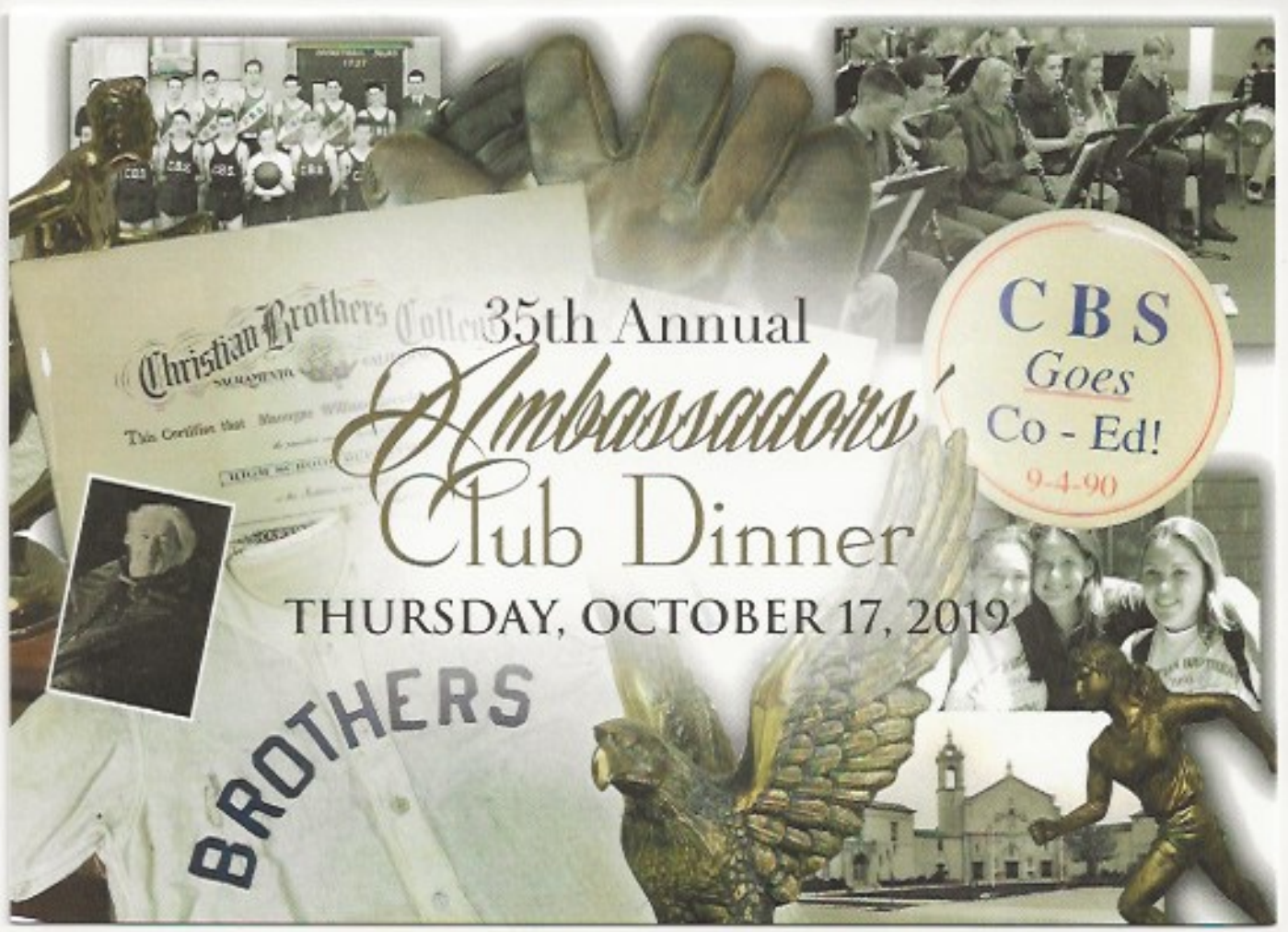


Christian Brothers College 35th Annual  
*Ambassadors'*  
Club Dinner

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2019

**CBS**  
Goes  
Co - Ed!  
9-4-90

**BROTHERS**



Generosity is the motive power of all noble actions,  
and perhaps the germ of all virtues.

