



Alumni Gather in Pittsburgh

By Bill Baker (Girard '50/Conesus '52/Epworth '54/Techy 1954-56)

For the past five years, Girard alumni have annually gathered in Erie, PA, as the SVD Alumni Association has tried to "rally the troops" each year. Attendance at past reunions can best be described as "hit or miss" or "up and down." Following a survey conducted by Len Uhal and the Alumni Office, the annual gathering was moved to Pittsburgh.

The weekend of October 7-9, 2005 found about 35 alumni and family members converging on Pittsburgh for the annual SVD Alumni Association Reunion.

Len and Sue Uhal set up the hospitality room early Friday afternoon at the Holiday Inn in Oakland (three miles from downtown Pittsburgh). Alumni began to gather to visit and enjoy a collection of "old" yearbooks and photo albums. At 6:15 PM we boarded the van for Mt. Washington (another section of Pittsburgh that offers a commanding view of

the downtown area) and the Monterey Bay Fish Grotto, a restaurant atop a twelve-story building. The banquet room has two glass walls that provide a breath taking view of Pittsburgh. The food and service were excellent. It is a good bet we will be there again this year.



From left to right: Bill Pappas, Terry Pytlarz, Jim Page, Sue Uhal, Joe Frankovsky, Larry and Anita Jones, Andy Yaronczyk and John McGucken.

Saturday provided a variety of activities: some took the chartered bus on an all-day tour to two Frank Lloyd Wright houses, Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob. Between the tours, this group stopped for lunch at the Summit, a recently restored resort hotel located on Route 40 which history buffs will recognize as one of

the first roads in Colonial times into Western Pennsylvania. Others visited the Cathedral of Learning, a thirty-five story skyscraper which serves as the central

Continued on Next Page

In the beginning was the Word, the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things came into being, not one thing came into being except through Him. What has come into being in Him was life, life that was the light of men; and light shines in darkness, and darkness could not overpower it.

Inside this Issue

- 2 Director's Note
- 3 SVD Spirituality
- 4 Hurricane Katrina
- 6 Miramar
- 7 Final Vows
- 8 Alumni Tidbits
- 9 Remember When...
- 10 Techy Alumni Dinner
- 11 First Vows
- 12 Verbum Award
- 13 Techy Golf Outing
- 13 European Trip
- 14 Tributes to SVDs
- 16 Upcoming Events

A Warm Winter Gathering Vietnamese Alumni Gather in Orange County, CA

By Kha Nguyen (Epworth)

The weather was cool, the spirit of Christmas was still in the air, and the end of 2005 was getting close. On December 30, 2005, a small group of close-knit friends and relatives gathered at the Vietnamese Catholic Center in Orange County, California to officially form a group, called Than Huu Ngoi Loi (Divine Word Companion). We are all former seminary students of the Society of the Divine Word or friends and family of alumni.

Thien My Nguyen, an alumnus from Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa, is the group's first president. He announced the start of the meeting at 7:00 PM with our organization's name. The group name was voted on by members via internet before our gathering. Instead of reciting our mission statement, Fr. Thang Hoang, SVD, with help from current DWC students, acted out in a dramatic way our mission of supporting one another in every way to grow and live as true witnesses of the *Divine Word*.

Divine Word Companion was born on this day, but the idea had been nurtured for a while from some of our



Alumnus Thien My Nguyen visits with family members and friends of other alumni at the reunion held in Orange County.

Continued on Page Ten

Keeping in touch with you...So you can keep in touch



A Note from the Director's Desk

People are definitely the best part of any organization. The people—the SVDs and other alumni and their families—who make up the SVD Alumni Association are some of the best folks around. I can give many examples of this, but I would like to highlight one that was very evident this past year.



Lenny Uhal
Alumni Director
East Troy '83
Epworth '87

Contact Us

SVD Alumni Association
P.O. Box 380
Epworth, IA 52045

(888) 276-6536
(563) 876-3353
ext. 301

svdalum@mwci.net
www.svdalumni.org

On the morning of August 29, 2005, all Americans and people from around the world were getting the first reports of the devastation of Hurricane Katrina as it hit Louisiana, Mississippi and neighboring states. By-passing the use of the phone, one alumnus drove from Dubuque to Epworth that morning to ask me how the SVDs were at Bay St. Louis. Later that day, I fielded over a dozen phone calls and double that in e-mails from concerned alumni—all asking if the SVDs at the Bay were safe. That concern continued over the next several days, weeks and even months. Phone calls, e-mails and letters streamed in with concern for our confreres.

To date, I have a list of over fifteen people who have offered to help in any way possible, including spending some time helping with cleanup, etc. At least two alumni offered housing to SVDs and their parishioners displaced by the storm. Almost 40 alumni have made unsolicited cash donations directly to the Alumni Office for use by the SVDs at the Bay amounting to over \$10,000! These funds were routed to an account established at Techny for use by the Southern Province. And I know that other alumni reached out directly to SVDs in the Southern Province with prayers, personal assistance and other funds. Such an outpouring of concern and support was very touching for me and for the SVDs who received support. We truly do have a unique family.

Switching gears to a somewhat related matter, our family needs to continue to grow. In order to continue to touch the lives of people around the world, we need more young men to respond to the call to enter the Society of the Divine Word. As alumni, we all know the benefit of being in a formation program. Whether we joined the Society or not, our time in formation was crucial to our discernment and who we are as men today. At its December 2005 and March 2006 meetings, the SVD Alumni Association Advisory Board reiterated the role the Alumni Association has in promoting vocations to the Society. In my dual role as National Vocation Director for the SVD, I can tell you that in the last eleven years, referrals from alumni are one of the Vocation Office's best referral sources. Sixteen percent of men referred to the Vocation Office during that time by non-SVD alumni have become students. For SVDs referring to the Vocation Office, twenty-two percent have become students. Those are great percentages. Please consider what you can do to help our Society grow.

Finally, I want to announce that the alumni website has been redesigned. While all the pages to the new site have not yet been developed, please visit. You will see a new look to the site, enjoy some of the same information, and hopefully see some new things in the near future. I want to publicly thank Bill Warmouth (East Troy '64/Epworth 1964-68) for his time in helping to maintain the site. Bill has been very generous with his time and continues to help maintain the website. Please visit the site at: www.svdalumni.org. Also visit the vocation office site at: www.svdvocations.org.

Girarders Meet in Pittsburgh

[Continued from Previous Page](#)

building for the University of Pittsburgh and its sprawling campus. Still others toured Heinz Chapel and the Carnegie Museum of Art and Science. Finally, some visited St. Anthony's Chapel located on Troy Hill (another high point in the Pittsburgh topography). The chapel is said to have the largest collection of relics of saints outside the Vatican.

That evening we gathered at Duranti's, an old established restaurant just four blocks from the Holiday Inn for a buffet dinner. Unfortunately, Duranti's staff did not honor their promise to provide us a semi-private area and squeezed our group into the open dining area instead. Our group showed class in dealing with this disappointment and made the best of it.



Tom Joyce, Larry Jones, Jack McCullough, Anita Jones and Eugene Barry (Scherzinger).

On Sunday morning, fifteen souls gathered at the SVD Mission House just a half-block from the hotel to participate in a beautiful and touching liturgy celebrated

by Fr. Ray Hober, SVD, and Fr. Clarence Cerwonka. Following Mass, we returned to the hotel for breakfast
Continued on Next Page



SVD Spirituality

Reflections from a Veteran Missionary

By Fr. Paul LaForge, SVD (East Troy '48/Techny '50/Epworth '52/Techny '58)

My reflections on our SVD spirituality are encapsulated in my recently published book *Divine Word Spirituality: An Ascent through the Human Word*. This work, partly autobiographical, is based on two insights of Saint Arnold Janssen: First, we ascend to the Divine Word through the human word; second, we ascend through prayer. Many think the 1983 revision of the SVD Constitutions deemphasizes, or even does away with, our traditional devotions. I do not agree with this assessment. The book attempts to show the connection between our traditional (pre 1983) and our contemporary (post 1983) SVD spirituality.



