

## **To Whom Much is Given: Jack Savage, '57**

Following is an essay by Jack Savage, '57 on a seven-decade Prep journey that began in early childhood and continues to this day for a proud alumnus, a steady volunteer and, soon, a fully-fledged Legend of Prep. Excerpts from this essay appear in the "To Whom Much is Given" feature of Prep Magazine's Spring 2012 issue.

### **The Prelude**

One of my earliest childhood memories is my mother saying to me "you are going to Saint Peter's Prep" while pointing out my father's picture in the 1922 yearbook. I must have been about three at the time, 1943. Two years later, 1945, she told me I would be starting at Our Lady of Victories in the fall. I replied "I thought I was going to Saint Peter's Prep." She laughed and said something about having to learn to read and write first!

My Prep loyalty began then and has been a constant in my life ever since. Academics and Jesuitical training aside, lifetime relationships with teachers, coaches, administrators and especially my '57 classmates have only deepened our loyalty and love for "Grand and Warren" and one another. Working together over the years, each playing his part, we have been able to sustain that class loyalty by sharing our time, talent, and treasure particularly in the areas of governance, capital and strategic planning, fund raising and alumni affairs. The 1957 team has left its mark and I'm proud to still be a part of the '57 team.

### **The Annual Fund: The Beginning**

The early 80's. Joe Parkes, S, J., '62, Paul Guyet '57, and Gerry Bellotti. The Renaissance of the Prep! Joe in charge, Gerry delegated to make it happen, and Paul to chair the first Annual Fund. (Recollections of the beginnings of the Century Club in 1954: George Blaney, Sr. '27, Al Booth '32, Marcel Wagner '22 - rich stuff.) Paul reached out to '57. Mike Ring, Frank Piscal, Ed Borrone, and I responded. The charge: "We need \$\$\$ to keep going!" Paul led the effort and we, as a team, got it going. (I just happened at the time to work and live the closest to "144 Grand," so by default, over time, I became the Class Chair.)

One can't ask for help unless one is willing to help. That said, Beth and I early on pledged our financial support to the Prep's Annual Fund. No questions asked. Just do it. Made it easier to make the calls and ask others to participate. We did what we could do and asked others in '57 to do what they could do. The response was overwhelming! The overall results, percentage class participation and total annual dollars speak for themselves.

### **The Future**

If one is reading this article, one understands the importance of the Annual Fund to the ongoing success of the Prep. Without the fund, “Grand and Warren” may not exist. With the fund, the sky’s the limit!

This year Bob Sinnott, Tom Hogan, Bill Spataro, Pat Downes, Bob Pollock, and I have once again manned the phones for ’57. Our motto, “It’s a Peter’s Team that Can Turn on the Steam” and we mean it!

We are in this mission together. All classes. Think back to Blaney, ’27; Guyet, ’57; and Parkes, ’62. (Just get involved. Participate. Whatever one’s treasure allows, be a part of the Peter’s Team.)

With everyone putting his shoulder to the wheel, young unruly boys from throughout Hudson County and beyond will become “Men for Others.” (You may have been one of those unruly boys!)

That is why what we do for others is important to us all.