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# Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama

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December 2007

## Communion/Breakfast

Our club will be having a Communion/Breakfast on March 2 starting at the 9:00 a.m. mass at Holy Spirit Church on Airport Road in Huntsville. David Tarkowski, a parishioner at Holy Spirit, has volunteered to help coordinate the Mass with a breakfast/brunch to follow. This will not be a separate communion just for our club. Instead our focus will be our ND community coming together in support of our wonderful parishes and pastors in our area. What better way to celebrate our club and Notre

Dame's Catholic Character than to come in communion with our community?

We will post specifics on the location of the brunch on our club's web site as the date nears. Please RSVP a week ahead of the communion breakfast to David Williams, (256) 508-6646, so that we can have an approximate count of attendees.

Another communion breakfast will be held in the fall at another of our wonderful parishes with club members who belong to the host parish asked to help plan the event. Suggestions are welcomed.

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## Designation of Annual Fund Contributions to Scholarship Fund

Many of our Alumni, Parents, and ND Friends member may not know that your contribution to the Notre Dame Annual Fund may be designated for the Northern Alabama Club's Scholarship Fund, that is managed by the University. You can accomplish this by making your donation to the Northern Alabama Club for that purpose, and we will forward our Club's check from those donations and the proceeds from the Football Raffle sales and the Football Game Weekend to the University's Development office. Your name will be supplied and will be credited to your football ticket lottery eligibility for all those

who qualify. Alumni will need to provide their graduation year. Those donations need to be received by our Treasurer by 15 January 2008 for application to the 2008 football season lottery eligibility. Send your checks to

David Tarkowski  
7806 Bridgewell Run  
Huntsville, AL 35802

Contact David Tarkowski at 520-4917 if you have any questions.

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## Hesburgh Lecture

Dominic Vachon, adjunct professor of psychology and concurrent professor of theology at the University of Notre Dame, will present a lecture titled "Transcending Suffering: Spirituality and Maintaining Compassion in the Encounter with Human Pain" on Saturday, February 2, 2008, at Annunciation of the Lord Parish in Decatur. The lecture is sponsored by the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama in cooperation with Annunciation Parish.

Dr. Vachon teaches graduate courses in Notre Dame's master of divinity and clinical/counseling psychology programs. He is also a psychologist on the clinical faculty for training family practice residency physicians at St. Joseph's Regional Medical Center in South Bend.

A 1980 graduate of Notre Dame with a

bachelor's degree in psychology and philosophy, Dr. Vachon received his master of divinity degree from the University in 1985. He earned his doctorate in counseling psychology in 1993 from Loyola University in Chicago.

His research has focused on the areas of stress and burnout in the helping professions, the psychology of caring, family care giving, and the role of spirituality in helping others. He is the founder of the Institute for the Support and Study of the Caring Professions, a private for-caring consulting practice offering programs for health care and other organizations concerned about the stress associated with helping people.

Dr. Vachon's lecture will follow the 5:00 P.M. Vigil Mass and a dinner for all who attend the lecture. The lecture and dinner are free and are open to the public. Annunciation of the Lord is located at 3910 Spring Avenue, SE in Decatur.

## Summer Service Learning Program

In June and July 2007, and for the 12th consecutive year, the Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama sponsored a Summer Service Learning Program (SSLP) student from Notre Dame. This year our student was Sarah Nokes, who was a junior from Cary, NC. Every summer the University's Center for Social Concerns coordinates community service projects at locations around the country. Each Notre Dame student who chooses to participate spends about eight weeks performing community service in a project at a location set up by the local Notre Dame Club. The Notre Dame Club of Northern Alabama had several duties as an SSLP host. We coordinated the assignment with the Volunteer Center of Madison County, provided lodging for Sarah, and paid \$1200 to Notre Dame toward school expenses for her. A special thanks to the Mary and Mark Richards family and to the Kelly and David Williams family for providing housing for Sarah. Also, a special thanks to those who sent in donations to help offset the cost of this sponsorship, and to those who spent time with

Sarah during her stay with us.

The Volunteer Center coordinates opportunities between individuals interested in service and non-profit organizations throughout Madison County. As a Youth Volunteer Corps Site Leader, the student creates various service-learning programs, brainstorms ideas for new projects, and supervises projects for youth volunteers. While overseeing the volunteers, the student often travels to project sites with the youth, introducing them to agency contacts and also performing the direct service at the different sites.

