

# RAPPORT

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## A message from Paul Murphy

We do not actively recruit new members to our association and we are truly saddened when we hear of the Jack Gallaghers, the Brian Hogans the Rob Repickys who leave the community. But we are always very happy to have former Basilians join us to maintain a contact with the Basilian community. Alfy Graham has just given a former Basilian friend of his a membership in our association. Here is his story as told by Alfy.

Kevin Ryan was professed in August '52. With many others from the novitiate who were living at 95 St. Joseph St., he began studies at the U. of T. The following year Kev lived at St. Michael's College which was also the residence for Basilian scholastics. At the end of that year, 1954, Kev left the community to return in the fall to complete undergraduate studies and graduate in 1955.

Kevin's time from then on was largely devoted to education, but first the Korean war took him to the U.S. Navy Air Force. Following that, graduate studies at Columbia U. and Stanford prepared him for professorships at University of Chicago, Ohio State University and finally at Boston University, where he is emeritus, and has a room dedicated to him. His writings in education have been in demand for this same period of more than 30 years. At the same time, Kevin and his wife Marilyn, have been exemplary lay persons as are their children Hilary and Alexandra, whose husbands are university scholars, and Justin is active in the government of Massachusetts.

Recently, Kevin was appointed to be a member of the Pontifical Academy for Social Sciences and is looking forward to their meeting in Rome in April 2004. Like many others, part of Kevin never departed from the Basilian community.

## Our own Web site

One of our members, Ed Herndon, has set up a web site for our association and volunteered to be the web master. This is a work in progress and you can assist in its development. Here is the address:

<http://www.remedyandcrew.com/AOFB.html>

Be sure to scroll down to Reunion 2000 and Reunion 2002.

## Reunion 2004

Mark your calendar now for our next reunion which is again at Strawberry Island July 30, 31 and August 1. More information in the next issue of RAPPORT.

## Membership

Our annual membership is \$36 and this includes our twice-a-year newsletter, RAPPORT, as well as Basilian newsletters, the Basilian Directory and the Basilian Annals, etc. We direct \$6 of your fee to the Basilians for this service. We have also been sending a contribution to the Basilian high school in Cali, Columbia. Here is a response from them:

"Many thanks to all who contributed the \$1,500 for the 15 bursaries for our school.

Please be assured that the money will be used for this project. We have worked miracles in this school thanks to help from our friends! Thanks so much!"

Fr. Frank Amico, C.S.B.

## Where I am now...

**Ted Sullivan:** I am fully retired from both my University of Clagary and Catholic School Board Trusteeship activities. I am involved, however, in assisting with the coordination of the in-from-the-cold program at St. Luke's Parish.

**David Megel:** Three years ago when Anne was Social Action Chair Person of our parish, I accepted a request to be our parish representative to San Pedro, our sister parish in Guatemala. In August 2002, we applied to become a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit tax exempt corporation which we conceived and named "TEACH" - Toward Educating America's Children. TEACH was born five months later and was not premature. We travel to Guatemala two or three times a year. Join us for a different kind of vacation. Last month we published our "web page". If you are interested, look us up — [www.teacham.org](http://www.teacham.org). Hope to see everybody in August 2004.

**Tom Hickey:** I'm in Rochester, N.Y. now and retired but a failure at retirement. After Windsor, I completed my B.S. at LeMoyne in Syracuse and my M.B.A. at Rochester Institute of Technology. Completed 10 years in Marketing at Bausch and Lomb then 15 years at Xerox and 14 years at State University of New York at Oswego. Retired in 1995 but have been teaching as an Adjunct Associate Professor of Marketing at Monroe Community College.

Concurrently completed 22 years in Marine Corps retiring as a Major. Leona and I have 4 children and 7 grandchildren. I'm keeping teaching until the Good Lord calls me because I'm having a wonderful time. We have travelled to 19 countries and have taught in Holland, Austria & London plus 2 summers in Lethbridge, Alberta. We also have completed six Elderhostel seminars in 5 different states.

