



THE SERRA-NADER

Club #25 ~ District XII-2E ~ Region #9 ~ May, 2018

A GREAT SUMMER TRADITION—SEMINARIANS LAKE RETREAT



Kneeling: Matthew Cline, Charles Mwaura, Benjamin Armentrout, Marcus Furnari, Owen Shields, Garrett King.

1st Row: Fr. Adam Johnson, Rev. Mr. Jayson Becker, Randolph Lemus, Derek Maghe, Trenton Still, Michael Anani, Elvis Aguilar, Pius Nsoh-Awasom, Fr. Alex Kreidler, Paul Harrison, Bishop James Johnston. **Back Row:** Andrew Kleine, Dcn. Bill Fox, John Beshenich, Dcn. Timothy Leete, Patrick Beshenich, Paul Sappington, Eric Nichols, Daniel Stump, Nathan Rueb, Aaron Hooper, Silas Barlett, Emmanuel Garduño, Samuel Horan, Jared Samson and Kendall Ketterlin.

Our club's pilgrimage to the Lake of the Ozarks began over thirty years ago when the number of seminarians studying for the diocese numbered about five or so. Tom O'Sullivan approached Bishop John Sullivan with the proposal that we take the seminarians to the lake, so they could get to know each other a little better and the Bishop said, "Absolutely." The first location that was used on the Lake was a home owned by "Wild Woody"—who was a pioneer in the "box store" business.

As the number of seminarians grew, a larger place was needed. That is when Serran John Latenser offered the use of his large home on the lake. The seminarians and Serrans would all fit because John bought a home that would sleep his entire family—sizeable.

But as the number of seminarians began to grow at the turn of the century, more room was again needed. The Serrans approached Bob Hamilton, Sr. who owned a home about a block away from Latenser. Bob agreed so now we had two locations. Soon we needed even more room, so we rented the home next door to Hamilton. But using three houses made hosting this event even more complicated. Where do we cook? Where do we eat? Where do we sleep? Where do we have Mass? And on and on. Where can we find a place where we can all be together—Shazam! We found Red Oak Lodge—a gold mine. It had a big Assembly Room where we could cook in a stainless-steel kitchen, all eat in the same room, play cards and have a reverent place to celebrate Mass--down by the fireplace.



Stories of the “early days” abound. Moe Courville, (Master Story-Teller) who started going down to the retreat over 25 years ago reminisced about the time they were moving a “king size aluminum pan of baked beans” to the serving table. The pan buckled, and the beans spilled all over the floor. He said, “We scrapped them up, put them back in the oven to sanitize them and labeled them ‘Trash Beans.’” He said, “they were all eaten, and no one died.” Moe also said the “All-Time Champion Eater” was none other than our Vicar General Father Charles Rowe—“we couldn’t fill him up.” He also said that you could never give Father Steve Cook “enough onions.”

In the early days, Moe was the “Pit Master” and did all the outside cooking and Paul Lillig was the “Fry Cook”—and prepared eggs, ham and the like in-doors. Chuck Naudet was an early riser and made sure the coffee was ready for everyone and Tom Walsh was the champion “dish washer.” Tom O’Sullivan made sure the steaks were perfect—by preparing his “special mushroom reduction.” John Burge was everywhere.



Today’s Retreat goes something like this: The seminarians arrive early Sunday afternoon and are assigned rooms at Red Oak Lodge—some Serrans and Father Johnson are already there making sure that “all the t’s are crossed.” Evening prayer is said, and the meal is prepared and consumed. Bishop James Johnston meets with the men after supper and each tells what he did during the summer and what he learned in the process.

On Monday morning after Mass and breakfast, the seminarians meet with priests who have been recently ordained to find out “what it is really like to be a priest.” When that is over, it is down the hill to the water for boating, skiing, tubing, jet skiing, fishing, swimming, whatever. Jerry Haake said, “I had the pleasure to take the seminarians on the water for tubing experiences on their Monday recreation time. I am happy to say that though many of them desired speed and threw caution



and safety to the wind, I was able to bring back every one of them alive and each of them had thrilling experiences in their turbulent rides. We ended the tubing with a long ride around that area of the lake for them to see some of the sizable homes that overlook the lake.” Then he added, “I was impressed with the camaraderie of the men, how they kindly treated one another, cared that no one got hurt and enjoyed and celebrated each other’s conquests in not getting thrown off the tube, yet when some were spilled, they were watchful that there was no injury. A solid group of men who made me proud to be involved in recreation with them. And I look forward to “tormenting” them again next August!”

