

**Heart of Florida Via de Cristo
Secretariat Workshop
January 15, 2005**

Present: Sheila Bender, Bob Blasberg, Rich Buhl, Diane DeMark, Jim DeMark, Artie Grindle, Del Harriman, Martha Harriman, Jill Heroux, Pam Hoepner, Pat Linden, Tammy Ortiz, Jane Pohlada, and Joyce Rodriguez.

Sandy Moore

Sandy Moore, Lay Director, thanked everyone for attending and participating in the workshop. She thanked the Leaders Committee, with a special thank you to Pat Linden. A check was given to Pam Hoepner from Maybelle Derhammer, a former Heart of Florida Via de Cristo Pilgrim. Jane Pohlada was thanked for coordinating the snacks Friday evening and the breakfast Saturday morning.

Below is a list of **brainstorming** comments made by Secretariat members:

It is about connecting.

Are we effective in our mission?

Encouraging Pilgrims and team members while fired up

Evangelism vs. Leadership

Attendance at the Next Step Workshop

Phone calls

Stories of Pilgrims in action

Spiritual growth

Linking people

Linking to other communities

Establishment of a Web site

Small group vs. large group

Linking leaders

Lovingly working together to go down the same road

Training for leaders

Revitalizing leaders

Make a friend, be a friend, bring that friend to Christ

We have to agree

Outreach working with committees

Securing someone for Outreach

Prayerfully consider leaders

Look at and evaluate the list of Pilgrims

Print out Pilgrims and Sponsors
Focus on people being comfortable with sharing Christ with others
Focus on leaders
What percentage of Pilgrims **are** connected?
Offer opportunities to be a leader
Get Pastors involved
Important – growing a community
Relationships are key
Sell Via de Cristo
Outreach is important
In-reach is important
Connecting people we already have
Everyone is a leader
If we don't have weekends, we will die
We need to sponsor people
No Pilgrims, no weekend
We need to extend ourselves to other communities
We need to grow our community
How long does it take to make a friend?
What are we going to try to do this year?
All of us have to do more
More accountability
Where do we go from here?
Encourage sponsorship
Connecting Pilgrims
What problems are we trying to solve?
Look at sponsor policy
Encourage people to attend Ultreyas
Need a committee to help with Ultreyas
Get more people involved
Make a brochure for Heart of Florida Via de Cristo
Need liaison in each church
Pre & Post Via de Cristo is continuous
Thoughts of sponsorship need to continue all year long
Secretariat action needs to be specific and doable

Pat Linden, our facilitator for the workshop, said this is what she sees related to the Secretariat:

1. Secretariat as Leaders.

2. Secretariat linking people together.

What does leadership of the Secretariat look like?

Pat sees three things that might stop us:

1. Not checking after 3 months to see how we are doing.
2. Trying to do too many things.
3. One person volunteering to do too much.

We need to be committed to doing only a couple of things. We need to narrow our focus. We must concentrate on what we have control over.

Pat pointed out 2 main issues:

1. Spiritual Direction – Pastors are needed
2. Outreach – someone to fill the position

These two concerns will be looked at further when the positions are filled. When there are two Spiritual Directors one might have a focus on Outreach and one might have a focus on Administration.

Those present joined together in *Come Holy Spirit*.

It was recognized that we need to pray, pray, and pray.

Members of the Secretariat were asked to brainstorm,

Encouraging Sponsorship.

The following ideas were identified: (Name of person or persons who will specifically work on these areas are in bold print)

1. Encourage New Pilgrims to sponsor others
 - a. On the porch – **Pat Linden**
 - b. At the closing – **Pat Linden**
 - c. At the Reunion (add to the script) – **Diane & Jim DeMark**
 - d. Next Step Workshop – more focused – **Diane & Jim DeMark**

e. Reunion Groups

2. Develop literature – tri-fold – specific for Heart of Florida including dates – **Tammy Ortiz**, The How to of Sponsorship – **Diane & Jim DeMark**
3. Newsletter – Sponsorship experience – focus on gift – **Tammy Ortiz** (**Diane Demark** volunteered to write the first article)
4. At Ultreyas – feature & focus on sponsorship in a variety of ways – **Sandy Moore & Bob Blasberg**
5. Calls to those you sponsored – **Jill Heroux & All**
6. Call experienced sponsors – **Martha Harriman**
 - a. Thanks for sponsoring others
 - b. How they might help new sponsors
 - c. Hints for success of being a sponsor
7. Encourage groups to focus on sponsorship

Members of the Secretariat were asked to brainstorm,

Connecting All Pilgrims

The following ideas were identified: (Name of person or persons who will specifically work on these areas are in bold print)

1. Newsletter – Informational and Inspirational – Personal Sharing – **Tammy Ortiz**
2. Ultreyas – Reunion Groups serve as Hosts, Program Presenters, etc. – Bring a friend – **Bob Blasberg**
3. Personal Invitation – **All**
4. Agape Tent – Personal invitation, coordinate with Rector / Rectora – **Sheila Bender & Diane DeMark**

5. Communication, Communication, Communication – **All**
6. Web Site – **Tammy Ortiz & Sandy Moore**
7. Survey – why inactive – **Pam Hoepner**

Bob Blasberg passed out the Ultreya Schedule for 2005.

Pat Linden passed out a packet for each Secretariat member of all the Secretariat Job Descriptions **for each small group**. Small groups met to consider any questions, comments, and changes that would make the job description more clear. After these were discussed, some changes were made. These changes were given to Sandy Moore for correction. Final copies will be presented to the Secretariat for approval.

Pat Linden said we have a lot of good input for changing. She passed out the following:

1. Heart of Florida Via de Cristo Weekend Secretariat Task List – She explained how this list is used. **Each member is asked to determine the number of days required before the men's send off relating to their job and bring to the next secretariat meeting.**
2. One CD of the National Lutheran Secretariat Library
3. NLS Forums

The workshop was concluded with the Secretariat members praying around the altar.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce Rodriguez, Secretary