On Teaching Minds and Touching Hearts

Of the many mantras of the Lasallian mission, one of the most popular is that of “teaching minds and touching hearts”. It somehow captures both the simplicity and the profundity of the mission and, for many, serves as a hallmark that certainly should be found in any endeavor that would call itself Lasallian.

Our spring issue of Dateline District has the happy duty of reporting that the teaching of minds and touching of hearts is alive and well in the District of San Francisco New Orleans. It is pulsing throughout our ministries in their people, their ideas, and their accomplishments. Among those that you will read about in this issue:

- Students from Covington, Louisiana, whose excellence in two different school activities has gone national.
- Some retired Brothers whose visit to a new school’s young students told both groups that the bond they were creating with each other was one that they already and always had.
- A northern Colorado student groups’ journey to Nepal and what “Enter to learn, leave to serve” can mean for people who live in poverty near the top of the world.
- A high school graduate from Concord who recalls how he might have thrown away his future but for the fact that his school would not let him.
- One Bay Area school’s commitment to a week uniquely dedicated to enriching its students’ lived experience of the Lasallian charism and mission.
- A school in Tucson, this year celebrating its 10th anniversary, that not only filled a dirt lot with buildings, but also hundreds of young people with hope that they would, indeed, have the chance to touch their dreams.

What is clear from these and all of this issue’s stories is that the work of our District’s Brothers and Partners not only continues to fulfill the ideals of Lasallian education, but is also finding new and exciting ways to do so. Our ministries are bursting with innovation in meeting students’ needs, and the students themselves are developing their own Lasallian vision of how they can and will have an impact on the world.

Inside this newsletter are stories of what teaching minds and touching hearts in our District looks like, both as it always has looked and as it wondrously beginning to look. It makes for a powerful panorama. Enjoy the view.

Upcoming Events

- English Teachers Wkshp.  
  April 16-18  
  St. Joseph’s Camp
- Vandu Paaru Orientation  
  April 17-18  
  Mont La Salle
- Discerning Leaders  
  April 19-21  
  Mont La Salle
- District Day  
  April 25  
  St. Michael’s H.S.
- Leadership Team Mtgs.  
  April 28  
  Mont La Salle

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**The 2015 Huether Lasallian Conference**, *Lasallian Educational Community: Hands & Hearts Associated for Mission*, is scheduled for November 19-21 at the Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza. [See the announcement.](#)

Brother Robert Schieler, FSC, Superior General, has announced that he has appointed Brother Rafael Matas Roselló, FSC, General Councilor to oversee Lasallian vocations. [Read the story.](#)

**Most Rev. Thomas A. Daly**, Sacred Heart High School Class of 1978, has been named the Bishop of Spokane, Washington. [Read the story.](#)

Registration is open for the following District Lasallian educator events: April 16-18 [English Teachers Workshop](#), Saint Joseph’s Camp; April 19-21 [Discerning Leaders Gathering](#), Mont La Salle.

Registration is open for the following RELAN events: [2015 Buttimer Institute of Lasallian Studies](#); [2015 Lasallian Social Justice Institute](#).

Christian Brothers Conference is seeking candidates for [Executive Director of the Office for Lasallian Education](#) and for the position of [Events Manager](#).

The [Symposium on Lasallian Research](#) is [now accepting proposals](#) for papers or presentations for the 2015 Symposium, September 27-29, Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota.

Free software for developing school emergency plans is [now available](#) from the U.S. Department of Education’s Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance Center.

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**Pepper-Uppers**

Photons have mass? I didn't even know they were Catholic.

Alarm clocks: because every morning should begin with a heart attack.

I like to hold hands at the movies. Which always seems to startle strangers.

My neighbor just built a circular driveway. Now he doesn't know how to leave his house.

I have an inferiority complex, but it's not a very good one.

The only pictures in fitness ads that look like me are the ones under the word “Before”.

The amount of sleep required by the average person is five minutes more.
ARCHBISHOP RUMMEL HIGH SCHOOL

During an Academic Scholarship reception on campus, 41 current grammar school students were awarded academic scholarships totaling $127,800. The Raiders-to-be received either $1,800 or $3,600 scholarships for four or five years based on their placement test scores. School leaders and current scholarship recipients spoke at the reception.

High school students from South Louisiana, including several Archbishop Rummel students and teachers, gathered at St. Benedict, LA, for the annual Abbey Youth Fest. The day was filled with song, prayer, and love among the thousands of youths participating in the youth fest.

Almost 50 alumni were on campus for the school’s annual Career Day for juniors and Life Skills Day for seniors. The juniors attended four 30-minute alumni presentations, choosing from almost 25 sessions, while the seniors attended three 40 minute alumni presentations, covering the topics of banking/credit cards, job interviewing skills, and time management.

During exam week, members, alumni, and directors of Operation HeadStart went to the Kenner, LA, HeadStart School to conduct the TOTS Fitness Clinic. Working with the almost 100 at-risk youth at the school, the Archbishop Rummel students and alumni read aloud a children’s book about fitness, and then led the youngsters through exercise and fitness stations with fitness experts.

The annual Rummel Day celebration took place in the school gymnasium and was attended by a full house of students, faculty, alumni, parents and special guests. The morning program began with a prayer service led by Fr. Kurt Young, chaplain, and several student/faculty readers. Next was the alumni portion of the ceremony, which included two presentations. Nick Impastato, ’68, was named Alumnus of the Year and former head football coach Don Perret was awarded the Legend Award. More speakers followed with students asking the traditional “past, present, future questions.” The program concluded with the traditional singing of the alma mater and fight song.

The Rummel/Chapelle Jazz Band and the Raider Ambassadors worked at the St. Edward the Confessor Auction and Gala at St. Edward the Confessor School. The jazz band entertained the crowd while the ambassadors worked auction boards and ran the raffles for the St. Edward patrons.

The fishing club traveled recently to Gonzales, LA, to enjoy private access to fish at Lamar Dixon Lake, where they caught bass and perch. The Raider fishermen also had access to the Louisiana Sportsman Show. A great time was had by the 11 students, six parents, and two grandparents.

Mr. Joseph Serio
Correspondent
Cathedral High School - Los Angeles

In February, Brother Camillus came for his annual visit to present his lessons in meditation to the classes at Cathedral. He recently recovered from having broken his foot which didn’t hamper him in any way.

The Brothers attended the annual Bishop Gomez dinner to honor the work of the Brothers of all orders for their work in the diocese. It was held this year at the retirement center of St. John of God. One of the members of the Brothers of the Sick Poor received this year’s award of recognition. Bishop Gomez gave a few words of congratulation.

On February 17 the Brothers presented a Mardi Gras luncheon in the school faculty room. Featured was a barbecue with all the trimmings. For Lent the community did special Lenten readings after the Gospel each day at Mass. Brother John bought some new books for the readings. Brother Ricardo did some artistic bush foliage designs for the chapel.

Every Wednesday, the community has soup and salad for dinner, with saved monies given to the San Miguel schools and to St. Mary’s School in Kenya. Every Friday, Cathedral students collect money for this school. This year, to help Brother Dan’s work in the Philippines, new and used tee shirts are being collected for the students there.

On March 14, Cathedral’s soccer team won the Southern California State championship. They won the C.I.F. championship for the second year in a row and were ranked number one in the state. The number nine-ranked basketball team went to the final play-off game in the south but lost to Damien High in a close game.

The spring play this year is Our Town, and the production has received great praise. Mr. Joe Walsh is the director; Brother Roch, the producer; and Mr. Walter Durham, assisted by his student stage club, the set creator and stage manager.

