

# School of Leaders

## MEETING MINUTES

9/13/14

Present: Father Dwight, Deacon Jerry, Deacon Ges, Dan, Linda, Diane, Bonnie, Tom, Fred, Carol

Next Meeting: October 11, 2014

\*Opening Prayer

\*Section Meeting:

Discuss next month's sabbatical meeting. Format: Group Reunion, 3 Meditations (Father and Deacon Jerry) followed by discussion of meditations, and meal. Total time: 4 hrs. Start time: 10am.

Dan—Salad

Jerry—Bread and butter

Diane—Lasagna

Fred—entrée or veg dish

Father—dinnerware

Linda—drinks (coffee, tea, soda)

Bonnie—dessert

\*Leader's Group Reunion

\*Doctrine (Father Dwight):

Shared what he learned on his trip to the Holy Land in April 2013. Scripture and visualization come together there as nowhere else. Old Testament's great story of faith: Abraham and Isaac. Faith means total trust and surrender. In Jerusalem, one can trace the line with the Abraham and Isaac locale (now Temple) and where Christ fulfilled God's promise by carrying the cross to Calvary (now The Church of the Holy Sepulcher). These Old and New Testament parallels had a profound effect on Father Dwight's faith. Seeing the connections in God's promise—in Isaac and in Christ, both God's will—was deeply affecting. These two narratives are tied together in Chronicles, per Deacon Ges.

\*Review of the Rector (Dan) and Rectora (Diane) Reports:

Rector:

Trained Ogdensburg on how to run. Dan—very disappointing as no Vermonter showed for one of these Team Meetings. Application process still a failure. The solution, post-CDC, seems to lie in the current weakness of the small group. Know the candidates, eliminate the problem.

St. Anne's: great sleeping arrangements. Conference room: biggest holds only 20. Nov/Feb/Mar are the only months available to us. "Extremely limited" access, Dan concludes.

3-days: Followed exactly with 2 caveats, per report.

Changes in the manual: We need a tripod, if doing that. We need to order a new Vermont banner (as MIA). Eliminate service sheet (as Cursillo no longer supplies).

Rectora:

Similar to Dan's. Application problem, also. Mountain Meadows—great, except the expense. Followed 3-day Manual, no decorations, allows for so much time. 15 women candidates. Summaries but, unlike Dan, did not have each table present these. "A very good weekend."

\*Brainstorming Session on Post-CDC Movement:

--Jerry: Change how we generate candidates. We are not following procedure. We all need to go out and make a friend.

--Diane: We need to change SOL so that people want to be a part of it. Shorten the time. Creatively give a tech talk so that it is more accessible and meaningful. SOL is now a "workhorse." Add fun, lighten up.

--Bonnie: Planning a weekend without candidates is not leading us down the right path.

--Fred: Make SOL more attractive to others. Work on getting a rep from each of the Ultreyas. Divorce SOL from SEC. SOL meet monthly, a vigorous group. SEC, meant less often. Palanca—too confusing in our movement.

--Ges: Pass.

--Father: 5 hrs. is way too long. "I dread it, actually, and think others would as well."

--Tom: Moving SOL around the diocese. Different Ultreyas host. Should be a SCHOOL—dynamic, learn, grow together. People would want to join.

--Linda: Which comes first—grow Ultreyas to join SOL? Or vice versa.

--Carol: Reinvigorate, reform, form a new ultreya. Back to basics. Grow ultreyas first, then grow SOL.

--Dan: Authentic ultreyas (many are not). Encourage ultreyas to form small groups. Firmly establish the reunion using the talks and ideas (of candidates and team members). Team to identify candidates at the weekend to be future leaders. Eliminate fluff from the weekends—we are on our way. Closely associate

the movement with Church and less with the state of VT—can we change name to “Cursillo of the Diocese of Burlington?” Promote our name within diocese with “We are Cursillo. Pray for us.” This would get our name out there. Increase our attendance at regional and national encounters. Cursillo projects should originate at the ultreyas—the ultreyas should ask SOL/SEC for support and are not. Our way of relying on pastors to get candidates is improper. St. Johnsbury and the Northeast asked for our help in starting an ultreya. Without targeting, we need to find a way to bring in 25-35 year olds or the movement dies. Lighten work load, and restore comradery.

\*Questions/Clarifications on above:

Fred on Bonnie: Are you suggesting that we do not hold weekends till we have candidates? Yes, says Bonnie. 10-15 applications should be in hand before we even start planning a weekend. Means 6 months out—good for planning, good for place.

Ges for Tom: Meet on ultreya night? Yes, says Tom.

Carol for Jerry (clarification): Our pastor did not pick me for Cursillo. Friendship brought me to the movement.

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\*Other Business:

Dan: Comment on the palanca posters we send out to those having weekends. During visits to the Blessed Sacrament, let’s all offer palanca together for all that is happening. That way, common prayer during SOL means we never forget.

Father offers to offer a Mass for the movement when space opens.

Diane suggests a Mass offered by Cursillo, intended for Cursillo, open to all. Fred already doing at St. Monica’s: Sept 30<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 (Tues).

\*Presentation: STUDY OF THE CHARISM, Chapter 5 (Carol)

Our movement has been recognized by the Church hierarchy since the 1940s. The talk summarized the movement’s continued hierarchical recognition as well as its globalization. The Cursillo movement is a gift from God to the entire world.

The revised assignment of THE STUDY OF THE CHARISM chapter is as follows:

Chapter 6: Jerry

Chapter 7: Bonnie

Chapter 8: Dan

Chapter 9: Jean

Chapter 10: Linda

Chapter 11: Bonnie

Chapter 12: Carol

Chapter 13: Dan

\*Visit to the Blessed Sacrament