

Following Francis



Volume 3, Issue 1

Santa Maria de las Montañas Regional Newsletter

August 2017

Newsletter also available at: www.secularfranciscanorder.org

Santa Maria de las Montañas Region Announces NEW Regional Formation Director Appointment



**Clare diBella OFS – Professed June 2014
JPIC member of St. Clare Fraternity
St. Thomas More Region 2014-2016
Mother of seven children, RN**

As Formation Director, Clare, among other things, hopes to *promote knowledge of, and commitment to, the Franciscan way of life.*

Role of the Regional Formator

- Assist in the development of the regional formation programs to support formators.
- Work with team members on a plan to assist local fraternities in developing/updating methods of teaching.
- Check in quarterly with local fraternity formators to assist in developing rapport/relationship/issues.
- Continuing their own Franciscan development.

Regional Executive Council Meeting Highlights

FORMATION – Mike Otteman’s resignation was accepted. Following a brief search, Clare diBella, OFS was appointed to fill the remainder of Mike’s term. She is a member of the San Damiano Fraternity. Clare will attend the NEC formation director’s workshop prior to the Region Chapter Meeting in August 2017.

MONEY MATTERS – A financial review of the region’s funds was completed on February 13, 2017.

REGIONAL MATTERS – David Arling, OFS, Minister of the St. Elizabeth fraternity, was ordained as a Deacon in June. Brother Augustine announced his plans for a six-month sabbatical. Edward Montgomery, OFS (Cheyenne) was

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2 – REC Highlights, continued; **Calendar of Events – Save these Dates**; Franciscan Connections; **NEW at Angel Haus**; Julia Greeley Image and Prayer **Page 3** – REC 2014 - 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**** SAVE THESE DATES ****

AUGUST 25 – 26, 2017 – ELECTIVE CHAPTER – ST. JPII CENTER - DENVER

JUNE 7, 2018 – MASS TO COMMEMORATE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF JULIA GREELEY'S DEATH.

JULY 20 – 22, 2018 – REGION RETREAT – FRANCISCAN RETREAT CENTER IN COLORADO SPRINGS, CO – SPEAKER TO BE ANNOUNCED

nominated by his diocese for the 2017-2018 Lumen Christi Award. Past recipients have devoted their lives to serving the poor in the most under-resourced dioceses in to the United States and to fostering Catholic communities that build faith, inspire hope and ignite change. Additionally, Edward has been invited by his bishop to to be on the new Diocesan Pastoral Council and he was part of the diocesan team attending the Convocation of Catholic Leaders in Orlando in July.

NAFRA UPDATE – Former National Minister, Patrick Mendes, passed on June 5, 2017. Robert Montoya, OFS has been invited to attend a National Youth event.

CALENDAR – Julia Greeley Mass, commemorating the 100th Anniversary of her death will be held on June 7, 2018 at the Cathedral in Denver.

Cynthia Boren, OFS
Secretary - Santa Maria De Las Montañas Region

“Franciscan Connections Corner”

Angel Haus - Nativity scenes and other Christian lawn art (See below). Contact Deacon David Arling, OFS at djarling2011@hotmail.com or call 719-250-2775.



Sweet Bee Botanicals - Handcrafted soaps/salves and creams in small batches. Made with all organic ingredients including herbs and essential oils. Contact Tanya Faust, OFS, phone - 303-789-1595 or sweetbeebotanicals@mail.com.

Otteman Arts, Loveland. Custom picture framing and original art. Contact Michael Otteman, OFS ([970 278-0120](tel:9702780120)) or e-mail Mike at www.ottemanartframing.com.

If you know of a Franciscan who has a business or apostolate, please send information to Cynthia to be considered for an upcoming newsletter.

NEW at Angel Haus!!



“It is a privilege for me to be able to present, as the latest offering from Angel Haus, our beloved San Damiano icon cross as a 16" gold-edged panel or framed in a cedar shadowbox like a European wayside shrine.”, says Deacon David Arling, OFS.

Angel Haus panels enable the disabled, contributions welcome (501c3 charity).



Julia Greeley

A Prayer

Heavenly Father, your servant
Julia Greeley
dedicated her life to honoring the
Sacred Heart of your Son,
and to the humble service of your children,
especially the poor.
If it be in accordance
with your holy will,
please grant this favor I now ask through
her intercession,

I ask also, in the Name of Jesus,
whose Sacred Heart filled Julia's Heart with
love for all she met, that I may follow her
example of humility and simplicity in
loving you and my neighbor.
Amen.

