

Athletic Hall of Fame to honor Steve Pekarick '63 & the 1958 Football Team December 12

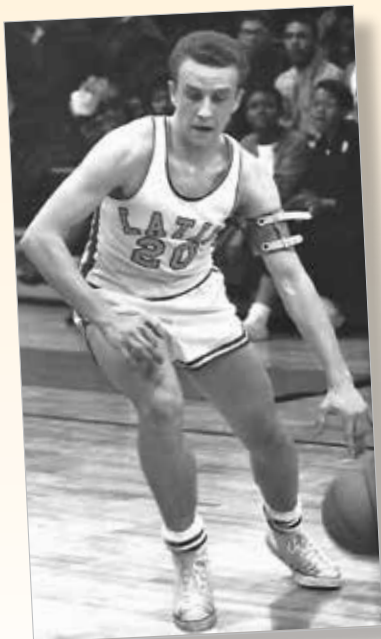
The 59th Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Induction ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, December 12 at Notre Dame-Cathedral Latin School, 13000 Auburn Road in Munson Township. The event will begin at 4:00 pm with social hour and light food followed by the induction program in the O'Brien Center from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. We will transition to the gym and recognize the inductees around 7:00 pm. Guests are free to stay for the varsity boys game.

This year's inductees are Steve Pekarick, Class of 1963, and the 1958 Football Team. Other inductees include George Arnold '30 and Al Widmar '43 (both deceased). These two alums were honored in 1953, but not formally inducted.

Capacity will be limited this year to 100 guests due to Covid-19 restrictions. Once the inductees and guests have been confirmed, we will open registration to alumni and additional guests. For more information, please contact Keven Krajnak '98 at 440-279-1068.

Congratulations to all the honorees!

Steve Pekarick '63



As a senior playing basketball in the East Senate, which was the strongest league in the state, Steve helped lead Latin, along with Hall of Famer and classmate Terry McGuire, to a second-place finish.

Steve was the true definition of a team player and displayed his prowess on the court as a sharp shooting forward.

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1958 Cathedral Latin Lions Football Team



The 1950s were truly an amazing time for Cathedral Latin Football. The 1958 football team stood out for their unparalleled accomplishments and went undefeated with a 10-0-1 record.

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A Challenging Year



As you all are aware, Covid-19 has made this a difficult year for many organizations. Our alumni association is no exception. We lost some key alumni to the virus including Terry Stricker '69. We had to cancel our annual Communion Breakfast, the associated Man of the Year Awards ceremony and the annual June alumni meeting. Also, many reunions/luncheons were cancelled. The June 26 golf outing was postponed to September 11 with new guidelines, but we still managed to raise over \$9,000!

The Athletic Hall of Fame will be Saturday, December 12 at NDCL from 4 to 7:00 pm. The event will be synced up with a

unique basketball doubleheader. Please note that capacity will be limited this year. More information will be provided from NDCL at a later date. Inductees are Steve Pekarcik '63 and the 1958 Football Team. Also honored will be George Arnold '30 and Al Widmar '43. Congratulations to all the inductees!

We continued to support NDCL by contributing to their annual fund and sponsoring the Mane Event and Golf Classic.

Our dues to date total \$49,024 from 917 alums and the Brother Nurthen Endowed Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$227,429 thanks to your generous donations. Please know your support is greatly appreciated and keeps our alumni association going strong.

I did want to let you know that in our Spring 2020 *Alumnotes* issue, we included a story on a very generous donation made to NDCL by Gene and Barbara Trela. The story, titled **"Eugene '54 & Barbara Trela Make Gift to NDCL,"** included a statement which read:

"Gene hopes that his gift inspires other alums to make a donation to the Brother Frank Endowed Scholarship so future students may attain a quality Catholic education as he and others did."

The statement shown above is not correct. Gene Trela never made this statement nor did he ever express this hope to anyone.

Please note that the Trela Endowed Scholarship will provide financial aid to **any** students of modest means to enable them to attend NDCL and benefit from the fine Catholic education available there. We sincerely apologize to all alumni and especially to Gene and Barbara Trela for the incorrect report on their generous gift.

Finally, I want to congratulate Sue Wise on serving our alumni association for 20 years! Without Sue there would be no alumni association. She continues to give 100% to the Men of Latin. I thank her for all she does to keep us updated with our fellow classmates and to keep our annual alumni events running smoothly.

