

402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446

JAVA Meeting Minutes

Date: May 9, 2005
Location: St. Charles Pastoral Center
Time: 2:00 P.M.

Present: Carolyn Jost, SSND, Marj Westendorf, OSF, Doloria Kosiak, OSF, Myra Lambert, SSCM, John Regan, POD, Sr. Deborah Suddarth, OSF, Nora Labanauskas, Ron Beaumont, Sr. Margaret Kelly, OSF, Sr. Helen Kormelink, OSF

- I. **Prayer:** Sr. Deborah led us in prayer with a worship music video.

- II. **Formation:** Sr. Helen Jean Kormelink, osf, Superintendent of Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Joliet spoke to JAVA. Sr. Helen Jean is a Benedictine from Ferdinand, IN. Sr. Helen Jean started off by asking for an explanation of what JAVA is. Fr. John explained the role of JAVA in the diocese and also mentioned that all DOJ agency directors were invited to attend a JAVA meeting to have a conversation of how vocations can connect with their agency. Sr. Helen Jean is interested in JAVA helping her to find out how those in Catholic schools can be better prepared to be vocation ministers. She spent 4 years as Assistant Superintendent and this is her 7th year as Superintendent. There are 69 Catholic schools in the diocese. 26,000 students and 1300 teachers. The first regional Catholic school will be opening in the Fall of 2005 in Naperville. There will be 1105 students with 3 grades each up to 8th grade. When Sr. Helen Jean was asked to attend this meeting she wasn't sure what was done for vocations in the schools so did her research to find out.

The schools minister to the families as well as the students and bring Catholic values to them. REO has the Generations of Faith program for families. In parishes where there are schools, the priest is present for the Mass and the children get exposure to him. The priest is then able to talk about vocations. Priests/pastors excited about their own vocation will talk about vocations at a liturgy. The teachers all want the priests to interact more with the children if possible. If there is a Sister in the parish, they are invited into the classroom also. Sister Helen Jean feels that if the children interact with a priest or religious at a younger age, they will feel comfortable relating with them at an older age and might consider a religious vocation. The schools she contacted said that they do receive things from the DOJ Vocation Office, but she said they need a nudge to participate. The group that writes the curriculum was asked by Sister to add something for vocations and that vocations should be integrated into what they are already doing. She will ask JAVA for input next year for the curriculum. She also asked to be put on our mailing list in the future so that she is aware of what is being sent to the schools from the Vocation Office so that she can add it to the newsletter and her correspondence to the schools to encourage them to participate in the events we offer. Sr. Myra thanked Sr. Helen Jean for coming and speaking to the group and for thinking about what she can do for vocations in the schools.

III. Minutes: April minutes were accepted.

IV. Setting of Priorities for 2005-2006:

We need to set Goals & Objectives for the coming year. This year was centered on the college level. Marion Days & Jeremiah Days were successful this year due to Ron Beaumont's footwork. Ron suggested getting the dates for next year on the calendar sooner so that we can work on getting more attendance. Sr. Deb said that communication is very important and it was suggested by Sr. Carolyn to get these dates onto the school calendars well in advance. The following list was determined for JAVA to concentrate on in 2005-2006:

- Continue on college level – BPR & coffee/donuts at finals
- Finish *hat project at colleges not gotten to this year
- Vocation Fairs – high school & grade schools
- Marian Days/Jeremiah Days/Emmaus Days
- Work on Communication
- Hispanic activity
- Grandparents (Generations of Faith/link through REO Web Site <http://www.generationsoffaith.org/>)
- Career Day/Vocation Day at college, public and Catholic h.s.
- Parish Vocation Contacts/family
- Generate more people to help with JAVA projects

V. Summer Events / Projects:

A. Vocation Retreat in Spanish, June 12, 2005 – Nora will call Sr. Judy Callahan to find out if this is still scheduled.

B. Pope John Paul II and Vocations – John asked if it's worthwhile to do now or wait till Sanctification. Group thought we should skip it now.

C. Emmaus Days – There has not been enough build up or contact with the jr. high and high school students to have an Emmaus Days retreat that is well attended.

VI. Announcements:

JAVA Appreciation Event will be held June 23rd at the Fiat House. Cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m.

VII. Dates for Next Calendar Year:

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| • 8/24/05 | JAVA Picnic/Noon | Location TBA |
| • 9/12/05 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |
| • 10/17/05 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |
| • 11/14/05 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |
| • 12/12/05 | Christmas Lunch/Meeting
Noon | Fiat House |
| • 1/9/06 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |
| • 2/13/06 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |
| • NO MARCH MEETING | | |
| • 4/3/06 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |
| • 5/8/06 | Meeting 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. | Pastoral Center |

VIII. Adjournment

IX. Next Meeting: August 24, 2005
Location TBA
Chair: Fr. John
Prayer: Sr. Marj
Secretary: Nora Labanauskas
Formation: