



The Spire

St. Stanislaus
Alumni & Friends Newsletter



VOLUME 7, ISSUE 2
8 PAGES

JULY 2019

Mark Your 2019 Calendars *For Something Old and Something New*

Sunday — July 28, 2019

Annual Picnic

**Klima's Garden Pavilion
4646 East 71st Street
Cuyahoga Heights
1:00 p.m.**

**Sponsored by the
St. Stanislaus Alumni & Friends**

----- \$10 Admission -----

- Picnic lunch and raffle ticket
- Side Board Sales
- Silent Auction Items
- Autumn Dinner Ticket sales
(Pre-order Sales)

**Menu:
Hamburger and Frankfurter
...with trimmings
Potato Salad, Baked Beans
Dessert and coffee/tea
Bar Sales**

Join classes having special Reunions

70th –1949 contact Alice Klafczynski – 330-421-7338
60th –1959 contact Cliff Kneblewicz – 440-237-1061
50th –1969 contact Diane (Karwoski) & Ed Slovenski
–216-587-5773

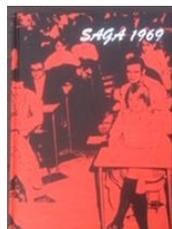
1949



1959



1969



Sunday, November 10, 2019

The First **Autumn Pork Chop Dinner**

Sponsored by the Alumni and Friends

This fund raiser will help benefit the on-going presence of our

St. Stanislaus Elementary School
and the Alumni needs.

You can help to keep up the wonderful reputation of our Historic School and its dedicated Staff.



**Following the 11:30 Mass at the
Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus**

Served In the



**St. Stanislaus Social Center
6601 Baxter Ave
Cleveland, Ohio 44105**



Doors open at 12:30 p.m.

Dinner served at 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Menu: Pork Chop, Green Beans, Homemade Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Salad, Apple Sauce, Cake, Coffee, Tea, Soda, Water – No Alcohol

**Featuring – “Our Own” – Ronnie Z Music
Side Boards and Baskets Raffle**

Pre-order Tickets!

NO TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR

Only 200 tickets for sale

8 or more in a group – reserve a table

**Tickets will be available for purchase at the
Klima's Picnic – Sunday, July 28, 2019**

Or the best way: use the coupon on the back page

Cost:

\$16 - for 2 pork chops

\$13 - for 1 pork chop

\$ 8 – for Childs Order of Chicken Strips



CONFLICT RESOLUTIONS (A.K.A. FIGHTS) IN THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD.....Bill Dix

Growing up almost everyone of my friends and I were involved in at least one disagreement that led to a fistfight. If you ask us today the reason for the fight, we don't even remember!

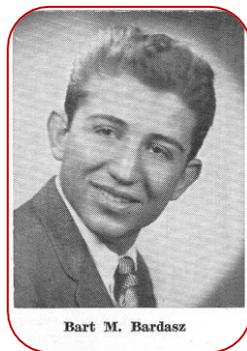
Even the quiet and shy **Bart Bardasz** – and the brilliant **Chester Slabinski**, from my class, had fights. They both handled themselves quite well, especially Bart. The customary venues were;



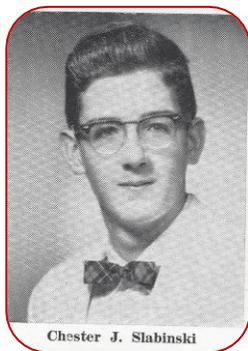
Morgana Park or behind the candy store on East 65th, and a “passing yard” on E. 61st Street, as well.

One of my “incidents” happened in the fifth grade and involved **Stanley Gorczyca** (God Rest His Soul) who was a friend who also lived on E. 59th Street.

