Lasallian Awards were presented

On September 21<sup>st</sup> Bernie and Jan Wagnild were presented the Lasallian Award at Benilde-St. Margaret's during Lasallian Day Twin Cities. Brother Larry Schatz presented the award in honor of their decades of service and generosity to the Christian Brothers of the Midwest. While accepting the award, Bernie shared with event guests how he came to learn about the Christian Brothers and his journey to becoming Lasallian. On September 22<sup>nd</sup> Betty Kabara was presented the Lasallian Award at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota during Lasallian Day Winona. Brother Larry Schatz presented the award in honor of her extraordinary service and generosity to the Christian Brothers of the Midwest. As Betty accepted the award, she remembered her late husband Jon and how the Brothers have touched her heart.

Religious Brothers Day and Symposium set in 2017

The CMSM Brothers’ Think Tank has announced the inaugural Religious Brothers Day will be held on May 1, 2017 at the University of Notre Dame. Following the publication of the Vatican document, “Identity and mission of the Religious Brother in the Church,” the Think Tank committee was formed to plan a celebration which will include prayer services and tributes to jubilarian Brothers from lay and mixed communities and institutes of apostolic life. Details about the Religious Brothers Day celebration as well as the Brothers Symposium on Saturday, March 25, 2017 to be held at the University of Notre Dame will be posted on the web - [http://www.yearforconsecratedlife.com/](http://www.yearforconsecratedlife.com/). Brother Chris Patiño (SFNO) is the Christian Brother representative on the Religious Brothers Day Committee.

La Salle Cincinnati hosted ten Danish Students

La Salle High School in Cincinnati welcomed ten exchange students from Denmark. They were hosted by La Salle students and faculty members from Oct. 10 – 21. The exchange students attend Hasseris Gymnasium H.S. in Aalborg, a city in northern Denmark. During their visit they attended classes with their host student and experienced Lasallian, American and Cincinnati culture. They encountered a variety of American teen-age activities including sporting practices, music and band, and Skyline Chili. This is the fifth year La Salle has hosted Danish students through the exchange program.

Happy Thanksgiving!
SMUMN hosted the fifth annual symposium

More than one hundred professors, administrators, researchers and students from throughout the world gathered at SMUMN for the fifth annual International Symposium on Lasallian Research on September 25–27. Hosted by Saint Mary’s, its Institute for Lasallian Studies, and co-sponsored by Christian Brothers Conference, the event promotes research by Lasallians that has the human person at its core and society’s poor as its focus. The symposium featured three keynote presentations, including Saint Mary’s Dean of Sciences and Health Professions Todd Reinhart, Sc.D., who discussed his fifteen years of research on HIV/AIDS and the Lasallian concern for people who don’t have access to resources to combat the disease. Dr. Melchor Victor G. Frias, vice chancellor for research at the De La Salle Health Sciences Institute, presented on the challenges and concerns of conducting a Phase 1 clinical trial on a new drug for Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) among children. Judy A. Van Wyk, Ph.D. (Department of Sociology & Anthropology at the University of Rhode Island) and Camela Steinke, Ph.D. (program assessment and effectiveness research specialist at Lasalle School in New York) discussed Lasallian and trauma-informed care in Lasallian youth and family ministries. The participants also explored current issues in the areas of educational innovation, environment and sustainability, health and nutrition, and Lasallian studies through several expert-mediated breakout sessions. Topics included opportunities for vulnerable students to achieve higher education, solar power and changing weather trends, lung cancer detection, and the Lasallian pedagogical journey.

New Director appointed

Recently Brother Larry Schatz appointed Brother Dale Mooney as the Director of the Holy Family Mission Community in Browning, MT, for a three year term. Congratulations, Brother!

Rest in Peace

Brother Michael Schain, 73, died on September 29th at Catholic Eldercare in Minneapolis, MN. A De La Salle Christian Brothers for 52 years, he was born Michael James Schain in Winona, MN, son of James T. and Pauline (Deckert) Schain. He graduated from Winona H.S. and entered the novitiate of the Brothers in 1964. He professed his first vows the next year and his perpetual vows in 1972. Brother Michael earned a BA degree from Saint Mary’s University in Winona and an MPS degree from Loyola University Chicago. During his years as a Christian Brother he taught in Manitowoc and Stevens Point, WI, and in St. Paul, MN. He also served in Ethiopia from 1976 to 1983, and from 1992 to 1999 he was sub-director and director of the Brothers’ Postulancy and Scholastic programs in Rongai, Kenya, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. From 2002 to 2005 he was a program coordinator at Saint Mary’s University Twin Cities Campus, and since then he worked in the Media Center at Cretin-Derham Hall in St. Paul. Recently he lived at Catholic Eldercare in Minneapolis. Survivors include his sisters Susan Weiner of Minnetonka and Jamie Lindahl of Hastings and their families and the De La Salle Christian Brothers. His sister Kathy Schain Sands died in 2004. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on October 10th at Holy Spirit Church. Interment was at Resurrection Cemetery in Mendota Heights.