We will keep you up to date on future events and hope all of you are staying safe and coping as best you can during this pandemic. Please know that you are in our daily thoughts and prayers.

Opere et Veritate

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Nista". The script is fluid and cursive.

Joe Nista '64, President



Celebrating Service to the Church

This spring, over 100 priests, deacons, religious brothers and sisters throughout the Cleveland Catholic Diocese were recognized for their significant anniversary of their ordinations and years of serving the church.

PRIESTS

70 Years – Ordained April 29, 1950:

Fr. John F. Anderson '43*
Fr. George L. Budimlic '44*
Fr. John C. Clines '42*
Fr. Robert W. Donohue '43*
Fr. Robert J. Jenkins '42*
Fr. William J. Johnson '43*
Fr. Francis A. Karwoski '43*
Fr. James P. Kenney, S.J. '44*
Fr. John T. McDonough '42*
Bishop A. Edward Pevec '43*
Msgr. Robert C. Wolff '43

60 Years – Ordained May 28, 1960:

Fr. Thomas A. Flynn '50*
Fr. Raymond T. Hobart '52*

25 Years – Ordained June 10, 1995:

Bishop Neal J. Buckon '71

DEACONS

40 Years – Ordained May 31, 1980

Deacon Carl M. Varga '54

30 Years – Ordained May 19, 1990

Deacon John P. Sferry '63

25 Years – Ordained May 20, 1995

Deacon John T. Wenzel '65

**Indicates jubilarian is deceased.*

Dues – Not Too Late to Pay



You have until December 31 to make a donation to the alumni association. While there is no set dollar amount, the Board of Trustees recommends a gift of \$50. A gift of any value is always appreciated – and it's *tax deductible*. If you are unsure if you paid for this year, please contact Sue Wise at 216-691-9999.

You can pay online by credit card (www.clatin.org) or mail a check made payable to **Cathedral Latin Alumni**, 5247 Wilson Mills Road #175, Richmond Heights, OH 44143.

Thanks to your loyal support our alumni association has been up and running since 1950.

Corrections to 2020 Spring Alumnotes

- In the article entitled “Latin for Sale,” we spelled Joe’s name incorrectly. It should be Joe Buerger, Class of 1949. Sorry for the error Joe.
- Fred T. Bittner, Class of 1961, was omitted from the 2019 Honor Roll listing. We apologize for this error and thank him for his continued support.



Mike Dwyer '33 (dec'd), Sue Wise & Joe Boylan '34 (dec'd) at Golden Alumni event in 2000.

Thank You for Twenty Years

Over the years, Men of Latin have made their marks in society in so many ways. Whether on the field or in the boardrooms, Men of Latin have always strived to be leaders and mentors. Our successes are often grounded in our Marianist education, living the school motto “opere et veritate” and, for a great deal of us, having a good woman behind us. Sue Wise is one of those good women.

Sue joined the Latin family twenty years ago in June 2020. As if raising two young boys at St. Gregory the Great School and wrestling with Terry Wise '77 was not challenging enough, Sue foolishly agreed to work for Leo Hyland '77 as a part-time administrative assistant for the alumni association. It was flexible hours and the Alumni office was located right across from the school, she just needed to get over that her time would be spent in the basement of the building.

And what a basement, Sue could barely see the floor through the clutter. Like a bad episode of “Hoarders,” the basement was filled with boxes spread out all over every inch of the place. That did not deter Sue; through endless hours of determination, she managed to go through each and every box, organize the chaos and place the items in plastic bins. An archive was born.

Working in the basement of the building was not exactly the perfect office space, but Sue made it work. Now, Sue was anxious to employ technology to the job as well. She was given an old used computer with an outdated database that held over 6,700 alumni's contact information. Sue convinced leadership that a wooden table and a computer that ran on a hamster wheel would not suffice for an office.

Within a year, the alumni association purchased a new computer, printer/fax/scanner and a desk. She set up an email address for the association and, along with an updated database software, began updating the archaic records. Sue went through each yearbook and checked to make sure each alumni name was listed for their particular class to ensure that she had a complete list of alumni. It was tedious, time consuming and thankless, but necessary to make sure names were not missing from the class lists.

