



Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles

2 0 1 0  N E W S L E T T E R

A Newsletter for Notre Dame Alumni and Friends

2010 Board Members of the Year

The Board of Directors held its annual Christmas dinner at Buca di Beppo in Pasadena on Wednesday December 8, 2010. Everyone had a great time during this festive event. When the meal was over, Rob Menz, our club president, went through the list of board members




Paul V. Dubé

Terry Moriel

Rob Menz

and their accomplishments for the year. He saved the last two names to announce a new award, Board Member of the Year. Paul Dubé, the runner-up was awarded a \$25 gift certificate and the new NDCLA Board Member of the Year, Terry Moriel, received a gift certificate for \$50.

Congratulations to all of the board members who helped to make this a very successful year. 

USC-ND Rivalry Continues



Tailback Cierre Wood breaks a tackle against USC defender as the Irish go on to win, 20-16. More on page 7.




Senior Alumni

The Notre Dame Senior Alumni is a sub group of the Notre Dame Alumni Association which comprises nearly 40% of the whole alumni body. However, the participation from Seniors is a mere fraction of that number.

There are many activities that are being discussed such as:

- Cancer Awareness Initiative
 - Cancer Education
 - Cancer Support Group
 - Bat for the Cure
 - The “Fighting Irish”
 - Support for testing and screening activities
- God, Country, Notre Dame (GCND) Initiative
- Catholic Community Professional Assistance Program (CCPAP)
- Hospital Support Program

We as a club have not served our Senior alumni (those 55 and older) very well. As we get older we tend to look at the Notre Dame Club as one that tends to support the needs of the younger alumni more than our own. Some of the activities that we seniors can participate in are in the area of professional counselling, particularly during this economy.

Please contact Paul Dubé '71 at (310)764-0076 or email ndcla_volunteers@yahoo.com and put “Seniors” in the Subject line for information about how to get involved. 



Dear Members and Friends:

Welcome to the new era of Notre Dame football, and the new era of the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles. While our football team has a brand new coach that has energized the program and the University, our Club has four new Board members, a vastly improved website, a stronger relationship with our LA based student body, and several new ways to enhance the ND Alumni, family and friends experience in LA.

As with Coach Kelly, our four new Board members, Dennis Wolf, Neal Salisian, Jennifer Heenan, and Michael Smith have brought an energy and excitement to our board not felt since the 2000s. Each of these new Board members has already played a pivotal role in recruiting LA area students to our great University, planning happy hours and an upcoming poker tournament, and developing a business networking group. While some of these projects are still in the early stages, they all bring great benefit to our Club. Congratulations to the new Board members, and thank you for volunteering your time.

While we're giving thanks, our Club also owes a great deal of gratitude to Paul Dubé and Michael Hermann, our new webmasters who not only accomplished the Herculean task of making ndcla.com 100% NDCLA owned and operated, but then revamped the site, adding new interfaces like PayPal and on-line event registration, and new sub-pages such as the Student Jobs/Housing, Careers, and both Young and Senior Alumni. If you haven't checked it out in a few months, you'll be blown away. Thank you to Paul and Mike for your efforts and incredible results.

As we continue to improve our Club as a resource to the LA community, we're also working hard to strengthen our relationship with our students on campus, beyond our significant scholarship contributions. We recently hosted a pizza party luncheon on campus that was attended by over 40 current Undergrad and Graduate students. We told them about the Club, focused on the new internship resources via the website, and asked them to become more involved with their SoCal roots. We even recruited incoming Senior

Gabby Moriel to become the student administrator for our Club's Facebook page. As mentioned above, we continue to adapt to a changing landscape.

So is everything changing in the NDCLA that you've come to know and love? Not even close. While we meet the evolving needs of our membership with new services and events like the poker and golf tournaments, ND Women's Connect, and business networking, we'll continue to sponsor the events and services you've come to expect, including bringing two Summer Service students and three new interns for our Cross-Cultural Leadership Intern Program (CCLIP) this summer.

As you can tell we have a lot on our plates, so please continue to participate in our events and feel free to volunteer. We're always looking for new ideas and recommendations to help us serve the students, community, and alumni.

