

Connecting National and Local Secretariats

CONEXIONES

Volume 22
Number 3
August 2004

Official Publication of the National Lutheran Secretariat, VdC



NLS 2004 Annual Meeting July 22 — 25, 2004 in Knoxville, Tennessee

We have just completed another Spirit Enriching annual meeting. We were fed in so many ways by the fellowship of other Cursillistas from throughout our nation. If you missed the excitement and want to share it with your secretariat you can find the daily newsletters on the web. This newsletter contains some of the pictures, introductions of our newest board and appointed members, lots of minutes and our financial information, plus a look ahead to next year's annual meeting in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Inside CONEXIONES

- Welcome: Jerry & Pastor Joe**
Page 3
- Conference Call Minutes
& Welcome: John**
pages 4-5
- Annual Meeting Minutes**
pages 6-7
- President Larry & MTA**
Page 8
- 2005 Committee**
Page 9
- Annual Meeting Minutes**
Page 10-11
- Outreach & Admin. Reports**
Page 12
- Financials & Budget**
Pages 13-14
- Palanca & Welcome: Paul**
Pages 15

NLS Executive Committee

President

Larry Witham
5211 Rounding Run Road
Charlotte, NC 28277
704-541-7252 (H)
704-282-2244(O)
lwitham@carolina.rr.com

Spiritual Director

Rev. Joseph Nilsen
2140 Ona Road
Crossville, TN 38572
931-788-3838 (H)
joenils@frontiernet.net

Vice President of Administration

Tracy Ziemke
11461 Sylvania Avenue
Berkey, OH 43504
419-829-6463 (H)
tzvdc@aol.com

Vice President of Outreach

Ron Millard
1607 Greenfield Drive
Washington, IL 61571-2230
309-444-4225 (H)
ron@ssi.net

Secretary

Sue Kralj
906 Beaverdale Lane
Rockledge, FL 32955
321-636-7403 (H)
suluwho@aol.com

Treasurer

Jerry Lemcke
6139 Sunnyvale Drive
Orlando, FL 32822
407-277-2606 (H)
jplemcke@bellsouth.net

NLS Appointed Positions

Archivist – Leona Fox

941-423-3999
thefoxes@mindspring.com

Database Coordinator – Lucy Hightower

843-884-4276 (H)
bhigh922@aol.com

Distribution Center – John Bradford

6992 South 160 East
Midvale, UT 84047
801-561-0122 (H)
joab@aros.net

Financial Advisor – Diane Purcell

651-459-7249 (H)
651-768-0624 (FAX)
dspurcell@msn.com

Newsletter Editor – Judy Laabs-Foss

4495 Margaret Street
White Bear Tsp, MN 55110-3773
651-429-6762 (H)
jer2911@comcast.net

Palanca Coordinator – Paul Sabatier-Smith

5026 Log Cabin Drive
Lakeland, FL 33810
863-603-9044 (H)
dcolor9@attglobal.net

Web Page Coordinator – Bob Northrup

919-872-6754 (H)
bobnorthrup@mindspring.com

Host Committee Co-Chairs – 2005 NLS Annual Mtg. in Emmittsburg, MD

Rainbow VdC-Cathy Glumac
RCSG@aol.com
Vineyard VdC-Dane Foor
diandy@bedford.net



National Lutheran Secretariat
Conexiones-on-the-web
E-Mail Notification Request Form

E-Mail Notification

Please notify me by E-Mail when the latest edition of Conexiones has been posted on the NLS Web Page

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: & State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Work Phone: (____) _____

Name of Secretariate _____

Position on Secretariat: _____

E-Mail Address: _____@_____

Write in large letters - be very clear, computers rely on EXACT information

Connecting National and Local Secretariats

CONEXIONES

Volume 22
Number 3
August 2004

Official Publication of the National Lutheran Secretariat, VdC

CONEXIONES is the official publication of the National Lutheran Secretariat, a national association of the Via de Cristo (Way of Christ) movement, representing over 71,500 who have participated in 37 movements across the U.S. Via de Cristo is a Lutheran expression of Cursillo®, a renewal movement developed within the Roman Catholic Church in the late 1940s. The Lutheran movement had its beginning in Florida and Iowa in 1972. The purpose of this publication is to inform all members of each NLS affiliated secretariat, ELCA bishops and the Directors of the Division for Ministry and the Division for Ministry in Daily Life about the activities of the National Lutheran Secretariat and its affiliated secretariats. Subscriptions to the above are free. If you know one of the above is not receiving **CONEXIONES**, call Larry Whitham as the numbers listed on the side.

Subscriptions for the general public are \$6.00 per year, and are available by sending your name, complete mailing address, and phone numbers to **CONEXIONES** Treasurer, Jerry Lemcke, 6139 Sunnyvale Drive, Orlando, FL 32822; 407-277-2606.

Material for CONEXIONES: If you have information for **CONEXIONES**, items, requests and/or information, address corrections, changes or additions - even inspirational bits - send them to the **CONEXIONES** Editor at the address on the side. **DEADLINES:** January 15th, April 15th, August 15th, and November 15th.

WELCOME!!!

Allow me to introduce myself...

My name is Joe Nilsen. I made Miami Men's #2 in Miami, Florida in 1972 and sat at the Table of St. Peter. I worship with the people of Christ Lutheran Church in Fairfield Glade, Tennessee. I have been married to my very best friend for 38 years and have two children, and two grandchildren (adorable). I am a retired (sort of) ELCA pastor living in a small town on the beautiful Cumberland Plateau in Tennessee. I served parishes in Hialeah, Florida and Fairfax, Virginia. For many years I was Director of Pastoral Care at a Lutheran Long-Term Care Center in New York, a General Hospital Chaplain, and a Hospice Chaplain.

When asked to consider being Spiritual Director for our movement I went through a time of soul-searching. In the process, something happened that I'm not able to fully explain. It was as if the Lord took me on a journey back in time – a journey of more than 30 years. Faces of Rector (a)s, team members and Pilgrims raced before my mind's eye. I remembered weekends and reunion groups from all over the map. When this journey was over, I felt exhausted – and so very grateful. Life has not been the same since I made my weekend. My personal life has been blessed by 1000's of brothers and sisters in Christ through Via de Cristo, and this movement of God has constantly enriched my ministry. And I have seen the Body of Christ strengthened by an army of men and women returning to their home congregations to live out their 4th Day.

Since I made my weekend so long ago, I am frequently asked how Via de Cristo has changed over the years. I am pleased to answer, thanks be to God, it has not essentially changed. Oh, some things are done a little differently around the country, but the basic elements of the weekend and the 4th Day have endured. This 72-hour, "Short Course in Christianity" still revolves around 15 grace-filled talks, time for meaningful worship, reflection, and open sharing. A team of servants who have prepared themselves physically, emotionally and spiritually leads it. It is undergirded by prayer (Palanca) and is entrusted to God so that the Holy Spirit may work in the hearts and minds of those who attend. All this happens in the context of a loving Christian community...and of course there are a few wonderful surprises. The 4th Day continues to focus on living the life of Piety, Study and Action with the support of Reunion Groups and Ultreyas. These elements are the treasures that we must preserve as our movement continues to grow.

So with enormous gratitude to God, I will do this Spiritual Director task for a while. It is my plan to make regular contributions to the "Conexiones" on various subjects affecting our life together. And if I can be of any assistance to you or your Secretariat, please do call me.

Gloria Deo!
Joe Nilsen
931-788-3838
joenils@frontiernet.net



Greetings in Christ:

My name is Jerry Lemcke and I am the newly elected treasurer of the NLS. It is an honor to be selected for this service to our Lord and this ministry. I live in Orlando Florida with my wife Carlene who unlike me is a native Floridian. As you might imagine, many people who live here are transplants from somewhere else; in my case, Chicago Illinois.

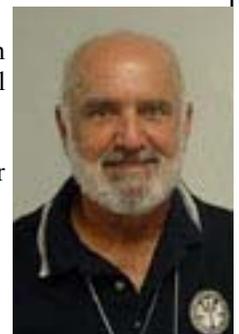
In 1991, I attended Sonshine North Via de Cristo #24 in Jacksonville, Florida and sat at the table of Paul. I have always identified myself with Paul since in my earlier years I was more of a persecutor of the church than a disciple. As you know, God chooses people to serve him that no one else would choose. Although an active church member for many years before attending a weekend, it was not until the weekend experience that I was able to truly give my life to God; not just in words and deeds, but also in my heart. I am sure that many of you can identify with that experience.

