

The Paduan

Alumni Newsletter for
St. Anthony of Padua Alumni
Vol. 7 No.1, May 2014

From the Guest Editor's Laptop

Life after Padua for the past fifty years seems like a blur, but has been quite a ride. I missed performing with the gym team at the N.Y. World Fair that summer after graduation as I was at the Franciscan Novitiate in Lake Geneva, WI where I got my new, David, that has kind of stuck (sounds like a Polish joke). Over the next eight years I lived as a Franciscan, attending college at St. Francis Friary and Marquette University and then Theology studies at Christ the King Friary in West Chicago, IL, and Aquinas Institute in Dubuque, IA. About a year before ordination to the priesthood I decided to leave the Order. I really treasure the time that I lived in community and I feel that I have continued to live in the spirit of St. Francis.

Next came more education (I call it "Killing yourself by Degrees") and in 1976 I graduated from The Ohio State University with a DDS and a MS in Entomology. My wife Judy, a Dental Hygienist, and I set up a general dental practice in Lawrence, KS and quickly became Jayhawk fans. Judy and I were not blessed with children, but we were blessed with many great friends and travel experiences worldwide. In 2003 we sold our dental practice and moved to Naples, FL. and continued our travels. In 2012, Judy died of complications from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). In 2013 I found the second great love of my life and married Kathryn Ellis Smith..

For more than 45 years I have been studying one family of insects called tiger beetles. With more than 250,000 specimens, I maintain one of the largest research collections of this particular group. It is housed in 550 insect drawers in one room of my house and will eventually be deposited in research museums in KS, FL. and PA. These studies have taken me all over the US



Dave in the Bug Room

but also to most of the world. It has also resulted in a number of scientific papers of studies in Sulawesi, South Africa, Ecuador and Bolivia, with the description of over 20 forms new to science. Last year I did field work in Costa Rica, Mexico and Burma and have plans to visit Malawi, Mexico, Paraguay and Madagascar this year.

Dave (Bill) Brzoska '64

Class of '54: 60th Anniversary
John Pilch

One nice feature of growing old is treasuring pleasant memories and years gone by. For me, Padua is one of those memories. Of the thirty seven freshmen in 1950, ten graduated in 1954. Four entered the Franciscan Order, and six pursued their dreams on another path. An eleventh graduate (John Pojawis) joined the class in its senior year and also entered the Order.

Now in 2014, one class member has died (Larry Pijanowski), two have not yet been located (Frank Jedziniak and Ed O'Neil), and seven have been located (Ernie Lominac, Connie Olszewski, Bernie Petrick, John Pilch, John Rentflejs, Roger Yurko). We have John Pojawis address, but he has not responded to contacts. The Padua Alumni Directory contains the most recently available information. The successes of these alumni are a tribute to the splendid education and formation that the Franciscans at Padua provided to young students.

I first learned of Padua through a notice in the Polish language newspaper in New York: "Nowy Świat" (*The New World*). It announced the opening of a boarding school for boys in Watkins Glen, NY by the Franciscan Fathers of Pulaski, WI. Room, board and tuition for college prep students was \$400 a year, and for aspirants to the Order it was \$200 a year. I passed the entrance exam for the Jesuit Brooklyn Prep where annual tuition was \$400 a year. Brother Edward Kraszewski, OFM, who promoted subscriptions to the *Miesięcznik Franciszkański* in the Eastern United States, also served as vocation director. He was my contact who worked out details with my parents. He also introduced us to the Malina Family in Brooklyn whose sons John (Bruce) was at Sturtevant, WI (our sister school) and Joe was in the pioneer class at Padua. All the Malina boys after Joe attended Padua.

The Friars invited prospective students to spend a week at Padua in July. Mr. Malina and another relative drove two carloads of us youngsters from Brooklyn to Padua for that week. While he worked on the backstop behind home plate on the ball field, we spent the week picking cherries and doing other tasks in the morning and then having the afternoon and evening free. My roommates were Kenney Niziołek, Louie ("the Gooch") Nowicki, and Richard Tulko. Only Tulko came to Padua (the following year) and Fr. Richard will be celebrating his golden jubilee of ordination in 2014.

When I returned to school in September 1950, I was enjoying it so much I neglected to write home for more than a month! My parents worried and contacted the Fathers who urged me to write letters more frequently. I did – every week (Saturday or Sunday Evenings). Those letters contain much history, but alas they were lost when my father sold his home in Queens Village, NY.