**Richard O'Neill:** I'm in the same house since 1972. Happily remarried since 1985 to my sweet wife, Isabel Sifuentes. I am still occasionally active in St. Thomas High School Alumni and, as such, run into such wonderful Basilians as Carl Belisch, Roy Ogerro, et al. I left teaching in 1975 and went to a career job in manufacturing until my retirement a few years ago. Now I write for my own amusement and amazement on my P.C. in my home office.

**Larry Galla:** I've retired though I've got things on the burner. I'm working on a family history which includes vital statistics, personal remembrances of family members and photos. Also I'm building wooden ship models. When I'm more settled, I hope to write some essays examining and critiquing current beliefs, values and culture.

**Andrew Grant:** Still working/teaching, Assisant Professor in Education. Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs. Having a ball.

**Fred Allnoch:** Joan and I are both retired (from Public Health) and are living the good life in beautiful Corpus Christi, Texas. Y'all come see us!

**John Sheehan:** Moved to Illinois two years ago to be near my step family. Arthritis pretty bad, but get around on walker. Still drive, but not at night. Drive back to Indiana once a month or more, for a writers meeting (at noon) in Gary, or to see an old friend in nursing home. Go frequently to supermarket, where cart is easy to walk with, and I can look at people and at food and have free coffee. Enjoy Basilian publications esp. articles in "Stirrings". Best wishes to all Basilians, present and former, formal and

informal, associates and friends and families.

**John Egsgard:** Lyn and I celebrated 30 years of marriage in February, 2003. We celebrated by skiing at Les Trois Vallées in France and Alta, Utah. In May we visited her first teaching assignment school in Kampala, Uganda, went on safaris in Uganda and Tanzania. We finished in Africa with a visit to the wineries of South Africa near Cape Town.

**Bruno Tesolin:** My marriage to Joan Melanson, a CBC journalist/producer/manager has resulted in two wonderful children: Joseita, currently in grade one French immersion; and Adriano, soon to start junior kindergarten. After several months of a frustrating job search, I returned to high school teaching at St. Pat's in Toronto: a far cry from teaching at Assumption in Windsor in the late 60's. Last December Joan and I finally bought a house in Riverdale, an area heavily populated with families with kids, racoons, squirrels and semi-feral cats.

**Michael Quinn:** Celebrated 50th anniversary of marriage to wife Therese - May 2nd. I appreciate being kept "up-to-date" respecting Basilian activities, appointments, etc., including the passing-on of former confreres and the opportunity to add my prayers to those of surviving ex-confreres.

**Jim Boland:** Retiring from professional sales after 45 years (includes 5 years as an officer in the U.S. Navy) to pursue investment opportunities in commercial real estate.

**George Vanderzanden:** We would like to thank Paul and Sandra for all the work they've done since the inception of the association. Know that you're in our prayers even though we haven't made it to recent reunions. Ivy and I will be celebrating our 33rd wedding anniversary on June 26th. My, how time flies! The 3 grandchildren are getting older and keeping us younger.

**Ed Brennan:** In December of 2001 we retired from our work at Misericordia

Home in Chicago with the special needs young people. We had more than 13 beautiful, fruitful, rewarding years there - our lives were so enriched!! We visited some close friends in Florida . . . they had been neighbors of ours on Cape Cod - 4 couples. In 2 days we bought a home here, and we're all neighbors again. We sold our house on Cape Cod in one day! We like it here, but we miss our 7 kids and 19 grandchildren who are all "up north".

**Jim Crotty:** Since I will be 78 in August (does that qualify me for senior status?) I hesitate to write a biographical sketch out of superstition it might become my obituary. I am doing my best to survive the "golden years". Unfortunately most of the names in my address book either have MD or DDS after them, which limits my social invitations. Some of my time is spent trying to find the best spiritual reading (any suggestions?) to put on my shelf. In closing, I want to say that I consider one of my better life accomplishments to be my association with the Basilians and membership in this group.

