

COLORADO
EPISCOPAL
CURSILLO



Spring 2004

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Cursillo #112	2
NECC Report	3
Cursillo & Haiti	4
Be a Sponsor!	7
Cursillo #113	8
Huber Interview	9
Servant Community	11

VIEW FROM THE WEATHERVANE

Lay Director's Letter

Spring has sprung! Everywhere you look there is new life, including the Crowing Times. I'd like to take this opportunity to give a great big THANK YOU to Jane Owens, our new Editor for the Crowing Times. As you look through this edition, I'm sure you'll agree that Jane has done a wonderful job at making this newsletter interesting and appealing to the eyes.

As some of you already know, we are bringing the Crowing Times into the 21st century, so to speak. This serves several purposes, the biggest being financial stewardship. Each mailing of the Crowing Times costs the Secretariat approximately \$600. If we do this mailing quarterly, that is \$2,400.00 a year.

The problem with this is that the Secretariat does not have much of a source of income. We are self – supported (meaning that we do not receive any funding from the diocese or any other organization). Aside from the occasional donation, our weekends are currently our only source of income and that is only about \$900 a year. Have you done the math yet? Sending the Crowing Times electronically then, is not just a nice way to save a little money, it is a necessity in order to continue sending it.

If you received this edition of the Crowing Times by mail, it may be the last one you receive unless you contact our new Database Manager. You can find more information about how to do this on page 6 of this edition.

Speaking of the Database Manager, I'd like to say a very special THANK YOU to Pam Rice for taking on the daunting task of updating the database. She is currently going through the process of trying to collect email addresses for the 1500+ names in the current database. Please help her out and send her your information soon!

Overall, great things are happening and God is moving in the Diocese of Colorado. I had the opportunity in February to discuss the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Colorado with Bishop O'Neill. Although he himself is not a Cursillista, I believe he is, and will continue to be, supportive of our efforts in Colorado.

We are currently in the process of reviewing our Pastoral Plan to see if it still meets the needs of our diocese. We are also planning to evaluate our relationship with the diocese and determine how the Cursillo movement can be strengthened and more utilized as an extension of the church.

We are definitely growing and continuing to penetrate more environments as we bring new and renewed spirit into our fold. Read through this great newsletter to find out where the action is and who to contact for more information.

*Ultreya,
Missi Kern
Lay Director*

Special points of interest:

- Interview with Lynn Huber, Colorado Cursillista and Author
- A Cursillo Connection to Haiti
- Servant Community News
- Spring To-Do List
- Changes Coming to Crowing Times

CURSILLO #112

God so loved the world...

by Linda McPeak

Cursillo #112 will be held May 13 – 16 at Camp Redcloud near Lake City, a beautiful new (three-year-old) facility nestled in a valley among the breathtaking San Juan Mountains. The theme of this weekend is taken from John 3:16-17. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

John 3:16-17

This theme contains the very essence of Christianity. God showed His love for us all by sending Jesus into the world to be born as a little baby, to live among us, bringing God's message of love and redemption, to die a terrible, humiliating death, and to overcome death so that we who believe in Him would, like Him, have eternal life. Wow! That's the greatest gift

any of us could ever receive!

The core team met in January for leadership training and will have the opportunity to meet following the last three general team meetings to discuss issues that may have arisen during that team meeting. The core team consists of Linda and Alan McPeak, Co-Rectors; Richard Berryman, Hugo Bouse, and Don Schneider, Assistant Rectors; Neil Folks, Head Kitchen Angel; Chris Lesley, Assistant Head Kitchen Angel; the Rev. Sarah Freeman, Music Director; and most importantly, Fr. Rex Chambers, Fr. Larry Day, Fr. Stan Wright, and Deacon Judy Schneider, Spiritual Advisors. In addition to our leadership, the Lord has sent us twenty of His most enthusiastic, Spirit-filled servants from all over the Diocese to fill out His team.

HEADS UP! Please get your candidates' applications in ASAP. Because the weekend is coming up so soon, please email us at mcpeakal@earthlink.net to make arrangements for getting the application to us.

We ask your prayers for Cursillo #112, for the team, candidates and sponsors whom God will bring together in May, that we may all be united in His love, and for His sake.



It was Palm Sunday, and five-year-old Johnny stayed home from church with a babysitter due to a sore throat. When the family returned home carrying several palm branches, the boy asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by" his parents explained. "Wouldn't you know it?" fumed Johnny. "The one Sunday I don't go, he showed up!"

THE WRITTEN WORD

Colorado Cursillista Publishes a Book!

