



THE LIGHT

shines in the dark and the
darkness has never mastered it.

May Christ be your Light this
CHRISTMAS
and throughout the year.

My love to all in the
T.O.

Gen. Henry
S.M.

INFORMATION SHEET
December 1981

Third Order, Society of St. Francis, American Province

GUARDIANSHIP PASSES FROM KALE KING TO DEE DOBSON

The Chapter at its annual meeting, Nov. 9-11, 1981, regretfully accepted the resignation of Kale King as Guardian. Pursuant to the Statutes, Mrs. William "Dee" Dobson was unanimously elected to fulfill the unexpired term.

We appreciate Kale's pastoral ministry, and are thankful that we will continue to have the benefit of his wisdom as a Chapter member.

MESSAGE FROM NEW GUARDIAN

For the forthcoming year emphasis on communication will continue - God willing, as well as the cooperation of the U.S. Postal Service, and the various "Ma" Bell systems.

In the past year there have been two successful regional conferences. It is my hope that these regional conferences will expand to additional areas of our United States.

Novice Counselors will also have regional workshops. Information pertaining to the areas and time will be forthcoming when plans are cemented. These will be intensive one-day sessions, and I hope all will avail themselves of the opportunity for meeting and an exchange of information.

- Dee Dobson

Pat Mahon, Librarian, says: "I plan to get out a new list of books available to loan out, as soon as I can get all of the material organized. If anyone who has books they are willing to loan, would send me their list, I will include it. These books will be kept by you, for you to mail to those wishing to borrow them. I would prefer that the list be typewritten, if possible, and include: title, author, number of pages, paperback (pb) or hardbound (hb). Unless the title is self-explanatory, a brief word or phrase indicating the subject would be helpful. Please send your list to: Pat Mahon, 1990 S.E. Mulberry Avenue, Portland, OR 97214."

General Convention. If you are near New Orleans, or plan to attend General Convention this fall, please let Dee Dobson know. We'd like to have a Third Order presence there.

The Third Order Secretary in Australia says, "We are holding a General Chapter at Morpeth, N.S.W. from the 8th to 11th of January 1982. If you know of any tertiary who is likely to be in Australia at that time, we would be most happy to welcome them there. They could contact me for further details of accommodation, etc." Mrs. Joy Caporn, 5/16 Cannes Avenue, Surfers Paradise, Queensland, Australia 4227. phone 075: 39 8534.

BOOKS/ material/publishers

Roberta Beisel mentions two books we might be interested in: "Healing life's hurts," by Dennis and Matthew Linn, from the Paulist Press; "Inviting the mystic, supporting the prophet: an introduction to spiritual direction" by Katherine M. Dyckman, SNJM and L. Patrick Carroll, S.F., from the Paulist Press.

Available from Little Portion Friary, at \$5.00 apiece: "A Franciscan Devotional" and "Supplemental Propers", including short biographies of many Franciscan saints. From the A. G. Trimble Company, 3004 Jenkins Arcade, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, St. Francis' buttons in quantities of 100 or more, prices starting at \$10. (Sr. Cecilia was giving some away at Convocation.) A flyer is available. Clergy Book Service, P.O. Box 412, Butler, Wisconsin 53007 - a monthly listing of books for sale -- October 1982 included a page of Franciscan books, including classic biographies in paperback by Jorgensen, Chesterton, Englebert, and Bodo (at reasonable prices *** please note, those of you who have not been able to find biographies locally) . Franciscan Herald Press, 1434 W. 51st Street, Chicago, IL 60609 - almost monthly flyers on Franciscan books & material, as well as other spiritual reading for sale. Franciscan Communications, 1229 So. Santee St., Los Angeles, CA 90015: a booklet of Media Resources for the Eighth Centenary, 16 mm films to rent, filmstrips, slides, records, cassettes for sale; Francis witness poster, "God give you peace" message for Memorial Day, "Francis of Assisi, the Gospel Singer" - booklet for grades 5-9 (min. order 50 at 25¢ apiece)

AREA CONFERENCES & FELLOWSHIPS

Late in September there was a conference for southeast tertiaries. Another is planned, probably in March. Contact David Nard, 724 East 46th Street, Savannah, GA 31405 for information.

