
Franciscan Alumni Association

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[Www.franciscan-alumni.org](http://www.franciscan-alumni.org)

Winter 2011

2011 Franciscan Alumni Chapter Plan

By Paul Landers '76

For our 2011 Franciscan Alumni Reunion, we will be back home in Cincinnati and will hold our Saturday evening mass and activities on the grounds of the former St. Francis Seminary. Activities are planned for the evening of Thursday, June 23rd through Saturday June 25th.

We have been blessed to be able to maintain ongoing contact with the folks at Mercy Community at Winton Woods (the former seminary) and enjoy use of the grounds and facilities. We have regularly been holding our board meetings in the

old study hall. Even though the gym has been closed to local groups for the last couple of years, the Mercy Community has opened it for the use of our Association members.

Request to join the Facebook group "**Franciscan-Alumni.org**" to coordinate with other alumni or to let us know you plan to attend... or visit www.franciscan-alumni.org/reunions/2011-reunion to keep up to date with the schedule. A link to the Facebook page is on our website.

Local alumni have helped with grounds maintenance for years. Key to this effort is a relatively young member of the Mercy Community, Richard Eisele, whose team has worked effectively to clean up brush, maintain the landscaping, and plant ornamentals throughout the property. The spirit of Fr. Aubert, who developed beautiful gardens at the seminary during the 60's, 70's, and 80's, seems to continue to be working through Richard and the members of the Garden Club.

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Reflections on the 2010 Chapter in NM

By Rick Gardner '75

I like to tell people that being the president of the Franciscan Alumni Association is the best office to hold on the board of directors. I go on to joke that it's the best position to hold because you can delegate all of the real work to other people.

It is an honor to be the president of the

FAA, especially during the annual chapter reunion. As president, I've received many compliments and expressions of gratitude from reunion attendees. It is very satisfying to have people come up to me, shake my hand, and thank me for a great reunion weekend. Of course I've tried to graciously accept these thanks and then direct the credit to those who really deserved it.

Usually, there are many people who have worked to put together the reunion. All of them are volunteers. It starts with the reunion coordinator. This person's family is often involved as well. Then there are other reunion committee volunteers. These people

plan out the lodging accommodations, meals, activities, entertainment and venues. They enlist the aid and services of local friars and Franciscan alumni.

The FAA awards committee researches nominees for the two awards the FAA presents each year to deserving alumni. Other alumni volunteer to plan the liturgy and music. Still others help by reading, playing instruments and singing at the mass. The great speech, music and vocal talents cultivated many years ago at St. Francis Seminary shine during the mass. Participating in the Mass at the FAA chapter reunion is a special experience, not just because you are once again celebrating with your high school friends and brothers, but because the celebrant is a Franciscan priest who is a fellow alum-

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2011 Franciscan Alumni Chapter Plan

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Having tamed the front lake, Richard plans on spending effort this Spring and Summer on the Peace Garden (formerly know as 'the pool') and the grotto. Our reunion activities will include an opportunity to help in these efforts in a combination picnic/work day, which may be the best way to appreciate the grounds.

In a post on a Facebook group for the seminary, Andrew Finkenstadt ('80) wrote "One of my most precious memories is singing that final Ultima at the closing Mass in both Latin and English." Rather than lamenting that such a rich piece of our Franciscan spirit may be-

come lost, we would like enliven this beautiful prayer at our reunion this year: On Saturday afternoon, all are invited to the chapel to practice their parts and participate in a high quality recording of the Ultima, which will then be available to all on our website.

On Saturday evening, we will celebrate Mass with Fr. Murray Bodo. Mass will be followed by dinner, alumni awards, and a memorial service.

Our hotel accommodations and the Friday evening social will be at the same physical location as in 2009, but we'll have a little bit more breathing room. As if catching up with each other isn't

enough, there are plans underway to add a little more fun to the evening. The FAA rate for a non-smoking double room is \$59.99/night at the Cincinnati West Inn & Suites, 11967 Chase Plaza Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45240. This includes complementary breakfast, newspaper, wireless internet and indoor pool. Make your reservations via 513-825-9600 before June 1st.

Please reach out to fellow alumni to make sure they know about this event. Let us know that you plan to attend by emailing 2011Reunion@franciscan-alumni.org, or contact Paul Landers at 513-612-8039 (business phone).



Reflections on the 2010 Chapter in NM

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nus. The celebrant for the 2010 Chapter was author and inspirational speaker Fr. Richard Rohr, OFM. His interactive homily was enlightening and inspirational.

The award presenter was the Provincial of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, Fr. Gino Correa, OFM. He presented the FAA Christian Life Award to Patrick Halsmer and the Humanitarian Award to David Frank.

JD Moya's team, which included Ted Gomez and Raul Martinez, organized and planned a great reunion. Besides being the coordinator, booking the hotel and planning the events, he and his wife Gale hosted a tropical paradise themed wine and cheese party at their lovely home.

Darlene Sahd, an associate at JD's insurance business, registered attendees, answered phones, sent email, and provided a

great deal of behind-the-scenes support. She was also on hand with JD at the hotel to greet alumni and hand out reunion packets.

Deacon Pat Valdez and JD Moya led morning prayers at the hotel each day before breakfast. The morning prayers were well attended and reminiscent of the daily life of a seminarian.

Antonio and Lucinda Trujillo for hosted a wine tasting and tour of their estate, Guadalupe Vineyards in San Fidel, New Mexico. Antonio also conducted a tour of St. Joseph Mission School, for which he is a fundraiser and benefactor.

