



Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama



December 1999

Letter from the President

When the Notre Dame football team isn't doing so well, I've always been able to find consolation in the fact that the Notre Dame community has so much more to be proud of than just football. Beyond athletics, alumni, friends and fans of Notre Dame also share in the University's fine tradition of academic excellence, community service and its unique Catholic character.

My name is Mark Richards, and I am a 1985 graduate of the University of Notre Dame. This past August, I was elected President of the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama, following two years as the club's Vice President. For the past few months, I've been working with our past president, Mr. David Tarkowski to understand more and more about our club and our ties to the University.

One evening several weeks ago, David, Joe Szedula (our Vice President) and I sat down and went over a list of the activities and events that our club participates in over a normal calendar year. Considering our club's size, I was pleasantly surprised by the number and the breadth of activities that we support. More importantly, I felt that our club's activities reflect and contribute to the same goals of academic excellence, community service and Catholic character that we associate with the University of Notre Dame.

From my own experience, I realize that it's been a while since someone has summarized "who we are and what we do" as the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama. So I'd like to take this opportunity to do just that, and ask that each one of you actively participate in the club and these worthy projects.

In the area of academics and education, the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama represents the University within the local community. We act as an Admissions Office liaison, and represent Notre Dame at local High School college (recruiting) days. Through the Hesburgh Lectures, we bring outstanding Notre Dame professors to the local community to speak on issues relevant to the day. We support our local Notre Dame students with an annual summer student send off, and financially through our club scholarship.

In the area of community service, the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama has been extremely

active. We provide focused support to the needs of our local community through our Adopt-a-Family project. We provide for the broader needs of the community by supporting the Notre Dame Summer Service Project (SSP). In this project, club members host a Notre Dame student who, in turn, dedicates their summer to community service through local volunteer organizations. Through club members George and Jo Ann Harvey, we've been extremely active in the ND FIRST (Fighting Irish Retired Services Team) program, whose purpose is to catalyze Notre Dame alumni and friends of retirement age to community service. Our club has also been active in the Christmas in April program in Morgan County, and the Love Bowl which supports Big Brothers and Big Sisters in Madison County. We had our biggest turn out for Christmas in April this year. First time participants were Brian and Tom '51 Duerr, Jane Wyatt, and Andrew Sinn '94.

Finally, the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama supports and maintains the character of the University locally. Primarily, we do this through our Universal Notre Dame Night, which is our annual formal gathering. This event usually takes the form of a dinner and speaker, featuring a Notre Dame coach, faculty member or administrator who brings us the latest news and happenings from the university. The club also sponsors a communion breakfast, which allows us to share our Catholic heritage. Of course, the club sponsors football game watches, ticket raffles and a football ticket/lodging package that is available to club members.

As you can see, the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama is an active organization that leads or participates in a broad range of worthy projects. Our accomplishments are limited only by the size of our club's membership and the level of our member's participation. So in closing, let me encourage each of you, especially Notre Dame alumni, to take an active role in your clubs projects and events. I promise you'll feel good about yourself even if the football team isn't winning!

Club Scholarship Contribution Reminder

Alumni may designate their annual contribution to be credited to Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama's Scholarship Fund. This may be accomplished by sending your contribution in the addressed envelopes that you have received from the University with a note on your check or this may also be accomplished by sending your contribution

directly to the Northern Alabama Club. In both instances, your contribution will be recorded by the University and establish your eligibility for next season's football ticket application. The Club forwards its scholarship contributions and list of contributors before the end of December each year. If you wish to designate all or part of your annual contribution to our Club's scholarship fund please follow one of the above procedures. In addition, the application for matching employer contributions should be forwarded with your contribution.

