

The Paduan

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Alumni Association Edition

January 1980 Vol.2 #1

OCTOBER 1979 ALUMNI REUNION NOTES

The second annual reunion of the revitalized Padua Alumni Association took place on October 19, 20, and 21 in Watkins Glen. Once again, we were fortunate to be blessed with excellent weather. Attendance was just slightly below last year's, with around eighty persons being present, although some were only able to participate in one or another of the scheduled activities. (In 1978, around 46 alumni attended; in 1979, around 40 alumni were present.)

The joy of renewing friendships re-established in 1978 among those present at both of the reunions was complemented and strengthened by the pleasure of seeing many new faces at the 1979 reunion. Saturday's activities were centered right at Padua, with the buildings and grounds being open for alumni to walk through. A luncheon was provided by Glen Industries, the sheltered workshop now utilizing the gymnasium building. This was followed by the business meeting, which included a slide presentation by a member of the consulting firm involved in preparing development plans for Watkins Glen.

Much laughter and some nostalgia accompanied the special showing of a movie made about life at Padua in the years just before its closing. A fitting closing to these events was the celebration of the Eucharist by Fr. Austin in the gym.

The evening was reserved for the alumni banquet held at the Glen Motor Inn. Following the delicious dinner, with choices being prime rib or trout, and the "annual picture-taking session", alumni again continued catching up on memories until far into the night.

Sunday morning saw an informal departure by alumni. All in all, the 1979 reunion seemed quieter in some ways, more emotionally intense in others, yet provided the same heartwarming experiences of friendship shared as did the 1978 reunion. It is hoped that alumni will begin planning now to attend the 1980 reunion which will be held this coming summer.

A REMINDER

1980 has arrived. Hopefully the new year will bring blessings to all the alumni and their families. If you have not already done so, please send in your 1980 dues today. Checks should be made out to: PADUA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.



THANKS FOR THE HELP!

A much belated public thank you is due to all those who helped with last minute preparations and arrangements for the 1979 reunion. Without your help many things would not have been possible. I know I do not remember everyone who helped but all your help was gratefully appreciated. Special thanks go to Celia Czajkowski and Mary Ann Dmuchowski who spent much of Saturday keeping track of the money for the luncheon and banquet; to Tom Tulko, Andy Zawoyski, Paul Leszczynski and Karen Schools, Donald and Diane Prelich, and everyone else who assisted in the luncheon preparation and clean-up. You're all terrific!



1979 BUSINESS MEETING

The meeting opened at 1:10 pm in the gymnasium cafeteria. There was a review of the status of the association, with particular focus on the newsletters and treasury. It was decided to keep the annual dues at \$6.00 per year, with additional funds being raised as needed by an assessment or fund-raising activities if the cost of printing and mailing the newsletters began to deplete the treasury. The opinion of the alumni was that the newsletters were valuable, particularly in sharing current news about alumni, and that this should be continued rather than curtailed.

Frank Czajkowski, '53, put forth a resolution urging a vote of confidence in the current officers by continuing their term of office through the 1981 meeting. There was no opposition to this and the resolution was approved unanimously. Because of reservations expressed by Reggie Stanczyk, '67, Secretary-Treasurer, concerning the time-consuming nature of the work involved in the newsletter, dues collection, and mailing lists, it was re-affirmed that the officers were authorized to appoint committees to assist in this work and in the preparations for alumni reunions.

A discussion was held on the question of whether or not it was good to continue holding the reunions in October. Many alumni who could not attend the reunion had written to urge a summer date. Frank Czajkowski suggested the second week-end in August. There was some reservation about this date because it appears to conflict with a newly established race in Watkins Glen. Approval was given, however, to holding the 1980 reunion during the summer on a trial basis. Attendance at the summer reunion would determine future reunion dates. The specific date of the 1980 reunion will be announced in the next newsletter. Alumni are urged to write to the Secretary concerning their preference for a June, July, or August date. In addition, the alumni expressed a desire to continue centering alumni activities at the Padua complex for the time being.

There was some discussion on the "metro-alumni". Because of the large number of alumni in the metropolitan area, there is some desire to hold an activity during the year for the benefit of these alumni. The question was raised as to the role of Tom Wojslawowicz, '60, Vice-President, who had been elected to represent the metro-alumni. Because he was not present at the reunion and there had been no contact with him during the year, Tom Malina, '66, President, was given the task of contacting Mr. Wojslawowicz to determine what activities might be arranged for the metro-alumni. John LaSalle, '62, offered to make arrangements for a cocktail party to be held at the New York Athletic Club in Manhattan. Although the suggestion was well-received, it was decided to wait on this pending contact with Mr. Wojslawowicz.

