

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Third Monthly Meeting - Paraclete Program

Monday, March 13 - Salazar Clinic

PRESENT

Very Rev. Gerlad Fitzgerald, s.P.	Rev. Patrick Mulcahy, s.P.
Rev. Joseph Moylan, s.P.	Rev. Harry Kenney, s.P.
Rev. William Swanson, s.P.	Rev. Fred Bennett, s.P.
Rev. Frank Ryan, s.P.	Rev. Joseph Murphy, s.P.
Rev. John Feit, s.P.	Dr. John A. Salazar, Ph.D.

Dr. Salazar, permanent chairman of these monthly meetings, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He opened by reading correspondence he had received from two former guest-priests at Via Coeli, both of whom had given strong indication that they were well on their way to complete rehabilitation in a full and active priestly ministry.

Fr. Feit was then called upon to give a report on The Manual of Procedures to be prepared for use at Via Coeli Monastery. He reported that Fr. Gerald had been asked to write a foreward (preface) to the manual, and that a broad category had been outlined as a framework for the proposed procedures. This outline included:

- I - The purpose of Via Coeli (Fr. Gerald)
- II - The Servants of the Paraclete at Via Coeli
  - a) Administration (various offices)
  - b) Community Life (One community of priests)
- III - Opportunities for Priestly Growth
  - a) Spiritual Program
  - b) Intellectual Program
  - c) Group Therapy Programs
  - d) Recreational Program
  - e) Program of Service within the Community
- IV - Medical Facilities
  - a) Physical examination upon arrival
  - b) Clinics run by Handmaids of the Precious Blood
  - c) Infirmary care
  - d) Monthly visit by house physician
  - e) Daily trips into town for medical reasons (appointments)
  - f) Weekly visits of staff psychologist
  - g) Services of four Albuquerque psychiatrists

- V - Daily Order at Via Coeli and Annex Houses
- VI - Miscellaneous
- VII - Summary

Specific suggestions and recommendations to help fill out this broad outline were asked for by Fr. Feit. The matter was referred to the Sunday night meetings of Paraclete personnel held each week at the Monastery.

Fr. Bennett reported that a similar outline, with necessary variations, was being prepared for Villa Pius XII. Fr. Murphy reported that because of the change of Superiors in the Santa Fe House such action would be best left in the hands of his successor.

Fr. Feit was then called upon to report on the GENERAL MEETINGS being held at Via Coeli. He gave a detailed report on the Feb. 20 meeting (the minutes of which had already been circulated among all interested persons). In closing, he remarked that the GENERAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS had given evidence of solidifying the spirit among the men, both Paracletes and guest-priests, and cited specific instances in which mutual cooperation had made possible some significant changes in the physical plant at Via Coeli and Regina Humdi.

Fr. Bennett commented that "community spirit" was what we had begun talking about in the first of these monthly meetings, and that he was very happy to find that this procedure (General Meeting) was useful in creating and sustaining such community spirit. He expressed the hope that something similar could be worked out for Villa Pius XII.

Fr. Murphy remarked that such General Meetings were already in effect at Villa Madre de Dios, and that the men had responded well to the idea.

Fr. Mulcahy stated that the guest-priests felt free to approach both himself and/or Fr. Kenney with their requests, but that it was difficult to get the guests to agree among themselves what course of action they wanted to follow on certain policies.

Dr. Salazar noted that General Meetings seemed to have an advantage over the House Council system formerly proposed (last monthly meeting), since it gave every individual an opportunity to voice his views.

Fr. Gerald remarked that with the constant turnover of men the House Council idea would be hard to follow through, and that there was the danger of "cliques" being formed if a few were called upon to represent the many.

Fr. Kenney was then called upon to report on developments in forming Social, recreational and Educational Activities for Villa Pius XII.

Fr. Kenney then reported that the program looked good on paper, but that until such time as there was a substantial turnover at the SERVANTS-6800 would be slow going. At present there was a stalemate between and the "newcomers" so far as interest in activities was concer

His recommendations were that the educational program at the Villa be slanted for the increased parochial ministry that would be available to the men there; e.g., Holy practices, CCD program, the Cursillo Movement, going through the New Ritual, Field of Social Justice, Ecumenism, techniques of celebration.

Fr. Frank Ryan mentioned the opportunity for all, whether alcoholic or not, to learn the rudiments of the AA program at the Villa.

Fr. Kenney remarked that with the basic educational program given at Via Coeli, the guests could continue to learn about AA, for parochial reasons, while at Pines III.

Fr. Gerald inquired as to the structure of the present AA program. It was explained to him by Frs. Moylan, Ryan and Kenney, and he expressed approval that it remained a Paraclate Program, using the talents of lay people whenever these were felt beneficial.

Fr. Kenney then commented on different social and recreational events that were in the planning stage for Villa Pines XII; an occasional concert or address at the University of New Mexico (or U. of Albuquerque), Monday night bowling, luncheon in town with free time afterwards to go to confession, visits to the Newman Center, and visits to Via Coeli or Villa Madre de Dios.

Fr. Bennett asked if the seminars at Via Coeli could not be rerun for the men at Villa Pines III.

Fr. Feit remarked that the seminar was of five months duration, and that he hoped for turnover at the Villa would work against having it there.

Fr. Swanson suggested that individual talks be taped, and be sent down to the Villa for the use of the men there.

Fr. Kenney seconded this idea, and Fr. Feit was deputed to work out the arrangements for the plan.

Fr. Mulcahy was called upon to outline plans for the expansion of facilities at Villa Pines III. He began by saying that he had two rooms available at the moment, but that these were rooms in poor condition, very small, and not fit for residence over a prolonged period.

