RapAround

RapAround
JOAN M. SMITH, Editor

Photo by Terrance J. Brennan

A few of the young gentlemen took time from their busy schedules to give RapAround a look into the service program and its activities. Seated: Ken Lindsay, Sadler, Steve Funk. Standing: are Dave Loewenguth, Mike Donner, Gary Huether and Steve Macaluso.

Active Program at Aquinas

By JOAN M. SMITH

As Dennis Sadler can testify, the Aquinas Community Service Program is a going, growing operation. Saddler is now in his fourth year as program director.

"I know it has grown," he stated. "Every year more and more kids want to belong to the project."

This year there are 65 seniors involved in the elective course which offers them a chance to become involved in the community by helping their fellowman. The course was offered both semesters this school year and those enrolled had to use their initiative in tracking down volunteer opportunities. Present services students provide include: tutoring at Aquinas, Nazareth Hall, Sacred Heart; working at Aberdeen and St. Ann's nursing homes and participating in local Cancer Society and American Red Cross activities.

Besides working with institutional charities, students also help in individual situations. One student escorts three senior citizens on their shopping rounds. Another young man is embarked, through his employer, on setting up a system to help senior citizens obtain medicines.

Throughout the course, the students keep a log of their activities. At the end of the course, they use the log to draw up a summary of their work. Then there is a personal evaluation of their commitments and how they were carried out.

"The kids are really enthused about the program," beamed Saddler. He said that the students don't expect rewards but are pleased when they receive unexpected recognition. As an example he told about the children from Nazareth Hall who made a collage of thanks for their tutors which the volunteers proudly showed to their classmates.

But more than the recognition, the young gentlemen agreed the experience of helping others was satisfaction enough.

"I like the program," explained Steve Macaluso, "because Math comes easy to me and if I can help people, that's great!" Steve tutors Algebra and Trig.

Fellow classmate, Gary Heuther, said working with the second graders over at Sacred Heart gives him a sense of accomplishment. "I look forward to the time I spend with them," he commented.

According to Saddler, he receives many requests for the course but there are times when school schedules make it impossible for some students to participate. The course demands three working hours a week, and this, coupled with the demands of school work and outside jobs, make it tough finding the time. Regardless of the pressures, however, the Aquinas volunteers manage to take things in stride and accomplish their goals.

Clubs Offer Guides to Success

FSC/JFSC Recognition Day are words which appear each month on the Nazareth Academy calendar. According to Sister Dorothy Ellen FSC designates the Future Secretaries Club and JFSC its junior affiliate.

The senior club was started in 1941 by Sister Helen Concepta and is now headed by Sister Ruth. All 197 students in Typing 1, Office Typing, Shorthand 2 and Secretarial Practice classes are members. Each class forms a chapter named for the patron saint of a former business teacher or principal of Nazareth.

The primary aim of the clubs is to help students develop character and a book recommended for FSC members is the "Prayer of St. Francis", to be prayed and lived throughout their lives. The club's motto, "Lend yourself to things as they pass; each is God's message to you," calls students to find the real meaning in the ordinariness of life. A ten-point code guides them to be successful businesswomen. Faithful attendance at school is recognized monthly by each chapter.

The FSC's second goal is to develop both accuracy and speed in typing skills through daily tests. Students achieving 30 or more words per minute are recognized monthly entitling them to a pin — a small typewriter in various colors, denoting their rate of achievement.

Throughout the year, members develop skill in spelling, using a list of 400 words suggested by businessmen as most important to their work. In May, a test of 100 words drawn from this list is given and a trophy awarded.

The members have special activities throughout the year. In May, former students who are working, return to Nazareth to answer questions about what is expected in the business world and their respective company practices. A career day is also planned to explore the opportunities available to women in business. A telephone week is scheduled to emphasize the vital importance of the use of the office phone.

The Junior Future Secretaries Club was established in 1965 to provide similar opportunities for younger business students in the Typing and Shorthand 1 classes. The emphasis on typing skills at this level is on accuracy, rather than speed. This year there are 186 JFSC members.

At a recent Recognition Day, Jeanmarie Nau, JFSC president looks on while Ann Marie Szpiler receives an award from Christine Nitzman, president of the Future Secretaries Club.

Winners Circle

RapAround weekly will run a photo of a group of students taken somewhere in the diocese. One person will be circled and if that person brings the clipping to the Courier-Journal before noon of the Tuesday following our publication date, he or she will receive $5. This week's photo was taken at Aquinas during an assembly. The person circled above should bring the clipping to Joan M. Smith, Courier-Journal, by noon, Tuesday, March 13 to receive $5.

DeSales Student Wins in Oratory

Anthony Cannuli of Geneva DeSales High School, took first place in the school's Bishop Kearney Memorial Diocesan Oratorical Contest, Feb. 17. Claron McFadden of Bishop Kearney won second place; Mary Beth Douglas from Notre Dame, Elmira took third and Miss Kathy Rourke, chairwoman of the DeSales' English Department was awarded the first place school award.

The oratorical contest was popular while Bishop James E. Kearney was Bishop of Rochester but lost popularity when he resigned. This year DeSales revived the event in memory of him and his dedication to scholarship and also to revitalize interest in this field.

In winning the competition, Cannuli devloped the topic "Next to the Family, the Catholic School" theme of Catholic Schools Week. He demonstrated how the Catholic faith and morality are born in the family and then are supported, developed, and expanded in the Catholic schools.

Mack Spellecy, DeSales teacher, served as Master of Ceremonies. Judges were: Mrs. Mary Kay Bolan, Midlakes High School; Mrs. Madeleine Grumet of the Hobart Education Department; Frank Young, Geneva High School.