



Divine Mercy NEWSletter

Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity of Lower Michigan and Toledo OH

March, 2011

Regional Gathering will be April 9, 2011

This year the Executive Council has decided to include the Ministers and Secretaries from the local fraternities. We know that much of the work of the local Council is done by the Secretaries; and in appreciation for all of their contributions, we thought we would invite them to the April 9th meeting at Bethany House of the St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt, Michigan. We know that their leadership is vital to the smooth functioning of their councils.

The meeting will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and end by 3:00 p.m.

Because this is an official gathering of the Regional Fraternity Council, we ask that

ministers and their secretaries please make every effort to attend. Those ministers who are unable to attend may send a delegate to represent their fraternity.



There will also be an update on the Annual Meeting on August 12-14, and we will announce the winners of the Scholarships to Loretto and our own Forming the Formators in Washington, MI. Roger Raupp, SFO will also be on hand to discuss updates to the NAFRA database.

In 2011 we are continuing with the theme of Our Vocation in Action. The program this year will feature two special guest speakers: Br. Al Mascia, OFM from

St. Aloysius and Canticle Café and Jamie Ebaugh of Southwest Solutions in Detroit

As always, all Secular Franciscans are invited to attend. The Region will cover the cost of lunch for the ministers, secretaries and spiritual assistants; the cost for guests will be \$15.00. However **everyone needs to pre-register no later than March 29.**

Contact Marcia DePauw, SFO 231-238-9797, djm49749@gmail.com.

In July the Regional Formation Team will present a workshop, Forming the Formators, at the Capuchin Retreat Center in Washington, Michigan. This July 22-24 weekend will be a time for learning and sharing.

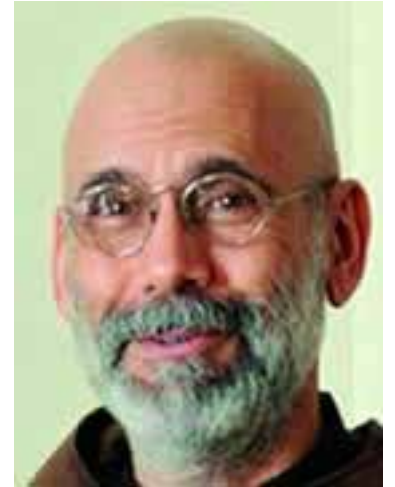
Brother Al Mascia, OFM

is a Franciscan Friar of the St. John the Baptist Province. Since his first experience as a teenager, serving the poor and homeless in a New York City soup kitchen, he somehow knew that his life's calling would involve working with those in need.

Many of you will remember Br. Al from the Song and Spirit concert he and Maggid Steve Klaper performed at our Annual meeting last year. Some may know him from the Canticle Café at St. Aloysius in Detroit.

The Canticle Café is a place where everyone is welcome, greeted with respect and dignity, offered friendship, assistance when in need and respite from the hardships of poverty, homelessness, loneliness and fear.

Brother Al will share with us the Franciscan perspective on how we can live our call to serve our less fortunate brothers and sisters.



Brother Al Mascia, OFM

Jamie Ebaugh



Jamie Ebaugh

Jamie Ebaugh has earned a Masters in both Religious Education and Social Work. He has worked serving people who are homeless for over 20 years, including street outreach, shelter work, safe havens, transitional and permanent housing experiences.

Jamie was one of the architects of St. Al's Community Center in 1992 and served as its first director. He currently works as Director for Supportive Housing with Southwest Counseling Solutions in Detroit.

He directs a staff of over 40 who engage individuals who are homeless through outreach efforts on the streets, in shelters, soup kitchens, under bridges, in abandonments. They work to link individuals who are homeless and suffer from severe and persistent mental illnesses to find safe and affordable places to live and provide ongoing supports to assist with the transition from the streets.

Jamie approaches his work from a spiritual calling that was nurtured throughout the twenty years he spent as a Franciscan brother.

