

INFORMATION SHEET



THE THIRD ORDER, AMERICAN PROVINCE, THE SOCIETY OF ST. FRANCIS APRIL, 1986

A joyous Eastertide to you all!

This Information Sheet primarily contains profiles of the candidates for Chapter. This may seem a little bit backwards, since the ballots have been out for about a month, and we are just now getting this information to you. It took time to get the information from the candidates themselves, and the ballots went out per statute at about the same time the requests for information did, thus the time lag. It's a wonderful slate of candidates, as you can see from the profiles. For Novices and Postulants (only the Professed may vote) this offers a chance to "meet" some of the members of your Franciscan family. Because of the space the profiles take, there are no "vital statistics" this time, and the first quarter budget statement wasn't included, it will appear next time. That offers quite a picture, too - we closed the quarter with \$2 left over - since we had \$8 left over from last year, it actually means we're \$4 in the hole!

BITS AND PIECES FROM THE GUARDIAN: "There are a couple of concerns I'd like to share with you. First, is there a double standard for the Professed? They often expect the Postulants and Novices to attend all the Fellowship meetings, yet often don't make this a priority themselves. We need to remember that this is part of our responsibility as Professed, too. Second: I'm thankful that the pledges have been coming in, but sorry that I have to say we're not only supposed to pledge, but we're supposed to pay, too!" [the numbers of pledges are up, but many are yet unpaid... ed.] Dee had nice things to say about the Toronto branch of the family, whom she visited last month. Just before going to Toronto, she met with the Chaplain and Formation Directors to discuss Formation planning and concerns. It was a very productive, and enjoyable, meeting.

Our Guardian has also asked me to share this: Br. Robert received and passed along to us this exciting letter: "... we, the Saint Barbara Province, Secular Franciscan Order [Roman Catholic] have agreed to host the 1987 National Congress of the Secular Franciscan Order in the U.S.A. We have established the dates of the Congress to be from Sunday, August 9 through Friday, August 14, 1987 to be held at the U. of San Diego, San Diego, California. Now, we are asking if you will help us with this great project. Our first meeting to plan Committees, etc., will be held Saturday, May 3 at San Damiano Retreat Center, Danville, CA. We sincerely hope that you will join us for lunch, the afternoon meeting, and finish with dinner. If you are unable to attend this meeting, would you please send a representative." The letter was signed "Mary Mazotti, Provincial Minister". This is a very exciting development! Since I live closer to Danville, our Guardian has delegated me to go to this meeting, and I feel honored indeed to represent all of us in this historymaking event. This seems to represent a really exciting ecumenical breakthrough.

It's Convocation time again - the Tulsa (South Central) Convocation came early April 24-27, 1986. Next: **Southwestern Convocation**, Albuquerque, June 27 - 29 contact: Joe Cooper. **Western Convocation**, August 8-10, Bishop's Ranch, Healdsburg, CA - contact Rebecca Goldberg or Don Briggs. **Midwestern Convocation**, August 8-10, Techny, IL - contact Phil Weber. **Northeastern Convocation** is being planned for early September. (More information to follow...)

The 1986/87 Address/Intercessions list will be out soon. Please be sure our Provincial Secretary, Ann Harris, has your current address. We have a standing joke about the incredible number of address changes - we've decided exactly half the Order moves every other month. One month, Ann said "There were only two address changes this month. You know what that means - ALL of us will move next month!"

"LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE: Are you a Fellowship or Parish involved in activities related to peace? As a member of the Committee on Peace in the diocese of Central Pennsylvania, I need inspiration and practical suggestions. I would be delighted to hear specifics of what you are doing in the areas of prayer, study and action. Please write Katherine Palmer, 311 Adams Avenue, State College, PA 16803."

PROFILES: YOUR CANDIDATES FOR CHAPTER:

DOROTHY ADAMS: Dorothy is married and has a 19 year old daughter, Elizabeth. She has worked in Pastoral care of Missionaries for the Presbyterian Church (USA) for 7 years, has a law degree and training in pastoral care, psychology, Biblical literature and faith, and 4 years of EFM. She is a Novice Counselor and Spiritual Director, has been Convenor of her Fellowship. Her ministries include hospital visitation/work with an AIDS patient, many years with F.I.S.H., and work as a Night Shelter volunteer. She has been "involved with the Franciscans since 1960 and "Father Joseph" days... vocation delayed by family illness and my aspiration/delusion to perfection in rule-keeping. Put down that "baggage" and tried again; Professed [1980]."

