



# 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!  
OCTOBER 2008 EDITION

## 2009 Alumni Directory Project Completed!

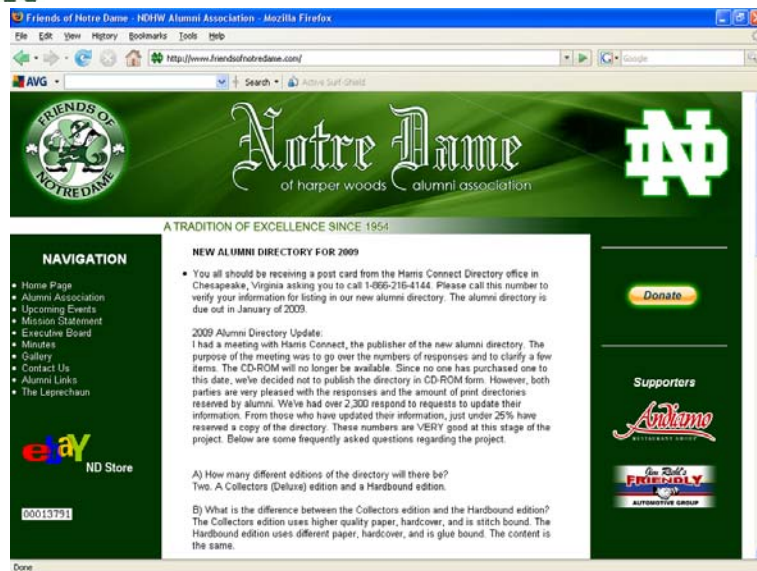
The final phase of the 2009 alumni directory project has been completed! Thank you to all who took the time to update contact information. Overall, this project was a HUGE success! Over 40% of HWND graduates responded to the call for updates. We are happy to report that we now have over 3,100 alumni on our email distribution list! This project doubled the number of alumni we can communicate with electronically in less than 9 months.

If you purchased, the book, we thank you. If you did not purchase one and decide you want one at a later date, we will have a very limited number of them available for sale in late January, 2009. The alumni directory will be available in regular edition and deluxe edition (CD-ROM no longer available). This is a great reunion planning resource and a great way to re-connect with old friends! The beginning of the book will also be packed with several pages of ND history and facts! We will publish an image of the cover after the books have been mailed to those who placed orders. They should begin arriving in your mailboxes in January.



### What's Inside?

- ♣ 1958 50th Reunion
- ♣ Alumni Passings
- ♣ Upcoming Reunion Info.
- ♣ Upcoming Events
- ♣ Trophies and Yearbooks
- ♣ Alumni Softball
- ♣ Notes From You!



### Web Site Redesigned

Randy Walters '05 spend a portion of this summer adding a little spice to our website. Color and new images and icons have been added. He is in the process of developing a message board. This will be a place where you can register a user name, post messages about your HWND memories, network with your fellow HWND alums and much, much more.

Thanks, Randy!

Harper Woods Notre Dame High School Alumni Association  
Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!