DMRF seeking JPIC Contact Person
Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation

Do you have a passion for issues on peace and justice or know someone in your fraternity who does? NAFRA JPIC Chairperson Kent Ferris has begun an initiative with many regions involved and with CRS.

Links to the first two webinars can be found on our website at www.divinemercuryregion.org. Please, take the time to watch these and see if you would like to become the contact person for our Region for future webcasts.

Good things are happening and our Region should be an active part of this. I will have a report on Kent's presentation at our NAFRA Chapter last October and more information on this initiative at our April Gathering.

Peace and All Good, Sheri

Sisters and Brothers in St. Francis - Peace and All that is Good

As a prelude to the April 2011 Minister Meeting, Treasurer Report, the following is intended to provide an unbiased view for your consideration.

The Regional Council has the duty to offer to local fraternities activities which support their formation and operative needs. This can be expensive as it involves stipends and transportation expenses to bring in suitable speakers, not to mention the cost of accommodations and meals where necessary.

Presently the NAFRA share is \$12.00 per member. In 2010, \$9,000.00 was sent to the NAFRA Treasurer.

The Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity Treasurer Fair Share Report had 35 fewer members the end of 2010 (most were due to natural causes). This translates to \$1,032.50 less than the Fair Share budgeted for that year.

- The 2010 Spring/Fall Minister Meetings net expenses were \$6,265.14.
- The 2010 expense to reserve reservations for the 2011 St. Francis Retreat Center, DeWitt was a total of \$1,117.00.
- The 2010 Regional Newsletter postage, printing, and supplies cost a total of \$4,888.32.
- Not to mention the Regional Council general operating expenses:
- Minister: \$2,113.48, Secretary: \$679.28, and Treasurer: \$46.00.
- The reimbursed travel expenses total was: \$845.86.

As we are all aware, costs continue to rise. Kindly give this your prayerful consideration.

May the Lord give you Peace.

Rosemary Hannaford SFO
Treasurer, Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity



Rosemary Hannaford, SFO



Reminder: 4th Annual Summer SFO Seminar will be held at Saint Francis University, Loretto, PA

Aspects of Fraternity Life presented by Fr. Lester Bach, OFM Cap. and Mary Bittner, SFO on June 23 - June 26, 2011

Contact Diane Rombouts, St. Francis University's Institute for Contemporary Franciscan Life (814) 472-3219 (daytime) or e-mail icfl@francis.edu or Cyl Maljan at cylmaljan@earthlink.net

Executive Council

Minister

Sheri Hafeli, SFO
shafelisfo@gmail.com

Vice Minister

Ray Boisvenue, SFO
rlbnorth@iname.com

Secretary

Jean Martin, SFO
divinemercuryregion@gmail.com

Treasurer

Rosemary Hannaford, SFO
rosemhfrd@aol.com

Councilors

Marcia DePauw, SFO
djm49749@gmail.com

Jim Howard, SFO
jblakehoward@gmail.com

Maryann Kummer, SFO
mkummersfo@yahoo.com

Barb McClure, SFO
bgmclure@comcast.net

Formation Minister

Patti Reynolds, SFO
pattireynoldssfo@aol.com

Spiritual Assistant

Friar Tod Lavery, OFM
ROGEROTODI@aol.com



Mark your calendar

April 9, 2011
Spring Ministers
gathering
St. Francis Retreat
Center, DeWitt MI

July 22-24, 2011
Forming the
Formators
Capuchin Retreat
Center, Washington
MI

August 12-14, 2011
Annual Meeting
with Visitation
St. Francis Retreat
Center, DeWitt MI

September 24, 2011
Annual Day of
Formation in
Saginaw

Divine Mercy NEWSletter is a bi-monthly publication of Divine Mercy Regional Fraternity of Lower Michigan and Toledo, Ohio. Local fraternities are encouraged to send their news and upcoming events to the editor. The deadline for the May issue is April 15
www.divinemercuryregion.org
divinemercuryregion@gmail.com

Editor
622 W. Oldfield
Alpena, MI 49707