

Notre Dame Alumni Association

March 2009

www.ndalumni.org

1968 SHRINE BOWL CHAMPIONS CELEBRATE 40 YEAR REUNION

UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual Trivia Night (p. 4)
Friday, April 3, 2009

Reunions (p. 3)

Class of 1959
50th Reunion
Stepie (Pappas)
604-438-7909
sblesch@hotmail.com

Class of 1969
40th Reunion
vzuccaro@unipharm.com

Class of 1979
30th Reunion
Sue Cirillo
scirillo@ndrs.org

Class of 1999
10th Reunion
Lana Mandersheid
nd_grad99@hotmail.com

On Nov. 3, 2008, I called my old friend John Vozza and asked him if he knew what month it was. It took him 8 seconds to answer, "It's 40 years since we won the Shrine Bowl!" We decided we needed to celebrate and began calling former teammates and coaches, and with the same efficiency with which the 1968 team played, the reunion was planned and held November 29.

Besides the dinner and speeches, it was an evening for catching up and reminiscing. Eleven of the thirteen Grade 12 players and half of the Grade 11 players, plus one manager, Farrell Taphorn, attended. Mike Comparelli flew in from Edmonton, an indication of just how much it had meant to each of us to have been a member of the first Notre Dame B.C. Championship Team. Our coaches, Al Blesch, George Oswald and Bill Cole joined us.

I had scanned all of the photos I could find and projected these off my computer throughout the evening. My attempt to obtain newspaper articles from the Internet had failed, so it was a great surprise when Al Blesch (looking younger than some of us) pulled out a scrapbook made up for him by Sr. Katherine. It contained all of the newspaper articles, team pictures, telegrams, a letter of congratulations from the Archbishop and much more. Who needs the Internet when you have the original?

Al also brought the trophy, given to him by the team, with the bronzed football from the game and a plaque containing the players and managers' names. For everyone, it was a night to remember.

Vince Zuccaro



1968 Notre Dame Football Team:
Shrine Bowl Champions



MEMBERSHIP FEES

Yes, it is time to register again. As you can see from the Financial Report, our revenue from fees is not meeting the expense to print this newsletter. With this publication, as previously, we include in our mail out all changes to our database. This means every time there is a reunion we send that edition to everyone in that class, whether or not they have paid their membership fee. If you enjoy reading the newsletter, we ask that you complete the form and send it to us with the \$10 yearly fee. If you are one of those organized grads who have paid years in advance, we thank you for your generosity.

Attention Grads of 1959: Our updated list is all ready in and you have received this edition. You will also receive the Fall edition with the report of our reunion. There is no obligation, but to help with the expense of printing, I really hope you will forward the \$10 membership fee. Thanks so much. SB



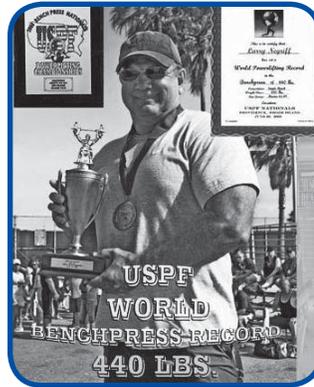
Larry Negriff in 1959

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...?

It is appropriate that the first article of this returning feature is about a graduate from the Class of 1959, Larry Negriff. Larry, who lives in California, is married with two daughters. He's an Electrical Engineer working in the field of utility power distribution.

This may surprise some of his classmates but his success in weightlifting is probably more a question of how successful, as we all remember him

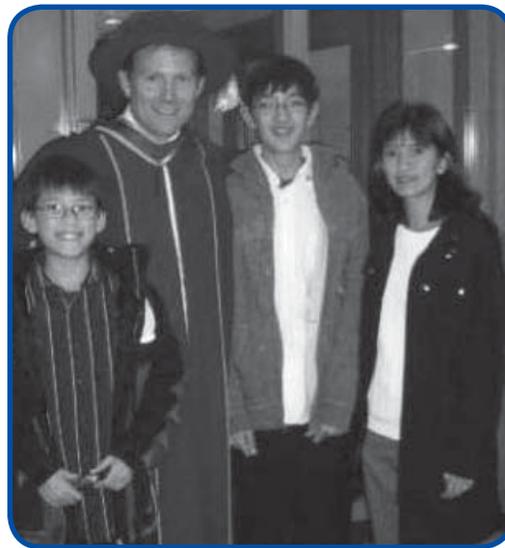
pushing weights in the old weight room at ND. So how successful, you ask? For his age group, Larry holds the USPF American record: 451 lbs. (1/25/09) & the WPF World record in benchpress at 440 lbs.



