PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

This July two groups of 15-16 mostly former Marianists gathered together to revisit some historic SM geographies, re-tell some old SM stories, and create some new ones. These small groups of Bonders who were interested in going a little further or digging a little deeper invite us all to reflect on what we have received from our SM roots, what we have done with those gifts, and where we might be going now.

Our paths to the Society of Mary were all different, our journeys in the SM were perhaps even more diverse, and our lives since then have certainly taken us in as many different directions as can be imagined. I doubt that our experiences with the Marianists left the same identifiable common mark on all of us. This summer’s gatherings confirm the amazing variety of our lives, in and after SM. Some people with only marginal experience of religious life may think all priests, brothers and sisters are alike, but we have always known better. And if the Brothers themselves reflect God’s endless creativity, then the varied courses of Bonders’ lives do it in spades! Think about that as you read the stories and postings members have shared on our website.

The other side of the story, of course, is that for all our variety we still do have a common bond. Maybe more than our shared experiences and values is a shared hope that we can still contribute to make a better world -- and that we are not alone in this project. We have a community of brothers and sisters who also live that hope, even across distances of geography, distances of time, and distances of personality and character.

– John Moder ‘67SL

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EDITOR’S NOTE

Common Bond News is a condensed version of our recent computer Newsgrams. It is meant to help members who don’t have access to our CB website keep up with old friends and colleagues. Besides death notices and “class notes” type messages, this issue includes tributes to eighteen members who reached “milestone birthdays,” highlights of two mini-reunions, plus info about two more gatherings later this year, before next summer’s reunion at UD. I hope you enjoy reading about what the others have been saying and doing, and that some of you will chime in with your own two cents worth, by phone or “snail mail.”

-- Jim Dunsky ‘64C
MID-SUMMER GATHERINGS

15 Bonders from Marynook ’63-’65 reunited at Galesville, July 10-13

At the base of Brady's Bluff in Perrot Park. Fr Ralph Siefert SM, Steve Travis, Yves Beaudin, Al Skroska, Jude Haverkamp, Michael Grumich, Jim Sherwood, Bill Biedenstein, Mike & Cheryl Krzewinski, Toby Johnson, Justina & Patrick O’Malley, and Jim Prag (rear). Not pictured: Mike & Kathy Bober, Jim & Jean Shaw.

They had a very full and active schedule: Holiday Inn Express in Winona; Perrot State Park, Brady’s Bluff, Elmora Winery and the Skroskas, all in Trempealeau; Garner Heights and Vineyard in Winona; Ole Main and Marynook property, then Wasson Supper Club in Galesville; closing Mass at Lake Park in Winona.

16 Bonders from all over Shared the Journey at Marycliff, July 18-20

Row 5: Myron Achbach ‘55C, Bob Stanley ’61C, Jim Prag ’63SL, Joe Kroger ’60C,
4: Jerry Bettice ’55C, Jim Hilke ’62SL, Tom Donahue ’58C,
3: Bill Biedenstein ’63SL, Bro. Bob Moriarty ’60N,
2: John Kane ’60N, Joe Clark ’60C, Joe Maurer ’59C,
1: Bill Miller ’59C, Fr. Gene Contadino ‘59C, Myles McCabe ’60N, Rich Conboy ’64N.

“None of us had a clear idea of what to expect; yet we took the risk and gained a reward beyond value: time and space for sustained, intensive conversations by men “of a certain age,” We were14 former Marianists (11 made first vows in Marcy, 3 in Galesville) plus 2 current Marianists from Cincinnati and New York.” -- RC

[For information about more Journey gatherings planned for Ohio (Oct.) and Florida (Nov.), see page 19.]

Other summer gatherings: Marcy class of ’57 in Dayton, July 25-27; St. Louis Bonders at PJ’s on August 6.
OUR DEPARTED

1. Brian McMahon ‘66C
died Jan. 23 in Palm Desert, CA, at age 66.

2. Bro. Dick Olsen SM ‘58C
died Feb. 22 in Dayton at age 76.

died April 7 in Dayton at age 88.

4. Richard Stencel ’66SL
died April 9 in Milwaukee at age 66.

5. Bro. Ray Martin SM ‘56C
died April 19 in Dayton at age 76.

died April 23 in Dayton at age 82.

7. Fr. Robert Osborne SM ‘55SL
died April 27 in Cupertino at age 81.

8. Tony Dissel ‘65C
died April 30, Norwood, OH, age 68.

died May 24 in San Antonio, age 90.

10. Fr. Joseph Welschmeyer (SL)
died June 25 in St. Louis at age 59.

11. Charles Awalt ‘48C
died July 7 in Danbury, CT, age 86.

12. Bro. Thomas Oster SM ‘52C
died July 12 in Dayton at age 81.

died July 23 in Ranchi, India, age 66.
MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

Bro. Joe Barrish ‘57C turns 75 in Dayton

I look back with fond memories on my many years in the SM. There were some rough spots when I didn't receive much encouragement, but I weathered those things. I can say honestly also that I don't like to look back too much. I look to the future.

The Church, society, the world, and the Society of Mary are undergoing some momentous changes. The Society I entered back as a postulant in 1945 is not the same Society at the present. Here in the American province I see us as a multicultural organization with brothers and priests from South America, from Africa, from India, from Korea, all active members of the American province. What a wonderful mix! So much potential!

I see the Society continuing its charism through dedicated laymen and women who to appreciate and want to share in the spirit of Chaminade. I believe Common Bond is one of those organizations that has captured the spirit of the Society of Mary.

I have been blessed with good health and found in the arts a source of enrichment and encouragement. I have more things, more projects, more exciting new directions that I can realistically realize. But the whole journey has been great. I have no regrets.

Marianist living has allowed me to discover the wonders of the liturgy, of Scripture, and a "holy leisure" to help me see the grandeur of God all around. Jesus, Mary, Joseph, Fr. Chaminade and my community are very much a part of my life, daily living. Who could ask for anything more?

Joe Kuntz ‘52C turns 80 in Concord, NC

After I retired from teaching high school Latin, Spanish and SAT Prep, for a long time I served at church as lector, Eucharistic minister, and worked to integrate our large Hispanic community. Around five years ago I joined the Knights of Columbus.

At about that same time, though, my eyesight began to fail, with macular degeneration. I had to give up driving (for the safety of joggers!). A year ago the condition worsened to the point where nothing is in focus. I can still read Common Bond and e-mails on the computer since I can enlarge the text.

I can also read newspaper headlines and books on my Kindle, but my wife Lynn reads our mail and writes out our checks, etc. She's been a real angel! The toughest thing for me, though, is losing my independence -- getting into a car to see doctors, go shopping, etc. The Lord is good since I can still get around -- just more slowly. My health is generally good, no pains. God willing, I'll be around for another ten, fifteen or twenty years.

Fr. Pat Tonry ‘52C turns 80 in Philadelphia

[by Myron Achbach] How did we miss Pat's birthday? It was last Friday, May 2. While I do not have the assignment to write about him, it is my pleasure to do so. Pat is one of the most beloved Marianists of all time - no exaggeration. I had the good fortune to be assigned to Cathedral Latin out of the scholasticate and Pat was in the community. This began a life-long friendship for both of us.

His accomplishments and offices are too numerous to list. Suffice it to say he has encountered everyone in his SM life with a gracious welcome and a sincere love. His friends in all of the places where he was assigned are legion and continue to keep in contact with him. He now resides in a small community in Philly but remains the spiritual director of the Marianist Mission, which is based in Dayton. I have never met anyone like him.

