

Notre **D**ame **S**enior **A**lumni **N**ews **N**otes

The Senior Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2008

NDSA Board News

The Spring Meeting of the NDSA Board was held on April 24 - 26 at Notre Dame concurrently with the Alumni Senate. Some highlights of the meeting are:

- A 'soft' roll-out of the **National Hospital Support Program** took place during Alumni Senate at Notre Dame April. A toll-free number (1-877-HELP-086, 1-877-435-7086) any member of the Notre Dame family can call 24/7 to request support when hospitalized will be operational in May. The Hospital program was explained at each of the Regional Meetings held during the Senate, and at a standing-room-only workshop session. Further information about the program is featured on pages 4, 6 and 8 of this issue of **NDSA NewsNotes**.

- The NDSA Board honored the following Clubs with the **Senior Alumni Participation Award** at the Recognition Dinner on Thursday evening of the Alumni Senate:

Detroit
Dallas
Greater DuPage County (Illinois)
Eastern North Carolina
Rockford (Illinois)

The Senior Alumni Participation Award is bestowed by the NDSA Board annually on one Club in a size category in recognition of the involvement of senior alumni and friends of Notre Dame in Club activities.

- Region 11 Director **Bob King** was named an honorary alumnus by the Alumni Association in recognition of his contribution to Notre Dame. Bob, who will complete his term of service on the NDSA Board on June 30th, is the 33rd person to awarded this honor in the history of the University. Congratulations Bob!
- Incoming NDSA Regional Directors who will take office on July 1st attended the Spring Meeting for an orientation briefing about the function and operation of the NDSA Board. Incoming Directors who attended the meeting are:
 - Region 2 - **Richard Riegel '58**
 - Region 4 - **Robert Johnston '59**
 - Region 7 - **John Fremeau '71**
 - Region 11 - **Anthony Wallace '55**
 - Region 16 - **John Scully '64**

Region 8 Director **Peter Lombardo '79 (PhD)** was unable to attend. Peter is familiar with the work of the NDSA Board from his prior involvement with the Alumni Association. Get-acquainted information on incoming Directors is featured on page 3 of this newsletter.

- The NDSA Board approved in concept establishment of a **God, Country, Notre Dame Scholarship** to be awarded to children of veterans of U.S. armed forces. Fund raising will begin when eligibility has been defined and approved by the Board. A minimum of \$100,000 is needed initially to fund the endowed scholarship fund. **Frank Whitton '56**, Region 3 Director, is coordinating the scholarship project
- NDSA Board officers for the 2008 – 2009 year beginning July 1st are:
 - Chairman - **Bill Kreps '55**
 - Vice Chairman - **Phil Roehrig '51**
 - Immediate Past Chairman - **Paul Scagliarini '60**

- A plaque was presented to **Jim Barry '67** in recognition of his many years of service to NDSA and to the University. Jim completes his term as Immediate past President on June 30th. Thanks, Jim, for your outstanding service to Our Lady's University.
- The following NDSA Regional Directors will be completing their term of service on June 30th and leaving the Board.
 - Region 2 - **John Studebaker '62**
 - Region 4 - **Dan Merritt '69**
 - Region 8 - **Mike Pinter**
 - Region 7 - **George Koch '54**
 - Region 11 - **Bob King**
 - Region 16 - **Marty Gleason '55**
 Thanks to each of you for your years of service and many contributions to Notre Dame and to NDSA, and every good wish for the future.
- The NDSA Board said "We'll be seeing you" to **Jim Keegan '59** and "Nice to have you back" to **Tom Loosbrock '52**. Jim is the retiring Senior Alumni Director on the ND Alumni Association (NDAA) Board and Tom is joining the NDAA Board in that position. The Senior Alumni Director serves as a liaison between the NDSA and NDAA boards. Jim has done an outstanding job of communicating the work of NDSA and in promoting cooperation between the boards.

Notes on the Alumni Senate

- The theme of the 2008 Alumni Senate was "A League of our Own" in recognition that Notre Dame's clubs, classes and boards are the best volunteer teams in the country.
- Senate attendees welcomed **Dolly Duffy '84**, incoming Associate Director of the Alumni Association and Assistant Vice President of University Relations. She is a personable, enthusiastic addition to the Alumni Association staff. Dolly, it's good to have you back where you belong.
- Contributions to the 'Spirit of Notre Dame' campaign continue to grow toward the goal of \$1.5 billion.
- There have been over 127,000 hits on "Pray at Notre Dame" website, a daily inspirational message and prayer that is only a 'click' away. Many alumni are now beginning each day praying at Notre Dame.
- The **Rev. Louis J. Putz, C.S.C. Award**, presented annually by the NDSA Board to an alumni club or individual in recognition of their contribution to improving the lives of others, was awarded to **Paul Hurley '56** for his involvement in prison ministry.
- The **James E. Armstrong Award**, presented each year to a current employee of Notre Dame in recognition of distinguished service to the University, was bestowed on **Kerry Temple '74**. Kerry has been the editor of *Notre Dame Magazine* since 1995 and served as managing editor for 10 years prior.
- Rev. **Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C. '39**, President Emeritus of Notre Dame, was the guest speaker at a General Session of the Senate on Saturday morning. Father Ted opened his remarks by stating that an organization is judged by its products. As alumni, we have a destiny that goes beyond what we do during our lives - we are born for eternity. Notre Dame touches us while we are still malleable, and we're different because of the years spent at Notre Dame. It is impossible to measure what alumni have accomplished, but if it were, it would be infinite. Notre Dame is a place of peace, of promise. We, as alumni, carry the message of Notre Dame to the world. When we get to the Pearly Gates and St. Peter asks, "what did you do?" all we have to answer is "we went to Notre Dame". Looking directly at the standing-room-only audience, Fr. Ted concluded his remarks by saying "You wear the brand name with dignity and honor."