We cherish the royal purple and old gold that are our Latin colors, our mascot “Tuffy” and the pride of the Lions, but we did not have a school to go back to purchase merchandise. Back then, it was purchased and shipped out of the office, yet another tedious and thankless task. Sue would place alumni orders, receive them, pack it up and then stand in line at the post office to get the item shipped to the waiting alumni without any recognition.

Twenty years have gone by and a lot has changed for Sue. She has been freed from the basement and now manages the alumni affairs from her home. Although her office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am until 1:30 pm, you can usually reach her 24/7 and she will never turn down a request for a favor. There is now an online store for the merchandise on the alumni website (www.clatin.org). The archives have been

transitioned to NDCL and Sue maintains a Facebook page to keep alums updated with current events and old stories. If you have not checked out any of these items, you surely should.

In a sea of change, there has been one constant for the Latin alumni.....Sue Wise. She still gives all her time to help with the production of the Alumnotes, runs the annual Golf Outing and Communion Breakfast and helps with reunions. More importantly, she gives her time to help any alumni or caller who needs assistance. She is our rock, the glue that keeps us together. In a lot of ways, there would be no alumni association without her endless dedication and timeless hours spent in furtherance of Latin alumni. We want to thank Sue for her endless hours of time and effort to keep our alumni association alive.



Sue and Terry '77 Wise at annual golf outing.

Chilly Start to Golf Outing

Due to the Covid-19 virus, the June 26 golf outing was rescheduled for September 11. Eighty-seven golfers (maximum capacity) arrived on a chilly Friday morning at Grantwood Golf Course in Solon, Ohio. Everyone was eager to get out and play golf. Each golfer was given a Tuffy purple/gold golf towel. Greg Stricker '77 had gold Latin coozies made for everyone honoring his brother Terry '69 who passed away in May.

The Winking Lizard served up delicious hamburgers and sausage sandwiches at the turn. With the new guidelines in place, the BBQ chicken and rib dinner was served in the outdoor pavilion for social distancing. The Winking Lizard has been serving our outings for close to 20 years.

Our 50/50 raffle was done online and we collected over \$5,200 – the most in any year! Neil McMahon '67 was the sole winner of the raffle. Thank you to everyone who bought a chance to win. Since the raffle brought in so much money, next year we decided to sell tickets the same way but have multiple winners.

Congratulations to the winning team – Frank Cardinale '64, Naran Depen, Bob Monitello and Ed Salem! They took home first place by shooting 8 under par with a score of 63. They each received a plaque from Minotas Trophies and a dozen golf balls.



The golf outing event is our only fundraiser for our alumni association. Although we couldn't have the usual 144 golfers, we still managed to raise over \$9,000! This couldn't have happened without the support of our hole sponsors – especially Mike D'Amato '79, owner of Nissan of North Olmsted, who each year sponsors a sign on every hole – "Are you Kiddin' Me!" We greatly appreciated every donation. The monies raised keep our alumni association going strong.

Next year's outing is scheduled for Friday, June 25, 2021. We hope to see you there!





Steve Pekarcik '63

(cont'd from page 1)

Nicknamed “the one arm wonder” due to a total dislocation of the left shoulder prior to his senior season, Steve had to wear a special brace in order to play. The brace prevented Steve from lifting his left arm to just below the shoulder. Despite this setback, Steve played with an aggressive passion and determination that led him to being the second leading scorer and rebounder on the team and post-season awards.

At six foot, Steve possessed exceptional leaping ability and was able to dunk the basketball over much taller opponents. He was considered to have the deadliest corner shot in the city.

After graduating Steve went to Purdue University to study chemical engineering and was a walk on for basketball but had to cease his participation due to the dislocated shoulder.

Steve’s athletic awards and accomplishments were: co-captain, two year starter, All East Senate, All Scholastic honorable mention, and second leading scorer and rebounder.

Besides Steve’s athletic ability, he was heavily involved in a variety of other school activities. He was Sports Editor of the *Latineer* and Football Editor of the *Purple and Gold*. He was awarded 1st place in the Diocesan Scholastic Press Association Sports Writing Division in 1961. In addition, he served on Student Council, Home Room Officer, National Honor Society, and Rally Committee.