My roommates during this first year were (?) Madigan, Ray LeClaire, and "Jake" Laskody (a Slovak fellow from Indiana, aspiring to become a Friar). Every morning after breakfast and making our beds, Jake would run off somewhere. I asked him where he was hurrying off to? He said he was learning to play the organ for Mass (he was an accomplished accordion player). I asked Father Sylvester if I could do this, too. Father instructed me to learn Mass VIII, which I attacked with gusto (Sept 14, 1950).

I played all the notes as written and soon was allowed to play for Masses in the side chapels (Sept 25, 1950). I can't remember whether I sang, too, or whether another student sang. Eventually, I was allowed to play the "big" (electric) organ in chapel (Oct 11, 1950). After much practice, I was finally allowed to play for Benediction (Oct 16, 1950) and for Sunday Mass (Nov 20, 1950). I began to play weekday Masses in the Big Chapel on Jan 16, 1951. In my sophomore year, I was allowed to play the organ for weekly student body rehearsals (Sept 2, 1951) Music remained a pivotal part of my life for the rest of my year at Padua and in the Province. After I left the Order, I sang with five opera companies (three in Milwaukee and two in Baltimore) and other choruses in both cities.

During the winter, some of us missed the fact that Polish was not used in Chapel (or anywhere other than class), and also thought it would be a good idea to imitate the Greymoor students in Mountour Falls who wore cassocks every day. We drew up a petition and presented it to Fr. Sylvester. Eventually, we met with Fr. Claude who turned down our suggestion. Though disappointed, in hindsight we could understand his reasons and realized these suggestions were not entirely feasible.

Sometime in my sophomore year, I began to follow the example of other students and sent my laundry home to be done.

The benefit of this was that the return box not only had clean laundry but also treats: chocolates, cookies, etc. One especially appreciated gift was Yurko's package, which nearly always contained a poppy seed roll, if I remember correctly. Perhaps also kolachki.

In May of my junior year (1952-53), the Padua chorus was invited to sing for a Confirmation at Sampson Air Force Base, Geneva. Fr. Emil said they had an airman, Ed. Baumann, who was a pianist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra. However, he was totally unfamiliar with the organ. At the age of 17, I was flabbergasted to play the organ for this service, while Ed Baumann turned pages for me. As is my wont these years, I checked him out on the Internet, wondering how his life turned out. He died Nov. 11, 2007 at the Maine Veterans Home. He was just four years older than I am (born 1932) and made his debut with Detroit at age 17. To my surprise, he ended up being a CPA. Though music was important in his life, he spent his years in business and finance.

During our visit to Sampson AFB, we were given a tour and shown how new inductees were processed. I kept all the samples they gave us. When I got back to Padua, I "forged" the documents and sent them to my parents confident that they would see it as a prank. Unfortunately, they took the documents seriously and lamented that I had somehow failed at Padua, perhaps was expelled. They thought that to spare them shame, I enlisted in the Air Force. It was plausible for them since my father's youngest brother, Joseph, spent his entire career in military service (RAF Polish Division during the war, and US Air Force afterwards). As gifted and talented as we were, I realized hindsight that we were still just teen-agers. I lament this ill-conceived prank to this day and remind myself that we were typical adolescents of that period.

The entries in my daybook end on May 3rd, 1954, though we didn't graduate until late June. On Jan 25, 1954 I was told (probably by the disciplinarian) to stay out of library during free periods.

I don't know the circumstances of this directive, but for me it testifies eminently to what Padua was all about: Academics. Yes, there was time for recreation (free periods), for sports, and other activities. But Padua was primarily a boarding, college preparatory school, and we were admirably prepared for higher studies if we so chose.

I'm grateful for my four years at Padua and for the rich sixty years that have elapsed since then. No doubt my fellow alumni cherish similar memories. I invite them to share these if not on the pages of this newsletter, perhaps in person at our annual reunion, August 15-17, 2014 at Longhouse Lodge Motel and Manor, Watkins Glen, NY. Y'all come!