What's New?

The campus is taking on a new look with a number of construction projects underway. Some of the changes include

- The grounds south of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts are getting a much-needed face lift, including sidewalks and landscaping.
- An addition on the south side of the bookstore is finished, blending in nicely with the building.
- Work is progressing rapidly on the Law School addition.

- The foundation is being poured for the Engineering addition.
- Ground has been broken for a new residence hall between the bookstore and Welsh Hall.
- Duncan Hall, a new student residence, is taking shape immediately west of McGlinn Hall.
- Landscaping work is underway along the walkway between the Alumni Association offices in the Eck center and the bookstore.
- A joke making the rounds on campus is “the ultimate goal of construction at Notre Dame is one building per student.”

Meet the Incoming Regional Directors

- **Dick Riegel '58 – Region 2.** Dick, who retired in 1998 from the Bureau of Reclamation in Denver, and his wife Ginny live in Morrison Colorado. They have two sons, Matthew and Michael who live in North Carolina, and a daughter, Marybeth in Colorado. Dick and Ginny have four grandchildren. After graduating with a BS in Business Administration, Dick served in the military and then worked with Univac before joining the Federal Service working with the Departments of Defense and Interior. Dick is an active member of the ND Club of Denver.
- **Bob Johnston '59 – Region 4.** During his student days Bob played in both the marching and Concert Bands. After graduating with a BA in Government and a minor in Criminology Bob served in the Army and then joined the Milwaukee Association of Commerce as Director of Public and Government Relations. His career then took him into television sales management and later banking. At the present time Bob manages the Milwaukee office of Information research services. Bob and his wife Margaret have five children and four grandchildren. Their son Tom is a 2000 ND graduate. Bob was active in the Los Angeles and Ventura Country ND Clubs while living in California, and is an active member of the Milwaukee Club.
- **Jack Fremeau '71 – Region 7.** Jack and his wife Joyce are residents of Jackson, Michigan. They have 4 sons, 2 daughters-in-law, and 3 grandchildren. Three of the boys are ND grads – Scott '97, Brian '99, and Joe '02. Both daughters-in-law are SMC grads. Jack earned a BS in Physics and played trombone in the ND Marching band. He received a MS degree in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Illinois the following year. He is employed by Consumers Energy with responsibility for long range operational planning. Jack is heavily involved in the Jackson community in support of local Catholic schools and would like to see the values expressed in ND's task Force on Catholic Education brought to life in Catholic schools.
- **Peter Lombardo '79PhD – Region 8.** Peter, who lives in South Bend, retired from the University of Notre Dame in 2006 after serving on the Faculty, as Director of the Center for Continuing Education, and as an administrator in the Graduate School and the Alumni Association where he was liaison to NDSA. Since retiring Peter has worked as Director of Community Involvement at the South Bend Center for the Homeless where, among other duties, he coordinates volunteer activities. His work corresponds directly to the call to service of the NDSA, and he hopes to develop among the Clubs in region 8 a deep and lasting devotion to service that will serve as a model for all ND Clubs to follow.
- **Tony Wallace '55 – Region 11.** Tony and his wife Yvonne live in Weston, Massachusetts and have six children – three of them ND grads –and twenty-four grandchildren. Following graduation from Notre Dame with a BS in Business, Tony earned his law degree at Fordham University and was admitted to the New York Bar. After a three-year stint in the Marine Corps as Legal Officer Tony's career has been in international finance and real estate lending and investments. Tony has traveled extensively, living in Argentina for over two years. He headed the Real Estate Lending Division of Chemical bank, served as president of Galbreath-Ruffin Corporation, a national real estate development firm, and was a Partner in Cabot, Cabot and Forbes of Boston. Tony retired in 1996 as President of Wallace Associates, a real estate investment banking firm. In his spare time, Tony has actively served the Catholic Church in various capacities.
- **John Scully '64 – Region 16.** John and Judy have three children – Melissa, Julie SMC '92, and John III '96 and three grandchildren who all want to attend Notre Dame. The Scully's make their home in Riverside, Illinois. After graduating from Notre Dame John earned a master's degree from DePaul University. He retired in 2007 as Group Senior Vice President of LaSalle Bank in Chicago. He retired from the US Army Reserve in 1996 with the rank of Major General, having served as Commanding General of the 102nd Army Reserve Command, St. Louis. John is active in civic affairs, and has served on the Notre Dame Alumni Board, and as President of the ND Club of Chicago. Fr. Jenkins recently appointed John to the Advisory Council of the Joan B. Kroc Peace Institute. One of John's goals is to create a link between the Senior Alumni in the Chicago area and the University, helping them know what volunteer opportunities are available.

