



# Franciscan Alumni Association

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Serving Provinces of Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. John the Baptist

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

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## June 22-25, 2017 Reunion at St. Francis Sem *by Paul Landers ('76)*

It's all about the people, whether we're in Albuquerque, Washington or Bloomington.... the local attractions are fun and interesting, but the people that we visit with bring them alive. Cincinnati provides the highest concentration of our members who can attend at will, and so every event or gathering will provide a unique group of people... It's likely that out-of-towners will enjoy every opportunity provided over the course of four days, which makes it that much more important for alumni in the local area to stop in for at least one event as schedules allow.

On Thursday evening, June 22, we will revive the "Sem Night Out" of recent years with an informal gathering at The Public House, 3807 North Bend Road, Cheviot, Ohio. We will be in the party room in the lower level, starting at 6 pm for dinner. This sports bar, which is owned by a son of **Mark Kling ('75)**, serves outstanding sandwiches and dinners, including Irish pub fare and German cuisine. Mark has arranged for us to have use of the party room for free!

[thepublichousecheviot.com](http://thepublichousecheviot.com)

The Quality Inn & Suites hotel near I-275 in Fairfield will again be the place for morning prayer, lodging, and gathering the end of each day.

Quality Inn & Suites  
11967 Chase Plaza Drive 45240  
513-825-9600  
\$89/night includes breakfast; the rate is for reservations made by May 21<sup>st</sup>.  
The group name for this special rate: "Franciscan Alumni Reunion"

Friday will begin with 8 am morning prayer at the hotel. Late morning will provide an opportunity for some fun interaction at EscapeTheRoomChallenge and/or EntertainmentJunction, just a few miles from the hotel. General manager **Bill Bal-four ('77)** is sure to provide a fun and memorable experience there. Lunch will follow at a nearby restaurant. You may want to check out the shops at the Streets of West Chester or the new Liberty Center Mall.

We plan to gather at 6 pm on Friday in the vicinity of the Peace Garden at the former St. Francis Seminary for a picnic dinner and social. Let your nose guide you to the grills. Please bring lawn chairs if possible. Additional seating will be available.

Beginning at 10 am on Saturday morning, there will be a Reflection on Franciscan Spirituality in the St. Francis Seminary chapel. **Fr. Henry Beck ('70)** and **Rick Kasper ('70)** will lead this mini retreat. All are welcome to bring a sack lunch or go out to lunch together and stroll about

the campus in the early afternoon. Then, at 5 pm, there will be a vigil Mass on the grounds of the old St. Francis Seminary, followed by a buffet dinner in the air-conditioned study hall and presentation of Humanitarian and Christian Life awards.

Alumni and guests many want to venture a short distance north on Sunday morning to celebrate 10:30 am Mass with the Faith Community at St. Leonard's, share in fraternity, hospitality, and tour the facility with a special highlight of the art in the chapel. Pastries and coffee will be available around noon.

St. Leonard Franciscan Living Community (8100 Clio Rd., Centerville) is now a center for seniors with rooms and apartments in the old seminary buildings. There are also new apartment buildings and a center for those with alzheimers disease, a nursing care facility, and cottages. When the friars left St. Leonard, part of the understanding was that the seminarians' rooms and faculty rooms would be made available to low-income seniors.

Please RSVP or email questions to [2017reunion@franciscan-alumni.org](mailto:2017reunion@franciscan-alumni.org) and check for updates at [franciscan-alumni.org/reunions/2017-reunion](http://franciscan-alumni.org/reunions/2017-reunion)

## 2016 Humanitarian Awards: Gino Correa and Gilbert Schneider

There were several outstanding nominees for the Franciscan Alumni Association's annual awards. The Board had difficulty narrowing the list to fewer than three individuals, and so elected to present two Humanitarian awards and one Christian Life award.

**Rick Kasper ('70)** presented the Humanitarian Award to **Fr. Gino Correa**. He began by telling a story about the first time he met Gino at St. Fran-

Gino's sensitivity began early in Gino's life, growing up with hearing & speech disabled parents. After Gino's ordination in 1976 at St. Leonard's, it was very moving that he said his First Mass both verbally and in sign language.