March 13 was an in-service day for the whole faculty. Teachers visited other schools to see what is being done there in their particular fields of study.

A Core Principles Assembly was held March 19 on the Respect for All Persons. Mr. Abel Gutierrez conducted the program. He showed a film about the St. Mary’s Boys School in Kenya, Africa, which he had visited the previous summer. He also showed a film about Otra Lado and the work being...
Centro La Salle Community

Tijuana is the port of entry with the highest number of borderer crossings in the world. We have two ports, San Ysidro and Otay Mesa. San Ysidro is the single largest port of entry to the United States and also in the world. The San Ysidro port records a daily average of 78,000 pedestrians and 31,000 vehicles every day. Its strategic and economic value has brought in government investment from both sides of the border to develop a massive renovation project with vehicle commuter lanes increasing from 24 to 36, and inspection booths from 46 to 63. Otay Mesa has 13 vehicle lanes, 15 inspection booths, and a commercial port handling 50,000 commercial containers every year. 1 in every 8 people entering the United States, whether by foot, car, train, plane or ship, enters from Tijuana. 1 in every 5 vehicles entering the United States enters from Tijuana.

January began with a cold wave. As we were flying in on December 31, we could see mountain peaks covered in snow. While outside temperatures rise during the day, houses stay cold since very few have heating, including ours.

On January 3rd we met with teacher-volunteers to plan details for the upcoming enrollment week and the new semester. The steps for the enrollment process of new students are: receive an enrollment form that indicates the day and time of enrollment (we schedule about 40 people every 15 minutes); receive a student code that indicates the semester of entrance and the enrollment form number; review the student’s schedule for correct course codes, conflicts, and student qualification for classes; reviewing course capacity for when courses are filled; creating student profiles and entering them into the computer system (this is what I do); and finally receiving the student’s enrollment form and giving them New Student Orientation and any other necessary information. About 15 of our teachers and members of the Patronato participate in this week-long process. We enrolled more than 1800 new and returning students.

Pita, our volunteer, and I went to see the movie Fury (Corazón de Hierro) starring Brad Pitt at Cinópolis Plaza Río. One important point the movie presents: How do we make profound moral choices in the middle of inhuman moral circumstances. The solidarity that the doomed tank crew experienced

Brother La Salle Bossong, FSC
Correspondent
Tucson for making the effort to visit me. After crossing the international boarder, we ate fish and shrimp tacos, then visited the community and school in the midst of the Friday afternoon business of Tijuana.

**Los Pachucos de Tijuana.** “Pachuco” is a term dating back to the 1930’s that was given to young Mexican-American men known for flamboyant attire and behavior. Another name for these young men was Zoot Suiters, a reference to their clothing of long baggy pants with long key chain, suspenders, Italian-brimmed hat, and French black and white shoes. The name pachuco comes from the Náhuatl word Pachocan: place where one governs. Perhaps this was a reference to governing their neighborhoods. (This movement had nothing to do with the capital of the State of Hidalgo, Pachuca.) Los Pachucos liked Boogie, Swing and Mambo music, and gave origin to the term “Spanglish”, a form of speaking a blend of Spanish and English words and phrases. The Pachuco style, which spread from El Paso, Texas to California, eventually extended into Tijuana and Ciudad Juárez, Mexico. Vestiges of this movement are still present here in a number of adopted English words: parking, soda, OK, and bye.

March began with much needed rain and our annual Patronato-sponsored Breakfast-Conference in the Hotel Palacio Azteca. Brother Michael Ávila was our invited speaker. He gave a wonderful talk on maintaining balance, ego, shadow, and their manifestations in our lives. His lively and humorous examples made for a very enjoyable morning. Days later, students continued to make comments and references to Michael’s presentation.

On the first Sunday of February we participated in the 12:00 Mass in our parish with other religious who serve in the area. We joined with Franciscan Sisters (Sanatorio San Francisco), Missionary Carmelites of Saint Theresa (Hospital del Carmén) and the Sacred Heart Sisters (Casa de Cuna). I read the monitions, Ernesto was in the offertory procession, Juan Ignacio and Pita read the monitions for the offertory procession. I spoke briefly about non-ordained male religious life and our educational center in Tijuana.

February 2 was a day off from classes to celebrate Constitution Day. Juan Ignacio went to Guadalajara to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of El Colegio Febres Cordero. He was a student and later a teacher there. The buildings that were a part of the Puerto Mexico complex are being torn down. These satellite structures were constructed in 1964 and housed an environmental agency and the Immigration office for foreigners. Controversy has surrounded the destruction of these iconic buildings by the Federal Government. On the First Sunday of Lent we went to Mass at the Monasterio of the Adoratrices of the Blessed Sacrament in Playas de Tijuana and then drove to Rosarito for lunch and a walk on the beach.

A shout-out to the San Miguel Community of
The students I saw at morning assembly were attentive and involved. They discussed the "word of the week" (resolve) -- a noun and a verb with two meanings, they learned. They identified the five Great Lakes, correctly answering that Superior was largest and Erie shallowest. At meeting's end, about a dozen of them were honored for good deeds they'd done during the week. DLS Academy
De La Salle High School - Concord

“I thought I was too smart to get caught. But I guess I wasn’t. I very nearly blew it. But the people at De La Salle would not give up on me.”

We are talking with a De La Salle graduate of 2013 who is now in his sophomore year at the University of California at Merced. He has various grants and scholarships. Last summer he was an intern with the administrative law division of the California Public Utilities Commission in San Francisco. For summer 2015 he is seeking an internship in the banking industry. His major subject is economics, but he is also studying philosophy and political science.

“I hope to use all three,” says Eric Manzanares ’13. “I would like to be involved in business and investing, and maybe work in the area of venture capitalism. My first economics class was at De La Salle with Ms. Dickson. I learned a lot from that. And I’m studying philosophy because it teaches you logic and logical thinking. And political science will help me understand policies. De La Salle got me prepared. Maybe most important, it taught me discipline and respect. To discipline myself and to respect others—and also to respect myself.”

It sounds like a great start in life. But the road to the place where Eric could even see a worthwhile life before him was rocky. Eric came to De La Salle as a freshman, as a member of the Bishop John S. Cummins Scholarship Program. But in his sophomore year there was an interruption in his progress—a very large interruption. “I was caught with marijuana.” It was an expelling offense.

If you ever meet the bright, personable, inquisitive, interesting Eric Manzanares, you will well understand what happened next. “Some of my teachers, when they found out, they were upset. Ms. MacLean cried. People wrote letters, they wanted to help me. And I felt terrible about that. I really didn’t know that people cared about me like that.”

Eric didn’t know much about care. His unmarried parents were 19 and 14 when he was born, in Richmond. Drug use was common among his relatives and neighbors, and his mom, he says, still had some growing up to do. She did grow up, says Eric, and in middle school she moved him from Richmond to Pittsburg—“to get me out of the Richmond scene,” says Eric. He went to Hillview Junior High School in Pittsburg. “They saw that I was smart and they encouraged me.” It was at Hillview that Eric heard a presentation about the Bishop Cummins Scholarship Program for very low-income students. Eric applied and was accepted for his freshman year. But such a transition has its challenges.

