

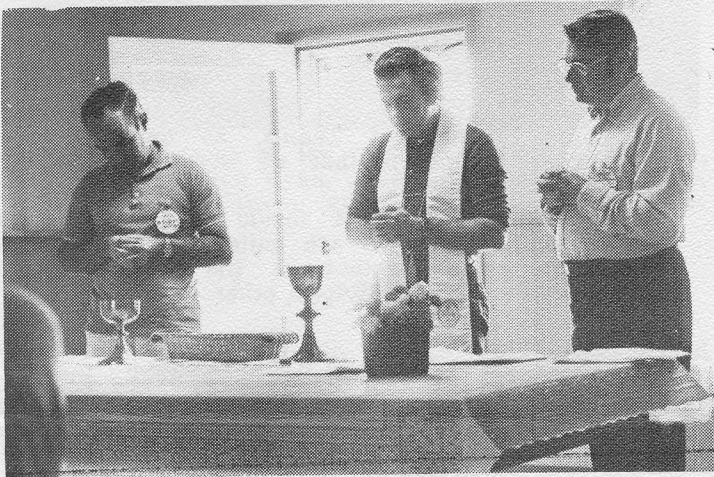
the teams of our Lady

"By this will all men know you are my disciples, if you have love for one another"

...John 13: 34-35

Nov.-Dec.

1971



CONCELEBRATION AT ELBERON: Fr. George Wilson, Fr. Eric Williams, S.T., Fr. T. Peter Ryan

Celebration

**By Paul and Nancy Stroh
Queens Village 1, N. Y.**

Each day opened with meditation and prayer on the themes of Leadership, Community, and Prayer. We shared two beautiful and joyous liturgies. Saturday, we carried the theme of Prayer into the liturgy. Fr. Eric Williams shared the daily events from the newspaper as part of our intentions—an example of how we can "respond to God's presence" in all the happenings of life. At our Sunday liturgy, we celebrated Community. In the planning with Fr. George Wilson, we gathered symbols of the joy we felt together—sand, seawater, grasses, shells and placed them near the banquet table. Veen and Bruce Gibson shared a flat bread that they had bought on the way up to Elberon. At the end of the reading we paused in silence to listen to God's response in the sounds of each other. After the Gospel reading we turned to the person next to us and placed our hand on their head, asking that he or she receive the Spirit of Christ in his Word. We all celebrated the joy of Teesie and Matt Melillo's anniversary as part of our liturgy in Community.

Love and joy were felt by all; and as Jim Ulwick from Boston 1 said in farewell, "I can't define community, but I can sure feel it."

Teams' 1971 Training Session

**By Stan and Cathy Rebilas
Bay Shore 1, N. Y.**

The 1971 Training Session was held for the second time at the Stella Maris Convent, Elberon, New Jersey. There were 23 couples representing New York, Washington, New Jersey, Detroit and Boston, Massachusetts. We were expecting couples from Norristown, Pennsylvania, but due to the inclement weather, they were unable to attend. The bad weather also kept some of the chaplains from attending, but we had three great chaplains with us: Father Eric Williams, Fr. George Wilson and Father Peter Ryan.

The training session was opened by Frank and Marilyn Lynn, who invited us to relax and enjoy the weekend making it a time of rediscovery and inspiration.

The first conference was given by Father Eric Williams whose topic was the need for prayer. There is a tremendous need for prayer in our daily life. Father said blocks of time should be set apart to encounter the Lord. That routine prayer should become a part of our life. Father defined prayer as a responding to God's presence and listening to what God is saying to us now. In talking of community prayer father said, "The team format is as good a thing as he has ran up against."

The second conference was given by Father Peter Ryan on Leadership. The conference was done a la encounter style. The lead couple was Austin and Rita Regan. First, a leader was defined as a perfect servant, he goes beyond the felling of what am I getting out of Teams, instead he says, "Is the Team getting better because of me?" Father Ryan brought out the point of Christian Witness—a type of martyrdom. To be able to say something painful to someone out of love for that person. To be a leader is not simply doing your duty, but going beyond that — to be open to service.

The last conference for the weekend was given by Father George Wilson on Community. Father brought out first the Church as a community. The Church calls us to enter into a life—a type of initiation or baptism. The role of the rest of the community is to reinvite us to come more deeply. Proclaim gospel in each stage of our life

(Continued on page 3)

Where Are We? Where Are We Going?

