

The Paduan

Alumni Newsletter for
St. Anthony of Padua Alumni
Vol. 11 No. 2, October, 2018

From the Guest Editors Laptop

My wife Linda and I have attended several Padua reunions over the years, and they have all been very enjoyable, getting together with Paduans who attended during my years there as well as making new friends with Paduans and their families from previous years. However the reunion this past August, the 50th for our class, was especially fun and gratifying for us. Getting together with so many of my classmates and their spouses made this a particularly memorable reunion.

Seeing so many of the guys whom I haven't seen for 50 years, reminiscing about our mutual experiences at Padua, and hearing about their lives and experiences since, were all great and certainly worth any effort in communicating with everyone beforehand. In fact, those prior calls, texts and emails were almost as enjoyable as the reunion itself. It enabled me to talk with not only the attendees, but also those who couldn't make the reunion. Although I don't have any actual brothers,

I consider my classmates as close to that as could be possible. I'd like to thank all those who were able to make time in their schedules to join with us in the celebration of our 50th.

I look forward to seeing them as well as other '68 classmates who were not able to attend the gathering last August at future yearly reunions. Thanks again for all the memories, both old and new.
Gus Kuklinski '68



Top Row: Rich Olechnowicz, Gus Kuklinski, Steve Kiersznowski, Humberto Ciffoni, Jack Opiola, Fr Joel Szykowski '58, John Paul Marosy.
Bottom Row Vince Burcz, Joe Biernat, Paul Lesczynski, Mike Tyburczyk, not in picture Stan Romelczyk

List of Attendees

Class of '55:

Dmuchowski, Leonard, Malina,
Robert, Uss, John

Class of '56:

Asiello, John, Opiola, Edward

Class of '57

Barstys, Joseph

Class of '58:

Fr. Szydlowski, Joel, Uss, Michael

Class of '59:

Mangini, Anthony

Class of '62

LaSalle, John, Mielnik, John

Class of '63:

Asiello, Michael, Benedek, Roland,
Gryszan, John, Regula, Richard,

Class of '66:

Malina, Barbara

Class of '67:

Serzan, Vince

Class of '68:

Biernat, Joseph, Vincent Burcz,
Ciffoni, Humberto, Kiersznowski,
Stephen, Kuklinski, August,
Lesczynski, Paul, Marosy, John
Paul, Olechnowicz, Richard, Opiola,
Jack, Romelczyk, Stanley, Tyburczy,
Michael, 68

Class of '69:

Glynn, Kevin, Pludrzynski, John

Reunion 2019

Friday August 9th to Sunday August
11th. Class of '69 will be
celebrating

Its 50th, Class of '59 its 60th, class of
64 its 55th and class of 54 its 65th.



Top Row: John Paul Marosy, Gus
Kuklinski, Stan Romelczyk, Humberto
Ciffoni, Steve Kiersznowski. Bottom Row
Joe Bienat, Vince Burcz, Paul Lesczynski

Classmates Post Reunion Thoughts

What a great experience it was for me to attend the 50th. Anniversary Of our class graduation and to meet with my friend's classmates I had not seen for so many years, 50 years to be exact, as well as to meet and enjoy the company of Paduans from other class years.

I had always wanted to return to Watkins Glen since I left in 1968 but for one reason or another, had not done it, so this reunion served this purpose too. The year I spent in Padua marked me deeply in a very positive way, so to be at this reunion was a pending issue for me, and it is amazing how at ease I felt.

I hope, that with the help of the communication tools now available we will keep in touch and share experiences; it would not have been easy to get us all together had it not been for e-mail and Google.

I want to give special thanks to Gus Kuklinski and Joe Biernat for getting the group together and organizing the reunion every year - not an easy task.

My best wishes of happiness and health for all and your families and I hope we can get together again in the near future. May God bless us all”

Humbero Chiffoni ‘68

The coolest thing for me was pulling into the motel portion of the Lodge & bumping into Paul Lesczynski looking for the Long House like me. Even after 50 years, I recognized who he was immediately.

