

# Midwest Bits and Pieces

JULY 1, 1993

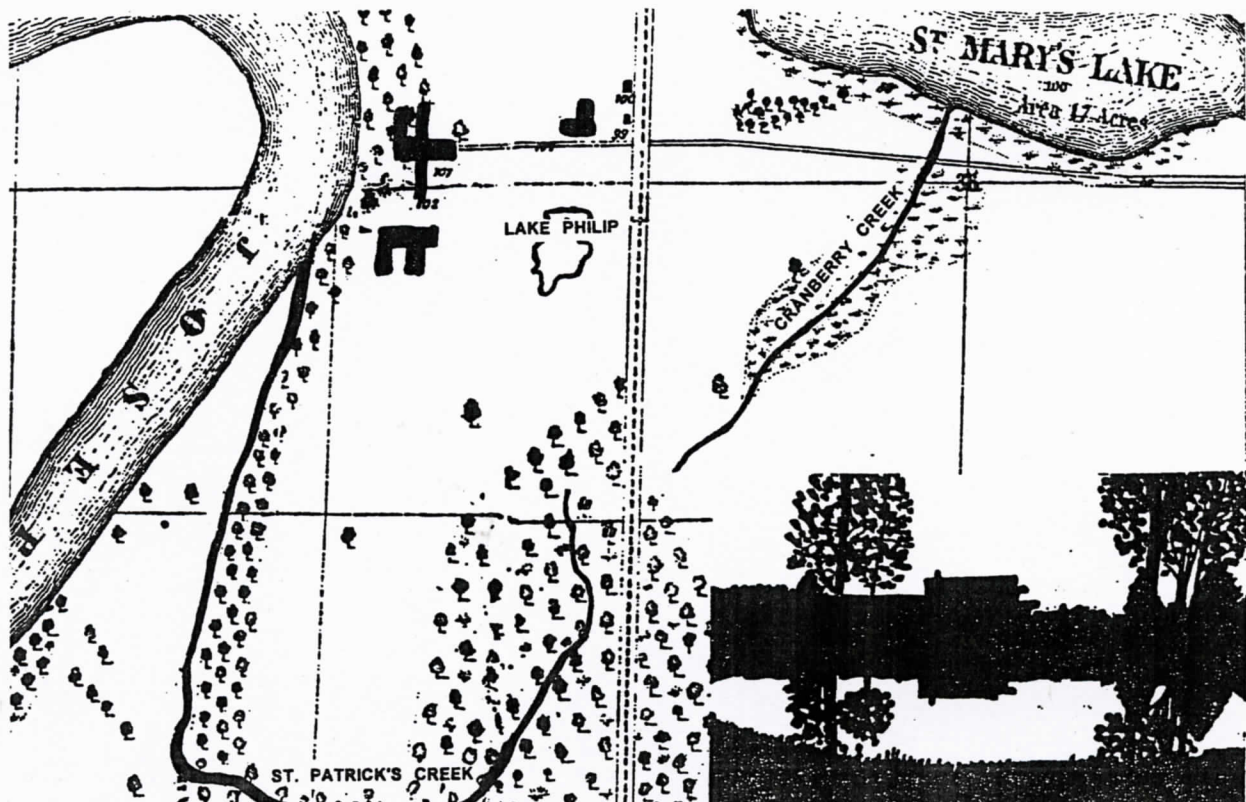
## LAKE PHILIP, CRANBERRY CREEK AND ST. PATRICK'S CREEK

In the spring of 1984, a lake appeared to the south of the Provincial House. Each year with the winter snow and the spring rain it would reappear. There was no religious significance attached to this phenomenon. Drainage was blocked by the original preparation for construction of the Brothers' Center and the Provincial House.

The natural path for the drainage was to St. Patrick's Creek and Cranberry Creek then on to the St. Joseph River as you can see on the map below. A study of the map shows that water has been a consideration for sometime on this corner of our land. Notice that the two creeks

drained the area in the past. Today water stands on the highway after heavy rain. The under pavement is always wet and is beginning to break up from the winter thaw and freeze process. The lower right insert on the map is a silhouette of Lake Philip with the Provincial House in the background.

Consultation was held, and Brother Eduardo Michalik, C.S.C. was contracted to drain Lake Philip. This project will take some time to complete since this will be a hand dug trench back filled with drain tile, rice gravel and the original top soil put back into place.