Fr. Gino was first assigned to pastoral work at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Clovis, NM with an outlying mission near the Texas border. His

developed OLG's Postulancy Program. He did this for 4 years and involved the Postulants in ministry experience in Mexico. He was then asked to serve on the team of the first interprovincial, post-novitiate program in Chicago for 4 years. Fr. Gino served for several years on the Provincial Council and was ultimately elected OLG's Minister Provincial. During his time as provincial, Fr. Gino negotiated an exchange program in which Filipino Franciscan priests came to minister to Filipino teachers, nurses, and medical professionals who responded to US Federal Government requests to work on the Native American Reservations. During his 6 visits to the Franciscan Province in the Philippines, Fr. Gino formed relationships with families that live in the Payatas area of Manila. Payatas is the landfill area of Manila where the poorest of the poor live. Fr. Gino has stayed committed to a few families in the Payatas helping them build simple homes. Currently he is trying to assist them in starting poultry and pig farms to improve their situation and provide a source of steady income.

Last year Fr. Gino began another chapter in his Franciscan ministry by joining the Campus Ministry Team at the University of San Diego. Fr. Gino challenges both faculty and students to use their talents to serve their fellow human beings, especially the poor. He is also very grateful that his university income and stipends from helping at outly-



cis Seminary... something about a funny prank orchestrated by Gino. Rick remarked that Gino's prank was not what inspired him to nominate Gino for this award, rather it was Gino's selfless, caring nature, as evidenced by his reaching out and befriending the most difficult kids at Sarah Fisher-St. Vincent de Paul Home for Children during his years at Duns Scotus College. The seeds of

next assignment was pastor of the Pueblo Indian Parish in Jemez Springs, NM. He was much loved and appreciated by his parishioners.

Even though Fr. Gino felt a strong calling to pastoral ministry, he accepted his next assignment to serve in Our Lady of Guadalupe (OLG) Province's formation and administration work for the next 17 years. He founded and

ing parishes on Sundays allow him to send some money each month to support the work in the Payatas. Fr. Gino served this past year as Visitor for the Philippine Province of San Pedro Bautista.

As Rick presented the Humanitarian Award to Fr. Gino, he thanked him for modelling St. Francis and Jesus so concretely and generously in our time by serving the people of God's Kingdom in such diverse and beautiful ways.

The Humanitarian Award was also presented to **Fr. Gilbert Schneider**, OFM, in recognition of his many years of pastoral work and outstanding leadership.

Within the Diocese of Gallup, he has served at Laguna, Zuni and St. Michael's. He has also served at Pena Blanca in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. He was elected as Minister Provincial of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, after which he returned to the Diocese of Gallup, where he serves as beloved

pastor at Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Fort Defiance, AZ, as well as its missions at Sawmill and Navajo.

In the late 60's Fr. Gilbert, along with **Fr Denet Jung**, OFM, were instrumental in bringing the Search for Christian Maturity program to the Diocese of Gallup. This remarkable, inspirational program has helped over 10,000 young people in the Diocese have a special encounter with Christ. In addition to his pastoral ministry work over the years, he has often served as Spiritual Director on weekends.

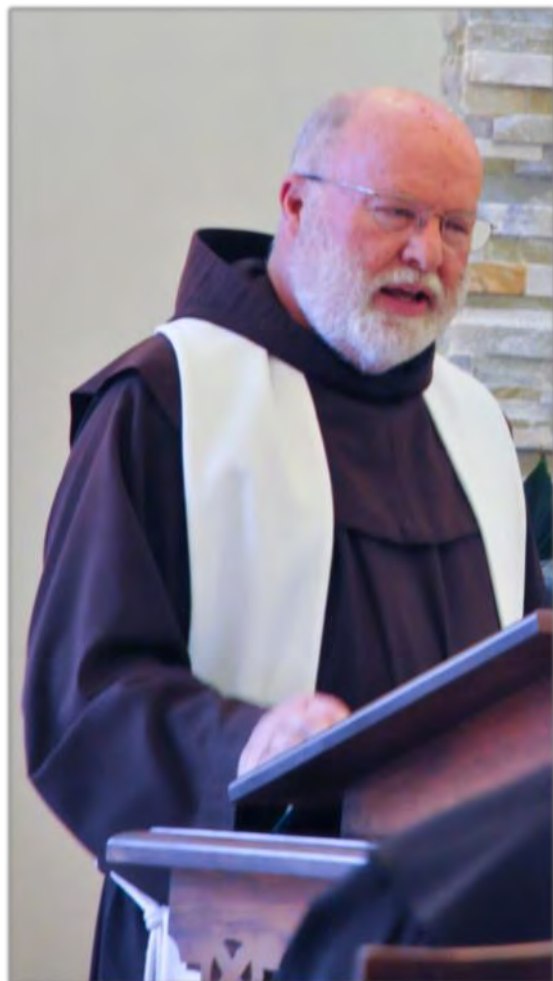
Fr. Gilbert has a special way of communication with young people and with the Native Americans whom he serves. His sense of humor and humility go a long way in helping to bring people to a deeper relationship with Our Lord and His Church. He is always willing to stop what he is doing to help someone in need.