I wish every living classmate could have attended. It was an Amazing Experience.
We are truly a Band of Brothers!

Steve Kierzenowski ‘68

A Paduan Spouse View

This might be a bit unusual since I’m not a Paduan but as a spouse I would love to say how much I’ve enjoyed every reunion since 2007 when Joe and I connected with Tom Malina.

We have met some incredible people that we have stayed in touch with but also those we miss terribly. I know how hard Joe and Gus worked to try to gather the “guys” together. This was #50 how could this possibly be. They were teens just yesterday.

I’ve known Gus and Vince for quite sometime but to have “Magic Moments” with Humberto, Paul, Steve, Mike, Rich, John Paul, Jack, and Stan and their spouses were truly amazing! What touched my heart most was when our classmates spoke with Alan Sheredy who was unable to join us. I believe these guys had a great education but the “Paduans Spirit” really touched my heart and my life. Thank you Tony Specian for all your hard work and devotion, because of you we all remain connected.

God Bless, Health, Joy and Peace,
dear Paduans! See you in August 2019! STO LAT!

Chris Biernat ’68

Early arrival BBQ

During the course of planning for the class of ’68, 50th reunion we decided to have a simple Thursday evening BBQ consisting of hot dogs, hamburgers, “Bigos”-Polish Hunters stew with kielbasa. This would extend the reunion for those who could make it and extend our time together with our fellow classmates, after 50 years there was a lot of catching up to do. It was a Resounding Success! The memories, experiences and antics all came to life as if it was yesterday. This class gathering did not disband till well after midnight.

From the desk of John Mielnik:

This past year as things started to develop with the reunion, I sensed something was different and at first I couldn't put my hands around it. As time progressed and I was doing those administrative things that are needed in making a reunion a success (with the help of others) the light bulb lit. It was the guys from the class of 68; they were emailing me; I was receiving phone calls and on the phone for as much as an hour with individuals I never met, even receiving an invitation out to dinner in July. No class had ever done that before. These guys were asking questions and taking a sincere interest in what was to be their REUNION. For all the reasons that I have in the past said 'why do I put myself out working on a Reunion and getting aggravated, someone else can do it'. Well the members of the Class of 68 made it clear to me that we are members in a special club, we are the last remaining in it and a genuine brotherhood and we owe it to each other.

That's why we do it. Also as I write this piece, I have two letters (snail mail) that I received this week sitting on my desk that require responses still thanking me and the team for all the work, this was a different year. Thanks To All for Making It a Success.

Contributors: Joe and Chris Biernat '68, Humberto Chiffoni '68, Steve Kierznowski '68, Gus Kuklinski '68, John & Carol LaSalle '62, Barbra Malina '66. John & Joyce Mielnek '62, Tony Specian '66

Visit our home website paduaprep.com. The site is rich in Padua History. In Addition to a bulletin board, picture gallery and blog it has all the Siquaeris yearbooks and back issues of the Paduan. It is a great source to help you recall those memories of our days spent there. We are also on Facebook:
[St Anthony Of Padua, Watkins Glen NY](#)

Things to do when visiting Watkins Glen

By [John Mielnik](#)

How far and how much will it cost to Drive to [Watkins Glen](#)?

Yes the Glen is still there and open.

Museums: [Corning Museum of Glass](#), [Glenn Curtiss Aviation Museum](#)

Cruises: [Captain Bill's Seneca cruises](#)

Shopping: [The Windmill Waterloo](#)

[Premium Outlets](#),

[Finger Lakes Connection](#)

Places to Dine: [Montage at Glen Motor Inn](#), [Seneca Harbor Station](#)

Places to Stay: [Villager Motel](#), [Idlwilde Inn](#), [Glen Harbor Hotel](#), [Longhouse Lodge](#)

If you have an interesting hobby, event,



