



Catholic Alumni Clubs International

HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
July 7 – 13, 2024



POST CONVENTION

July 13 -17, 2024

**Wisconsin Adventure – National Parks –
The Great River Road – Wisconsin Dells**

Happy Days are here again as we gather for this year's 64th annual Convention of Catholic Alumni Clubs International. It will bring together CACers from all across the country to Milwaukee, Wisconsin the home of Arthur Fonzarelli (better known as "The Fonz" of *Happy Days* fame) from Sunday, July 7th to Saturday morning, July 13th. We will start our journey at the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee South Hotel and the hotel has a free shuttle service that will transport you from the airport to the hotel. Milwaukee is served by most major airlines and the city is also reachable by train, bus and major highways. The hotel has free parking.

In 2023, *National Geographic* rated the city as one of their "Best Places in the World to visit." It is a city of water bordered on one side by Lake Michigan and a meeting point of three rivers. It is known as the "City That Beer Built" and is still a hub for beer and brewing. It is a City of Steeples. We will learn about this on our personal tours.



And we will venture beyond Milwaukee also to Champion, Wisconsin and the Green Bay region and to Lake Geneva. We are blessed to be able to visit the only approved Marian apparition site in the United States. The National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion where she appeared to Adele Brise in 1859. Since then, pilgrims have come to its grounds to pray for the intercession of Our Lady of Champion and Adele Brise. Many have encountered healings or blessings that they attribute to the intercession of our Blessed Mother and Adele. On October 8th, 1871, almost twelve years to the date of Mary's last appearance to Adele, the Great Peshtigo Fire broke out. It is still considered to this day the most devastating fire in United States history, killing between 1,200-2,400 people and burning 1.2 million acres. Desperate for help, people from the surrounding countryside fled to the Chapel where Adele and her companions were praying for Mary's protection. Early the next morning, it is believed that a steady rain came and extinguished the flames of the fire. Although the fire charred the outside of the Shrine's fence, it had not harmed the grounds. However, the area surrounding the grounds was destroyed. After visiting the shrine we will have lunch at a historic diner in the shadow of Lambeau Field and visit the Packers Pro shop.



In Lake Geneva we will have a scenic boat tour on the beautiful lake and then lunch at a waterfront restaurant.



Back in Milwaukee there is much to see. We will see its key neighborhoods. Being a city of water there is the River Walk, where you can take a selfie with the Bronz Fonz, and Lakeshore State Park for a view of Lake Michigan. Learn about Milwaukee's history as a movie/TV city (*Happy Days*, *Laverne and Shirley*), a beer city (tour a brewery also known for its root beer), a river city, a City of Steeples. Tour the Basilica of St. Josaphat. See some glorious scenery on Holy Hill, the highest elevation in Southeastern Wisconsin and learn its history. Visit Holy Hill Basilica and the National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians to spend some time to explore on our own.

See the tour page for a more in-depth look at our tours. Pick and choose or do what many do, take them all. Tours are optional and an additional cost. What is included in the package cost? You have six nights of lodging, six (yes 6) breakfasts, four hotel dinners plus one dinner off-site, Sunday Mass and Mass available during the week, two dances, a get-together party every day, and lots of friendship. And all the planning is done for you. Our off-site will be at the Bucyrus Club and Museum. Hear about The Bucyrus machine manufacturer's role in the building of the Panama Canal, its role in World War II and in the NASA program.

For the adventurous there is a separate trip planned for *Wednesday*, July 10. Whitewater rafting. Cost \$175 (Transportation extra). See additional information.

A post-convention trip is planned for July 13 – July 17. See insert flyer for more information.

So, plan now to discover “**Happy Days**” with CACI in July.

For further information contact the convention coordinators:

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Post Convention: Mike Kappel: Phone: 618-397-2320 email: mike21798@aol.com



Our Lady of Champion



Central Waters Brewery Co.



Lake Geneva



Holy Hill



Green Bay Packers



Kopp's Custard

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AAAY!