

# The Butterfly



The RIMA TRES DIAS Community Newsletter

March 2019

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## President's Corner

### Tres Dias and the Yellow Pages

Recently, I read an article on The Federalist website that struck a chord with me. The author was citing research that showed that church attendance was not falling but was in fact, rising. The impression of declining attendance was due to people, especially young people who were or are leaving mainline denomination churches. Contrary to popular belief, they were not giving up church or Christianity. The research showed that while people were leaving churches that were popular when people were relying on the Yellow Pages and listening to 8-track tapes, they are simply going elsewhere.

I think that sums up what we see and have been seeing in RIMA for a while now. We have had close to 1,000 Pescadores make a weekend in this community, yet at the last Weekend Opening I was the only Pescadore present who was not on Team and did not have a spouse on Team. Twenty Pescadores from the Community at a Closing is considered a good showing with about half of that number being spouses of team. The Mananita for the Fall Women's Weekend had 8 men present. EIGHT! Attendance at Secuelas is typically at similar levels to Closings; around 18 people. Of the 12 to 15 people that usually attend Secretariat, 10 are on the Weekend Committee. The vast majority of Pescadores in RIMA are not in a Reunion Group. In short, RIMA TD is a 4th day movement with hardly any participation in 4th Day activities. Other 4th Day movements like Walk to Emmaus have reported similar issues. In the last two years, two retreat centers in the MA/RI area have closed, further pointing to a decline in retreat demand.

For a long time in RIMA I would hear people say, "people only want to do the Weekend, they don't want to do the other stuff". It's hard to see how that is true anymore. In the past 2 or 3 years we've had to cancel 2 or 3 Weekends due to a lack of candidates and Team. Men's #72 has just 13 men on

Team; including SD's, Rector, and Chief. As of last Monday's Secretariat meeting we had no candidate applications. Last Fall's Men's Weekend had to be cancelled. This Fall's Men's Weekend has no Rector, yet...(?). It is the common experience of Rectors trying to get Team to contact over 100 Pescadores by phone, email, text, etc. Their most common response? No response. Repeated attempts yield only silence. When I hear about that kind of experience, I always have the same two thoughts: 1) They don't want to tell the Rector "No" and 2) They have something else that they would rather do. If they wanted to serve on Team, they would. If they wanted to come to the Opening or the Closing or the Mananita or the Secuela or the Team Critique presuming that they knew about them, they would.

I know some people work when some of these events are taking place. I know some care for sick family or are themselves sick. Others can't drive to events, etc... All of that brings me back to the initial point: I think that people in general, have moved on from TD / RIMA / 4th Day movements in the same way that people moved on from the Yellow Pages. For whatever reason, it doesn't fit into their lives anymore.

In the last 6 weeks, 3 different Pescadores have reached out to me with essentially the same question: Is RIMA over? Frankly, it's a question I've asked myself before.

I don't know the answer to that. But, I will say this; we're a lay led movement that exists to help guide new Pescadores through a 3 day "Weekend Experience" and into their 4th Day where they can be Christian leaders in all of their environments.

However, if you don't have new Pescadores or you can't put on a Weekend and virtually no one participates in the 4th Day, what are we doing here?

You tell me.

DeColores,

Eric

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### A CHALLENGE FROM YOUR VICE-PRESIDENT...

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I wanted to take an opportunity to reach out to you all, because we have such a wonderful common ground - our walk with Jesus.

Can you remember back to your first weekend? How about the first time you served on team? Can you remember the joy that you felt? The love with which you were surrounded?

Let me take a few minutes of your time to give you a bit of background on my walk. On my first team experience, I was a new bride of about two months. On a recent team experience, I was a new widow of about two weeks. There were many years and many team experiences in between. My walk hasn't always been an easy one, but I have always walked with the Lord. This is because of my involvement in Tres Dias and with my Tres Dias family. Tres Dias keeps the joy alive!

I have served with so many beautiful women over the years. I have sung at Mananitas for so many beautiful men. I have written and received more palanca than I could count. WHERE ARE YOU NOW ?????????? I MISS YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!

For the past several years our community has been dwindling; attendance at the openings, closings and mananitas has become almost pathetic. Sponsorship is at an all time low, and even putting together a team has been a challenge for many of our Rectors. We have had to cancel weekends because of this decline.