JULIA BERGSTROM: "I have been an admirer of St. Francis and his joyous response to the gospel ever since I first heard about him. I made my life Profession 4 1/2 years ago. I was Fellowship Convenor for three years, and Minneapolis hosted a Regional Convocation for the first time. I have been a Novice Counselor for two years. As Franciscans we are called to "rebuild the church" ~ therefore parish work is also important. For my parish I serve in the area of education, membership and evangelism, spiritual direction, and choir. Last but not least I am the wife of Robert Bergstrom and mother of Lukas, age 8, and Katrina, age 6."

DONALD BRIGGS: Don has been Professed for two years. He is a writer by trade, specializing in plays and is currently working on the libretto for an Opera. He has been very active in the New Umbrian Fellowship (San Francisco), as Co-Convenor twice, and editor of the Newsletter. He is in charge of this year's Western Convocation. Don has been a Novice Counselor for two years and has just been named an Assistant Formation Director.

JEAN CARR: Jean was hospitalized and about to undergo surgery when she received the request for biographical information, and thus unable to meet our deadline. She has been an active part of the leadership in the Philadelphia Fellowship and the Northeastern Convocation; she was Professed January 6, 1985.

THE REV. BILL DENNIS: "My date of Franciscan Life Profession was on 6/14/64. Ordained a Priest in my home Parish, The Cathedral Church of St. Paul, Springfield, Illinois... on the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lady, 3/25/65. Serving the Cathedral and diocese of Springfield for three years... also in the Diocese of Milwaukee, the Diocese of Alabama, and currently in the Diocese of Georgia as Rector of St. Patrick's Church, Albany Georgia. During my years as a Franciscan I have been concerned about the formation of Franciscan life, especially in the light of the knowledge we should have as Franciscan Saints, and "Franciscan Theology"."

HAROLD R. GILLESPIE, JR. (HAL): "Born: Palestine Texas, 1929. Married Jean Catteral, 1957. Children: Margaret, Molly Dennett, Anne, Reese. Associate Professor of English, Central Oregon Community College. Professed in 1983; Lay Reader, studying for the Diaconate. Particularly interested in the Bible as Literature and the relationship of Jungian psychology to Christianity." [Hal is a Novice Counselor, was Convenor of the Bend, OR Fellowship, and has been a lively participant in the Western Convocation for the past 4 years. -ed.]

THE REV. BILL GRAHAM: "I am forty years old, a full time teacher in a one-room school and a supply priest in the Nebraska panhandle. My Third Order experiences have included: membership in the Philadelphia Fellowship, Novice Counseling, and seven years as the Area Chaplain for Kansas and Nebraska."

GLEN-ANN JICHA: "I've been a member of St. Philip's, Palatine [Illinois] for 26 years and of the Chicago Fellowship since its inception 15 years ago. I made my profession at Convocation in 1975 and never cease being grateful for the deeper commitment and added structure the Third order has brought to my life. I've served as Novice Counselor for ten years and as Women's Formation Director fro 4 1/2, thus keeping in touch with the diversity, splendor and freedom of loving God and other people after the manner of Francis of Assisi. May he give us all the grace to persevere."

AMORY KING: "A native of North Carolina; received a Masters in Christian Education at St. Margaret's House, Berkeley, and served in the Diocese of Idaho. The wife of a priest [The Rev. Kale King, TSF], became acquainted with the Society through Brothers Stephen and Robert Hugh when they visited my husband's mission and he went through Third Order Formation. Professed 1979. Began studying and weaving in 1965, developing skill and my own studio. Have been a Novice Counselor for the past several years. [Has just been made an Asst. Formation Director -ed.]. Presently a volunteer marketing assistant for the extension service of the U. of Wyoming and involved in developing small home-based businesses in the rural communities of Wyoming."

THE REV. EWAN MACPHERSON: Ewan is the Rector of St. James parish in Sharon, Ontario (near Toronto), and comes to us from the European Province (England). He was Professed in 1983 and is Convenor of the Toronto Fellowship and serves as Area Chaplain for Eastern Canada. He has been instrumental in building a large and active group of tertiaries in the Toronto area; he publishes a lively newsletter which forms a wonderful link to community for the Eastern Canadian Tertiaries. His wife, Po Wo, is now a Third Order Postulant.

