

# **N**otre **D**ame **S**enior **A**lumni **N**ews**N**otes

**The Senior Alumni Newsletter**

**Fall 2007**

## **NDSA Board News**

The Fall meeting of the NDSA Board opened with Mass celebrated by Fr. Paul Doyle on Sunday afternoon, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, in the Dillon Hall chapel. The board met on September 24 & 25, the Monday and Tuesday following the game with Michigan State. NDSA's theme for the year – **PROGRESS NOT PERFECTION** - was also the theme for the Fall meeting. Some highlights of the meeting are:

- Newly appointed Senior Alumni Director for Region 13 (Oklahoma and Texas) Lary Leach '60 was introduced and welcomed to the NDSA Board. Lary replaces Bill Kreps '55 who was elected Vice Chairman of NDSA at the Spring meeting.
- A major goal for the months ahead is to increase the number of Clubs having a Senior Alumni Coordinator from 52% at present to 65%. This includes all Clubs in the 'AA' and 'A' size category having an SA Coordinator.
- The Bylaws were amended to add the ND Alumni Association (NDAA) Board's Senior Alumni Director to the NDSA Board as a voting member. The NDAA member will also serve on NDSA's Executive Committee as a non-voting ex officio member. This change is intended to enhance communications within the Alumni organization. The NDAA Senior Alumni Director will be elected to a three-year term by the entire alumni population.
- Alumni will soon be able to earmark their unrestricted contributions to Notre Dame to support NDSA activities such as printing and distribution of literature, the NDSA Hospitality Tent on football weekends, etc. Senior Alumni, especially, are encouraged to consider this option. Instructions for earmarking contributions will be found on the NDSA website.
- NDSA Board Chairman and cancer survivor Paul Scagliarini '60 reprised a presentation he made to the North Florida Club on the PACE Initiative (Prostate Cancer Awareness). Paul's interesting and informative presentation focused on early detection and treatment options.
- Implementation of the new **IRISH ON LINE** is progressing according to plan. In the near future more tools will be available including web site management, event management and dues collection.
- A **HOW TO** manual, outlining program benefits and suggestions for implementing the NDSA Initiatives, is being prepared. The page on NDSA's **Diocesan Professional Assistance Program** was presented for review and discussion of the single-sheet format proposed for each Initiative. Completion is scheduled for January 2008.
- The **HOSPITAL SUPPORT PROGRAM** is fast becoming a nationwide support network of caregivers as more and more Clubs are becoming involved. Feedback Fr. Rocco, Rector of Sacred Heart Basilica, has received from many viewers of the televised weekly Mass shows the need for homebound Catholics to receive personal visits. The need for a 1-800 number alumni can call for

assistance 24/7 is deemed critical, and is being explored. Contributions earmarked to NDSA will help to fund the 1-800 number.

- The terms of six Regional Directors will be completed on June 30, 2008 as follows:
  - Region 2 – Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, South Dakota, Utah & Wyoming
  - Region 4 – Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin
  - Region 7 – Michigan
  - Region 8 – Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia
  - Region 11 – Maine, Maryland, New Hampshire, No. Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont
  - Region 16 – Chicago, Cook County, IL

Please consider serving Notre Dame as a member of the Senior Alumni Board, or nominating a person to fill one of these positions. A person can nominate someone for any of the six regions – perhaps a classmate –even if you don't live in that region. Nomination forms and further information can be found on the NDSA website – [www.ndsenioralumni.org](http://www.ndsenioralumni.org)

