

The Tower

St. Anthony's Seminary Alumni Association Newsletter
Volume 31 September 2017 No. 3



Hello SAS Alumni, OUR 32nd GRAND GATHERING!

Once again the SASAA convened in Santa Barbara during the last weekend of July for the All-Class Reunion! My class celebrated its 50th, and we had a great showing of 25 guys!! The picture below shows 16 of the 25. (And a picture is indeed worth a thousand words!) What a great time we had.



Other classes were also represented. The Class of 1972, Olympians, had several present for their 45th, and the Class of '77 celebrated with a few alumni for their 40th. The Class of 1957 had one alumnus present, Bob Sclabassi. The Class of 1987 was represented by Cesar Urrutia; and **Keith Forster, Class of 1952**, along with his wife, Nancy, was present for the Saturday BBQ dinner to celebrate his 65th Anniversary reunion!



Fr. Wally Raymond, a '67 graduate, celebrated Saturday Eucharist for us; and during the Mass, 10 couples renewed their wedding vows. It was a simple, yet beautiful, ceremony. It is always great to hear that chapel come alive again with hymns of joy! We were also blessed with a surprise visit from Fr. Kenan Osborne, OFM, who is currently residing at OMSB. What a delight that was! ☺



If anyone from the **Class of 1968 Impalas** would like to 'step up' and plan for your 50th for next summer, please contact me and I will be happy to get you started. **The dates are July 19,20,21,22, 2018.** I was able to get great pricing on a block of rooms at *The Pepper Tree Inn* on State Street, and we also were given free use of their banquet room for a Friday evening class dinner. Plus, the rooms were situated near a courtyard that had a fire pit, and that became our 'unofficial' meeting place before and after regular reunion activities.

And, as I have mentioned earlier, this was my final reunion as "reunion organizer"; but **Rick Lang '80, and Jose Rubio '75,** have agreed to pick up the baton and run with it. A big "THANK YOU" to both of them!!! They are the 'cats!' **I will continue on as newsletter editor and SASAA director** for as long as you will have me; but trying to plan the reunions from AZ was getting harder for me to do each year. I thoroughly enjoyed helping to organize them for these past 10 years, and it was so great meeting so many of you from the '50s, '60s, '70s, and '80s! (Reunion registration fees will now be sent to Rick Lang in Santa Barbara.) You can see more photos on the website under "Reunion Photos."

YOUR SUPPORT MEANS A LOT!

We have decided to promote our 2018 'Dues Drive' in *this* newsletter instead of in January because several alumni have mentioned how they are pretty well 'tapped out' after the holidays. Your support is so greatly appreciated to help keep us going! I think you all know that my position is completely voluntary, and the funds are used only for website upkeep, archive storage, some printed newsletters, misc., etc. Thank you for your support!

SAS Dues Form

I, _____, Class of _____, enclose my check or money order (to SASAA) in the amount of \$_____ to help the St. Anthony's Seminary Alumni Assoc. with its yearly expenses.

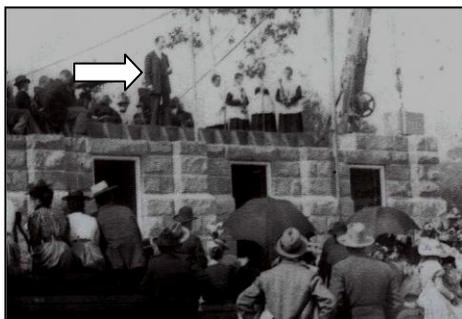
====**NEW MAILING ADDRESS:**====

Rick Lang '80
P.O. Box 117
Santa Barbara, CA 93102



St. Anthony's Seminary Alumni Association
 ==Member in Good Standing==

2018



You may also donate thru PayPal on the website. One item we've added to the "SAS Timeline" is the *actual speech* that the mayor of Santa Barbara gave at the cornerstone ceremony in 1899!! The great-grandson of Mayor Burke contacted us stating that the speech was found among some items in his attic. Check it out at <http://www.sasalumni.org/sas-timeline> under the year '1899.'