My wife and I have been attending the national meetings for the past eight years. I have served on the finance committee for each of those years. We have established relationships with many dedicated servants and look forward to the "home coming" each year. I encourage anyone reading this article that has not attended a National Lutheran Secretariat annual meeting to seriously start making plans to do so next year. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A DELEGATE and can be a visitor! In my humble opinion, you will not regret doing so.

I am looking forward to working with my brothers and sisters on the national board in service to you.

DeColores and May God bless your fourth day.

Jerry Lemcke
NLS Treasurer



NLS Board Minutes — Conference Call Sunday, July 6, 2004, 9:00 PM EST

President Larry Witham called the meeting to order. Others present were Pastor Larry Llewellyn, Ron Millard, Diane Purcell, Su Kralj, Tracy Ziemke, as well as Judy Laabs-Foss and Bob Northrup. Pastor Larry opened with a prayer.

President Larry W. reported that he is answering, forwarding and responding to all the e-mails that have been sent to him. Currently he is working on a lay directors agenda for the annual meeting. Lastly, he is praying for all of us as we prepare for the annual meeting.

Vice President of Administration, Tracy Z. reported 127 registered for this year's annual meeting.

There was a lengthily in depth discussion about a couple of outside vendors having booths at the annual meeting this year. Concerns and issues about setting guidelines and protocol for future vendors at annual meetings include, but are not limited to, the types of vendors and products, donation to NLS, duplicating items, and competition among the vendors. Tracy will get with Jan to clarify information about the prospective vendors for this year.

Tracy will be sending letters to this year's guest speakers asking them for a progress report on their talks.

Maryland has informed Tracy they have secured a place for the 2005 annual meeting.

Vice President of Outreach, Ron Millard, astoundingly reported, he is working with 23 different areas of the country. West Washington State has joined the NLS, and Ron will be visiting Kansas City in the next two weeks. Yellowstone Secretariat informed Ron they are struggling and most likely will not be attending this year's meeting. Diane suggested that they send in the annual dues at a reduced rate, which they did.

Ron has asked Bob Northrup about changing the outreach layout on the web page to incorporate the star rating system he has developed.

Secretary, Su Kralj, gave an updated report on the responses from the annual Secretariat surveys that went out the end of January. Approximately one fourth of the secre-

tariats have not responded. Su is continuing to follow up with ongoing e-mail, fax, snail mail, and phone calling, to request the remaining secretariats send in their statistics as soon as possible. Lucy is still keeping up with the national database.

Treasurer: Diane Purcell has sent out the 3rd quarter financials. There has been minimal financial activity in the last few months. The Minnesota charity report and copyright money for the green books has been filed. The dues for this year are starting to come in from around the country.

Newsletter Editor: Judy indicated that the newsletter was available on the web as of today. There seems to be interest in putting the daily newsletter for the annual meeting on the web. The board agreed to try it. Tracy and Judy will contact Jan about details.

Web Page Coordinator: Bob Northrup, brought the board's attention to the fact that there is a domain that is not being used and yet expenses are incurred for the NLS VDC.com name. Since the official site name is ViadeCristo.org, the board unanimously decided to give up the NLSVDC.com domain.

Spiritual Director: Pastor Larry talked with Joe Nilsen about him taking the S.D. position on the NLS Board. Joe said he now has time to commit to being active and confirmed his willingness to accept this offer. He is presently helping Tennessee with the 2004 annual meeting.

Old Business: NLS Meeting Tracy is revising and updating the deadlines for criteria in the guidelines and formatting it into book form. These are the guidelines used each year by the host committee.

It was suggested that contact with Ron B of California be made and discuss the possibility of the 2006 annual meeting being held there, as well as contacting Colorado for future meetings.

The board focused on the issue of general liability insurance for the national meeting and who is technically responsible for securing it. Doug Burrows had been taking care of it in the past. Minnesota added NLS as a rider to their policy and Pres. Larry suggested host secretariats do the same. Several ideas

and suggestions were presented. After much discussion, Pres. Larry will talk with Doug Burrows.

Tracy said, "The agenda is all set for the annual meeting." She is preparing to follow up with the speakers to see how they are progressing with their talks.

Video person is currently the responsibility of the NLS, not the host committee.

The day before the annual meeting begins, Wednesday, July 21, Jan will arrange lunch for the board before their 1:00 meeting at the site.

Tracy would like the data base coordinator and the Web Page Coordinator to send her a very basic description of their duties and responsibilities.

Visionary Committee: Ron thought the report they gave was very thorough. The long range planning committee at the NLS meeting may be able to make some recommendations from this report.

Nominating Committee: Everyone is confirmed. Diane asked if new forms were ready. Tracy will e-mail them to Joe and Jerry.

Constitution & By-Laws Revision: (Update) Diane has put a package together and will be mailing it to all secretariats informing them they will need to distribute the documents to their delegates for review. The delegates will need to be prepared to vote on the approval of the document during the annual meeting. After the document is approved, two copies will be sent to each secretariat for ratification. The NLS will absorb the printing cost for this material to be inserted into the delegate's notebooks. Pres. Larry will ask Fred Schneider to present this information at one of the business meeting. He has also asked Diane to review with Fred details of this presentation.

Parliamentarian: The board engaged in an in depth discussion and decided that at this time one will not be appointed for the annual meetings.

Distribution Center: Tracy will write

an article for the newsletter informing the community of the vacancy, outlining the basic responsibilities. Judy has spoken to an interested party from Colorado.

Database Operator: Discussion on whether or not this should be considered a full time position or not ended with, "let's just keep it as it is for now and review later."

New Business: Parlance Coordinator, Mark Carnes resigned. He informed Pres. Larry that someone would be at the annual meeting in his place. Larry W. will contact Mark to see what he has planned. The issue was discussed as to whom is responsible, NLS, or host committee, for providing the posters for signing at the annual meeting.

Board Meeting: Will be on Wednesday, July 21, at 1:00 p.m. at Johnson Bible College.

Newsletter: Articles and Annual Minutes will be due August 15, 2004 and released September 7, 2004.

Other New Business: The VdC model document. Ron developed, and he would like to send it out to new movements. Tracy expressed a desire to take some time to review it before she could agree to the same. Pres. Larry said, "He like it and thought it was good."

Saying Good-bye: to Larry L and Diane for the wonderful hours of tele conference calls and meeting throughout the past years - the board is really going to miss them. The board also recognized Dick Emery and Mark Carnes for their dedication and service. The board has asked Tracy to investigate having a certificate of appreciation designed, and a cake made for these servants, and given to them this year at the annual meeting.

The meeting unanimously adjourned with Pastor Larry closing in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Su Kralj
NLS Secretary



Greetings everyone:

I'm John Bradford, your new NLS Distribution Manager, and I've been asked to share a little about myself here. I live in Midvale, Utah; very close to Salt Lake City and I worship at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Sandy, Utah. I became a Christian in 1994 after living a life of various worldly lifestyles such as being a motorcycle riding "hippy" in the '60s. God never gives up and I finally listened. In 1995 some people from Minnesota brought something called Via de Cristo to Utah, this wasn't an easy thing to do. In 1996 I attended Utah VdC Weekend number 3 and my life was completely overhauled, my direction was set straight, and peace began to replace the turmoil of my past.

We are now preparing for Utah weekends number 28 & 29 and I see no end to the process. I've done just about everything on teams (except the kitchen team). I've been on 4th day teams, table leader positions, was a weekend rector in year 2000, and several times on my favorite, the palanca team. I felt drawn to more service so I volunteered to join our local VdC Council where I thoroughly enjoyed two years as council convener. Our council members are the greatest! When it was time to move on I wanted more but really didn't know where I was headed.

I began doing a weekly non-denominational hour of teaching/preaching at the Utah State Prison. I began a weekly emailing of prayer & praise requests to about 250 Utah VdC families, and continued in our local church's prayer ministry, but there seemed to be something missing.

When I read in the last NLS newsletter about the Distribution position, I wanted it immediately and told my wife, Carol, about it. She looked at me with a look of disbelief. As time went on she began to accept the idea and has volunteered to help me with the book keeping part of this job, this is a good thing.

I was about to volunteer for the job when I was selected to be a member of our local church's call committee. This is an important responsibility that will involve selecting a new pastor and a full board of trustees. While in prayer, sitting by the big frog pond in Knoxville last month, it was revealed to me that I can and should accept the distribution job. In a few minutes I found President Larry and said "yes". He smiled a big smile and I think I did too.

