

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

17 September 2024



At Christian Brothers HS's annual Extravaganza: Dan Morgan, David Caretti, John Montgomery, and Chris Brady

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- In thanksgiving for our benefactors;
- The grace to live our vocation with joy;
- The Brothers in Santa Fe preparing to move to Napa;
- Those who need healing; especially Ron Gallagher, Brian Dybowski, Richard Orona, Joe Welling's father, Liza Ribera, and those with cancer;
- Grace and strength for our school leaders;
- Justice and healing for victims of sexual abuse;
- Those in mourning; especially CRDLSHS;
- The needs of our young Brothers and contacts.



John Mai speaking with a fellow Lasallian at southern convocation

My travels and assorted news...

District Council, with three new members (**Steven Vasoli**, **David Caretti**, and **Javi Hansen**), met last Wednesday. The agenda was fairly light so we focused on walking new members through how the meetings flow. The pastoral session was an opportunity to update the Council on sensitive matters and to seek their counsel on how I might proceed. The independent Review Committee met last Thursday to review safety plan updates to ensure a safe environment for youth in our communities and the District. We discussed how to best accompany and protect Brothers who are falsely accused of misconduct. **Chris Brady** and I are most grateful for the guidance and support of this group. Kudos to the LCBF staff and board for organizing a wonderful Brother Timothy Wine Tasting and Dinner event this past weekend! An army of volunteers, Brothers, and supporters helped the afternoon's wine tasting to run smoothly. Hats off to our kitchen and wait staff! We're especially grateful to our friends at Capo Isetta winery for providing cases of sparkling wine with the LCBF label for this event and for sale by schools. All proceeds provide scholarship funding to keep our schools accessible to families of limited means.

“Bless the LORD, O my soul, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good...” PS 103:2,4

Attended the first **Saint Mary's College** board meeting with the new president, the energetic Dr. Roger Thompson. He'll soon be embarking on Golden State Gaels Tour to meet alumni and Lasallian stakeholders in CA.

Many Brothers attended **CBHS** annual *Extravaganza!* in Sacramento. This huge wine, beer, and food tasting fundraiser is run entirely by alumni and volunteers. Former teachers/admin were **Dan Morgan**, **Chris Brady**, **Tom Westberg**, **George Van Grieken**, and **Richard Orona**. **John Montgomery** was the lone alumnus with **David Caretti** representing the current board. It was a true celebration of community!

San Miguel HS in Tucson celebrated its' 20th anniversary. Three local legends who were instrumental in its creation were honored: Jim Click (philanthropist), Sister Rosa Maria (superintendent), and retired Bishop Gerald Kicanas. **Gery Short**, AFSC, and Matt Powell (former president) attended and reflected on what a miracle this institution has been and remains for southside Tucson families.



Some members of the Review Board: Chair Mary Hesser with Thomas, Edmond, and Chris

Miscellaneous...

Reports from the south are that the recent hurricane did minimal damage to our schools. CBS Canal Street Campus was without power only for one day but schools were back in session after the storm passed – thank God!

Welcome to **Sebastián Arias**, a Brother from Colombia who is joining the SMCHS community for six weeks while he studies English in Berkeley. All Christian Brothers Conference staff met this past week at their new regional offices on the Lewis University campus. **George Van Grieken**, who manages the very helpful Lasallian Resources website, is part of the staff. One of my summer updates included a photo of **Bernie LoCoco** at the Midwest District Day renewing his vows. What I failed to report is that he was also celebrating his 70th jubilee! (Wow!) **Javi Hansen** is traveling to Detroit for his first in-person session of CMSM’s Leadership Training for Young Religious. Javi is excited to join two other Brothers in the first cohort of this program.



Happy Joe Kirk with beaming female classmates at the 50th reunion of Justin-Siena’s Class of ’74 in Napa



Halen and Angie Gamino were among the volunteers at wine tasting event



Kevin Slate and SMCHS president Azure’D Nunley pouring at Br. Timothy Wine tasting



Richard Orona with his former student (now works in Admissions) at CBHS Sacramento



GVG and Dr. Kurt Schackmuth at new regional offices on Lewis University campus



Founders of SMHS join Brothers to celebrate two decades of service to Tucson youth

“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. 1 THL 5:16-17

De La Salle Institute

Mont La Salle | 4401 Redwood Road | Napa, CA 94558
Covington | 104 W. 11th Avenue | Covington, LA 70433

