Interviewer 0:14
Ed's very concerned that the brothers have an input into forum and in terms of the history of the province. You're professed in '61.

Regis Hovald, OP 0:27
I don't even remember. I had my jubilee last year.

Interviewer 0:30
Which is right in the middle of the history of the province. What was it like when you came in, and how have you seen the evolution of the brothers in terms of their contribution to the life of the province?

Regis Hovald, OP 0:50
Well, in the first days, my first days in the order, first years in the order, we merely did you know menial tasks, and now, of course, over the years, that's all changed. I'm director of religious education. Yes, very much. In spite of all the hassles from parents and

Interviewer 1:17
see, there's the evolution where we really say that the ministry to the church is a ministry of everybody that comes into the order, and even now we're demanding candidates for the cooperator brothers that there be the college education and the ability to pick up the advanced degree in theology? I don't know. Whether we're doing ourselves a disservice or not, you look at Louis Bertrand, who said, "You know, I came in and I did housework, and I would do it all over. But it's a different mindset, and I don't know if today.

Regis Hovald, OP 1:56
Well, of course, you know, I knew what I was getting into, and I can't. Pardon.

Interviewer 2:03
What brought you

Regis Hovald, OP 2:05
to the order? Mainly acquaintance with one of the Dominican priests, Father Driscoll, who used to visit in my hometown. His sister lived there, and through him, I got to know something of the order. I would say he was the biggest influence in my becoming a Dominican.

Interviewer 2:25
And you knew what you were coming to.

Regis Hovald, OP 2:27
Yes, I knew what the life was. I had visited the Domitian Winona and talked to the brothers, and I knew more or less what to expect.

Interviewer 2:36
And you weren't disappointed.

Regis Hovald, OP 2:39
No, and I can't say that you know I was unhappy. I was a little more fortunate than most of the brothers in the fact that I had a degree in accounting when I came in, and I was assigned. I did laundry work and rooms and all that sort of thing, but I also had a chance to use my education in business.

Interviewer 3:03
What did they let you

Regis Hovald, OP 3:04

do? They call it assistant to the procurator. In other words, I did the work, and

Interviewer 3:10
are you procurator here in the house? No,

Regis Hovald, OP 3:13
I was for nine

Interviewer 3:17
years. It makes a difference. What do you see the role of the brothers in terms of the future of the province? What would you like to see the province do, or the brothers do in terms of expanding ministry?

Regis Hovald, OP 3:31
Well, I think whatever they're capable of, or whatever they're interested in.

Interviewer 3:36
Can we direct that in a way?

Regis Hovald, OP 3:38
Yes, I think through probably asking them or or finding out what they have an aptitude for, what they're interested in, and then letting them pursue in these various fields that they believe or feel that they're interested in and have qualifications to do.

Interviewer 3:56
Do you think we do them a disservice if they come in and they really do want to do the manual labor?

Regis Hovald, OP 4:06
I I rather think so, because you know there's always a a need, and especially you know in these days where you're paying exorbitant salaries to people to you know as cooks or what have you, and if a brother or a candidate comes in and he's really interested, and this is what he wants to do, I see no reason why they shouldn't be allowed

Interviewer 4:32
to do it. That's true. I certainly agree with that myself. When everybody was leaving back in the 60s. This is an unfair question-not an unfair question, but a personal one-and you don't have to answer it. Why did you decide to stay?

Regis Hovald, OP 4:53
Because I, I felt this is where I belonged, and it was the life that I chose. And as far as brothers leaving, a lot of my good friends left, but I always figured. See, I was older when I entered. I was 28 years old when I entered, and I always felt because I remember in my Navisha days we used to take kids 16, 17 years old, hadn't even finished high school, and you know they really weren't ready to settle down, and they come in for a while, think that we're missing something, and then leave.

Interviewer 5:27
That's very true. That's that's a good answer. I always people would say to me, "Why did you stay? I would say, "Well, the reasons I came were not valid anymore, so I had to rethink the whole thing, and then the choice to stay was really the reason I should have done in the beginning. I was 18 years old. No, I think we do make different choices. I just called home today, and Steve Shimmer told me that Selwiser is leaving. 40 years old, 41 this year. 14, 14 years. Yep. How many years have you been here?

Regis Hovald, OP 6:07
I'm in my 20-first year.

Interviewer 6:10
Here. Wow.

Regis Hovald, OP 6:13
When I came here, I was assigned to. Well, I did a certain amount of office work, and then I got involved in CCD, and then I was given permission to study for my master's in religious education. Then I took over the total parish program. But my first years here, of course, I was, you know, I did rooms and things like that, and I've been in religious education now for 12 years, or 11 years rather. This will be my 11th year.

Interviewer 6:46
Do you think that people in the province who are involved in religious education should have a yearly get together?

Regis Hovald, OP 6:52
I think it would be helpful, just as here and in in the Archdiocese of New Orleans we have an they call it the Association of Directors of Religious Education, and we meet periodically to discuss common problems, talk about you know how we can become more effective in our work, and I think it would help you know within the province if those involved in religious education could get together because there's a lot of you know input, feedback, whatever you want to call it. And I always learn any time I go to one of these meetings.

Interviewer 7:36
If you were given an opportunity to stand up in front of the whole province, and they said you had two minutes. What would you like to tell them?

Regis Hovald, OP 7:47
Well, I suppose what I mainly talk about what I'm mainly interested in, you know, religious education.

Interviewer 7:55
What would you like to tell them?

Regis Hovald, OP 7:57
What I would like to tell them. Entire

Interviewer 7:59
problems. What would you like to do?

Regis Hovald, OP 8:01
That I think we ought to do more in our house of studies or during theology training with the priests or with the students who are studying the priesthood to give them some background in religious education. You know what's being done now, how to teach effectively. You know the methods that we're using in in teaching kids now, and I find that you know with new priests coming here, you know they walk into a third grade classroom and ask the kids to name the 10 Commandments or something like that. Well, they perhaps only studied two or three of them, and you know they're quite surprised that these kids don't know everything that they think they ought to.

Interviewer 8:44
That's a good observation. Are you going to forum?

Regis Hovald, OP 8:51
I hope to.

Interviewer 8:55
That's good. You know what we're going to do is.

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