By Fr. Henri Caffarel

I can remember very well a long time ago when I first saw a chemical reaction. When two substances were brought together they reacted spontaneously with a concurrent release of energy.

Human beings "react" in a similar way. Put six people together for a couple of days instructing them that they need do no more than talk, and you will notice some strange reactions.

For the last twenty or thirty years, human chemistry has been attentively observed, analyzed and studied, and a science called social psychology has developed.

This is an area of study that we in Teams might consider examining. Perhaps social psychology can help us to know ourselves better. Light might be thrown on the laws of evolution and cohesion in Teams. Errors might be avoided. We might discover factors that are capable of producing growth.

I suggest that we start by examining the basic unit of the Movement, the local Team. Each team would construct a questionnaire aimed at analyzing the team meeting. Each couple would complete the questionnaire anonymously, at the end of each meeting and return it to the R.C. These questionnaires could be read collectively by the team at its year-end evaluation meeting. In this way the team would get some idea of how it has developed, what its needs are, and where it is going. I am sure that this process would help each team.

The Movement at large could also benefit. When the teams are finished with their questionnaire they could forward them, through their Sector Couples, to the Secretariat. We would then study them on a world-wide basis, hoping to better understand what goes into team-life.

The questionnaire might include questions such as:

1. On what points is our team making progress?
2. What are our shortcomings?
3. Was the pooling effective?
4. Was the sharing effective?
5. Is the discussion useful to you?
6. Have you been able to express your ideas?
7. Did you do so? Etc.

I leave it to you to ponder your team-life.

SPECIAL PRAYERS

Your special prayers are asked for our fellow Team members who are seriously ill. Father Henri Caffarel, our founder, is suffering from over-exhaustion and has been ordered complete rest by his physician.

A Christian Community

By Frank and Marilyn Lynn
Regional Couple

"God has willed that we should seek and find His living word in the witness of a brother, in the mouth of man. Therefore the Christian needs another Christian who speaks God's word to him. He needs him again and again when he becomes uncertain and discouraged. The Christ in his own heart is weaker than the Christ in the word of his brother. His own heart is uncertain, his brother's is sure. And that also clarifies the goal of all Christian community: they meet one another as bringers of the message of salvation."

That was how Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer described the Christian community before he died in a Nazi concentration camp.

Does the description fit Teams 25 years later? It should.

A unique feature of Teams, as opposed to so many other groups, is that we are trying to form Christian communities.

That means that Christ should be at the center of our communities. We are united by our belief in Christ. We come together as His instruments, as bearers of His message to each other.

Because Christ is at its center, its reason for being, a Team is a Christian community—not just a social group, a "fun" bunch.

It's far more rewarding—and demanding—than that.

Our meetings are joyful mini-retreats in which we show the face of Christ to each other, genuinely trying to help each other find Christ. We look to help each other because we care, because we're concerned. We don't cop out with silence or a gag.

We don't forget about each other when the meeting is over. We pray for each other. We care and we are concerned so we often see each other between meetings or at least know each other's joys and sorrows.

The Team community provides the framework for so many joyous experiences. The constantly growing knowledge of each other, the sharing of joys, the opening up to each other, the trust, loving and being loved.

But that's the easy part. The Team community also provides the framework for us to show our care and concern when it is not so easy. Hurting with our fellow Team members when they hurt, sorrowing when they are sad. No turning away. No playing dumb. Sharing the burdens and the sorrows, not just the easy ones.

The community in sorrow as well as the community in joy.

And, because it is a Christ-centered community, the Team community does not turn in on itself but like Christ goes out to the world, using the community not as a retreat or a refuge but a well-spring of energy and inspiration to bring Christ's message to the greater community outside our Team.



An attentive group at the training session: Front row, Frank and Marilyn Lynn, Joan O'Donnel; second row, Veen and Bruce Gibson, Mike Marino, Mary Hagemeyer; rear, Mat Melillo.

I Love You

At the Training Session, Tessie Melillo was asked to read this poem to the group. It was especially meaningful to Mat and Tessie since they celebrated their anniversary that weekend.