Fr. David Fleming ‘56SL turns 75 in India

Looking back, I realize that my life falls into four periods: First, growing up and getting educated (1939-69) - wonderful memories of being one of the very small Catholic minority in Kansas, rich family life and human growth struggles that keep on marking me in so many ways - then very affirming SM formation at Maryhurst, Galesville and San Antonio, opening up new horizons and catapulting me into adulthood, planting me in a heritage that keeps on growing - teaching as a tyro at Chaminade in St. Louis, getting a feel for ministry - graduate study in English at very secular U. of Chicago, then in theology at very medieval Fribourg, in a time of transformation in Church life.
Second, working as an SM priest in the States (1969-87), 7 years in San Antonio, teaching English and theology at St. Mary’s, working with SM aspirants and scholastics, and with lay Marianist groups then bustling with life, setting a pattern and outlook for all following years - then 11 years, both affirming and difficult, in the St. Louis Provincial Administration, traveling the States and getting involved a little in the Church effervescent which seems to be resurfacing in the era of Pope Francis.

Third, planting seeds: adventuring in India (1988-96; 2006-14) in the infancy of the Indian S.M., as novice-master, scholasticate director and district leader, mentoring a new generation from other cultures that fascinate me, trying to put an "option for the poor" into practice and communicate it to others; - later, a return after 10 years in Rome, teaching humanities and theology to bright, cheerful, sincere young students, now pinch-hitting as novice-master while a new man gets ready.

Fourth, Rome (1996-2006): - getting to know in a personal way the worldwide reach and branches of the Marianist Family, trying to stimulate thinking ("leadership"), open new horizons, face new realities, engender hope and creativity. No one can ever succeed at such a task, but at least for me, working at the general level was easier and very satisfying - meeting so many dedicated and very human people trying to face a world in transition, getting a little involved in world Church leadership. I identified with young Marianists and others working in "developing" areas of the world, Africa, Korea, China, Latin America, besides the India that I had come to know), feeling much of our corporate future lies in these relatively "young Churches."

**Bro Peter Pontolillo ‘57C turns 75 in FL**

Hi to everyone. For me it has been a wonderful set of challenges the Lord, and His Mother, Mary, have thrown my way over the years. Who would have thought how my first generation Italian-American life would have been so influenced by my time as a student at Chaminade, Mineola. I have been so gifted to serve the S.M. throughout the world, and have met so many wonderful people during these years. I thank everyone who has touched my life through these years and pray for you all.

**Les Reade ‘57C turns 75 in Willoughby, OH**

Cheryl and I were married in 1979 and changed our name from Leach to Reade in 1980. After 25 years in Euclid., Cheryl and I now live in Willoughby. Since leaving the SM in 1976 I held executive positions in several health care cost containment companies including two PPO's, one of which I started from scratch in the state of Ohio. Since 2004 my focus is helping individuals and couples with retirement planning investing and with small business owners on business continuation. Currently I am a financial advisor with AIG Financial.

Cheryl, my son David and I have travelled to several European countries during the Christmas season. Our most cherished visits were to Slovenia, where Cheryl found 64 relatives, their whereabouts previously unknown to relatives here in the states. We went to Rome several times and visited the Vatican as well as the Marianist community and members of the US provinces.

**Bob Kunesh ‘58C turns 75 in Euclid, OH**

Bob graduated from UD in 1961 and then taught art at St Joe's (Cleveland) for three years (succeeding Charlie Wanda who joined the SM), and then at Purcell. It was moderating the yearbook that introduced him to photography. After leaving the SM in 1965, he continued teaching at Willoughby East in the Cleveland area.

All the while he did wedding photography on weekends. In 1986 he partnered with Ron Kotar and formed Studio K Photography and later SKP Photo Lab, employing close to 20 people.

In 2000 Bob got his Master of Photography and later a MEI (Master of Electronic Imaging), as well as the award of Photographer of the Year by the PPA, a professional group. He has images in over 40 books. He attributes his love of photography to his Marianist experience.

He says: Thank you, my Brothers. I try to extend the Marianist ideal everywhere I go. Recently, I retired from the Lithuanian Center where I was their coordinator of services for five years. My pleasure was to help the older folks (I was older than 20 of the 82 residents -- LOL) with financial, physical,
educational and spiritual needs. This was personally very rewarding. It also helped me care for my dad who lived with us for the last three years of his life.

In 1968 I married Ellen and we had two girls--Vickie and Val. Later we divorced and I married Connie in 1977, inheriting three more kids. All told now, we have five grandchildren. My work and my family are wonderful blessings, and these grew from the SM foundation.

Donald Burgo ‘62P turns 70 in St. Louis

Born on the island of Martha's Vineyard, and reared in Massachusetts and Hawaii, Donald Paul Burgo holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy from the University of San Francisco. Selected as a Woodrow Wilson and an NDEA fellow, he did his graduate studies at the Divinity School of the University of Chicago, where he received M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. His areas of specialization included theology and modern literature, foundational theology, and philosophy of religion.

Dr. Burgo taught in St. Louis at Fontbonne University for thirty-seven years, retiring in 2008. He served as chairperson of the department of religion for more than twenty-five years and acting Vice-President and Dean for Academic Affairs for one year (1992-93). In January 2006 he was appointed the first holder of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet Endowed Chair in Catholic Thought. He has also taught at Saint Louis University.

A member of the Catholic Theological Society of America and the American Academy of Religion, Dr. Burgo is the recipient of the Chaminade University Senior Award for Creative Excellence in Philosophy, the Joan Goostree Stevens Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Emerson Electric Company Award for Teaching, and the Governor of Missouri Award for Excellence in Teaching. He served for eight years as a drama critic and book reviewer for The West End Word, and has lectured extensively at churches and for business organizations in the Saint Louis area. Finally, as if all that is not quite enough, he is also a five-time champion on Jeopardy!

Other Common Bonders from the Pacific province class of ’62 are Kevin Brickley, Bro. Roland Bunda SM, Robert Esposito, Arthur Guzman, John Kopczak, Dennis Maloney, Stephen Routt, Joseph Ryan, Terry Stretch, Kevin Thomas, Bruce Thompson. The class of ’62 was the largest of any during the 50 years of the Pacific province. Thirty-one made first vows in 1962 in Santa Cruz.

Mike Lux ‘64C turns 70 in Hamilton, OH

Mike is approaching his 70th birthday in high spirits with a great deal of optimism--as usual for him. He believes he has inherited his mother's longevity genes; she died at age 93. Mike recently decided to retire after a minor heart attack. He had worked for the past nine years as a non-medical caregiver in the Hamilton, Ohio, area. He continues to stay active in his parish, participates with Mike Debo, who was in the ’64 vow group, in a weekly prayer group, and is a member of the parish renewal program. He is on call as a trained volunteer with the Stephen Ministry, which provides caregiving that primarily relies on listening to the needs of those they are working with. Mike plans to celebrate his milestone birthday in two ways: attending an overnight sleep apnea diagnosis session and later having dinner with friends at a Mexican restaurant.

[Ralph Battinieri writes:] Hey Mike, I haven't seen you since you attended a conference I was presenting perhaps 15 years ago. It was a surprising reunion, and one that I will remember. You were so vivacious and outgoing, and it appears that has remained with you. You are now 70 ... wow .... I am still a bit younger at 69 and holding, in good health, I don't really think of the time remaining, just try to enjoy today in a vertical position looking for things to do that are provocative, outrageous, and a bit shocking. I think the world needs a good bolt to remind us not to plan to die until it comes. I want it to be a great surprise, because I rarely meet schedules or goals, and I want death to be still another opportunity to explore and be curious. God will grant me my wish because otherwise I'll remain in his presence. If there is no life, no fun, then I must be in the wrong place.

Hopefully, you will live many years and remember to aspire to a life after death more like Infinity squared than just eternal. God would not create our lives for one lifetime. We are will exist in many other forms, to serve the will of God. I just hope he
gives me a better specimen of the male anatomy for my next life, and a voice so I can sing opera. And of course, "Happy Birthday to you Mike!"

