



Midwest . . . NEWS NOTES

BROTHERS of HOLY CROSS - NOTRE DAME, INDIANA 46556

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AN AFRICAN ODYSSEY

(Ed. note: For his silver jubilee trip Brother Richard Johnson took a month to visit some former haunts from his missionary days in Ghana. He gave us a copy of his description of the trip - and we include several excerpts here.)

"When I arrived in Ghana, I was met (as was Romard) by three men who stopped me in customs and required from me \$30.00 to go through. I didn't argue. It seemed to be too much trouble at the time to get rid of them. Anyway, I got through and Vincent and John Akins (A novice to be - Feb) met me and took me to Sekondi.

"I was met with no electricity. The entire country is on electricity only about half the time. There is no water for the dam. Food, well you just get used to little food along the coast, or at least eat much of the same things every day.

"After Cape Coast I went back to St. John's on the only good road in the country, then off to Kumasi and Sunyani. While waiting for a bus from Takarodi to Kumasi, I met another student of mine. I taught him in the first class of physics I had in Ghana. He talked about an hour with me. He is now an engineer and working in town for a company. This made the wait very pleasant. The bus left for Kumasi at 9:30 a.m. and got in at 6:00 p.m. . It was not the nice State Transport buses but the TATA buses - ones with no springs and not much of anything else. Two hours out driving, not counting the stops we made, I literally broke my back. I had a compression fracture of the 12th vertebra of my back. I made it to Kumasi not knowing what I had and there was no one to meet me. I only knew to head to the Cathedral when in trouble. It is not too far so I walked with a fifteen pound bag. There are no taxis since there is no gas or at least very little. You see cars double lined at gas stations for days waiting for gas. Anyway I made it to the Cathedral. I was put up overnight by the priest there. A layman from the Netherlands really was a big help. He put me to bed and brought me supper and then talked computers with me for an hour or so. He is about 26 years old and working as an engineer fixing any mechanical thing from cars to x-ray machines that break down for the Catholic Church. Jan Huys is his name. He sent me a letter the other day on my return. He was really a God send when I needed it.

"Frank Meduri talked my leg off but we enjoyed each other's visit. I stayed in Joe Tsiquaye's room. I had to be pulled out of bed a few times since I couldn't get up on my own for about two days. Christmas was fine - hot. I used one of Frank's habits for Christmas Mass. There was drumming and special African singing throughout the Mass.

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"I visited the new house being built for the Brothers. It is really out in the bush.

"Since my back was sore, Frank's back started to hurt him. Tony then created a new dance step called the Meduri step where one dances holding one's back with both hands.

"The radio system (network) that Rob Gilmour set up is a big help since the phones do not work. I would sit in and listen while the network was on in Sekondi and in Kumasi.

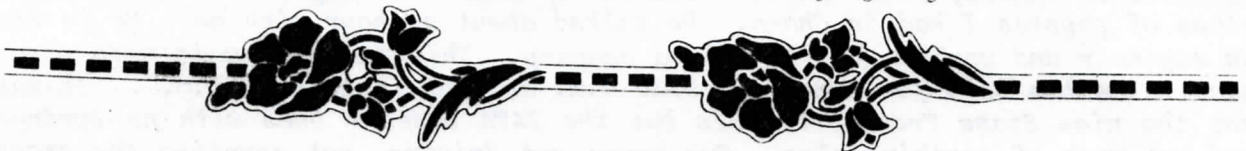
"Dr Quah gave me some medicine which made my stay in Ghana and Liberia easier - in fact I had very little pain after taking the medicine. It is the same kind that the olympic team used to get disqualified in Mexico.

"I left Ghana and refused to pay any more dashes at the airport. I was mad and told the airport people to just go away.

"When I got to Liberia I found no one there to meet me. Two Taxi drivers started to fight over who would take me to town. I had to get an MP to settle who would take me to town. Donard took good care of me. I went swimming in his old swimming hole across from the house only once. I would not go there again - too much of a toilet. We went each day out to ELWA. The water was about 80 degrees.

"Edwin Mattingly arrived the day I left. Both he and Donard seemed happy. They will build a boat to take out to sea!!!

