

ROOSER NEWSLETTER

May 2018



Hello Cursillistas! For those of you who have just made your Cursillo Weekends, Congratulations & Welcome to your Fourth Day! For those of you who have never seen a Rooster Newsletter, this is your lucky day! And for those of you who have been long-awaiting another one, thank you for your patience... We're back!

We hope you enjoy reading about our beloved Cursillo Movement!

Rockford Diocese



Cursillo Movement

SECRETARIAT

Lay Director

Ken Meeker 630-430-9879

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Asst. Lay Director

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Secretary

Tiffany Guthrie 630-777-9555

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Treasurer

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School of Leaders

Cathy Vendemia 815-566-1843

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Pre-Cursillo

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Cursillo

Anne Stevens 414-617-1315

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Post-Cursillo

Donna Herrmann 815-501-0766

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Cursillo ULTREYA

In Honor of our Newest Spring 2018 Cursillistas

When? 7 pm to 9 pm on Sunday, May 27

Where? St. Charles Borromeo Church
297 E Jefferson St, Hampshire, IL
*The meeting room is directly
under the church itself*

Why? To keep the flame of Cursillo
burning brightly

What to Bring? A snack to
share (optional)
A friend or two
(also optional)

What to Wear? Casual

Who is Speaking? Current Rector & Rectora
Future Rector & Rectora
Spiritual Echo by Deacon Mike



Ultrayas

AURORA

Gatherings: 4th Sunday of every other month (odd months) at 7pm at Holy Angels Church
Contact: Marty Lachat, 630-204-7920, Marty.Lachat@yahoo.com

MCHENRY

Gatherings: Three times a year: Spring, Summer, and Fall
Contact: Anne Schweder, 815-558-1204, a.schweder@yahoo.com

OREGON

Gatherings: In June & December at St. Mary's Parish Center
Contact: Ron & Linda Abramowicz, 815-986-8554, Abramz6@comcast.net

ROCKFORD

Gatherings: January, May & September: 6pm @ St. Bridget's Parish Center, Loves Park.
Dates TBD
Contact: Al Johnson, 815-877-3546, alfredjohnson@gmail.com

Elgin

Gatherings: St Laurence
Dates TBD
Contact: Joe Bermea 847-931-5133 bermej2002@yahoo.com



What is an Ultreya?

"Ultreya" is a Spanish word, derived from the original Latin, meaning Onward! It was commonly used by pilgrims to greet and to encourage one another along the way.

This word is now used by the Cursillo community to signify the meeting which is held after a Cursillo experience. This meeting may be between Cursillistas from one or several communities.



The Ultreya gathers groups together from a particular region and provides continuity by contributing to the maintenance of the Cursillo spirit and by revealing the reality of the living Church.

In a climate of friendship, members share their life experiences based on the three tenets of Cursillo life: Prayer, Study and Action, or based on a passage from Scripture. This sharing can be contemplative in nature or may deal with an evangelizing experience. These sharing's from real-life experiences, serve as examples to all of us of the challenge which Jesus lays before His followers: "Go and do likewise."

As its name implies, the Ultreya, is a call to move forward and to keep the flame of the Cursillo burning brightly.

LETTER FROM LAY DIRECTOR

My name is Ken Meeker. I am humbled to have been elected as Lay Director for the Rockford Cursillo Movement for the next three years.

I've been married to my wife and best friend Carole for 47 years; we have two married daughters and four grandchildren. We live in Batavia and attend Holy Cross Catholic Church.

My wife and I are involved in several ministries at Holy Cross: lecturing, Eucharistic Minister, Hesed House and Enriching Lives Ministry.

I am sort of retired. I spent 30 years with a large telecommunication equipment manufacturer and then found a new career in the medical IT field providing software operation support to case management firms that provide service to insurance companies, hospital and clinics. Today, I work as a consultant and entrepreneur in this field.

My spare time is spent with my family. Being gramps is a great joy in my life. I have plenty at home to work on as I have a home that is over 160 years old. And I am in a group that has season tickets to Cubs

game.

The Secretariat, as a service unit, is not established to be served but to serve the entire Cursillo Movement. In this sense, the Secretariat cannot be thought of except as a Group Reunion whose apostolic plan is the promotion of the Cursillo Movement itself, programmed and carried out with the idea of the great service to all. As a group, the members of the Secretariat guide and coordinate all phases of the Cursillo Movement in the Diocese of Rockford, within the pastoral plan of the Bishop, and the Cursillo Movement.