Skip Aona ‘68P turns 65 in Clyde, OH

Dr. Francis "Skip" Aona was born on March 24, 1949. He grew up in Honolulu, attended St. Louis H.S., and after graduation went to the SM novitiate in Santa Cruz. He came back to Honolulu for his first year of scholasticate at Chaminade College. Not all Pacific scholastics continued at Chaminade. Many went to U of Dayton. Because he had a scholarship, Skip went on to the Jesuit's Santa Clara University in San Jose, California, for three years and graduated with a major in mathematics. That's where he spent a couple years with another now former Marianist. A few years later they were best man at each other's wedding. Skip completed his years as a professed Marianist with three years teaching math back at his alma mater, St Louis HS.

During his three years at Santa Clara University, he also had the opportunity to go to flight school and become a licensed pilot before he left the order.

A Marianist from St Louis Province on loan to the Pacific for a number of years was Brother Xavier Schultz. Skip remembers Xavier well, but particularly for the field trips that he organized for about 8 Brothers to escort 40 high school boys during the summer through the southern 48 states. Part of that time was spent at TECABOCA, where the Brothers functioned as camp counselors. The following year, Skip, on his own, got Brother Frank Krull to be his patron and invite him back for another year as camp counselor. This Hawaiian boy remembers fondly hiking in the High Sierras with some of the Brothers and students.

After his third year teaching at St. Louis High, Skip left the SM and headed back to California, where his first jobs were Flight Instructor and Classical Guitarist in a French Restaurant.

In 1980 Skip enrolled in the medical school of the University of Hawaii. There he married Dawn, an RN. After four years, they returned to Dawn's home state of Ohio for Dr. Skip to finish his residency. Skip spent 23 years practicing Family Medicine in Ohio, and the past few years has been an ER doctor.

Of course Skip and Dawn are very proud of their three sons: Bryce, computer engineer and graduate of University of Notre Dame, Kyle; commercial pilot for US Airways based in Charlotte NC, and Brent, who is about to finish Veterinary School and start an internship at Tufts in Boston.

Bro. Robert Metzger ‘68C turns 65 in St. Louis

Last year Bro. Bob wrote in the National Religious Retirement Office newsletter: “When I turned 64, only one year away from Medicare, I spent some time reflecting on my 45 years as a Marianist and wondering where the time has gone. I would not like to return to an earlier year in my life as I enjoy who I am, where I am, what I am doing, and all the parts that make up my life. I do reflect on what the future holds for me and realize it is in the hands of God so I do not have any worries. That is something that is easy to say but not always easy to live.”

Msgr. Tom Harold ‘73M turns 60 in NY

Thomas Harold was born in March 1954 in New York, the middle of seven children. He went to Chaminade High in Mineola, and after graduation he entered the SM, completing his novitiate in 1973. He then earned a BA from St John's University in Theology and English. Brother Tom Harold began teaching English at Chaminade in 1976, and soon after earned an MA in English from Hofstra University. While at Chaminade, he served as guidance counselor, newspaper and yearbook moderator, and student government moderator.

After teaching for ten years, Tom left Chaminade and the religious order. In 1987 he entered the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, was ordained a diocesan priest 1991, and was assigned to Holy Family parish in Hicksville, NY. In 1996 he was appointed Vocation Director of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, NY, and encouraged young men interested in the priesthood, and was helpful to men and women with an interest in religious life.

More recently Msgr. Tom Harold was pastor of Holy Name of Mary and is now at the Church of Saint Anne, Garden City, NY. He loves being a priest and says he can't imagine anything else would bring greater happiness and reward.
**John Nichols ’51C turns 80 in Rensselaer, IN**

John left the SM in the summer of 1968 and took a position in the philosophy department of Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer. From 1973 until 1996 he was in charge of the Core Curriculum at SJC, an innovative interdisciplinary and team-taught program of general education that became nationally renowned by the early 1980s. Nichols secured over $7 million in federal and foundation grants to fund faculty and curriculum developments connected with this core program.

He served three different times as Vice President for Academic Affairs at SJC: 1984-92 and 2009-10. He also participated in seven national projects on general education, both Catholic and secular, and in fact was the project director for four of these national projects. His connections with the Vatican II while at Louvain in 1963 to 1965 led to his involvement in numerous diocesan and College presentations on the 50th anniversary of Vatican II. John's wife Connie and his two sons Jonathan and Michael, also involved in higher education work, all reside and work in Rensselaer, Indiana. Retirement was attempted in 2013, but Nichols was recruited to return as VPAA in June, 2014.

Don Wigal recalls: My treasured memory is of a Halloween party when Jack and I played a four hand piano version of Prokofiev's Divertimento. He was Bro. Robert Holzmer's most trusted organist during his scholasticate. Jack was an outstanding singer, as a soloist, in small groups or in the Glee Club. I felt he was outstanding in all he did and was the model scholastic in all areas: academics, but also music, work, recreation and community life.

Dick Zehnle recalls: Nick and I were in the same novitiate class. Nick is from Cincinnati, and on one of their visits to me, my parents and I met with Nick and his parents. They were very lovely people.

Nick was a year ahead of me in the seminary, but he, George Taylor and I formed a trio that went out on bike trips together. Once we rode to a mountain in winter, climbed up and skied down. We didn't know how to ski, so we had to fall down to stop. Nick also provided nourishment on our hikes up the Berra. He would take a long loaf of bread, fill it with cheese, meat, lettuce, tomatoes, etc. Then, when we reached one of the shelters up on the Berra, he'd ask, "How many inches?"

When we were in Chicago, Joyce and I renewed our acquaintance with George Taylor (I was at his bedside shortly before he died), and also traveled to Indiana, where Nick was teaching at a school either formerly run for American Indians. Unfortunately, Nick, George and I never got together again.

I don't have to say how bright Nick was -- I'm sure others can give more details. However, Nick was a magnificent bass. In the scholasticate, Carroll Wentker ("Winks"), Pat Tonry, yours truly and Nick formed a quartet. Skinny Winks our tenor, how he loved to hit high C. Fatty Patty's silvery voice was great on melody. Richie, our baritone, was a bear for harmony. The rumbling bass -- you'd never guess it folks -- was me." Nick was also a mainstay of our Octet in the seminary (with Dave Schuyler and Frank Modica at different times), as well as the chief organist. Finally, I believe Nick, Jim Short and I sang the Passion on Good Friday, 1964. As you can see, many fond memories.

**Fr. Bert Buby ’52C turns 80 in Dayton**

Bertrand Buby took first vows on September 5, 1952 and perpetual vows on August 15, 1956. Gary Hartman recalls that Bert once said his first name meant "bright shield," but Charlie Dipple remembers that other fellow-novices sometimes called Bert by another nickname. Referring to the chapter of faults, Charlie explains, "We called him "scratch pad Bert" because he kept notes on things to say during the weekly meeting where we all said out loud our failings during the week."

Bert graduated from the University of Dayton in 1955 with a BA in philosophy and later earned a BA and STL in Theology from the University of Fribourg, Switzerland. He was ordained March 14, 1964 in Fribourg. He achieved an SSL in Sacred Scripture at the Pontifical Biblical Institute during the next two years, began his doctoral studies, and completed his dissertation at the International Marian Research Institute in January 1980.

Dick Zehnle recalls: My clearest and dearest recollections about Bert come from after we both finished the seminary and were engaged in biblical
studies. I recall being together and shooting baskets at the motherhouse in Rome, but particularly trips we made during a summer in Israel when we were studying Hebrew at an Ulpan. When I first arrived in Jerusalem, Bert was eager to take a trip to Nazareth to visit Fidel Cange, a friend of Bert’s friend who traveled with us. When we reached Nazareth, we tried to find Fidel in so-called Upper Nazareth, but learned that the Israelis had kicked the Christian Arabs out, and they had to find places to live in the lower city. By the time we located them, it was about 10 p.m. I had my first introduction to the marvelous Arab hospitality, when Fidel’s mother and sisters got out of bed to prepare us a delicious supper. Which was, of course, the highlight of the trip.