## What's New?

- The Alumni Association is revising the Annual Report each Club is asked to submit at year end to include NDSA Initiatives as line items. This will enable recognition of the Clubs who have active programs, such as Hospital Support, TAP, PACE, Diocesan Assistance, Student Mentoring, and God, Country, Notre Dame
- The **COMING HOME** project is proceeding on schedule with the completion of the first two of eleven mausoleums in Cedar Grove cemetery. Future expansion of the cemetery will be toward the west.
- The **EDDY STREET COMMONS** project is underway. In addition to retail shops and housing facilities, the Commons will have two hotels and a parking garage.
- Notre Dame has received a \$20 million gift to be used to establish a Cancer Research Institute. that will be located on the south side of Eddy Avenue across the street from the main entrance to ND, near the Indiana University Medical building.
- Ground has been broken for Duncan Hall, a new dorm being built to the west of McGlenn Hall. A second dorm for female students is planned for the gully between Welsh Hall and the Eck Center. The new undergraduate dorms will not increase the number of student beds. They are part of a plan to provide more square footage for each student. Double rooms in existing dorms will be converted to singles, triples will become doubles.
- The University Club is now closed. There are no plans at present to reopen the Club. The building will be demolished to make room for an expansion of the College of Engineering.
- Ground has been broken and construction is underway on the addition to the Law School.
- Permission is being sought from the Rockne family to bring Knute Rockne's remains and those of the deceased members of his family home to Cedar Grove Cemetery. At the time Rockne died Cedar Grove was overgrown and weed-infested. Because of its unsightly appearance, Rockne's family decided to bury him elsewhere.
- A renowned and respected Jesuit priest with ties to academia has been added to Notre Dame's staff. He is establishing a data base of outstanding Catholic scholars in every field of endeavor who

might be candidates for teaching positions that become available at Notre Dame. This is part of Fr. Jenkins' initiative to make Notre Dame the best **Catholic University** in the world.

## ***Incoming Regional Directors***

Meet two new NDSA Regional Directors and join us in extending a warm welcome to them.

### **Dick Erlenbaugh '64 '65, Region 15** (Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina)

Dick has a BA in Government and International Studies and a MA in Education from Notre Dame, where he captained the basketball team during his senior year. After graduation Dick worked for the Chicago White Sox at their boys camp in Wisconsin, and was head basketball and baseball coach at LaSalle High School in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, before pursuing a career with State Farm Insurance. Dick and wife Patti have two married children – a son and a daughter - and three grandchildren, all boys.

### **Lary Leach '60, Region 13** (Oklahoma, Texas)

Lary is a member of the Class of 1960, graduating with a Degree in Mechanical Engineering. His working years have been spent in Engineering and Engineering Management, 32 of them with Texas Instruments in Dallas. Lary is a former member of the Alumni Association Board (NDAA), and has served as President of the Dallas ND Club. He devotes his time to the community through the United Way and the Dallas Club's Community Service projects, including working with the diocese on financial grants and Enrollment Marketing for the South Dallas (low income) Catholic schools.

## ***An NDSA Initiative: T.A.P.***

T.A.P. is an acronym for Tax Assistance Program, an NDSA Initiative that offers free assistance in filing Income Tax Returns to low income persons and families. The benefit of the program to low income persons is obvious. T.A.P. can also lead to favorable publicity for the ND Club, and may attract new members. It provides an opportunity for the individual alumnus to use his/her expertise in a meaningful way, particularly seniors who may not physically be able to participate in more demanding Club projects.

The IRS has a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program that provides volunteer guidelines and training packets at no cost. The IRS Office for your Club's locality can provide this information. Put a team of volunteers together to assist low-income clients in filing their tax returns. Team members should be familiar with tax return preparation; at least one of them should be an experienced tax professional. Train the team members using the VITA materials and the tax professional's knowledge.

Next, choose a site where the service can be offered, such as a Church, School, or Community Center. Explain the program to the person in charge, ask permission to conduct the T.A.P. program in their facility, and ask them to publicize the program. Discuss logistics – desks, chairs, sufficient space for client's privacy – translators, if non-English speaking clients are likely to seek tax help.

Select 2 or 3 dates to offer the T.A.P. program, preferably Saturday mornings early in February, right after employees receive their W-2 forms. Report the number of clients served and the total of their tax refunds on the Club's Annual Report. It will help your Club get the recognition it so rightly deserves.