Fr. Gilbert Schneider recently celebrated 60 years as priest. The Franciscan Alumni Association presented a Humanitarian Award to him as a small token of appreciation for his dedication, talent, and many great contributions over the years.





## 2016 Christian Life Award: Richard Rohr by Tom Shumate ('78)



have been touched by Richard's work.

**Fr. Larry Dunham**, former Provincial Minister of Our Lady of Guadalupe Province, told of many letters that he received from individuals whose lives were touched and brought closer to Jesus through Richard's work.

In my work at Franciscan Media I can attest to the impact that his writings have had on others. For example, his best-selling 2011 book *Breathing Under Water: Spirituality and the Twelve Steps*, published by Franciscan Media, has impacted thousands of lives. This is consistently the bestselling Franciscan Media book on Amazon.com.

A personal friend of mine credits Richard and this book

for saving his son's life. My friend relayed to me how his son, who continually struggled with drug addiction, was greatly affected and changed after listening to the audio version of *Breathing Under Water*.

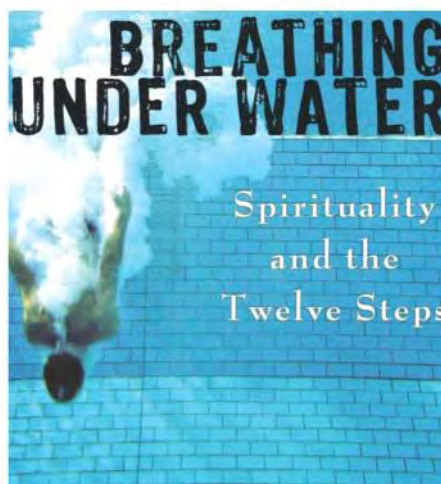
A co-worker related to me that Richard's writings so impacted his life that when the opportunity presented itself, he and his family moved from Philadelphia to Cincinnati to work for the Franciscans.

Many of us can attest as well that we have been touched by God through Richard's work.

Richard's impact goes well beyond Catholic circles to many who seek a deeper relationship with God. Reaching other audiences including those of Rob Bell, Oprah Winfrey, the Dalai Lama, and others. I heard that when Richard wanted to retire from traveling and speaking engagements, he said that he would make an

The Franciscan Alumni Association annually presents the Christian Life Award to someone who exhibits the Franciscan charism of sharing the Gospel of Jesus and ongoing charity toward others.

This year, we present this award to **Fr. Richard Rohr**, who has had a profound impact on many people in this regard. From the founding of the New Jerusalem Community back in the early 70s, to his founding of the Center for Action and Contemplation in Albuquerque in the mid-80s, through his teaching and his writings, and his interactions with many people, thousands of people



exception for the Dalai Lama. Subsequently he was invited to participate in the Festival of Faith in Louisville, Kentucky with the Dalai Lama, and did so!

On behalf of all those who have been touched by Richard's work and charism, we present the Franciscan Alumni Association Christian Life Award.

## Where's Old What's-His-Name?

by Butch Feldhaus '75



Please help us locate alumni for whom we do not have complete or accurate contact information. There are more than a thousand alumni in the Association directory, and as you can imagine, it can be rather difficult keeping up with where everyone has moved and changes in email addresses. It may also be that some of our brothers have been taken home to heaven; we honor and pray for our deceased members during the Remembrance Service at the annual reunion.

A web page has been set up to help with this effort. On it you will find a list of those alumni for which we have incomplete information.