On graduation, Steve was selected by the Alumni Association to receive the Student Award as the outstanding senior for the Class of 1963.

Steve taught biology at Cathedral Latin for two years before embarking on a highly successful forty-year career in chemical and plastic sales/marketing and retired as a Corporate Account Manager for BASF Industrial Petrochemicals specializing in plasticizers after 32 years of service.

Steve currently lives in Strongsville, Ohio with Linda, his wife of 51 years, and has three children, Steve, Eric, and Amanda. Both sons played basketball in high school and college.

1958 Cathedral Latin Lions Football Team

(cont'd from page 1)

The crown of city champions came home to Latin as the Lions smashed six straight East Senate opponents then edged out St. Ignatius with a score of 12-6 at Cleveland Municipal Stadium on Thanksgiving Day for the title. The team was ranked 5th in the state in the AP poll, and 3rd in the UPI voting. In the Lichtenhouse Poll, an early computer-like poll, the Lions were listed as being second in the state.

Several of the team’s star players have already been inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, including Leo Caito '59, Carl Pikus '59, Norb Rascher '59, Mike Wasdovich '59, Rich Wervey '59, Jim Barrett '60 and Ray Paglio '60. However, we all know that success like this is not accomplished without a total team effort.

A major factor in the success of the football team was the coaching staff. Head coach Fred George and assistant coach Robert Kilfoyle spent hours drilling the team throughout its numerous formations every day.

Congratulations to the members of the 1958 football team!



Al Widmar, Class of 1943

With an opportunity to pitch major league baseball, Al played minor league baseball while still at Latin. Known as “Big Al,” he also played basketball. He later became a pitcher for the St. Louis Browns and the Chicago White Sox.



George Arnold, Class of 1930

George participated in track while at Latin and excelled in the 440-yard run. In his senior year, Arnold won the Class B 440-yard honors at the Public Hall in the C.A.C. meet. He was a runner who thought training played the most important part in the making of a good track team and never once missed training. He was quoted as saying, “Give all you’ve got and you’re bound to win.”



The Cathedral Latin “cinder artists” were considered to be one of best track teams in the city. In 1936, while running for the Melrose A.C. of New York, George took first place in the 400 meter Olympic trial.

Football Champion of Champions

It was noted by one of our former football players, Bob Czajkowski '61, that the 1960 football team was omitted on the “Lion Football Champion of Champions” flyer. We want to thank Bob for pointing out this error and plan to add “**1960 East Senate Football Co-Champions**” to that list in the near future.

ALUMNOTABLES

1960

Nick Sarconi retired this year after 60 years of cutting hair and 50 plus years selling real estate. We wish much happiness to Nick in his retirement.

1971



Bishop Neal Buckon traveled to Mount Whitney on July 11 in honor of St. Benedict and the Benedictines. It is situated in the last wilderness in the lower 48: the Sierra Nevada. The hike was 22 miles round trip. Bishop Neal started at 3:00 am and finished at 10:00 pm. What an accomplishment!

1979

Chip Tighe was inducted into the LEBOA (Lake Erie Basketball Officials Association) Hall of Fame. The event was held March 3 at Harry’s Steakhouse in Independence, Ohio. Chip has been officiating high school boys basketball for 31 years with three trips to the OHSAA State Championships. Congrats to Chip!



CLASS GATHERING



1970

The Class of 1970 celebrated their 50th class reunion with golf at Seneca Golf Course in Broadview Heights, Ohio.

*1st row: Jim Columbro, Ken Cuglewski, Joe Blaszak, Nick Spuzzillo, Harold DeStefanis & Ray Andrews;
2nd row: Mike Collins, Bill Stauffer, Phil Kasunik, Jim Doyle, Tom Leksan, Larry Schmidt, John Deutsch, Rick Orzokowski & Joe Pierce*

