



Latest News

 Annual meeting of Past Pupils from the oldest Salesian School in Poland! – Oswiecim, 03/06/2012

On Sunday, 3rd of June 2012 – Salesian School of Don Bosco in Oswięcim (Poland)swarmed with visitors. At its annual meeting, held traditionally on the first Sunday of June, arrived past pupils from this oldest Salesian school in Poland.

Among the guests we could see young faces - this year's graduates, more serious faces of thirties and forties, who came with their families, and - dignified figure of those who have their adventure with the Salesian school in Auschwitz back in the forties and fifties of last century. The program fulfilled: Mass, meeting at the auditorium in the presence of Fr. Darius Bartochy - Inspector and president of Past Pupils Association - Wieslaw Sojka, lunch, and after that a long conversations with colleagues, which have not seen each other in a good few years.



Participants could obtain a special vintage edition of the newsletter "Casa Madre", which is the year-long chronicle of the school, parish and boarding. By viewing the promotional films produced by young people past pupils could have learned about the current situation of the school and its wide range of education.

Getting to know Confederation Statute (Article 4 a – d)

The Association of Past Pupils, conscious of its own special responsibility, concerns itself with animating and promoting the personal growth of its members and all young people in Don Bosco committing to:

- a) Contribute to the creation of a more just society becoming involved in cultural, moral, spiritual and religious processes which proposes a solution to problems concerning youth and the common people.
- b) Plan experiences of permanent formation for Past Pupils, designed to favour their personal enrichment and update the received education, so they are able to face the requirements of current times.
- c) Reserve particular occasions of contact and meeting for Past Pupils to stimulate and encourage them towards creativity, fraternity, dynamism and taking up responsibilities in the various contexts of life.
- d) Be present as experts in the spheres in which the educative policies of the young are developed.

REMEMBER THAT:

- There are still copies available to whom claims for them in Italian, Spanish and English. Please write the World Delegate for its postage.
- French and Portuguese versions are in phase of production and translation. We hope to have them available for the interested Federation within the end of 2012.



Elected the venue for the next Asia-Oceania Past Pupils Congress! Bangkok, Thailand 30/05/12

After the arrangements done by the Asian Councilor Rajesh Gupta, Thai Federation has accepted hosting the tenth Congress Asia – Oceania of Past Pupils.

This Congress will take place at Bangkok from 22nd to 25th February 2013, and not only are invited Past Pupils of Don Bosco but also FMA Past Pupils. Soon the organizing committee will begin to work on the Programme of this event from which we will keep you informed.



Starts the training itinerary for adult life for Young Past Pupils, Nicaragua 06/06/12

Last Wednesday 6th July took place in the three Salesian houses of Nicaragua, the initial meetings for Formation and Preparation for adult life for young people attending to last School year from the Salesian Schools of Granada 34, Masaya 73 and Managua 13.

In this project, initiated last year as pilot project, has three stages of formation, preparing them for University and/or labour market. At the same time we prepare them to integrate themselves in GEX and we began also with the World Feast of Past Pupils.



Open Call for European Presidents and Delegates of European Federations

Isaac Túnez, Councilor for Europe has already sent the call for the meeting of European Presidents and Delegates.

It is the first coordinating meeting at European level, and therefore it is an important initiative to renew our movement in the “old continent”.

Some important data:

- Venue: Córdoba, Spain
- Date: 29 September de 2012 (it's recommended to arrive 28 and not depart before 18:00)
- Cost: between 70 and 90 € per day (full board)

To received full information (programme, participation form, payment details) please write to tufii@hotmail.com



President's Word

Dear friends,

We are on the eve of the World Feast of Past Pupils next 24 June day when we remember that from which it all began the offer of the cups by Carlo Gastini and other "old boys" who have gathered together in 1870 around their Father and Master Don Bosco.

I want to echo a passage of words - masterfully composed by the World Delegate D. Pastor Jose Ramirez- who accompanied the impressive ceremony of the Light that we have seen, in the Centenary Congress, at Colle Don Bosco.

(Full version in the attached document)

Whispered words by our World Delegate



The new World Confederation Statute ask the Delegate, the President and the Board, in its animation and governance task at local, provincial, national or regional level to be ready to go further the service, giving to our Past Pupils more than it is expected. That means that they will treat Past Pupils as if they were their best friend, someone for whom going further. This was the secret of Don Bosco, he was going one step further the expectations of his kids, of the Church and the Society. Due to that he was able to arrive to Missionary countries and spread the Gospel in unknown places. Don Bosco was always ready to do more than it was expected, and afterwards Providence will reward him abundantly: with his con la sanctity.