Hospital Support in Action

During the trip to their home in Massachusetts from the Notre Dame Senate, where the National Hospital Support Program was introduced, **Dr. Philip I. Connors '59** and his wife were critically injured in an automobile accident in Ohio. The family contacted NDSA Region 9 Director Jim Gibbons '55 who, in turn, contacted the ND Club of Mahoning and Shenango Valley. The response was immediate and wide-ranging: alumni across the country prayed for the Connors recovery. On May 8th, 10 days after the accident, the Connors son, **Philip M. Connors**, wrote:

To: ND Alumni Angels – God Bless & Thank You All

On behalf of my family I sincerely thank you for your messages of prayer, hope & offers of assistance for my parents. These have been a great support for my sisters and I this past week. We have learned that the work & efforts of our parents has involved & touched a larger community than we knew existed. May God hold you all in the palms of his hands.

In one of the few conversations w/ my father the night of the accident he instructed me to contact a local member of the Alumni Association (in New England) regarding a “hospital assistance program”. Due to the nature of cell phones & circumstance our conversation was difficult, and details were sketchy, but by using the Internet (& with the help of my son) I contacted James Gibbons '55 of Cincinnati, OH. Within an hour he called me back and told me he found an ND Alumni who lived a half-hour away (+/-) from Youngstown, OH. That night Bob Vanes & his wife traveled to St. Elizabeth’s Hospital (in Youngstown) to help my parents, into the wee hours of Tuesday morning. Since then Bob Vanes & Paul Dillenberger (also of OH) have been in regular contact, and been a tremendous source of local support to our family. Your network works!! Please be sure your family and loved ones are aware of it. Only when the need arises can the benefits be truly understood. I believe we do, yet the connections of the network still continue to amaze us.

My mother’s condition is improving. She is presently in a rehabilitation facility near St. Elizabeth’s, and we hope to bring her home soon ... if she chooses.

My father’s is still in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) @ St. Elizabeth’s Hospital. His condition is still critical. His coma is no longer medicinally induced, but he has not as yet awakened. Also his past medical history has presented some further complications. This afternoon (Tuesday – May 6th) he underwent vascular surgery to address veinous blood clot issues; the procedure went well, but his overall condition remains the same. His doctors continue to evaluate & improve his situation, and we remain confident in their efforts. On the wall in his room are pictures of his family, on his table is a get-well balloon from his grandchildren, on his bed is his rosary, and on the wall to his lefty is his favorite ND cap w/ it’s '59 pin. Electronic communication in the hospital is difficult, yet we try to read your e-mails daily to Dad: we believe he hears us in voice, and your prayers in his heart. Please keep them coming.

In the days & weeks ahead of us we are trying to maintain a family member (rotation) in Youngstown. Bob Vanes, Paul Dillenberger & Bill; Tatten have our cell phone #'s if you need to contact us directly.

Again on behalf of my mother, Carol A., my sisters, Mary Ann & Tina, myself and our families, Thank You all & God Bless.

Philip M. Connors

Sadly, this story does not have a happy ending. Dr. Connors passed on to his eternal reward on May 15th. In the words of his son, Dr. Connors died “doing something he really loved” – completing his term on the Alumni Association Board after a life of devotion to his family, to the University, and to Our Lady. May he rest in peace. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Carol, Mary Ann, Tina, and Phil and to their families. May God comfort them and grant them the peace of Jesus.

Pray at ND

Wouldn't it be nice to 'get away' each day and spend a few quiet moments at the Grotto again, the way many of us did during our student days? While that is not possible for most of us, the Alumni Association has come up with what very well may be the next best thing. It's a website called "Pray at ND". Refreshed each day, the website contains the Gospel reading from the day's Mass, a brief homily-like

“Living the Gospel Today” section that features an inspirational story about applying the Gospel’s message to our lives, and a short prayer.

A “Green Candle’ burns daily at the Grotto for the intentions of petitioners requesting prayers through the website’s convenient link. There is another link for persons wishing to have a Mass offered at Notre Dame for their intentions.

All of this can be accessed by logging on to NDSA’s website – www.ndsenioralumni.org – and then clicking on ‘Pray at ND’. It will take you directly to the ‘Pray at ND’ website.

A person can even request a daily e-mail that contains “Living the Gospel Today’, the Gospel from the day’s Mass, and a brief prayer – the same features contained on the website. Many alumni begin or end their day by opening the e-mail they receive from ‘Pray at ND’. They have found those few minutes spent in prayer are a welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of life today. Try it – you’ll like it!

A Bit of Trivia

Notre Dame was having a great deal of difficulty finding speakers for the 1960 graduation ceremonies, both for the sermon at the Baccalaureate Mass and for the Commencement Ceremony. In his book, *God, Country, Notre Dame*, Fr. Hesburgh, C.S.C. recalls that it had been a long-standing tradition at Notre Dame for a Cardinal to give the Baccalaureate sermon. He admits that it was only after five other cardinals declined his invitation that he invited a future Pope – Cardinal Montini – to speak. He was also having difficulty finding a speaker for the Commencement Ceremony. Five men had already turned him down. With less than a month until graduation, one day as he walked into his office his secretary, Helen, said, “You just lost another one!” It was then that they decided to try President Eisenhower and cardinal Montini. Helen wrote to the President and Fr. Ted wrote to the Cardinal.