Lynn Huber, a cursillista from St. Joseph, Lakewood who has served as spiritual director on three teams at Allenspark, has published a book that might be of interest to you on your fourth day.



Entitled Revelations on the Road: A Pilgrim Journey, this book explores a number of is-

ssues that most folks experience on their spiritual walk, and ways that they might influence us and be used for our growth in God's service. Each "revelation" is described from the author's perspective, and then the experiences of others, and the wisdom of scripture, are brought to bear on the issue. At the end of each chapter there are inviting exercises readers can use to explore the issue in their own lives.

by the Editor

Read an interview with Lynn Huber on page 9

For more information, check out the publisher's web site at <http://www.wovenword.com>. For a signed copy, contact Lynn directly at huberpal@msn.com.

NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Our NECC Rep Reports

De Colores!

As usual, the January meeting began with a get-to-know-each-other session and community formation time at Dubose Conference Center in Monteagle, Tennessee. The weather was cold but clear, and the facilities were hospitable as the newcomers to the Committee arrived on Tuesday and spent the evening and next day exploring their new "jobs" on the NECC. As the veterans arrived on Wednesday afternoon and evening we had a time of reunion and enjoyed a bible study on the theme for this meeting, which was "Stewardship."

On Thursday morning the group moved to St. Paul's, Murfreesboro, for a busy time of work and a wonderful time of fellowship and worship. The community was wonderfully hospitable, in true Southern fashion, not only welcoming us but also making us feel like part of the family. The days were busy with work, but there was "kick back" time for relaxation. On Friday evening people from 9 congregations gathered for an energetic "down home" *ultreya*. Saturday relaxation included visits to the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Frist Center for the Arts. Sunday worship at St. Paul's capped a highly productive meeting. Highlights of our actions follow.

Executive Committee: Resolved that we adopt the illustration on the General Convention banner as the official NEC logo, effective September 2004. The committee will be developing pledge cards for 2005 to be ready to give the NEC Reps in July to mail out to their dioceses so that completed cards can be brought to the Seminar and offered during the opening Eucharist. Vice-president Sharon Neukam, has developed a list of potential dioceses that would be good locations for holding future quarterly meetings.

Cursillo Leaders Development: Continue to plan for the more effective use of our website by posting promotional brochures for NEC programs and some of the ECLW materials along with a read/write protection system. Also exploring having training materials on-line for use by diocesan movements as they please. Unveiled a new design for a web page and has drafted a prospective job description for the web site manager. Continue to develop a new Library book on exporting Cursillo.

Publications: Chairperson Mike Flanagan unveiled drafts of two new talk outlines—#8, Leaders, and #10, Action. They have completed a revision of the Library book on Sponsorship and are have established a schedule for completing the revision of four more books this year. The subcommittee has recommended the Library be made available in CD format, they are planning for an on-line publication of the *4th Day Magazine*, and they are preparing a working example of a library book in electronic format on the web for demonstration at the quarterly meeting in October. The subcommittee is discussing creating a formal process for translating materials into Spanish with two people skilled at that.

Seminar: Met with the host committee, site planner, and on-site personnel at Camp Allen before coming to Tennessee. Plans for Seminar 2004 are well underway. The pre-seminar workshops will be Music and a training about use of the Labyrinth. The subcommittee is organizing Seminar education sessions based on the Cursillo themes—piety, study, action—and are adding a concern for celebration. They will recommend the site for Seminar 2005 in April and will be identifying the site for 2006 by the end of this year.



You may contact the National Episcopal Cursillo office for all of your Cursillo supplies: NEC Library, Group Reunion Cards, Meditation Guides, etc. For more information, please refer to the NEC Home Page at <http://www.episcopalcursillo.org/> or contact the NEC Office. The NEC Office has a Toll Free Phone: 1-877-ULTREYA or 1-877-858-7392.

On a personal note, I am very excited about representing you on the NECC. I'm hoping to be able to visit each of your dioceses during my term on the NECC. In the meantime, so that I can do as good a job as possible, I need to hear from you about Cursillo activity in your diocese. That includes your challenges and successes for celebration. I can offer resources for problem solving, encouragement for overcoming barriers, and always prayer. Please let me know how I can help.

Ultreya!