54361 Pine Street \* New Baltimore MI \* 48047

www.notredame-hw.com \* www.friendsofnotredame.com



# Milestone Celebrated!

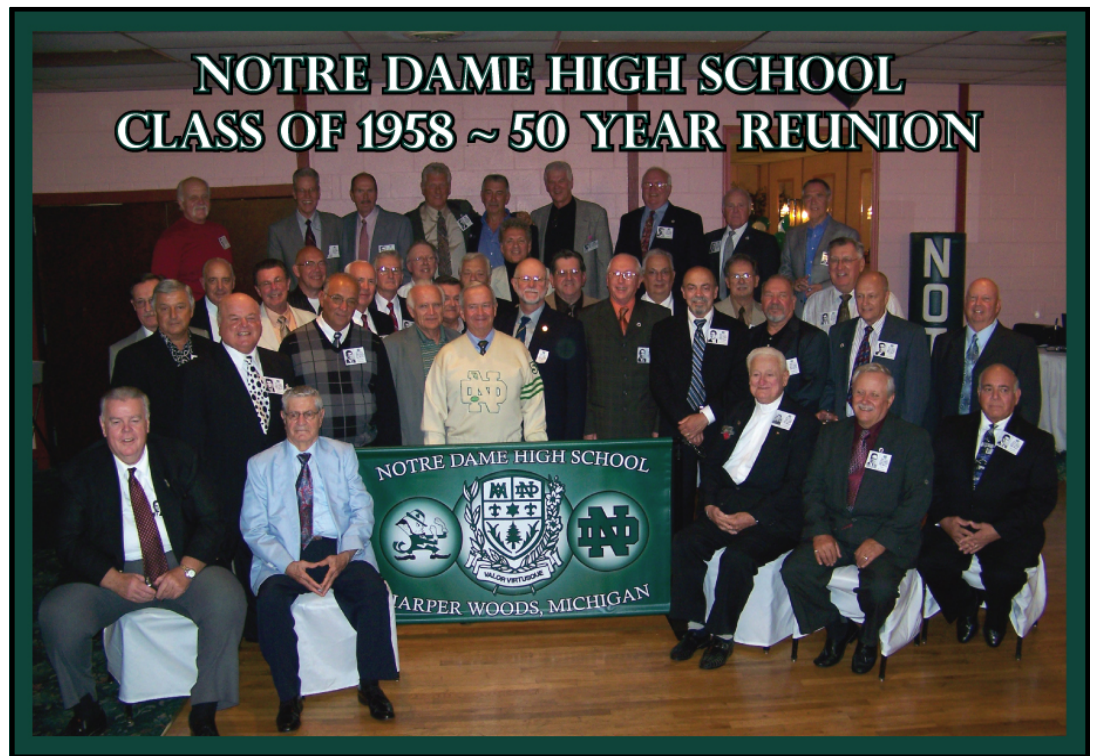
Notre Dame's inaugural class -- the class of 1958 -- celebrated their 50th anniversary with a weekend-long reunion. The two day event took place September 12th and 13th. On September 12th, the guys and their wives braved the rain to enjoy a day of golf at the Glaciers Golf Club. Following golf, there was a social gathering at the Capital Banquet Center where the class of 1958 renewed old acquaintances and enjoyed pizza, brats, hot dogs, hamburgers and refreshments. On Saturday, September 13th, a reunion mass was celebrated at 4:30pm by Father Robert Champagne, one of HWND's founding fathers. Immediately following the mass, a fantastic dinner was served by Chef John Bendzinski '83. Music was provided by Bel-Aire Bill and Harry as the class of 1958 and their spouses danced the night away.



Jim, thanks to you and your dad for attending our 50 year reunion YOUR WORK FOR THE ALUMNI IS TRULY APPRECIATED. The highlight for me, besides seeing my fellow classmates, was Fr Champagne saying the mass. All reunions should try and have one of the former priest attend and say mass. Despite the closing of the school "The Notre Dame Spirit" still lives on. Thanks again.

- Vic Battani '58

Jim, I thought this was interesting. While at the 50th reunion I was talking to Max Stoll, his parents and my parents were friends, and I knew that his and my mother were in the same hospital for our births. We were born one day apart. Then Max said that Frank Spezia's mother was also in the same hospital at the same time and "Checo" was born on the third day. Nice Party, best regards,  
-Norman Raab '58



# Upcoming Reunions

## Reunions in 2009

The following classes are celebrating reunion years in 2009:



2004 - 5 Years  
1999 - 10 Years  
1994 - 15 Years  
1989 - 20 Years  
1984 - 25 Years



1979 - 30 Years  
1974 - 35 Years  
1969 - 40 Years  
1964 - 45 Years  
1959 - 50 Years



Interested in forming a reunion committee for your class?  
E-mail Jim Mandl '90 at [jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com](mailto:jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com).  
It's never too early to start planning!

### Celebrating 15 Years!

**Who:** HWND Class of 1993

**What:** 15 Year Reunion

**Where:** Hamlin Pub  
22 & Hayes, Shelby Township, MI 48316

**When:** Saturday, November 8, 2008

**Why:** \$25 per person for Pizza, Salad, Pop, Domestic Draft Beer, House Wine, Tax, & Tip is a great deal!

Plus, you can enjoy all of this while spending five hours with people you haven't seen in a long time.

Wives or significant others are welcome to attend, too!

