



FORWARD

Cursillo in the Episcopal Diocese of San Diego

Volume X

February 2005

Our Mission: To Christianize Environments and Develop Lay Leadership

FROM THE CHAIR

THE 2004 SECRETARIAT

At the beginning of the year, the composition of the Secretariat changed and we said goodbye to some faithful servants and welcomed others to the fold. I want to thank the outgoing members for all their work on behalf of this movement. Patrick McBride served in the areas of communications and VOCARE liaison and, for the past year, chaired the Secretariat; Ted Parsons has been a mainstay in coordinating our 4th Day Programs to include working closely with the Servant Community to implement "The Day of Deeper Understanding" for new Cursillistas; and Judy Potter monitored our Three-Day Weekend activities while concurrently carrying out additional responsibilities as Rectora for Cursillo #110. Utreya my brothers and sisters as you continue to serve Him and His purposes in other ways! Our newly elected members are Fr. Ned Kellogg, Diane Blaisdell, Blake McFeely, Joan Perkins, and Jeanne Salvadori. I am confident that each of these highly gifted and experienced Cursillistas will bring to the group fresh perspectives as we deliberate the issues that face us this year. Additionally, during our December meeting, the Secretariat voted in Victoria Crofoot as next Secretariat Chair. Victoria would have completed her tenure this year, but volunteered to serve an extra year in order to be eligible to lead the 2006 Secretariat. Congratulations Victoria, your dedication to the goals of the Cursillo Movement inspires us all.

The servants I have mentioned are only part of the overall San Diego Cursillo Team. Because a picture is often more powerful than words, I have included the current 2005 Cursillo Organization Chart in this issue (p. 5) to show who is doing what. Some of the contacts on the chart that I would like to especially point out are:

Communications: Petra Orta, Dick Mette, and Barbara Taylor. **Contact Petra if you want the FORWARD mailed to you, and let Dick and Barbara know about any changes to your contact information.**

(Continued on page 2)

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Webmaster: Dick Mette dickmette@cox.net

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Sponsorship: Jeanette Shelly, Rev. Dee Renner, Joan Perkins, and Judy Anderson.

Group Reunion: Scott Brown is maintaining a Group Reunion database and this resource can be used help you join a group or form a new group. Give Scott a call and ensure your group is in the database. **Remember that "Group Reunion" is the heart of Cursillo.**

Spiritual Direction: Ted Parsons, with the help of Rev. Tony Baron, has compiled a list of qualified people who have volunteered to act as a Spiritual Director. If this is something you are considering as part of your "Rule of Life", contact Ted or Fr. Tony.

Good leadership and organization is important, but they alone cannot sustain or grow a movement whose members are not living out the message. The Cursillo Movement is focused on one objective, "Bringing the world to Christ". To do this, we are taught the Cursillo Method, which enables us to be effective in Christianizing our environments and, through grouping, provides us the spiritual support we need to persevere in the world as ambassadors for Christ.

Are the terms piety, study, action, group reunion, spiritual direction, rule of life, and palanca just concepts that you learned on the Weekend or are they a real part of your life? As Christ taught us in Luke 6: 46 – 49, hearing the word and putting it into practice is like the man who builds a house on a solid foundation. Because the house is well anchored, it cannot be shaken when the flood comes. Our Cursillo house is built on biblically sound foundational concepts that have been proven over the course of 58 years.

The real question then becomes "are we practicing what we preach?" If we as a community are not, then our foundation is weak and no amount of improvements to the house is going to correct that defect.

I'm renewing my dedication to living out the Cursillo Method; won't you join me in ensuring that our house is able to withstand any impending trial!

Ultreya,

Darryl

Reprint of a past Forward article on Palanca...

If you are considering offering written Palanca, here are a few pointers to help you get organized:

1. Pray
2. **Alphabetize!! - by last names - separate by team and candidates. If it is "thing" or "gift" Palanca - leave off names whenever possible. This makes distribution much, much easier. Leave names off all bed Palanca. Please do not specify a specific time for delivery. This may interfere with the weekend schedule.**
3. Pray
4. **Save all personal Palanca for candidates until after the weekend. I can't stress this one enough! It really does effect other candidates to think that their sponsor or church or friend didn't send something for them. Please, Please, Please be considerate. Personal Palanca may be returned to you without being delivered on the weekend.**
5. Pray
6. **Get Palanca to the team Palanca chair or another team member ahead of the weekend when at all possible. This enables them to have things sorted ahead of time and makes the weekend smoother. You may, of course, bring it with you on Thursday night when you drop off your candidate, but earlier is best.**

7. Pray

Remember that the best Palanca, and the very best support that you can give the team, as well as Candidates, is to keep them in prayer.