Stanley almost always sat alphabetically behind me in class. He liked to flick my big ears with his finger nails. One day, he decided to push a straight pin into a pencil eraser and he proceeded to stick me in the neck and ears. Just like Ralphie in the “Christmas Story” movie, my patience



Bart M. Bardasz



Chester J. Slabinski

was finally at an end. I turned around and punched him square in the nose. He is rather large proboscis exploded like a ripe tomato. I was sure that I was in deep, deep trouble but Sister, fortunately, found the pencil and pin on the floor. She didn't move Stanley's seat, but rather mine to the end of the last row, behind **Thea Ziembicki**, *a choice seating location for me!*

Another incident took place at the candy store on East 61st and Kenyon. Twin boys who lived on E. 61st Street, and were somewhat bigger than me, and spoke Polish with very little English. I went into the store to buy my favorite treats, a Hershey's chocolate bar with almonds. My grandfather always called it “The Staff of Life”. As I was leaving the store I pushed the door open and was simultaneously pushed from behind by Twin #1. I fell down the steps and while I



Theodora M. Ziembicki

tried to get up, Twin #2 grabbed my chocolate bar as Twin #1 hit me in the ribs. They ran around the corner onto East 61st and by the time I recovered, they had disappeared. **Well...you can hit me, stab me or kill me but don't ever mess with my chocolate!**

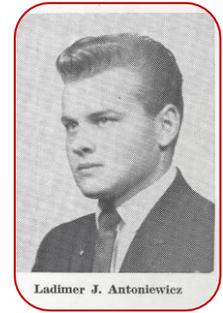
The next two days, I did some recon from a distance. Alas, they were frequently lurking around the store, and I actually saw them take some potato chips from a much younger girl.

On the third day, I went into the candy store knowing that Twin #1 was outside and that Twin #2 was in the back of the store. I brought my chocolate bar and proceeded to the door. Twin #2 rushed behind me again, but I sidestepped him and grabbed the back of his shirt--ripping it--and threw him down the steps. Twin #1 came rushing around the corner and was totally surprised that his brother was on the ground and not me. Twin #1 pointed to the ripped shirt and they both started to cry and ran down E. 61st St. I felt bad about ruining their matching outfits, but as I bit into my chocolates that feeling disappeared completely. I peeked around the corner and saw the twins talking frantically to a gentleman, probably their father, on the front lawn four houses from the corner. I was shocked! I couldn't catch a break! The man was the same pro-soccer player who had kicked me in the posterior a few months before. I quietly retreated back up Kenyon to East 65th and then left on Heisley to East 59th. I used this route to go home from then on, and took my chocolate business to Walker's Deli on E. 59th Street. I then began walking home with two people who became lifelong friends, the late **Vince Los** and **Ron Wisniewski**. They both eventually enlisted in the Army Airborne together. Sometimes, Vince's older sister would walk with us. I thought she was the most *beautiful creature I've ever seen*. That was of course, before I met my prom date – a story for another time.

The “*Ultimate Conflict Resolver*” was, hands down, **Lad Antoniewicz**. I first saw him when his mother – an imposing lady looking like “*a Spanish Galleon in full sail*” – was walking Lad and his younger brother, John, to their first day at Saint Stanislaus Elementary School. They were neatly dressed for school...in *Poland!* Short baby blue pants, white shirt, and short navy blue jackets. Their high top black shoes shined.

Everything went well that first day until recess. I didn't witness what happens next—I was kept in for recess to wash black boards, don't ask—but I saw the results when students filed back into school. Apparently, two male upperclassmen and one in my grade – who shall remain nameless – made jokes about their clothing. I noted two bloody noses and one black-eye. Even as a sixth-greater Lad was twice their size. Nobody ever bothered them again – even when they carried *Hopalong Cassidy* book bags!

Neighborhood justice was served.



Lawrence T. Guzy, PhD -- Distinguished Teaching Professor, Emeritus

..... **MY STORY ABOUT A 'SEXIST BULLY'**

It's my turn to relay a story that occurred when I was a St. Stan's grade school student. It was wintertime. I was walking home from school, when an attractive high school girl suddenly turned around. Our eyes met. Her face was full of passion. She quickly ran to me and put her arms around me and we fell to the snow-covered ground. I was completely under her control and didn't attempt to resist.

Sounds like a fantasy, but it happened to me and it may not be what you're thinking.