As Lay Director, in consultation with the Spiritual Director for our Diocese, it is my duty to do everything possible to promote a spirit of unity, not only among the members of the Secretariat, but in School of Leaders and throughout the whole diocesan Cursillo Movement.

I see to it that members of the Secretariat fulfill their assigned duties. Serve as a liaison to the National and Regional Secretariats. And ensure all required reports will be provided to the Bishop with the approval of the Secretariat.



ASSISTANT LAY DIRECTOR

My name is Vicki Scull and I have the honor and privilege of being elected to the Assistant Lay Director position for the Rockford Cursillo Movement. I started living my Cursillo in the spring of 2016 and have been on fire ever since.

I have been married to my husband Scott for the past 13 years. I was blessed with two daughters, Katie Marie and Elizabeth Ann, both 33 years old and my married son, Nicholas age 32. He has blessed me with two grandsons, Adam and Chase.

I belong to St. Mary Parish in Oregon, Il and am active in several ministries: lecturing, Eucharistic Minister and assisting with Arts and Environment. I work full time at Mercy Health as a home care biller, while my husband is the Senior Inspector of Wells & Septics for Winnebago County Health Department. When it snows we love to go snowmobiling. We have one spoiled Labrador Retriever named Bella, two kitties named Sheena and Junior, two pygmy goats named Wilma and Betty, and one pet duck named Duck.

As the Assistant Lay Director I will be working closely alongside our Lay Director, Ken Meeker, to protect and promote the Cursillo vision and mentality so that the Cursillo Movement remains authentic in the Diocese of Rockford. I will also be ready to assist the other members of the Secretariat with any help that they may need to bring the Cursillo movement to everyone.

As we start this new journey I would ask for your prayers and support to collectively spread the Good News of God.

De Colores!

SECRETARY

Hello everyone! I'm Tiffany Guthrie and I began living my Cursillo in Fall of 2010. I attend Holy Angels in Aurora, I have been blessed to be married to Matt for almost 19 years, and we have 5 beautiful children, ages 17, 15, 14, 12.5, & almost 11. I cannot believe that I've been the Secretary for five years now! As my last year has begun, I would like to encourage you to think about taking a position on Secretariat.

I remember the day at School of Leaders when Don White casually mentioned that there was going to be an opening on Secretariat. I thought, "huh... what's that?" So I went, and they've been stuck with me ever since! I have learned so much and I've been so very blessed to be part of such an amazing group of people. Please prayerfully consider if a position on Secretariat is for you! Many Blessings! - Tiffany

TREASURER

My name is Al Johnson. I live in Machesney Park, IL and attend St Bridget's in Loves Park, both just north of Rockford. I am married to Joanne and have 3 dogs, a Chow Chow, an American Eskimo and a foster Snorkie.

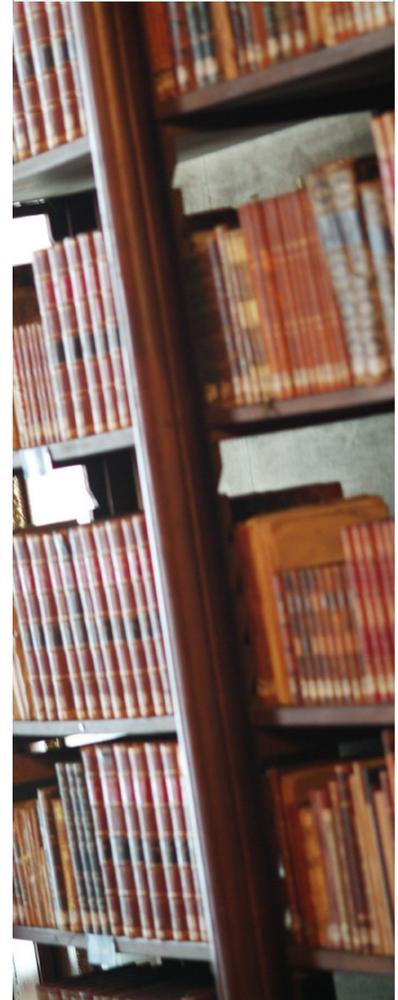
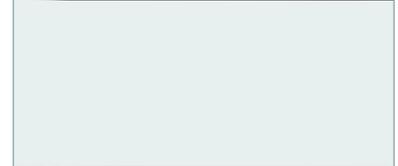
I am a self-employed Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with both business & personal clients from Racine, Wisconsin to Key Largo, Florida. I do accounting, consulting & tax services as well as financial planning. I have been a CPA for 39 years & self-employed for the last 18 years.

