

2011, July 30 -- NLSAM Business Meeting #4

The fourth Business Meeting began with the Holy Spirit prayer at 4:40 P.M., and Tracy requested the Committee and Region Reports be given.

Pr. Doug Givan gave the Spiritual Directors' Report. There were 20 pastors and attendees in attendance. It is important to surround people and events with prayer. He had copies of the Devotional Booklet he had worked on to be used after the weekend, and other pastors have also contributed to it. It is to be made into a Pilgrim's book size and be ready for next year.

Kathy Cooper from the Palanca and Banner committee noted that 6 people made 2 butterfly banners. They were given to the 2012 Colorado Hosting Committee and the 2013 A-OK Hosting Committee.

Diane reported as Financial Advisor that the books have been checked over, and they are in order.

Tracy led the Lay Directors Dialogue. Twenty-five people from 20 secretariats discussed important issues facing secretariats today: the importance of insurance, questions about sponsorship, who can attend a weekend, Spiritual Directors, rules and guidelines and how decisions need to be made carefully and prayerfully on a case by case basis. Our movement is about grace. She read items from Eduardo Bonnin's vision for Cursillo© from a written interview she has. She plans for the interview to be in electronic format by next year.

Nancy Peterson gave the report from Region 2. Four secretariats met with 18 individuals. They focused on best practices they had experienced during the past year. Minnesota had a mentorship program for new team members. All are struggling with leadership training and sponsorship follow through. They discussed the essentials and alternate ways of presenting material such as power points, handouts on team building, and acting out scenarios. They plan to meet to continue discussions and to share and evaluate time schedules.

Pam Gross from Region 4 gave the report. Heart of IL has a once a year celebration of many different movements in Peoria. All have web sites for communication. Some have problems getting the newsletter out. Some are struggling with getting people to training or having training times. They discussed the length of the talks and note taking. They would like time for more personal sharing in the talks.

Chris Rasmussen from Region 6 gave the report. Atlanta set up a booth at the Synod convention with much success in reaching pastors. Spiritual Directors need to invite pastors and make it known that it will make more involved leaders in their churches. Retired pastors are a good pool for SD's. Holding Family picnics in addition to Ultreyas is a way to strengthen community. They also discussed the essentials of Ultreya, Reunion and Sponsorship.

Pr. Steve Hartten from Region 1 gave the report. They discussed their support strategies and possibly having bi-annual or quarterly meetings at a location or using conference calls. Utah had a well accepted community-building one day seminar with a speaker, discussion, and worship. Donations given then went to a charitable organization in the area. Laity needs to build relationship with laity, and clergy needs to build relationship with clergy. They discussed how

they did training and the importance of liability insurance. They want to work together to start new movements.

Alice Allison from Region 3 gave the report. On June 11, 2011, N. Texas held a Grand Ultreya which was very well attended with 3 secretariats and 3 past Lay Directors in attendance. In A-OK communication between members has increased. They are hoping to help nearby secretariats. Leadership Training is conducted 2-3 times yearly and has to be attended to be eligible to be on a team.

Pat Nicolai from Region 5 gave the report. A Grand Ultreya included Journey in Faith, Rainbow and Vineyard. They want to help and support each other. They have seven communities in the region and a possible future secretariat. They discussed the need to stick to the basics, the essentials. It is helpful to have a list of pastors making weekends as contacts for churches.

Magdala Ray from Region 7 gave the report. Thirty-six Florida delegates and visitors attended with Don Armbrust facilitating. Last year's Grand Ultreya didn't occur but plans are being made to host at least one during this next year. The relationship-building accompanying hosting the annual meeting has produced meaningful and enduring fellowship among the Florida Secretariats. All are using Leadership Training resources. They discussed helping to revitalize Heart of Florida. They reaffirmed their commitment to the Essentials and sponsorship and leadership training to build stronger individual and regional communities for Christ Jesus our Lord.

After the last report, many members of the North Carolina Host team marched in as we stood up and thanked them wholeheartedly with much clapping for the wonderful job they have done. Tracy thanked the host team verbally as they stood around us.

Next was the Colorado presentation. With the help of Colorado Via de Cristo, Via de Cristo of the Rockies is hosting the NLSAM in 2012. Carol McGill, Host Committee Chair, introduced a beautiful slide show of the Colorado sights. The team introduced themselves and named their positions on the team. They invited everyone to attend the next NLSAM July 26-29, 2012, at Regis University in Denver, CO. They presented welcome bags to all as we left the meeting room.

Steve G. presented a gift of appreciation to John McKinney, Executive Director of Tres Dias, who led the Truth seminar. Gifts of thanks and appreciation for service were given to Larry Conway - a lovely cross; to Tracy, the outgoing president - a large, colorful stained glass cross; and to Katie, outgoing secretary - a beautiful hand-crocheted prayer shawl.

Lois and Larry Witham passed the Via de Cristo banner from the WNC 2011 Host Committee to Carol McGill, chair of the Colorado VdC of the Rockies 2012 Host Committee.

Larry Witham made closing announcements.

Bob Quam moved that the 2011 NLSAM meeting be adjourned. Chris Rasmussen 2nd. Motion passed. The business meeting was adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Katie Sistar
NLS Secretary