Fr. Paul LaForge, SVD

The more I became acquainted with the literature about the family background of Saint Arnold, the more I realized that SVD practice before Vatican II, especially in its common prayer life, reflected the family prayer of the Janssen family. Therefore in an *Entry*, I traced the roots of our SVD spirituality to the family spirituality of the Janssen family in Chapter 1. Then I dealt with some problems of our Pre-Vatican II spirituality and how three of our traditional devotions (to the Sacred Heart, the Holy Spirit, and the Blessed Virgin Mary) survived in the Constitutions of 1983 in the form of an Indian Mandala (illustrated).

There are four "Ascents." The first ascent represents a personal conflict that I had resolved as a missionary in the classroom. It shows how we ascend from the human word that we teach to the Divine Word (whose work we extend as missionaries) with Saint Arnold Janssen as a model. My ascent was two-pronged, through foreign language teaching and learning and through Counseling Psychology (my major in graduate school).

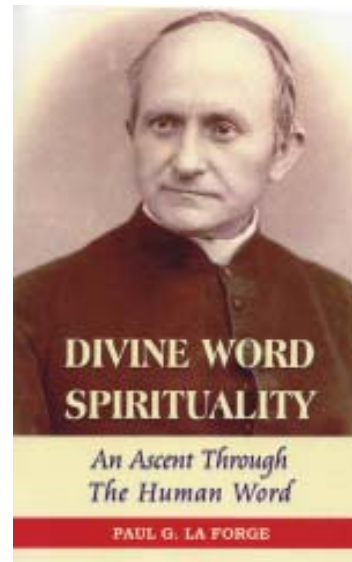
The contemporary SVD is no longer of only Western extraction. Therefore, in dealing with the second ascent,

through prayer, I had to consider Asian, Native American, and Western forms of meditation as *Gates* to our contemporary SVD spirituality.

The third and fourth ascents deal with the contemporary SVD missionary as a *Contemplative in Action*, a theme taken from the 1991 Encyclical *Redemptoris Missio* (Mission of the Redeemer) of Pope John Paul II. Ascent three deals with the individual missionary as a contemplative in action. There is an explanation of the contemplative theme of walking with the Divine Word based on the first Chapter of Saint John's Gospel. Later chapters show how the space-time dimensions of our contemporary spirituality, our self-understanding, and self-identity flow from being a contemplative in action.

The fourth ascent attempts to show a new mode of mission. The community itself, as community, is also a contemplative in action. One community gives testimony of its faith to another community. The living community is a *Sign of Salvation* (Prologue of our SVD Constitutions) that Christ is still active on the contemporary scene.

The work concludes with a consideration of the impact of the beatification of Helena Stollenwerk on our SVD spirituality. As SVD's, we now have to realize that the Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters have just as valid a tradition from Saint Arnold as we have. Therefore, a full understanding of our Arnoldus Family Charism cannot be understood without taking the spirituality of the sisters into account.



Writers Welcomed

Thank you Father LaForge for submitting an article for this issue of *Word Winds!*

We are looking for other alumni, lay and religious, to contribute to this regular feature in the newsletter.

If you are interested in writing an article for the Spirituality Column, please contact the Alumni Office.

Girard

Continued from Previous Page

and goodbyes. It all went too quickly. I'm looking forward to this year's reunion.

The following participated in some aspect of the reunion weekend: Fr. Walter Ostrowski, SVD, Fr. Ray Hober, SVD, Brother John DeBold, SVD, Fr. Clarence Cerwonka, Len and Sue Uhal, Bill and Margie Baker, Joe Frankovsky,

Patrick Sweeney, Dan Kilkeary, Jim Page, Andy and Judy Hadalski, Al and Kathy Dingman, Jack and Helene McCullough, Larry and Anita Jones, Walter and Jo Anne Joyce, Tom Joyce, Jim McGovern, Mike Leschak, Mike Yochim, Dan and Edna Gabelman, Bill Pappas, Bill Rossiter, Norb Paga, Andy Yaroczyk, Terry and Jan Pytlarz, John McGucken, and Eugene Barry (Scherzinger).



After Katrina

The Damage Report

By Fr. Tom Potts, SVD

We have come to a new year. We hope 2006 will be a better chapter in the history of the alumni from Bay St. Louis. Thanks to Hurricane Katrina, we did not have our annual meeting at the Bay, but some small, local alumni groups' meetings successfully took place. What follows is a summary of some of the damage caused by Katrina.

The landscape of St. Augustine's has changed quite a bit. Countless trees and shrubs are gone. All the buildings at the retreat center can now be seen from the residence; before, it had seemed like a wooded area. The cemetery, too, is now clearly visible from the office. Happily our shrines and statues survived. Despite its bleak background, the highway shrine of the Sacred Heart survived, although ten of the fourteen outdoor Stations of the Cross did not. The Lourdes Shrine, Second Street statue of Mary, statue of St. Augustine, second statue of the Sacred Heart, St. Anthony, and other smaller statues all survived. In the chapel, the faces of the Crucified Savior and St. Peter Claver fell off due to excessive moisture but have since been repaired.



While the historical marker sign was toppled, the shrine was unharmed with some debris scattered about.



The Agony Grotto had a large magnolia tree fall on top of it, but it is still intact. The Pieta (Mary holding the body of Jesus) left her place near the exit and made it to the entrance gate with minor damages. The empty wooden cross made it halfway down the passage before being caught between the walls. The other statues are

all intact.

The retreat center had water up to the roof and everything was ruined—beds, mattresses, all furniture and equipment for the kitchen, laundry and office. The director lost everything. The entire center has been gutted. Experts have said that all the bricks have to be removed and those that can will be put up again. Electrical wiring and equipment and all plumbing have to be replaced. It is almost as if a new center will have to be built.

The provincial house and offices have to be abandoned. New structures will be built, probably on Second Street. The chapel pews were tossed about and broken. They will



Floods damaged the floors, pews and other parts of the recently renovated historic chapel.

have to be replaced. The roof will have to be redone with all the tiles placed anew and broken ones replaced.

Christmann Hall, the residence for both retired and active Divine Word Missionaries, suffered extensive damage. Three feet of ocean water and backed-up sewage caused by the storm surge contaminated most of the furniture on the first floor. New drywall will have to be installed and all flooring will have to be replaced. The elevator needs extensive repair. All of the walls will have to be repainted. On the second floor, the roof needs extensive repairs and some bedrooms and bathrooms lost their ceilings. We had to buy new water heaters, washers and dryers.

Least affected was Wendel Hall which houses offices and guest rooms. Since it is built a couple feet off the ground, only a few inches of ocean water came in. However, all carpets and drywall on the first floor have to be replaced. There was some roof and window damage on the second floor. Not even the cemetery was spared. Twenty headstones were toppled off their bases but no permanent damage was done.

After such a tragedy strikes, one keeps learning week by week the consequences of the storm and the enormity of the task that remains to restore St. Augustine's. Our retired members are at Techny and other places until their rooms are restored and medical care is available. Keep our Community in your prayers. Pray also for the thousands of people on the Gulf Coast and New Orleans who have lost so much.





