

Vincentian Support Services

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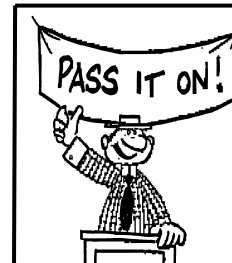
UP TO DATE Communicate

August 15, 2008



From: Vincentian Support Services

To: Conference Presidents
 Conference Back-Ups
 District Presidents



Share this
With Your
Conference
Members

SPIRITUAL ADVISORS' WORKSHOP SEPT. 13TH Where do we go from here?

There are few more important activities in the Society than those conducted by our Spiritual Advisors. From the opening prayer and spiritual discussion at the beginning of our conference meetings, to his or her constant reminder that our mission is to serve those in need and not to 'bank' our funds "for a rainy day", the Spiritual Advisor (SA) provides balance, insight, counsel, reflection and a connection with our Society, our Council and our Diocese.

For new SAs, this requires education and formation. For existing SAs, it requires refresher courses. We schedule these once a year, so as not to overburden our SAs and their accompanying conference presidents.

It means, ya gotta go, folks!

The Spring Workshop for new SAs was cancelled when no one registered. That means we have lots of new SAs wandering around in the desert without training, without possibly understanding the importance of their role in the Society.

The Sept. 13th Workshop was intended to be a refresher program for existing SAs, but now will add those new SAs who missed the Spring workshop.

So remember: September 13th at 8:30 am in Vincentian Hall. Ends at Noon.

Now about conference presidents. They are expected (1) to personally ask their Spiritual Advisor to attend this session, (2) to offer to drive him or her down to the Watkins campus, and even (3) to attend the session with their SA. Yes, they can learn something too about Vincentian Spirituality in action in a conference.

Please call in your reservation(s) to (602) 261-6803.

Our vision is to embrace the world in a network of charity.



**WALK FOR HUNGER
HERE SEPT. 20TH
BEFORE GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

FIRST ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

*Saturday, September 20, 2008
Dan O'Meara Center on Watkins Road
7:00 to 8:00 am*

In celebration of the Society's 175 year anniversary, SVdP is asking Vincentians and other parishioners who are committed to serving the poor and hungry, to join in this event to remember those who, often homeless and hungry, live in the heat of the Valley while we enjoy air-conditioned comfort. Come and walk 440 yards (or more) in the cool of the morning and find parishioners to pledge 1¢, 2¢, 5¢ or more for each yard walked. (All funds stay with the parish's conference to help the many poor in its community live and grow as God intended.)

Participants can register by phone or sign up at your parish/conference who will need:

- to find one or more sponsors from parishioners, businesses or companies,
- to be or find your conference's Walk Captain for your parish,
- to be or find a Captain at Watkins on the day of the walk,
- to participate as a walker,
- to volunteer at a water station or be a walk course sign locator,
- to do whatever you would like to do to make this grand event a success!.

DEADLINES: REPORT CONFERENCE CAPTAIN: AUG. 19TH

MEETING FOR CAPTAINS: AUG. 20TH

SUBMIT # OF PARTICIPANTS: SEPT. 12TH

FINAL MEETING FOR CAPTAINS: SEPT. 14TH

Your packet of forms, flyers and posters will be mailed Monday, the 18th.

Involve your school kids – talk with your Parish school Principal



Return form by August 19th to Vincentian Support,
P.O. Box 13600, Phoenix AZ 85002

CONFERENCE: _____

CONFERENCE'S WALK CAPTAIN _____

HELPERS (AT WATKINS ON THE WALK MORNING) _____

WALKERS _____

FREE T-SHIRTS to the first 250 participants who register!



UPCOMING TRAINING & FORMATION SESSIONS

Sept 10th Wednesday, **NEW PRESIDENT'S WORKSHOP** – two sessions, pick one: 10:30 am or 6:00 pm. Vincentian Support Services, 420 West Watkins Road, Phoenix. *(Please remember to RSVP.)*

Sept 13th Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2** – St. Thomas Aquinas, Litchfield Road (just So. of Thomas), Goodyear/Litchfield Park -- 8:00 am Mass, morning session 8:30 am to Noon, lunch provided, then 12:30 to 3:30 pm.

Sept 27th Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4** – St. Thomas Aquinas, Litchfield Road (just So. of Thomas), Goodyear/Litchfield Park -- 8:00 am Mass, morning session 8:30 am to Noon, lunch provided, then 12:30 to 3:30 pm.