**How to make your Reservation:**

Email Paul Nahra '93 at [pnahra@comcast.net](mailto:pnahra@comcast.net) or call him at 586-709-3372. Please RSVP by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

### Celebrating 20 Years!

Graduates of the *Class of 1988* have organized a 20 Year Reunion!

**Date:** October 11, 2008

**Place:** Ernie's Kings Mill  
16655 19 Mile Road  
Clinton Township, MI 48038

**For complete details, please contact the Class of 1988 Reunion Committee.**

Jim Pettys \* 586-247-2227 \* [james.pettys@sbcglobal.net](mailto:james.pettys@sbcglobal.net)  
Scott Klott \* 248-276-9232 \* [klottsa@yahoo.com](mailto:klottsa@yahoo.com)  
Bill Flaherty \* 586-772-5345 \* [bpflaherty@aol.com](mailto:bpflaherty@aol.com)  
Steve Loewen \* 586-713-4989 \* [sloewen7@yahoo.com](mailto:sloewen7@yahoo.com)

### Celebrating 25 Years!

Graduates of the *Class of 1983* are organizing a 20 year reunion!

**Rob Zeweke '83 and Tom Salerno '83** are chairing the planning committee.

More information will be released as the planning progresses.

### Celebrating 10 Years!

Graduates of the *Class of 1999* are organizing a 10 year reunion!

**Brett Ceriotti '99, Kevin Dunbar '99** and others have started planning the class of 1999 10 year reunion.

More information will be released as the planning progresses.

We have several items available for you to use as display items your reunions.

The sign the class of 1958 is standing in front of for their group shot is a sign we designed and ordered that can be used at all alumni events and reunions.

Other items we have:

- 1) School Crest Banner, 2) Fighting Irish Banners, 3) Football Field Goal Post Pads (Pictured next to DJ table in 58 reunion photos), 4) Football Jerseys, 5) Trophies, 6) Paper Items - Folders, Brochures, etc., 7) Football Helmets, 8) A desk from the school, 9) old HWND publications, 10) Yearbooks, and much, much more.

### Trophies

For the past three years, we have been storing over 160 of the school's trophies. We've decided that it is no longer economically wise to continue storing them. 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 through June of 2009. After July 1, 2009, we will begin recycling them and/or donating them to establishments that decorate with old trophies.

**Approximately 60 newly found trophies have been added to the photo gallery!**



### Upcoming Events

#### Annual Alumni Hockey Games

Friday, December 26, 2008  
At Gosse Pointe Community Ice Rink - 3-6pm

#### Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament

March 6, 7, & 8, 2009  
At DeLaSalle  
Details to come.

#### Annual Alumni Softball Tournament

September 2009  
At Total Sports  
Start recruiting your classmates!

Interested in hosting a Notre Dame Alumni night at your establishment?  
E-mail Jim Mandl '90  
at [jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com](mailto:jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com)



Visit our eBay Store!

<http://stores.ebay.com/Friends-of-Notre-Dame>



**Football Jerseys  
Now Available in  
the ebay Store!**

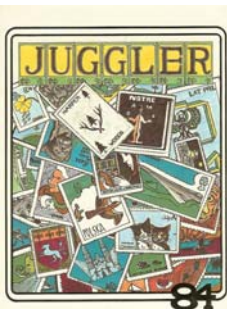


### Yearbooks

Need a replacement yearbook? Just want a piece of ND history? Want an extra yearbook? We've got over 1,000 of them! Almost all years are available for a small fee (\$7.00) to cover storage and shipping costs. Send us an email and we'll make arrangements to get you a yearbook!

We're sorry, but we are sold out of the following yearbooks:

- 1956
- 1957
- 1958
- 1961
- 1970



### Bands

See the Muggs...