Here is the real story. As I was walking home from school, assuming safety in numbers, I caught up with a group of older grade school boys. A very cute high school-aged girl came upon us from behind, passed us and was quickly putting some distance between us when one of the boys cruelly called her "**horse face**". **The other boys laughed.** In my eyes, she was anything but. I knew she was hurt by that comment. I didn't want any part of their bullying, so I dropped several feet back from the group. I noticed that she began to slow down to close the gap with the boys. This was a very, very bad sign. I knew a confrontation was imminent and she was going to seek revenge. Another one of the bullies called her "horse face". Then it happened. She spun around and with all the anger she could muster uttered, "Who said that?" The boys turned and said, "he did" pointing to me. Yes, our eyes met. She threw her books to the sidewalk and came running at me with all her pent-up anger just waiting to be released. I knew that I could easily escape her clutches by zigzagging away, but I felt that she needed to release her frustration and anger. I just stood there waiting for the inevitable. There was no point trying to deny it. That would have sounded so lame. For some reason, I was not frightened. Yes, she did put her arms around me and tackled me to the ground. While holding me down with one hand, she scooped up a handful of snow with the other and gave me a wash face. Yes, it's true, I just let her do what I knew she had to do. She then said, "Don't ever call me that name again." I didn't say anything. Why should I, I didn't say anything in the first place. I didn't want her to have self-doubts about washing the wrong face. As she walked away, I had a warm feeling as I picked up my glasses, blew the snow off the lenses, and grabbed my snow-covered books. I hoped I was instrumental in helping her release her anger and obtain some justice no matter how misguided. Concerning those older boys, they laughed and walked away. They moved on to other high schools and not St. Stan's. Thankfully, I never saw them again.



Joyce (Blake) '62 & Larry '61

A little bio of happenings after St. Stan's. I married my high school sweetheart, Joyce; I earned my Bachelor's degree in Psychology from John Carroll University and PhD in Clinical/Cognitive Psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo. My first position was as a Clinical Psychologist assigned to the Neurology and Psychiatry Departments of a large hospital. Very quickly, I realized that I wanted to mentor students on a regular basis and there was no opportunity in the hospital. I enjoy the process of discovering problems and seeking solutions. However, these projects had to be collaborative efforts with students. My greatest joy was mentoring and collaborating with them on research projects and having them present their findings at numerous professional research conferences.

I taught at Alliance College and then 39 years at the State University of New York at Oneonta (near Cooperstown). I have conducted research with NASA, Randolph and Wright-Patterson Air Force Bases; the Israel National Police, the Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania Transportation Institute, our local Sheriff's Department, and the New York State Police.

2018 Rainy Day Fund Results

Thank you for your help in our Rainy Day Fund Drive for this year. The following 26 donors allowed us to increase our fund by \$1835. Below is a listing of the Honor Roll Donors.

Pacesetter (\$500 +)

Florence (Karash) Nowocin – '60

Star Performers (\$100-499)

In Memory of

Jerome Budzinski – '48
 Larry '61 & Joyce (Blake) Guzy '62
 Ron & Wanda Halinski – ES '49
 Allan Mosinski – '68
 Norm '60 & Iris Pieschalski
 Bob '61 & Ingrid Sledz
 Jan (Karash) Swift – '58

Benefactor (\$50-99)

Mike Blaszak – ES '62
 Tim Florencki – '72
 Steve Hujarski – '65
 Marie Jenkins – '65
 Clare Larca – '65
 Rich '63 & Carole (Kolbay) '65
 Nowak
 Linda Zuber – '68

Patron (\$10-49)

Donna Larca Burovac – '60
 Ron Kaczmarek – '65
 Anna Kaczmarek-Dechert – '69
 Sharon Kozak – '65 & '70
 Chris Krosky – '60
 Gayle (Luboski) McGlumphy – '65
 Lavern Mementowski
 Karen (Cackowski) O'Neil – '65
 Joyce (Ruminski) Purson – '58
 Barbara (Rutkowski) Stine – '58
 Norm Zielinski – '58

Special mention is needed regarding Florence (Karash) Nowocin '60 for two reasons —

1. Her generosity to be a Pacesetter (\$500+) again as she did for the 2018 drive last year.
2. For her suggestion that we have a "letter to the editor" section...so we did and here is her letter.....

A letter to Fellow Alumni.....Florence (Karash) Nowocin

The hardest thing in the world is to ask for money. Yet, sometimes to help others it becomes necessary.

A little history on the art of "asking".

While at St. Stan's (K thru 12), in order to acquire certain things for the school, I remember selling raffle tickets for a "used" car, standing outside a store selling scatter pins and, of course, asking "usually a family member" to subscribe to the Universe Bulletin. I even remember going into the bars, and there were quite a few on the corners from E. 61st Street down Fleet Avenue, to get the patrons to help out us "kids" by buying a few chances.