Martha Libby
4444 S. Kalispell Cir.
Aurora, CO 80015
303-690-1112, 303-870-5223
Mlibby4444@comcast.net

The Cursillo Connection to Haiti

by Pam Rice

When she was 19, Kizzan Lee Sam made her Life in the Spirit weekend in Trinidad. It was for her, as for many of us, a life-altering experience. Up until a couple of weeks ago she was in Haiti on a mission for the Colorado Haiti Project. With the rebellion and fighting she had to leave and cannot go back until June. The Colorado Haiti Project is presently based at St. John's in Boulder and there is there a group waiting to go to Haiti on one of the three visits each year sponsored by the group. Sponsored by does not mean paid for. Each of the participants pays his or her own way including costs of staying there. They also take with them many different types of donations for the project there.

There are more Episcopalians in Haiti, tiny country that it is, than in the United States. Kizzan says that these are a very spiritual people and yes, there is a certain amount of voodoo mixed in with their beliefs. The Episcopal Church has had a presence in Haiti for many years and has been there through unrest and changing leaders.

The mission sponsored by the Colorado Haiti Project is on two levels. One is medical. Major causes of death are illnesses that are readily

treatable here: diarrhea, tetanus, early tuberculosis and high blood pressure. Many times by the time someone asks the doctor about a hardening lump, the cancer is so far along as to be untreatable, if there were hospitals and treatments available.

The other facet of the mission is education. They hope to start children early with education because at the school they get meals and medical supervision. The school at Petit-trou is sponsored by the Colorado Haiti Project. The children who attend school are given one nourishing meal a day, which for many of them is about all they get. The resident priest Father Kesner sees to it that the children are also serious about their learning and the children are encouraged to continue school as long as they can.

These are a hopeful people. They want to learn, they want to go to school, and they want to work even when there are no jobs for them. After all the unrest and fighting, they still have hope for their country.

Kizzan's job in Haiti was to evaluate the project and to see where it is working best. And during the recent uprising it was necessary for her to come back to the United States. Far

from being fearful and afraid for herself, Kizzan said she felt a peacefulness as she went about her business. She knew she would have to leave and did not worry about leaving safely. When she came home to the United States, she learned of the many people who had been praying for her. She firmly believes it was that prayer that kept her safe and calm and in God's hands.

Kizzan credits her Cursillo weekend with God as a major influence in her life. She asks of us prayer, not just when Haiti is in the headlines every few years, but constantly. Our brothers and sisters there have so little. And she asks of us action. Maybe someone reading this would like to help financially or with their talents. Haiti is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Through The Colorado Haiti Project we could help.

De Colores-- Christ is Counting on You!

WANT TO HELP?

Contact Kizzan at :
lochbairn@hotmail.com

2004 Cursillo Weekends

*Team, Candidate & Sponsor Applications
available at cocursillo.org*

May 13-16, 2004

Camp Red Cloud
Lake City, CO

RECTORS
Alan & Linda McPeak
719-598-0827
mcpeakal@earthlink.net

August 26-29, 2004

Highlands Presbyterian Camp
Allenspark, CO

RECTORS
Sue Richardson
303-617-0057
suerich9@comcast.net
John Humprey
hump1@pobox.com

October 21-24, 2004

Easter Seals Camp
Georgetown, CO

RECTORA
Sharon Conrad
970-256-0155
cursillo114CO@bresnan.net

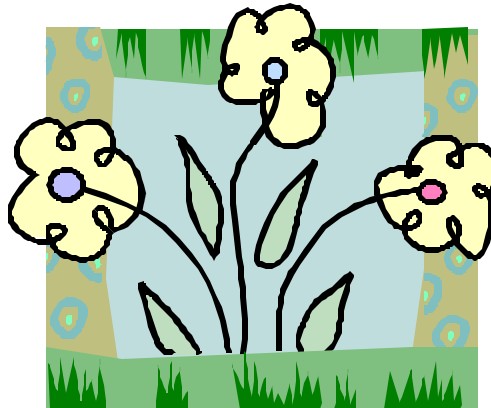
WAKE-UP CALL

An Editor's Experiment in Hope

In spring, love is in the air and thoughts are turning to blooming flowers, baby birds, and warm sunny days....it is a time of renewal and hope. As I contemplate the upcoming season, I realize that I've always felt fortunate to live in the northern hemisphere, when nature's optimistic mood coincides with our expectation in the resurrection of Christ, another seasonal event of renewal and hope that we are anticipating with great excitement.

That theme--renewal and hope, new growth and possibility, challenge and opportunity—is a continuous cycle in our lives as humans and as Christians. After all, our greatest strength in times of darkness is our hope in the light to

come. So we **choose** hope and look forward to tomorrow.