"By luck my plane did not leave. I had to do three trips to the airport before I could get a plane out. It just happened to be the same plane that Phil was taking so that I had someone who could carry my bags."



FROM HOBAN HIGH, AKRON

#Province members may not be aware of the death of Hoban friend, Patrick Hughes, August 17, 1983. He was a past president of the Hoban High School Men's Club and for many years served on the Board of Trustees. He was a close friend and enthusiastic supporter of the school. All six of his children graduated from Hoban: Maureen, Denis, Terence, Michael, Patrick, and Mark. For those who might care to communicate with the family through his wife, Luwellyn; 2858 Cedar Hill Rd, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223. Pat was known for his lifelong devotion to Notre Dame University which included printing spirit ribbons which the cheerleaders sold as a fund raiser.

#The Brothers' Community in Akron observed

the feast day of Brother Andre on January 6 by attending Liturgy at a neighborhood parish where special mention was given of the feast and the Brothers' presence. A festive dinner followed with Chef Gregoire in the kitchen. Plans are being formulated for a celebration of the feast of Saint Joseph with Bishop Sheldon presiding at the Liturgy and a dinner including all the religious at Hoban. Presently besides the nine Holy Cross Brothers there are seven women religious including the communities of Humility of Mary, Immaculate Heart of Mary and Akron-Dominicans.

#The first freshman/eighth grade testing day brought 190 students to Hoban, an increase of 35 over previous years. Based on this an enrollment prediction increase of 10 percent to 15 percent is estimated.



In your prayers let us remember the following persons, deceased in the past month, as well as the Brothers and other family members related to them:

-Bernard Hayden died in Louisville and was buried February 3. He was the brother of Brother Otto Hayden, who lives at Columba Hall.

-Brother John Driscoll's mother died in Connecticut in mid-January. John lives at The Center and is the first and only president of the Junior College.

-Josephine Bonen died on January 22 in Marshall, Missouri. She was the sister of Brother Marcellus, who has been working many years at Moreau Seminary.

-James Carson, half-brother of Br. Majella Hegarty, was buried in St. Louis on February 9.

FROM DUJARIE HOUSE, NOTRE DAME

#Brothers Pedro and Regis Regensburger (Brothers' Center) drove to Indianapolis on Sunday, January 15, for the Mass and Reception in honor of Mrs. Marie Moran on her 90th birthday. Marie was the principal moving force in the Mothers' Club at Cathedral in the 1950's when Regis and Pedro were Principals there.

#Providence Sisters Marian, Gertrude and

Carita joined with our community for dinner on Tuesday evening, January 17.

#Brother Peter Mullett, Eastern Asst. Provincial, was here January 17 and 18 to visit Brother August Sosa at St. Joseph Medical Center. Brother August's stay in the hospital was extended two more weeks. He is presently scheduled to return on February 15.

#On January 19, Brother Raymond Kelly arrived from Chicago, to recuperate from some back miseries.

#Saturday, January 21, became the second coldest day in South Bend weather history. The thermometer reading (appropriately) minus 21 degrees.

#On Tuesday afternoon, January 24, Ron Ori (head cook), Shirley Rasmussen (head nurse) and Brother Pedro Haering took a birthday cake and presents to St. Joe Med Center to help Brother August Sosa (E) celebrate his 55th birthday. Several of the staff, patients, and visitors stopped in to assist with the celebration.

#Brother John Paige (E), Master of Novices, visited us on January 28 and February 5, sandwiching formation work in between.

#Brother James Bluma joined us for our last-Sunday-of-the-month brunch in January. The brunch was prepared by Brother Robert Siegel, who was in the area for the weekend.... On the same evening Brother Romard Barthel joined us for supper before going on to Texas, New Orleans, and then back to Rome.



#Dog days in February: our occasional dog show happened again on Monday afternoon, February 6.... This time a number of smaller, "lap" dogs were brought along.



FROM ASHLAND, KENTUCKY (Holy Family H.S.)

(Brother Donald Allen brings us up to date on his doings, along with those of Brothers Walter Davenport and James Spooner.)

