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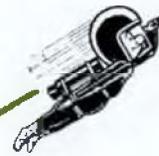
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# LA SALLE COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



## Newsletter



Vol. IV No. 2

February 1970

### 1970 SIGNUM FIDEI MEDALIST: JAMES W. TURPIN, M.D.



The La Salle College Alumni Association's annual Signum Fidei medal for "noteworthy contributions to the advancement of Christian principles" will be awarded on April 18 to James W. Turpin, M.D., founder and President of Project Concern, Inc.

Project Concern is an independent, non-profit medical relief program with locations in Hong Kong, South Vietnam, Mexico and Tennessee. Founded in 1961, Project Concern has 147 doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, technicians and volunteers helping those who lack the basic elements of health, education, food, shelter and job opportunities.

The founder of Project Concern was reared in Ashland, Kentucky, where he made an early determination to pursue a career in medical service. From his grandfather, Dr. James Wesley Duke, young Jim Turpin learned of humanity to man. In his teens, he talked of being a medical missionary.

After service in the U.S. Navy, he was graduated from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and continued his studies at the Candler School of Theology for two years. He graduated from Emory Medical School, completed his internship, residency, and began the practice of general medicine in Coronado, California.

During his five years there, Dr. Turpin was active in community life. The form of Project Concern took shape when he proposed to members of his adult church school class that they do something about service instead of just talking about it. The members volunteered their time and efforts to help with a medical clinic and school called "Casa de Todos" in neighboring Tijuana, Mexico.

Project Concern was then incorporated in California on November 1, 1961. Within a year, support was sufficient to begin the first Project Concern medical clinic in Hong Kong. By 1966, four clinics had been established in Hong Kong.

In 1964, a 42 bed hospital in the remote South Vietnamese central highland village of Da Mpao, some 180 miles northeast of Saigon, was treating 100 in-patients and over 1000 out-patients each month. In an effort to make the Vietnamese self-sufficient, a village-hospital medical assistant cooperative program between the South Vietnamese government and Project Concern has trained local young men and women in the basics of medical assistance. To date, 72 graduates have returned to their villages as medical assistants or remained as hospital assistants, recognized and certified. A Project Concern medical team from DaMpao Hospital regularly visits 25 villages and conducts clinic sessions with the assistance of the resident VMA. Over 3,000 patients monthly are treated by the medical team and the VMA's.



*Project Concern's Lei Yue Mun out-patient clinic near Kai Tak airport in Kowloon is housed in a quonset hut, and offers medical care to 30,000 needy people in this fishing village.*

*(continued page 4)*

## BASKETBALL CLUB DINNER, MARCH 6



Basketball Club Chairman, James J. Kenyon has announced that the second annual dinner to honor the basketball team will be held on Friday evening, March 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the Shack Restaurant, 7133 Roosevelt Blvd. Tickets are \$7.00 per person and may be procured through a member of the club or the Alumni Office.

The Basketball Club was started last year when the Alumni President, Daniel H. Kane, took a personal survey at the Alumni Stag Reunion in the Fall. A number of alumni expressed interest in organizing a club in support of the team, and the nucleus of interested alumni grew during the season. Interest in the club reached its zenith at the end of the season when the full force of the NCAS probation manifested itself and the team, which had accomplished a 23-1 record while winning the Big Five title and conquering some of the best teams in the nation, was not eligible to compete in post-season tournaments. Many alumni felt it unfair that this great team would never have the opportunity to prove how good they actually were. It was felt that the team should be honored in some way. A dinner was planned and on relatively short notice a capacity crowd filled Sandy Run Country Club to honor Tom Gola and his team on April 30.

Although expectations were not high this year after the loss of Cannon, Taylor, Włodarczyk, Williams, Szczesny and Markmann, this season has been a disappointing one. However, the purpose of the club is to support the team through good years and difficult ones. Basketball Club members have shown their support of the team at a mid-season reception, and by attending the Palestra games (and some road games) in increasing numbers.

In the hope of making the post season dinner an annual affair, a committee was formed and plans were made early for an outstanding program, which will be M.C'd. by WFIL-TV sports' director, Les Keiter. The dinner is not limited to club members. All alumni are invited to demonstrate their support of Tom Gola and the basketball program at the College by attending the dinner on March 6.

The committee requires that all reservations be made by March 2.

## SPRING RECEPTION/HALL OF ATHLETES, APRIL 5

The 12th annual Spring Reception will be held on campus in the College Union Ballroom on the Sunday after Easter—April 5, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., it was announced by James I. Gillespie, '55, chairman of this year's reception committee.

The committee plans to continue the tradition of excellence established in previous years. There will be door prizes for the ladies and a printed program is being prepared as a souvenir of the occasion. Tickets are priced at \$5.00 per person and may be obtained by sending a check (payable: La Salle College Alumni Association) to the Alumni Office.

Again, the guests of honor will be the new additions to the Hall of Athletes. The Hall of Athletes Committee, under the chairmanship of H. Peter Gillingham, '49, made its recommendation that two men be honored by induction to the Hall this year and received the unanimous endorsement of the Alumni Board of Directors. The two men to be honored are John J. Brennan, '36 and James V. Covello, '52.



