

The Leprechaun

A Publication of the Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Association

www.friendsofnotredame.com - www.notredame-hw.com

Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!

NOVEMBER 2009 EDITION



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Metro Detroit Tattoo Studio is an Official Donation Destination for Handbags of Hope '09 Drive

John Motyka '85 owner of Discount Tattoos and Piercing / Elite Ink announced that his 3 Metro Detroit tattoo studios will assist the Hand Bags of Hope Drive '09. "Our goal is to help Handbags of Hope reach at least 3000 filled purses this holiday," said Montyka. "Our goal is to make sure Handbags of Hope reaches theirs." Drop off points are in Centerline, Southfield, and Warren. Each location will accept donated filled purses during the Holidays.

Handbags of Hope was founded in 2007 by Jackie Bobcean. The donation program is in its third straight year. Handbags of Hope benefits women in shelters, purse snatching victims, and teen programs throughout the State of Michigan. "When women flee for the shelters, a lot of them leave their purses behind. We get letters of thanks from the shelters and the women themselves. One told us it was the first gift she had received in 15 years," Bobcean said. Handbags of Hope — Gifts of Beauty & Empowerment has provided women with a little bit of normalcy in abnormal situations for three years. A purse filled with girly stuff can be just the right medicine to lift a woman's spirit on a difficult day.

Motyka's stores will be accepting donations of gently used handbags and fill items. The handbags can be filled with necessities to create a functional purse. The purses can be new or gently used, filled or unfilled. An example of fill items include: wallets, hairbrush, body lotion, memo pad, manicure set, toothbrush kit, travel size toiletries, gloves, pajamas and socks.

The collected items will be distributed across the state, from Wayne to Petoskey. There are 18 shelters, 6 Teen programs and 5 Police agencies scheduled for delivery. As of November 16, 2009 they received just over 1000 purses. The quota is 3000 filled purses.

Discount tattoos and Piercing /Elite Ink are committed to quality customer service by offering high end body art at an affordable price. You can expect to be educated on your procedure. Ultimately you can expect the experience of a lifetime.

Handbags of Hope Can be Dropped Off at the Following Locations

Discount Tattoos and Piercing / Elite Ink
25543 Vandyke, Centerline, MI. 48015 586)759-8446

Discount Tattoos and Piercing / Elite Ink
32750 Mound Rd., Warren, MI. 48092 (586) 759-8120

Discount Tattoos and Piercing / Elite Ink
21329 Telegraph, Southfield, MI. 48033, (248)827-3300

Tidbits

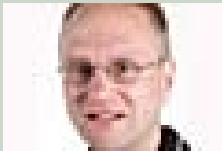
- ♣ Congratulations to **Tom Manney '82**. Tom led his Capac Chiefs football team to a state play-off berth this season. He guided the Chiefs to a first round play-off victory over Harper Woods Chandler Park Academy. Capac finished the season with a 7 - 4 record.
- ♣ Congratulations to **Tom Iwanicki '82**. Tom led the Lakeshore Shorians football team to the state play-offs for the 4th year in a row. He led the Shorians to a 7 - 3 record this season.
- ♣ Congratulations to **Bob Lantzy '64**. Bob completed his 39th year as head coach of the Utica Eisenhower football team. He led the Eagles to a state play-off berth and a 8 - 5 record this season.



- ♣ Congratulations to **Paul Verska '63**. Paul led the De La Salle Pilots football team to the semi-finals in the state play-offs for the 3rd year in a row. He guided the Pilots to a 8 - 5 record this season.
- ♣ Congratulations to **Catholic Central** for winning the Division 1 state football championship.

Tidbits

- ♣ Congratulations to **Joe Spezia '91**. Joe was recently promoted to Corporate Engineering Manager for ISEC Inc. He was relocated to their corporate office in Englewood, Colorado. He is now responsible for their internal engineers, outsource engineers, and international engineers (India & China). There are approximately 30 engineers total.
- ♣ Congratulations to **Mike Happy '82**. Mike was recently hired by Fox Sports Network. They are launching a new and improved website and he will be running it.



