



Midwest . . . NEWS NOTES

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA 46556

Vol. 9, No. 5

December 1975

FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE: After several lengthy meetings last month the chapter steering committee has made the following decisions:

(1) Fr. Larry Gorman from Chicago (who has been directly involved in the summer pastoral institute at Notre Dame) has agreed to conduct the two forums planned for this spring. The first forum will be held at the Brothers Center February 12 to 15; the second (a duplicate of the first) will be at Mercy Center, Farmington, Michigan, March 4 to 7.

(2) The goal of the forums: to arrive at an understanding of the fundamental principles supporting the process whereby province members can grow in response to humanization. These principles would include revelation, as understood today; the value of dialogue; personal responsibility; theologizing; discernment. As part of the process the participants would be put in touch with someone of their own adult growth patterns. This would be a way of affirming their past and present struggle to grow and give them a better understanding of their future maturing process as a truly religious experience.

(3) As a means of involving more brothers of the province in the promotion of the forums, it was agreed that two men from each house will be contacted to help further enthusiasm, cement objectives, bring in feedback. This information will be brought back to the next meetings with Fr. Gorman on December 18.

(4) A schedule of these tentative dates for committee work was agreed on: Nov. 22-Dec. 12: Chairmen to elicit from committee members issues they feel are the major concerns of their respective committees. Dec. 12: Steering Committee meeting to formulate a statement of these major issues. Dec. 14-Jan. 9: Refine the statement and possibly compile a questionnaire related to these issues. Jan. 10: Formulated statements to be sent to each local community with suggestions for implementation on the local level. April 1: Response from individual communities to be returned to the respective committees. The month of April: to be used for committee meetings.

The Steering Committee is now asking for implementation of Phase One--the eliciting of major issues of concern from committee members. Individual committee chairman will determine the method of implementing Phase One for his respective committee.

(5) Three documents prepared by the provincial administration staff-- (a) Due Process, (b) Alcoholism and Drug Dependency, (c) Ex-claustration--will be turned over to committees for consideration.

PRAYERS REQUESTED for these recently deceased: Br. Ambrose Nowak; Br. Edward Wauchter's father; Br. John Zoglmann's father; Br. Peter Nault's father; Br. Jerome Kroetsch's mother; Glenn Rousey's father; Br. Damian Daele's sister; Br. Kenan Judge's brother.

PRAYERS REQUESTED for Br. Ivan Dolan, who recently underwent major surgery.

* * * * *

FROM OUR VOCATIONS OFFICE: Early in the fall, regional vocation meetings were held for the local moderators. The following attended: Brs. James Reddy, Thomas O'Malley, John McMuldren, Thomas Corcoran, Bob Dailey, Henry Skitzki, Ken Kane, Dennis Calsin, Dave Martin, Ronald LaLonde, Walter Davenport, James Spooner. Individual meetings were held with moderators from other houses.

The following is a summary of the major areas covered at these meetings. There was general agreement that efforts be made to interest high school students even if only to plant a seed for later vocation decision. And this was seen as primarily the responsibility of the local community. It was felt that students need to have the opportunity to become better acquainted with our life both by coming to know us better as persons and in some way participating in the life of the local community.

Mention was made of the need for follow-up with alumni.

And again this was considered the responsibility of the local community. A suggestion was made that this be discussed at a house meeting.

In most of our schools retreats are coming back in a variety of forms. This was thought to be a key contact point. Involving as many brothers as possible in these retreats was felt to be an especially good vocation effort.

The possibility of setting up a vocation board consisting of laymen was suggested. Some of the reasoning behind the suggestion was that laymen would have contact with some promising upper classmen who do not have brothers in class. And more important, they would be able to provide needed feedback and bring a different perspective to our vocation efforts.

At one meeting the statement was made, "We will get vocations if we really want them. The question is, do we really show we are interested in having students join us?" This same concern was voiced in different ways at all the meetings. Changing this attitude was seen by several as the primary role of the local vocation moderator.

