

Midwest Bits and Pieces

October 1, 1992

THIRTEEN MEN ENTER HOLY CROSS NOVITIATE AT CASCADE

Thirteen men arrived at Holy Cross Novitiate, Cascade, Colorado, on August 11, 1992, to begin their canonical novitiate year. The Congregation is blessed by their presence and all look forward to a graced year. The following are the men who entered the program:

Robert A. Belde (IP)
John J. Burns (MW)
Bailey T. Clemens (SP)
Christopher W. Cox (IP)
Thomas P. Doyle (IP)
Brett M. Edmonson (IP)
Timothy G. Frantz (SP)
Charles Gruseck (SW)
Jose A. Herrera Luque (SP)
Brent A. Kruger (IP)
James M. Lies (IP)
Craig M. Rogers (IP)
Francis N. Sebo (MW)



Francis N. Sebo John J. Burns

We are asked to keep the novitiate community in our prayers.

LE MANS DRUM CORP AND DRILL TEAM

For the first time in the history of Le Mans Academy, both the Drum Corp and the Drill Team, under the direction of Brother Shaun Gray, marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Chicago. After months of intense practice, the cadets eagerly displayed their finely tuned skills as they marched down Chicago's Dearborn Street. There was a brisk wind blowing, but, according to Brother Shaun, the wind was at their backs and helped them along. Brother Shaun also proudly showed off his talented group in the "Blossomtime Parade" in St. Joseph, Michigan, on May 2.

CARIBBEAN CRUISE FOR LE MANS CADETS

After a twelve year spring break tradition, Brother Shaun traded his ski suit for a swimming suit. For several years Big Sky, Montana has been the scene of adventure for Le Mans cadets. The spring vacation has always been scheduled at Eastertime. Easter came late this year, so the snow conditions were too unpredictable for anticipating good skiing, says Brother Shaun. Besides, the lodge was closing earlier than usual. For these reasons, he decided to exchange snow in the West for surf in the South.

On April 18, it was "Ahoy" as Brother Shaun, Ms. Caron Gray, Mr. Donald Hudson, and 40 cadets boarded the Italian ship, "SS Costa Riviera", for a week of fun in the sun! Sailing from San Juan, ports of call included Aruba, Caracas, Grenada, Martinique, St. Thomas, and St. John.

The group enjoyed snorkeling off a catamaran on Aruba, touring the city and the Murano Glass Factory in Caracas, visiting the Annandale Water Falls, swimming at the Anse Beach and buying spices on Grenada, enjoying the shore excursion and snorkeling on Martinique, shopping for bargains on St. Thomas, and taking in the sea tour on St. John.

The activities aboard ship were numerous. The food was excellent and plentiful (a real treat for the boys who were always hungry and looking for something to eat). The Captain and crew were not the only ones in uniform. At the formal dinners, the cadets wore their dress uniforms. There were many compliments for Brother Shaun when he came dressed in his tuxedo. The final evening aboard ship was the Roman Bacchanal Dinner when everybody came dressed in togas. Brother Shaun commented, "I never thought I would come to dinner wrapped in a sheet unless my clothes had been stolen. But, then, that is cruising Italian style."

Adapted to the Lake
Letters by the Brother Founders of Notre Dame
1841 - 1849

Bro George Klawitter, C.S.C. has completed his translations of these early letters and is now looking for a publisher. The letters offer an insight to early community history, educational practices, personalities of the authors and a good understanding of this short period. Here is an example of one letter from Brother Francis Xavier to Father Moreau:

My reverend Father,

October 1, 1841

In leaving I am always happy at having made the sacrifice and well adapted to the atmosphere of the woods. It's rather natural because I am in my element: woods aren't lacking, and one never leaves woods to return home. I'm sure that of the three Brother carpenters not one would want to return to Sainte Croix. We've measured oaks 20 feet around, straight as candles, and as high in proportion. These poor oaks die standing. You can't take a step without encountering a rotting tree. If they fall in the road, instead of removing them, people make a new road.

I'm working at things for the house. I have a carpenter with whom I wouldn't know how to chat because we don't understand each other, and all I can say is, "Yes, very well."

I beg Brother John Mary not to forget me in paradise as soon as he gets there.

Tell Mr. Philbert that he doesn't have real wood to make trunks. He can come to America. His trunks fell apart at the bottom in New York, and he has thus forced Mr. Bayerly to do an act of charity because he repaired them for us for free.

We're building an oven at our place, and we'll soon do as the French, because we have to accommodate the taste of the people who came from there. The Americans, when they have someone over, go to the hen-house to kill a chicken, put it on a plate, make bread from corn and put their coffee on the fire. And in half an hour or a hour, dinner is on the table. With this note, my promise to Brother John of the Cross is accomplished. They make nothing with yeast, and they put bread to bake in kettles after having cooked in these same kettles.

I beg Brother John of the Cross not to forget me in his visits to the Blessed Sacrament. I am your very humble and obedient son,

Brother Marie