Recent Alumni Passing

William Artymovich Class of 1973

Passed away November 12, 2009 at the age of 54. Beloved father of Gabrielle and Alexandra. Loving son of Anne Marie (the late Walter). Dearest brother of Robert (Elaine), John and Nancy. Former spouse of Deborah Benaglio. Share memories with the family at their "On Line Guest Book" at:

WujekCalcaterra.com



Ex-cop Guilty in Death of Sengstock '95

A retired police officer was found guilty of two charges for the drunken driving death of **Joe Sengstock '95** nearly three years after the crash in Center Line. Joseph Wojtas, 74, of Warren, faces a prison term of more than one year. A Macomb County jury found him guilty of drunk driving causing death and vehicular manslaughter.

Wojtas was originally convicted of drunk driving causing injury for the January 2007 crash, in a plea deal with Macomb prosecutors. He was later convicted of more severe charges after the victim died.

Joseph Sengstock '95 of Sterling Heights, died last April, causing prosecutors to pursue the more serious offenses.

Sengstock's mother, Linda, said Wojtas finally will be punished sufficiently. She praised the jury, which deliberated less than one hour. "They listened to everything," she said. "They offered us their condolences for our loss."

Mrs. Sengstock said she believes it was "divine intervention" that the verdict came the day before Thanksgiving, considered to be the "biggest drinking night of the year. People need to understand that drinking and driving is a very serious thing," she said. "All the teenagers in our family know that if they ever need a ride home, they should make a call. Joe was always responsible to not drink and drive. It's nice to know we'll be able to sit down for our Thanksgiving meal knowing that justice has been served. We're very thankful that it's finally over and thankful for everyone's efforts in helping us get through this."

The crash occurred Jan. 11, 2007, when Wojtas' Mercury Marquis plowed into Sengstock's 1976 Cordoba that was stopped at a traffic light at 10 Mile and Sherwood roads. Wojtas' blood-alcohol content was .19 percent.

Sengstock suffered a severe head injury and other injuries. In need of constant care since the incident, Sengstock resided with his parents and siblings in their Sterling Heights home until he died April 18.

Wojtas, a retired officer in 37th District Court and Detroit cop, pleaded no contest to drunk driving causing injury and was sentenced in July 2007 to 90 days in jail and five years probation for drunken driving causing injury.

Wojtas' attorney, Albert Markowski, tried to blame Linda Sengstock and other caregivers for allowing Sengstock to gain about 100 pounds. They tried to blame obesity leading to heart failure as cause of death. Dr. Bader Cassin, a forensic pathologist, testified for the defense, calling it a "natural death."

"The events (of the 2-1/2 years before his death) were not under Joseph Wojtas' control," Markowski told jurors during closing arguments. "That may be cold and callous, but that's what the law says. You can't have sympathy in your decision. We all feel sorry for Joseph, but that's not the issue," he said.

Markowski said Sengstock was fed a high-calorie substance many times a day to assist him in swallowing which caused his obesity.

Assistant Macomb prosecutor Steven Kaplan didn't deny Sengstock had to be served the substance but attacked Markowski's conclusion. "What he's saying is these people killed Joseph Sengstock," Kaplan said, pointing to Linda Sengstock and her family. "She (Linda Sengstock) devoted her life to him," he said.

Dr. Cheryl Loewe, a Wayne County medical examiner, testified for the prosecution that Sengstock died from a head injury complicated by a seizure disorder that resulted from the crash. Linda Sengstock reported her son suffered seizures.

"We would not be here today if this collision did not occur," Kaplan said. Even if Sengstock's obesity led to his death, Kaplan noted: "The heart gave out because of the seizures or obesity, or both. Who caused the obesity? It was this man," he said, pointing to Wojtas.