Katrina Isn't Over

By Fr. Jim Pawlicki, SVD (Perrysburg /64)

More than three months have passed since Hurricane Katrina unleashed her fury on the Gulf Coast. As I sit here at the Bay this evening and look out the window, I still see almost nothing but darkness. Streetlights are rare but, here and there, one can begin to notice some slivers of light. Yes, there is progress here on the Gulf Coast. It is measured, but one gets the feeling that slowly but surely things can only get better. Our days have had a peculiar rhythm. We have gone through various stages in coping with the aftermath of the violent storm.

Stage one has been well chronicled. Those were the days of emergency response. We dealt with the basics of discovering what had happened to our property, to SVDs and to the people of Bay St. Louis.

After about two weeks, stage two began. Everyone on the Gulf Coast was operating in basic survival mode. People were concerned about their own homes and families. We were trying to make ourselves reasonably comfortable and find some sense of security. This was a time of frustration with FEMA and insurance adjusters. What kind of aid could we expect? What would the insurance companies pay to cover our losses? We were extremely fortunate. We had our SVD family and we knew they cared. Our insurance agents were on the scene quickly and temporary repairs were made. Others were not so fortunate. Many who lost their homes would receive nothing from the government and nothing from the insurance they had paid for so faithfully through the years. In this time of uncertainty those of us who stayed here had to fight the heat, lack of electricity, and lack of water. SVDs who had evacuated were haunted by fears of what may have been lost and, most importantly, of being disconnected from community. Yet, we struggled on.

Now we are in a third stage. This time is problematic because there is so little one can do. Things are improving. We have electricity again. The water is drinkable. Phones are erratic but working for some of us. Yet, we seem to wait longer and longer now for something to happen. For example, the roofs have to be fixed in the residence, chapel, administration building and dining room. A contractor has examined the residence and its damaged rooms, but work will not begin until February or March. Who knows when it will be completed? The retreat center was so badly damaged we have no idea when that wonderful facility will



DWC students trim greenery on the seminary campus at Bay St. Louis. Fifteen students spent their Spring Break helping the SVDs at the Bay.

be up and running once more. The province office has been relocated to Wendel Hall and is functioning well thanks to George Gormley. Plans have been drawn up to build a new province office, but we do not know when construction will begin.

The insurance people seem to be using a delaying tactic. Time and again we ask what they will pay us for losses but we hear nothing. People in the town of Bay St. Louis are faring much worse. I lost everything in my New Orleans office. Nevertheless, I have been told no insurance monies would be paid because it was "flood damage." Then we inquired about the "loss of business" coverage that Richard Chambers so wisely had included in the insurance policy. The insurance company said that reimbursement might be possible. Yet, even after I send them one report after another, I am told to wait a while longer.

So all we do is wait. Four of us: George Gormley, Tom Potts, Joe Simon and myself. We just don't know how long recovery will take. It is truly beyond anyone's guess. On the Gulf Coast some say two years: in New Orleans anywhere from two to five years! Here in Bay St. Louis, health care is still precarious. The hospital is not fully operational. Only three percent of medical doctors are working in Hancock County. It pains me to say this, but

Divine Word College Students Help at Bay St. Louis

A group of 15 students and one SVD departed for the Bay on Friday, March 3, 2006. Five worked at St. Rose de Lima in Bay St. Louis. They helped gut and repair local homes. The others worked on the seminary campus preparing the first floor of Christmann Hall for professional contractors to complete remodeling. Some also finished clearing the grounds of debris.



Many trees fell on the Bay campus. No structural damaged occurred due to trees, but flooding damaged much.



A Bride's Impression of the Miramar Men Miramar Alumni Gather in September 2005

By Barbara Schwab

When the notice of the Miramar Reunion came, my husband, Jack, said, "Let's go! I want to show the place to you and see how it's changed." Jack had studied at Miramar during his college years.



Jack & Barbara Schwab

On September 14th, Jack and I arrived in Boston from Michigan. The next day, we drove in the pouring rain to Miramar. After Jack checked in at the Retreat Center, he came to the car for the luggage and informed me that I was the only woman attending the reunion. At that point, I expected I would be spending plenty of time in my room reading.

We joined the group and I felt very welcomed when various group members joked about me sitting in the car to wait out the rain (which went on for hours). I listened as the

men told about their life experiences since leaving the SVD Seminary at Miramar. What impressed and inspired me about these men were the strong ties and commitment they had to the Society and to the SVD members who had been in their classes. What made this so remarkable is that in "their day" Miramar had been a high school and many of them left during and after their high school experience.

On the next day, the group met to review the finances of the Miramar Group. I was deeply moved by the financial commitments they have made to SVD through the years. Currently they will be contributing to the building of a chapel in a mission country and will be donating to the Southern Province, which has suffered devastating losses as a result of Katrina.

As the reunion came to a close, I began to look around the group and had a realization that these men were getting older. There were no young men in the group. The question in my mind was "Who is going to carry on this tradition?"

Needless to say, I did not spend time in my room reading.

Miramar Revisited

By Jim McDermott (Miramar '50/Techy '60)

The Miramar alumni meeting is behind us. As always, the best memory is the people who attended. The familiar faces, the exchange of conversation, the focus on individual's lives – that, to me, was the highlight of our gathering.

Eugene Boyle and Jack and Barb Schwab were new attendees. The absence of some "regulars" was particularly felt, too: Rev. Ed. Fitzgerald, Lenny Sears (in Europe), and Rev. Don Mulrenan, hospitalized with a stroke, which ultimately led to his death. This is a loss to the SVD, the mission office and our alumni efforts. It seems immeasurable.

Jim Callanan's treasurer's report showed our association to be in good financial status. Lenny Uhal brought us up to date on other alumni activities and progress in his vocation ministry. The SVD seems alive and well in this area. Lenny also showed a couple great

films, one on the great influx of Vietnamese to the Society and the other a promotional film about the Order. Rev. Joe Connolly presented facts on the statistical growth of African religious. The proposal for \$5,000 for a mission chapel was tabled so we could obtain more information.

With great concern for Bay St. Louis, a motion passed to send \$500 to Provincial Rev. Joe Simon. Some members also made individual donations.

A nomination committee was formed for the appointment of next year's officers. Henry Pinson became the new assistant editor of the alumni newsletter. President Jim Welch began a round-table discussion of individuals, updating their

lives and collecting stories. The evening hours provided time for pockets of living room chat. A new interest arose



Standing left to right: Pete O'Keefe, Larry Ryan, Jim Donovan, Richard Daigle, Jim Callanan and Joe Mikovics. Kneeling: Fr. Clarence Cerwanka.

Alumni Search

Each week, new names are added to the alumni database. There are many alumni who are not receiving this newsletter or other alumni mailings because we do not have their current addresses. Please send the names and addresses of all alumni and former lay faculty/staff which you may have in your address book. This would be very helpful. Just because you have the addresses does not mean the Alumni Office has them. Thank you!



Katrina Continued

Continued from Page Five

there is no way for anyone with medical problems to live here at the Bay.

On the other hand, this catastrophe highlighted the beauty of our SVD family. So many SVDs and our alumni have been extremely generous with financial help, visits, and words of encouragement. Far too many people who have lost so much would love to have a family like ours.

I feel blessed but also guilty because we have so much and so many others have nothing. It seems imperative that we SVDs find ways to reach out to those who are hurting. We need to support Sebastian Myladil who is doing such a great job helping people rebuild their lives at St. Rose de Lima in Bay St. Louis. The parishioners literally go to people's homes and help them get their houses cleaned and restored.