## BROTHER JEROME MEYER HONORED

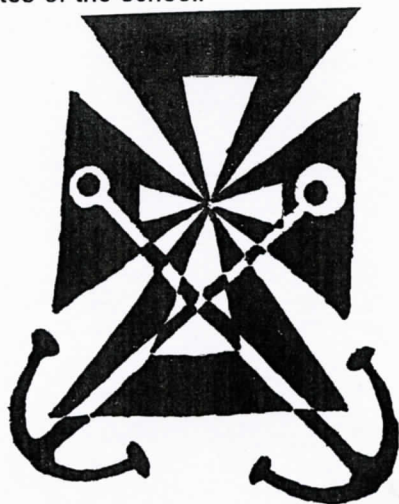
Brother Jerome Meyer, CSC, '57, was honored by the Alumni Association of St. Edward High School for his dedicated service to his alma mater. Brother received a "Bronze Eagle Award" at the Third Annual Green and Gold Alumni Luncheon.

Brother Jerome was recognized most notably for his 21 years at St. Edward as a math teacher, doing several years of duty as Assistant Dean, service as class level moderator, Bowling Team Moderator and his special services as the "Crankshaft" of St. Edward High School. (Brother has been school bus driver, serving almost every level of sport.)

Alumni affairs have also been among his activities. He has served with classmates on phone-a-thons and attended activities of the class and alumni association.

Brother Jerome is the first member of his class, and the first Brother-graduate, to be recognized with this award.

St. Edward is proud to list over 20 current members of the Brothers of Holy Cross as graduates of the school.

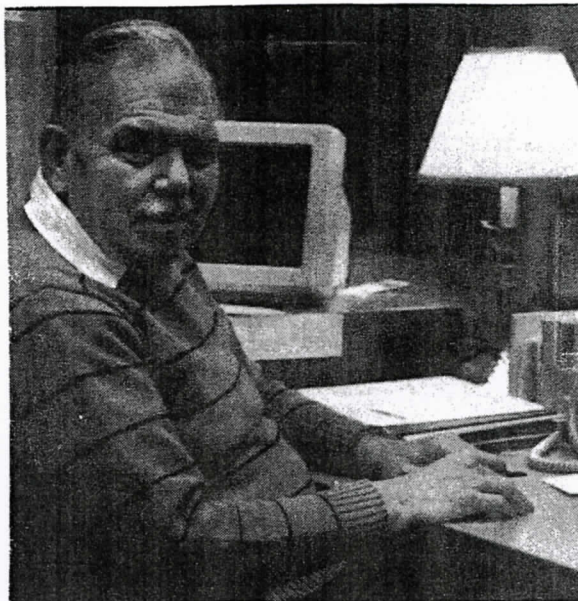


### CAN'T FIND A BOOK? LOOK FOR BROTHER JOHN

by Jennifer Thistle

There are two passions in Brother John Federowicz's life: libraries and religion.

His history with libraries began when he worked as a stack messenger in high school at St. Paul's Central Library. Now, more than 50 years and numerous libraries later, he works as the night supervisor of the O'Shaughnessy-Frey Library Center.



His religious interest began after high school when he became a member of the Congregation of Holy Cross at Notre Dame, a religious order of male teachers. And for half a century, the two have been combined in his daily life.

Federowicz, who says he's "of retirement age," has become a familiar face to many during late night study hours.

Many students recognize him as the man checking their books out at the circulation desk. Others have seen him taking breaks on the front steps of the library, perhaps getting a breath of fresh air or smoking a cigarette.

He is a reflective man whose relationship with God remains important. "It is the vocation of every Christian to make a profound difference for having gone through this world," he said. "Each must translate how one is to do good and avoid evil."

Federowicz said UST's Catholic nature has made him want to stay here. "There seems to be a constant endeavor to improve the human condition and a seriousness about academic excellence," he said



Rebecca Dixon, his supervisor, said Federowicz gets along with both student assistants and the students studying there. "He's had a lot of experience working at different libraries," she said.

Federowicz has taught students from the fourth grade to graduate school, all over the Midwest, the Pacific Northwest and Texas. He said teaching is the ultimate profession. "It is the teacher who holds a place of importance next to parents for influencing others," he said.

Federowicz is a useful resource for students at the library and he's a lifesaver for Tommies doing last-minute research.

"He knows exactly where every reference book is in the building," said senior Eric Haney, who has worked with Federowicz for two years. "Brother John has a dry sense of humor that you don't really notice until you get to know him."

"He hasn't missed a day of work since he started at St. Thomas," Haney said.

Federowicz feels at home in the surrounding community. "He doesn't believe in Minneapolis," Haney said. "He said it doesn't have anything that St. Paul can't offer."

Federowicz has earned degrees from University of Notre Dame, Kent State University, Seattle University and Gonzaga University of Spokane.