Yours in Notre Dame,
Robert J. Menz, '00
President

Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

- President** Robert J. Menz '00
- VP, Club Affairs** James R. Balesh '89
- VP, University Affairs** Manuel G. Grace '79
- VP, Public Relations** Paul V. Dubé '71
Jill S. Palmer '99
- VP, Social Concerns** Carolyn A. Carney
- Secretary** Cristina Ceballos '03
Ralph Novotney '00
- Treasurer** Joshua C. Nelson '99

NDCLA.com

If you haven't visited the new and improved website for the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles you are missing out on a great experience. Imagine, going to the website and actually seeing current events and news! Seriously, the information is not two years old as in the past but is usually current within a week or so.

You can order most tickets for coming events now using Paypal. Why not support your club by buying online our very own T-shirt, designed by our member, Terry Moriel? You can even find out the current results of the major sports like football, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball, volleyball, hockey and many more as the seasons for each sport open. Sign up for membership in the club online. Look up all of the latest news that has been happening in the Notre Dame community. Search for jobs or post your resumé.

Special thanks go to Michael Hermann who worked with the old webmasters to transfer all of the files and who created a new website using a different hosting company. As a result, we are now in total control of what goes on the website and when information can be loaded. Then he had the daunting task to train a new webmaster on how to write the code. Duties of the webmaster have been transferred to our member, Paul Dubé, who is now in charge of keeping the website current. ♣



Visit www.NDCLA.com for all the latest and updated news, sports, events and NDCLA merchandise.

Chaplain's Corner

As a proud member of the Congregation of Holy Cross, Fr. Wilfred J. Raymond, our club chaplain holds a special place in his heart for Saint André Bessette, C.S.C., a newly canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 17, 2010. Saint André was the first member of the Congregation of the Holy Cross to be canonized. ♣

- Directors until 2011**
- Bertran T. Bader IV '95
- Thomas Crehan '90
- Anthony Iovine '91
- Jennifer Heenan '09
- Kevin G. McBride '76
- Robert Menz '00
- Neal Salisian '02
- Mike Smith '04
- Christie Bodnar Swiss '02

- Directors until 2012**
- Robert D. Byrne
- John Dlugolecki '75
- Paul V. Dubé '71
- Manuel G. Grace '79
- John A. Moe II '72, '75 JD
- Terry Moriel '11 Parent
- Joshua C. Nelson '99
- Ralph Novotney '00
- Jill S. Palmer '99
- Gregg Profzich '92

- Directors until 2013**
- James R. Balesh '89
- Carolyn A. Carney
- Cristina Ceballos '03
- Matthew Gardner '98
- Edward P. Hawley '08
- Dr. Robert S. Lee '62
- Timothy J. McAdam '92
- Chuck Sukapanpotharam '93
- Dennis Wolfe '92
- Robert M. Yang '93

- Club Chaplain**
- Rev. Wilfred J. Raymond,
C.S.C. '71

- Club Administrator**
- Hilda O. McGonigle S '80

Please contact the Club office with any exciting news or announcements appropriate for newsletter publication.

A Newsletter for Notre Dame Alumni and Friends



NDCLA

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Freshmen Sendoff 2010

On July 10, 2010 NDCLA welcomed the class of 2014 to the Notre Dame Family. This year's send off was held at the home of distinguished alumni James Flaherty ('79) and Mary Hesburgh Flaherty ('79). It was truly a beautiful event and a perfect day to honor the incoming class. Attendees included family, alumni, current students and Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson, Pastor of Saint Monica's Catholic Church, Rev. David Guffey, CSC, and Rev. Willy Raymond. Students were given "The 2010 Shirt," game beads and a freshman book containing valuable information for their journey to the dome!

Board members Bert Bader and Tony Iovine grilled burgers and hot dogs. Everyone enjoyed a delicious lunch while meeting their new classmates. A game of football trivia was held and with over 100 people in attendance, the competition was tough. It became very clear that the "Dads" knew their stuff.

Students and parents had separate question and answer sessions. Current students and alumni shared dorm life experiences, answered questions about campus, volunteer



programs, and of course, the cool, well, freezing weather in South Bend. On the other hand, parents discussed campus safety, bank accounts and the cost to travel to South Bend.