We need to find ways to help Bernard Assenyoh at St. Paul the Apostle parish in New Orleans when the Eastern part of New Orleans finally gets electricity and people come home. We have to do something to help people clean up their homes and begin to rebuild. Some people in New Orleans will have to pay from three to six thousand dollars to have their homes cleaned! Jerome LeDoux is reaching

out from St. Augustine in New Orleans by offering supplies to people in the Treme area. Many, especially the elderly, need people to assist them in just getting their homes emptied of ruined belongings.

This is the kind of volunteerism Catholics need to nurture. The people in this Coastal region see various Protestant and evangelical churches bringing supplies and food with volunteers wearing shirts imprinted with their logos. Catholics have given more than any other denomination, but people don't know that! Our Southern Province extends beyond Bay St. Louis. We may be down, but we will rise to the challenge of working with so many who have lost everything and now have moved to other places like Houston, Lafayette and Opelousas where SVDs minister.

We may have difficulty getting together to meet and prepare for the general chapter, but we will find a way. Terry Steib in one of his most loved homilies at the National Black Catholic Congress continually used the word "somehow." Terry said that despite all the odds, African American Catholics "somehow" have made the journey of faith. We say the same today—"somehow we will rise."

Miramar Continued

Continued from Previous Page

in Rev. Clarence Cerwonka's healing ministry. A number of us volunteered to have Clarence attend to our aches and pains by the laying on of hands. For lack of time, John Paulauski's slide show on Techny and Lake Gogebic was postponed until next year.

Unfortunately, the torrential rain that welcomed our arrival seeped into the building, soaking the corridor with water. But as always, the rooms were most comfortable, and the meals were delicious. We thank the retreat center staff for their warm welcome. Reminders for membership dues will be out in January. Next year's meeting will be September 25-26, 2006. See you there!

Profession of Final Vows

On September 17, 2005 ten men professed Perpetual Vows as SVDs



Front row: Abelardo Gabriel, Peter Linyong Zhai, Toan Quoc Vu, Qingping Paul Han, Anthony Duc Le, Stephan Kha Manh Nguyen. Middle row: Hieu Troung Nguyen, Dominic Zhixiong Niu, Long Duc Vu, Phong Cao Nguyen. Back row: Fr. Stan Uroda, SVD, Fr. Mark Weber, SVD, Provincial of the U.S. Chicago Province, Fr. Quang Duc Dinh, SVD.

These men will be ordained to the priesthood on May 27, 2006 and will be assigned to provinces all over the world.



Alumni Tidbits

Mike Horan (Conesus/Miramar '64) I have many blessings – a son already in Heaven, five wonderful daughters, another son, six grandchildren, four sons-in-law, and a beloved ex-wife. I have had several great careers in advertising, real estate and finance. I have made numerous trips to Spain for bullfighting, bull running and church. I have been sober for 21 years, have an incredible sponsor, (who has been sober 58 years – almost as long as AA has been in existence), I am active in several groups, including intense spiritual work. I have good health with ever increasing focus on strength training, fitness and sports nutrition. Life is good!



Jim Keck (Bordentown '54/Conesus '56 and '58/Techny '60/St. Augustine's in Germany '64) I was ordained in Granby in 1964 and completed my pastoral year at Catholic University in Washington, DC before going to Ghana in 1965 as Assistant Principal of St. Paul Technical School in Kukurantumi. From 1968-71, I was District Pastor (20 outstations) and District Manager of Schools (12 schools) in Kwahu Tafo. I took a sabbatical in 1972 and left the Society in '73. I married Dorothy Burant (former SSF) in 1973 and we have two daughters, Sara and Kristin. I have been employed by various companies mostly as a training specialist/director. I retired after 12 years from AT&T/Lucent Technologies in 2000. My hobbies include genealogy, running marathons (including Boston '04 & '05), gardening, home improvement, travel, and photography. I am a prostate cancer survivor in excellent health, currently living in Burlington, NC. Come visit anytime.



Rich Schumacher (Perrysburg 1962-65) I enjoyed a Montana horsepacking/fly fishing trip in the Bob Marshall Wilderness back in the late summer and early fall. Over the years, I have stayed in regular contact with the Perrysburg '66 classmates (especially Steve Schumacher and Joe Green). I have attended a number of reunions at Techny, Perrysburg, and elsewhere. I was fortunate to be able to participate in the Mission Experience to Jamaica in 2003 and again just last month. I am a lawyer by profession, and am now working for the State. I see Sam West, a '65 P'burger occasionally, also a lawyer here in North Carolina. I am looking forward to retirement in several years so I can seriously indulge in all my hobbies (brewing beer and wine, cooking, genealogy, traveling, attending baseball and basketball games, going to Parrothead events). I am married to Rebecca Clemenzi, a Family Practice Doctor, and we have two children, daughter, Katie (23) and son, Kelby (19).



Fred Sweet (Riverside '79/Epworth 1979-82) I graduated from the University of California in Riverside in 1984 with a BA in Science and earned a graduate degree in Medical Technology in 1985. In 1991, I graduated from Medical School at Rush Medical College in Chicago and completed my surgical training in 1999 at Washington University in St. Louis. Currently, I am a spine surgeon in Rockford, IL. I have three children: Eric is 17, Andrea is 14 and Carolyn is 12. Tell Rodney Bowers I said hello. He and I were good friends and classmates at Epworth.



Bernard Telenko (Ordained Techny '63) Retired here in Louisville, I keep pretty busy! I sing in two groups, take voice lessons every week, teach three classes at Sullivan University, and chair the Logistics Department at Sullivan. I also try to play golf a couple times a week at the local club. My wife is the club golf champion, though, and I am humiliated when I play with her. I enjoy keeping in touch with Gene Ahner and Jim Martin, two very good friends. I have two sons. One is a lieutenant in the Navy and flies F18 super hornets. He has served in the Persian Gulf and will be deployed again in 2006. The other son is a marketing manager in Los Angeles. Both are in their early 30s and are not married. We love them to death.

Perrysburg/Epworth/Bay Alumnus Ordained Bishop

Mike Blume, SVD, Appointed Papal Nuncio

By Dan Schwieterman (Perrysburg '64/Epworth '68/Bay St. Louis '69/Chicago-Theologate 1969-71) and Annmarie Forman (Mike's sister)

Mike Blume, SVD, was ordained Archbishop by Pope Benedict XVI on September 30, 2005, in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. He currently serves as Papal Nuncio, the Ambassador for the Holy Father, to Benin/Togo.

Mike was born in South Bend, Indiana in 1946. His parents, Ervin and Margaret Blume (deceased), had Mike, and later his brother and sister, baptized at Our Lady of Hungry Church where they were educated in the Catholic school.



Archbishop Blume

Continued from Previous Page

Influenced in grade school by an article he saw in a Catholic paper about the Divine Word Missionaries, he wrote for information and was quickly visited by an SVD vocation director. In the fall of 1960, he joined Divine Word Seminary in Perrysburg, Ohio with 36 other freshmen. Mike was a serious student, with strengths in languages, math and science. His talent in music gained him an assignment to play the organ while in the seminary. He also made a great tackle on the football team where many met a different side of Mike's quiet, respectful and "diplomatic" personality.

Mike graduated from Perrysburg in 1964 and entered Divine Word College in Epworth, Iowa. Following college graduation in 1968, he entered novitiate in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. Mike took his first vows on August 31, 1969, with classmates Fr. Jim Pawlicki, SVD, (P'burg '64) and Bishop Curtis Guillory, SVD, (Bay '64) and Dan Schwieterman (P'burg '64).