#Several weeks ago we were out of school three days in a row: Wednesday through Friday due to snow. We got only 6" but around here due to the many and steep hills this is a real problem. The main streets in town were cleared and salt put down at intersections and on some main streets, but the hills remained very slippery. We are in the Ohio Valley and just a short way from the Ohio River where there are steep hills. Many people have built homes on the ridges which wind about in all sorts of patterns. We will have to make up the missed school days at the end of May since KY has no provision for "Acts of God".

#Br. Walter and Sr. Karen, the Elementary School principal, travelled to Lexington for a meeting concerned with health and retirement benefits for lay people working in Diocesan institutions. It was a two and a half hour trip in each direction. When we go to Covington, the seat of our diocese, it is a three hour trip. We are in the boondocks of the diocese so meetings are not held around here.

#Jim Spooner and Don Allen attended the Boyd County Conservation District Testimonial Dinner for students who had won prizes for posters and essays dealing with soil conservation. One of our sophomores had won the runner-up competition in his class. We met some really fine people there.

#All three of us plan on attending the NCEA in Boston during the week after Easter. Walter and Mrs. Meyers, the new Development Director, will be attending meetings concerned with development work. Jim and Don will be taking in computer and other programs.

#If you wish to enjoy an early spring then come and be our guests. We are looking forward to the massive, beautiful displays of white and pink dogweeds, the redbuds or Judas trees, azalias etc.

FROM ANDRE HOUSE, CHICAGO

#Community life at Andre House on Marshall Boulevard has included many other people in the last month or so. In December the Brothers hosted a neighborhood meeting for religious and priests. The event included a prayer service, dinner and social for a total of thirty-nine people involved in parish, school, hospital, and other ministry in the immediate area.

#The beginning of January brought six university students for a two-day stay at Andre. The purpose was the familiar "urban plunge" experience, designed to bring the lives of inner-city people into the consciousness of college students from Notre Dame and St. Mary's. The Center for Social Concern at Notre Dame coordinates the program.

#But the house members have been busy individually:

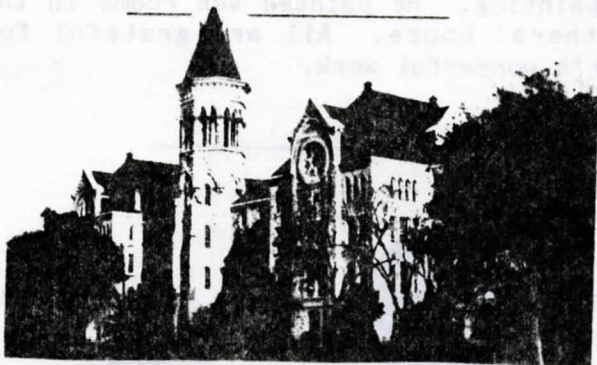
-Richard Armstrong, full time teacher and job placement counselor at Holy Trinity, spends some of his free time as a volunteer at the Little Sisters of the Poor senior citizens residence on Chicago's north side. Richard specializes in visiting some of the "hard to reach" residents.

-Ken Haders, social worker at Mercy Boys' Home includes in his ministry counseling for needy families as well as individual counseling for youth. He is also presently involved in planning for an expansion of the residential program at the Mission.

-Charles Pinto, Principal at Holy Trinity, has recently completed an eight month appointment to the steering committee of an Archdiocesan Commission to formulate policy recommendations for parish and school subsidies.

-Bob Fillmore has just completed working on plans for a youth rally as part of the Pope John Paul II International Youth Conference. Bob has also been instrumental in facilitating the writing of the Mission Statement for Black Catholic Youth in Chicago.

#House plans for the future include a repeat of the highly successful house retreat held last October in Antioch, Illinois. The topic of the weekend retreat was "Personal Values in Community". Each of the four Brothers involved was responsible for one conference. Projects for the continued renovation of the house are also on the docket. A prayer room/chapel is planned for one room on the ground floor.



CHANGES IN NOVITIATE YEAR

In adapting the novitiate program to conform to the New Code of Canon Law, the Waterford Provincials have extended the length of the canonical novitiate to fourteen months, and have introduced a seven-week segment of the program to be held in Texas each year. All North American, English-speaking, Holy Cross novices were extended a formal invitation to participate in the Texas experience; in 1984, the Holy Cross Sisters (Indiana) and the Marianites (Louisiana Province) will join in this Holy Cross Internovitiate Program. The Holy Cross Sisters (Canada) intend to revise their own novitiate formation calendar to be able to join the group beginning in 1985.