My favorite memory was when I walked back from somewhere in Maple Hts. to Fleet Avenue in the snow with my friend, Nancy. Yes, this is true. We thought we could sell more raffle tickets if we got away from the streets around the school where everybody lived and went to St. Stan's. We got a ride to Maple Hts. from Nancy's boyfriend who then forgot to pick us up. This was obviously before cell phones and we didn't want to use the money from the raffle ticket sales for a pay phone. So, we walked, and you can imagine how that all ended up with Nancy and her beau. The good news – we weren't barefoot and didn't have to walk uphill both ways.

Having been so well trained in the art of asking, I continued honing my skills by joining the Florida Beta Sigma Chapter of Phi Beta Psi an organization that raises money for cancer research.

So, you see, asking people to help is what I was trained to do and I might as well just go for it.

Won't you please think about donating to the Rainy Day Fund?? I understand that most if not all of your donation is

used for the grade school. These children and their teachers can use a helping hand and I sincerely hope that hand is yours. You don't have to sell anything or walk in the snow. And I know anything you give will be greatly appreciated.



Florence M. Karash

With love in my heart for St. Stan's.
Florence (Karash) Nowocin, Class of 1960.



Editors Response.....Bob Sledz '61

Dear Florence,

I think there are many alumni who also share love in their heart for their Saint Stanislaus experience and the lasting friendships developed. Although you live in Florida, you continue to generously support our alumni efforts.

Today we can look back and see how those school fundraising adventures helped mold our character. Watching the nightly news we know today is much different than the period of time – the 50s and 60s – when we grew up.

— But I can also tell you how much Mrs. Martin, Principal, and the dedicated staff at the elementary school appreciated the support and dinner that was provided during Catholic Schools Week Open House. Wonderful things are happening in classrooms at both the Elementary and Cleveland Central Catholic High School.

—The school today provides the students with a safe, healthy, educational experience that for most resembles a loving caring home. There are not many churches in Cleveland which still support an elementary school attached to their parish. The dedicated Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth, that we knew, have been replaced by outstanding lay teachers today, who help instill appreciation for church concepts and values even though most of the students are not from Catholic homes.

As Bishop Pilla once said *“We do this... Not because they are Catholic—but because we are!”*

We will keep plugging along as we try to continue to maintain our 3 goals:

Appreciate and savor our *past* through involvement with alumni and cherished friendships.

Live in and enjoy the *present* by being aware and participating in up-coming activities and parish events.

Work to help the *future* of St. Stanislaus Parish and Schools, as well as our alumni development.



Alumni Committee Members, at work preparing the Spire Newsletters for mailing, at Golubski's on 65th and Fullerton. After all the folding, stuffing and labeling - a buffet luncheon is served. we do this twice a year so you may enjoy your issues in January and July. Know anyone in the photos?



WANTED --- YOUR SPIRE STORY TO SHARE...

Movie theater memories and adventures at the neighborhood shows —

*Olympia, Garfield, Stilwell, Grand,
Maple, Cloverleaf Drive In*

Do you have a Spire Story?



OLYMPIA THEATER, 1914. The Olympia Theater, which opened in 1912, was one of several vaudeville and grand motion picture houses in the Broadway Avenue area. Others included the Broadway Theater at 4628 Broadway Avenue, Broadway American Company at 4825 Broadway Avenue, the Columbia Theater at 6421 Broadway Avenue, and the Harvard Theater at 8414 Broadway Avenue. The Olympia Theater closed in 1980 and the auditorium was destroyed during a renovation project. The lobby, however, remains. The Olympia Theater (called the Luce Theater) was featured in the 2001 movie *Welcome to Collinwood*, with George Clooney, which was partially filmed in Slavic Village. (Western Reserve Historical Society.)

Nursing School after St. Stanislaus

What is your medical career story and experiences?

Do you have a Spire Story?



Below: St. Alexis Nursing Students - Fall 1922
Photo courtesy of Betty Ann Skrha

ST. ALEXIS STAFF. St. Alexis attracted a well-trained and dedicated staff. Several prominent Cleveland doctors were at one time part of the St. Alexis staff, including Frank Bunts, George Crile, and William Lower, three of the founders of Cleveland Clinic. (Cleveland Press Collection/ Cleveland State University.)



