

THE PADUAN

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Journeys in Medicine

pg. 4

Dr. Joe Hanna '79 and
Dr. Maria Ramundo

INSIDE: A Reflection of My First 43 Years at Padua

Preparing for Padua's Golden Anniversary

THE PADUAN

The Paduan is a publication of Padua Franciscan High School Office for Institutional Advancement.

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From where I sit...

...after all is said and done (and sage advice seemingly to the contrary), it might not be such a bad thing to repeat history.

As is my normal routine, I was reading over the various articles that make up this issue of *The Paduan* and gathering some ideas as to what I might write about in this regular column. I was especially aware of a number of items in these pages which had some reference to our history — particularly as we look forward to and begin to plan the fiftieth anniversary of Padua Franciscan High School which will take place in 2011.

As I was reading those various pieces, a rather familiar but somewhat vaguely-remembered adage about history and those who are “condemned to repeat it” kept coming to mind. I thought that that might hold some promise as a good place to start — so I decided to try to find out exactly what that saying was. In my research I discovered that that particular maxim is found in the work of philosopher and essayist George Santayana — in his first volume of *The Life of Reason*. There he writes: *Progress, far from consisting in change, depends on retentiveness... When experience is not retained... infancy is perpetual. Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*

I have to admit that, when I first found this passage, I was a bit disappointed. The source to which I had turned noted that this familiar saying had undergone a number of alterations since first coming from the pen of George Santayana — a variety of authors taking the original thought and adapting it just enough to fit their own particular situation and convey their own particular perspective. And I realized that it was probably one of those variations which had been floating around in my foggy memory and had at first appealed to me. But now, when I was able to see some of the context and was able to read the actual sentence of Santayana which expressed his real thought and served as the basis for all those revisions and modifications, it lost its attraction. It didn't hold the same interest; it didn't appear to offer me the same inspiration for which I had been hoping. It seemed I'd have to look somewhere else to get the jump-start I need to begin this column.

But Santayana wouldn't let me go. He kept coming back to me. Not what others said he said but what **he** really said. And it began to dawn on me, to make more sense. *Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.* Santayana speaks not about history but about the past. Progress begins with remembering. If we don't remember our past, if we don't hold onto our experience, we will indeed always be infants. If we don't lay claim to who we **have been** and what we **have done** — allowing it to serve as the foundation, to teach us, and to shape who we **will be** and what we **will do** — then there will be no growth, no moving forward.

In this issue of *The Paduan*, a number of articles offer the opportunity to remember our past. Father Bill Spencer,

O.F.M., the Provincial Minister of our Sacred Heart Province, shares some reflections on that Province and on Padua Franciscan High School — and the relationship between them over many years and through many individuals. Mr. Larry Pizon, a member of Padua Franciscan's faculty from its earliest years, shares his memories of who we have been and what we have done in the forty-three years of his experience in the life of this community

There are also articles here which offer us the opportunity to consider our progress — the invitation of the future and the call to move ever forward. **Dr. Joe Hanna '79** and Dr. Maria Ramundo reflect on their experience of the practice and the art of medicine. While ever-changing technology continues to be a major influence, countless other insights and experiences also challenge them every day to renew their commitment to be and to do the best in that practice and that art. And they bring to us the benefit of that experience and insight and commitment — particularly for the good of our students in Padua Franciscan's most recent innovative and creative program: MedTrack®.

All this serves to confirm for me the valuable insight of George Santayana: ***Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.*** Yes! Let us indeed remember our past! It is good and necessary, now and in the coming months, to remember and to celebrate our experience of fifty years — experience that has shaped and formed us and taught us many important lessons as the community of Padua Franciscan High School. And because we have had and have remembered those experiences, have learned and treasured those lessons, we will not stay in that past, condemned to repeat it. For we are no longer, nor will we ever again, be infants. We will make true progress, continuing to grow and move forward. We will hold in our memories and in our wills the courage and the insight, the inspiration and the commitment, the creativity and the dedication of those who were a part of that past — for that is our **history** and that is our **legacy**. We will surely not repeat our past. But we will gladly claim that history and repeat what has been entrusted to us! In our own day we — each of us and together as the Padua Franciscan community — now will seek new experiences, learn new lessons and practice new things as we strive in every opportunity and with every effort to respond to the needs and challenges of our time and place.

Together we praise God for our past and thank God for our history. We pray for God's blessings on our future — our progress and our growth — God's blessings of peace and everything good!



Fr. Theodore J. Haag, O.F.M., President





Journeys in Medicine

The Metamorphosis of Dr. Joe Hanna '79

Though he is the son of a physician, Joe Hanna planned to be anything but a doctor. After graduating Padua, Joe enrolled in the new biomedical engineering program at the Case Institute of Technology, the first of its kind in the country. His dream was a career doing bench research in robotics. But life experience has a way of changing things.

During his senior year at Case, while awaiting admission into the MD/PhD graduate program, Joe was injured in a serious accident that left him in a coma for four weeks. He awoke to a new reality of significant rehabilitation. Yet, lying in his hospital bed, he began what he calls his own metamorphosis. "Once I experienced the clinical side of medicine, the care and compassion of people whose role it is to help patients, I realized that I could not return to the bench, I wanted to become a doctor. It was my epiphany." Moreover, Joe's experience convinced him that he wanted to be a physician focusing on the most amazing organ of the human body, the brain. "I already knew about the brain from my studies at Case," he says. "The brain affects everything."

He studied medicine at the University of Cincinnati (where he also met his future wife, Maria), receiving his M.D. in 1988. Accepted into the Case Western Combined Neurology Program for his residency, he also



Dr. Maria Ramundo: An Educator at Heart

In an interesting twist of fate, Dr. Maria Ramundo – physician, wife, and parent – wanted to be a school teacher growing up. Two decades later she is fulfilling that dream not in a traditional classroom setting, but in the healthcare sector. Her path, like the paths of many students today, was altered by the economy at the time.

From the Classroom to the Examination Room

"When I was deciding on my college plans, my hometown of Cincinnati had a surplus of teachers," said Maria. "I wasn't sure there would be jobs

available in education when I graduated, so I explored other options that played to my strengths of science and math." Her friends influenced her initial decision to pursue nursing, a career which allowed her to both make a living and serve people at the same time. After excelling in entry-level science and math courses, Maria's college professors steered her toward a more difficult track, which eventually led to medical school at the University of Cincinnati.

During college, Maria went out of her way to both distinguish herself from a broad group of medical school applicants and – perhaps more importantly – cement her interest in her chosen field. A connection in the Emergency Department at Cincinnati Children's Hospital allowed her to obtain hands-on clinical experience and help with patient care, while setting the stage for her future specialty area. Maria emphasized, "I cannot overstate the importance of choosing a field only after obtaining a true understanding of what you are getting

HANNA cont.

received a fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic in Stroke and Neurointensive Care. In 1992, Joe was hired by The Cleveland Clinic Foundation as a stroke specialist, and five years later he was recruited to serve as chairperson of the Department of Neurology at MetroHealth System, a position he still holds today.

Joe has seen a lot of changes in the field of neurology during his career, from the days when a CT scan provided static images to today's real-time imagery using MRI machines. Prior to surgery, he is called upon to map out the functions of a patient's brain using a computer interface – a quantum leap from the days when probes were used and doctors relied solely upon the patient's reaction. Still, he sees the science of medicine as continually evolving, perhaps making the techniques of today seem as primitive as the early medicine men of antiquity. "We will look like shamans to the future."

On a typical day, Joe will see patients suffering from Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease, stroke, movement disorder, back pain, and epilepsy. And that's before lunch. Because neurological disorders tend to be long-term, he says that the best part of his job is developing patient-doctor relationships. It is in that relationship that he often helps his patients deal with their own mortality. "Helping a patient deal with death is very important," he says. "Often, death is an outcome as much as healing."

On the subject of death, Joe is eloquent. "There is a belief that the science of medicine can keep you from getting illness, or prevent the inevitable." The truth, he says, is that often the inevitable is prolonged unnecessarily, diminishing quality of life. "It is heartbreaking to see patients and their families struggle with the issue simply because they refuse to accept death. Part of the art of medicine is to coach for death."