The rest is history. The Class of 1960 had the future Pope Paul VI as the homilist at the Baccalaureate Mass, and the President of the United States as the speaker at the Commencement Ceremony.

St. Baldrick’s: Shaving the Way to Conquer Kids’ Cancer

During the evening of March 7, 2008 at the Holliday Inn Select in Naperville, Illinois 157 men, women and children had their heads shaved at an event known as “St. Baldrick’s”, raising over \$100,000 for children’s oncology research.

It all started in New York in 1999 when Tim Kenny challenged friends John Bender and Enda McDonnell to find a way to ‘give back’. These three reinsurance executives decided to turn their industry’s St. Patrick’s day party into a benefit for kids with cancer. What could they do to really turn the heads – and open the wallets –of their colleagues?

John suggested shaving Enda’s head since kids typically lose their hair during cancer treatment. “People will gladly pay to see you bald, Enda!” Never one to miss an opportunity, Enda replied, “I will; if you will,” and St. Baldrick’s was born.

The three planned to raise “\$17,000 on the 17th,” recruiting 17 colleagues to raise \$1000 each to be shorn. Instead, the first St. Baldrick’s event, held on March 17,2000, raised over \$104,000!

The Naperville, Illinois St. Baldrick’s was started in 2005 by two police officers and a firefighter, who had family members with childhood cancer. In the three years of its existence the Naperville event has raised over \$300,000. This year they sponsored an additional St. Baldrick’s in neighboring Bollingbrook the following week.

The Naperville evening includes a formal program about children’s cancer, shaving of the fund raiser’s heads, free catered Italian food and non-alcoholic drinks, music by a DJ, Irish dancers, raffles with tickets being sold by the North Central College Cheerleaders and Dancers, live auctions, and the Firefighters Highland Guard of Naperville, a bagpipe group that escorted Naperville’s Mayor and City Dignitaries. **Joe Galvin**, Senior Alumni Coordinator of the ND Club of Greater DuPage County describes the event as “just a nice family party supporting those friends and relatives having their heads shaved.”

The ND Club of Greater DuPage County's Senior Alumni Group assisted the Naperville Police and Fire Departments in sponsoring the St. Baldrick's event. **Bill McManus '60** was registration Chairman. Assisting Bill were **Joe Galvin, Nick '71 and Dee Huie, Leo and Bonnie O'Donnell '56, and Jack and Peg Brennan.**

For more information about St. Baldrick's log on to www.StBaldricks.org or call 888-899-BALD.

National Hospital Support Program: How it Began

The National Hospital Support Program that has spread across the country has evolved from a rather humble beginning. The first patient to receive support assistance was a young man from Chattanooga, Tennessee who had cancer and was undergoing a bone marrow transplant at the University of North Carolina Hospital. A member of the ND Club of Chattanooga heard about the Hospital Ministry Program, as it was called at the time, while attending the 2006 Alumni Senate. Back home in Chattanooga, he told his friend – the boy's grandfather - that he had heard about a NDSA program in North Carolina that was designed to help people in hospitals away from home, and advised him to contact the Eastern North Carolina Club. To make a long story short the grandfather contacted a member of the Club's hospital Team, the team immediately sprang into action and was able to provide assistance to the young man.

The story has a happy ending. The young man's operation was successful and he was released from the hospital shortly thereafter. The family rented a local apartment for their son and he lived there for several months while recuperating and receiving follow on treatments at the hospital. The Club's support continued through the time the young man lived in the apartment.

Recalling the Hospital Program's first experience, Pete Campbell, a member of the Club's Hospital Team remarked "The grandfather could not have been more proud that alumni from his Alma Mater cared enough to offer their help during this stressful time of need."

The National Hospital Support Program that grew from that first offer of support for a hospitalized patient, has since assisted over 40 patients. It will undoubtedly be refined from time to time as experience from across the country is gained. Please log on occasionally to the NDSA website at www.ndsenioralumni.org and click on "NDSA Initiatives", then on "Hospital Support" for the latest information about the Program.

Cancer Awareness: "Bat for the Cure"

"**Bat for the Cure**", a not-for-profit prostate cancer awareness group, has invited the NDSA Board to assist them this summer in their campaign to encourage men to be tested for this deadly disease. The group, in partnership with minor league baseball, expects to have information booths at ballparks throughout the country.

"Bat for the Cure" was started a couple of years ago by Ed Randall, a popular New York sports talk show host, who is a prostate cancer survivor. He came up with the idea of promoting cancer education at minor league ballparks as a way to reach a large number of people. The group expects to schedule 100 prostate cancer awareness nights in different ballparks throughout the country during the summer. To date, 39 minor league teams have agreed to support this effort.

The NDSA Regional Director for your Club's area will notify your Club if there is a "Bat for the Cure" night scheduled in your Club's area, and ask for volunteers to staff their booth and pass out literature about prostate cancer. "Thank You" in advance for your cooperation with this life-saving campaign.

An NDSA Initiative: God, Country, Notre Dame

The God, Country, Notre Dame Initiative is designed to help alumni volunteers provide services and other assistance to the men and women who serve or who have served the United States of America in military, government and civil service roles, and to the surviving families of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in service to our country. The God, Country, Notre Dame Initiative provides an opportunity for ND Alumni to "give back", in the spirit of Civil War chaplain Father William Corby, C.S.C., to those men and women who have given up so much to our country.