Class of '54 Freshman Year

Editor Notes

If you have any milestones in your life (retirement, anniversary, grandkids, travel etc), we'd like to include it in the Alumni Paduan Class notes, please submit to: [paduan5370@gmail](mailto:paduan5370@gmail.com)

2014 Reunion

Reunion 2014 will be held August 15th to the 17th. The Class of '64 will be celebrating it's 50th and the Class of '54 will be celebrating it's 60th. Other milestone include the class of '59 and '69 celebrating their 55th and 45th respectively.

Tributes and Memories

Fr. George (Roland) Jaskulski O.F.M.



George Jaskulski was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, on March 16, 1929. He was one of six children born to George Jaskulski and his wife Pauline (Sikora). George was baptized at St. Mary of the Angels Parish, Green Bay on March 24, 1929. George entered Assumption BVM Grade School, Pulaski in 1936 and completed his elementary education there in 1944. He completed his secondary education at St. Bonaventure Minor Seminary, Sturtevant in 1947.

In August of 1947 George entered the novitiate in Assumption B.V.M. Friary, Pulaski, where he was invested and received the name “Roland”. Following his simple profession on August 15, 1948, George entered St. Francis College in Burlington, Wisconsin. On August 15, 1951, he professed solemn vows at St. Francis Friary. George completed his studies in Philosophy in 1952 and moved to Our Lady of Lourdes Seminary, Cedar Lake, Indiana. He completed his studies in Theology at Christ the King Seminary, West Chicago, Illinois, in 1956. George was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Leo Pursley on June 4, 1955.

George’s 58 years in ministry, in the field of education and later as a chaplain to the elderly and infirm, took place in only three locations. From 1956 to 1970, he served as a teacher and coach at St. Anthony of Padua High School, Watkins Glen, New York. He was able to complete his studies for a Master of Arts degree in History at St. Bonaventure University, Olean, New York, before returning to teaching on the secondary level at Archbishop Ryan High School, Philadelphia.

Making the shift from the small prep school on the Glen to the large Archdiocesan School that was evolving in Philadelphia caused George to be a bit nervous about the transition. He considered leaving teaching at the time expressing concern over his ability to move from a school with 20 students in the classroom to a school with 50 students in the room. In a letter to Fr. Dacian Bluma, OFM, Minister Provincial, George wrote, “I am sure that I will not last an entire year at Archbishop Ryan High School.” Despite his reluctance, George moved to Philadelphia and remained there for 17 years.

During his time at Archbishop Ryan, George was the unofficial moderator of the “Lawn Club”. George had a passion for cutting grass. After a hard day in the classroom, George would wheel a mower out of the garage and begin to cut grass on the massive property – often whether it needed to be cut or not. Students would ask to be assigned to work with George instead of serving an hour of detention in a warm and stuffy classroom. It was common to see George merrily pushing his mower with a stream of students crisscrossing the property on litter control.

Having served in the high school classroom since 1956, George realized it was time to take leave of his teaching career and pursue another ministry. Following a one year sabbatical that found George in Santa Barbara, California, and at St. Francis Parish, Greenwood, Mississippi, he felt that parochial ministry in Mississippi would be the next step in his path of ministry. He enjoyed the warm welcome of the parishioners as he substituted for several of the Franciscan Friars at their parishes.

The South was not meant to be the new home for George since he was informed that the Provincial Office had received a call from Sister Mary Alice Jarosz asking that George be assigned to the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Garfield Heights. George moved there in 1989 to serve as Chaplain to the Sisters at Marymount Convent where he served until his death.

George was hired by Sister Mary Alice, then a provincial team member, after Alcuin Mikulanis, OFM moved to Cleveland to be Pastor at St. Stanislaus Parish.

Recently, Sister Mary Alice noted, “Fr. George quickly endeared himself to all the Sisters with his gentleness and quiet ways. Probably his preaching was the only time he ever got loud. He visited every Sister who was hospitalized at Marymount Hospital and easily celebrated Funeral Masses for well over 100 Sisters. For years he attended almost every football and girls’ basketball game played by the students of Trinity High School. Recently, his ministry was in Clare Hall and Assisi Chapel where he offered Masses each day Fr. George loved the Fransiscan home’ he found here in Cleveland and prayed that he would never have to leave.

George became ill in November 2013 and after his hospitalization and surgery was recuperating in Clare Hall at the time of his death on February 25, 2014.

George is survived by his brothers, Fr. Bronislaus Jaskulski, OFM and Fr. Nathan Jaskulski, OFM; niece, Marge; nephew, Richard and all of his brother-friars of the Assumption Blessed Virgin Mary Province.