More information about T.A.P. can be found on the NDSA website at [www.ndsenioralumni.org](http://www.ndsenioralumni.org)

***GO IRISH!***

## ***Success Stories from the Clubs***

The items presented below, grouped by the 6 C's, are taken from reports of successes, best practices and newsworthy items reported by the Regional NDSA Directors at the Fall NDSA Meeting.

## CAMARADERIE

- The **Boston Club** held a Senior Luncheon in Salem, Massachusetts during May that was attended by 28 alumns. A cruise out of Lynn, Massachusetts in August attracted a group of 17 people who enjoyed a round of Irish Trivia that featured prizes for the top performers.
- Club President **Tom Krug** organized a monthly luncheon attended by 125 persons, most of them senior alumns, that revitalized the **Hartford, Connecticut Club**. Club officers and committee heads were selected from the attendees.
- The **Minnesota Club** sponsors a monthly Senior Luncheon that has fostered a great deal of camaraderie within the Club. **John McShane '68** and **Chris Flynn '55** lead this event.
- A group of **Rockford Club** senior alumns and their spouses attended an outdoor theater production at Spring Green, Wisconsin. The trip home the following day featured a visit to a "Mustard Museum". **Bill Schultheis '52** coordinated what is becoming an annual event.
- Attendance at the **Lake County, Illinois Club's** monthly Senior Breakfast has increased about 50% from an average of 10 members attending the April 2007 breakfast. Since its inception almost two years ago, 33 different alumni representing 21 different classes, a parent of an ND student and another of an SMC student, have attended the breakfast. Senior Alumni Coordinator **Dick Jacob '56** sends out 6 to 10 e-mails each month to the list of 74 seniors with news of interest and a reminder of the upcoming breakfast. Each month one of the attendees is invited to give a short personal history. As a direct result of these breakfasts, many of the attendees are taking a more active interest in the Club. **GO IRISH!**
- The **McHenry County, Illinois Club** combined the Club's Student Sendoff with their annual Family Picnic during early August. The popular event was attended by 43 Club members and students. All had a good time.
- The Rockford Club's third annual Golf Outing raised in excess of \$5300 for the Club's endowed scholarship fund. The event, chaired by **Gerry Risch, Ben Murray, and Bob Meuleman '61**, attracted 56 golfers. A dinner, featuring an inspiring talk by **Bob Morton**, a 2007 graduate and Fighting Irish starting guard, was enjoyed by over 100 guests.
- The **Cincinnati Club** hosted a very successful Senior Alumni Luncheon in March that was attended by about 50 area Senior Alumns. Attendees were asked to bring ND memorabilia from their student days. They brought everything from football programs to year books to a wrist watch once presented to Knute Rockne. It was such an enjoyable time that the seniors voted to have 4 luncheon meetings each year. One of the seniors even asked to be the Club's Senior Alumni Coordinator when **Paul Dillenburger**, the current coordinator, retires.
- The **Chicago Club's** Golden Domers Architectural Boat Cruise was attended by 30 Senior Alumni. A happy hour at the Emerald Tap concluded the very successful event.
- **Tom Kerrian** has arranged two theater nights in the San Diego area, primarily for Senior Alumni, but others are welcome to attend.

## GOD, COUNTRY and NOTRE DAME

- The **Northwest Indiana Club** partnered with the Munster, Indiana Community Hospital's *Community Connects* committee, raising \$150 for their '*Hearts for Heroes*' project by selling 'hearts' on Valentine's Day. The money was used to send packages to each employee and employee's relative serving in Iraq. The packages contained sun tan lotion, personal care items, goodies and – at the soldier's request – cotton socks.
- NDSA Regional Director **George Koch '54** reports that a classmate of his – **John Daniels '54** – is a volunteer tour guide at Arlington National Cemetery. A volunteer group – Arlington Ladies – is similarly involved. At times, when family attendance at a funeral is small, John and members of the Arlington Ladies may attend the funeral or burial ceremony so the family will not feel alone. They also provide a business-size card with a phone number the family can call if help is needed.