In the northeast, the last weekend of September a group of about 50 tertiaries, some associates and friends, came together from New England, New York and the middle Atlantic States at Warwick, New York, at the invitation of Br. John George, SSF. The theme of Simplicity was discussed - with various meanings, applications, and problems or road blocks. In addition to the Eucharist and Offices, there was a Quiet Morning, with a meditation by John Scott; short talks by many tertiaries, small group discussions, question & answer sessions after meals, and much visiting. Br. Robert Hugh, newly elected Minister Provincial, was with the group getting

better acquainted. It is hoped this northeast conference can become an annual event. If you have any suggestions about place, theme, schedule, please send them to Bob Teudesman at Little Portion, Box 399, Mt. Sinai, NY 11766.

Long Island. The Friars and Tertiaries shared an all-night Peace Vigil, the Transitus, the opening of "Francis '82" at St. Patrick's Cathedral, and the Franciscan Festival at Little Portion with several of the Roman Catholic Franciscans. Bob Teudesman also says, "The fellowship is doing real well - we've opened it up to all interested persons, who are curious and sincerely interested in knowing about the Franciscan way, and especially in vocation. The Massachusetts tertiaries have been taken under the wing of the R.C. monks of the Order of Penitents of St. Francis of Assisi, and meet with their Secular Franciscans monthly. In addition, the four tertiaries get together on their own about twice a year. In Miami after a 6-week intensive course of study, tertiaries were commissioned to administer the Sacrament to the sick and shut-in. They will serve at the discretion of their various rectors. In Chicago, the Chi-Rho Fellowship has a newsletter, and continues regular monthly meetings. On September 21st, they rejoiced with Bill Smith as he was ordained to the diaconate. In Colorado a retreat was planned for October 9-11.

CHAPTER MEETING AND CONVOCATION

Chapter regrets that Lee Malloy has had to resign as a member of Chapter. She will be able to continue her ministry as a counselor. We welcome Bill Smith as the newest member of Chapter, to serve her unexpired term.

The Guardian and Chapter would particularly like to thank Gloria Goller and Warren Wagner for their efforts and arrangements for Chapter and Convocation. Our thanks to Brother Alan Barnabas for his inspiring leadership (truly a "son of God"), to Sister Cecilia, and Brothers Robert and John George, Kale King, Dee Dobson, and Brother Jason for their part in the Convocation program. We were also pleased to have Br. Mark Charles with us. His presence was meaningful to one and all.

SUMMARY OF CHAPTER & CORPORATION MINUTES

We met at St. Thomas Center, Kenmore, Seattle, Washington, November 9-11, 1981. With us was Br. Alan Barnabas - Third Order Chaplain of Australia; Roberta Beisel - Fellowship Coordinator, Pat Mahon - Librarian & Archivist, Muriel Adey - former Novice Director and Chapter member, Brother John George - Provincial's Visitor, Brothers Jason and Mark Charles, and Sister Cecilia - CSF Provincial.

Provincial Minister Br. Robert Hugh, SSF assured us of his personal commitment to the Third Order, and his desire to strengthen ties between the 1st and 3rd orders in appropriate ways. He asks prayer for the First Order General Chapter to meet in January, especially at this time of change and reassessment.

Guardian Kale King expressed regret for things left undone, pleasure in the Franciscan family gathering at the Gospel Now Conference and Interprovincial Chapter held recently in England; support and encouragement for Dee as Guardian-elect.

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Chaplain R.J. "Gooch" Goode reported during the past year 13 professions, 29 novicings, 2 releases from vows, 2 deaths (Anna Hoffman and Elsie Boggess), 12 novices withdrew. He remarked about the professions in Trinidad and in Guyana, and expressed appreciation for Brother Dunstan's work, as well as for Marie Webner's travels as an Area Chaplain. He asks if we should divide the Province, have a full-time paid Chaplain, place more emphasis on development among Spanish speaking tertiaries? Could we do something for Haiti, the poorest nation in our Province?

