

## CHECKING OUT RANCHO SAN ANTONIO PARK FOR UPCOMING FIFTIETH CLASS REUNION/PICNIC ON APRIL 25, 2015



Patricia, Fr. Carlton, and best bocce ball player, Fr. Cyril, near the chapel.

before the 1989 earthquake had them remove the top of the tower which housed a huge water tank. Looks like a castle here, but we were surprised to see what great shape the present building was

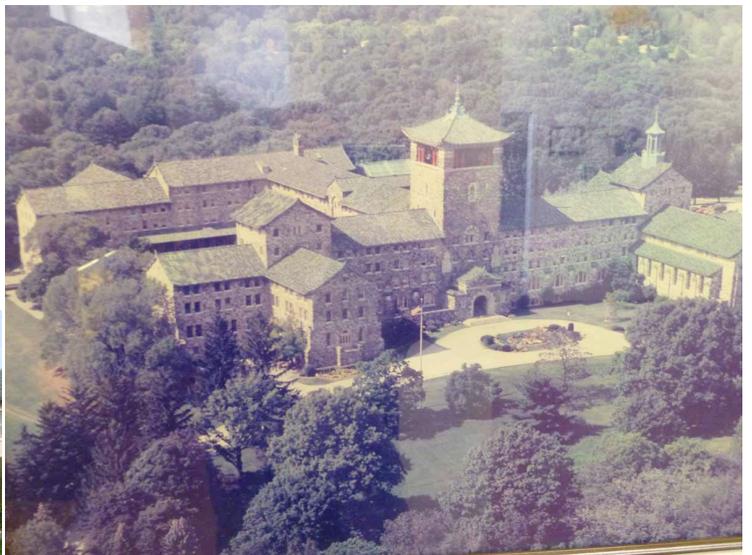


the Forum, a huge home for assisted living, now exits on the old SJS property along with other houses. He showed us the chapel, the refectory, and some of the grounds which we later explored on our own.

But now we had to find and explore the correct entrance to Rancho San Antonio park, find the old campus, the bay tree, the new tennis courts, and the Deer Hallow Farm, and check out to see if the handball courts were still standing.

En route to check out Rancho San Antonio Open Space Park Patricia and I stopped at Maryknoll. I was surprised that the receptionist phoned the priest in charge, Father Carlton (left photo), to give us a tour---I guess it's part of their PR thing, now that they have difficulties getting into parishes to raise money and drum up vocations. Father was most congenial and generous. He actually attended St. Joe's in 1955 to catch up his Latin requirement. He knew our Greek teacher, Father Dirks (phonetic spelling), and Fr. Billy Becker, who taught some of us Lit as Juniors.

I took a picture of a photo there of Maryknoll



in. The grounds are larger than I thought, and the diocese actually owns and leases out the land where

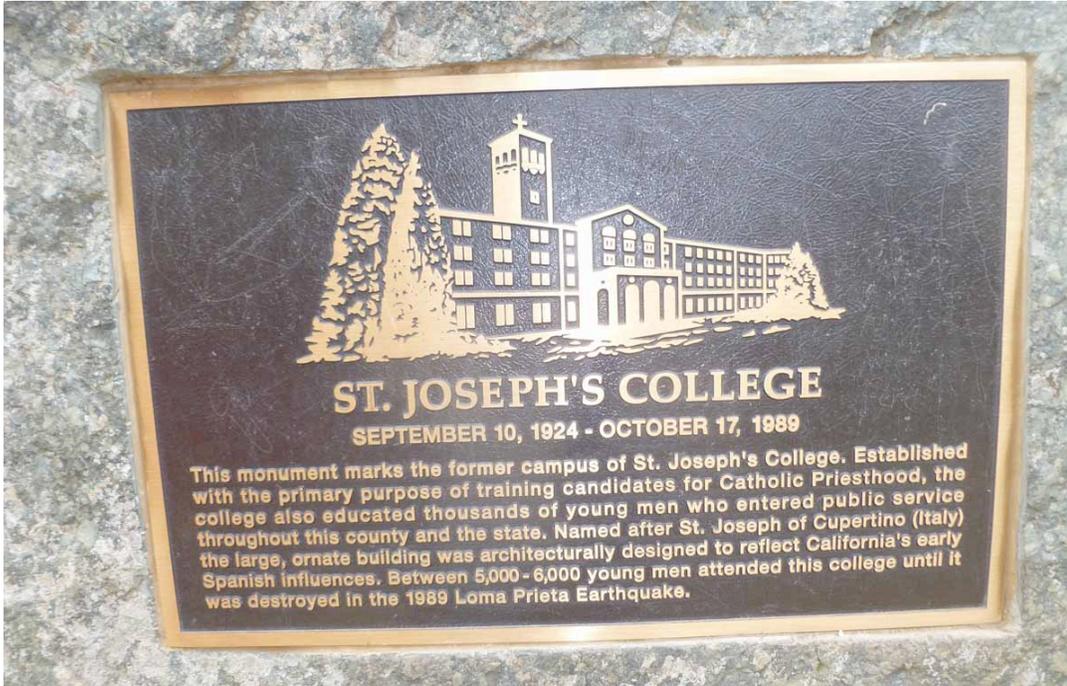


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The third parking lot (north-most) put us at the entrance we wanted which was the southmost edge of the old SJS campus. We saw 26 turkeys foraging for food on the campus, found the plaque shown below, the tennis courts, the location of where the handball courts must have been. (Ed and I explored some of this three years before.)

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Now to find the farm, and see if it was something the April 25 group would find worth hiking to. It was about 4 pm, but the place was pretty crowded for a week day. Things must really be crowded on a weekend.

I thought it particularly nice that the plaque acknowledged all of us who were not ordained but "entered public service," a vocation in itself.

The two mile hike was easy, the trails well kept and beautiful. The farm was interesting. I'd definitely go back, and recommend this to you, my fellow classmates.



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-JOE