John "Fritz" Brennan, '36, was a starter at end for four years, 1932-1935, on La Salle's football teams. He played on the College's only undefeated team (1934), and contributed greatly to the stunning upset of Villanova University that year (13-7) by recovering a fumble and scoring the winning touchdown. He was captain of the team during his senior year, and was named to all-state and honorable mention All America teams.

After graduation, he coached at West Catholic High School from 1936 to 1942 and again in 1946 after a tour of duty in the Army. He then coached at Lower Merion High School until 1969 where his record was 106 wins, 39 losses and 5 ties. Now retired from coaching, he is at present Administrative Assistant to the Principal and Athletic Director at Lower Merion High School. He lives in Rosemont and is the father of three sons.



## Spring Reception (cont.)

James Covello, '52, pitched in over half of La Salle's baseball games over a three year period. His overall record was 25-5. In 1951, he posted an 8-1 record while leading the Explorers to a Middle Atlantic Conference co-championship. Captain of the team in his senior year, he made the MAC all-star team and signed a contract with the New York Giants. Covello is married, the father of five children and general agent for the National Life Insurance Company of Vermont. He is a member of the Alumni Board of Directors.



## NEWS NOTES

The Alumni Education Association will hold a general meeting on campus on the evening of February 20, 1970. Bernard Rafferty, President, has announced that the association's Saint John the Baptist de La Salle distinguished teaching award will be presented on this occasion to John A. Ryan, '51, former President of the Philadelphia Teachers' Union, and currently chief negotiator for them. Refreshments will be served and all alumni in the field of teaching are cordially invited to attend. . . .

. . . The Alumni Medical Society will meet with undergraduates preparing for a medical career at a luncheon on campus on Sunday, February 15, 1970. . . .

. . . The Alumni Board of Directors has recently established an Urban Affairs Committee to work with and support the efforts of the La Salle College Urban Studies and Community Services Center. President Harry White has appointed Owen Montague, '69 chairman of this committee. Alumni interested in participating in the work of this committee are asked to notify the chairman through the Alumni Office (VI 8-8300, ext. 421).

## Concert And Lecture Series On Campus

(all programs begin at 12:30 in College Union Theatre)

Wednesday, February 18	Pete Hamill: "Revolt of the White Working Class"
Thursday, February 19	Dr. David Smith: "Youth, Alienation, and the Drug Scene"
Wednesday, February 25	Ambassador Tran Van Chuong: "The Truth about Vietnam"
Friday, February 27	"La Strada"
Wednesday, March 4	Devon Brass Ensemble
Friday, March 6	Charles Fuller: "Contemporary Black Literature"
Wednesday, March 11	Dr. Paul Gray: "The Subverts and the Modern Theatre"
Friday, March 13	Grattan Freyer: "Ireland's History and Contemporary Politics"
Wednesday, March 18	Taylor Grant: "The Current Scene"
Friday, March 20	Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm: "Progress Through Understanding"
Tuesday, March 24	General Leonard Chapman, Commandant of the United States Marine Corps
Wednesday, March 25	"Julius Caesar"

## 1970 Signum Fidei Medalist (cont.)

In 1967, Project Concern assumed administration of the medical/dental clinic and child-care center at "Casa de Todos," Tijuana, Mexico, offering out-patient care, minor surgery, and maternity care. Over 300 children attend the government-certified elementary school at the Casa and are fed a hot lunch. For many of these poverty-stricken canyon dwellers, this is their only meal.

In an abandoned doctor's office in Byrdstown, Pickett County, Tennessee, on June 15, 1968, Project Concern initiated its newest program. This out-patient clinic with medical, dental, X-ray and laboratory services scales patients fees to what residents of the North Central Tennessee area can afford in order to perpetuate the self-help aspect of all Project Concern's programs. Mobile medical teams visit remote areas of Fentress and Overton Counties, offering help to a population of over 34,000 who have no medical care. A training program is planned for local young people as medical assistants.

For his efforts with Project Concern and his involvement in mankind, the La Salle College Alumni Association has chosen James W. Turpin to be the 1970 recipient of its highest award.

Signum Fidei Committee Chairman Francis X. Donohoe, '55, has announced that the medal will be presented at a dinner in the College Union Ballroom on Saturday, April 18, 1970. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and may be purchased at the Alumni Office.

The La Salle College Alumni Association "Signum Fidei" Medal derives its name from the motto of the Brothers of the Christian Schools—"Sign of Faith." It is given to recognize personal achievements in harmony with the established aims of La Salle College and the objectives of the Brothers of the Christian Schools, and is awarded annually to a person who has made "most noteworthy contributions to the advancement of Christian principles."

The medal has been awarded each year since 1942. Recipients have included: Bishop Fulton Sheen, R. Sargent Shriver, Senator Eugene J. McCarthy and Rev. Leon Sullivan. Last year's recipient was Reverend William J. Finley, founder of "Operation Discovery" in northcentral Philadelphia.

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
Philadelphia, Penna. 19141

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