Oct 18th Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2** -- St. Philip the Apostle, Payson -- starts with 9:00 am Mass class starts approx. 9:30 am

Oct 25th Saturday, **OFE #3 & #4** -- St. Philip the Apostle, Payson -- starts with 9:00 am Mass class starts approx. 9:30 am

Nov 1st Saturday, **OFE #1 & #2** – Dolan Springs – Thrift Store – no Mass -- class starts 9:00 am

Nov 2nd Sunday, **OFE #3 & #4** – Dolan Springs – Thrift Store – no Mass -- class starts 9:00 am

PLEASE CALL IN YOUR RESERVATION FOR ANY OF THESE SESSIONS TO: (602) 261-6803.



If we don't answer, leave (1) your name, (2) your conference name, and (3) your home phone number on the voice mail. We do not call you back to confirm, but only to tell you if the session is cancelled. Without a reservation, if the session is cancelled, we cannot call you and you may make an unnecessary trip. Thank you.

Food Drive Kick Off, Ozzie Manor Open House

The kick-off Breakfast for the Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive will be held on Saturday, **October 18th** in the Hall of Banners, Watkins campus, starting with 8:30 am Mass. Mark your calendars! Right after the breakfast, join the **Open House at Ozanam Manor**, with lunch served at 12:30 pm.

WANTED! QUESTIONNAIRES

Newsletter Questionnaires should be turned into your conference president who, in turn, will pass them in at the district meeting. We need to wrap this survey up before the start of our new fiscal year. Thank you.



Please Report Election Results, 2008

Conference and district elections have been completed by now. New presidents must secure a slate of officers for the conference. Without a president and officers, there can be no conference.

We are close to reissuing the Conference Directory but cannot do so until we have the names and phone numbers of all new conference officers. The faster everyone provides that information, the faster the new Directories can be printed and distributed. After your conference or district election, please provide Vincentian Support Services with the name of your new or re-elected president and all new officers. Please use the form below. *Thanks!*

We have New (or Gently Used) Officers !

CONFERENCE _____

PRESIDENT _____

2nd VICE PRESIDENT _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____

City _____ **ZIP** _____

Phone (work) _____

Phone (home) _____

SECRETARY _____

Phone (work) _____

Phone (home) _____

BACK-UP PERSON (for urgent communications)

Phone (work) _____

TREASURER _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (work) _____

1st VICE PRESIDENT _____

SPIRITUAL ADVISOR _____

Phone (home) _____

Phone (home) _____

Phone (work) _____

Phone (work) _____

Please return to:

**Vincentian Support Services
P. O. Box 13600
Phoenix AZ 85002**

Elections for conference president should be completed by late August so the new president has time to secure officers for the conference.

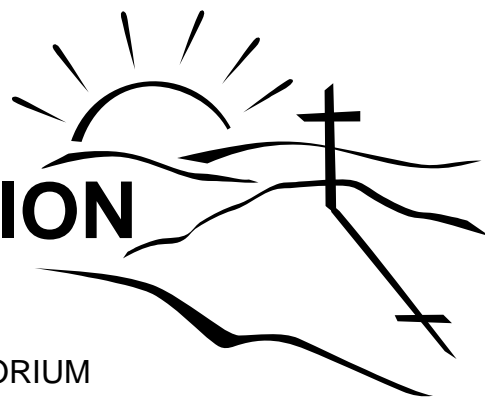
All officers must have completed the four OFE classes and the *Called to Protect* program of the Diocese of Phoenix. No exceptions.

We would appreciate your help
in reminding your members
of this important event.

MORNING OF REFLECTION

October 11, 2008

tentatively set for THE GOLDMAN AUDITORIUM
at **ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPITAL**
350 W. Thomas Rd., Phoenix



8:00 am Mass (Chapel)
8:40 am Registration, coffee & donuts (auditorium)
12:00 pm Conclusion

You are free to stay after the morning talks
to eat in St. Joseph's beautiful cafeteria



with Retreatmaster
SISTER BRIDGET CHAPMAN, MM

*a multi-degreed and world-traveling Maryknoll Sister
specializing in spiritual direction and guided retreats*

This is an opportunity for individuals to remove themselves from the hustle and bustle of their daily routine and be in the presence of God. Through spiritual talks and periods of meditation, one has an opportunity to view themselves and their relationship to the Creator.