He didn’t know anybody at his new school. It was a little difficult getting acclimated. His commute
Dear Friend of De La Salle,

My name is Eric, a proud senior at De La Salle High School. I come from an area where I was more likely to go to prison than to graduate from high school. Growing up in Richmond, having no real role models to look up to, while having a mother who is only 14 years older than me was not easy by any means. To be honest, sometimes I wonder how I made it here, but I did; not only am I going to graduate, but I am also going to attend a four-year university. De La Salle is a big part of my success so far in life; the people here have guided me throughout high school towards a life away from the type of influences I grew up around. I am grateful for everything you have helped provide for me by donating generous gifts to De La Salle, because without it there was no way my family could afford to put me through this school and I would not have the opportunities I have today. It was because of De La Salle that I was able to find the scholarship program called Students Rising Above, which will help me continue my education beyond high school. None of this would have been possible without generous people like you who actually care about kids like myself and want to give us an opportunity to succeed in life. Once again I want to take the time to express my gratitude toward you for your kindness and your gift of my education.

Sincerely,
Eric

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was demanding. And home life remained unsettled. “It was two cultures, you know, two different cultures, and I still had the old culture with me.” The new culture attracted him. But now, in the middle of sophomore year, he had blown his chances.

“Brother Chris Brady was about to end his time as principal. He said to me, ‘I would ordinarily just expel you, but so many people have come forward for you, I’ve never seen anybody who has been here for just one year make such an impression on so many people.’” A plan was laid out. Eric had to leave De La Salle (he would return to public school); he had to pass regular drug tests and keep up his academics; and then—well, we would see...

“Everybody was great to me. But I have to thank Ms. Resch the most.” Kathy Resch is De La Salle’s Accountant. “When the new principal, Brother Robert, came in, Ms. Resch got right to him, to see about letting me back in. Well, he did, and I came back for my junior year. Thank you, Ms. Resch! I stay in touch with her on a weekly basis, she is like a second mom to me, a spiritual mom, and she is a great mentor. And I thank Mr. MacArthur, too.” Greg MacArthur is the Director of the Bishop Cummins Scholarship Program. “He watches like a hawk, he’s aware of what you’re doing, and always trying to help you do better. And the Guidance Department, they got me pointed to college. And Mrs. Wiese, in the Development Office, was great.” Karla Wiese is De La Salle’s Director of Development. “She helped us look at the gift of education we were receiving and write thank-yous to the donors for it. That really prepared me for life, you know—understanding what gratitude is and how much I owe.”

How does the phrase go? God writes straight with crooked lines. When De La Salle High School takes on the responsibility for a young man’s education, we know that there can be bumps in the road, that winding road that leads to maturity. Sometimes the road is hard to see; and sometimes you can see it, but you stray off it for complicated reasons of your own. But when a school charges itself to Love, Instruct, and Guide its students, it takes into account those complications, and it is creatively committed to finding in the tough times new opportunities for growth.

As Guidance Services Department Director Mike Otterstedt says, “After Eric came back, we checked in all of the time with him to make sure that he would be successful. He did not disappoint. He is a fine young gentleman who will be successful in the future, because this school acted on its Mission Statement.”
introduce themselves. And they want to know all about us, too, especially about our sports.” Jack is a swimmer who will enroll at Fordham University in the fall.

Junior Ryan Byrne is also attuned to the need to give back and to pay it forward: “So many people at De La Salle are helping me, that I feel I should be passing it on and helping someone else. It’s being present to the kids that really matters, and it actually gives me joy to go there every week, or more often when I can. And we talk, and it’s fun, but my purpose really is to keep them directed toward their work, to help them focus on it, so they can progress. I particularly help them with their math and science, which seem to be the toughest subjects.”

These articles and more appear in the Spring 2015 issue of the Union magazine of De La Salle High School, Concord, CA, online at www.dlshs.org.

Mr. John Gray
Correspondent

DE LA SALLE HIGH SCHOOL - NEW ORLEANS

Happy Easter from De La Salle High School! During the Lenten Season, De La Salle encouraged its community members to prepare for Easter through prayer and spiritual discipline. We emphasized that this time of the liturgical year provides an opportunity for all of us to reflect on Jesus’ sacrifice for us. As we celebrate Easter and the 65th anniversary of our founding, here are some of our recent accomplishments.

During the first phase of the admissions process, De La Salle received over 100 applications for the 2015-2016 incoming eighth-grade class, potentially
making it one of the largest eighth-grade classes in the history of the school. We continue to grow in enrollment, and we are anticipating a 10% increase in enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year.

Our current senior class has been accepted to over 50 different colleges and universities with scholarships totaling over 2.6 million dollars, which places this class in position to break the recent scholarship record of 4.4 million dollars awarded to last year’s seniors.

The wrestling team placed second in the state for the second year in a row. The boys’ basketball team finished the season 24-6 and reached the quarterfinals in the state tournament.

Two DLS students were recently crowned state champions in February of 2015: Glenn Gebo (’16), 132-pound state wrestling champion, and Semaji Lewis (’16), 60-meter indoor track and field champion.

One band member, Peyton Clark (’15), was selected to the Louisiana All-State Concert Band.

These accomplishments have continued the momentum established by the many successes we experienced at the beginning of the school year. De La Salle High School’s commitment to upholding Lasallian values and traditions will prepare our students for today’s rapidly changing world.

Mr. Dustin Farris
Correspondent

HILARY HOUSE COMMUNITY

Brother Ron Bartusiak went down to Covington to attend the District Day and spent some time visiting folks down there. Brother Don Mouton was there as well for the District Council meeting that was taking place at that time.

Brother Jim Brown kept track of things here in Santa Fe. As part of his volunteer Campus Ministry work at Santa Fe Community College, Brother Jim meets regularly with and works with the local Catholic Deanery and Interfaith Leadership Alliance.

All three community members are looking forward to the District Day that is scheduled here for April 25.

Brother Jim Brown, FSC
Correspondent

HOLY FAMILY COMMUNITY -MONT LA SALLE

Javier Hansen and Joey Wright made the Postulancy Discernment Retreat at Mont La Salle Novitiate, December 27-30. The facilitators were Brothers George Van Grieken, James Joost, and Kevin Slate. The Postulants joined our Holy Family Community for Mass and for lunch.

On January 13, Mrs. Dorothy Jones, mother of Brother Tom Jones, was welcomed into our Holy Family Community as a guest member. On January 22, Brother Martin Fenerty joined us from the former NO-SF District. Then on February 14, Brother Stan Sobczyk from Saint Mary’s College came to stay at our community as he recovers from a recent illness.

Jill Grande-Goodsell and eight young ladies from the Institute of the Arts and Humanities in Southern California made their 4th annual weekend Retreat at Mont La Salle in mid-January. The young women are involved in Film and Theater. As is their custom, the group gave a singing concert that Friday afternoon in the main chapel, dedicating the program to Brother Donald Johanson. Then they came over to our Holy Family Community to give a private singing concert for the Brothers, our nursing staff, and our housekeepers. Jill Invited the Brothers to tell about their former ministries. In conclusion the young ladies sang a song of gratitude and farewell and then presented each one of us with a long-stemmed rose as they said their personal goodbyes … with hugs!

On January 18, Brothers George Van Grieken and Mark Murphy attended a Liturgy and Requiem Prayer Service for Brother Myron Collins at Our Lady of
Edison Sollestre, CNA, is a new member of our nursing staff as of February 4. He is originally from the Philippines, where he knew our Brothers. He works the night shift, 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 am.

Brother George Van Grieken gave a Retreat to the faculty of Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento on the third weekend in February. He also facilitated a Retreat day for the administration of Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep in early March.

Brother James Grahmann from El Paso lived with us for about two weeks – February 25 until March 11 – while doing research in the District Archives.

