

# THE ROCKFORD Rooster



Vol. 1V 2013

[www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford](http://www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford)

*"Something Worth Crowing About"*



*Published by  
The  
Cursillo Movement  
of the  
Rockford Diocese*

*Editor  
Bobbie Genovese*

*Graphic Design  
Sam Genovese*

*Send articles or information to:  
Alfred Johnson  
[alfredjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:alfredjohnson@gmail.com)  
or phone 815-877-3546*

## **Message from the Lay Director**

As most of you know, the 2013 Spring Men's weekend was cancelled. We simply did not have enough candidates. This decision was made with sorrowful hearts, but we all understand why and what needed to be done.

**"Not our will be done, but HIS".**

It is very difficult not to force our will. No one wanted to cancel the weekend. After the last Men's Team Meeting, we met to discuss the situation at hand. How many candidates did we need? What was the cut off? What if someone does not show? All of these questions and concerns could be answered with one thought.

**"Not our will be done, but HIS".**

This meeting revealed that we all want what our Lord wants. We need to introduce our friends to Jesus. The candidates and Christ are the focus of the weekends.

The purpose of the Cursillo Movement is NOT to give everyone the experience of having made a Cursillo Weekend or a retreat. Our purpose is to form a movement of apostolic Christians who have a unified vision of how to bring Christian life to every environment. Cursillos are not held so that there is a large number of Cursillistas all over the world but to have living and active Christians all over the world.

**This is a wake-up call for all of us!**

As Cursillistas, we are called to speak to God about our friends before speaking to our friends about God. We need to constantly be praying for candidates, praying for the teams, praying for the leadership, and praying for all Cursillistas to continue their Fourth Days.

The men have pledged not to wait to identify, pray and invite candidates. Every time we group we pray for candidates as well as for those who have fallen away.

We also ask this of the women. Pray for the candidates God wishes to send to us. Please invite your husbands, brothers and other men in your life. They need you to encourage them. You might not think they will say yes, but they just might surprise you. My wife did not think I would say yes and yet here I am.

God's Peace, Love and Joy be with you. Scott



# *Rockford Cursillo* *50th Anniversary*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 2013  
WORSHIP, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP



## MASS AT 11:00 AM

ST. CHARLES BORROMEO  
297 E. JEFFERSON AVENUE  
HAMPSHIRE, IL

## PICNIC 12 – 5 PM

BRUCE REAM PARK  
400 W. JEFFERSON AVENUE  
HAMPSHIRE, IL

- BRING A SIDE DISH TO SHARE • LEMONADE & ICED TEA PROVIDED
- NO ALCOHOLIC DRINKS PERMITTED • BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS
- \$10 PER ADULT • KIDS UNDER 18 FREE • PAY AT PARK

PORK ROAST • BOUNCE HOUSE • PRIZES • MUSIC  
GAMES • VOLLEYBALL • PLAYGROUND • TUG-OF-WAR • TSHIRTS

RSVP BY AUGUST 1  
EMAIL: [CURSILLOPICNIC@COMCAST.NET](mailto:CURSILLOPICNIC@COMCAST.NET)  
PHONE: BRENDA MORONES 630-844-9544  
OR PATRICIA REARDON 309-256-2377



# Area Ultreyas

## INVITATION TO ALL CURSILLISTAS TO WORK UPCOMING WEEKENDS

For all Cursillistas who would like to come back and serve on a three-day weekend, the Rockford Diocese holds Cursillo weekends twice a year, one each spring and fall for men and for women. All weekends are held at St. Mary's Parish Community Center, 881 N. Mongan Drive, Oregon, IL 61061 (on the northeast corner of Rt. 64 and Mongan Drive).

### Men's 98th Cursillo Oct 17-20, 2013 "Send Your Spirit to Fire My Soul"

Ken Meeker - Rector, Phone 630/430-9879 k\_meeker@comcast.net  
Kevin O'Connor - Assistant, martandkevinoc@comcast.net

#### TEAM MEETINGS:

Meeting	Date	Time	Place
#1	August 25, 2013	1:00pm	Holy Cross, Batavia
#2	September 8, 2013	1:00pm	Newman Ctr, DeKalb*
#3	September 22, 2013	1:00pm	St. Mary's, Oregon (Spanish Men's Closures)
#4	September 29, 2013	1:00pm	Holy Cross, Batavia
#5	October 13, 2013	1:00pm	Holy Cross, Batavia

### Women's 89th Cursillo October 24-27, 2013

Melodee Probst - Rectora, Phone 630/319-9801 meem1022@aol.com  
Mary Gorecki - Assistant, Phone 630/365-5740 mary.gorecki@mchsi.com