Linda Sengstock said she was not offended by the defense's attack on her. "I told my kids beforehand that they would try to pin some of it on me," she said. "I was prepared for it."

Wojtas is scheduled to be sentenced Jan. 12 by Biernat. A preliminary review of sentencing guidelines shows a term range as low as 19 months and has high as 57 months.

Wojtas was allowed to remain free on a \$100,000 personal bond until sentencing.



Joe Sengstock '95

Source: Macomb Daily

I Never Would Have Thought of This

By Fr. Jack Fabian '59

Something New

I was the pastor of St. Charles Parish in Newport (Monroe County) from 1982-1994. I thought I knew what my future held for me: a series of six-year assignments until death or retirement. That all changed on May 7, 1989. It was between 8:00 and 10:30am masses. I was getting ready for the baptisms that would follow the next mass. Only one parishioner was left in church. She signaled for me to come to the front pew where she was kneeling. Four days earlier she met with me to reveal that the lord wanted me to know that he had special work for me to do. The lord had not yet revealed to her what that work was, but she was instructed to ask if I would do it for him. My response was: "Yea, I will do whatever the lord wants." I meant it, but began imagining it might be very unpleasant, perhaps a new job in the Archdiocese of Detroit. As she remained kneeling, she said: "I know what your special work is."

Prophetic Voices

At this time in the church, the late 1980's, the phenomenon of people receiving prophecies and messages, inner locutions, from the lord was not uncommon. They were especially common in parish prayer groups. I was skeptical of this gift earlier in my priesthood and remained so. However, several years into my assignment at St. Charles I matured spiritually and pastorally. I became more accepting as I saw first-hand evidence of the Holy Spirit at work in the lives of so many parishioners. Jesus said: "Do you ever pick grapes from the thorn bushes, or figs from prickly plants? Never! Nay, a sound tree bears good fruit, while a decayed tree bears bad fruit." (Matthew 7:16-17). This wisdom of Jesus, along with the principles of discernment from St. Ignatius, gave clear evidence that the Lord was at work in this woman who called me over to her pew.

When she said she knew what my special work was, I asked: "What is it?" She answered: "You are going to establish a religious order." In a thousand years I would never have thought of that! I had no desire to join a religious order, much less start one. I was so astonished that the first words that left my mouth were completely inappropriate for being in church. I simply said: "Oh shit!" I immediately thought of all the problems that go with the community life. I would lose my privacy and the parish priest lifestyle in which I had flourished for 22 years. Nonetheless, I meant it when I said I would do whatever he wants. I'd like to think that my immediate response was just a loose translation of Mary's: "Be it done unto me according to thy word."



Fr. Jack Fabian '59

A Vision to Live By

Even though I had never thought about it before, when this woman said that I would establish a religious order, I knew exactly what its vision would be. Throughout my life, from as early as childhood, the two things that always fascinated me were spirituality and the out-of-doors. As I grew older, my interest in both deepened. Even though we were not taught spiritual theology in the seminary, my fascination for it drove me to read and study it privately. I also continued to pursue my interest in the out-of-doors. I even took courses on the subject. Even before this woman could tell me what my order would be about, I told her: "I will bring into this order what I have been studying about Catholic spirituality and living more simply - in harmony with the Earth. This community will try to live and teach that reality." She affirmed that this is what the Lord had told her. Although I did not know how all of this would work out, I knew that it would work. A community with this vision was badly needed. It would bring back to the church those who were pursuing Eastern religions and various forms of the New Age phenomenon. Our Catholic spiritual tradition, although we may have not been taught it in its fullness, has much more to offer the soul. The person of Jesus Christ our savior along with prayer, meditation, and spiritual gifts should be taught and practiced. As one person asked me a few years later when I was sharing my vision with her: "You mean to tell me I went through twelve years of Catholic education and no one ever taught me about this?"

Continued on page 5...