As soon as I receive some documents and buy some computer software I'll be able to open a local NLS checking account and get things going. We have room in our home and a post office is located nearby. Dick Emery is getting ready to ship everything to me and I think I have already found the printer needed to keep the supplies on the shelf. I hope to be able to keep the supplies moving and also to be open to opportunities to add new items as needed.

I am employed as a studio engineer at Television Station KUTV in Salt Lake City. When I have the time (and the money) I head to San Diego and do some multi-day tuna fishing trips that end up west of Mexico's Baja Peninsula. My other hobbies include designing and building mechanical & electronic projects, playing with computers, and playing with our somewhat retarded cats. Although I live near the mountains, I don't ski anymore.

I want to be available to the NLS and to each of the VdC Secretariats but more importantly, I want to be available to God. I pray that each and every one of you will receive God's blessings, and then share them with others. My NLS supplies may run low but God's supplies are endless.

Praise Jesus,
John Bradford

NLS Board Minutes — Annual Meeting July 21-23, 2004

On Wednesday, **July 21**, President Larry Witham called the meeting to order and Larry Llewellyn opened in prayer. Others present were Diane Purcell, Judy Laabs-Foss, Tracy Ziemke, Ron Millard and Su Kralj.

Larry W. went over a detailed breakdown of the annual meeting, day-by-day addressing items and issues that we as a board need to be aware of during the week-end. Tracy will conduct the orientation session. She has a hand out that will address the 5W's & 1H (Who, what, when, where, why and how) of the NLS Annual Meeting.

Tracy shared her thoughts on how the host committee was handling the "copying" issue. In order to keep costs to a minimum, it was decided to try and have any and all documents placed in a basket with how many copies are needed and the finished product will be returned to the author the next day. Copies on campus are \$0.07 each, and off campus copies are \$0.01 each. Video taping the annual meeting is questionable and is something that needs to be finalized. Tracy will speak to both Bob Northrup and Jan about this issue.

Fred Schneider joined the executive board meeting to go over the details of the presentation he would be making to the delegates on the work that has been accomplished on the NLS Constitution and By-laws. The executive board discussion included, but not limited to possible questions that may arise from the floor of the meeting in response to Fred's presentation. The board may also ask Fred Schneider to give a report on the proposed changes and recommendations of the Constitution and By-Law Committee to update. Fred suggested that the delegates and secretariats be given a broad time frame (like March 2006) to respond to the ratification. Noting that it only takes 2/3's vote to pass and be implemented. The executive board thanked Fred for his time and he left the meeting. The meeting was suspended until after dinner.

Tracy revamped the "NLS Introduction To Hosting Manual". Among the different topics were two sections, one, what happens at a mid-year meeting, and funding. The executive board spent time clarifying statements and revised language in order to bring the document up to date. The board also thanked Tracy for the dedication and time she spent on this presentation.

Other business the board discussed:

- 1.) Having someone serve as the parliamentarian during the business meetings.
- 2.) Contacting different areas of the country asking who would be interested in holding an annual meeting in 2006 and in 2007.
- 3.) A suggestion to set the mid year meeting for early November, with specific dates to be determined.

Judy readdressed the importance of submitting articles for the Newsletter. The timing issue is very important. The board went over the deadlines once again. The Newsletter is slated for print in August, November, January and April. Deadlines for articles appearing in these newsletters are due no later than the 15th of those months.