We made another trip up north to Akko and the Krac des Chevaliers. An unforgettable moment occurred when Bert and I found some kind of Arab diner and they served us various peppers. I avoided them (no taste for hot foods), but Bert, a Hungarian (?) by descent, popped one into his mouth and almost exploded. His eyes watered and he quickly reached for something to drink. But at least he had the courage to try. We lived at a place run by an order founded by or in honor of Charles de Foucault, which had only three members left. The food was pretty awful -- chicken that the rabbis had not killed correctly and very old cheese. But we survived and our hosts were pleasant.

About Fr. Bert’s present work, colleague Bro. Don Geiger notes: Bert is doing great service with his daily on-line commentary/meditation series on the daily scripture readings. He has been my spiritual director over many years. Bert serves many in this function. His insights and suggested readings and books are very helpful. In spite of a number of physical ailments he continues to serve as homilist, spiritual director and friend to many. He did two years of service in settling the estate of Bill Kiefer in relation to the Society of Mary and assisted in the transfer of St Mark Book Store to new owners. His specialty is quiet, extremely helpful service to his many friends and connections.

Bro. Ed Zamierowski writes: I’ve been thinking about this for over two weeks now, and because there’s so much to say about Bert I didn’t know where to start, but, here goes: On a personal level, Bert was always available when I asked for some time for spiritual direction and just to check in. It always was an experience that I came away from with a renewed spirit, encouraged by his gentle, supportive, non-judgmental manner. I was so impressed with his involvement in so many areas--scripture scholar, and all his Marian study, research, writing too numerous to mention here) spiritual director, and retreat preacher.

We all remember Bert's skill on the athletic field and his passion for baseball, especially following the Pirates, then the Steelers in their season. After vow day, while some of us visited the Jesuit shrine at Auriesville with our families, Bert made it to Cooperstown and the Baseball Hall of Fame. He was a regular jogger, and encouraged me to keep jogging, until his knees/hip injuries put an end to it. He touches so many lives and now even more with his email commentary on the daily scriptures.

**Paul Pieschel '56C turns 75 in Georgia**

Following my time with the Marianists, I worked in Social Services for the City of Dayton and Montgomery County, first as Senior Counselor for Neighborhood Youth Corps and then setting up a couple of outreach centers. I also pursued a MS in Personnel Counseling, which led to a job with Progressive Industries, a photofinishing company with four plants, as the Director of Industrial Relations and then VP of Human Resources. This was a great opportunity, since I was involved in negotiations and arbitrations with the unions during that time. Dick Strathern was the Plant Manager. Dick was always on the cutting edge, and so we were able to develop creative programs to bring union and management together to focus on problem solving and improve productivity.

Progressive Industries sold the plants in the early 80s and transitioned into building a franchise, called Moto Photo, offering me a new opportunity as VP of Franchise Development and a 30-year career in franchising. Moto Photo grew to 450 stores before the rise of digital cameras. Ten years ago, I became associated with Franchise Performance Group, a consulting firm specializing in setting up processes to recruit and award franchises and also in improving franchisor/franchisee relations. I continue working with them even today.
Rayea and I moved to St Simons Island seven years ago and have enjoyed every moment. We are five minutes from the beach and surrounded by large oak trees with Spanish moss. Both of us are now involved in many community activities: Rayea, a full time realtor with Coldwell Banker, is on the Board of the Golden Isles Arts and Humanities and heads up their annual fundraiser. I am active in the Rotary and also head up our local Literary Guild, which sponsor films, author series, and book sales, all to promote the literary arts and raise money for community groups that promote literacy.

And I have two wonderful sons. Jonathan is a Project Manager in Dayton, and he and his wife, Brittany, have a little girl, Reagan (4) and son, Caron (2). Oh, how we love grandchildren! David has his doctor's in Physical Therapy and works at the University of Maryland Medical Center, while his wife, Sarena, completes her fellowship at Johns Hopkins. It took me 70 years to get the first grandchild and the wait was worth it.

So, a great life all started with the Marianists in Beacon, NY when I was 14. I hold so many cherished memories of my 18 years with the SM and have always felt that community living and the values of Father Chaminade were most instrumental in my personal development.

Jim Gareau '63C turns 70 in Ridgefield, CT

As Jim Gareau, '63C, celebrates his 70th birthday with his wife Tricia, he can reflect on many accomplishments. Primarily, he is proud of his three children (James, Miriam, and Thomas) and eight grandchildren. Jim lives in Ridgefield, Conn., since 1972 and is retired from a career in banking.

Jim recalls first meeting Marianists when he attended Cathedral Latin High School. He felt as a high school student that he was treated as an individual person by his teachers and not seen as a number. His experiences with many of the Marianist teachers at CL led him to join the SM and enter the novitiate at Marcy, NY.

After leaving the SM from the Mt. St. John scholasticate, Jim believes he was one of the first of the former Marianists to return to complete his degree at UD, which he did in January 1967. After earning his BA in history, he stayed on and completed his masters. While in graduate school at UD he met Tricia, who was completing her BS in Education at UD and graduated in April of 1968. They married in December of 1968.

After three years teaching, Jim changed jobs and began working with Manufacturers Trust in New York, where he began his career in commercial banking. He held numerous positions at large and small banks during his career and retired in 2011.

For over 25 years he has been an active volunteer for the local United Way, holding various positions of responsibility, including Finance Chairman, Treasurer, and Board member. He and Tricia are currently active in fund raising for JDRF--their granddaughter has Type 1 diabetes.

In retirement Jim has found time to pursue his life-long interest in history through reading the books he did not have time to read before. Tricia and he enjoy traveling and have been on several cruises, including trips to Alaska, Hawaii, and the Panama Canal. He is looking forward to attending the 2015 Common Bond Reunion in Dayton.

Rhett Segall '63N turns 70 in Wynantskill, NY

Yesterday I heard film director Spike Lee snap his fingers and say about his 25 years in film: "It went like that!" I feel that way about my 70 years! My relationship with the Marianists was like a man engaged who suddenly realizes that he and his beloved didn't quite fit. But there was so much that was gained in the relationship that I consider my vowed time a privileged time. I particularly cherish the SM perspective on one's Christian vocation.


This is my 48th year teaching theology to teens, and I love it. I love the rhythm between work and leisure -- 180 days of teaching, 186 days of leisure!
I also love the pressure to study, read and organize my thoughts, so necessary for effective teaching.

This August Kathy and I will celebrate our 43rd wedding anniversary at the Grand Canyon. Kathy’s work as a free-lance artist and church cantor has evaporated recently, but she still loves painting and still sings all around the house! And she still enjoys submitting and reading captions by the CB cartoon group. Common Bond has been a real gift. The indefatigable and astute Don Wigal continues to astound; Herb V leaves me breathless with the way he creates and navigate this pluralistic forum.

Bob Lamb, ’63C turns 70 in Bethesda, MD

As Bob Lamb ’63 celebrates he continues to contribute to the civic life of the US, as well as look back on a distinguished career in the Federal government. Bob moved to the DC, area in 1971 and currently lives in Bethesda, MD. He is married to Amy, who has a Ph.D. in microbiology. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Bob entered federal civil service as a management intern in the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Bob initially served as a budget analyst in the office of the Surgeon General and later supervised the budget at the National Institutes of Health. That’s where he met Amy.

