

OUR LADY OF MERCY HOLY NAME SOCIETY
Minutes Membership Business Meeting
Monday, March 10, 2008

President John Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm and asked that we recite in unison the Holy Name Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll of Officers was called; all were present except Vice President Frank Alfieri, who was excused. The agenda for the meeting was distributed to the members on signing in, 24 Officers and brothers of the Society.

The minutes of the last meeting, February 11th, were accepted and are to be recorded in the Society's Web site.

Correspondence received since the last meeting included a card from Father Rich thanking us for our Christmas gift and a note from Joe Tatto expressing his appreciation for the Christmas card and visit.

Treasurer Report: John Thomas reported our Society bank balance as of February 1 as \$4,745.18; disbursements during February included the donation to the Diocesan Union of \$100 for their Christmas poster program, Diocesan Union dues for Year 2008 of \$50. and expenses for the pancake breakfast and the Society retreat at Our Lady of Grace \$1,150, a total of \$1,300.00.; deposits, primarily dues. totaled \$435.41 leaving us with a bank balance as of February 29 of \$3,880.59.

Committee Reports:

- 1) Membership -John Thomas, Chairman: John advised no change since last month, the total being 293. No action was taken on contacting members who had not responded to our renewal correspondence;
- 2) Society Web Site -Herb Werner, who had been away on business, advised the site will be brought up to date shortly. Frank White has been receiving replies from Prefect Captains and will soon up date that list;
- 3) Liturgical - attendance at Sunday's Corporate Mass was 18. Members have been making reminder phone call to those not attending the Mass;
- 4) Pro Life -Bob Kentner, due the breaking news concerning Gov. Spitzer, thought best for the moment, not to bring up any further discussion on his proposed abortion measures. However, he did wish to read a recently published communiqué from Judge Andrew Capitalano urging pro-life supporters to not allow the abortion crowd dominate our pro-life dialogue. He emphasized the use of pro-life words at all times in speaking against their practices. Bob reported that the petition to Gov. Spitzer, regarding his proposed legislation permitting unlimited abortion known as RHAPP, that was signed at our February meeting, had been forwarded to the L I Coalition for Life for action;

- 5) Catholic Action –Frank White passed out copies of the parish bulletin, in which Bishop Murphy had asked all Catholics to join, thru the Internet or by mail, the Catholic Advocacy Network, an arm of the N Y State Catholic Conference, so as to be informed of all legislation in Albany that directly concerns our religious liberties. However, in Frank’s opinion, this was a parish appeal and not directed to us as a Holy Name Society, so Society action presently is not called for. John Thomas and other members recommended, that as individuals we should join the Network;
- 6) Homebound, Distressed and Ill –the current list with home addresses, phone numbers and present status was passed around. It included Bill Snyder, Joe Tatto, Jerry Peace, Peter Volpe, John Loughlin, Andrew Betz, Tom Cornish, Leo Zyszkowski, John Agnoli and Dave Livingston. Also, previously ill but presently in recovery and resuming regular activities were Victor Caferri, Mickey Walsh, Tom Dunleavy and John Lombardi, none of whom were present that evening (Victor and Mickey had asked to be excused). Frank White had, for the ill and homebound, Easter cards greetings from the members to be signed. They will be delivered or mailed in time for Easter but he spoke favorably of personal calls which he was positive would be welcomed by these brothers;
- 7) Loving Memory –prayerfully no new brothers listed but since our November Memorial Mass there have been the deaths of Joseph Ehlert and Steven Nazzareno. Also, we were informed that Robert Lemenze and Jack Denker have died. Mass Cards in their memory have been either given at the wakes or sent to their families. John Thomas led us in saying for all our ill and deceased, one Our Father and Hail Mary;
- 8) Parish Services –The value of the paper products donated by our members at the February meeting was estimated at \$40.; parishioners attending the pancake breakfast donated \$100. estimate of products and \$200. in cash. Mary Ann Scott, Director of this mission, thanked John Thomas for our charity in these endeavors for Parish Services, the parish charity of the Society. She and her son attended the breakfast, meeting with many of those present.

Diocesan Union –Herman Fleischer advised he has received the Diocesan Christmas Poster Committee report, which detailed expenses, contributions and Society participation. The report also showed a shortfall of approximately \$200 in contributions to the program. He inquired of Frank White, as to how this will be covered, to which Frank explained that although a number of the Societies due to size and a small treasury are unable to contribute there are Societies who will through persistent requests eventually make a donation. Note: apologetic ally Frank later learned that he had mistakenly sent Herman the Year 2006 report instead of the 2007. The figures for both years, at this point in time, happen d to be similar so Herman’s report although given in error was an accurate synopsis.

Unfinished Business:

