

MIDWEST – MIDWEEK

Brothers of Holy Cross – Midwest Province - P.O. Box 460 – Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-0460

August 29, 2018

Columba Hall's Head Chef to Retire September 8

Thirty-eight years is a long time to stay at a job, but that's how long Rick Landsberg has been cooking at Columba Hall. He is retiring early in September after an eventful and hopefully rewarding tenure working in the Brothers' kitchen at Columba Hall, Notre Dame.

Rick was hired by Brother Donald Bailer. The superior at Columba Hall in those early years was Brother Paul Kelly, who remains a close friend to this day. Other Brothers remaining dear to Rick's heart include Brother Thomas Balaz and Brother Jonas Moran, both of whom have passed on.



When Rick arrived, he worked under head chef Shirley's direction for six years. Then Brother Henry Skitski came to Columba Hall to head up the kitchen so Rick worked for Brother Henry for ten years.

Then twenty-two years ago when Brother Henry moved on, Rick took over as head chef, a position he has filled with honor and hard work to this day.

The Brothers will remember with gratitude many of Rick's signature creations: his grape-cream cheese salad, his beer bread, his cucumber-onion salad. Some would note that meats are Rick's masterpiece: his prime rib was always a winner, often carved in the food line on feast days by Rick in his high white chef's hat.

And the Brothers will forever be grateful for his immaculately clean kitchen. Every countertop, every dish, and every square inch of the floor have been spotless day after day.

Who can forget Rick's Christmas treats? To enter the dining room on Christmas was to walk into a wonderland of sugared delights—multiple kinds of cookies prominent in the middle of the room tempting diners to skip the food line and head right for the cookies!

Other feast days brought appropriate decorations and treats. On Holy Thursday his Seder table has featured bitter herbs, unleavened bread, and apple chutney. Rick has highlighted festivities with his seasonal displays along the food line attesting to his year-round love for whatever holiday came along: July 4, Halloween, Christmas, Easter—always something to look at while the Brothers were loading their plates with delicious food.

Always ready to serve with good will and panache, Rick came to be taken as a sign of unwavering service to the Brothers. Faithful to his duties, he was never late or skipped a day. He showed particular talent in organizing his kitchen staff.



We can never forget how well he trained new cooks. With his many years of experience, he knew exactly how to bring food neophytes into the joys of fine cookery. Carrie, the new Shirley, Debbie, Molly, Henry—all these cooks have profited from Rick's culinary skills.

Rick had great rapport with his staff. When we asked our kitchen worker Henry one day why he was so sad, he said, "Rick broke my favorite chair." We consoled him as best we could but found out the next day that Rick had been standing on that chair to reach for something and the chair gave way.

Rick fell and broke his arm. When we asked Henry why he had not told us that Rick had broken his arm, Henry said, "It wasn't important." The chair, of course, was important. That's our Henry!

Among Rick's favorite memories was a cribbage tournament that Brother Paul Kelly organized at Columba Hall. Twenty-two showed up to compete. But who walked away with the trophy? Rick did!

We do not worry that Rick will be bored in his retirement. He has always enjoyed fishing, and it will be comforting to think of him in the quiet of a boat somewhere, dropping a line in and waiting for a fish to arrive. He will still be serving food—worms for the fish! Maybe as he dangles a hook in front of an unwary blue gill, he will think about the wonderful dishes he prepared for the Brothers at Columba Hall, dishes prepared with expertise and careful planning.

Good luck, Rick, in your coming silver and golden years! You will never be forgotten at Columba Hall, and we hope that you will never forget us.

A Potluck Welcome New Administration Staff

New administration staff were welcomed with a potluck luncheon on August 24. The gathering was held in the first floor kitchen area of the administration building.



**Bill Lies (Provincial US)
Ken Haders (Provincial M)
Paul Kelly (Provincial Councilor M)**

Peter Jarret (Assistant Provincial-Vicar US), Rose Waldscmidt, Sharan Palmar, Mark Thesing (Assistant Provincial Steward US), Jane Smith



Steve Minder, Gayle Gilman

Liz Szymanowski, Teryl Yoder, Joe Urbanski, Peter Jarret (1st Assistant Provincial/Vicar US)



Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Work Project

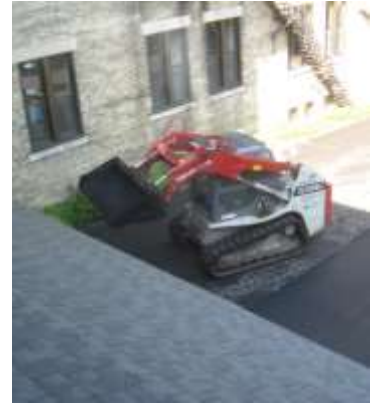


Brother Chris Dreyer, himself a volunteer worker for *Habitat for Humanity*, has helped this summer to coordinate housing at Columba Hall for a few groups of workers from around the US. They have enjoyed the

hospitality of the house and contributed to the experience of sharing their experiences with us at Columba.



Repaved Parking Area Columba Hall - August 2018



The replacement of the deteriorated parking lot is completed. The ground has been prepped, covered with an initial layer of asphalt, received the final layer of asphalt, and re-lined for parking spaces.

Reflection

Most of us spend so much time thinking about
Where We Have Been
or
Where We Are Supposed To Be Going
That we have a hard time recognizing
Where We Actually Are.
- Barbara Brown Taylor




**Emmanuel
Care**

This reflection is courtesy of Mission, Ethics and Spirituality Office www.emmanuelcare.ca

If you only walk on sunny days,
you will never reach your destination
- Paul Coelho




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Cartoon
by
Brother
James
Kane,
CSC

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