Speaking of Mass and prayer. . . Serran Daffy Shaw said, “For many years Chuck Naudet took his statue of Our Lady of Fatima down to the Seminarians Lake



Retreat and several years ago he asked Dick and I if we would like to start taking her down. Of course, we said “yes” for it would be a privilege to have this honor. This year when we arrived with Our Lady’s statue, Father Johnson came out and lovingly carried her into the large Assembly Room and gently placed her up on the fireplace mantel where she would be front and center for all the Masses, morning and evening prayers and she even looked on as the seminarians and Serrans socialized and ate. It seemed once she arrived, it was time to begin.”

After a day on the water when the men finally return, they are hungry and tired. The tables are decorated with table cloths, candles, silverware (not plastic ware) and practically real plates (not Chinet). Real meat (steaks, porkchops), salad, vegetables, bread, dessert, etc. prepared and ready to eat after evening prayer. After dinner it is time for some “Texas Hold ‘Em” that is supervised by Deacon Bill Fox with Bishop Johnston as a participant. Others step out on the deck to smoke one

of Marty Meyers “imported cigars.” When cards and conversation are over, it is time for bed.

Today’s Cast of Characters not mentioned above are: Chief Cook, Steve Pierce, Tom Bax, John Burge, Jerry Cooke, Tom Coppinger, Bryan Flanagan, Butch Wagner, Jimmy Clossick, Joe Smith. . . and Tom O’Sullivan’s old buddy, Pat Riga.

Father Alex Kreidler adds, “Going to the Lake was great for lots of reasons. It was a chance to get away for a few days after the busy summer. It was chance to see some of the other seminarians and priests that I hadn’t seen in a while. In sum, it was a chance to relax and just have some fun! Good food, good company- what more could a guy ask for? Not to mention going out on the boats and jet skis, swimming, playing cards- it was always a great time and I’ll remember it fondly.”

by Dick Shaw with lots of help

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



This President’s letter will discuss two topics. The first is SOS which is an obvious topic because Serra supports priests-in-training clear through to retirement. The second topics is the funeral of a great lady with two Bishops and 27 priests on the altar was something that struck me as unusual and comforting.

Support Our Seminarians

The last Friday evening in January was the 25th SOS Dinner Benefit. The event most of you know is a joint event of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas and Conception Abbey and Seminary.

In the old days we had pre-parties. Sharon and I first met Elinor and Tom Bax at a pre-party they hosted when they lived on Gregory in Missouri. These events lasted long into the night—the Nigro brothers had live auctions selling condo time in Colorado and Mexico and, also church pews from Conception Abbey. I still have a collection basket that was used at Conception when I was very young.

The ambiance this year was at a high level. Maybe because it was the 25th year but more likely because there were about 60 men up front in training to be priests. I was proud that at least 20 members of our club were able to attend.

Kathleen Shaughnessy Connor

Kathleen died February 10, 2018. She is the mother of Kevin Connor, a fellow Serran and Past-President and of Brian Connor, a priest in the Lincoln Diocese in Nebraska. At our last Serra meeting, Kevin said, “Pray for my Mother. She is in the hospital with the flu, but she is OK.” She died the following Sunday. Father Brian presided at the Mass at Visitation with 27 priests mostly from Nebraska along with their Archbishop and another Bishop from Nebraska. It was a wonderful tribute to a great lady—she will be of much assistance to St. Peter.

I want to give a special thanks to Dick and Daffy Shaw for reviving our Serra-Nader. I cannot thank them enough for what they do. They do stuff that I as President don’t even know about.

Ted Derks, President

BLISTERS FOR SISTERS
SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2018
St. Thomas More Parish
11822 Holmes Road
Kansas City, MO 64131