Send your story to: Alumni Spire, The Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus, 3649 East 65th St., Cleveland, OH 44105



Memories from the Last Prom Queen

Saint Stanislaus High School, St. Stans, Saints High ... No matter what you call it, our high school years gave us some of the best memories of our lives. At St. Stans we received a foundation for our lives ahead – religious and academic. But it was much more than that.

Even as teenagers we had a mutual respect for our classmates and other students. We enjoyed working together in clubs, cheering on our sports teams, dances in the gym, homecoming parade, lunch in the cafeteria...we could go on and on. Our lives were being filled with friends and memories. Many are still friends today. Many married fellow classmates.

We are alumni of the Class of 1969, the last graduating class of St. Stans High School, celebrating our 50th Class Reunion.

I was honored 50 years ago to be Prom Queen with Tom Filarski (R.I.P.) as Prom King which means I also carry the honor of being the last queen ever of St. Stanislaus High School. These memories, along with so many others, are very special for me, for us.



Diane Karwoski & Eddie Slovenski

The building may have changed its name, but the memories are alive in our hearts. Most important is to keep those memories alive by keeping in touch with classmates and other alumni. As we sang in our alma mater ---
“and we will not forget, though we be far, far, away.”

Diane (Karwoski) and Eddie Slovenski
Go Panthers!



ALUMNI COMMITTEE RELAXING AFTER ONE OF THE EVENTS.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Alumni & Friends – Klima’s Garden Picnic – Sunday, July 28, 2019

Polish Festival (Social Hall) – October 4, 5 & 6, 2019

St. Stan’s Elementary Student Mass & Alumni Memorial – Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Harvest Pork Chop Dinner (Social Hall) – Sunday, November 10, 2019

IN MEMORIAM

The St. Stanislaus Alumni & Friends extends its condolences to the Families and Friends of the recently departed and pray the Lord will welcome them into everlasting life.

Alan Kuczynski '59

Walter Dembkowski

Joe Kramarz '57

Dolores Swierczynski '56

Dennis Kansy '58

Wanda Mazurkiewicz

Joseph (husband of)

Sandra (Sper) Natran

John Kucinski

Loretta Horvath

Rita (Ryglewicz) Tezie

Marge (wife of)

Ralph Konkowski

Carol (Ruminski) Walk '55

Mr. & Mrs. Tom Oleksiak

Raymond Truhlar

Ron Kaczmarek

Ruth (Draganic) Button '69

To inform the *Spire* about the death of a member of the Alumni & Friends Family please contact either:

Rita Golubski
216-341-0881

or

Donna Heid
dheid1961@gmail.com

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL MASS

During the month of November the Alumni is providing the Bread and Wine for all of the Masses.

The First Wednesday of the Month the Elementary School attends the 8:30 morning Mass.

On Wednesday, November 6 2019 join us by sitting along the wall aisles, as students and teachers occupy the center of the church. Remain afterwards for Alumni refreshments.

Contact information:

The Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus
3649 East 65 Street
Cleveland, OH 44105

Rectory and Parish Office:
216-341-9091

www.ststanislaus.org

Previous *Spire* issues located on website

Alumni Association

Bob Sledz, Chairman & Editor

Ingrid Sledz, Composer & Designer

440-333-7827

sledzbob@yahoo.com

St. Stanislaus Alumni Friends – 2019 Rainy Day Fund – NEEDS CONTINUED SUPPORT

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Graduation Year _____

Mail checks payable to: *St. Stanislaus Alumni*

& send to: The Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus



Autumn Pork Chop Dinner

Sunday, November 10, 2019

At 1 p.m.

Sponsored by the Alumni and Friends of St. Stanislaus Church

Table Reservations for 8 or more

Ticket deadline Oct 27, 2019

Two (2) Pork Chops--\$16. One (1) Pork Chop--\$13. Childs (Chicken Tenders) \$8.

Total Amount Enclosed.....\$ _____

Your tickets will be held at the door: Name _____ Phone _____

Mail checks payable to: *St. Stanislaus Alumni*, 3649 East 65th St., Cleveland, OH 44105 Questions: Bob 440-333-7827