The day ended with current students performing cheers - The Jig and The Victory song. Then everyone, shoulder to shoulder, moving side to side sang the Alma Matter. Good luck class of 2014! May your journey be safe and filled with memories to last a lifetime! ♣

Class of 2014

Once again, the greater Los Angeles area produced a sizeable number of students who were admitted to Notre Dame. Out of 109 admitted students, we will be sending 37 to South Bend in the Fall as of this writing. We expect this number to grow as final confirmations trickle in and wait-listed students are enrolled. Statistically, the incoming Freshmen continue to be at or near the top of academic rankings nationwide with average SAT scores of 1440, ACT scores of 34 and an average class ranking of the top 5%. This year's class is nearly identical to last year's in terms of size, academic, and demographic profile. ♣



UND Night

October 5 was the date for the annual Notre Dame night sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles. This year the event was held at Tam O'Shanter restaurant in Los Angeles. The Ploughboys, which is an authentic Irish musical group entertained all before the dinner. A delicious

buffet dinner was served. The guest speaker was Louis Nanni, Notre Dame's Vice-President for University Relations. He answered questions about new things that were happening at Notre Dame and gave a talk about the University in general. A good time was had by all. ♣



Day at the Races

On a gorgeous Holy Saturday, thirty two friends of NDCLA and the Irish American Bar Association gathered at Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia for the Santa Anita Derby and NDCLA's Annual Day at the Races. It was a great day of food, drink, and horse racing as the favorite, Lookin At Lucky, took home the Derby crown. While not everyone may have come away a winner, the club wishes to say "Thanks!" to all that participated in this year's event! It was great to see you support the club and represent Notre Dame! We hope that you will be able to join us again next year! ♣



2010 Poker Tournament

On the evening of June 5, 2010, NDCLA held its first poker tournament. More than 30 players gathered at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Manhattan Beach and took part in an evening of fun and prizes. Among the prizes were a 47" HD television, an Apple iPad, and a trip for 2 to Las Vegas including airfare. Special thanks go to SB Casino for supplying the tables, Budweiser for supplying the beer, and the Knights of Columbus Council 4567 of Manhattan Beach for graciously opening their facility for our tournament. Thank you also to the many volunteers who provided the food, dealt the cards and other tasks and whose efforts made it possible to have a wonderful event. We look forward an even better event next year. ♣

King's Game

As the hockey season neared its last games of the season, NDCLA sponsored a night out at Staple Center. Last April 8th, club members and friends and family watched the Los Angeles Kings take on the Phoenix Coyotes in what was a preview to the playoffs. For all you hockey fans, watch for our next game coming in Spring of 2011. Hilda McGonigle, Maryadele Clougherty, and USC Alumni Sam Tsagalakis and Ron Ellico. ♣

2010 Golf Tournament

Teaming up before their teams face off, the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles and USC Catholic Trojans played their Inaugural Charity Golf Tournament at Industry Hills Golf Club in City of Industry on October 21, 2010. Proceeds from the tournament benefited the NDCLA Charitable Endowments, the new USC Caruso Catholic Center and Our Savior Parish.

Over 60 golfers from both schools played through the rain and wind to a split victory. A foursome from USC took the top spot with two ND foursomes taking second and third. However, through the combined scores of both school, the ND Club of LA took the overall school trophy home. In all, over \$6,000 in net proceeds were split between the two schools.



With a special thanks to our sponsors and participants, we look forward to continuing this new tradition in 2011 and furthering the apostolic works of both organizations. ♣

Dodger Day

NDCLA's annual Dodger Day took place on Saturday, May 22 with record attendance! Thank you to all that helped make this event a success and enjoyed a great evening at the ballpark!

Dodger Day - This is My Town

Friday, September 17th Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles had another club first, Dodger THIS IS MY TOWN "Ireland" Night at Dodger Stadium!

The price included Ireland themed t-shirt and all-you-can-eat Corned Beef Sandwiches, Irish Potato Salad, Dodger Dogs, Nachos, Popcorn, and Soft Drinks.

A great time was had by all who attended. ♣





2010 Hesburgh Lecture

On Thursday June 17, 2010, the Black Alumni of Notre Dame (“BAND”), in conjunction with the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles, hosted the Hesburgh Lecture Series’ first annual Dialogue on Diversity. This lecture has been on a national tour with previous stops in Washington DC, Baltimore, Detroit, Atlanta and Chicago. The topic of the lecture was Post Racial America. The presenters were Dr. Don Pope-Davis and Dr. Darren Davis. Dr. Don Pope-Davis’ studies are in the areas of multicultural psychology, counseling and education as well as being a university Vice President and Associate Provost. Dr. Darren Davis is a professor of Political Science whose areas of expertise are political psychology, public opinion, political behavior, voting behavior, research methods and racial politics.