Mike, recognized for his academic excellence, was chosen to continue his theology at the Gregorian University in Rome. He was ordained in 1972 at his home parish in South Bend. After completing his Licentiate in Theology he took up his first assignment as missionary to Ghana in 1974. For the next sixteen years, he was busy teaching theology to the seminarians and doing short-term assignments in parish work during school breaks in Ghana. He finished his years there as Provincial superior of the SVD community in Ghana as well as Benin/Togo. In 1990, he was assigned to Rome to work at the SVD Generalate. Since 1995, Mike had worked in the Pontifical Office for Migrants and Itinerant Peoples in the Vatican under Pope John Paul II. John Paul II reappointed him to another five-year term just before his death in early April 2005.

Our prayers are with Archbishop Mike Blume, SVD, as he carries on the Perrysburg SVD mission spirit and apostolic call in Benin/Togo.



Pope Benedict XVI greets newly ordained Archbishop Michael Blume, SVD.

Remember When...

Submitted by Fr. Paul LaForge, SVD



Bro. Andrew (August) Schwetner
1889 - 1969

The picture above is of Brother Andrew working in the shop at East Troy in 1945. As a child, Andrew entered the Techny School for boys to learn a trade, but he was so inspired by the Brothers, he decided to become a missionary Brother himself. Born in the United States in 1889, he professed first vows in 1909 and perpetual vows in 1914. His obituary indicates that he was the first Brother to profess vows at Techny, and he is regarded as the first American SVD Brother. Bro. Andrew celebrated his 60th Jubilee and died in 1969.

"Remember When..." is a feature that has appeared in past issues of Word Winds. There has been positive response by alumni about this column. Please continue to submit stories of your seminary days. Serious and humorous reflections are welcome. Send your stories to the alumni office today!

Also, if you would like to be included in the "Tid-Bits" section, please send a short update of what has been happening with you since your seminary days. Include information about your family, career, hobbies, ministry, or whatever you would like others to know. Please send a photo as well. Thank you.



Vietnamese Alumni Gather in Orange County, CA

Continued from Page One

members, including Fr. Thang, Deacon Hieu Nguyen, SVD (who will be ordained at Techny in May), Thien My Nguyen, and Peter Tri Nguyen. In fact, last summer Fr. Thang and Deacon Hieu held a weekend long retreat at the SVD retreat center in Riverside, California to pray and discuss further the idea of such a group. About twenty people attended the inaugural meeting and a council was elected. Fr. Thang and Deacon Hieu are the group's advisors. Thien My was elected president, Kha Nguyen is Vice-President, Dat Dinh is Secretary, and Dang Ha is Treasurer. Toan Pham was chosen as the official "chef." Since the group is in its developing stage, activities will include a weekend retreat during the summer and a formal gathering around Christmas.

The first meeting of this new group found Toan Pham spending the day preparing delicious food. After everyone had a chance to enjoy the food and catch up with one another, we were able to settle down and gather in a circle to share our struggles and successes in life. This type of sharing is the focal point of our time together. Fr. Thang concluded the sharing session. He was joined by other



Over 40 alumni and family members gathered at the Vietnamese Community Center in Orange County, CA.

priests, including Fr. Trung Mai, SVD, Fr. Tan Viet Nguyen, SVD, Fr. Quang Duc Dinh, SVD, and Fr. Michael Quang Nguyen, SVD. Fr. Tan shared his experiences after a couple of years working in Germany. Fr. Trung is the new vocational recruiter and brought some of his prospects to the party. Fr. Quang offered some philosophical thoughts about teaching at DWC. Fr. Thang again "drilled" everyone about SVD history.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening, especially when Vuong (our tech guy) outlined what could be the group's

website at www.dwcg.org. Watch for the site, which will be launched in the near future and contain news about group members here in the U.S., pictures and stories of the missionaries abroad, chat rooms, formal forums to discuss spiritual subjects and related matters, and all the group's activities. Everyone is invited to visit and learn more about the group. The evening concluded with prayer and everyone stayed to help clean up.

The gathering was the first of many for the Divine Word Companion group. The group is small but strong. The mission statement is simple yet promising—And from the beginning, there is the WORD.

Techny Alumni Reunion Dinner

By Jack Gallagher (Miramar '64)

The 8th Annual Alumni Reunion Dinner was held on Saturday, November 19, 2005 at Techny. I was anxious to attend the reunion so I contacted Bill Pappas, a classmate, to see if he was interested. He said that he and his wife, Suzanne, were planning to go and they would pick me up.

While driving to Techny, Bill and I spent a lot of time reminiscing about our seminary days at Miramar and Conesus in the early 1960's. When we arrived at Techny around noon on Saturday, we met up with other members of our class. They included the following: Sandy Darbonne, George Irish, Rev. Paul Brouillette, Dwayne Heinzen, Rev. Tom Mullally, SVD, and Richard Grace. It was so nice to see and visit with these classmates. Even though we do not see each other often, I considered it a real blessing to be among them.

In the afternoon, we visited the residence of the SVD Priests and Brothers. We all knew some of them so it was great to talk with them. Len Uhal, the Alumni Director and I visited with Fr. Edward Norton in his room. After many years, I recognized him very easily.

At the end of the dinner, Fr. Tom Mullally spoke about his Apostolic work in the southern region of the

country which began in 1970 after his ordination. He described the devastation caused by the two recent hurricanes. He mentioned the damage done to some of the buildings at Bay St. Louis.

In conclusion, I enjoyed this weekend at Techny visiting with other alumni. The Divine Word Missionary Priests and brothers helped to shape my religious beliefs through their preaching of God's word and their lives. From what I saw that weekend, not only have they influenced my life but the lives of many other alumni.



Left to right: Sandy Darbonne, George Irish, Rev. Paul Brouillette, Jack Gallagher, Dwayne Heinzen, Fr. Tom Mullally, SVD, Bill Pappas, and Richard Grace.



Where Are They Now?

A database of alumni names and mailing addresses was one of the first things started when the SVD Alumni Association originated in 1997. Today, we have a database of over 3,450 names. Every week new names are added and some weeks names are coded as “lost addresses,” which usually means that mail has been returned and marked “undeliverable.” Below is a list of names. We used to have valid addresses for these men, but they are now coded in the database as “lost.” Please help to find them! If you know the current address for any of these men, please contact the Alumni Office with the most current information. This is a partial list of the 280 lost alumni. Thank you.