Joe says that medicine is a combination of art and science. "You heal with the art of medicine, and diagnose with the science," he says. "It is in the art that you have a relationship with the person." He says that the shift in medicine in the past 15-20 years has added a new factor to that equation – the business of medicine. As medicine has become more business-oriented, with



RAMUNDO cont.

into. That is one of the components of the MedTrack program which I think is so important." She also accepted an unpaid internship working with mice in the College of Medicine's immunology lab, which provided basic research and lab skills that she could highlight on her medical school applications.

Maria and husband Dr. Joe Hanna '79 have very different interests and skills, which led them into very different areas of medicine. Unlike her engineering-trained husband who pursued neurology, Maria loves pediatrics because of the opportunity to help children, and because the required skills are more cognitive rather than procedural-based. That is probably a good thing for the patients since she admits with a grin that "I will break absolutely anything that is mechanical." This interest led to Maria's residency in Pediatrics at Akron Children's Hospital, followed by a fellowship in pediatric emergency medicine and staff position at the same location.

Life Comes Full Circle

Maria's passion for teaching coincided with the perfect opportunity in 2000, when she was appointed the director of the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Fellowship Program at Akron Children's Hospital and also received a clinical faculty ap-



HANNA cont.

complex systems focusing on reimbursements and documentation, there is less time for patients and a shift away from the humanistic art form. He says that he and his administrative colleagues at MetroHealth work to maintain a focus on the individual, not on the dehumanizing label of a statistical patient.

It was this focus on traditional medical values that attracted Joe to Padua's MedTrack program, leading him to accept a position as a member of the program's board of advisors. "When I first heard of the MedTrack concept, I thought it was a pretty good idea in a market (greater Cleveland) that has seen a decline in manufacturing and a transition to medicine," he says. "Learning more about it, I could see how the Franciscan philosophy and values of compassion and service to others fit nicely. MedTrack is based on preparing students for healing and love of mankind. Padua has clearly put its flag in the ground as an educator of future healthcare and science professionals in northeast Ohio."

Joe has been a part of MedTrack since the program was still in its formative stages in 2008. Since then, he and his wife, Dr. Maria Ramundo, have become leading spokespersons, delivering presentations to parents, members of Padua's Friar Club, and even to the leadership of MetroHealth. He and his wife became so convinced of the benefits of MedTrack that they urged their daughter, Isabelle '13, to apply to Padua and the program.

Because of the dynamic growth of healthcare, Joe believes that students who successfully complete the four-year MedTrack program will always have jobs. "Students will need to understand what the profession will encompass and how it will evolve. They have to be lifetime learners. Padua Franciscan must instill that in MedTrack students."

“I cannot overstate the importance of choosing a field only after obtaining a true understanding of what you are getting into.”

RAMUNDO cont.

pointment from the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM). Maria continued her formal education by completing a fellowship in academic medicine at NEOUCOM and obtained a certificate in medical education from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. To top it off, she is pursuing a master's degree in medical education leadership from the University of New England via distance learning. "Whether keeping current on the latest developments or pursuing advanced degrees, a healthcare provider must always be learning," said Maria. "The field is ever-changing, and students

have to be prepared for that commitment when they choose healthcare as their profession."

These days, Maria is the director of the Pediatrics Residency Program at Akron's Children, a position which allows her to work closely with students. The long-term relationships she is able to develop with residents stand in stark contrast to the "healthcare snapshots" and short-term relationships she sees in the Emergency Department. Despite this time constraint, she enjoys the fast-paced variety that is afforded by what one hopes is a one-time meeting with a particular individual. "You can still model the Franciscan values of compassion with an emphasis on healing the whole person, even in the briefest doctor-patient interactions," Maria declared.

For Maria, Padua's MedTrack program is an opportunity to influence the foundational preparation of students she might see a decade down the road. "Not only is MedTrack preparing students intellectually, the program also focuses on the spirit of service which is necessary for success in the healthcare profession," said Maria, mother of Isabelle '13 and 8th-grader Nathaniel. "As a MedTrack Advisory Board member, I am excited to be a part of such an outstanding program from concept through to implementation."



Welcome MedTrack® Students

Padua is pleased to announce the arrival of the inaugural MedTrack® class. These 30 students, hailing from 17 different elementary schools, represent a microcosm of what life is like at Padua. For example, 40% of MedTrack students are members of fall sports teams — including varsity volleyball player **Mary Djukic '13**; more than a third are active in fine arts; and many are involved in other school clubs and activities. Students have also met with Mr. Virgil Daniel (Guidance) and Principal David Stec during homerooms and a Lunch & Learn to prepare

for their first Career Speaker Series session. During that event in late October, graduate **Dr. Kelly Smith Gibson '00** and guest Dr. David Stone shared their journeys in health-care with MedTrack students and their parents as they prepare to embark on their own personal journeys.

If you would like to learn more about MedTrack — perhaps your student is interested or you would like to help the program in some way — please review the website at www.paduafranciscan.com/medtrack or contact Mr. Daniel at 440.845.2444, ext. 126.



STUDENT/FACULTY LIFE <<

Cleveland Clinic Interns Explore Healthcare Careers

This summer, Padua seniors **Bill Fullington** and **Effie Morway** were part of a select group of students chosen to participate in an internship program sponsored by the Cleveland Clinic. This nine-week, paid internship provides top science students throughout Northeast Ohio with the opportunity to work and learn alongside nationally renowned physicians and researchers from Cleveland Clinic, its community hospitals, and family health centers.

By the end of the experience, each student presented their research in a poster format. Bill studied how a spinal cord injury can affect a rat's autonomic functions under the direction of a team of mentors — Vernon Lin, M.D., Ph.D.; Yu-Shang Lee, Ph.D.; and Ching-Yi Lin, Ph.D. Bill obtained pressure readings at periodic intervals (certain hours, days, weeks, and even months) to test gastric functioning after surgery to reconnect spinal

nerves, and performed statistical analyses of the results. The hope is that these reconnected spinal nerves begin to improve the functioning of the rat's cardiovascular, respiratory, and gastrointestinal systems — potentially leading to similar breakthroughs at the human level. Bill is continuing with his research on a voluntary basis during the weekends and hopes to return to the

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I loved being a part of the medical community and learned so much about how doctors practice on a daily basis.



healthcare both today and tomorrow," said Bill.

Effie worked with William H. Seitz, Jr., M.D., a well-known hand and upper extremity surgeon. Her research, in conjunction with a college student from Baldwin-Wallace, focused on the social and emotional impact of congenital hand differences on the family. This on-going research involved interviews with

surgeries. "I loved being a part of the medical community and learned so much about how doctors practice on a daily basis," Effie said. She also hopes to return to the Clinic next summer.

Many of Padua's science courses, including anatomy & physiology, biology, chemistry, and physics, provided a great foundation for their summer internship experience, which they hope will lead to a healthcare career path at the college level and beyond. Effie plans to combine both of her passions by majoring in athletic training and obtaining a minor in dance before she heads off to medical school to focus on orthopedics or sports medicine. Bill wants to major in either biology or chemistry with the goal of pursuing a doctorate in physical therapy, and perhaps a secondary doctorate in research (like a few of his mentors). Both seniors were inspired by their healthcare mentors and excited about their chosen fields and areas of research. "This internship gave everyone the chance to determine what they want to do, with the opportunity to ask many questions along the way. We could not have asked for a better experience," said Bill.

Cleveland Clinic Interns Explore Healthcare Careers

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program next summer. In addition, he aims to participate in the Northeast Ohio Science & Engineering Fair with a significant amount of data which will also form the basis of a future journal publication. "I enjoyed both the clinical and research aspects of the summer. It showed me that clinical researchers in particular can impact the quality of

families from the past two decades. Effie is using the research to create a handbook for parents on what to expect when their child is born with a hand anomaly. In addition, she is establishing a support group for parents who wish to remain involved, including an annual social outing. Lastly, she is working with Dr. Seitz and the team to publish a paper with their findings.

