

**Heart of Florida Via de Cristo
Secretariat Minutes
May 20, 2000**

Present: Bill Pohlad Pam Hoepner Jerry & Carlene Lemcke
Shirley Lokken Cherie & Jim Nocks Stan Leaf
Rae Harris Sandy Moore Jerry Johnson

Excused: Bill & Suzanne Cattell Diane DeMark Pastor David Ludwig
Nikki Rach Pat Linden Pastor Mike Stone

Absent: Rick Hoepner

Other: John Boccuzzo

Jerry Lemcke opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of March 18, 2000 were approved as submitted.

Pastors' Report: No Report.

Lay Director's Report: Bill Pohlad welcomed John Boccuzzo to our meeting. He thanked everyone for giving up a Saturday morning to meet. Bill shared with us his article for the newsletter for our approval that he hopes will catch everyone's attention. The article focuses on lack of willingness to commit community's time to serve on weekend teams. A location is still needed for the July Ultreya. Bill reminded us newsletter were due at this meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jerry Johnson reported a balance in the checking account of \$1633.02.

Chair Reports

Pre Via de Cristo. Rae Harris reported that there are 4 men and 8 women currently on the list for the fall weekend. A few have been carried over at their request. She has an application for a woman whose husband has not applied, she will seek more information.

Post Via de Cristo. Cherie Nocks informed us they have compiled reunion group listings for 14 women's and 12 men's reunion groups. She further announced the July social would be at her home. Cherie and Jim reported they have no one volunteering to take their position at the end of their term. Discussion was held as to why. Is it commitment? Responsibility? We haven't grown people to take our place. It was suggested to add to each job description the responsibility to seek and train people in our positions. Perhaps we could ask people to volunteer for committees and share jobs at the Reunion Ultreya.

Music: Stan reported that he is missing the men's cord book that goes with our music books. **A motion was made by Shirley Lokken and seconded by Jim Nocks to purchase three cord books at \$27.95. The books will be included on the check out list with team manuals each weekend.** The motion carried.

Jim Nocks shared the fact that there has been much confusion about the location of music books after the weekend. Something should be stated in the manuals to specify what and who is responsible for them at time of women's tear down and who is responsible to bring the books to the Ulteya. Pam and Shirley will get together and make sure it is included in manuals. The directive will be mentioned specifically in the Physical Arrangements job description on-site book.

Extended Palanca: No Report

Leaders: Shirley Lokken reported that she and Pat Linden would be holding the new rector/a informational meeting in late August. The first rector/a training is scheduled for June 6. They will be further updating team manuals this summer.

Local Palanca: No report.

Physical Arrangements: Pam Hoepner said she has had concern expressed regarding wavering of vans used to transport team and pilgrims to the Retreat Center. The Secretariat acknowledges the concern and takes it seriously. The Secretariat also acknowledges our drivers take their job seriously and consider it their ministry. Discussed were possibility of team driving which would allow the spotter to communicate over the walkie-talkie rather than the driver if walkie-talkies are used. There was also discussion of a safety meeting before the weekend. Further discussion is tabled until a future meeting after each member has had time for reflection.

Pam informed us we will have a real problem with sleeping arrangements on future weekends since the Neuman's motor home will no longer be available. The extra sleeping cots are down to five. They are not sturdy enough for larger men. The possibility of purchasing a used trailer was discussed.

There is one more set of weekends in Pam and Rick's term as Physical Arrangements and no one has volunteered to take the position. Pam suggested splitting the position into two positions. One chair would be in charge of non-retreat center activities: transportation, send-off and return including van drivers at St. John, menu items loaded, communion, opening and closing, and luggage. The other chair would be in charge of retreat center activities: set-up, tear down, food and menu items. Bill will look at by-law changes necessary. Both positions would be Secretariat positions.

Outreach: No Report

Communications: No Report

Unfinished Business

1. Easter Breakfast. Not all expenses have been turned in from the Easter morning breakfast and matching fund paperwork is not completed.
2. NLS Annual Meeting. Shirley relayed that Pat has asked for someone to head the serenade. Arrangements need to be made.

New Business

1. Dates for Weekend #25. Bill asked the Secretariat to discuss whether the women's weekend #25 could be moved due to an unforeseen conflict in the Rectora's schedule. After much discussion it was decided to leave the dates as planned. The dates have been published in several places.
Jim Nocks made a motion that the date remain as planned and published. Pam Hoepner seconded the motion. The motion carried.
2. Julia Ebert Memorial Fund. Jerry informed us that Julia Ebert requested in her will that memorial gifts be donated to the Heart of Florida Via de Cristo.
A motion was made by Carlene Lemcke and seconded by Rae Harris to set up a dedicated fund account for this purpose. The motion carried. Disposition of the monies donated will be discussed at a later date.
3. Weekend Critiques. Attached

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Upcoming weekends:

#25 October 2000

Men: October 12-15

Rector, Jerry Lemcke

Women: October 19-22

Rectora, Karen Schneeberger

Next Ultreya: June 17th at Redeemer "Study His Word". Secretariat meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Moore, Secretary

Weekend Critiques.

Rector: John Boccuzzo

- Problems with team call. He tried keeping the guidelines yet desired fresh new blood and younger men to be involved. Responses were poor, messages and calls were not returned, the process was very time consuming. It caused “panic”. In the end he felt God was choosing the team!
- It was a good weekend. In reference to jokes, he was tense but believed he was on “holy ground”. He made a strong point in team training and had no problems. The tone is set by the rector during team meetings and enhanced at first announcement on Friday morning. He referenced Ephesians 5:3-4 (we may want to include in training manuals).
- John expressed concern over the critiquing process. The critiquers may not be scripturally sound and application may be taken out of context. He proposes a pastor or other theologically sound person review rollos for scripture application to assure correctness. (Shirley Lokken suggested we could form a committee.)
- John feels God blessed the participants of the weekend, but feels the community in general is not feeling this blessing. He wants to get new people involved and the community to grow and build relationships with other communities.
- Reunion groups should be open to everyone or not listed to share with new pilgrims.
- The weekend structure was there--it was very good.
- He expressed concern that he did not know what the pastors were going to do. (i.e. chapel discussions etc.) It was hoped this would be improved by planned spiritual director training.
- Meals and facilities went well.

Rectora: Rae Harris

- Although Rae experienced no peace during team call and training, the weekend was a wonderful experience.
- She had 2 main obstacles.
 - (1) People. She had the idea to include new people. Letters sent to 17 or 19 people resulted in only 5. The willingness to serve forms are vital. She sent over 58 letters. E-mails could speed things up. Preparation during Christmas holidays proved difficult.
 - (2) Lack of pastoral support. She felt as if she was an afterthought. There was poor communication, no continuity, and a spiritual director was present at only 2 meetings. It appeared Via de Cristo was not a priority but a “job”.
- Structurally the community needs to emphasize sponsor responsibilities.
- A rollista became ill before the weekend and communication with her was not good. Rae did not know until the last moment whether she would be attending or not.
- Rae suggests beginning Ideal rollo at 10:00 am.
- Team structure: Rae created backup contingency for most key positions.
- Jokes were okay...if Jesus can hear it, it's okay!
- A great weekend. She felt the pilgrims did an outstanding job of sharing at closing making it very meaningful.
- She loved having “Pansy” at communion; the symbolism was very meaningful. Concern was expressed by secretariat that a precedent not be set.
- The closing could be more flexible including Fourth Day Talk.