- 1) Pancake Breakfast- John, in his report, stated about 125 parishioner including children attended, somewhat less than usual, possibly due the Presidential Day weekend and families being away. He appreciated very much the donations to Parish Services of our guests. Also he thanked the members of the Society for their assistance that morning and the support his Co-chairmen John Lombardi and Ron Tralle had again given him. Sufficient supplies were left over so as to enable the Society to plan a repeat breakfast in June;
- 2) Society Retreat – Frank White, in the absence of Chris Flatz, briefly summarized the day's proceedings and the Retreat's subject, forgiveness that our Retreat Master, Father George Kabiri, observed in each of the two sessions. Father in the morning session stressed how important it is the to forget past wrongs and failings. God's love is always with us in these times of distress. In the afternoon, using the parable of the two sons, Father emphasized reconciliation and its difficulties and how prayer helps at all times. A synopsis of our day at Our Lady of Grace Center, attached to the agenda, was available for perusal and is to be posted on the web site.
- 3) Society Constitution and By-Laws –last updated and approved April 1982; per Article X it may be amended by two-thirds vote of members present at any regular meeting with the approval of the Priest Moderator, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been presented by a qualified member in writing and read at a preceding meeting, after which the Corresponding Secretary shall have sent a copy of the proposed amendment to all Officers for their consideration. It was agreed at this meeting that the April 1982 Constitution will remain in effect. John Thomas and Frank White had copies of the Constitution for the membership to take home, review and if they desire a change, a written suggestion is necessary.
- 4) Holy Name Golf Outing-Mike Romenick reviewed Bethpage Golf conditions and restrictions for reserved time for a Golf Outing. The course package of approximately \$180. includes reserved time at the course, 18 holes of golf, a cart, \$9 in the pro shop, dinner and \$3 caterer . This would not include a shotgun start. Also, the \$9 pro-shop money could be combined for larger raffle prizes. As a less expensive alternative, he and Frank Alfieri have discussed the holding of the dinner at possibly the Main Event. They are thinking of a June outing, so as not to conflict with the Parish Tournament in October.

New Business:

- 1) Cake Sale – John Thomas said he is planning on holding our annual fundraiser, the Cake Sale in June. It will be held a few weeks after the nuns from Connecticut hold their pie fundraiser in our parish. Last year our Cake Sale, because of the Golf Tournament, was cancelled but with present circumstances it is now a necessity.
- 2) Budget -in planning for the Cake Sale John reported a tentative Society budget for the coming year, a budget without the usual Golf Tournament profit. Society activities and expenses during the past year were approximately \$3800.; the June and Christmas socials, awards, Diocesan dues and donations, the October Communion breakfast, the Christmas poster contest, Christmas gifts, the Retreat, the pancake breakfast, the web-site, supplies and mailing. Anticipated receipts for year 2008 are \$2400; dues and donations \$1200 and the cake sale \$1200 leaving a shortfall of \$1400. Therefore, it will be necessary to raise member fees for the Socials, the Retreat, the breakfasts and reduce the size of our Society donations.
- 3) Communion Breakfast - Frank White had planned on making a proposal for a Communion Breakfast with a speaker in May or June, a breakfast that he felt the Society was obligated to hold. However, John Thomas reminded us that last October following the Installation of Officers the Society did give a breakfast for the members and their families, which in his mind satisfied our obligation in this matter. Therefore, knowing that the Folk Group on September 14 will be celebrating their Fortieth Anniversary, John was planning to recommend, that for next year's Installation Breakfast our guests be the Folk Group, the folks who have been such a wonderful effect on our monthly Corporate Mass celebration. Bob Trenkle suggested that we have a guest speaker for the Breakfast; John King suggested the Long Island Catholic or Telecare might be available for a speaker and Maurice Fasano noted that Tom LaSorda recently spoke at St. Dominic's. Other suggestion for tickets, etc. were to be given consideration. Following overall approval for the Breakfast plans, John Thomas said there is a need for a Breakfast Committee and asked for volunteers.
- 4) Summer Fair- John Thomas noting that the Summer Fair Committee was meeting this evening advised us that the Holy Name Society will have a part in supporting this parish endeavor, planned for the week of Wednesday, July 30 thru Saturday, August 2. Warren Scaglione, a Fair Committee member, informed us of some of the activities planned, the amusement rides, the booths, the gambling games, etc. Each parish organization will be given twenty-five raffle books to sell in addition to the books their members will receive in the mail. The Fair Committee had not yet obtained a Golf Chairman for this event, scheduled for October.
- 5) Nomination Committee -John Thomas, following a check of the Constitution, asked Ed Smith if he would form a Committee that would appoint a slate for next year's (2008-09) Officers. They are to present a slate at the April meeting with floor nominations and voting to take place at the May meeting

- 6) Other Business -Peter Nicolard said he is a member of the Hicksville/OLM Senior Club, which meets on Mondays 11 am to 3 pm at the Bethpage Senior Center. He welcomed our seniors, their wives to join the club and participate in their activities. Andy Romano , who is interested in expanding Society activities, recently attended a Parent's Club event with his daughter. Andy in speaking with some of the parents about fundraisers learned they have arranged children activities such as visiting educational sites but not activities for financial gain. He has attempted to contact Nolan Reynolds, Director of the Youth Ministry, regarding a car wash. This is an activity, which some said required a lot of effort for it to be successful. He will look further into developing Youth Ministry support or other facets that would make it profitable. Maurice Fasano asked that next month's agenda include the budget shortfall, so that the members would make recommendations to bring expenses in line.

Offertory

One Our Father and a Hail Mary was said for all ill family members and friends of the Society: Lauren Gordon, Anthony Fasano, John Dell'Amore, John McCaffrey, Kristine Gurmolai, Karen Caporale, Infant Alyssa Beth Curvo, Deacon Jack McGowan, Karen Benuntone , Kiley McDonald, Lou Simenetti, Carol Viscardi, Maureen Geier and our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Father Tom noting our monthly prayer for vocations told us of the death this week of the pastor of St. Catherine of Sienna, Msgr. Thomas Groenwold. Father said there are nine Diocesan pastorates open due to deaths, retirements, etc., which will be filled thru priests applying or in some cases appointment by the Bishop. Father mentioned that Father Gartner is well and will be coming up for his Golden Jubilee anniversary in June. He has told Father Gartner that Charley Caterpillar has been continued this Lent too which he was pleased.

Before closing the meeting the members recited in unison the prayer for vocations and then sang the Holy Name hymn, "Holy God We Praise Thy Name".

Motion to close was made by Ed Smith, second by Bob Trenkel.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank White, Secretary

Meeting Social -attendance drawing \$10. #12 Maurice Fasano