Mark your calendar now.

Do not miss this wonderful event!

St. Vincent de Paul Opening New Store

Mayor Insalaco joining grand-opening celebration

St. Vincent de Paul has supersized one of its thrift stores! To meet the demand from the community, the Apache Junction Thrift Store is moving into a new 11,000 square-foot facility at 2540 W. Apache Trail Suite 105.

To celebrate the move, St. Vincent de Paul is hosting a grand-opening party on Sept. 9, 2008. Apache Junction Mayor John Insalaco will help kickoff the festivities at 10 a.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. When the doors open, the first 25 customers to spend \$50 will receive a \$25 gift card for their next purchase.

The celebration will include cake and beverages.

The store, which is filled with low-cost clothes, furniture and household items, will be open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.





THE VINCENTIAN NEWS

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL WESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER

ALASKA ARIZONA CALIFORNIA HAWAII IDAHO MONTANA NEVADA OREGON UTAH WASHINGTON

July 2008

VOL II, NO. 7

CALENDAR

Wednesday – Sunday Sep. 24 – Sep. 28, 2008	National Meeting Louisville, KY
Wednesday – Sunday Oct. 22 – Oct. 26, 2008	Invitation for Renewal Indianapolis, IN
Wednesday – Sunday June 24 – June 28, 2008	WesternRegion Meeting Everett, WA



Sandwiches, Sandwiches Everywhere San Francisco, California

Students at St. Finn Barr Parish CCD classes spent a Saturday morning making sandwiches for the Ozanam Center. There was great teamwork and the children were pleased at the number of bags they filled for those in need. We can all help our young people understand the joy of giving, and learn how easy it is. We also share gratitude for the blessings that are showered on us every day and realize how much we take for granted.



Western Region Meeting Boise, Idaho

Last month, I said, “You’ll be sorry if you don’t make it.” Well, I was right. It was a great meeting. Over 215 Vincentians were in attendance and the comments from most everybody indicate they had a good time. The Council of Southwest Idaho needs to be commended for a job well done.

Everyone felt welcome. The food was great and the meals we had to pay for were inexpensive. The workshops provided a lot of great information and interaction. Our keynote speaker, Fr. Richard Gielow, was fantastic. And, the tours were great. The welcome we received from Bishop Driscoll was worth the trip.

Thanks again to Ida Fisk and her team for a great meeting.

Unsung Hero with a Heart Billings, Montana

Myron Currie is a hero for many reasons. He works in the food room at Saint Vincent de Paul 5 days a week for a couple of hours a day. He fills food boxes, stocks shelves and keeps everything organized. In addition to his assigned job, he always helps out with everything else as well. He has stayed late to help unload the food truck. He has come in early to pick up our donated bread. He puts in a lot of extra hours during the holidays, bringing gifts upstairs to give to the families. He packs delivery boxes for us every month for our home bound friends. With all this work he is constantly doing, you wouldn’t think he would have time to visit the customers. But he knows a lot of their names and they know his. He takes care of

everything, in the smallest details, so we don't have to worry about a thing. Whenever we need help in other areas, Myron is always the first to offer to help. He always goes above and beyond, and we would truly be lost without him. He is affectionately known as Saint Myron among staff and other volunteers and it fits him well. Myron is kind, thoughtful and willing to put his foot forward in almost any situation. All the while doing it all with a big smile. Thanks, Myron.

From Our Georgetown Food Bank Seattle, Washington

Our Food Bank has adopted a Vision Statement:

“Everyone eats today”

Our Vision Statement serves to encourage our advocacy in eliminating hunger once and for all.

Through a grant from the Seattle Foundation, work continues on upgrades to the Food Bank including new sinks and preparation areas, sturdy storage shelving, and an education center. A commercial-size washer and dryer have been installed in order to provide more clothing selections especially for our homeless guests.

Finally, additional donations will result in a children's play area where toddlers can entertain themselves while mom or dad selects groceries, books and clothing.

Please pray for this special work of the Council.

New, Exciting Funding for Kitchen of Champions Oakland, California

A while ago, St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County submitted a grant proposal for transitional employment training along with 11 other qualified organizations. On April 24, the Alameda County Social Services Agency Employment Services Department announced the distribution of the 2008-2009 General Assistance Vocational Training monies. St. Vincent de Paul of Alameda County was chosen to receive up to \$91,094 to support transitional employment for the General Assistance clients through the Kitchen of Champions Culinary Program.