- St. John Baptist de La Salle



*With gratitude for your generosity,  
Lorcan Barnes, President of Christian Brothers High School  
requests the honor of your presence at the*

35th Annual  
*Ambassadors'*  
Club Dinner

*Honoring our 2019 Ambassadors of the Year*  
JERRY '53 AND ROSEMARY KIRRENE

Thursday, October 17, 2019  
*Reception 6:00 p.m. Dinner to Follow*

*Ron Limeberger '53 Gymnasium  
Christian Brothers High School  
4315 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95820*

*Please return the enclosed response card by October 5, 2019,  
or reply by email to [advancement@cbhs-sacramento.org](mailto:advancement@cbhs-sacramento.org).*



35th Annual  
*Ambassadors'*  
Club Dinner  
CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HIGH SCHOOL

The favor of your reply is requested

by October 5, 2019

M Jerry and Rosemary Kirrane

X Accepts \_\_\_\_\_ Regrets

*loved the invitation*

Please indicate any special dietary needs or restrictions.





*Welcome to the  
Thirty-Fifth Annual  
Ambassadors' Club Dinner*

The Seventeenth of October,  
Two Thousand Nineteen

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Christian Brothers High School



October 17, 2019

Dear Ambassadors and Friends of Christian Brothers:

Welcome to the 35th annual Ambassadors' Club Dinner. On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of Christian Brothers High School, thank you for your commitment to the students of today, and your generous dedication to advancing our Lasallian Catholic mission. We look forward to honoring Jerry '53 and Rosemary Kirrene as our 2019 Ambassadors of the Year tonight.

While a lot has changed in our 144 years in Sacramento, we hold steadfast to the tradition of our Founder, St. John Baptist de La Salle, and his insistence on finding and fostering the gifts unique to every student. We have outstanding programs in academics, the arts, athletics and Christian service. With your help, we lead the region in providing \$2.8 million of need-based tuition assistance to 421 deserving young men and women. An impressive 99 percent of the Class of 2019 matriculated to college, having gained admission to many of the nation's most respected colleges and universities. They are off to 22 states and Canada.

Today, CB is the largest Catholic high school in the region with an enrollment of 1,157 students who joined us from 72 zip codes and three foreign countries. The academic programs have never been stronger, as evidenced by six consecutive years on *The Washington Post's* list of "America's Most Challenging High Schools."

It is heartening to know that we have dedicated partners in our Ambassadors' Club supporting us along the way. Your generosity directly impacts and improves the Christian Brothers High School experience and we are profoundly grateful for all that you do to support us in our ministry of Lasallian Catholic education.

God bless,

Lorcan P. Barnes  
President

## 2019 Ambassadors of the Year Jerry '53 and Rosemary Kirrene

Jerry Kirrene '53 credits his father, Joe Kirrene, Sr., with inspiring his service to Christian Brothers High School. Joe, who joined The La Salle Club as treasurer in 1945, continues to hold the record as the longest-serving volunteer in club history with an extraordinary 39 years. Jerry fondly remembers rolling coins as his father tallied the profits from La Salle Club Frolics, baseball dinners, coaches' nights and the like.

"Our dining room was covered with ledgers and notes as my dad worked on events to help support the school," said Jerry. "Long after my brothers (Joe '49, Robert '56 and Thomas '63) and I graduated, my dad continued the work because he believed in the work of the Brothers and was happy to support it. In fact, he was named an honorary alumnus because of his dedicated service."

That example set into motion a project that has been 10 years in the making and has necessitated significantly more space than a kitchen table throughout the years. In 2009, Jerry assembled a history committee comprised of former students, teachers, coaches, and parents to launch a comprehensive effort to organize and document the school's achievements. Rosemary, Jerry's wife, who he describes lovingly as the "wind beneath my wings," prepared sumptuous dinners for the group to entice them to attend meetings. "There is no way this group would have been successful without her," enthuses Jerry. "Nobody would have showed up!"