Bob transferred to the Department of the Interior where served as budget director. Later he became the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget and Finance, where he was the highest-ranking non-political appointee in the department. He served six secretaries during his tenure in there, and directed three transitions of administrations. His last accomplishment involved successfully coordinating the White House Conference on the role of non-profit organizations in conservation activities. He retired from the federal government having attained the highest rank possible for civil servants. Along the way Bob earned both a Masters in Liberal Arts from Johns Hopkins University and a MBA from George Washington University.

When Bob left government service, he began a second career in the non-profit sector by becoming the executive director of the Friends of the National Zoo in Washington. Currently he is working on developing their new strategic plan. He is looking forward to implementing it over the next few years.

Amy and Bob share an interest in photography; but Amy has extended what began as a hobby into a profession. She concentrates on flowers and plants as subjects of her award winning photos. Bob says that she has accomplished her goal of combining creativity and science in her flower images.

In remembering his years in the SM, besides the chapel and the academic studies, Bob recalls that the scholasticate had a group of powerful, energetic, and very dedicated people.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Bro. Frank Spaeth ‘49P in Cupertino, CA

[by John Samaha] A religious Brother lives and works only for the service and glory of God. In whatever he does, a Marianist pursues his way of life by assisting the Blessed Virgin Mary in her mission to bring Jesus to others. Such a person is Brother Frank T. Spaeth, 91 years old and 65 years a Marianist. Now from Milpitas to Cupertino, from Palo Alto to Gilroy, across the entire diocese of San Jose, he is known as a respected rosary maker.

After many years of teaching the physical sciences and advanced mathematics, he prepared himself for enjoying an active retirement. When considering various hobbies, he became interested in making rosaries because he likes to work with his hands and with tools. Now, in addition to helping others by driving them to appointments and by making minor repairs at the Marianist Center in Cupertino, California, Brother Frank pursues with pleasure the construction of various styles of rosaries.

About ten years ago he taught himself how to assemble a rosary from the various parts. With all this experience he has become skilled in rosary making, and enjoys the reputation of an adept craftsman. Each day he tries to spend an hour or so engaged in his hobby. Brother Frank explains that it takes him about four hours to assemble a rosary. To date he has made over 700 of them, many of them by special request. Those not needed to fill a special request are quickly circulated and distributed to those expressing a need for one.
Because he uses special wire and carefully chosen beads, his rosaries enjoy a reputation for being strong and durable. Parts -- wire, chain, beads, crucifixes, and medals -- are ordered from Our Lady's Rosary Makers, managed by laity in Louisville, Kentucky. OLRM evolved from the work of a Xaverian Brother, a high school teacher who taught a group of adults and students in Louisville to make rosaries for missionaries. For special beads, Bro. Frank searches in hobby shops. However, he is best known for using "Job's tears," a natural grass seed which he grows in the community garden where he lives. Job's tears are the size of a small pea and come in varying shades of gray.

Frequently people bring broken rosaries to him for repair, and he generously obliges. He asks only the cost of the materials used when someone orders a rosary. That amount and any additional amount offered to him goes into his rosary fund for the purchases of new materials. For Brother Frank, it is a labor of love to assemble these "links of love."

Fr. Jim Russell ‘51C in Huntsville, OH

March 14 is the 50th anniversary of my ordination in Fribourg. Other U.S. Province members ordained then are Bert Buby, Ed Jach, Charles Miller and Franz Schorp. With us also were Bob Hertweck, Bob Lewandowski and John Simon, who are now deceased. Fourteen Americans were ordained that day, including six who are no longer in the Society. I thank God for the many years of ministry we have been privileged to have as Marianists.

Cy Boschert ‘52SL in Geneva, Switzerland

My preferred e-address is c.boschert@sunrise.ch. I am sitting at my computer now because I am in the process of renewing my Swiss passport. It will be fifty years ago this summer that I first came to Switzerland. During those years I have lived all but two years overseas (1966-68 in St. Louis), two years in Norway, and the rest of the time in Switzerland. So I have not lived in the US since 1968. My wife is Swiss as are my three daughters and six grandchildren. I’ve lived more than half of my life here, becoming a Swiss citizen in 1994. In 2012 I gave up my American citizenship. Am I the only non-American member of CB?

Fr. Bert Buby ‘52C in Dayton

I will be joining the 2014 jubilarians for 50 years as a priest. I already celebrated over 60 as a Marianist. I was ordained on March 14, 1964 at St. Peter Canisius Cathedral in Fribourg, Switzerland. Our celebration will be at Mt St John Queen of Apostles Church on August 9, 2014. Bro Tom Pieper will also be celebrating, 50 years professed.

Bob McAuliffe ‘52C in Rocky River, OH

[via Don Wigal] Bob called with news that he is sending to me his valuable files for the evolving history of former Marianists. Years ago John Spellman sent other important files for the project. In the late ‘60s Bob kept many former Cincy Marianists and former Marianists in touch with each other through his gatherings in Cleveland area and his frequent newsletters. Currently Bob is fixing up his house for visiting relatives and visitors. He is also interested in the Prophecies of Malachy.

Matt Hillen ‘53C in Dade City, FL

Matt and Cathy are now proud great-grandparents. Jace Watkins, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Aaron and Tarah Watkins in Gainesville, FL. This is our first great-grandchild. Mother and Dad are doing well. Thanks be to God for a safe delivery through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe. All for Jesus through Mary and Joseph with a Smile!

23172, Don Romie ‘53C in Troy, OH

Since Dee Romie died in 2012, Don has been living with his son and daughter-in-law, Dan and Kim Romie. Hence, Don's new address is 422 Summit Ave, Troy OH, 45373. His son's phone number is 937-339-5970. Don’s daughter: Denise and her husband Andy live in Gaithersburg, but they will be coming up to Troy this next Thanksgiving to join in a raucous celebration of Don's 80th birthday.

No one expected Don to last this long. Neighbors even took bets back in the 1940's on his early demise when he was tagged as the ringleader of a huge New Year's Eve bonfire. It seems Don and some junior high buddies gathered old Christmas trees from the curbs and took them to a nearby vacant lot. No one admitted to starting the fire, but
Don's buddies were forbidden to play with him for some time after. Son Daniel remembers his father as a strict disciplinarian, especially about matches.

The novitiate class of 1953 had 40 make first vows. The eight who remained in the order have all died. Of the 32 who returned to lay life, 16 have died and 16 will be turning 80 about this time. Happy 80th Birthdays to Joe Altinger, Joe Bischoff, Fr. Ken Bonadies, Bill Chamberlain, Jim Cosgrove, Karl Gabrielson, John Heiselman, Matt Hillen, Marty Laraia, James Mallin, Fr. Bob Maloy, John McGowan, Jim McGuire, Joe Wessling, and Tom Wesselkamper. We hope all of you are well enough to enjoy these years.

Fr. Ted Cassidy '57C in Cleveland, OH

Herb, Thanks so much for the excellent way the website is set up and maintained. I am doing well here at St. Aloysius Church in Cleveland. My health is back, for which I am very thankful. We have a good Marianist Lay Community of about 12 who meet here at the parish and another Marianist Lay Community of UD young adults is forming in the city. Our religious community is now five, having just lost Richard Olsen. Dick was a fine Marianist who served in Africa and then helped AIDS patients in San Francisco. He was with us here for about three years. He tutored in the school, worked with gay groups, and helped in our food distribution. I gave the homily at his funeral Mass.

Fr. Ted Ley ‘59P in Los Angeles

Happy Easter, everyone! It's a bright full-of-life morning here at our new Marianist Residence in Central Los Angeles, "Lalanne House," named for Fr. Jean-Philippe Lalanne, called the 'First Marianist.' He is also remembered by the French as one of their greatest educators of the 19th century. Our residence is in USC fraternity row, a short walk to the new Caruso Catholic Center, where Fr. Jim Heft and I assist. Fr. Jim, professor of Catholic Studies at USC, is founder-director of the national Institute for Advanced Catholic Studies. I continue to direct The Schola Cantorum of the Pacific, which in its 38th year is now located at St. John Chrysostom Parish in nearby Inglewood; I also continue to enjoy being assistant chaplain at our wonderful Chaminade Preparatory in Chatsworth and West Hills in the San Fernando Valley.

