

**NDSA REGION DIRECTOR'S REPORT - PART B**

REGION 7 DIRECTOR **GEORGE KOCH** DATE **APRIL 5 ,2008**

**1. NDSA INITIATIVES STATUS OVERVIEW**

INITIATIVE	CLUBS WITH ACTIVE PROGRAMS	CLUBS INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING
PACE	DETROIT	ANN ARBOR LANSING
TAP	DETROIT ANN ARBOR	
MENTORING		DETROIT JACKSON
HOSPITAL SUPPORT	ANN ARBOR	DETROIT, GRAND RAPIDS LANSING JACKSON
DIOCESAN, SUPPORT	DETROIT	
GOD, COUNTRY, ND	ANN ARBOR	DETROIT

**2. NEW CLUB INITIATIVES, BEST PRACTICES, SUCCESS STORIES, CLUB ISSUES**

**ANN ARBOR**

- TAP – John Fretas '67 co-chairs this program along with seniors Bill Westhaus '63, Bill Schorenberg '68 and Don Mierdorf. They have been providing tax assistance for a number of years.
- ND – U.of M. Football Game Day tail gate gathering for Notre Dame Students, Friends, Families & Alumni co-chaired by John Freitas '67& Jerry McKay'61 and participated in by 20 other Notre Dame alumni, including the Club president Hugh Zonk'77 has been a great success in generating funds and preventing altercations between U.ofM. and ND Students.
- UND Celebration co-chaired by John Freitas'67 & Herb Black'64
- VA Hospital Program chaired by Al Bailey along with Frank Visovatti'60 and John Freitas'67.
- Children's Mass and Annual Meeting co-chaired by John Freitas
- Alan Page Golf Outing chaired by John Freitas'67

## **DETROIT**

- Chris Walsh'59 and Neil Hitz'62 are working to develop marketing plans for two inner city Detroit Catholic Schools to prevent the closing of these two schools.
- George Koch'54 will be meeting with the Chancellor of the Orchard Lake St. Mary's Seminary to discuss the needs and business related seminars that can be developed for the Seminarians. Preliminary discussions have already been held.
- Chris Walsh'59, John Fitzpatrick'79 and George Koch'54 are in the process of recruiting approximately 200 volunteers to work in the concession stand, registration area, free standing ice cream carts, etc. for the Lighthouse of Oakland County for the PGA Championship in August. The Lighthouse made \$153,000 for the Ryder Cup Concession activities in 2004. The Ann Arbor and Lansing Clubs have also been invited to participate.
- Dave Hennessy'69 & Pat Callahan'61 are co-chairing this years TAP program. They are the only two seniors on the 11 person team. Results are not yet in but the total refunds for prior years is \$344,863.00.
- The Club will participate in the Lighthouse "Walk For Hunger March" on May 17,2008.
- The Club painted classrooms and offices, gave computer support and assisted in a book fair at Our Lady of Guadalupe Middle School for girls in the inner city.

## **GRAND RAPIDS**

- Mark Levandoski'66 chaired the Club's Habitat for Humanity effort along with 10 other club volunteers.
- Mark Levandoski'66 and two other club members are involved with the Hospital Support Initiative although the Club has not registered as yet.
- 8 members of the Club painted St. Thomas School.
- The club provides a Summer Service Internship for Migrant Workers.

## **KALAMAZOO**

- John Chmeil'52 and his team continue to provide a meal service 4 times a year at the local senior citizen facility. as part of their Community Outreach Ministry.
- The Club has just started a Habitat for Human program but no details are available.

## **LANSING**

- The Club's major event this year is a Communion Breakfast and Mass celebrating the MSU – Notre Dame St John Student Parish started by Fr. Hesburgh 50 years ago. Fr. Malloy will celebrate the Mass.

- The Club indicates they are involved with a Hospital Support Program but no details are known as yet, except there are 3 persons involved. The Club has not registered as yet

## **JACKSON**

- Jack Fremeau<sup>71</sup> has chaired the club's donation drive which involved 500 persons and the Club's fall festival where 3000 people participated.

### **3 STATUS OF PERSONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

- Strongly believe that the Detroit, Grand Rapids, Lansing and Jackson Clubs will register within the next quarter for the Hospital Support Ministry.
- Believe that the Detroit & Jackson Clubs will "sign up" for the Student Mentoring Initiatives prior to the fall '80 meeting.
- Chris Walsh<sup>59</sup> actions since becoming the co-chair as senior coordinator for the Detroit Club have been excellent.
- Convinced that at this point in time, at least within the Detroit Club area of responsibility, that the way to generate action and programs and thereby avoid politics, working directly with schools, parishes and the Vicariates is the way to go to take advantage of the Diocesan Initiative and the talents of our people, rather than the Diocese or Archdiocese.
- Copies of the winter NDSA newsletter have been sent to all involved seniors within the Detroit area , with several positive comments being sent back about the many good things being done by the NDSA.

### **4 VISITS AND KEY INTERACTIONS WITH CLUB LEADERSHIP**

- Met with Jack Fremeau, new Director for Region 7 of NDSA on February 8, 2008 to orient Jack on the NDSA, the Clubs within Region 7 and provide him with copies of relevant reports.
- Contacted the presidents and senior club coordinators in Region 7 relative to the Hospital Support Ministry Initiative and the importance of ALL clubs within the United States registering to allow this very important Initiative to become effective.
- Attended Detroit Club meeting on February 7, 2008 in which it was agreed by the Club president and Board that 400 seniors within the Detroit Geographical area of responsibility would be contacted and encouraged to join the Club. It was requested that I draft the selling

cover letter, expounding on the NDSA and the value to them and the community.

- The Muskegon Club still poses a problem because of the adverse influence of a graduate who is a MAJOR contributor to the University but who has “turned off” other ND Alumni from getting involved in ANY club sponsored activities. During the upcoming Senate meeting I will attempt to speak to the Muskegon Club president, Region 7 Director and others if necessary to discuss possible actions to correct this situation.
- Meet with the Region 7 Director to discuss the smaller clubs within Region 7 who exist but in name only- Flint, Monroe, Saginaw Valley, Upper Peninsula and Northern Michigan and any actions that can be taken to get people to join the clubs, in particular the seniors.