Effie's favorite part of the summer was scrubbing in to watch — and even participate in — certain

Volunteering Has Its Own Rewards

Junior **Shirin Azadi** was one of only four students awarded a \$1,000 scholarship from the Cleveland Clinic, from among the 75 high school students participating in the Clinic's volunteer program. The competition was open to any high school student who volunteered at the Clinic for at least 150 hours (Shirin volunteered 184) and wrote an essay about their experience. "Volunteering is a wonderful privilege," Shirin wrote. "I believe that it is important for one to

volunteer because it allows a person to make a difference in their society with small actions... I definitely anticipate continuing my volunteering career as an adult. I truly believe that volunteering is a rewarding experience that not only allows one to build life skills, but also build qualities for the professional world."



A Reflection of My First 43 Years at Padua:

by Larry Pizon

Editor's Note: Padua Franciscan will turn 50 in 2011. Believing that history is a human experience rather than simply dates, we begin a series of articles designed to take an anecdotal look at our past from those who lived Padua's history — complete with accomplishments, missteps, and humor. Our first installment is from Larry Pizon who began his teaching career at Padua — and never left.

My first and most lasting memories of Padua are of those early years when the faculty was about half Franciscan friars and half lay faculty. The friars that were here set the foundation for a true Franciscan spirit of joy and a sincere camaraderie. I felt that I was not hired into a job, but a way of life and that Padua had become a home away from home.

Fr. Dan O'Connell, O.F.M., who hired me in 1966, was a beloved father figure. Because of him, we were willing to take on any new challenge. As a young teacher just out of college, I did not realize at the time just how young I and the other lay faculty really were; the average age had to be about 25 years old. The already revered "old men" at the time were Ralph Torowski, Wayne Miller, Tom Kasper, Tony Kaniecki, and Paul Lorz, who were just a few years older than me.

I still have the memory of my first week teaching biology when this large figure of a man filled the doorway of my classroom, almost hitting his head on the top frame and growling with an Indiana accent, "How are your boys doing?" He was intimidating to the students as well as to me. It was Dick Schott who I later found out had played professional football for the Minnesota Vikings.

We had a very diverse faculty but

“Today, just like 40-some years ago, Padua students come from good, hardworking families whose parents are very concerned about their success.”

also a very professional, competent, and creative faculty. It was nice to know that as a young faculty, we had the green light from Fr. Dan to teach and create according to our own style. Because of this trust, many activities and clubs emerged which would become a Padua tradition: Intramurals, the Turkey Bowl, Key Club, Christmas for Others, Ski Club, Drama Club, and even a Rifle Club to name just a few. By the way, coming from Slavic Village on the east side of Cleveland, when I saw the signs in the cafeteria for the first time to join the "Ski" Club, I thought it was for a Polish fraternity.

Wayne Miller had already put Padua on the map with the excellence of the band and orchestra as well as the entire music program. We were among the elite in the state. Lou Papes, who was chairman of the English Department, was getting us notoriety with our jam-packed double-decker dances that not only featured nationally known entertainers, but also proved to be outstanding fund raisers for the school. Just one dance was able to fund the entire orchestra for a trip to New York City.

Over the years, many additional activities came into being, such as Teen Institute, blood drive, foreign trips, summer teaching programs to Poland, faculty to Assisi, service to Honduras, and Padua becoming one of America's top 50 Catholic secondary schools. Even now, new

programs such as MedTrack continue to emerge to meet the challenges of the times.

Today's faculty is just as talented and perhaps even more dedicated because of today's economic climate. I have always believed that the Padua faculty and staff have been the glue that has secured Padua's excellence over the years, as demonstrated by their talent, dedication, and genuine caring for the success of our students.

As I think back to those earlier days, I have to be amused by the styles — especially the hair of the 1970s. If you ever get a chance to look at some old yearbooks, you will be astonished how the faculty were a reflection of the times, including facial hair, sideburns, and dress. Some of those who come to mind are Tom Kohuth, Gary Jennrich, Tom Kasper, and even Wayne Miller. Luke-a-Like Days were a fad, referring to Mr. Jim "Luke" Lenczewski who always wore a white shirt, dark tie, and dark trousers. We also had a certain social studies teacher who, for effect, came to school with his Goodwill clothing, price tags still on, like Minnie Pearl. This was the same



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A Reflection of My First 43 Years At Padua

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teacher who was also expelled from the faculty Friday Donut Club for purchasing day-old donuts, freezing them for the following week, and then forgetting to thaw them out. We also had a very beloved teacher in whose class the students would pass notes to each other, using him as an unwitting courier. As he would walk up and down the aisles, students would place notes in his coat pocket. The intended recipient would then remove the note as he passed. He was very focused on his lesson.

One morning in the late 60s this same teacher came into the building and said to me, "Larry, our senior boys are so thoughtful. They valet parked my car for me this morning." Little did he know that he had been part of a senior prank to spell out a notorious word in the parking lot that was read by a radio station traffic helicopter.

I fondly remember friars like Fr. Roy Hassett, O.F.M.; Fr. Kenan Dulzer, O.F.M.; and Fr. Gene Katoski, O.F.M., who had always been great role models. Their gentle and caring manner, as well as example, encouraged me to work like them.

When Fr. Gene came to Padua to serve as chairman of the History Department, I tried to convince him to use audio-visuals. Fr. Gene, however, was of the school that using such resources was not teaching. Eventually, we convinced him. Later, I made the mistake of teasing him about how dark it now was in his room and that mold was growing on his windowsills. To put it mildly, Fr. Gene was not amused.

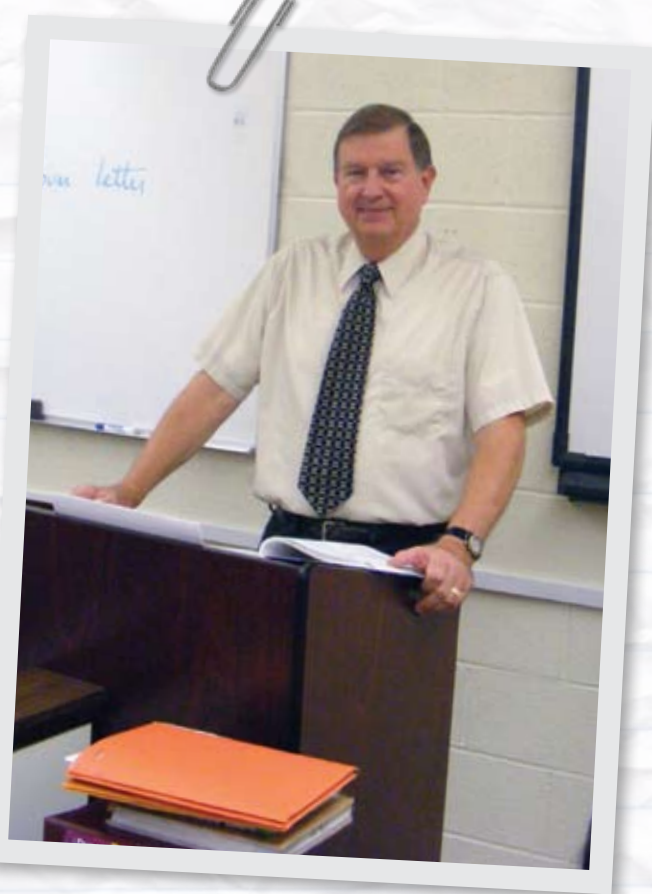
Fr. Gene was also known for being very punctual and organized. When invited over for dinner, he would arrive at exactly the designated time and would in advance

declare the time he would leave. He would depart at that time to the minute.

I also loved playing golf with Fr. Gene, who was an excellent golfer, but once again, he was always on schedule. If he said we were teeing off at 3 p.m. and I was late, I had to catch up with him on the course.

I have always thought Padua students and their families have been special. Today, just like 40-some years ago, Padua students come from good, hardworking families whose parents are very concerned about their success. I have always felt comfortable teaching our students and interacting with their parents. I believe it's because Padua students are generally polite, respectful, and care about each other. Parents have been supportive. It's nice to know that most of the time a phone call can take care of most concerns.