The Schola Cantorum sang Holy Week splendidly. The choir is growing again, with resonant sound for choruses, and 'ethereal warmth' in unaccompanied anthems. Led by our expert Cantrices, the St. John's congregation participates in full voice, in English, Spanish and Latin. Loud Hosannas rang out on Palm Sunday -- standing room only (the parish has 9,500 families). Impressive on Holy Thursday night, the entire congregation processed to the parish hall with the Blessed Sacrament, and nearly everyone then remained at length in meditation before the Altar of Repose. On Good Friday, large images of the deceased Lord and the Sorrowful Mother were taken in procession by the full congregation to the hall, where the Burial of Jesus was enacted -- an old custom from the old country. On Holy Saturday, the Psalms reverberated in English and Spanish. The choir contributed Palestrina's "Sicut Cervus" (Ps. 42) as done at the Vatican by the Sistine Choir for over 400 years. Each year we include a new setting of “Regina Caeli, Laetare” (Queen of heaven, rejoice). The congregation sang its parts resoundingly. Then we ended the Vigil with an American custom, Handel's "Hallelujah" Chorus.

Unique in Los Angeles is that our congregation sings unaccompanied Gregorian Chant at solemn points, including the Sanctus. Many people do not speak English, so with instruction, Latin becomes the common ground. An elaborate chant learned by a congregation, sung without instruments!

At the Gloria of the Vigil, a wonderful mural of Blessed Mother and Child, in the Cupola, was unveiled. This vibrant parish, with many outreach programs in the neighborhood and downtown, is united by a rich, ceremonial Liturgy that the African-American, Hispanic and Filipino-American congregation dearly loves. Happy Easter, everyone!

Bro. Robert Moriarty ’60N in Vernon, CT

When I was in the hospital I had a visit from an Episcopalian priest and a Pentecostal minister. After we chatted a bit, the priest asked if I would accept an Episcopalian blessing, and I said, "Of course." Then the minister asked, "Has the stroke affected
your faith?” I quickly replied, “No. God didn’t do this to me, Mother Nature did.” Yes, a stroke out of the blue, but Life’s good, God’s good. Recovery is still moving forward. My walking is getting better.

23105, Al Skroska ‘62SL in Trempealeau, WI

[By Jerry Gegg] For the past 40 years, Al Skroska has lived a stone’s throw from the old St. Louis province novitiate. His wife has lived there all her life, starting as a Marianist affiliate. Al has been the “man on the ground” for the July 50th reunion of the Marynook vow classes of ’63, ’64, and ’65.

The Polish parish was too far away, so Al Skronska and his brother and sister attended the Irish parish of St Phillip Neri in Florissant, Missouri. After two years at McBride High, Al spent the next two at Maryhurst postulate. Then he joined the novitiate group that made vows in 1962 in Galesville. At that time, scholastics went directly to St. Mary’s U. in San Antonio and were housed for four years in what would later be known as Charles-Francis Hall, in honor of Fr. Charles Dreisoeiner and Bro. Francis Greiner, who served more years than any as chaplain and director of scholastics. From the first scholasticate at StMU (new in 1950), scholies in Skroska’s era watched a newer four-story scholasticate being constructed at the opposite end of the campus -- designed to house 200 scholastics. Al graduated in January 1966, one semester early. He had majored in philosophy, sociology and biology, but he didn’t know at the time that he would spend the rest of his life in food preparation.

The next three years Al continued his education under the mentoring of older working brothers, first at Marycliffe in Glencoe, Missouri, and then at the provincialate. Next he moved to the other end of that property, to the retreat center, then San Antonio to Central Catholic H.S., and finally back to the novitiate in Wisconsin. Al had learned a little about a lot of things -- plumbing, electrical, construction, and maintenance of every sort. Looking back, he must mention his mentors Kenny Jung and Fred Hausch, two Brothers of Mary known primarily for lengthy careers in food preparation.

When Al left SM in 1969, he owned his own restaurant, which is still in the family in Trempealeau. Al spent most of his years since SM at the Mayo Clinic in LaCrosse, WI, always in food service, many years in supervisory positions. Now that he is retired, Al donates his time at the famous Mayo Clinic as its official Greeter. Al’s wife Martha had five children from a previous marriage, so today Al has 16 step-grandchildren, and Martha claims Al raised two of them as his own sons. Al says, “I never did anything remarkable in my life.” Still, Martha speaks of Al as someone who deserves a monument.

Mike Grumich ‘64SL in New Orleans

Happy Mardi Gras! I have enough beads caught at parades for all of you! Unfortunately the temp is only in the 30’s with some rain, but the Mardi Gras still goes on. Thanks, Jerry and all. That warms my heart to think our reunion effort for ’63 to ’65 classes is making a difference. You may think I am delaying in getting back to you all, but I'm still working full time at Entergy, dealing with prep for the Ice Storm (one of many) that have hit our service area in Arkansas and Mississippi.

Bob McAuliffe ’52C in Rocky River, OH

My granddaughter, Kaylee McAuliffe recently transferred to the University of Dayton and will graduate in 2015. She advised me that she expects me to attend her graduation that will be on the 60th anniversary of my own graduation from UD. We were together in Cincinnati celebrating her brother Kevin graduating from Xavier, and her sister Mallory (UD class of ’12) getting engaged. Mallory’s future husband is also a UD grad. It is great seeing the next generation enjoying UD’s family spirit and growing in Faith and Knowledge. But it certainly underscores the aging of our group, although a few of my confreres are still serving at the UD. Time marches on ... or limps on in my case.

John Deiters ‘63C in the Philippines

Last September John wrote: “I was the pilot in command of an aircraft leaving a Bahamian island when it lost power. Over 12,000 hours of flying time as a pilot and flight instructor enabled me to place the aircraft “gently” into the ocean. Fishermen quickly picked up the four passengers and myself, with only minor bruises, but the aircraft was a total loss.” This year he shared some photos of himself
in the Philippines, on dry land, playing golf, riding his motorcycle, and pre-flighting a new bizjet.

**John Spellman ‘62N in Garden City, NY**

Don Wigal writes: John is home recuperating after several serious and challenging procedures in the hospital. He is in good spirits and on the mend. He visited Fr. Phil Eichner recently who filled him in on news from the Meribah province. He confirmed that Bro. George Zehnlé has Parkinson's disease. There is a new house near their grade school where George and two or three others now live. John was visited recently also by Bob Bolz, up from Fort Worth for eye surgery on Long Island. I was touched by John's reference to some of us being "cultural fathers" of others in our extended spiritual families. For me it was a blessing to be at the right place and the right time when many bright young men were in their most impressionable years.

**Vicki Braun, wife of Ray ‘66C, in Dayton**

There is a very nice interview/article about Vickie Braun, UD class ‘71 and wife of Bonder Ray Braun, in this summer’s University of Dayton Magazine. Vickie has participated in several CB reunions, including the ’65-’66 vow class mini-reunion where she and Ray made sure we all had our official recipe cornbread for breakfast. Vickie's use of her education degree in her “calling” as director of Oak Tree Corner, a non-profit center for grieving children and their families, is detailed.

**Mike Morris ‘59C in Bellflower, CA**

Last night on Anderson Cooper 360, a clip from the first episode of the original "The Comeback" HBO series was used. It is the scene in which the Mike’s character Mickey first appears, saying "I'm back." Cooper encouraged viewers to watch the first season and look forward to the next. After the final shooting for the return of The Comeback, Mike will be going to Erie, PA, where next year Gannon University will produce his play about Gertrude, Hamlet's mother.