1984 GRAD MIKE BLACKSTOCK RECEIVES DOCTORATE

When I heard that co-editor Mike Blackstock had recently received his PhD, I asked him if he would send me some information for this edition. This is what he sent, "I received a PhD at UBC from the Computer Science Department in November 2008. It took me a little more than 5 years so it was a pretty big chunk of my life."

Are you kidding me Mike? That's it? I sat at meetings with you for two years, bugged you for help with computer issues and didn't have a clue. I knew you were attending university but so do a lot of kids in their 20's. I knew you were married but remember being shocked to hear that you had children in school. You couldn't possibly be old enough! (This says a lot more about my age, than yours.) Your fellow committee members always talk about what a nice guy you are and now we know you are also one of the most humble. Congratulations, Mike, on your fantastic achievement!!



Mike Blackstock (2nd from left) and his family)

IN OUR PRAYERS

We ask for your prayers for the following Alumni who have recently passed away.:

- David Dawson (Class of '59)
- Dan Kelly (Class of '59)
- Daniel Kennedy (Class of '62),
- Jacqueline (Thompson) Thorpe (Class of '65)

Our thanks to Carole Ann (Sawchuk Class of '65) Doge, who made a generous donation in Jacqueline's name to the Alumni Foundation.

We also request your prayers for Mrs. West, a teacher at Notre Dame who suffered serious injuries in an automobile accident.

The Alumni of Notre Dame, extends our deepest sympathy and prayers to the family of David Schollen (1973) who passed away suddenly, Wednesday, Feb. 25th. A teacher in the Catholic School system, David was the Principal of Sacred Heart Elementary in Delta. David was known and loved throughout the Catholic Community for his integrity and his involvement in many activities. David leaves to mourn, his wife Janice (MacNeil Class of '77) and their six children.

Editor's Corrections from the November 2008 newsletter:

Births

Emmanuela (Gazzola) (Class of '93) & Anthony DallaZanna, a girl: Mia

Melissa Dalla Zanna (Class of '92) & Dennis Mattiazzo (Class of '92), a boy: Mattias

Class of 1959 has confirmed the date of its 50th Reunion, June 27, 2009, at the Executive Inn in Burnaby. From a class of 73, we have contacted 60 former classmates. We are looking forward to seeing our friends from Halifax, Quebec, Ontario, California, Washington, the Island and the Interior. Not too bad for people with a lot of grey hair or—alternatively, good hairdressers—and faulty short-term memories but great long-term ones. However, we are still missing several classmates. So fellow grads from all decades, if you have the chance to speak to any older, I mean more mature looking people in your neighborhood, at your church or while picking up children/grandchildren from school, members of your extended family or fellow workers, be sure to quiz them on when they graduated and did they ever attend Notre Dame (even for a few years) in the 1950's. If nothing else, you'll learn something new about someone and make them happy.

Reunion Committee: Dr. Lawrence Benedet, Joanne Steele, Bob Galt, Grace Mazzucco, Rosalie Metzger, Cecile Murphie, Josephine Norris, Elenor Saban, Sharon Bach. If there is anyone else who wants to join in, please call Steppie at 604-438-7909 or sblesch@hotmail.com

Class of 1999, can you believe it? It's 10 years since the Class of 1999 graduated!

We think it's time to catch up on what everyone is doing so Jennifer Helmersen and Lana Manderscheid are hosting a reunion. The tentative date is October 3, 2009, the location yet to be determined. If you would like to help organize the event, or if you have some ideas, or if you just want to say Hi, you can email us at nd_grad99@hotmail.com. A 1999 Grad Reunion group is set up on Facebook. All the event details will be posted there and updated on a regular basis. Looking forward to seeing everyone in the Fall!

Class of 1979 is turning the 30 year mark and is marking the occasion with a gathering of the Grads on Saturday, June 13 at the Shark Club – 7:00 pm onward - or as late as anyone can take!! If you have any questions, please call Sue Cirillo at Notre Dame or email her at scirillo@ndrs.org.

NEW ND ALUMNI GOOGLE GROUP

We've had several people let us know that they would like to receive the newsletter by email or on the web. We also thought it would be good to have a way for people find other alumni to organize reunions, learn about upcoming events and stay in touch. For years we've considered spending some time and money on improving our web site, but realized we have very little of time or money. Instead we thought we would try one of the many free "social networking sites" to stay in touch. After substantial consideration over wine at Bruna's, we thought we'd try Google Groups.

Google Groups make it pretty easy to connect groups using email and the web. By joining a group, you can send and receive emails to everyone else in the group who wants to receive them. In our case, the group will be moderated by the ND Alumni Association, so no spam/junk mail will be passed through. If you don't want to receive email messages when they are posted you can periodically check the web site for news and new messages by managing your membership settings.

