



The John Brassington Memorial Endowment

Vince and Nick Zuccaro attended Notre Dame, graduating in 1969 and 1971 respectively. If it wasn't for a scholarship provided by Father Steven Gatafoni at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, neither Vince nor Nick, or their four siblings might have been able to attend Notre Dame. Thanks in part to ND, Vince and Nick have done well over the last 50 years. It is for this reason that they established the John Brassington Memorial Endowment Fund. The Fund will help one or more students per year continue at Notre Dame - students who otherwise would have to leave because of financial need. By establishing this fund, Vince and Nick hope to give others the same opportunity they had 50 years ago.

John Brassington was a classmate and a teammate of Vince's - that famous 1968 team that was just inducted into the BC Football Hall of Fame. John taught and coached at Notre Dame for 40 years and was taken away from us in 2016 in an unfortunate car accident.

Vince and Nick established the fund with an initial \$50,000. At an interest rate of about 5%, and with an additional \$4,000 from annual fundraising events, they hope that the principal can be maintained. Last year the fund was used to cover the tuition for one student who otherwise would have left the school to go elsewhere. With more fundraising, the goal is to grow the principal to \$100K giving the endowment enough to provide

Trivia Night 2019

The ND Alumni Association presents its ever-popular Annual Trivia Night!

Pasta and salad dinner, snacks included with \$25.00 admission. No host bar with beer and wine. This is a fun social evening with great food, prizes, and trivia about facts and music you won't remember that you remember! Like previous years it will be held at ND. It is the main fundraiser for the Alumni Association to provide a small scholarship, assist the school with purchases, and cover the cost of our web site, newsletter.

- **Date:** Friday April 5th.
- **Location:** Notre Dame (of course!)
- **Registration:** 6:00 pm
- **Dinner:** 6:15
- **Games:** 7pm sharp!

Many, many door prizes as well as prizes for the most successful teams. Teams size: 8 players, but smaller groups can be merged. Contact Lana Tesan: ltesan@gmail.com or Alan Charlton: alancharlton@telus.net

TRIVIA NIGHT 2017



funding for 2, 3, or 4 students per year.

To help ND students in need, please donate to the John Brassington Endowment fund. No amount is too small, and tax receipts will be issued for donations of \$20 and more. Again, any amount is appreciated. This can be done online in a few weeks by donating to the Notre Dame Foundation and earmarking it for the John Brassington Memorial Endowment Fund.

In a few weeks, the online donation option will be ready but in the meantime you can send cheques to the ND Alumni Foundation indicating you want it earmarked for the John Brassington Fund.

*Notre Dame Alumni Foundation
C/O Notre Dame Regional Secondary
2880 Venables Street
Vancouver, BC
Canada V5K 4Z6*

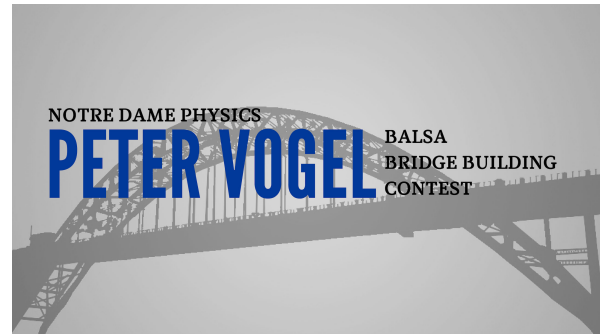


Pub Night 2019 Success

This year the format of the Pub Nite was an All Star Beer Fest and tasting of product from local Brewers. After the success of the evening it was agreed that this would be the format of Pub Nites to come!

With nine Breweries set-up in the tasting room tickets holders had access to a variety of beers and plenty of food!

This is an event you won't want to miss out on next year!



The Peter Vogel Bridge Building Contest

When you think of Physics at Notre Dame the first thing that pops into your head is Mr. Peter Vogel. The second thing is the bridge building contest. You can't think of one without the other. Over the past 39 years Mr. Vogel has been the driving force for students to succeed not only in building their bridges but also in Physics. Mr. Vogel's passion and love for physics was and still is infectious to anyone who knows him. He inspires students to challenge the limits of their knowledge and never to accept a simple answer without questioning why. It is for this reason and so many more that we have renamed the bridge building contest to honour Mr. Peter Vogel.