The Holy Cross Internovitiate will be located at Andre Hall, St. Edward's

University, Austin, Texas, from June 16, 1984, through August 1, 1984. The resources of the Texas region, where Holy Cross priests, brothers, and sisters have been present for over one hundred years, will be ideal for consideration of the Constitutions on Apostolic Life, for the pre-profession directed retreat, and for interacting with community members of all three societies ministering in the South.

The Texas Program will be directed by the following formation team: Raymond Apicella CSC (EB), Director of Continuing Education and Instructor in Religious Studies at St. Edward's University; Kay Kinberger MSC, Director of Novices for the Marianites, Louisiana Province; Joan Marie Steadman CSC, Director of Novices for the Holy Cross Sisters (Indiana); and John Vickers CSC (ECP), Councilor for Formation and Vocation Director for the English-Canadian Province. These team members met recently with Waterford Directors John Paige (EB) and John Phalen (EP) to formulate the specifics of the curriculum, schedule, local resources in ministry, and finances.

For Waterford novices, then, entrance to the novitiate is in July of each year at Waterford. After twelve months, the group travels to Texas to participate in the Holy Cross Internovitiate, returning to New York State for first profession. This revised calendar avoids overlapping of groups at the primary novitiate site, fosters collaboration among the various Holy Cross provinces and congregations in North America, and represents a creative approach to the requirements of Church law for our Holy Cross formation programs.



FROM HOLY CROSS, RIVER GROVE

#Brother Bede Stadler, who tries to keep the dust off the furniture and the floors of the Brothers' House, is preparing to print a second and final edition of Ever Westward, a history of nine families, eight families of which are "dyed-in-the-wool" Protestants who came to this country before the Revolution. He considers it an ecumenical project. He became involved when a cousin of the husband of a cousin (do you follow?) saw a copy of Brother's own family history, which was printed in 1976.

#Father Charles Lavelly, CSC, of Holy Cross parish, South Bend, will direct the annual three-day retreat in February for the Brothers from River Grove. The retreat will be at Mayslake in Oakbrook, IL. The scheduling of the annual retreat into the school calendar gives all the Brothers a good opportunity to get away from the school and the house. Father Downs, our local chaplain, holds down the fort until the Brothers return.

#Father Jim Kelly, the local director of the house at Notre Dame, Miles, has invited not only this house but all the houses in the immediate Chicago area to a celebration honoring Father Moreau, Sunday, February 5, 1984.

#On January 14, 1984, Holy Cross High School had its placement test. The numbers rose this year, the first time in five years.

#Thanks to Brother Charles Drevon, the local director, the school will do its entire curriculum on its own in-house computer beginning in the summer of 1984. Br. Charles has written a complete program to handle all the scheduling, report cards, honor roll and daily absentee lists. Assisting Br. Charles has been Mr. Greg Mullins, the Assistant Principal and director of studies for the high school. This will save many man-hours and much money in the future.

#From proceeds of last year's GIVING CALENDAR, the school was able to purchase 20 computers. Computer #21 was purchased for the curriculum and scheduling mentioned above. Two computers were given to Holy Cross by the Federal Government. One has been placed in the library for tutorial work; the other in the guidance department for college print-outs, etc.

#Br. Edward Foken, recently back from Liberia, visited Holy Cross High School. Br. Edward is interested in teaching at Holy Cross in the fall. Ed is now in Australia with his brother. They will be visiting there until mid-February.

#With two feet of snow on the ground, there is little grass to cut. So Br. Walter Duda, the grounds keeper, has taken up painting. He painted ten rooms in the Brothers' house. All are grateful for Walt's wonderful work.