Novice Directors Glen-Ann Jicha and Ken Cox presented lists of counselors and people they are responsible for ... Ken: 21 counselors, 8 aspirants, 22 postulants, 46 novices. Glen-Ann: 24 counselors, 19 aspirants and postulants, 59 novices.

Brother John George, SSF has enjoyed visiting with individual tertiaries, 6 Fellowships, and at 2 regional conferences. He hopes to get to Miami, Lexington, and Monroe (Louisiana) next. He asks if we may need a clearer idea of how a Fellowship works, its structure, and the roles of Convenor and Area Chaplain?

Pat, as Librarian and Archivist, has seen growth in the two areas. She has bought some new books, and asks that a special request be circulated to the tertiaries (for books).

Brother Dunstan, SSF, in his written report from the Caribbean, listed 2 professions in Trinidad, and 1 in Guyana last year. He mentioned tertiaries in Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana, Colombia, Jamaica, and Barbados. Dunstan is on a sabbatical at Codrington College, Barbados. Jackie Richards is Convenor in Trinidad.

Fellowship Coordinator Roberta Beisel is gradually building up a fine on Fellowships, and she hopes to do some visiting this year. She has some program material available for Fellowships.

Elections and appointments: Dee Dobson as Guardian; Carole Watson as Bursar on January 1, 1982. Kale King and Bill Smith to Chapter. Elected to profession: Albert Ashby, Julia Bergstrom, Mary Elizabeth Campana, Rex Cole, James and June Costigan, Clara Crisp, Mario Cuellar, Mary Funk, Janet W. Hilton, Bonnie Fox Keith, Dearlie Moline, Charles Roland, Jose Valenzuela, Alden Whitney; and Janet & Frank Moore - when the rest of the paper work is in.

Notes: Next Chapter meeting, November 10-12, 1982 at Little Portion - a closed meeting. On Saturday, November 13th, nearby tertiaries are invited for fellowship with Chapter members.

Convocation: April 10-12, 1985, possibly in Philadelphia. Regional meetings are encouraged in the meantime, with publicity so that anyone may attend.

A committee headed by Marie Webner will work on a revision of our Calendar and Devotional Material booklet. George Metcalf and Peter Funk will work, just one more year, on the letters to postulants and novices. Available from George is the Benet Fonck formation instructions for Secular Franciscans. George is considering a reading list, with brief notes about each book.

Chapter decided not to continue "The Franciscan Times". Roberta is to look into the feasibility of a different quarterly publication. The "Information Sheet" is to continue.

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Changes in Statutes: A term of 3 years was set for the Chaplain. Also, Chapter shall fill any vacancies on Chapter for the remainder of the term. A new edition of the Statutes will be coming out soon; contact Helen Webb if you'd like a copy.

Fellowships and Convenors: A Fellowship shall elect a Convenor at Francistide for a term of one year - to be ratified by the Guardian. The Convenor shall be responsible ONLY for arranging the meetings, and reporting annually to the Guardian at Francistide. (This came out of a lengthy discussion about problems Convenors were running into.)

Special note: The Third Order, American Province, may send up to three nominations for the coming election of the Minister General - deadline for nominations is February. Your suggestions may be sent to Dee. Because the Third Order, A.P., does not now have the right for a nomination in the election of a Minister Provincial, a request is being sent to the First Order Chapter.

Finances. Receipts budgeted for 1981 were \$23,000; and to the end of October \$16,271.80 was received. (IS YOUR PLEDGE PAID?) Expenses budgeted for the year were \$25,000, and at the end of October were \$16,610.01.

