

**NOTRE DAME SENIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
REGION 1  
Arnie Testa, '63  
Director**

**April 20, 2005**

Most of the clubs in the region have a variety of activities that involve seniors, though few are exclusively senior events. The Spokane club is the most recent to add a senior coordinator bringing the number to 6 officially, and 3 unofficially for the region. Spokane has also begun to activate senior programs. The Western Washington Club has recently completed a senior survey and are planning follow-up activities. An NDAA Regional meeting was held on January 14, which I attended and promoted the materials and actions of the Senior Board. I did not receive new reports from 12 of the 15 clubs, so I left the material in place that I reported in the Winter meeting. The fall was quite active for seniors in Region 1. I was disappointed, however, that none of the more solidly led senior groups in our region expressed an interest in the Career Mentoring or Hospital Ministry programs, though that material was sent to them and I personally encouraged them to find someone who would lead the effort.

Since I have chosen not to extend my term on the board beyond my first 2 year stint I'd like to say that I've enjoyed the opportunity to serve, and though progress in gaining traction for the senior alumni as a special group has been slow and a bit frustrating, we were able to establish coordinators in all the large clubs except Portland, though they have senior leadership and activity in the club. The work I've recently participated in for the NASD website has been personally satisfying and I wish you all every success in moving ahead with the programs of the NASD.

Below you will find the comments from those who responded to my request for an update on club senior status. Those without comments have yet to respond.

**Alaska: Senior Alumni = 28**

No report or coordinator

**Eugene/Southern Oregon: Senior Alumni = 48**

No report or coordinator

**Idaho: Senior Alumni: = 53**

No report or coordinator

**Monterey Bay: Senior Alumni = 32**

No report or coordinator

**Reno/Northern Nevada: Senior Alumni = 40**

No report or coordinator

**Chico/Northern California: Senior Alumni = 22**

Jerry Converse- NDSA Coordinator

We had four activities since our last report concerning Senior Alumni involvement:

1. Communion Breakfast December 11<sup>th</sup>. Deacon Swartz ('62) assisted in celebrating the Mass, Sally Stoner was the organist and Don Stoner ('50) sang in the choir, Jerry Converse ('60) attended the service. All participated in the breakfast that followed the service.
2. Christmas parties for the hungry and homeless in Chico Dec 14 and 20. Schwartz bought the chocolate and dipped the fruits at the chocolate fountain for the guests. Converse organized the parties and helped prepare salmon for more than 50 guests.
3. Bowl Watch. Converse, Hilligan ('57), Monroe ('71), Roth ('69) and Stoner attended bowl watches in Chico or Red Bluff.

Plans are underway for extending the club's reach to shut-ins and surveying the members.

**Hawaii(Honolulu): Senior Alumni = 70**

No Report or coordinator

**Maui: Senior Alumni = 7**

No Report or coordinator

**Portland: Senior Alumni = 153**

I'm a class of '69 grad and current president of a pretty active club. We "geezers" do not have a Sr. Alum Board Chairman per se, but we are well represented. Mike Smolak '67 is our webmaster. Al Alter ('69) is our Community Services Director. Tom Roche ('73) is our Treasurer. Steve ('68) and Dr. Eileen ('73) Brennan are our Continuing Education Directors.

We also have participation from parents. George and Mary Dooley handle our annual Freshman Sendoff picnic. We also had senior participation for the Glee Club visit in March from Leland Chester ('61) who put up a couple of the members for a night and helped sell tickets at the door. And, Joe Fieweger ('71) is a regular participant at game watches and the picnic. Bill Pierson ('50) recruited a non-Domer family to house Summer Intern Kerry Meagher ('05) for a portion of her stay in Portland.

So, we do have Senior alumni participation in our club.

**Western Washington: Senior Alumni = 233**

- Our Senior Alumni Coordinator is Jim Lyons '54. He is also on the Board of Directors. Others on the Board are: Ron Holtz, Secretary, '57, Wally Hall '68, John Sakaley '65, Bob Kaercher '60, and Steve Penny '57
- Since the senior survey was completed, we have had one activity for which I e-mailed those who expressed an interest in community service activities. It was for a Northwest

Harvest (food bank sort of thing) activity which mostly involved packing food, held last Saturday. Meager turnout, but haven't given up hope. Will try to get more at next Northwest Harvest "party" which are held periodically. I have some other ideas in gestation.