In a less metaphorical vein, I also have chosen hope. You see, I have volunteered to be the Editor of the

Crowing Times, and this is my first issue. And in keeping with that spring theme of renewal, I have a daunting task....to bloom in the same garden as the perennially beautiful and capable previous editor, Nancy Hause. So, as you can see, I need hope just to undertake this job!

Luckily I have lots of hope.... I **hope** you like the new look of the newsletter, I **hope** you find the articles interesting and informative, I **hope** you will send me your articles, photos, feedback and ideas, and I **hope** your spring and your Easter is blessed!

The Editor
Jane Owens

FYI	
K-Love Colorado Radio Stations	
Aspen	89.9
Breckenridge	107.9
Buena Vista	90.5
Cedaredge	100.9
Craig	90.9
Denver (KLDV)	91.1
Dillon	90.9
Eagle	91.3
Estes Park	95.3
Glenwood Springs (KLXV)	91.9/107.7
Grand Junction (KLFV)	90.3
Gunnison	91.9
Lake City	89.7
Leadville	89.1
Meeker	91.7
Mesa	89.9
Montrose	91.9
Norwood	91.5

SPRING TO-DO LIST

- PIETY -**
Daily Office

- STUDY -**
'Revelations on the Road: A Pilgrim Journey'

- ACTION -**
Weed church garden

Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man, someone might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:7-8

IN THE WIND

BIG Changes Coming to the Crowing Times

THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE UNLESS WE HEAR FROM YOU!

What's new?

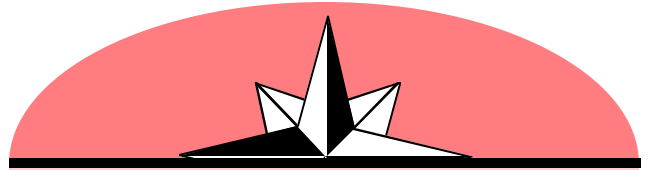
A lot! Along with all the other changes you have already noticed, we'll be bringing you the Crowing Times in a new way! For those of you with Internet access, we'll be sending the Crowing Times to you via email.

Why are we changing?

For lots of good reasons. Because... we can cut our expenses for delivery of the CT significantly! Because... we can get your copy of the CT to you sooner, without the time and expense of printing, folding, labeling, and mailing! Because... we can deliver your copy of the CT in color, with plenty of photographs and graphics! Because... we won't kill as many trees! And, last but not least...just because! (Uh-oh, I think I sound like a mom—oh, I AM a mom!)

What if I don't have email?

Don't worry. For those of you who aren't yet computer-savvy, we'll still be printing and mailing your CT the way we always have. There's just one catch—please let us know you want it the old-fashioned way by filling out and returning the coupon below. **Important note:** Future 'hard copy' editions may require the payment of a minimal annual subscription fee to cover the cost of copying and mailing.



WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!

WE ARE IN THE PROCESSING OF UPDATING OUR DATABASE OF CUSILLISTAS.

And...if you have experienced a change of address, phone number, email address, parish, or other pertinent information, please update your information by contacting Pam Rice at 303-690-5024 or PJSR61@aol.com or use the web link at co.cursillo.com

IF YOU RECEIVED THIS ISSE BY 'SNAIL MAIL', THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST ISSUE UNLESS WE HEAR FROM YOU! PLEASE LET US KNOW RIGHT AWAY THAT YOU WISH TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE THE CROWING TIMES !

I WANT TO RECEIVE THE CROWING TIMES BY MAIL!

Please fill out and send to:

Pam Rice, Publisher
Colorado Cursillo Servant Community
19336 E. Greenwood Place
Aurora, CO 80013

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Parish _____

Comments:



COME PLAY WITH US!

Calling all Musicians and Singers!

WANTED: Musicians and singers to play/sing on music teams for Cursillo weekends, Ultreyas, and/or possibly Kairos weekends. If interested, please contact Linda Brown, 303-432-2178, or email her at

LindaJBrown@worldnet.att.net.



Cursillo Servant Community Meeting Held at St. Timothy's

by Linda Brown

On February 21, 2004, several members of the Cursillo Servant Community met to continue planning its efforts in support of the Colorado Cursillo movement. In attendance were Pam Blome, Linda Brown, Roberta Denham, Bill Kindel, Bernie Maly, Pam Rice, Sue Richardson, and Dee Settelmeyer. Jane Owens facilitated the meeting.

The team reviewed the organization chart that was developed at the last meeting (in January) and proceeded to fill some of the available slots. Roberta Denham will fill the Parish Representatives box, and Bill Kindel will fill the 4th Day and Ultreya boxes. Although some boxes still have no one designated as the lead, the group decided to move forward with what we have and look for people to fill them. We agreed more effort is needed to publicize CSC and the openings.

