

The Paduan

Alumni Newsletter for
St. Anthony of Padua Alumni
Vol. 8 No. 1 May 2015

From the Guest Editor's Laptop

Looking In, Looking Out

This article for our focal newsletter (otherwise known as The Paduan) on the reunion classes of 1955 and 1965 will be a reflective piece on the last 10 years. I can recall most vividly preparing and organizing for the Reunion in 2005. Only two years earlier the PaduaPrep.com website was launched, and I had discovered that many alumni were actively meeting each year to celebrate our Padua fraternity. For that reunion in 2005 I went all out in trying to provide a lively and happy get-together, buying commemorative wines from Glenora Winery with Padua labels and making a Padua Prep cap available for attendees. Fr. Austin was excited too, as he always seemed to be, for he called me a month or so before the reunion asking how things were going. I believe he really wanted it to happen, and I can understand why after seeing his joy during the actual reunion days.

However, what I discovered during that reunion (and also from the reunion of 2003 which I attended) was something unexpected, and that was I began to see my association with Padua as an alumnus was really with the whole school and not just my class of 1965. I began to see a vibrancy and enthusiasm in alumni years removed from my class and yet I felt a kindred spirit with them all. In essence my Class of 1965 has morphed into my Class of Padua Proper, there being no boundary or time lines between classes. It was quite a liberating experience, and one from which I drew energy to maintain the website.

But more surprises awaited. In 2007 during the summer where I was thinking only about summer things, I got an email from Tony Specian asking about Padua, since he had just discovered the website.

Needless to say, one thing led to another, and Tony picked up the gauntlet, as it were, and put together an Alumni Directory and started republishing a revamped Paduan. So we are approaching the 8th year of the new Paduan publication. Tony has gone the “full monty”, as it were, and we are all a little richer because of him and his efforts.

Personally, I have found it harder to return to the hills of the Padua countryside. When I was there last ten years ago the school proper was torn down, but the friary, lab, boiler house and gym were still standing. I believe even more buildings are down now, and that would be difficult to witness. For me, Padua exists now in my memory and heart, and I've tried to pour those streams of sentiment into the website. If I went back to another reunion I probably would not visit the old school grounds, preferring to simply enjoy the brotherhood of alumni in its stead.

Chad Orłowski '65

The Schizophrenic Academic Career of a 1955 Graduate

Time flies!!!! It is hard to believe 60 years have passed since ten of us – the Class of 1955 – graduated from Padua. We began with a class of 22 (see photo), were reduced to a class of 12 as Juniors, and concluded with a class of 10 (see photo). The class had a unique composition from several perspectives. Three of us, Tom Trella, Ed McDonnell and myself, had an older brother named Joe in the class of 1953, the first graduating class. Three of us, Richard Tulko, Lenny Dmuchowski and myself, attended Our Lady of Consolation parochial school in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. I also had a cousin in the class, John Uss.

Like many former Paduans, my memories are shaped through lenses refined by several superb teachers. In no particular order, the following were key players. Fr. Sylvester – freshman Latin: if not for the solid foundation of grammar instilled by Fr. Syl, Latin 2 (Caesar), 3 (Cicero) and 4 (Virgil) would have been a disaster. Fr. George – class moderator and American history, and Fr. Leo – world history: their human view of events provided a solid foundation of history that is with me to this day.

Fr. Claude – algebra and geometry: though not my favorite subjects, he made them enjoyable, geometry in particular. Unfortunately, the faculty did not see fit to teach our class trigonometry (except for Alex Maksymowicz); I paid the price for this when I was studying biomechanics down the road! Fr. Albin – general science and biology: to make a long story short, I went through college freshman botany and zoology largely with my high school notebook. He encouraged us to observe nature and appreciate the details. In addition to routine dissections, I fondly recall dissecting a fresh raccoon carcass found in the snow (you have never seen such pink lungs), and taking photos through the microscope with my Brownie Hawkeye camera. Fr. Henry (mon pere) – Polish and French:

his love of language teaching came through loud and clear, and provided us with a superb foundation. As an aside, I passed my required French exam in graduate school – translation of an article, largely as a result of our two years of French with Fr. Henry. Actually, I took the test on a bet and successfully translated the piece. And finally Mr. Franzese – physical education and baseball coach: he arrived for our junior year and introduced us to systematic physical education; he also was a superb coach. Unfortunately, he was with us all too briefly as he died in a truck accident in the summer of 1954.

I also worked in the library during the first two years and thoroughly enjoyed the details of cataloging and typed many of the 3 x 5 cards! This interest in library details surfaced again when Fr. Terrence assigned me the following topic for a required term paper at the end of the junior year: how Shakespeare physically used the Globe theatre.