We all loved when Fr. Roland would monitor the study hall periods. There was minimal studying and lots of loud conversations and game playing as he sat at the front desk totally oblivious to the chaos around him! I don’t ever remember him disciplining anyone in his American History class for not paying attention or talking during class. Fr. Roland was a” laid back” guy when it came to dealing with students and we certainly didn’t mind that.

He was an avid Green Bay Packer fan. I still remember that Packer bobble head doll he had sitting on his Bursar’s office desk. He would always have a wise crack when you went to get a new credit card for the PX from him. Fr. Roland loved sports and was very proud to show off his two hands, half -court set shot in the gym. Most of those shots swished in and he would let out this loud laugh, which I can still hear today. I think he loved showing up the basketball players.

John Grysza ‘63

Obituaries

Class of 53.

Francis "ZEKE" Zygmuntowicz, 78, passed away peacefully at home on February 28, 2014. He is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Natalie Zygmuntowicz and his children, Beth Zygmuntowicz, Susan Huff, Kathy Shoenfelt (Robert) and John Zygmuntowicz (Carolina). Zeke adored his grandchildren Nastassja, Yanek, Saskja, Kasia and Mila. He is predeceased by his parents John and Helen Zygmuntowicz, and sisters Margaret Dozier and Betty Zygmuntowicz. A New York native, Zeke graduated from St. Anthony of Padua Preparatory and Minor Seminary School where he was an outstanding athlete who played varsity sports. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. His 20 year military career included tours of duty in Europe and Vietnam where he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for heroic service. During his military service he attended Loyola University in New Orleans, Louisiana receiving a degree in criminology, George Washington University in Washington, D.C. receiving a degree as a linguist and completed his education with a Bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Tampa where he graduated the "first" summa cum laude in the University's 40 year history. After retiring as a Special Agent with the Office of Special Investigation with the U.S. Air Force, Zeke retired from a second career with the State of Florida's Division of Public Fraud as an Area Supervisor. A man of faith, he always faced life's challenges with dignity. He loved his family near and far and taught us to live life to the fullest.

Class of 54

Lawrence A. Pijanowski, 77, of Delaware, Ohio and formerly of Warren, Michigan, passed away Wednesday evening September 18, 2013 at the Cherith Care Center at Willowbrook, Delaware. He was born September 5, 1936 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and was a 1962 graduate of LaSalle College in Philadelphia.

He served his country as a member of the United States Army and Army Reserves from 1959 -1965 and then joined the Air Force Active Reserves serving from 1965 – 1979

earning the rank of Master Sergeant and later serving in the Air Force Retired Reserves from 1979 – 1996. He worked in sales and underwriting for several insurance companies finally retiring from full time work in 2000. He was an active member of the St. Martin Deporres Catholic Church in Warren, Michigan until moving to Delaware 2 months ago. He was also a member of the CPCU and Detroit Underwriters Association. He enjoyed reading, fishing, crossword puzzles, taking walks with his wife, and watching his beloved Detroit Lions. He also loved spending time with and visiting his grandchildren.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife of almost 50 years, Anne (Vanderslice); sons, Keith (Eileen Changsut) Pijanowski of Glen Rock, NJ, Bruce (Pamela) Pijanowski of Delaware, and Craig Pijanowski and his girlfriend Erica Wilson of Roeland Park, Kansas; 5 grandchildren, Adam, Tessa, Elijah, Ava, and Lily Pijanowski; brother, Leon (Carol) Pijanowski of Dover, Delaware; sisters, Theresa (Eugene) Kasperowicz of Cinnamonson, NJ and Barbara Wisniewski of Philadelphia, PA; numerous nieces and nephews.

Class of 60

Anthony J. Zembrzuski, 70, of Little Egg Harbor, died suddenly on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2013, at Southern Ocean Medical Center, Manahawkin. Born in Bayonne, he lived in Toms River for over 25 years before moving to Little Egg Harbor 14 years ago. Mr. Zembrzuski was the owner of A&L [Tire](#), Howell for 25 years, and was most recently employed as a driver at Seacrest Village Nursing Home. He was a graduate of St. Anthony of Padua High School, Watkins Glen, NY, and received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Seton Hall University. Mr. Zembrzuski served in the NJ National Guard, and enjoyed crabbing on the Barnegat Bay.