Please report in writing any favors received through
Julia's intercession to:
juliagreeleyguild@gmail.com
Website: www.juliagreeley.org

Approved for private use by Bishop James D. Conley,
Apostolic Administrator of the Archdiocese of Denver.
March 16, 2012.

ANNUAL CHAPTER MEETING

August 25-26, 2017
Saint John Paul II Center, 1300 S. Steele St.,
Denver, CO

FRIDAY – 5:30 P.M. - Room 123

Beginning with Evening Prayer (please bring your
breviary)
Followed by a casual meal and social time. We
hope you'll come and enjoy this fellowship.

SATURDAY – 9:00 A.M. – Room 125

Morning Prayer will begin at 9:15
The morning session will include reports, on-
going formation, and any other necessary
business.
The afternoon will begin with our Annual Rite of
Remembrance, followed by the Region Elections.

Accommodations for those travelling from
outside Denver will be at the Fairfield Inn &
Suites by Marriott – Cheery Creek

Prayer for our Elective chapter

Almighty, most high and supreme God,
Father,
holy and just, Lord, King of heaven and earth:
we give you thanks. Of your own will you created
all things spiritual and physical,
and made us in your own image and likeness,
and gave us a place in paradise,
through your only Son, in the Holy Spirit.

We trust in you and we ask for your light
so that we may choose those
who will properly serve our fraternity
through their servant leadership.
Help us to select those who are able
to animate and guide us by their example,
their virtues and prudent decisions
so that the gospel of Jesus in the spirit of St.
Francis
may come alive in our community,
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SERVANT LEADERS of the SFO; that they will make decisions that reflect their Franciscan vocation and demonstrate their gospel life.



Regional Executive Council 2014 – 2017

Minister	Sharon Doerflinger, OFS (303) 693-7154 sld777@hotmail.com
Vice Minister	Tom McMahan, OFS (970) 339-5522 beckyma@comcast.net
Secretary	Cynthia Boren OFS (970) 580-6765 clborensfo@gmail.com
Treasurer	Chris Lang, OFS (719) 293-0612 chris.lang.leadville@gmail.com
Spiritual Assistant	Bro. Augustine Rohde, OFM Cap. (303) 817-8758 augustine.rohde@capuchins.org
Formation Director (Appointed)	Clare DiBella OFS (610) 762-7748 claredibella7@gmail.com
National Database Assistant (Appointed)	Neal Verzwylvelt, OFS nverzwylvelt@gmail.com (719) 596-4492
Councilor At Large (Appointed)	Robert Montoya, OFS (719)-248-0445 litlfranciscan@yahoo.com

"REMEMBER - It is the joyful responsibility of every professed member (as well as those in formation) to assist their fraternity to their ability as needed, including the Region Fraternity. Thank you."

2017 Region Retreat Satisfaction Survey Summary

COMPLETE RETREAT

Spiritual - Was there sufficient time alone for private reflection? 21 affirmative response, 8 other response. Was there sufficient time with others for fellowship? 22 affirmative response, 9 other response. Was there sufficient time for Sacrament of Reconciliation? 18 affirmative response, 9 other response, 2 NA. Were the Theme & teaching practical for your life as an SFO? 28 affirmative response, 3 other response, 1 no response. Did the retreat meet your expectations spiritually? 23 affirmative response, 3 other response.

Facility - Was your room clean and well kept? 16 of 16 affirmative response. Was the location of your room convenient and comfortable? 15 affirmative response, 1 other response. Were meals satisfactory and well prepared? 18 affirmative response, 7 other response, 3 NA. Was the facility meeting room(s) comfortable and conveniently located? 22 affirmative response, 4 other response, 3 NA. Were special instructions that you might have requested followed? 14 affirmative response, 11 NA.

Logistics - Did you feel informed about the retreat before coming (what to bring/not to bring, directions to facility, agenda, etc.) 20 affirmative response, 7 moderate response. Did you feel the cost of the retreat was reasonable for what you experienced? 16 of 16 affirmative response.

SATURDAY ONLY

Survey responses from the 13 attendees were consistent with those attending the whole retreat with the notable exception of cost. Only 6 of 13 thought the cost of meals was reasonable and 7 of 13 felt informed about what to bring.