Continued from page 4 ...

A Surprising Confirmation

One of the instructors I had who helped me deepen my outdoor skills was Tom Brown, Jr. He is an author who is renowned for his tracking skills and experience in the field of nature awareness. He had been taught by Stalking Wolf, an elderly Lipan Apache, holy man and scout, was affectionately referred to as Grandfather. He lived well into his 90's. Known as "The Wolf," Grandfather became legendary for his ability to live off the land and be one with the land. He had the ability to move in and out of enemy camps, both native and white, undetected. His love and focused communion with his creator is the only explanation for his extraordinary accomplishment, mystical wisdom, and many other spiritual gifts.

When, ever so briefly, I told Tom about the new direction my life was taking, it was one of those tingly moments you experience on very rare occasion. He said: "Grandfather told me about you many years ago. He told me a catholic priest would be attending my courses and would help restore the true and ancient ways of religious practice." Later, Tom told me that the first time he met me he knew I was the priest Grandfather had told him about. In 1990, I officiated at Tom's step daughter's wedding. He gave me a gift. It was a brown-tanned leather bag wrapped with leather thongs. Inside were some beads and a note. It read: "Fr. Jack, This is from Grandfather's original medicine bundle. The bag is 250 years old." When I thanked him, he said: "Don't thank me. Thank Grandfather. He told me to give it to you."

There were many other confirmations I received also. The confirmation I really needed was the one that would come from the church. Right from the beginning I received great support from the bishops. Cardinal Szoka got me started. Cardinal Maida released me to do this full time. Bishop Reiss guided us through all of the necessary steps. Bishop Garland and Bishop Sample of the Marquette Diocese have continued to steer us in the right direction.

To make a long story short, we now have a 1040 acre retreat center and formation center near Paradise, Michigan. Our official status at the time of this writing is Public Association of the Faithful. Very soon we will be a Public Clerical Association, and we hope that soon after, we will become an official religious order - a Society of Apostolic Life. We currently have three priests, a brother, three vowed women and about 55 lay members. We have many inquiries and expect to continue to grow. Notre Dame high school will always be a part of me. It will continue to be in my prayers.

The Muggs

See the Muggs Live!

(Tony DeNardo '90 and Danny Methric '90)

♣ Saturday, December 12, 2009

FREE SHOW at Alvin's
Cass Avenue, Detroit, MI

♣ Friday, December 18, 2009

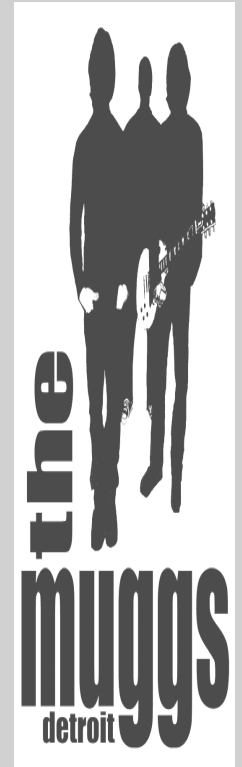
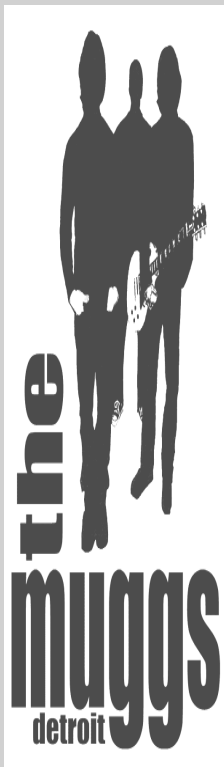
Frankie's Inner-city
Toledo, OH

♣ Friday, January 29, 2010

The Montrose Room
Rosemont, IL

♣ Saturday, January 30, 2010

Mac's Bar
Lansing, MI



Upcoming Events

19th Annual Alumni Hockey Games

December 26, 2009 At The St. Clair Shores Civic Arena

RSVP is requested this year.

