

The Butterfly



The RIMA TRES DIAS Community Newsletter

September 2018

Editor Lynne Cignarella ~ Lynnepj36@aol.com

I hope to see the "President's Corner" return next month.

RIMA TRES DIAS SECRETARIAT MEETING

August 13, 2018

Liberty Christian Church, Taunton, MA

PRESENT: Steve and Andrea Higgins, Gordon and Susan Arent, Lynne Cignarella, Winnie Loan, Pastors Ruth and Warren Blais; by Zoom: Dawn Rota

Meeting was opened by Dawn at 7:20

Devotion and Prayer by Gordon Arent

Next meeting confirmed for Monday, September 10, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Taunton;

Devotion and prayer by Pastor Warren

Requests for voting status - None

Secretary's Report: Presented by Dawn; Motion to accept minutes from June 11 mtg as amended made by Sue, seconded by Pastor Ruth ; carried

Treasurer's Report: Deferred until September

Corresponding Secretary's Report: emailed by Judy, 7 wall palanca sent

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Pre-Weekend Report: Presented by Lynne; one confirmed candidate for Women's weekend

Weekend Committee Report: presented by Sue; Vicki Shears and Ed Casassa will be Spring 2019 rectors; no confirmed fall rectors; training will be in January;

Committee will work on check list for clean up; next meeting in September

Post-Weekend Report: No report; next Secula at the Arents, August 25th

Communications Report: Presented by Lynne; Butterfly went out; hoping to get "President's" report for August.

Historian Report: Nothing to report

International Tres Dias Report: Presented by Sue; All proxy votes passed; Officers elected and 8 members to Secretariat; Sue will be writing an article for the Butterfly

Completed Weekends:

Women's # 70, Sue Arent, Rector; Sue presented thorough report for a very successful weekend, including positive responses to some new initiatives, a demographic breakdown and considerations for future weekends. At the critique meeting it was announced that 10 Bibles had been purchased and inscribed in memory of Joe Rota, Lee Messier and Marie Sullivan.

Weekends in Progress:

Women's # 71, Nov 1 to 4, Lynne Cignarella's team consists of 25 members, some 0, 1, and 2 timers; Scripture is Psalm 3:3 "But You, Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high."; one confirmed candidate, Jessica Lenahan

Old Business:

- Website Upgrade: New website - RimaTresDias.org; Gordon meeting with Marybeth before sequela to work on website, and will arrange redirection from old site to new
- Lynne will update application to include statement of belief and comment section
- Sponsorship needs to be discussed; "Role of Sponsorship" to be included in Butterfly

- Pastor Ruth in contact with a pastor from Hanson

New Business:

- Gordon updated change of Directors and submitted to State Dept
- Also submitted IRS 99N form
- Annual reports must be filed with State of MA and signed by Secretary
- Certificate of exemption received
- Forms to be filed every year:
 - 99N
 - Annual Report with State
 - Annual Report with Attorney General

Prayer Concerns:

People in California, Sue's cousin Fred, elderly in community, Chrissy, Lynne's dad, Leigh, Eric's team, Lynne's team, Bonnie, churches, pastors, country, elections in CT

Motion to adjourn

Closed in prayer by Steve at 8:28

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Rota

RIMA TRES DIAS SECRETARIAT MEETING

June 11, 2018

Liberty Christian Church, Taunton, MA

Amended Report

PRESENT: Eric Anderson, Steve and Andrea Higgins, Gordon and Susan Arent, Dawn Rota, Lynne Cignarella, Winnie Loan, Pastors Ruth and Warren Blais; Zoom, Eric and Judy Borman

Meeting was opened by Eric at 7:11

Devotion and Prayer by Judy B

Next meeting confirmed for Monday, August 13, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Taunton; Gordon will give devotion

Requests for voting status - None

Secretary's Report: Presented by Dawn; Motion to accept minutes from May 14 mtg made by Steve, seconded by Lynne ; carried

Treasurer's Report: Motion to defer report made by Steve, seconded by Sue; carried

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Presented by Judy, 7 wall palanca sent

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Pre-Weekend Report: None

Weekend Committee Report: No meeting; planning a Zoom meeting; Eric Borman will be Rector for Men's # 71

Post-Weekend Report: No report; nest Secula at the Arents, August 25th

Communications Report: Lynne waiting for "Presidents Corner" for Butterfly; Butterfly should go out monthly

Historian Report: Nothing to report

International Tres Dias Report: Presented by Sue; Arents, Bormans and Jeanne Norwood will be attending in July. Secretariat approved change of "Services Committee" To "Communications Committee"; Delegate to vote on officers; proposing changing length of term for officers from 2 to 3 years