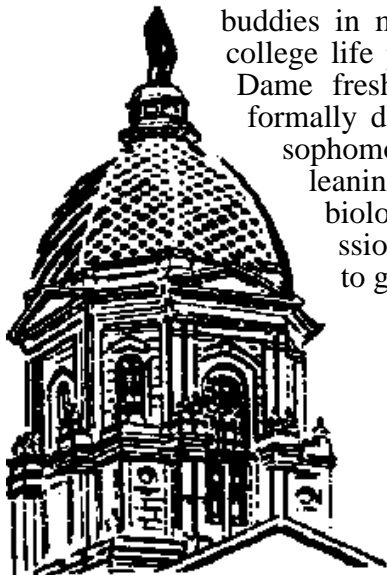
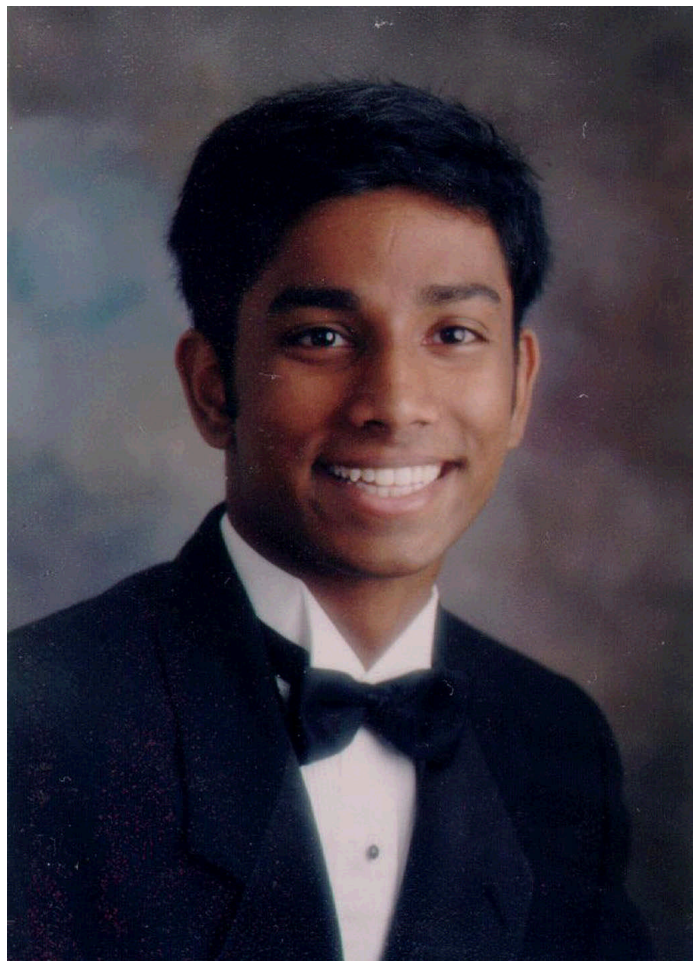
Club Scholarship Awarded to Johnny Dias

Over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, club president, Mark Richards informed Mr. Johnny Dias that he has been chosen to receive the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama's scholarship for the 1999 – 2000 academic year. The scholarship is a single award of \$2,000, and will be administered by the University with \$1,000 being credited against Johnny's obligations each semester.

Johnny Dias is a 1999 graduate of Grissom High School in Huntsville. During his four years at Grissom, Johnny was very active in class leadership, serving as president of his class for three of his four years, including his senior year. Johnny was also active in service clubs, contributing his efforts to the United Way, the Red Cross and serving in community soup kitchens. Johnny played on the varsity tennis team for three years, and took a very challenging academic curriculum, which included a significant number of Advanced Placement classes.

Johnny is presently a freshman at Notre Dame, and is currently well on his way to completing his first semester. A resident of Fisher Hall, Johnny sends word that he is thoroughly enjoying his Notre Dame experience. He credits his Advanced Placement classes for preparing him academically, and noted the friendliness of his classmates and dorm

buddies in making the transition to college life pleasant. Like all Notre Dame freshmen, Johnny will not formally declare a major until his sophomore year, however he is leaning toward either a biology or science pre-professional major and he hopes to go on to medical school.



Board of Directors
August 1, 1999 through July 31, 2001

<p align="center"><i>President</i> Mark Richards '85 H 880-8519 W 461-4506 mark.richards@ums.msfc.nasa.gov</p> <p align="center"><i>Vice President</i> Joe Szedula '80,'82 H 828-1343 W 922-3314 joe.szedula@hsv.ast.lmco.com</p> <p align="center"><i>Treasurer</i> Jane Wyatt H 536-0276 W 842-8692 wyatt-lj@redstone.army.mil</p> <p align="center"><i>Secretary</i> Kathy Kosis H 837-4509 W 722-4631 kathy.kosis@lmco.com</p>	<p align="center"><i>Community Service</i> George Harvey H 353-6280 W 544-0406 george.harvey@msfc.nasa.gov</p> <p align="center"><i>Community Service (deputy)</i> Barbara Breithaupt '87 H 721-1101 W 544-5401 barbara.breithaupt@msfc.nasa.gov</p> <p align="center"><i>Alumni/Schools</i> Bill Mordan '68 H 883-1701 W 544-2011 bill.mordan@msfc.nasa.gov</p> <p align="center"><i>Membership</i> Sonnie Hereford '79 H 722-0369 W 890-3241 hunchback@mindspring.com</p>	<p align="center"><i>Communications</i> Joe Szedula '80,'82 H 828-1343 W 922-3314 joe.szedula@hsv.ast.lmco.com</p> <p align="center"><i>Publicity</i> Jo Ann Harvey H 353-6280</p> <p align="center"><i>Social Events</i> Dave Tarkowski '68,'70 H 883-4868 W 890-3318 dtarkows@mitre.org</p> <p align="center"><i>UND Celebration</i> Mark Richards '85 H 880-8519 W 461-4506 mark.richards@ums.msfc.nasa.gov</p>	<p align="center"><i>Summer Service Project</i> Eric Lewis '89 H 650-0858 W 922-0802 x2249 elewis@aegisrc.com</p> <p align="center">Vacant Positions: Continuing Education Young Alumni</p>
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Membership

Every ND supporter is welcome; not just alumni. Dues are \$20 per person for the 1999-2000 year, which will keep a member in good standing until July 31, 2000. Your dues help us cover the cost of printing and mailing our newsletter, and helps to offset the expenses of our activities.

Remember, your annual membership dues for 1999-2000 must be paid if you wish to be eligible for the 1999 season football game trip. Send your \$20 per member to: ND Club of Northern Alabama 2612 Craft Avenue, Huntsville, AL 358162

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|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Joseph Aschauer | Nancy McIntyre | David Tarkowski |
| Jackie Berg | Alicea Mingo | Ron Whelpley, Jr. |
| Tom Berg | Bill Mordan | Bunny Whelpley, Sr. |
| Charles Cottrell | Sue Mordan | Ronald Whelpley, Sr. |
| Gregg DeLisle | Judy Nichols | Jane Wyatt |
| Brian Duerr | Leigh Palubinskas | Mark Yosway |
| Jon Duerr | Michael Payer | |
| Tom Duerr | Keith Pullum | |
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| Hugh Finnegan | Gerry Richards | |
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| Hugo Hardt | Larry Richards, Jr. | |
| Ken Ille | Andrew Sinn | |
| Vincent Kearns III | Al Spain | |
| Eric Lewis | Nancy Spain | |
| Lynn Lewis | James Swain | |
| Ron Liedel | Joseph Szedula | |
| Roy Mabry | Connie Tarkowski | |

Name: _____ Home No: _____
 Address: _____ Work No: _____

 E-mail Address: _____

(You'll receive an e-mail message when a new electronic newsletter is published)

Graduation Year(s) _____

Membership Amt. \$ _____ (\$20/year/person)

Scholarship Amt.* \$ _____

Please make check payable to:
ND Club of Northern Alabama

Club Use Only

- Treasurer
 Membership

Clip and Mail to:

ND Club of Northern Alabama
2612 Craft Ave.
Huntsville, AL 35816

* Contributions to Scholarship Fund are tax deductible
 ** Remember to check for the availability of matching funds from your company.

Adopt-A-Family

Our club's adopt-a-family program is alive and well. Money was raised recently through the purchase of tickets to the Notre Dame versus Tennessee game. A portion of the ticket price was earmarked especially for this important community service project. During the last meeting, the board decided to renew our commitment to Donna and her family because the need is still great. Normally we help support a family for only a year and then help on an as need basis. Donna still only works part-time at two different jobs and does not have benefits such as medical insurance. She needed to have some emergency dental work and the club reimbursed her. Also we helped with school supplies, food, and clothing by giving her a \$300 gift certificate to Wal-Mart. Most recently, do to circumstances beyond her

control, Donna got behind on her rent and asked for assistance. We paid one month's rent, \$329. In appreciation Donna sent us the following note:

I would like to let you know how much I appreciate all the help I have gotten from y'all. Being able to make a house payment was a big relief that took so much pressure and stress away.

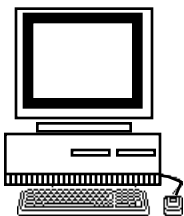
Thanks so much,

Donna

We hope to help make Christmas more enjoyable for Donna's five boys and are considering what to do for the family, but we need your help. Please continue to support this worthwhile work. If you would like to make a tax deductible donation, send it to Jane Wyatt at 2612 Craft Avenue, Huntsville, AL 358162. Thanks to all who have supported this program in the past.

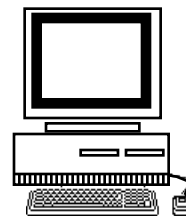
Coming Events

<u>What</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where</u>
• St. Patrick's Day Parade	March 17	downtown Huntsville
• Student Musical Group	mid-March	tbd
• Christmas in April	April 22	Morgan County
• UND	early May	tbd
• Summer Service Project	June-July	various locations in Huntsville



Updates to the club's "Coming Events" are regularly posted on our web site. The newsletter and information on club activities can also be found on our web site. You can subscribe to our electronic newsletter notice on our web site so you're notified each time something new is posted. Our web site is located at:

http://alumni.nd.edu/~ndc_n_al/



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2612 Craft Avenue
Huntsville, AL 358162

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