A general discussion was held regarding the structure of the CSC and how it would interface and communicate with the Secretariat. The team thought a joint meeting with the Secretariat in July might be a good idea.

Pam Rice announced a link has been placed on the

Colorado Cursillo website to information about the CSC. She also said there are currently 1332 names on the database list. Pam is getting input from the parish reps and finding a lot of people who are not on the database.

Jane Owens has taken over as editor of the "Crowing Times". She will be using Microsoft Publisher, a format that allows color and photos. The newsletter will go out quarterly. The next issue of the newsletter will go out as email and hard copies. Pam Rice has only 100 emails on the list. She will concentrate on getting updated names, addresses, and phone numbers into the database.

Additional topics discussed included music, palanca, banners, and informational presentations. A facilitator will be designated for each of the CSC meetings. This will be a rotating position.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A follow-up meeting was held Saturday, April 24th at St. Joseph's, Lakewood with Linda Brown as the facilitator. Our next meeting will be Saturday, July 10th from 9 to 12, also at St. Joseph's.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS
Saturday, July 10, 2004
PLEASE JOIN US!



So You Wanna Be A Sponsor!

By Dee Settelmeyer

You've been to a Cursillo weekend and you know how much it meant to you. Now, you want to share that experience with others who you believe will absolutely love it. You get the application, send in your part of the money, take your candidates to the weekend site and pick them up on Sunday. You talk to them about the experience on the way home. Now your job is finished, right? WRONG! As a sponsor, you have responsibilities both before and after the weekend.

First, you should be leading an active Christian life and be a witness to Christ. Be sure your candidate is a Christian. Cursillo is not a conversion experience but is for renewal and growth in commitment to Christ. Be sure your candidate is ready, that there is nothing in their life to make it difficult for them to participate in the weekend.



Discuss Cursillo with your candidates and answer their questions as fully as possible. Offer to child/house/pet sit for them. Explain "after Cursillo" activities. Let them know you will be there for them after their weekend.

Of course we already know sponsors provide transportation to and from the weekend, provide personal palanca, and attend Closures. But we're still not finished. There is little worse than coming back from a weekend, flying high from our Cursillo weekend experience and having no place to go with that feeling. Help your candidates find permanent 4th Day groups. Go to Ultreyas with them. Meet with them; pray with them and for them.

Still wanna be a sponsor? I hope so. It is a wonderful opportunity for our apostolic action to help our brothers and sisters grow in their love and relationship with Christ through Cursillo. ULTREYA!!

INTRODUCING... Pam Blome

I've been in Colorado for two years. When we moved here from Arizona, one of the first things my husband, Lowell, and I looked for was a church community, which we soon found at St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Lakewood. In the Sunday bulletin was a notice for a Fourth Day Grouping with a name and phone number. What a thrill!

Lowell and I attended our Cursillo weekends in the Diocese of San Diego in the Fall of 1999 at Camp Stephens in the Laguna Mountains near Julian, CA. (Our church in Yuma, AZ, St. Paul's, was in the Diocese of San

Diego). There the Men and Women have separate weekends.

I am a "Cradle Episcopalian" and my husband grew up in the Presbyterian Church. We have been married 32 years and have two sons, Matthew and Monte. Matthew is an Army Captain, currently deployed in Iraq. He and his wife, Tuesday (also an Army Captain) have one son, Hunter, 6 months. Monte is enlisted in the Navy and he and his wife, Holly, are both stationed in Italy where they live with their 7-month old son, Aiden. I wish those new grandsons were lots closer to Colorado!!



I am a librarian at the Arthur Lakes Library at the Colorado School of Mines. I love reading, walking, and singing in the choir.

I'm excited to work with the Secretariat and look forward to learning more of my duties. For me, the Fourth Day is a very important part of Cursillo. As marvelous as the weekends are, without the Fourth Day, it would lose its meaning over time. One of my grouping partners in Arizona was seeing a mental health professional to help her work out some problems. She told the therapist about our Fourth Day Group, and the therapist told her that everyone should have a group like that!

CURSILLO #113

Come, Now Is The Time!

"Come, Now Is The Time" is our theme for Cursillo Weekend #113 and the message you may need to hear, if you have been wondering when to sponsor a candidate!

My name is Sue Richardson (from St. Martin in the Fields in Aurora) and I am co-leading this weekend

with John Humphrey (from St. Timothy's in Centennial).

