

**CATHOLIC ALUMNI CLUB
DETROIT**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am currently reading Matthew Kelly's book, "Rediscovering Catholicism". The following words are his various quotes that I took from his book.

"The human heart is on a quest for happiness. I believe God wants us to be happy. (p. 24) It is as if God placed this yearning within each human heart as a spiritual navigational instrument designed to reunite us with our destiny. (p. 25) In creating us, God endowed us each with certain talents and abilities. When we hear these talents calling us forth we hear the voice of God, again inviting us to participate fully in the adventure of salvation. (p. 37)"

"Catholicism is a dynamic way of life that encourages and empowers each individual to become the-best-version-of-themselves. (p. 40) Catholicism nurtures the self and the community. (p. 41) God is saying, "Be all you can be." While we are each called to live an authentic life, the exterior qualities of this life can take many different forms ... Some people are called to live an authentic life as husband and wife ... Others are called as priests and religious ... Others still, are called to live as single persons ... (p.58)"

Faith

BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

2013

Now my words. I joined CACD many years ago. My friends were married so I needed someone to socialize with, to do things with. I have had a wonderful time in the club. I have done things I probably would not have done otherwise. I would never have considered organizing a picnic for a large group. The first one I did we had 82 people attend. Don't think I wasn't nervous about that. But with help from others it was a success. I enjoyed many canoe weekends and ski weekends, picnics, games and card parties, house parties, dinners out (and in), movies and even the work sessions for our newsletter composition and newsletter mailings. When I went on my first canoe weekends and ski weekends, I never thought I would coordinate them in the future. But with others pitching in, I did.

I have done a lot of traveling with CAC and with CAC friends, visited many locations I would not have seen otherwise, such as Alaska and Hawaii. When I went to my first CACI convention I enjoyed it so much I couldn't wait for the next one. I kept going, never thinking I would coordinate one, or four, in the future. I would never have thought I would speak in front of 200 people. Through CAC I have grown as a person. I hope I am on the way to becoming the-best-version-of-myself. I hope I am trying to be all I can be.

CAC is my extended family and has been very good to me and for me and there are many people out there that need an organization like CAC. They need the opportunity to mix with other Catholic singles.

We can serve God by serving His people. Many people volunteer their time in other organizations and in many other ways and don't have any more free time. Some of you have already done a lot for the club. But if you have some time, why not serve God by serving some of his single people.

Hope

We need you to come forward and help keep the club going. As you can see from the Board of Directors list on page 2, we had some open positions this year. This means that some have had to do double duty. We need officers and committee people if we are going to continue.

This year is CACD's 55th anniversary. While our membership is down from what it used to be years ago, it is up a little from last year. We can become a vibrant club again if everyone pitches in to help.

Have you been in the club awhile? If so, do you have good memories? Do you really want to see our club waste away, shut down?

We are having a General Meeting for the membership on Wednesday, October 3rd. Let's talk about the offices and committees, also if you might like to see change, or different events. Let's see if we can put together a slate of officers for next year and line up committee members and even come up with some fresh ideas for next year. Ask your questions about what is involved with the various positions, or what is involved in sponsoring an event. Please prayerfully consider taking a position on next year's Board.

Another quote from Matthew Kelly's book. "The external activity is less important than the internal transformation this activity is designed to achieve in our lives. Every honest work can be transformed into prayer." (p. 59)

The General Meeting will be at 7:30 PM on Wednesday, October 3rd, at St. Valentine's on Beech Daly, south of 5 Mile Road, in Redford. We will meet in the school.

Janet Yntema

Love

TESTIMONIALS FROM MEMBERS

"FOR IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE."

Prayer of St. Francis

JULIE CALLAHAN

My name is Julie, and I've served on the CACD Board in several capacities for a number of years: some elected, such as Recording Secretary and Treasurer, and many appointed, from Membership and Publications, to Social and Publicity. I've also served on several election committees, special convention committees, as well as the 50th anniversary committee. Looking back, I first joined the Board as a way to become more active in the Club and to meet more people. I met and got to know several fellow Members just by attending Board meetings. Being on the Board was a great motivator for me to attend more activities. It was easier to go to an activity because several people I knew would also be there. I'd sign up to help out at dances or picnics, committing to attend those activities. It was also a great way to get excited about activities. We'd hear about an upcoming Tiger game or a trip to the DIA, and several of us would decide to go that night. I gained a lot of confidence in myself by advocating for positions in which I felt strongly. I also learned to keep an open mind when I found my position changing as others voiced their opinions. I learned patience as I listened to others speak, waiting my turn. As I gained more experience, I mentored new Board members, as I was once mentored. I also formed lasting friendships with many of my fellow Board members. Actually, my friendships with Club members all began with serving together on the Board. Yes, some meetings lasted longer than they should have, and my time on the Board was not without controversy, but the Club survived those controversies and improved, and those experiences, while difficult at times, helped me grow as a person.

Friendship

CAROL HOFER

Hi, my name is Carol, and I have been on the board at various times over past years. What a tremendous opportunity to take full part in CACD, and to meet new people, help plan fun and stimulating activities, and forge lasting friendships. These relationships have not uncommonly lead to strong and loving marriages. As a member of the Catholic Action committee, it struck me how many of this one committee alone have found their hearts taken down the path to marriage or vowed religious life. In one eight year period we were graced with three religious vocations and around ten weddings of our group! WOW. If you want to make your life a bit more interesting, join the CACD board.

MARK LAPOINTE

Hi, my name is Mark. I've been on the CACD board in various appointed (not elected) capacities for a number of years. I thought I would write to try to persuade you to be on the board next year, in 2013. True, it is work; but I feel the positives outweigh the negatives and keep me coming back. (1) The aspect of this service I most appreciate is the fact that frequent contact with others bestows a sense of belonging - in short you encounter others you wouldn't normally meet, and sometimes develop lasting friendships simply by working together. (2) I like being part of a Catholic community in addition to my parish. The other board members are thoughtful, prayerful individuals whose enthusiasm for our Lord can be contagious. (3) Third, well, honestly, those on the board can steer the planning of events toward things we personally would want to attend (type of activity) and can attend (date availability). Frequently we are the ones who put most of the events on the calendar, basically inviting others to come and join us doing something we would enjoy. (4) And finally, being on the board is a form of service to the community. I'm afraid if we can't find enough people willing to fill the 2013 board and willingly serve the

Community Service

community, we will have to open the positions to the local Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb County court systems to start allowing literal community service. I'm not sure I would like the events the new parties might try to schedule! Okay, I wasn't serious about that. But I'm not kidding when I say that, in addition to the work involved in serving the club's membership, we really do have some fun together. I hope you will think about joining us, either by running to be an officer, or by volunteering for a committee.

GOD BLESS!

RAY PREVI

I've been a member of the Catholic Alumni Club of Detroit since the early nineties. I have held a number of positions of leadership since joining. I have been member-at-large, vice president, web master, and president. Why did I give up my time to do and continue to do all these things, because I know that a boat without a rudder has no direction. We need to give our organization direction. If not, we will not have a club. All those events you see in the calendar every month are the heart and soul of members who want to be of service to the members of this club. There has to be someone responsible for a specific activity. The people on the executive board who meet every month are people who care about our organization and want to keep it going forward.

Okay, here is my sales pitch, join us. We need you to run the show. We can't keep electing the same board every year. We want your ideas, your vision and your energy. If you are new to our organization, don't be shy, step forward. If you are a member who has served in the past and has not been involved in a LONG while, don't you think it's time to come back? Be part of the action not just a person who sits on the sideline.

STEP FORWARD AND LEAD!

Leadership