- ♣ Friday October 17, 2008  
⇒ Northern Lights...  
Detroit, MI  
⇒ 7" Vinyl Release Party
- ♣ Friday October 30, 2008  
⇒ Crofoot, Pontiac, MI  
⇒ Detroit Music Revolution  
40 year celebration
- ♣ Saturday November 1, 2008  
⇒ The Dawg House...  
Clinton Twp., MI
- ♣ Saturday November 7, 2008  
⇒ Elbow Room...  
Ypsilanti., MI
- ♣ Saturday November 22, 2008  
⇒ The Magic Bag... Ferndale, MI

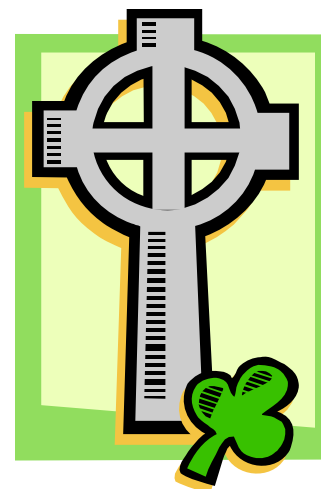


Danny Methric '90 & Tony DeNardo '90

# In Memoriam

The good news is that the 2009 alumni directory project has been completed. The bad news is that Harris Connect reported several more deceased alumni than we ever expected they would. The HWND grads listed below were reported deceased by Harris Connect. We will work to verify this information the best that we can. We apologize in advance if someone on this list is accidentally reported as deceased.

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| † Cunningham, James - Class of 1958      | † Cindrich, Robert - Class of 1971    |
| † Cramer, Charles - Class of 1958        | † Derlon, Christopher - Class of 1971 |
| † Landru, Alvin - Class of 1958          | † Wissel, Dewayne - Class of 1972     |
| † Whyte, Albert - Class of 1958          | † Chance, Martin - Class of 1974      |
| † Sierkierski, Walter - Class of 1959    | † Roscoe, Terrence - Class of 1974    |
| † Facchini, Gil - Class of 1960          | † Caren, David - Class of 1975        |
| † Jacobs, Eric - Class of 1960           | † Combs, Kermit - Class of 1975       |
| † Kurkierewicz, Lawrence - Class of 1960 | † Hildebrandt, Eric - Class of 1975   |
| † Sobczak, Dennis - Class of 1960        | † Trocino, Joseph - Class of 1976     |
| † Studinger, Leopold - Class of 1960     | † White, Thomas - Class of 1976       |
| † Wrynn, Dennis - Class of 1960          | † McBride, Michael - Class of 1979    |
| † Gangola, Norman - Class of 1961        | † Walko, John - Class of 1979         |
| † Garascia, David - Class of 1961        | † Horodko, Lawrence - Class of 1980   |
| † Kilcher, Richard - Class of 1961       | † Sinkus, John - Class of 1982        |
| † Madajski, Joseph - Class of 1961       | † Sloan, Joseph - Class of 1982       |
| † Templin, Gilbert, Class of 1961        | † Ragni, Scott - Class of 1984        |
| † Wittwer, Norman - Class of 1962        | † Kreim, Mark - Class of 1985         |
| † Detone, John - Class of 1963           | † Mendalski, Archie - Class of 1988   |
| † Garavaglia, Guy - Class of 1963        | † Stankovitch, Julian - Class of 1993 |
| † Janda, Rodney - Class of 1963          | † Fitzpatrick, John - Class of 1993   |
| † Vloet, John - Class of 1963            |                                       |
| † Bodner, Stephen - Class of 1964        |                                       |
| † Mitchell, Daniel - Class of 1964       |                                       |
| † Walendowski, Stanley - Class of 1964   |                                       |
| † Fitzhenry, Kenneth - Class of 1965     |                                       |
| † Aversa, Paul - Class of 1965           |                                       |
| † Gates, Michael - Class of 1965         |                                       |
| † Jacewicz, Derrick - Class of 1966      |                                       |
| † Zajdel, Paul - Class of 1966           |                                       |
| † Campbell, William - Class of 1967      |                                       |
| † Mancuso, Salvatore - Class of 1967     |                                       |
| † Onei, George - Class of 1967           |                                       |
| † DeGeorge, Joseph - Class of 1968       |                                       |
| † Karrer, Gregory - Class of 1968        |                                       |
| † Werner, Kenneth - Class of 1968        |                                       |
| † Richard Gozinia - Class of 1969        |                                       |
| † Chisholm, Michael - Class of 1970      |                                       |
| † Kirouac, Timothy - Class of 1970       |                                       |
| † Shepherd, Gregory - Class of 1970      |                                       |



## An Irish Blessing...

**May the road rise up to meet you.**

**May the wind always be at your back.**

**May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and rains fall soft upon your fields.**

**And until we meet again,**

**May God hold you in the palm of His hand.**

## In Loving Memory:

**RAGO, BRENDA JOAN** (Mother of *Steve Rago '83*)  
Age 68. Beloved wife of Edward. Loving mother of  
Christine (Brian) Pencak and Steven Rago. Dearest  
grandmother of Brandon and Kathleen Pencak,  
Nicole, Jonathan and Bradley Rago. Dearest sister of  
Sandra Blanchard and Rosalie (John) Martinuzzi.