#### TEAM MEETINGS:

Meeting	Date	Time	Place
#1	August 25, 2013	1:00pm	St. Gall, Elburn
#2	September 8, 2013	1:00pm	Newman Ctr, DeKalb*
#3	September 22, 2013	1:00pm	St. Gall, Elburn
#4	October 6, 2013	1:00pm	St. Gall, Elburn
#5	October 20, 2013	1:00pm	St Mary's - Oregon (Men's Closures)

\* COMMISSIONING

## Dates to Remember

School of Leaders	July 18, 2013	St. Charles, Hampshire
School of Leaders	July 25, 2013	Holy Apostles, McHenry
School of Leaders	August 7, 2013	Maple Park
School of Leaders	Sept. 19, 2013	St Charles Borromeo
School of Leaders	September 26, 2013	Holy Apostles, McHenry
School of Leaders	October 2, 2013	Maple Park
Men's Cursillo	October 17 - 20, 2013	St. Mary's, Oregon
Women's Cursillo	October 24-27, 2013	St. Mary's, Oregon
School of Leaders	November 21, 2013	St Charles, Hampshire
Ultreya Grande	January 25, 2014	TBA
English Men's Cursillo	April 24-27, 2014	St. Mary's, Oregon
English Women's Cursillo	May 1-4, 2014	St. Mary's, Oregon
English Men's Cursillo	October 23-26, 2014	St. Mary's, Oregon

The Spanish word "ultreya" means "onward." It was a shout of enthusiasm by the first pilgrimage to the shrine of St. James of Compostela. And so we use that term to mean that which encourages all of us who attend the Ultreya to continue, to persevere in our Christian life as apostles for Jesus Christ. The purpose of the Ultreya is to keep the spirit and friendship of a Cursillo ongoing in order that it may be a motivating force for all of us to live the ideal and to evangelize. Ultreya is the place where friendships are built within the larger community. The Ultreya in its totality is the sharing of our Christian life.

- It is a community that makes itself visible in gatherings where they come together in an attitude of progressive conversion.
- It is a community united in one faith, one Lord and one baptism.
- It gathers to facilitate the living and sharing of what is fundamental to being a Christian.
- It also serves as an opportunity to come in contact with the larger Christian community and to help those who may not have formed a permanent friendship group.

McHenry: 3 times a year at The Church of Holy Apostles

Contact Rich & Barb Hayes, 815-728-0918 r2b2hayes@comcast.net

Oregon: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in June and December, 7:00 pm, at

St Mary's Parish Center Contact Linda & Ron Abramowicz 815-986-8554

Abramz6@comcast.net

DeKalb: 2 times a year, 7:00 pm, at NIU Newman Center

Contact Tom & Lori Kedzie 815-751-9644 lorikedzie@gmail.com

Rockford: May, September & January, 8:30 pm, at

St. Bridget's Parish Center (Loves Park)

Contact Al Johnson 815-877-3546 alafordjohnson@gmail.com

Aurora: Spanish 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, 7:00 pm, at St. Nicholas,

Daleiden Center Contact Jesus Morones 630-844-9544

Chuy8844@msn.com



## SCHOOL OF LEADERS

My, how time flies. It seems like just yesterday that Ray said he'd like to talk to me about "something". It has been six years since I accepted the challenge to serve this movement as head of the school of leaders and it has been a wonderful journey and I look forward to serving this movement in whatever capacity God calls me. As I have said many times before, I know that this is where He wants me.

In reflecting on these past years, the school has made great strides, but we still have a long way to go. I remember sitting in the front at Mass before a meeting, not wanting to turn around in fear that only a few people had shown up for the meeting. Today we have schools in Hampshire, Maple Park and McHenry. Isn't God awesome! I hope and pray that the school will continue to grow under our new leadership. I will continue to say a Chaplet of Divine Mercy each day and will dedicate my weekly rosary in front of the Blessed Sacrament to the school.

This past spring I was asked to give the Piety Talk. Unfortunately the men's weekend had to be cancelled because we did not have enough candidates to put on an effective Cursillo weekend. It broke my heart when it was decided to cancel the weekend. So much work and planning goes into preparing for a Cursillo and it is tragic when it has to be cancelled. But cancelled is really the wrong word. The correct word is postponed. As Ken put it, we will have the Cursillo, it just won't be now. I was so impressed with every Cursillista that attended the meeting to decide if we should hold the weekend. Each one had the same attitude. It wasn't about them and how much work they had put into the weekend. It was about the candidates and the movement. It showed true leadership, from men who just made their Cursillo to our "veterans". It was truly impressive and it shows that the Cursillo movement in the Rockford diocese is heading in the right direction.