Please send an email to indicate you will be participating to Jim Mandl '90 at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com.

Please indicate if you are goalie.

We want to make sure the nets are covered for both games. Thanks!

NO ALCOHOL IS PERMITTED FOR THIS EVENT. If you are seen with beer or alcohol in the building, it will cost you approximately \$400, so please don't bring it this year. This is the St. Clair Shores Civic Center's rule.



To Prepay With Credit Card, Visit The Website and Click the "Donate" Button.

When: Saturday December 26, 2009.

Where: St. Clair Shores Civic Arena, 20000 Stephens, St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

Cost: Older Game \$17 per skater; Younger game \$20 per skater

What to bring: Two Jerseys - one light and one dark.

Older game Schedule:

12:15pm - 12:30pm: Check-in and locker room.

12:30 - 1:30pm: Older Game

1:30pm - 2:30pm - Pizza, Pop, and snacks.

Younger game Schedule:

1:00pm - 1:45pm: Check-in and locker room.

1:45pm - 3:00pm: Younger Game

3:00pm - 4:00pm - Pizza, Pop, and snacks.

Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament

March 5, 6, & 7, and March 13, & 14, 2010

Where: De La Salle High School, Warren, MI

Cost to play: \$30 per player

Format: Double Elimination

Winning team to face the winner of the DLS Alumni Tournament on Sunday March 14, 2010



The **3rd annual Detroit Comedy Festival** is looking for talent! If you are a standup comedian and want to be considered for inclusion in the 2010 Detroit Comedy Festival, please submit the following information and fee by January 15, 2010:

1. Demo: (5 minute minimum)
2. BIO
3. Head shot
4. \$25.00 fee made payable to Aspen Talent

Submission materials can be e-mailed to moroz@aspentalent.com or mailed to:

David Moroz
c/o Aspen Talent
11385 Shaffer Rd.
Davisburg, Michigan 48350

**Dave Moroz is a 1976
Graduate of Notre Dame**



March 21 - 27, 2010
Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
Royal Oak, Michigan

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<http://friendsofnotredame.flyingcart.com>



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Yearbooks are Now Sold Exclusively Via Our On-Line Store



Wall of Fame

If you see your name listed below, we have your Wall of Fame plaque that hung on the wall behind the gym. We would like for you to have your plaque if you want it. Please email us at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com, and we will make arrangements to get it to you!

Gary Lytle '61
 Dave Debol '74*
 John Giordano '61*
 John Blum '77*
 David Bonior '63
 Bob Navetta '64
 Joe Przybycki '64
 Mike Boccia '65
 Chris Hacias '65
 John Kraft '65
 Jim Navetta '67
 Rick Wenner '67
 Pat Srock '74
 Dan Richards '67
 Glenn Radzik '69

Gary Radzik '69
 Frank Lutostanski '71
 Jerry Guinane '71
 Mike McGreevy '73
 Tim Flannery '73
 Jim Romeo '75
 Kevin Flannery '75
 Tom Bentley '75
 Brian Monfils '75
 Mark McGreevy '76
 Tom Gadawski '76
 Marco Caporuscio '78
 Dave Wolfbauer '79
 Gary Bass '80
 Kevin Paterson '80

Jim Forsgren '81
 Craig Mitchell '81
 Walt Dixon '81
 Brett Nowak '82
 Chris Gust '82
 Paul Tripp '82
 Brian Barney '83
 Andy Nanasi '83
 Greg Placidi '83
 Ken Zazula '84
 Bruce Smith '85
 Paul Seibert '86
 Paul Amodei '86
 Joe Trombley '87
 Andy Booth '87
 Scott Klott '88

