

## MIDWEST PROVINCE NEWS ITEMS

March 2000

On Wednesday, March 1, the 201 ballots submitted for the election of a new provincial were opened and counted. The balloting resulted in the election of **Br. Donald Gibbs**, assistant provincial, as the new provincial. The other candidates in order of the number of votes received were **Br. Robert Fillmore**, **Br. Kenneth Haders**, and **Br. Joseph Fox**. Br. Donald will take office at the end of the provincial chapter on or about June 16.

Word of the election was circulated immediately in the province and throughout all of Holy Cross by telephone, e-mail and U.S. mail.

Congratulations to Br. Don! The confidence clearly expressed by means of his first-ballot election assures him and his administration of the prayerful support of the province membership. A sincere vote of thanks to the other three candidates for allowing their names to be placed in nomination for the office of provincial.

"Genetics in the Classroom" identifies a picture on page one of the *Akron Beacon Journal* for February 14, 2000, leading into an article entitled, "Students examine blueprint of life." A subheading reads, "Akron's Archbishop Hoban High School laboratories provide rare opportunity to perform DNA experiments." The article elaborates on the teaching of biogenetics in a high tech lab that used to be part of the brothers' residence, and the increasing popularity of genetics as a high school subject. Why? The value today of the influence of DNA testing exerts in solving crimes and in understanding and preventing certain birth defects and tendencies toward disease or other health related problems is no longer questioned.

Hoban is in the forefront, thanks to the vision of **Br. Ken Haders**, president, **Ms. Mary Anne Beiting**, principal, and their faculty and staff.

**Br. Carl Sternberg** of Palm Desert, California, reported the success of the January 14-16 *Millennium Peace Conference*, sponsored by Br. Carl's *Spiritual Life Ministries*. The theme of the conference was "Remember the Healing," and featured Dr. Maya Angelou, renowned poet and speaker. The impact of the conference was summarized in a local newspaper by means of a letter to the editor from **Sergio Rosas**, a 13-year-old who won the conference's essay contest.

Br. Carl also included a flyer announcing the spring series of "Contemporary Spirituality Classes" he teaches on Tuesdays from February through April. He covers "A Spirituality for Healing of the Self," "A Spirituality for Family Healing," and "Sharing Our Spiritual Traditions" in these three- or four-part evening sessions.

**Br. Michael Becker** of the province business office reminds *those who participate in the Religious Comprehensive Trust and who take prescription medications (called "maintenance drugs) on a regular basis* that a new practice was introduced by the RCT last summer. *If you have medicine prescribed and get the prescription filled at a local pharmacy, you may also get the next two refills at that same pharmacy. After that, however, you need to return to the doctor who prescribed the medication and get a new prescription that from then on must be sent to the mail service pharmacy.* Anyone with questions about his situation should contact Br. Michael directly at (219) 251-2223, or <[mbecker@hcc-nd.edu](mailto:mbecker@hcc-nd.edu)>. He'll be glad to help.

From January 14-17, the temporarily professed brothers of the United States provinces met at Cascade, Colorado, for a retreat, continuing a practice begun two years ago in Texas.

**Br. Edward Fox** of the Midwest Province participated and reported that the brothers spent time reminiscing on their novitiate days at Cascade and sharing their post-novitiate experiences. They also visited places and persons familiar from their novitiate year, and laid plans for next year's retreat. The evaluation indicated that the men find this retreat extremely valuable. Resulting from the discussions, certain recommendations have been sent to brother formation personnel for consideration.

Deceased Holy Cross religious since the February issue are **Fr. Bernard Lafreniere, C.S.C. (CP)**, who died in Montreal on February 21 of brain cancer at the age of 62. He was buried on the 25<sup>th</sup> from the Oratory of St. Joseph. Fr. Lafreniere was known throughout Holy Cross as an excellent simultaneous translator at congregational meetings, as the author of a significant book on **Blessed Br. Andre**, and as an energetic full time promoter of Br. Andre's canonization. Fr. Lafreniere made the C.C.F.M. renewal program at the Brothers Center five or six years ago.

**Fr. Fred Underwood, C.S.C. (S)**, died of cancer on February 25 in Austin, Texas, at the age of 76. Fr. Fred graduated from Reitz Memorial High School in Evansville, joining Holy Cross to be ordained in 1956. He was the cousin of **Fr. Charles Van Winkle, C.S.C. (S)**, former Midwest Province member. The funeral was held on February 29 at San Jose Church in Austin, where Fr. Underwood was pastor for several years.

Former brother **Glenn Rousey** died on February 9 after a battle with cancer lasting several years. Glenn was principal at St. Joseph High School, South Bend, for ten years, and then headed the Master of Science in Administration program at Notre Dame until his death. Glenn was known as an unfailingly and extraordinarily generous individual. His well attended funeral was held at Sacred Heart Basilica on February 14. **Br. Pedro Haering**, a close friend of Glenn for many years, gave an excellent eulogy as part of the service.

Please remember in your prayers these three men, as well as **Br. Shaun Gray's** mother, Mrs. Michael Gray, who died on February 14 in Brookfield, Wisconsin, after an extended illness; and **Raymond T. Wolf** of Knoxville, Tennessee, who died February 13 at the age of 79. Ray was the brother-in-law of the late **Br. Paul Mattingly**. Ray came several times to visit Br. Paul at Dujarie House, and had a memorial tree planted in front of the infirmary after Br. Paul's death. **Br. Roland Driscoll** sent the information about Ray, whom he knew well.

#### Changes in Directory Addresses

P. 9 – Br. Remigius Bullinger, from Phoenix to Schubert Villa, Notre Dame.

P. 26 – Br. Jonas Moran, from Columba Hall to Schubert Villa, Notre Dame.