Brother Brendan Kneale celebrated his 96th birthday on March 9. Brother Dominic Ruegg, his classmate, was driven up from Saint Mary’s College by Brother Michael Meister in order to join in the celebrations.

A group of our Holy Family Brothers visited the new De La Salle Academy in Concord on March 25. They were given a student-led tour of the campus and attended an Honors Assembly and luncheon at which the parents were present. The young students knew the Brothers’ names from a photographic poster of the community that had been sent to them earlier, and they wrote personal notes to each Brother in the Holy Family Community.

Greg Schaefer, Lutheran pastor at Stanford, made his annual private Retreat here the week of March 23. He lived with our community, attended daily Mass and evening prayer, socials, and took his meals with us. Greg is a graduate of Saint Mary’s College, Moraga, where and was an excellent R.A. for Brother Arnold Stewart. Greg’s wife, also an ordained Lutheran pastor, joined him on Friday.
Brother Brendan and Sister Dorothy and their helpers welcomed all to the event, including Brother Ron Gallagher and Brothers from Sacred Heart along with two Lasallian Volunteers. Among Les Amis present were the Tony Gelfusos, the Jim Urhausens, the Gusacos, Meg Heede, and me.

The music was by pianist George Yamasaki and was great. I was keeping tabs of the songs and could name just about every one; he even included "Peg of my Heart". When he played "Manhattan", I went over and told him that he sounded like Eddie Duchin, the pianist who made the song famous in the 40s.

Speakers included Brother Ron, who thanked everyone and made the case to support LEO, especially now in its re-creation.

Two speakers from De La Salle Academy, a 6th grader and a 5th grader, gave excellent talks about what the Academy program means to them and their hopes for the future. They were impressive.

A mom from the LEO center in Oakland gave a talk about how much the center helped her with her language, and also her children, who are now making their choices about high schools.

Major donors and contributors include the late Al Jones and Sharon Jones, our own Joe Sperske, the Alemany community of Saint Mary’s College, and the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet. Sister Dorothy and her volunteers are to be congratulated.

In Memoriam: Colombina Quantamatteo, a longtime member of our group. Colombina passed away on March 5, 2015. She was the wife of Fred Quantamatteo (Brother Gregory of the 1959 robing group). Both were teachers; Fred taught at La Salle in Pasadena and retired from Christian Brothers High School in Sacramento.

Upcoming Events for Les Amis des Frères:
- Annual retreat at Saint Joseph’s Camp, Duncans Mills, California: July 8 to 16, 2015.
- Annual reunion/picnic at Mont La Salle picnic grove: September 2015 (date to be determined).

Contact information for Les Amis des Frères:
Michael Tscheekar, 805 937-0084 or misha@sbceo.org.

Mr. Michael Tscheekar
Correspondent
Mullen history teacher Barb Figg saw an opportunity for her students to help young girls in an impoverished area and seized upon it.

“Two years ago,” Mrs. Figg explained, “I began working with Edge of Seven, which is a small, nonprofit agency in the Denver area that prepares students to travel to Nepal to teach and work at a hostel for girls in the Solukhumbu area; just north of the Everest region.” From that experience came an idea to invite students to travel with her to Nepal to help build an additional hostel that could house forty young Nepalese women.

Mrs. Figg noted, “Originally, we were going to start out with a small group, but the number soon grew to twenty-one students. Those kids pledged to work in marginalized and impoverished communities to help orphans, specifically girls, become empowered through their education and to make a difference within their own country.”

As Mrs. Figg and her eager charges started out, it soon become obvious that travel would not be easy. In addition to their own belongings, the Lasallians also were carrying five hundred pairs of shoes to be given to Sherpas, “Kits for Kids” care packages, and medical supplies. There also was some travel trepidation due to a recent Turkish Airline disaster.

But the service-minded troupe forged on and soon arrived at their first destination, finding comfort in momos (dumplings consisting of vegetables and water buffalo meat) and the cozy confines of the “Happiness Inn” in Buddha Stupa. Evenings the travelers were lulled to sleep by the sound of Buddhist chants. Mornings they started their days with a call to prayer.

After two days, a propeller plane would deliver Mrs. Figg and her team to Paphiu. Traversing by foot, the Mustangs found themselves in Salleri and then began their final ascent to the Hostel. It was at this point they made contact with Sherpa guides, forty school girls, and host families.

Once they were settled, the work that was the purpose of their trip began. Mrs. Figg recalled, “We spent three days digging, hauling rocks and transporting over twenty-six thousand pounds of sand to the building site.” Partnering with non-profit organization The Small World, Mrs. Figg and her motivated Mustangs succeeded in building a structure that would assist in extending the education of the young Nepalese students by an additional three years. As Mrs. Figg put it, she and the students knew that, “By taking on this project we could enhance the chances of the girls to pursue advanced degrees by attending the University in Kathmandu.”

The trip’s adventures and opportunities did not end there. “We hiked up to an Everest vantage site and then to the Mt. Everest Tibetan Refugee Camp,” recounted Mrs. Figg. “We worked with the children, teaching them math, reading, geography and English.” There was a trek to the Tenboche Monastery and a welcome by Buddhist monks and nuns. The kids took “bucket showers” and experienced local cuisine. In Kathmandu, the Mustangs worked at the Hope Orphanage and soaked in dance performances, song recitals, and art exhibits, all courtesy of their hosts. “We fell in love with these precious souls,” Mrs. Figg shared with true conviction. “Now that we are at home, we have not forgotten our Nepali families, our Sherpa guides, or the children that clung to us as they said, ‘Namaste.’”

With a deeper understanding of the meaning of selflessness and many unforgettable memories, Mrs. Figg’s students have been profoundly impacted by their service adventure. Senior Kathleen Storen’s words put it into perfect perspective. “I realize,” she said, “that it is my responsibility to go out into the world and give back. The service was not glamorous
or easy. Living without clean water was challenging. But it was humbling and eye-opening. The trip has made me rethink my life and my purpose here on earth. It validated my belief that I am here to love others and serve others, all for the glory of God!”

Kudos to you and your students, Mrs. Figg. The example you have set is the epitome of our Lasallian Core Principles. To all of you, we say, “Namaste.”

**Observe. Listen. Learn. Reflect.**

With two days of travel from Denver behind them, students from Mullen arrived in Browning, Montana to participate in the Blackfeet Immersion experience. Forgoing a spring break of leisure, our students, led by teacher Rita Niblack and her husband, John, set foot on the De La Salle Blackfeet School campus nervous with hope and excited with anticipation.

With an indefatigable spirit of service to inspire them, our Mustangs were poised to help in any way that they could. Senior Elena Santarella gave this insight into her inspiration to take part in the trip for the second year in a row: “I decided to go again because I really wanted to see all the children I had met last March. I felt like there was more work to be done in Browning. I wanted to see how far the community had come in one year’s time.”

Our students would lend their skills and talents to serving children from grades through eight. The young leaders were thrilled to serve as tutors and teaching assistants as they worked alongside the Blackfeet School staff. Also serving as inspiration was the team of Lasallian Volunteers who commit to teaching at the school for either one or two years.

The trip’s greatest gift for the Mullen students was being able to live and work with the community of children so dear to the mission of the Blackfeet School. They were able to engage the young people under their tutelage at a level that was very rewarding.

Connor Morris remarked, “This immersion trip made me realize that these kids need help, positive attention, and interaction.” He continued, “I realized quickly that I was going to learn a lot from this group of amazing kids. It was obvious to me that when I went home, it would be me that had been taught a lifetime of lessons by children I was sent to help.”