He is survived by his wife, Carol; two sons, Anthony Jr. and his wife Adrianna of Parkertown, and Chad of Parkertown; two grandchildren, Benjamin and Addison; and a brother, Harold of Little Egg Harbor.

I remember Tony as a competitive player and great rebounder. He was a kind person. I remember several hiking trips with Tony and winter icy slides into Watkins Glen gorge. We had a strange meeting many years after our graduation when I moved to New Orleans and Tony attended a Super Bowl in New Orleans. Ray Maly '60

Tony was a great teammate. I will always remember our athletic days together at Padua. He truly was an instrument in developing some well-balanced plays for our team
Bob Bahara '60

Class of 69

Alan Ratkowski was the beloved husband of Victoria (nee Cushman) Ratkowski; the devoted son of Julia and the late Frank Ratkowski; the loving father of Nicolas, Stephen and Alexis; the dear brother of John and his wife Eileen Ratkowski and Thomas and his wife Elizabeth Ratkowski; and the cherished uncle of Dennis Banks, Jr.

Mr. Ratkowski was a Pipe Welder at PSE&G in Clifton for over 30 years and a member of Local 855.

You only had to meet Alan once to know him well. He was that genuine a person. Super bright, terrific athlete, amazingly steady, and an unwavering friend... These words all come instantly to mind when I think back about Alan, but they are all so inadequate for defining the person that I was so lucky to cross paths with when I was just a kid at Padua Prep.

On a personal note, I had always been the fastest sprinter in my class until I arrived at Padua and joined the class of 1969. Alan and I were organized into a one-on-one race across the soccer field for gym class one day. No matter how hard I tried, I couldn't match that huge stride of his, and I couldn't quite pull even with him. But I couldn't have lost that race to a more humble friend.

Kevin Skislock '69

Whitey was a friend for most of my life. We went to grammar school together and then to Padua.

After Padua we were always hanging around together fishing or working on our cars. Always the practical joker one of his favorite pranks was to slip the shifter on your sports car into neutral while you were sitting at a red light looking all cool while revving the engine. He would be rolling with laughter when the light turned green and you stood there with the engine screaming and you going nowhere. He will be greatly missed by all.
Garret Dikun '69

Edward C. Scarp of Mountain Top passed away late Friday evening in Mount Nittany Medical Center, State College, where he had been a patient for the past seven days. Born and raised in Hazleton, he was the son of Gertrude (Siepietowski) Scarp and the late Edward E. Scarp, and resided in the area until 2003 before locating his family to Mountain Top.

Ed graduated from Padua Prep, Watkins Glen, N.Y. in 1969, and [University of Scranton](#) in 1973. He was [a financial advisor](#) at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.

Ed was a member of Annunciation Parish, Church of St. Gabriel, Men of Malvern and the Lions Club. In addition to his father, an infant brother, Michael, preceded him in death. Ed is survived by his mother, Gertrude Scarp; his loving and devoted wife of 38 years, the former Mary Hayden; and the following daughters, Katie Lobach and husband, Damein, New Tripoli; Ann Thielke and husband, John, Rock Glen, N.J.; Brigid Messa and husband, Andrew, Bethlehem; and seven cherished grandchildren, Dylan, Tyler, Lydia Lobach, Michael and Emma Lee Messa; John and Kevin Thielke. Also surviving is one sister, Cheryl Healy, Albuquerque, N.M.

During the very brief time that I spent with you guys at Padua, I didn't get to know Ed too well, but he struck me as a super-compassionate and super-bright guy. I know that you and Ed were quite close and my thoughts and prayers are with you, Ed and Ed's loved ones.

My favorite memory of Ed is when he organized a bunch of us to do some repairs, painting, etc. at the house of a disadvantaged family living down the hill, alongside those long, long steps that took us all into town on Sunday afternoons. That memory will always define Ed for me.
Kevin Skislock '69

“Ed was certainly the “organizer” of our class. He continued to manage to get us together for various official and unofficial reunions. Every time we got together he would bring us up to speed on what his family was up to. I know he was looking forward to spending more time with his wife Mary, talking about their plans to move to his vacation retreat at the Delaware beach. He particularly lit up when speaking about his daughters and grandchildren, noting how he tried to make as many of their games and school events as possible.