In the Piety talk that I will now give this fall, I talk about our faith, our life of piety. I say it must be constantly growing. It can never stagnate. Our faith is either growing or it is dying, one or the other. If we ever get to the point in our life that we feel we have "made it" and do not have to do anything else, that is the day our faith starts to die. The same analogy can be said of the school. It is either growing or it is dying, it cannot remain the same. That is why I hope and pray that our new leadership will continue to strive to make the school and this movement even stronger in our diocese. Know that you will always be in my prayers. I am looking forward to serving this movement in what ever God asks of me.

DeColores Don White



## MEET YOUR SECRETARIAT...

*Ken Meeker  
Post-Cursillo*

Ken has agreed to take the open position of Post - Cursillo and is looking forward to helping the Cursillo community in their fourth day journey. Ken and his wife, Carole, have lived in Batavia for the past 13 years and are members of Holy Cross Catholic Church. Both Ken and his wife began living the Cursillo method in the spring of 2003.

They have been married 41 years and have two grown daughters, Tawnia and Mary Beth; both are married to super guys and live in the area. They are blessed with four grandchildren ranging in age from 9 years old down to 5.

Ken volunteers at Holy Cross as a lector, works Hesed House once a month, and helps his wife with Enriching Lives, a senior citizen ministry.

Ken works in the software industry specializing in implementing process improvement associated with electronic medical records. His hobbies include working on his 160 year old house and spending as much time as possible with his family.



# 50 years of Cursillo in Rockford



**5th Mens Weekend Oct. 8-11, 1964 St Mary's in McHenry**



**1st womens weekend May 20-23, 1965 held in Freeport**

This summer we will be celebrating 50 years since the first Cursillo August 8-11, 1963. The people of the Rockford diocese have maintained a vibrant movement and have held weekends ever since. There have been 97 men's and 88 women's weekends; in 1995 we started having Spanish weekends to help the Spanish-speaking communities in the diocese.

Cursillo has changed many people's lives over those fifty years:

- Bishop Arthur O'Neill called the Cursillo "the best kept secret in the Catholic Church".
- Lois Wright was attracted to Hook's painting of Jesus which was displayed in the Chapel; and she remembered Enzler's "Everyone's Way of the Cross" every Friday evening on the weekends. She also remembers some team members praying a Palanca Rosary, kneeling with arms extended; some would become so tired that friends were needed to assist them by holding up their arms. Things like the above helped plant the seed of the Cursillo in the Wright family that continues to this day.
- Ken Sittenauer remembers driving from Dixon to Aurora every Friday for School of Leaders. Ken was Lay Director four years, and when transferred to Kansas City, he started the movement there and served an additional 10 years as Lay Director, as well as 22 years with the National and International Secretariats.
- Margaret Johnson said that Cursillo brought the love of Jesus into her family and community and that she stayed involved because of the love of the Christian community that she felt every weekend she worked.
- Fr. Robert Sherry was able to inspire a new parish to grow with a strong spiritual foundation partly achieved by promoting Cursillo, and Cursillo sustained him over his 45 years of service to the diocese.
- Elaine Pfluger shared that her husband, Robert, made the first men's Cursillo in Rockford and she went to South Bend, Indiana, to bring the women's Cursillo to the Rockford diocese shortly after. "The Cursillo changed our lives 50 years ago and our friends are the ones we met through those years," she says.

- Al Johnson believes that his life was changed by the weekend. "I made my Cursillo and I started down a new path that I pray lasts the rest of my life," he vows.

This list is far from complete and could continue for many pages. The number of Cursillistas that have gone on to become Deacons and Priests are so numerous I was not able to come up with an exact number.

Since the early days the weekends have remained pretty consistent but here are some differences that may surprise you:

- Instead of having a central location, Cursillo weekends moved from parish to parish, usually held in a school or gym. All supplies, including cots and tables, were moved in a trailer that was unloaded and then packed up again for every weekend. Deacon Harold Poss stored the materials in his company warehouse.
- Not all locations had showers available. Fr. Harold Nilges, pastor of St. Catherine's, installed showers in the boiler room himself so we could have weekends in Genoa.
- Early on, smoking was allowed in the conference room.
- Posters were made after every talk, not just once each night
- Musicians were only used for DeColores and for Masses; all speakers were greeted a cappella.
- Because it was hard to get priests for confession, not everyone had the opportunity to receive the sacrament as we have now.
- Many times Cursillo was forced to borrow dishes from Annunciation, St Peter's and other parishes.
- Aurora had Ultreyas every Sunday with 50 or more attending.
- Every Cursillo weekend was good, but some were exceptional.
- The Rockford Diocese hosted the National Cursillo Encounter sometime during the 70's.