**Charley Kellerman ‘65N in Dumfries, VA**

I can't believe that it's been 50 years! I'm still on Hawaii time since we just returned from two weeks on Maui and the Big Island. What an excuse to get together with our kids. Our two sons are in DC near us, but our daughters are in Seattle and Columbus Ohio. Since our youngest daughter was on her way to teach English in Japan for the summer, we cajoled her to "meet us in Hawaii."

But my thoughts today are how fast the 50 years have gone since the vow class of '65 reported in to Marcy. I enjoyed reading about the windows in the chapel and the good use for the property since Gene Carney helped arrange a reunion for us at Marcy in 2005. My most vivid memory of that day (or era) was actually on the 9th when we had our first quiet work period. I can close my eyes and see the chapel where I was dusting the pews in the back.

Yes, at 67 I'm still teaching full-time in the second largest community college in the US -- Northern Virginia CC. I've taught 13 different Information Technology courses over 15 years full-time, 21 years counting my adjunct days. I recently added teaching Student Development, sort of University 101. It helps students find out how to succeed in college and in life. I “sneak in” some religious and humanistic messages as well. By reversing the hierarchy of loving self well, then loving neighbor, and finally loving God, I guess I have proved that maybe I did learn something from Fr. Fred Mathues who taught us to first be human, next be Christian, then be religious, and finally become Marianist.

Students accuse me occasionally of rambling, so I'll end my thoughts here and wish a sincere Happy Anniversary to all of my class of July '64 entrants. Dittos for all of the other classes with anniversaries, and prayers for eternal life for those whom we have lost, like my closest SM-friend, Joe Peacock, also Tony Dissel, Gene Carney, and all of the others.

**Jim Cullina '51C, British Columbia, Canada**

I’ve been active in the US and Canada for over 25 years in efforts to protect the unborn from being aborted. Most heartening is the emergence of young university students who have risen and taken up the cause from their parents and teachers. I’m finishing the final revisions to my novel, "The 13 Station.” It’s based on my 1964 summer in Japan as an SMer. Also, I am in the midst of doing the same process to a dozen short stories. Life is good.
Pete Dowd ‘61C, in Oak Park, IL

Here is Pete Dowd’s fascinating and witty reply to DW’s query inspired by a Gallup poll showing that “half of the people in Illinois, given the opportunity, would rather live in another state.”

It is perfectly understandable that half of Illinois residents would live elsewhere. The Illinois Supreme Court just ruled that public employees who were promised subsidized retiree health insurance have a contractual and constitutional right to the benefits they were promised. They are in line for some big reimbursements for health premiums they had to pay and benefits that didn’t get covered the last two years. This decision also means that the December 2014 legislation that stripped public employees of $144 billion in future pension benefits is unconstitutional. Now the whole state will have to pay these promised benefits instead of stripping them from public employees. Chicago’s mayor got a three-year pension holiday for the Chicago Board of Education by diverting $1.2 billion from the teachers’ pension fund to the operating budget. This dropped the funded ratio from 75% to 50% and greatly increased required future contributions. The Court decision now makes it clear these obligations cannot be reduced by cutting teachers’ pensions. Now Chicago’s whole population is going to have to help pay these obligations. Shocking!

But I am surprised that only one half of Illinois's population wants out. Bills are going to have to be paid; taxes are going to go up. I'll bet half the taxpayers wish they could move to Dublin, Ireland, like Walgreens, so they could avoid taxes. The Illinois legislature tried to solve the state's budget problems with unconstitutional laws. The governor signed those laws knowing they were probably unconstitutional. The GOP candidate for governor, millionaire Bruce Rauner, opposed the laws -- because they did not cut the benefits deeply enough! He is leading in the polls, so I'm sure, "given the chance," most public employees would want to live somewhere else -- if they could avoid losing their pension and retiree health coverage by moving.

Geographically, Illinois stretches as far as from about Boston to Southern Virginia. South of the Chicago suburbs, a majority of Illinois residents would be more comfortable in equally-southern West Virginia, where you can carry a gun anywhere and don't have to get a state license or instructions on gun safety. They would rather not have state laws regulating fracking for natural gas or strip mining for coal. They would prefer that public schools start with Protestant Christian prayers, and that the state be free to expel Muslims, Mexican immigrants and unemployed blacks, and bar the use of any language except English in schools. They buy textbooks approved by Texas! They think Fox news is balanced and fair, that the world is 4,000 years old, and that the end times are near so there is no need to worry about climate change. They are very unhappy to be in a state that voted for Barack Obama, whom they think is a Muslim, and they are unhappy that Illinois is mostly Democratic because there are more Democrats than Republicans way up north. "Given a chance," they would move.

Personally, I saw Mitt Romney's oceanfront house in La Jolla last year. "Given a chance," I would live there. However, I couldn't stand living with Mitt, as my three children and four grandchildren all live within seven miles of me now. Also, I live two blocks from Chicago, which has turned out to be an even better place to live than NYC, which I liked a lot but left in 1972. So, the only chance I would have of living in La Jolla would be if I was rich enough to buy out Mitt, enjoy La Jolla on Mondays and Tuesdays, and fly back to Illinois to the job I enjoy and the family I love, the city of Chicago, and the beauties of (mostly northern) Illinois.

Dennis Beach ’62C in Algonquin, IL

I don't mind Illinois, except for our nine months of winter. I'd miss friends if I ever moved, which I cannot afford now. As a city (I live in the suburbs), Chicago offers food as good as San Francisco and culture as fine as New York’s, if not as edgy. Crime is up, but so is the number of politicians on the take. No offense, Don, but one of worst things about living in Illinois is that I have to go through Indiana to visit my mother. Except for the shopping off Allisonville Road, that drive's a real bummer.

Jim Dunsky ‘64C in Battle Creek, MI

Going to Dayton via Ft. Wayne used to mean, “Set the clock back one hour and the calendar 20 years.” Now with the I-469 bypass, we hardly notice IN.
Don Wigal: This summer I hope to exchange some of my old furniture for what my neighbors pitch out. The stuff I will pass on was originally tossed out too. Nearly everything in my place is either a gift or was discarded by someone in the building. I keep upgrading. That is one of the advantages of living in a small public assistance apartment in a luxury building surrounded by affluent neighbors.

APRIL 14 -- “Easter Greetings”

Don Syriac: Easter in the Marianists? That could take volumes; suffice it to say that it was joyous. Aside from the spiritual experience of the Triduum, I remember the Mush Room! Refectory food wasn’t glorious, so the mush room was a taste of heaven.

Paul Ciborowski: Hope this Spring to pay you a visit. Right now very busy closing the Spring semester. Went to see ACT ONE at the Vivian Beaumont - Tony Shalhoub was great as Moss Hart. He collaborated with so many - Lerner and Loewe, Irving Berlin, etc. Lincoln Center is so alive. I’m growing accustomed to it while taking courses at Fordham’s Lincoln Center campus.

Gary Hartman: I say I believe in the resurrection of the dead, yet the notion of a corpse becoming alive is at best difficult to wrap my brain around, even knowing that Adam was formed of stardust.

Bill Kuhns: It looks like Easter weekend we will be flying down to Florida for a week. We have till May 2 to live ordinary lives, then everything is packing and renovating, though Bev is having a blast with kitchen design etc. As to Easter plans? Hmm. Hope you don’t mind my saying, our plans for Easter are the same as our plans for Passover -- we sort of pay the same minimal amount of attention to either. Have you seen the PBS series Story of the Jews? Simon Scharma. Good series. Another great one is Silicon Valley (HBO Sunday at ten). Very funny. In fact a bunch of promising new series are just getting out of the starting gate in a few months.