Aided by yearbooks, private scrapbooks, old photographs, personal testimony, and newspaper articles, the committee put together detailed historical accounts of football, basketball, baseball, and the La Salle Club. They collected information on the medical, scientific, legal, and academic contributions made by CB graduates. One member of the group, Dr. Bill Iliff '76, even wrote a book, the aptly titled "Let us Remember."

Jerry also began scanning yearbooks and important documents. With significant assistance from Thomas Colby '53, a database was born. Today, this online archive ([www.CBarchives.com](http://www.CBarchives.com)) contains more than 2,000 reference items with more added each week.

"They also collected a large stockpile of school memorabilia that at one time filled the basement of their home," says CB President Lorcan Barnes. "Jerry and Rosemary's dedication to preserving and sharing the history of this great school is truly above and beyond."

"Jerry dedicates at least two days a week to building the archive," says Rosemary. "We love the school. It is such an important part of our family. Jerry, his brothers, our sons (Kenny '78 and David '81) and six of our grandchildren (Kalen '13, Mary '14, Jerett '15, Remington '17, Kamryn '18 and Keaton '19) are graduates. Our son-in-law, Chuck Zannetti, taught there for many years. It's a very special place to us."

In addition to the considerable time dedicated to history preservation, Jerry also serves as the unofficial president of the *Brotherhoods*, a group of CB graduates who began gathering monthly, in the name of Christian Brothers, over 45 years ago. Though its founding members were from the graduating classes of the 1930s and 1940s, membership today has expanded to include "youngsters" from the 1950s through the 1980s.

"I've met some incredible people through the *Brotherhoods* and this history project," says Jerry. "I like history. I love the school. Thinking back, I was not the best student during my years at CB. Thankfully, the Brothers never gave up on me. Their patient expectations got me through, and I left CB equipped with an excellent education, well prepared for college and beyond. As I look back, I appreciate their caring patience even more. They didn't just make me a better student; they made me a better person."

The legacy of the school not only exists within alumni experiences but also those currently attending Christian Brothers. History starts today. "I want younger students to know they are a part of this incredible legacy," says Jerry who also works with freshman class religion teachers to coordinate alumni visits. "I want the students to know they are really important to us. Helping them understand that is really important to me."

"It's remarkable to think that what began seventy-four years ago with ledgers and receipts spread across the Kirrene family's kitchen table has evolved into three generations of graduates and a lifetime of service," says CB President Lorcan Barnes. "Thanks to Jerry and Rosemary, countless CB students, alumni, and guests will know they are a part of something special as their work lives on in the CB archives and the impressive collection of memorabilia that is now displayed in various sites throughout our campus. Through the years, they have been incredibly generous in sharing their time, talent and treasure in support of our mission. We are profoundly grateful for all that they have done for CB over the years. On behalf of the 1,157 students who enter each day to learn, and will soon leave to serve, I proudly congratulate and humbly thank Jerry '53 and Rosemary Kirrene, our 2019 Ambassadors of the Year."