Brother Dale Mooney of the School echoed these thoughts, sharing, “The students from Mullen were, according to the classroom teachers, most helpful, especially in providing opportunities for one-on-one contact with students who can benefit the most from that attention. As a Lasallian school, we are always most appreciative of other schools in the network who take time out of their busy schedules to come to the Reservation and observe, listen, learn, and reflect.”

Outside of the classroom, Mullen students heard talks by community elders Deacon Ron Running Crane and Marty Martaine, who both shared stories of the Blackfeet. They learned about the ways in which Catholicism and Blackfoot spirituality are practiced together, incorporating tribal practices like smudging rituals, which are intended to invite positivity and peace into people’s lives.

In the evenings, our students played basketball, cooked, and reflected on their day: What can we offer to the students? What can we learn from them? To a person, our kids made the most of the experience and the time to say goodbye seemed to come too soon. Elena Santarella reflected, “It was so hard to leave the community after one week…I would seriously consider returning after college and volunteering at the Blackfeet School for a year. It has had that kind of impact on me.”

Thank you Rita Niblack, John Bickham, and our Mullen students who travelled the nine hundred miles to Browning in your earnest undertaking to give back. You embody our ideal of “Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve” through your talents, convictions, and action. Senior Nguyen Nguyen may have said it best: “At the end of the day you are exhausted. However, the memories you are making with the kids whom you are helping are unforgettable.”

*Mr. Sean Keefe Correspondent*
Livermore Lab, where things are done on time with care. Chris has great expectations.

Thirty-one family members gathered to celebrate Mom and Dad Donnelly’s 95th birthdays. They both still drive and care for themselves with “just dropping by” help from various members of the family.

A man of enthusiasm, Brother Michael Murphy, who had been assigned as director of Campus Mission and Ministry, accepted a full-time academic role in the Language Department as a Visiting Associate Professor. He will teach both French, in which he is fluent, and Linguistics.

In addition to professorial duties, Michael has been exercising his talents in rhetoric with addresses to 80 new M.B.A. Executive, Global, and Accounting students and to new staff regarding the College Mission, all at the request of the Office of Human Resources. He also serves as a facilitator for twenty faculty and staff in a “Campus of Difference” program sponsored by the College Committee on Inclusive Excellence.

Brother Michael, his father, and family were saddened by the passing of his mother, Mrs. Helen Murphy. The Mass of Resurrection was held on March 9 at Thomas Aquinas Church in Napa.

Spiritually regaled at having lost eleven pounds, Brother Richard Lemberg, the semi-retired College librarian, is coming close to completing transferring recorded data from LP disks to space-saving digital devices. He had to take some time off to engage in a work of mercy for his sister (who bakes tasty banana-nut bread for the Brothers on occasion) as doctors engaged in the delicate (and worrisome) task of addressing a tumor on her left eye. The doctor’s expertise seemed to work. Brother Richard renewed his fishing license for mountain trout and other delightful piscine creatures dancing in his head, and plans to use the license ASAP.

The Alumni Activity Coordinator for the College Development Department, Brother Martin Ash, was observably excited with the March 25 “One Day, One SMC”, a fund-raising effort. Needed were two alumni donors who tempted the Development Office with a challenge of $110,000.00. The task for the Development staff (Brother Martin et al) and the Alumni arm thereof was to solicit 1000 donors in one day (March 25th). Result: 1,384 donors accepted the challenge by providing $236,439.00. Total for the
deeply in Basque hearts. For Saint Valentine’s Day, Brother Martin Yribarren travelled to Minnesota to celebrate, in traditional Basque style, the 100th Birthday of his dear aunt, Helen Hudek Doherty. An accomplished musician, Brother Martin was asked to write a memorable dedicatory hymn for the March 12 Dedication of the 60,000 square foot, Joseph L. Alioto ’37, Recreation Center. The hymn, sung by a faculty-staff-student chorus and directed by Brother Martin, was a delightful seven verses (each short) mimicking the seven days of Biblical creation. Since the massive building took some time to create, both the dedicatory song and the building are memorable! Over a thousand students descended on the new facility the day it opened. Son to Joseph A. Alioto, Joseph M. Alioto delivered a masterful dedicatory address.

Brother Martin reveals his deft organizational and music hand in preparing music for special events such as the funeral services for the late Joseph Lanigan, long time beloved philosophy professor who went to his eternal reward at age 92. Joe Lanigan was a graduate of Notre Dame. Prior to his teaching at Saint Mary’s College of California, Lanigan taught at Saint Mary’s College (now University), Winona, MN. For the tenth year in a row, Rev. Thomas McElligott, Chaplin to the SMC Brothers’ Community, led the January Term travel course to Ireland. Twenty-two seniors signed up for the intense historical and cultural research course. Others had to be turned away. Thirteen of the seniors, plus Father Tom, prided themselves for reaching the summit of Crough Patrick, a tourist attraction for the hale and hearty. The only downer on the trip was a virus that had invaded the Emerald Isle and which affected Father Tom and several student travelers toward the end of the expedition.

Father Tom also teaches in the Collegiate Seminar Program, this year in the new curriculum in the first of the four seminars. His 8:00 a.m., MWF Collegiate Seminar is for seniors and those in his Residence Hall are mostly seniors bent on achieving GPA’s as high as possible and hoping for entrance into graduate school or attaining appropriate employment. Brother Mel Anderson, President Emeritus, though delighted with senior students, would not attest that all are ready for entry into the wicked world (at least in ability to write cogent English)!
Saint Mary’s College High School

As the Saint Mary’s Panthers wind down from an outstanding Winter Sports season, and baseball, softball, swimming, tennis, track and other more warm-weather sports take hold, seniors have college acceptances on their minds, as well as Prom, Senior Day, and Graduation. The Class of 2015 will graduate at UC Berkeley’s Zellerbach Hall on Sunday, June 7. They will be joined by the men of the Class of 1965, who will be honored at the annual “Golden Grads” reunion weekend. The next Freshman Class, the Class of 2019, has been accepted and looks forward coming to Saint Mary’s this fall when the school will open its 153rd year.

Twenty years ago this fall, after 132 years as an all-male school, Saint Mary’s College High School welcomed young women. After several years of extensive planning and preparation, the move to coed was definite, and in 1995, a gymnasium/auditorium/theater complex was added to the 1948 gym as part of the school’s Sharing the Spirit campaign for coeducation. In August 1995, a 55%/45% mix of young men and women entered the freshman class, and twenty-two sophomore girls joined ninety-eight male classmates in the Class of 1998.

Nearly 30% of current students have a familial relationship with a current student(s) or with Saint Mary’s alumni. Relationships from every decade from the 1930s through 2014 are represented in the current student body.

The Saint Mary’s Brothers Community and their residence on campus play host to a number of school community events.

Brother Mel Anderson, FSC
Correspondent

SAINT MARY’S COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

Saint Mary’s students on an E-Week visit to the Forum in Rome.
gatherings during the year. Recent events have included a thank you social for the parent volunteers who worked at February’s highly successful annual Crab Feed fundraiser, and a special reception that was an auction item at the Crab Feed.

Brother Dan Morgan, teaching World Religions and Computer Science this year, served as official photographer and videographer for the school’s Enrichment Week program in March, and travelled to La Salle High School Yakima, where he served as Principal, for that school’s St. Patrick’s Day fundraiser in March.