THE CHALLENGE:

I hereby officially challenge each and every one of you whom I have not spoken to or met at an event in the past two years to call me. That's it! Pretty simple! Call me! I want to connect (or reconnect) with you. I want to encourage you to join me at a gathering soon, and maybe even to consider someone you would like to sponsor. My phone number is: (781) 264-8302. Please call!

I will be counting the number of calls that I receive and will report back to you in the next Butterfly.

Astound me! Call me!

I do not want to sit idly by and watch the demise of Tres Dias. Let's resurrect the enthusiasm together; lets share the joy once again!

Shalom! and DeColores!

Dawn Rota

RIMA#15

(781)264-8302

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There seems to be a theme here; none of us want to see RIMA fold. I made my Cursillo weekend many years ago and there were about 30 candidates on that weekend. Fast forward to six years ago, when I became involved with Tres Dias, where we get excited if we have SIX candidates! I got saved my fist weekend as a Team member with Tres Dias and have been on fire for Jesus ever since. It has been Tres Dias that has helped me to keep that fire burning, along with my church family, where a good number of parishioners are Pescadores. I would be lost without Tres Dias and don't even want to think of my life without it. I've been told that at one time, Tres Dias also

had a lot of candidates and people hoped to be asked to be on Team. I know many of you have a heart for Tres Dias, as do I, so PLEASE, get back involved and get that fire for Tres Dias and for Jesus burning again. Come to the Openings, Mananitas, and Closings, sponsor someone, write Palanca, serve a meal, **RECONNECT**. Let's see a Tres Dias REVIVAL. There is NO down-side to Tres Dias. It's all good...led by the Holy Spirit.

God Bless, and DeColores

Lynne Cignarella

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## RIMA TRES DIAS SECRETARIAT MEETING

February 11, 2019

Liberty Christian Church, Taunton, MA

**PRESENT:** Ruth & Warren Blais, Steve & Andrea Higgins, Lynne Cignarella, Sue & Gordon Arent, Amelia Canto, Dawn Rota, Eric Anderson, Ed Casassa, Paul MacKay, and Eric and Judy Borman.

**Meeting was opened at:** 7:03pm by Eric

**Devotion and Prayer by:** Ruth Blais: 1 John 4

**Next Devotion:** Dawn

**Next meeting confirmed for:** 3/11 at Liberty Christian Center 7pm

**Requests for voting status:** None

**Corrections:** N/A

**Motion to accept amended minutes:** N/A

**Secretary's Report:** Motion to accept by Steve, second Lynne. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sent in by Bill Wronski Sr – Current balance as of February 11, is \$7379.00. However, \$1715.00 is for Scholarship.

**Corresponding Treasurer's Report:** TDI Weekends In March have received Wall Palanca from RIMA. Since last February, prayers have been sent to Tres Dias of Chiclayo, Peru.

**Corresponding Secretary's Report:** defer to March

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Deferred

**Pre-week Report:** None

**Weekend Committee Report:** Sue sent out emails and texts and has not received any responses so far.

**Post-Weekend Report:** Amelia Canto- Milford, MA

Jan 19 10:30am Milford ma. Mar 29 pm. @ Calvary Chapel. June 8 reunion seq. place tbd.

Aug 24, Gordon make yearly calendar

**Communications Report:** Gordon has not received anything from Carley. He is working on the website, 2019 calendar with Marybeth.

**Historian Report:** None

**International Tres Dias Report:** March 23 in Idaho. Need to complete international annual census.

**COMPLETED Weekends:** none

Weekends In Progress: Men's weekend meetings begin March 15. Ed Casassa, Rector, has 14 members on team and waiting for responses and no candidates as of Feb 11. He plans to write an article for the Butterfly post weekend.

Women's weekend. Vicki Shears, Rector, is having difficulty building the team but has faith that God will provide. She has 5 on team as of Feb 11 and awaiting responses from several sources. Sue, Vicki's advisor is awaiting stats from her.

Old Business: Trailer is at Steve's for repair and to ask if we can store it on camp.

**Financial aid:** tbd

**Election:** N/A

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

1. Lynne suggested that we sell RIMA items at the closings. Lynne and Ruth to take charge.
2. Amelia suggested RIMA write and article for the "Good News" newspaper.
3. There's a new WIX website. The hosting fee is \$15.99. It was suggested we pay annually to save. Steve made a motion and Gordon seconded. The motion carried.
4. RIMA considering changing rainbow symbol for RIMA. Eric will solicit designs.
5. Eric's and Gordon's names to be submitted for International Tres Dias.