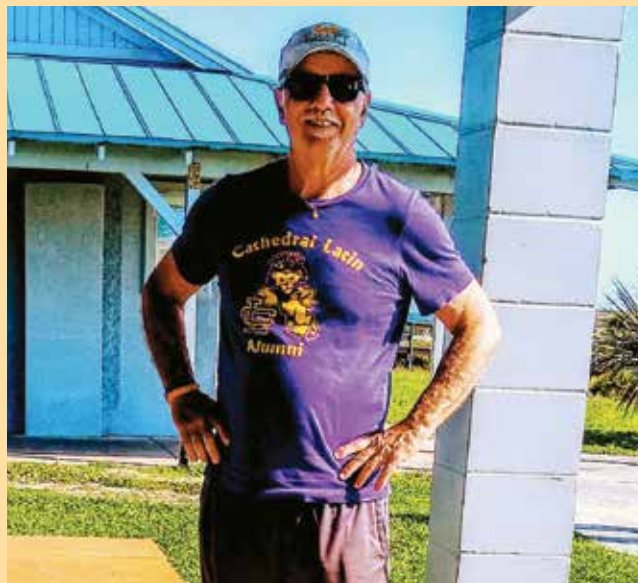


Communion Breakfast

Next year's communion breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, April 25, 2021 @ the Crowne Plaza on Playhouse Square. This date is tentative pending possible restrictions due to Covid-19. As you know, we will be honoring Tom Ashdown '62 and Dr. John Bastulli '72. We will keep you updated as more information is received and we get closer to the event.

Where In Life Do You Roam??

Frank Aquino, Class of 1966, took the Lion challenge and submitted the picture below. He is proudly wearing his purple and gold Tuffy t-shirt in Peters Point, Amelia Island, Florida.



Don't forget to show us your Latin spirit by displaying or wearing purple and gold. We will post the pictures on our Facebook page and future newsletters.

In Memoriam

Our thoughts and prayers are extended
to families who have lost loved ones.



Pasquale DeFranco '40
Dr. Joseph Stolla '40
Rev. Norbert Burns, S.M. '42
Loughlin Kelly '43
John Dickard '44
Matthew Dolenc '44
Raymond Rakar '44
Hon. Judge John Curran '45
John Kellackey '45
Edward Wojciak '45
William Jakubs '46
Sam Joy, M.D. '46
Edward Soloski '46
John Synk '46
Thomas Christy, Sr. '47
John Larish '47
Dr. Thomas Lautermilch '47
Francis Mangione '47
Charles Porter, Jr. '47
Albert Pullar '47
Eugene Skerl '47
Harold Therens '47
Joseph Bachraty '48
Frank D'Agostino '48
Rev. Arthur Egan '48
Albert Habinak '48
Rev. James Kunes, S.M. '48
Donald Lesiak '48
Jerome Shaveyco '48
George Stybel, D.D.S. '48
Joseph Vishey, D.D.S. '48
Joseph Wegas '48
Alfonso Fisco '49

Robert Hinds, Jr. '49
Michael Minadeo, Jr. '49
Robert Brice '50
Donald Brunnett '50
Paul Farley '50
Edmund Krieger '50
Arthur Kundmueller '50
Donald Lowe '50
William Pevec '50
Louis Best '51
Paul Winslow, Jr. '51
Dennis Grapo '53
Thomas Shima '53
Robert Mandato '54
Deacon Dennis Bryant '55
Bro. Lawrence Cada, S.M. '55
Lee Ganim '55
Richard Krebs '55
Thomas Divis '56
James Monroe '56
Matthew Selvaggio '56
William Holmes '58
David Tagliaferri '58
Paul Kelly '59
James Oswald '59
Frank Perrotti '59
Salvatore Sberna '59
Gerald Ferraro '60
Lawrence Kassouf '60
Thomas Murphy '60
Edward Licht '61
Thomas Fahey '62
James Dolezal '63

Dr. Robert Van Bergen '63
Jack Albanese '64
Gregory Bartram '64
Dr. John DiStefano, Jr. '64
Paul Sturn '64
Michael Dempsey '65
Thomas Grenwis, Jr. '65
Michael McGee '65
William Boll '66
LeRoy Wright, Jr. '66
Robert Walick '67
James Farrell '68
James Brown '69
Santiago Feliciano, Jr. '69
Michael Heile '69
Timothy Malone '69
John "Terry" Stricker '69
David Murzin '70
Richard Sacha '70
Dennis Tarnay '70
James Schnupp '71
Daniel Kincaid '72
Gilbert Ryan '73
Edward Zmina '73
Rick Gromek '74
Mark Hammonds '75
Daniel Rodeno '75
Mark Angelotta '76

FACULTY, FAMILY & FRIENDS

Eddie D'Amato



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