Sarah summed up her experience as follows:

"I love the fact that I get to serve the community in many different ways: from helping out at a summer camp for children with cerebral palsy to painting classrooms at a local boys and girls club, to playing games or helping with a cookout for elderly people in a nursing home."

-- Sonnie Hereford, SSLP Coordinator

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## SSLP Nostalgia

Recently, I realized we've built quite a bit of history with our participation in the ND Summer Service Learning Program (SSLP). It's hard to believe that we have participated in this program for 12 straight years now !!! The program was originally called the Summer Service Program (SSP), and then the Summer Service Internship (SSI).

Below are the names of our students and the years they were with us in Huntsville. Please join me for this little trip down SSLP memory lane:

1996 Beth Skalicky	1997 Angela Torma
1998 Kelly McGeever	1999 Melissa Gormley
2000 Amy Heckel	2001 Pam de los Reyes
2002 Elizabeth Asher	2003 Soquel Harding
2004 Amelia (Meelz) Hoffman	2005 Jennifer Belliveau
2006 Veronica Bradham	2007 Sarah Nokes

It seems that each student forms a special bond with at least one host family. I'm building a spreadsheet with up-to-date info for all these students, including current addresses, e-mail addresses, phone numbers, and married names. My info is incomplete. In the near future I'll post this info on our Club web site, notify our membership, and ask for help in the way of updates.

If I can do this soon enough, some of us might want to send out Christmas cards !!!

-- Sonnie Hereford,  
SSP, SSI, and SSLP Coordinator

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## Football Game Weekends

Fifty of our Club members and friends enjoyed a great ND weekend at the beginning. We'll just ignore the outcome of the BC game right now and remember the new ND fans that we met, the old friends that we got to share some time with, and the spirit of Notre Dame that permeates everyone and everywhere on the campus. The Alumni Association makes this weekend at the Parish Hall available to our group of 50 because of what our membership supports in way of community service activities and the various events that we sponsor throughout the year to keep the alumni, parents, and friends of Notre Dame in touch with each other and the University. So, keep up your support either by attending our activities, supporting our community service activities, or by your donations and dues.

Next year's Game Weekend will be held for the Purdue game on Sept. 27. This year, although the Club was offered the Parish Hall again, we would have had to take a late November game. We opted for just 50 tickets to the Purdue game. In the meantime, we are pursuing a hotel close enough to South Bend that has acceptable room rates and which we can reserve a block of rooms. More information to follow in the March timeframe.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Work No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(You'll receive e-mail messages about club activities.)

**Membership  
Year  
2007-2008**

**Club Use Only**  
 Treasurer  
 Membership

Graduation Year(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Amt. \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$25/year/person-paper newsletter  
 \$20/year/person-electronic newsletter

Scholarship Amt.\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please make check payable to:  
 ND Club of Northern Alabama

**Clip and Mail to:**  
 ND Club of Northern Alabama  
 7806 Bridgewell Run  
 Huntsville, AL 35802

\* Contributions to Scholarship Fund are tax deductible. Also, remember to check for the availability of matching funds from your company.

**Board of Directors**  
 August 1, 2007 through July 31, 2009

<p><i>President</i>          David Williams '94, '96, '01          H 325-2871          W 508-6646          drrocket @ knology.net</p> <p><i>Vice President</i>          Sonnie Hereford '79          H 722-0369          C 541-2530          SWHereford @ knology.net</p> <p><i>Treasurer</i>          Dave Tarkowski '68, '70          H 883-4868          W 890-3318          dtarkows @ mitre.org</p> <p><i>Secretary</i>          Joe Szedula '80, '82          H 721-1944          W 461-8522 x102          szedula @ mindspring.com</p>	<p><i>Community Service</i>          George Harvey '03          H 353-6280          W 544-0406          george.harvey @ msfc.nasa.gov</p> <p><i>Community Service (deputy)</i>          Barbara Breithaupt '87          H 721-1101          W 544-5401          barbara.breithaupt @ msfc.nasa.gov</p> <p><i>Alumni/Schools</i>          Sonnie Hereford '79          H 722-0369          C 541-2530          SWHereford @ knology.net</p> <p><i>Membership</i>          Sonnie Hereford '79          H 722-0369          C 541-2530          SWHereford @ knology.net</p>	<p><i>Communications</i>          Joe Szedula '80, '82          H 721-1944          W 461-8522 x102          szedula @ mindspring.com</p> <p><i>Publicity</i>          Jo Ann Harvey '03          H 353-6280          jaharvey @ pclnet.net</p> <p><i>Social Events</i>          Dave Tarkowski '68, '70          H 883-4868          W 890-3318          dtarkows @ mitre.org</p> <p><i>UND Celebration</i>          Jo Ann Harvey '03          H 353-6280          jaharvey @ pclnet.net</p>	<p><i>Summer Service Learning Program</i>          Sonnie Hereford '79          H 722-0369          C 541-2530          SWHereford @ knology.net</p> <p><b>Vacant Positions:</b>          Continuing Education          Young Alumni</p>
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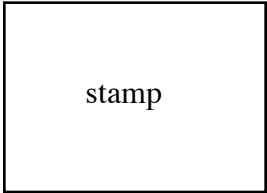
**ND Club of Northern AL Membership  
(thru July 31, 2008)**

