

I would like to thank St..Christopher's Inn Alumni Association for electing me as their new Chairman. It is a great honor and humbles me to be recognized and asked to serve you.

I remember my own journey to recovery and like some of us I did not get it the first time coming to the Inn in 1986. I returned to the Inn in 1990 after being homeless in NYC that whole summer. I remember the shame and guilt I felt about relapsing and returning for the second time. I still fondly think of Bro. Mario, S.A. who was so kind and told me I did not have to live the misery of addiction. I am a musician and upon my return I picked up a guitar for the first time in 11 years and started writing music for the chapel services. I asked Bro. Gregory, S.A., the director at the Inn if we could start a choir and he gave it the go ahead. He called us Louie and the Bellmonts from the Bronx! I look at the choir today and see how much it has grown since the time I started it with some of my fellow Brothers. I believe it helped to keep us involved and sober. I just celebrated 18 years of recovery this past September and it all started with the Friar's unconditional love, help and support.

We are close to moving into the year of the Inn's Centennial, 2009. I look forward to the events that will celebrate 100 years of ministry to men in need. I hope all of you will join in this great event.

I will be working with Carmine Sorci, out Treasurer and Dan VanLuven, Secretary. If we can be of any help, please contact us.

Thanks you guys for your support of the Association.

Lou Gagliano
Chairman
SCI Alumni Association
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