The event was hosted on the campus of USC, specifically by the Ross Minority Program in Real Estate, an affiliated program of the USC LUSK Center. Although the event coincided with game seven of the NBA finals, it was well attended. The professors spoke to 20 alumni, current students and parents and took advantage of the comfortable family setting to address current issues effecting faculty and students on campus. While this was a



deviation from their formal presentation, attendees were thankful to be able to participate in a real forum setting.

BAND would like to thank Dr. Pope-Davis and Dr. Davis for their tireless efforts. In addition, BAND is truly thankful for the efforts of the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles, specifically those of Rob Menz, Carolyn Carney and Hilda McGonigle. The event was a huge success! Well, up until the point where we were forced to drop our esteemed professors off on the other side of a police barricade because of the “excessive celebration” after the Lakers won the title. Only in Los Angeles. ♣



ND Women Connect

The ND Club of Los Angeles is starting an affinity group of the Notre Dame Alumni Association called ND Women Connect, and this group will provide ND women the opportunity for camaraderie, networking, and outreach activities. The premise of this group is that ND women face common challenges in work/life integration, have a special bond based on shared values and backgrounds, can help each other reach their full potential, and have fun together!

Women have different ways of connecting-- the lines between professional and personal conversations easily blur-- and the different parts of our lives tend to be integrated rather than compartmentalized. We want our alumnae events and programs to reflect and address this type of connection. If you're interested in participating in these events and didn't fill out a survey, please contact Lisa De Niscia at lisa.deniscia@gmail.com for more information. ♣



Community Service Activities

The Club hosted 2 events that day - our monthly young alumni dinner at Samoshel Homeless Shelter and an afternoon of Spring Cleaning at the Good Shepherd Shelter. Thank you to Melissa Trevino Berendzen for hosting the dinner for the shelter’s 60 residents, and to Kevin Caretta, Michael Crow, Cara LeBlanc, Leigh Madera, Joey Falco, Katie Podkowa, Alex Davidson and Corey Berendzen for helping prepare and serve the meal. We made entomatadas from scratch and rice.

On the other side of town, our other team of ND volunteers helped Sister Ann Kelly and the Good Shepherd Shelter with Spring Cleaning. Good Shepherd is a shelter for women and children escaping domestic violence run by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. We painted several exterior walls of the shelter's school, as well as 2 bathrooms. Our painting crew included Brock Domin, Ben Finley, Stephen Blaha, Brian O'Neill, Tim Porras, Andrea Kavooosi, Natalia



Munoz, Patricia Campodonico, Robert Allong and Ryan Anderson. Thank you!

Also, a special thank you to Stephen Blaha (www.blahaphotography.com) for taking the photos for the event. ♣

Bat For The Cure

The *Bat For The Cure* game was held September 3, 2010 in Lancaster, CA, for a game between the Lancaster Jethawks (affiliated with the Houston Astros) and the Rancho Cucamonga Quakes (affiliated with the Los Angeles Angels). Paul Dubé, our Senior Alumni coordinator and also a prostate cancer survivor, handed out flyers and encouraged people to sign up for the blue bat give-away.

Congratulations to Audreanna Brown of Rosamond, CA, for having the winning drawing and taking the blue bat home. The bat was signed by all of the uniformed members of the Lancaster Jethawks at that game. ♣



Jethawk's mascot "Kaboom"

Summer Service Student

This past summer the Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles sponsored two students from the University for a summer service project. This project helps the students with their tuition and helps many agencies with much needed volunteers. This year, both students were from California and

were upperclassmen. Nicole Walkling and Erin Hallagan volunteered for eight weeks at the Good Shepherd Center. This is a program to help battered women and their children start life again. The students assisted with social activities, crafts, and learning events. The students made friends with the families and provided much needed help for the center. ♣



Young Alumni

The Young Alumni hope to create a culture that is both entertaining and resourceful for ND graduates in the Los Angeles area.

The Young Alumni group will allow recent alums to assemble for networking purposes, and also simply to socialize and enjoy good company. It will allow them to keep in touch with their Notre Dame roots, and act as an additional extracurricular activity to their growing professional and personal lives.

Many of the events will be recurring, such as our bi-monthly Happy Hours and weekly Game Watches in the fall. Others will take place sporadically, such as our upcoming poker tournament.