Not only for what you are
 But for what I am when I am with you.
 I love you
 Not only for what you have made of yourself
 But for what you are making of me.
 I love you, for the part of me that you bring out.
 I love you, for putting your hand into my heaped up heart,
 And passing over all the foolish, weak things
 That you can't help dimly seeing there,
 And drawing out into the light
 All the beautiful belongings
 That no one else had looked quite far enough to find.
 I love you because you are helping me to make
 Of the lumber of my life
 Not a tavern, but a temple;
 Out of my works, of my everyday
 Not a reproach, but a song.
 I love you,
 Because you have done
 More than any creed could have done
 To make me feel my goodness.
 You have done it,
 With your touch, with your words,
 With yourself.

How about spreading the "good news" of Teams to all those around you—relatives, friends, co-workers, neighbors, acquaintances—the new family down the street, (the old family down the street); it may be just the involvement they are looking for. What can you lose? There can be much to gain! Give it a try.

Training Session

(Continued from page 1)

so we can respond. Community summons us to faith that we are loved and accepted.

Marriage is also a community-inviting one another to a new baptism to be present to one another, being all there.

Father Wilson then introduced Teams as a community of couples who has this to say to one another. I love you when you are not able to love yourself. Teams is not a group of the elect—isn't it great to be in this neat little nest—instead a collection of sinners who know we are sinners and to be able to receive acceptance of sinners.

By now you can see how spiritually enriching this session was.

We had separate meetings. L.C.R.C and regional couples met to discuss their own special problems and ideas. On the last evening of our weekend we had a Nuts & Bolts—Town Meeting where the duties of the regional couples were explained. Frank & Marilyn Lynn explained their role as being responsible for all Teams in the U.S. Frank & Eleanor Iberti are in charge of composing and printing the Teams newsletter. Pat and Frank Christie's role is in mailing all study and printed materials. The U.S. Secretariat Anna & Harry Hunt take care of the Team's finances and receive information from all teams such as change of address, request for hospitality, etc.

Matt and Teesie Melillo, who organized the training session, were not able to make the session until late Saturday due to the illness of Matt's father. We are glad to report Matt's dad is doing well and to say thanks that Matt and Teesie were able to join us.

We had many beautiful banners decorating the walls of our conference room thanks to Paul & Nancy Stron of Connecticut.

Of course our weekend wasn't all work. There were many joyful, pleasant evenings thanks to the talents of many. Father Eric Williams played a beautiful trumpet to the tunes of MacArthur Park and Summertime. Also, thanks to Father George Wilson for his game of the Lion Chase. And, of course, we will not forget the evenings spent sharing, laughing (especially to Argentinian charades) and plain enjoying each other.

Now to end this summary of a perfect weekend all that can be said is there was

LOVE SHARING ACCEPTANCE



"Our Gang" takes time out for a picture

"Telling It As It Was"

By Ray and Jean Morrissey
Kings Park 1, N. Y.

A newly elected RC usually reacts to the news of the election with a) due modesty—"Do they really want us?", b) sheer panic—"Can we demand a recount?", or c) resignation—"Well, I guess it is our turn". We belong to an "old Team" and we probably fell into the third category.

We had read all the manuals and had been properly impressed by the responsibilities of the RC; the role loomed as embodying the best qualities of Norman Vincent Peale ("... Win Friends & Influence People). We understood that for a year, the tone of the Team largely depended on how much we, as RC, used "gentle persuasion" on our fellow members to accomplish the goals we, as a Team, had set for ourselves at the time of the evaluation.

What we perhaps did not fully realize was that each RC has a different role outside of the obvious "business" requirements listed in the manual. The needs of every Team differ from year to year and each couple, that is each RC, makes their own particular contribution to the Team. For us it was fairly clear cut. At the evaluation meeting, the Team had decided to concentrate on growth in community.

We saw that community growth meant more associations not just with the couples but with the families. We would like to share with you some of the experiences we had—not that they are particularly new—but it might stimulate others to share with us their experiences.

One of the highlights our Team planned was a mid-year "day of awakening". This all-day meeting consisted of a talk and meditation by our chaplain, Fr. Ryan, a tasty lunch, a couple sit-down at a location of the couple's choice, a team sit-down on the theme of community, a special liturgy and a sumptuous dinner closing the day. A more detailed account of the day is available.

Early in the year, we planned to involve the children of team couples in activities with one another according to age groups. We started out with a special home Mass for the youngsters followed by a hot-dog lunch and recreation. This liturgy celebrated by Fr. Ryan was well received by the children and they are looking to another.

Depending on the ages, we took the children to local football games, hockey games, bowling, ice skating, some camping and movies.

The men got together for a penny-ante poker game which became hilarious when the first-time players (so they said) cleaned up.

