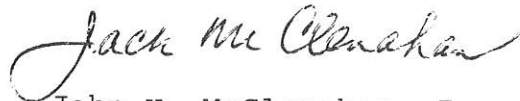
1. "An Introduction to Thomas Aquinas College" is a concise folder appropriate for anyone newly acquainted with the College;
2. The new "1979-1980 Bulletin" gives a detailed 36 page account of the unique curriculum and Christian campus life which has attracted students from more than 30 states and half a dozen foreign countries in the past eight years;
3. "A Proposal for the Fulfillment of Catholic Liberal Education" is the founding document which continues to meet the secular challenge to Christian wisdom;
4. Display posters for high schools and parishes can encourage those you cannot meet to contact the College directly;
5. Escape from Scepticism, by Christopher Derrick contains reflections of the English author and lecturer whose experience at Thomas Aquinas College inspired this publication (available for \$2.00 per copy);
6. President's Council brochures for those whose commitment and means permit substantial annual support of the College's long-range development;
7. Recent Newsletter copies;
8. Reprints of Dr. McArthur's addresses and articles, and



Stanton Evans' "The Future of American Education".

Please use the enclosed postpaid card to refer the names and addresses of people who should learn about Thomas Aquinas College. Indicate the number and type of publications you can use to make the College better known in your community.

Sincerely,



John H. McClenahan, Jr.
Director of College Relations

JHM, JR:kb

PS. Please don't delay your reply. The sooner we receive your referrals and requests, the sooner we can spread the good news together! Remember to put your name and return address in the space provided.

PPS. The scholarship fund drive is already halfway to its goal! If you haven't contributed yet, please send your check today.