Now that we have looked at how Cursillo has changed lives and some of the changes over the years, it is important to say that Rockford has remained strong due to the people Cursillo has touched. I hope everyone will join us at the celebration of 50 years at the picnic Saturday, August 10, 2013 in Hampshire (see flier for more information).

**DeColores, Al Johnson, Cursillo historian**

# 50 years of Cursillo in Rockford

August 8th–August 11, 1963  
Mens Team, Muldoon High School

CURSILOS IN CHRISTIANITY, Pt.  
DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD  
1245 N. Court Street  
Rockford, Illinois

AUGUST 8, 1963 – AUGUST 11, 1963  
MULDOON HIGH SCHOOL  
1204 West State

## SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR:

Rev. Michael Cody, CMF 1300 S. Wabash, Chicago RA 7-7078

## ASSISTANT SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS

✓ Rev. William Knott 428 N. 2nd St., Rockford 962-1211  
Rev. Francis Moroney 1215 N. Court, Rockford 962-3709

## LECTORS:

Norm Rapp 4707 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago ES 8-9016

## ASSISTANT RECTOR:

✓ Francis Murphy 1909 Mohank Road, Rockford 399-1243

## AUXILIARIES:

Mary Klast 2586 N. Mango Avenue, Chicago RA 2-0352  
Joe Vaughn 7019 S. Yale, Chicago AB 4-2140  
Al Feldman 1217 W. Augusta, Chicago CA 7-1997  
Gabe Costabile 1000 N. Avere, Chicago BU 9-0685  
Doris Merrill 2137 W. Roosevelt, Chicago CH 4-0553  
Don Vanderveld 325 Seminary Ave., Aurora, Ill. TV 2-4682  
✓ Don Farrell 307 N. Bourietta, Rockford 962-1515  
✓ Gene Horvath 5020 Highcrest, Rockford 399-0677  
Paul Mathe 3940 N. Marshfield, Chicago LI 9-1884  
Don Nelson 715 Hamilton, Aurora, Ill. 897-6021  
✓ Don Kiegal 2316 Fulton Avenue, Rockford 962-9960  
Don Karski 223 Oakley Avenue, Rockford 962-5327  
Angelo Del Giudice 1801 W. Van Buren, Chicago AT 7-5924

## ST. MARK'S TEAM

✓ William Aronson, Leader 733 Highview Rockford, Illinois 399-2150  
Joseph Helms 2435 Baywood Place Madison, Wisconsin 233-0724  
Robert Olson 611 Watson Aurora, Illinois TW 6-6411  
✓ Robert Petrovich 1028 Peace Pipe Trail Rockford, Illinois 962-0730  
Joseph Harrison 1005 Lincoln Avenue Rockford, Illinois SL 1-1000  
Reverend James O'Brien 225 W. Washington Place Freeport, Illinois 236-7802  
Thomas Bassett 701 Rural Street Aurora, Illinois 897-4843  
Robert Schenkinger 311 Irving Avenue Rockford, Illinois 962-7500

Leo Dolan, Leader  
315 Concord  
Elgin, Illinois  
SH 2-0069

Eugene Adam  
638 High Street  
Aurora, Illinois  
TW 2-3794

✓ Sam Vecchio  
319 Cole Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
965-2150

✓ Robert Goodick, Leader  
915 Westchester Drive  
Rockford, Illinois  
399-4625

John Redican  
818 N. Main Street  
Belvidere, Illinois  
SL3-3265

✓ Joseph Vavra  
202 E. 10th Street  
Rindale, Illinois  
FA 3-5677

Jerome Ambelang, Leader  
2119 Regent Street  
Madison, Wisconsin  
SL 8-5957

Agar Collier  
O Dexter  
SL, Illinois  
3-0627

✓ Ed Reiland  
Rander Place  
SL, Illinois

## ST. JOHN'S TEAM

✓ Robert Dean  
323 Royal Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
962-6612

Robert Pfluger  
3639 Grant Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
877-0895

Reverend John W. Jones  
1015 W. State Street  
Rockford, Illinois  
962-0623

## ST. PETER'S TEAM

A. W. Neubert  
2107 W. Lawn  
Madison, Wisconsin  
AL 5-1688

✓ Robert DuRoi  
517 Robert  
Rockford, Illinois  
398-4061

Reverend Thomas F. Caughlin  
405 St. Joseph Avenue  
Aurora, Illinois  
892-0702

## ST. PAUL'S TEAM

Robert Mathey  
723 Watson  
Aurora, Illinois  
TW 6-4811

Donatus Abe  
420 Paris Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
962-3457