Completed Weekends:

Men's #70, Gordon Arent, Rector, presented a complete report of successful weekend; discussed critique forms

Women's # 70, Sue Arent, Rector

Weekends in Progress:

Men's # 71, Sept 27 to 30, Eric B, Rector, beginning to form team

Women's # 71, Nov 1 to 4, Lynne Cignarella, reports team coming together and most rollos are covered

Eric A signed contracts for spring weekends

Old Business:

Website Upgrade - Marybeth needs ownership of domain; discussed using credit/debit card (will ask Bill to look into this); Eric A will look into changing hosting company; can reapply for domain name 8/27

New Business:

- Vice Presidency
- Outreach to Churches; Ruth is in contact with a Pastor in Hanson
- Need to update application form to include cell phone # and email address; should include statement of belief
- Tax Free Form I9 or ST2

International Assembly; Secretariat approved change of "Services Committee" To "Communications Committee"; Delegate to vote on officers; proposing changing length of term for officers from 2 to 3 years. Motion to accept budget (tier structure unchanged) made by Sue, seconded by Dawn, carried

Prayer Concerns:

Steve's friend's wife Meryl, Sue's knee, Ed cancer, Lynne's friend Dawn, Frank, Lynne, new job, Andrea, Leigh

Motion to adjourn made by Eric A, seconded by Steve , carried

Closed in prayer at 9:30

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Rota

Tres Dias International 39th General Assembly
Cleveland, Ohio
July 13-15, 2018

I gave my report of the General Assembly to Secretariat regarding the outcome of the proxy votes (all passed), but I wanted to share a phrase that was repeated throughout the weekend - at meetings, workshops and within conversations: **"We have to build communities, not weekends."** Tres Dias is more than just '72 continuous hours!' Pre and post weekend activities are very important to the health and vitality of a community.

Good sponsorship is essential. Tres Dias is for Christians who wish to have a closer relationship with Christ. The Essentials Preamble states, *"to bring Christians to a closer, more personal walk with their Lord Jesus Christ and encourage them to Christian leadership and Apostolic Action in their environments."*

That being said, I wish to speak to post-weekend, the 4th Day – what happens after the three-day weekend. There's a reason we are referred to as a 4th Day Movement. Communities that are vibrant and growing, and sponsoring new communities have a healthy, active 4th Day - Reunion Groups, Secuelas and other 4th Day events. Those communities that are struggling, and by struggling we mean difficulty getting team members, same people serving on team, poor attendance at team meetings, small numbers of Pilgrims/candidates on a weekend, few or no reunion Groups, few or no Secuelas, small numbers of Pescadores involved in Secretariat, or willing to hold an office or committee chair position.

Unfortunately, RIMA is part of the latter group which Tres Dias International (TDI) is referring to as 'critical care communities.' In 2017, RIMA had 12 new Pescadores. North Georgia had 132, Music City, 214, SE Texas 155. Our rectors spend hours calling for team members only to have their calls, texts and emails ignored. And when someone does respond, the answer is very frequently 'no.'

A Pescadore should not be on team more than once a year and attendance at team meetings is essential! And that's if this is your first team experience or your 25th! One purpose of team meetings is to build a loving community that welcomes the Pilgrims on the weekend. You can't build community if you're not there!

But I want to concentrate on our 4th Day. Again referring to the Essentials:

The Pre -weekend and Weekend phases are only a prelude to each individual's Fourth Day.

Reunion Groups

A. That local secretariats encourage Pescadores to participate in Reunion Groups.

B. That local secretariats utilize the form of the reunion group known as "The Working Reunion Group," to carry out the activities of the TRES DIAS Movement.*

2. Secuelas

A. That local secretariats sponsor regularly scheduled Secuelas; preferably at least once each month.

B. That each Secuela include an opportunity for Pescadores to participate in the form of reunion group known as "The Floating Reunion Group."

C. That each Secuela include a "Fourth Day Talk."

After years of not having a chairperson, Post Weekend Committee now has a chairperson, Amelia Canto. Amelia is a relatively new Pescadore who has accepted this responsibility. She will be working to schedule Secuelas. If your church is able to host a Secuela, please give her a call or respond when she calls you. Amelia will also be trying to identify existing Reunion Groups and create new ones. Please make her job an easy one by responding!

And lastly, Secretariat meets the 2nd Monday of each month at Liberty Christian Center in Taunton, MA. There are 10-12 people who attend regularly. Please come and support RIMA – we'd love to have you!