My Cursillo weekend was instrumental in changing my life in April 2004. I made a commitment at my Clausura to work every Cursillo as long as I am able. Since my Weekend, I have worked kitchen, chapel, and given most of the laity talks. I attended my first Secretariat meeting the month after my weekend & was honored when I was asked to be the Secretary of the Secretariat in 2006. After a couple of terms I was off Secretariat for almost 2 years before taking the Treasurer position at the end of 2013.

My group is made up of a great group of men that help me in my journey, they included: Scott Long, Pat Hazen, Peter Nutley, Len Nicolosi, & Steve Mleziva. Also Roy, Rey, Gene, Vince & Mike join us when they can.

Being self-employed allows me the blessing to attend morning Mass a few days a week. This is a great way to start the mornings. I love camping with friends and family during the summer and spend a lot of time with the 3 granddaughters on weekends.

The duties of treasurer include writing checks, accounting for/making deposits and monthly report of the financials for the English Cursillo in Rockford. I am honored to serve the Cursillo any way I can. God Bless, Al



PRE-CURSILLO

De Colores everyone!

As your new Pre Cursillo Chairperson I'd like to tell you a little bit about myself, and my prayerful hopes in servicing you for the next three years.

My name is Lenore Zegiel and I am a parishioner at The Church of Holy Apostles in McHenry. I started living my Cursillo in the Fall of 2011. My husband Allan and I have been married for 50 years. Our two daughters are grown and married and we have three grandchildren. Previously I worked at an industrial hygiene Chemistry Lab. as a Registered Occupational and Safety Analytical Technologist. I am fully retired now and enjoying every moment of my freedom to do or go where ever the Lord Leads.

I have heard it said that, "Cursillo is the best kept secret of the Catholic Church." My primary goal and focus for the next three years will be to make that statement change within our Diocese to; "Cursillo is the best known movement of the Catholic Church." My secondary goal is to make the paper trail of forms and transfer of information run smoothly from Sponsor, to myself, to Rector/Rectora.

Many Blessing,

Lenore Zegiel

**MAKE A FRIEND
BE A FRIEND
BRING YOUR FRIEND TO CHRIST**

CURSILLO

When attending a Cursillo weekend, have you ever seen this blur of movement about 5 feet tall, with long brown hair, zipping up and down the hallways often times with keys or a broom or crawling underneath the stove to relight a pilot light? That is me.

I'm Anne Stevens. I began living my Fourth Day in May 2014. I'm a life-long member of St. Mary's parish in Oregon. I serve in various ministries at my parish as well: Sacristan, Extraordinary Minister, Lector and former member of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court 1337.

I serve on Secretariat as the Cursillo chairperson. In other words, I'm the facilities/operations person for the weekends. I secure use of St. Mary's for each weekend, Secretariat meetings and other Cursillo business. I also make sure Cursillo materials stored at St. Mary's are secured and appropriately maintained and restocked. I'm the go-to gal when the water heater goes out, fuses are blown, roof is leaking, kitchen disposal is jammed, dishwasher leaking, toilet paper runs out, etc. I give the building the final once-over once Cursillo is done to make sure that we are returning it to our lessee in better condition than we receive it. (Always be a good tenant....)

Like I said earlier, I'm a life-long resident of Oregon (minus the times when I was in college or law school). My dad and sister live in the same town, on the same street, and one even in the same house where I grew up. I spent many years attending CCD, confirmation, Religious Education, wedding receptions, fish fries, holiday craft shows and service work project hours at St. Mary's Parish Center. My mom was a former parish secretary for several years as well. I attended Marquette University in Milwaukee and majored in Journalism. After a brief career as a newspaper editor and photographer, I ventured off to Law School at the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, MI. I currently am an Assistant State's Attorney in Winnebago County (Rockford), where I am the prosecutor for the Drug Court, Mental Health Court, Veterans' Court and Human Trafficking Court programs. I also serve as a board member for the Illinois Association of Problem-Solving Courts. And, in case you didn't know, I'm a die-hard Cubs fan.

It's great to be able to serve Him by offering my time & talents to promote the Cursillo Movement and perform His work in a place that was so integral in my faith formation today.



POST CURSILLO

De Colores! I was asked to run for the Post Cursillo Position of Secretariat and was elected by an overwhelming majority (since I was unopposed)! I pray that I am able to live up to the responsibilities that this office entails. My primary role is to help all Cursillistas have an opportunity to grow in their Fourth Day. While this responsibility appears daunting, I take comfort in knowing that “with God, all things are possible.”