Several of us (Steve Jurewicz, Kevin Glynn, John Pludrzynski and Henry Karesh) would get together for golf weekends, many of which were at his place in Delaware. We often joked that no matter what the pairings or handicaps were for our golf matches, that it would have been easier just to give our money to Ed before we even started, cause he always seemed to win. Ed of course, was in charge of the pairings and handicaps. It was all a lot of fun, and we'll do our best to keep up the tradition that Ed started and maintained, but it won't quite be the same without him.”
George Popko '69

Class Notes

Class of 55

Congratulations to Fr. Richard Tulko OFM celebrating his 50th (Golden Jubilee) anniversary of his ordination into the Franciscan Order. As Secretary Fr. Richard has been very helpful in the finding information on Friars for the tributes and Memory section of the alumni Paduan.

Class of 62

Members from the class of 1962 met for lunch at the Royal Warsaw Elmwood Park. Along with wives Carol LaSalle, Joyce Mielnik, Grace Beseda and Irene Kurpiel (late Steve Kurpiel's '58 wife) and local alumni had a great time reminiscing.



Left to Right Wally Kurpiel '62, John LaSalle '62, Joe Beseda '62, Tony Specian

Class of 66

Greg and Sandy Zagloba are the proud grandparents of twins born to Geoff and Kim Topalian last April in Stamford CT.

The twins are Henry Drew and Arabella Druce and they will be 1 year old on April 26th. They join their brother George (2 yrs old) in making life most interesting for

Oreo's Nose

If there is one thing every dog loves to do, it's use its nose.

John Mielnik (class of 62) and his dog Oreo (Shih Tzu) participate in a little known sport for dog owners and man's best friend alike called K9 Nose Work, which is like a game of hide-and-seek for dogs and they just won another title. The National Association of Canine Scent Works (NACSW) oversees the sport and organizes competitive events throughout the United States testing a dog's ability to sniff out well-hidden scented items known as "hides."

K9 Nose Work turns sniffing into a game. It uses training similar to that taught to search and rescue dogs, except that any dog can do this - any age, breed or physical ability. I've seen dog sizes and weights from Yorkie to Great Dane, from Pug to Puli Canines that love and excel at this activity! I've also seen deaf dogs and blind dogs which only need their sense of smell to be successful.

Oreo is just a little bit different the other dogs in that he is a pure bred rescue (an oddity by itself and a whole different story), he was the runt of the litter which you would never know today when looking at him and comparing him to his siblings. However, in the sport of K9 Nose Work he should not be doing as well as he does when measured against other dog breeds the likes of a Shepherd, a Retriever, a Lab, Malinoi or Hound; yet he does.

Oreo as all dogs' sense of smell overpowers our own by orders of magnitude--it's 10,000 to 100,000 times as acute. In a study scientists have come up with a jaw-dropping estimate that if we use just 10,000 times better, and make an analogy to vision, what you and I can see at a third of a mile, a dog could see more than 3,000 miles away and still see as well.

What dogs have that we don't, is that they possess up to 300 million olfactory receptors in their noses, compared to about 6 million in us. And the part of a dog's brain is devoted to analyzing smells is, proportionally speaking, approximately 40 times greater than ours.

Dogs can detect some odors in parts per trillion. In terms we might understand; while we might notice if our coffee has had a teaspoon of sugar added to it, a dog could detect a teaspoon of sugar in a million gallons of water, or two Olympic-sized pools worth.

When John says that Oreo should not be doing as well as some other breeds it was because if we look at a dog with a short muzzle, compact skull compressed upper respiratory system which are characteristic of a brachycephalic dog like Oreo which possess a far lesser amount of olfactory receptors as compared to a dog with long muzzle such as the Shepherd, the Retriever or Hound

Of course Oreo doesn't know he's different or lacking in anything so he and John just practice to be better with what he has. Oreo and John have been attending formal training classes with a Certified Nose Work Instructor (CNWI) once a week for approximately 2 years. Then they practice at and around the house as well as when they go traveling and are on the road. John has been known to set the "Hides" in and around hotels or motel while staying overnight to get in more practice.



Oreo indicating he found a hide in an exterior search.