Budgeted expenses for 1982:

\$ 6,500 Chapter
9,750 Expenses of officers performing duties
4,250 Communications
4,000 Formation and outreach
2,150 Extra-ordinary (Guardian's discretionary fund, reserve for Interprovincial Chapter, travel to arrange transfer of funds, contingencies)

\$26,650

The \$500 earmarked for non-Franciscan ministry in the 1981 budget is to be sent to Fr. Guild, of Eluthera Island in the Bahamas. He needs to replace his car for work in his 45-mile responsibility. Gifts from the savings account - working balance \$11,000:

\$4,000 First Order, American Province - for travel to General Chapter and workshop on personal & family recovery
\$1,500 Community of St. Francis
\$1,500 Poor Clares
\$1,000 First Order in Dar es Salaam, Africa - for building

Note: Full Chapter and Corporation Minutes are available from Helen Webb, 4008 Buckingham Road, Baltimore, MD 21207.

1981 CONVOCATION

The national tertiary Convocation was held Wednesday to Saturday, November 11-14 at St. Thomas' Center, following the annual Chapter meeting. Chapter members were there, Sr. Cecilia, several Friars, and about 20 additional tertiaries (a small group from Arizona, two from Hawaii, most from Oregon, Idaho, British Columbia and Washington).

Tertiaries, Friars and Sister Cecilia gave us glimpses from the "Gospel Now Conference" in England, especially some of the people. Sr. Cecilia gave an address, urging personal prayer in addition to daily offices, study of Fellowships and more attention to isolated tertiaries, creating links with overseas tertiaries.

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Convocation, continued - Brother Alan Barnabas, special guest from Australia, stressed showing love everywhere we go. His greeting was, "Hi, sons and daughters of God!" There were also addresses or homilies from Fr. Robert, Br. John George, and Chaplain Gooch. A few small group discussions were provided, most evenings were free for socializing, there was a healing service and informal healing prayer as groups gathered around any in need. As always, there was much singing. We appreciated Sue Pierson's guitar accompaniment. Br. Alan Barnabas led us in some interesting Australian songs. Other groups were also meeting at the Center, including the area Roman Catholic bishops and heads of religious orders. Archbishop Rayond Hunthausen had been in the news recently because of a Statement against nuclear armament, saying some action is demanded. We can write to our government representatives, take part in demonstrations, pray. He also suggested the possibility of refusing to pay 50% of our taxes as a nonviolent resistance and a stand for unilateral disarmament. Several of our Franciscans signed a brief statement of support for his position and presented it to him. Later, he came to speak to us in detail about his ideas. They were not nearly as radical as the media had portrayed them. So, the Franciscans went home with fond memories, and a strengthened sense of community.

GLEANINGS FROM FIRST ORDER NEWS SHEET

General Chapter, Society of St. Francis, American Province (First Order) January 24-30. Provincial Chapter January 31-February 3. Fr. Norman Crosbie is at St. Paul's Church, Visalia, CA 93278 (120 N. Hall Street). Sr. Pamela Clare returns to St. Francis House, San Francisco, in November. Br. John Charles is at Little Portion for a year's sabbatical. Copies of the SSF Franciscan Devotional booklet are available from Little Portion for a donation of at least \$5.00.

Br. Amos, of the European Province, was very ill in Tanzania, then sent to the Tropical Diseases Hospital in the United Kingdom, and improved considerably. "Australia-New Zealand" is the name of the new First Order province, following the division of the Pacific Province. Brother Brian is the Provincial Minister. Br. Reginald is to be Novice Tutor at Brookfield. Fr. James Warner, a tertiary, has been appointed Principal of St. Francis Theological College, Brisbane, from January 1982.

From the Pacific Island Province (Papua New Guinea - Melanesia). Brother Philip has been elected Minister. The first Provincial Chapter was scheduled for October 12 at Haruro.

As of September, "The Franciscan" had a circulation of about 4200 copies, 500-600 of which are for overseas.

All houses had discussed the question of whether or not the person elected Minister General should relinquish other offices held or not. The response was strongly in the direction of the Minister General NOT holding other offices.

In England, the Friars expect their new office book to be produced some time in December. The Rev. Barrie Williams has taken over the writing of a history, "Franciscanism in the Anglican Communion up to 1969" from John Charles.

Following the Gospel Now Conference, the SSF Provincial Chapter at Alnmouth suggested the following questions for First Order study:

(see next page)