Veterans Administration (VA) Hospitals offer a way for alumni to perform a meaningful, much-needed service to military veterans in a very personal manner. The VA operates over 150 hospitals, 132 nursing homes, and 42 residential rehabilitation treatment programs throughout the United States. They actively seek volunteers to supplement both staff and resources in all areas of patient care. Typical services provided by volunteers to patients include

- Organizing and providing entertainment.
- Taking the veterans on an outing, such as to a baseball game or picnic.
- Visiting the patients on a regular basis.
- Organizing and providing educational activities.
- Providing personal hygiene and comfort items.
- Invite a patient to spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with your family in your home.

Services which indirectly benefit hospitalized veterans by freeing up staff personnel include

- Staffing Information Desks.
- Professional services, such as accounting, data processing, etc.
- Performing clerical tasks.
- Grounds beautification and maintenance

Support can be provided to men and women on active duty in meaningful ways.

- Send "CARE" packages.
- Cotton socks, especially, are appreciated in the hot climate of the Middle East
- 'Adopt' a serviceman or woman, and write to them regularly.
- Assist spouses and children 'left behind' by performing simple tasks around the home.

Information to help get a God, Country, Notre Dame Initiative started in your Club can be found on the NDSA website at www.ndsenioralumni.org. Click on "NDSA Initiatives", then on "God, Country, Notre Dame".

Pillars for the 'Age of Returning' - The Six Cs

Father Louie Putz, C.S.C. saw life as a chain with three links: the ***age of learning***, the ***age of earning***, and the ***age of returning***, the last being that point in a person's life when there's time available to give back accumulated knowledge, talent and experience to the needy and less-fortunate members of society.

During 2000 the Alumni Association introduced the "**Six Cs**" – Camaraderie, Community Service, Catholic Christian Spirituality, Current Student Support, Continuing Education, and Communication – to give the Alumni Clubs a better framework to plan events and activities as a way for ND alumni to pool their talents for the good of their communities. Stated another way, these Six Cs are the foundation, the pillars upon which Notre Dame alumni can build a meaningful legacy during their personal 'Age of Returning', keeping alive the vision of Father Louie Putz.

A different one of the Six Cs is being featured in ***NDSA NewsNotes*** along with a list of ideas taken from Success Stories reported by Clubs around the country. Consider these ideas as '**bones**' that can be assembled by individual Clubs, ***if they choose to do so***, into a '**skeleton**' upon which the Club is able to add its own '**flesh**' creating an event / activity / project / program that is truly the ***Club's own unique creation***.

Community Service is the featured 'Six C' in this issue. ***Community Service*** is simply helping others who are in need - in the local community and beyond – and recognizing those who do. Some ideas follow:

- Institute a Club 'Senior alumni of the Year' award for outstanding service to the community.
- Collect food / clothing / personal necessities for an agency serving the homeless / needy.
- Organize free healthcare services by a retired alumni-physician
- Arrange for senior alumni to donate blood.
- Assist in food distribution at a food pantry serving the needy.
- Volunteer at a *Habitat for Humanity* project.
- Read to the blind.
- Conduct a Tax Assistance program (T.A.P.)
- Collect candy (and dental care products) for donation to a local children's organization.

- Hands-On support at *Special Olympics*.
- Volunteer at a day care center for homeless women
- Give underprivileged children a summer camp experience.
- Perform beautification / maintenance projects at a shelter for battered women and children.
- “Hydrate the Homeless” during oppressive summer heat.
- Collect personal-size toiletries for the homeless.
- Conduct monthly “Birthday Parties” for patients at a local nursing home.
- Volunteer at a VA hospital.
- Visit children in an orphanage.
- Send “Care Packages” to military personnel serving in Iraq / Afghanistan.
- Take VA hospital patients to a sporting event.
- Recognize ‘above and beyond’ police/firefighter action with a Club award
- Sponsor a P.A.C.E. program.
- Conduct a game watch party for hospitalized veterans in a VA facility.
- Present a Club Award to a youth performing an ‘above and beyond’ service in the community.
- Organize a discussion group for “You Are Church”, a book about the life and vision of Fr. Louie Putz, C.S.C.

Chuck Lennon, Executive Director of the Alumni Association, identified Community Service as one of the hallmarks that characterize Notre Dame Alumni. The other is Spirituality.

Let’s take a Break

A Polish immigrant went to the Department of Motor Vehicles to apply for a driver’s license. First, of course, he had to take an eyesight test. The examiner instructed him to look into a device which displayed the letters “C Z W I X N O S T A C Z”. “Can you read this?” the examiner asked.

“Read it?” the Polish applicant replied, “I work with the guy”.

Allocating Club Football Tickets

Faced with the possibility of having more requests for football tickets than the number allocated to the Club, the ND Club of McHenry County, Illinois has developed a system for prioritizing the sale of football tickets to the Club membership. At their November meeting the Board and Club members attending the meeting discussed a policy for football ticket sales. The general consensus was that a Club member’s participation within the Club should be given priority over any other factors. The Board adopted the following procedure outlined below at their meeting in March.