Mr. Francis Abbey, Jr.	Mr. William Clark	Mr. Patrick Eldridge	Mr. Elgie Harris	Mr. J. Lawrence Knott
Mr. Peter Arceneaux	Mr. Al Clarke	Mr. Mark Emerick	Mr. John He	Mr. Ken Kovac
Mr. John Ardriana	Mr. Robert Coleman	Mr. Anthony Epps	Mr. Peter Heitmann	Mr. Kenneth Krapfl
Mr. Charles Armstrong	Mr. Frank Collaso	Mr. John Evans	Mr. Girard Hermann	Mr. Rajesh Kulla
Mr. Victor Arriaga	Mr. John Conroy	Mr. Larry Fettkether	Mr. Thien Hai Ho	Mr. Benedict Kunkel
Mr. Alexander Atanes	Mr. Andre Cook	Mr. John Figaro	Mr. Canh Thang Hoang	Mr. Arcade LaRoche
Mr. Paul Ayika	Mr. John Corcoran	Mr. Rudie Fink	Mr. Anthony Hogan	Mr. Sinh Van Le
Fr. John Balaiah	Mr. Joseph Coutee	Mr. James Fogerty	Rev. Paul Holt	Mr. Hiep Phuoc Le
Mr. Thomas Banner	Mr. Charles Cox	Mr. Frederick Fontenot	Mr. Thomas Hostert	Mr. Quang Michael Le
Mr. Gerard Baumstarck	Mr. Charles Crandell	Mr. Marcelo Gaete-Tapia	Mr. Aloysius Jacko	Mr. Cuong Vinh Le
Mr. Kenneth Benjamin	Mr. Nicholas Creary	Mr. Martin Glynn	Mr. Michael Jackson	Mr. Su Quang Le
Mr. John Bettice	Mr. Michael D'Amico	Mr. Earl Godfrey	Mr. Richard Jacquand	Rev. Khue (Thomas) Le
Mr. Ronald Bogan	Mr. Thao Dang	Mr. Richard Goerd	Mr. Ernest Janik	Mr. Son Phong Le
Mr. J. Boyer	Mr. Ha Peter Dang	Mr. Jim Good	Mr. Fred Jean	Mr. Thang Van Le
Mr. John Brombosz	Mr. Thomas Darko	Mr. Dale Gooder	Mr. Richard Johns	Mr. Richard LeBlanc
Mr. Theodore Brown	Mr. Jose DeLeon	Mr. John Goodin	Mr. Bart Johnson	Mr. Edward LeBlanc
Mr. Paul Bryant	Mr. Joseph Deng	Mr. Jeremiah Goulding	Rev. Mr. Bernard Johnson	Mr. Norman Ledet, Sr.
Mr. Jerome Bulger	Mr. Peter Riak Deng	Mr. Clyde Greenhouse	Mr. Murray Jolivet	Dr. Dean Lei
Mr. James Burns	Mr. Thomas Dent	Mr. Leonidas Grimaldi	Mr. John Kalinas	Mr. Guy LeMaire
Mr. Jay Canastra	Mr. Thanh Jeff Deo	Mr. Henry Guillory	Fr. Philip Pito Karangora	Dr. Wilbert LeMelle
Mr. Vu Cao	Mr. Chuck Devoe	Mr. Paul Guillotte	Mr. Mark Kelley	Mr. Chris Leonard
Mr. Robert Capizzi	Mr. Joe Dieschbourg	Rev. Thomas Hadden	Rev. Michael Kelley	Mr. Robert Lewis
Mr. John Cassidy	Mr. Eric Dixon	Mr. Fred Hager	Mr. Kevin Kenny	Mr. Jerome Lewis
Mr. Gustavo Castaneda	Mr. Michael Donnellan	Mr. Joe Hagerty	Fr. Thomas Khue	Mr. Francis Lewis
Mr. Joseph Cerino	Mr. Mike Dougan	Mr. Bill Haggerty	Mr. Robert Kias	Mr. Darcy Litzenberger
Mr. O'Neil Chaisson	Mr. David Dudenhofer	Mr. John Hair	Mr. Frank Kneiser	Mr. Yili Liu
Mr. William Chlupsa	Rev. John Ebbesmier	Mr. Hans Hanna	Mr. Adolph Knoll	Mr. Nolan Lockett

Promote Vocations

• Pray daily for vocations

• Ask someone if he/she has considered a religious vocation.

• Contact the Vocation Office if you know of someone who may be interested in the seminary:

Mr. Len Uhal
Divine Word College
Vocation Office
PO Box 380
Epworth, IA 52045

(800) 553-3321

dwm@mwci.net
www.svdvocations.org

Six New SVDs

Novices Profess First Vows on August 13, 2005

By Kathleen Morgan

The six young men who entered Divine Word Novitiate in September 2004, pronounced their first vows as members of the Society of the Divine Word August 13 at Divine Word International Church of the Holy Spirit. All six are former students at Divine Word College, Epworth. Promising to live the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience as members of the Society of the Divine Word Catholic missionary order, the men have taken the first step toward becoming Divine Word Missionaries. They will continue their academic and ministerial training for priesthood or Brotherhood in Chicago and abroad for five more years. Following the vows ceremony,



the class stood in front of the main altar of the church with Society superiors. Back Row: Fr. Jack Farley, Assistant Novice Director, Fr. James Bergin, Novice Director, Fr. Mark Weber, Provincial Superior, and Fr. Walter Bracken, Techny Rector. Middle Row: Hoang Chuong Nguyen (26), Linh Tran (29), and Andrew Li (30). Front Row: Phuc Nguyen (25), Lan Luong (25), and Augustine Hien Nguyen (27). Andrew Li and Linh Tran will pursue training as Divine Word Brothers at St. Anselm Parish, Chicago while Hoang Chuong, Phuc Nguyen, Lan Luong and Augustine Hien Nguyen continue their training for the missionary priesthood at Divine Word Theologate and Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

Pray for Religious Vocations

Dear Jesus, please send us holy and dedicated brothers, sisters, priests & deacons who will spread the Good News. Open wide our hearts, and stir in us a desire to serve you. Amen.



Alumnus Receives Verbum Award Jack McCullough Honored

By Fr. Raymond Lennon, SVD (Bordentown '54/Conesus '56/Ordained in Brazil '63)

We have all had special people who have marked our lives in a way that uniquely stays with us as we age. This past November 18, the Bordentown Community had a chance to single out and honor such a wonderful person—a man who touched the lives of so many who studied at Divine Word Seminary in Bordentown, New



Photo by Bro. Henry Miller, SVD

Left to right: Joseph and Christine Spodaryk (Jack's son-in-law and daughter), Helene and Jack McCullough, and Joseph and Joan McCullough (Jack's brother and sister-in-law).

Jersey, from the late 1950's through 1983. Mr. Jack McCullough was honored at a festive evening when the Chicago Province presented him with the distinguished *Verbum Award*.

A classmate and good friend of Mr. McCullough, Mr. Joe Flannigan, proposed the name of Mr. McCullough to the Bordentown House Council for the *Verbum Award*. The Council agreed and nominated Mr. McCullough for the award.

Mr. McCullough had gone through the SVD educational and formational years from first year high school through a good part of Theology. When he realized that this was not the vocation God was asking of him, he left the seminary. After he served his time in the army, he began his life-long ministry as an outstanding teacher of English, Latin, Speech, Drama and German at Bordentown's Divine Word Seminary High School. He was appreciated for well-prepared classes delivered with an artistic flair that would have been the envy of any Shakespearean actor and kept the students eager to know more. In all of his classes, he expressed a great love and respect for the religious and missionary vocation of the SVD. He was willing to work

as a fulltime teacher for less than he could have earned in one of the neighboring public or Catholic high schools.

Mr. McCullough married the lovely and equally talented Helene, who taught art at the Seminary High School. Their two lovely daughters were raised in the wee cottage on the seminary grounds. Both daughters are now

married. Jack and Helene are the proud grandparents of two grandsons.

One of the daughters, Alicia, lived in Florida and could not be present for the November 18th ceremony due to the fact that she was ready to give birth to her son. The other daughter, Christine, and her husband were present for the ceremony along with Mrs. McCullough, Mr. Joe Flannigan, some former students and former staff members. Bro. Patrick Hogan, SVD, member of the Chicago Provincial Council, presented the award and expressed the appreciation of all SVD for the quintessential scholar who put his love for his teaching ministry as one of the great priorities of his life.

The Verbum Award was established in 1996 to honor lay persons who have performed outstanding services to the benefit of the Society of the Divine Word over many years. Past recipients included Art Pape, for service to the Mission Office (1996), Wilhelm Eck, for service to Divine Word College (1999), Paul O'Flaherty, for service to the Chicago Province (2000), Brian Swalla, for service to the Chicago Province (2001), Mario Modesti, for service to Divine Word Residence at Techny (2003), and Dorothy Madey, for service to Divine Word College, Washington, DC (2004).

