**Serra Club Board Meeting | July 24, 2023**

**Attendees:**

1. David Pieper, President
2. Jerry Murphy, Treasurer
3. Ellen Harvey, Secretary
4. Tom Farley, Past President and Cultural Outreach
5. Judi Eilertson, VP Communications/acting VP Membership
6. Dale Helling, VP Programs
7. Open, VP Membership
8. Jon Thill, Foundation Representative
9. Fr. Larry, Chaplain

**Absent**: Scott Flood, VP Vocations

**Meeting Minutes:** The April 2023 minutes were read. Motion to approve by Dale & Jerry.

**Treasurer Report and CFSWIA Fund review** – Jerry Motion to approve Treasurer reports by Tom & Dale.

* Jerry to update **CFSWIA fund signatures** – Jerry and David only (for 2 years)
* Will continue discussion regarding increasing dues to alleviate need to ask for donations for different events.
* **Seminarian Birthdays 3Q:** By Sep 1, 2023 send check to Bill Ehm for 3 birthday(s) Oct-Dec
  + Connor Lynch (Oct 26), Stan Asjes (Dec 17) and Adam Hanten (Dec 31)

**Communications Report**: Judi

* **Hold the Date** card for our 2024 Convention will be distributed at the Lincoln Convention (Oct 8-10, 2023)
* **Design for our theme “Call, Believe, Celebrate, Proclaim”** is in progress

**Membership Report:** (Open) **from July 1, 2023 (159**) through **June 30, 2024**

* **Current Membership is 160,** net 1 new member(s)
* Bob Fox will become the new VP Membership, motion to approve by Jerry & David
* Targeting parishes with Seminarians to invite those parishioners to join Serra (Christ the King, Basilica of St. John, St. Peter’s Vietnamese, Sacred Heart, St. Theresa, St. Joseph, St. Thomas Aquinas-Indianola, and Sacred Heart-Bedford)

**Program Report:** Dale

* **Holy Happy Hour (5:30pm-7:30pm) – Wednesday, Aug 2, 2023** 
  + Venue:  **DCHS Chapel**
  + Speakers: **Jon Wisnieski and Fr. Reed Flood**, “Iceland Discernment Pilgrimage”
* **Holy Happy Hour (5:30pm-7:30pm) – Wednesday, October 25** 
  + Venue:  **St. Catherine’s Catholic Church**
  + Speaker: FOCUS – Katelynn Anderson, Drake campus and John/Katelyn Bishop

**Vocation Report:** Scott

1. **Seven Serrans** - Mary Jo Harty, Chair. July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024
   * No update
2. **31 Club Rosary** - Mary Nell Carpenter, Chair
   * No Update
3. **Adopt a Seminarian** (Spiritually) – Cindy Jensen, Chair
   * No Update
4. **Altar Server Recognition –** Scott, Larry Schmitz, Jim Henschied committee. Plan topilot with 6 parishes, Spring 2023
   * Holy Trinity, Christ the King, St. Boniface, St. John’s (Adel), St. Anthony, and St. Francis of Assisi
   * We have held four altar server recognition events at Dowling, Christ the King, St. Boniface and Holy Trinity.
   * Still pursuing St. Francis, St. Anthony and possibly St. Johns in Adel.

**Cultural Outreach Report:** Tom

* We will work with Diocese’s point person and 5 parishes to begin cultural outreach with the Hispanic community

**Old Business:**

* Serra vocation Challenge Coins and the *5 Conversations* books have been distributed to Fr. Reed Flood, Fr. Max Carson, Fr. Jacob Epstein, and Fr. Mark McGeary. We will ask for an update from each later this fall.

**New Business:**

* VP Membership – Approved Bob Fox
* Deacon Luncheon – Chair, Judi (Dale support). Date has been set, and we will get estimated attendees in November
* Priest Appreciation Picnic – Ellen has secured co-chairs for the event (Lore Solo and Wendy Solawetz)
* Reviewed and approved guidelines for **Serra Convention attendance expenses** (attached)
* The Serra International Portal is being updated
* David will begin 1st Friday social time with a review of upcoming events and what has happened since previous month

The meeting was adjourned with the Prayer for Priests

**Next Board of Trustees meeting** will be held on **Wednesday, Oct 11, 2023**

**Upcoming Calendar Dates/Events:**

* *The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Tuesday, August 15*
* **Central Region Convention September 8-9,** Lincoln, NE
* **Hosting Priest Picnic – Monday, September18, (**Walnut Woods State Park)
* Deacon Sunday – October 8 – bulletin announcement October 7/8
* **Board of Trustees meeting – Wednesday, October 11**
* **Hosting Holy Happy Hour – Wednesday, October 25**
* *All Saints Day – Wednesday, November 1*
* National Vocation Awareness Week – November 5-11 - bulletin announcement November 4/5
* **Hosting Deacon Luncheon – Saturday, November 18** (St. John’s, Adel)
* **Hosting Bishop’s Burse – Sunday, November 19**
* *The Immaculate Conception - Friday, December 8*
* *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ – Monday, December 25*

**Key: Member event** | **BoT meeting** | **Serra Calendar** | ***Holy Day***

**PRAYER for PRIESTS**

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.

Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.

Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.

Set their souls on fire with love for your people.

Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.

Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.

Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.

Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.

Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen

**DM SERRA PRAYER for VOCATIONS**

God, Our Father, today may I have an opportunity by my actions to encourage a vocation

to the religious life. Help me to conduct myself in a Christian manner that I might give

proper example, particularly to the young. Through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit

may I also support those in religious life, in their vocation of service to your Church.

May the sincerity of my prayers and my concern for vocations result in an increase

of laborers for Jesus and His Church. Amen