His hobbies include reading, music and collecting stamps, which he has done since childhood. He spoke Polish as a child, and didn't master English until he began school. Throughout high school and college he learned German, French and Latin.

What makes him most irritated is "the selfishness of certain students" who leave paper clips, rubber bands and candy wrappers laying on the floor throughout the library.

Federowicz said that while he's read many books over the years and knows a lot of the material in the library, Jan Hassler remains his favorite author of all time. (Taken from St. Thomas College Paper, "The Aquin", May 7, 1993.)

## THE FAMILY - THE HOME

by

Brother Edward Courtney, CSC

Whenever one attempts to write anything about family life (I'm third oldest of nine children), stereotypes must be carefully avoided because families and the individual members are so uniquely different in so many ways (thank the Lord). One's development in the home, one might say, is one's individual destiny. A strong family unit will serve the nations needs, respect its laws and promote its patriotism. We are all members of a universal family which is pivotal and irreplaceable. The family contributes to the welfare of society whether rich or poor. The family, by example, assists others in the development of inter-personal relationships. The family and society are inter-related for an increase of life's well being and of its liberty. Parents are the child's first teacher and role models and the home is the child's first classroom. William Ross Wallace said over 100 years ago that "The hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world." Special attention must be given by parents and those charged with the education and development of children to help them to grow in self esteem and their personal worth and dignity as persons and to guard and protect their innocence. Family life is under siege from all sides today in America, and can be attributed to four main failings in American society (1993) according to one recent study. 1. A lack of a spiritual goal. 2. The total pursuit of pleasure. 3. The decline and the disrespect (pornography an eight billion dollar industry) for the human person. 4. The lack of a belief in a transcendent God, moral values and citizenship.

Family solidarity will be achieved when a spirit of self sacrifice, patience, forgiveness and reconciliation are present. Values are learned in the home and are nurtured by the Church / synagogue, school and the neighborhood working together in harmony and partnership. The world wide importance of a universal faith in the value of family life is so obvious that it is often overlooked as we search for values, peace and the meaning to life in a very complex and dangerous world. Every promise and every experience offers a new insight and a new mystery into the magnificent union of the members of a family.

And finally, I think it's fitting that I end this little essay on the family by including this beautiful poem titled "HOME" that has become a classic for all time for its simplicity and plainness.

HOME  
John Howard Payne  
(1791-1852)

Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam  
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home!

Charm from the sky seems to hallow us there!  
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met with elsewhere,

Home, Home, sweet Home!

There's no place like home! There's no place like home.

## RECOMMENDATION 8

BROTHER PHILIP ARMSTRONG, FORMATION DIRECTOR FOR THE MIDWEST PROVINCE, INVITES PROVINCE MEMBERS TO SUBMIT IN WRITING BY SEPTEMBER 30 ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS THEY MAY HAVE REGARDING POSSIBLE ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY THE 1994 MIDWEST PROVINCIAL CHAPTER ON RECOMMENDATION 8 OF THE GENERAL CHAPTER OF 1992. RESPONSES SHOULD BE SENT TO BROTHER PHILIP AT THE HOLY CROSS BROTHERS' CENTER.

## MUSICAL CHAIRS

A history of the gymnasium at the Center

The gymnasium was constructed as a part of the college complex here at the Center to meet the requirements for approval of Holy Cross Junior College. It was used in conjunction with the scholasticate and then later by Holy Cross Junior College students.

When the college moved out, thought was given to using it for the Ave Maria Press storage, but the absence of large drive-in doors made it impractical for that use. All the while, off and on storage was a part of the gymnasium's history. St. Joseph's High School was a renter for a period of time, using it as an auxiliary to their own gymnasium.

Some suggested, when St. Joseph moved out, that we turn it into a mausoleum and internment chapel for providing shelter from the weather and a climate controlled resting place for our membership.

WNDU came to the rescue and rented a part of the gymnasium for their own storage purposes while they were in the process of making an addition to their own building. In the meantime, we also were beginning to increase our use of the gymnasium for storage of mission materials, household items from Dujarie, Columba Hall, the Provincial House, the Center and for storing students' materials over the summer breaks.

During the last two years, one-half of the gymnasium has been cleared away to make it possible for Holy Cross College students to use the gymnasium as it was originally intended. At this time, the college has put forward a proposal to cede the administration of the gymnasium: "Ceding the administration means that the College would assume responsibility for all utilities, maintenance, and insurance on the building. In return the college would schedule all uses of the facility while giving its own uses first priority. The Province would be named as an additional insured party by ALL users of the facility."