These monies, approved by the Alameda County Board of Supervisors in June, will be used to provide soft skills training, hands-on and classroom training, employee placement and retention case management for those enrolled in the KOC program.

The Kitchen of Champions Culinary Program began in September 2007 and has now graduated six classes of students. Graduates have secured jobs with local caterers, nonprofits, industrial kitchens and begun or returned to school.

With intensive training, guidance and case management, KOC students are given a hand-up into self-sufficiency upon graduation. Vincentians and volunteers work side by side with the culinary students in the Free Dining Room to accompany, support and mentor them on their road to self-sufficiency and employment.

For more information, please contact Laurette Dulkie at (510) 636-4261.

2008 Top Hat Award Everett, Washington

Paul Roth of St. Thomas More Conference was recently presented the Snohomish County District Council's highest honor, the TOP HAT Award, at the Council's recent Annual Luncheon.

Paul was selected by a group of past TOP HAT awardees who determined that Paul evidenced the highest standards of a Vincentian in "going the extra distance" for his Conference and the District, had provided exceptional service to the poor, been involved in other aspects of parish life, held various positions within the Conference and District, supported Vincentian activities while balancing a family life and had served as inspiration to other Conference and Council members.

But in addition to all of this Paul had exhibited selfless leadership in taking on the more difficult tasks, a number of them for the District Council, including becoming an Ozanam Orientation trainer and assuming editorship of the District Council newsletter; all of this while working a full time job.

During the Awards ceremonies a number of other

District Council Vincentians received Certificates of Merit for their past and current activities in service to the poor, the needy and vulnerable population in our Council geographic area, doing tremendously important work in helping to relieve much of the misery that besets all those we serve. These honorees are:

- Rose Marie Marsh, Immaculate Conception
- Mattie Meier, St. Mary of the Valley
- Stan & Rita Jozefzcyk, St. Mary Magdalen
- Cee Johnson, St. Michael
- Mort Moriarty, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
- Irv Hogland, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Congratulations to Paul and all the rest of our honorees for their outstanding service and contributions to our Vincentian work among the poor, the needy and the vulnerable in our region.



Lexus Santa Monica to help L.A. Council Los Angeles, California

In honor of the Council's 100th Anniversary of service, Lexus Santa Monica will make a contribution of up to \$500 to the L.A. Council for every vehicle sold or leased to a Society member or member referral until June 16, 2009. Help the Council help others. Information: Neal Greene, Lexus Corporate Services, at 310-453-9900 or nealgreene@LAcARguy.com.



Help Send a Child to Circle V Ranch Camp Los Angeles, California

For a disadvantaged and/or at-risk young person, the lone highlight of their year is right around the

corner. Each **July and August**, 1,200 children, ages of 7-13, attend summer camp at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Circle V Ranch Camp near beautiful Santa Barbara. Each child's week-long experience includes the vast outdoors, numerous activities, three meals a day, one field trip, learning new life-skills and much more.

Attending camp is the only vacation that many boys and girls experience, as family resources do not allow for "extras" that some of their higher-income peers take for granted. For a number of these campers, escaping a troubled home environment for the serenity of the wilderness allows them to enjoy being young people in a safe and structured environment. Last year, 98 percent of the children attended camp on a scholarship.

Many campers are returnees, as they gravitate to the positive impact that Circle V has in their lives. Among other things, Circle V's program helps teach children responsibility and it builds self-esteem and provides mentoring from role models that empower these young people in school and assist them in forming positive relationships with parents, teachers and peers.

Recent studies indicate that 25% of children in Los Angeles County, 19% in Santa Barbara County and another 21% in Ventura County live below the poverty level. These boys and girls are seven times more likely to be the victims of child abuse or neglect than their higher-income peers, and have an increased risk of exposure to drugs and gangs, AIDS, low birth weights, poor nutrition and lead poisoning.

Help St. Vincent de Paul's L.A. Council make a positive difference in a young person's life today by sponsoring a boy or girl for camp. Allowing a child to envision his or her potential in a new light is priceless!

To help sponsor a child for camp, please earmark your check '2008 Circle V Ranch Camp,' and make it payable to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Council of L.A., 210 N. Avenue 21, Los Angeles, CA 90031.

For more information: 323-224-6213 or visit www.svdpla.org.

