

Serra Club of St. Petersburg

On the Internet at: "<http://serraclubstpete.com>"



August 2007

"Always go forward, never look back"

Dates to Remember:

- Tuesday, August 21, 7:00 p.m. Regular Monthly Meeting St. Jude's Pastoral Center. Program Fr. Ken Malley, pastor, St. Catherine of Sienna Church, Clearwater.
- Wednesday, August 29, 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour. St. Jude's Chapel.
- Tuesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m. Regular Monthly Meeting St. Jude's Pastoral Center. Program Fr. Tom Murphy, TOR, head of secular Franciscan Orders.
- Wednesday, September 26, 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour. St. Jude's Chapel.

Fr. Ken Malley is Leadoff Speaker for New Serra Year

Our new Serra year begins with our regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, August 21 and our speaker will be one of the most talented and promising young priests in our diocese. Fr Ken Malley, newly appointed pastor of St Catherine of Sienna Parish in Clearwater, will present our program.

Fr Malley is a native of St Petersburg and a former member of Holy Cross Parish. Following high school he entered the Navy and served as a Russian linguist. He started college at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, and completed his degree at USF in Tampa, entering the seminary shortly thereafter. Most of his seminary years were accomplished in Rome, where he studied at the North American College, and at Gregorian University. He received at MA in Spirituality from Angelicum University in Rome in 1997 and was ordained June 14, 1997 at St Jude's Cathedral.'

He has served as parochial vicar at St Raphael's in St Petersburg, St Jerome's, Indian Rocks, St Timothy, Lutz, and also served a number of years as Vice Rector and Dean of Students at St John Vianney, Miami. His current assignment is his first pastoral one, at St Catherine of Sienna in Clearwater.



Annual Banquet Draws Largest Attendance Ever

The Annual Installation Dinner and Seminarian Reception, marking the 10th anniversary of the founding of our club, was held on the evening of Tuesday, June 12 at the St Petersburg Yacht Club, and drew 76 attendees, the largest attendance for this event in our history.

Mary Mallette was general chair of the event, and was ecstatic about the participation and generosity of Serrans in making the event a huge success. In particular she cited the work of her committee consisting of Jan Davy, Helen Ezzo, Rickey Pearson, Joyce Lamoureux, Lilli Kabala, Elaine Schroeder, and Elena Miyares. Also, thanks to the generosity of several Serrans and the fact that the Yacht Club discounted the cost of the dinner, the revenue not only covered the expenses but produced an overage which will help fund projects for the upcoming year.

Notables in attendance included Bishop Robert Lynch, who filled in as our "chaplain du jour", and also favored us with his remarks in which he praised the work of the Serra Club. Vocations Director Fr Len Plazewski echoed the Bishop's remarks, and also presented our principal talk of the evening in which he introduced 16 seminarians who were in attendance. Another highlight of the night was the installation of the officers for the coming year by Mr Richard Siegel of the South Palm Beach Serra Club, who is also governor of the Florida Serra District.

To note our 10th anniversary Emcee Norm Dusseault led the group in a light-hearted trivia quiz which recalled important events and statistics in our 10 years history. Outgoing President Kathy Bolich offered a memorial remembrance of our deceased members. The historical ambiance was also carried on during the pre-dinner reception by a continuous slide show of photos of past Serran events prepared by Kirsten Hunt.



Norm's Notes:

No, you're not reading a back issue of the Serra Newsletter!

After a 5 year respite during which you read "Bob's Banter," and "Kathy's Korner," we are now back again to "Norm's Notes." As the saying goes "whatever goes around, comes around."

As all of you know Kathy Bolich has asked for a respite following her three years as president and I have been elected (again) to serve as your president. As I recall there was only one dissenting vote (some lady named Nancy), and so I thank you for your vote of confidence. Happily Kathy has agreed to take the post of VP Membership, along with Mary Ann Wilson, and they will work hard to enlarge our membership and come up with more officer candidates.

As the first order of business, please join me in saluting Kathy for pouring her considerable energy and talent into the job of president over the past three years. Under her leadership the club has grown in stature, activities, acceptance and value to the vocation efforts of the diocese. Both Fr Len and Bishop Lynch said as much at our annual dinner. With the cooperation of all club members we will build on that foundation during the year ahead.

Please note the following:

BOARD MEETING: The first board meeting of the new year will be held on Thursday, Aug 9 (not Aug 2) at 9 a.m. (not 9:30) at St Petersburg High School boardroom. These changes are to accommodate schedules of some officers. We will discuss best time and day for future meetings, but let's start at this time and place.

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: The new administrative assistant in the Diocesan Vocations office is Heidi Varley, who replaces our dear friend, Sharon Price. who has resigned because of a health condition which prevents her from working full time. We received a very nice letter from Sharon thanking us for our assistance and friendship to her during her time in the vocations office. I will pass the letter around during our next meeting. Incidentally, she promises never, ever, to confuse us

Norm's Notes: Continued

with the Sierra Club, following a warning she received when she started in the vocations office. Thanks, Sharon. Love you.

R.I.P: Please remember in your prayers Robert Emery, the father of Seminarian Jonathan Emery. . Robert, who resided in Plant City, passed away during the month of July. Serra sent a card of sympathy to Jonathan and his family.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Just to add a word of thanks and congratulations to Mary Mallette and her committee for arranging a truly memorable Annual Banquet and Seminarian Reception., as reported elsewhere in this issue. Also thanks to all for your generous support for financing guests and particularly the 16 Seminarians in attendance. It was a great 10th anniversary celebration.

SEMINARY FUND: We gave a \$2,000 grant to one of our seminarians in July to cover his expenses at St John Vianney Seminary. The young man broke a leg and was unable to earn the money during the summer as he had planned. Because of our grant he will be returning to the seminary this fall with a clean financial slate. The circumstances were verified by Fr Len who requested the grant. .

NEWSLETTER: This newsletter is sent out primarily to keep you informed about significant dates of our meetings, Holy Hours and other events. When you receive it, please go to your calendar and note the dates BEFORE you toss it in the wastebasket. Even if you read nothing else, please note the dates. Thanks much.

NUMBER OF SEMINARIANS: When this club was chartered in 1997 there were 9 seminarians preparing for ordination for this diocese. This fall there will be 26, plus two more in the Salesian order. Primarily this is due to the goodness of the Lord, and the effective work of our vocations office led by Fr Len, but we like to think that our prayers and supportive efforts played a role in this growth. Please join your officers in continuing and building on this effort. It is working !!!

...Norm Dusseault