Seminary on Energy, Cagliari – Sardinia, Italy 30/05/12

Last 17th May Past Pupils of Cagliari and Sardinian Federation, organized a seminar on Energy and its new applications (energy efficiency and domotics amongs other interesting topics) specially addressed to GEX and pupils of Cagliari Salesian School. The seminar has been one of the first collaborations amongst Schneider Electric (sponsor of the Centenary Congress) and also collaborated in the seminar General Electric, Moser-Baer and CNOS-Fap dfrom Sardinia.



2nd Visit to Malta – Organizing Eurobosco 2013

From 20th to 22nd June, World President and Delegate approached to Malta to organize Eurobosco 2013 that will take place from 21st to 24th November. In this visit were accompanied by National President Bianchi and Delegate Charles Cini, and visited Gozo island and other places where the Congress will take place.



LX Past Pupil National Day

Salesian School from Manique, Cascais, has hosted last 16th June, the 60th Past Pupil of Don Bosco National Day. Local Union was in charge of organizing this day with the support of the Salesian Community and the Portuguese National Federation.

Around 100 people gathered, embedded of the same spirit of gratitude that moved a group of Past Pupils the 24th June 1870 to thank Don Bosco the education received. We would like to underline the presence of Fr. Provincial D. Artur Pereira, and the mayor of Cascais, Carlos Carreiras, who is Salesians' Past Pupil.

In the morning games and sports begin this day, and also some “Zumba· dancing, swimming in the new school pool, watching a Ju-Jitsu, play with inflatable games, face painting, watching Strenna and much more activities

Around midday took place the Holy Mass, presided by Fr. Provincial, followed by an excellently prepared meal. This day concluded with a ceremony in the auditorium close to the pool, where spoke all the Local Union Presidents, National President, the mayor of Cascais and Fr. Provincial. This great day concluded with an anthem in honour of Don Bosco.

Reminders

DATABASE OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL/REGIONAL LEADERS

From this Presidency we would like to be closer to your reality in the Association, both at national and provincial/regional level, with that purpose we kindly ask you to send us some contact data from your President and other referent people of your movement to reach them. We need the following data:

- Full name
- Mail address
- Email address
- Telephone number and cell number
- Language(s) for communication
- Birth date (to send you our compliments)

Who is who in the World Presidency?

Second Vicepresident

Name: Julio Castellanos
Nationality: Guatemala
Profession: Bank employee
Contact:
juliocastellanos@yahoo.com
Local Union: Guatemala



Councilor for Communication

Name: Domenica Sapienza
Nationality: Italian
Profession: Development Cooperation Worker
Contact: sdony@email.it
Local Union: Catania





Past Pupils Testimonies

Hello everybody I am Deborah Dall'Armi, Confederal Secretary.

First of all I would like to say that I am very glad to write to you and it is a real honour being able to do it; in order to do so I have to thank this new NEWSFLASH, the instrument which the Presidency tries to be as close as possible of you and your families.

I would like to introduce myself: I studied at S. Ambrosio Salesian Institute in Via Copernica at Milano (Italy), where I attended to Scientific Bachelor. From there I got my love for Salesian Spirit, Don Bosco and Salesian Family, which have been growing in me continuously.

I have tried and try every day to live my life according to Don Bosco teachings, initially at the High School, trying to help those pupils with more difficulties in their studies, and once I left the school being an educator in Salesian summer schools and working with Past Pupils movement since the first day I left the High School. So far, I belong to the Association since 18 years ago, first only as a member, afterwards as Secretary of Lombardia Regional Federation and today as General Secretary of World Confederation. It is been so long since I have left the school, but my Salesian identity remains, feeling myself a daughter of Don Bosco has guided me throughout University and my present job (I work for an investment bank dealing with financial products)

In a World that changes constantly in which one could feel lost, the thing that always has guided me and has been the cornerstone is the light, the different light that have Don Bosco sons, with the strength of going always forward, always wait for me and take care of me, the strength of being themselves and continue involved in what we believed, much further from what social conventions or fashion tell us; and the path to follow is much easier if you listen Don Bosco words and learn from his actions: he did before us!

I am extremely grateful of being able to take part in the World Centenary that took place in Torino last April and I feel really lucky because, thanks to all those who make an effort to organize it we were able to visit the places where Don Bosco prayed, taught, slept; and I am also really grateful to Rector Mayor Don Pascual Chávez's speech because in its words we could really breathe Don Bosco's charisma and we could see the light that we all take in our hearts.

I cannot forget who am I in any of the fields of my life, and as it is said in his speech, "I am called to develop the seeds of the Education received" and to perform the mission that God has thought for me with "professional competence", "moral consciousness" and "social commitment" in order to be "salt for this Earth, light of this World and yeast that ferments the dough".

I profit this occasion to greet all of you and wish you that Don Bosco charisma fulfills your life.

Deborah Dall'Armi