In a letter to the class secretary, John suggested that ND Clubs and classes combined could provide some sort of outreach help to a spouse experiencing post-funeral problems, particularly in view of the war in Iraq.

- Five members of the **Orange County Club** are in the volunteer orientation process at the VA Hospital. The Club president has set a goal of doubling the number of volunteers.
- Members of the **Los Angeles Club** made the first of two yearly day-trips to a children's orphanage in Mexico where they played with the orphans, worked with them on craft projects, read to and with the children or simply held an infant who needed love. **GO IRISH!**
- The **Tucson Club** entertained 10 patients from the local VA hospital for the annual Sidewinders (AM baseball club) outing during June. A reserved mezzanine area, where a buffet was set up to serve hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and soft drinks, provided an excellent view of the field. Four of the patients won prizes (caps and lunch boxes) donated by the Sidewinders and Diamondbacks. Six Club members gave their prizes to the Vets so all of them had a memento to take back to the hospital. As a direct result of the outing 12 Club members attended a volunteer orientation session at the VA Hospital, and 5 are now actively serving as volunteers. Club president, **Vin Boyen**, is hoping the number of active volunteers will double. In a follow-up 'thank you' to the Club the Vets were especially appreciative of the generosity shown by Club members in allowing all of them to go home with a prize. **GO IRISH!**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Members of the Boston Club donated 90 pints of blood in honor of Fr. Hesburgh's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- **Hartford Club** member **Tom Halligan**, a retired physician, is very active in a 15-month old program that provides free healthcare to the uninsured, most of whom are unemployed illegal immigrants. Through an alliance with a local pharmacy, patients get free medications. On a recent Thursday, Tom wrote over 100 prescriptions.
- Regional Director **Dan Merritt '69** reports that through the efforts of **Pete Campbell '56**, all of the Clubs in Region 4 (Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin), have coordinators for their Hospital Support Programs. Each Club is establishing a structure and procedures to ensure success of the program. **GO IRISH!**
- The **Milwaukee Club** presented its *Senior Alumni Award of the Year* to **John B. Shepherd '55** in recognition of his behind-the-scenes involvement with the Club over the years, including donations and other in-kind support. He has been very involved in the Andean Health Foundation's program and the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation's annual Golf Outing.
- As their 'Month of Service' project to honor Fr. Ted's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, the **Rockford Club** collected food and clothing for Rockford's St. Elizabeth Community Center. Senior alumni assisted in food distribution to needy clients at St. Elizabeth's. **Suzi Sullivan SMC '78** coordinated the project.
- **Milwaukee Club** senior alumni **Bob Johnson '59**, **Joe Heil '59**, and **Mike Hanson '73** are strong leaders in fund raising for the Andean Health Foundation; **Jon Ronayne '60**, **Jack Shepherd '55**, and **Bob Johnson '59** were active workers at this year's Golf Outing for the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation.
- As their 'Month of Service' project in honor of Fr. Hesburgh's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, members of the **Eastern Illinois Club** assisted *Habitat for Humanity* in constructing a new home for an underprivileged family.
- **Gene Sullivan '49** chairs the **Greater DuPage County Club's** monthly seniors breakfast which features a speaker from a local humanitarian organization, enabling members to be aware of the community's current needs. During the past three years senior alumni have contributed time and talent to Reading to the Blind, Peoples Resource Center, Prison Ministry, several Food Banks, Naperville Cares, Tax Assistance program, Rebuilding Together, Turkey Trot, St. Baldricks, Ribfest, Special Camp for Special People, and the Mendota Project – all as a direct result of getting together monthly for breakfast. **GO IRISH!**
- The **Detroit Club** will again offer a TAP program at two inner city Detroit parishes in 2008. Last year 11 club members participated in the program, representing class years from '51 to '03.
- Retired members of the **Greater DuPage Club** helped out at a special camp for disabled children run by the Knights of Columbus. The kids have a real camp experience which features archery, fishing, games camping out, and much more.

