



SIENA SENIOR SAINTS

History of the Siena Dinks

Dinks were hats given to freshman students as a way of initiation on the campus. This campus tradition started in 1941 and continued for decades. Wearing dinks was a way to show school spirit, Siena pride and overall student unity. Dinks were worn along with the freshman "initiation uniform". This attire included: a name tag, bowtie, shorts, white t-shirt, a white sock and shoe on the right foot, no sock and sneaker on the left foot and of course, the dink.

According to the Nov 1951 Siena News, "THE DINK AND YOU. While we are on the subject of spirit we'd like to take a little time out to say a few words to the frosh. This year's Freshman Class has demonstrated from the beginning of the school term that it doesn't understand the reasons behind "dink wearing." As a matter of fact the dink was as rare as a dodo bird on the campus during the initiation period. Now the frosh find that they must wear the dinks to the basketball games. There are definite reasons behind this ruling. It has been proved in the past that "dink wearing" improves not only school spirit but also class spirit. So don't make things tough on yourselves frosh. Wear your dinks, and wear them proudly."

Even during the 1967 frosh beer outing the dink played a role. The September 11, 1967 Siena Indian stated, "There have been some changes made in the normal rules to be followed by all frosh during this week. The most novel of these changes is that all frosh will be required to "stop, remove their dinks, bow towards the golden dome of Siena Hall" and remain in that position as long as the chimes are sounding." The outing also included invites to the College of St. Rose, St. Peter's School of Nursing and to the Albany Medical Center School of Nursing which was the highlight of initiation week according to the article.

A new way of celebrating the dink and showcasing the Siena spirit started to turn in 1968 when a new tradition was formed. According to the September 17, 1968 Indian, "Initiation



for the Freshman Class will begin on Monday, September 23, at 8 a.m., and will last until the Class of '72 builds a bonfire for the football rally bigger than the bonfire last year. In attempting to establish a new tradition, the Student Senate will incorporate this year's initiation with the opening festivities of the football season. As part of their initiation, the freshmen will be required to go to the opening football game. The idea of using a bonfire as a means of ending initiation was seized upon by the Senate in an effort to establish class unity."

The St. Francis House on campus currently has over 30 dinks proudly mounted and framed which was a special project from former alumni director Paul Twardy '70. We invite you to join us for the next Senior Saints Zoom event in November for a more in-depth look at the history of the Dink.



**GLOBAL
GIVING
TUESDAY**
11.30.21

Giving Tuesday is a global movement created a number of years ago to unleash the power of people to transform their communities and the world. Celebrated the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, 11/30 promises to be a special event for the Siena community.

Siena is proud to participate again this year. By making a gift through the Annual Fund, you help current students pursue their studies and discover their passions while fueling every part of our campus with resources that prioritize both students and faculty.

Please visit siena.edu/givingtuesday or call 518-783-2461 to make your gift or pledge in advance of the big day. Gifts of \$50 or more will receive a special 2022 Siena Calendar celebrating 85 years of Siena.

After All, the World Needs More Saints!

Senior Saints Featured Class: 1967

If you listen closely you can still hear the sounds of the war drum that beat for 156 hours in the Winter of 1966. What started out as the effort of McGuire Hall's Mystic Knights turned into a campus wide effort to drum up spirit in anticipation of the Siena Men's Basketball Team bringing home their first win of the season. You may remember seeing or even participating in this drum marathon that left students outside, taking hourly shifts, beating the drum with a tent, Coleman lantern and stove, flares and hips flasks. Although the first game of the season against Saint Peter's left the Siena Men's Basketball Team at 0-1, it only amplified the school spirit on campus as the drum marathon continued until the following weekend's game win. As a Mystic Knight and Siena Men's Basketball player himself, Daniel (Dan) Hollis '67 reminisces on this memory where he shares, "It was a huge thrill and inspiration to us as players to hear that drum night and day." Dan '67 remembers stopping by the drum "hut" on his way to and from class and practice to thank the drummers for their commitment to drumming up the morale and school spirit on campus.