Weekend #113 will begin Thursday, August 26 and close on Sunday August 29, at Highland's Presbyterian Camp near Allenspark. The facilities are wonderful, as we are in their new Retreat Center.

by Sue Richardson

For more information, call me at (303) 617-0057 or e-mail me at suerich9@comcast.net. Amazingly, the team for the weekend is already complete, but candidate applications are available at www.cocursillo.org.

Peace & Prayers!



HITCH YOUR TRAILER TO A STAR!

The Front Range 3-Day Weekend Team is looking for a way to store and transfer weekend supplies.

If you have a trailer you aren't using, or if you would be willing to donate toward the purchase of a trailer, PLEASE CALL US! We have tons of stuff to store, from glass candlesticks to a 5-foot tall plywood rooster.

Another option is to purchase a

new trailer for approximately \$2500, and we already have an offer from an individual to pay half the cost. Can you help with the rest?

Donated space in a commercial storage facility would also be appreciated. If you can help, please contact Sue Richardson at 303-617-0057 or suerich9@aol.com or Dee Settlemeyer, 303-695-0746, or pakadee@msn.com.

2004 Secretariat Meetings

Saturday, July 10th

12:00 noon to 3 PM

St. Joseph's Episcopal Church
Lakewood, CO

Saturday, Sept 11th

Location to be Determined



THE WRITTEN WORD

Interview with Lynn Huber

Dr. Lynn Huber has been a practitioner, educator, director, consultant, editor, and writer in the fields of social work, gerontology, and spiritual formation in a career that has spanned the country and several decades. In the current stage of her journey, Lynn offers workshops, courses, retreats, consultation, and spiritual direction for individuals and groups. Her first book, *Revelations on the Road: A Pilgrim's Journey*, was published in 2003 and is being used for individual spiritual formation and small group study. Lynn also serves in the Cursillo and Kairos movements and is married to The Rev. Frank Huber, pastor of St. Joseph's Episcopal Church in Lakewood, Colorado. I recently had the privilege to meet Lynn and discuss her book. Here are some excerpts from our time together:

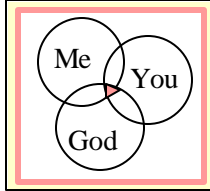


Dr. Lynn Huber
1229 W. Applewood Knolls Drive
Lakewood, CO 80215

Jane: I've just finished your book, which I enjoyed very much, and I'd like to know more about why you think *stories* are so important.

Lynn: I believe that stories are built into our human nature as a way to connect, as well as a way to make sense of what happens to us on our life journeys. Stories are a place where human conflicts get resolved, and where understanding is achieved. Jesus used many stories to explain what we now call our theology, and we are still shar-

ing his story after 2,000 years! I believe that we achieve a "Holy Moment of Connection" when my story, your story, and God's story come together.



Jane: Your book contains 11 *revelations*, spiritual insights that you tell us have come suddenly or gradually, sometimes in humor, sometimes in love, sometimes in pain and fear. How did you arrive at these revelations?

Lynn: The genesis of each revelation is based on my own life experience. Yet when I shared my stories with others, I found that many others had similar experiences, and I realized that there was a real universality in these ideas. Although the book was only written in 2003, you could say that my revelations have been "under development" for many years.

Jane: Do you have a favorite revelation?

Lynn: (Laughs) It depends on the day, and on the need. They all have special meaning. I couldn't pick just one!

Jane: Why did it take an extended illness to get you to write this book?

Lynn: I suppose it was the enforced retreat....I read 25 books in 30 days! It was during that time that I made the commitment to write it, but the actual writing was later. After my recovery, I attended several conferences where I received a great deal of encouragement and support about writing the book from colleagues I trust and respect. That welcome into the community of contemporary spiritual writers got me through some of the writing days when my self-doubt was highest.

Jane: What do you hope your readers will take away after reading

by the Editor

your book?

Lynn: That God is after you. That you have friends on the journey--because we're all on the same journey. That the more trusting you are, the more trustworthy you discover God is. And finally, that all God requires of you is to show up and pay attention, because God will do the rest.

After the baptism of his baby brother in church, little Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His mother and father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, "The priest said he wanted us brought up in a Christian hoome, but I want to stay with you guys."

Needed!

DOES YOUR CHURCH HAVE AN EXTRA AVAILABLE SOUND SYSTEM?