- The **Houston Club's Golden Dome Mentors** is a 30-member group dedicated to combating 'under-education', particularly in the minority communities. Recently joined by St. John Vianney Parish, the Golden Dome Alliance is reaching out to St. Cecelia and St. Jerome's Parishes in the search for new partners to expand the group's efforts.
- "*Invest in the future – One student at a time*" is the motto of Student Mentor Partners, a Detroit organization recommended by the Archdiocese to the **Notre Dame Club of Detroit**. SMP started in 1998 with 3 at-risk students attending 3 Catholic High Schools in the inner city of Detroit. Since then a total of 67 students have not only graduated from high school but have gone on to college, most of them on scholarships. This year there will be 45 students mentored by 45 volunteers. Members of the Detroit Club serving as mentors in the SMP program include **Lou Basso, Gene Bego, Ralph Carolin, Fred Gade, Frank Glasgow, John Grindel, Charlie Kitz, Tom Lyman, John McCuen, Kevin Regan, William Wesdthaus, Walt Zotter, and Fred Curto**. Two of these men – **Fred Curto '51** in 2004 and **John Grindel '54** – have received the 'Mentor of the Year' award. At the award ceremony the young people Fred and John mentored spoke highly of the example set by these men in supporting and encouraging them to work hard in school. **GO IRISH!**
- The **San Diego Club** held a successful Halloween Candy Drive to benefit the children of Tijuana, Mexico. Club members collected over 3600 pounds of candy from 30 Catholic schools, along with dental care products. The donations support 20 charities affiliated with *Friends of the Poor*, a charity that works with the Red Cross, various hospitals, orphanages and other organizations in Tijuana. The candy is mainly used for piñatas for the traditional 'Posada' celebrations around Christmas.
- Senior Alumni of the **Orange County Club** pack lunches for SPIN (Serving People in Need), work with Special Olympics, and participate in the Susan G. Komen 'Race for the Cure', a breast cancer fund raiser. Seniors also assist with the Breakfast Club at the Southwest Community Center, serving thousands of meals to the homeless.
- Volunteers from the **Los Angeles Club** work in the Day Center at the Downtown Women's Center, a homeless facility for women that provides hot meals, showers, supportive services, and a safe place to rest for over 80 women each day.
- **Los Angeles Club** volunteers work at the Painted Turtle, a camp for kids with long-term illnesses that allows the children to participate in an authentic camp experience by supporting their medical needs and offering their families care, education and respite. Under the leadership of **Alexis Madrid**, Los Angeles Club board member who works for the camp, volunteers help the children reach beyond illness, inspiring children with life-threatening diseases to become their greater selves. **GO IRISH!**
- The Phoenix Club, for the 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, sponsored the St. Matthew's interactive learning experience – '**SMILE**'. Twenty children participated in the event which featured roller skating, bumper car racing, and a trip to 'Sun Splash'. Club members mentored and had fun with the children, many of whom were enjoying a new activity for the first time. **GO IRISH!**
- Volunteers from the **Los Angeles Club** perform beautification and other projects at the Good Shepherd Shelter for battered women and children. The Shelter has been operated by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd since 1904.
- Volunteers from the **Phoenix Club** participated in 'Thirst Aide", a project to hydrate the homeless during oppressive summer heat during May. Between 4,000 and 4,500 bottles of water and donations of over \$2000 were collected by Club members. Many previously non-participating Club members, as well as other alumni, were drawn to this activity.
- The **Los Angeles Club** has a Homework Help Program for students in grades 1 thru 12 at a drop-in tutoring center that provides tutoring in Math, English and Science. In conjunction with Long Beach state, the Club participates in the Mathematics, Engineering and Science Achievement Program designed to attract more young disadvantaged children into engineering professions.
- Volunteers from the **San Diego Club** once again conducted a *Campbell Soup Run*, picking up soup at the Campbell plant in Sacramento, stopping over in San Diego to break the load into smaller lots, and then delivering the soup to the needy in Tijuana. A Club member flies from San Diego to Sacramento courtesy of **John Chaussee '82** of Dallas, Texas and **Southwest**