The drum marathon of 1966 embodies the sense of community that Siena brings to students and the everlasting memories that are made in just four years - some may say the greatest four years of their life. No matter where the Class of 1967 finds themselves today, there's one thing they can all remember; what it means to be a part of the Siena community. Even as a "dayhop" student, Joe Costello '67 recalls his days of being involved in student life and making lifelong friends and memories. To Joe '67 his friends went beyond just his classmates where he remi-

nised about his relationships and bond that he had with the Friars. It was their vow to poverty exemplifying their humanity that Joe admired as he says, "I really love those guys." From Friars to friends, it's safe to say lifelong relationships were some of the most memorable memories to come from four years spent at Siena College. Even 55 years later, these friendships still live on. Life may have separated Bruce Ianacone '67 and his roommate of all four years, the late Ernest (Ernie) Green '67, but after attending their 50th reunion in 2017 they were able to reconnect and pick up right where they once left off. No matter the time, the distance, the ups and downs of life, one thing is certain; Siena is home. Here's to the Class of 1967 in honor of the everlasting memories and relationships made - during just four years. May the school spirit of the Class of 1967 forever beat on.



Support Siena Through Your IRA

If you are 72 years old (or 70 1/2 after Dec 31, 2021) you must take Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your IRA and possibly other tax advantaged accounts. These RMDs are subject to income tax. However, there is another option. If you make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to a charity, then up to \$100,000 of your RMD is not

subject to income taxes. See your tax advisor or visit irs.gov for details on how to make a tax free charitable contribution from your IRA to your favorite charity. Please contact Brad Bodmer '82, Esq. Assistant Vice President for Development & External Affairs at 518-782-6907 if you have any questions or would like to make a RMD gift.



Most high, glorious God,

At the changing of the seasons, help us to cling to your unchanging love for us.

As the days grow shorter, help us to know that the light of your presence can never be extinguished.

As the natural world is filled with the vibrant colors of autumn, open our eyes to the wonders of your handiwork. May we glory in the wonders of this planet, forever seeking the common good, and know the abiding care you have for us and for the entirety of creation.

As the weather grows colder, ensure that the fire of your love continues to burn brightly through our lives. Against the chill of fall and the inevitability of winter, give us hearts that are warm and open to our brothers and sisters, especially those most in need: the poor, the outcast, the marginalized and the downtrodden.

Help us to understand that the cycles of change, growth, death and new life that we see in the seasons is mirrored in our own lives, and that there is no fall or winter that can hold back the Eternal Spring prepared by your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Br. Jason D. Damon, OFM



Siena

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, October 30, 2021

Northern California Meet the President Reception

Join Siena President, Chris Gibson '86, Ph.D. for a reception, wine tasting, and tour of St. Francis Winery hosted by Bob '89 and Tracey (Gunther) '89 Aldridge.

Friday, November 05, 2021

Saints Circle | Dr. Len Cutler, Professor of Political Science

Join us for November's Saints Circle with Dr. Len Cutler, Professor of Political Science, and guest Gloria Bruzzano '01, Esq., Owner and Executive Director of Children First Coaching and Consulting

Tuesday, November 09, 2021

Homecoming 2021 | Br. Ed Coughlin Franciscan Cup

Cheer on the Saints as they take on St. Bonaventure in the Men's Basketball season opener.

Thursday, November 11, 2021

Homecoming 2021 | 11th Annual Veterans Recognition Dinner

Proudly recognizing our alumni, faculty and staff veterans at the 11th Annual Veterans Recognition Dinner.

Friday, November 12, 2021

Homecoming 2021 | All Alumni Welcome Back

Welcome Back, Alumni! Join us at Fort Orange Brewing.

Saturday, November 13, 2021

Homecoming 2021 | All Alumni Pre-Game Reception

Meet up with fellow alumni and friends at The Hollow before tip-off at The Times Union Center.

Homecoming 2021 | Classes of '70 and '71 Pre-Game Reception

50th Reunion Classes of '70 and '71 Pre-Game Reception with Siena President, Chris Gibson '86 Ph.D.

Homecoming 2021 | Siena Men's Basketball vs. University of Delaware

Cheer on Siena Men's Basketball as they take on the University of Delaware Hens in the Saints home opener!

Sunday, November 14, 2021

Homecoming 2021 | Baccalaureate and Alumni Mass

Homecoming Weekend Baccalaureate and Alumni Mass.

Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Giving Tuesday

#GivingTuesday is a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration.

Sunday, December 19, 2021

Alumni Christmas Mass & Reception

Join us in the St. Mary of the Angels Chapel for an Alumni Christmas Mass.

To learn more about these events, including
locations and times, please visit
siena.edu/alumni/events