I have been a teacher at Padua long enough to have experienced the second generation of students whose parents I taught. It is just so amazing to learn how well and how successful their parents are doing. I speak for all Padua teachers who experience a spark and pride when running into alums. They are in all walks of life: judges, lawyers, doctors, businessmen, CEOs, entrepreneurs, actors, producers, managers, policemen, firemen, symphony conductors, and teachers. To quote a commencement speaker from a few years ago, "Bruins are everywhere. What a great feeling to know that they are successful and continuing the Padua traditions and values." A dramatic change came to Padua when we became co-ed in 1983. I thought that it did affect the close friendships and camaraderie



that the boys had had to a certain degree, but the change has re-energized Padua with dramatic results. Not only did enrollment increase but Padua became a gentler place. We no longer had "rent-a-cheerleader" from Nazareth or unfamiliar homecoming queens. Activities and clubs became more vibrant as evident through the marching band, musicals, theater, art awards, and girls' sports. The achievement last year of our first state championship in volleyball is a testament to how girls have added their own legacy to the Padua tradition.

I've witnessed some great sports memories over the decades. In the 1969 basketball season under Coach Ray Verba, our team went to the Regionals. In football in 1979, it was the excitement of beating Massillon at a packed Massillon Stadium, shutting them out 10-0 and later becoming State runners-up. Of course, I cannot forget the three State hockey championships (1988, 1989, and 2006) with the last being the most exciting, a come-back-from-behind win in overtime. The best part about having

coached golf, baseball, and hockey are the wonderful friendships I have made and still have today. They are priceless.

I even met my future wife, Chris, while coaching baseball. My catcher on the JV team (**Mike Bender '73**) had a girlfriend who came to all the games and eventually got comfortable enough to ask if I would want to date her older sister. I began to wonder why she had to find dates for her older sister. Nevertheless, I called, she sounded normal on the phone, and we went on a blind date. Subsequent dates were to Padua football games, as I was taking care of the stats. I figured any girl who was willing to sit through football games with me, rain or shine, while I took stats had to be okay. We had met in September, got engaged in December, and married in June. We have been married for 36 years with four sons, and now have eight grandchildren.

Having my four sons attend Padua are among my proudest memories. Today, **John '92** is a police officer in Shaker Heights and married to **Julie Moran '93**. **Anthony '93** is

an M.D. in Pittsburgh. **Michael '96** is in the computer business in Charlotte, North Carolina; and **Thomas '99** is now a technician at the Cleveland Clinic, following a stint as a Padua physics teacher and coach. All of them participated in varsity sports while at Padua, and both Anthony and Thomas were honored as "Mr. Paduan."

One of the things you ponder over the years as a teacher is how do you subtly give students the opportunity to learn, respect the world, and appreciate the blessings they have in this country without coming off as preaching or dictating? That's something we can't always answer, but I believe at least being aware of it helps us to become better teachers. I believe, as I reflect on Padua over the last 43 years, that we have helped our students to be well-rounded, better prepared individuals — academically, athletically, and socially. The tradition continues.

As for myself, I could not have been in a better place all these years, to have the freedom to be able to speak and promote our Christian and Franciscan values.

»SIDE NOTE

The first week of teaching at Padua I learned an important lesson from one of the football players.

I was so proud that I had a great lesson for my history class. Fresh out of college, I proceeded to get into the philosophy of history with what I thought was very exciting and intellectually stimulating information. Well, the students, who were probably only four to five years younger than I was, didn't think so.

One of the top students, who was also one of the best athletes in the school, raised his hand and stated, "Mr. Pizon, I'm sorry, but we don't understand what you're talking about." That took the wind right out of my sails. It is also a lesson I never forgot as I realized to keep it simple and explain in language they can understand since they are possibly learning something for the first time. I believe understanding that has made me a better teacher.

Achievements

Padua Franciscan High School students continue to be well represented in the All-Ohio State Fair Band in Columbus. This past summer the following students participated: **Gabrielle Giomini '10**, **Catherine Conlin '09**, **Ann Sasala '11**, **Jill Germana '10**, **Matthew Logan '11**, **Sarah Hinkelman '11**, **Patrick Hamilton '11**, **Janel Dempsey '12**, **Sean Hudgins '11**, **Thomas Sheehan '11**, **Braeden Kelly '09**, **Spencer Crea '11**, **Maria Sheehan '09**, **William Kan '12**, and **Stephanie Susi '05** (equipment manager). Also, **Jill Germana '10** received the Omar Blackman Award and was awarded a \$100 scholarship; **Catherine Conlin '09** received the Director's Award and received a \$500 scholarship (Catherine was

also the only student to have been in the All-Ohio State Fair Band for five years). Padua's own Mrs. Kathy DeBlasi has been an assistant director of the All-Ohio State Fair Band for the past six years.

Chris Rojas '12 has auditioned into the Cleveland Youth Orchestra Chorus.

Jose Vega '10 was selected as a 2009-2010 National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) Scholar. The NHRP recognizes nearly 5,000 students selected from a pool of over 200,000 students who took the 2008 PSAT/NM-SQT/PAA and identified themselves as Hispanic/Latino. Students with GPAs of 3.5 or higher are designated as scholars.

David Zupkovich '10 won a \$1,500 scholarship for his participation in the 2nd Annual Calfee Cup held

at Washington Reservation. The purpose of this event, much like the Ryder Cup and the Walker Cup, is to foster friendly competition in the context of golf's and the First Tee's nine core values. Along with golfing with their peers from the surrounding Cleveland area, participants were invited to submit an essay on another core value they would add to the existing nine. David's essay was on adding leadership as an additional core value. Another essay David wrote (on what the First Tee meant to him) was featured in the Tournament Program of the Bridgestone Invitational held in Akron in August. David was awarded a \$500 scholarship for this essay.

Grant Ranchoff '12 became an Eagle Scout on October 4, 2009. He belongs to Strongsville Troop #701.

The Sacred Heart Province Connection

Editor's note: *Padua Franciscan High School was founded by the Sacred Heart Province of the Order of Friars Minor, headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri. Although now known as Padua Franciscan High School, Inc. with its own Board of Trustees, several non-teaching friars of the Province remain actively engaged in the school as members of that board, and the Provincial Council serves as members of the corporation. Father Bill Spencer was elected Provincial (CEO) in July of this year.*

Thirty years ago, I was a member of the staff at Hales Franciscan High School in Chicago, Illinois, for three years. During that time, I would regularly celebrate Sunday Mass for a large group of Sisters of Mercy. I also presided at the Sunday Eucharist in a parish on Chicago's southeast side each weekend. One Sunday while I was driving from the Mercy Sisters' convent to the parish church, I decided to stop at a convenience store and get something to drink. I was wearing my Franciscan habit, but I didn't think that would be a problem. Someone dressed like I was wouldn't be something the clerk saw every day, but I didn't expect that my habit and I would be cause for comment. I couldn't have been more incorrect! No sooner had I walked through the store's doorway, the clerk looked at me, pointed her finger at me, and in her best "gotcha" voice said a knowing and friendly "Renaissance Art Faire!" I smiled, pointed my finger back at her, and in my own best "gotcha" voice responded, "No, Catholic priest!" Her face and her voice were bright red as I paid for my purchase, and she stammered "Thank you" and "I'm sorry, Father." I left not only with my soft drink, a smile on my face, and a good story to tell, but also with a question about just how well

known we Franciscans actually are. The sight of a Franciscan habit wouldn't prompt thoughts of a "Renaissance Art Faire" for anyone associated with Padua Franciscan High School. Current students would immediately think of Father Ted, Brother Tom, Brother Mike Ward, or Father Walter. Alumni of the school would have many more associations. Almost 100 Franciscan Friars have been affiliated with Padua Franciscan High School since it opened its doors in 1961. Fr. Jerome Baum, O.F.M., was its first principal. "Quentin's Raiders" was a crew of students who assisted in the maintenance of the school; Br. Quentin Holmes, O.F.M., was their supervisor. Fr. Mario DiCicco, O.F.M.; Fr. Clarence Chambers, O.F.M.; Fr. Jerome Thelen, O.F.M.; Br. Tom Krull, O.F.M.; Br. Jeffrey Haller, O.F.M.; and Br. Thom Smith, O.F.M., are just some of the Franciscan names and faces that could come to mind for former students at Padua Franciscan High School. "Franciscan" is also not just part of the school's name or the religious order to which some of the school's staff belong, it's also the climate that characterizes the life of the school. The administration of Padua Franciscan High School, its faculty and staff, both lay and friar, along with the school's alumni, want Padua's students to have an experience of high school that is Franciscan in fact as well as in name. "Franciscan" means more than "Renaissance Art Faire" for anyone associated with Padua Franciscan High School.