~ Sonia Prasad

"The important thing is to not stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing." – Albert Einstein

ND Field Open House

On Wednesday, April 3, Notre Dame, in conjunction with the City of Vancouver, will be hosting a community open house from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM in the Alumni Gymnasium.

The main purpose of this event is to provide accurate and up to date information related to our field project, to take an important step towards final approval for our permits, and to address the concerns raised by some of our neighbours.

Please check the ND website www.ndrs.ca for more info.

Laurie Marconato R.I.P.

With great sadness and a deep sense of loss, the Notre Dame community learned of the passing of Laurie Marconato (Class of '82). Laurie was always a great supporter of Catholic education, having taught at Queen of All Saints school for 30 years, as well as being a loyal and life-long member of the parish of Our Lady of Sorrows parish.



Laurie also always wholeheartedly supported Notre Dame and its many activities. The Notre Dame Alumni Association in particular will miss her and the enthusiastic contribution she has made since she assumed the Chairperson-ship of the Association in 1995. In particular, the work she contributed to the annual Trivia Night will be a significant loss for the Association.

For the Notre Dame Alumni Executive, Laurie's passing is especially sad; her joyful presence at Executive meetings always brought laughter to the proceedings as, in addition to the invaluable contributions she made to work of the Association, she always regaled the members with humorous anecdotes of her work, her many trips, and the day to day events of her life. Her gift of happiness, her ability to spin a yarn and build to a comical climax, and her willingness to laugh at

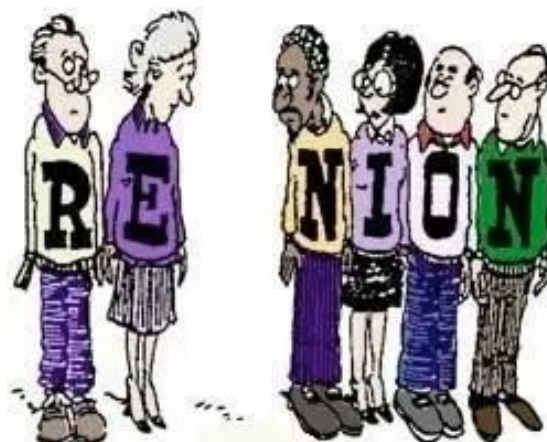


herself were born of her vitality and the way she embraced all of living.

Laurie leaves behind a hole in the lives of all who knew her. In particular, the Association extends sympathy for their loss to her mother Bruna and her sister Janet (both Notre Dame alumnae). We trust that God will bring them comfort in their time of sorrow and that they will find consolation in the joy that Laurie brought to everyone in her all-too-brief life.

Goodbye, Laurie, and thanks for all you have given us! You will be deeply missed and always remembered fondly.

Class of 1979 Reunion



IT WON'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT U!!

Shout Out to all those Grads of 1979! It's been 40 years – yup I have just said it!

Plans are being made to have a reunion on September 20th and 21st.

Starting on Friday September 20th, all are welcome to attend the ND Homecoming Football Game at Burnaby Lake and then head over to the school for the Homecoming Party.

On Saturday Night September 21st will be the "Main Event" at Personas Lounge located at the Grand Villa Casino. No tickets are required and all are welcome (spouses included).

We are looking for contact information! Please forward to Sue Benedet scirillo@ndrs.org or John Guidolin guidolin@shaw.ca

Class of 1969 Reunion

50 Year Reunion of the Grads of the Class of 1969 is a go! Over half the class is set to attend.

DATE: JUNE 1ST, 2019

TIME: 6:00pm - Reception - No Host Bar

7:30pm - Buffet Dinner

PLACE: The OSTERIA at the Italian Cultural Centre. 3075 Slocan Street, Vancouver BC V5M 3E4

COST: \$65.00 per person

In order to pay for all this fun and excitement, you can send your payment via e-transfer to Redenta (ditomaso@telus.net) by April 15th.

Contact her if you need any further help with this, and feel free to contact any of the committee members with any questions.

Now show that ND Spirit and commit to an ALL NIGHT - MEMORY LANE!