The board closed in prayer and will re adjourn tomorrow morning at 9:00 AM

~~~~~  
President Larry Witham, Ron Millard, Diane Purcell, Tracy Ziemke, Judy Laabs-Foss, Pastor Larry Llewellyn and Su Kralj attended the **July 22** Executive Board meeting. Pastor Larry opened the meeting with prayer. The executive board's primary objective during this meeting is to go over and review the report labeled "Notes of Visionaries Team of Long Range Planning Committee of NLS".

Ron prefaced this report by saying that there was a lot of meat in this document. The visionary team took time and effort to create this working manuscript. He presented this material to the executive board and asked how they perceived the long range planning committee's direction on some of the topics included in this material. The executive board proceeded to discuss in great detail the recommendations for him to take back to the Long Range Planning Committee. Over all the executive board was please with the progress and innovative ideas and suggestions the Visionary Team produced.

Due, in part to the material and information presented in this document, the executive board can possibly see the importance of considering several alternatives to the ideas presented. One of the positions may be split into two positions. And another position combining two positions into one.

Diane Purcell's term is up this annual meeting and she will no long be a part of

the executive board. Therefore, the executive board discussed the possibility of asking Diane Purcell to consider assisting the treasurer in an advisory capacity, utilizing her expertise in the field of knowledge with the non-profit IRS filings and the State of Minnesota's requirements for organizations of this status. Of course the board realizes the vast knowledge that Diane brings to the table and would be pleased if she were to accept this offer. Once Diane accepts or rejects this offer, more explicit details of this job description will follow. Meeting adjourned with everyone going in six different directions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Su Kralj  
NLS Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*  
**July 22, 2004 - Business Session #1**

Larry Witham, President, called the meeting to order and led us in the Holy Spirit prayer.

The host committee chair, Jan Larson gave a few general housekeeping directions and announcements about the facility (entire grounds) being a smoke free environment. Larry proceeded to recognize the past officers of the NLS executive board who are present at this years meeting

Larry then introduced Diane Purcell, the committee chair for the nominating committee. She announced that this year there are three seats on the executive board available this year. Tracy Ziemke, vice president of administration, is the only one who is eligible to run for a second term. The other two positions are treasurer and Spiritual Director and the nominating committee will be recommending Jerry Lemcke and Joe Nilsen for those positions. She explained that nominations from the floor will be accepted at tomorrow's business meeting and if anyone was interested in any of the three (3) positions that are open, they must first meet the criteria of completing a bio form and be a registered delegate, who is willing to accept the position, if elected at this year's meeting.

Larry Witham also mentioned that the board is looking to fill two appointed positions: 1.) The Palanca Coordinator is being vacated by Mark Carnes and, 2.) The Distributions Center Manager that is being vacated by Richard Emery.

The secretary, Su Kralj, then seated the delegates in reverse order this year, as directed by the board. Ron Millard asked for both the delegate and representatives of Western Washington State to come forward. He introduced them to the meeting and presented the new movement with a banner stand before seating the delegate.

Glenn Weber, delegate from South Arizona asked if all the reports would be on the web site. Lucy Hightower, delegate from South Carolina, responded by saying that all the reports would be in the newsletter and that the newsletter is posted on the web site.

Larry Witham announced that at Friday's business meeting Fred Schneider, will lead a presentation and speak about a proposal to amend our Constitution and By-laws. Everyone has a copy inserted in the delegates' manual.

Larry then asked the executive board to give their reports. One by one, every member of the executive board asked the delegation if there were any questions on their report, there wasn't a question or response from any of the delegates.

Ron Millard posed a question concerning apostolic action that he wanted everyone to discuss in their small groups. The question is - *In what ways do you volunteer your time, talents and treasure for God outside you church?* He then asked everyone to look at the back of their nametag to see what logo represents their small group during the breakout session. He asked everyone to go to the gym after the business meeting to get further directions.

President Larry announced that Randy Mullen would be the acting parliamentarian for our business meetings this weekend.

Tracy went through the list of committees and what rooms they would be meeting in on Friday. She also announced that Palanca Posters would be in the gym and to be sure everyone signs them. And first timer photo would be taken in the chapel after worship tonight

Larry Witham then gave a wonderfully colorful description of the special concert presented by Cantamos, in the chapel, after Friday Night's worship service.

There was no other business or announcements. Pastor Larry closed in prayer.

At 11:10 A.M. an Executive Board meeting was called by President Larry Witham, and attended by Ron Millard, Diane Purcell, Tracy Ziemke, and Su Kralj.

The board held a very brief but detailed discussion on delegates who either were not originally registered as delegates, and after the official seating of the delegates, decided to change their status from lay visitor to lay delegate or who had registered late and because they were not officially seated as a delegate, recognizing and introducing them before the presently scheduled business meeting begins.

Since this issue is not addressed in our constitution or bylaws, the board members unanimously agreed to do this on the premise that the additional delegate has been authorized by their secretariat to attend this meeting representing them as their official delegate.

A 12:20 P.M. meeting was called by President Larry Witham, and attended by Diane Purcell, Tracy Ziemke, and Su Kralj.

During the NLS 11:15 AM business meeting, and at the conclusion of the presentation by Fred Schneider, on the amended changes to the constitution, Diane Purcell realized that there needs to be another sentence added to the proposed revisions that will dictate in the event the NLS dissolves how it will handle the dispersion of existing funds.

Diane suggested to the attending board members that the funds be equally distributed to all affiliated secretariats. This sentence can be added during the Saturday business meeting when the constitution and bylaw committee gives their report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Su Kralj  
NLS Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*  
**July 23, 2004 — Business Session #2**

Larry Witham, President, called the meeting to order and asked Pastor Paul Schmidlin to open in prayer

Larry Witham recognized that there was three more delegates present, Kevin Ayer, lay delegate from Ohio VdC, Darryl Larson, S.D. delegate from Ohio and John Klein, Sonshine North VdC, Florida.

Diane Purcell, chairperson of the nominating committee read the following names the committee recommended: Tracy Ziemke, Vice President of Administration, Joe Nilsen, Spiritual Director and Jerry Lemcke for Treasurer. Larry Witham asked the delegates three times if there were nominations from the floor. No response. Fred Schneider moved the nominations be closed and that the nominees be elected by

acclamation. Second by Pastor Ed Simonson. Larry Witham congratulated the newly elected officers.

Larry asked Fred Schneider to come forward and make the presentation of the proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws. Fred went through the material section by section addressing the proposed changes and gave explanations as to why the changes were being made. He also answered questions from the delegates and requested that if anyone saw grammar and spelling errors to please point them out. Several corrections were made at this time. Diane Purcell interrupted Fred for a side comment that will be addressed and brought to the floor at the next meeting. Fred continued with his presentation and said that at tomorrow's business meeting, the constitution and bylaw committee would continue to explain changes and the ratification process.

Diane announced that she has a list of current lay directors. She asked that one representative from each secretariat please initial that the information is correct.

Larry made a couple of announcements: 1.) The ratification of the constitution and bylaws would take place at Saturday's business meeting, and 2.) If anyone was interested, there were still openings for the Palanca Coordinator and Distribution Center Manager.

Ron Millard announced the small group breakout topic for tonight; *"Considering apostolic action, in what ways do you volunteer your time, talents and treasures for God, within your church?"*

Larry made a couple of additional announcements about the palanca posters that needed to be signed and were on tables in the gym; if you brought a banner from your secretariat, please hang it in the gym; and don't forget the seminars this afternoon.

Merlen Sterud of Tennessee made a motion to adjourn the meeting and second by Max Turner of Southern California.

Dena Palm from Atlanta, Georgia closed the meeting in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Su Kralj  
NLS Secretary



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If you were in Knoxville, Tennessee last month at our Annual Meeting, you were blessed to be a part of another grace filled weekend. We had good meetings with a lot being accomplished, wonderful accommodations, and were truly blessed by the very inspirational worship services. Thanks be to God!

From the time we arrived on campus, our hosts from Tennessee worked hard to meet our every need. For a fairly new movement, only about 6 years old, they did an outstanding job. Thank you Tennessee community and Host Committee.

Another record was set for attendance. According to the numbers I have, there were 82 registered delegates, representing 30 Secretariats, plus 110 visitors, guests, and speakers. In addition to that total there were 37 members of the Western North Carolina outreach choir "Cantamos" in attendance Friday evening and Saturday. The choir entertained attendees with a concert on Friday evening and participated in Saturday's worship services.

During our business meetings, one of the important decisions made was the election of three new officers to the Executive Board. **Jerry Lemcke** from Florida was elected Treasurer, **Pastor Joe Nilsen** from Tennessee was elected Spiritual Director, and **Tracy Ziemke** from Ohio was re-elected for a second term as Vice President of Administration. Welcome to these servants of our Lord.

Another important decision was the approval of the recommendation made by the Constitution & Bylaws Committee to revise and update these documents. After the great work of Fred Schneider from Ohio and his committee, the motion was approved and is now being sent to all affiliated Secretariats for ratification. Thank you Fred and your committee for several years of dedicated work on these documents.

Some of the festive celebration moments included welcoming our newest secretariat, VdC of Western Washington, represented by their lay delegate and two visitors. They were presented with a banner stand and later in the weekend with a banner made, just for them, during this year's meeting.

We honored and thanked **Dick Emery** from Florida, manager of the NLS Distribution Center with a certificate for his years of service. He has had to retire due to declining health. **Mark Carnes** from Colorado, our Palanca Coordinator, could not attend this meeting, but was also thanked; and it was made known that a certificate of appreciation would be forwarded to him. **Diane Purcell** from Minnesota and **Pastor Larry Llewellyn** from Georgia, who served the maximum two terms on the Executive Board, were honored and recognized with a gift. A special thanks to all of these folks for their faithful service.

Once again our Lord has provided, and has called two people to accept NLS appointed positions; **John Bradford** from Utah for manager of the NLS Distribution Center, and **Paul Sabatier-Smith** from Florida for Palanca Coordinator. We give thanks to our Lord for them and I ask you to please keep these two servants in your prayers as they begin their duties for NLS.

All weekend, Thursday through Sunday, the worship services were outstanding. Each one was inspiring, uplifting, and definitely a close moment with Christ. The music was exceptional and added to our overall experience. Thanks to all who participated in these special services.

My thanks also go to our speakers for the forums and seminars, **Pastor Peter Setzer** from North Carolina, **Phil Lustig** from Florida, **Tracey Cook** from Michigan, **Cindy Kirk** from Florida, and our keynoter **Pastor Larry Llewellyn**. God bless you all for your preparations and presentations.

I know our Lord has some exciting times ahead for us as He has stirred the hearts of many in several locations to step forward and

bid to host future annual meetings. After an entertaining presentation by the 2005 Host Committee, Rainbow VdC from Maryland and Vineyard VdC from Pennsylvania, I am looking forward to next year's annual meeting in Emmittsburg, Maryland. Later this year, your board will hold it's mid-year meeting there to make plans for next July. Make your plans now to join us in Maryland, July 28-31, 2005!