I know the Lord will bless your efforts, as well as the weekends!

Ultreya!

Pat Camm

Look for the next Forward in mid-April
Articles, calendar events and other materials are due
no later than March 28th. Send to:

Petra Orta
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YUMA AZ 85365-9443
928-785-9689 petra_orta@yahoo.com

New names, addresses and changes to Barbara Taylor,
Phone 619-421-5612 e-mail: just4taylor@cox.net

New email addresses to Dick Mette
Phone 760-726-8628 email: dickmette@cox.net

From the Rector, #113

“So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us...”
2 Corinthians 5:20

Did you realize the spring weekend is just over 10 weeks away? Have you been praying for Christ’s direction on sponsoring your friends? Do you have interested friends that have previously told you they had “scheduling conflicts”? As Ambassadors for Christ it is our responsibility to discuss sponsorship with their parish priest, and then talk to our friends about Cursillo. Please do not assume someone else will take care of this; we all have a responsibility for sponsorship. The success of these weekends and the San Diego Cursillo movement depends on each parish sponsoring qualified candidates.

Planning is well underway for the men’s weekend. Team meetings will be held at St. Bartholomew’s in Poway the first three Saturdays in April. The men’s weekend starts April 21st. Rev. Ned Kellogg will be our Spiritual Advisor and Larry Salvadori will be our Experienced Rector. The team is just over half full and I am looking for your application. I urge you to prayerfully consider if you are called to work with us this weekend. Regardless of whether you have never worked a weekend or if you love working nearly every one, now is the time to submit your application. You could work on the team, or as a Sunday Angel, or as a prayer warrior from home. All positions need to be filled and God has just the right person in mind. Pray and listen to what He has in store for you.

I know that with your prayers these weekends will be filled with the power of the Spirit, providing the team and our new Cursillistas the spiritual support needed for their walk.

In Christ’s Love,

Jim Macemon

From the Rectora, #114

“This is the day which the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.”
Psalm 118:24

Time is flying by – I feel truly blessed to have been asked to be the Rectora for the Spring Women’s Cursillo. I am looking forward to a fantastic weekend with a great team and many candidates. Our spiritual director is Fr. Tony Baron, and Connie Fowle is my experienced Rectora, sometimes referred to as the “old rec”, but definitely not this time, because then I would be considered the ancient wreck - no way!

In the next issue of the Forward we will publish the names of the team members. I’m looking forward to working with all of you – my prayers are with you, and I welcome yours. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Get the dates for the weekend, April 28 – May 1, on your calendars now, as well as the team meeting dates. Jeanne Salvadori will be conducting the training for the new cocineras at the March 19th team meeting.

God bless you all,

Cheddy McFeely

Team Training Dates...

- 03/19 8:00 am at St. Bart’s in Poway
1/2 day training for new cocineros,
table leaders, and rollistas
- 04/02 8:00 am at St. Bartholomew’s in Poway
- 04/09 8:00 am at St. Bartholomew’s in Poway
- 04/16 8:00 am at St. Bartholomew’s in Poway

NOTE: It’s not too late to apply to work the weekend! Team applications will be accepted until March 18th, or until the team rosters are full, whichever comes first.

A WITNESS

Since April 1988 when I made my Cursillo, I've sought to fulfill my "Here I am Lord, send me" pledge and be a disciple in the world for Christ. Of course, it's a matter of "blooming where you are planted", and you're not serving Christ as clergy, missionary, or Wycliff Bible translator (that is, as a layperson), you wonder how you can be effective. I asked God many times to show me how I, while remaining in my town, having a job and family, could best serve Him.

A "small voice in the night" confirmed that what I was doing was right, but I began to understand through prayer that God was leading me to do His purpose where I was, that I could reach out to others in Jesus' name wherever I was and to whomever I met each day.

I continued to do many of the things I had done previously – I'm still singing in choir, grouping with my Cursillo sisters nearly every week, active as part of St. John's Chapter of The Order of St. Luke, helping with St. John's Faith Alive program, supporting Cursillo whenever I can, and I have now become a part of a Fallbrook action group that's dealing with local gang-related crime.