I look forward to acting as a valuable resource for ND alumni, and please feel free to contact Ned Hawley '08 at ndcla_volunteers@yahoo.com and put "Young" in the subject line for the Young Alumni group if you have any questions or concerns. ♣



The Rivalry Continues with 2010 USC-ND Weekend

This year shaped up to be a really good match-up between two teams starting the season with new coaches. As the season progressed the tension mounted for an exciting and fun filled ending. It's time to start a new Notre Dame dynasty with the win this year. The weekend kicked off with the "Game Is On" Luncheon and ended with an Irish victory! ♣



The "Game is On" Luncheon Successful Again!

Twenty-six years ago, Club Member Vince Yeo and former USC championship place-kicker Sam Tsagalakis came up with the idea of bringing fans together, at a Luncheon, on the Friday before the biennial game at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, to celebrate College Football's "greatest intersectional rivalry," Notre Dame vs. USC. This year we celebrated the fourteenth Luncheon in 26 years! This year's Luncheon was co-chaired by Notre Dame Club Members: John A. Moe, II, '72, '75, Hilda McGonigle, S'80, Tommy Hawkins, '62, and Rob Menz, '00 and USC alumni: Sam Tsagalakis, Ron Ellico, Kathleen DeCristo and J.K. McKay. The Presidents, Athletic Directors, and Head Coaches of both Universities attended this stellar event, along with former "greats" who have played in the game. The Masters of Ceremonies were Tommy Hawkins and J.K. McKay. The repartee between the various speakers was exceptional, including comments from USC Athletic Director, Pat Hayden, and Notre Dame Athletic Director, Jack Swarbrick. Guest who spoke included former Notre Dame Players Mike Golic (who co-hosts "Mike and Mike In The Morning" on ESPN) and Derrick Mayes, and USC player and Butkus Award Winner, Chris Clayborne. This year's Luncheon included a Video Tribute to those who have spoken at the Luncheon in the past who have passed away, including two-time Club President and Luncheon Co-Founder, Vince Yeo. The Luncheon concluded with Jay Olsen, a fourteen year old USC supporter who lost his eyesight to cancer. Jake did masterful job of speaking to the over 1,000 people in attendance at the Luncheon. Plan on joining us in 2012 for the 15th Biennial Event. ♣



IRISHFEST 2010

A great crowd of fans came this year from all across the country to help us cheer on the Irish. The party was held at Jesse Brewer Park and the weather was absolutely gorgeous. The temperature was a bit nippy in the tents and the shade but the sun was warm and the crowd had a great time to the music of Ploughboys. As usual, In-n-Out provided their Double-Double meals and were joined by first-time vendors MWH Concessions with their Kettle Corn and with a selection of hot



Business Networking

Another new group that was established this year is our Business Networking Alliance. The group's goal is to host quarterly events and put together a directory of members for us all to use as a resource. We are fortunate to be part of one of the strongest and most accomplished alumni networks in the country. Business Networking Alliance events and directory will bring us together to form new business relationships from which we will all benefit.



dogs and sausages. This event was enjoyed by people from all over the country who came to watch the Irish beat USC.

Too bad the weather couldn't hold out for the game. But the rain was an omen to USC that their reign over the Irish is over and that Notre Dame is BACK! When the game was over, sullen faces could only be found on USC fans as the Irish were all smiles! The rain woke up the echoes and cheered Notre Dame to victory. ♣



The compilation of our networking directory will be an ongoing process. Please send your contact information to Mike Smith (msmith@lee-re.com) in the format provided below to be included in the directory. There will be a small club donation requested for a printed copy of the directory with electronic versions of the directory provided complimentary for participants. ♣



Calendar of Events

February

February 9, 2011
Board Meeting
Time: 6:00 PM
Place: 140 S Lake Ave.
(Conference Room)
Pasadena, CA 91101

April

April 13, 2011
Board Meeting
Time: 6:00 PM
Place: 140 S Lake Ave.
(Conference Room)
Pasadena, CA 91101

March

March 9, 2011
Board Meeting
Time: 6:00 PM
Place: 140 S Lake Ave.
(Conference Room)
Pasadena, CA 91101

For the latest in upcoming events, go to
NDCLA.com for more information.



Get Involved with your Notre Dame Club!

The Notre Dame Club of Los Angeles is run primarily by volunteer Alumni, friends and family. We have more than 20 members on the Board of Directors as well as numerous volunteers who help run events and activities.

Would like to get more involved? Please contact the NDCLA office at ndcla@yahoo.com or 626.795.6363. ♣



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