I feel blessed to serve our Lord through Via de Cristo and I am thoroughly enjoying the opportunity you have given me to serve you as President of the NLS. I pray that you will continue to feel the presence of our loving Lord in your everyday lives. God loves you, and so do I.

Larry Witham, NLS President

\*\*\*\*\*

**Missing the Action**

Did your secretariat's National Representative pick up a copy of your secretariat's roster at the NLS meeting in Knoxville? Has updated information been returned to our Database Coordinator? If not, the people on your secretariat just might be missing out on valuable information that can be found in our newsletter *Conexiones*.

We have about sixty persons on the bad (rejected) e-mail list which includes persons from the following secretariats:

- |                                       |                           |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Atlanta VdC Movement</b>           | <b>Colorado VdC</b>       |
| <b>Damascus Road VdC</b>              | <b>Gold Coast VdC</b>     |
| <b>Iowa Lutheran Secretariat</b>      | <b>Lighthouse VdC</b>     |
| <b>Prairie Sonshine VdC</b>           | <b>Rainbow VdC</b>        |
| <b>River's Edge VdC</b>               | <b>Eastern NC VdC</b>     |
| <b>Western NC VdC</b>                 | <b>Yellowstone VdC</b>    |
| <b>Lutheran Secretariat of SD</b>     | <b>Taste of Grace VdC</b> |
| <b>Texas Lutheran VdC (South TX.)</b> |                           |
| <b>Utah VdC</b>                       | <b>Vineyard VdC</b>       |

If your secretariat is on the above list, you can help us by contacting our Database Coordinator, Lucy Hightower, at [Bhigh922@aol.com](mailto:Bhigh922@aol.com). (Snail mail address is 404 Church St., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464.) She will be delighted to hear from you.

The fewer letters NLS has to mail, the greater the dollars saved. We think it's important for all secretariat members to have the opportunity to read the newsletter. So, if your secretariat's data is not up-to-date, you may have some members who are "missing the action." Don't let them lose out!



## NLS 2005 Annual Meeting July 28 — 31, 2005 in Emmittsburg, Maryland



***Glory, glory hallelujah!  
Our eyes have seen the coming of the nation's VDC  
To Maryland, the Virginias, Pennsylvania and D.C.  
We're happy to be hosting you for the 2005 NLS annual meeting.***

The Rainbow and Vineyard communities are in prayer that God will lead us in our planning and lead you to our area to experience some of our country's history while you fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ at the annual meeting.

While at the NLS Annual Meeting on July 28-31, 2005, you may want to make plans to visit Gettysburg or Hershey Park in Pa., our nation's capital, the Eastern shore in Maryland, Williamsburg or Harper's Ferry in the Virginias.

Our home for the meeting will be Mount Saint Mary's College, (The Mount) in Emmittsburg, Md. The Mount is a 1400-acre Catholic college founded in 1808. It is located in the middle of the Catoclin Mountains, 1-hour northwest of Baltimore, just over an hour from D.C., 15 minutes south of Gettysburg, Pa., and 10 minutes north of Catoclin Mountain National Park (home of Camp David). There is a lot to see and do that is just a short driving distance from the campus.

We will be staying in 2 and 3 bedroom apartments. Each has a living room, kitchenette, and bath. They each house 3 or 5 people. The campus is "so wired that they're wireless" so computers will work anywhere at the facility. for more information about Mount St. Mary's, visit their website at [www.msmary.edu](http://www.msmary.edu)

The theme for the meeting will be "Cast Your Nets" based on the scripture from Luke 5:4-11. We were Created, Called, and Commissioned in Tennessee. In 2005 we will "Go now and tell all the world." As the chorus from our Yankee Doodle presentation song says:

***God who founded this great land  
Surrounds us with His Glory  
Calls us as His fisherman  
To tell the world His story.  
We hope to see you at The  
Mount in 2005.***

God's Peace and Blessings,  
Rainbow and Vineyard Communities  
Diane Foor & Cathy Glumac  
Co-Chairpersons



# NLS Board Minutes — Annual Meeting

## July 24-25, 2004

### July 24, 2004 - Business Session #3

Larry Witham, President, called the meeting to order and Pastor George Kahl led us in prayer.

Fred Schneider was asked by Larry Witham to continue with the presentation he had started yesterday on the revisions to the constitution and bylaws; Fred began with explaining why the need for the additional insertion into the constitution about having a provision in the event the NLS dissolves. Basically it is a requirement dictated by the State of Minnesota, where the NLS is incorporated. Therefore, in article 6 of the proposed amended constitution, the sentence that the executive board has been advised to insert will read as follows: *"If this corporation is dissolved, all money, funds, and other assets shall be divided into as many shares as there are affiliated secretariats, and one share shall be distributed to each affiliated secretariat."* Other questions were brought forward by several delegates and were resolved with answers from either Fred Schneider or other delegates. Curt Heitschmidt, from Lutheran VdC of Minnesota, made a motion that any other grammatical errors will be corrected in committee which will eliminate the need to bring these before the executive board to be voted on by the delegates. Seconded by Glenn Weber of Southern Arizona. Larry Witham asked for a vote, all agreed, motion carried.

Larry Witham asked Fred Schneider, On behalf of the constitution and bylaws committee to now make a motion for adopting the changes. On behalf of the committee, *"I move the adoption of the proposed Re-stated Constitution and Bylaws as printed in the notebook, but with the changes made to be ratified by April 1, 2006"* Larry Witham reminded everyone since the motions is on the floor, it does not require a second. The amendment however does require a 2/3's vote by delegates at this meeting. Larry asked if there were any questions, no one responded. Vote was taken by show of hands, 78 yes votes, and zero no's. Motion carried. Larry congratulated the delegates on behalf of the executive board for their vote and thanked Fred Schneider for all the time and effort he and the committee put forth working on all the revisions and additions. Larry continued to address the delegates and encouraged them to go back to their home secretariats and take care of signing the amended constitution and bylaws as soon as possible. He

also re stated that once 2/3's of the affiliated secretariats returned their executed document, it would be accepted.

Committee reports: Please note that most all the committees have written reports that were handed out at this time, to be inserted in to the delegate manuals.

AV/Website chair, Bob Northrup. He directed everyone to check out the website to see what the NLS has made available to everyone. Bob also informed the delegates that the AV committee worked on the video however, it still is not ready. He had hoped it would have been completed, but there is still work to be done on it. No questions.

Hosting An Annual Meeting Committee, Tracy Ziemke reported that the possibility for future annual meetings might look like California in 2006, IN/KY or Georgia for 2007 and Florida for 2008. She informed the entire delegation that at the present it costs approximately \$40,000.00 to host an annual meeting. Everyone needs to be aware of this so that when they consider hosting they keep that figure in mind. She also encouraged any secretariat that wanted to contribute funds to help defray costs for hosting, to please make their checks out to the hosting treasurer. A couple of questions from the floor were interested in how the current host committee did financially. Tracy's reply assured them that they will most likely be passing seed money on to the 2005 hosts. Another questions asked about Thrivent's Financial matching funds. A delegate from the floor responded by advising people to request money from Thrivent's "Regional Money" fund.

Long Range Planning Committee, Ron Millard. This committee met twice. As a sub committee of the LRPC, The Visionary Committee presented Ron with a very detailed report outlining eight progressive ideas that the LRPC will review and consider before presenting it to the executive board. A statement from Randy Mullen addressed the paradigm shift that has evolved in this movement and will continue to do so as long as growth continues. Randy's perception and depth of experience continues to be one of the many assets this movement is blessed to have.

Discussions from the floor took a little deviation at this point. Jerry Lemcke also commented on how impressed he was years ago when he and his wife first came to an NLS Annual Meeting as lay visitors, when

he observed how debates, differences and even conflicts were handled in Christian love. He felt as though people could agree to disagree without hostility towards one another. This has continued to impress him through the years. Ron Becker, from West Washington, responded to a statement made from the floor about taking our annual meetings to a hotel when the attendance was too large for college like settings accommodations. His response was that the meetings would loose the element of the Christian atmosphere and intimate environment.

Lay Director Dialog Committee, Max Turner, Southern California, touched on subjects that effect every secretariat – SPONSORS. The entire room breathed in agreement. Penny Klein, Sonshine North, Florida inserted that their movement uses the 101 manual to solve their issues and it also answers questions. This is an excellent tool that really works. It was suggested that everyone use it.

Newsletter Committee, Judy Laabs-Foss reiterated the motion from last year's meeting to distribute the newsletter over the Internet via email.

Spiritual Director Dialog with Larry Llewellyn. Larry prefaced his report by making these statements: 1.) Spiritual Directors who are not licensed and yet can be your spiritual director. 2.) There are professional SD's who you pay to be an SD. 3.) SD's can also be a pastor. He made it very clear that this is a serious business and it is not to be taken lightly. He advised everyone that this is a person's spiritual life and it is to be handled with care. He briefly outlined that sixteen pastors gathered to discuss the following: 1.) What is happening in the movement? 2.) New candidates. 3.) Spiritual Direction.

Finance & Budget as reported by Diane Purcell. Presented the financial activity of the NLS through May 31, 2004, noting that the Strong Financial account is closed and all funds transferred to the Thrivent's Financial Account. Several questions and statements were made to Diane from the floor, which she carefully detailed direct answers to. After a timely discussion was permitted, Diane made a motion to accept the budget. Fred Schneider moved and was seconded by Bill Hightower. Motion was carried and passed.

Finance Committee report was pre-

sented by Jerry Lemcke. At this time the committee is recommending that the NLS consider increasing the yearly dues. Diane Purcell continued the report and reviewed, line item by line item, the expenses from the prior year's budget and explained the proposed increases and decreases for the 2004/2005 budget. Diane submitted the 2004/005 budget for approval. A statement from Pastor Joe Nilsen suggested that in order to get a true picture and accurate accounting of expenses for a weekend that a financial value is placed on every donation of time, talent and treasure. A unanimous yes vote was taken, motion carried. The 2004/2005 budget was accepted.

**Palanca & Banner Committee** Jim Claude shared that 15 women and one man (him) gathered to work on making banners. The three representatives from the committee, Katie Sistar, Jim and Nancy Claude together presented the banner to Ron Becker who was representing the new secretariat from Western Washington State.

Maryland and Pennsylvania secretariats (Rainbow and Vineyard) delegation provided the annual meeting with a very warm and entertaining invitation to attend next year's annual meeting at Mount St. Mary's College in Emmetsburg, Maryland.

Jan Larson, president of the 2004 host committee, gave a patriotic passing of the banner to Maryland and Pennsylvania.

Larry Witham presented Dick Emery with a certificate of appreciation for his (and Isabel's) service for the past five years as Distribution Center Manager. Tracy, as VP of administration, presents both Larry Llewellyn and Diane Purcell with gifts of appreciation from the NLS.

**New Business:** Tim and Carolyn Johnson, North Texas VdC, both expressed an interest concerning the NLS entertaining the thought of assisting a youth organization like TEC and Happenings to help bring young adults into the VdC family. This involvement would assist these groups to develop and be a stable transition into the VdC community. Questions from the floor from Carolyn Johnson of North Texas VdC and Christine Bjorklund, Lutheran VdC of Minnesota both expressed concerns of how do we as VdC direct youth that have gone through TEC and also what would the VdC do for those youth who have attended a VdC and also come to the NLS Annual Meeting.

Larry directed the attention of the delegates to the newly appointed positions of **Paul Satibno-Smith** of Sonbeam Florida as Palanca Coordinator and **John Bradford** of

Utah as National Distribution Center Manager to the board, noting that these positions are reviewed on an annual basis.

The following announcements were made known to the board by President Larry: He reminded everyone that they need to pick up the posters that are in the gym and take them home; videos will be available on the forum talks; evaluations need to be completed and placed into the boxes that are in various places on campus. These evaluations are important in helping the board to plan for future meetings; be sure to pick up the gift bags that Rainbow/ Vineyard brought for you to take home so you can plan your stay at next years meeting place.

Brad Alexander mad a motion to close the meeting. Seconded by Bill Haas. All attending voted yes, motion carried. Meeting closed with Pastor Betts Huntley praying.

Respectfully submitted,  
Su Kralj,  
NLS Secretary