The sport has three title levels; NW1, NW2 and NW3. However, prior to entering a title competition the dog has to pass what is known as an Odor Recognition Test (ORT) for the particular level and successfully find a Target Odor associated to that level. In Level 1 Birch is used as a scent, Level 2 uses an Anise scent and at Level 3 Clove scent is used. The general layout for an ORT is a room in which 24 identical closed boxes (11X9X4) are laid out in 2 or 3 rows with one having the Target Odor. The dog must find the odor in 3 minutes to pass.

Target odors for competition in K9 Nose Work events are made using 100% cotton swabs (Q-tip) that have been cut in half and scented with one of the three essential oils: Birch (aka *Betula Lenta*), Anise (aka *Pimpinella Anisum*), and Clove (aka *Eugenia Caryophyllata*).

These oils are not what you would find in your local supermarket and also not found around the house thereby making them excellent in the sport. When John says the cotton swab was scented with one of the oils; actually the oils never come directly in contact with the swab. A drop of the scent is placed in a container followed by the swab being placed in the same container but so as not to have direct contact with the oil and later removed for use as the Hide.

Each Trial Level contains four (4) elements within it; a Container Search, an Interior Search, an Exterior Search, and a Vehicle Search. As the Levels increase from 1 to 3 the complexity also increases.

For instance in a Level 1 container competition there are 18 to 24 identical looking boxes containing only one (1) Hide and a search time of 3 minutes. While at a Level 2 container competition there are approximately 24 containers which consist of a mix of suitcases, duffel bags, paint can, coffee pot, teakettle, cardboard boxes, or anything thing that constitutes being a container. To this is also added 2 or possibly 3 distractors such as some great smelling foods, used dog toys, dogs slobber or some other sort of canine distractor. The search time at this level could be 2 ½ or 3 minutes.

In a Level 1 Vehicle Search there are 3 three vehicles with one (1) Hide and 3 minutes search time. By comparison at a Level 2 competition there could be 4 or 5 vehicles, 2 hides and a search time of 2 ½ to 3 minutes. So the degree of difficulty increases with every Level. The word vehicle is a loose term in the sport in that one may encounter a car or a pickup but could very well find a motorcycle, a boat on a trailer, a tractor, a flatbed, a cement truck or even a riding mower. It becomes what the host and certifying official have on hand prior to the event.

The training begins with the dog sniffing out its favorite treat or food, i.e. a piece of cheese, hotdogs or meat. To help the process there is positive reinforcement through rewarding whenever the dog sniffs out the hidden "FIND".

This is accomplished by treating with more of his/her favorite treat or food directly at the FIND area. As training continues the dog starts searching for its food that has been hidden and paired with a “target odor’ Eventually dogs are trained and transitioned from searching out treats and food that that have been paired with a target odor to searching for a “FIND” (target odor only).



Oreo indicating he found a hide in a duffel bag.

So Oreo just like other dogs in the sport is doing what he enjoys best, using his nose to sniff and detect a given odor. This is where John as the handler has the all-important task of being able to read his dog’s body language as an indication of where a hide may be located and for John to callout an ALERT to the judges. Once in the search area John eyes never come off Oreo so as not to miss even the subtlest indication. What is Oreo telling John about the search area? What is Oreo doing differently than he does when not searching? Oreo has a few things that he uses to indicate to John that he has found the Hide. Most often Oreo has what is called a “head snap” when he comes upon the Hide from the side and not head-on, to wiggling his tail rather fast while simultaneously pawing the place of the Hide as long as it’s accessible. The most indicative is when Oreo does all the items mentioned and looks at John like, OK, I found it, now what do I get for it? That’s when John gives him, his favorite treat, a small piece of Salmon cookie which John bakes himself.

As with other dogs accessible Hides are generally much easier for Oreo to find as compared to inaccessible Hides. Oreo has sniffed out inaccessible Hides well over his head considering he’s about 7 inches at the snout when on all 4’s or a Hide hidden in a hollowed out leg of a bed.

As part of the Nose Work Trial John must call an ALERT to the Judge once Oreo indicates that he has found the Hide and wait for a positive response from the judge, at which time John rewards Oreo and moves on to the next Hide or if no more Hides calls Finish for the Timing Steward to stop the clock and set the time for the event.

If John were to call ALERT to any Find and the Judge responds with a NO, the chance to obtain a title is over for that day’s competition, even if it were the very first element of the trial.