- Football tickets are only available to dues-paying members.
- Members may request tickets during a designated 2-week period. No tickets will be sold during these two weeks.
- If all tickets are not spoken for within that period, those remaining would be available for purchase by Club members on a first come, first served basis.
- If there are more requests than tickets, a point system will be used to allocate the tickets. Points are assigned to activities that take into account a member’s commitment to the well being and function of the Club as follows:

Critical Officers (Pres, Treas, Sec)	6
Chairing an event (Com. Bkfst, UND night, e.g.)	5
Working committee for an event	4
Attendance at Club business meetings	3
Active Board Members	3
Attendance at club events (per event)	2
Dues paid	1
Alumni	1

The Club plans to evaluate this policy at the end of the 2008 football season, and then decide what to do in 2009.

Another Hospital Support Success Story

NDSA Regional Director **Bob Drajem ’64** learned about a Buffalo, New York area ND alum’s son who became seriously ill while volunteering in Wyoming. The situation was so dire that the youth was airlifted

to Salt Lake City. Bob contacted **John Studebaker '62**, NDSA Regional Director for the Salt Lake City area who lives in Colorado. John, in turn, made some phone calls and found alumni living near Salt Lake City who responded immediately and have been extremely helpful to the family. One of them was leaving for a vacation in Florida and offered his condominium and a car to the family for their use while in Salt Lake City. All of this happened during a time when the Hospital Support Program was in the process of being organized in the three areas. "It is a remarkable story for what this program should and can accomplish," remarked Bob Drajem.

Feature Stories

One or two of the Success Stories reported by the Clubs are featured in more detail than is possible in the condensed versions listed under each of the Six Cs. It is hoped that these stories will both inspire and be a source of ideas for your Club. They are reproduced here as passed on by the Clubs with only a minimum of editing.

- **Community Service: Elementary Student Mentoring**

The Notre Dame Fighting Irish are known for delivering tough lessons on the football field. At Northbrook Middle School in Houston, Texas, the alumni of this famous American university rank No. 1 as student mentors. Under the leadership of business consultant **Wyn Norris '65**, the Notre Dame Club of Houston has recruited more than 75 alumni, their spouses and friends over the past two-and-a-half years to mentor dozens of students.

"We never stop recruiting," Wyn says. "Our goal is to create as many new mentors as possible. The Notre Dame alumni community has a tremendous culture of service. We're paddling as fast as we can, but we're still not supporting all the students that we might."

International competition is one of the reasons that the alumni club has taken on mentoring as a group activity. "I really believe that if we don't raise the education level in this country," said, "we will be in serious trouble in the future. We want to help motivate students, especially disadvantaged students, to stay in school and finish high school, and to believe that they can do more, much more."

For his leadership, Wyn and the Notre Dame alumni, also known as the "Golden Dome Alliance Mentors," received the Crystal Award for community partnerships from the Texas Association of Partners in Education. The ND Club of Houston earned the Spring Branch School District's Red Apple award for their efforts.

- **Catholic/Christian Spirituality: Helping the Homeless**

The ND Club of Rockford (Illinois) has 'adopted' The Carpenter's Place as a year-long community service project for 2008. Each month The Carpenter's Place sends **Joe Olsen '77**, Community Service Coordinator for the Rockford Club, a list of their current needs. Joe, in turn, e-mails the membership. Donations are collected and accumulated in Joe's office until he delivers the items to The Carpenter's Place near the end of each month. The needs so far this year have included bath soap, toilet paper, paper plated, shaving materials, deodorant, cleaning supplies, Styrofoam cups and bowls, etc..

The Carpenter's Place is a local organization dedicated to helping the homeless become productive members of society. Based upon the belief that merely sheltering and feeding the homeless enables them to continue this lifestyle, The Carpenter's Place develops a personalized rehabilitation plan for each of their "guests", as they call their clients, that will enable them to find both stable housing and employment. A Case manager, working with a "guest", puts together a Life Recovery Program for that individual that is much like a business plan, complete with goals and target dates. The "guest" must agree to follow the plan to remain in the program.

The success rate is nothing short of phenomenal. During the past year 299 Homeless individuals secured stable housing, and 273 Homeless adults obtained employment, 235 of them in full time positions.

The call went out in December for Christmas trees and decorations. For many of the former Homeless persons, Christmas 2007 was the first time in their lives they had a Christmas tree. And that made Christmas for each of the donors very special.

Success Stories from the Clubs and Classes

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 Spring NDSA Meeting, and from information supplied by the Class Secretaries.