SUMMER at VALATIE

Brother Mark Knightly (EP) recently announced a 1984 summer program for five weeks (June 25 - July 28) at Valatie. It is a renewal program for men and women religious and includes a five-day directed retreat. Further information may be obtained from:

Mark Knightly, C.S.C.
St. Joseph Center
Box 113; R.D. #3
Valatie, New York 12184



RITS and PIECES from HERE and THERE

From the parish bulletin of St. Elizabeth Church in Pompano Beach, Florida, Epiphany issue, comes the following:

"It gives me pleasure to announce to you that we have increased our Parish Staff. Brother Donald McIntyre, a Holy Cross Brother from South Bend, Indiana, commences working in St. Elizabeth this week. Brother Donald will be working in the whole field of Evangelization, coordinating all our parish programs, either existing or about to start. Brother Donald comes to us highly recommended for his pastoral work in parishes in Tennessee and we welcome him here to St. Elizabeth."

Brother Donald's address:

4491 Crystal Lake Drive
Apt. 102-B
Pompano Beach, FL 33064

Brother Joseph Walter Olszowska will mark his golden jubilee with a Mass at noon on Sunday, March 11 at the Center Chapel. A reception and dinner will follow at St. Hedwig Memorial Center in South Bend.

Brothers James Bluma and Pedro Haering and Mr. Glenn Rousey (Principal at St. Joseph High School, South Bend) were invited to a task force meeting in Monroe, preliminary to the proposed merger of St. Mary's Academy and Catholic Central. The task force was chaired by lawyer, Mr. John Ready, former member of the Midwest Province. The meeting was on Saturday morning, February 11.

The third annual History Conference of the Congregations of Holy Cross in the U.S.A. will be held at St. Mary's College (Notre Dame, Indiana) April 6-8, 1984. The title of this year's meeting is "Holy Cross on the Frontier".

As the Newsnotes are going to press, Brother Roger Jamison is being operated on at Saint Joseph Hospital for a blockage in his colon.... Also, Brother Thomas Rock was called home for the death of an uncle.

We hear that a full complement of thirty Brothers registered for the annual two-weeks workshop "A Brother for all Seasons" opening at the Brothers' Center February 12.

EDITOR'S COLUMN

This month I would like to indulge a few thoughts (mine and others) starting with what has, I am happy to say, become a rather meaningless although still annoying, exclamation: "We're number one."

I will pass over lightly the observation that, as most Christian and other good people should have learned years ago, even if the saying might be true it is neither humble, prudent, nor wise to proclaim it about oneself.

It became the custom when I was principalizing in high schools (many years ago) to have prospective students take placement tests (most fair-minded administrators preferred "placement tests" to "entrance examinations"). An indispensable part of writing the test was the requirement that the student list his first, second, and third choices of schools in the area. When I was at Hoban High in Akron, St. Vincent High School was our principal "competitor" (I never liked that word, either, in reference to educational institutions.) Walsh High in Cuyahoga Falls was just entering the picture when I left Hoban. When the membership of an incoming freshman class was being determined I tried to keep the school choices of the prospective freshmen as secret as possible. Some faculty members always urged me NOT to accept any student who had listed St. Vincent as first choice. I never could understand the nearly fanatical belief that if a 13-year old youngster had not made us his first choice (we were all - boys at that time), then we should not accept him. Perhaps it is the Avis Car syndrome ("We try harder"), but I always felt that a youngster who had not named us his first choice represented a challenge to our school and I wanted the opportunity to try to make that youngster (eventually) glad we had accepted him even if he had not chosen us.

Which brings us (believe it or not) to the Super Bowl. For a few minutes I watched the post-game proceedings in the locker room of the victorious Los Angeles (nee Oakland) Raiders. They are an exciting team and I love to see them lose (although they don't lose often). Their president or general manager or whatever, Al Davis, is probably professional sports' principal promulgator that the end justifies the means. Over and over in that dressing room we heard from Mr. Davis and several of his players his trademark phrase "Just win". Never. The fans of Oakland learned what that meant to Mr. Davis in terms of dollars and cents when he left them with an empty coliseum and moved 400 miles south to one that seated 40,000 more. "Just Win." It's even worse than "We're Number One" because it's much more harmful.

Finally, it was heart-warming yesterday to be watching Ray Meyer, coach of De Paul's basketball team for 42 years, and to hear him say, "If we play well and lose, there's nothing to be sorry for. Life will go on." A simply wonderful person, Ray Meyer.

(Pedro Haering, C.S.C., Editor)

