

BROTHER VISITOR'S NEWSLETTER

02 September 2025



Mel and Art wisely chilling amidst all the activity at Mont La Salle's recent fire drill practice

PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR

- Children trapped by war all over the world;
- The Annunciation School community;
- Our trustees as they guide their schools;
- Healing for Bernie LoCoco, Bosco Huong, Carole Swain, Brian Dybowski, Peter deGroot, Richard Moratto, and family members of our partners;
- Parents with children struggling with mental illness;
- Healing and justice for victims of abuse;
- Those in transition and discernment;
- Needs of our young Brothers and contacts.



Bill Hughes with HFC staff at a recent outing to San Francisco Bay

My travels and assorted news...

The DeMarillac Academy Board met in the novitiate building on Monday of last week. I had an opportunity to visit with them briefly during their lunch. This dual charism school attracts such committed and zealous board members! They were joined by two new members who were at MLS for new trustee training. Two outstanding Daughters of Charity serve on the board: Sister Lisa (Chair) and Sister Adela.

Fire alarm drills are important to have on a sprawling campus like MLS and with our aged population. When we had one last week, everyone, including wheelchair bound personnel, evacuated in a safe and timely manner except for one person: me! I cluelessly worked in my office and thought the beeping was a truck backing up...

Attended a SMC Governance Committee meeting via zoom. I have come to appreciate the quality leadership and thoughtful planning by **David Caretti**. He has grown in his skill set of working with board members and provides valuable insights and challenging questions.

“May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all...” 1 THL 3:12

We pray for vocations and God provides! In the past six years, I've come to value the crucial role trustees play in maintaining and growing our Mission. Just when you think that you've done all you could, the Holy Spirit sparks interest and passion in a new cohort. Maria Ribera reported that the 19 new trustees trained were exceptionally qualified, curious, and ready to work!

La Salle Yakima's new president reports that they began this new school year with 136 students but now have 150 enrolled! Thanks be to God, this is a testament to the excitement and support that a Brothers community is generating. Kudos to **Dan Morgan**, **John Montgomery**, and **Javi Hansen** for their energetic influence. **Dylan Perry** (MW) is visiting Javi. They both completed the CMSM Young Leaders Training program this summer.

Tony Lenz is settling in well in San Francisco. Most mornings, he is volunteering as a math tutor at Sacred Heart Cathedral Prep. In the afternoons, Tony is the assistant girls tennis coach. The head coach is grateful for his coaching experience and for the help with forty players!



After 11 years, Valery An was tearfully reunited with his ill sister in Vietnam

Miscellaneous...

Valery An returned safe and happy from three weeks in Vietnam visiting with family, the Brothers, and attending a reunion of former students and former Brothers. He was accompanied by a nephew from Kansas City. For his 90th birthday, **Peter deGroot** underwent a Mohs treatment on his scalp. **Lawrence Haley** played and sang the Dutch version of the birthday song as they brought out his cake. **Joseph Pham** was accompanied by Mary Kelly for his first all-day visit to the ALS Clinic at UCSF. They evaluate the progress of the disease and Joseph's responses to medication. He has regular speech and physical therapy in Napa. Seven Brothers from the **Saint Paul's community** attended a CBS fundraiser in Metairie. The school community loves their presence at events. **Matthew Chiantella** participated in a four-day youth retreat at a neighboring parish. **Jim Riordan** has a day of testing to prove that he did not have a heart attack! That's good news!



Bill, Alphonse, Peter, Jerry, Gale, James and (John Mai) at a Christian Brothers School fundraiser at Drago's Restaurant



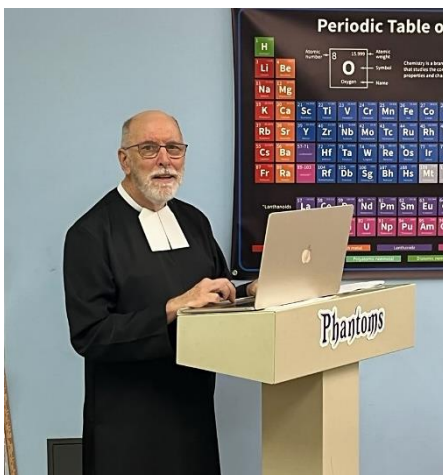
Artist Martin Vu recently beautified the El Otro Lado House with his painting



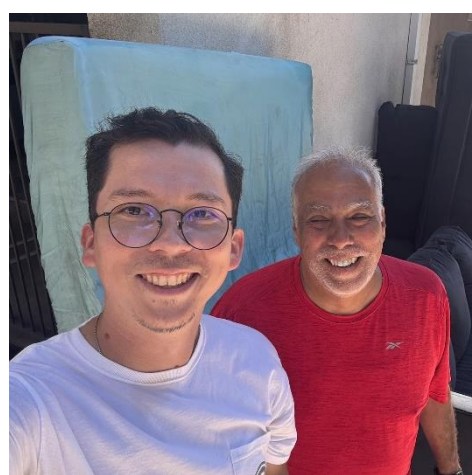
Representatives from DLS New Orleans and San Miguel during trustee training



Coach Javi Hansen and La Salle's nascent Cross Country team on first day of practice



Dan Fenton ready for his Chemistry students in Los Angeles; he's a long-term substitute



Rafa hosted Father Miguel Briseño, OFM, (College of Santa Fe alum) in Los Angeles

"Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of God's name. O render God glorious praise. Say to God, 'How wondrous your deeds!' PS 66:1-3

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