**Airlines. Perry Lane** and the **Campbell Soup Company** provided the soup, and **John McGinley '58** and **Penske Corporation** provided the truck. Monty James '99 of the San Diego Club drove the truck from Sacramento to San Diego. **GO IRISH!**

## CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

- **Gene Moore**, one of the **Boston Club's** active senior alumni and a good friend of Fr. Louis Putz, C.S.C. put the teaching of Fr. Putz into action by establishing a program for unwed mothers-to-be and providing housing for 25 girls. He also organized small reflection groups for adults.
- During September the **Knoxville Club** hosted the fifth in a series of theology-based Hesburgh Lectures by Fr. Patrick Gaffney. A unique partnership of the Knoxville Club, the University of Tennessee Department Of Religious Studies, and the John XIII Catholic Center on the Tennessee campus sponsor the lecture series.
- **Bruce DuMontier '72**, Senior Alumni Coordinator of the **Northeast Wisconsin Club**, reports increasing involvement by senior alumni, particularly at the annual Mass and Dinner, where again this year toiletries were collected for the homeless.
- Senior members of the **Rockford, Illinois Club** are engaged in a multi-year *Diocesan Professional Assistance Program* to use a marketing approach stressing Catholic values to increase enrollment in Catholic Elementary Schools. **Tom McIntire '56, Gerry Risch, Ken Robison '58, Suzi Sullivan SMC '78, and Phil Roehrig '51** are involved in the program which has a February 2009 roll-out date.
- Senior members of the **Greater DuPage County Club** raised over \$1100 to support the 'Growing Project' of Mendota (Illinois) Area Food Resources Bank. Supported by Catholic Relief Services, the Food Resources Bank provides funds to poorer areas of Africa and South American to increase the capability of people living there to raise their own food. Mendota area farmers donate farm land and labor to raise crops which are sold, with all proceeds donated to the Food Resources Bank. The funds raised by the DuPage seniors are used to buy seed and fertilizer for the Mendota farmers. The project is coordinated by Nick Huie. **GO IRISH!**
- The **Chicago Club** will kick off the Club's 100-year anniversary with a Mass and brunch during January.
- The **San Diego Club** is actively engaged in a *Diocesan Professional Assistance Program* that provides help to Parishes and Parish schools, particularly in the areas of Financial Management and Human resources. In partnership with the Knights of Columbus, club members are investigating the feasibility of solar generation of electricity, centralized copy machine and maintenance contracts, centralized procurement of common items used throughout the Diocese, and grouping of small service contractors to service one or more Parishes in areas such as plumbing and minor electrical work. At the Club's encouragement, the Diocese is hiring a temporary Information Technology Program Manager to ascertain needs, develop specifications, and solicit bids to provide a comprehensive and uniform IT program. Training Business Managers and certifying bookkeepers for the Parishes are needs that will; be addressed in the future. **GO IRISH!**

## CURRENT STUDENT SUPPORT

- The **Northern Alabama Club** conducted a Student Send-off for local students attending ND and sends CARE packages to them. The Club also hosted a Summer Student Intern this past summer.
- The **Rockford Club** combined the annual Student Sendoff with a farewell reception for **Janet Zito '08**, who spent 8 weeks in Rockford as the Summer Student Learning Program intern. **Tom '56 and Cathy McIntire** hosted the enjoyable event. During the summer Janet worked at Carpenter's Place, a local organization with a unique program to help the homeless turn their lives around. **Jack '82 and Nancy Battel** coordinate the Club's involvement in the SSLP Program.

- The Detroit Club invited incoming freshmen to a Student Sendoff picnic in August. Each student was given a handout explaining the Student career mentoring Initiative. A separate mailing or handout will be included in the Club's student pre-exam gift package in January '08'.