Once I became part of this group, I realized many gang members had received poor parenting, lived in blighted housing, had inadequate education and training in job/life skills, and had turned to the gang lifestyle as a way, though negative, to have identity. To help resolve these issues, my committee began pushing for more effective policing by the Fallbrook Sheriff's Department, for county programs dealing with the rehab of blighted housing through the Department of Housing & Community Development, for county code enforcement on slum streets, and working with multi-housing owners and managers on tightening their lease procedures and evicting criminal tenants. We've also combined forces with local organizations in pushing for action.

It all started when my boss and I, at the small Fallbrook company where we work, began noticing an increase in graffiti, vandalism, and crime in town, and decided to do something about it. When we had no support initially from local authorities, we formed our action committee, expanded the number of residents aware of the problems, and encouraged them to attend our monthly meetings. After a year of organizing and developing support, we've achieved the support of several county departments and a soon-to-be-built pocket park/walkway at the end of South Vine Street. This street has been the focus of Fallbrook gang gathering, and where we have focused most of our efforts.

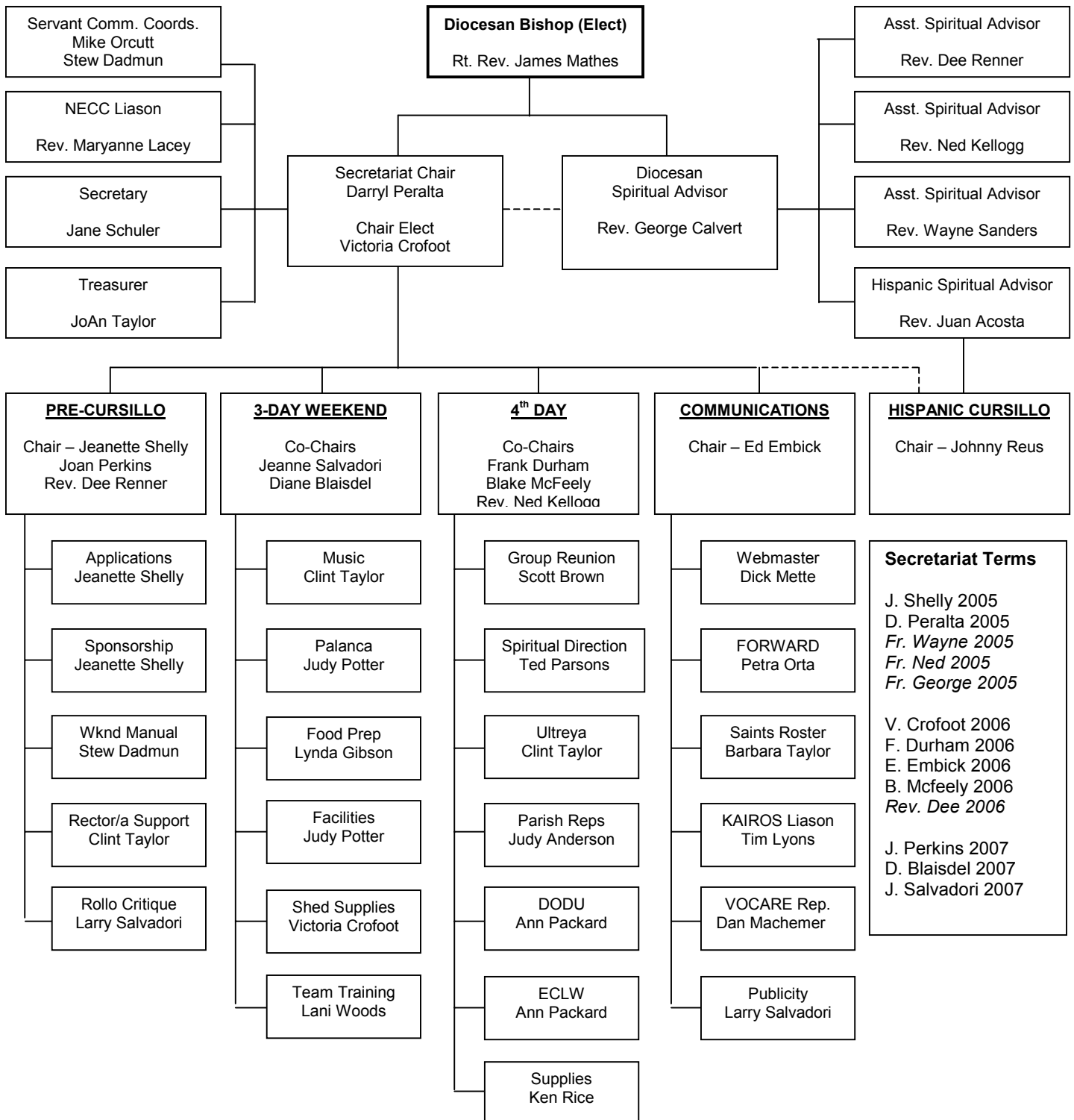
By making a pocket park/walkway at the dead end of South Vine Street, removing most of a block wall, getting Sheriff deputies to do more patrolling during problems hours, many of the factors encouraging trespass and crime between South Vine and Main Street have been eliminated. Plus, most South Vine gang members have been arrested or evicted from their housing.