Class of 1955 – as freshman 1951-1952

Front row, L to R: Fr. George, Tom Trella (Lackawanna), Richard Heid (Bronx/Lodi, NJ), Bill De Andrea (Elmira), John Uss (Elmhurst, Queens), Bob Amrozowicz (Lackawanna), Andy Gowarty (Scranton), Ed McDonnell (Bath),
 Second row, L to R: Alex Maksymowicz (England/Astoria, Queens), Bob Malina (Brooklyn), Raymond Karpowicz (Shenandoah), Eugene Szufel (Pittsburg), Richard Tulko (Brooklyn), Anthony Lapczynski (Bronx), Raymond Schultz (Horseheads), Hugo Carr (Bronx/Babylon, LI)
 Third Row, L to R: Eddie Sobeck (Pittsburg), Ronald Wróblewski (Cheektowaga, NY), Tom Ford (Elmira), James O'Rourke (Elmira/Hammondsport), Lenny Dmuchowski (Brooklyn), Joe Kurina (Lansford, PA/Tarrytown, NY), Rigney Green (Hammondsport)

I had a busy Easter break in the New York public library, which had all of the resources and which opened my eyes to another view of libraries and literature. The interest in libraries remained with me throughout my academic career.

After my two year stint in the library, I was assigned the duty of caring for the new gymnasium, which I did for the next two years. Keep in mind, we watched the gymnasium go up during our freshman and part of our sophomore years. It was opened for the graduation of the class of 1953. My main chores were daily maintenance of the gymnasium floor, general weekend cleaning of the gymnasium on Saturday afternoons through the 5 pm study hall, preparations for home games and of course the Sunday evening movie, and running several intramural activities. It is indeed depressing to see what is left of our gymnasium.

When I graduated from Padua in 1955, I opted to major in physical education at Manhattan College in New York City. I would suspect it was Jim Franzese who impacted this decision. It was also a decision that I never regretted. My preparation in biology and history at Padua made the transition and progress at Manhattan relatively easy. Physical education was part of the college of arts and sciences so that all of our classes, except for our major, were taken with other students. Given the biology requirements for physical education, the English requirements for all prospective teachers and my choice of history classes for electives, I completed my degree in physical education with sufficient course work for teacher certification in my major plus biology, history and English.

Two of my teachers at Manhattan, Bob Beardsley and Pat McGarry, encouraged me to pursue graduate studies in biology and history, respectively. However, I opted for graduate study in physical education at the University of Wisconsin, where I completed the MS and PhD degrees in 1960 and 1963, respectively. I developed an interest in motor development – how children develop and learn proficiency in movement skills, and the physical growth of children.

Upon completion at Wisconsin, I wanted to further my research skills in the study of physical growth, which led me to the University of Pennsylvania.

I was hoping to get a post-doc position, but the professor who invited me encouraged me to pursue another degree in physical anthropology and provided support for the next four years (actually tax dollars from the National Institutes of Health). His logic was simple: Bob, you are capable but your degree is in physical education, and many people will simply not believe you! In many ways, he was correct as this attitude still prevails today. He made a good case! I agreed with him and entered the PhD program in anthropology in the Fall of 1963. What an eye-opener! My eyes were opened to the world of culture, and to variability, genetics and evolutionary theory in biological anthropology.

After four years at Penn, I was offered an assistant professor position in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Texas at Austin in the Fall of 1967 (my anthropology degree was officially awarded in 1968). I spent the next 28 years at Texas and was jointly appointed in Anthropology and Kinesiology (the updated name for physical education) from 1973 through 1989 when I moved full time into Kinesiology. I left Texas for Michigan State University (Kinesiology) in 1995 and retired from formal academia at the end of the 2002 academic year. My wife Eva and I moved back to Texas and built a house on the ranch that has been in her family for almost 200 years – before Texas was Texas.

After my first year at the University of Texas, I was invited to participate in a field project in the Valley Oaxaca, southern Mexico. What began as a simple survey of the health and nutritional status of indigenous (Zapotec) school children is still ongoing. After several field seasons in Oaxaca through the 1970s, we restudied a couple of communities in 2000-2002, hope to get back for another follow-up.

The early experiences in Oaxaca were soon followed by several years of collaborative research with colleagues at the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP) in Guatemala. With time, I had the opportunity to work with nutritionists in Ecuador and also had a unique experience assisting a colleague, a professor of Art History, in working at a pre-ceramic archeological site (La Galgada) in Peru. My chores related to detailed analyses of the skeletal materials recovered from several tombs.

I felt much at home and still do in Latin America, and often wondered why. I often felt that I already had some grasp of the region and history. Where and when was this seed planted? I suspect it was sophomore world history with Fr. Leo at Padua. Fr. Leo was a missionary in Peru for some time and his class included detailed coverage of the Conquest. Indeed his nickname was Fr. Cusco. This and the early work at the Padua library coincided when I discovered the Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas – one of the best Latin American libraries in the world. I spent much time in this remarkable collection browsing in the stacks and periodically still do to check some Oaxaca details.