- Jack Delvillan
- Larry Richards
- Gerry Richards
- George Harvey
- JoAnn Harvey
- Fred Campbell
- Hugo Hardt
- Ron Liedel
- Michael Sanders

Payment of dues will keep a member in good standing until July 31, 2008. The dues are used to cover the cost of club activities. The Summer Service Internship and the Student Send-off are two such activities. Another benefit of membership will be an opportunity to purchase Game Trip tickets for the Purdue game at ND in 2008. Members also receive regular newsletters. If you only wish to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter please let us know. You can save \$5 on your membership dues. Remember, all ND supporters are welcome; membership is not limited to alumni. Please tell your ND-supporting friends about the Club! Make checks payable to ND Club of Northern Alabama, and send your \$25 (or \$20 for electronic newsletter) payment per member to: ND Club of Northern Alabama, 7806 Bridgewell Run/Huntsville, AL 35802



**ND Club of Northern Alabama**  
**7806 Bridgewell Run**  
**Huntsville, AL 35802**



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## Coming Events

<u>What</u>	<u>When</u>	<u>Where/Who</u>
• Hesburgh Lecture	February 2, 5PM	Annunciation of the Lord, 3910 Spring Avenue, SE Decatur
• Communion/Breakfast	March 2, 9AM	Holy Spirit Church on Airport Road in Huntsville
• Lacrosse Game	March 15, 2PM	Lovett High School field, Atlanta
• Rebuilding Together Sign up	March 1 thru March 28	Applications are available on Rebuilding Together web site: <a href="http://home.earthlink.net/~rt-mc/">http://home.earthlink.net/~rt-mc/</a>
• Rebuilding Together	April 26th	Location TBD, Joe Szedula 256-461-8522 x102 (work)

**Updates to the club's "Coming Events" are regularly posted on our web site. This newsletter and information on club activities can also be found on our web site. While you're there you can sign up for the club's e-mail list. When you sign up you'll find out about the club's activities sooner. Our web site is located at:**

**[http://alumni.ndgroups.org/~ndc\\_n\\_al/](http://alumni.ndgroups.org/~ndc_n_al/)**

### Lacrosse Game

The Fighting Irish Men's Lacrosse Team is coming to Atlanta on March 15, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at Lovett High School field. Go to [www.lovett.org/campus/directions](http://www.lovett.org/campus/directions) for location. The Men's Lacrosse Team will be taking on the Dartmouth Big Green in Division 1 Men's lacrosse action. This is the first time that Men's Division 1 Lacrosse will be played in Atlanta and the Atlanta Notre Dame Club is expecting a capacity crowd with a huge Irish section!

Tickets are on sale through Breakaway Lacrosse, (707) 433-2357 or [sorrel@breakawaylacrosse.com](mailto:sorrel@breakawaylacrosse.com), for \$7 advanced purchase. Game day tickets can be purchased for \$10. Please contact David Williams at (256) 508-6646 if you are interested in car pooling to the game so that plans can be made.

### Membership E-mail List

We are trying to maintain a list of e-mail addresses for our club membership. This list will be used to keep you informed of club activities. We have also used the e-mail list to send out notices when game tickets are available. It is easy to add your name to our address list. Simply:

1. Go to our club's web site at:  
**[http://alumni.ndgroups.org/~ndc\\_n\\_al/](http://alumni.ndgroups.org/~ndc_n_al/)**
2. Click on the "Subscribe to our e-mail list" link
3. Send the e-mail message

Sending this message will automatically add your e-mail address to our list of members. You can also send an email to "[szedula@mindspring.com](mailto:szedula@mindspring.com)" with the subject "Subscribe to ND Club Newsletter" (no quotes). Using either method, your e-mail address will be added to our address list.