

The Paduan

Alumni Newsletter for
St. Anthony of Padua Alumni
Vol. 12 No. 1, May, 2019

From the Guest Editors Laptop

Dear Padua Alumni

I don't know how long ago I started to go to the reunions with Tom. Gosh it's been years! What I do remember is the acceptance immediately. He once said that with the Alumni you are part of an exclusive group where there are no new members. With me, you proved him wrong. It has been a great pleasure to assist the committee putting together the reunion. They plan and work at it all year, and I have been blessed to be included.

What stands out for me as I observe your gathering with wives, children, and each other is that you are a brotherhood, a family. You may not even have known each other until the day of the reunion; yet you have a bond like no other school reunion.

I hope your tradition of reuniting each year continues for many more years. When you do, please continue to share your stories. Inside the walls of Padua you

created something special with not only your classmates, but far beyond. Tell your wife, children, grandchildren, your fellow priests and friends what it was like to leave your family and come to a small town. Tell them what happened when you tried to push the limits. Tell them about your favorite teacher. Tell them the funny, and not so funny, adventures. Most of all, tell them how those formative years became a major part of who you are today. You learned so much more than what the classroom taught.

The walls of St Anthony of Padua have been torn down, but not the memories. Keep sharing them with your family and other alumni. Keep the memories alive. They are treasures!

Thank you for embracing me in your exclusive club! I hope to see old friends this year and make new ones!

Much love to all my Padua Family,

Barbara Malina



Class of 1969

Front Row: Steven Jurewicz, Michael Zwerzynski, Kevin Skislock, Stephen Dzuiba, Henry Karsh, George Porko, Stanley Stobierski
Middle Row: (far right) Zenon Davidowwicz, Stephan Hamilton, Witold Plucienkowski
Back Row: Robert Nick, Donald Breault, Edward Slodyczka, Garret Dikun, Alan Ratkowski, Edward Scarp, Gerald Silkiewicz, John Pludrzynski, Kevin Glynn

Editor Note

There is a lot of behind the scene work by many contributors for each issue of the Paduan. Your thanks should go out to them. I'm just the guy with the scissors and glue to put the Paduan together. The main core of contributors include: John Mielnik '62, John LaSalle '62, Barb Malina '66, Joe Biernat '68 and Gus Kuklinski '68, and the classes celebrating their anniversary.

2019 Reunion

Friday August 9 to Sunday August 11.
Class of 1969 will be celebrating it's 50th, the class of 1959 it's 60th, Class of 1964 it's 55th and class of 1954 its 65th

PLEASE NOTE

This Years reunion is sandwiched in between the annual NASCAR the week before and the Woodstock Reunion the week after.

In Memory

Class of '59

MANGINI, Anthony A., 77, of River Edge, NJ, suddenly passed away on Wednesday, November 21, 2018. Anthony is survived by his loving wife of forty years, Teresa. He was a devoted and proud father to his son David and his wife Anne and his daughter Alexandra Mangini Kavanah and her husband Patrick J. He adored his two grandchildren, Joseph Anthony Mangini and Abbey Olivia Kavanah, both of whom were born this year. He was a dear brother to James J. and his wife Marlene and his sister, Carol M. He was a caring uncle to Scott, Michelle (John) Fazio, Kenneth (Stephanie) Marvulli as well as to his grandnieces and grandnephews. Anthony was raised in Wallington, NJ and resided in River Edge, NJ with his family for thirty years. He attended St. Anthony of Padua High School in Watkins Glen, NY and earned a bachelor's degree from Seton Hall University. He also earned a graduate degree in Divinity from Immaculate Conception Seminary. He went on to earn a Master's Degree from Columbia University as well proceeding to be a doctoral candidate at Columbia. Anthony spent much of his career as an English, Latin, and Theater Arts teacher at Saddle River Day School. He was also an adjunct professor at Iona College and Bergen Community College.

Class of '61

George Uss

George Joseph Uss, the youngest son of Agnes Wesolowska and John Uss, entered the joy of Heaven on February 13, 2019. He was born on September 28, 1944. His brothers are John, Michael and Frank. George was graduated from St. Anthony of Padua Preparatory School in 1961. He enjoyed a career in banking. He joined Citibank directly out of High School and completed work as VP of Operations at the Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi. He loved to fish and to golf. Joyce Ragione won his heart in marriage for more than fifty years. His true love shone brilliantly as he cared for her during a long terminal illness. George and Joyce had three sons: Michael, Gregory and Brian; six grandchildren: Jonathan, Daniel, Matthew, Christopher, Alexandra and Madison.

Condolences

Family and wives have become part of the Paduan family, Our condolences and prayers go out to lost family members.

Ronnie Wendol wife of Ed Wendol (Wendolowski) '59

Donna Poczobut wife of Henry Poczobut '62.