Go to [www.franciscan-alumni.org](http://www.franciscan-alumni.org), click on **Alumni**, then select **Where's Old What's-His-Name**. Click on a decade or scroll down the list to see if you recognize any names. If you know their whereabouts or how to contact them, please inform us. You can help to make sure they have the opportunity to receive the Alumni Association newsletter mailings and that they are aware of upcoming reunions and other items of interest.

If you have information about one of our brothers, please send email to [webmaster@franciscan-alumni.org](mailto:webmaster@franciscan-alumni.org) and include the person's name and high school grad year

The alumni directory is very important since it is the only way we can keep in contact with members and help classmates and former teachers find each other. Thanks!

## St. Leonard Friary

*As mentioned in the plan on page one for the 2017 FAA Chapter, all are invited to visit St. Leonard Church in Centerville, Ohio on Sunday of the reunion weekend.*

*The following excerpts from Brown & White articles provide a little background on the "new campus" and how it came to be.*

The Franciscan fathers of St. John the Baptist Province began working on a rather large project in the mid-1950s, a beautiful new theological seminary on a 250-acre tract of land in Centerville, Ohio. The number of vocations in the province has been increasing so rapidly that Oldenburg can no longer accommodate the number of clerics who come there.

On Sunday, May 31, 1959, the new Franciscan House of Theology was dedicated by the Minister General of the Franciscans, the Most Reverend **Augustine Sepinski**. After the dedication, Archbishop **Karl Alter** of Cincinnati celebrated the Solemn Pontifical High Mass. The new seminary is named after St. Leonard of Port Maurice.

The main buildings include a three-story structure with the clerics' living quarters, a two-story library, and an assembly hall; another building

with the clerics' classrooms, the refectory, and the brothers' living quarters; and a third unit housing the priests' living quarters and an administration wing.

The Speech Lab is a set of sound-proof rooms where the Friars can practice sermons. All the practice rooms open onto a central room through a large plate glass window, where one person can supervise a number of speakers at once by means of an intercom system.

The chapel has a roof of unusual design, resembling a tufted cushion. The windows in the chapel are made of chunk glass, a form in which chunks of colored glass are embedded in concrete to form the pictures.

The beautiful campus, which can accommodate 100 friars and about 40 priests and brothers has been designed to serve best its purpose, the training of young men in the following of St. Francis — and to equip Franciscan priests for their work in the modern world.



Artist's Conception of our new House of Theology

## Disappearance of Fr. Orlando Jaquez — Mystery Solved!

**Fr. Orlando (Anthony) Jaquez**, OFM, class of '51, died in 2014. He was a Latin teacher who mysteriously disappeared from St. Francis Seminary during a fishing excursion in August 1964. He reappeared about 7 years later under another name, married, had children and a career. His daughter, **Magnolia Wurgler** (nee Tetreault), is piecing together the story of her father's "previous life as a Franciscan priest." She attended the alumni reunion in Albuquerque and presented the fascinating story of her dad.

Magnolia provided this additional information in a letter to J. D. Moya in April 2016:

*He was ordained in 1960. St. Francis Seminary was his first assignment. After disappearing in 1964, he was neither seen nor heard from again, at least not in the circles of his family or the friary. Whatever happened between then and about 1971 when he met my mother is to me an untold story. This man, an insurance professional whom we knew as James M. Tetreault, just seemed to come from out of nowhere by all accounts of family and friends who made his acquaintance in the early seventies. My brother and I discovered his old IDs more than 18 years ago, but never dared to do more than speculate about their origin. He passed away in*

*2014 and in the time since, I have confirmed my family heritage, which led me to his one remaining sibling. They hadn't seen each other since 1947; it was incredibly healing for both of us to meet. I have also finally learned where*



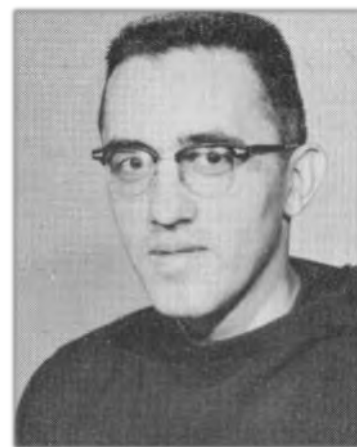
*he got the name "Tetreault": his former classmate, **Fr. Maynard (Michael) Tetreault**! Fr. Maynard was gracious enough to return my recent phone call, and he filled in many blanks in the story of my father's previous life..*