**Sacramento: Senior Alumni = 97**

Art Hallagan '51 is our acting Senior coordinator.

No report

**San Francisco Bay Area: Senior Alumni = 450**

Larry Soletti, '62 is the Senior Coordinator.

1. Construction of a new play area/basketball court at Elizabeth House.

This

effort was lead by Mike Donovan. The existing court/parking area was dug up

and reconstructed and a retaining wall was moved to flatten and level the space to make it useable by the E-house children as a basketball court.

This was a significant effort, and Mike coordinated the contribution and donation of supplies and materials, labor and designs.

2. On-going fundraising efforts at E-House. This effort is lead by Larry Soletti. Larry is on the Board of Directors at E-House and he regularly coordinates volunteers from SFND to volunteer at E-House fundraising events such as the E-House Auction at Jack Lond Square, Community Nights at Chevy's Restaurants, and Day at the Races Fundraiser.

3. Legends Luncheon. This effort was lead by Mike Donovan. Mike coordinated this event as a part of the greater Stanford weekend activities. He lined up speakers, interfaced with the hotel, worked on room set up and the event time line, and ensured a successful event with nearly 200 attendees.

4. Legends weekend Treasurer. This effort was lead by Tom Dietler. Tom is a licensed CPA and former President of the SF Club. Tom oversaw the income and expenses of the Stanford weekend for four local clubs - SF, SJ, Sacramento and Chico - and tallied and track substantial revenues. Tom also contributes to the SFND Club by serving as the Hesburgh Lecture Chair and the Student Relations Chair.

**San Jose/Silicon Valley: Senior Alumni = 231**

Bob Geise, '59 is the Senior Coordinator

The second senior breakfast was held on March 13, 2005, which was attended by 15 senior alumni, almost double the first breakfast. Unfortunately, the Club's newsletter, which was the main means of publicizing this event, was published and distributed only days before this event; otherwise, a larger turnout might have been realized.

Nevertheless, the meeting was a very positive experience with good comments by attendees. Another breakfast will be scheduled in June to select and pursue a senior driven project. Among other senior activities, Art Swain '44 has undertaken a project to redevelop the club directory.

Dennis Sheehan, '70, is leading the Hesburgh Lecture planned for April 28 on the topic of Peace in the Middle East. Dean Link will be the guest lecturer.

Rock Daigle, subway alum, continues to run the monthly breakfasts at the local homeless shelter, together with support from younger alumni in the club.

**San Joaquin: Senior Alumni = 33**

Bob Allaire is both Club President and Senior Coordinator. The club, though has been inactive for the past few years.

**Spokane: Senior Alumni = 33**

Logan Rogers, '44 Notre Dame Club of Spokane

<u>ACTIVITY</u>	<u>CLUB</u>	<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	<u>CLASS YEAR</u>
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ND @ UW Game	Spokane	Logan Rogers	'44
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Logan got very involved in pushing ticket sales for our club for this game. He called contacts both locally and in the Seattle area. Our Club sold 135 tickets for this game, and Logan personally was involved with selling at least 25 of them. This event resulted in the club bringing in net income of about \$3,000. Logan also attends all UND nights, Hesburgh Lectures, and Club barbeques.

Navy-ND Game watch	Spokane	Dennis Johnston	'61
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Denny attended our game watch that was done in conjunction with the Naval Alumni Association that was also done in honor of our God, Country, Notre Dame initiative. Denny attends all UND nights, Barbeques, and Hesburgh Lectures.

Club Mass	Spokane	Fr. Dick Mercy, SJ	'58
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Fr. Mercy is a Jesuit priest living here in Spokane. He conducted our club Mass last spring, where we had approximately 20 people in attendance.

Scholarship Committee	Spokane	Dr. V. Pat Hughes	'48
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Dr. Hughes has been an active dues paying member for years. He attends all of the club football air trips, including this year's game at Washington. He attends all of our UND

Nights and barbeques as well. Dr. Hughes helped with our Scholarship Committee this year in selecting our freshman scholarship winner last spring.