Don Wigal: I'm celebrating the Resurrection as I try to do each year by setting aside two hours to hear Mahler's 2nd symphony, “The Resurrection.” This year I bring the loss of my friend Kay to the celebration, hoping we might be together again in an eternal union with our Creator incarnated.
VARIOUS DATES AND TOPICS

Charles Laliberte: Betty and I just returned from Uganda. Jet lag does not get easier with age! The younger children loved to jump in our laps and treat us as the honorary grandparents we have become. The students we support are maturing. Four years ago we picked 13-14 year olds to start our program, and now they young men and women! We will be sending out newsletters about them and the changes they go through. If you want to be on our list, write me at 481 W. Alma, Elmhurst, IL, 60126.

Bro Carmine Annunziata: I remember Bro. Jim Kilroy saying he was going to give up peanut butter sandwichs for Lent. For me it will be working harder to keep our tennis team practicing, getting ready to travel outside Zambia to compete. Academy Awards? Right now it would be great to see any movies – our TV is messed up. Anyway, I don’t have much time to watch. All the best with prayers and love. Keep up the Bonder Ponders.

Matt Hillen: Thanks for sharing the "bird lesson." My favorite times are watching wild birds feed on seeds they find on our patio/grass. My favorites are Cardinals. Watching a male offer a female all those different seeds is awesome. Always a gentleman! The birds that often confound us are the Doves. When you watch them attack the seeds and each other, they are not always "Lovey Dovey." The best part of feeding and observing wild birds is that they can come and go as they please, with no expensive requirements to take them to the vet.

Don Syriac: This Summer I intend to put new bamboo flooring in the kitchen. The kids and grandkids think I’m too old and decrepit to do it. I'll show them, as I work it in between doctor visits. "Better to wear out than to rust out!” (Fr. Martin) I’m still working with the Vincent de Paul Society, attending "Bridges Out Of Poverty" training. In July we make our annual pilgrimage to Wisconsin's great north woods to visit my wife's sister. Since her husband's passing, she wants me to put lights under the kitchen cabinets, electrical outlets under the eaves, and heat tape on the roof to melt their winter ice. With all the tasks that go into maintaining a home and an acre and a half, I think I'll be staying busy. I just hate it that I get out of breath so easily.

Larry Boesch: I’ve been busy with family matters but also went to my 50th UD reunion. Saw many classmates and relatives. The campus is vibrant! Had great weather, so it was all very pleasant.

Ralph Gohring: Thanks for the card and Happy July 4! Hope you get to see/hear a few fireworks. NYC always seems to make it a big deal. Going to see Bro. Ray Gohring tomorrow in San Antonio.

Michael Grumich: We are headed to the awesome WWII Museum in New Orleans where the famous Higgins boats were manufactured -- used on D-Day and throughout the Pacific campaign.

Mike Mahoney: Waiting to have the second knee replacement this fall. Did the first one last year and it is stronger than ever. Soon I will have four bionic joints. Should be real fun flying!

Jack Schmitt: had several exchanges with a dozen people interested in finding a new home for the Marcy chapel windows. Some real progress is being made, but too premature to mention in detail. What a delight to see constructive, community-building and co-operative energy for the Common Good. I think it is so much like the spirit that began building the chapel itself 60 years ago.

Bob Toia: This summer Kathy and I are doing some home update projects, and attending the wedding of one of her former Kindergarten students, and the wedding of our second oldest godson. I continue to work as a contract technical writer, and I volunteer at Cox Arboretum here in Dayton as well as on the Common Bond Website Transition Team. We are also babysitting our youngest godson two days a week. So, a busy summer, lots like the busy spring we had, and the busy fall we will be having.

Joe Salgado writes about a wall sculpture at the entrance of Queen of Apostles chapel at Mount St. John. “As I remember it was created by Henry Setter, but now I'm told that it was not. I'm going up to Mercy Sienna and ask around to see if I can get a more definitive answer. My opinion is that it is truly inspirational. God Bless us and all of our Brothers in Mary's family.”
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Common Bond is governed by a board of nine directors. Each year three members are elected to serve for three-years. Jim Hilke ’62, Joe Kuntz ’52, and Myles McCabe ’60 will complete their terms in December and their shoes will need to be filled. They deserve everyone’s thanks.

You are invited to nominate up to three candidates to serve from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2017. Since the election will be held during November, any nominations must be received by September 30. You may nominate yourself.

All regular members are eligible, except for the following current board members: Rich Conboy ’64, Jim Dunsky ’64, Don Wigal ’52 (terms end on 12/31/2016); John Moder ’66, Connie Seibel ’65, Herb Verbesey ’54 (terms end on 12/31/2015). You may submit your nominations as follows:

- on our website, http://smcommonbond.org
- telephone Rich Conboy at 906-440-4168,
- regular mail to Bob Toia, 1208 Timber Hawk Trail, Centerville, OH 45458-9633.

YOUR FEEDBACK WELCOME

If you have any comments or questions about this issue of Common Bond News, or

- to request more information about a person or a topic mentioned here,
- to submit a reply or question to someone,
- to share some news about yourself and your family (Keeping In Touch),
- to report an address or telephone change,
- to register a new e-mail address so you can access the Common Bond website,

write to Bob Toia or call Rich Conboy (see above), or contact Jim Dunsky at 480 Morningside Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49015, 269 245-2826.

MORE JOURNEYS PLANNED FOR FALL

On July 18, sixteen Common Bond members took part in the first Sharing Our Journeys gathering at Marycliff in Eureka, Missouri -- three days of conversations about issues we all face. Two more Journey events are planned this year.

The second will be October 17-19 in Port Clinton, Ohio, at Jerry and Eileen Jarc's Bed and Breakfast and a group of cabins next door. Jerry is a Bonder. The cost will be $100 per person per night plus $20 for dinner on Friday, or $220 total. The Jarc's will also provide mid-morning breakfasts on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday night we will go out to a restaurant. You can preview both places at:

http://fivebellsinn.com (the Jarc's B&B)

http://www.scenicrockledgeinn.com (next door)

The registration deadline is September 20. There is a limit on how many can participate, so please contact Myron Achbach as soon as possible at:

Phone: 937-435-5664 - home,
937-901-1522 - cell
Email: achbacmy@udayton.edu

The third Journey is scheduled for warm and sunny Ft. Lauderdale, FL, November 21-23, at the Lago Mar Resort (lagomar.com). It has a great ocean beach, pools, bar and restaurant. Some of you may wish to book extra days, but this is “in season” so these dates will not stay available for very long. Thanks to Tom and Maureen Shea, we have a reduced rate of $138 plus 11% tax per night. The sooner you register the better.

The Sheas are also providing dinner on Friday and Saturday, plus use of the conference facilities at their offices for the conversations. This gathering is open to couples as well as individuals. There is a limit of 20 people and the rooms are being held only until September 15, so please register as soon as possible with Myles McCabe at:

Phone: 314-775-5561 – cell
Email: myles2491@gmail.com
VISIT OUR PRIVATE WEBSITE AT: http://smcommonbond.org

It contains all official Common Bond communications, the latest news about our members, member postings and photos, contact information, and links to other websites of interest, including Marianist news. All articles in this newsletter were originally posted on the Common Bond website.

This news summary is published as Newsletter #39 by Common Bond, an association of former Marianist religious. It is a condensed version of our May and July 2014 Newsgrams, which covered activity from February 18 to July 25, 2014. It is being sent to all members who have asked to receive their Common Bond news by regular mail, and to those for whom we have no current e-mail address. Jim Dunsky is the editor.

A full description of Common Bond can be found at: http://smcommonbond.org/misc/brochure.htm/
The current CB board of directors is listed at: http://smcommonbond.org/cb/groups/leadership.asp