RIMA was once a vibrant community with full weekends and an active 4th Day! We can work together and make this happen again.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Arent TDI delegate

Pictures from the Secuela/BBQ on August 25th at Sue and Gordon Arent's. It was a fun time. Great hosts, good food and fellowship.



RIMA 4th Day Event at the Arent's
Griswold, CT



Sue
Arent

Lynne
Cignarella

Dawn
Rota

08 25 2018



Christene
Sassa

Tyler
Winnings

Emily
Passarello

08 25 2018





Some news from Tres Dias International



The President's Letter

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I thank our Lord for calling me to serve as president of the Tres Dias International Secretariat (TDI). As I look at what lies ahead for this ministry, I am especially thankful for one of God's faithful servants, Frank Yarbrough, for his mentoring and leadership over the past couple of years. During his time as president, Frank's focus was on unity, with an emphasis on improving communication among those of us on the Secretariat and between the Secretariat and the communities. The launch of the regional liaison program, described in this issue's feature story, was an important step in responding to those needs.

In 1 Cor. 12, Paul tells us that we all have different gifts, just as the body has different parts, but we are all one body. And so it is with Tres Dias. We have many different communities, but we are part of one body. Each community is filled with servant leaders with particular spiritual gifts and talents, just as those of us on the Secretariat have our gifts. One part is not more important than the other, and each part is absolutely necessary.

We believe that Christ blessed this ministry to strengthen and extend His body by bringing Christians to a closer, more personal walk with Him, and by encouraging them to Christian leadership and apostolic action. The word "apostle" means "someone who is sent with a message"--in this case, a message of Christ's saving love. This is why the more than 100 Tres Dias communities exist. Understanding that, the question becomes, why then does the International Secretariat exist? The International Secretariat exists to support and encourage our communities, to help them grow and to strengthen them in carrying out that important calling.

If I were to pick one word to use as a guide for TDI in my upcoming term, it would be "RESPONSIVE"--responsive to the calling that God has given us and responsive to supporting our worldwide communities. To accomplish that, those of us on the International Secretariat must hold ourselves accountable for developing the tools and practices that will help our communities build on successes and overcome challenges in their unique cultural environments. In the upcoming months, you will see initiatives unfold to support that goal, as well as to protect the image and reputation of Tres Dias globally.

We also know from 1 Cor. 12:26, "If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is

honored, every part rejoices with it." While some communities are flourishing, others have atrophied, with some struggling to survive. Paul's message is as appropriate to Tres Dias today as it was to the Corinthian church some 2000 years ago. We all share the responsibility to ensure the success of His ministry. Please prayerfully consider how you can make a difference by contributing through your time, talents and spiritual gifts. **YOU ARE IMPORTANT!**

I look forward, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and with your involvement, to help make this a more fruitful ministry for Christ.

DeColores,
Denny Farkas
President
Tres Dias International

A Widow's Tale



Mary Wolf, a dear sister in Christ, gave me this personal story for publication. The names have not been changed; Mary feels that this makes the story more real. --Patti Jo

A prelude to my Tres Dias experience happened in 1994 when a couple at my church offered to sponsor me on Walk to Emmaus. I said, "No but thanks," as I wanted to wait until my husband could go first. He wasn't a believer at that time, and I didn't want to get too far ahead of him spiritually.

In 2012, I was invited to attend a Tres Dias weekend. I didn't hesitate this time, as I had recently lost my husband to cancer. Yes, he did accept our Lord Jesus as Savior before passing. Eric, my hairdresser, and his wife, Sara, walked with me through Wayne's cancer, praying over me and my family. They would be my sponsor.

I came to Tres Dias expecting a restful weekend--no phone, no distractions and time for prayer. And it started off pretty much as I had anticipated, apart from the chicken song and singing for my dinner! But I knew I had come to the right place and that God was up to something. That was confirmed when I received my seat assignment at the Table of Ruth, named after my favorite person and favorite book in the Old Testament.

Then Father God favored me again when we were given the scripture for the weekend:

Isaiah 43:18-19:

"Forget the things that happened in the past. Do not keep thinking about them. I am about to do something new. It is beginning to happen even now. Don't you see it coming? I am going to make a way for you to go through the desert. I will make streams of water in the dry and empty land."

After my husband passed, I was constantly asking God, "What are you going to do with me now, in my singleness?" I felt the verse provided confirmation that I was heading in the right direction, and I felt something new was beginning to happen.

But it was Saturday that rocked my world. I was alone that morning in the rollo room when I took out my journal from home to reflect on the weekend so far. My bookmark is a laminated copy of Wayne's obituary from the newspaper, complete with my favorite picture of him. I immediately thought how God had provided a way for Wayne to be on the weekend too! All those years I had waited, and the Lord honored that.