*It is the life he lived afterward that compels me to see where he has been and to deepen my understanding of his calling. He was a truly great man, I'm sure that in many ways due to the influence of his time with the Franciscans. I have both a desire to visit his birthplace in New Mexico and to experience the fellowship of the Franciscan community. Perhaps I*

*could share the mystery of his disappearance and the peaceful ending to the story that came fifty years later.*

Upon first hearing of this, **Fr. Ric Schneider** said, "What an amazing story! I was the last one to talk with Orlando before he left. I was gassing up the tractor when he asked if he could borrow my fishing gear. We found the gear along the Miami River after searching for many days. He left the car in a nearby parking lot."

As a student at the minor seminary, Tony Jaquez was a prolific writer and served as editor of the Brown and White during his senior year. He also wrote articles for Duns Scotus College's Assisian magazine while working on his bachelor's degree.



Orlando Jaquez, OFM  
Latin 2, 4, Spiritual Director  
St. Francis Seminary 1964



## Spirit of Francis Pervades 2016 Reunion by Henry Beck ('70)

The Franciscan Alumni Association Reunion was held June 23-26 in Albuquerque. Approximately 40 former seminarians and friars and family members greatly enjoyed the four days of fraternity and activities.

Our time together was filled with prayer, meals and conversations, sightseeing around Albuquerque and Santa Fe, a wonderful “welcome fiesta” at **J.D. and Gale Moya’s** home, a delightful night on Friday with **Murray Bodo** and his reflections about his life and the gift of teaching, and a Mass at San Juan Diego Chapel with **Richard Rohr** breaking open the Word for us on

Saturday evening. Following Mass we gathered for a festive meal at “The Becoming Place” (OLG’s archive center) and celebrated our brothers, friars **Gino Correa**, **Gilbert Schneider**, and **Richard Rohr** with the Franciscan Alumni Association’s annual Christian Life and Humanitarian Awards.

Most significantly, there was a real spirit of “Franciscan family” among us all. One conversation that lasted from breakfast to almost noon among several of us stirred the reflection that the fraternity and vision of the Franciscan alums is very simi-

lar to the spirit among lay folks around Francis and the early friars. “Once touched by the Franciscan charism this energy stays with you for your lifetime” was witnessed by many. Most gathered at the reunion are still involved in the mission of Christ with a Franciscan spirituality at work in them.

We wondered together how we might deepen and strengthen these Franciscan ties with one another. How can we open the dialogue with alums from the contemporary Franciscan formation programs to join in the joy and mission of this Francis-







can “fraternity” of alums and their families? With the work of restructuring, how might we be a catalyst or bring together the alums and their families from the other provincial communities? Many of us felt that the Spirit of Francis is stirring something wondrous and creative in our midst. May God continue to lead us all! See you next year in Cincinnati!







Fr. Murray: "Blessed am I among women."



## Rebuilding the Gazebo

by Paul Landers ('76)



A gazebo was built in the courtyard between the Seminary's garage and gymnasium a number of years ago. The octagonal open-sided shelter is visible from most of the east-facing apartments at Mercy Franciscan at Winton Woods ... the rooms we might have known as our rec room, classroom or language lab. Despite the efforts of **Fr. Aubert Grieser**, to whom the structure was dedicated in 1992, the beauty of the surrounding grounds would never have come close to its current picturesque setting. Only in the worst weather will any visit not find somebody in the area, chatting with other residents, perhaps enjoying a picnic lunch.

In April, 2015, Mercy Franciscan Garden Club president Richard Eisele asked our organization to consider taking on the job of replacing the roof on the little gazebo next to the garage, neither of us had a realistic expectation of the size of the project, but with the expert help and dedication of Dave Ackner, a resident retired contractor, we have provided a covering of plywood, roofing paper and wooden

shingles that may last another 50 years, or at least make the job a lot easier the next time it is needed.

The actual work for the project began on Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup> and continued through the weekend.

After nearly 25 years of sun, rain, snow, and ice, the single layer of cedar shakes nearly crumbled and fell off of their own accord. Pulling out the broken staples was tedious, but the teardown went with reasonable speed. The new shingles went on in fits and starts. The lower layers are mostly full-size shingles covering a lot of area, but as we approached the peak, each shingle needed to be trimmed both for length and to fit the angle of the ridge. Thanks to Donn Wiley for doing most of the table-saw work.



