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ELECTION RESULTS

John Scott has been re-elected as Guardian of the Third Order, American Province. Those elected to Chapter are: Dee Dobson, Peter Funk, Robert Goode, Kale King, (John Scott - ex officio), (Helen Webb - ex officio), Marie Webner, Robert Samuelson, and Ron Smith.

Next in order of voting was Keith Ackerman. If another member should be needed within the next 3 years, he will be called on.

Other ex officio members of Chapter are: Br. Luke, SSF (Provincial), Br. Mark Francis, SSF (Chaplain), Ken Cox and Muriel Adey, Novice Directors.

We express appreciation to those in the past who have given generously of their time and effort. Please contact any of your representatives on Chapter. Give them your ideas and feelings about the Third Order, and the direction it might take in the next three years.

NOTES

We welcome and congratulate the following tertiaries who have been recently professed: William R. Hull - March 22; Lorrie Morris - March 22; Michael Williams - March 24; Wray Wilkes - April 22 (at the Convocation). We share the Ackerman's joy at the birth of Lynne Mary last December 31st, and her baptism on the Feast of the Annunciation in March - also the occasion of the parish's patronal festival (St. Mary's Church, Charleroi, Pennsylvania). We understand that Paul Holbrook was ordained during the month of March. \*

Several people have asked for a list of the Associates. It is now available from Br. Mark Charles, SSF, El Rancho del Obispo, 5297 Westside Road, Healdsburg, CA 95448.

The supply of the Book of Roots is completely used up. When a new one is available, it will be announced.

On the renewal card, there was a space to request renewal by proxy. It has been decided not to do that. Instead, a proposal will be made to Chapter that renewals can be done locally.

A West Coast tertiary sister writes: "I need help, and in exchange could offer a room and board for a week or two at a time. Help is of various kinds: a librarian, an antiquarian (especially rural N. Eng.), a gardener, a house and dog watcher, a good, simple cook; a housekeeper. Only trustworthies (TSF of course are that) need apply." If interested, reply in care of the Editor.

See the next page for Fellowship News.

\*See page 4 - Don Seaver's ordination to the priesthood  
and Don Bailey's ordination to the diaconate.

Fellowship. What is it? Is it just our name for a local group of Franciscan tertiaries? Whatever stroke of chance or of reasoning led to our choice of the word fellowship, its derivation is significant. The word comes from Middle English and/or Icelandic, the common factor in both being the word for partner.

So we in a fellowship are partners, partners in a way of life, joint venturers with Francis in following our Lord Jesus. The conditions of our partnership are laid out in the Statutes, where we see that study, worship and fellowship "shall form part of each Fellowship meeting." These activities lay the foundation of our partnership.

But what of the nature of the partnership? How do we define the relationship that we have with one another? Sifting through reports from Convenors, I seem to find the nature of fellowship best defined (or at least intimated) by the small groups, even the "mini-fellowships" that are too small to have official status. I quite understand, of course, that this does not imply a lack of understanding or of effective fellowship in the large groups. It is simply that large groups report on their "activities", whereas small groups with few activities report instead on their interrelationships as tertiaries. In this report my focus is on the mini-fellowships: from them, large fellowships can renew their sense of purpose; from them, isolated tertiaries can draw inspiration on how to build fellowship.

In Seattle there are two professed tertiaries and a postulant. Phyllis Chesterfield, the convenor, writes that the group meets monthly. In addition, she reports on the occasional "mini-area meetings", which may include Portland, Sunnyside, Spokane, Victoria (B.C.), Glasgow (Montana), as well as Seattle. "Victoria is on Vancouver Island and accessible only by ferry; Sunnyside is east of a very rugged range of mountains; so is Spokane but farther east; Ocean Park is quite a distance from the freeways on the coast as the name implies, etc. So it takes some coordination to get us all together. We do try to share what's going on locally by mail or phone or whatever." Phyllis concludes, "We value the fellowship and the sharing, and I think there is a feeling of community not just in the fellowship but in the northwest area."

Meetings in Portland have been hampered recently by convenor Pat Mahon's convalescence after two major operations. Pat is one of two tertiaries in Portland, with two associates making up the remainder of their fellowship. They have found that meetings are not essential for growth in community, however. The two tertiaries "communicate by phone frequently, which is a Godsend for those of us who can't get out too easily."

In the Spokane area, convenor Camilla Dirks reports three tertiaries in profession. In addition to arranging fellowship meetings, Camilla gives active support to a group of "Associates of Religious Orders". Where such groups are feasible, they may certainly fill some of our Franciscan needs and goals, especially where fellow Franciscans are remote.