At Saturday dinner, I took a seat among the 130 ladies. I glanced at the little gifts left on my place mat from the kitchen team. I suddenly burst into tears and just wept. On the table was a card with just one word written: "Beloved"-- which is what I had called my husband.

And if that wasn't enough, when the men arrived for the serenade, my sponsor was directly in front of me! A hundred men encircled the tables and God set Eric right in front of me!! And when these men of God turned and prayed for us, standing guard, I knew that I would never be alone, that these brothers in Christ would be there for me.

The Sunday morning chapel held a revelation that I knew, but somehow had forgotten. No one took a seat next to me. I thought, do I smell bad? But Father God was saving the seat for Cheryl. During worship I was overwhelmed with thoughts of the future, the uncertainty of going it alone as a widow. Suddenly Cheryl took my hand and spoke this truth, "Jesus is walking beside you, and will go with you always." It was as if she had heard my unspoken words.

In my 4th day, I knew that all of this had been the Trinity speaking to me and comforting me. I was delivered from fear and doubt and into God's definite and fixed purpose and plan. I had approached God with a broken heart, and He offered a new life in His unfolding love.

DeColores!
Mary Wolf

Finding Freedom At the Foot of the Cross



By Susie Trefney

If I had to wrap up my Tres Dias weekend into one nice, neat little package I would have to say that the experience dropped my "head knowledge" into my spirit where I can finally own it. It is now a living experience that I understand at a deep level. And when there is true spiritual knowledge at a soul level, God just continues to grow it, nurture it expand it, and beautify it!

I woke up early Sunday morning of my candidate weekend with the words "You're FREE" in my head. I was so excited I got out of bed and paced the cabin with tears rolling down my cheeks. I just wanted to shout from the rooftop, and I would have, except that everyone was sleeping! This was the turning point in my Christian walk. I finally understood that it took Jesus and obedience to Him to lay my "daddy issues" at the cross and leave them there. For decades I had been trying to lay down the guilt I created as a child for not being able to take care of my dad after my parents divorced. Jesus taught me that "apart from me you can do nothing" (John 15:5). When Jesus takes your "stuff," there is true freedom.

I have been serving ever since. And every time I do, Jesus has something new for me. In the spring I did the environments talk. God told me to focus on the environment of our hearts. As I began writing my talk, I thought I was writing it for the candidates. But of course, God showed me that it was for ME also. I had already been set free from my childhood guilt, and now he was leading me to understand the destruction that guilt had caused throughout four failed marriages. I had no idea that when I was done with my talk, I would be able to lay yet another part of my life at the cross and move forward on fresh ground once again. It was a humbling experience. God is so incredibly sweet.

(I choke up even writing this)

Heading back into a season of serving makes me giddy. I literally feel like a little child at Christmas. I recently told this to a friend, and then it dawned on me--of course it makes me feel that way because we come to Him as little children. He has only good things for us and we aren't always quite sure what they are. It will take some emotional unwrapping to see what the treasure inside is. And it's always better than what we wanted or imagined.

I am a mom to three grown children, two girls and a son with Down Syndrome, and also to three grown stepsons. I am a grandma to two granddaughters, ages two and nine. I am a first-grade teacher and have been teaching for 27 years. I am a wife of 10 years in October. I am a daughter, a sibling and a friend. I am a lot of things. They have all been such rich, challenging blessings. I'm now also a "Tres Dias lifer." I have never felt so overwhelmingly satisfied as when I am serving candidates with my Tres Dias family.

Susie's story was originally published in the Tres Dias of Montana newsletter. Thanks to Communications Director Michele Blodgett for sending the story to us.

What Tres Dias Means to Me

By David McClay

I have been a non-Christian Christian for many more years than I've been a believing Christian. It wasn't until my first Tres Dias weekend that I really met Christ.

I'm still meeting Him.

One of the things I've started to realize is that while that weekend and its scripture of Matthew 6:33 ("Seek ye first") mean so much to me, our walk is not about weekends but about our lives from the weekend forward. I can honestly say that my weekend started a great period of personal growth that will continue till I go home. I have my church activities, my reunion group of men (my brothers because of Christ), and my family. They, too, have grown in their Fourth Day. My wife has served Red Cross, my daughter has served my church and addiction afflicted people, and God has become the central person in our home. (Yes, He is that real. We can't think of Him any other way).

My favorite time of day is coffee time with Dad in the morning, when I go to the kitchen table with a cup of brew, a Bible and a blessing. We talk to each other occasionally all day long now, but that's the only time we have alone. For me, I would be totally off-kilter without coffee time.