On a day-to-day basis, amidst the "real work" of our company, Pat and I talk with the Sheriff's substation whenever we know of local crimes needing the Sheriff's investigation. Monthly, we meet with local multi-unit housing owners and managers, and attorneys who provide advice to attendees on solutions to gang or criminal tenants. This helps them to obtain legal evictions so that "good tenants" can be left in peace, and their buildings protected from damage and loss. To obtain the local support we have received, it took many prayers, signed petitions to the county seeking assistance by all but two churches in Fallbrook, publicity in newspapers and television news pushing for the changes we are advocating.

Next year, we hope to expand our meetings to include all Fallbrook multi-unit housing owners and managers, and to address other streets with problems so as to either displace the criminal element, or reach out to them and change their behavior and lives. Of course this doesn't solve the gang problem on an overall basis when these people move to other locations. For long-term elimination of youth crime, a program of re-education and help for low income families to develop better parenting skills (such as Fr. Don Kroeger's parenting classes now ongoing at St. John's, which has been translated into Spanish by Carol Kroeger), or a faith-based "10-point program" as being promoted by Rev. Gerald Johnson in Oceanside that uses cooperation between churches, mentoring, and police to steer troubled youth away from gangs, need to be utilized. These programs, plus increased education and job skills, as well as improved housing, could help make a break in the cycle of gang development. To reach these youth, accountability for themselves in the community and Christian love of others needs to be emphasized. When it's time to take on another street besides South Vine, we will need help – considerable resources, lots of prayer, and commitment by people who care – please keep our outreach in your prayers.

Sheila Risser

San Diego Episcopal Cursillo 2005 Organization (as of 6 January, 2005)



CURSILLO WORK APPLICATION

Men's Team

Women's Team

Weekend Sunday Angel

Weekend Sunday Angel

Date of Cursillo you wish to work _____ Your age group: Under 30 30-40 40-50 50-60 Over 60

NAME: _____ Occupation: _____

ADDRESS: _____ Parish: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____ HOME PH: _____

WORK PH: _____ E-mail: _____

When and where did you make your Cursillo Three-Day Weekend? _____

CURSILLO WORK EXPERIENCE (most recent first)

Cursillo #	Location	Duties and/or Rollos given
-	_____	_____
-	_____	_____
-	_____	_____
-	_____	_____

Please comment on any special talents or interests that you would like God to use preparing for and during the 3-Day Weekend; including musical talents, altar guild, chalice bearer, calligraphy, artistic talents, computer talents, etc:

I am currently involved in a Group Reunion: Yes, No please explain _____

Any special diet or health needs, or physical limitations?

Anything else you feel led to say:

RETURN TO:

RECTOR—CURSILLO #113

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RECTORA—CURSILLO #114

Cheddy McFeely

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MARCH

- 12 Servant Community, 8:30 am—12 noon
Church of the Good Samaritan, followed by
the Secretariat meeting
- 19 Half-day team training for new cocineros,
table leaders, and rollistas
at St. Bartholomew's, 8:00 am
- 25 Cutoff date for Candidate applications
- 27 Alleluia the Lord is Risen!
- 28 Deadline for April Forward (p. 2)

APRIL

- 2 Team training at St. Bartholomew's, 8:00 am
- 9 Team training at St. Bartholomew's, 8:00 am
- 16 Team training at St. Bartholomew's, 8:00 am
- 21 Men's Cursillo Weekend #113
- 28 Women's Cursillo Weekend #114

Don't Forget!!

Servant Community / Secretariat

Saturday, March 12

8:30 am to ??

Church of the Good Samaritan