"Sacred Heart Province" is a phrase that Padua's staff and students will hear more than a few times while they are at the high school but which will not be as familiar as the word "Franciscan." The Franciscan



Order, the Order of Friars Minor, to which the friars who minister at Padua belong, is divided into geographical families called "provinces." There are seven such provinces of brothers in the United States, and Padua's friars are members of the one which is headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri, and dedicated to the honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

There are many ways to introduce the Sacred Heart Province to the Padua Franciscan High School community. Geography would obviously be one of them. The Sacred Heart Province of the Franciscans covers territory ranging from San Antonio, Texas, on the southwest, to Cleveland, Ohio, on the northeast; and from northern Wisconsin to northern Louisiana. Statistics would be another. There are just under 250 friars in the Sacred Heart Province who currently live and minister in eleven states and three foreign countries. As the Padua family would expect, there are teachers and administrators among us. It also will not come as a surprise to anyone that there are pastors, professors, and preachers in our number. Our friars are maintenance men, missionaries, and military chaplains. They work for the healing of the sick



in hospitals and walk the halls of Congress and the United Nations to assist in the healing of society. Artists of various sorts, engineers, and attorneys all wear Franciscan brown in the Sacred Heart Province. Our elderly and infirm friars feel a special responsibility to offer their aches and pains, as well as their other prayers, for the well-being of others, people like you and me.

Those are two ways of talking about Sacred Heart Province. A third would be a historical perspective. The friars who would found Sacred Heart Province first came to the United States in 1858. What brought them here was the need of a bishop in southern Illinois to provide clergy for his German-speaking congregations. Once they were here, they discovered similar needs in St. Louis, Missouri; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; San Francisco, California; and Memphis, Tennessee. Love for God and God's people brought them there and elsewhere.

Sooner rather than later, they realized that people did not have to be German-speaking to need and deserve their services. Friars from the Sacred Heart Province were already in China by 1882 and working among the Native Americans of northern Wisconsin as early as 1878. The needs of German-speaking immigrants were what brought Sacred Heart Province's friars to California; but they just as gladly served that state's Spanish and English-speaking residents once they got there. It was an experience that was to be repeated when the friars of the Sacred Heart Province began to minister in the Missions of San Antonio, Texas, founded by Spanish Franciscans four centuries before.

Franciscans from the Sacred Heart Province were even willing to learn "Southern drawl." I'm from northern Louisiana. The town in which I grew up was one-tenth of one percent Catholic. The only reason that there

“*“Franciscan” is not just part of the school’s name or the religious order to which some of the school’s staff belong, it’s also the climate that characterizes the life of the school.*”

was a Catholic church in my hometown and in many of the neighboring towns in my corner of the state was that the bishop in our diocese knew Franciscans in his hometown of Boston, Massachusetts. His experience of them encouraged him to ask Sacred Heart Province to send friars to work in what could only be called the “home missions” of the South. They came in 1939, and the Catholic Church has grown, not only in numbers but in the regard of its non-Catholic neighbors as a result.

In 1961, love for God and for God's people brought friars from the Sacred Heart Province to Parma, Ohio. High school students from Cleveland's west side and its western suburbs had a need for a Catholic High School in their neighborhood, and Franciscans from the Sacred Heart Province wanted to do what they could to help those young people and those who would come after them to grow “In Holiness and Learning.” It's possible to talk about Sacred Heart Province in many ways, but one of those ways has to be the story of men who were always willing to leave familiar faces and places and go where God called them for the good of people to whom God sent them.

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the ways which the Catholic Church meditates on the love God has for us and for all of creation. Franciscans from the Sacred Heart Province have the same vocation as all people: we're called to be healthy, whole, and happy human beings. Like Christians everywhere, we are committed to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We are

one with Franciscans throughout the world in our desire to love God and God's people with a passion that would please Francis and Clare of Assisi and make them proud. If there's anything “unique” about our identity as members of the Sacred Heart Province, it's that we feel a special responsibility to make sure there's no doubt in the minds of anyone we meet that God loves them. “One or the other” friar who may have failed in that respect may come to your minds as I make that claim, but I'd like to assure you that, in one way or another, we Franciscan Friars in the Sacred Heart Province regularly remind ourselves that “God loves you” must be the message which our lips and lives leave with others.

We also hope and pray that's a conviction you share with the people who are a part of your lives. The faculty, staff, and students of Padua Franciscan High School, along with its alumni and administration, are all ways that God has to say to the city of Cleveland and its suburbs, to the many other places where you live and work, to your family members, friends, co-workers and acquaintances, to people you know well and those you've just met ... “I love you.” If that's something the members of the Padua family learned from the Franciscans of the Sacred Heart Province and the particular Franciscan climate which they've tried to create at Padua Franciscan High School over the years, then you know more about the Sacred Heart Province than its geography, statistics, history or heritage could ever say.

Our thanks to the Members of the Friar Club... for Their Significant Contributions to Ensure the Future of Padua Franciscan High School.



Mr. Albert T. '69 Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Louis '65 Adimare
Mr. and Mrs. Donald '65 Baracskey
 Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Bart
Mr. Richard D. '78 Baytosh
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You can join the Friar Club through either current (\$10,000+ cash or pledge) or deferred (\$25,000+) giving.
Or if you prefer...



The Padua 1K Club was created in 2008 to help keep a Padua education accessible to all those who seek it. Members commit to an annual level of giving of \$1,000 or more for the program of their choice. Whether for direct student support or other academic or extracurricular programs, all contributions improve our bottom line — ultimately translating into greater affordability for our families and a stronger school. Membership in P1K is well within your reach. For less than \$20 per week, you can be counted among the Club's first one thousand members. To learn more about either the Friar

Club or the Padua 1K Club, including membership benefits, contact **Laurie Keco Grabowski '89** at 440.845.8224 or lgrabowski@paduafranciscan.com. We will be recognizing our P1K members in the spring issue of *The Paduan*, so please watch for that listing.

Sports Notables

Football

Stryffeler Commits to Ball State

Defensive end **Anthony Stryffeler** has verbally committed to Ball State University. The 6'4", 220 lb senior has started off the season with tenacious intensity coming off the edge. Stryffeler has 40 tackles (14 solo), 4 QB sacks, 13 tackles for a loss, 1 caused fumble, 1 recovered fumble, 4 QB pressures, and 2 knocked-down passes, all in the first five games. The defensive end also lends his talents as a stout blocker on the offensive line in the tight-end position.

Congratulations to senior **Nick Kaszei** for being named FOX 8 student athlete of the week in week 4.

Volleyball

Senior All-American **Kaitlyn Leary** was featured on the September cover of Northeast Ohio's ESPN Rise magazine. The 6-foot outside hitter is one of the elite volleyball players in Ohio. After visits to Notre Dame, Tennessee, Miami (Ohio), and Michigan, Leary has verbally committed to attend The Ohio State University next fall.