Brother David Caretti led an Enrichment Week student trip to Rome, Florence, and Assisi in mid-March. The group visited the Christian Brothers Generalate and the Vatican and joined thousands there for an address by Pope Francis. Along with his duties as Director for Campus Ministry and Retreats, Brother David continues to move the school community forward in the accreditation process, using the new WCEA “E3” instrument.

Lawrence Puck and his Admissions Team received a record number of freshman applications for the Class of 2019, and sent out acceptances in mid-March.

Brother Edmond Larouche, school President, attended the LASSCA gathering of Lasallian administrators in San Diego in late February, and is currently involved with planning and fundraising for a student chapel to be built on the Saint Mary’s campus. Pending city approvals and funding, ground may be broken as soon as this summer. The school has not had a dedicated chapel space since the original school building was razed in 1973. The school auditorium serves as the liturgical space for the campus.

Saint Mary’s students and faculty could be found all around the town, state, country, and several places around the globe in mid-March as the school again celebrated its annual “Enrichment Week” program. With its roots in a similar program of the 1970s, “E-Week” took on its current form in 1997 as a project for three faculty members who attended the first Lasallian Leadership Institute (LLI). With the LLI directive to complete a project designed to infuse more of the Lasallian charism into Saint Mary’s culture, E-Week was inspired by Saint John Baptist de La Salle’s own philosophy of the fraternal teacher-student relationship and its morning-to-evening character. The program of the ’70s, viewed through new Lasallian lenses, was re-energized into a new and exciting form of student mentorship. Saint Mary’s Enrichment Week program was featured in an article in the February/March 2012 issue of NCEA’s Momentum magazine. Enrichment Week curriculum is created by faculty and its four dozen courses contain a mix of academic, travel, career exploration, cultural, service, and recreational classes.

Saint Mary’s Performing Arts students are busy with daily rehearsals for the Spring Musical, Pippin, which plays on the school stage for two weekends in April.

The Saint Mary’s Panthers – current and alums – gave a big shout-out to 2008 alumnus Marcus Semien, who recently signed with the Oakland A’s. Semien,
who played for Cal Berkeley and most recently the Chicago White Sox, is glad to be back in the Bay Area. In the A’s first Spring Training match-up with the San Francisco Giants, Semien hit two homers!

Senior Taylor Conran spearheaded the Aéropostale "Teens for Jeans" program on campus this winter and collected 584 pair of jeans to donate to homeless teens. Twenty students gave the precious gift of their hair during the school’s annual "Making the Cut" hair donation event on February 16 on campus.

In February, forty-seven music students travelled with Mr. Matt Ferriera, Saint Mary’s Music Director, and five adult chaperones to the Los Angeles area for their annual Southern California Music Trip. This "music immersion" experience provides performance opportunities and activities that get students using and understanding music in new ways. Trip highlights included a performance with the Boyle Heights Community Youth Orchestra in East L.A., where Saint Mary's musicians also mentored the youngsters and a day at Disneyland for a sound-track session with a live sight-reading experience and a DVD recording of the SM band and choir performing the musical soundtrack to excerpts of Disney films. A music workshop at Chapman University in Orange, California, a visit to Disneyland Park, and a concert at Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles rounded out the agenda.

Ms. Jeanne Gray Loughman
Correspondent

SAINT MICHAEL’S HIGH SCHOOL

In mid-January, Bro. Martin Swonke came down with some kind of flu and ended up falling in his room. Fortunately, he was able to get the door open, and Bro. Fred Van Haaften was able to help him up. Later in the day, it became necessary for him to go to the emergency room where he was diagnosed with a kind of flu which exacerbated his other health issues. After a stay of five days, he was released and rested at home while recovering fully. He is now continuing polishing rocks, which he gives to all he meets, and as weather has warmed, has begun preparing his garden for the next season.

Though this year we had an unusual number of gray winter days for Santa Fe, the house was brightened considerably by a number of giant amaryllis for which Bro. Benildus Sulzer had found bulbs, which he nurtured into the largest such plants any of us had ever seen – some three feet high! The red and salmon blossoms in the dining room made even the grayest day festive.

Bro. Joe Haras and his dad and brother were able to travel to New Mexico when there was a lull in their preparations for the sale of the family home in New Jersey. Brother plans to spend a few days with the Community while in the area, but will have to return to New Jersey to complete the work.

After some false starts for months, we finally had snow. It was nothing like the East Coast event, but some 3-5 inches fell in Santa Fe, to the delight of school children when classes were cancelled or delayed. A second snowfall provided about half an inch of moisture according to our rain gauge. The amount won’t break the drought, but it helps. Please keep praying for more needed moisture.

In mid-March, Bro. David Sinitiere spent a few days with us while in town for meetings. His news from the South was serious but encouraging as he asked us to continue praying for those in Louisiana having health problems. Please join us in those prayers. Shortly after Bro. David’s visit, Bro. Jerome Cox stopped by for a short visit also. He was on his annual March tour and was able to rest a bit with us while heading further West.

Bro. Brian Dybowski is working the notes from his talks on St. Augustine into a book. The talks were originally given for the Spirituality Institute this past summer, and it was suggested that he prepare
them for publication. With the help of Board member Sherry Bauman and proofreading by Bro. George Hetzel, the work is progressing, and the manuscript will be ready for submission sometime later this year.

When he went to the bank to transact some business, Bro. Fred may have been mistaken for a “gangsta” because he was stopped by the security personnel. His being so treated may have had something to do with the fact that he was wearing black athletic shoes, black pants, a black hoodie, a black knit cap, and dark glasses—or maybe it was just because it was Friday the Thirteenth! When asked to remove his glasses, he agreed to do so but told them they would have to lead him by the hand into the bank because he couldn’t see without them. When they realized the glasses had prescription lenses which had darkened to compensate for the glare, they returned them to him and allowed him to proceed. Nonetheless, a Brother being mistaken for a “gangsta” is unusual—and we hope will not recur! Triskadekaphobia anyone?

We are anticipating with pleasure the April 25 District Day. Some 25 Brothers plan to be in attendance. One highlight for those not from this area will probably be the Mexican cuisine prepared by our cook, Patsy Martinez, AFSC. All who have enjoyed her cooking in the past agree that it is the best in town!

Brother George Hetzel, FSC
Correspondent

SAINT PAUL’S SCHOOL

On the North Shore of Lake Ponchartrain, it is easy to see and hear that spring is in the air. Again, nature awakens to bring us her beauty, which has lain dormant during fall and winter. Our Canadian Geese are back and have already prepared the nest for the arrival of the new goslings. The azaleas are blooming and leaves are appearing on the oak, sycamore, and cypress trees. The blue birds have taken up residency in the bird houses on our property. Oh the beautiful sights and sound of spring!

There are other sights and sounds of spring which also catch our attention, i.e., the spring allergies triggered by pollen. With the pollen come the histamines that trigger runny noses, sneezing, coughing, wheezing, bronchitis, and itchy eyes. Brothers are not immune to pollen. The sounds of spring can be heard in the chapel, dining room, TV room and down the halls. It’s a small inconvenience, and seeing the beauty of nature coming back to life is worth it! It’s fitting that nature decorates the landscape for the celebration of Easter.

February 16 was the culmination of the Mardi Gras season. It should have been the end of the parades, but in the South we celebrate even during Lent with the St. Patrick’s Day parade, the St. Joseph Day parade, and the combined St. Patrick and St. Joseph parade. Here in Covington, we had big fireworks displays to celebrate the Irish and another to celebrate the Italians.

We observed Ash Wednesday with a Mass and the distribution of ashes, with many in attendance in our small chapel. Brother Ralph Baltz took care of setting up for this solemn beginning of Lent.

