



Joliet Area Vocation Association

**402 S. Independence Blvd.
Romeoville, IL 60446**

JAVA Meeting Minutes

Date: September 13, 2006
Location: St. Charles Pastoral Center
Time: 1:00 p.m.

Present: Barb Kwiatkowski, Carolyn Jost, Ronald Beaumont, Burke Masters, Marj Westendorf, Guy Jelinek, Nora Labanauskas, Christine Kouba, David Bohnsack, Gesuina Bongiorno, Jim McDonald, Suzanne Petruski, Maria Brizuela

Before the meeting began we had introductions for the new members attending. Nora passed out copies of previous BPR booklets for everyone to see how the Busy Persons Retreat works. Guy was scheduled to chair the meeting but called to say he would be late. Burke chaired the meeting till Guy arrived.

- I. Opening Prayer:** Sr. Marjorie
- II. August Minutes:** Correction to the August minutes: Section VII. C. Catholic High Schools should read: *JCA will host a vocation fair every other year. The next one will be in 2008. Claire is to check with St. Francis to see if they would host one this year.*
- III. JAVA Goals & Objectives 2006-07 Revised:** Additional changes were made to the Goals & Objectives. Will be revised and updated and will be sent via email to everyone.
- IV. JAVA Calendar:** It was decided that 2 pm – 4 pm works better for most people. Meeting dates for the remainder of the year were set as follows:

October 25, 2006	2 pm – 4 pm	St. Charles Pastoral Center
December 6, 2006	4 pm – ?	Fiat House (Christmas Party)
January 24, 2007	2 pm – 4 pm	St. Charles Pastoral Center
March 14, 2007	2 pm – 4 pm	St. Charles Pastoral Center
April 25, 2007	2 pm – 4 pm	St. Charles Pastoral Center
May 16, 2007	2 pm – 4 pm	St. Charles Pastoral Center
June 13, 2007	End of Year Party	TBA

Vocation Awareness Week is 1/8/07 – 1/12/07

- V. Priorities/Projects (Choosing Programs & Setting Dates):**
 - A. Grade Schools** – Burke spoke with Madonna Turner from the Catholic Schools Office. Madonna has sent info to the principals informing them of JAVA and that we offer programs for the grade schools. Burke will contact the Catholic Schools office to give

them a nudge for us to get in there with some programs. Sr. Barb mentioned that Chicago put out a lesson plan for vocations. Burke is familiar with it and said it is called “What Is My Vocation” by Joe Noonan. Sr. Barb will be getting a copy of it.

B. Religious Education Programs – We do not have much contact with them and Burke wants to get more involved with them. Nora will contact Tom Quinlan, the Diocesan Director of Religious Education to see if there is a meeting that is held with all the diocesan DREs some time during the year that perhaps someone from JAVA can attend to speak with them about JAVA. Burke will also speak with him to see if we can get something going with the parish RE programs. Burke started Kairos retreats for the public school kids in his parish in West Chicago and said they were starving for something like that. Perhaps we can get something like that going with the parishes.

C. Catholic High Schools – Madonna Turner has sent info to the principals informing them of JAVA and that we offer programs for the grade schools. Burke would like to do something during Vocation Awareness Week 1/8 – 1/12. He is looking at doing something regionally. Perhaps a program each day of that week at a different school. He asked that calendars be kept open for that week till we have something more concrete put together. One possibility is to have a high school host a vocation fair and present to the juniors and seniors in the morning and local grade schools, grades 7 & 8, in the afternoon. Guy will check with Benet for interest and availability. Another possibility is to see if St. Francis or Providence would be interested. We will try to alternate high schools every year to keep a rotation going.

D. Youth Groups – Guy suggested meeting with the Youth Ministers of the parishes. Nora will contact Paul Mach from the Diocese to see if we can get into one of the meetings with the Youth Ministers of the parishes to talk with them also. Sr. Gesuina spoke with Eric the Youth Minister at St. Mary’s in Plainfield. He has expressed interest in doing something on vocations. Ron also mentioned Jeremiah Day and Sr. Carolyn brought up Marian Day. It was decided that we should continue with those retreats this year. Sr. Marjorie suggested getting the brochures out to the schools earlier this year. A date of March 10, 2007 was picked. Burke will check with Mundelein and Sr. Maria will check with the motherhouse in Frankfort to see if the date is okay.

E. University Campuses – BPR/Beverages & Donuts -

Check the JAVA commitment sheet for dates of Busy Person’s Retreats. Midwestern University was added to the list of diocesan campuses that Kevin O’Donnell covers. It was asked if we want to do something different than donuts and beverages this year. The directors that hosted them said they liked them and want to continue this year. We need to get exam dates from Kevin.

F. Young Adult Groups – Burke started a group called Spirit & Truth in West Chicago. It is a national organization started in Atlanta for young adults. There are three parts to the meeting:

Part I is Formation – the group meets weekly and brings in a speaker on various topics.

Part II is Adoration – 45 minutes to an hour of quiet time.

Part III is Social Time for the group.

The group in West Chicago has grown to over 100 people. Burke's goal as vocation director is to get this going in more locations in the diocese. It is parish run. Once it is started by someone knowledgeable about it, it is then turned over to the young adults to run on their own. Some vocations come out of this.

Sr. Maria asked if anyone was familiar with 7-11 Ministry Days. It is shadowing a priest or nun. Starts with morning prayer and then you spend the day with them and it closes at the end of the day with Eucharist followed by dinner and social time. The age group is 18+. Sr. Carolyn said that it is tentatively set to happen in Chicago and she will let us know how it goes.

G. Vocations In Our Families - John Regan expressed interest at the last year that as a pastor he would be interested in hosting it at his parish. Nora will check with John to see if he still interested and get a date from him if he is.

H. Parish Vocation Contacts – For the past several years there has been a training workshop in the Fall at the Fiat House. Ron doesn't want to rush into it this year unless it is well planned. He also thinks that as the numbers grow, they won't be able to fit into the Fiat House. Ron feels it is important to work from the top down. He thinks Bishop should talk to the pastors and the pastors should support a parish vocation team. He suggests having the workshop in January or February.

I. Bulletin Profiles– We will not be working on these this year.

J. Seminarian Poster & Directory– We will be doing a poster this year, but there most likely will not be a directory.

K. Rosary for Vocations– Burke is working on it with Bishop Sartain, Knights of Columbus and Serra. The Bishop would like to make a CD with himself leading the rosary and would like to have the seminarians involved somehow. It would be given out free to those who ask for one. It would be advertised on the web and Relevant Radio.

VI. Vocations.com Web Site – Burke has to talk to the Bishop regarding the web site.

VII. New Business - none

VIII. Announcements – Sr. Barb announced that her community will again be hosting dinner and dialogue this year as they did last year for women. This year there will be 2 dinners offered.

IX. Meeting Adjourned

X. Next Meeting: **Wednesday, October 25, 2006**
Location: **St. Charles Pastoral Center**
Time: **2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**
Chair: **Burke Masters**
Secretary: **Nora Labanauskas**
Prayer: **Jim McDonald**