Several thought greater effort should be made with local press releases. Stories about our work and human-interest stories about brothers on the local scene should be getting local coverage. These could then be sent to the vocation office, reprinted and sent out to first inquirers.

Limited discussion dealt with our present volunteer program, "Christian Service for Youth," and the possibility of expanding the program; also, that this be presented as a proposal at the coming chapter.

Wide support was given for a high school retreat geared to students who have already experienced a school retreat and are in need of something more personal and deeper. A good time for the retreat was thought to be in late February or early March. Plans are now being finalized for such a retreat.

* * * * *

Books for Sale: Due to a misplaced book order, extra copies of "The Sexual Celibate," a book by Fr. Donald Goergen, are available. The cost per book is \$8.50. If you want a copy, contact Br. Robert Fillmore, Brothers Center, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

* * * * *

PROVINCIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS: NOVEMBER 8-9: Br. Charles reported briefly on the provincials' meeting in Bennington and on his visit to Bangladesh, where he found our brothers in excellent spirits despite the dire poverty there. *** The acts of the Dacca district chapter (held while Charles was there) were approved. *** The amended Articles of Incorporation and amended Code of Regulations for Archbishop Hoban High School were approved. *** Also approved was Le Mans Academy's adding a 9th grade to its program. *** The annual financial report and budget was approved. Because of the province's 1975-76 operating deficit, the council is recommending to the chapter that the province tax be raised to \$2000. *** After again consulting this year's jubilarians, the council has decided not to have a group celebration at the Center. Local celebrations will be held instead. *** Policies and procedures for brothers on exclaustation were approved--these to be sent to province members soon. *** A brief report was given about Rev. Jack Hall's work in some of our local communities. *** Some concern was expressed about the fact that chapter committees have not begun to function in preparation for the chapter. *** Next meeting of the council: on January 3 and 4 at Bishop David High School, Louisville.

* * * * *

Br. Cletus Hammer recently signed his acceptance of exclaustation for a year.

* * * * *

New addresses & phone numbers:

Br. Gerald Detamore, Meadows Manor North, Terre Haute, IN.
Tel. (812) 466-5217. Residence: 2907 S. 12th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802. Tel. (812) 235-2642.

Br. Richard Gilman, 403 E. Cuyahoga Falls Ave., Apt. 4,
Akron, OH 44310. Tel. (216) 923-7975.

Br. David Fitzgerald's resident phone number: (319) 354-5161.

* * * * *

Three St. Edward High School students in Cleveland have been recommended by NCTE for college scholarships in 1976 because of their writing ability.

* * * * *

DISTRICT CHAPTER IN DACCA was held in early October. Br. Charles Krupp and Br. Robert Montcalm, general assistant, were there as observers. Some highlights of the chapter: statement on more effective house chapters; encouragement given to brothers to engage in alternate apostolates; fostering deeper prayer life in the district; the spiritual renewal of the members; justice and peace efforts; construction of a new school building in Bandura; closer collaboration with the Chittagon district.

* * * * *

FROM CATHEDRAL HIGH SCHOOL, INDIANAPOLIS: CHS made Sports Illustrated in mid-November as a "breaker of winning streaks." *** A Cathedral graduate has been one of the coaches in each of the three final playoff games for the state AAA championship, which is somewhat of a tribute to Joe Dezelan, who coached them all: 1973: Mike McGinley ('61) coached Cathedral, which lost to South Bend Washington in the final game 19-13; 1974: Bob Springer ('47) coached Indianapolis Washington which beat Mishawaka in the final game; 1975: Dick Dullaghan ('62) is the coach of Cormel which played Valparaiso for the state championship.

* * * * *

FROM BISHOP DAVID IN LOUISVILLE: At the Kentucky State Fair in August, Br. John Kuhn took the first place ribbon for a drawing and a sixth place ribbon for graphics. *** The Bishop David community gained a new member this fall, Fr. Charles Dittmeir, who works in youth ministry and with the deaf. He has added a lively and valuable dimension to the community. His work with the deaf has taken him, via his Piper Cub, to such places as Texas and Florida.