There was a great deal of celebrating in our community during February and March. Brother Bill Ray turned 72; Brother Duane Gregory 90; Brother Jerry Vincent 77; and Brother Thomas Daigle 88. In addition, Barbara Driver, our night cook; Carmen Pena, our breakfast and lunch cook; and Kim Darby, our nurse assistant, celebrated their birthdays with the community. There were many birthday cakes and a lot of ice cream for everyone to enjoy.

On March 21, we hosted the District Day South. It was a great day, with 35 Brothers in attendance. Brother Visitor Donald Johanson, Auxiliary Visitor Brother James Joost, and Mr. Charles Legendre, AFSC, served as facilitators. The day was filled with great presentations, group discussion, fraternity, good food, and the celebrating at Mass of our Jubilarians. Brother John Kelly, a member of our community, celebrated his 60th year of Final Profession. Brother Jerry Vincent, our Director, did a great job making all the arrangements for the day.

The school’s Drama Department, the Marian Players, just completed a very successful run of Godspell with ten performances. On April 1, the students viewed the annual Passion Play and on Thursday, April 2, we held the annual Washing of the Feet (Mandatum) Prayer Service. Many of the Brothers were present for the occasions. Easter vacation for the students will be April 2-13.

Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil were held in the community chapel. Brothers Ralph, Alfred Baltz, and Louis Welker took care of
was granted, and so for the past sixteen years Saint Paul's has celebrated with the altar and prayers. The entire school feasted on fried catfish, pastas, salads, Italian cookies, and other delicious foods.

Saint Paul's Air Force Junior ROTC Academic Quiz Bowl Team was selected to compete in the 2015 Air Force JROTC Academic Quiz Bowl Championship in June at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.. The event is sponsored by the Air Force JROTC and is conducted by the College Options Foundation. The competition began with 220 schools worldwide. Saint Paul's advanced to compete in the second round and, along with teams from seven other schools will make the all-expense paid trip to the nation's Capitol. While there, the students will also have time to visit some of Washington's most famous sights. Saint Paul's has the oldest Air Force Junior ROTC unit in the state of Louisiana and the only Air Force Unit based in a Catholic school.

Ms. Karen Hebert
Correspondent

I flew back from San Francisco on the Feast of the Epiphany after enjoying the hospitality of the Provincealate and Sacred Heart communities. The first two months of the year were rather hectic as I was scheduled to give four public lectures in addition to the regular teaching in the college. The first was at Saint Alban's Cathedral, which is about 20 miles north of London. The subject was a most intriguing book - "The Saint Alban's Psalter" - which is perhaps one of the greatest works of art produced in Norman England in the 12th century. It was made at Saint...
San Miguel High School

San Miguel High School was honored with a visit from Father Greg Boyle, author of the New York Times best-selling book, *Tattoos on the Heart*, and founder of Homeboy Industries, the largest gang intervention and re-entry program in the country. Father shared with students a few parables from his ministry in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. He reminded us that the point of Christian service is about “our common calling to delight in one another.”

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**Brother Patrick Moore, FSC**

*Correspondent*

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**Ms. Nicola Hartmann**

*Correspondent*
A number of Young Lasallian gatherings and events have taken place over the past few months. Among them were the Called & Chosen Lasallian Vocation Retreats, the Lasallian Student Leadership Curriculum Review and Planning Committee meeting, and the start of the 4th annual “Spring into Action” initiative.

The Called & Chosen Lasallian Vocation Retreats for students from District high schools were held at two locations. The first men’s retreat on January 17-19 and the women’s retreat on February 14-16 were held at St. Joseph’s Camp. The second men’s retreat on March 14 was held at Archbishop Rummel High School.

Coordinators for the retreats were District Young Lasallians Director Ms. Heather Ruple and District Vocation Director Brother James Joost. They were joined at the men’s retreats by District Vocation Team member Brother Michael Livaudais, and at the women’s retreat by Daughter of Charity Sister Lisa Laguna, Sister of St. Joseph Carondelet Joanne Heinritz, and Regional Coordinator for Lasallian Vocation Ministry Mr. Chris Swain.

The intent and focus of the retreats was to raise the participants’ awareness of their vocation. Through the retreat process, participants were invited to explore a variety of areas, including how God calls persons through their experiences to a purposeful and fulfilling life, ways in which persons can respond to God’s call in our lives, developing and using gifts in order to serve God and others.

The Lasallian Student Leadership (LSL) Curriculum Review and Planning Committee met February 7-8 at Mont La Salle in Napa, CA. Committee members are District Young Lasallians Director Ms. Heather Ruple; Ms. Stephanie Roybal, Vocations Team Coordinator, and Ms. Rose Ann Holmes, Activities Director, Christian Brothers High School; Mr. Stan Cordero, Director of Lasallian Student Life, Justin-Siena High School; Mr. Ed O’Connor, Director of Student Life, La Salle High School — Pasadena; and Mr. Joe Welling, Activities Director, Mullen High School.

The focus of the meeting was on key questions regarding the LSL program’s effectiveness, including identifying the leadership and formation needs of Young Lasallian student leaders today, as well as how the program can address those needs. The committee reviewed the program’s current curriculum and made plans to develop several new skills sessions to provide the strongest leadership training possible. Additional plans are underway to address the Lasallian formation needs of participants in ways that will allow students to take ownership of and have an active role in the Catholic Lasallian identity of their schools.

The Regional Council of Young Lasallians of the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN) has announced that the 4th Annual “Spring into Action” initiative is scheduled for March 15-April 30, 2015.

“Spring into Action” is an initiative that highlights service that occurs within RELAN’s Lasallian ministries. It encourages all RELAN Lasallians to participate in a volunteer/service activity, either creating a new event or joining an existing event, and then sharing their experience via Lasallian social media.

In a letter supporting “Spring into Action”, Superior General Brother Robert Schieler, FSC, wrote, “When we reach out in service, we know that we will receive more than we give. For we do it with great love and are loved in return. An encounter with one in need invites us, as Pope Francis reminds us, to “…deepen our sense of compassion, to go beyond simply giving to the poor, and to understand their plight.” This is what ‘Spring into Action’ is all about: love in action.” Click here for “Spring into Action” information.
**Office of Education Update**

In his letter to the Corinthians, Saint Paul’s asserts, “If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God placed the parts, each one of them, in the body as he intended.” In our Lasallian mission, God has placed us in distinct roles, all directed at the goal of the two-fold “human and Christian” salvation of those whom we serve.

Within each school and university community are myriad roles designed to work in complementarity and to provide the “whole body” of ministry to our students. The District names a circle of belonging within the Lasallian mission, a community of educational communities “in association”. The Visitor, his Auxiliary, District Council, community Directors, the Secondary School Administrators Association, the Association of Board Chairs, and the leadership team all provide direction to the San Francisco New Orleans District. The goal of this article is to provide a snapshot of the Office of Education —its role in the District “body” and the principles by which it operates.

The ultimate goal of the Office of Education is to sustain and advance the Lasallian mission throughout the District. At this moment in the history of the San Francisco New Orleans District, a covalent goal is working toward unity within the new district.

The roles and responsibilities of those in the Office of Education indicate the spheres of responsibility and support. In the area of school governance, the Office provides training for trustees and recording secretaries and responds to the needs of boards and administrators as called upon. It also provides a wide-range of formation and immersion programs designed to welcome and acquaint those new to Lasallian ministry and to deepen the veteran educator’s commitment of understanding of the Lasallian mission. Through its data collection efforts and Catholic Lasallian Assessment Process (CLASP), the Office evaluates the lived reality of the Lasallian mission in each of our ministries and offers a panoramic view of the impact of Lasallian education in the District. Young Lasallians find a home in the Lasallian world and opportunities to discern a vocation through the programs provided by the Office for high school students, college students and young professionals.

Saint John Baptist de La Salle provided the ultimate standard for judging the effectiveness of ministry when he wrote, “To touch the hearts of your students is the greatest miracle you can perform.” (Med 139.3 — Feast of St. Peter) Our operating principles contain the aspiration that through the work of the Office of Education, the hearts of the educators, trustees, administrators, staff, benefactors, and all associated with our educational ministry can be touched.

The Office of Education strives to work according to these seven principles:

1. **Respond to need.**

   In organizing the society of Brothers in response to the needs of the poor children of France, Saint John Baptist de La Salle provided the paradigm which endures in Lasallian ministry today. The needs of the young drive the structures and approaches adopted in our ministries.
2. Discern collectively.
Listening is the first step toward creating a new program or developing a new initiative. Many are invited to collaborate as new directions are formulated and implemented.

3. Recognize wisdom within.
The greatest font of wisdom in the District family is the experienced Lasallian educator. Our educators are often called upon to present their best thinking and practices with others in similar roles.

4. Create community.
Transformative education in the Lasallian tradition begins with community. Gathering Lasallian educators from across the District connects educators to the larger Lasallian mission and to each other and empowers them to become catalysts for community in their local ministry.

5. Connect with prevailing currents.
Quality education today demands that Lasallian educators remain up-to-date on societal changes and challenges faced by those entrusted to our care. Those from industry, the Church or academia who have developed proven, effective approaches share insights with the educators of the District.

6. Think expansively.
Lasallian mission exists in an increasingly religiously and culturally diverse world. The principle of “inclusive community” drives a reflection on what is flexible and what is essential in our Catholic identity.

7. See with the eyes of faith.
Look upon our work today as God’s continued movement — “Domine Opus Tuum.” Act in hope, faith and love.

The Office of Education of the San Francisco New Orleans District is privileged to serve with and for the ministries of our District.

Mr. Charles Legendre, AFSC
Director, Office of Education — Covington

The San Francisco New Orleans District Office of Education

Katie Batt, Administrative Assistant
Jackie Berlogar, Executive Assistant
Greg Kopra, Director, Formation for Mission
Charles Legendre, Director, Office of Education – Covington
Jeannette Miller, Office Manager, Covington
Janet Ruggiero, Director, Board Formation
Heather Ruple, Director, Young Lasallians
Gery Short, Director, Office of Education — Mont La Salle
Less than a year after Brother Emmet Sinitiere moved the legacy New Orleans-Santa Fe Archives from the Magnolia Provincialate in Lafayette, Louisiana, across the country to join with the collection of the legacy San Francisco District at Mont La Salle in Napa, California, the San Francisco New Orleans District Archives is in smooth operation.

It was a massive project for Brother Emmet to pack and ship the more than 80 cartons containing 435 document boxes, but he completed the challenge during May of 2014. By the beginning of June, all of the materials were shelved. Fortunately, when the archives at Mont La Salle were expanded seven years ago, enough storage space was created to accommodate the NO-SF collection while leaving ample shelf space for the materials that will continue to be archived for the new District.

There are three archivists working for the San Francisco New Orleans District. In addition to Brother Emmet, the team includes Andrea Miller, who has worked as the San Francisco District Archivist for more than 14 years, and Jennifer Sturm, who joined the staff permanently this January.

While continuing to collect and maintain San Francisco New Orleans District material, the focus of the archives over the next year or so will be the migration of an older computerized inventory to a new database designed specifically for archives. Created to be an international standard, it is used by all of the Regional Lasallian archives, as well as those of several Regional Lasallian universities.

As in the past, the archives relies on the help of District schools and offices for materials to fill its collections. If you have questions about how the archives can work for you, send them to amiller@dlsi.org, esinitiere@dlsi.org or jsturm@dlsi.org.

Ms. Andrea Miller,
Director, District Archives
District Scrapbook

The Brother John Johnston Institute SFNO Cohort meets at Saint Joseph’s Camp.

Brothers and Partners at the Los Angeles Religious Education Conference.

Brothers at the Brothers in Initial Formation Gathering in Winona, Minnesota.

The Holy Family Community - Napa visits De La Salle Academy in Concord, California.
Buy wine, support needy students! The Lasallian Christian Brothers Foundation is launching an online spring wine sale and the proceeds will provide educational opportunities for disadvantaged students attending Lasallian schools. This effort is part of the Christian Brothers’ three-hundred-year tradition of offering a human and Christian education to the young, especially the poor. From May 1st-15th, you can buy Brother Timothy Mont La Salle Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon online, available exclusively to our supporters. Your purchase of the reserve-quality wine will provide student scholarships for the neediest children. This Cabernet Sauvignon, created in honor of Brother Timothy, is truly “a message in a bottle”—a message of hope for socioeconomically disadvantaged youth.

Brother Timothy Mont La Salle Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon is a complex and harmonious blend of reserve-quality wine in a unique collector’s bottle. Not available on the open market, this highly collectible wine is crafted by The Hess Collection Winery from a tiny single vineyard on the Mont La Salle Vineyard estate. The grapes are grown at the site of the original Christian Brothers winery, where Brother Timothy worked as cellar master for more than 50 years.

When you toast your family and friends with this wine, imagine filling an eager young mind with knowledge and a hungry heart with faith and love.

When you gift these bottles to friends and colleagues, remember the tireless efforts of the Brothers to create opportunities and promising futures for low-income children.

Join us in this wine sale and directly benefit low-income students in the San Francisco/New Orleans District. Supporters may designate 100% of their purchases towards scholarships for low-income students at a specific school (not including tax). Please forward this information about the online sale to all who may be interested.

Thank you for your support of this wine sale and your ongoing generosity to the Lasallian Christian Brothers Foundation!
District Prayers & Remembrances

- For Ms. Julie Yip of De La Salle Institute, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Dr. Michael Guillot of De La Salle High School - New Orleans, who is receiving hospice care for cancer.
- For the repose of the soul of Mr. Don Rowan of Metairie, LA, who passed away on March 24.
- For the repose of the soul of Ms. Joyce Bench, former SF District Secretary, who passed away on March 14.
- For the repose of the soul of Ms. Helen Murphy, mother of Br. Michael Murphy, who passed away on March 4.
- For the repose of the soul of Ms. Mary Curley, mother of Br. V. Kenneth, who passed away on January 28.
- For the repose of the soul of Mr. Joe Lanigan, former professor at St. Mary's College, who passed away on January 20.

Papal Intentions
(From Apostleship of Prayer, www.apostleshipofprayer.org.)

APRIL

Universal: Creation
That people may learn to respect creation and care for it as a gift of God.

Evangelization: Persecuted Christians
That persecuted Christians may feel the consoling presence of the Risen Lord and the solidarity of all the Church.

MAY

Universal: Care for the Suffering
That, rejecting the culture of indifference, we may care for our neighbors who suffer, especially the sick and the poor.

Evangelization: Openness to Mission
That Mary's intercession may help Christians in secularized cultures be open to proclaiming Jesus.

JUNE

Universal: Immigrants and Refugees
That immigrants and refugees may find welcome and respect in the countries to which they come.

Evangelization: Vocations
That the personal encounter with Jesus may arouse in many young people the desire to offer their own lives in priesthood or consecrated life.