Leary and Goebel Hit 1,000 Mark

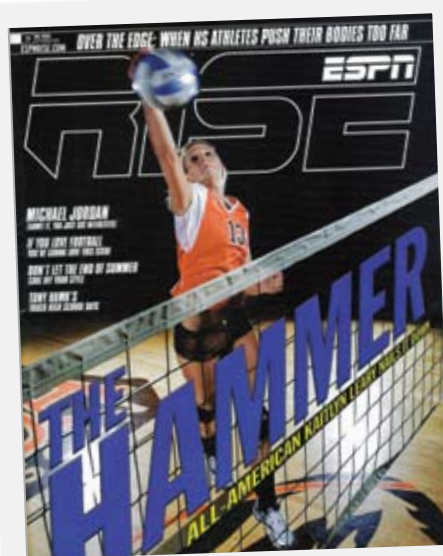
Early in the first game at home against Archbishop Hoban, senior **Kaitlyn Leary** smashed her 1,000th kill. She is the all-time kill leader in Padua history. The Ohio State recruit graciously accepted a ball marking her tremendous accomplishment as the game was halted to celebrate the feat. Senior **Lauren Goebel** hit the 1,000th dig mark in a diving save of an attack which sparked the first game victory over Huron.



Browns Players Visit Bruins' Practice

Senior football captain **Nick Kaszei** (above left) understands and appreciates the hard work of Padua's coaching staff, especially that of head coach **Tony Shuman '91**. Nick recently participated in a contest sponsored by the

Cleveland Browns where he was asked to share his thoughts about what Coach Shuman means to Padua's football program. His winning submission rewarded the team with a visit from Browns players at a recent practice.



Fritsche Verbally Commits to Buffalo

After helping the Lady Bruins to a Division II State Championship last year and an MVP summer in Junior Olympic Volleyball, outside hitter **Christie Fritsche '10** will

play her college ball at the University of Buffalo. Fritsche, a Parma native who went to St. Charles, is excited to be playing volleyball at a Division I college level. This season Fritsche has been racking up the kills and helping the Bruins to their #1 state ranking.

Golf

(boys) Freshman **Reno Stopper** was named to the First Team NCL, shooting a 79 in league championship at Pine Hills.

(girls) Senior **Lizzy Merk** was named league MVP at the NCL tournament and also qualified for the district tournament, capturing medalist honors by shooting a 78.

Tennis

Congratulations to **Rachel Yurchisin '13** for qualifying for the district tennis tournament as a freshman!

Kris Kautzman '90: Reawakening the Ancient with The Rose Ensemble

If your first thought when you hear “reawakening the ancient” is Brendan Fraser in the movie *The Mummy*, you are probably not alone. When that label is applied to The Rose Ensemble, however, you need to open your mind — and your ears — to the extraordinary possibilities which await you. The Rose Ensemble is an early music group from St. Paul, Minnesota, whose members focus on vocal and instrumental music generally written before 1750. Padua’s own **Kris Kautzman**, celebrating her 10th anniversary as an alto with this award-winning ensemble, was in town recently with her colleagues to perform a concert honoring St. Francis of Assisi. To commemorate that event, Kris agreed to share her journey as a professional musician with The Paduan.

From a young age, Kris intended to be a concert flautist, so it made perfect sense that she would choose Padua Franciscan High School to hone her musical talents as a teenager. “I selected Padua because it had the best orchestra in the state under the direction of Mr. Wayne Miller,” said Kris. “The quality of musical preparation I received at Padua was unparalleled.”

Three years of orchestra and four of band provided the foundation for the next stage of her education at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota, where Kris majored in music. In addition to playing flute, she sang with the St. Olaf Choir, and a new

direction for her life began to take shape. Kris graduated with a degree in musicology and moved to the Twin Cities, where she worked in corporate settings and at the

Guthrie Theater, paying off student loans before beginning her career with The Rose Ensemble in 1999.

As the ensemble’s reputation has grown, so have the logistical challenges of being a working musician in America. Rose performs 75 concerts a year throughout the United States and Europe, and rehearses two to three times per week. Music is her passion and profession, though she must supplement that with other employment to make ends meet.

“I generally juggle three jobs,” Kris says, and refers to it as “cobbling together an income” for the past decade. She has worked as a certified massage therapist, a freelance musician, and the old standby of artists everywhere — an office temp. Grateful for several extended assignments within the same company, temporary work affords her the ability to meet the touring demands of The Rose Ensemble’s concerts and educational workshops within a supportive work environment.

Kris has performed a number of concerts in the Cleveland area, including one recently on October 11 at St. Stanislaus (a mission of the Franciscan Province of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary). The



concert supported the launch of Il Poverello: Medieval & Renaissance Music for Saint Francis of Assisi, The Rose Ensemble’s ninth recording which commemorates the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Franciscan Order.

“Beautiful, in-tune and well-balanced singing was matched with astonishing instrumental playing. This show should tour widely and enchant many more audiences just as it did at St. Stanislaus on Sunday afternoon,” said critic Daniel Hathaway from Cleveland Classical.

The Rose Ensemble has expanded its repertoire beyond the traditional definition of early music (i.e., prior to 1750) by exploring the origins of music in a particular region. For example, the group’s recordings include music of ancient Hawaii and early America, both of which include some music written in the 19th century. Kris’ favorite music to sing is medieval polyphony, while her favorite music to listen to is twentieth-century orchestral.

In retrospect, three years of high school Latin translation is definitely one of the most valuable aspects of her Padua education! Kris explained, “The Rose Ensemble is dedicated to working with original sources as often as possible; and when we are developing a new concert, our director travels to manuscript libraries all over the world. My Latin study enables me to transcribe his digital images of Gregorian Chant manuscripts into working editions for the whole group. I never could have envisioned that when I was sitting in Mr. Lupica’s class, but I am so grateful now for these skills.” Two years of German with Mr. Torowski also come in handy given the range of languages The Rose Ensemble employs in its various concerts — 25 to be exact.

“The quality of musical preparation I received at Padua was unparalleled.”



LEFT: "My favorite place to tour is Italy because of the people, who are so warm and genuine," Kris said.

ABOVE: October 2009 concert at St. Stanislaus.

Kris still makes time for other musical endeavors in her life, working as a cantor and choir section leader for several Twin Cities churches. She keeps her instrumental chops by playing both early music and modern around town, and recently premiered the Sonata for Flute & Piano by jazz composer Joseph Makholm.

Though a Cleveland girl at heart, Kris loves living in the Twin Cities.

"First and foremost, the region demonstrates tremendous support for the arts community, enabling groups like The Rose Ensemble to thrive," she said. When she is not working, you will probably find her out in one of seemingly endless trails and parks in Minnesota — running, hiking, biking — and best of all, skiing. She laughingly proclaimed, "Apart from the bitter cold, it's a great place to live!"

Looking back on her high school years, Kris emphatically stated, "I can say without hesitation that I loved my time at Padua, and I share my experience with anyone who will listen." To current and future Bruins interested in pursuing their passion of music, Kris declares, "I hope my story shows that it can be done. I love what I do and would not trade it for anything!"

About The Rose Ensemble

Founded in 1996 by artistic director, Jordan Sramek, The Rose Ensemble reawakens the ancient with vocal music that stirs the emotions, challenges the mind and lifts the spirit. The St. Paul, Minnesota, group tours internationally with repertoire spanning 1,000 years and 25 languages, including new research in Middle Eastern, European and American vocal traditions. The Rose Ensemble is the recipient of the Chorus America Margaret Hillis Award for Choral Excellence and was a first-prize winner at the 2007 Tolosa

International Choral Competition in Spain (part of the European Choral Grand Prix). The Rose Ensemble toured Europe by invitation four times in 2008, and has been invited to return to Germany, Italy, and France in 2009-2010. The Rose Ensemble's nine recordings have earned international praise and receive regular airplay on National Public Radio and the European Broadcasting Union. You can learn more about The Rose Ensemble — and purchase any of their recordings — at www.roseensemble.org.

A Tribute to St. Francis

As a special offer for the Padua community, you can purchase a copy of *Il Poverello: Medieval & Renaissance Music for Saint Francis of Assisi* for only \$15. This opportunity is available by calling 651.225.4340 — simply mention that you are with Padua Franciscan High School.



Alumni Calendar: *What's Happening Through June 2010*

Padua Franciscan Reunion for Classes Ending in 4 & 9 – November 27

Don't miss this opportunity to reunite with former classmates and faculty.