HOW TWENTY-ONE YEARS IN THE LAST CENTURY IN A TOWN IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE CHANGED THE LIVES OF A THOUSAND PEOPLE.

“Mid century modern”. You have heard that saying countless times referring to houses built in the immediate aftermath of the second World War. How about a mid-century school in a little town in the middle of nowhere that changed the lives of a thousand people. By now you have figured out where this article is going; I would have expected nothing less. Perception is a strong point especially for those who experienced a life changing experience.

By now most of the people who spent time in the last century in a little town in the middle of nowhere are taking life a bit easier or are hoping to do so in the near future. Some of the people who lived in the town were sons of farmers and some were sons of shopkeepers and some were the sons of civil servants and some of coal miners and some of teachers. You get the point. Those sons of people in different walks of life went on to do some amazing things. Some went into the professions, teaching, the military, civil service, religious life, priesthood, business. Some worked with their hands and some worked with their minds. Some wrote books and some repaired things mechanical. Some country boys wound up as city slickers and some city slickers became committed to the rural life. Amazing how twenty-one years in the last century in a town in the middle of nowhere changed the life direction of so many.

Little places have big names. Unless you are from Rhode Island you wouldn't know that state has the longest official name in the U.S.: The State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations. So too did a small school in the last century in a town in the middle of nowhere: St. Anthony of Padua Minor Seminary and Preparatory School.

Unfortunately that long named school only existed for a mere twenty-one years and has been gone for almost fifty. Those of us who were privileged to have spent formative years there were in luck. For some the experience was life altering; for others not so much so.

However, I think we can all agree that a little school in a little town in the middle of nowhere in the last century touched, changed, altered and greatly influenced the lives of not only those who were lucky to attend but those of their families, friends and relatives. The structures are essentially gone but the memories and spirit live on.

John LaSalle '62

WHAT'S IT LIKE BEING MARRIED TO A PADUAN:

- Cooking for a Paduan is easy, a gourmet meal to them is fried bologna and onions
 - You can smell a Paduan in a crowd by the cologne he wears "HAWAIIIN SURF" (introduced to us by Gus)
 - You know your married to a Paduan when your husband can be in a deep sleep while kneeling during mass and not falling down
 - Even though a Paduan had to scrape the dishes at the end of the table at least once a week they seem to forget how to do it at home
 - When a Paduan sees an individual size portion box of cereal he has this uncontrollable urge to cut the box open pour the milk and eat directly from the box rather than use a cereal bowl.
 - I can't understand why my Paduan husband insist that when changing bed linens the old top sheet needs to be placed on the bottom and used again until it is time to change the bed sheets
- When a Paduan hears the golden oldies song "DOWN TOWN by Petula Clark" they momentarily zone out to a nostalgic place and time
 - You know your married to a Paduan when it's 15 degrees outside and not only does he not put on a coat when he takes out the garbage but he stops for a 15 minute chat with a friend passing by
 - Paduans pretty much all have a good sense of humor. I guess that is something they had to develop living where they did
 - It is amazing that I married someone who actually knows how to polka. Thanks to coach Lemak, Fr. Emil and all those Saturday gym class practices, (but did you really dance with guys as your partners???).
 - Remembers the gruesome and endless tales of punishment and torture inflicted both to my husband and by my husband
 - Having gone to a school in Watkins Glen, my Paduan husband now thinks that every time he gets into his car he thinks he is pulling out onto a race track. Scares the heck out of me with his driving.
 - Last but not least, this goes to the women we meet at the reunions. We see almost as much camaraderie and friendship among the wives of Paduans as we do among the alumni. Congratulations to all those married Paduans for finding women with such character and personalities that were willing to marry us.

The Confessional

Announcing the formation of a new and ongoing feature in the Alumni Paduan: 'The Confessional'

Now that the statute of limitations has long passed it's 'high' time to share your past transgressions while at school. Acknowledging our past sins might be a humorous way of getting things off your chest. You can share them with the Editorial staff of the Paduan and we will hide your name and class if requested.

For example a former manager of the PX has 'fessed up to never charging his card for anything for a year and getting a cash refund on graduation! Another 'little angel' confessed to fermenting apple cider and selling it for ten cents a glass .Still another group kidnapped Bro. Valentine's cat that wound up in Buggy's lab.

Share your deepest secrets (no reports of murder accepted). Our official Chaplain Fr. Joel has assured us that no penance will exceed one Our Father and two Hail Mary's!

The Paduan Staff

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 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, or travel you would like to share with your alumni friends please consider submitting an article or a short comment for class notes. Volunteers or contributors are always welcome. Please email me at: paduan5370@gmail.com

Contributors: Joe Biernat '68, Gus Kuklinski '68, John LaSalle '62, Barbra Malina '66. John Mielnek 62', Tony Specian '66

