

Serra Club of St. Petersburg

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



June/July 2007

"Always go forward, never look back"

Dates to Remember:

- **Tuesday, June 12, 6:30 p.m. Annual Installation Dinner and Seminarian Reception, at the St. Petersburg Yacht Club, 11 Central Avenue.**
- **Wednesday, June 27, 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour. St. Jude's Chapel.**
- **NO MEETING IN JULY**
- **Wednesday, July 25, 7:00 p.m. Holy Hour. St. Jude's Chapel.**

Sr. Kathleen Luger, OSC Is Our May Speaker

Sr. Kathleen Lager, OSC, (Sisters of St Clare), and Director of Religious Education at St. Patrick's Church in Largo, was our speaker for the regularly monthly meeting in on May 15. Sr. Kathleen, a native of Pennsylvania, witnessed that from about age 8 she felt a strong desire to become a nun, and that her interest in religious life was nurtured by visits to the motherhouse of the Sister's of St Joseph, and the fact that her sister entered the convent.

While in high school she became interested in music, particularly in playing the cello, and followed this interest to a professional level, graduating from a Conservatory of Music in Boston. She played in symphony orchestras in Canada and Orlando, and taught cello to private students for several years.

She became so absorbed in music that her interest in a vocation, or even in church, slipped into the background of her life. An awakening came in 1992 when the orchestra she was playing for in Orlando folded, and, although she continued to teach, she was drawn into a period of intensive soul searching. She resumed Mass attendance, and the rosary and prayer before the Blessed Sacraments. It was during that time when she renewed interest in religious life.

After examining several communities, she was attracted to the Sisters of St Clare and entered the community at Palm Harbor. She spent three years of formation in Ireland, and returned to the states about two years ago to take the post of DRE at St Patrick's. She continues her interest in music, and occasionally will perform on the cello for special occasions, but this has ceased to be a priority in her life.

Sr. Luger - Continued

Sr. Kathleen spoke movingly about her concern for "troubled souls," who are legion in our society and of our need to be the instruments of grace in their lives.

She inspired us by her deeply felt and grace inspired commitment to the work of evangelizing the many troubled and abandoned souls who are all around us.



Bishop Lynch to Attend 10th Anniversary Dinner

For the first time in several years, Bishop Robert Lynch's schedule will allow him to accept our invitation to attend the Annual Installation Dinner and Seminarian Reception. It will be held on Tuesday evening, June 12, at the St Petersburg Yacht Club, 11 Central Ave, St Petersburg.

The bishop will be our honored guest, but the principal speaker will be Fr Len Plazewski, diocesan director of vocations, and the highlight of his talk will be the introduction of seminarians attending, particularly 11 or more new seminarians who will be in attendance for the first time.

The dinner will also mark our 10th Anniversary, the club having been chartered in 1997 Incoming President Norm Dusseault will present a brief highlight review of the past ten years, and outgoing President Kathy Bolich will offer a memorial to members who are deceased, particularly her father Dr. William Mallette, who was the founder of the club. Norm will also emcee the event and insure that it moves along quickly.

We will also have in attendance Mr Richard Siegel, governor of the Florida Serra District. Richard will be our installing officer for the slate of officers who will serve during the coming year.

Individual invitations to the event were sent out last month, requesting RSVP by June 5 to Helen Ezzo, 527-7341.

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Anniversary Dinner - Continued

If you have not yet responded, please do so. As in the past, guests and spouses are welcome. The tab is \$35 for Serran members and their guests, but since the club has invited several guests, including the seminarians, Serrans who are able are asked to make additional donations to cover these costs.

We are again indebted to Serran Mary Mallette who has secured the use of the beautiful Yacht Club, and has headed the arrangements committee.



Serra to Welcome District Governor

The District Governor of Serra, Richard Siegel, of the South Palm Beach Serra Club, will attend our annual Installation Dinner of June 12 and will install our incoming officers. A native of Buffalo NY, Mr Siegel has an impressive background of service to the church and to his fellow man, in addition to a sound business career.

A graduate of Canisius College, he joined the Peace Corps in 1966 and served in India for two years. Following this he joined the Ford Motor Company and served for 28 years in Human Resource Management.

Retiring in 1997, he moved to Florida in 1998. He worked with Mother Theresa's Missionaries of Charities in 1998 as part of a 3 month pilgrimage which took him to Calcutta, Holy Land, Rome, Medjugorje, Lourdes and Fatima.

He joined Serra in 1999 and has served as treasurer and president of the South Palm Beach County Serra Club. He was named district governor of District 30 in 2006. He has also been active in his parish, St Lucy's, Highland Beach, and is a member of the Order of the Holy Sepulcher, the Knights of Malta, Lay Carmelites, Knights of Columbus, Legion of Mary, Opus Dei, among others. We look forward to welcoming this thoroughly Catholic Serran on at our annual dinner.



!!No Meeting In July!!

As is our custom, the Serra Club will take a hiatus in July. There will be NO July regular monthly meeting. We will resume regular monthly meetings on Tuesday, August 21. There will, however, be a Holy Hour on Wednesday, July 25, and we urge you to come together for prayer at that time. As is our practice this time of year, the June and July Newsletter has been combined thus there will be NO separate newsletter in July, but look for a newsletter in early August.



Kathy's Korner

Happy Birthday to the Serra Club of St. Petersburg! We will celebrate our 10th Anniversary during the annual Seminarian and Installation Dinner. Mary Mallette, Jan Davy, Helen Ezzo and the rest of the committee have planned a wonderful evening. We will have Bishop Lynch, Fr. Len, our District Governor, Richard Seigel, and many seminarians in attendance. This is a night for our club to shine with pride and enthusiasm. I hope that you will invite guests (potential members) to the dinner. This is a wonderful opportunity to renew our ministry with new members if we are to revitalize our own commitment to the work of Serra.

Congratulations to our youngest Serran, Kirsten Hunt, who graduated from St. Petersburg Catholic High School last weekend with honors. Kirsten was awarded the Jeff Sharlow Memorial Award which is given to the graduating senior who epitomizes the values of the Gospel. We all share the pride of her parents, Gwen and Neal, her grandfather, Bob Tufaner, and her aunt, Trisha Tufaner (all of whom are Serrans). Kirsten is a remarkable young lady with many talents, a big heart, and a generous spirit. We will miss her when she begins her college career in August.

This is my last column as the President of the Serra Club of St. Petersburg. I have enjoyed serving as your President. As Serra enters its second decade, I pray that the Lord will bless us with an increase in holy men and women willing to say yes to a vocation to the priesthood or religious life.

Thank you for all of your support and enthusiasm during the past 3 years.



...Kathy

Prayer for Vocations

Lord of the harvest, Creator of all, we thank you for your bountiful love.

Hear the cry of your people, raise up men and women of faith that they may serve your church with your redeeming love.

Fill our hearts with a spirit of generosity and zeal to be a sign of your presence in our world.

We offer this our prayer through the eternal priest, Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns forever and ever, amen.