WANTED: We are looking for sound systems that could be made available for Cursillo weekends to amplify music and rollistas. If you know of one, please contact Linda Brown, 303-432-2178, or email her at Linda

JBrown@worldnet.att.net

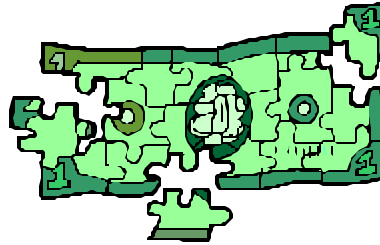
TAX RELIEF?

Let's Help Each Other!

Now that taxes are filed, it's time to start planning for next year. Do you need more deductions? Cursillo can help you--and you can help us at the same time! Since we are a part of the Diocese of Colorado, any donation to Cursillo is tax deductible.

And boy, could we use your help! We do not have a paid staff, so all money received goes back into the Cursillo community, both locally and nationally. We pay a pledge to the National Episcopal Cursillo Committee each year, we try to pay for one delegate to attend the National Seminar each year, we support the weekends with supplies

and scholarships when available, and we publish the Crowing Times newsletter. However, times are tough and we are in the process of cutting expenses, like the mailing of this newsletter.



Please pray about whether or not you would be able to add the Colorado Episcopal Cursillo to your list

of charitable contributions this year. Anything you can give will be surely blessed by God, as we will use it to continue to impact our environments for Christ.

All donations can be paid to Colorado Episcopal Cursillo and mailed to our Treasurer:

Sue Emerson
390 W. Valley Circle
Grand Junction, CO 81503

Thank you for your prayers and support!

Ultreya!
Missi Kern, Lay Director
CO Episcopal Cursillo Secretariat

2003-2004 Colorado Cursillo Secretariat

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Just For Fun

The 98 year-old Mother Superior from Ireland was dying. The nuns gathered around her bed, trying to make her last journey comfortable.

They gave her some warm milk to drink, but she refused. Remembering a bottle of Irish whiskey received as a gift the previous Christmas, one of the nuns took the glass back to the kitchen and poured a generous amount into the warm milk.

Back at the Mother Superior's bed, she held the glass to her lips. Mother drank a little, then a little more, and before they knew it, she had drunk the entire glass down to the last drop. "Mother," the grieving nuns asked, "please give us some wisdom before you die."

The Mother Superior raised herself up in bed, and with a pious look on her face, said "Don't sell that cow."

CURSILLO SERVANT COMMUNITY

Part II: What Does it Do?

By Bernie Maly

In the Part I, we looked in general at what a Servant Community (SC) is. We identified and discussed the purposes of the SC as a place of spiritual growth and nurturing, and as an entity involved in learning about Cursillo and developing leadership skills. We also looked at the fact that the SC is an entity that has a primary purpose of doing tasks that maintain and enhance the Cursillo movement in the diocese.

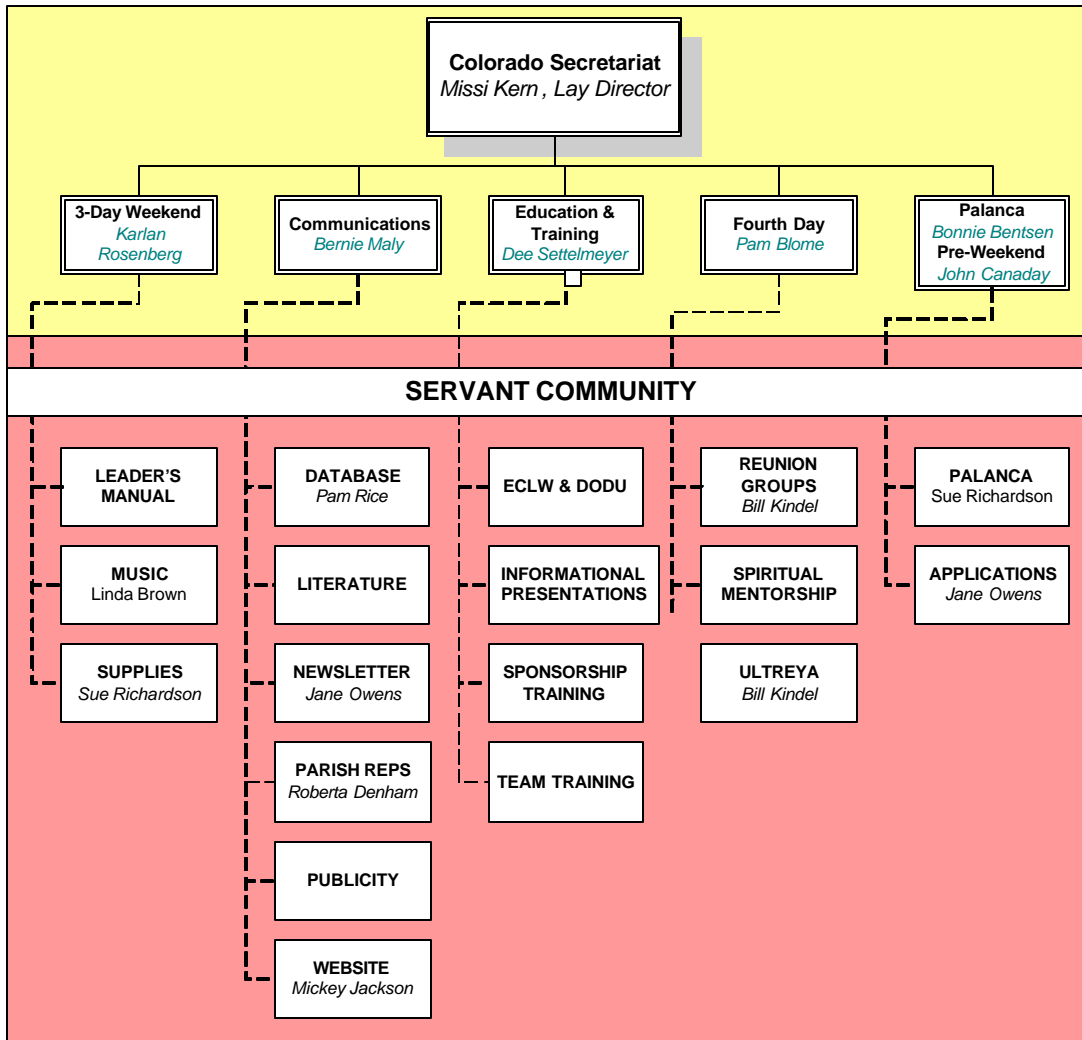
As many of you know, each of the individuals who are members of the Secretariat have an area of responsibility. SC members work under the guidance and support of the Secretariat member responsible for

