

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The **William C. Schott Memorial Association** is a non-profit corporation which owns the St. Antoninus athletic fields. The Association leases the fields to the Archbishop who in turn gives the St. Antoninus' students the authority to use the fields.

The Association has been primarily responsible for the improvements to the fields over the years; however its membership is currently dwindling because the generations of members who supported the Association in the 1960's through the 1990's have slowly passed on. As a result, the Association is interested in increasing its membership so the fields can continue to be adequately supported.

A donation of any amount makes you a member of the Association. Once your contributions total \$300.00 you become a voting member of the Association. If you wish to make a tax deductible donation, please send a check payable to "**William C. Schott Memorial Association**" to our Treasurer, Jan Quatman, 5377 Sidney, Cincinnati, Ohio 45238.

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Name

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Address

# **WILLIAM C. SCHOTT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION**

**Michael L. Gay, Secretary**

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January 12, 2006

*Re: William C. Schott Memorial Association*

Dear Parishoner:

Allow me to introduce myself to those of you that I do not know. My name is Michael Gay and I am currently the Secretary of the William C. Schott Memorial Association, and I have had the good fortune of not only attending St. Antoninus School but also having all four of my children attend our school and actively participate in our athletic program. As you know, Schott field is a wonderful athletic complex which is managed and cared for by the Athletic Association, however it is owned by a non-profit corporation known as the William C. Schott Memorial Association. Over the years, as generations have come and gone, we have discovered that part of the history of St. Antoninus has been lost and I have been asked to write this letter to give each of you a little background on the history of Schott field. I will also address the relationship between the Association, the Athletic Club, and the Parish.

In the early years of the parish Schott field was actually part of the Schott estate, the home of which currently sits on the northwest corner of Cleves-Warsaw Pike and Anderson Ferry. In those days there was a large field which was south of Julmar Drive and ran towards the river which was large enough to accommodate two baseball diamonds and a football field. Access was gained to the field by walking up a path from the church parking lot to the field, probably a distance of a couple hundred yards. What are now the streets of Manortree and Quailwood was a heavily wooded area the school children played in. In the late 1960's William C. Schott, Sr. decided to sell some of his land for development, thereby eliminating the parish's use of the field for sporting activities. Initially Bill was intent on allowing the Athletic Club to use another portion of his land for its field, however the land was hilly and the cost to level it and make it useful for athletics proved prohibitive. As a result, Bill

decided to donate \$10,000.00 towards the purchase of a new practice field. At that time the Athletic Club did not have sufficient funds to purchase the land, and our Pastor, Father Urbain, was not permitted by the Archbishop to purchase a practice field since the parish had significant debt. Father Urbain had previously been at a parish in Reading, Ohio where a non-profit organization had purchased the practice field, and upon his suggestion a non-profit organization ultimately known as the William C. Schott Memorial Association was formed for the purpose of buying the land.

The William C. Schott Memorial Association was formed in March, 1970 as a non-profit entity to own the practice fields which the St. Antoninus students use on a regular basis. It is an entity separate from the parish, and in fact the property is actually leased by the Association to the Archbishop, who then gives St. Antoninus the right to use the athletic fields. The founders of the Association felt that it was important to keep the ownership of the fields separate from the parish to ensure that the fields will eternally be available for the use of our children.

The initial trustees of the Association, Bill Bley, George Tenoever, Roland Wintzinger, and R. Thomas Smith located a seven-acre tract of land on Cleves-Warsaw which is now the location of the Schott field, and entered into a contract to purchase it for \$60,000.00. Due to generous donations by parishioners during that period of time the property was purchased and the fields, as we know them today, were created.

In the early years there was no parking at Schott field and the concept was for people to park in the school lot and walk to the field. Over the years it became apparent that parking closer to the field was needed, and in 1990 the Association purchased additional acreage from Cincinnati Gas & Electric Company and Cincinnati Bell in order to build the current parking lot and driveway. The total cost of the parking lot improvement, including the purchase of the land, totaled approximately \$130,000.00, all of which has been paid for over the years by donations of the Association's members.

Although there have been innumerable individuals who have contributed to Schott field, it is clearly the brainchild of the Association's first President, William Bley. Bill had the foresight to envision what the Association has become, and today it clearly is his legacy. At Bill's request, George Tenoever took over the presidency shortly after the formation of the Association and George has brilliantly led this organization for

the past thirty-five years.

The Association is supported by yearly contributions from its members, as well as a small lease payment each year from the Athletic Club. The Association, in conjunction with the Athletic Club, continues to maintain and hopefully improve the facilities. For example, in the past year the parking lot was resealed and relined to maintain its integrity.

Our current project involves the acquisition of the small parcel of land just south of the driveway leading into the parking lot. The land has been leveled and hopefully will be seeded and fenced along Linneman Road in the spring. This additional land will be used by first and second grade teams for a practice area.

The Association is run by a Board of Trustees, made up of the following: George Tenover, President; John Torbeck, Vice President, Jan Quatman, Treasurer; Michael L. Gay, Secretary; Dr. Ted Kleimeyer; James Heisel; Guy Langenbrunner; Dr. Ambrose Puttman; and the immediate past president of the Athletic Club. The trustees are elected to serve three-year terms, thus every year three slots become open and they are filled by vote of the Association members. You do not need to be a voting member of the Association to be elected to the Board of Trustees.

The Association has been blessed over the years with many benefactors. Under the Articles of the Association you can become a member of the Association by contributing any amount to the Association, and once your contributions equal \$300.00 over the lifetime of your membership you become a voting member of the Association. All gifts are tax-deductible. I would strongly urge you to make a small donation and become a member of our Association so you can play a meaningful role in the ownership and maintenance of Schott field. If you wish to make a tax-deductible donation, please send a check payable to "William C. Schott Memorial Association" to our Treasurer, Jan Quatman, 5377 Sidney, Cincinnati, Ohio 45238.

Michael L. Gay  
Treasurer

MLG/tlb