**Prayer Concerns:**

Rose Breau for recovery, Lynne for job and new home; Morgan's threat of cancer; Women's and Men's Weekends; Pastors; Candidates; 4 month old girl with tumors may lose eye. Dawn's son's friend; Cignerella family after sister-in-law's death; Brenda and Frank; Thomasina; and John Polce.

**Motion to adjourn:**

**Closed in Prayer:** Steve

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dale Goulden

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Here is a Team list for the Men's weekend, so you can get started on writing Palanca.

Men's Weekend #72 May 2-5, 2019

Rector: Paul MacKay

**Team Members**

Eric Anderson	Music Director
Gordon Arent	Ideals
Waren Blais	Spiritual Director
David Baisley	Leaders
Eric Borman	Community Coordinator
Edward Casassa	Reunion Groups
Jeb DeLoach	Aux
Marc Greenwald	Spiritual Director
Paul MacKay	Rector
Rich Rioux	
Norm Shacochois	Chief
Pasquale Tofani	
William Wronski	Aux

I will forward a list of candidates as I get them.

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Some Sponsorship Guidelines from Sue Arent

The sponsorship guidelines are the cover for a larger document from a workshop I attended at the last Tres Dias International Assembly. I think it's a good quick reference. I encourage everyone to read it and pray about sponsoring. We really need candidates for our up coming weekends!



# SPONSORSHIP GUIDELINES

## SPIRIT OF GRACE TRES DIAS

### IMPORTANCE OF SPONSORSHIP

- Sponsorship is one of the *essentials* of Tres Dias.
- Tres Dias is not a walk-in and sign up organization. It is by invitation only.
- Sponsorship is an act of *sacrificial love*.
- Sponsorship is an act of *spiritual warfare*.

### WHOM SHOULD YOU SPONSOR

- Begin in *prayer*.
- Tres Dias is designed for *Christians*.
- Tres Dias is not for everyone.
- Those whom you should consider inviting:
  - Church leaders
  - Dependable church members
  - Less active church members
  - Unchurched believers who are potential church members
  - Unchurched Christians who are hungry for “something more”
- The following are *not* ideal candidates and you should not sponsor such a candidate without much prayer and sound Christian counsel.
  - Non-Christians (persons with no relationship to Jesus Christ’s church)
  - Persons undergoing a severe emotional crisis requiring professional counseling.
  - Persons who repeatedly decline to make a weekend after being invited.
  - Persons looking for another “spiritual high” or another experience to help them “arrive.”
  - Persons living in a non-Christian lifestyle.

### HOW TO SPONSOR

- Start early (three to six months before the weekend)
- Consider making your invitation a special occasion.
- Avoid “spooking” with unnecessary secrecy, but save the surprises.



# SAVE THE DATE



## SECUELA



MARCH 30, 2019  
7 P.M.



UNION CHURCH OF SOUTH FOXBORO

384 SOUTH STREET, FOXBOROUGH

BRING A SNACK TO SHARE

BRING FRIENDS, FAMILY, NEW  
PESCADORES

RIMA 2019 Calendar

03/30            **SECUELA** - 7 PM – Location TBD

04/08 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – LCC, 159 Winthrop St., Taunton, MA

05/02 - 05      **MEN’S WEEKEND #72 – Rector Ed Casassa, Cathedral Camp, Freetown, MA**

05/16-05/19   **WOMEN’S WEEKEND #72 – Rector Vicki Shears**

05/13 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – Location TBD

06/08 (Fri.)    **REUNION SECUELA** - 7-10 PM

06/10 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – Location TBD

08/12 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – Location TBD

08/24 (Sat.)    **SECUELA** – at Arent’s, 2PM – 10PM

09/09 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – Christ Community Church, Bblackstone, MA

09/19 – 09/22 **MEN’S WEEKEND #73 –**

10/03- 10/06   **WOMEN’S WEEKEND #73 – Rector Nancy Cargene**

10/14 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – Location TBD

10/19 (Sat.)    **REUNION SECUELA** - 7-10 PM

11/11 (Mon.)   **SECRETARIAT** – Location TBD

12 /07 (Sat.)   **CHRISTMAS PARTY**



A lot of you may remember years ago when we used to sell things at the Closings. We are bringing that back, starting with the Men’s Closing in May. We will be selling Bumper Stickers, T-Shirts, bookmarkers and more. Come to the Closing and check it out. I would love to see you there.

Blessings,  
Lynne