## COMMUNICATION

- The **San Diego Club** has developed an announcement about the Club that is being placed in Parish Bulletins soliciting the names of Senior Alumni in the area along with contact information. The announcement also contains an invitation for all alumni and friends of Notre Dame to visit the Club website and to join the Club.
- The San Diego Club has experience a significant problem in locating and being able to contact Senior Alumni in the area by both mail and e-mail. Information provided by the Alumni association is often inaccurate because the senior have not updated their information. Three members of the Club are phoning all known Senior Alumni in the San Diego area to obtain their e-mail address, phone number, postal address, and other information.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION

- The **Knoxville Club** hosts a book discussion group, led by senior alumni, that appeals primarily to seniors. They will next be discussing *Reluctant Saint*, a probing look at the life of St. Francis of Assisi by Daniel Spoto.
- **ACE** is an acronym for **Alliance for Catholic Education**, a program where students can pursue a Masters degree in Education from Notre Dame, earning credits toward that degree while teaching in Catholic schools located in poorer communities, particularly in the southern U.S. Students in the ACE program subsist on minimal income. The **Tucson Club** offers free access to all Club events to the 5 ACE teachers who share the same home, and recently purchased a washing machine for them, and has asked Club members to donate furniture. The Tucson Club Board met with one of the teachers to discuss developing a closer relationship with the Club.
- The **Los Angeles Club**, in partnership with local **ACE** teachers and the Archdiocese, undertakes painting and beautification projects at Catholic schools in underprivileged neighborhoods of Los Angeles. ND Club volunteers perform scraping and other prep work before painting, painting, clean-up, light maintenance, planting, and general beautification projects.
- An article in the **Lake County, Illinois Club's** newsletter by Senior Alumni Coordinator **Dick Jacob**, tells about the Club sending 6 teachers to the *Excellence In Teaching* program at ND each year for the past 9 years, and suggest that this would make a nice Christmas gift for individual Club members to give to a niece, granddaughter, etc. And it would be a nice tax deduction for the donor. One member of the Class of '83 is sponsoring a teacher for this year's conference and has asked the PTA to consider sponsoring a second teacher so they can car pool, know someone else at the conference, and add to the school's camaraderie. **GO IRISH!**

## Senior Moments

Recalling their student days at Notre Dame, two ND Alumni devised innovative solutions to the 'parking problem'.

The first, an undergraduate student living off campus, was waved on through by the guard at the gate every time he drove his car to class. How did he accomplish this? He bought a priest's shirt with a Roman collar which he wore until safely parked on campus. Then he changed into civilian garb before going on to class.

For twenty years or so after graduation, this former ND student was guaranteed a prime no-cost parking place for at-home football games. He simply drove up to a restricted parking area, unlocked the gate and drove on through. During his student days he had a job at Notre Dame – to lock the gate at the entrance to the parking lot on football weekends. He had a duplicate key made just before graduation, turned in the original key, and lived happily ever after.

## ***On The Horizon***

The Winter Meeting of the NDSA Board will be held in Fort Lauderdale, Florida on January 17 – 19, 2008. Alumni serving on this board pay their own travel, lodging and meal expenses associated with attending this meeting.

For up-to-the-minute news of the NDSA please log onto our website at [www.ndsenioralumni.org](http://www.ndsenioralumni.org). New features are being added continually. You can even listen to Notre Dame music while you explore the website. It don't get no better than this!!

## ***A Last Laugh***

Kids say the darndest things! Here are some children's actual answers on catechism tests:

- The Jews were a proud people and throughout history they had trouble with unsympathetic genitals.
- The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up on mount cyanide to get the ten commandments.
- Christians have only one spouse. This is called monotony.
- Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
- When Mary heard she was the mother of Jesus she sang the Magna Carta.
- The first commandment was when Eve told Adam to eat the apple.
- St. John the blacksmith dumped water on his head.
- The greatest miracle in the bible is when Joshua told his son to stand still and he obeyed him.

## ***A Parting Thought***

One out of every six men will have prostate cancer during their lifetime. In a way, it's like a game of musical chairs – five chairs for the six men playing the game. Will you/your husband be the one left standing when the music stops?

You might want to consider asking your doctor about a prostate check-up . . . before the music stops.

May God bless, and ***GO IRISH!***