**Rick Faubert:** I hope to make Strawberry Island next year.

**Barry Smith:** Everything is about the same. Still selling commercial real estate. Just celebrated our 45th wedding anniversary. Have 13 grandchildren and playing golf as often as possible. Luckily I'm in good health and can still strike out Larry Elmer.

**Geroge Di Giovanni:** Still at McGill writing and publishing (though past normal retirement age), assisting my wife renovating an old mansion, watching my two sons and my wife's two daughters making their way in life.

**Steve Martin** is in his final year as administrator at Michigan

City High School in Indiana. His wife, Marielle, is joining the diplomatic corps in Athens, Greece in May for two years and Steve and their two teenaged boys will be joining Marielle at the end of the academic year.

**John McGee** is teaching at Rice University of Continuing Studies. The topics include (among others) a philosophy of religion; the nature and existence of God; naturalism, supernaturalism, theism; natural theology, creation and evolution, etc.

**Neil Smith:** I am quite busy with Meals on Wheels, Refugee Committee, St. Vincent de Paul and now I have taken up an old hobby again - horseback riding, Western pleasure riding.

**Gene Bammel:** I was president of the SAGE program at the University of Arizona last year. I taught a course on "Richard Rorty and American Philosophy" and this year am teaching a course on "Current Issues in Catholic Thought". Leilane is involved in a ceramics program at the Tucson Art Museum while Doyle, age 11, and Rachel, age 6, keep us in touch with a much younger generation.

**Frank Lally:** From his home in London, Ontario, Frank sends his regrets at not being able to attend the 2002 reunion along with a note of sadness on learning of the passing of Dennis Foy, Jack Madden, Jim Rankin and Gerry McGinn. Also, best wishes for a healthy and happy '03.

**Phil Beers** is retired but still finds time to teach two courses and do some tutoring at Westchester Community College.

**Paul Burns:** During the past year I appreciated receiving news about Basilians and former Basilians. It was good to be in touch with happy events as well as the sad ones about deaths. I am deeply grateful to the many Basilians and former Basilians who participated in the wake service and/or funeral Mass for my brother Michael last March. The pastoral response of so many who came to St. Basil's Church in Toronto touched me and all the members of my family. In closing,

Paul expressed a note of gratitude for the many reports he received on the novitiate class of '57 as well as the reunion.

**Rolly Gagnon:** Our animation graduate son, John, is now at Ottawa U. for a teacher's certificate as a back-up career, continuing in the family business.

**Bill Allgeyer** sends along his new address and the news of his recent connection with the Basilians. He says that he recently met Charlie Christopher and Mike Ceretto, his novitiate classmate, at Charley Smith's funeral. Another novitiate contact he made was with Quentin Johnson, who is now teaching at Holy Redeemer in Detroit. Quentin benefitted from Bill's recent move as he "had to get rid of about 1000 books before I could move from my former home to this apartment. I donated about 600 of them to Holy Redeemer High School in honor of Quentin Johnson." Nice to hear from Bill and his involvement in St. Gabriel's Church. In his words "I have never participated in a greater community of faith".

## Memories — by Paul Glynn

Every now and again these can slap you in the face.

Within a five day period in September, two of my novitiate friends died - Gene O'Reilly and Bill Lewis. You need a good memory to appreciate my comments — the year 1948-'49. The place, a relatively small farm about 2 kilometers north of Richmond Hill, which is north of Toronto on highway 11.

**Gene O'Reilly**, known as Duke, was the only one of our year that fitted in easily to farm life. Growing up on Wolfe Island in Lake Ontario, near Kingston, will do that to one. Not that we did much farming. Maybe 3 or 4 times a year we pitched in to help. Except for Duke. Because of his expertise, he was in charge of the chicken house.

Naturally, at Thanksgiving, we weren't going to buy turkeys with a pile of

chickens available. (Some of you might prefer not to read the next few lines.) Duke got two of us to come out and help with the slaughtering and plucking process. Our job was to hold the wings of the bird, tied by its feet to the low ceiling, while Duke cut the throat and plucked the dead bird while the blood was still flowing. One of us let go of a wing and then the other did the same. I guess the bird wasn't dead. The three of us were coated with blood. We were the focus of "conversation" for weeks to come.