I began living my Cursillo in spring of 2015 and had a slow start living my Fourth Day. I was one of the first people in my area to attend a weekend and was not able to join any friendship groups in nearby towns because I worked full time and couldn't drive after dark (at that time). After about 6 months, I helped establish a friendship group in Elburn at St. Gall's parish where I sometimes attended daily Mass. I eventually started grouping with fellow “Lee-vites” from St. James in Lee as more of my fellow parishioners attended weekends. I am now part of three friendship groups and usually attend two meetings per week based on my work schedule.

I live with my husband Joe on his family farm north of Shabbona and have been married for almost 36 years. We have three grown children and two adorable grandchildren. We aren't able to see our grandkids as often as we'd like since they live in Kirksville, MO. Our daughter just recently moved closer to us so we hope to see her more. Our middle son, Ben, lives with us and helps out around the farm. I work part time as an accountant at an excavating company in Elburn. I volunteer at our local food pantry/clothing center on Saturdays and teach 3rd Grade Religious Ed on Sundays. Joe, Ben and I are active in our parish and participate in most parish ministries and activities when we are available.



SCHOOL OF LEADERS

My name is Cathy Vendemia and I am honored and privileged to serve as Chair of the School of Leaders for the Rockford Cursillo Movement. I started living my Cursillo in the fall of 2012 and group regularly with my sisters in Christ!

I have been married to my husband Joe for 30 years and we have a 25 year old son, Joseph. We are parishioners at St. James Church in Belvidere, where I am currently employed as Director of Evangelization & Stewardship. I am a 2017 graduate of the Diocesan Adult Ministry Formation Program and am truly blessed to live, work, and play all within my faith!

As a volunteer, I serve as Sacristan, Lector, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion at Mass and to the homebound, oversee the Arts & Environment Committee, as well as Vice-President and a home visitor for our St. Vincent de Paul Society. I am the current President of the Rockford Diocesan Council of Catholic Women, representing Catholic women at the state and national levels.

I look forward to this new challenge and thank everyone for their support and prayers.

De Colores!

Cathy Vendemia:



We have had some exceptional Cursillistas on Secretariat for the last several years. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank Linda Abramowicz, Marty Lachat, Scott Long, & Don White for all they have done to serve Christ and the Cursillo Community. We pray that they are blessed for their time and efforts and look forward to sharing many

There are many ways to bring another to know Christ and to help get others to heaven, however I have not found a better way than the method I have learned in Cursillo. The Cursillo Movement has had a profound impact on my family. There are over 20 family members of mine that have made a Cursillo in the Rockford Dioceses. Cursillo is my primary vocation and it is a part of who I am. I have been grouping for over 23 years, worked over 50 weekends and have served on Secretariat for 12 years in 4 different roles. Over the last three years, I have been The Chairperson of Post Cursillo.

For me it is a labor of love to serve. In order for the movement to grow, we need more people to take a leadership role. For that to happen I need to make room for new leaders. Not being a member of Secretariat does not change my commitment to Cursillo. I am here to stay until God chooses otherwise. If there is anything I can do to help my brothers and sisters in Cursillo please do not hesitate to ask. DeColores!

God Bless,

Marty Lachat

I started living my Cursillo in the fall of '05 and it changed my life. Wanting to get a deeper knowledge of the movement I started attending Secretariat meetings with my husband (SOL had not been instituted yet). A year later we stepped on as the Cursillo phase of the movement. After two terms my husband stepped away to pursue the diaconate and I continued on as Assistant Lay Director. Two more terms later and it is time to step back. We have had a few bumps along the way but mostly I will remember the friendship and laughter we shared. I leave my post in good hands but I will not be far away. I look forward to serving Christ in any capacity that He should call me but Cursillo and my brother and sister Cursillistas will always be in my heart. God bless you all. De Colores!

Linda Abramowicz





Together
We are
The Church

We need to know the time and talent you have to help the movement...help us to get to know each of you better by telling us how you can help...

Can you help the Movement by being...

On a Secretariat Team (Pre Cursillo, Cursillo, Post Cursillo)?

Being Part of the School of Leaders Core Group?

Hosting an Ultreya in your area?

Being a Parish Rep?

On Weekends...

For Liaison can you do computer work (MS Word, Excel)?

For Music: can you sing? Do you play an instrument?

For Chapel: are you an EM, Lector, or a Sacristan?

For Kitchen: are you a chef? Do you like to shop and plan meals?

Send us an email and let us know: rkfdcursillo@gmail.com

Rockford Diocese



Cursillo Movement

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

FALL WEEKEND DATES

Men's

Oct 11-14, 2018

Women's

Nov 1-4, 2018