Word Winds Online

Our newsletter is now available electronically. You can find it posted on the Alumni Website at:

www.svdalumni.org

If you would like to receive a copy via e-mail, please call Len in the Alumni Office.

Alumni Golf at Willowhill Golf Course Techny Property Well Used

Across from Techny Towers on Waukegan Road sits the old Techny farm. What was once used as space for Bro. Charles nursery and land to grow various crops became a landfill in the 1970s. In the early 90s, the Society leased the land to a developer who built a golf course on the rolling hills of the former garbage dump. Willowhill Golf Course, a popular spot with many locals, has become home to the Annual Alumni Golf Outing which has been held at Techny each of the last five years.



Bro. Jim Heeb, SVD, Dan Hourihane, & Fr. Ray Quetchenbach, SVD enjoy their round of golf.



Techny Alumni Golf Outting

Continued from Previous Page

The treeless course can best be described as a “links course.” But this 2840-yard, par 34, nine-hole green monster is filled with excitement! For the alumni who golf this course, it really is a beast. No one is a pro. All are here to have fun. And this course, with its narrow fairways, rolling berms and unlevelled greens, truly challenges the novice golfer. Nonetheless, alumni have been coming here to enjoy a day of camaraderie on the links and an evening cookout at the end of each summer. This past year was no exception. Following the round of golf, fifteen golfers were joined by eleven others at the cook out. Steaks were on the menu, and there was plenty of red meat for everyone! No one left hungry. Beverages were plentiful. Friendship abounded. A good time was had by all.

Here is a recap of this year’s golfing honors:

- First Flight – First Place: Len Uhal (45)
- First Flight – Second Place: Dan Hourihane (46)
Erick Palm (46)
Mark Singsank (46)
- Second Flight – First Place: Rick Copalello (50)
- Second Flight – Second Place: Bro. Jim Heeb, SVD (51)
- Fewest Putts: Len Uhal (16)
- Hardest Worker: John Panek (??)
- Flag Events
 - Hole 1 – Longest Putt: Fr. Fred Rudolph, SVD
 - Hole 3 – Closest to Pin: Len Uhal
 - Hole 5 – Closest to Pin: Pete Amelse
 - Hole 7 – Closest to Pin: Fr. Fred Rudolph
 - Hole 9 – Longest Drive: Pete Amelse



Pete Amelse and Jim Palm are the master chefs at the cookout.

Divine Word College to Host European Trip

Father Mike Hutchins, Divine Word College president, will lead a once in a lifetime tour to many of the significant Society of the Divine Word sites in Europe. The tour will depart October 9 and return October 20, 2006.

A tentative itinerary includes:

- * Sightseeing and overnight in Amsterdam
- * Goch, Germany, and the home of Saint Arnold Janssen, founder of the Society
- * Steyl, The Netherlands, where the Society was formed
- * St. Augustin Seminary near Bonn, Germany
- * Three nights in southern Germany with trips to Neuschwanstein Castle, Oberammergau and Salzburg
- * Oies, Italy, home of Saint Joseph Freinademetz, first missionary to China
- * A gondola ride in Venice
- * Padua and Florence
- * Sienna and Assisi
- * Three nights in Rome - Experience Vatican City, the Catacombs, the SVD world headquarters and possibly see Pope Benedict XVI at a general papal audience



This exciting journey will place you in the footsteps of the founder and early missionaries of the Society of Divine Word. As an alumnus, former student or friend of the Society, you will enjoy this trip and learn more about the Society. Cost of this unforgettable experience will be approximately \$2500-\$3000, which includes air and land travel, overnight accommodations, entrance fees and at least one meal a day.

For more information contact Mark Singsank at Divine Word College by phone at 563-876-3057 ext. 208 or email at singsank@dwci.edu



SVD Touch Our Lives

Alumni Tributes to Memorable Divine Word Missionaries

From Bernard Francis Telenko (Techny '63)

I was sorry to hear of **Gerry Garry's** passing. He was a great friend. We studied together in Rome and had many talks. He was quite the Broadway musical expert and we had great moments listening to his musical records. I have many kudos for others who have made a great impact on my life: **Gerhard Esser**, our philosophy professor at Techny. He was tough in class, but a kind and thoughtful man outside. He asked me to help one of the guys in our class who wasn't making it. How thoughtful! **Wilbert Wagner**, our novice master—great guy! **Charlie Malin**, our prefect at Girard. These were dedicated guys who had a great impact on my life.



Fr. Wilbert Wagner, SVD



Fr. Gerhard Esser, SVD



Fr. Charles Malin, SVD

From Gerry Chidiac (Girard/St. Mark's '80, Epworth '84, Bay St. Louis 1988/Chicago-Theologate)

I really enjoyed the latest edition of *Word Winds*. I would also like to share my reflections on **Fr. Gerry Garry**. It is thanks to Gerry that I am where I am today, literally. I really enjoyed his Missiology and Applied Missiological Anthropology classes. I remembered him saying that the Oblates of Mary Immaculate work a lot in northern regions of the world, like in my home country of Canada. After I graduated from Epworth, I decided to leave the seminary for a while, but I still wanted to do missionary work. I went to a teachers' college in Ontario, and while visiting my parents in Toronto one day, I thought of Gerry's words of wisdom and phoned the OMI house there to ask if they had any lay missionary programs in northern Canada. I was enthusiastically informed about the Frontier Apostolate in the diocese of Prince George in British Columbia (4000 kms Northwest of Toronto). Well, things fell neatly into place, and I served happily for two years as a Frontier Apostle, teaching in a Catholic elementary school. I did return to the SVD, and after five wonderful years in temporary vows, I returned to beautiful Prince George. I later met my wife, and we now have three terrific children. This is truly an amazing place. The Frontier Apostolate ended about 12 years ago, but the spirit of community that it fostered is still very much present here. Thank you Gerry Garry for helping me to find my way in life. I really believe that God used you to point me in the right direction.



Fr. Gerry Garry, SVD

From Mike Horan (Conesus/Miramar '64)

Most of all, I thank God for **Fr. John Musinsky, SVD**. I always think of this devout and saintly man of God. His example and kind words have often been a strong source of spiritual inspiration for me throughout the years.



Fr. John Musinsky, SVD

From Kevin Seiler (Perrysburg '80)

It is with great sadness that I read of the news of the passing of **Fr. Don Mulrenan, SVD**. What makes it sadder is that now I have lost the chance to thank him for his actions many years ago when I was a freshman at Perrysburg. Fr. Don was the school principal. Following an incident in the classroom, he apologized to me. No adult, much less a priest, had ever done that before. This happened early in the school year, and I continued to find him a fair and generous man. I believe it was the following year that he went to Rome. Although I was sad to see him leave, I knew why they would pick such a man for the job. Fr. Don was a great man and our world is less now for his passing.