# Dave Coulier '77

November 7th & 8th

(2 shows each day 8:00 p.m. & 10:30pm)  
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!!

@ Youngers Irish Tavern

Romeo, MI

call 586.752.4400 for more information

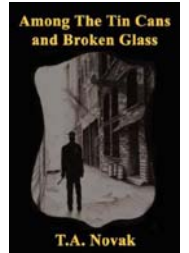


# Congratulations are in Order

- ✦ Congratulations to **Melissa (Missy Mandl) Mase** (Regina '91), sister of Jim '90, and daughter of Marge (Regina '66) and Jim Mandl '66. She gave birth to a 7 pound, 10 once baby boy last month. Matthew Robert Mase was born on September 25, 2008.
- ✦ Congratulations to **Shaun Lowrey**, Former teacher at HWND. Shaun has entered religious life as an Oblate of St. Francis de Sales. Shaun's Ordination as a Deacon in preparation for Priesthood will take place Friday, Oct. 17, 2008 at 7pm, at Gesu Church, 2049 Parkside, Toledo, OH. His ordination into the Priesthood will take place Saturday, June 27, 2008, at 11am (Time is tentative), Gesu Church, 2049 Parkside, Toledo, OH. All are welcome to attend both masses. Shaun can be reached at lowery@oblates.us.
- ✦ Congratulations to **T. A. Novak '58**. Mr. Novak has written and published a book about being a cop in in Detroit. *Among The Tin Cans and Broken Glass* is available in paperback and hardcover through amazon.com, Barnes and Nobel (bn.com) and at local book stores.
- ✦ Congratulations to **Pete Klein '61**. Pete has written and published another book. This one is the called the Vampire Valkyrie. This is the second book in his series about a young female vampire.



Matthew Robert Mase



T. A. Novak's Book



Pete Klein's Book

# 2008 Alumni Softball Champions!



Sean Holtz '07, John Loster '07, Jim Mandl '90, John Zmich '90, Tom Jenkins '97, Matt Sokol '90, Matt Babecki '05, Frank Heinrich '97, Matt Talacko, Chris Gajewski '90 and Mitch Kolezcko '90



The Class of 1999 Alumni Softball Team



# 28TH ANNUAL CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' DINNER



Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Penna's of Sterling

Cocktails: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:30 pm

Tickets \$200



This is a stag dinner that includes silent auction. Approximately 1000 attend this east side catholic schools reunion each year. Graduates of DLS, St. Joe's, Austin, Bishop Gallagher, Harper Woods Notre Dame, and others attend yearly. Tables of 10 are available and there are advertising opportunities available in the program. The proceeds are directed to families needing financial assistance with their De La Salle tuition.

Contact John Monigold for more information at 586-778-3356 or [jmonigold@delasallehs.com](mailto:jmonigold@delasallehs.com)

## The HWND Connection

Pat Adams - HWND '77 - DLS Principal

Brian Kelly - HWND '77 - DLS Athletic Director and Head Baseball Coach

Paul Verska - HWND '63 - DLS Head Football Coach

Plus many DLS teachers are HWND grads & many HWND grads have sons at DLS.



## Special Thanks...

To the person who dropped this sign off on my front porch this summer. It is the very heavy brass sign that hung in the front lobby of the school opposite the business office. We are *very* happy to have it! Thank you... Whomever you are!!! - Jim Mandl '90



# 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](mailto:jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com) and we will make arrangements to get it to you! These plaques will only be released to the actual graduate or to a family member.