What: Reunion Weekend 2009 for Classes

(1969 • 1974 • 1979 • 1984 • 1989 • 1994 • 1999 • 2004)

When: Friday, November 27, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Where: St. Paul Hellenic Center, Wallings Road, North Royalton

Bruin Benefit 2010 – April 24



What: Padua's Biggest Event: Silent and Live Auction, Sit-Down Dinner, Raffles, Entertainment

When: Saturday, April 24

Where: Padua Gymnasium

We Need Your Help!

Benefit volunteers are working hard to make this a night to remember. Bruin Benefit will feature a sit-down dinner, silent and live auction, and various raffle opportunities.

Interested in donating an item for auction?

Some of the items being collected include: *dinner packages or gift cards, overnight hotel stays, crafts, gift baskets, sports memorabilia, spa packages, golf packages, patio equipment, antiques, vacation packages, and more...*

Donations of any shape and size can be grouped together to make a truly remarkable auction item! Proceeds from this year's event will be used to increase student financial assistance.

Call 440-845-2444, ext. 106, or e-mail rholtz@paduafranciscan.com for more information.

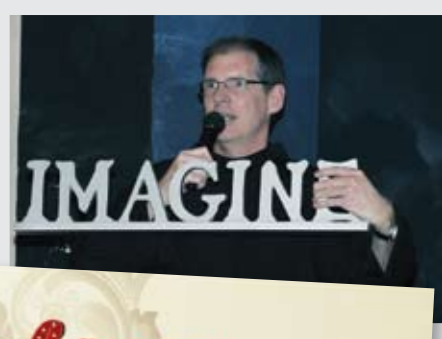
Padua Alumni James W. Day Golf Classic – June 11

Join us for the 25th Annual Alumni Golf Classic at Shale Creek Golf Club in Medina on Friday, June 11. Shotgun start at 9:00 a.m.

Spring Instrumental Music Concert – May 16

The Padua Franciscan Instrumental Music Department would like to invite all instrumental alumni to participate in playing with the Padua Franciscan High School instrumentalists in the Spring Concert on Sunday, May 16.

Sign-up sheets are available at www.paduafranciscan.com. Click on the Fine Arts link, then Instrumental Music. For more information, contact kdeblasi@paduafranciscan.com.



HALL OF FAME



Padua Franciscan High School Hall of Fame: Nominations Now Being Accepted for 2010 Induction Class

The Padua Franciscan High School Hall of Fame has been established to recognize those who have contributed to the success of Padua or the Padua community in some significant way. Padua is currently taking nominations for the fourth induction class scheduled for a date to be determined in 2010. The Hall of Fame is comprised of four categories listed below. Anyone within the Padua community (faculty, students, current parents, past parents, alumni, and friends of the school) can nominate someone for any or all of the categories. Those inducted will be honored at a special HOF induction reception and will be prominently displayed on Padua's "Wall of Fame" listing the year of induction, category, and a brief summary of their impact on Padua.

Nominations for the following categories will be accepted:

Franciscan Medal Award

Award given to the individual (or company) who has actively worked toward the advancement of education of young people at Padua or in the Parma area. The candidate should possess a record of community service, community leadership, volunteerism, and have actively worked to promote the quality of life in Parma and the surrounding suburbs.

Athletic Award

This is awarded to the male or female alum who either excelled in one or more sports while at Padua OR made a major impact to the school's athletic program or to local sports leading to the enhancement of Padua's image. Candidates may include former coaches who may or may not be a graduate of Padua. Candidates (with the exception of coaches) must have graduated a minimum of five years prior to being considered. The candidate should demonstrate ongoing concern and loyalty to Padua Franciscan High School.

Outstanding Alumnus/a Award

This is awarded to the male or female alum who has made a major impact either in service to Padua, service to the community, or achievement in their chosen field of work.

Padua Partner Award

Awarded to a non-alum (parent, friend of Padua, etc.) who has made or is making a major contribution to Padua through volunteerism or other service.

Do you know of someone that should be inducted in Padua's HOF? Submit your nominations to **rholz@paduafranciscan.com** or regular mail to **Padua Franciscan Hall of Fame, 6740 State Road, Parma, OH 44134**. Please indicate the name of the person you are nominating along with as much supporting information as possible, such as: a resume, newspaper clipping, or letters from yourself and others attesting to the nominee's qualifications for the award.

Questions? Call the Alumni Office at 440.845.2444, ext. 106.

Time Flies: *Preparing for Padua's Golden Anniversary*

For many of Padua's alumni, it may seem like just yesterday that the school opened its doors. Yet a quick check of the calendar will reveal the rapid passage of time. In fact, 2011 will mark 50 years since the first freshman boys made their way through the halls, blazing a trail for other young men — and eventually young women — to follow.

Padua's golden anniversary celebration, which will commemorate the school's opening with a year-long series of events and activities, will be here before you know it. So start your walk down memory lane today by getting down in that basement, up in that attic, out

to that garage, or into that spare closet. We are looking for each of you to help us expand Padua's archives and prepare an exhibit to span the school's rich and unique history — from the first ground breaking ceremony until today. A portion of the exhibit will be electronic, so look for a future announcement about how to upload your photos and share your Bruin memories. Another portion of the exhibit will display memorabilia, including letterman jackets, student identification cards, old photographs, or news clippings, just to name a few.

If you have any physical (non-electronic) items that you wish to

donate to the school's archives for possible inclusion in the anniversary exhibit, please drop them off at the General Office or mail them to the school in care of Laurie Grabowski, Padua Golden Anniversary, 6740 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134 (include your name, class year, and contact information). Please note that all donated items will become the property of Padua and will not be returned to you. If you have any questions about Padua's future plans to celebrate its golden anniversary, please contact Laurie at 440.845.2444, ext. 171, or lgrabowski@paduafranciscan.com. (P.S. No need to send yearbooks — we have those!)





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You Know You're Turning 50 When... AARP Recognizes Padua's "Seniority"

Recently the school received a mailing addressed to "Padua F. High," containing membership application materials from AARP, signifying that the addressee was about to turn the respectable age of 50. How right they were! Padua Franciscan High

School will celebrate 50 years in 2011. We are just wondering if the enclosed card means that the entire faculty and staff now qualifies for age-appropriate discounts at restaurants, hotels, and stores. No problem, because we put Mr. A. Arp on our mailing list.

The Russian Connection:

by Pat Mulcrone '66

I love world travel and new cultural experiences. My destinations of choice have often been questioned in the past. This time my puzzled family and friends asked, "Why Siberia?" I didn't speak a word of Russian, and my professional career was primarily in the finance/banking services industry. I had only done part-time teaching of math, computer science, and finance at the university level. However, this past summer I made the decision to sign on to a volunteer opportunity offered in The Paduan magazine by retired Padua teacher Paul Lorz. It ultimately brought me to Russia to work with Siberian students who wanted to "practice their English skills" in a summer camp structure. The decision I made to go provided lasting memories, new friends, and valuable

personal growth. The American director of the Mini-American Summer School, as it is called, is a former Padua teacher, Kevin McQuade. Along with his Russian counterpart, he enhanced the teaching experience by arranging additional Siberian touring and cultural interactions.

In the classroom, I found that my lack of Russian language was not the inhibiting factor I had feared. The students (I chose to work with 11-17 year olds) were strongly motivated and fun to work with. My chosen foundation topic in the structured lessons was "world travel" built around five lesson plans taught over the course of two weeks. The Russian teachers who were on hand to support the American team of teachers from across the U.S. were wonderful... their outstand-



Pat Mulcrone '66 with some of his Siberian students. Note the popular American clothing.

ing hospitality, curiosity, friendliness, and willingness to let us peer into their family lives added a rich dimension.

I now have a much better feel for a unique part of the world I didn't know before, and definitely will miss the wonderful teachers and students I met there... the ultimate sign of a truly rewarding travel experience.