- Fr. Oliver J. Dufresne, 96, brother of the late Brother Camillus Dufresne, died on October 10th in St. Paul, MN. Survivors include his brother Gerard and his sister Marie Miller. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on October 21st at the Church of the Epiphany in Coon Rapids, MN.
- Paul J. Heymans, 89, father of James Heymans, Geriatric Social Worker Consultant in the Twin Cities, died on October 17th in St. Paul, MN. A Mass of Christian burial will be celebrated on November 4th at St. Joan of Arc Church in Minneapolis.
- William O’Malley, 80, brother of Brother Joseph, died on October 18th in Henderson, NV. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on October 24th at St. Mary Magdalene Church in Gilbert, AZ.
This is an excerpt of email from Brother Marty Sellner

The reason I did not come home this year was because I was offered a three week trip to China which I accepted. China was really a country that I had wanted to see, and I thought it would probably never happen as the years went on. So when this came along I immediately accepted it. It was a neat experience. So glad it took place. We went to eight or so places, also to Tibet, and a four-day river cruise through the Three Gorges Yangtze River and the big dam. Again quite an experience!

Here all is well. I had my annual physical in April, and all came out so very well. Regarding my 79th birthday in August, I had about six or so parties. We had quite an all day party at one school. I treated all the faculty and staff, about 350 of them, to pizza, ordered about 120 large pizzas. Actually the President’s office paid the bill. They in return treated me to an unbelievable lunch with about 12 or more entrees. So very good. The other school was much more subdued. Just a lunch out with the higher ups.

Still working on the science labs and getting equipment for them for the two schools, and also being the Lasallian Animator in both, going around greeting the kids, faculty and staff. Keeps me busy and happy. I always say I do nothing and stay happy and enjoying it all. Their comments are hard to believe, but appreciation of a Christian Brother in their midst is sort of out of this world. So the little I do means an enormous amount to so many. You should see the kids mobbing me no matter where I go from pre-kinder to the high school. Whenever I go to an event, I try and get there a half hour early. It takes that long for all the hugging and blessings to take place, and then the event can start on time. Quite an experience. My most recent experience was giving a talk to each of the nine senior classes at their retreat. One even gets mobbed there.

Life with the Brothers here is so rewarding. There are 27 in the house this year, 9 of them scholastics just out of the novitiate. We all come from eight different countries. I am the second oldest in the house, and there is little I can do; someone always is there to do things for me. This is my second year as sub-director of the community. The director is president of one of the colleges here, so whenever he is out, they all rely on me. So much spirit, so much of everything! Hope it continues for years to come. There are 14 novices this year from five or so countries, and eight postulants from the Philippines. The other countries keep their postulants there, and send them here for the novitiate and scholasticate. So great to see the young vocations!

Articles of Brother Jeff Gros are available

Through the effort of Alice Creason, Head of Library Technology and Technical Services at Lewis University, some of the published articles of Brother Jeffrey Gros have been scanned and digitized. “A Bibliography of Documents in the Brother Jeffrey Gros, FSC, Collection,” contains seventy-nine of his works published in various journals. Alice used Brother Jeff’s own bibliography and also searched for additional articles. The “Lasallian Collection” in the Lewis University Library contains some of the specific journals where the articles appeared and also some of his books. The digitized articles must be used in the library because of copyright restrictions.
Midwest District welcomed two new Contacts

Recently the Midwest District welcomed two new Contacts to the FSC Vocation program. Michael Thiele is a junior at Viterbo College in La Crosse, WI. He met the Brothers at Roncalli High School in Manitowoc, WI, and he graduated in 2014. He is a Religious Studies major with minors in Business Administration, Psychology and Philosophy. Michael is immersed in the campus ministry program at Viterbo and particularly offers his skills in music ministry. He can be contacted at goaliesinger123@gmail.com. Kevin Kuehl is a graduate student at Creighton University in Omaha, NE. He met the Brothers at CBHS in Memphis, TN, and he graduated in 2007. A Culture and Politics major, he graduated from Georgetown University in Washington, DC, in 2011. Currently he is working on his masters in ministry. Kevin is active in coordinating the Service Learning Program at Creighton as part of his studies. He can be contacted at kevintkuehl@gmail.com.