Allowing for field research in Latin America, my primary interests in the biological growth and maturation of children and adolescents have pretty well driven my career. In addition to physical growth and biological maturation per se, my research has included studies of motor development and performance, physical fitness and physical activity of children and adolescents; youth sports and young athletes in general; the growth and maturation of youth athletes in a variety of sports and at levels from beginners to the elite; and the potential influence(s) of regular physical activity (or lack thereof) and training for sport. I have also been fortunate to travel across most of the U.S., Canada and Mexico, a good part of Europe and Latin America, and also South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia, Israel, Qatar and most recently Iran (overall 40 countries) primarily to lecture on topics related to growth, maturation, physical activity and sport. For the record, I had an unexpected and unauthorized visit to a foreign country: on 25 March 1969. I was a passenger on Delta flight 821 in route from Dallas to San Diego but was hijacked to Havana. It has been a fun journey from the streets of Williamsburg to retirement in rural Texas. Retirement, of course, is a relative concept, as I am still active with research, writing and travel.

I am forever grateful for the foundation established by the good nuns at Our Lady of Consolation in Williamsburg and largely refined at Padua.

I was well prepared to move on and take advantages of opportunities that came my way, albeit a somewhat schizophrenic collection spanning an academic career in Physical Education and Anthropology. Frankly, I cannot tell the fields apart!

As I conclude this meandering piece, a good deal of what I was able to achieve can be traced to Padua, the education, the classmates and school mates, the overall environment and the good Fathers and Brothers (whom we all too often overlook). And, do not forget the community of Watkins Glen – it was a nice place to consider home for four years. It also feels like home after many years. In closing, I would like to recall the comments of John Pilch, class of 1954, to the effect that "...Padua was all about: Academics," and I am very grateful for that!

Bob Malina Class of '55



Class of 1955 as seniors

Front row, L to R: Lenny Dmuchowski, Bob Malina, Fr. George, Richard Tulko, John Uss

Back row, L to R: Tom Trella, Ed McDonnell, Alex Maksymowicz, Bob Amrozowicz, Joe Kurina, Eugene Szufel

Padua Prep website updated

Webmaster Chad Orlowski in January of this year updated the back end of the paduaprep.com website, using Adobe Muse. The front end basically is the same. Additions with the menus, e.g., Blog is now part of Sharing, and separate pages transferred to the Paduan links (i.e., the post Padua era). This is the 5th update since inception simply because each other web creation editing program had bit the dust. We are indebted to Chad for his technical skills and maintaining the website.

Editor Notes

If you have any milestones in your life (Retirement, anniversary, grandkids, travel etc.), we'd like to include it in the Alumni Paduan Class notes, please

2015 Reunion

Reunion 2015 will be held August 14th to the 16th. The Class of '65 will be celebrating it's 50th and the Class of '55 will be celebrating it's 60th. Other milestones include the classes of '60 and '70 celebrating their 55th and 45th respectively.

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](#)



Class of 1965

Front row: Paul LeFrois, Robert Kuzmiak , Chad Orlowski, Byron Neid ; Row 2: Damien Czarnecki, Robert Hill, Robert Benjamin, Ed Zygodlo ;Row 3: Robert Bacza, Frank Trestka, Vincent Polakowski, Walter Rydzon.; Row 4: Edward Malinowski, Brian Bonner, Victor Bachynski, John Ambrosone; Row 5: Thomas Budzinski, James Jeffrey Crisco, Lawrence Ducknowski, Robert Pinkos, John Nodar; Row 6 : Stephen Bilsky, Gregory Linnick, John Poplawski, Anthony Montoya ,Lester Kaczynski. Absent John Drozdal.

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: Leonard Dmuchowski '55,
John LaSalle '62, Bob Malina '55, John
Mielnik '62, Chad Orlovski '65, Tom
Malina '66, Tony Specian '66

Tentative 2015 Padua Reunion Schedule
Subject to change, will be emailed when Menu available
The Longhouse Manor
Reunion Headquarters
3625 State Route 14
Watkins Glen, NY 14891
607-535-2565

Friday, August 14

3:00 – 5:30pm Alumni Gathering and Meeting at the Longhouse Manor

6:30pm Dinner at the Seneca Harbor Station in Watkins Glen
With Preselected Entrees

Afterward Return to Longhouse Manor for socializing
Beverages and Snacks provided

Saturday, August 15

Morning Breakfast and morning on your own

12:00 Noon Lunch catered at the Longhouse Manor
Sandwich fixings, salads, fruit, beverages

5:30pm Mass at St. Mary of the Lake Church

7:15pm Catered **Polish Food Dinner Buffet**
at the Longhouse Manor
Socializing afterward – snacks and beverages provided

Sunday, August 16

Morning Breakfast on your own
Meet at the Longhouse Manor
to say 'good bye' until we meet again!