Fr. Mulcahy was advised that the Board of Directors of the New Mexico Corp. had voted to allow him \$3,000.00 to improve two rooms, these being two for four in the inadequate section he had earlier described as being too small.

Fr. Mulcahy objected that this arrangement would cut down his total population by two, and would seem to be working against the program as he understood it.

Fr. Gerald pointed out that the Board had voted top priority to the new Infirmary project as the most pressing need.

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Fr. Swanson suggested that Mr. Martin Eskert explain to ~~the~~ strict financial basis, why this move of the board was necessary.

the continuance of the program would also serve to win much esteem and appreciation for Via Coeli, as it was seen that men were being returned to the active ministry, rather than only receiving care as permanent ~~and~~ patients in an infirmary situation.

Fr. Feit wondered if the laymen on the Board had been fully briefed on WHY increasing facilities at Pius XII was necessary; namely, to accommodate the needs of the expanded program, with inter-action between Via Coeli and Pius XII. He was assured that they would be. He suggested that the lay members of the board be invited to the next monthly meeting, so that they might have the mechanics of the program spelled out for them in detail.

#### COFFEE BREAK

After the coffee break, Dr. Salazar asked for comment on the proposed "minimum wage" for supply work suggested by the Archbishop at the last monthly meeting.

Fr. Mulcahy pointed out that the Archbishop had a verbal understanding with local pastors, and that this understanding was being observed and honored. He also added that the Archbishop was absent, and would be absent from future meetings, because, having attended one, he was satisfied that the Paracletes were getting the job done and could handle their own affairs. He stood in support of what they were trying to accomplish.

Fr. Moylan asked if the men going out on extended parochial assignments would receive assistant's salaries.

Fr. Mulcahy - Yes, according to the Archbishop.

Fr. Murphy - Yes, according to Msgr. Rodriguez.

Fr. Mulcahy added that the men sent out on assignment from the Villa would eventually replace (i.e., free for other duty) one assistant at the parish; hence, the full assistant's salary.

Dr. Salazar remarked that although we did not like to make ~~it a matter~~ of first importance, that it was nevertheless a worthy consideration in promoting the sense of dignity and worthiness we were trying to re-establish in our guest-priests.

Fr. Mulcahy remarked that there were as many attitudes as there were men; some generous, only interested in getting back on the job - others thinking only of making a dollar.

Dr. Salazar remarked that there is a standard of priestly behavior toward which we should try to educate all the priests in our houses.

The question of driving privileges for guest-priests was t  
Dr. Salazar. SERVANTS-6802

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Fr. Moylan outlined the existing policy (guests not to use own cars for trips to town), and gave the reasons for it being put into effect.

Fr. Gerald suggested that the policy might be modified, so that each man in each instance be judged on his individual merits.

Fr. Feit remarked: ABUSUS NON TOLLET USUS. Everybody laughed (good-naturedly).

Dr. Salazar suggested that the matter of use of private cars be put under consideration by the Paracletes. In general it was felt that the present policy could be modified in some way.

Fr. Gerald pointed out possible pitfalls; cited a specific case; said that discretion would have to be the rule to follow here.

A brief discussion on a particular aberration followed; statistics were quoted on percentages of success in these cases; most allowed for an optimistic outlook, yet agreed that one "notorious incident" involving a guest using his own car could set the program back ten years.

Two further items were then introduced by Dr. Salazar: he asked that we (Paracletes) consider among ourselves the men best fitted for the responsibility of driving the "town car." He had received complaints of reckless driving in excess of the posted speed limits. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed at a Sunday night Paraclete meeting, and that an approved list of "town car" drivers would be drawn up.

The second point involved was the monetary recompense the guests were to receive for their priestly supply work, especially when a private car was being used to drop off other priests on weekend assignments. This point was debated at length. Fr. Moylan explained the policy at Via Coeli. Fr. Ryan outlined the plan he had used at Santa Fe. Fr. Murphy outlined substantially the same plan now in effect at Santa Fe. Fr. Mulcahy explained the particular difficulties arising from his situation in Albuquerque. He was urged to settle these difficulties as quickly as possible to put an end to the quibbling and petty complaining constantly being brought forward on this score.

Fr. Mulcahy and Fr. Bennett agreed to work out an acceptable plan to resolve this source of friction.

Dr. Salazar asked that a report on this plan be submitted at the next monthly meeting, and that it be discussed and considered by all.

Dr. Salazar then called on Fr. Gerald for a word of evaluation on what he saw we were trying to accomplish through these meetings.

Fr. Gerald spoke briefly, commending all those who were working to promote better efforts of cooperation and understanding among the New Mexico houses. He remarked that the one barometer for judging the success of our work was the spirit manifested by the guest-priests themselves. This spirit, he said, struck him as being very good - so he judged the program to be having a good overall effect.

Some discussion then developed on the problem of bishops and major superiors occasionally calling a man back to duty before we judged him ready for recall. On such occasions, Fr. Gerald remarked, we were bound to follow the expressed wishes of those in authority, although we should also point out that it was with reservations that we were releasing a guest-priest in such instances.

Provisions were then made for the next monthly meeting. It was agreed that the meeting would be held on

Monday, April 10

7:00 p.m.

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and that an invitation would be extended to Fr. George Pausch, S.P., who was resuming his superiorship at Villa Madre de Dios, Santa Fe, N. M.

minutes submitted by

Fr. John Feit, S.P.  
March 17, 1967

Erin go bragh!