THE REV. DOROTHY NAKATSUJI: "I was born in Wyoming and raised in Utah. My husband, Ronnie, was born and raised in Hawaii. We've lived in Hawaii since 1963. We have two sons. Ross just graduated from Boston University and Robert just entered Harvard. I was Professed in the Third Order on April 30, 1978. I've been a Formation Counselor and am currently on Chapter and an Area Chaplain. Presently employed by the Diocese of Hawaii as director of the Ministries Training Program and staff resource to the newly formed Commission on Ministry of the Laity."

THE REV. DAVID P. NARD: "Life Professed in September 1982 and Ordained Deacon in December 1985. Was the founding Convenor of the Savannah/Georgia Fellowship and founding Convenor of the Land of Sky Fellowship in western North Carolina. Living in Asheville, N.C. for the past 3 years, have worked toward establishing a joint 1st and 3rd Order retreat area at the Diocesan property, Wolfe Lake. As a member of Chapter for the last 3 years, have worked on compiling the songbook, anticipating publication in the fall of '86, and have worked on the Fellowship committee, helping to draft the Convenors' Manual. Presently serving as Formation Counselor, Area Chaplain for Kentucky and Tennessee, Fellowship Convenor, and working as a Hospital Chaplain."

TERRY ROGERS: "I am forty-two, single, and work as a community health nurse in several welfare hotels in New York City. In the last several years I have been strengthened in my commitment to peace work by an Episcopal Peace Fellowship chapter in my parish. In 1978 I was Professed in the Third Order, and am thankful for the steadfast community in the New York fellowship over the years. I have found our rule to be a wonderful source of order and stability as I have struggled to grow in the knowledge and love of our Lord." [Terry is currently a member of Chapter, has been a Novice Counselor for several years and has served as an Asst. Formation Director for the past two and a half years. -ed.]

THE REV. PAUL SAUNDERS: "Paul Saunders: Priest, recently retired as Canon to the ordinary of the Diocese of the Rio Grande, presently a part time associate at St. Mark's Episcopal Church and Ecumenical Officer for the diocese. He also serves as Convenor of the Rio grande Fellowship."

KATHARINE WATT: I am a cat lover, singer, writer and lover of lively verbal badinage. I work for Fortress Press, the theological publisher, and I also write for two devotional periodicals. In addition to working in publishing, I have been a teacher and counselor. Since Profession as a Tertiary in 1980, I have been a Novice Counselor and Co-Convenor of the Philadelphia fellowship. Francis continues to challenge with his vision of simplicity and call to embrace Christ in the unloveable, and to delight with his playful humor and joy in the ordinary."

ARTHUR WOLSONCRAFT: "Whatever I have to say about myself has to be at least simple. I'm a New Yorker and was Professed in new York about three years ago. I have been a Novice Counselor since then. I am a candidate for Holy Orders and am finishing my second year of seminary at Nashotah House, in Wisconsin. Before I entered seminary, I was a teacher of language impaired and hearing handicapped adolescents for the New York City board of Education."

NEWS FROM MARY MOBERT: John Betton's widow, Marjorie, wrote to Mary of his death, and she passes this on to us: "John [Betton] was a [British] Tertiary and visited the U.S. in 1977 or 1978 for an international conference at the Bishop's Ranch. Some of the membership might remember him. Her letter states that they lost their oldest son Peter this last summer when he was trampled by a rampaging elephant in Zimbabwe. One month later, while they were visiting Peter's twin brother, John collapsed with a heart attack and died. She lost their small home five months later, had to store their things and rent a small house in Colchester. Her letter closes: "So life is rather traumatic - but we had so much joy together as a family that we must be very thankful and try and rebuild. Perhaps we shall meet again one day. My love to the Third Order." Perhaps some of the members would like to hold her in their prayers as well as write her. Her address is: Marjorie Betton, Walnut Thatch, Great Wenham, Colchester, England, CO7 6PJ."

YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF A NEW FORMATION PROCEDURAL POLICY: recently agreed on by the Guardian, Chaplain and Formation Directors during the Formation planning meeting last month:

"If a person is terminally ill, has been in Formation for eighteen months and has demonstrated extraordinary readiness for Profession, he/she may request Profession."

**ALLELUIA! THE LORD IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!
ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN, INDEED! ALLELUIA!**

THE FRANCISCANS
555 Reed Drive
Davis, CA 95616

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