The ladies attended a show of fashions which was geared to their financial taste. Along with activities, we developed a Team calendar of all birthdays and anniversaries—interesting because of the doubles and triples we have on the same date. This allowed for little surprises or simple best-wishes.

These were concrete things that we did. More than that, the role of RC seemed to bring an increased sensitivity to each other's needs, which could be communicated to, and met by, the Team as a whole.

On The Shores Of The Pacific

Los Angeles 1 has at least two claims to fame among U.S. Teams. It was the first American Team, 13 years ago, and is our Western outpost, separated by more than 1,000 miles from the nearest Teams in Rochester, Minnesota.

Almost all the six couples in the Team have been in Teams for 12 or 13 years. Most live in the beautiful Santa Monica-Brentwood area near the Pacific.

The present RC is Alain and Rosemary Enthoven who turned their Santa Monica home over to the family of Frank and Marilyn Lynn, the regional couple, for four days this past summer while the Lynn's were vacationing in the West. The Enthoven's have six children. Alain is a vice president of Litton Industries and a former assistant secretary of defense.

The chaplain for this team is Father Jim Albertson S.J., who is academic vice president at Santa Clara University in northern California and flies to Los Angeles every month for the Team meeting.

The other couples are: Bob and Shirley Fredricks who have five children. Bob is a doctor. Another doctor, a radiologist to be specific, is Ron O'Reilly. He and Barbara have three children.

Leo and Muriel Langlois have three children. Leo is an executive at Hughes Aircraft.

Sam and Dolores Crawford have five children. Sam is a lawyer. Howard and Jean McDonald have four children. Howard is retired but Jean operates a boutique.

Teams In Community

Elvira Fleming of Brentwood 1, for the past 4½ years, has given countless hours of devoted volunteer service to patients at Pilgrim State Hospital. She organized a committee of women who assist wheelchair patients to and from weekly Mass held at the hospital; patients who otherwise would not have the opportunity of sharing in the Mass Liturgy. Elvira and Jim Fleming are the present R.C. for their Team. The Flemings have three children.

Paul and Nancy Stroh, of Queens Village 1, are actively involved in an experimental (Parish) Community in their home-town in Stamford, Connecticut. During the month of November, two weekend workshops on Child Education were held, and in December, their first Adult Education meeting will take place. The Community is awaiting formal approval from their Bishop. The Strohs ask us all to remember their Community in our prayers.

The year ended with mixed feeling for us. We weren't sorry to greet the new RC, we could hardly wait to hand over the Team folder, but for us, it had been our best year in Teams.

We had grown a little spiritually, and had come to know more people deeper through the role of RC. The inconveniences were few; the rewards were greater than we had ever expected.

A Team Meeting In Brazzaville

Teams is a world-wide movement. There are teams in North America, South America, Europe, Australia, Asia and as the letter below indicates, Africa. Although we speak different languages, follow different customs, wear different clothes, we are all one in Teams. We will allow the following letter to speak for itself:

"Actually, there are three teams in Brazzaville, and four in the rest of the democratic Republic of the Congo.

Few of the couples have a car, distances are great, and night falls early, so it is rare that the meetings are in the evening in Africa.

We meet most frequently on Sunday: there is more time and we are more relaxed.

Generally the meeting starts at mid-day; the wives have had time to do the shopping in the morning and to prepare the meals.

The meeting takes place either at the house of a couple if one can be in peace, or in the garden of a convent if none of the couples can be hosts.

Those who have a car go to fetch those who live the furthest away; the others come by their own means.

It is arranged so that the children are not present, except, obviously the little last one who can't do without his mother, and sometimes causes a little upset during the meeting.

The meetings starts with the meal. Either the couple who are the hosts have prepared everything, or each couple brings their provisions, and everything is shared fraternally. The couples are very attached to this communal meal which creates an atmosphere of simplicity, openness and friendship.

After a quick wash-up done together, the 'pooling' is started. Sometimes it has already been started during the meal, but often the presence of these smallest children does not leave much freedom for the mothers. After the meal they go off to sleep and we can be peaceful.

Each time that it is possible the meeting finishes with the Mass: a thanksgiving for the riches of the day passed in the presence and friendship of the Lord. The Gospel is chosen according to the study theme, and each meditates on it aloud. The principal intentions of the pooling are given by the responsible couple and the couples at the Universal prayer.