Your 2019 Committee,

- John Voza---jbvoza@gmail.com
- Vince Zuccaro---vince@macdonaldsrx.com
- Noris Vendrasco---norisv@shaw.ca
- Dave Durante---ddurante@shaw.ca
- Tony & Rose Fera---anthonyfera@telus.net;
- Redenta Di Tomaso---ditomaso@telus.net

Sister Katherine Nickerson R. I. P.

The Notre Dame community mourns the passing of Sister Katherine, former principal of the school. Sister, then known as Sister Catherine Josephine, was appointed principal in 1968, soon establishing herself as a kind woman who really did not enjoy having to be a disciplinarian. Any student sent to her office was as likely to leave with candy in hand rather any punishment. Her gentle concern for all her charges rapidly resulted in her being dubbed “Katy Joe”, by which soubriquet many still fondly remember her.

Sister, a true realist who understood the changing times, was also the perfect person to preside over the transition from Notre Dame being staffed

largely by the Sisters of Charity of Halifax, to one staffed by lay people - a realistic view of the changes that were taking place in the Church as fewer and fewer responded to the call of a religious vocation. Thus it was that she cheerfully assumed the role of Vice-Principal in 1972, with Al Blesch being appointed Principal. In the role of Vice Principal. Sister, now having returned to her original name of Katherine Nickerson, continued to act as Vice Principal until 1990, still exerting her gentle role as mentor and guide to the students, cheerfully and enthusiastically supporting them in all their endeavours and happily encouraging the lay staff as they continued to try to emulate the marvellous work that the Sisters had begun.

Many former staff and students happily remember the Sisters, regretting that by the time Sister Katherine retired few of the Order remained in the school, a school which would not have existed but for the dedication of the Sisters of Charity. Of course, even after retirement, Sister Katherine continued her enthusiastic role as a teacher and, as a member of St. Mary’s Parish. There she took up residence and continued to work in the RCIA program until even she had to acknowledge the passing years, at which point she returned to the Mother House in Halifax, where she lived until her recent passing on February 15th at the age of 94.

She continued until the end to be a long-distance supporter of the school and always took an interest in all that happened to the community. Sister Katherine was a truly caring and loving representative of her Order and will long be fondly remembered by the many who had the good fortune to have known her and worked with her. Thank-you, Katherine, for all that you have done for Notre Dame!

Snail Mail or E-Mail?

For many years, the main vehicle for transmitting Alumni news to former Notre Dame students was a newsletter, sent by “snail mail”. This was costly. As technology improved, the Executive was deluged with requests that the newsletter be sent via e-mail, since this would be cheaper and more environmentally friendly. The Executive

appreciated the benefits of such a move and complied so that the Alumni Newsletter is now sent out by e-mail. There was, however, a problem in that few alumni bothered to send in their e-mail address. The result was that circulation dropped from almost 3,000 to about 1000.

At the same time, the Association experienced a considerable decline in revenue. The most recent appeal for alumni to renew their membership (annual fee: \$20.00) resulted in a total of about twenty complying. The executive is grateful for this support – particularly to those who sent in extra money to make up for “back payments”!

The Executive realizes that most alumni would quite happily pay the membership fee if approached directly and could hand the money over immediately; as it is, despite their good will, they just don’t get round to it – understandable in today’s busy and electronic world.

To make things easier, the Alumni has set up an electronic payment using PayPal on the web site. Click on the yellow “Donate” button on the home page at <http://ndalumni.org>. This will take you to PayPal where you can pay your registration or donate to the Association. Thanks in advance!

It is one of the principal aims of all alumni associations to support the alma mater in its educational processes, and at the same time, to serve as a means of assisting alumni in staying in touch with each other. Now while the Executive recognizes that a few alumni have unhappy memories of their years, many have truly positive feelings about Notre Dame and would gladly

support any efforts to assist the institution and the students attending it. The association would love to do more but we need your help.

We need to reach more people! Please persuade your alumni friends to send in their email addresses if they're not already receiving the online newsletter. And please support us by paying the annual fee. It only takes a few minutes - and you'll be helping keep the communication flowing.

**Notre Dame Alumni Association
Membership Form**

Address:
Notre Dame Alumni Association
C/O Notre Dame Regional Secondary
2880 Venables Street
Vancouver, BC
Canada V5K 4Z6

Please provide the following information
with your \$20.00 cheque:

Name _____
Grad Year _____
Address _____

Province/State _____ Postal/Zip _____
Country _____
email _____