~~~~~  
**NLS Executive Board
2005 Host Committee Meeting**

An informal meeting was called by President Larry Witham, and attended by, Diane Purcell, Tracy Ziemke, Su Kralj, and newly appointed treasurer Jerry Lemcke, and the 2005 Host Co Chairs and their lay delegates and visitors.

Larry began by welcoming the 2005 Hosts and thanked them for next year's annual meeting site. He directed their attention to Tracy saying that she is their official contact with the executive board. If they have any questions or concerns or need information, they are to go directly to her. He and Tracy continued to inform the Host Co Chairs of their responsibilities not only for the annual meeting but also for the executive boards mid year meeting in November of 2004. Details as to what the executive boards needs are and what is expected of them was thoroughly discussed. Larry and Tracy then encouraged the Host committee to ask questions. Several of the members did ask questions concerning electronic equipment, deadlines, vendors, transportation and communication.

Tracy informed the Host Co Chairs of a \$1,000.00 stipend that is available to help them defray costs of the mid year executive board meeting, if they request it from the NLS Board,. She outlined the intense work the executive board will do at the mid year meeting and that they preferred not to be interrupted and that the Host Committee was not expected to entertain them.

One of the deadlines Tracy wanted the Host Co Chairs to keep in mind is the newsletter article that is due by August 15. This material should incorporate basic information regarding the up coming annual meeting.

The Executive Board discussed that it should consider flying into the same airport to save time and money. Baltimore Maryland Airport was the choice agreed by all.

Larry and Tracy informed the Host Co-chairs to carefully examine page one of their contract that talks about Liability Insurance, making sure they understood the importance of them securing the proper insurance and coverage limits requested by the site providers.

The Host co-chairs continued to go over the budget outline and the amount of money they have designated for each line item with the executive board. Diane Foor said that she will be meeting in September with the various committee chairs to go over their progress and will also have them present at the mid year meeting.

President Larry again brought up how important communications are between the transportation committee and the arriving delegates and lay visitors, and that all communications go through Tracy, Diane Foor and Cathy Glumac.

Respectfully submitted,
Su Kralj,
NLS Secretary

Permission to Reprint

Any original article appearing in Conexiones (that is not re-printed from another newsletter) may be reproduced in any local member secretariat's newsletter without calling or writing for permission, provided the article is reproduced in its entirety without revision and credit is given at the end or beginning of the article. Permission to reproduce an article that is reprinted from a member secretariat's newsletter must be obtained from the editor of that movement.

— NLS Executive Board

NLS ADMINISTRATION & OUTREACH NEWS

The evaluations are in and we had a great meeting in Tennessee! July 2004 proved to push us over the top of 200 participants, including the Cantamos Choir, which honored us with their concert.

Many evaluations expressed personal "wants" for future meetings, but by in large the evaluations as a whole were constructive and we heard you saying you want to know more - hear more and do more at the National meeting. (There were but a few that asked for less so they could have personal time)

And so, at our mid year meeting we will be looking to plan 2005 in Maryland with topics you have asked for: sponsorship, visioning realistically, secretariat structure - anything else?

This is your National meeting - your input is important. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions. I will bring any and all legitimate suggestions / concerns to the board.

Your sister in Christ,
Tracy Ziemke

The annual NLS meeting was awesome! It was a great setting, great worship, great accommodations, great seminars, great food, and most of all, great people. Surely the presence of the Lord was in this place.

I had the pleasure of welcoming a new secretariat to our growing NLS family; Via de Cristo of Western Washington. Lay director Ron Becker was presented a nice banner stand, and later a banner to go with it. Blake and Jan Ozias from that new secretariat were also present.

Ron shared with me the disappointments that they were experiencing in trying to get team members for their first weekends in late October. So I asked Ron, Blake and Jan, plus Max Turner and Bob Pflieger (Southern CA and Central Valley VdC), John Bradford (Utah VdC), and Dennis Bertles (Light in the Desert VdC), to join me for a 1/2 hour meeting during a break Saturday. I told Ron that I felt a miracle was about to happen. I asked those who were not from Seattle if they would be willing to help out on the first weekend up there. Needless to say, Seattle will be getting team members from CA, AZ/NV, and UT! There was a small price to pay for the new secretariat, because the first weekend will now be a co-ed weekend. Also, accelerated and brief team meetings will be needed. But that's OK, because to get that first weekend in, you just do what you have to do. For anyone reading this article whom is willing and able to help on this first weekend, please contact Ron Becker (ronwbecker@aol.com or 253-859-6002). They can probably still use some additional team members.

I fully expected 3-4 new movements this year, but those are now "in the queue" for next year. I feel that exciting things are going to happen in my last year as VP of Outreach. As I'm keying in this article for the newsletter, I'm preparing to visit Kansas City, KS the weekend of August 20-21. I have met with the core group down there previously, and it now appears they are ready to form a secretariat.

Also coming up shortly is a visit to Bonner's Ferry, ID, to discuss the possibilities of VdC in that part of the country. That would take in the Northwestern Idaho and Spokane, WA area. If you have any knowledge of other cursillistas in that area that might be interested in helping, please get with me.

Finally, I encourage you to visit the NLS web site and follow the links for new movements. Check out where activity is happening, and let the people mentioned there know of others you are aware of in those areas that could possibly want to be in on the ground floor of a new secretariat.

In His Mighty Grip,
Ron Millard, VP of Outreach

NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT CONTRIBUTIONS BY SECRETARIAT For the Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2004	
A-OK Synod Lutheran Secretariat	\$250
Atlanta Lutheran VdC	250
Colorado VdC	250
Damascus VdC of CNY	0
Eastern NC VdC	250
Gold Coast VdC Inc (FL)	294
Heart of Florida VdC	250
Heart of IL VdC	0
Indian River VdC	250
Indiana Lutheran VdC (2003, 2004)	500
Iowa Lutheran Secretariat	250
LA Lutheran VdC	250
Light in the Desert VdC	150
Lighthouse VdC (FL)	250
Living Waters VdC	250
Lutheran Cursillo Movement of AZ (2003, 2004)	500
Lutheran VdC of C Michigan	302
Lutheran VdC of Minnesota	1,140
Lutheran VdC of Utah	250
MI Good News VdC (2004 plus donation)	500
Nebraska Lutheran VdC	250
North Texas Lutheran Secretariat	250
Pittsburg VdC - inactive	0
Prairie Sonshine VdC (1st yr dues plus donation)	100
Rainbow VdC	250
River's Edge VdC	0
South Carolina Lutheran VdC	250
Sonbeam VdC (FL)	250
Sonshine North VdC (FL)	250
Sonshine South VdC Movement (FL)	220
South Dakota VdC	250
Southern Arizona Lutheran VdC	250
Taste of Grace	0
TENN Lutheran VdC	250
Texas Lutheran VdC	250
VdC of Ohio	250
VdC of So Cal and Central Valley	250
Vineyard VdC	250
W North Carolina VdC (2003, 2004)	500
Wisconsin Sunrise VdC	250
Yellowstone Via de Cristo	50
TOTAL	\$10,506

**NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY
For the Twelve Months Ending May 31, 2004**

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Distribution Center</u>	<u>Video Fund</u>	<u>Memorial Fund</u>	<u>Outreach Fund</u>	<u>Total</u>
CASH BALANCE June 1, 2003	\$17,491	\$1,152	\$2,860	\$175	\$4,916	\$26,594
Contributions - Secretariats	10,506					10,506
Palanca	3,175			(175)	2,095	5,095
Interest	97					97
Distribution Center		8,242				8,242
TOTAL INCOME	<u>13,778</u>	<u>8,242</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,095</u>	<u>23,940</u>
EXPENSES						
President	939					939
VP Administration	182					182
VP Outreach	2,303					2,303
Treasurer	774					774
Secretary	396					396
Spiritual Director	280					280
Newsletter Editor	774					774
Conference Calls	655					655
Newsletter	1,836					1,836
Web Site and Software	260					260
Administration & Postage	73					73
Annual Meeting	2,714					2,714
Mid-year Meeting	0					0
Printing and Reproduction	125					125
Long Range Planning Committee	41					41
Designated Board Authorized	765					765
Video						0
Outreach						0
Distribution Center						0
Annual Meeting		941				941
Postage		860				860
Printing	200	1,804				2,004
Supplies		357				357
Tape Duplicating		516				516
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>12,317</u>	<u>4,478</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>16,795</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	1,461	3,764	0	0	2,095	7,320
CASH BALANCE May 31, 2004	<u>\$18,952</u>	<u>\$4,916</u>	<u>\$2,860</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$7,011</u>	<u>\$33,739</u>

**NATIONAL LUTHERAN SECRETARIAT
PROPOSED BUDGET
For the Fiscal Year June 1, 2004 to May 31, 2005**

	GENERAL FUND		
	03-04 BUDGET	03-04 ACTUAL	PROPOSED 04-05 BUDGET
CASH BALANCE June 1, 2004	\$17,491	\$17,491	\$18,952
INCOME			
Contributions - Secretariats	10,000	10,506	10,500
Palanca	4,000	3,175	3,000
Interest	400	97	100
TOTAL INCOME	<u>14,400</u>	<u>13,778</u>	<u>13,600</u>
EXPENSES			
President	1,000	939	1,000
VP Administration	1,000	182	1,000
VP Outreach	3,000	2,303	3,000
Treasurer	800	774	800
Secretary	800	396	800
Spiritual Director	800	280	800
Newsletter Editor	800	774	800
Website Manager	0	0	800
Conference Calls	500	655	700
Newsletter Publication /Postage	3,000	1,836	1,500
Web Site	1,000	260	500
Administration & Postage	200	73	200
Annual Meeting	2,500	2,714	3,000
Mid-year Meeting	750	0	1,000
Printing and Reproduction	500	125	300
Committees			
Long Range Planning	2,000	41	500
Video Planning	3,000	0	3,000
Designated Board Authorized	<u>500</u>	<u>765</u>	<u>500</u>
Distribution Center		+200	
TOTAL EXPENSES	22,150	12,317	20,200
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(7,750)	1,461	(6,600)
EST CASH BALANCE May 31, 2005	\$9,741	\$18,952	\$12,352

**COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As of May 31, 2004**

ASSETS	End-of-Period May 31, 2004	Beginning of Fiscal Year May 31, 2003
Cash - General Fund	\$1,237	\$2,375
Cash - In Transit	5,406	\$0
Cash - Distribution Center	4,916	1,152
NLS Savings	1,044	7,033
Investment - Strong	16,136	16,034
Investment - Thrivent	5,000	0
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$33,739</u>	<u>\$26,594</u>
NET ASSETS		
Restricted		
Video Fund	\$2,860	\$2,860
Outreach Fund	7,011	4,916
Memorial Fund	0	175
Unrestricted - General Fund	18,952	17,491
Unrestricted - Distribution Center	<u>4,916</u>	<u>1,152</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>\$33,739</u>	<u>\$26,594</u>

Palanca!!!

For Future weekends

All pending weekends for the next six months from publication will be printed in each Conexiones.

- Sept./Oct.? 2004 - Florida: **Sonshine VDC of South Florida**, Women's #91: Send palanca to: Ginny Esch 2360 SW 70th Terrace Davie, FL 33317
- Sept./Oct.? 2004 - Iowa: **Iowa VDC**, Men's & Women's: Send palanca to: Newell Bowers 1610 Lincoln Dr. Atlantic, IA 50022
- Sept.? 2004 - North Carolina: **Eastern NC VdC** Send palanca to: Vicki McCombs P O Box 760 Rockwell, NC 28138
- Sept. 2004 - California: **VDC of Southern CA and the Central Valley**, Coed #21: Sept. 9-12, Send palanca to: Leslie Symm 1908 Village Oak Ct. Bakersfield, CA 93311
- Sept. 2004 - IN/KY: **Indiana/Kentucky VdC**, Men's #50: Sept. 9-12 & Women's #51: Sept. 16-19, Send palanca to: Rich Rager 589 Shorelane Dr. Cicero, IN 46034
- Sept. 2004 - Florida: **Gold Coast VDC**, Men's #69: Sept. 16-19, Send palanca to: Dawn Ellis 393 NW 22nd ST. Boca Raton, FL 33486
- Sept/Oct. 2004 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, Men's #440, Sept. 23-26 & Women's #431: Sept. 30-Oct.3, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119
- Sept/Oct. 2004 - Ohio: **VdC of Ohio**, Men's #54, Sept. 23-26 & Women's #53: Oct.7-10, Send palanca to: Lori Hartman 7293 Phillipsburg Union Rd. Brookville, OH 45309
- Sept/Oct. 2004 - Illinois: **Taste of Grace VDC**, Men's #4: Sept. 30-Oct.3, Women's #4: Oct. 7-10, Send palanca to: Amy Prior 16801 Blackfoot Dr. Lockport, IL 60441
- Sept/Oct. 2004 - South Carolina: **South Carolina VdC**; Coed #5: Sept. 30-Oct.3, Send palanca to: Keith Nichols 2267 Forest Lake Blvd. Charleston, SC 29414
- Sept. 2004 - Texas: **TX Luth VDC**, Men's: Sept. 30-Oct.3, Women's: Oct. 7-10, Send palanca to: Beverly Geltmeier 132 Penny Pincher Way Bastrop, TX 78602
- Sept. 2004 - VA/MD: **Rainbow VDC of MD/VA**, Women's #48: Sept. 30-Oct.3, Men's #45: Oct. 7-10, Send palanca to: Karen Schatz 9530 Sea Gull Ct North Beach, MN 20714
- Oct. 2004 - Arizona: **AZ Lutheran Cursillo**, Men's #99: Oct. 7-10 & Women's #100: Oct. 21-24, Send palanca to: Roy Heitkamp PO Box 5171 Peoria, AZ 85385-5171
- Oct. 2004 - AR/OK: **A-OK Lutheran Sec.**, Coed #10: Oct. 7-10, Send palanca to: Becky Del Rio 18115 Fawn Tree Dr. Little Rock, AR 72209
- Oct. 2004 - Georgia: **Atlanta VDC**, Men's #51: Oct. 7-10 & Women's #49 Oct. 14-17, Send palanca to: Mike & Anna Seden 1310 Wood Park Dr. Kennesaw, GA 30152
- Oct. 2004 - IA/IL: **Living Waters VDC**, Men's #30: Oct. 7-10 & Women's #30 Oct. 14-17, Send palanca to: Tom & Theresa Oloffson 122 E 2nd St. P.O. Box 207 Wyanet, IL 61379
- Oct. 2004 - Maryland: **Vineyard VDC**, Women's #14 Oct. 7-10, Send palanca to: Sara McCall PO