After having in this way confided their worries to the Lord, and received His light and strength, the couples separate, ready not only to live better as a couple, but also to help and encourage those who surround them. A couple that is happy and confident is contagious! . . .

Sharing A Meal

By Eeve Miguel

Can you imagine a purple casserole or cookies the size of pancakes? From the bulge-eyed expression of my niece as I laid a carpet of wax paper on the floor to wrap enough dough for 24 dozen cookies instead of 4 dozen, as originally planned, I knew that I left a life-time impression of how her aunt makes cookies! As for the casserole, beet juice makes it look very unappetizing!

Thank goodness, my cooking has improved over the years. When we joined Teams, I could at least prepare a simple, decent meal. However, the prospect of doing so for seven couples and a priest was alarming; but with considerable courage I managed to smile and accept the challenge. I am lucky to have joined a Team with a talented cook, late arrivals that come starved and ready to eat anything, and just plain friends who praise and encourage, which makes it all worthwhile. But couldn't we say that about all Teams?

I can't help but believe, Christ must have enjoyed many a meal with people who shared their food and friendship, working together to prepare it, (as we do in Teams). He realized the importance of sharing daily, commonplace tasks and giving something special to it, so that He used food to perform miracles and illustrate His teachings. Since Christ revealed Himself when breaking bread with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus after the Resurrection, it became a custom still practiced today as a sign of friendship between Moslems and Christians. Most important He gave us Himself in the Eucharistic Meal to nourish our spirits. Therefore, in the Spirit, let Teams bring His Light into this aspect of our meetings.

Through this column, we invite you to share with one another your recipes, tips on minimum preparation and maximum hospitality; your feelings and thoughts, on enhancing a meal with special prayers or blessings.

Send your recipes and ideas to Eeve Miguel, 16 Hewes Street, Brentwood, N.Y. 11717.

New Teams Welcome

Potomac1, Washington, D.C.—Dick and Celeste Peters, First RC, Father Richard J. Drabic, Chaplain
Silver Spring 3, Maryland—Kevin and MaryLou Hinsworth, First RC, Father John Farrelly, Chaplain
No. Babylon 1, Long Island—Jack and Mary Pulick, First RC, Father James Carey, Chaplain
Smithtown 1, Long Island—Al and Terry Pankus, First RC, Father John Murphy, Chaplain
Clark 1, New Jersey has grown to seven couples—Charlie and Roberta Mooney are R.C.

T. O. O. L. Newsletter
C/o Eleanor and Frank Iberti
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To Our Team Chaplains

Eleanor Romero
Brentwood 1, N. Y.

New Study Material Guide

A group of Team couples have agreed to read, review and compile a list of books which would be suitable for use as study material for Teams beyond the first three years material. The couples will, hopefully, recommend a dozen or more books dealing with Scripture, prayer, marriage and community. The list will be printed in the newsletter next Spring in time for Teams to decide if they want to use any of the books starting next Fall. The study material will be entirely optional.

The Regional Team decided on this course because most of the original Team study material for older Teams is out of date. By keeping an up-to-date list of books suitable for study material we will at least avoid the problem of material becoming outdated after much blood, sweat and tears have gone into it.

The couples involved in the project are Fred and Jo Zappala of Boston 1, Bill & Marueen Langan of Kings Park 1, New York; Arthur and Naomi Fonseca of Queens Village 1, New York; Jim and Kay White, Washington; Tony and Betty Calucci, Detroit 1, Mich.

Father Julian Miller of East Rockaway 1, New York, will serve as resident theologian for the committee.

What shall we wish you for Christmas?

We wish the Christ Child's small hand unfurled and stretched toward you; His little Hand closed tightly around your annointed forefingers in the manner of all infants. And as He thus clutches your fingers may He also clutch your priestly hearts and never let them go.

We wish you Mary's warm maternal smile; Her redemptive joy in sharing her Son with you; her trust as she places His Sacred Flesh in your loving care in the Eucharist.

We wish you Joseph's special protection against the evils that assail God's own in these troubled times; His Fatherly concern for your labors among God's people.

We wish, and wish and pray
in that bond to which the Lord has called us.

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS to all dear friends in Teams throughout the World:

Through the love and innocence of the newborn Christ Child, may we extend our hearts and prayers to the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lonely and those helplessly ravaged in war-torn countries.

Please God that we do our utmost for peace, love and dignity in this world, for all mankind.

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