Except for the odd retreat, I never got the chance to live with this friendly, sincere man. Oh yes, there was an exception. One of my summers in Quebec City, he lived at our St. Joseph's High School residence and took some courses at Ottawa U. We were together for a week or so when I got back. My future wife, Sandra, who taught with us for eleven years, was also taking courses and had loaned Duke some books. At one point, she wanted some of them back because of an essay she was doing. She phoned our residence and asked for Fr. O'Reilly. The voice said, which one? She said, the one from Wolfe Island. The voice said, we are both from Wolfe Island. At this point she forgot her ecclesiastical manners and said: "Can I speak to Duke, please?"

I was glad to see that he died on a farm back on Wolfe Island and, at 75, pastor of a neighboring church. I hear that he always ate turkey at Thanksgiving.

**Bill Lewis:** When you are next to someone in the precedence line-up in the novitiate and ever after, take the same university courses, take theology together and lie down beside each other at ordination, you tend to get to know each other. Bill Lewis, Louie, was a good

friend. Memories? Where do I start? Better still, where do I stop?

Louie had never been an altar boy, probably had never been inside the communion rail. So, a few weeks into the novitiate, asking him to be thurifer at benediction, seemed pretty safe, once he learned how to open and close the "pot". It wasn't like holding a dripping candle or looking after Fr. McGuire. The chapel was quite small, the first pew being a short stride to the altar step. Came the blessing of the monstrance, no movement by the thurifer. Someone in the front pew said, "Louie, shake it", so he did. The left hand holding the top of the chain went straight out, head high. The top of the incense pot, gripped by the other hand, went back and forth inches above the floor. The place broke up. Very few were capable of saying the final prayer. Poor old McGuire. Was he ever ticked. Later, when he was told what had happened, his sense of humour came to the fore.

Louie was a great reader. He always knew where and how to research essays. He was an incredible help to me. Example. One of our year one courses was Ancient and Medieval History. The prof had spent the first lecture summarizing his course and it was obvious that he was a real anti-Catholic Church bigot. So naturally, at our first seminar, we were assigned two medieval church topics. We were scared. What were two, nice, young seminarians going to do? Louie had the answer. He said: "On the top floor of that building called the Pontifical... something or other, is a priest historian. Maybe he could help". So we arrived on the scene unannounced. He gave us an hour and a quarter and put us both at ease with an outline and some reference books. Wow! Then he apologised because he had to leave for a class. Oh yes, I almost forgot, his name was Flahiff, George Flahiff. I'm sure that you have heard of him.

Never got a chance to live with Louie except for some retreats and one other exception. He came to Ottawa for a few months around '71 as a supply teacher. It was great timing. We were in the midst of our first full-

funding campaign. The Catholic Teachers had the province divided up and Sandra was in charge of Eastern Ontario. Louie covered her first couple of English courses when she had out of town meetings the night before. It was an incredible, emotional, short period of time. We both knew that we were going to leave and soon.

After he left, he taught at St. Joseph's Morrow Park in Toronto and was later involved in real estate.

Louie was part of an initial group that I could find to figure out how to run a reunion. He and Nancy, with their children, Chris, Amanda and Jamie came to most of them. The last one or two, he looked like death warmed over. However, we still maintained our usual conversations, kidding (insulting) each other for openers and then catch up. An incredibly kind man.

Memories. Great, like I said, even though at some time, in the usual pattern of life, they will belt you in the face.

Good Bye my two friends. Enjoy your well earned rest.