Reunion groups are the essential part of the Tres Dias walk. God intends for us to be in constant fellowship with Him and with other like-minded people. My reunion group is small but powerful. We meet once a month (I hope we will meet more often) to discuss piety, study and action while we lift each other up. We give each other good company in line with 1 Corinthians 15:33 (Bad company corrupts good morals), and Christ meets with us at a truck stop for breakfast. Our reunion group provides us with a safe place to check in, pray for each other, and discuss ways to actively apply scripture to our everyday lives. We learn to love each other and love our churches. We become more grounded, and thus, better servants to people God wants us to truly love.

So, to sum it all up, without my Tres Dias weekend I would not have been led to be a better servant. I would have no reunion group. I would not have morning coffee with Dad. While I still would have been a Christian, I would not be a believing Christian. I met Him that weekend, and I've been meeting Him ever since. All because someone made me their friend.

David is a member of the Tres Dias of Fairfield County community.

Fall Weekends:

Unfortunately, it was voted at the August Secretariat meeting to cancel the Men's fall weekend, #71. We did not have any candidates for this weekend and you cannot have a weekend without candidatess!. PLEASE start thinking NOW about who to sponsor for the next men's weekends in 2019 and the upcoming Women's Weekend.

Women's #71

November 1 – 4, 2018

Rector – Lynne Cignarella

Weekends in 2019:

Spring

Men's #72
May 2 – May 5, 2019
Rector – Ed Casassa

Women's #72
May 16 – May 19, 2019
Rector – Vicki Shears

Fall

Men's #73
September 19 – 22, 2019
Rector – TBA

Women's #73
October 3 – 6, 2019
Rector - TBA

ARE YOU READY TO BE A SPONSOR?

Do you know what it really means to be a sponsor? We all know the obvious things:

- Invite a friend to a Weekend
- Help with application
- Get candidate's minister to sign the application
- Write a Palanca letter
- Do kitchen Palanca
- Attend the Closing
- Take Pescadore home from the Weekend

That's it, right? Wrong! That is only a very small beginning. Are you aware of how really big a decision it is to sponsor someone? Are you aware that your responsibility does not end with the trip home after the weekend? It is necessary to consider some other things.

- Do you know your candidate really well?
- Are you sensitive to where your candidate is, in relationship to God?
- Are you sure that your candidate can handle the Weekend:
 - Emotionally
 - Spiritually
 - In good health?
- Are you willing to assist and to consider your candidate's family during the weekend?
- Can you milk their cows?
- Are you willing to take the children to the baseball game, music lessons, movies....?
- Have you considered inviting your candidate's family for a meal?

Most important of all.... Are you well established in your 4th Day?

Do you attend a Reunion of Friends?

Do you attend Secuelas?

Do you attend Mananitas and Closings?

Do you participate in Secretariat?

Are you willing to ask the new Pescadore to join your Reunion of Friends or help start a new Reunion Group? Will you invite the new Pescadore to join you at Tres Dias activities, such as: Secuelas, Closings, and Secretariat meetings?

That's right, do a little thinking and praying about all of this! If you then still want to sponsor someone, you are heading in the right direction.

DON'T FORGET TO ASK THE LORD ~ WHOM HE WOULD HAVE YOU SPONSOR?

RIMA #71 Team

Ruth Blais	Spiritual Director
Warren Blais	Spiritual Director
Kathy Bracken	Prayer Team
Rose Breau	Prayer Team
Amelia Canto	Prayer Team
Nancy Cargene	Community Coordinator / Float Angel
Lynne Cignarella	Rector
Alice Ennis	Environments / Table Leader
Susan Ferland	Break Angel
Dale Goulden	Study / Table Leader

Pat Hardy	CCIA / Table Leader
Mary Hoyle	Reunion Groups / Table Leader
Jan MacKay	Community Coordinator / Float Angel
Terry Miller	Action / Chapel Angel
Dawn Rota	Chief
Sara Sabo	Music Director / Piety
Christene Sassa	Palanca Angel
Jane Scalli	Ideals / Break Angel
Becky Shears	Chapel Angel
Vicki Shears	Leaders / Table Leader
Joyce St. Jean	Church / Table Leader
Janice Taylor	Palanca Angel
Joan Tetreault	Table Leader
Sharyn Weir	Rollo Room Angel
Julie White	Table Leader

Candidate – so far

Jessica Lenahan

***PLEASE NOTE: Our website has changed from RIMAtresdias.**COM** to RIMAtresdias.**ORG**

Reminder: If anyone has something they would like to share in the Butterfly, please email it to me.

Respectfully submitted
In His precious name,

Lynne Cignarella