GENERAL ALUMNI NEWS

Robert Wear of the Class of 1967 has a neat idea...How many of us had relatives who also attended SAS? His grandfather, Fr. Conrad Wear, OFM was in the SAS Class of 1937, and was ordained in 1945 and served in several of the provincial retreat houses.. His dad, Frederick Wear, was in the Class of 1944, but he did not go on to the college program. He also had a sister who became a Franciscan nun, Sr. Samuel! For me, my older brother, Bob, was in the Class of 1964. He was a great inspiration to me in my decision to attend SAS. **OK, let me hear from you and I will write it up in the next newsletter.**

Gene Fazio, Class of 1964, is president of a wonderful non-profit called *Make a Difference Foundation*. It is a literacy program for helping students to tutor other students, so it is a win, win for all. His website <http://www.coachingliteracy.com> states:

Our tutoring programs train students who have fallen behind, to tutor other students in reading and writing. Our programs make the following happen:

- Students expand their own reading and writing abilities by tutoring.
- Students learn responsibility and get job experience.
- Students develop citizenship as they mentor younger students.
- The experience empowers students who then empower other students.
- It transforms at-risk students into tomorrow's college graduates.

Check out the website for more information.

And speaking of character building, an SAS story that was recently posted on our archive site talks about how everyone at SAS had a daily 'chore' to do, whether it was cleaning sinks, washing windows, or doing dishes. Here is how he stated it:

“When I think back to my days at SAS, I think about how a group of gangly guys kept all 15 acres of SAS so neat and clean! Sure, there was a paid gardener, but almost all of the other chores were relegated to us, a small army of “Mr. Cleans!” Right after breakfast, we would spring into action with guys spreading out all over the campus, heading to 'broom closets' and 'janitor rooms,' to clean everything from floors to doors! Somehow, between 7:30 AM after breakfast, to 8:30 AM, the start of the school day, WE guys would clean sinks and mirrors; dishes and light fixtures; hallways and sidewalks; windows and classrooms; pews and candlesticks, and even door handles! By 8:30 one could ‘eat off the floors’ of the dorms, see a ‘peached-fuzzed’ face clearly reflected in a sparkling mirror, and walk a hallway gleaming with shiny luster! And, besides all of the aforementioned chores, there was also a “special” cleaning day every Spring which involved tons of paint, liquid wax, toilet brushes, rakes, shovels, mops, and lots and lots of good old fashioned ‘elbow grease!’”



In fact, while doing laundry the other day at home, I thought back to how we used to cram our clothes into those fishnet bags; and then Bro. Clem would cram the bags into those behemoth washers, and

somehow they would come out clean! Then, even after tumbling in the dryers, we would often lay our clothes out on our beds to finish the drying process. Those were the days my friend...



We have been informed of several alumni whom have passed from this life to the next since my last correspondence:

Gordon Louis Strom, Class of 1977, passed away on May 4, 2017. It is a very sad story as he was apparently murdered in his home in Mexico. He was well-liked throughout the town and he was teaching the residents about recycling, and how to make homemade filters to purify water. The townspeople attended a quiet march for him and placed candles and flowers near his portrait. Prior to the move to Mexico in 2001, he and his wife had lived in Nevada County, Nevada.

Alfred Norman Bucher, Class of 1948, died on July 1, 2017 in Oakland, CA. According to his cousin, Fr. Mel Bucher, OFM, Alfred left the Order in 1950, after studying philosophy and theology at the college level. He met a dear lady named Rita, they married, and raised a family of four children.

Clem Krause, Class of 1953, passed away peacefully on April 16, 2017, after a well-fought fight with leukemia. Clem was ordained a friar in 1961 and taught school in Stockton, CA and Salem, OR before receiving a dispensation in 1971. He settled in Santa Barbara, and was a member of St. Barbara Parish for 50 years. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, six siblings, four children, and seven grandchildren.

Phillip Boyle, also Class of 1953, died on March 30, 2017. I spoke with his widow a few weeks ago, and she opted not to publish an obituary, but she said that he had an accident at home, and some infection complications developed and took his life rather suddenly. He lived here in the Phoenix area, and his widow wanted all to know that he spoke often of SAS, and remained a faithful Catholic all his life.

May the Lord bless these men, and take them into His holy kingdom. We also remember and pray for all our brothers who are ill or infirmed at this time. Thank you.

So Fall is in the air once again, and **St. Francis Day** is right around the corner, along with all the many holidays that 'sweep' us to the end of the year. My "project" this year is that of making a new Christmas scene for my front yard. It is going to be the Peanuts characters making up the nativity scene. Yes, I must start this far ahead to get everything done. But art is my creative outlet, so I really enjoy doing it. My "medium" is 2 " thick styrofoam. Here it is so far in the 'rough' stages:



Take care my friends,
Steve Rath's '67

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