## The Treasurer's Report — Larry Elmer

As I sit watching the World Series, I can only imagine how those players riding the pines in the dugout would want to see their names listed on the game's playing roster. Then I think — how many former Basilians must want to see their names on our active roster of paid up members. Tell you what I'm going to do — here is a final 2003 offer to add your name to the active players list. Those already in the line-up are:

D. Abalos  
W. Allgeyer  
F. Alnoch  
G. Bammel  
P. Beers  
J. Boland  
R. Boykin  
E. Brennan  
P. Burns  
K. Cashion

D. Coughlin  
J. Crotty  
D. Cutcher  
J. Dietrich  
G. DiGiovanni  
C. Doherty  
J. Egsgard  
L. Elmer  
M. Farge  
R. Faubert  
S. Femiano  
R. Gagnon  
L. Galla  
P. Gibbons  
P. Glynn  
J. Goeters  
A. Graham  
A. Grant  
E. Herndon  
T. Hickey  
W. Keils  
A. Knowlton  
S. Kutz  
F. Lally  
S. Martin  
B. McCarron  
J. McGee  
J. McGinn  
D. Megel  
J. Moher  
P. Murphy  
E. Neary  
J. Neary  
F. Nolan  
D. O'Connor  
D. O'Neill  
W. O'Reilly  
T. Paterson  
G. Pilecki  
M. Quealey  
M. Quinn  
B. Reddall  
V. Reinsborough  
K. Ryan  
P. Rybicki  
B. Salvatore  
L. Schmidt  
J. Sheehan  
J. Slavin  
B. Smith  
N. Smith  
J. Strickland  
D. Sullivan  
T. Sullivan  
B. Tesolin  
L. Thompson  
G. Vanderzanden

## Words of Wisdom from Bill Lee

On the farm lived a chicken and a horse, both of whom loved to play together. One day the two were playing, when the horse fell into a bog and began to sink. Scared for his life, the horse whinnied for the chicken to go get the farmer for help!

Off the chicken ran, back to the farm. Arriving at the farm, he searched and searched for the farmer, but to no avail, for he had gone to town with the only tractor. Running around, the chicken spied the farmer's new Harley. Finding the keys in the ignition, the chicken sped off with a length of rope hoping he still had time to save his friend's life.

Back at the bog, the horse was surprised, but happy, to see the chicken arrive on the shiny Harley, and he managed to get a hold of the loop of rope the chicken tossed to him. After tying the other end to the rear bumper of the farmer's bike, the chicken then drove slowly forward and, with the aid of the powerful bike, rescued the horse! Happy and proud, the chicken rode the Harley back to the farmhouse, and the farmer was none the wiser when he returned.

The friendship between the two animals was cemented: best buddies, best pals.

A few weeks later, the chicken fell into a mud pit, and soon, he too, began to sink and cried out to the horse to save his life! The horse thought a moment, walked over, and straddled the large puddle. Looking underneath, he told the chicken to grab his "thing" and he would then lift him out of the pit. The chicken got a good grip, and the horse pulled him up and out, saving his life.

The moral of the story? (Yes, there's a moral!)

"When you're hung like a horse, you don't need a Harley to pick up chicks."

## A word from the "publisher"—Norm Frenette

This is the first time in 13 years that Paul Glynn has not had a hand in preparing the entire issue of Rapport, a task for which we cannot thank him enough. This one is the result of several hands contributing to the contents at the same time, so readers will forgive us if it has a rather improvised look.

The next issue will adapt a new format in hopes that it will be more attractive for those viewing it on line, complete with pictures and colours.

Those who are interested in providing materials directly to us can do so by sending it directly to me at:

[nfrenette@oise.utoronto.ca](mailto:nfrenette@oise.utoronto.ca)

Please send the material in text only format (don't bother with any formatting) and pictures in JPEG format. We would love to see you *de visu*.

In the meantime, I will try to master the intricacies of the wonderful world of Microsoft, so that we can provide on-line viewers with two formats, MS Word and Acrobat Reader.

## Association of Former Basilians

### Membership 2004 — \$36

Name:

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Address:

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Telephone/e-mail

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Send to:

Larry Elmer  
226 Dickson Park Cr.  
Mississauga, ON, Canada  
L5B 1Y4

Payable to: Association of Former Basilians

**Greetings and/or where I am at now:**