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Gary Lytle '61        | Craig Mitchell '81      |
| Dave Debol '74*       | Walt Dixon '81          |
| John Giordano '61*    | Brett Nowak '82         |
| John Blum '77*        | Chris Gust '82          |
| David Bonior '63      | Paul Tripp '82          |
| Bob Navetta '64       | Brian Barney '83        |
| Joe Przybycki '64     | Andy Nanasi '83         |
| Mike Boccia '65       | Greg Placidi '83        |
| Chris Hacias '65      | Brian Dittmer '83       |
| John Kraft '65        | Ken Zazula '84          |
| Tom Van Doorne '66    | Bob Urban '84           |
| Jim Navetta '67       | Chris McDonald '85      |
| Rick Wenner '67       | Chris Luongo '85        |
| Rick Zamon '67        | Bruce Smith '85         |
| Dan Richards '67      | Paul Seibert '86        |
| Glenn Radzik '69      | Paul Amodei '86         |
| Gary Radzik '69       | Dave Walczyk '86        |
| Bob David '70         | Steve Zacharias '86     |
| Frank Lutostanski '71 | Joe Trombley '87        |
| Jerry Guinane '71     | Andy Booth '87          |
| Jerry Druzinski '71   | Scott Klott '88         |
| Terry Cirocco '72     | Jim Maher '88           |
| Dave Guinane '72      | Eric Taylor '89         |
| Al Provenzano '72     | John Pierce '89         |
| Mike McGreevy '73     | Eric Stanczak '89       |
| Tim Flannery '73      | Kevin Messing '89       |
| Greg Urquhart '73     | DezJuan Reynolds '90    |
| Chris Lamilza '74     | Jeff Miller '90         |
| Pat Srock '74         | Chris Messing '90       |
| Jim Berra '74         | Matt Ziolkowski '90     |
| Joe Vicari '75        | Mark Staples, Jr. '91   |
| Jim Romeo '75         | Steve Jansen '92        |
| Kevin Flannery '75    | Pat Brandimore, Jr. '93 |
| Tom Bentley '75       | Terrance Porter '93     |
| Larry Lewandowski '75 | Anthony Vitale '94      |
| Brian Monfils '75     | Rick Rewiako '95        |
| Mark McGreevy '76     | Preston Brandimore '95  |
| Tom Gadawski '76      | Phil Ruggerio '95       |
| Tim Cummins '76       | Dave Biondi '95         |
| Marco Caporuscio '78  | Jason Selleke '96       |
| Don Brosky '79        | Jason Stoicevich '97    |
| Craig Gerbe '79       | Tom Gallus '97          |
| Dave Wolfbauer '79    | Nick Holliday '97       |
| Gary Bass '80         | Greg Stempin '97        |
| Kevin Paterson '80    | Dave Porada '98         |
| Mike Smith '80        | James Fields '01        |

\* Pictured on the same plaque - University of Michigan Hockey

# Support Alumni Owned Businesses



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



of Macomb  
Daniel Stross '78 - Owner



Samir Thomas '89 - Owner



Joe Vicari '75 - Owner



Dave Bourgeois '89 - Owner



David Moroz '76 - Owner



Martini Lounge and Wine Bar

Open 6 nights Live Music Thurs-Fri-Sat

Appetizers Big Screen TV Over 185 Martinis

Scott Baumgart '84 - Owner



Jeff Meldrum '02 - Owner



Casey Wakula '96 - Owner

If you are interested in promoting your business in our newsletter, please email us at [jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com](mailto:jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com).







# We Heard From...



## **Eddie Zmich, Class of 1992:**

Thanks for the continued updates!

## **Tim Babinski, Class of 1981:**

I just wanted to let you know that the yearbook arrived earlier this week. It came rubber-banded to some packages from Amazon.com - I placed an order with Amazon to buy some gifts for my son's birthday. I assumed that all three of the packages were from Amazon. I finally got around to opening them today, and much to my surprise, the yearbook was there. Thank you very much for the prompt response. On to the memories!

## **Bill Recker, Class of 1959:**

Thanks for adding me to your email list. I am glad to see that HWND is still active and alive. I look back at the best times in my life at ND. Kelly and Eight Mile Road was the best training grounds for a car guy like me.