So in July of 2012 Oreo was entered in his first NW1 Trial in Annandale, NJ and Titled with a total time of 4:00.17 for all four (4) elements. His best time was in the container search where he clocked a 15.27 seconds. Not only did he title, but also earned a first place in the vehicle search with a time of 45.10 seconds and was awarded the Harry Award. This award is given to the most outstanding rescue dog and handler working together in the day’s competition if a team is found worthy at a trial.

On March 22 of this year John and Oreo enter a NW2 Trial in Hedgesville, MD and Titled with a total time of 6:33.44 for all four (4) elements. That day there were only eleven (11) teams that qualified and titled out of a possible 34 entered. Oreo and John finished in seventh (7th) place and John being “happy and proud” is an understatement.

Oreo and John did their best that day in the Interior Search Element where they found three all (3) Hides in 01:44.37 putting them in sixth (6) place out of the 34 teams. One of the Hides was hidden in a bookcase in the first room, while the second Hide was behind a refrigerator and the third Hide was in the hollowed bed leg in a second room.

Prior to the event John told everyone that he was not at all concerned with setting any time records for the day in any of the elements;

but rather had only one thing in mind at the trial and it was to finish and go home with a title. And he did. It is noteworthy and should be stated that on average most dogs and handler teams that attempt an NW2 title don't make in on their first attempt but rather their seventh (7th).

Recently the sport has made some changes and added Elite Titles to follow along with the NW1, NW2 and NW3 Titles. These Elite Tiles are for the individual search elements such a container search where there may be a total of five (5) individual searches of containers at the trial. Each search designed to be different in number and type of containers available, the number of distracters being used, variations in time from a ½ minute to 3+ and even lifting the containers off the floor.

John can't let a good challenge go by so he's set to compete in May and attempt to earn for Oreo and himself at least one (1) of two (2) Elite Titles in vehicle and/or interior searches.

Next year, about this time John is hoping that he and Oreo may be ready and experienced enough to compete in a NW3 Event and "TITLE", and if that were to happen he believes he and Oreo would be invited to National Invitational in which only a handful of dogs compete.



John and Oreo after wining the NW2 Title.

Anyone interested in more information on this sport should visit the web and search for K9 Nose Work or NACSW.

<https://www.nacsw.net/>

Things to do when visiting Watkins Glen

By [John Mielnik](#)

How far and how much will it cost to Drive to [Watkins Glen](#)?

Yes the [Glen](#) is still there and open.

Museums: [Corning Museum of Glass](#), [Glenn Curtiss Museum](#)

Cruises: [Captain Bill's Seneca Cruises](#), [Esperanza Rose](#)

Shopping: [The Windmill](#), [Waterloo Premium Outlets](#), [Waterloo Market Street](#) – Corning

Places to Dine:

[Edgar's in Belhurst Castle](#) ; [Seneca Harbor Station](#)

Places to Stay: [Villager Motel](#) , [Idlwilde Inn](#), [Glen Harbor Hotel](#), [Longhouse Lodge](#)

If you have an interesting hobby, event, or travel you would like to share with your alumni friends please consider submitting your article.

Volunteers or contributors are always welcome. If interested email me at: paduan5370@gmail.com

Thank You to Brother Andy and Jerry for information on Padua Friars.

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Visit our internet home at:

Paduaprep.com. Maintained by Chad Orlowski '65. A [blog](#) section was added to the site. Link up and register to join in.



Class of 1964 Alf, Dave, Lou and Paul help ID with Names????? in 7 rows left to right front to back.

Tentative Agenda. If not ready for Mothers Day release, the agenda and cost will be sent when available.

The Longhouse Manor
(Reunion Headquarters)
3625 State Route 14
Watkins Glen, NY
607-535-2565

Friday, August 15

3:30-5:30PM Alumni Gathering and Meeting
Longhouse Manor
7:00 PM Dinner
Afterward Return to Longhouse Manor for socializing
Beverages and snacks provided

Saturday, August 16

AM Breakfast and morning on your own
Noon Lunch catered at the Longhouse Manor
Sandwich, fixings, salads, fruit, beverages
5:30 PM Mass at St. Mary of the Lake Church
7:00 PM Dinner
Afterward Return to Longhouse Manor for socializing
Beverages and snacks provided

Sunday, August 17

AM Breakfast on your own
Meet at Longhouse Manor
Say good bye for 2014

Cost for this year's reunion is \$xxx per person. Included are both Friday and Saturday's dinners.