Editor's note: For more information on the Mini-American Summer School, contact Kevin McQuade, mcquade-kevin@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

Dennis Ballinger, father of **Jim '77**
William Behlke, father of **Tom '74** and **William '79**
Ruth Boss, mother of **Dale '66** and **Jim '68**
Jerome Ciekanski '65, August 27, 2008
Peter Danish, father of **Mark '77**
Eugene Dighero, father of **Jeff '78**, **James '82**, **Andrew '85**, and **Judy '88**; grandfather of **Colleen '05**, **Gina '07**, and **Alexandra Dighero '12** and **Katie Craine '03**
Melvin Falle, father of **Dan '76** and **Patricia '86**
Joseph Gruhn '75, August 13, 2009, brother of **Robert '66** (RIP) and **Erich '77**, uncle of **Matthew '05**, **Alyssa '08**, and **Leanna '10**
Mary Ann Hlavaty, mother of **Anthony '81** and **Michael '82**
Robin Holzheimer, wife of **Michael '95**
Kenneth Huml '73, October 1, 2009
Sandra Kandzer, mother of **Tim '81**, **Jeff '84**, and **John '86**
Jeffrey Kay '72, October 18, 2009, father of **Alexandra '13**, brother-in-law of **Scott Zajac '83**
22 Jessica Knapik, mother of **Chuck '88**

Diane Krupa, wife of **Alan '74**, mother of **Ben '01** and **Greg '02**
Julianne Martinek, mother of **Frank '73**, grandmother of **Frank '10**, **Nick '11**, and **David '13**
Betty Messina, mother of **James '79** and **Patrick '84**
Michael Neelon, father of **Michael '70**, **Peter '73**, **Thomas '74**, **James '76** and **John '77**
Martin Noton, father of **Marty '90**, **Marla '92** and **Mellise '93**
Donna Oleksiak, mother of **Daniel '87**
Gilda Pace, mother of **Maria '89**
Lloyd Pease, father of **Joshua '08**
Carol Pecek, mother of **James '88** and **Bryan '92**, grandmother of **Roger '01** and **Shane Gibson '05**
Margaret Smolen, mother of **Ronald '88** and **Michael '91**
Joseph Solarz, father of **Matt '02** and **Joe '04**, brother-in-law of **Fred '74** and **Chuck Ripepi '75**
Vivian Sopko, mother of **Jeff '66**, **James '68**, **Richard '71**, and **Donald '75**, grand-

mother of **Jonathan '02**
Charles Vedrody, father of **John '67**, grandfather of **Chris '95**, **Sheila '98**, and **Bryan '05**
Eileen Verba, wife of Ray (RIP), former Padua faculty member and coach
George Wolfe, father of **Kevin '84**
Elizabeth Wright, mother of **William '95** and **Laura '00**
George Zamborsky, brother of **Steve '69**, cousin of **Dan '74**, **James '79**, **Dan '00**, **Lynn '02**, and **Kaitlyn '05**
Leonard Zangardi '74, August 12, 2009

Richard DiGeronimo, who served nine consecutive years (1991-2000) as member of the Board of Regents and later the Board of Trustees of Padua Franciscan, died suddenly September 30. Rich will be best remembered for his supervision of the Greening of Padua project, culminating in the construction of Padua Stadium in September of 2000.



1966

Jeff Sopko and chef Brian Okin have opened VERVE, a trendy new Cleveland restaurant on Carnegie Avenue in Cleveland. The food has received praise and enthusiastic recommendations, including from the Plain Dealer.

1970

Greg Szklarz married **Mary Polz Williams '87** on July 3. They were joined in the celebration by their combined nine children, which included Padua grads **Stephen '06**, **Peter '07**, and **Robert '09 Szklarz**.



1988

Bob Lehman has joined the Bank of Albuquerque as president. He has spent his career in commercial banking, capital markets, and specialty finance in the healthcare sector, including American Indian finance, and has a master's degree in business administration from Case Western Reserve University.

1989

Anna Kolodziej-Endecott and her husband Chris live in Rochester, New York, with their three children – Julia (5), Bryce (3) and newest arrival Logan (3 months). Anna has completed her MBA at Ohio State and works at Carestream Health in the Logistics organization.



On August 1, **Maria Pace** married Kevin Smith. They currently reside in Denver, Colorado.

1990

BIRTHS: Isabella born to **Shawna Froelich-Serna** and her husband George on December 23.

1993

On May 17, **Rosemarie Bialecki** graduated from New York College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is doing her family practice residency at Virtua Hospital in Voorhees, New Jersey.

1994

Since 2004, **Kathleen Tomazin Cockrell** had been working in Cleveland radio as air personality Kat Jackson. In April 2009, she began working at Washington DC's 98.7 WMZQ and Maryland's 93.1 WPOC. She can also be heard in Connecticut on 92.5 WWYZ.

1995

On September 16, **Michael Holzheimer** achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer for the United States Navy. He currently serves as a nuclear engineer on the USS Newport News, a fast attack nuclear submarine out of Norfolk, Virginia.

1997

BIRTHS: Annabelle Grace born to **Tracy Tabaczynski-Shuman** and her husband **Andy '95** on September 22.

Madison Marie born to **Jennifer Bill-Stawicki** and her husband Ralph on June 9.

Marisa Pocci married Patrick Carney on September 19. Padua alums in attendance included **Danielle Olivieri**, **Monica Weber**, **Tim Deatherage**, **Michael Pocci '00**, and **Jennifer Noggle '01**. Marisa and her husband currently reside in Las Vegas where Marisa has been employed as an attorney with the law firm of Cooksey, Toolen, Gage, Duffy and Woog since 2006.

2000

Matthew Donovan was married on October 31 in Wintergreen, Virginia, to Linda Ann Brown of Manchester, New Hampshire. He works for Phoenix Contact in Ann Arbor, and they recently purchased a home in Brighton, Michigan.

2001

Working on her master's degree in curriculum/instruction at Ashland University, **Michelle Druso-Kousa** was accepted to present two sessions at this year's Ohio State Middle School conference. She teaches 6th grade and coaches volleyball at Independence Middle School.

Roger Gibson is currently playing arena football for the Erie River Rats in Erie, PA.

Dino DeGirolamo and **Rachel Teron '02** were recently married.

2002

On September 8, 2007, **Bridget Donovan** married Nicholas R. Sir Louis. They currently reside in Medina.

In May, **Sara Hartong** married Christopher Radak. She received her B.A. in theatre and communications from Capital University and is employed at Near West Theatre.

On November 7, **Joelle Holzheimer** married Kyle Hutcheson in Columbus, Ohio, with **Brittany Buffington-Yanke** serving as an attendant. The newlyweds will reside in Kingsport, Tennessee, after honeymooning in Florida.

A graduate of the University of Toledo, **Brian Becka** has joined the Royalton Financial Group whose vice president is **Jim Gaydosh '78**. Brian is employed as an insurance and financial advisor.

2003

During this past summer, **Ulyana Horodyskyj**, a Ph.D. candidate at Brown University, was selected by National Geographic to mentor a team of high school students as they studied the climate and geology of Iceland. She returned to this island as co-leader of the National Geographic Expeditions team, sharing her experiences and knowledge of this country.

2004

On September 5, **Michael Sroda** married Justina Minnillo.

Jessica Wightman has recently been named Padua's head swim coach.

2005

In December 2008, **Amanda Tweddell** graduated from Mount Union College with a bachelor of arts degree. On May 16, she married **Michael Leonard '03**.



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Stand Out! Be a Bruin

No one has called Padua Franciscan home longer than Bruno, the school's faithful and enduring mascot. Believing that people would enjoy knowing more about the life of Bruno, a series of bearily-educational films are being developed.

These whimsical shorts are part of Padua's new social marketing campaign designed to show how this Bruin stands out in a crowd — not unlike our own students. Be sure to look for Padua and the life of Bruno on sites like Facebook, YouTube and PaduaFranciscan.com!

Our cameras recently followed the lovable, if not over-bearing, Bruno around campus during a typical school day. If you would like to catch a glimpse of this bear's eating habits (and large appetite) go to www.Padua2.com/bruinlunch.

Cast of Characters:

Bruno – **David Stec '86**

Girl at table – **Joy Gross '10**

Boy at table – **Jose Vega '10**

Boy #1 in line – **Matt Logan '11**

Girl #1 in line – **Katie Hill '12**

Girl #2 in line – **Carrie Rowan '11**

Boy #2 in line – **Colton Giordano '11**