Father Kale King is the hard-pressed nucleus of a small group in Glasgow, Montana, comprising himself, two novices (one of them his wife), and one postulant. He says, "We're all struggling to become something like a tertiary in each of our lives and there has just not been any opportunity to get together." All the tertiaries in the area were part of a parish Lenten study group based on

Michael Marshall's "The Eucharist; The Three Bodies of Christ", (six 15-minute segments, available from Catechomb Cassettes, Atlanta). "Maybe out of that study," muses Fr. Kale, "there will evolve a serious effort at a mini-fellowship."

Probably the best report on the essence of fellowship came my way here in Arizona. Muriel Adey (novice director for women) came through Tucson on her way to Convocation, and four of us local tertiaries were able to meet with her one evening. A postulant who was there wrote to me later:

At your house I was so aware of the openness-- the sharing -- the complete trust of the fellowship. It was like 5 hearts being laid wide open in our midst and love pouring out from each to all of us.

If we are able in our fellowships thus to give to one another and to receive from one another, we shall have found the joyful strength of partnership, of fellowship with one another and St. Francis in following our Lord Jesus.

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To the faithful and busy fellowship convenors, who have demonstrated their understanding that community is built on communication by sending me their rosters and their news, I offer my thanks. I hope to present a summary of fellowship news in our next issue -- and your letters and announcements are being preserved for that purpose. Please continue to keep me informed -- that I may, in turn, inform all our brothers and sisters.

Marie L. Webner

#### CONVOCATION AT FAYETTEVILLE

It is hard to put into words the essence of our 1977 Convocation. It was a time of wonderful fellowship-sharing-caring, a real family get-together, with laughter and inspiration.

Brother Geoffrey's Address gave us much food for thought. He let us have a copy so that we could reproduce it for you. (The cost is being covered by a generous gift.) We thank those who worked hard in order to make the Convocation possible, especially the Fayetteville Fellowship for their warm hospitality; Mark Francis for his Paper; John Scott and Robert Goode for their letters - all of which stirred discussions.

Do you have an idea where we might meet next time? It probably needs to be close to an airport, with room to accommodate about 20 - 50 people overnight, with meals, a chapel, and meeting space. Transportation from the airport, or travel center, to the Convocation is important. Please send your suggestion to John Scott or any Chapter member.

## LIBRARY

(Contact Mrs. Lawrence Mahon, 1990 S.E. Mulberry Ave., Portland, OR 97214)

Several items came to the Secretary and are being forwarded to Pat Mahon, our librarian. If you wish to borrow them, drop her a line. There is a newspaper write-up about our DON SEAVER, ordained to the priesthood January 6 - his background and a few of his thoughts (such as: "St. Francis had the idea of combining work and prayer and he was able to express the pure joy and simplicity of what Jesus had to say.")

We have Minutes of the Third Order Chapter in Australia held February 1977. They are working toward the formation of two separate Provinces, one centered in Australia and the other center in New Zealand. They have had to be quite independent anyway because of great distances and differences in finances. As two separate Provinces, it would be possible to have meetings of Chapter, and so on.

Message No. 23 from Father Liebler (TSF) and Companions at Hat Rock Valley Retreat Center, of Utah is in hand. Three of the four pages is a reprint of an article from "The Christian Challenge" of January 1977 entitled "The Desert Priest of Utah" - about Fr. Liebler. On the fourth page, news is given that Fr. Liebler is to receive a D.D. degree from Nashotah House on May 18th. Congratulations!

The National Franciscan Communications Conference Spring Newsletter has eight pages, including announcements of workshops, meetings, resources, and tid bits. For instance: "The Franciscan Herald Press is contemplating publishing a book of Franciscan songs. If you know of anyone who is interested in contributing, have them contact Benet Fonck, O.F.M., 1815 Oak Brook Rd., Oak Brook, IL 60521."

Books. The list of books available for borrowing has grown by leaps and bounds. It is too long to send in a general mailing to everyone. However, if you would like a copy, write to Pat.

## LATE NEWS FLASH

William "Bill" Graham invites nearby tertiaries to attend his Ordination to the Diaconate on Saturday, June 11 at 10 a.m. at the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (near Germantown Avenue and Willow Grove Avenue)

Don Bailey was ordained to the diaconate on April 17 at St. George's, Oshawa, Ontario. Will Drake is now Executive Secretary and Chief Advisor to the Northwestern Health & Social Service Board in High Level, Alberta, Canada.

HAVE YOU SENT IN YOUR RENEWAL CARD? If not, please drop a line to Helen Webb. We are trying to discover which tertiaries are still active. If we do not hear from you soon, a letter of inquiry may be necessary. Because tertiaries are reporting to so many different people, that list is not available - hence it is important to update our central file, in the secretary's office.