## *Ambassador of the Year Recipients*

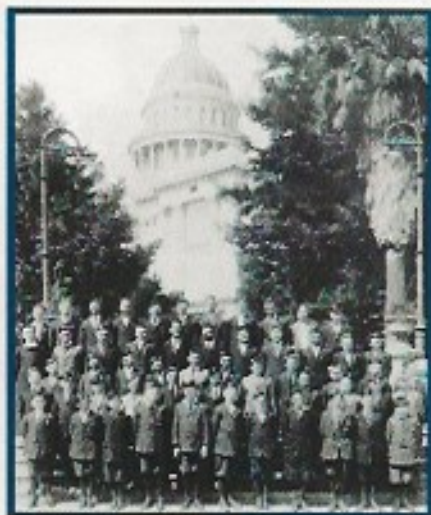
- 1988 Richard Carlson '47†  
1989 John Jackson, Jr. '68  
Leo "Butch" Schuering, Jr. '60  
Charles Sylva '65  
1990 Ron Carissimi '51  
Msgr. Richard Dwyer '32†  
James Mulhern†  
Manuel Perry, Jr.  
Frank Ramos  
1991 Br. Bertram Coleman, FSC†  
Jean Lahey  
Norm Montgomery†  
Dwight "Dinty" Moore† (posthumously)  
Robert Roche '44†  
Steve Scully '66†  
1992 James Dunphy, Jr. '41†  
1993 Robert Massa  
1994 Kassis Brothers (Frank†, Lewis†, Edward†, Walter†, Dr. John†)  
1995 Msgr. Edward Kavanagh†  
1996 Dr. Donald Gillott  
1997 Frank '71 and Carrie Vellutini  
1998 John, Sr. and Claudine† Jackson  
1999 Bob '48 and Mercedes Slakey  
2000 Sisters of Mercy, Auburn Regional Community  
2001 Bishop William K. Weigand, D.D.  
2002 The Brothers of the Christian Schools  
2003 C. Stanley Gilliam '41†  
2004 Sal "Chado" Vasquez '52  
2005 Thea Stidum  
2006 Lon '73 and Mary Ann Burford  
2007 Bill '68 and Elaine '68 Schaedler  
2008 Al '39† and Denise Franzoia  
2009 Asa Whetstone '51†  
2010 George Cunningham '40  
2011 Richard and Connie Koppes  
2012 Bill '73 and Helen Pierson  
2013 The La Salle Club  
2014 Leo '55 and Gayle Granucci, Bob '55 and Carolyn '57 Granucci,  
Ken '54 and Marolyn '57 Harris  
2015 Dr. Francis J. Silvey, III '54†  
2016 Willie '69 and Sheila Nolan  
2017 Steve '69 and Kathleen Mahaney  
2018 The Carrera-Joffe Foundation  
2019 Jerry '53 and Rosemary Kirrene



*Thank you, Ambassadors,  
for all that you do!*

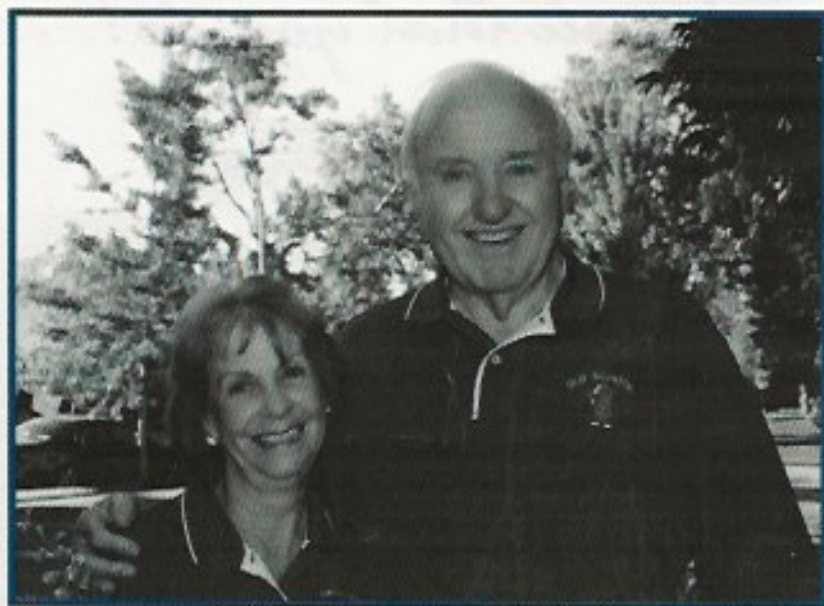


*Christian Brothers High School Archives*



*The past is the foundation  
upon which we build  
the future.*

Visit: [www.cbhs-sacramento.org](http://www.cbhs-sacramento.org) (Under *Alumni* tab, click on *Archives*)



*Jerry '53 and Rosemary Kirrene*