The alumni were honored to have Mr. Mark Denton give a slide presentation at the meeting. Mr. Denton is a consulting architect for a firm preparing development plans for Watkins Glen. The presentation was entitled "Watkins Glen - Tomorrow", and served as a prelude to discussion about the uses of Padua.

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1979 BUSINESS MEETING cont.

Fr. Austin gave a brief presentation on his plans for a "new Padua", which center on establishing an educational community for adults. Concern was expressed by alumni as to what their role might be in the development of plans for Padua. Frank Czajkowski, '53, and others spoke emotionally of the great love alumni have for Padua and the desire they have to see a school re-established there. Because of the complexities of the issue and the fact that alumni get together only once a year, there could be no clear-cut decisions made as to what should take place. Fr. Austin has permission from the Provincial Board to put together a more concrete plan concerning his ideas and will be pursuing this goal. Alumni who are interested in Padua's development would need to either contact him about their ideas and possible involvement or get together on their own to formulate an "alumni proposal".

The meeting was ended at this time in order to prepare for the alumni Mass.



Reggie Stanczyk, '67, (left) gives the Secretary-Treasurer's report at the meeting, while Tom Malina, '66, President, and other alumni and guests listen.

1980 DUES

The alumni dues year coincides with the calendar year. Therefore, as of January 1, the 1980 dues became payable. Much expense and time can be saved if the Treasurer does not have to send out individual reminders. Therefore, please review your standing in the association and if you have not yet paid your dues for 1979, forward them with your 1980 dues today. Dues are \$6.00 per year.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations are due to Mr. and Mrs. Tom Malina and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bartnikiewicz. Both couples are proud parents of new babies born in 1979. Joe was unable to attend the 1979 because of this event and the fact that he was ill at the time. He called, though, to make sure that his classmates understood the reasons for his absence and to wish everyone a great time. We hope to see you again at the 1980 reunion, Joe!

Dear Mr. Stanczyk:

While traveling through the Province the past two weeks, I had occasion to read the two issues you put out for the alumni of Padua. I would like to compliment you on your attempt to revive interest among the Paduan alumni.

I attended Padua my freshman and sophomore year: 1952-54 as Eugene Kopczewski from Buffalo, New York. I was ordained a Franciscan in 1965 and have been associate pastor of St. Bernard's Parish in Buffalo since 1973.

I would like very much to be put on the mailing list for the alumni news. Also I would like to receive the issues that you already put out. Please let me know to whom I should make out the check for the Alumni dues.

Looking through the two issues, I would like to comment that you left out two graduates of Padua who are Franciscans, namely:

Eugene Szufel '55 - Fr. Adam Szufel, O.F.M., (Ch Capt. Adam E. Szufel, P.O. Box 4161, APO New York 09223; he is a chaplain in the Air Force.)

Joseph Kurina '54 - Fr. Christopher Kurina, O.F.M. (Holy Family Friary, 232 So. Home Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15202; he doesn't belong to the Assumption Province, but rather to Slovak Custody of the Holy Savior.)

I have some other addresses for you....

This is all I can help you with. If I come across anyone else, I'll inform you. So please keep me-informed with the news by sending me the Alumni news.

With best wishes, I remain,

Sincerely,
Rev. Linus E. Kopczewski, O.F.M.

Dear Alumni Director,

This is the first piece of mail I can remember receiving from the Association and I'm delighted you have been able to obtain my current address.

I regret that I will not be able to attend the '79 reunion. According to the list, Roger Yurko will represent the class of '54. I'm sure he will do justice
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LETTERS cont.

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for all ten of us.

Things are going well here in Milwaukee. I lecture in the State and nationally on wellness, the role of religion in health care, ethical dimensions of health care delivery and medical education, and various aspects of the Bible - my specialty by training. I'm probably the only biblical scholar in the world who holds a clinical appointment at a Medical College. In addition, I manage to write books and articles in both fields (bible and health care), and have a growing number of audio-cassettes of my various presentations.

In 1975, I married Jean Peteres of Fort Smith, Arkansas. She is the Director of Religious Education in our home parish here in Milwaukee and this past year authored sixth-grade religious education texts for Sadlier, a New York publisher. She keeps active in the diocese, as well as at the State and national level.

Enclosed is my \$6.00 dues... Please let me know more about the association...