CAMARADERIE

- The Class of '56 is holding a Reception for Classmates starting at noon on Saturday, September 6th before the San Diego State game, in the Oak room above the South Dining Hall. Co-chairmen **Mark Burns '56** and **Mike Kiley '56** announced a buffet will be open from 12:30 until 2:00pm.
- Seniors of the Minnesota ND Club continue to meet for lunch each month. This is a long-running program and has fostered a great deal of camaraderie within the Club. **John McShane '68** and **Chris Flynn '55** lead this activity.
- **Bob Johnston '59**, **Joe Heil '59**, and **Mike Hansen '73** have been strong leaders in the Milwaukee Club's support of the Andean Health program and the work of Dr. David Gaus, MD
- **Tom Medland '60**, THE Senior Alumni Coordinator for the Phoenix Club, is in the process of setting up game watches for seniors in the West Valley area. The Club now has five game watches in Scottsdale, which is a one-hour drive for seniors in the Sun City area. The geographic area covered by the Club prevents many seniors from participating in Club events, some of whom must travel over 70 miles.
- The Phoenix Club held its annual West Valley Luncheon at Westbrook Village in Peoria, Arizona during January. **Steve Stanley '02**, a two-time Big East baseball Player of the Year in 2001 & '02 was the guest speaker. The luncheon was attended by 35 people, 90% of whom were seniors.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **John Fretas '67** co-chairs the Ann Arbor (Michigan) Club's T.A.P. program along with seniors **Bill Westhaus '63**, **Bill Schorenberg '68**, and **Don Mierdorf**. They have been providing tax assistance for a number of years.
- Eight members of the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Club painted St. Thomas School.
- **Mark Levandoski '66** and ten members of the Grand Rapids Club are actively involved in home construction for the less fortunate through Habitat for Humanity. Mark chairs the Club's involvement.
- The Lansing (Michigan) Club has just recently begun a Habitat for Humanity program.
- **John Chmeil '52** and his team of volunteers continue to provide a meal service 4 times each year at the local senior citizen facility part of the Lansing (Michigan) Club's Community Outreach Ministry.
- **Dave Hennessy '69** and **Pat Callahan '61** are co-chairing the Detroit Club's T.A.P. program in 2008. Dave and Pat are the only senior alumni on an 11-member team. This year's results are still being tabulated and will be added to the over \$340,000 in refunds generated by the program since it has been operating in Detroit.
- Members of the **Detroit Club** painted classrooms and offices, gave computer support, and assisted in a book fair at Our lady of Guadeloupe Middle school for girls in the inner city.
- The Hilton Head Club is in the tenth year of conducting a T.A.P. program to assist low-income persons with their tax returns. **Tom Loosbrock '52** and **Sean Naughten '61** have trained a highly capable team of 8 – 10 volunteer tax return preparers and Hispanic interpreters for the program which has helped over 1000 individuals with state and federal tax returns since the program's inception. As an adjunct to the T.A.P. program, Sean Naughten has arranged to prepare tax returns of employees of Sea Pines on temporary visas.
- Members of the **Western Carolinas ND Club** continue to assist St. Anthony's Catholic Elementary School in Greenville, where Bob Smith '68 and Dick Erlenbaugh '64 serve on the

School Board. Senior members of the Club continue to be very instrumental in fund raising for both the school and the parish.

- The “Golden Dome Mentors” of the **ND Club of Houston** have grown from 30 mentors to a total of 60 when they were joined by volunteers from St. John Vianney Parish. The Golden Dome Mentors have begun a recruitment outreach at St Cecilia and St. Jerome Parishes for additional volunteers needed to expand their efforts to combat “under-education”, particularly in minority communities. Further information about the program can be found under “Feature Stories” on page 8.
- The ND Club of Dallas has started a program of welcoming our Troops home from Iraq. Each day of the week a planeload - approximately 200 persons -of servicemen and women rotate from Iraq to the United States, or leave for re-deployment. About 200 local people are at the airport each day to welcome these men and women with cheering, music, handshakes, etc. It is a very emotional time for both the Troops and the greeters. Members of the Dallas Club have joined the welcoming group one day each month since February.
- **Bob Findling '95 MBA** of the San Diego Club is involved with the USO program at San Diego international Airport. Bob greets incoming servicemen and provides whatever assistance he can upon their arrival or departure from San Diego.
- Senior members of the San Diego Club continue to serve meals to the homeless on ‘supper Saturdays’ at St. Vincent DePaul’s in San Diego, and breakfast at Brother Benno’s in Oceanside.
- Professional and volunteers from the San Diego Club, through NDSA’s Diocesan Professional Assistance Program Initiative have been involved in guiding system upgrades to replace a legacy system with new technology and software services at the Diocese of San Diego. The new system is expected to support the Diocese in areas of Human Resources, Payroll, and Accounting. Components of the system are expected to ‘go live’ in steps beginning in July 2008.
- Recognizing their small size, the **ND Club of Hanover Township** donates funds to local charities and programs in lieu of organizing their own.
- The **ND Club of Schuylkill County** sponsored a trip for two high school students living in Chicago’s Inner City to the Blue-Gold game on the Notre Dame campus.
- Over 6000 men in Chicago have been tested for prostate cancer during the past two years in a program by eight hospitals, working in partnership, who make the program available at no cost. The program has widely been publicized by articles in the Chicago Sun Times. ND alum **Cyrus Friedheim '57** is Publisher of the Sun Times.
- **Chris Walsh '59, John Fitzpatrick '79, and George Koch '54** of the Detroit Club are recruiting 200 volunteers to work for the Lighthouse of Oakland County in the concession stand, registration area, free standing ice cream carts, and other locations at the PGA Championship during August. During 2004 the Lighthouse made \$153,000 working at the Ryder Cup concession stands.

CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY

- The Lansing (Michigan) Club’s major event this year is a Communion Breakfast and Mass celebrating MSU – Notre Dame St. John Student Parish started 50 years ago by Father Hesburgh. Father ‘Monk’ Malloy will be the Mass celebrant.
- **George Koch '54** will be meeting with the chancellor of the Orchard Lake St. Mary’s Seminary to continue their discussion about the needs and business related seminars that can be developed by Detroit Club alumni for the Seminarians.
- **Chris Walsh '59** and **Neil Hitz '62** are developing marketing plans for two inner city Detroit Catholic Schools in an effort to prevent the closing of these schools.
- For the ninth consecutive year class of '56 chaplain, **Fr. Tom Chambers '56, C.S.C.**, celebrated Mass for deceased classmates and special needs of the living on February 25th, the 56th day of the year. Fr. Tom remarked, “Every month on the 25th, I celebrate Mass for our Class of '56, living and deceased.
- The Hospital Support Program is a ‘big ticket’ item for the Hilton Head Club especially making visits to seniors who are shut-ins and/or their relatives.
- A ‘Border Mass’ offered each year on November 2nd in affords members of the ND Club of El Paso, Texas an opportunity to discuss ways to approach immigration issues as Catholics.
- San Diego Club members **John '64 & '67 and Jane Hargrove** are involved in the Diocesan Prison Ministry, having completed all training and orientation programs. **Dick Ludwig '67** is also very involved in the Prison Ministry Program.

- The **Phoenix Club** had their annual Mass in Scottsdale during December 2007. About 75% of the attendees were seniors.
- **Young Alumni in Philadelphia** have organized “Sunday Mass in the Suburbs”, held at a different location on the third Sunday each month. It is intended to be a spiritual gathering place for local members of the Notre Dame family. The Mass parallels a gathering of ND alumni on the first Sunday of the month at St. Patrick’s Church in Philadelphia where Fr. Dan Mackle, an ND grad, is the Pastor.
- The **Gettysburg, Pennsylvania Club** has an annual Field Mass on the battlefield at the statue of Fr. William Corby, C.S.C. The Mass this year immediately preceded the Club’s UND Celebration at which **Chuck Lennon ’61 & ’62** was the principal speaker. The statue of Fr. Corby on the ND campus in front of Corby Hall is identical to the statue at Gettysburg.
- The **Cleveland Club** has its own special program tutoring the children of abused and battered women at a catholic Shelter.

CURRENT STUDENT SUPPORT

- Fifth-year architectural student **Robert Laney** will develop plans for a Catholic High School to be built in the Hilton Head area as his graduating thesis, thanks to **Tom Loosbrock ’52** who arranged this program through consultation with the Dean of the School of Architecture at Notre Dame. Tom and **Buzz Berger ’52** have used their expertise in architecture and engineering, respectively, to assist the Diocese in this High School project.
- The Cincinnati Club is conducting an Accepted Student Program for all students in the area who have been accepted for admission to Notre Dame in the Fall of 2008.

COMMUNICATION

- A heartfelt “Thank You!” to **John Manion ’56**, Secretary of the Class of ’56, for sending information about the involvement of class members in “6 C” projects and activities. John’s input has enabled the expansion of this section of **NDSA NewsNotes** from “Success Stories from the Clubs” to “Success Stories from the Clubs and Classes.” Secretaries of all classes are invited to contribute information about the “6 C” involvement of their classmates.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

- The ND Club of Knoxville continues to host a book discussion group. Led by seniors, and with a special appeal to seniors, the group plans next to discuss *Arrowsmith* by Sinclair Lewis.
- The Knoxville Club hosted a Hesburgh Lecture by Dr. James VanderKam on “The Dead Sea Scrolls”. Led by **Lee Blank ’54**, this was the sixth in a series of theology-based lectures the Club has sponsored in partnership with the University of Tennessee department of Religious Studies and the John Paul XXIII catholic Center on the UT campus.
- The Hilton Head Club partners with the Knights of Columbus and the women of St. Francis in presenting their Hesburgh Lectures. The partnership is very successful. Over 350 people attended this year’s Hesburgh Lecture.
- The San Diego Club, through the efforts of NDSA Regional Director **Frank Whitton ’56**, is in initial negotiations with the Dean, extended Learning, California State University in San Marcos, concerning the establishment of a Veterans Service Center both on and off campus.

Senior Moments

Department of Chemistry students taking the course in Quantitative Analysis, the majority of them World War II veterans, were given an interesting lab assignment: determine the alcoholic content of beer. To make the lab exercise more interesting, the instructor suggested that since they came from different areas of the United States each student was asked to bring a can of beer brewed in his local area for analysis. The results would then be compared.

Less than one ounce of beer is needed to determine its alcoholic content. The students, however, brought 6-packs and in one instance a full case to the lab. The surplus cans were iced in the sinks at both ends of the lab benches. After completing the determination of alcoholic content, the students lingered until all of the experimental material brought from home was consumed. It was a Chem Lab session the participants will long remember.

Oh yes, the results. The alcoholic content of a wide variety of beers ranged from 3.2 to 3.4%.

On The Horizon

The Fall Meeting of the NDSA Board will be held on the Notre Dame campus on September 7 - 9, 2008 following the home opener versus San Diego State on September 5th. The Winter Meeting will be held in San Diego on January 15 – 18, 2009

For up-to-the-minute NDSA news please log onto our website at 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

A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic priest met at the town's annual 4th of July picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter. "This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such wonderful food should be forbidden! You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?"

The rabbi looked at the priest, and with a big grin said, "At your wedding!"

A Parting Thought

Never interrupt someone doing what you said couldn't be done.

- *Amelia Earhart*