To join the group, go to the web site <http://groups.google.com/group/ndalumni>. Click on the link "Join this group". You will need to log in with your google account, or create a google account if you don't already have one. That's it. You'll receive emails from the ND Alumni Association. If you would like to know more about what you can do in the group, such as send messages and post information to other alumni, check out the tutorial at: <http://groups.google.com/intl/en/googlegroups/tour3/index.html>

1969

Class of 1969 is holding its 40th Reunion on May 30, 2009. The evening will begin with a tour of the school at 4:00 pm, allowing everyone a chance to walk the halls of our old haunt and the opportunity to view the plans for the new school. This will be followed by a dinner and social at "La Trattoria" in the Italian Cultural Centre at 6:30 pm. We have been in touch with 85% of the class but if you know of anyone who has not been contacted, please pass this invitation on with our hope that they will join us. The reunion committee is:

Vince Zuccaro 604-872-2662

vzuccaro@unipharm.com

John Voza

darvoz@hotmail.com

Redenta (Serena) Ditomaso

ditomaso@telus.net

Joe Gluska

jgluska@shaw.ca

Rosalda (Fera) Piana

anthonyfera@telus.net

Noris (Martinello) Vendrasco

norisv@shaw.ca

Dave Durante

ddurante@shaw.ca

Alan Charlton

alancharlton@shaw.ca

1979

NOTRE DAME ALUMNI FOUNDATION REPORT

The Foundation's Annual Gala last November was a huge success, enjoyed by over 350 guests. Construction on the new school (yes!!) changed the venue to the Italian Cultural Centre. The Blue Meenies Band (Danny Barichello Class of '77) had the dance floor rocking past midnight. The dinner/dance/auction raised \$40,000. Thanks to all who supported through their attendance, by generous bidding in the auction, buying raffle tickets, donating auction items and advertising. We are grateful to the many parents and staff of ND who worked long hours to support the NDAF and make it a success.



Alumni at the 2008 Annual Gala

We are excited to report that to date, through your generosity, the funds raised by this Foundation, totaling over \$230,000, have been allocated towards; the start up and architectural fees; securing a used industrial kitchen for the new cafeteria; installing new security cameras that will eventually be moved to the new school; approving the purchase of a Classroom Projection Station, flat screen monitors, file server; band instruments, library software and teaching resource books. Future designation of funds include a pottery kiln/wheel for the art department, lighting for the auditorium, filming & editing equipment, as well as sound proofing and replacement of lighting in the gym. Thank you to the ND staff for their input and assistance.

Members of the Alumni, please think about what you are able to do for the students at Notre Dame...every donation makes a difference. Donations are welcomed through our many fundraising programs including the Brick Program, Corporate Sponsorship, Classroom Sponsorship & Planned Giving. Please contact us through the school office 604-255-5454. What's next? The ND Alumni Foundation Annual Raffle.

NOTRE DAME ALUMNI FOUNDATION ANNUAL RAFFLE

Tickets on sale from February 19 - May 31, 2009
\$3 at school office or call Eva at 604-299-3815

PRIZES:

- SHARP 42" 1080p HD TV - Value \$879.95*
- HP Laptop 15.4" screen - Value \$749.95**
- PANASONIC Camcorder 60GB Hard drive/SD Slot - Value 529.95*
- PS3 80GB Gaming Console - Value \$399.99**
- APPLE iPod Touch 8GB - Value \$239.99**
- BEST BUY Gift Certificate Value \$100.00*

* Includes 4-year service plan
* *Includes 3-year service plan

To be drawn on Monday June 8, 2009 at the school at the major awards night. If not present at time of the draw, the winner will be notified by phone. All tickets must be returned to the school office by Monday June 1, 2009. Thank you for supporting the students at Notre Dame Regional Secondary. Must be over 19 years of age to purchase a ticket.

Lottery Licence #13705

LUCKY No. 13: NOTRE DAME ALUMNI'S ANNUAL TRIVIA NIGHT



Friday, April 3, 2009 at the school auditorium
Social: 6:00 pm Games: 7:00 pm

Set up your Team – Everyone is welcome but you need to register. Leave a message for Lana at 604-255-5454 with your name and the number of players on your team. Tickets \$10/person.

Trivia Prizes: We would appreciate any or all donations of prizes, large or small. You may drop them off at the school or leave a message for Lana at 604.255.5454.

NOTRE DAME ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance Forward as of January 2008		\$ 3,016.67
Revenue		
12th Annual Trivia Night	\$1,064.00	
Registrations	\$3,661.70	\$ 4,725.70
Expenses		
Mike Cooke/Retirement Gift	\$ 500.00	
Newsletters-Printing/Postage	\$3,906.90	
Bank Service Charges	\$ 71.88	\$ 4,478.78
Balance as of January 2009		\$ 3,263.59