Fr. Larry Bernard conducted a personal and entertaining tour of the church at Laguna Pueblo. He also arranged a lunch of local cuisine in the parish hall.

Mike Thomas and Paul Landers served as lectors at mass. Mike Niklas, Matthew Jaramillo, and Ted and Pearl Gomez provided music for the liturgy.

During the meeting we thanked Fr. Gino and all of the resident friars for inviting us into their home. We had mass, dinner, the chapter meeting at the friary. While most of

us were inside, Fr. Gino and brothers Duane, George and Gordon were outside wiping down rain-dampened tables and chairs prior to dinner. The veranda overlooked an immense valley flanked by distant mountains—the view was spectacular.

Butch Feldhaus who prepared the program for the Chapter's closing "remembrance ceremony." Dennis Kirby and Ralph Hatke conducted the ceremony with reverence.

In closing, thank you to all our brothers who are out there in the world, doing great works and sharing the spirit of St. Francis. God bless you all!

Pax et bonum.



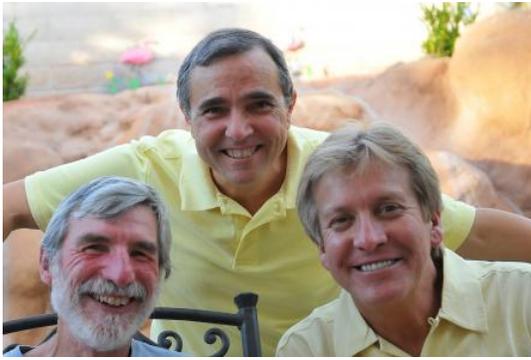
Fr. Richard



Fr. Gino presents...



2010 Reunion in Albuquerque, NM



Now, Drop Us a Line!

“Fostering communication among members of the association” is one of five points of the FAA mission...

You have our newsletter in hand. We are just completing an overhaul of our website at www.Franciscan-alumni.org. Our annual reunion provides face-to-face time between old friends and new.

Now, we want to hear from you. Where are you? What have you been

doing? Who would you like to catch up with? How can the FAA help you? Maybe you have an article for this space, or would like to join the board!

Email any of the board members through the website, or all of us to FAABoard@franciscan-alumni.org or mail to our return address.

...and did you know...

...that our association relies solely on donations to continue its charter? Your money makes the annual Chapters possible and is given with much prayer and thought to other worthy causes.

If you have the means, please consider a donation to the Association. But at all times we welcome your prayers. Donations of money can be sent to the return address. Email any board member to volunteer your time and talent.

Introduction to Long Term Care

By Paul Landers

For all of us, there is a chance that at some time we may become unable to take care of our own physical needs, and become a potentially devastating burden on our family and financial resources. Long Term Care is insurance to provide funds in this scenario and reduce that risk of financial stress. Essentially, you are placed into a pool with like-minded people who recognize the possibility of needing some type of care, and are willing to contribute a manageable premium on a regular basis so that money will be available to you if you need it.

The simple fact is that none of us can predict the future. We don't know whether we will be disabled, how long the disability will last, or how soon it will happen. It is only responsible to have some plan for what to do if you cannot take care of yourself. Do you have family who will be capable and willing to take care of you for a long period of time?

The most obvious factor in evaluating insurance is cost. Beyond ensuring that you can reasonably afford the premiums, there are several basic aspects of long-term that enable you to tailor the policy to your needs:

Maximum Daily Benefit How much the policy will pay per day of disability. Naturally, the higher the benefit, the higher the premium. Benefits are often provided based on the expected cost of a day of care in a nursing home, which currently would be between \$200 and \$300 per day.

Elimination Period How long you must be disabled before receiving benefits. You might think of this as a deductible, where you expect that you can afford to pay for the first 90 days or six months of care before receiving policy benefits. A longer elimination period will reduce the premium.

Benefit Period How long you may receive benefits. This may be anywhere from a year to lifetime.

Inflation adjustment Allows the benefit to increase as overall costs of care increase. This can be arranged so that premiums increase as well, but may also be set up so that your premium is fixed.

Our Financial Advisor has found that there are several opportunities for discounted rates on long-term care insurance that can be made available to an association like ours. We would also like to gauge the interest among our members, especially those who do not already have a long-term care plan. If you are interested in learning more, please email LTC@franciscan-alumni.org, or write to G. Phil Zepeda, c/o Raymond James Financial Services, 2229 Packard, Suite 3, Ann Arbor MI 48104.

Franciscan Alumni Association

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www.franciscan-alumni.org

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Visiting Cincinnati? Here are some attractions:

Amusement Parks

www.visitkingsisland.com

www.thebeachwaterpark.com

www.coneyislandpark.com

Air Force Museum (Dayton, OH)

www.nationalmuseum.af.mil

Newport Aquarium (KY)

www.newportaquarium.com

National History Museum, IMAX

www.cincymuseum.org

Krohn Conservatory

www.cincinnatiiparks.com/krohn-conservatory

Casinos (IN)

www.hollywoodindiana.com

www.grandvictoria.hyatt.com

The Franciscan Alumni Association newsletter is mailed to approximately 1,200 members for whom we have addresses. The only cost of production is the expense of printing and mailing. Additional stories and photos are available on the website. Thank you for your interest and support.

The 2010-2011 Franciscan Alumni Association Board

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