Donn Wiley '76 managed to keep all 10 fingers intact



As we started to run short of shingles on the final day, we became quite adept at using scrap pieces to fit some of those special, narrow ridge spots.

With most of the job complete by evening on Saturday July 16<sup>th</sup>, Dave continued to work on his own over the following weeks.

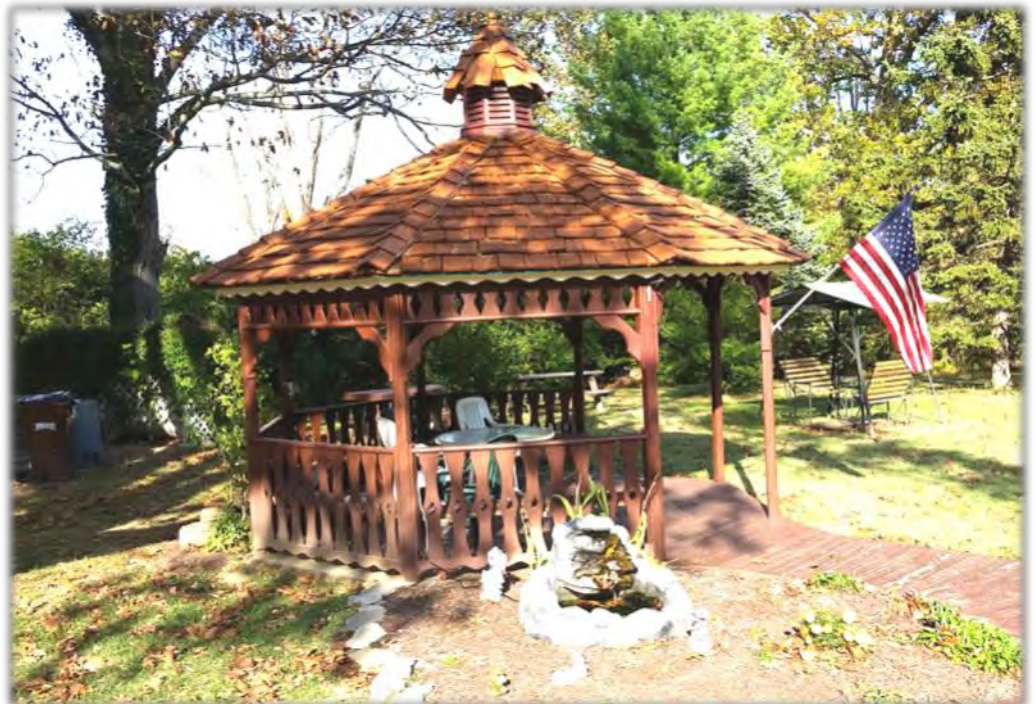
We're sure that Fr. Aubert would approve of his refurbished courtyard gazebo and especially the sweat equity that went into restoring it.

Thanks to all who participated in the project with expertise, materials, labor, transportation, and refreshments.



**The Crew:**

Dave Ackner  
Charlie Bullington  
Richard Eisele  
Pat Findlay  
Rick Gardner  
Rick Kaspar  
Paul Landers  
Tom Landers  
Nick Neyer  
Mike Niklas  
Mike and Cliff Niehaus  
Dan Trujillo  
Donn Wiley  
The Garden Club and residents



The renovated gazebo is good for another 30+ years

## Franciscan Alumni Association

St. Anthony Friary  
5000 Colerain Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45223

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## Vocations Prayer Card Program

In order to help support the Franciscan way of life that we revere, we hope that all our members will speak positively about the Franciscan order and encourage vocations.

We have printed a number of vocation prayer cards and distributed them to many alumni who in turn can place them in conspicuous places in churches, schools, and with various church groups to facilitate communication of this opportunity.

The prayer cards include an image of the San Damiano cross, Francis' vocation prayer, and contact information for the vocation program. May the Holy Spirit guide us as we pray for the Spirit of St. Francis to take residence in the hearts of potential candidates.

## Thanks from Dale Jamison, OFM

Thanks to all for generous contributions in 2016 to help St. Mary's Navajo Mission in Tohachi, NM with much needed support.

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!

## Franciscan Alumni Association Board of Trustees

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