Regards to all who will be attending the October meeting.

Sincerely,
John Pilch, '54

Gentlemen:

Thanks to the good offices of Ed Scarp, Class of '69, I was fortunate enough to receive a copy of the alumni issue of The Paduan which describes the reunion plans for this October. After many years of not being in touch with Padua and the alumni group, it was a real treat to review information about people whom I know and to have an opportunity to reminisce a little bit about Padua. Though I will not be able to make this October reunion, because I have to be in Seattle that weekend, I would like to submit some information about myself and pay the dues so that I can keep in touch with the Alumni Association.

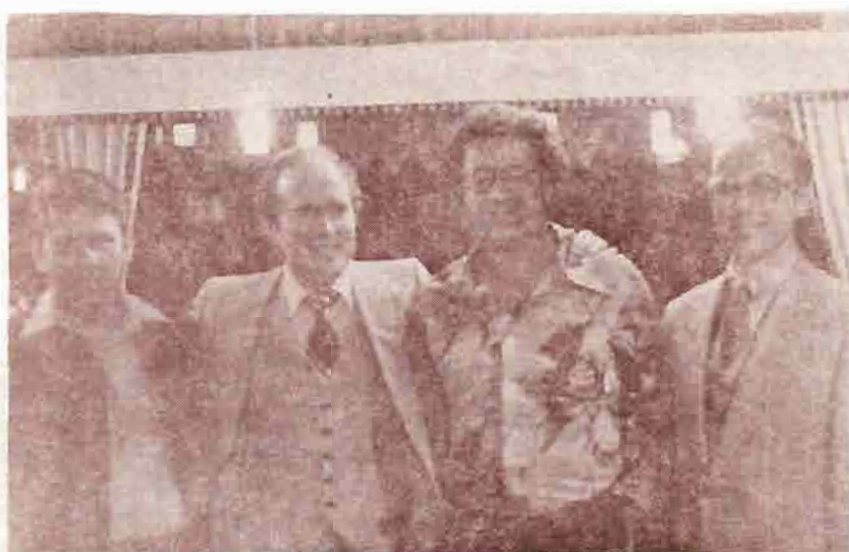
I finished at Padua in the Class of 1957. I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English at Kings College in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania in 1961, a Master of Arts in English at the University of Notre Dame in 1963, and a Ph.D. in English at Notre Dame in 1965. I spent the next eight years as a faculty member and then departmental chairman at the University of Scranton. In 1973 I moved to Creighton University in Omaha as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Since 1977 I have been Vice President for Academic Affairs here at Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. My wife Maggie and I have three children and live at 1637 Surrey Lane in Havertown, Pennsylvania 19083.

I should be very grateful to be included on your mailing list for future Paduans and future reunion plans and other alumni activity. I'm enclosing a check in the amount of \$6.00 for this year's dues.

Sincerely,
Richard Passon
Vice President for Academic Affairs



Vic Franzese '57
 Steve Kurpiel '58
 Tom Tulko '56
 Lenny Dmuchowski '55
 Thad Iwachow '56
 Frank Czajkowski '53
 Stan Perzanowski '56



Felix Kopczynski '59
 Frank Uss '59
 Louis Tarantelli '59
 Rich Uss '59



Walter Snopek '62
 Walter Kurpiel '62
 Joe Beseda '62
 Tom Malina '66
 John LaSalle '62
 John Ambrosone '65

John Gryszań '63
 Gerry Szczygiel '63
 Joe Marciniak '60
 Roland Benedek '63
 Bob Wagner '64
 Bob Recotta '64



Chris Franzese '67
 Tony Dabrowski '67
 Charlie Krauss '67
 Reggie Stanczyk '67
 Fr. Joe Drag
 Don Prelich '67
 Andy Zawoyski '67

Adam Pyka '70
 Marvin Badach '68
 Paul Leszcynski '68
 Bill Porfido '68
 Witold Plucienkowski '69
 Zenon Dawidowicz '69
 Tom Manning '70
 Pete Widynski '70



FATHER JOHN ARRIVES IN NEW GUINEA

As we reported in the last issue of The Paduan, Fr. John Liczner O.F.M., Class of '57, received permission to begin work as a missionary in Papua. New Guinea. Fr. John sent a letter in November describing his journey from the U.S. to Japan to Hong Kong, to Manila, to Australia, and finally New Guinea. Part of his letter is printed here and Paduans who know Fr. John (and even those who don't) might like to write a note to him to let him know we are thinking about him:

Rev. John Liczner, O.F.M.
Catholic Mission
Aitape, W.S.P.
Papua, New Guinea

Dear Reggie,

.....
It's a long way from home here to Aitape, Papua New Guinea (PNG) but it's also a fulfillment of my plans and desire of the past two years to serve people in a foreign land. It was two years ago that I got the idea of going to PNG as a missionary after reading an item in the Provincial News stating that volunteers were needed for this part of the world. Up to that time I didn't even know where PNG was. It wasn't however a sudden decision because I always had a dream of mission work and maybe this was the right time to make that big step. After ten years of formation work which, by the way, I enjoyed very much because I learned so much and stayed young while doing it, I needed a radical change and I don't think I could do much better than to take off to the bush of PNG. My provincial superior and his board gave me the go ahead sign last April and I was able to make preparations in earnest for the big move. The support which I received from my brothers in the Novitiate as well as the whole provincial community was very gratifying and I know I can count on their backing and prayerful support. The same was true of my parents and family and friends. They didn't show too much shock or surprise after I explained to them that it was something that I had to volunteer and that no one was assigning me to this work. The parting was very difficult and in some cases full of tears. The departure ceremony in Burlington Friary was just another occasion for thanksgiving to God for giving me such brothers in the Franciscan Order and friends who supported me in this new adventure. I thank you for your encouragement and your gifts and above all, your love....(Ed. note: Fr. John goes on to describe his trip. He's now in Australia.)
At another place later on I had an opportunity to feed the kangaroos and hold a loala in my arms for a photo. In Brisbane I went to the Gold Coast, a resort area similar to Florida, where I enjoyed a dip in the salt water of the ocean and jogged for miles along the white sand beach. But the biggest event in Sydney and Brisbane was meeting some people whom I knew while in a refugee camp in Germany. It was wonderful to meet them after 30 yrs.: not much time needed to get reacquainted. All of them were so generous and hospitable that I put on several pounds after a frequent round of food and drink. I tried to rationalize this by saying that I won't be getting this kind of food in PNG so might as well store it up for the future....I am here in Aitape for a week and by next week I will be moving into the bush to get to know real mission work in different stations and to learn the language. But I will leave that story for the next installment. So far I like it here and am adjusting quite well to everything....God bless and love you all. I thought you might be interested in knowing that I made it to Papua, New Guinea. It looks like its going to be an adventure. Fell free to circulate this or quote it in the newsletter. And write -

Yours in Christ,
John Liczner, ofm

ATTENDANCE AT 1979 REUNION

- 1953 - Frank Czajkowski
- 1954 -
- 1955 - Lenny Dmuchowski
- 1956 - Thaddeus Iwahow, Tom Tulko, Stan Perzanowski
- 1957 - Vic Franzese
- 1958 - Steve Kurpiel
- 1959 - Felix Kopczynski, Louis Tarantelli, Frank Uss, Rich Uss
- 1960 - John Marcheski, Joe Marciniak
- 1961 -
- 1962 - Joe Beseda, Walt Kurpiel, John IaSalle, Walt Snopek
- 1963 - Roland Benedek, John Gryszan, Dennis McCarthy, Gerry Sczygiel
- 1964 - Bob Recotta, Lester Suidy, Bob Wagner
- 1965 - John Ambrosone
- 1966 - Tom Malina
- 1967 - Tony Dabrowski, Chris Franzese, Charlie Krauss, Don Prelich, Reggie Stanczyk, Andy Zawoyski
- 1968 - Marvin Badach, Paul Leszcynski, Bill Porfido
- 1969 - Zenon Dawidowicz, Witold Plucienkowski
- 1970 - Tom Manning, Adam Pyka, Pete Widynski

Also present: Rev. Austin Budnick, Rev. Joseph Drag, Bro. Casimir Orleanski and special guests Mr. & Mrs. B. Widynski, parents of Steve '68 and Pete '70.

GRAND PRIX DATE CHANGED

For those alumni who might be interested in attending the 1980 Watkins Glen Grand Prix, there will (it appears) be a race but the date has been changed to the weekend of April 12-13. Efforts are underway to keep the Grand Prix in Watkins Glen but to pick a more acceptable date - perhaps in September. This year, though, be prepared for cold weather, lots of mud, and possibly even some snow!



BELOW LEFT: Fr. Austin and Bro. Casimir at the Alumni Mass along with members of St. Mary's Parish Choir.

PADUA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
BOX 51
WATKINS GLEN, NY
14891