* * * * *

Holy Trinity High School Mission Society is in need of Campbell soup labels to trade in for needed audio-visual equipment. Can you help?

* * * * *

FROM MONROE CATHOLIC CENTRAL: Br. James Rottenbucher has been appointed by Cardinal Deardon to the Detroit Archdiocesan Pastoral Council. James is a member of the administration committee and the subcommittee on assembly planning for the 1976 Archdiocesan Pastoral assembly. *** In early October the Brothers admitted three Vietnamese pupils to the school. The boys are teenage brothers, members of the Vu family relocated in Monroe through the efforts of the Archdiocese. They are enrolled in some freshman classes and are receiving some tutorial help in English. The Brothers are using house funds to provide scholarships for the boys. *** The Brothers donated several bushels of potatoes they raised to Marian Place, the new Catholic residence for the elderly in Monroe.

* * * * *

BROTHER AMBROSE NOWAK DIES. Br. Ambrose died November 21st in Akron of a heart attack while he was attending a night game of St. Edward High School's football team. A funeral Mass was held at St. Edward's, and at the Brothers Center, where he was buried on Friday, Nov. 8. Ambrose had just celebrated his fifty-seventh birthday a few days before he died. He had taught in South Bend, Chicago, Indianapolis, Akron, Gates Mills, Evansville and Cleveland, and had served as principal at Holy Trinity, Memorial, and Catholic Central in Monroe. Ambrose was truly a dedicated teacher right to the end and a loyal member of our Holy Cross community. He will be sorely missed by his brothers in Holy Cross as well as by many of his former students.

FROM LE MANS ACADEMY: November 8th and 9th the Academy filled with people, including many former staff members, who came to celebrate the school's 20th anniversary. The main event of the weekend was the dinner-dance attended by over 400 guests. Br. Jerome Schwabe, headmaster, presented service plaques to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gorman and Dr. and Mrs. Frank Zahrt. Br. Dominic Elder, first headmaster, received a plaque in appreciation for his dedication and service as founder of the Academy. The chapel was filled with an overflowing gathering for a concelebrated Mass on Sunday at which Br. Jerome delivered the homily. The cadet choir, under direction of Brs. Philip Smith and Thomas Golden, contributed the music. *** Br. Edward Grams, assistant headmaster, was guest on a Michiana television program on Nov. 10th. On WSJV-TV he was interviewed about the Academy and its program. *** Ed was also a guest speaker at a businessmen's luncheon at Lenard's Supper Club in La Porte on the 21st of November. *** Mark Mueller and Mr. Randy Zack, alumni of the Academy, have returned to the school as staff members in the residency and recreational departments. *** The administration has recently divided its operations into the following departments: academics under Mr. Fred Snyder; Principal, residency under Br. James O'Donnell; activities under Br. Shaun Gray; and behavioral under the direction of the assistant headmaster. *** Br. Vincentius has just completed the new remodeling and painting of the art studio where classes in art and mechanical drawing are held. He is presently restoring the former crypt and is in need of a tabernacle. Anyone knowing where one might be procured, please contact Br. Edward Grams. *** Brs. William Dusseau and Charles Beck assisted the Methodist church in Rolling Prairie as well as the Lions Club with a party for children in the area. *** Brs. Leo Kowalski and James Blaszak (who attended the superiors' workshop in Adrian) presented to the local community the basics of the workshop. *** The Academy is planning its annual CSC Christmas party for priests and religious in the area. It will be held in conjunction with the Le Mans staff and Association of St. Joseph, who will be providing the buffet. *** Br. James Blaszak and Mrs. Mary Lou DePoy attended a three-day workshop sponsored by the Association of School Business Officials, the workshop being under the direction of the Food Services Department from the State of Indiana. *** Word has been received that at least eleven countries will be represented at the International Summer Village which will be held at Le Mans the summer of 1976. The basic idea of the camp is peace built on understanding.

* * * * *

Br. Elmo Bransby, assistant general, has been visiting province houses the past several weeks.

* * * * *