Registration: 9:00 to 10:00

Walk: 10:00 to 11:00

Mass: 11:00

Lunch: 12:00

Save the Date

*The Annual Installation
Banquet*

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018

*Celebration of the Eucharist
5:30 P.M.*

*St. Thomas More Church
11822 Holmes Road
Kansas City, Missouri 64131*

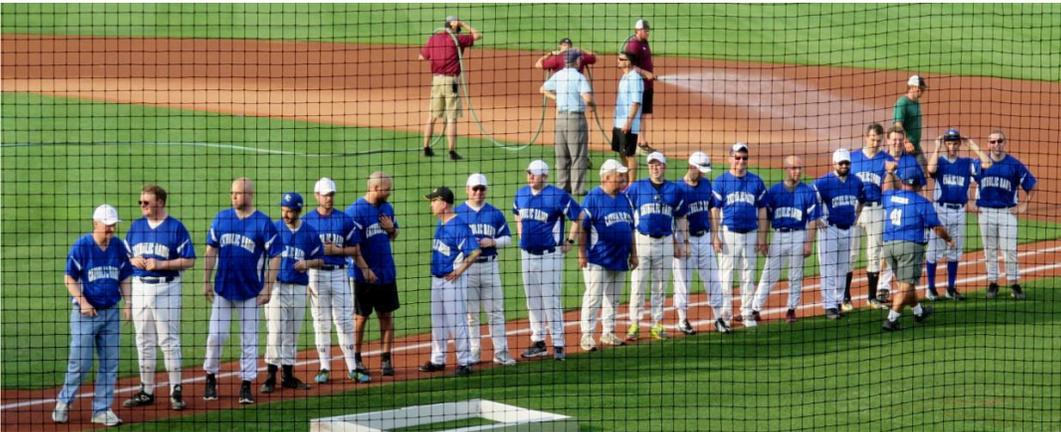
PICTORIAL REVIEW OF THE PAST THREE QUARTERS



During the summer months **Deacon John Purk**; **Sister Loretto Marie Colwell SCL** (Executive Director of the Seton Center); **Steve Pierce** (Governor of Serra District 12-2E) and **Father Adam Johnson** addressed Serra Club #25 during our luncheon meetings.



Father Jonathan Davis was ordained to the Catholic Priesthood for the Kansas City-St. Joseph Diocese by Bishop James Johnston.



4th Annual Catholic Radio's "Pitching for Priests" where priests from both dioceses challenge one another in a "friendly game" of soft ball. The results from the first two years were GREAT! This year. . . ugh Bishop Johnston hammers one to left field.



Greg Vranicar and Ted Derks traveled to St. Therese North and joined twenty-two of our seminarian at the North Club picnic.



Annual Joint Club Mass & Lunch



Religious Sisters Appreciation Day—co-sponsored with the Kansas City, KS Club.



Five new members join the Serra Club of Kansas City Missouri at the Joint Club meeting at Our Lady of Good Council: Tom Fritts; Kathy Mcguire, Jeffrey Crowe; Charlie Huffman and LouAnn Huffman



C.O.R.E.'s annual Priests Appreciation day was little damp, but the priests still played golf, played cards and ate barbeque.



Northland's "Wine & Dine" Event



25th Anniversary of Southeast Club



Annual Chili Dinner



Annual Christmas Dinner for Seminarians and Parents at St. Thomas More Church.



Mark Your Calendar

March 2018

- ___ Incoming Presidents Planning Seminar
- 7 MASS & LUNCH (Noon)**
CTK Election of Officers
- 13 Board Meeting 4:30 p.m.
CTK
- 21 MASS AND LUNCH**
CTK

April 2018

- ___ Spring Leadership Planning Conference
- ___ submit credentials for Club Delegate of International Convention
- 1 Easter
- 4 MASS & Breakfast—7:00**
St. Elizabeth's
Father Brian Frain, SJ
Rockhurst University
- 10 Board Meeting 4:30 p.m.
CTK
- 18 MASS & LUNCH (Noon)**
CTK
- 22 World Day of Prayer for Vocations

May 2018

- 1 End of Year Reports Due from Officers**
- 2 MASS & LUNCH (Noon)**
CTK—Sister Connie Boulch
Dir. of Consecrated Life
- 5 Blisters for Sisters**
(See ad for details)
- 8 Joint Board Meeting 4:30 p.m.
(Old and New Boards) CTK
- 12 Ordinations to Deaconate
- 15 Installation of Officers**
(See ad for details)
- 19 Ordinations to the Priesthood

2017-2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<i>President</i>	Ted Derks	<i>Communication</i>	Frank Clifford	<i>One Year Trustees</i>	Becky Turner
<i>President Elect</i>	Jerry Haake	<i>Membership</i>	Laurence Freeman & Charlie Murphy		Mike Brogan
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<i>Chaplain</i>	Fr. Adam Johnson	<i>Foundation Coord.</i>			Dick Shaw
<i>Vocation Office</i>	Fr. Adam Haake	<i>Friends of Serra</i>			



Serra Club of Kansas City
11014 Washington St.
Kansas City, MO 64114

Return Service Requested
Please Do Not Forward