Welcome Michael and Kevin!

SFNO District will launch a new school

The Christian Brothers announced that an agreement has been reached between Most Rev. Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland, and Brother Donald Johanson, President, Lasallian Education Corporation, for the purpose of establishing and governing a Cristo Rey model high school in the Diocese of Oakland. The new school’s mission will focus solely on serving low-income families who do not have financial access to quality Catholic education. The Cristo Rey corporate work-study model provides students with professional work experiences which helps offset the cost of tuition. The Cristo Rey movement began in 1996 on the south side of Chicago in the Pilsen neighborhood. The De La Salle Christian Brothers were the first to replicate the model in 2001 in Portland, Oregon. Today there are over thirty-two Cristo Rey schools in the United States, including four in California. John Scudder, President Emeritus, Sacred Heart Cathedral Preparatory, San Francisco, has been named project manager.

New Brother Gerard Rummery DVD is now available

A new DVD is now available featuring Brother Gerard Rummery. In “Key Lasallian Themes” Brother Gerard discusses several Lasallian values. These themes include an overview of The Conduct of Christian Schools, relationships as the basis of Lasallian education, De La Salle’s teaching on prayer, and much more. Brother Gerard served two periods on the staff of the International Lasallian Center in Rome (CIL) and he was twice elected to the General Council of the De La Salle Christian Brothers (1986-1993 and 1993-2000). Since 2000, he has worked mainly with educators as a presenter for Lasallian Mission Education Services in Australia and as an adjunct professor at the Australian Catholic University. Those interested may order the DVD here - http://lasallianstore.com/order/cd/dvd/key-lasallian-themes-dvd/

Congratulations

Brother Robert Schieler has named Brother Carlos Gabriel Gómez Restrepo as Visitor of the Bogotá District. His term will start on November 21, 2016 and will last for four years. He spent a couple years living with the Brothers at Cretin-Derham Hall while studying English in the early 2000s. He was most recently president of De La Salle University in Colombia. Congratulations, Brother!

2019 Ad-Hoc Commission convened

The 2019 Ad-Hoc Commission was convened from 21 to 23 September 2016 at the Generalate in Rome, Italy. Brother Robert Schieler welcomed all the members of the commission who came from the different Lasallian regions and representative groups. This commission is tasked to carry out the objectives set in preparation for the Tercentenary of the eternal life of St. John Baptist de La Salle and the year of Lasallian Vocations in 2019. Brother Gustavo Ramirez serves as the Chair of the commission, while Chris Swain (RELAN) and Ria Greene (PARC) co-moderate the proceedings.
There is still time to register for Lasallian Day Tulsa

Lasallian Day Tulsa will be held on November 30th from 5:00pm – 7:00pm at Bishop Kelley High School in the Library. The theme of the event will be “Our Lasallian Journey: One Call, Many Voices.” Brother Kevin Fitzgerald, volunteer at Bishop Kelley High School, and Brother Dylan Perry, Religion Teacher at San Miguel School of Tulsa, will share their journeys. To register or for more information contact Samantha VenHuizen at 630-323-3725 or svenhuizen@cbmidwest.org.

The KabarA Challenge was a success

Last summer Betty Kabara and two anonymous donors challenged the alumni and friends of the Brothers to match their gifts in order to raise $130,000 for the Senior Brothers Fund. An outpouring of support followed. Many of the gifts were made in honor of a Brother, and many included notes to those Brothers. Excerpts from some of those notes can be found in the fall issue of the District Magazine, “Faith & Zeal,” which is available on the District website - http://www.cbmidwest.org. The deadline for the KabarA Challenge was October 9th. The Challenge was kept open until October 11th to allow last minute gifts to be accepted, and the final tally was $134,911.22. From all the Brothers to those who gave from their hearts, ‘Our deep and abiding thanks.”

Order Founders Series Christmas Cards now

The 2016 Founders Series Christmas Card is now available to order. This year’s design is printed on gold pearlized stock and features an iconic image of St. John Baptist de La Salle and one of his most recognizable quotations. Cards are sold in packs of ten for $15.00 and include ten mailing envelopes. For more information or to place an order, contact Samantha VenHuizen at 630-323-3725 or svenhuizen@cbmidwest.org.