The Provincial Council has considered the proposal and is thankful that the college is willing to invest the monies for improving and maintaining the gymnasium for use by students, brothers and other groups: "The college wishes to begin this administration beginning August 1, 1993. The Brothers of Holy Cross would continue to retain ownership of the gymnasium and asks in return that the college be given one year's notice of the Province's intention to (a) terminate the College's use of the gymnasium or (b) request additional compensation for its use."

The Provincial Council sees this use as a way of eliminating our costs of insurance, maintenance, and heat which, in the other ventures, was only partially compensated for by the parties who rented the gymnasium for use.

With this agreement we will be freed from all costs on the building. It is the hope that the college will be able to make use of the building and will some day possibly be interested in purchasing it.



## BOARD EFFECTIVENESS CHECKLIST

- 1) Do all board members display a strong personal commitment to the growth and development of their organization.
- 2) Members of the board always base their decisions on what is best for all those who are served, not on special interests or personal agendas.
- 3) Board members understand that they can only act under the authority of the full board -- not as individuals.
- 4) Board members make an effort to develop the characteristics of good team players.
5. Board members understand that they don't have to agree on every issue to be a team, but they must support all majority decisions.
6. The Board occasionally plans teambuilding activities--social outings, retreats, or special presentations, for instance --to build the spirit of teamwork.
7. The Board understands that the administrator is a vital part of the board team.
8. Because of the administrator's expertise, is he/she looked to for recommendations and input as decisions affecting the organization are made.
- 9) Board members display a willingness to learn their jobs, including their proper roles and responsibilities and how the board operates.
- 10) The board has a board-approved code of ethics and reviews it annually.  
(Submitted by Thomas Maddix.)



## **BROTHER BERNARD MOSIER CELEBRATES TEN YEARS AT ST. JOSEPH'S HOME**



On June 13th a celebration was held to honor Brother Bernard Mosier for his ten years of service at the Diocesan Lodge in Spartansburg, Pennsylvania. Father James Peterson, founder of the Lodge, was the celebrant at the Mass. The program was organized by Judy Flynn. Family, friends, members of the Lodge and people from the immediate area were present to enjoy the occasion.

Brother Bernard came to the Lodge at the invitation of Father James Peterson to direct the foundation of a new order, The Little Brothers of Mary, in June, 1983. Brother Bernard's experience was much like that of others working in the formation of young persons considering religious life today. "People come and go," he says. "Nowadays, young people don't want to make a permanent commitment to the priesthood, the brotherhood or the sisterhood. I don't know why. It could be society's influence. The American Church has been permeated by some of the

ideals of society."

Today, the Diocesan Lodge is a home to men who have come from jail or other treatment programs and don't have a place to go. The barn has been winterized and provides comfortable housing for about a dozen men. They cook and maintain the lodge themselves. A program is provided each day for them by a counselor. They are prepared to go out and manage on their own. The average length of stay is about a year.

Brother Bernard is present to the Lodge members twenty-four hours a day. He lives adjacent to the Lodge, in the original farm house that was part of the tract of land used by the Diocesan Lodge. Persons considering service to the Diocesan Lodge live, pray and take their meals in the house which is called, "St. Joseph House."

Brother Bernard is the only permanent member at the Lodge. He works with the men on a one to one basis and provides a spirituality that his years of experience with marginalized people has proved to be effective. During the day he also gives talks to the group on the spiritual life and its value in helping with day to day living. The spirituality is centered around God's love for man. Brother Bernard says that what is often missing in the lives of these men is a sense of love.

When visiting, you cannot but notice the garden, the pond and the cabin. All of these have been a part of Bernard's life. He is that Bernard we know well and wish the best for the next ten years.

As you leave, at the far end of the field, you will see a single large pine tree with a cabin under its protection. This is the place for prayer and solitude for Brother Bernard.

## WILLS

We are preparing new forms for wills to be filled out by province membership. There are two essential changes that need to be made at this time.

The first change is the person named as executor

of your will. In many cases, the provincial steward is listed in this capacity. It has now become important because of the change in the office and the way other religious communities are moving that the provincial be named in the role of executor.

The second change is associated with the witnesses. In many cases we have outlived our witnesses. The language of the will needs to be changed to reflect this possibility without invalidating the will.

During the next year we will be in contact with you to bring about the necessary changes. When you read your will, you may find that your circumstances have changed and you may wish to bring it up to date.

If you do not have a copy of your present will, please let Brother Rex Hennel know and he will send you a photo copy to study prior to the time of the rewriting of your will.

New forms of the will are being printed for use and will be ready after mid-summer. We will see that the process is completed before July of 1994.