Jim Maher '88
 Eric Taylor '89
 Eric Stanczak '89
 DezJuan Reynolds '90
 Matt Ziolkowski '90
 Mark Staples, Jr. '91
 Steve Jansen '92
 Anthony Vitale '94
 Preston Brandimore '95
 Phil Ruggerio '95
 Jason Selleke '96
 Jason Stoicevich '97
 James Fields '01
 Adam Fujita '01

* Pictured on the same plaque - University of Michigan Hockey

*We will gladly ship your plaque if you can cover the cost of shipping.
 The cost to ship a plaque is \$8.00.*

Trophies

For the past four years, we have been storing over 160 of the school's trophies. We would like to put these trophies in the hands of the guys who earned them for Notre Dame. We have taken photos of all the trophies and uploaded them to the photo gallery on the website. Please browse through them. If you see any that you would like, please contact us, and we will make arrangements to get them to you. We will continue to store them indefinitely.



Upcoming Reunions

Reunions in 2010

The following classes are due to celebrate reunion years in 2010:



2005 - 5 Years
 2000 - 10 Years
 1995 - 15 Years
 1990 - 20 Years
 1985 - 25 Years



1980 - 30 Years
 1975 - 35 Years
 1970 - 40 Years
 1965 - 45 Years
 1960 - 50 Years



Interested in forming a reunion committee for your class?

E-mail Jim Mandl '90 at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com.

We are your *only* source for the most up-to-date alumni contact information!

Celebrating 50 Years - Class of 1960

Members of the class of 1960 have organized a 50th reunion!

When: Saturday, September 25, 2010

Where: Best Western Sterling Inn

15 Mile Rd. and Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI

Reunion Committee:

Eddie Kay at ewk51110@comcast.net

Gary Wilson at gwdc2@aol.com

If interested in joining the reunion committee, please email Eddie or Gary

For complete reunion information, please visit the class of 1960 web site:

www.notredamehw1960.org

Celebrating 20 Years - Class of 1990

Members of the class of 1990 have started organizing a 20th reunion!

When: TBD

Where: TBD

Reunion Committee:

Jim Mandl at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

Matt Sokol at mattsokol@gmail.com

Mike Balow at MikeBalow@gmail.com

If interested in joining the reunion committee, please email Jim, Matt, or Mike

Celebrating 10 Years - Class of 2000

Members of the class of 2000 have started organizing a 10th reunion!

When: TBD

Where: TBD

Reunion Committee:

William Pokriefka at willbbad69@yahoo.com

If interested in joining the reunion committee, please email William

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Ricky Winowicki '04 - Owner

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Greg Wills '90—Owner



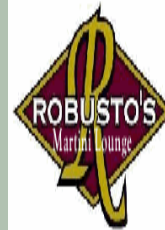
Eric Woodhouse '91 - Co-Owner



David Moroz '76 Owner



Greg Schultz '76 - President and Manager
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and
Kevin Dunbar, CEM '99

Support Alumni Owned Businesses



Jim '00, Joe '04, and Jeff '06 Riehl



Joe Vicari '75 - Owner



Casey Wakula '96 - Owner



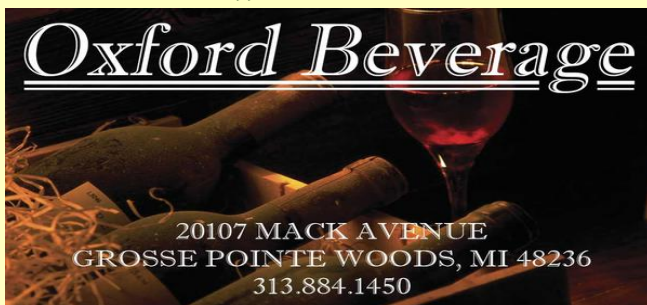
Kevin Lao '03



Jeff Meldrum '02



Michael Coley '86 - Owner



Dave Bourgeois '89 - Owner



Ben Holmes '87 - Owner



Jeff '90, Brian '91, Mike '93
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Patrick Stieber '92 - Owner