## **Anthony Morasso, Class of 2005:**

I'm at Wayne State in my 4th year. I have been on the Warriors football team for all 4 of those years. We're looking pretty good this year. I still hang out with many friends from Notre Dame who also attend Wayne State and also many who don't. My brother, Michael '96 is doing good in Chicago and my other brother Joey '00 is doing well in his job at 101.1 the WRIF. Also the class of '05 is ready to see you all in the Notre Dame Alumni tournaments!

## **David J Wolking, Class of 1997:**

I am in the field working in Kenya and Tanzania until late October. For my contact information in East Africa and other details, please visit my blog at: <http://pointofuse.wordpress.com>

## **Jeffrey Litch, Class of 1980:**

I really think the Alumni initiative is excellent! I appreciate the spirit of the Fighting Irish continuing on in our informal network. I personally thank you for all your time and effort. I am working as a Director for France Télécom's, Orange Business Services in Paris, France. From Sept to Dec, I will be on special assignment in Nairobi, Kenya. I will be responsible for the wholesale activities of the Telekom Kenya's Karibu Kenya Program.

## **Paul Nowaske, Class of 1960:**

It's good to see the history of the Harper Woods campus is being preserved. My thanks to all who are keeping it alive!

## **Dave Vergolini, Class of 1992:**

I love the newsletter!

## **Richard Pasiak, Class of 1970:**

I believe that you have done an excellent job, but I now believe that it is time to join with the Notre Dame Prep alumni association.

- You are free to join them if you'd like.  
We're not interested. Jim Mandl '90



## **Chris Gibson, Class of 1995:**

I am a graduate of HWND '95. I am currently living in Arlington, TX. I teach 4th grade math and science for the Grand Prairie Independent School District. My wife Monique and I have two children, Olivia 4yrs old and Jonah 5mo. I just wanted to say that I appreciate your passion for our alma-mater and that even though I live hundreds of miles away, I still feel connected with HWND and it's alumni. Thanks again for all you do and God bless!

## **Kevin Dunbar, Class of 1999:**

Great work on everything! As usual your hard work and time spent are greatly appreciated!

## **Gregory Furchak, Class of 1961:**

Good to hear from you! Keep up the great work!

## **Tom Manney, Class of 1982:**

I appreciate your candid discussions regarding the NDP alumni group's article in the "Irish" magazine. The thing that has always bothered me most about the situation, is the now-apparent prostitution of the Harper Woods Notre Dame campus in order to secure the NDP campus in Pontiac. At the time I thought Pontiac Notre Dame was an act of growth. I now see it as an act of abandonment. I remember Conrad Vachon remarking once to me regarding the name "Notre Dame Prep". He said, "What does that make us? Notre Dame.....Sh\*\*ty?". True story.

- And a great one, Tom! That's why we loved Vachon!  
Never afraid to tell it like he saw it. Jim Mandl '90

## **Andy Dold, Class of 1998:**

I wish NDP would stop sending me that s\*\*t. I really do not care for their propaganda. Are other people pissed? I'm glad Ken Parent got out. I don't think he really cared for it. Rice and Kotarski abandoned HWND, so they were part of the problem. HWND was a blue-collar school. NDP is a rich, elitist school. I can't feel attached to that. What HWND dude wants to read a magazine with updates about girls JV softball and engagements of chicks that graduated in 2005?

- Yep, Andy, the majority are upset with them. They've caused plenty of confusion after "claiming ownership" of our alumni.  
- Jim Mandl '90

## **Michael Dawson, Class of 2000:**

I was wondering if you were the group to publish the IRISH magazine? I received it in the mail recently and thoroughly enjoyed it. I haven't heard much from Notre Dame, but I am willing to get more involved. How can I do that? Do you have any events coming up for alumni? Also, if I want to donate to the Notre Dame Alumni, is there a place I can do that?

- No, we didn't publish IRISH Magazine, but we definitely deserved credit for it. About 75% of it was lifted from the newsletters we published over the past year. We have been sponsoring alumni events and reporting on the lives of HWND alumni since June of 2005. We'd love to have you get more involved with the Friends of Notre Dame! Jim Mandl '90





# And We Heard From...



## **Chuck Mick, Class of 1990:**

You and the group at the Friends of Notre Dame do a great job!