Fr. Don Mulrenan, SVD

From Jim Welch (Miramar '50)

We said goodbye to **Fr. Don Mulrenan** today. His passing came suddenly and early. He was just 73. Many of us have known Don for sixty years, Father Joe Connolly, much longer. The Miramar class of 1950 year book referred to Don and me as "Joe Palooka and Dynamite Dunn." I have always felt that being portrayed in the same caricature with Don was "cool!" What an easy guy to like. He had a great smile, a charmer, yet as tough as nails at just the right moment. We heard him referred to as "the real priest." Indeed, he was! He was Dynamite Dunn in so very many ways. Two years ago, Jack Slattery,



Alumni Tributes Continued

his wife Eleanor, my wife Terry and I went on a five-day trip to Nova Scotia with Frs. Joe and Don. The weather couldn't have been worse, but I must say, we had a great time. The five of us will forever remember that time. It was Don's first real vacation since...ever...and perhaps his only. Don managed to "steal" the time for this trip, but we had to assure him that we would get him to a parish in Bar Harbor where he would be the parish priest for the weekend. To the very end he worked; he loved his work and he did it so very well. I asked him recently about how he was dressed when he traveled. "I still travel in my black suit and Roman collar, and proud of it!" He continued, "Not too long ago, on a flight to Chicago, a flight attendant approached me and asked if I was a Catholic priest, and would I hear her confession. In the plane galley, behind a drawn curtain, I heard her confession. I'll never travel dressed any other way." Yes, the Church, the Society and we will miss you, Father Don. You were a real priest, and a "dynamite" person.

From Richard Schumacher (Perrysburg 1962-65)

I would like to say a few personal words about **Fr. Clem Hotze, SVD**, who had more than a passing influence on my life. He was Dad's (Len Schumacher's) second cousin and roughly the same age. Every year at Christmas we would get a long, mimeographed letter (along with a short personal note) from Fr. Clem in Ghana, Africa, where he had been sent by the SVD's in 1948. In it he would recount the high points and low points of his mission work in Ghana – from the lack of safe drinking water to the completion of a new school, or church, or housing for students. Dad sent him some money every year, for which Fr. Clem was always grateful. These letters fascinated me. At some point while in grade school, I decided I wanted to become a missionary priest. One of the reasons I chose to go to Divine Word Seminary was because Fr. Clem and his two brothers, Fr. Leo and Fr. Al, were SVDs.



Fr. Clem Hotze, SVD

In the seminary, we were required to join a Mission Club and, of course, I chose Africa. After leaving the seminary after my junior year, I lost contact with him except for the Christmas letters he sent to Dad. Then, five years ago my wife and I went to my seminary class reunion at Techny and asked to see Fr. Leo Hotze, whom I knew was living there. In the course of inquiring about his family, imagine my surprise when he said that Fr. Clem was on a home visit and would we like to see him! So, we had a very nice visit with both of them. Toward the end of the visit, Fr. Clem introduced us to his Bishop, a native of Ghana, who was at Techny for some meetings. I sensed an obvious bond and mutual admiration between them. It was obvious that Fr. Clem considered Ghana his home and was anxious to return.

A couple years ago, I went to Techny again for our reunion. It was then I learned that Fr. Clem had died in Africa on July 19th, just five days before he was to return here again. Already retired and in poor health, he contacted malaria, recovered some, and then suffered another episode, from which he died. His wish was to die among his beloved people, with whom he had spent over 50 years of his life. The Good Lord granted him his wish. Fr. John Donaghey wrote in Fr. Clem's memorial: "Fr. Clement Hotze lived his life as a Divine Word Missionary priest, radiant with joyful hope. His joyful hope, evidenced in his sparkling smile and joy-filled eyes, was infectious."

Fr. Leo Hotze, SVD, is currently living in the SVD retirement center at Techny. He still travels throughout the Midwest doing Mission Appeals and Masses for vacationing Diocesan priests. He was ordained in 1943. His career revolved around the seminary preparatory program, especially as vocation director and music minister. He has been Rector and Provincial Director at Perrysburg and Girard. He has also been active with the Knights of Columbus chaplaincy work and has received national recognition for his efforts with the KCs.

Fr. Alphonse Hotze, SVD, was ordained in 1937 and was sent to China in 1939 to teach at Fu Jen University in Peking. In 1941, he was taken prisoner of war by the Japanese. He and other religious were liberated in August, 1945. He returned to Fu Jen University in Peking until he was forced to flee by the Communists in 1947, wearing the uniform from a dead G.I. He received his master's and doctorate degrees in Literature from the University of Chicago and University of Missouri, respectively. In 1956, he was sent to Japan to teach English Literature at Nanzan University. He retired in 1984 and returned to Techny where he passed away in 1990.

The three Hotze SVD priests also had three sisters who entered religious life as School Sisters of Notre Dame. Another sister married a brother of **Fr. Jerry Hofstee, SVD**.

Please send your tributes to the Alumni Office to be included in the next issue of *Word Winds*.

Promote Vocations

- Pray daily for vocations
- Ask someone if he/she has considered a religious vocation.
- Contact the Vocation Office if you know of someone who may be interested in the seminary:

Mr. Len Uhal
Divine Word College
Vocation Office
PO Box 380
Epworth, IA 52045

(800) 553-3321

dwm@mwci.net

Pray for Religious Vocations

Dear Jesus, please send us holy and dedicated brothers, sisters, priests & deacons who will spread the Good News. Open wide our hearts, and stir in us a desire to serve you. Amen.



Fr. Leo Hotze, SVD



Fr. Alphonse Hotze, SVD



Upcoming Alumni Events

- **12th Annual Picnic at East Troy**

Saturday, June 24, 2006

- Gather around Noon at the Boathouse
- Grills and Beverages provided
- Bring your own meat and a dish to share
- Camping will be available overnight on the front hill
- No rooms will be available in Tien Hall

*Plan to Attend!
Invite Your Classmates.*

- **7th Annual Perrysburg Reunion**

Saturday, July 15, 2006

- **At the Toledo Zoo!** Door open at 10:00 AM and close at 5:00 PM
- Picnic Lunch served: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Cost: \$30 for individual alumnus / \$50 for entire family (significant other and children)
- Price includes parking, zoo admission and lunch / Mass at 3:00 PM
- **Please bring your family!** Children, grandchildren and others are most welcome!
- RSVP by June 10, 2006 by contacting Len at the Alumni Office
- The Class of 1966 is celebrating their 40th Anniversary. Other activities are planned for the days before and after July 15. If you are interested in information about those activities, please contact Jerry Van de Vyver at: mail4JV@aol.com

- **6th Annual Alumni Golf Outing and Picnic at Techny**

Monday, September 11, 2006

Watch for more details.

- **Annual Miramar Alumni Reunion**

September 25-26, 2006

Watch for more details.

- **Pittsburgh Area Alumni Reunion**

September 29 – October 1, 2006

Watch for more details.

- **Annual Alumni Dinner at Techny in Honor of Bro. Bernie Scherger, SVD**

Saturday, November 18, 2006

Watch for more details.

Summer Mission Experience Trip

A summer mission experience trip is being planned to the Appalachian Mountains to assist at one of the SVD parishes in West Virginia. Please watch for a specific date and more details.

Questions?

If you have questions, or would like further details about any of these events, please feel welcome to contact the alumni office at any time.

(888)276-6536

svdalum@mwci.net

Remembering our Deceased Alumni

Requiescant in Pace

- Mr. Joseph Matejcek – 2002
- Mr. Francis McGovern – 2005
- Fr. Robert J. Kraus – September 14, 2005 (Techny)
- Fr. Donald Mulrenan, SVD – September 25, 2005 (Miramar/Techny)
- Fr. Paul J. Connors, SVD – October 9, 2005 (Girard/Miramar/Techny)
- Fr. Richard Winters, SVD – October 13, 2005 (Bay St. Louis/Techny)
- Mr. Dennis Kean – November 4, 2005
- Bro. Joachim Oros, SVD – November 7, 2005 (Techny/Conesus)
- Mr. Henry Mochocki – November 19, 2005 (East Troy/Epworth)
- Bro. Vincent Webb, SVD – December 23, 2005 (Bay St. Louis/Techny)
- Fr. John Musinsky, SVD - March 2, 2006
- Fr. Bernard Donaghey, SVD - March 17, 2006