- Box 254 Smithsburg, MD 21783
- Oct. 2004 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, Men's #442, Oct. 7-10 & Women's #443 Oct. 14-17, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119
- Sept. 2004 - California: **VDC of Southern CA and the Central Valley**, Coed #22: Oct. 14-17, Send palanca to: Leslie Symm 1908 Village Oak Ct. Bakersfield, CA 93311
- Oct. 2004 - Florida: **Heart of Florida VDC** Men's #30: Oct. 14-17, Women's #30: Oct. 21-24, Send palanca to: Jan Fry % St John Lutheran Church, 1600 S. Orlando Ave Winter Park, FL 32789
- Oct. 2004 - Illinois: **Heart of Illinois VDC**, Men's #13: Oct. 14-17, Women's #14: Oct. 21-24, Send palanca to: Natalee Arff 11021 Buckskin Ct. Peoria, IL 61615
- Oct. 2004 - IN/KY: **Indiana/Kentucky VdC**, Men's #52: Oct. 14-17, Women's #53: Oct. 21-24, Send palanca to: Rich Rager 589 Shorelane Dr. Cicero, IN 46034
- Oct. 2004 - Michigan/Ohio: **Good News VdC**, Men's #35: Oct. 14-17, Women's #35: Oct. 21-24, Send palanca to: Kathy Jurrus 10 1/2 Vineyard Dr. Rossford, OH 43460-1350
- Oct. 2004 - Tennessee: **TN Lutheran VdC**, Mixed (coed) #12: Oct. 14-17, Send palanca to: Debra Wainner 100016 Gate Post Way Knoxville, TN 37931
- Oct/Nov.. 2004 - Arizona: **Southern AZ Lutheran VdC**, Men's #17: Oct. 21-24 & Women's #18: Nov. 11-14, Send palanca to: Sally Watts 7310 S. Camino Mirlo Tucson, AZ 85747
- Oct. 2004 - Minnesota: **Lutheran VdC of Minnesota-Metro**, Men's #438, Oct. 21-24 & Women's #439 Oct. 28-31, Send palanca to: Ann Taylor 1070 Lakewood Dr. No. Maplewood, MN 55119
- Oct. 2004 - Maryland: **Vineyard VDC**, Men's #14 Oct. 28-31, Send palanca to: Sara McCall PO Box 254 Smithsburg, MD 21783
- Oct. 2004 - AR/OK: **A-OK Lutheran Sec.**, Coed #1: Oct.28-31, Send palanca to: Jan Ozias 23609 NE 25th Way Sammamish, WA 98074
- Nov.? 2004 - North Carolina: **Eastern NC VDC**, Send palanca to: Vicki McCombs P O Box 760 Rockwell, NC 28138
- Nov. 2004 - North Carolina: **Western NC VDC**, Mixed #20: Nov. 4-7, Send palanca to: Judy Zander 304 Amity Circle Belmont, NC 28012
- Nov. 2004 - Colorado: **Colorado VDC**, Men #18: Nov. 4-7 & Women's #18 Nov. 11-14, Send palanca to: Gerry & Karen Givens 5440 Silver Drive Colorado Springs, CO 80918
- Nov. 2004 - Florida: **Lighthouse VDC**, Men #27: Nov. 4-7 & Women's #27: Nov. 11-14, Send palanca to: Jeanne Constable PO Box 1717 Smyrna Beach, FL 32170
- Nov. 2004 - Florida: **Sonbeam VDC**, Men #44: Nov. 11-14 & Women's #44; Nov. 18-21, Send palanca to: Skip Young 2885 10th Ave. No. St. Petersburg, FL 33713
- Nov. 2004 - Florida: **Sonshine North VDC**, Men's #46: Nov. 4-7 & Women's #46: Nov. 11-14, Send palanca to: Tom Collinge 1974 No. River Dr. Jacksonville, FL 32211
- Nov 2004 - Illinois: **Prairie Sonshine VDC of Central IL**, Women's #3: Nov. 11-14, Send palanca to: Stacy Thomas 1800 Mound. Jacksonville, IL 62650
- Nov. 2004 - Nebraska: **Nebraska VDC**, Men's: Nov. 11-14 & Women's Nov. 18-21, Send palanca to: Becky Lindsay 2100 Heather Lane Lincoln, NE 68512
- Nov. 2004 - Wisconsin: **Wisconsin SonRise VDC**,

- #45: Nov. 4-7 & Women's #46: Nov. 11-14, Send palanca to: Rhonda Knudtson 439 Jefferson Dr. Kewaskum, WI 53040
- Nov. 2004 - Texas: **North Texas Lutheran VdC**, #64: Nov. 18-21, Send palanca to: Lily Gholston 401 Campbell Lane Denton, TX 76209-4580

New Palanca Coordinator

Attending the NLS 2004 Annual Meeting in Knoxville was my first NLS Meeting. What a wonderful, grace filled experience to invest three days in Worship of our Lord with others.

Some may wonder, "Who is this guy?" I was born in Colorado and have spent most of my life there. Currently, I reside in Lakeland, Florida with my bride, Maggie, and our four-legged children (2 dogs and 2 cats). I have 6 Children and 8 Grandchildren. Maggie has 6 children and 8 Grandchildren. I have worked at IBM for 38 years in manufacturing, service, sales, auditing, project management and Customer Satisfaction spending 29 of the 38 years in management and leadership. Also work with our own company, Mainspring Consultants, in management consulting.

Maggie and I are both actively involved in our Church, Harvest Assembly of God, Lakeland, Florida, Sonbeam Via de Cristo and Kairos Prison Ministry. While raised in the Baptist Church as a child, I wandered away as I grew older. In 1993, I attended Tennessee Episcopal Cursillo # 41 (Coed) where I sat at the Table of St Matthew. It was at that Cursillo that I truly met my Lord and Savior, Jesus. Since then, I have been involved with Cursillo and Walk to Emmaus in addition to Via de Cristo and Kairos. Currently, I serve as Lay Director for Sonbeam VDC in Florida and on a Kairos Council for Hardee Correctional Institution.

When I read the information seeking a Palanca Coordinator, at first I thought my desire to volunteer was simply myself seeking to be involved in yet one more thing. After prayer, the Lord made me realize it was He that was calling me to be involved in that "yet one more thing". After all, He is faithful; He does provide us with exactly what we need when we need it. Since the key to Palanca is prayer and sacrifice, He was saying it is time to become closer with Him in service through prayer and sacrifice. So, I offered my name and here I humbly stand. I look forward with excitement to serving the NLS, Via de Cristo Secretariats and Communities through prayer and sacrifice (and a little computer work :o). God is good & Life is beautiful!!

Paul Sabatier-Smith

◇◇



NLS Distribution Center

John Bradford, Director Phone: (801) 561-0122
E-Mail: joab@aros.net

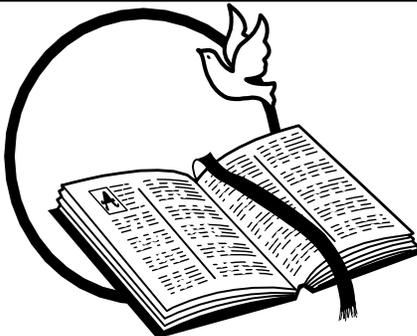
Annual Meeting Items Available

John Bradford announces that all the material that was available at the 2004 Annual Meeting and video tapes from the meeting are available from the Distribution Center. Order forms for all NLS materials can be found on the web page.



Conexiones Subscription

About 300 of you are choosing to obtain the Conexiones through mail delivery. The suggested annual donation is **\$6.00** and can be sent to the treasurer, address is found on page two. Please help us to be good stewards of these materials and we thank you in advance for your payment. Again if you would prefer to receive an email notification, just fill out the E-Mail Notification Request Form that can be found on the web.



Order Forms

In this newsletter you will not find order forms for our NLS materials or tapes and the numerous crosses from Symbols, Inc. Those forms can be found on the web and can be downloaded as needed. I have also put a smaller version of the email request on page two as a reminder to sign up, but that too can be downloaded off the web. This change has been done to continue to be good stewards of our resources, since it will save us and you time and money in printing costs. We are aware that not everyone has access to the web and email service. If you are in need of either form, we encourage you to talk to someone in your secretariat who can obtain a copy of that form for you. Don't hesitate to contact the board with any of your questions in this change. Their address, phone numbers and email addresses can be found on page two. Thank You!

Visited our Web Site Lately?



<http://www.viadechristo.org>

Webmaster: Bob Northrup

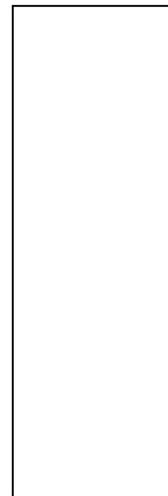
CONEXIONES-ON-THE-WEB

Are you interested in saving the NLS money? Please sign up to receive the E-Mail Notification by filling out the E-Mail Notification Request Form. How this works is that you will receive an email notification when the latest edition of the Conexiones has been posted on the NLS Web Page. You then can view the newsletter at your leisure and chose to copy it.



Judy Laabs-Foss
4495 Margaret Street
White Bear Township, MN 55110-3773

DATED MATERIAL, PLEASE EXPEDITE



CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
US Postage
PAID
Permit No 563
St. Paul, MN