## **Tom Blomquist, Class of 1962:**

Keep up the good work and the keeping spirit of HW Notre Dame alive! As an older alumni and now an out-of-town alumni I feel no affiliation with ND Prep and see no advantage to an alumni merger, other than for ND Prep. Please keep us informed on how the old time faculty is doing, particularly the Marist priest and brothers.

## **Chet Szerlag, Class of 1966:**

Thanks for the latest newsletter!! Good job! While I have no concerns or issues with the new Pontiac-based ND school, I agree with Jim Mandl's ('66) editorial. I think the ND Harper Woods alumni constitute a special body of men, and the way the school came to its unceremonious ending is a travesty. But this is typical catholic authoritarianism at its best. Detroit is slipping into a 3rd world society, and the church is ignoring its mission as a cornerstone of sustaining civilized behavior.

## **Jeff Bluhm, Class of 2007:**

I think I should introduce myself. My name is Jeff Bluhm '07 and after Notre Dame closed, I transferred to Notre Dame Prep. I am currently studying Bio-Chemistry at the University of Detroit Mercy. I just want to say I have been following your newsletters via face-book and I **love** them! Finally, as one of the very few students who had to go to both Marists schools, I would like to give my opinion on the issue with Prep wanting to take control of NDHW Alumni. I disagree with the administration at Prep wholeheartedly. They may have been founded by the same order of priests but they **are not** the same priests. Notre Dame Harper Woods and Notre Dame Prep should remain separate. They are separate schools with just the relationship of the same name and the same Marist Education. I feel that if a Notre Dame Harper Woods Alumni would like to thank the Marists for the education they received at Notre Dame, there is nothing to stop them. According to a priest at Prep, that is one of the purposes of an Alumni Association - supporting the education they received. Don't get me wrong, I loved Prep, and the priest I'm talking about is one of my favorite teachers there. I still talk to him from time to time, which is how I know how he feels about this situation. He knows how I feel also. And I know that I can speak for most of my fellow transfers and saying "Keep them separate." I know first hand that they are not the same school. They aren't the same Alma Mater, even though the words may be the same. They are not the same Alumni, and they **are not** the same Notre Dame! Keep up the good work!



## **John Demasco, Class of 1990:**

I'm Living in Phoenix Arizona. Hope all is well good luck and tell everyone I said hello.

## **Kevin Flaherty, Class of 1989:**

You guys are doing a great job. N.D. Prep didn't give a s\*\*t about our school for so many years and no doubt discouraged any potential move to keep it afloat. How those guys can let their old school where they graduated from, and where they later worked, just wither away is difficult to comprehend. With the HW campus closing Fr. Leon couldn't wait to sink his teeth into the alumni network from our old school. But he knew it would look bad if he did it immediately after it closed. I will never give a dime to that school in Pontiac. Keep up the good work!

## **Gary Wilson, Class of 1960:**

I think you have done a GREAT job with keeping the alumni moving in the right direction.

## **John Zmich, Class of 1990:**

I am doing well. I got married in June!

## **Danny Valente, Class of 2003:**

I am a manager at Continental Interiors - a commercial flooring company. I played 4 years of college Baseball. I am working towards a degree in Business and the Medical Field.

## **Mike Nowicki, Class of 1990:**

I'm doing well. I live in Milford by Kensington Metro Park. Own, work at Fitness NOW retail exercise equipment in Plymouth. Sneaking out to go up North summertime weekends and having fun. Hope all is well with you. I really appreciate what you're doing with the alumni newsletter involvement etc. Let me know if I can help somewhere.

## **John Cusumano, Class of 1997:**

I just wanted to say that I agree with your father's assessment as to why we shouldn't join with NDP. They had no connection with us whatsoever when both schools were open (except for the teachers they stole) and no connection with us once the school was set to close. Why now do they care so much about running the alumni association? If I'm not mistaken, the Marists priests didn't even own NDHW in its last years. It was owned by the Archdiocese of Detroit which is the party that ultimately decided to close the school. If they wanted nothing to do with us before then just leave us be now. Thanks for all the hard work you put into this.

## **Steven Aquilina, Class of 2004**

I am in the National Guard as a Specialist and I will be going to boot camp on Nov. 20th, 2008.

## **Tom Dale, Class of 1960**

Thanks for all the work and energy you put into keeping the HWND community viable. You are doing a great job and I'm sure that many others beside myself appreciate it.