that area. This relationship is illustrated in the organization chart below. Of course, close communication between the Secretariat liaison and the SC subgroup is essential, so SC meetings are attended by both the SC members and the Secretariat liaisons.

As mentioned in the Part I in the previous edition of the *Crowing Times*, having an SC allows many more people to become involved in Cursillo work and provides opportunity for much more to get done to enhance the diocesan Cursillo movement and make it more effective. The notes of the most recent SC meeting in the article on page 7

give a sense of the nature and work of the SC.

There is room for many more individuals to help on the SC in the various areas. Anyone wanting to contribute time and effort is welcome. If you cannot contribute directly to the efforts of the SC, please pray that the spirit of God use and guide this group and draw in new members according to His plan and purpose...and let us all relish the privilege of serving our amazing Lord in whatever way He leads. For more information, contact Bernie Maly at 303-988-7339 or jbmaly@aol.com, or any individual member





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THE CROWING TIMES

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THE LAST WORD

Do You Believe in Miracles?

By Jon Rhodes

There are dozens of reasons so many have been moved by the movie "The Passion of the Christ". The one that makes the most sense to me is that it dramatically helps us to experience a familiar story in such a way that we realize more fully what Jesus willingly suffered to fulfill His Father's promise of redemption.

I mention it only to make the point that 2,000 years later, it is a story we know intellectually, but one that has lost its' emotional impact. We know the story, but do we truly *understand* what Jesus, as a man, did for us? We say in our Creed that Jesus "suffered and died", but this portrayal, using all the tricks of modern cinema, makes us feel it in our hearts.

So it is with Bible stories. The further away in time we move from the actual events, the more dispassionately we view them; which is intellectually comfortable, but not very satisfying to our hearts. God gifted us with minds *and* emotions with the expectation that we use them to the fullest. So a purely intellectual understanding of our faith, or a purely emotional one, sells God's gifts

short.

I have a friend who insists that there are no such thing as miracles. He is a fine Christian man, in fact a retired "rocket scientist", who studies religions and understands far more than I could ever hope to about religion and culture. He believes there is a rational explanation for the miracles Jesus performed, and events in his own life that I would call miracles, he explains as happy coincidences. In the matter of miracles, he is a modern day "doubting Thomas". I cannot shake his certitude.

When I think of what his opinion implies, I can only shake my head in disbelief: a Christ who does not hear and answer prayers, a distant God who doesn't know when the sparrow falls, and a Spirit which does not move among us, inspire us, unite us, and heal us. And to my mind, the greatest miracle of all: the freedom, the confidence, the hope, and the joy available to those who make the "leap" to faith.

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