✓ Reverend William F. Myers  
2400 Bell Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
962-7634

John Lemville  
114 S. Duane Street  
Rindale, Illinois  
FA 5-0592

✓ Tom Vitale  
905 Rose Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
962-6621

## ST. JAMES' TEAM

Lowell Jacobsen, Leader  
401 S. Broadway  
Aurora, Illinois  
TW 6-3453

Marty Monahan  
Maryknoll Seminary  
Maryknoll, New York

Bill Smith  
Box 299A, Rt. 1  
Spring Grove, Illinois  
Fox Lake: JU 7-9021

Robert Prier  
2135 Kendall Avenue  
Madison, Wisconsin  
CE 8-1632

✓ Joseph Rongere  
1420 Arthur Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
965-1118

Very Reverend Henry M. Schreyer  
272 Division Street  
Elgin, Illinois  
SH 6-0120

✓ James Ward  
735 E. Iroquois  
Freeport, Illinois  
233-2623

✓ Lawrence Schmidt  
727 Rome Avenue  
Rockford, Illinois  
962-6186

September 13th — Rockford College, Box 206





## ROCKFORD CURSILLO COMMUNICATIONS



The Rockford Cursillo website is [www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford](http://www.natl-cursillo.org/rockford). There you can view Roosters, weekend and team meeting information and download candidate and sponsor forms.

Webmaster is Brenda Morones: [brndmoro@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brndmoro@sbcglobal.net)

Other informative web sites: National website: <http://www.cursillo.org>

Region V website: <http://www.cursillo-region-5.org>

OMCC World organization: <http://www.orgmcc.org>

Rockford Diocese website: <http://www.rockforddiocese.org>

The Rooster is published twice a year. If you want to add, modify or delete your name/address from the mailing list contact Al Johnson at [alfredjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:alfredjohnson@gmail.com) or 815-877-3546.

### Secretariat meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month at St. Mary's in Sycamore.

The Secretariat of the Rockford Diocese helps the Cursillo Movement to function and achieve its purpose. It is charged by the Bishop to implement the Movement properly according to norms and guidelines established by the National Secretariat. All Cursillistas are urged to support the Secretariat by prayer and palanca.

Spiritual Director	FR. Sylvester A. Nnaso	847-683-2391	<a href="mailto:frnnaso@scbparish.org">frnnaso@scbparish.org</a>
Lay Director	Scott Long	815-282-0616	<a href="mailto:scottlong@comcast.net">scottlong@comcast.net</a>
Asst. Lay Director	Linda Abramowica	815-886-8554	<a href="mailto:Abramz6@comcast.net">Abramz6@comcast.net</a>
Secretary	Tiffany Guthrie	630-801-9563	<a href="mailto:tguthrie@att.net">tguthrie@att.net</a>
Treasurer	Fermin Garcia	815-761-1579	<a href="mailto:garciaf65@yahoo.com">garciaf65@yahoo.com</a>
School of Leaders	Don White	847-683-2005	<a href="mailto:dwhite@foxvalley.net">dwhite@foxvalley.net</a>
Pre-Cursillo	Ray Oleferchik	847-683-0337	<a href="mailto:rayoleferchik@earthlink.net">rayoleferchik@earthlink.net</a>
Cursillo	Ron Abramowica	815-886-8554	<a href="mailto:AbramzR@comcast.net">AbramzR@comcast.net</a>
Post-Cursillo	Ken Meeker	630-430-9879	<a href="mailto:K_meeker@comcast.net">K_meeker@comcast.net</a>

### Directions to St. Mary's Community Center Oregon, Illinois

Take Rt. 64 to Oregon. Parish Center is on Rt. 64 at Mongan Drive, a mile west of town on the north side of the road.

Emergency Phone for Cursillo Weekends  
Friday Saturday & Sunday 815-732-7383

## Friendship Grouping Areas

### Oregon

St. Mary's Church  
Women: Tuesdays at 6:15 pm  
Men: Sundays at 7:00 pm

### Belvedere

Location: St. James Parish Center  
Men: Saturdays at 8:00 am

### Sycamore

St. Mary's Purple House  
Men: Mondays at 7:00 pm

### Loves Park

St. Bridget's Parish Center  
Men: Mondays at 7:00 pm

### Hampshire

St. Charles Borromeo  
Church basement  
Men: Saturday at 7:30 am

### Aurora

Location: Holy Angels  
Women: Wednesdays 8:30 pm  
Contact Laura Wright 630-859-0781

### Virgil

Sts. Peter & Paul  
Parish rectory  
Men: Mondays at 7:00 pm